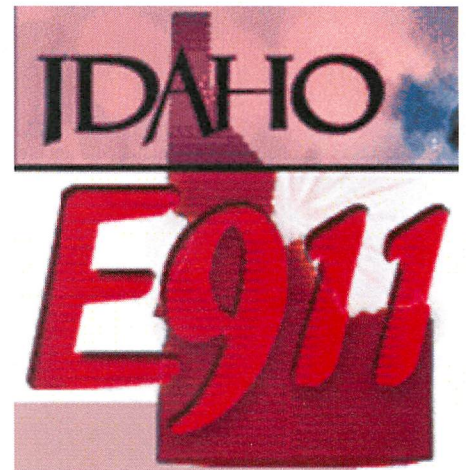


**IDAHO EMERGENCY  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
2012 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE  
IDAHO LEGISLATURE**



**FIRE-POLICE-MEDICAL  
EMERGENCY  
DIAL 911**

Prepared by:

STATE OF IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

January 2, 2012



## Idaho Emergency Communications Commission

### 2012 Annual Report to the Idaho Legislature

#### Overview

The Idaho Emergency Communications Commission ("IECC") has worked diligently since its inception in 2004 to address the needs and improve the 9-1-1 telephone systems operated by Idaho counties and cities throughout the state. Consolidated emergency communications system centers that are commonly known as dispatch centers or Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAP") receive emergency calls from the public via 9-1-1 or a seven-digit phone number. The PSAPs are termed consolidated under Idaho law as all vital public safety agencies are dispatched out of the center and the PSAPs send the necessary assistance whether it is law enforcement, fire, or emergency medical services without the caller needing to dial separate numbers.

#### Highlights of 2011

- Enhanced Grant Fee Fund Awards to Provide Funding for 911 Center upgrades in 2012

Bonner County	\$107,594.00
Camas County	\$ 45,158.59
Clearwater County	\$196,460.43
Custer County	\$ 19,083.00
Lewis County	\$ 37,908.39
Power County	\$ 57,900.00
Valley County	\$ 71,197.76

## **Mission and Purpose**

The mission of the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission:

Enhancing Idaho's public health, safety, and welfare by assisting emergency communications and response professionals in the establishment, management, operations, and accountability of consolidated emergency communications systems.

The Idaho Emergency Communication Commission was created by the Idaho Legislature in 2004 pursuant to amendments to the Idaho Emergency Communication Act, Idaho Code § 31-4801 *et seq.* The purpose and responsibilities of the Commission granted by the Idaho Legislature are centered on finding solutions to the difficulties of counties and cities to keep up with technological advances in the area of 9-1-1 and emergency communications for public safety purposes in general.

There are currently forty-six (46) PSAPs in Idaho, forty (40) are operated by county sheriff's offices, five (5) by cities through their police departments or by contract with another city, (City of Moscow), and four counties (Twin Falls, Jerome, Lincoln and Gooding) are served by a regional PSAP known as SIRCOMM.

Please refer to Appendix J for references to the legislative authority for the creation of the IECC.

## Commission Representation

The Commission is comprised of thirteen members and one ex-officio member. As indicated below, the majority of the members represent various local statewide governmental associations, interested members of the private sector and the public at large from all regions of the State of Idaho. All of these members are appointed by the Governor. Two members are members by nature of their position-Director of the Idaho State Police or designee and the Adjutant General or designee. The ex-officio member is a representative of the Attorney General's Office.

**Mayor Garret Nancolas** – *Chair*  
Association of Idaho Cities  
City of Caldwell

**Representative Rich Wills** – *Vice Chair*  
Public at Large  
Idaho House of Representatives

**Michele Carreras** – *Treasurer*  
Idaho State Emergency Medical  
Services Communications Center

**Troy Hagen**  
Idaho Emergency Medical Services Assoc.  
Director, Ada County Paramedics

**Chief Scot Haug**  
Idaho Chiefs' of Police Association  
City of Post Falls

**Capt. Bill Gardiner**  
Designee for **Jerry Russell**, Director  
Idaho State Police

**Commissioner Lan Smith**  
Idaho Association of Counties  
Gem County

**Sheriff Chris Smith**  
Idaho Sheriff's Association  
Canyon County

**Chief Martin Knoelk**  
Idaho Fire Chiefs Association  
Boise Fire Department

**Teresa Baker**  
Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Ada County

**Clint Berry**  
Traditional Phone Service Industry  
Retired Senior Manager, Qwest

**James Lemm**  
Wireless Phone Industry  
J & R Electronics, Inc.

**Brig. Gen. William Shawver**, Director  
Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security  
Designee for Major General  
**Gary Sayler**

**Andrew Snook**  
Deputy Attorney General  
Idaho Attorney General's Office



## **Activities and Accomplishments**

- **Meetings and Training Seminars**

The Commission conducted monthly meetings throughout 2011. In keeping with the Commission's mission and to accommodate the interest from different areas of the state, the Commission met in Pocatello in April and Coeur d'Alene in September. These two meetings were held in conjunction with training seminars for elected officials and city/county employees involved in providing emergency communications services whether they were project managers, dispatchers, information technology employees or, as in most cases, serving a variety of functions.

- **Operations and Funding**

The funding for the operation of the Commission comes from an assessment level of one percent (1%) of all emergency communications fees collected in the state. The service providers collect the fee in the amount up to \$1.00 per line from their customers and then remit this to individual counties or 9-1-1 service areas. The counties are then responsible for sending 1% of the fee to the Commission.

The Commission approved an annual operating budget of \$239,519 for fiscal year 2012 (FY12) attached as Appendix B. During fiscal year 2011 (FY11), \$180,958.61 was revenue collected from the forty counties who currently assess and collect the fee. A copy of the final operating budget for FY11 and the amounts received in fees from the counties is included in Appendix A.

With the implementation of the Enhanced Grant Fee and thirty-six (36) participating counties, the revenue collected through this fee was \$1,748,616.29 in FY 2011. See Appendix G for a list of participating counties and Appendix J for legislative authority for the Enhanced Grant Fee

- **Status of E9-1-1 in Idaho**

The Commission has continued to assess the needs of the local governments throughout Idaho. We understand that citizens expect the same level of service throughout the state regardless of how they are contacting area 9-1-1 centers throughout Idaho through the use of a wireline or wireless phone and whether or not they are in an urban or rural setting.

