

Washington State Emergency Operations Officer Monthly Report

March 2016

Past monthly reports are available via the web at <http://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division/alert-warning-center-monthly-report>

CATEGORY	March 2016	March 2015	YTD 2016	YTD 2015
Logged incidents:				
DOE (Department of Energy, Hanford Site)	0	0	1	0
FIRE	12	36	24	69
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (HAZMAT)	276	220	767	634
OTHER	72	88	245	261
911 SERVICE OUTAGES	3	4	8	15
SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS (SAR)	57	62	168	146
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
INITIAL WEATHER INCIDENTS	4	3	16	7
CGS (Columbia Generating Station)	0	0	0	0
TSUNAMI DEBRIS	0	0	0	0
Total number of Logged incidents	424	413	1229	1132

Categories not included in the total number of logged incidents above

<i>Evidence Search Mission</i>	4	4	11	15
<i>Additional Weather Alerts (all subsequent alerts that are considered to be part of the initiating weather event)</i>	80	7	252	110

LEGEND

WEATHER	Weather incidents such as Flooding, High Winds, and Snow
FIRE	Wildland Fire incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, including but not limited to Tsunami events, Earthquakes, and Critical Incident Stress Debriefings.

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 16-0788
- On March 1, the NWS-Portland extended the High Wind Warning for Wahkiakum, Pacific, and Cowlitz Counties.
 - On March 1, the NWS-Seattle cancelled the Flood Watch for Mason County and issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River. The Warning was cancelled early the morning of March 4.
 - On March 3, the NWS-Portland issued a High Wind Watch for the South Washington coast in effect Friday afternoon to late Friday night. The watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning on March 4.
 - On March 3, the NWS-Seattle issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands for Friday. The Warning was later extended to Saturday.
 - On March 4, the NWS-Seattle issued a Flood Watch for Mason County. The Watch was replaced with a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River in Mason County later the same day. The Warning was cancelled on March 6.
 - On March 4, the NWS-Portland issued a High Wind Watch for the South Coast in effect from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning. The Watch was upgraded to a High Wind Warning on March 5. The Warning ended without incident on March 5.
 - On March 5, the NWS-Pendleton issued a High Wind Warning for the Foothills of the Blue Mountains.
 - On March 6, the NWS-Pendleton issued a Flood Warning for small streams in Yakima County.
 - On March 6, Yakima CO EOC activated to Phase-II in order to assist with the flood. Twelve homes have been affected. It was advised that Yakima County EOC would be returning to a Phase-I at 0100h on 7 March.
 - On March 6, the NWS-Pendleton issued a Flood Watch for the Naches River at Naches in Yakima County. The watch was cancelled later that evening.
 - All Watches and Warnings were closed by March 6.
- 16-0815
- On March 1, A 2.88 magnitude earthquake occurred at 1835 hrs located 4 miles SW of Snohomish. There were no reports of the quake being felt or any damage reported.
- 16-0869
- On March 4, CRESA opened a search for a missing 15 year-old autistic male in the City of Vancouver. Ground resources from Cowlitz, Thurston, Lewis, Pierce, Grays Harbor, Wahkiakum, and through Oregon Emergency Services were requested. The subject was located in good condition several hours later.
- 16-0894
- On March 7, the NWS-Spokane issued a Flood Watch for Stevens, Spokane, Douglas, Chelan, Okanogan, and Ferry Counties.
 - On March 7, the NWS-Seattle issued a Flood Watch for Mason County.
 - On March 8, the NWS-Seattle issued a High Wind Watch for the entire coast of

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Washington.

