

# Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2014

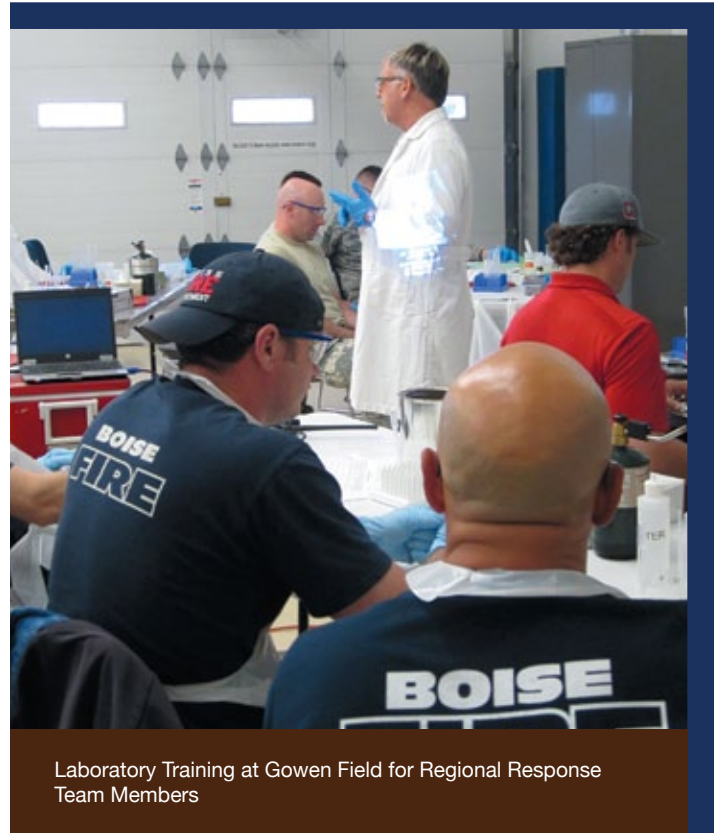
## HazMat Week 2014 Draws Hundreds First Responders Working to Keep Idaho Communities Safe

During the week of April 21 through 25, 2014, over 100 hazardous materials responders from local, tribal, state, and federal agencies gathered at Gowen Field in Boise for "HazMat Week 2014".

Federal law requires responders to renew their competencies for responding to hazardous materials incidents every year. HazMat Week was developed by the Idaho Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams to assist them in renewing and maintaining their hazardous materials competencies.

All of Idaho's Regional Response Teams were represented along with members from the Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho National Lab, Idaho State Police, FBI, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, 101st Civil Support Team, and EPA.

The curriculum was designed around the competency requirements in 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) and NFPA 472. Instructors were from the Regional Teams, Department of Energy, EPA, 101st CST, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, and individuals who have authored hazardous materials texts.



Laboratory Training at Gowen Field for Regional Response Team Members

HazMat continued on pg. 3 »



Idaho Governor Butch Otter and Incident Commander Rich Harvey at the 2013 Elk/Pony Complex fire. KTVB Cameraman Paul Boehlke videotapes the briefing with a Wildland Firefighter

## Western Governors Declare May Wildfire Awareness Month

As the hot summer months quickly approach, wildfires will become a growing concern for Idahoans and residents of other Western states. In an effort to help prepare their citizens for the forthcoming fire season, governors from six Western states issued a joint proclamation declaring May as Wildfire Awareness Month. California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Utah have all joined together to help raise awareness and preparedness for wildfire hazards in the upcoming dry months. Taking action early means more peace of mind. It also reduces the need to scramble to prepare when a wildfire threatens. Fire season in Idaho typically ranges from May to October and even a small wildfire during any of those months has the potential to cause damage to life or property.

Wildfire continued on pg. 4 »



Greetings,

As I took off from Boise in the Cessna 182 headed for Nez Perce, it was clear skies and perfect flying weather. I was headed for the joint Idaho and Lewis County Local Emergency Planning Committee. When I have flown recently the air is usually filled with smoke. I thought back over the past couple of years as director and was reminded how important our mission is. The dedicated emergency managers in north central Idaho were fully engaged in that mission, and I appreciated the time spent with them preparing for the days that would not be as calm.