The key to this service is known as Enhanced 9-1-1 ("E9-1-1"). E9-1-1 is the ability of a PSAP to obtain a caller's callback number and an address when a caller dials 9-1-1. This means that the PSAP receives voice-only 9-1-1 calls and the dispatcher must obtain the type of emergency, the telephone number and the location from the caller. If the caller is unable to speak the needed emergency response is delayed. As previously reported, there are currently two (2) PSAPs in Idaho that do not have

this capability. With the awards of the FY12 Enhanced Grant Fee all counties in the State of Idaho will have E9-1-1 capabilities.

The Commission has set goals to ensure that all citizens in the State of Idaho are able to benefit from technology widely available. These goals are as follows:

1. Ensure that all PSAPs are brought to the E9-1-1 level. It should be noted, this goal has been met.
2. Ensure that all PSAPs are compliant with requirements to receive information from callers using a wireless or cell phone, which is known as Phase I and Phase II. Phase I ensures that a PSAP has a callback number for the wireless phone and identification of the cell-tower from which the call originated. Phase II means that a wireless 9-1-1 call has Phase I requirements plus location of the caller within 125 meters of the location of the call 67% of the time and selective routing based upon those coordinates. This essentially means that a PSAP can direct first responders to the basic location of the caller. Of the forty-six (46) PSAPS with E9-1-1 capability only forty-four (44) are capable of receiving name, phone number and location information from a caller using a wireless phone.
3. Assess the feasibility of implementing Next Generation 9-1-1 ("NG9-1-1") throughout Idaho. NG9-1-1 is a system comprised of managed IP-based networks and elements that augments present E9-1-1 features and functions. It is designed to provide access to emergency services from all sources and to provide multimedia data capabilities for PSAPs. A good example would be a caller using text messaging from a wireless phone or similar form of communication devices to access an Idaho PSAP.

The Commission is pleased to report that in 2011 through the 25-cent grant fund, all of the 46 PSAPs are either E9-1-1 or are migrating to E9-1-1. In keeping with our goals and utilizing the grant fund, 42 of the 46 PSAPs are either Phase II Wireless compliant or have been given grants and are in the migration process resulting by the end of 2012 100% of all PSAPs will be Phase II compliant.

The main obstacle for all PSAPs is the lack of resources and funding. E9-1-1 systems are expensive and require annual maintenance agreements. These costs tend to be in excess of the revenue received from current fees collected in those counties. With the implementation of the Enhanced Grant Fee the Commission is pleased to announce that by the end of 2012 all PSAPS will be Phase II compliant.

The Commission's goal is to move all PSAPs to Phase II by January 2014. Due to the success of the grant fund the Commission is pleased to report that we have exceeded our goal by two years.

During the next two years the Commission will be compiling a state plan for the implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1. The Plan will utilize the format outlined in the collaborative agreement between the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA) and the National 9-1-1 Implementation Coordination Office (ICO). The state plan is needed to address the strategic and operational needs of the state's PSAPs and is a prerequisite to receive federal funds and support. This new network will serve the increasing needs of all Idaho's PSAPs in meeting requirements of new communications technologies. The plan will also include a financial analysis and the potential impact on staffing.

- **PSAP Standards Committee**

During the PSAP assessment process the Commission attempted to determine the status of all PSAPs in Idaho, it became apparent that there was a need to look at a way to assist PSAPs with the training of personnel. The purpose was not to impose standards from the Commission but to facilitate communication between representatives from the individual PSAPs to look at the issues they face on a day-to-day basis and to assist each other. The Commission formed the PSAP Standards Committee to provide and develop standardized training and a forum for issues facing PSAPs and dispatchers throughout Idaho. The Commission assists the Committee with meeting expenses and coordination and the counties/cities provide the personnel staffing at their expense.

A PSAP Standards Committee is currently comprised of the following members:

Bingham County	Erin Hidalgo
Canyon County	Lorraine Elfering
Cassia County	Deann Taylor
Kootenai County	Brad Coughenour
Madison County	Bruce Bowler
City of Nampa	Carmen Boeger
Bonneville County	Heather Kunz
Lewis County	Alesia Winner
City of Pocatello	Donielle Whitney
Valley County	Kelly Taylor

The Committee identified three projects in order of importance that they wanted to accomplish. They are as follows:

1. **Establish standard entry-level training for dispatchers to meet Idaho Peace Officers Standards Training (POST) guidelines for certification for use by all PSAPs. This training will be available in workbook format and on compact disc.**

This project has been completed and was approved by the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission, the Idaho Sheriff's Association, and the Idaho Chiefs' of Police Association and the Idaho Peace Officers Standards and Training. It was distributed to all PSAP's in February 2010. The training is certified by POST for 10 credit hours.

**2. Prepare seminars for PSAP development for supervisors and managers to cover a range of topics ranging from systems integration, procurement processes, PSAP center scheduling, to hiring and recruiting and other topics as needed.**

The PSAP Standards Committee accomplished the following items during this last fiscal year:

1. Assisted the Peace Officers Standards Training (POST) in modifying the IDAPA rules as they pertained to the Basic and Advanced Dispatch academies.
2. Developed, distributed and tabulated a statewide Dispatch Center survey that contained geographical information, information about the Dispatch Center needs, expectation of the PSAP Standards Committee and ideas and feedback from past and current activities.
3. Reviewing the Basic POST Dispatch Academy curriculum, updating language, statutes and best practices guidelines to better prepare dispatchers for their job. This is an ongoing relationship with POST to update their curriculum to meet current technology and standards.
4. Presented round-table discussions in Pocatello and Coeur d' Alene during Emergency Communications Commission (ECC) meetings explaining where the PSAP Standards Committee was and getting feedback from the agencies and others present.
5. Developed a quarterly training that travels around the state providing training to dispatchers in various fields that directly relate to their jobs. These trainings are POST certified and free of charge for agencies. The trainings presented this year were:
  - a. Legal Review presented by Teresa Baker with the Ada County Prosecutor's Office and Darrin Murphy with the Kootenai County Prosecutor's Office.
    - i. Boise
    - ii. Coeur d'Alene
    - iii. Lewiston
    - iv. Idaho Falls
    - v. Burley
  - b. Achieving Excellence through Customer Service presented by Heather Kunz with Idaho Falls/Bonneville County Sheriff's Office.



