

# Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2011



Photo: Robert Feeley

Damage assessments, like this one in Idaho County, identifies what has been impacted by a disaster and helps determine what assistance may be available.

## DAMAGE ASSESSMENT TRAINING HELD AT BHS

The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS) held its first Idaho Damage Assessment Training Course in December. With a class of 30 students from throughout Idaho, this day long course looked at assessing damages for a local, a state or a federal declaration for both Individual Assistance and Public Assistance. Individual Assistance helps individuals and families that have damage to their homes and property. Public Assistance helps with damaged public infrastructure such as public buildings, roads and bridges.

This is the beginning of the Idaho Emergency Operations Center's Reservist Program. By training county personnel and other volunteers how to correctly conduct a damage assessment it will increase the State's ability to support the counties to quickly conduct damage assessments that will help determine if a State declaration or a Federal declaration may be requested.

The class helped to define a Rapid Assessment, State Initial Assessment and Federal Preliminary Damage Assessment and determine what information needs to be collected during each stage.

The Rapid Assessment is generally done by the responders that are working in the field giving the local emergency operations center a briefing on what they are seeing. The State Initial Assessment begins gathering more detail about the damages and looking at the individual damage and the numbers to determine if there is a possibility of asking for a Presidential Declaration. If the Governor

Damage continued on pg. 2 »

## BHS Hosts 4 Day Training and Exercise

This past November, the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security was provided a fantastic opportunity from the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) to participate in an Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC). This IEMC was 4 days of comprehensive training and exercises designed to enhance a state level response and recovery effort to meet local jurisdiction needs. Idaho had nearly 100 people participate in the IEMC to include BHS staff, Emergency Support Function (ESF) partners, state and federal agencies, Hazmat Response Teams, Health Districts, StateComm, and local representatives. Each state is allowed one IEMC, Idaho was the 26th state to conduct this event and feedback from the instructors was that this was the best one yet.

Training continued on pg. 4 »



Photo: Joe Farago

The Idaho Emergency Operations Center was staffed at full capacity during the IEMC.

decides to ask the President for a declaration, then FEMA will join the State and Locals to conduct a Preliminary Damage Assessment to make a recommendation to the President.

There are also different types of information that is collected to request support with Public Assistance and Individual Assistance. The class ended with a Public Assistance and an Individual Assistance exercise to determine if the students could determine the type of damage caused by various disasters using the tools and forms described in the class.

The sooner a county can start getting the Rapid Assessment compiled and determine the need for a local declaration, the quicker the recovery can begin for those affected. It is understood

that a complete picture is not going to be there in the first few hours or days, but it is important to start reporting what is known as soon as possible so that the needed resources get to the correct places in a timely manner. In today's technology driven society, it is easier than ever to transmit photos, videos and reports that let the emergency operations centers see what is really happening.

If you are interested in learning more about damage assessment or becoming a State Disaster Reservist, contact your BHS Area Field Officer or Fred Abt (208-422-3040).

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As we work our way through the shorter and darker days of winter, we are reminded that disasters seek no season. The winter flooding event in Shoshone County was a testament that bad things can happen in our state at the most unexpected times. In that event the river levels reached the same height that they did in the Presidential Disaster that occurred in the same area in spring 2008. Thankfully the water levels dropped quickly, although the county still saw some significant damage spread throughout the many tributaries of the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe Rivers.

As I meet emergency managers throughout the state I often hear comments that a conference is a great way to share best practices and learn about new initiatives. This winter I am excited to announce that BHS will again host an Emergency Management Conference for our state. This conference will serve to bring together experts in our field, and will to bring together the practitioners of emergency management and homeland security. More information will be coming from my office regarding the time and location, and I look forward to making this yearly conference a value for all of Idaho's emergency management community.

I am also excited to recognize BHS's first Employee of the Quarter. I have started this program to recognize the hard work put in by our employees, and to show appreciation to one who has gone above and beyond in making Idaho better prepared. The winner of the award is Phil Lang, our hardworking planner. His efforts exemplify the ethics we strive for here at BHS. Please join me in congratulating Phil on the well-deserved award.

As always we at BHS are striving to do our best in preparing Idaho, and making our state resilient to any and all hazards. I have an open door policy and welcome your calls, correspondence and recommendations for anything we can do better. Thank you for all you do for our great state,

Bill

Bill Shawver, Brigadier General, State of Idaho Military Division  
Director, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security  
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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.