One of our core competencies is that of grant management. We receive grant funding from the federal level and pass through much of it to agencies, organizations, counties and tribes throughout Idaho. This can sometimes be an arduous task given changing grant guidance, fluctuating funding levels, and multiple grants open at any one time. We've been working hard over the last couple of years to ensure

the funding we manage is strategically increasing our state's collective emergency management and homeland security abilities. The other aspect of grant management is our ability to administer the complex financial workings of multiple grants and multiple sub-grantees. I'm excited that our Grant Management Branch has selected a vendor who will provide a grant management system. This system will allow real-time transactions by subgrantees, and will generate reports and provide applications and tracking of grant funds.

Another focus of our agency over the past year has been our Continuity of Operations, or COOP, program. This program and planning process makes sure we can continue to provide essential functions, even if our primary facility is compromised. After-action reports of events throughout the nation illustrate the importance of a COOP program, as events can quickly demand picking up and moving somewhere else. With the idea of being able to conduct both day-to-day operations and emergency operations center activities, we've made considerable strides in having a plan and an alternate facility from which to operate. We have conducted a table top exercise of the plan, and will be doing a full-scale relocation exercise in the near future.

It's always been my vision for our staff to aggressively pursue increased capability with a constant focus on serving our customers at the highest level. Every agency has areas on which they can improve, but I am thankful for the dedication of our employees. As always, please contact me or any of the BHS staff if you have questions or suggestions. We are here to serve the state of Idaho, and are always looking for ways to improve.

Respectfully,  
Brad

Brad Richy, State of Idaho Military Division  
Director, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security  
Direct Line: 208-422-3001  
Admin Assistant: 208-258-6591



This newsletter is the official newsletter of the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security. This quarterly publication is intended for the use of the State of Idaho's emergency management community, legislators, government officials and others who are interested in learning about Idaho's emergency management techniques and procedures.

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor

Maj. Gen. Gary Saylor, Adjutant General,  
Idaho Military Division

Brig. Gen. Brad Richy, Director, Idaho  
Bureau of Homeland Security  
208-422-3001

Elizabeth Duncan, editor  
(208) 422-3033

Blake Holgate, design editor  
(208) 863-8464

The training was "hands-on" in most cases which helps individuals develop real response skills. Here is a snap shot of the courses offered during the week:

- Chemical Hazard Categorization "Haz Cat" - The participants become familiar with proper lab safety techniques and procedures as they are learning the sequence of basic chemical hazard categorization testing and associated equipment. Using demonstrations and hands-on experience, participants develop the skills to identify primary and secondary chemical and physical hazards needed to safely manage unknown chemicals. Participants are given a variety of unknown chemicals to test in order to help build their skill set to properly use the EPA Region 10 First Step method.
- Radiation Response - Students receive a comprehensive review ensuring their understanding of radioactive material, radiological survey instruments and decontamination techniques for handling radiologically contaminated victims. Hands-on practical exercises verify that the student's understanding and knowledge of radiological principles, instrument operation, decontamination techniques and employing radiologically contaminated patient treatment practices are solid. This course includes use of "live" radiation sources in the practical exercises to reinforce learning.
- Bridge Calls, State Resources, CST - This course included the workings of the Idaho Hazardous Materials/WMD Incident Command and Response Support Plan including how the plan works, the ins and outs of Bridge calls, resources available, and an introduction to the 101st Civil Support Team.
- Lanes Training – Given by the 101st Civil Support Team - Personnel were broken down into 2 to 3 person teams and perform the operations in the context of an entry scenario wearing Level A PPE and accompanied

by a CST observer. The downrange scenarios pose either a chemical or biological threat. Upon completion of the training, personnel should have developed a working knowledge of the tactics and techniques the 101st WMD CST's survey section employs.

Other courses included a tank farm tour, science officer training, training on how to use the PEAC hazardous materials

software, mercury spill response, and "The Chemistry of Detection and Identification and What it Means to You."

The final day had speakers from the Idaho Department of Labs going over a new sampling kit and a case study by Regional Response Team 4, Boise Fire Department concerning suicides by hydrogen sulfide created by common chemicals.

Utilizing the resources at the National Guard Base on Gowen Field helped to lower the costs of putting on such training. The attendees to this training are not charged a fee.

In addition to the excellent hazardous materials training offered, networking occurs between the various agencies represented. This translates into better responses in the field because of existing relationships and a level of understanding of response skills.

