

Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2010

MITIGATION PROGRAM UPDATE.

FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program provides funds to state agencies, county governments, Indian tribal governments, communities and universities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Funding these plans and projects reduces overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. PDM grants are to be awarded on a competitive basis.

BHS submitted the state PDM grant application on Friday, December 4, 2009. The application package included 23 sub-grant applications totaling \$10.8 Million. The amount of the 2010 PDM grant award will depend on the outcome of competitive national review. The applications included 6 mitigation plan update projects, 2 wildfire mitigation projects, 11 flood mitigation projects and 3 utility protection projects (severe storm / wildfire mitigation). Sub-grant applicants should expect to find out the disposition of their applications sometime in the spring of 2010.

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Photo: Bob Wells, BHS

Col. Bill Shawver, BHS Director and David Jackson, Mitigation Officer, present the University of Idaho's McCall Outdoor Science School with a big check to commemorate the wildland fire mitigation grant award.



Photo: PSC

Public Safety Communications tower and building on Mount Harrison

Public Safety Communications:

This year has been an exciting and challenging year for all members of Public Safety Communications (PSC). With multiple projects on the agenda as well as their normal day-to-day business the pace has been very exhilarating to say the least. Public safety Communications provides critical communication services for all state agencies as well as many other services. PSC is currently managing multiple projects, to include the Statewide Microwave Backbone Upgrade, Broadband Project, communications sites upgrades and 700 MHz Trunked Radio system installations. When completed the microwave upgrade will provide reliable communications and a solid foundation for other systems to meet the future communication needs of the state.

Currently, the main emphasis of work is being focused in the northern microwave leg for completion for winter of 2009. An additional new microwave path from the state's site at Mica Peak near Coeur d' Alene to Kootenai County's Canfield site was completed late this fall. This connection will allow Kootenai County's 700 MHz trunked radio system to connect to the statewide 700 MHz system to further expand the 700

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MHZ interoperable communications system in northern Idaho. Furthermore, the microwave upgrade will enhance interoperability between emergency responders and provide the infrastructure for the Broadband project as well as future expansion. The Idaho Broadband Project will eventually link all county Emergency Operation Centers (EOC's) with the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security's Emergency Operations Center and provide a variety of advanced functions to enhance statewide communications and readiness. The broadband systems have been installed into several counties to date. This fall, a successful test of the voice over internet protocol or (VOIP) was completed to in Region II. Additionally,

this broadband system has been used by Minidoka and Cassia Counties to enhance their court video arraignment system. This broadband system will make communications amongst counties EOC's to each other and to BHS's EOC fast and secure.

John Parker (PSC, Chief) said "we have been making good progress this fall and are working to have all counties linked into the system in the future."

Along with the broadband project already mentioned, PSC has completed multiple vehicle installations for the Idaho State Police and the Idaho Fish and Game and for other state agencies along with the installation of the BHS communications

command trailer. PSC is also working on the installation of 700 MHz Trunk Radio systems that are being acquired with grant funds allocated to the State of Idaho. One of the sites that is currently being worked on is Mount Harrison located south of Burley Idaho. This site will provide 700 MHz coverage for much of the eastern Magic Valley; including Minidoka, Cassia and Twin Falls County. This 700 Mhz site along with many other systems that are being installed by counties as well as, the state will help to expand the 700 MHz coverage across the great State of Idaho.

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Greetings from the Bureau of Homeland Security, I trust your holiday season has given you the opportunity to share time with family and friends. At the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security we are continually striving to provide the highest level of service to our citizens and our partners. As we enter the New Year, we are proud to be able to showcase a new level of transparency and participation in our grant management processes. As the State Administrative Agency for a number of homeland security

and emergency management grants, we have our hands full year around submitting applications, passing funds through to our sub-grantees, and maintaining statewide grant eligibility. In this newsletter you can find a wrap up of the fiscal year 2009 grant cycle including a breakout of funds awarded to BHS as well as those passed through to our partners. For those who would like more detailed information, I invite you to visit our grants web page (<http://bhs.idaho.gov/Pages/Grants.aspx>) where you will find detailed funding breakouts, informational bulletins and grant guidance documents.

I would like to take a moment to thank all our partners throughout the state. I have the opportunity to work with the finest first responders, emergency managers and elected officials in the nation. As we enter 2010 I look forward to working with all of you to create a more safe and capable Idaho.

Thanks

Bill

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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.

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2009 Federal Fiscal Year Grant Wrap Up

In FY 2009 Idaho received 9 federal grants totaling \$12,299,411.33. These grants range from \$58,842 to \$7,357,084.55 and cover homeland security issues from Border Protection and Critical Infrastructure to Hazardous Materials and Emergency Management. 2009 also saw changes in the homeland security grant processes at the federal, state and local level.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) continue to focus the homeland security grants into tighter and tighter areas of capability enhancements. One tool used by FEMA/DHS to evaluate funding applications is the Target Capability List (TCL). According to FEMA/DHS, the 37 capabilities in the TCL are not the only capabilities that should be developed, but they are those that have the highest payoff in terms of national readiness. This creates a focus on increasing the jurisdictional capability to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from terrorist and other catastrophic events. In response to these federal changes BHS is seeking to develop investments that can quantify capability gain. This trend is expected to continue into the foreseeable future.

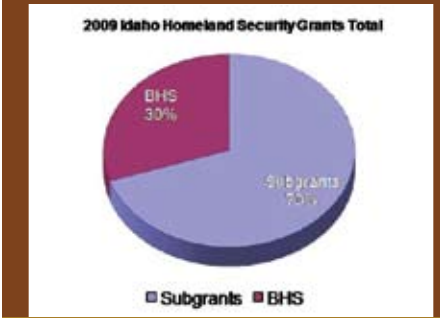
Again in 2009, as in 2007 and 2008 BHS has asked local jurisdictions to participate in the support of five of the investments through a cost sharing process. This process ensures that the state remains eligible for future grant awards by



This graph shows each of the grants received this year by BHS and the amounts of funds given to sub-grantees.

meeting grant requirements (terms and conditions) and completing investment objectives. A change in 2009 allows local jurisdictions the ability "Opt-Out" from assisting in the funding of these investments without penalty.