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor

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

Brig. Gen. Bill Shawver, Director, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security  
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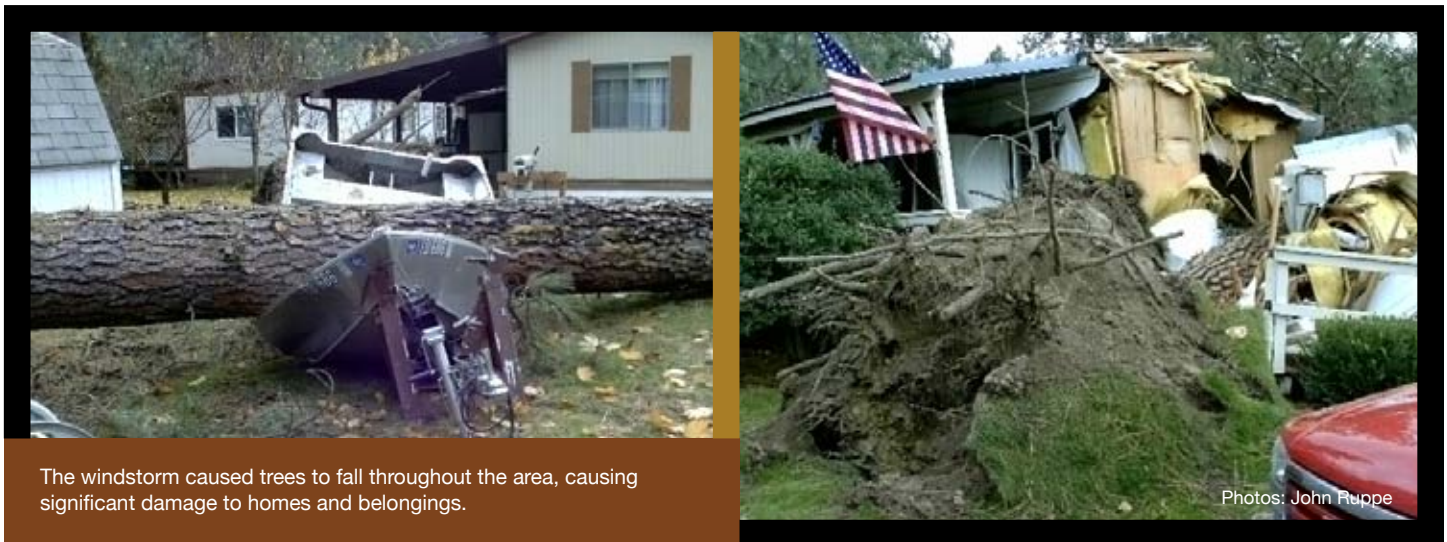
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# The Idaho Way – Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In November 2010 in North Central Idaho a strong windstorm moved through the area. The National Weather Service issued a winter storm warning with high winds expected for the area. There were reports of 60-70 mile per hour gusts. This was a fast moving storm that began late Monday, November 15 and the early morning hours of Tuesday, November 16. Initial reports were that over 45,000 homes were without power from Grangeville to Spokane. Avista later reported that more than 2,000 customers were still without power on Wednesday, but expected that most of their customers would be restored by that evening. The majority of the problems

4 of which were uninsured. Responding agencies included the Orofino Fire Department, Orofino Police Department, Clearwater County Sheriff's Office, Clearwater County Search and Rescue and the American Red Cross. A shelter was established at the Orofino Community Church and over 188 meals were served. Both the City of Orofino and Clearwater County issued disaster declarations. Although no state assistance was requested, the Department of Corrections (Red Shirts/inmates), Idaho Department of Transportation, and the Idaho State Police assisted in the overall response and recovery efforts. What was remarkable with this particular



The windstorm caused trees to fall throughout the area, causing significant damage to homes and belongings.

Photos: John Ruppe

occurred from trees falling on power lines. Damages were reported throughout North Central Idaho, but most significantly in Clearwater County. Numerous communities, including Kooskia, Potlatch, and Orofino manned and staffed warming and gathering shelters, where folks could get a hot meal, stay warm and garner the most current information. Area Agency on Aging initiated welfare calls to seniors, and the various oxygen providers checked on the status of customers. In most of the region schools were closed for at least the duration of the power outage.

In Clearwater County the Orofino Fire Department was called out to respond to trees over power lines. As they were responding the mission changed to that of rescuing individuals from collapsed structures in a modular home park (Hidden Village). There were homes that were actually split in two, with individuals trapped inside. Over 30 homes sustained significant damages, with 12 being totally destroyed,

incident was that there were no human deaths and no significant injuries.

Lessons learned included; (1) Not all first responders have radios and communications may be through the phone system. Cell phones and cordless phones don't always work during power outages, but land lines frequently do. (2) Jurisdictions can struggle with developing, coordinating and submitting a comprehensive county-wide damage assessment.

Idaho residents are extremely resilient, assist each other and cope well with adversity. Neighbors helping neighbors was evident throughout the incident, and that is a great illustration of the Idaho way of doing things.

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The IEMC process started in July when BHS was visited by the design team. This team gathered information on our state hazards, existing resource capabilities, and known gaps and limitations. They took that information and tailored two days worth training, activities and exercises to challenge the way we do business. BHS and the design team formulated objectives to steer the participants toward success. The course objectives were to ensure participants were able to:

1. Apply the five key NRF response doctrine principles.
2. Understand the key roles and responsibilities of the State and of different NRF elements.
3. Understand the roles of each response agency on both the federal and state levels.
4. Apply the procedures and protocols for both supplying and acquiring NIMS typed resources.
5. Manage resources effectively.
6. Understand how all levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector should be linked to provide an integrated approach to all-hazards response and recovery.

To make the classroom portion of the IEMC possible, EMI brings a team of subject matter experts from around the country to speak to best practices and lesson learned. Each instructor offers a unique perspective to share with the participants—topics range from community impacts, political considerations, federal influences, local integration and of course, the bottom line...how much do response and recovery efforts cost.