Haz Mat Week is designed and offered by the State of Idaho Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams and the 101st Civil Support Team on even numbered years. During the odd numbered years, each team does their own competency training. The next Haz Mat Week is anticipated to occur during spring 2016.



Mike Boykin, EPA On Scene Coordinator demonstrates how to identify hazardous materials



To kick-off Wildfire Awareness Month, Idaho Firewise partnered with the Idaho Department of Lands and Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security to develop and release a new coloring book for children featuring the Guberif. In Idaho, the Guberif (that's Firebug spelled backward) is known as a carefree individual with tendencies to initiate wildfires due to his carelessness. Guberif a symbol of what NOT to do to help prevent wildfires. These coloring books will be available at various fire prevention events all summer long, as well as at Idaho Department of Lands offices, Idaho State Parks, and local fire departments.

Idaho Firewise is a non-profit organization whose mission is to coordinate, support, and promote statewide wildland fire education to broaden the understanding of wildfire's role in ecosystems. It encourages those who live in or visit Idaho to take

responsibility for reducing the risk of loss from wildfire. More information on how to prepare and protect people, property, and communities from the risk of wildfire is available at [www.idahofirewise.org](http://www.idahofirewise.org).

Mallory Eils, Community Preparedness Coordinator  
208-258-6592 [meils@bhs.idaho.gov](mailto:meils@bhs.idaho.gov)



## Susan Cleverley is the BHS Employee of the Quarter

Each Quarter the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security profiles a valued team member whose work embodies the mission of BHS. Susan Cleverley has been with the Bureau more than 15 years. Her supervisor, Mark Stephensen, describes Susan as an exemplary employee who demonstrates considerable professionalism with significant insight towards fairness and competency.



Among Susan's accomplishments:

- Completion of the 2013 Idaho State Hazard Mitigation Plan revision with FEMA approval of the plan. The SHMP revision is a complex and demanding project. Susan completed this task on schedule using two contractors as support and with great attention to detail and to overall quality and effectiveness of the plan itself. Susan established an aggressive implementation of the various action items prescribed by the SHMP as well as the annual planned maintenance meetings prescribed within the plan.
- Maintaining a demanding program of supporting EMWs, Silver Jackets and fellow state/federal agencies with training and dissemination of programmatic information and technical assistance. Susan is always looking for new and different ways of communicating the BHS mission and especially the requirements of the Mitigation Section. She has become an expert in building PowerPoint presentations with which to communicate complex information.
- Susan continues to demonstrate the finest professional attitude toward our constituents and our federal, state, and local partners. She is a willing and congenial participant in whatever forum she attends. Susan is always constructive, cheerful and competent.
- Susan also continues to provide a considerable amount of knowledge and experience in both the Mitigation Section and in the Grants Management function and to patiently instruct and offer advice to all whom she encounters. She maintains a vast knowledge of BHS financial and grant processes and she excels in her knowledge of both state and federal financial practices and requirements.
- Susan effectively represents both BHS and the Mitigation Section on several technical advisory groups including the Idaho Silver Jackets, Island Park Sustainable Forest Community, Valley County Fire Working Group and the ILRCC. In the course of the SHMP revision, Susan facilitated the Plan Revision Executive committee, conducting meetings and maintaining inputs from various committee members. She is a strong supporter of the EOPT process and is constantly seeking to exploit existing capabilities for both BHS and all of our working partnerships.
- Susan is a hard-working member of the BHS staff and provides an invaluable service to her colleagues at BHS. Susan is also a faithful and responsible State of Idaho employee serving the people of the Gem State.

# Demand for LiDAR Strong in Idaho

Local governments encouraged to request cost estimates to partner with Risk Map

## What is LiDAR?

Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technology is a mapping tool that works on the principal of radar but uses a laser to make very accurate laser imaging maps. With a land space of more than 83,000 square miles there is a strong demand for this technology in Idaho. The LiDAR instrument uses lasers and mirrors and is about the size of a coffee table. It is loaded into an aircraft and flown over a pre-determined area. The resulting images look like something from the newest video game.