However, subgrantees choosing to "Opt-Out" must continue to meet the specific grant terms and conditions associated with the investments.



Most of the grant funding received by BHS is passed through to local jurisdictions.

Eligibility for the Homeland Security grants continues to be based on the State Homeland Security Strategy, and the time has come for a revision. This December BHS sought input from a wide variety of homeland security stakeholders into the development of the new strategy. This new document will serve as the foundation for the 2010 and beyond Homeland Security Grant Program investments. Depending on what investments are approved by FEMA/DHS BHS may seek to share some investment costs again in 2010. Looking forward to FY 2010 BHS anticipates eligibility for 4 grants the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), the Citizens Corps Program (CCP), the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant, and the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and there may be others as congress appropriates funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2010. In addition to the new strategy and investments, BHS is committed to the development of easier application and reporting processes even as federal oversight and reporting requirements increase.

The charts show the grants received by BHS in the past fiscal year, as well as funds passed through to our sub-grantees. More detailed grant information, including a complete breakout of all grant funds, is available at the BHS Grants webpage at www.bhs.idaho.gov/pages/grants.aspx.

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The competition for PDM funding is keen. Applications are screened for technical correctness and a positive cost-benefit ratio of more than one to one, thereby assuring Congress and taxpayers their dollars are being used for worthwhile causes. Once qualified, the applications are sent through a national peer review panel whose job it is to review, evaluate, and score the applications. The highest scoring projects or plan revision are then approved for further technical evaluation and, later on, approved for final funding. Dave Jackson (BHS), Mark Stephensen (BHS), and Paul "Crash" Marusich (Ada City-County Emergency Management) have been selected to participate in this year's panel scheduled for January 11-15, 2010 in Arlington, Virginia.

Two wildfire mitigation projects, funded by Congressional earmarks, have recently been awarded. In September, Adams County was awarded \$200,000 to complete a fuel reduction/defensible space project for the Highlands Estates subdivision. The University of Idaho McCall Outdoor Science School (MOSS) received \$455,151.90 in November to complete fuel reduction, defensible space, and wildfire structural retrofits on the MOSS Campus, in the Nokes Experimental Forest, and Ponderosa State Park.

David Jackson, State Hazard Mitigation Officer (djackson@bhs.idaho.gov) and Mark Stephenson, Hazard Mitigation Planner (mstephenson@bhs.idaho.gov)
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Interoperable Communications Governance Update

The Idaho Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) and Idaho's statewide emergency response stakeholders have recently completed kick-off meetings to form and implement regionally focused practitioner-driven interoperable communications governance. A practitioner-driven governance system ensures that all the right players are involved in decision making, training & exercises, planning, and resource allocation. The use of a regional structure provides the means to better leverage and allocates resources so that all areas have an opportunity to improve communications interoperability across the state.

The governance structures are taking shape utilizing a District approach which creates the foundation for future Regional governance. The District approach leverages the working agreements and investments already in place among many of Idaho's emergency response community. Idaho's District responders are organizing to form District Interoperability Governance Boards or "DIGBs" comprised of stakeholders at the local and tribal levels of government; DIGBs will become the "anchors" for the future statewide Regional governance process, known as Regional Interoperability Governance Boards or "RIGBs"; the future statewide model will utilize a model of the State Interoperability Governance Board or "SIGB". This structure will allow for information and resources to flow back and forth through the Districts, Regions and State Interoperability Governance Boards in order to create and maintain a focused practitioner-driven statewide system for interoperable communications governance and use.

In order for Idaho to continue to remain on the cutting edge; and to be prepared to receive future federal funding opportunities for interoperable emergency response



The Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) continues to develop Idaho's communications infrastructure to serve all first responders and organizations across the state.

communications, we will continue to apply the Office of Emergency Communications' (OEC) best practices models to the development of our statewide interoperable communications systems and governance process. Our focus needs to be on how well as a State we have developed and implemented a statewide practitioner-driven interoperable communications governance structure in order to pass through federal funding for planned projects that provide the greatest good. This governance structure will provide greater benefits through coordination of interoperable communications policy, resource allocation, operations, maintenance and will lead to a system for sustainability.

The District Interoperability Governance Kick-Off meetings were held in late summer and the fall of 2009. At those meetings information was shared on the process and rationale for interoperable communications practitioner-driven governance. Since that time District members involved in the process have begun meeting and drafting governance documentation to be formalized in the first quarter of calendar year 2010. If you are interested in participating in governance for your District or just learning more about governance, please contact Dodie Collier,

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Presidential Declaration and Other Needs Assistance

Should a state experience a significant disaster that severely impacts its citizens, it could request a Presidential Declaration for Individual Assistance. Under this Declaration, the Individual and Households Program (IHP) (The Stafford Act (P.L. 93-288 as amended) Sec. 408), would activate two programs: Housing and Other Needs Assistance

(ONA). These programs are designed to help people take the first steps toward recovery by meeting their essential needs after a disaster. In order to receive a Presidential Individual Assistance (IA) Declaration, Federal, state and local representatives conduct a preliminary damage assessment to identify the needs. Although there is not a defined threshold

for the President to declare an IA Disaster, the guideline for Idaho is fifty homes that have major damage or are destroyed. Other factors go into the request, such as the size of the community, the hardship on the community and state, and the ability to recover. It is vital for the local and state emergency management agencies to work together to paint an accurate picture of the damage.