For the exercise portion of the course, the EMI team built a complex functional exercise for the Idaho Emergency Operation Center (IDEOC), State Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), Joint Information Center (JIC), and Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disasters (VOADs). The exercise challenged the State with support efforts during the first seven hours of emergency response to a magnitude 6.9 earthquake centered in Idaho Falls. Exercise participants actively worked on developing Incident Action Plans, Situation Reports, and Mission Assignments. The exercise allowed teams to work through local, state and federal disaster declaration processes, request Federal assets, and track resources.

One of the highlights to this effort was the activation and implementation of

a Joint Information Center for the first time. During the IEMC, BHS was able to provide just in time training to members of the PIER team—Public Information Emergency Response team. These team members spent a full day in training and came prepared the next day to stand-up and work collectively as a JIC. The JIC was able to launch a massive public information campaign and respond to media requests and misinformation. For many of these team members, this opportunity was the first of its kind and the experience proved to be invaluable.

As part of the training and exercise process, BHS worked with outside evaluators to provide constructive feedback on how we can refine our operating procedures and build on existing capabilities. Evaluators took note of the some of the strengths demonstrated throughout the exercise. Examples of some of the comments are:

- EOC leadership and staff were positive and enthusiastic.
- Emergency Support Function (ESF) representatives took advantage of their participation of the exercise by networking and connecting with their counterparts from other agencies and disciplines.



Members of the Public Information Emergency Response (PIER) Team set up and operated a joint information center to manage emergency public information during the exercise portion of the IEMC.

- The Joint Information Center (JIC) anticipated communications and messaging needs before they occurred.
- The exercise provided position-specific training for a number of individuals with limited Incident Command System (ICS) experience, and also tested the organization and standard operating procedures of the EOC itself.
- Good communication existed within and between EOC sections.
- The exercise provided an opportunity for staff from many agencies to work together and become more familiar with each other's response actions.

Several areas for improvement were also identified—the benefit of a comprehensive exercise like this is to identify these gaps and limitation in a no-fault environment

before life safety and property are threatened.

As emergency managers, first responders, first receivers, elected officials and volunteers we all know the importance of training and exercise. All too often, training and exercise fall by the wayside when budgets tighten when the exact opposite should happen—training and exercise events allow our agencies to work together more efficiently and streamline the way we do business. The IEMC is a prime example of training and exercise build collaboration and cooperation between our partners.

BHS would like to extend our gratitude to the instructors, exercise designers, evaluators, and volunteers that made this event so successful. Your expertise and dedication are greatly appreciated and

your contributions will resonate statewide.

If your jurisdiction is interested in hosting an IEMC, the Emergency Management Institute offers Community-Specific IEMCs every year to jurisdictions that have built beyond baseline emergency management functions. For more information on how to apply to this program, please contact Coleen Rice, State Training and Exercise Program Manager at 208-422-3095.

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# Regional Dispatch Tabletop Exercise

Jerome and Lincoln Counties developed a Tabletop Exercise to test and evaluate the Interoperable Communications capabilities of the Regional Dispatch Center (SIRCOMM), which serves the counties of Jerome, Lincoln, Gooding and Twin Falls counties. The exercise design team consisted of county and state agencies.

The exercise was designed to test and evaluate player actions against current response plans and capabilities for a console failure at SIRCOMM. Agency collaboration during the exercise highlighted important priorities and communication abilities. The purpose of the exercise was to identify strengths to be maintained and built upon, identify potential areas for further improvement, and support development of corrective actions. The objectives developed by the exercise planning team were; identify the process of contacting Qwest to reroute all emergency phone calls, utilize standard operating procedures to activate local dispatch centers, describe the call up process to staff local dispatch centers with personnel, using local standard operating procedures, discuss standard operating procedures used to notify

local departments and agencies of the dispatch transfer. Specify how communication would be maintained with the Incident Commander of a multi agency incident while dispatching capabilities are being transferred.

The attendance and collaboration of multiple agencies in the city and county made this exercise a success. The exercise was attended by twenty-three city, county, district, state, federal and voluntary agencies from both Lincoln and Jerome counties. Participants completed all planned exercise objectives and the collaboration and lessons learned made this exercise a success for all participants. The discussions and collaborations that came out of the exercise will assist each agency as they strive to become better prepared. The implementation of corrective actions will improve communication and help focus county Emergency Operation Plans (EOP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for each agency.

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# 2010 Federal Fiscal Year Grant Wrap Up

In FY 2010 Idaho received 9 federal grants totaling \$13,705,956.39. The 9 federal grant allotments range from \$47,233 to \$6,613,200 and cover homeland security issues from Border Protection and Critical Infrastructure to Hazardous Materials and Emergency Management. The two largest grant allotments were for SHSP for \$6,613,200 and EMPG for \$3,450,678. Of the total federal grant amount received by Idaho, \$9,597,820.07, or 70.03%, was passed through to subawardees.

Idaho continues to do well in nationally competitive grant programs, receiving awards from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Pre-disaster Mitigation (PDM) programs. In 2010, Valley County was awarded the EOC Grant for \$766,147.00. Subawardees in total received \$1,795,197.97 in PDM grants out of a 2010 availability of \$100,000,000.