- On March 8, the NWS-Portland issued a high Wind Watch for the S. Washington Coast and Willapa Hills.
- On March 8, the NWS-Pendleton issued a Flood Watch for Yakima, Kittitas, and Klickitat Counties including the East Slopes of the Washington Cascades, the Simcoe Highlands, and the Yakima and Kittitas Valleys.
- On March 8, the NWS-Seattle issued a High Wind warning for the Washington coast and Willapa Hills.
- On March 8, the NWS-Seattle issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands.
- On March 8, the NWS-Seattle issued a Storm Warning for the Washington coastal waters.
- On March 9, the NWS-Portland issued a Coastal Flood Warning for Grays Harbor County, mainly affecting the Ocean Shores area.
- On March 9, the NWS-Pendleton upgraded the Flood Watch to a Flood Warning for Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Orielle, Kittitas and Yakima Counties. The Flood Watch for Klickitat County was cancelled.
- On March 9, the NWS-Portland issued a Hurricane Force Wind Warning Pacific & Wahkiakum Counties and the Shoalwater Bay Tribe. The Warning was issued for the Coastal Waters to 10 miles out to sea.
- On March 9, the NWS-Seattle issued a High Wind Warning for all, or parts of San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, Jefferson and Island counties.
- On March 9, the NWS-Seattle issued a Coastal Flood Warning for the Puget Sound area and Central Coast, and a High Surf Warning for the Central Coast.
- On March 9, the NWS-Seattle issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River in Mason County. The Warning was cancelled on March 11.
- On March 10, a High Surf Warning was issued for the South Washington Coast.
- On March 11, all Watches and warnings ended for this weather event.

16-0909 • On March 8, Mason County requested Search Dogs to assist in locating a missing 14 year-old female in the Shelton area. Two dog teams from Kitsap County were coordinated to assist with the search. The mission was closed out on March 9. The subject was not located and the mission converted to a police investigation.

16-0943 • On March 10, Franklin County Fire Department 3 requested cell phone forensics to assist with a search for a 44 year-old male in the Juniper Dunes wilderness. AFRCC was contacted to provide the requested support. The subject was found early the next day in good condition.

16-0961 • On March 11, the NWS-Seattle issued a High Wind Watch for Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, Pierce, King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom and San Juan counties.
• On March 11, the NWS-Seattle issued a Storm Watch for Clallam, Jefferson

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and Grays Harbor counties.

- On March 11, the NWS-Seattle issued a Gale Watch for Puget Sound affecting Whatcom, Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason and Kitsap counties.
 - On March 11, the NWS-Seattle issued a Gale Warning for the Northern Inland Waters including the San Juan Islands.
 - On March 12, the NWS-Seattle issued a Flood Watch for Mason County.
 - On March 12, the NWS-Seattle issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Cascades of Lewis, Pierce, Skagit and Whatcom counties and South Washington. The Watches were upgraded to Winter Storm Warnings for Lewis, Pierce, Skagit and Whatcom later that day, and for the South Washington Cascades on March 13.
 - On March 12, the NWS-Portland issued a Storm Watch for Pacific County.
 - On March 12, the NWS-Seattle issued a High Wind Warning for the western Washington lowlands; a Marine Storm Warning for the coast, east and central Strait of Juan De Fuca, northern inland waters, Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound and Hood Canal; along with a Coastal Flood and High Surf Advisory for the south coast. The High Wind Warning was updated on March 13 to include all Western Washington counties north of Grays Harbor and Lewis Counties and the Willapa Hills. The Marine Storm Warnings for the Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound and Hood Canal were changed to a Gale Warning on March 13. On March 13, the High Wind Warning for the Willapa Hills was cancelled.
 - On March 13, Jefferson and Kitsap Counties and the City of Bellevue activated their Emergency Operations Centers to Phase 2 and the City of Kent activated their Emergency Coordination Center to Phase 3. All centers were closed by noon on March 14 with no requests for assistance received.
 - On March 14, all Wind and Storm Warnings expired. At the peak of the storm, over 250,000 customers were without electricity in Western Washington. One man was killed when a tree fell on his vehicle.
- 16-1054
- On March 17, SNOFAC requested a SAR mission with the Marysville Police Department for a runaway 7 year-old male. The missing juvenile was subsequently located before the search could begin.
- 16-1055
- On March 17, the Alert and Warning Center (A&WC) received a report of a SPOT beacon SOS activation from the International Emergency Rescue Coordination Center (IERCC) for a snowmobiler near Mt. Baker. The beacon was activated due to a snowmobile accident in which one person was injured with a broken leg. The owner of the beacon did not activate the beacon at the scene of the accident, but instead activated the beacon in the parking lot for the recreation area of Pocket Lake. The injured person was subsequently located and transported to receive medical attention.