## How do I Use LiDAR?

LiDAR is used to create “topographic” or “elevation” maps. A small aircraft fitted with the instrument flies over an area once and then circles back to collect the next swath, ensuring a small amount of overlap. Large areas of information are collected using an eye-safe near infrared laser. The resulting maps are used for a variety of applications which makes LiDAR technology highly desirable to federal, state, local, non-profit, and academic partners.

## Who's interested in buying LiDAR?

Through the Idaho Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) program, the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA) purchased hundreds of square miles of LiDAR in the past throughout Idaho. Often communities like the City of Middleton will add local funds to scan additional areas of local interest. This year FEMA is purchasing 223 mi.2. in the American Falls and Big Wood areas. Within two-weeks, local communities requested cost estimates for an additional 884 mi.2 in addition to the Risk MAP partnership; that's a grand total of over 1,107 square miles. LiDAR costs vary depending on how much is purchased. The more you buy the lower price per square mile.

## How does Cooperative LiDAR buying work?

Several Idaho counties are taking advantage of a cooperative LiDAR purchase by asking for cost estimates around the above areas. Local government units and the private/quasi-private sectors coordinate with pre-planned LiDAR acquisitions in order to purchase their own additional data (buy-in or buy-up). This is important since getting the plane, instrument, surveyed ground control points and flight plans assembled at the acquisition site is often the most costly part of buying LiDAR. Cooperatively buying LiDAR to coincide with a planned flight is cost effective way to buy LiDAR.

## How does your jurisdiction take action?

If your jurisdiction is interested in



Boise State University LiDAR Research Associate Lucas Spaete demonstrates LiDAR technology in the Boise Center Aerospace Laboratory

partnering for a LiDAR cooperative-buy, and possibly realizing a reduction in price due to the collective effort, then it's a great time to engage in the process and partner with the Risk MAP program at the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS). Typical partnerships include adding to the acquisition area of a pre-planned flight using local funds or acquiring enhanced processing of the data using local funds. You can request a cost estimate and then work directly with the vendor who coordinates with cooperative buying partners.

## PICTURES:

Watershed Sciences, 2011 (vendor for Priest, Snake and City of Middleton)

## LiDAR LAB:

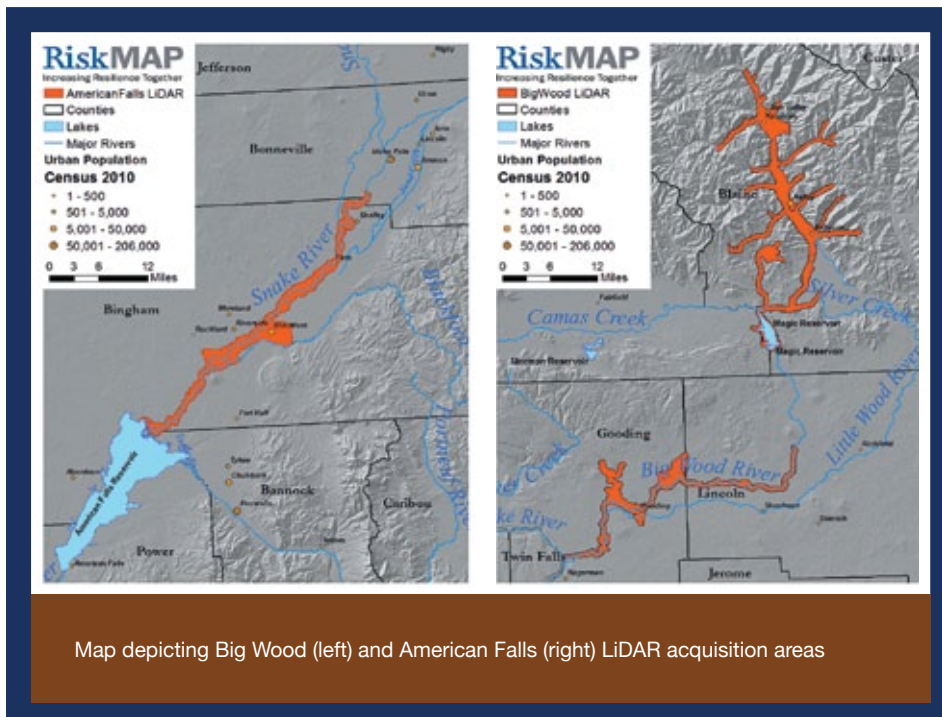
Boise Center Aerospace Laboratory  
Director  
Nancy F. Glenn, Ph.D., P.E.  
Department of Geosciences  
<http://bcal.boisestate.edu/>  
208-426-2933  
<http://earth.boisestate.edu/people/nancy-glenn/>