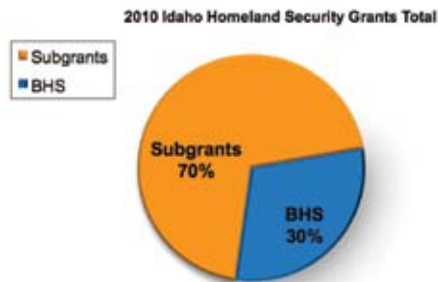
In 2010, the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS) continued to follow the guidelines established in 2009 for homeland security grant processes, notably, focusing on tighter and tighter areas of capability enhancements such as the Target Capability List used by FEMA/DHS to evaluate funding applications. According to FEMA/DHS, the 37 capabilities in the TCL are not the only capabilities that should be developed, but they are 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, the BHS developed investments in 2010 that specifically quantify capability gain. For a list of the Department of Homeland Security target capabilities, go to <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/training/tcl.pdf>

The cost sharing program for the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) in 2010 was reduced from 2009. In 2009, BHS asked local jurisdictions to participate

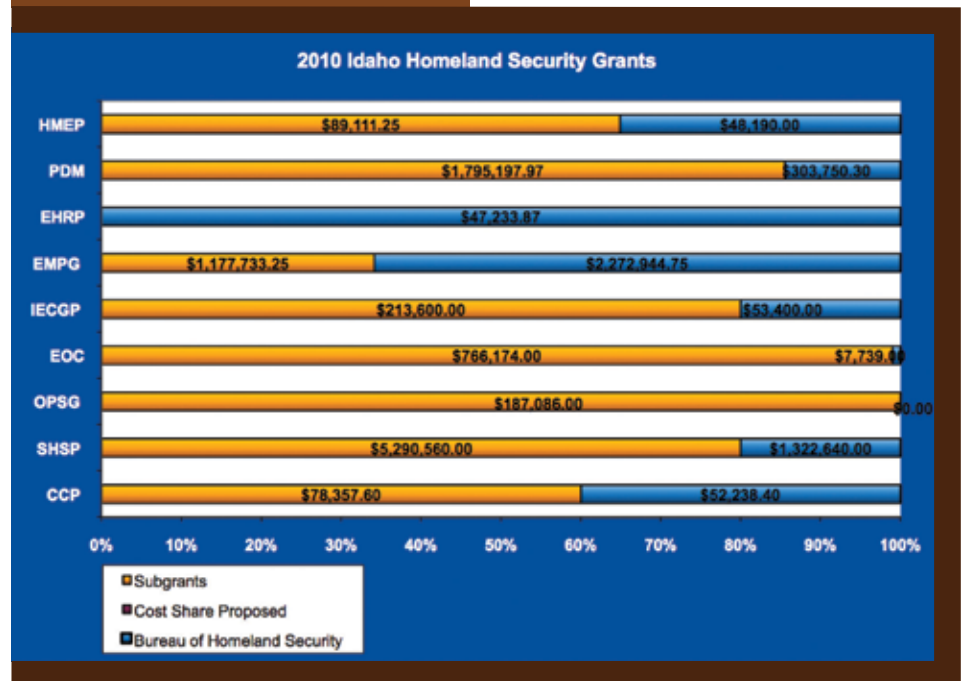
in the support of five of the investments through a cost sharing process with a total cost sharing of \$634,003.16. In 2010, the cost sharing program was reduced to one program, Training and Exercise, and the

the foundation for the 2010 and beyond Homeland Security Grant Program investments. There will not be any major changes to the strategy in 2011, although goals and objectives will be updated as necessary. 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 subgrantees. More detailed grant information, including a complete breakout of all grant funds for 2010, is available at the BHS Grants



This graph shows each of the grants received by BHS in fiscal year 2010.



total cost sharing request was \$264,776.11.

The State Homeland Security Strategy was revised in 2010 per previous input from a wide variety of homeland security stakeholders into the development of the new strategy. The state strategy is the basis for eligibility for the Homeland Security grants, and the State Homeland Security Strategy (2010) Idaho served as

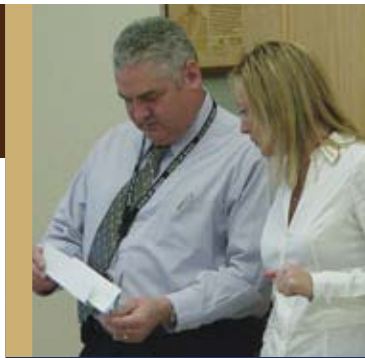
webpage at <http://www.bhs.idaho.gov/Pages/FinanceAndLogistics/Grants.aspx>. See link Complete Breakout of Fiscal Year 2010 Grants Managed by BHS.

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## Phil Lang Named BHS Employee of the Quarter

BHS has begun an Employee of the Quarter program, and the very first winner is Phil Lang. Phil has been with the bureau since early in 2007 and works in the Plans Section as the State and Local Planner.