Idaho has decided to jointly manage the ONA program with FEMA. In order to do this, Idaho is required to maintain

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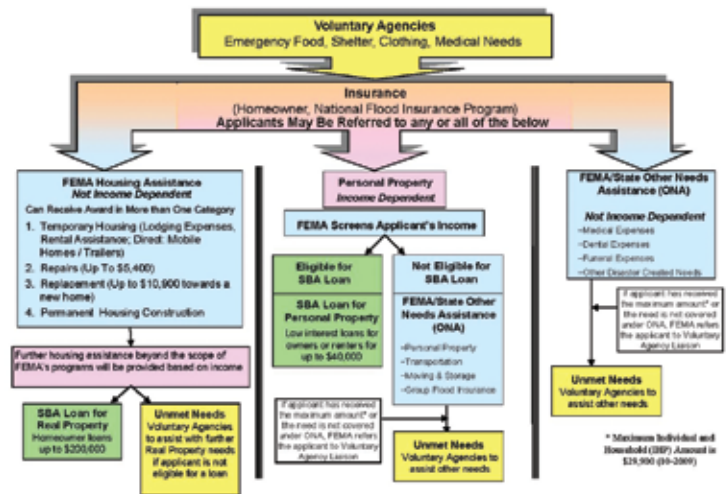
an administrative plan for the program. This plan is reviewed annually and rewritten every three years. The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security recently submitted their 2010 rewrite to FEMA. It is expected that the request for items not on the standard personal property list, such as furnace heating fuel, will all be accepted. It is expected that the plan will be approved in January.

The IHP is not intended to restore property to its pre-disaster state and is limited to a maximum grant of \$29,900. Most individuals and households that qualify for the IA Program do not receive a maximum grant; they receive some portion based upon the loss and the need. Before qualifying for the program, an individual or household must first file with their insurance company. Costs that are not covered by insurance may be eligible for a Small Business Administration (SBA) low income loan. Regardless if the individual or household qualifies for or chooses to accept the SBA loan, they must apply in order to be referred to the ONA. See Sequence of Delivery Chart.

ONA has several categories that may be paid out to a disaster survivor: personal property, transportation, moving and storage, medical and dental, funeral, and miscellaneous/other disaster created needs. After an applicant registers with FEMA, and goes through the SBA application, an inspector will go look at the property and determine what is damaged or destroyed.

Determining the need for an IA declaration is the responsibility of the local, state and federal government. Once a the disaster is declared by the President, it will take all three levels of

Individual Assistance Sequence of Delivery



government along with the voluntary agencies to ensure that the disaster survivors are aware of the programs available to them and how to access them through community relations, disaster recovery centers, media and hotlines.

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Virgil Valantine, Clark County Civil Defense Director Stepping Down

After many years of service to the citizens of Clark County, Virgil Valantine will be stepping down as the Clark County's Civil Defense Director. Virgil became the Director in April 1996 and has been paid for 8 hours a week, though often working many more. He serves a county with a population of about 950 citizens spread out over 1,764 square miles which equals about 1 person for every 1.8 square miles.

In serving his county Virgil has worked hard to maintain and



Virgil has spent so many hours working for his county in his 14 years of service, that if you divided up his time it would equal more than 10 hours for each and every individual in his county.

improve emergency management in Clark County, and has accumulated more than 1,000 hours of job related classroom training. Virgil has spent so many hours working for his county in his 14 years of service, that if you divided up his time it would equal more than 10 hours for each and every individual in his county.

Virgil's accomplishments include becoming one of the first counties in Idaho to be designated "Storm Ready" by the National Weather Service and was awarded and presented the "Emergency Manager of the Year" by Governor Dirk Kempthorne in 2001. Virgil also completed and was awarded by FEMA his "Applied Practice Series" & "Professional Development Series" training certifications in 2002.

During Virgil's tenure as Clark County's Civil Defense Director, the county has experienced windstorms & tornados, severe winter storms, winter & spring flooding, and regular Interstate closures with mass care and sheltering situations, (even exceeding the entire population of the county). Thanks to Virgil's effective and aggressive mitigation, prevention, and response program, the county has successfully responded and recovered from each disaster and emergency and has not needed a state or federal disaster declaration.

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Idaho Mass Fatality Planning Team

Unfortunately, mass fatality incidents occur more frequently than we would like, mainly as a result from natural disasters, epidemics, large-scale traffic accidents, or terrorist actions. According to the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) globally, there are at least six natural disasters every year that kill more than 500 people. While the Federal Government may provide supporting resources, the operational responsibility of the mass fatality response lies with state and local authorities.

to bridge this gap in our planning. The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security in partnership with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare has implemented a collaborative planning approach by creating a unique planning team of subject matter experts and key stakeholders to assist with this goal.

The Idaho Mass Fatality Planning Team is a multi-disciplinary, multi-jurisdictional team of subject matter experts whose main purpose is to develop long-term strategies, objectives, and goals to continually enhance and improve mass fatality response operations in Idaho. It is multi-disciplinary as members represent emergency management, public health, coroners, funeral home directors, hospitals, law enforcement, disaster mortuary operational response team, emergency medical services and multi-jurisdictional by representatives from federal/state/local government and the private sector. The Idaho mass fatality planning team has met both in-person and by teleconference and the benefits of the collaborative planning approach is evident. During these meetings, the planning team identified and agreed upon two initial focus areas to work: Conducting a resource gap analysis. The gap analysis will help to ensure a successful response by identifying the difference between "where capabilities are" and "where they need to go" to achieve the overall goals; and Planning: The development of a mass fatality planning guide for local jurisdictions to provide an updated and standardized roadmap for planners.

The main goals to identify current and future mass fatality response resources and provide standardized mass fatality planning guidance to local jurisdictions will help to bridge crucial gaps are a great start and directly support the team's vision of continually enhancing and improving mass fatality operations in Idaho.

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Phil Lang facilitates the mass fatality planning meeting.

So you may be asking yourself, what exactly is a mass fatality incident? A mass fatality incident is best defined as an incident that involves more decedents and/or circumstances than local resources can handle. Some jurisdictions may assign a numerical threshold to define a mass fatality incident based on known resources and capabilities. In reviewing both state and local emergency plans, there is a definite gap in the area of mass fatality planning. This is not to say that plans are non-existent, but rather that they could be improved, updated, and standardized. Bottom-line: we need

BHS COOP Presentations Highlight Examples of the Good and the Bad.