- i. Nampa
  - ii. Post Falls
  - iii. McCall
  - iv. Blackfoot
- 6. Developed future quarterly trainings and have started to plan those trips throughout the state.
  - a. Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD/TTY) Training in January 2012
  - b. Planning two additional quarterly trainings in 2012
- 7. Presented training at the 2011 Idaho Law Enforcement Teletype (ILETS/IPSSIS) conference for Fostering Leadership presented by Greg Warner with Ada County Sheriff's Office.
- 8. Distributed the POST accredited Entry Level Dispatch manual to every Dispatch Center in the state.
- 9. Worked with POST and incorporated the distribution of the Entry Level Dispatch Manual to every student in each Dispatch Academy.
- 10. Finished the development of the PSAP Standards Committee website and have pushed it out as a resource to every Dispatch Center. The site is [www.idahodispatch.com](http://www.idahodispatch.com)
- 3. Established a community awareness and public education campaign centered on the importance of the role of the 9-1-1 dispatcher and the 9-1-1 center.**

The PSAP Standards Committee website has been built and is now live. The purpose is to support public and dispatcher education resources. Public outreach and education remains a priority and educational information will be published on this new website along with postings on the Idaho Emergency Communications website.

- **National Representation and Associations**

The E9-1-1 Program Coordinator, Eddie Goldsmith, who is an employee of the Commission, represented the Commission at the 2011 National APCO conference. He also attended the National Emergency Number Association Conference ("NENA") and two (2) National Association of State Administrators Conferences ("NASNA"). Mr. Goldsmith also conducted fifty-five (52) 9-1-1 PSAP visits throughout the state to assist 9-1-1 administrators with technical issues and Enhanced 9-1-1 system design and grant guidance.

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix A	Final Fiscal Year 2011 Budget
Appendix B	Fiscal Year 2012 Budget
Appendix C	2008 Status of Service Map
Appendix D	2009 Status of Service Map
Appendix E	2010 Status of Service Map
Appendix F	2011 Status of Service Map
Appendix G	2012 Status of Service Map
Appendix H	List of Counties Adopting the Enhanced Grant Fee
Appendix I	2011 Enhanced Grant Fee Status Map
Appendix J	Legislative Authority

## Appendix A

### Final Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

**E911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE  
2011 BUDGET WORKSHEET  
For the Month Ending  
September 30 2011**

DESCRIPTION	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2011 Expenses
<b>COMMISSION AND MEETING EXPENSES</b>		
Meeting Expenses	2,000	257
In-State Travel	8,000	6,882
	10,000	7,140
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>		
<i>E911 Project Manager Salary/ Benefits</i>	98,983	90,860
Administrative Support	10,000	9,804
Contracts:		
Angella Stokke/PSAP Web	1,000	750
Survey Tool	595	661
Office Supplies	1,500	10
Office Equipment	2,000	47
Telephone	1,400	742
Photocopying	1,100	952
Postage	500	220
Administrative Rules	200	200
Capital Improvements	10,000	
Awards	400	173
Professional Membership fees	308	-447
<b>IN-STATE TRAVEL</b>		
Fuel	4,000	2,106
Vehicle maintenance	1,000	272
Lodging and per diem	6,000	5,953
<b>IN-STATE TRAVEL PSAP COMMITTEE</b>		
Training	11,000	2,779
Travel, lodging and per diem	10,000	5,724
<b>OUT OF STATE TRAVEL</b>		
NENA, NASNA & APCO CONFERENCES	7,000	6,407
	176,986	135,348
Contingency Funds	42,553	-
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET</b>	<b>229,539</b>	<b>135,348</b>

**ASSUMPTIONS:**

- >Meeting expenses include room rental, refreshments and material copy expenses
- >Meeting Travel expense includes: lodging @ \$70/night x 2 nights x 13 members; per diem @ \$30/day x 2 days x 13 members;
- >Air fare @ \$150 x 1 trip x 13 members; mileage @ .455 x 3476 miles; rental car @ \$30/day x 9 days;
- >Administrative Support: comparable to quarterly meetings for Capitol Commission
- >Telephone allows \$700 for office phone, and \$700 for cell phone

**E911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE**  
**ESTIMATED SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS**  
 County FY 2011  
 E911 FUND  
 For the Month Ending  
 9/31/2011

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	<b>Proposed Annual Budget</b>	<b>First Quarter 10-1 to 12-31 Actual</b>	<b>Second Quarter 1-1 to 3-31 Actual</b>	<b>Third Quarter 4-1 to 6-30 Estimated</b>	<b>Fourth Quarter 7-1 to 9-30 Estimated</b>
Estimated Beginning Cash Balance	\$3,373,141	\$3,293,599	3,241,250	\$3,446,521	\$3,877,789
<b><u>FY11 SOURCES OF FUNDS</u></b>					
Estimated County Assessments (1%)	\$182,044	\$37,578	\$40,974	45,629	44,937
Interest on County Assessments	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	0
Donations/Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	0
Grants Received	\$1,963,987	\$348,764	\$447,986	518,683	494,143
Interest for Grants Received	\$10,000	\$7,162	\$7,790	\$6,582	7,498
Total Sources of Funds	\$2,156,031	\$393,504	\$496,749	\$570,894	\$46,577,410
ESTIMATED CASH/ TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$5,529,172	\$3,687,104	\$3,737,999	\$4,017,415	4,424,366
<b><u>FY11 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES</u></b>					
Commission Operating Expenses from Assessments	\$207,644	\$30,116	28,778	28,394	48,061
Grants Issued 2011	\$1,671,306	\$199,319	82,932	100,777	221,536
Grants Balance 2010 remains	\$334,226	\$216,419	\$179,768	\$10,456	47,171
Total Expenditures	\$2,213,175	\$445,854	\$291,478	\$139,626	316,767
			\$0		
Estimated Cash Balance	\$3,315,997	\$3,241,250	\$3,446,521	\$3,877,789	4,107,599

Counties' Fiscal Year runs 10-1 to 9-30  
 State of Idaho Fiscal Year runs 7-1 to 6-30