Lucas Spaete  
Research Associate  
Department of Geosciences  
<http://earth.boisestate.edu/people/lucas-spaete/>

## VISUALIZATION LAB:

Steve Cutchin  
Associate Professor  
Computer Science  
<http://coen.boisestate.edu/faculty-staff/stevencutchin/>

Boise State University  
1910 University Drive  
Boise, Idaho 83725-1535



Map depicting Big Wood (left) and American Falls (right) LiDAR acquisition areas

# Changes in the Homeland Security Grant Program

The State Homeland Security Grant Program is an important part of Idaho, commitment to building and sustaining the capability to Prevent, Protect, Mitigate, Respond to, and Recover from acts of terrorism and other hazards. Since its inception in 2003, the program has undergone significant changes in focus and oversight.

One of the most sweeping changes for the 2014 grant program is the focus on individual projects tailored to increase capability and reduce vulnerability. The renewed emphasis on individual projects extends down to the subgrantee level and will change how the application process is handled in both 2014 and in future grant cycles.

First, the 2014 HSGP Grant application process will be automated with the SPARS web-based grant tool. SPARS is the State Preparedness Assessment and Reporting Service. It provides state administering agencies with tools to support the DHS grant monitoring, evaluation, and reporting process. The SPARS tool will be operational when BHS opens the application period, July 1st 2014. All subgrantees will start the application process in the new system. The initial application will be followed up with individual projects to be submitted by December 1, 2014. BHS will provide individualized training in every region to assist subgrantees with the application process. The training starts at the end of June. Assistance in project development will begin in September 2014. This will allow all of the Homeland Security funds to be identified with

specific projects in time for the 2015 Biannual Strategy Implementation Report.

For the 2015 grant cycle, BHS must have the individual subgrantee projects prior to completing the federal application in the April time frame. In order to facilitate this process, BHS will assist subgrantees with project development throughout the fall and winter, culminating in February with an exercise, tentatively in conjunction with the IEMA conference, to align capability gaps with projects and funding levels.

## **Key Dates:**

***July 1, 2014 – 2014 HSGP Applications Open***

***August 15, 2014 – 2014 HSGP Applications Close***

***September 1, 2014 – 2014 HSGP Awards to Counties***

***October 15, 2014 – 2014 HSGP Signed awards or extensions due to BHS***

## **Project Development for 2014 and 2015 Projects**

***December 1, 2014 – 2014 Projects Due to BHS***

***January 1, 2015 – BSIR open and projects uploaded***

***February 2015 – Exercise to finalize project development***



# THE IDAHO BUREAU OF HOMELAND SECURITY IS PLEASED TO PROVIDE THE 2013 GRANT ROLL UP.

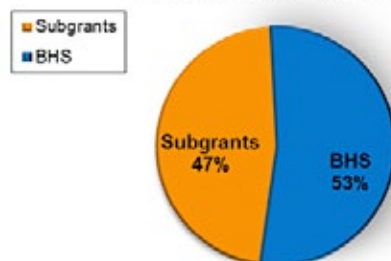
In 2011, Congress passed the Budget Control Act of 2011 to limit federal spending and reduce our national debt. To enforce annual spending limits, that law required across-the-board funding reductions to almost every federal program, project, and activity through a process called "sequestration." The sequestration order resulted in FEMA's 2013 funding levels being reduced by approximately 5%. This had a nationwide reduction in FEMA's State and Local grant funding levels of approximately \$104 million. This reduction was felt across the entire 2013 grant program. In 2014, Congress has removed the mandatory budget cuts due to sequestration, but as of this writing, has not yet set 2014 grant budget levels.

In FY 2013, Idaho received five federal grants totaling \$8,776,254.00. This is down from the 2012 total of \$8,896,300.00. The five grant allotments cover issues from homeland security

to hazardous materials to emergency management. One grant that is notable from its absence is the Predisaster Mitigation (PDM) grant. The PDM grant is a competitive grant that has been reduced to such small levels nationwide that the number of funded projects has been greatly reduced.