At various presentations around the state, BHS COOP planners have stressed that the need for viable COOP plans has been shown time and time again in the aftermath of both man caused and natural disasters. Organizations that had a viable COOP capability proved to be both resilient and effective in the continuation of their essential functions, while those that didn't suffered the loss of vital records and in some cases were ultimately unable to recover their ability to perform at all. Two examples cited in the BHS presentations were the US department of Agriculture's National Finance Center

in New Orleans and the Louisiana Vital Records Office, also in New Orleans. Their stories follow.

The US Department of Agriculture's National Finance Center had responsibility for the payroll function for over 50,000 USDA employees. After completion of a comprehensive COOP planning effort in the winter and spring of 2003, they had finally developed the capability to back up their data requirements at an alternate facility in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. As Hurricane Katrina was nearing land fall in the summer of 2005, the USDA relocated

their pre-designated emergency relocation group and their entire payroll function to that back-up data base and facility. Remarkably, despite the destruction of the New Orleans facility, USDA employees never missed a pay check.

The Louisiana Vital records Office in New Orleans stored over 100 years worth of all state birth and death certificates, marriage licenses and divorce papers their down town facility, without any back-up data base, plan for an alternate operating facility or emergency relocation group. The facility was submerged during the

COOP continued on page 14 »

Training and Exercise - January 2010

Exciting changes to the Training and Exercise Program

The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security would like to congratulate Jim VanDinter on his decision to retire after 12 years of service to the State of Idaho. Jim has worked for BHS as a Regional Exercise Coordinator since



Jim Vandinter has conducted over 62 exercises throughout Idaho as the Southwest Regional Exercise Coordinator.

May, 2004. Jim has conducted and evaluated over 62 exercises for the State and for local jurisdictions. Jim has also taken an active role in several Local Emergency Planning Committees in the area to include Canyon County and Gem County. BHS would also like to acknowledge Jim's achievement in acquiring certification in the FEMA Master Exercise Practitioner Program. Jim's dedication and professionalism have been instrumental in preparing emergency responders and receivers for any and all types of incidents. We wish Jim and his family happiness and wellness as they begin this new chapter.

As we say goodbye to a valued team member, we would like to introduce a new face to our program. The Idaho Bureau of Homeland

Security has selected Dave Hall as the Regional Training and Exercise Coordinator for the Southwest and Central areas. Dave brings with him 25 years of Training and Exercise experience. Dave is also very familiar with Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) concepts and is looking forward to assisting local jurisdictions with implementing their programs. Dave has spent the past year working with BHS and our state agency partners in developing Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) and other Emergency Management strategy plans. Dave's experience, training and fresh outlook will make for a seamless transition; please join us in welcoming Dave Hall to the team.

Thank you to ISU for supporting BHSTraining

For the past 6 years, Idaho State University, Institute for Emergency Management (ISU-IEM), has been a valued partner in providing training to responders in Idaho. ISU-IEM has shown exceptional cooperation, teamwork and efficiency in delivering capabilities based training across the state. As we move into 2010, ISU-IEM will continue to



Dave Hall brings over 25 years of training and exercise experience to the BHS Training and Exercise Program.

provide emergency management training but because of a reduction in federal grants, the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is unable to subgrant to ISU-IEM through the State Homeland Security Program. Over the years, ISU-IEM has established a solid foundation of expert instructors and they plan to offer training on a regional, semester basis. ISU-IEM will also continue to manage the Idaho Prepares Learning Management System. Please keep www.idahoprepares.com bookmarked as a favorite to view the current Training calendar, enroll in courses and manage your training transcripts.

BHS would like to thank ISU-IEM for their commitment to our collaborative mission and their partnership over the past 6 years.

Because of their support, Idaho has been able to strengthen our communities by building capabilities and preparing our citizens and responders. We hope to carry on the high standards set forth with the program. If you have any questions about the training events offered by BHS, ISU or any other training partner please feel free to contact the BHS Training and Exercise Program Manager.

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IDAHO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Enhanced Emergency Communications Grant Fee

The Idaho State Legislature made an amendment to the Idaho Emergency Communications Act during the 2008 legislative session that provides funding to help counties upgrade their 9-1-1 systems. The legislation allowing counties to collect the Enhanced Emergency Communications Grant Fee ("Grant Fee") was signed by Governor Otter on April 9, 2008 and is effective July 1, 2008. This fee is .25¢ per line per month in addition to the current emergency communication or 9-1-1 fee. In order to collect the Grant Fee, each Board of County Commissioners must pass a resolution to begin collecting the Grant Fee.

Goals of the Grant Fee Program

The ECC has set its priorities for the use of these funds to first fund equipment and technology to move Basic 9-1-1 Centers to the Enhanced capability. The second priority is to fund equipment and technology to move Enhanced 9-1-1 Centers to Phase I & II technology. The third priority would be to fund equipment and technology for Phase I & II 9-1-1 Centers needing to replace or upgrade their current telephone system to be ready for the migration to Next Generation 9-1-1. The final priority would be with the assistance of all participants, develop the requirements and system design for the Migration to Next Generation 9-1-1.

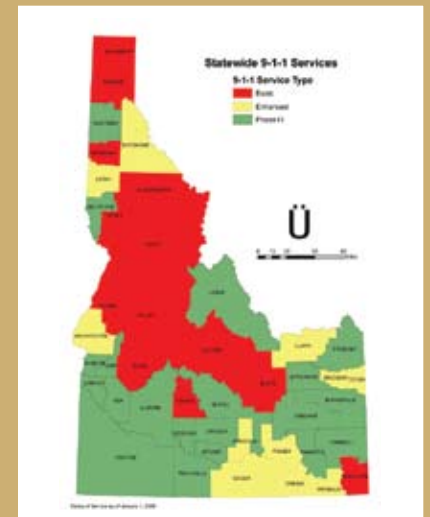
2009 Idaho Emergency communications Commission Grant Awards

The Commission is pleased to announce the awards of the first grant cycle.