## Appendix B

**Fiscal Year 2012 Budget  
IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FY 2012 Budget</b>	<b>FY 2012 Expenses</b>
<b>COMMISSION AND MEETING EXPENSES</b>		
Meeting Expenses	2,000	691
In-State Travel	8,000	1,851
	10,000	2,542
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>		
E911 Project Manager Salary/Benefits	98,983	7,555
Administrative Support	10,000	292
Contracts:		
Angella Stokke/PSAP Web	1,000	-
Survey Tool	595	-
Office Supplies	1,500	-
Office Equipment	2,000	-
Telephone	1,400	51
Photocopying	1,100	-
Postage	500	17
Administrative Rules	200	-
Capital Improvements	10,000	-
Awards	400	-
Professional Membership fees	308	-
<b>IN-STATE TRAVEL</b>		
Fuel	4,000	355
Vehicle maintenance	1,000	19
Lodging and per diem	6,000	240
<b>IN-STATE TRAVEL PSAP COMMITTEE</b>		
Training	11,000	392
Travel, lodging and per diem	10,000	198
<b>OUT OF STATE TRAVEL</b>		
NENA, NASNA & APCO CONFRENCES	7,000	1,698
	176,986	13,360
Contingency Funds	52,533	-
<b>TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET</b>	<b>239,519</b>	<b>13,360</b>

**E911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE**  
**ESTIMATED SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS**  
County FY 2011  
E911 FUND

1/4/2011

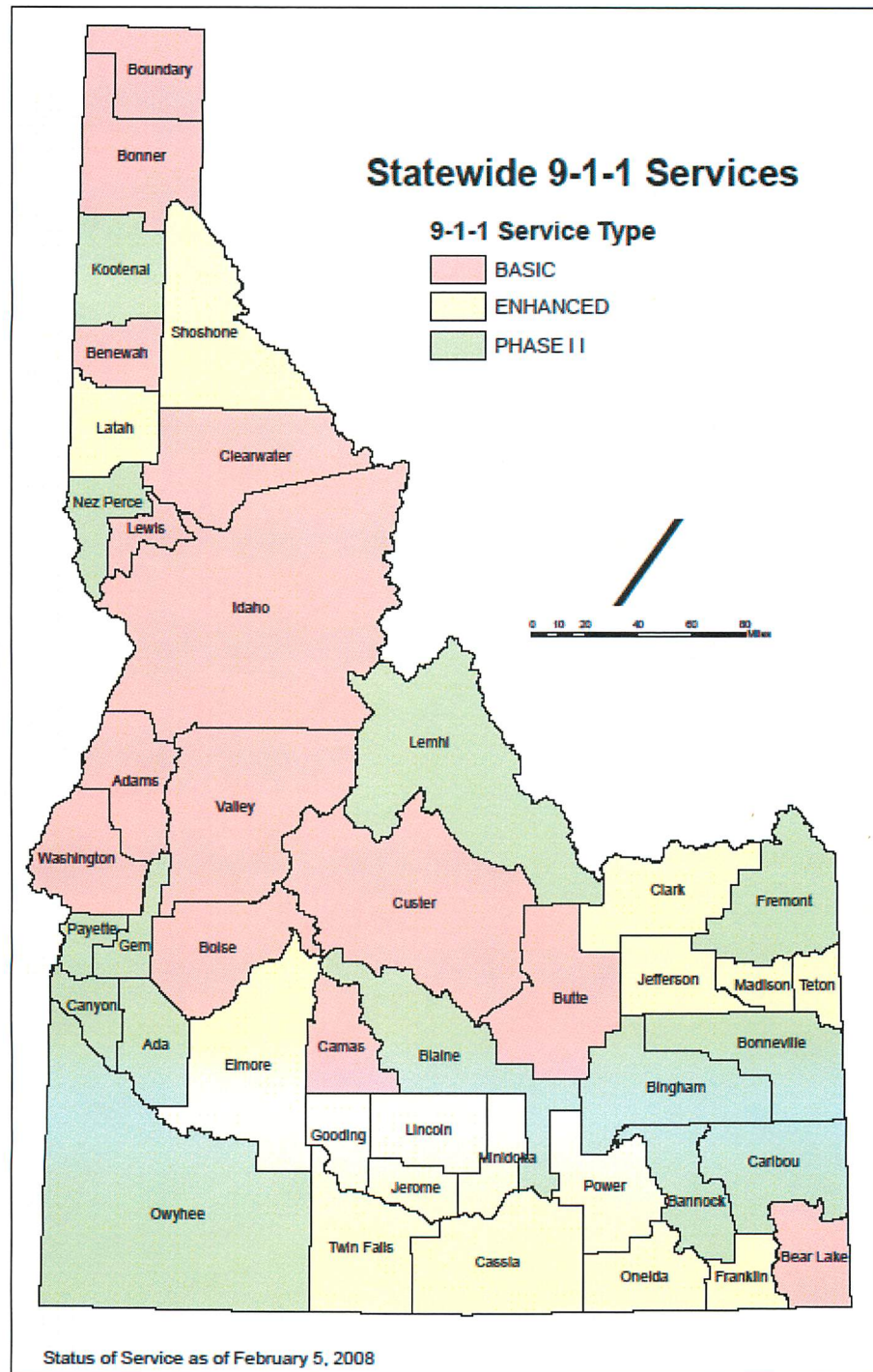
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	<b>Proposed Annual Budget</b>	<b>First Quarter 10-1 to 12-31 Estimated</b>	<b>Second Quarter 1-1 to 3-31 Estimated</b>	<b>Third Quarter 4-1 to 6-30 Estimated</b>	<b>Fourth Quarter 7-1 to 9-30 Estimated</b>
Estimated Beginning Cash Balance	\$2,959,545	\$2,959,545	\$2,989,597	\$3,019,648	\$3,049,700
<b><u>FY11 SOURCES OF FUNDS</u></b>					
Estimated County Assessments (1%)	\$189,077	47,269	47,269	\$47,269	\$47,269
Donations/Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Grants Received	\$1,754,421	438,605	438,605	\$438,605	\$438,605
Interest	\$15,000	3,750	3,750	\$3,750	\$3,750
Total Sources of Funds	\$1,958,498	\$489,625	\$489,625	\$489,625	\$489,625
 <b>ESTIMATED CASH/ TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	 <b>\$4,918,043</b>	 <b>\$3,449,170</b>	 <b>\$3,479,221</b>	 <b>\$3,509,273</b>	 <b>\$3,539,324</b>
<b><u>FY08 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES</u></b>					
Commission Operating Expenses from Assessments	\$229,539	41,747	41,747	41,747	41,747
Grants Issued	\$1,671,306	417,826	417,826	417,826	417,826
 Total Expenditures	 \$1,900,845	 \$459,573	 \$459,573	 \$459,573	 \$459,573
 Estimated Cash Balance	 <b>\$3,017,198</b>	 <b>\$2,989,597</b>	 <b>\$3,019,648</b>	 <b>\$3,049,700</b>	 <b>\$3,079,751</b>

