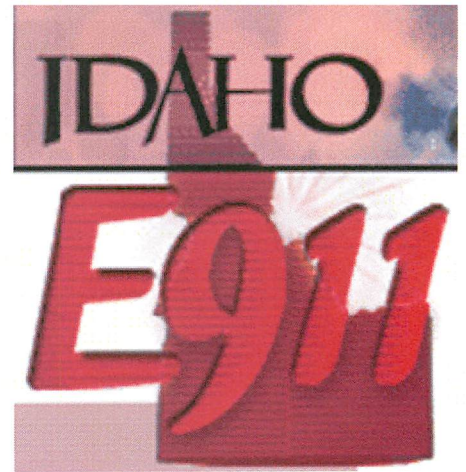


IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 2014 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE



Prepared by:

STATE OF IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

January 2, 2014





Idaho Emergency Communications Commission

2014 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 2013

- **Enhanced Grant Fee Fund Awards to Provide Funding for 911 Center upgrades in 2014**

Adams County	\$ 2,000.00
Bear Lake County	\$ 2,000.00
Benewah County	\$ 44,965.56
Bingham County	\$509,349.40
Boise County	\$ 65,630.00
Bonner County	\$548,944.00
Boundary County	\$ 19,919.25
Butte County	\$ 2,000.00
Camas County	\$ 25,811.20
Canyon County	\$112,825.81
Caribou County	\$101,409.60
Cassia County	\$ 2,000.00
City of Post Falls	\$ 69,011.18

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City of Twin Falls	\$380,700.54
Clark County	\$ 2,000.00
Clearwater County	\$ 2,000.00
Custer County	\$ 25,160.50
Elmore County	\$ 2,000.00
Franklin County	\$318,801.00
Fremont County	\$ 2,000.00
Gem County	\$ 2,000.00
Jefferson County	\$ 2,000.00
Kootenai County	\$122,258.52
Latah County	\$ 2,000.00
Lemhi County	\$ 2,000.00
Lewis County	\$ 2,000.00
Madison County	\$ 2,000.00
Minidoka County	\$ 2,000.00
Nez Perce County	\$202,832.00
Oneida County	\$ 2,000.00
Owyhee County	\$ 26,680.00
Payette County	\$ 2,000.00
Power County	\$ 2,000.00
Shoshone County	\$ 2,000.00
SIRCOMM	\$ 2,000.00
Teton County	\$ 2,000.00
Valley County	\$147,381.78

TOTAL: \$2,765,680.34

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.

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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

VACANT
Idaho Emergency Medical Services Assoc.

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

Lt. Kevin Haight
Designee for **Jerry Russell**, Director
Idaho State Police

Commissioner Lan Smith
Idaho Association of Counties
Gem County

Sheriff Len Humphries
Idaho Sheriff's Association
Fremont County

Chief Paul Roberts
Idaho Fire Chiefs Association
Boise Fire Department

Bryan Taylor
Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association
Prosecuting Attorney, Canyon County

Jodi McCrosky
Traditional Phone Service Industry
CenturyLink

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

Col. Brad Richy, 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 bi-monthly meetings throughout 2013. In keeping with the Commission's mission and to accommodate the interest from different areas of the state, the Commission met in Twin Falls in May and again in Coeur d'Alene in November.

• 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 \$303,007.00 for fiscal year 2014 (FY14) attached as Appendix B. During fiscal year 2013 (FY13), \$187,529.06 was revenue collected from the forty four counties who currently assess and collect the fee. A copy of the final operating budget for FY13 and the amounts received in fees from the counties is included in Appendix A.

With the implementation of the Enhanced Grant Fee and thirty-nine (39) participating counties, the revenue collected through this fee was \$2,391,148.46 in FY 2013. 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 is currently one (1) PSAP in Idaho that do not have this capability. With the awards of the FY14 Enhanced Grant Fee all counties in the State of Idaho will have E9-1-1 capabilities that are also Phase II Wireless compliant.

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 will be met in 2014 when Butte County goes live with their new system.
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, forty-three (43) are capable of receiving name, phone number and location information from a caller using a wireless phone. With the FY 2013 grant awards we are happy to say that by the end of 2013 all Counties will be Phase II compliant with the exception of Butte County which will be E9-1-1 and Phase II within five months and ready to start the planning for the migration to Next Generation 9-1-1.
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 2013 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, 45 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 2013 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 2013 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.

The Commission completed and approved 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.

Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Standards Committee

Mission Statement

To promote professional development and standardization of public safety communications in the State of Idaho.

History

The PSAP Standards Committee was formed in 2007 by the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission (IECC) as an advisory committee. The PSAP Committee is comprised of twelve members from dispatch centers across the State of Idaho. There are representatives from each ISP District. Representatives come from Police Departments and Sheriff's Offices of all sizes. The committee membership consists of first line supervisors, managers, and directors with a variety of backgrounds from career dispatchers and commissioned officers, with over 235 years of combined law enforcement experience. Additionally, the PSAP Committee has a representative that sits on the IECC. The PSAP committee has contacted, and continues to contact each agency in the state using surveys and round table discussions to ascertain what the committee can do to improve and enhance dispatch centers in the State of Idaho.

2013 Members

Idaho State Police and Idaho Emergency
Communications Committee
Bingham County S.O.
Cassia County S.O.
WHITCOM 9-1-1***
Canyon County S.O.
Idaho State Police
Bonneville County 9-1-1
Kootenai County S.O.
Latah County S.O.
Madison County S.O.
City of Nampa P.D.
City of Pocatello P.D.

Lt. Kevin Haight - Chairman
Erin Hidalgo – Vice Chair
DeAnn Taylor - Secretary
Wendy Berrett - Treasurer
Roxanne Wade
DeLisa Orren – ex-officio
Heather Kunz
Brad Coughenour
Kathy Gaia
Capt. Bruce Bowler
Carmen Boeger
Donielle Whitney

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Shoshone County S.O.
Valley County S.O.