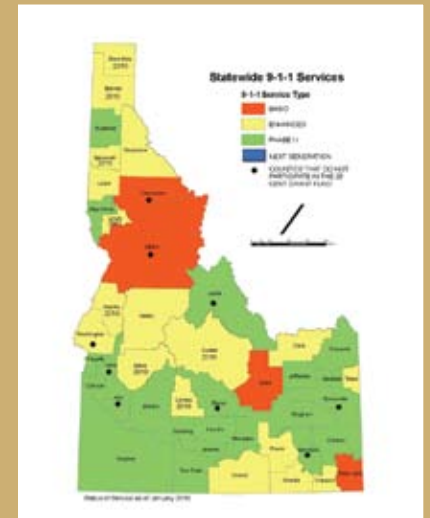
Boise County	\$ 164,789.37
Valley County	\$ 25,295.00
Benewah County	\$ 208,822.00
Custer County	\$ 185,788.47
Boundary County	\$ 175,601.08
Adams County	\$ 167,284.92
Camas County	\$ 65,952.46
Lewis County	\$ 192,799.00
Power County	\$ 130,000.00
Franklin County	\$ 130,000.00
Teton County	\$ 65,568.85
Bonner County	\$ 88,967.00
Total	\$1,600,868.00

What benefits have we seen from the Grant fee thus far?

As you look at the two status Maps you will see what our status was in 2008. The second map as of November 2009 you will find that Washington and Valley completed their implementation from Basic to Enhanced 9-1-1. With the grant fund, Adams, Benewah, Boise, Bonner, Boundary, Camas, Custer, and Lewis Counties will receive funds to start and complete their migration from Basic to Enhanced within the next twelve months. This leaves only two remaining participating Counties, Butte and Bear Lake which will receive funds during the next grant cycle to move them from Basic to Enhanced.



Status of statewide 911 service, as of the January 2009.



The current status of statewide 911 shows an increased level of service as well as those counties that do not participate in the 25 cent grant fund.

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Public Safety Answering Point Standards Committee

A Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) is a call center responsible for answering calls to 911 for law enforcement, firefighting and medical services. The PSAP Standards Committee was formed to assist the Emergency Communications Commission (ECC) in recommending and developing standards for training and technology for the PSAP's use if they so desired. The mission of the PSAP Standards Committee

is "To promote professional development and standardization of Public Safety communications in the State of Idaho."

The Committee conducted a needs assessment with all PSAP's and out of this assessment created four objectives. The first objective was to provide ongoing informative workshops at low to no cost to the Public Safety Agencies and personnel.

The second objective is to provide website access including a repository for S.O.P.'s, networking, best practices, a message board and a list of current events. The third objective is to provide a no cost, entry-level training manual and interactive CD for all Idaho dispatch agencies; and fourth, to develop a standard certification for all dispatchers in Idaho working closely with POST Academy to ensure a comprehensive,

Continued on next page »

dynamic and effective academy. We are happy to announce that the PSAP Standards Committee has completed the Entry Level Emergency Communications Training Manual and it has been approved by the Sheriff's Association, the Chief's of Police Association and the Emergency Communications Commission. It is now in the process of being printed and will be distributed to all 9-1-1 Centers free of charge in the very near future. The PSAP Standards Committee understands that we have great technology and equipment

available but we also need to train our dispatchers in its use. With well trained dispatchers we will fully reach our potential.

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The Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Standards Committee has been tasked with the development of information, training and certification for Idaho's dispatch personnel.

Idaho Citizen Corps Ready to Help

Citizen Corps asks citizens to embrace personal responsibility to be prepared through training in first aid and emergency skills. For some Idahoans these skills have been achieved through the Citizen Corps affiliate program CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). The CERT program allows citizens to become skilled in basic emergency response techniques and be a key resource to Fire, Police, and EMT first responders during times of disaster. CERTs work with their local first responders to save lives and protect property in the communities they live in. In Idaho that "community" can be

However, the role CERT can play in a community can be diverse and multi-functioning.

Latah County CERT led by Sandy Rollins and Kyle Allison, manned emergency preparedness booths at both the Juliaetta-Kendrick Blackberry Festival and the Latah County Fair. A CERT volunteer also donned a Smokey Bear costume and handed out coloring books, crayons, and suckers to the kids. Latah County CERT also provided the manpower to dig out six feet of mud from a citizen's home after being deposited there from a flash flood. The team also worked in support of Latah County Sheriff providing security for a structure fire; providing law enforcement the manpower to complete its investigation.

Gem County CERT, led by Autumn Roberts has provided assistance to local law enforcement during two search and rescue events in the community. Partnering with local law enforcement the Gem County CERT provided food and drinks to officers working a large drug bust in the county. The team also carpooled to a neighboring community to help in search efforts for a young boy. The Gem County CERT sponsored a disaster preparedness booth at the Show and Shine; recruiting six new members to the CERT team. Gem County CERT recently worked with local health service providers and assisted with two H1N1 Community Clinics.

Idaho CERT members live in the communities they serve, are well trained, and are perfect resources for local city and county governments to use, not only in times of disaster, but also during public events.

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Latah County CERT volunteer dressed as Smokey Bear at the Latah County Fair.

an entire rural city/county, or in urban areas this might be a neighborhood or a group of neighborhoods. CERT members are trained to assist their fellow citizens during times of disaster. This will ensure immediate community life safety needs are met until first responders are able to be on scene.

All Hazard Incident Management Team Ready to Respond

The Idaho Incident Management and Support Team (IIMAST) was created so that Idaho would have the capability to support any incident or disaster that may affect the state. Should a local or state agency need assistance during any kind of event, the Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) could be activated to support the local responders. IIMAST can also assist preplanned events, and proved its value during its support of the Special Olympics. This type of capability is significant, and requires the team to stay busy training, exercising, and recruiting members.

IIMAST is a multiagency and multi jurisdiction team of individuals from all over the State of Idaho. It may be deployed as a team of 2 to 20 trained personnel to manage major or complex incidents requiring a significant number of local, regional, and State resources; or incidents that extend into multiple operational periods and require a written Incident Action Plan (IAP). The team could be used at incidents such as major winter storms, tornado touchdown, earthquake, flood, multiday hostage/standoff situation, planned events, or any incident that may require this level of management. As demonstrated during a recent exercise at the Idaho State Correctional Institution, IIMAST can also play a valuable role in exercise scenarios.