Counties' Fiscal Year runs 10-1 to 9-30  
State of Idaho Fiscal Year runs 7-1 to 6-30



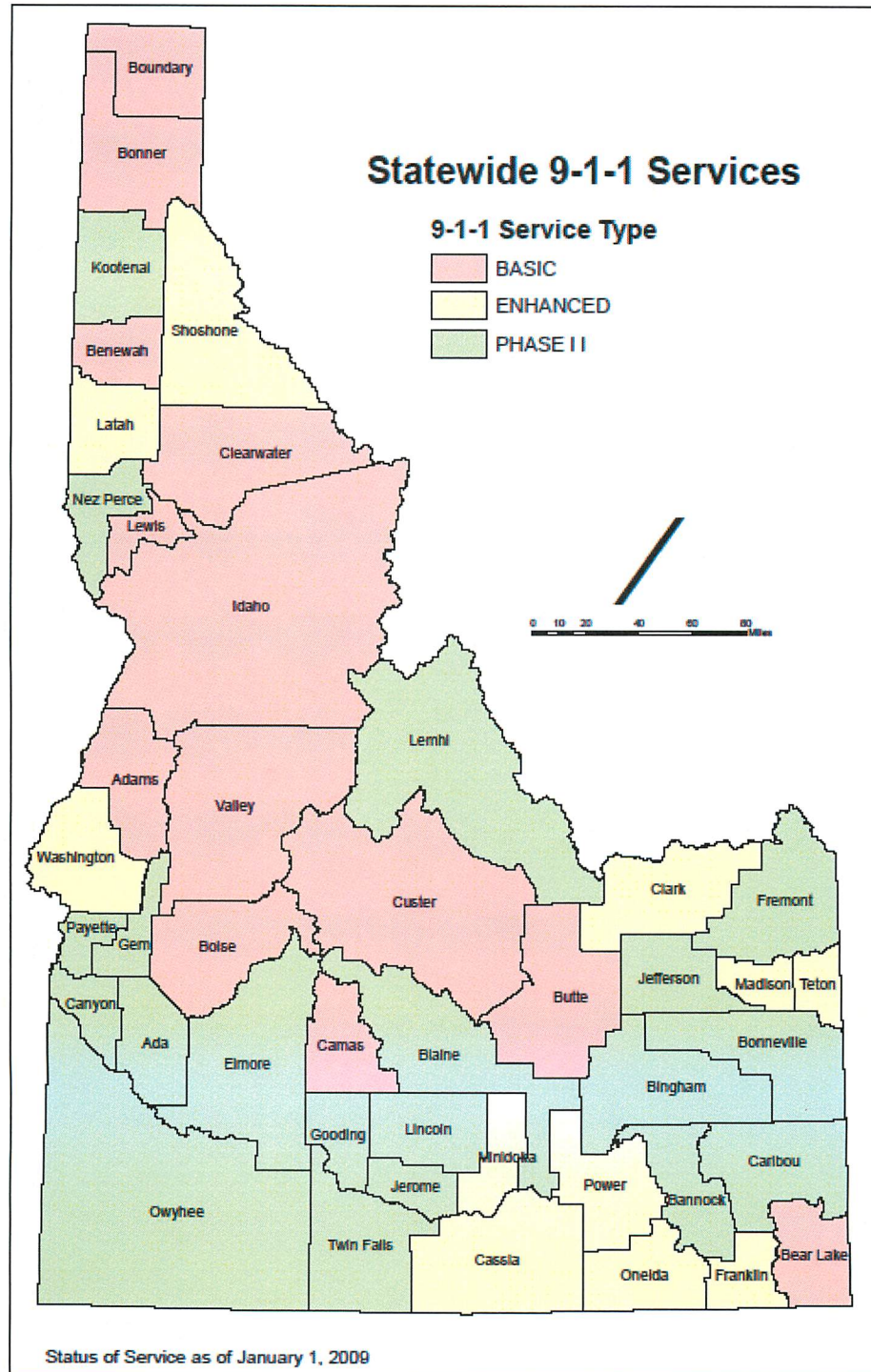
## Appendix C

### 2008 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



## Appendix D

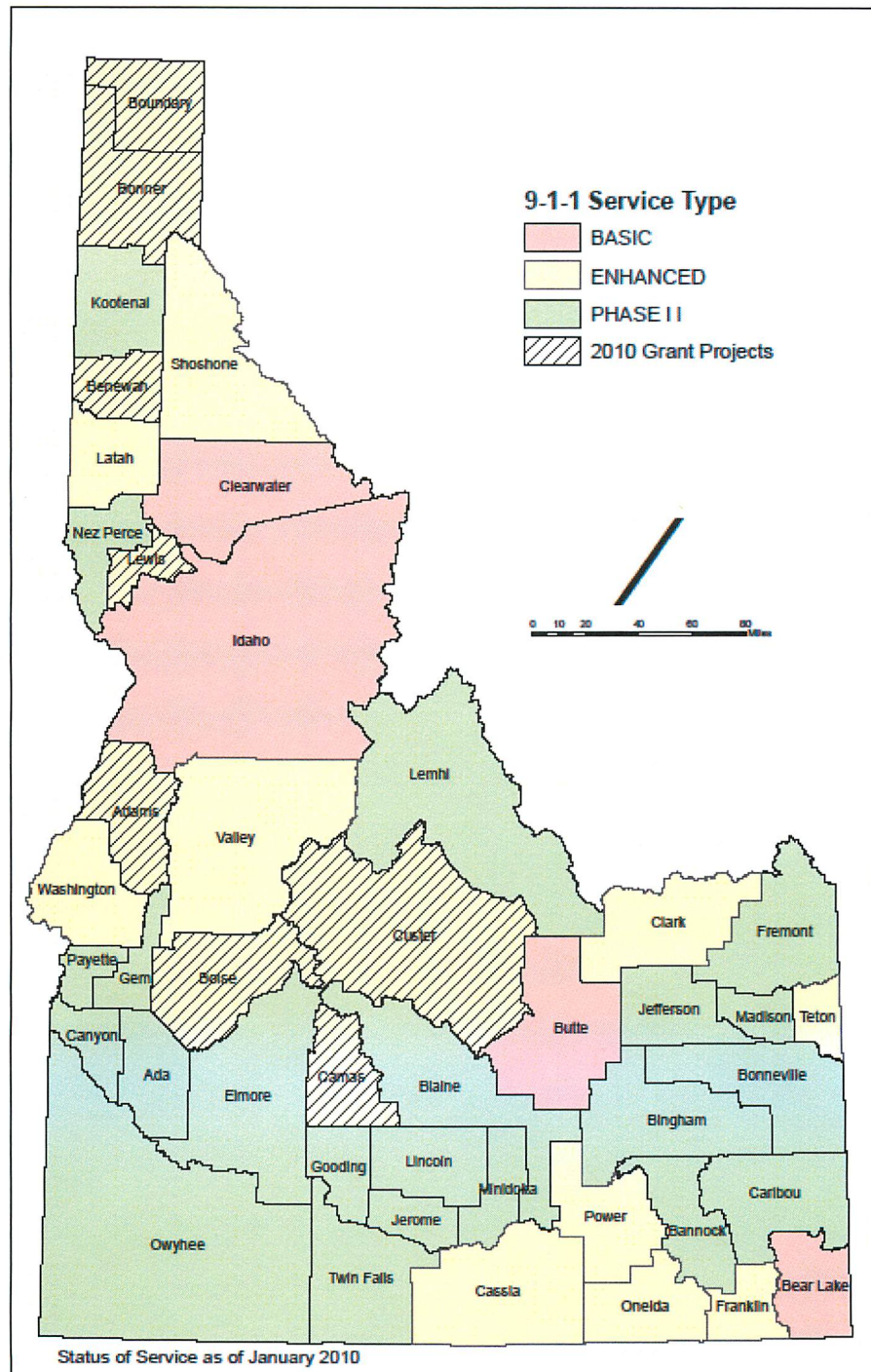
### 2009 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map