Derek Dofelmire
Kelly Taylor

*** (WHITCOM 9-1-1 serves Moscow Police Department and Moscow Rural Fire and EMS, in addition to Whitman and Asotin Counties in Washington State.)

PSAP Standards Committee Objective

The primary objective of the PSAP Standards Committee is to define, create, and implement standardized training and education, as well as professional development to dispatchers and PSAPs in the State of Idaho.

2013 PSAP Standards Committee Goals

1. Prepare and implement the Second Annual 9-1-1 PSAP Seminar.

This goal was completed October 22-23, 2013. The Second Annual 9-1-1 PSAP Seminar was held at the Red Lion Hotel in downtown Boise. Using a seminar format, the PSAP Committee was able to assist in serving approximately 150 dispatchers from throughout the State. These participants represented 39 different city, county, state, and federal agencies, serving Idaho communities and citizens. This is an increase of approximately 50 participants from the First Annual 9-1-1 PSAP Seminar. Each dispatcher could earn up to 16 POST training hours by attending each available session of the seminar. Most attendees were able to take advantage of all eight training topics. For students unable to attend all sessions on both days, the option of attending only the sessions that fit into their schedule was made available. A total of approximately 2024 POST training hours were earned at no training cost to any attending agencies.

Casey Hermansen, Speaker / Trainer / Mentor, of Choose 2 Rise LLC out of Salt Lake City, UT opened the first day of the seminar as a keynote speaker with the motivational topic of "The Power of Body Language." Mr. Hermansen is a celebrated speaker, trainer, and mentor, whose life story is one of personal success, loss, and adversity.

LeRoy Forsman, retired Nampa Police Department Chief opened the second day of the seminar as a keynote speaker with the topics of Leadership and Maintaining Successful Personal Relationships. Chief Forsman currently travels the country with topics encouraging others to survive and thrive during challenging times with challenging careers.

The seminar was then highlighted with the following courses:

- a. Dispatch and the Active Shooter presented by G. Scott Dye, Training Sergeant from Idaho State Police
- b. Combat Mindset for Increased Officer Safety presented by Amy Rasmussen, Regional Communications Officer from Idaho State Police

- c. Dispatching for Emergency Medical Services presented by Christine Ballard, Dispatch Supervisor, from Owyhee County Sheriff's Office
- d. Legal Issues for Dispatchers presented by Bryan Taylor, JD, PhD, Canyon County Prosecuting Attorney, and IECC Commissioner
- e. Performance Management presented by Don Furu, Retired Captain from Pocatello Police Department
- f. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) for Dispatchers presented by Jessica Lusk, 9-1-1 Dispatcher from Bingham County Sheriff's Office
- g. Autism & Public Safety Dispatchers presented by Brian Herritt, retired police officer in the State of California, and training consultant for the Autism Risk and Safety Management team
- h. Dealing with People in Crisis presented by Sam Hulse, Captain from Bonneville County Sheriff's Office, and Sherry Glick, a dispatch supervisor from Idaho Falls / Bonneville County 9-1-1 Center.

Feedback from the seminar participants was, again, overwhelmingly positive.

- 2. Provide quarterly training opportunities for dispatchers to be presented in various areas of the state.

This goal was met by providing the following training opportunities:

- A. Quarter 1: Four Hour Domestic Violence Incidents presented by Angela Weekes, Corporal, And Kristie Thiel, Victim Witness Coordinator, from Nampa Police Department

Moscow	50 Students
Nampa	27 Students
Burley	19 Students
<u>Idaho Falls</u>	<u>48 Students</u>
Total	144 Students = 576 POST Training Hours

- B. Quarter 2: Four Hour Fire Dispatch training presented by Stephanie Harris, Lead Dispatcher, from Pocatello Police Department

Coeur d'Alene	10 Students
Moscow	14 Students
Meridian (POST)	9 Students
<u>Blackfoot</u>	<u>27 Students</u>
Total	60 Students = 240 POST Training Hours

- C. Quarter 3: Four Hour Dispatch and Patrol Communications presented by Eda Beams, Dispatcher from Nampa Police Department

Coeur d'Alene	22 Students
Nampa	19 Students
Pocatello	37 Students
<u>Idaho Falls</u>	<u>28 Students</u>

Total 106 Students = 424 POST Training Hours

D. Quarter 4: Up to 16 possible hours per participant at the Second Annual 9-1-1 PSAP Seminar (See Above)

3. Continued collaboration with POST to serve as a Dispatch Academy curriculum review board to ensure training material is current, standard, and relevant.

This goal was met with the review and updating of the POST Dispatch Academy Mapping Curriculum.

Additional Accomplishments

The PSAP Committee has developed and maintains a website for public education information. This site is also a resource for the emergency dispatch community. The website is www.idahodispatch.com. There are currently 219 members registered on this site.

The “Entry Level Emergency Communications Training Manual” created by the PSAP committee is being converted to online training material. POST is currently working out the details of how this will be disseminated and presented to students throughout the state.

2014 PSAP Standards Committee Goals

1. Prepare and implement the Third Annual 9-1-1 PSAP Seminar.
2. Provide quarterly training opportunities for dispatchers to be presented in various areas of the state.
3. Continued collaboration with POST to serve as a Dispatch Academy curriculum review board to ensure training material is current, standard, and relevant.
4. Work closely with POST in our focus to see them adopt a certification standard.
5. Collaboration with the POST council in the development of dispatch materials for the online / long-distance eLearning Portal (<https://post.idaho.gov/eLearning/>.)