Mr. Lang performance as BHS's emergency planner has been outstanding. Phil's ability to engage stakeholders into the planning process continues to ensure the Bureau's success in implementing quality products that move emergency management forward. His most recent effort to bring FEMA Planning Technical Assistants training to Idaho, (CPG-101, Developing and Maintaining State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local Government Emergency Plans), is a testament to the vision Phil brings to the Plans Section and the Bureau. Phil has worked for at least two years engaging FEMA Region X in hosting or supporting regional planning programs. By gaining support from FEMA Region X, Phil was able to engage the FEMA Headquarters into delivering a CPG-101 Course in January of 2011. Phil's abilities to coordinate the way forward in planning activities are captured in the success of the Statewide Agency COOP Plans results. Phil has taken on Information Sharing of U/FOUO messages to appropriate users. His work with



Phil Lang, pictured here with Coleen Rice, is the first winner of the BHS Employee of the Quarter Award.

Department of Health and Welfare on coordination of the Strategic National Stockpile exercises has been a critical component their programs success. Phil is currently working on development of a Web based planning program as a collaborative effort as well as web based training using HSIN Connect and the Idaho Portal of HSIN. Phil's planning abilities were national recognized in the evaluation of the last DHS

National Plans Review. Idaho scored well above our FEMA Region X counterparts on nearly all measures within the review. Phil is truly an asset to the Bureau and the State; Phil should be recognized as the employee of the quarter for his accomplishments.

The Employee of the Quarter award comes with a designated parking spot, a gift certificate, and a certificate of appreciation. Congratulations to Phil on the well-earned award.

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## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS REORGANIZATION

After months of planning and preparation, Public Safety Communications (PSC) is proud to announce the beginning of their organizational re-structure. During the first week of January Steve Steiner, Deputy Director for Interoperable Communications held a meeting to discuss and lay the foundation for the new organizational structure within Public Safety Communications. Steve said, "The revised structure will allow for better utilization of our resources and empower each region to better serve our first responder and emergency management customers." The revised organizational structure will include the following: The eventual transition to a regional concept versus district, assigning a Technical Coordinator to each region, developing a Fleet Communication Group with the goal of streamlining duties and responsibilities within the group, and implementing a Project Management Office (PMO) to coordinate internal and partner driven projects.

The Technical Coordinator within each region, to include the Fleet Communication Group will report to the Deputy Director of Interoperable Communications. Each region will be made up of a Technical Coordinator, a Senior Technician and two additional technicians. Moreover, the three regions will cover the state with Region 1 responsible for the northern portion, Region 2 responsible for the southwest and Region 3 the southeast portion of the state. Most importantly, this will give each region the ability to provide better customer service, enhanced communications and more efficient operations.

The Fleet Communications Group will be based in Meridian and consist of a Technical Coordinator, three technicians and one installer to provide better support to state agencies that utilize PSC services. This realignment will again provide better utilization of in-house personnel and give PSC the ability to better serve their customers. Additionally, shop operations will be streamlined and under the direct control of a dedicated Technical Coordinator.

The last portion of the re-organization includes the implementation a Project Management Office (PMO). The PMO will provide better control and oversight for the many on-going PSC projects throughout the state. Similarly, the PMO will also report directly to the Deputy Director of Interoperable Communications and will supervise the financial staff within PSC. Furthermore, the PMO will provide coordination for projects to include the following: Project initiation, planning, controlling, monitoring, executing and closing of projects. In short, the PMO will provide the support needed to all stakeholders to ensure successful project completion and better services for users of the public safety communications infrastructure. Although change is challenging Steve Steiner mentioned that, "It is essential that we adapt to technological changes and our on-going obligations to our public safety customers."

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## **SIEC STATEWIDE PLANNING MOVES FORWARD IN 2011**

The next phase in joint progress is the development of the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) Statewide Strategic Plan, Statewide Emergency Communications Operational Plan and Business Plan. The SIEC over the past 16 months has organized the District Interoperability Governance Boards (DIGB's) and together they have worked to develop and improve the statewide governance process and system. These plans will assist this process by providing for continuity of operations, maintenance and sustainability of the statewide systems across the state. These components will also provide the means by which future funding sources and operational needs and improvements will be based for the statewide systems. Information and input has been requested by the SIEC from the DIGBs and our state and federal shareholders for development of the Statewide Strategic Plan, Statewide Emergency Communications Operational Plan and Business Plan. The development of these plans by the SIEC through a collaborative statewide effort with its DIGB's, state and federal partners will form the base components, which once coupled with the continuing infrastructure improvements occurring across the state, will bring all emergency responders closer to having a statewide system of interoperable communications in order to meet their needs for day to day response as well as coordinated responses during a catastrophic disaster anywhere within the state.

### **SIEC STATEWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN**

It is necessary for public safety organizations to communicate or share critical voice, video and data, with other jurisdictions in real time on a day-to-day basis and during a natural or man-made catastrophic event. Failure to accomplish this mission in each situation can result in the loss of lives and property. The purpose of the Statewide Strategic Plan is to insure public safety providers will have the ability to accomplish this task through the use of standard based protocols and SOP's across the state. The SIEC has engaged the DIGBs and state agencies along with federal partners in developing a Strategic Plan to address the challenges of statewide communications interoperability. Currently all six (6) DIGBs, the State of Idaho, and our Federal stakeholders are involved in this project, due for completion late winter 2011.