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- 16-1057 • On March 18, the NWS-Pendleton issued a Freeze Warning for the Eastern Columbia River Gorge and the Foothills of the Blue Mountains. The Warning expired without incident.
- 16-0194 • On March 19, King County opened an incident for a possible landslide situation on the Cedar River near Renton. If a landslide were to occur, it would block the normal flow of the river and divert water towards nearby homes. The A&WC coordinated with several state agencies to apprise them of the current situation and plan contingency operations in the event such a landslide would occur.
- 16-1095 • On March 19, Grays Harbor County opened a SAR for a Missing 12 year-old boy in Grays Harbor County near Montesano. ESAR volunteers were requested but the boy was located in good condition before the resources could deploy.
- 16-1170 • On March 26, Mount Rainier National Park conducted a search for a missing hiker near Camp Muir. Additional mountain rescue resources were coordinated from Pierce, Kitsap and Snohomish counties to assist. The individual was rescued in good condition by use of a Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) helicopter that was coordinated directly from the park.
- 16-EX-003 • On March 29, the Alert and Warning Center participated in the annual Columbia Generating Station Full Scale Exercise. This exercise lasted 3 days.
- 16-1228 • On March 31, Skamania County Dispatch opened a SAR for a missing hiker off the Table Mountain Trail. Additional ground searchers were requested out of Clark County. This mission was still open as of the end of the month.

SEOO Activity for the current month:

163	Warnings issued to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
136	Warnings issued to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
1010	Notifications conducted to state and local agencies for imminent or occurring emergencies.
15	Resources coordinated for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.

- Participated in 9 exercises of which 5 were vessel spill drills.

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Conducted the following tests:

<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i>	<i>Frequency of tests</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>	<i>Total number of stations tested this month</i>	<i>Number of stations responding during tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i>	<i>Contact Success rate for those tests initiated by the Alert and Warning Center</i>
NAWAS	Twice daily	62	2012	1936	96%
STAEN	At least twice per month	2	30	10	33%
CEMNET	At least 3 per week	15	380	208	55%

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<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i>	<i>Frequency of tests</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>	<i>Test Conducted (see below for descriptions of each test)</i>	<i>Frequency of tests</i>	<i>Number of tests completed this month</i>
Dedicated phone line test for DOE	At least 1 per week	4	AHAB Siren test	At least 1 per month	1
Dedicated phone line test for CGS	At least 1 per week	6	OPSCAN test	1 per day	27
AHAB Daily Function status	1 per day	31	King County 800 MHz Radio System tests	At least 1 per week	5

Test information/definitions:

- **NAWAS:** National Warning System Tests (NAWAS) over the State and Federal circuits. NAWAS connects over 1,800 State and Federal jurisdictions and agencies on the Federal circuit and all counties, some agencies and some tribes on the State circuit. there are 4 tests a day, testing 66 drops on 2 circuits. The number above reflects the 4 tests a day. Previously the number included the total number of stations contacted during those tests.
- **DOE tests:** Department of Energy Hanford Site has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here
- **CGS tests:** Columbia Generating Station has a dedicated phone and fax line into the EOC and they are tested at least weekly. Only the voice phone line numbers are reported here.
- **AHAB:** All Hazards Alert Broadcast System is tested daily through the daily function tests, which tests the functional capability of all coastal and Puget Sound siren systems. The voice and tone sirens are tested monthly. The AHAB Siren activates the coastal and Puget Sound voice and tone sirens during tsunami and other hazardous incidents.
- **OPSCAN:** Olympic Peninsula Public Safety Alliance Network (OPSCAN) connects public safety organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula.
- **STAEN:** The State Agency Emergency Network (STAEN) connects state agency via an 800 MHz radio system.
- **CEMNET:** Comprehensive Emergency Management Network radio connecting all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console.
- **King County 800 MHz System** connects the Alert and Warning Center with King County key emergency management and response organizations.