• National Representation and Associations

The E9-1-1 Program Coordinator, Eddie Goldsmith, who is an employee of the Commission, represented the Commission at the 2013 National APCO conference. He also attended the National Emergency Number Association Conference

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("NENA") and two (2) National Association of State Administrators Conferences ("NASNA"). Mr. Goldsmith also conducted sixty-eight (68) 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 2013 Budget
Appendix B	Fiscal Year 2014 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	2013 Status of Service Map
Appendix I	2014 Status of Service Map
Appendix J	List of Counties Adopting the Enhanced Grant Fee
Appendix K	2013 Enhanced Grant Fee Status Map
Appendix L	Legislative Authority

Appendix A
Final Fiscal Year 2013 Budget

E911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
2013 Expenses
For the Month Ending
September 30, 2013

DESCRIPTION	FY 2013 Budget	FY 2013 Expenses
COMMISSION AND MEETING EXPENSES		
Meeting Expenses	3,000	373
In-State Travel	8,000	5,228
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
<i>E911 Project Manager Salary/ Benefits</i>	98,983	98,428
Administrative Support	10,000	10,000
Office Supplies	1,500	224
Office Equipment	1,000	
Telephone	1,400	508
Photocopying	1,100	793
Postage	500	327
Administrative Rules	200	200
Capital Improvements	19,137	14,366
Awards	400	288
Professional Membership fees	400	222
Statewide Cost Allocation Plan	10,000	19,498
CONTRACTS		
PSAP Web Maintenance	1,000	741
Consultant	95,863	99,767
IN-STATE TRAVEL		
Fuel	2,000	2,041
Vehicle maintenance	1,000	406
Lodging and per diem	3,000	3,779
IN-STATE TRAVEL PSAP COMMITTEE		

Training	6,000	4,109
Travel, lodging and per diem	15,000	15,812
OUT OF STATE TRAVEL		
NENA, NASNA & APCO CONFERENCES	4,000	4,063
	283,483	281,172
Contingency Funds	0	-
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET	283,483	281,172