### **SIEC BUSINESS PLAN**

The SIEC Business Plan is the product of an effort by the members and staff of the Idaho Statewide Interoperability Executive Council. The SIEC subcommittees have guided its formation as a model which will function as a foundational guide for the delivery of dependable robust service and sustainable improvements to the statewide interoperable communications system. The radio networks of the state of Idaho were created by various agencies or groups of agencies to meet a localized need. The systems are managed and maintained separately. The SIEC recognizes that different stakeholders have different objectives for services with very

different emphases. Significant progress towards interoperability could be accomplished through the consolidation of a statewide communications infrastructure and the coordination of existing independent radio systems. The SIEC, through strategic planning efforts, promotes this cooperation and collaboration to the ends of offering a centrally managed and technologically versatile statewide communications network capable of assimilating new technologies. The SIEC recognizes the need for a sustainable funding source in order to continue to develop and sustain this system through a cooperative and collaborative group of owners and shareholders. The SIEC strives continually to attack the unique challenges and opportunities facing public safety while acknowledging that all outcomes must be equitable across all jurisdictions and disciplines. The plan takes conscious aim at making statewide strategies and efforts compatible with and contributory to, the strategies of the stakeholders. It recognizes the desired end result of interoperability is the ability of people to communicate with people.

### **STATEWIDE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONAL PLAN**

In January 2011, the SIEC delivered to each Idaho County & Tribe their copy of the 2009 "Operational Needs and Technical Resources Assessment", tailored to contain data pertinent to their jurisdiction based upon input provided by the Counties and Tribes; the Assessment was provided in two reports, the "Conceptual Design" and the "Design / Build Statement of Work". The goal of the Assessment was "to assess operational needs and technical resources that will define the overall operable and interoperable radio needs of the stakeholders." The Counties and Tribes, through participation in their DIGB, will review and update their Assessment data. Once updated, they will provide the data to the SIEC Technical Subcommittee Operational Plan Workgroup via their representative; the Workgroup will then use that data to create the Statewide Emergency Communications Operational Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to develop statewide system standards which will provide the basis for the consistent management of the statewide interoperable communications system. This predefined communications plan will acknowledge and utilize the statewide interoperable communications system to enhance agency communications, enhance inter-agency communications, and allow for expansion of communication during major events. Interoperability between various agencies has been identified as a major factor in disaster response and recovery across the State of Idaho. The Statewide Emergency Communications Operational Plan is being developed to be consistent with public safety plans across the State and Nation.

A portion of this Plan will create on a statewide basis the basic concept for today's radio planning through the use of a regional design for rapid access, where an interoperability channel is assigned to the responder during an event. This allows the agency's primary channel to be maintained, allows for unit interoperability & communications, provides for channel expansion with the expansion



of the incident, and allows for multiple event communications. The design of a county / regional talk group determines how each region will maintain or assign regional talk groups among the surrounding counties. The agency providing support will contact and communicate with the requesting agency on their assigned regional talk group.

Interoperability talk groups are assigned and used as incident operational channels for non-routine incidents involving multi-agency/multi-jurisdictional response, a high volume of communications traffic, and as requested by Command Staff, and / or as requested by Dispatch. This portion of the proposed Statewide Emergency Communications Operational Plan will reduce traffic on agency primary channels and create direct communications between

Command Staff and responders. It will provide system expandability and flexibility, common communication standards and procedures, and increased interoperability. Identified limitations which must be addressed include the need for responder radio training, and the need to replace outdated radio equipment held by some agencies.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the SIEC Program Manager, Dodie Collier, at [dcollier@imd.idaho.gov](mailto:dcollier@imd.idaho.gov) or calling the SIEC office at 208.422.6477.

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## TIER II – Vital Information for Your Community

In December, 1984, a chemical leak at an industrial facility in Bhopal, India resulted in over 2,000 serious injuries or deaths. Dubbed "the world's worst industrial catastrophe," this incident prompted the U.S. Congress to pass the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA).

Facilities covered by The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) must submit an emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), local fire department, and the Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS) annually by March 1. 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. This information is essential for preparing first-responders, emergency planners, and citizens for a hazardous chemical emergency.

The BHS website at [www.bhs.idaho.gov](http://www.bhs.idaho.gov) contains information to assist with TIER II reporting. The information includes links that may be helpful for those that report, as well as those that receive the reports.

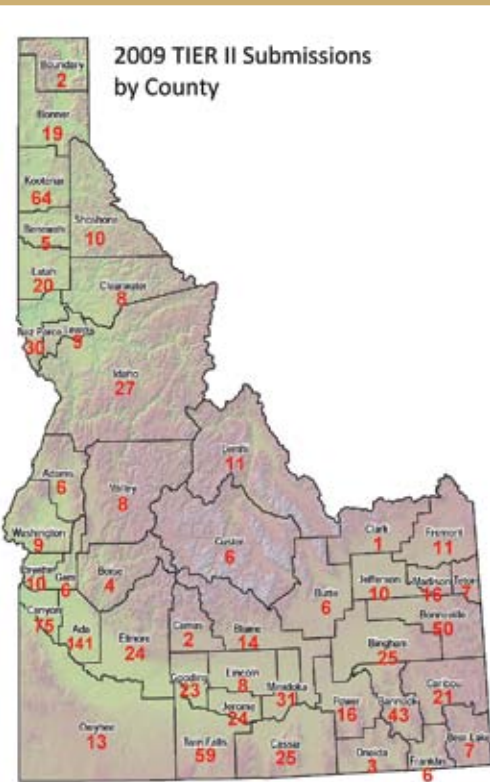
Responders and LEPC's may find it helpful to upload the TIER II Reports to the CAMEO suite, a free program from the EPA, and available for download through a link on our website. The CAMEO suite combines site-specific information with a full database of chemicals and their respective properties (including reactivity). It allows users to store, access, and effectively plan for emergencies involving chemicals (including plume scenarios), based on actual facility-specific information as provided in the TIER II Report. BHS sponsors Cameo classes and also has trained personnel that can provide assistance.