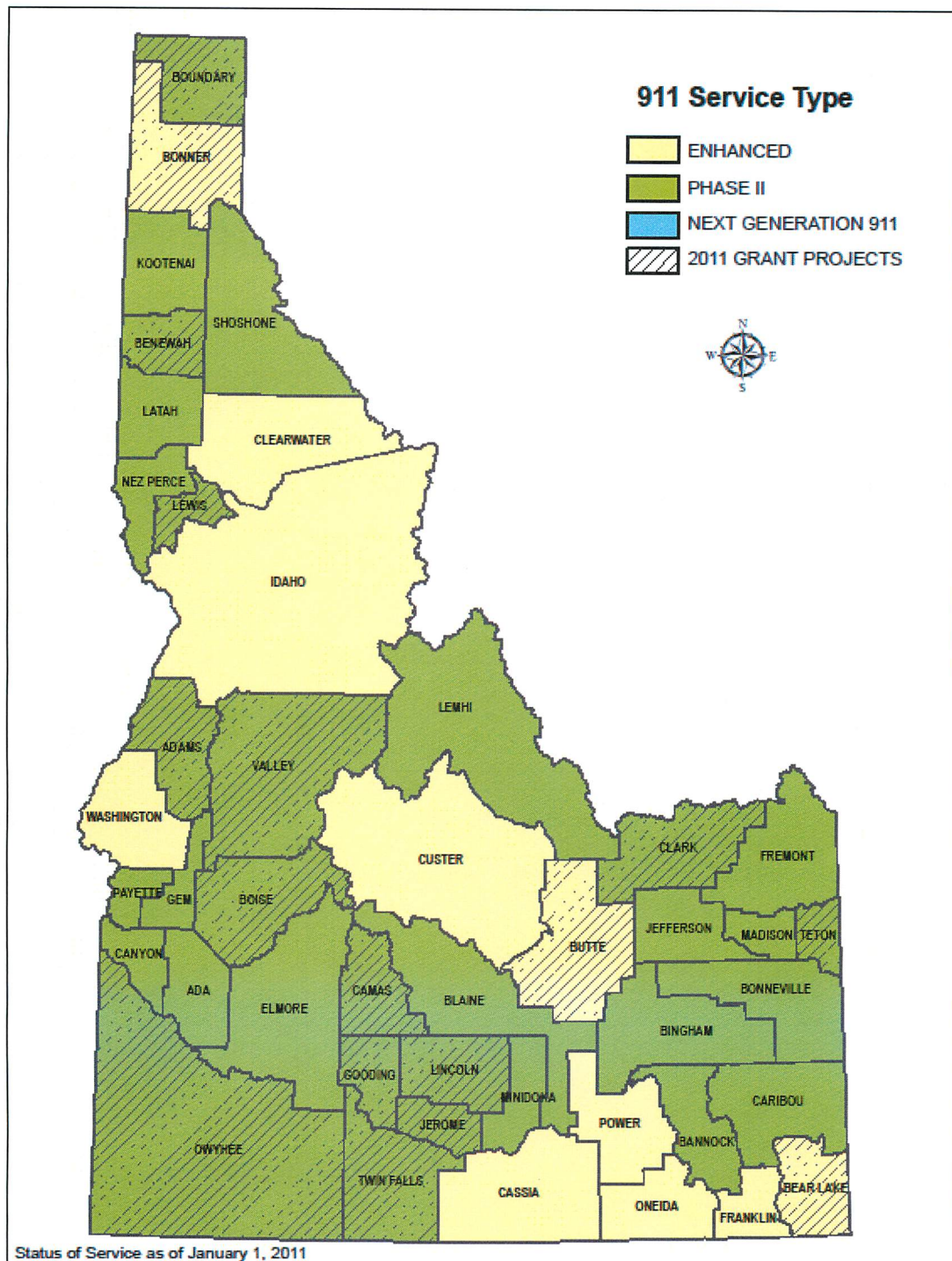
## Appendix E

### 2010 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



## Appendix F

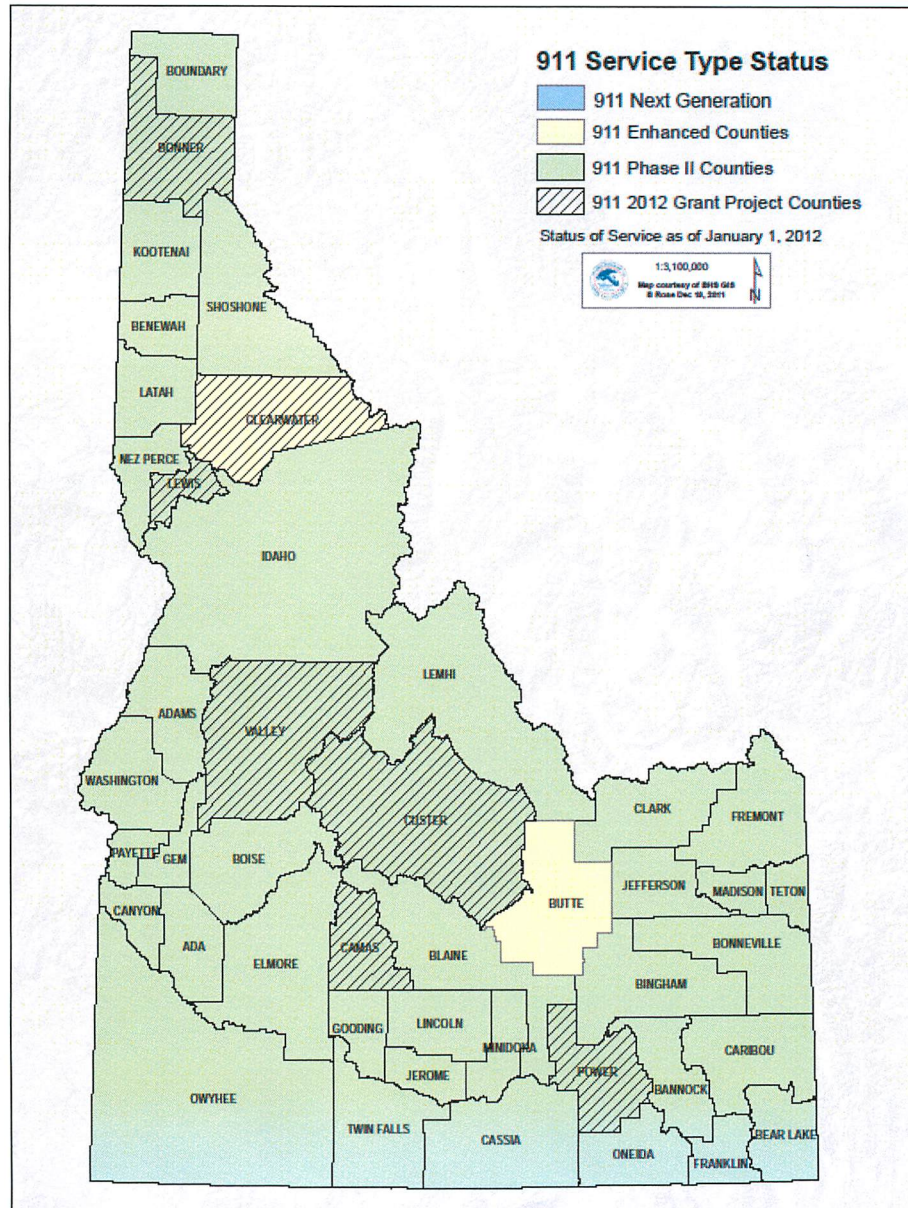
## 2011 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map





## Appendix G

### 2012 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



## Appendix H