The Boise Type 1 National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) that IIMAST trains with

Originally developed in the wildland fire service, Incident Management Teams have developed into all-hazard resources. They provide the means to coordinate the efforts of individual agencies to stabilize an incident and protect life, property and the environment. Following National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles, an activated team is made up of personnel trained in command, logistics, operations and planning functions. For a team like this, speedy mobilization is of the essence. When activated, they must be able to take command or assist with the management of the incident

before the beginning of the next operational period following call-up, or as agreed upon during a briefing from the local lead Agency Administrator.

To be a successful All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT), careful planning, selection, training, funding, and equipping the team is required. Additionally,

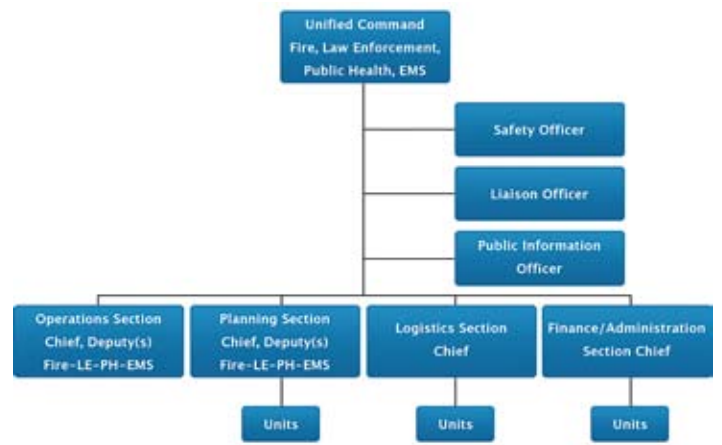
individual team members must understand the requirements and commitments for team and individual training. Members may be asked to deploy for regional emergencies, field training, and be away from their homes and families for extended periods.

IIMAST has shown itself to be a valuable resource during exercises and planned events, and is also available during the response to a disaster. During the 2008 flood fight, a Logistics Section Chief and a Plans Section Chief were deployed to the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Kootenai County. The team looks forward to recruiting more members, continuing training and credentialing, and further developing processes such as deployment notifications. As IIMAST grows, they will continue to be a valuable resource for all of Idaho.

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IIMAST is a multiagency and multi jurisdiction team of individuals from all over the State of Idaho



An Incident Management Team organizational Chart

Hazardous Chemicals and TIER II Reporting in Idaho

In Idaho facilities covered by The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) must submit an annual emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS), and the local fire department. These TIER II reports are due on or before March 1 of each year, and BHS receives approximately 950-975 submissions each year.

TIER II forms require basic facility identification information, employee contact information for both emergencies and non-emergencies, and information about chemicals stored or used at the facility:

- The chemical name or the common name as indicated on the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS);
- An estimate of the maximum amount of the chemical present at any time during the preceding calendar year and the average daily amount;
- A brief description of the manner of storage of the chemical;
- The location of the chemical at the facility; and
- An indication of whether the owner of the facility elects to withhold location information from disclosure to the public.

What facilities must report?

Any facility required under Occupational Safety and Health Administration

(OSHA) regulations to maintain material safety data sheets (MSDSs) for hazardous chemicals stored or used in the work place as well as facilities with chemicals in quantities that equal or exceed the following thresholds must report:

- For Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) either 500 pounds or the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ), whichever is lower



- For gasoline (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 75,000 gallons (or approximately 283,900 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely underground and was in compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable Underground Storage Tank (UST) requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.
- For diesel fuel (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 100,000 gallons (or approximately 378,500 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely

underground and the tank(s) was in compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable Underground Storage Tank (UST) requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.

- For all other hazardous chemicals, 10,000 pounds

What is a hazardous chemical?

Hazardous chemicals are any substances for which a facility must maintain a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). MSDSs are detailed information sheets that provide data on health hazards and physical hazards of chemicals along with associated protective measures. Over 500,000 products have MSDSs which are normally obtained from the chemical manufacturer.

Where can I find more information on these requirements?

For more information, see 40 CFR Part 370 and EPCRA Policy and Guidance, or you can visit the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security website at <http://www.bhs.idaho.gov/>

Tier II Submit 2009 can be downloaded at <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/epcra/tier2.htm>

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H1N1 IN SOUTHEAST IDAHO - A PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS STORY

Pocatello – Emergency management and public health officials formed an effective partnership with citizen volunteers and participants of the regional Medical Reserve Corps to implement a region-wide vaccination campaign in response to the ongoing H1N1 influenza pandemic. The foundation for this partnership began to develop in 2004 when the deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) was identified as a high national priority. Until that time, public health was not viewed as a major player in emergency preparedness and response. This led to the redefining of roles and responsibilities at the local level.

SNS planning and exercise efforts in 2006 proved to be extremely valuable in building relationships, processes and partnerships that in large part have made the Southeastern District's response to the H1N1 pandemic successful. The 2006 planning and exercise effort evolved around a simulated terrorism-driven public health emergency. It became apparent early on that the developing H1N1 threat and requirements for a community-wide response effort could best be served by policies and processes derived from that earlier planning effort.



After-Action Reports concluded that there are simply not enough qualified vaccinators available on the public health staff to address the anticipated need. Planning assumptions indicated a need to swell the ranks and increase capacity by reaching out to other qualified individuals. Agreements were implemented to engage the Southeast Idaho Medical Reserve Corps, students from Idaho State University School of Nursing and other qualified volunteer medical professionals. In addition, the logistics of staffing and managing multiple Points of Dispensing or PODs across the district was monumental. Based upon the evolving emergency nature of the pandemic and an urgency to combat it with a rapid public vaccination effort, County and Tribal elected officials became



Pocatello Police manage traffic at the Bannock County Point Of Dispensing on October 22, 2009 in Pocatello, Idaho.

actively involved in the effort to plan and prepare for the aggressive vaccination campaign.