It is important to remember that helping maintain public safety is a responsibility we all share. Proper planning for a potential chemical hazard is an effective and preemptive step in our commitment to protecting the people of Idaho.

For more information about TIER II Reporting, please contact Jarod Dick at [jdick@bhs.idaho.gov](mailto:jdick@bhs.idaho.gov) or (208) 272-4491, or Mary Marsh at [mmarsh@bhs.idaho.gov](mailto:mmarsh@bhs.idaho.gov) or (208) 422-5723

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The TIER II process collects basic facility identification information, employee contact information for both emergencies and non-emergencies, and information about chemicals stored or used at facilities throughout Idaho.

# Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101 v2.0 Planners Workshop

FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101 Version 2.0 (CPG 101 v2.0) provides guidance on the fundamentals of planning and development of Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs). Following the initial release of CPG 101 in March 2009, FEMA solicited additional input from Federal, state, territorial, tribal, local, and private sector stakeholders, which led to the development of a more user-friendly document that reflects recent initiatives and the current planning environment.

To better understand, integrate, and apply the concepts outlined in the newly updated CPG 101 v2.0, the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS) requested Technical Assistance (TA) from FEMA in the form of a one-day planner's workshop focused solely on the FEMA CPG 101 v2.0.

The planner's workshop was conducted on 13 January and brought together planners from FEMA Region 10 and Idaho planners

from all levels of government. The main goal of the workshop was to help provide a more stable foundation for Idaho planners through better understanding of CPG 101 v2.0 concepts and practical application of various supporting planning principles.

covered the vertical integration or meshing of planning both up and down the various levels of government (i.e., Federal-Regional-State-Local-Tribal-Nongovernmental-Private Industry) to ensure a common operational focus. A shared planning community increases the likelihood of integration and synchronization.

Randall Valley, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Idaho Department of Corrections said of the workshop "One of the key points for me was the concept of Whole of Community planning. The need to bring in people from the many disciplines which assist us on a day to day basis is important. Their input is necessary, as they will all have a vital role in our plan's success. However, getting them all to the table can be challenging. The workshop offered a process to make this work."

The Whole of Community planning concept encompasses two key concepts: Ensuring that our response and recovery actions are driven by the actual needs of the entire affected community and the conditions on the ground, including the population demographics and geographic location; and Ensuring that we leverage and rely upon the resources of the entire emergency management team to the greatest extent possible in meeting these needs.

Norm Suenkel, Benewah County Emergency Coordinator said "This Workshop was a great opportunity to hear from FEMA representatives on issues they want addressed in more depth in the plans, hear from our neighboring states on tools they are using to develop plans, and hear from our state partners regarding areas of concern and recommendations on how the plans can be structured to address these concerns. This Workshop addressed planning at all levels of government. Plans need to consider the entire community's



The planner's workshop was conducted on 13 January and brought together planners from FEMA Region 10 and Idaho planners from all levels of government. Photo: Phil Lang

CPG 101 v2.0 encourages emergency and homeland security managers to engage the whole community in addressing all of the risks that might impact their jurisdictions. This version of CPG 101 replaces all previous versions of CPG 101 and is the cornerstone for a series of CPGs that provide planning considerations for a variety of hazards, security issues, and emergency functions. Supplements to 101 will be issued as needed to expand on aspects of the guidance. You can download a copy of the CPG 101 v2.0 online at:

[http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/divisions/npd/CPG\\_101\\_V2.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/divisions/npd/CPG_101_V2.pdf)

Successful planning occurs when organizations know their roles and responsibilities and understand how they fit into the overall planning scheme.

Vince Cacanindin, Plans and Assessments Branch Chief with FEMA Region 10 National Preparedness said "We were happy to assist Idaho in the delivery of the CPG 101 Planning Workshop. The workshop proved to be successful in supporting information sharing on the contents of the newly released version of the Comprehensive Preparedness Guide. Region 10 is pleased Idaho conducted this workshop as it shares guidance on deliberate planning, an essential element in the preparedness and planning cycle as well as other key planning concepts."

CPG 101 also promotes a common understanding of the fundamentals of planning and decision making to help emergency planners examine a hazard and produce integrated, coordinated, and synchronized plans. The workshop

needs, concerns, capabilities, and desire to help.”