### List of Counties Adopting the Enhanced Grant Fee

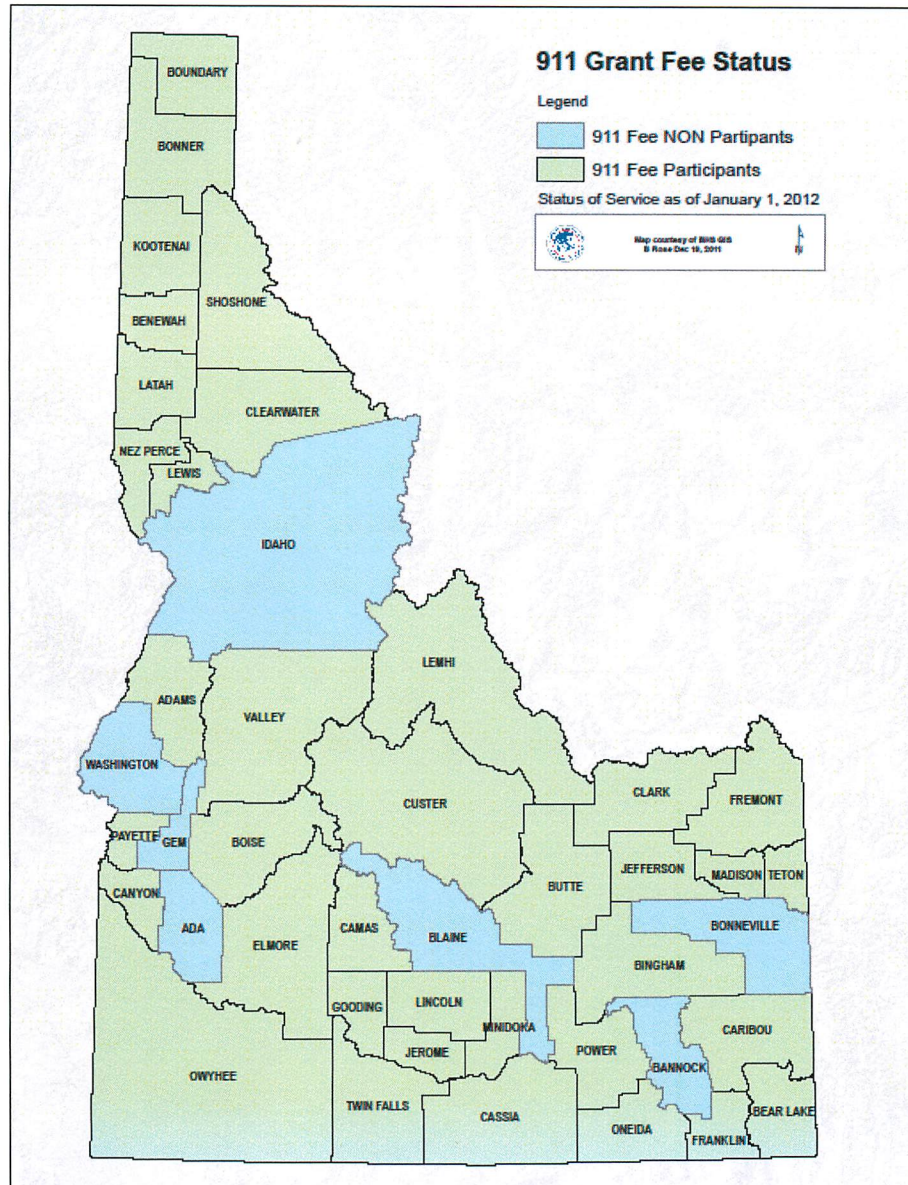
In order to collect the Grant Fee, each Board of County Commissioners must pass a resolution to begin collecting the Grant Fee. We will update this website each time the Commission is informed that a county has passed a resolution adopting the Grant Fee.