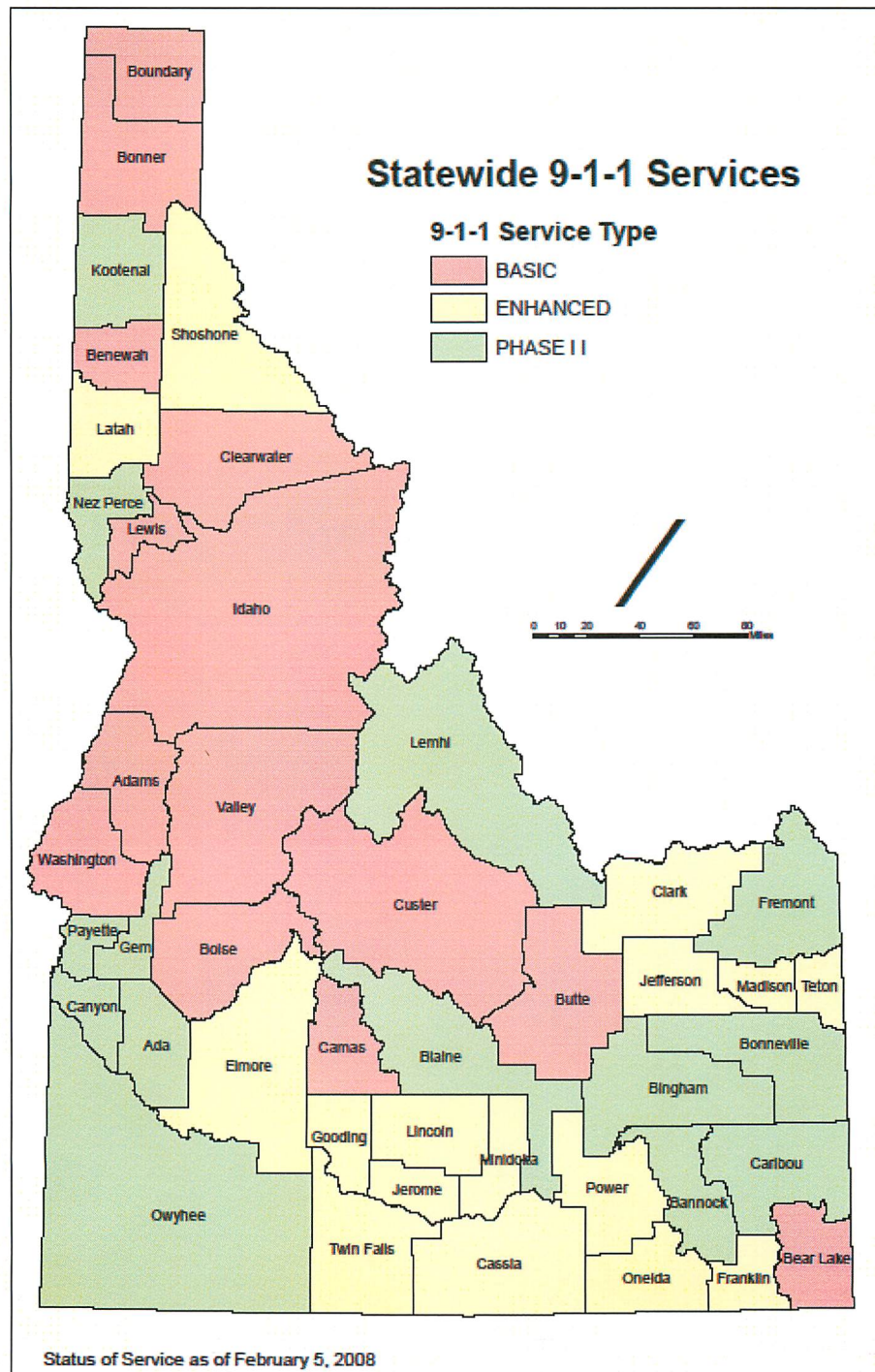
Appendix B

**E911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE
FY2014 BUDGET WORKSHEET**

DESCRIPTION	FY2013 Budget	FY2014 Draft Budget
COMMISSION AND MEETING EXPENSES		
Meeting Expenses	3,000	3,000
In-State Travel	8,000	8,000
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
<i>E911 Project Manager Salary/ Benefits</i>	98,983	103,115
<i>E911 Project Manager Salary/ Benefits(TEMPORARY)</i>	-	47,292
<i>GRANT ASSISTANT PART TIME (lte) NO benefits</i>		35,000
Administrative Support	10,000	10,000
Office Supplies	1,500	1,000
Office Equipment	1,000	1,000
Telephone	1,400	1,000
Photocopying	1,100	1,100
Postage	500	500
Administrative Rules	200	200
Capital Improvements	10,000	
Awards	400	400
Professional Membership fees	400	400
Statewide Cost Allocation Plan	10,000	5,000
Contracts		

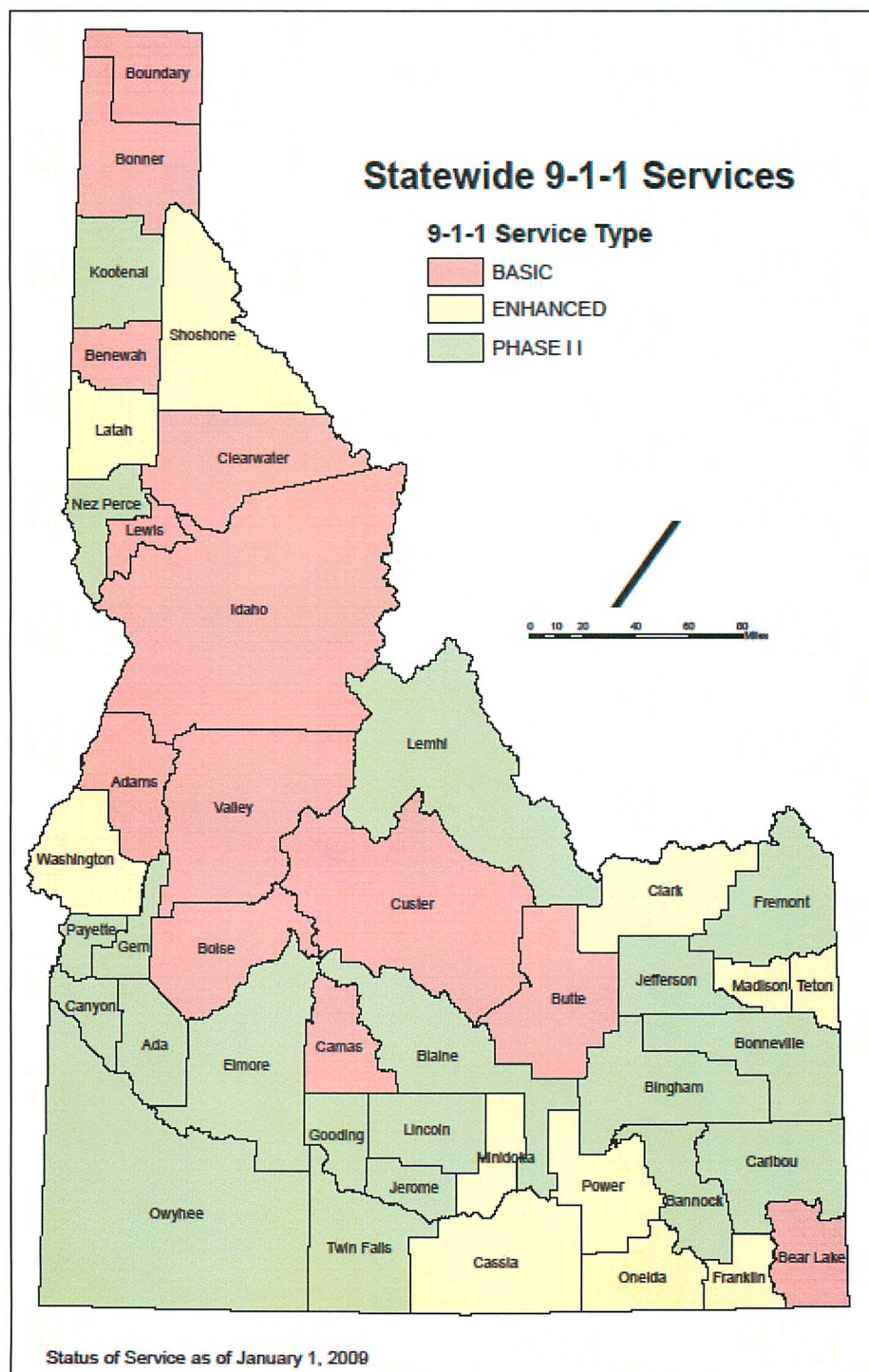
PSAP Web Maintenance	1,000	1,000
Consultant	105,000	0
IN-STATE TRAVEL		
Fuel	2,000	3,000
Vehicle maintenance	1,000	1,000
Lodging and per diem	3,000	4,000
IN-STATE TRAVEL PSAP COMMITTEE		
Training	6,000	6,000
Travel, lodging and per diem	15,000	15,000
OUT OF STATE TRAVEL		
NENA, NASNA & APCO CONFERENCES	4,000	6,000
	283,483	253,007
Contingency Funds		50,000
TOTAL ALLOCATED BUDGET	283,483	303,007