Phil Lang, Response and Recovery Planner for BHS discussed some future State planning initiatives that are intended to provide planners with more specific Idaho planning guidance, enhance communication and coordination with planning issues, and to help streamline the writing of plans. These initiatives included; publishing an Idaho supplement

to the FEMA CPG 101 v2.0 that will provide state specific plans guidance; creating a planners specific webpage on the BHS website; and the development of the Emergency Operations Planning Tool (EOPT) which will provide a web-based planning solution for the writing of emergency plans.

To assist with the integration and synchronization of CPG 101 v2.0 planning guidance throughout FEMA Region 10

and at all levels of government, there is a second CPG 101 planner’s workshop that is being coordinated with Idaho, Washington State, and FEMA that will be conducted in Spokane WA in the near future. More information about this workshop will be released as soon as plans are firmed up.

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# Idaho Community Preparedness

The mission of the Citizen Corps program “is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer services to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared...” Through this education and training individuals can plan and prepare for future emergencies; they can learn how to react to save not only their life but also their loved ones, and not become a victim of circumstance. According to Amanda Ripley, “If we can reduce our own fear even a little bit, we might be able to do better.” Ms. Ripley explains in her Time Magazine Article printed 6/9/2008 that through training and exercise people can learn to reduce their own fears and react to what is happening to them. Fire Drills and Earthquake Drills are examples of two exercise that can be conducted at home or in the office, playing a major role in determining if a person survives a catastrophic emergency or not. When emergency drills are mandatory and unexpected an individual trains their brain on how to escape the space they are in. Ms. Ripley explains that, “Just knowing where the stairs are gives your brain an advantage... give(s) our brain a blueprint in the unlikely event that we need them.”

As The Bureau of Homeland Security prepares for the 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), local governments should be thinking into the future and how they will sustain the Citizen Corps Programs they have worked so hard to create over the years. President Obama has proposed in 2011 to eliminate the line item dollar amount that has previously been dedicated to Citizen Corps through the HSGP grant. Many Idaho counties, tribes, and local governments have successful programs and projects, that educate citizens on being prepared, that are currently funded by CCP dollars; such as Map Your Neighborhood, CERT, USA on Watch (Neighborhood Watch), and Preparedness Fairs. These programs encourage all Idahoans to take an active role in personal preparedness and developing disaster action plans for their homes and workplace, create 72 hour kits that can sustain all members of the household until help arrives, and to become involved in their communities through volunteerism.

Community Education and Preparedness through Citizen Corps encourages and helps train individuals to, “embrace personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency

responders, disaster relief, and community safety.” All of this is being done in Idaho counties, tribes, and cities through the diligent work of County Emergency Managers and CCP funding. These county professionals are helping to create a “blueprint” in the minds of Idahoans on how to react and sustain themselves through natural or man-made disasters.

Preparedness is defined as a cycle (<http://www.fema.gov/prepared/>) that flows in a circle and is continues. Citizens; First Responders; Federal, State, and Local Governments; and private industry should continually plan, organize, train, exercise, and evaluate/improve on the preparedness cycle. When Idaho Citizens are trained and prepared they become part of the Preparedness Cycle and are given



the tools to reduce their own fear and react to the disaster that are potentially happening to them. By training and planning we are giving our brains the tools we need to react during an emergency and survive. The preparedness cycle can be learned in a classroom setting or in everyday actions, such as traveling or being in an

unfamiliar building. Do you pay attention to emergency exits and where the fire extinguishers are located when visiting buildings or homes you are less familiar with? When flying do you pay attention to the safety notice; emergency exits, where the oxygen masks will come from, or where to find a floatation devise? These are all simple steps that can be taken to train our brain to react proactively during a disaster. Relieving stress and raising our chances of survival.

Through educational opportunities provided by the State of Idaho, County Governments, and Local Governments through the Citizen Corps program, Idaho citizens can become educated and train at being better prepared for emergencies caused by nature or man.

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## Our State's Fusion Center: **I**Idaho **C**Criminal **I**Intelligence **C**Center

The Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center (ICIC) has been in existence for two short years, but is already gaining an outstanding reputation for first-rate intelligence support and information sharing activities throughout the entire State.

The Center's mission is to protect the citizens and critical infrastructures of Idaho by enhancing the coordination and communication of information among local, tribal, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to maximize the goal

of improving law enforcement, first responder, citizens and community safety. The ICIC is made up of highly skilled intelligence subject matter experts from several agencies and organizations to include: Idaho State Police, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, Idaho National Guard, Ada County Sheriff's Office, Boise & Nampa Police Departments, and others.

As the ICIC's reputation for excellence and valued service has grown so have the demands from law enforcement, government, and CI/KR asset owners for intelligence analysis and products grown. Over the past year the ICIC has supported 121 agencies with intelligence and information needs (up from 26 in 2009) this in an increase of 365%. Additionally, the ICIC supported 3,430 requests for intelligence and analysis products from those agencies (up from 570 in 2009 for an increase of 502%).

As the word of the ICIC's outstanding service continues to grow the Center expects the demands for assistance to increase significantly. To increase productivity and meet heavy demands the ICIC is in the process of several initiatives to include: development of an Information Liaison Officer Program, increased CI/KR Intelligence and Analysis, and information sharing campaigns.

The ICIC is becoming a paramount force multiplier to the protection of Idaho's citizens and critical infrastructure and will continue to do so for our great State's future.

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