Two grants have been added to the portfolio of programs that are managed at BHS. The first is the State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP). SLIGP will be used for the planning of a statewide and ultimately nationwide, first responder broadband network designated as FirstNet. The second is Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) agreement that encompasses the Risk Map project. Risk Map address gaps in flood and other hazard data, provides geospatial analysis, and makes this data and analysis available to other emergency management agencies.

2013 Idaho Homeland Security Grants Total

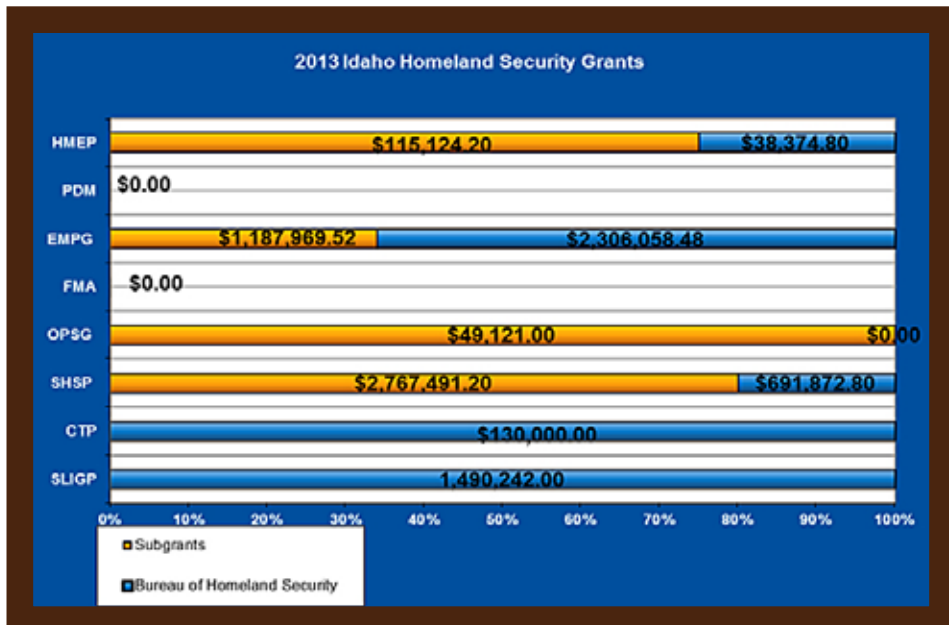


As in years past, BHS has made grant funds available to subgrantees. In 2013 the subgrants awarded totaled over \$4,062,105.00 or 47% of all grants managed by BHS. The State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) continued at reduced funding levels following a 50% reduction in 2012 funding cycle. These reductions have not been offset by increases in other grants.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) has held steady and continues to fund a broad range of state and local Emergency Management activities. The State required 34% of EMPG funds are passed-through to counties and an additional percentage is passed on to tribal nations.

The charts show the grants received by BHS in the past fiscal year as well as funds passed through to our subgrantees. More detailed grant information, including a complete breakout of all grant funds for 2013, is available at the BHS Grants webpage at: <http://www.bhs.idaho.gov/Pages/FinanceAndLogistics/Grants.aspx>

Grants.aspx  
Brad J. Hufford, Grants Branch Chief  
208-258-6510  
bhufford@bhs.idaho.gov



**Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security**  
**4040 W. Guard Street**  
**Boise, Idaho 83705**

## Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security welcomes new PIO

Elizabeth Duncan has joined the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security as the organization's new Public Information Officer (PIO). Duncan assumes the PIO duties from Robert Feeley who is now the BHS First Net Program Manager. Among other things, Duncan's duties will include publishing the BHS Quarterly Newsletter.

Duncan has a strong PIO background having worked in that capacity for the South Carolina Department of Revenue and Boise City Public Works. Her experience also includes working in media relations for a large healthcare organization. Duncan is an award-

winning former TV journalist. Her television career includes anchoring and reporting in Laredo, Texas; Amarillo, Texas; Columbia, South Carolina; and Raleigh, North Carolina. She is native Texan who grew up in Australia. Duncan has lived in Boise 12 years.

"The scope of what we do here to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to and recover from disasters is quite remarkable, Duncan said. I am incredibly proud to be part of this team."

Robert Feeley  
rfeeley@bhs.idaho.gov  
208-422-3033