Appendix C 2008 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



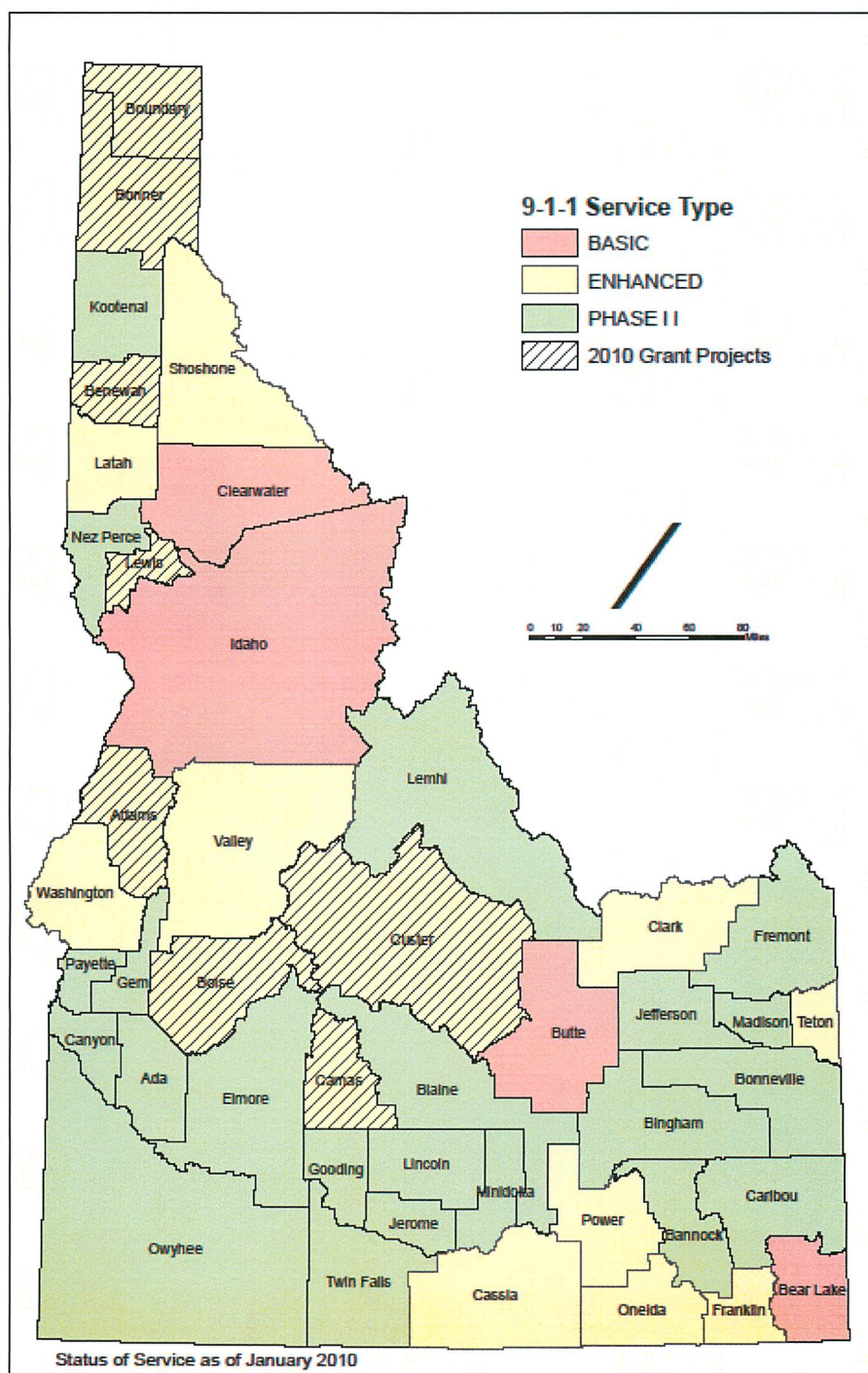
Appendix D

2009 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



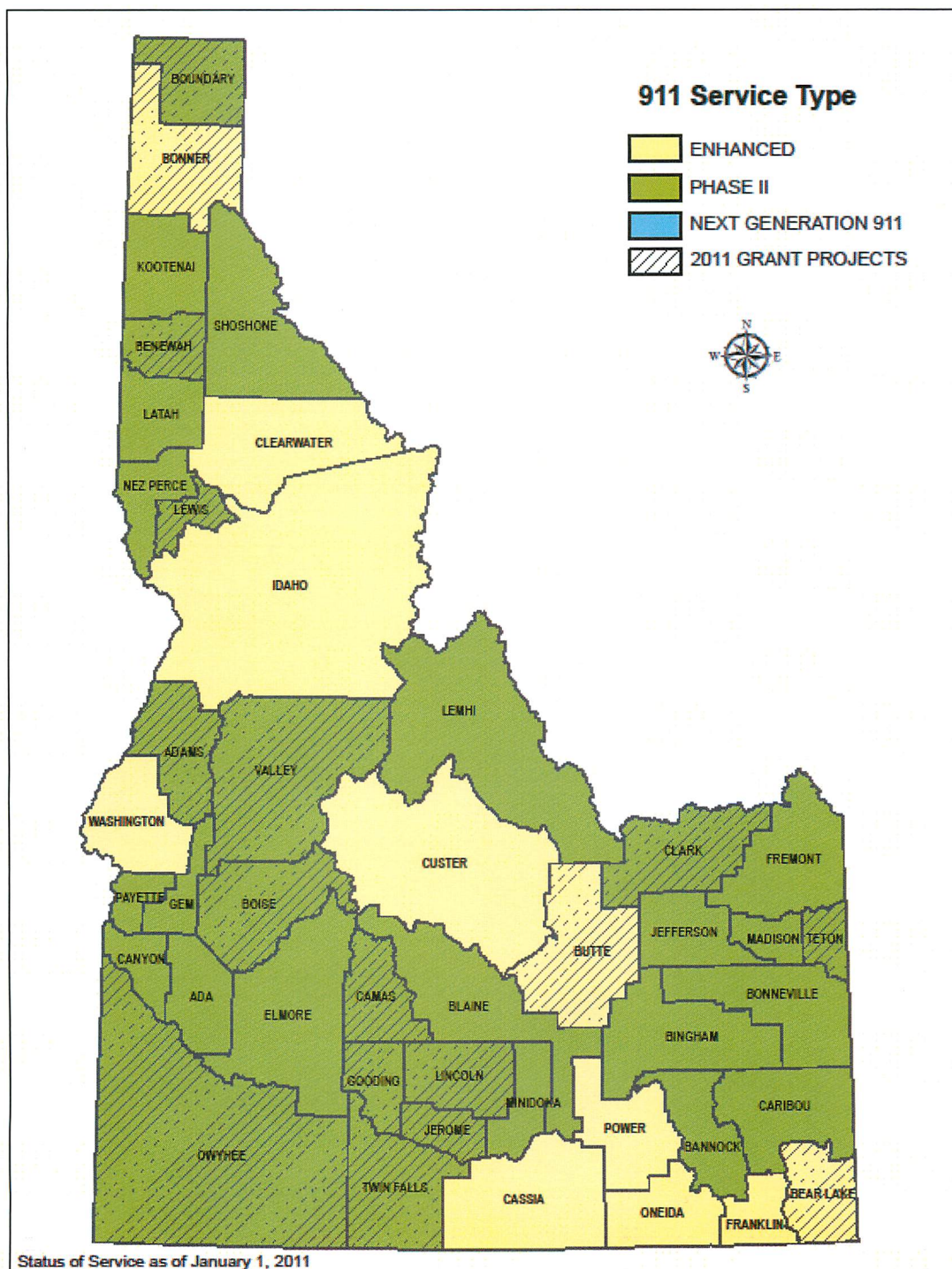
Appendix E

2010 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