Utilizing a military-style reverse planning model to consider projected vaccine availability, logistical support requirements and other relevant factors, the Public Health Preparedness (PHP) staff of Southeastern District Health took the lead in organizing a planned, phased response. Activating their regional Emergency Operations Center from which to manage the response effort, Southeastern District Health and its partners conducted the first public POD event in Bannock County. On October 22, 2009, 1,659 vaccinations were administered. Through November 28, 2009, an estimated 16,000 vaccines have been provided throughout the district in a total of 21 PODs.

Following the initial POD clinic, Bannock County Emergency Manager Gary Moore commented, "Without the support of our volunteers and the partnerships developed between local government, the public health community and others, we simply couldn't do it. I think our SNS planning efforts paid off!" Mr. Moore also gave accolades to Rick and Shana Fawcett, owner and operator of Whisper Mountain Professional Services who, through their relationship with local government and affiliation with their local church were able to field an army of volunteers to support POD operation.

Success is largely attributed to the years of relationship building, planning, and joint exercises conducted BEFORE the event. There were operational challenges, but they were easily overcome because of the agreements, policies, and guidelines created during the planning and preparation process. Ed Marugg, Director of Southeastern District Health Department, stated, "Based on our preparedness and recent response effort, I'm fully confident in our region's ability to deal with large-scale man-made or natural disasters."

Rod Horejs, SDHD Public Health Preparedness Program Manager (rhorejs@phd6.idaho.gov), Darin Letzring SDHD All-Hazards Planner, (dletzring@phd6.idaho.gov), & Ken Fagnant, Southeast Area Field Officer, IBHS (kfagnant@bhs.idaho.gov)

Idaho Tackles Resource Typing

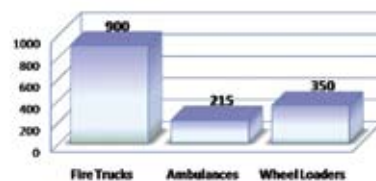
The statewide resource typing and inventory project has been in planning and execution for the past year. Resource typing is the categorization and description of resources that are commonly exchanged in daily emergencies to national disasters via mutual aid by capability. The goal of the resource typing project is to identify Idaho's emergency response resource capabilities, quantities and locations so an emergency manager is able to effectively and efficiently request and receive resources.

What began as 120 nationally identified resources, called Tier 1 resources, grew to 167 ranging from fire engines to animal rescue teams to backhoes. Due to the

Through a cost share agreement of Homeland Security Grant funding between the counties, tribes and the state, regional contractors were hired since March to meet with the coordinators and agencies to tackle the monumental task of typing resources particular to our traditional (fire, EMS) and nontraditional (public works, hospitals, etc) first responders. Contractors work one-on-one with agency managers to type resources and enter the inventory on a secure web-based database.

County Emergency Coordinator, Warren Wilde of Franklin County, commented on the database saying, "...it helps to have all the information in one place." The resource data is useful for planning

Statewide - Top 3 Tier 1 Resources



**Note: Data estimate as of 12/14/09; Missing some county data

requests, the resource owner determines if his or her resource is used in mutual aid agreements or is available for in-state and out of state deployment.

The Tier 1 phase of the resource typing project concluded at the end of September. The second phase will begin this winter to determine Tier 2 resources including cots, body bags, expanded typing of currently identified resources, and other resources that regularly assist emergency coordinators.

This project began as an objective of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS was developed from best practices nationwide in response to several devastating hurricanes and 9/11. Former President George W. Bush signed NIMS into existence under the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5 which required the establishment of a single, comprehensive national incident management system. NIMS compliance is required to receive federal preparedness funding. Please contact Randi Hufford if you have any suggestions for Tier 2 resource typing. If you would like further information visit the NIMS Resource Center: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/ResourceMngmnt>.

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A Type 1 Water Tender from Hagerman Fire Department

intensive time and travel of a county or tribal emergency coordinator typing every Tier 1 resource in his or her county a system was created to ease some of the burden.

purposes from the county perspective all the way to the state. It also is a good starting point when determining the location of much needed resources. It is important to note, as in all resource

BHS RECEIVES RADIO COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE

FEMA owns, operates and maintains a very large high frequency (HF) radio network known as the FEMA National Radio System (FNARS). FNARS is a continuity communications system for use when all other means of communications have been rendered inoperable. FNARS provides the President and other federal officials with

agencies, state, local and territorial governments. FEMA monitors the FNARS frequencies on a daily basis. At the state level, FNARS radios are typically located at the state's Emergency Operations Center. Idaho received a radio system in the mid-1980's. With most systems at that time being acquired as a legacy from predecessor

agencies supporting Civil Defense missions, the drill scenarios focused on nuclear war and post war recovery.

With only a few modifications over the years, the Harris radio has been in use at the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (Bureau of Disaster Services) for over 20 years. In July, Ron Zuber, FEMA Region X FNARS Program Manager, notified Idaho that it had

been chosen as the first Region X state to receive a radio upgrade. The new system, a Rockwell-Collins RT2200 1kW Automatic Link Establishing radio, a Radio Telephone Unit and Radio Control Station was installed August 20,21. Hands-on training was provided to radio operators and managers.

The radio system is much smaller in size than the equipment of old, has just a few components, and far fewer buttons and switches than the Harris radio. Radio control is performed on a Dell computer which can be located near the radio or at another location. The Radio Telephone Unit may be used as a conventional telephone, as a standard HF radio, or as a means of bridging a telephone call to the radio. The unit provides automated functions such as auto-answer, and patching a phone call to a radio circuit without local operator assistance. Radio testing was performed with Kevin Biesecker, FEMA Headquarters Program Manager, Rockwell-Collins technicians, and Julie Sendra, BHS Emergency Communications Officer present. Successful contacts were made (both voice and text "chat") with FEMA Region IX in Nevada, FEMA Region VIII in Colorado, and the group performed a phone patch via HF radio frequency between a county Operation Secure radio station in Pocatello to a cell phone operator in the BHS parking lot.