<u>Counties</u>	<u>Date of Resolution</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Adams	06/23/08	07/01/08
Bear Lake	08/04/08	09/01/08
Benewah	06/30/08	07/01/08
Bingham	06/18/08	07/01/08
Boise	06/16/08	07/01/08
Bonner	06/24/08	07/01/08
Boundary	12/23/08	02/01/09
Butte	09/22/08	12/01/08
Camas	02/09/09	04/01/09
Canyon	06/25/08	07/01/08
Caribou	06/23/08	07/01/08
Cassia	06/23/08	07/01/08
Clark	06/09/08	07/01/08
Clear Water	07/18/11	09/01/11
Custer	12/22/08	02/01/09
Elmore	06/23/08	07/01/08
Franklin	06/23/08	07/01/08
Fremont	06/16/08	07/01/08
Gooding	07/28/08	09/01/08
Jerome	09/15/08	11/01/08
Jefferson	06/23/08	07/01/08
Kootenai	07/15/08	08/01/08
Latah	06/18/08	09/01/08
Lemhi	10/27/10	01/01/11
Lewis	12/01/08	01/01/09
Lincoln	11/10/08	01/01/09
Madison	02/23/09	04/01/09
Minidoka	06/23/08	07/01/08
Nez Perce	07/07/08	08/01/08
Oneida	06/24/08	08/01/08
Owyhee	06/16/08	07/01/08
Payette	06/30/08	07/01/08
Power	06/23/09	07/01/08



## Appendix I

### 2012 Enhanced Grant Fee Status Map



## Appendix J

### Legislative Authority

After almost 20 years since the original enactment of the Emergency Communications Act, there is still an increasing need in many Idaho communities. In amendments to the Act in 2004, 2007 and again in 2008, the Legislature found:

- (a) Since the original enactment of the emergency communications act in 1988, many of Idaho's communities have found that they are lacking in the resources to fully fund emergency communications systems at the local level;
- (b) Changes in technology and the rapid growth of communications media have demonstrated that financing such systems solely by a line charge on subscribers to wire line services does not reflect utilization of emergency communications systems by subscribers to wireless and other forms of communications systems;
- (c) There is a need to enhance funding for the initiation and enhancement of consolidated emergency communications systems throughout the state;
- (d) Utilization of cellular telephones and voice over internet protocol (VoIP) communications to access emergency communications systems has substantially increased citizen access to emergency services while at the same time increasing demands upon the emergency response system;
- (e) In order to protect and promote the public health and safety, and to keep pace with advances in telecommunications technology and the various choices of telecommunications technology available to the public, there is a need to plan and develop a statewide coordinated policy and program to ensure that Enhanced 9-1-1 services are available to all citizens of the state and in all areas of the state.
- (f) The need to implement planning for the migration to the Next Generation 9-1-1.

Idaho Code § 31-4801 (2009).

With these directives from the Legislature, the Commission has continued to strive to fulfill its purpose and responsibilities as prescribed in Idaho Code § 31-4816. These are to:

- (1) Determine the status and operability of consolidated emergency communications systems statewide;
- (2) Determine the needs for the upgrade of consolidated emergency communications systems;
- (3) Determine the costs for the upgrades;
- (4) Recommend guidelines and standards for operation of consolidated emergency communications systems;
- (5) Recommend funding mechanisms for future implementation of upgrades;

- (6) Serve as a conduit for the future allocation of federal grant funds to support the delivery of consolidated emergency communications systems;
- (7) Report annually to the legislature of the State of Idaho on the planned expenditures for the next fiscal year, the collected revenues and moneys disbursed from the fund and the programs or projects in progress, completed or anticipated;
- (8) Enter into contracts with experts, agents, employees or consultants as may be necessary . . . ;  
and
- (9) Promulgate rules . . . to carry out the purposes of the Commission's duties.

Idaho Code § 31-4816.

In 2008 the Enhanced Emergency Communications Grant Fee was enacted to help fund E9-1-1, Wireless Phase I and II, and Next Generation 9-1-1 throughout Idaho.

#### §31-4819 Enhanced Emergency Communications Grant Fee

(1) Effective from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2014, there shall be an enhanced emergency communications grant fee established by virtue of authority granted by this chapter. The fee shall be twenty-five cents (25¢) per month per access of [or] interconnected VoIP service line.

(a) Such fee shall be authorized by resolution of a majority vote of the board of commissioners of a countywide system or by the governing board of a 911 service area.

(b) Such fee shall be remitted to the Idaho emergency communications fund provided in section 31-4818(1), Idaho Code, on a quarterly basis by county, city or consolidated emergency communications systems. Such fee shall be dedicated for and shall be authorized for disbursement as grants to eligible entities that are operating consolidated emergency communications systems for use to achieve the purposes of this chapter.

(c) The commission, on an annual basis, shall prepare a budget allocating the grant funds available to eligible entities and the portion of the funds necessary for the continuous operation of the commission to achieve the purposes of this chapter.

(d) To be eligible for grant funds under this chapter, a county or 911 service area must be collecting the emergency communications fee in accordance with section 31-4804, Idaho Code, in the full amount authorized and must also be collecting the enhanced emergency communications grant fee in the full amount authorized in this subsection.

(e) If a county or 911 service area has authorized the collection of the enhanced emergency communications grant fee pursuant to this chapter, such county or 911 service area shall retain the full amount of the emergency communications fee that was set by the board of commissioners or governing board pursuant to section 31-4803, Idaho Code. The county or 911 service area is then also exempt from remitting to the Idaho emergency communications commission one percent (1%) of the total emergency communications fee received by the county or 911 service area as required in section 31-4818(3), Idaho Code. The remaining funds from the enhanced emergency communications grant fee collected shall then be remitted by the county or 911 service area to the Idaho emergency communications commission.

(2) On and after July 1, 2014, the collection of the emergency communications fee shall revert to the provisions of sections 31-4801 through 31-4818, Idaho Code.

Idaho Code § 31-4819 (2009).