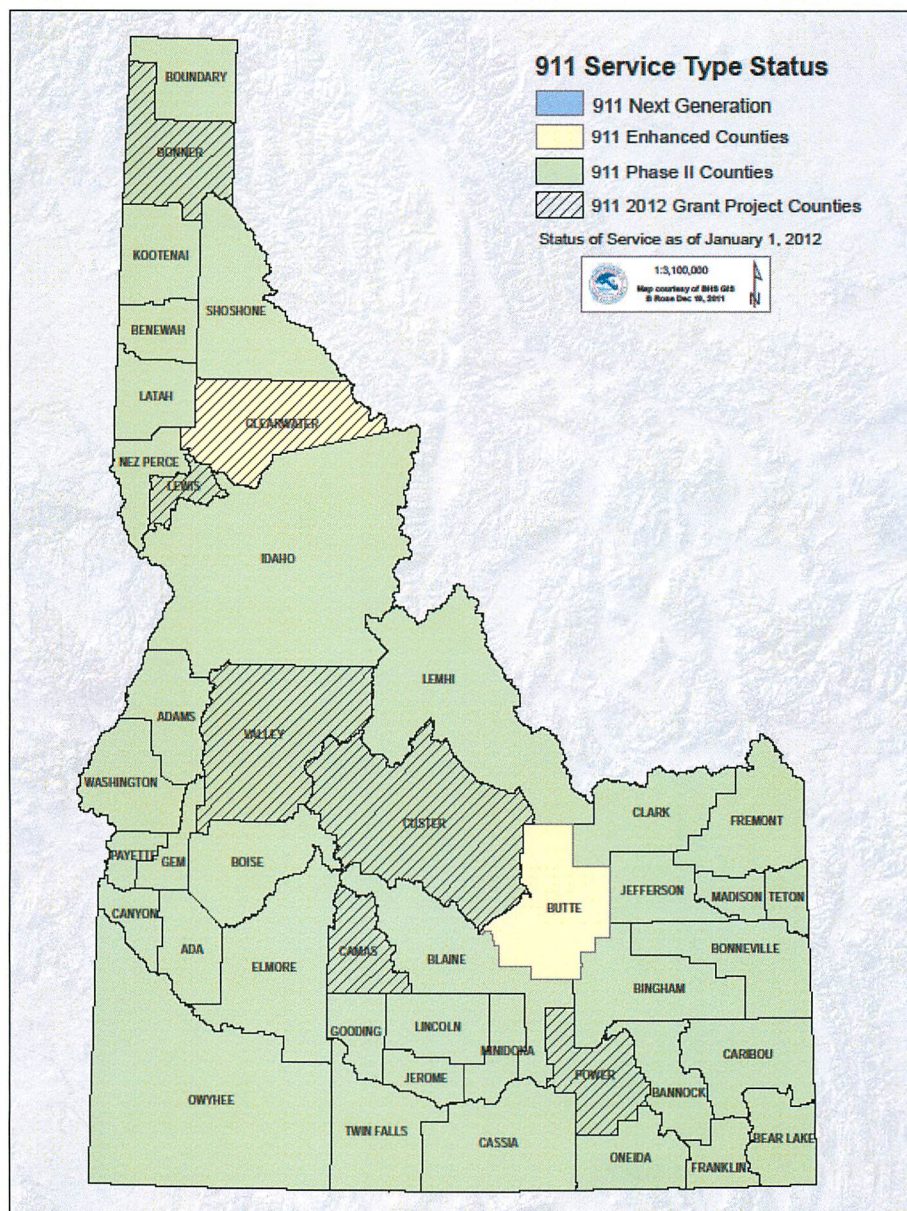
Appendix F

2011 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



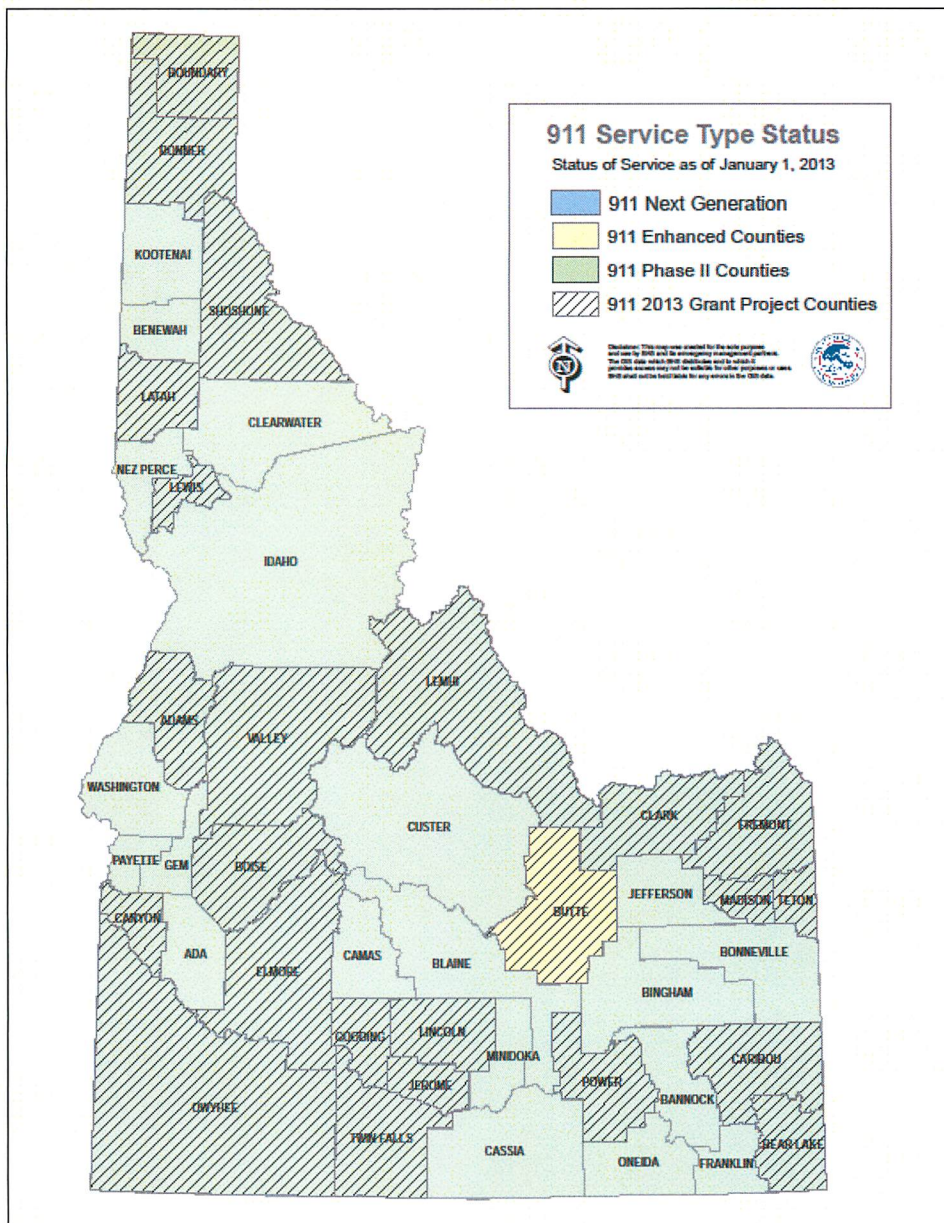
Appendix G

2012 Status of 9-1-1 Service Map



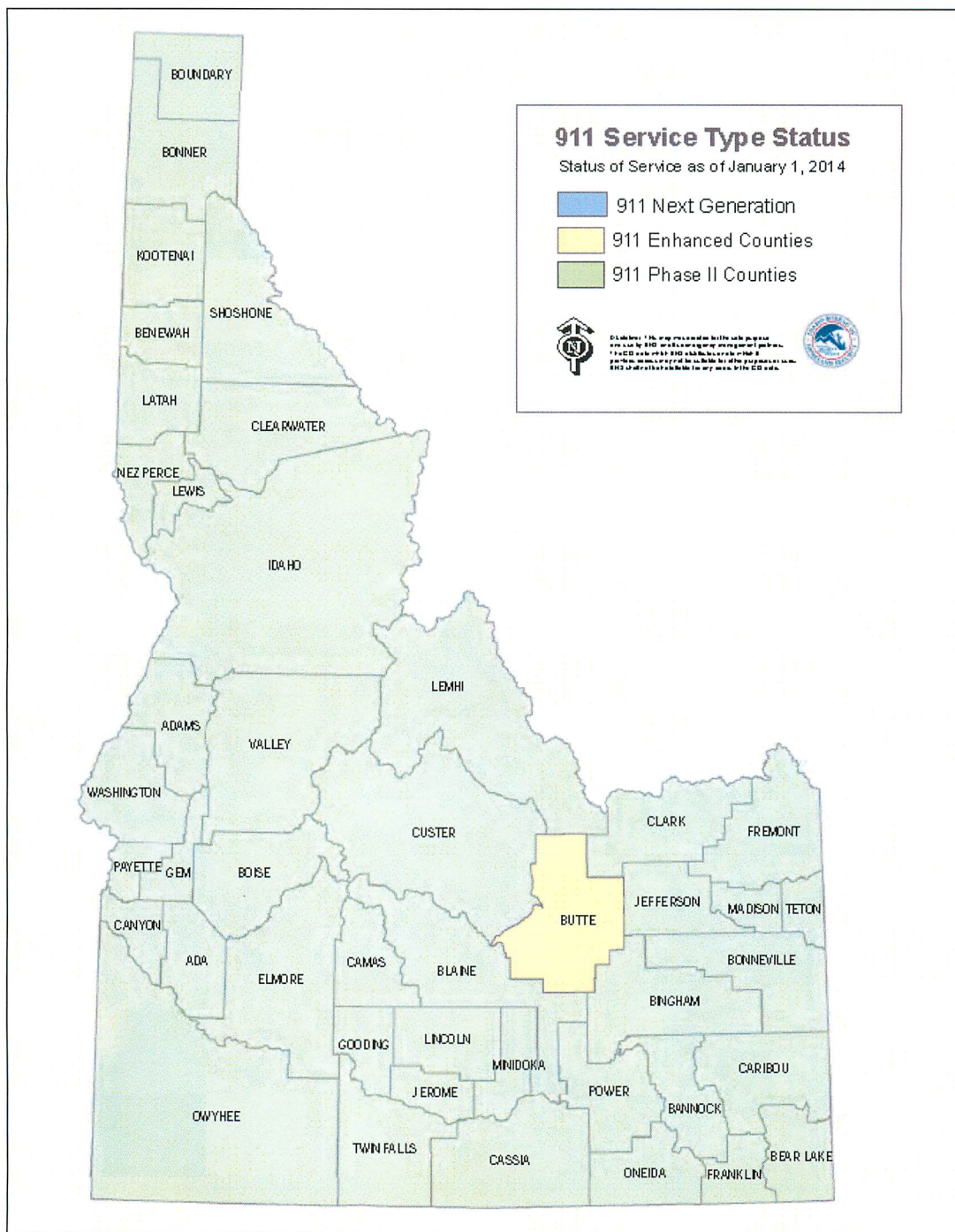
Appendix H