The new system will be tested on a weekly basis via check-ins with FEMA Region X. When not in use for disaster related communications, the radio can be used for standard HF communications, propagation testing, and exercises.

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(FNARS) FEMA Radio Program Manager Kevin Biesecker testing FNARS system from the Radio Control Unit and Radio Control Station.

resilient and assured voice and data network with connectivity to the FEMA regions, and State Emergency Operations Centers to help meet information sharing requirements at any time, across the full threat spectrum. The FNARS radio network is designed to provide an essential emergency communications capability among federal

COOP continued from pg. 6 »

flooding of Hurricane Katrina destroying many documents and leaving many citizens of Louisiana without any means of proving they were even American citizens. To make matters worse, many employees of the Vital records Office were also displaced victims of the storm forcing the Office to operate with less than 5% of its staff. National records clearinghouses

like VitalChek (national certificate verification agency) could not help because they ultimately rely on the State Records data bases (like the Louisiana Vital Records Office) to produce necessary documents. To this day, it is reported that some people born and raised in the State of Louisiana cannot prove they are US citizens. These two examples are used repeatedly by BHS COOP planners to stress the need for state agencies as well as all other branches of government including local jurisdictions and municipalities to have viable COOP plans that will enable them to continue their essential functions for their customers – the taxpayers of the state of Idaho.



April 2000 accident involving Region 2 Idaho State Police Facility in Lewiston. "Stuff Happens."

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Idaho's First Responders Take Advantage of Restored Program

The Federal Government has restored the long dormant HDER program. HDER stands for Homeland Security Defense Equipment Reuse. This popular program, closed almost two (2) years ago, is back and providing equipment to first response agencies across the nation. This program provides new or nearly new equipment, declared surplus by various federal agencies, to registered response agencies. Idaho agencies have responded in a big way and have found a little effort may reward their department with additional equipment, at absolutely no cost. Once response agencies have been registered with the Logistics Division of BHS, their information is forwarded to the HDER program manager and placed on the Bureau's HDER equipment email contact list. Every sixty (60) days the Bureau receives a fresh list of equipment that is available. That list is forwarded to the registered agencies throughout Idaho; they contact the HDER program manager directly with their list of desired items, then wait for the results. Program officials review applications returned within the fourteen (14) day application window, and make their selection based on the submitted requests. Many criteria are used in determining awards including the population

of the service area, and the compatibility of the equipment requested to the mission of the agency. Throughout Idaho both small and large departments alike have been awarded equipment.

The variety of equipment available is sure to catch the eye of almost any response agency. Detection equipment seems to top every list but EMS, personal protective, fire, law enforcement and generic items like generators offer something for almost every department. Idaho's first application resulted in \$237,783.00 in equipment shipped directly to 25 departments. Our second application resulted in \$17,848.00 worth of equipment shipped to an additional 8 departments.

In a world of shrinking budgets and expanding responsibilities the HDER program is a benefit to the first responder organizations and citizens across Idaho.

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New Project Management Office

The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is excited to announce the formation of the Project Management Office (PMO). The PMO will fall under the direction of Steve Steiner, Deputy Director Interoperable Communications and will operate out of the Public Safety Communications Building in Meridian.

The PMO is currently staffed by Jim Brede and Melissa Gayhart who have both received a Masters Certificate in IS/IT Project Management through Villanova University, with each of them currently working on their Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. The goal of the PMO is to manage each interoperable communications project from initiation to close out by the globally recognized project management standards as outlined in the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) guide. The methodology behind the PMO is to form

a set of guidelines that can be tailored and applied to specific situations. "This methodology includes a specific approach to projects, templates, forms, and checklists used over the project life cycle." (Project Management Methodologies, p.3)

Current projects that the PMO is managing include the Statewide Microwave upgrade, Broadband, and forming Regional and Statewide Governance Boards. The PMO strives to formulate a systematic approach to projects that will enhance the Bureaus ability to manage more projects and provide a single point of contact for each project.

Melissa Gayhart and Jim Brede, Project Managers
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The Buffer Zone Protection Program

The Bureau of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CI/KR) Protection Program leads the coordinated state effort to reduce risk and threat to our CI/KR posed by acts of terrorism, natural disasters or other emergencies. One of the programs managed by CI/KR is the Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP) which was implemented by the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate the development of Federal, State, local, tribal, and private partnerships and to aid in the protection of significant assets. Since the private sector owns approximately 85% of all critical infrastructure, securing these sites fall largely on the capable shoulders of local law enforcement. The BZPP can be a valuable tool for local law enforcement in identifying ways to make it more difficult for terrorist to conduct surveillance or successfully launch attacks for nearby locations in the vicinity of CI/KR sites. Additionally, the BZPP provides local jurisdictions with substantial grants to aid in the protection of federally selected assets.

The BZPP process begins with the Department of Homeland Security who distributes qualifying criteria for all eighteen sectors of CI/KR to the Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (CIPP) Managers and the State Homeland Security Advisor. The CIPP Managers then identify significant assets that meet the federally directed criteria, submit justifications, develop asset clusters, and download the information to the DHS database. DHS and FEMA will then scrub all of the Nation's lists, decide if they qualify, and then determine the few assets who will receive grants. DHS will then notify the State; who notifies the county, which assets were selected and how much money each grant is for.

Upon notification of award the CIPP Manager, asset owner and several jurisdictions will work together to develop the Buffer Zone Plan (BZP) and the Vulnerability Reduction Purchasing Plan (VRPP). These plans will guide the expenditures to be made with grant funding and must meet federal guidelines. These plans must

be screened at the state and federal level prior to approval. Once they are approved the counties can begin their purchases leading to the enhanced protection of high priority assets.

The BZP is a strategic homeland security assessment created in collaboration with local authorities and is designed to apply to a specific facility; provide planning guidance and suggested action to be taken during each Homeland Security Advisory System Alert Level; and to illustrate ways in which Federal, State, and local agencies can effectively synchronize their preventive actions. Our State has benefitted greatly from this program over the past few years and in fact last year the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources Protection Program was able to secure \$800,000 in BZPP Grants for the protection of four high priority assets across our great state.



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