2013 Status of 9-1-1 Service



Map

Appendix I 2014 Status of Service Map



Appendix J

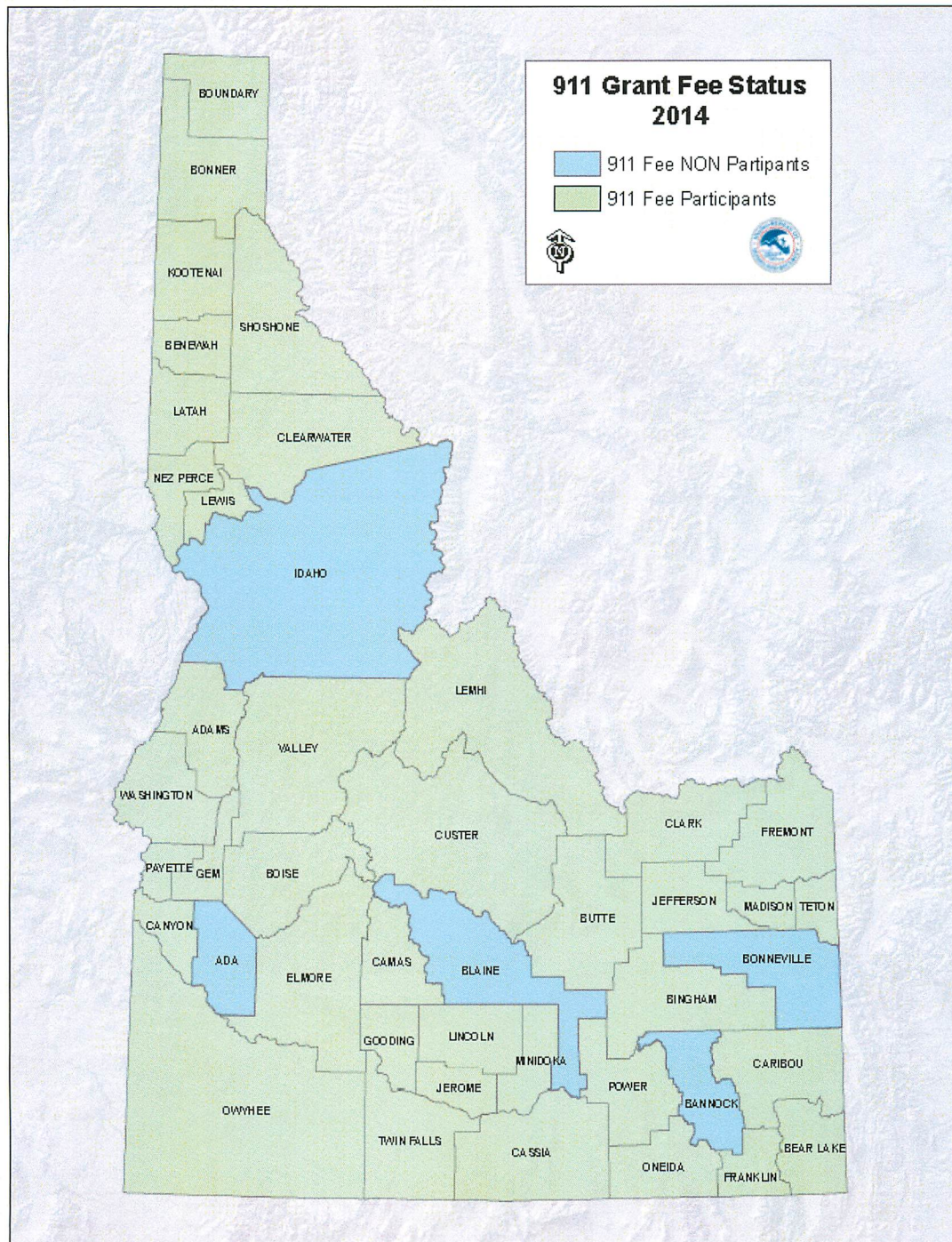
List of Counties Adopting the Enhanced Grant Fee

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
Gem	05/20/13	07/01/13
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
Shoshone	6/25/08	7/01/08
Teton	8/25/08	10/01/08
Twin Falls	6/25/08	7/01/08
Valley	6/09/08	7/01/08
Washington	09/11/13	11/01/13

Appendix K

2014 Enhanced Grant Fee Status Map



Appendix L

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).