



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2018

Idaho Office of **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

2018 FIRE SEASON



The Mesa fire began on July 26th, 2018, and at the time of print, was 57% contained. Just four miles south of Council, this fire covered an estimated 34,000 acres. The particularly hot and dry weather posed a unique challenge to firefighters as they combated this blaze.



The Grassy Ridge fire was contained on August 10th, but only after having burned 99,502 acres! Gusty outflow winds from thunderstorms pushed the fire towards the city of Dubois, causing an evacuation on July 28th. That evacuation order was lifted on July 29th, and citizens were allowed to return home.



Greetings,

The 2018 summer wildfire season in Idaho has affected every region of the state. The effects include the loss of cell phone towers, evacuations in one southeast Idaho community, dangerous air quality, and a new challenge: drones flying near the fires. Drone intrusions into restricted air space have caused significant disruptions to wildland firefighting efforts this year. Because of this danger, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter recorded a public service announcement (PSA) that will air throughout the state about the dangers of drones flying near wildfires.

This PSA is helping to spread an important safety message – it is prohibited for drones to be deployed and flown anywhere near a wildfire. These small unmanned aircraft can interfere with wildland air traffic including tankers, helicopters, and other aircraft necessary to suppress these fires. If you own or fly a drone, please make sure you follow FAA rules regarding where you can legally fly. Comprehensive information can be found at

www.faa.gov

This summer we were pleased to work with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and local law enforcement officials to plan and facilitate an active assailant exercise at Borah High School in Boise. Functional Exercises provide a critically important opportunity for local, state, and federal agencies to test and evaluate their systems and protocols. Training on how individuals within any organization can best respond should they encounter an active assailant allow each of us to feel we have the tools and resources when a worst case scenario occurs.



FEMA Administrator Brock Long discussing emergency management issues with State Directors from around the nation at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, Maryland.



Additionally this summer, I was pleased to be invited to be an instructor to the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, Maryland in August. It was gratifying to share my knowledge and experience as a state Director with leaders who are new to the position. The State Director Training Course was an important venue to share best practices with emergency management directors from around the country on emerging issues that will affect how we serve the citizens of our states when disasters or emergencies occur. This training further reinforces an important message: state, local, and federal agencies, individuals, and families all have a role to play in keeping our communities whole, and resilient.

And finally, September is National Preparedness Month. This is a nationwide effort to cultivate a culture of preparedness. The 2018 Preparedness focus is: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now!** Please make sure to follow IOEM on Facebook and Twitter @IdahoOEM and share with your family and your communities the many ways you can be fully prepared throughout the year.

Brad Richy
Director, IOEM



This is the official newsletter of the Idaho Office of Emergency Management. This quarterly publication produced in Boise, Idaho is intended for use by the State of Idaho's emergency management community, legislators, government officials, and others who are interested in learning about Idaho's emergency management operations and procedures around the Gem state.

C. L. "Butch" Otter, Idaho Governor

Brad Richy
Director, Idaho Office of Emergency Management
(208) 422-3001

Elizabeth C. Duncan, Editor
(208) 258-6595

Dori Topholm, Design Editor
(208) 404-1027



IOEM CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS (COOP) TABLETOP EXERCISE (TTX)

A Focus on Mission Essential functions

IOEM staff participated in a Continuity of Operations (COOP) tabletop exercise focused on the mission essential functions of the agency earlier this summer. The purpose of the exercise was to review and analyze the current essential functions listed in the IOEM COOP plan to provide a starting point from which to validate and update the plan where needed. Mission essential functions are those activities that must be continued by an agency or organization during a disruption of normal activities. Identification and prioritization of mission essential functions is critical to ensuring the continued functioning of the agency.

The exercise scenario was focused around a pandemic illness event, first affecting IOEM staff, and then spreading to a larger disaster within the state. This allowed for evaluation of essential functions during both normal day to day operations as well as an activation of the Idaho Emergency Operations Center (IDEOC). Staff first used the scenario to drive discussion about IOEM's day-to-day functions, what services must be provided by the agency, and which deadlines must be met. Further scenario development led to the activation of the IDEOC due to the spread of the pandemic illness to multiple counties in the state. Staff then discussed which functions of the IDEOC would need to be conducted and which had priority given similarly reduced staffing levels. The tabletop exercise allowed IOEM staff to test the COOP plan outside of a real world event.

The discussions that occurred during the exercise will guide the IOEM Plans Section in completing the biennial update of the COOP Plan for the agency. The plan update is expected to be completed by the end of July.

Continuity planning is not only done by IOEM, but by all Idaho state agencies to ensure that state government is prepared to continue to serve its citizens regardless of what impacts might occur to an agency or agencies. Continuity planning resources are available on the IOEM Website.

Mallory Wilson
IOEM Plans Section Chief



SPREADING THE GREAT IDAHO SHAKEOUT MESSAGE

October is ShakeOut Month

The Great Idaho ShakeOut Earthquake Drill takes place this year on October 18th. To help spread the important message about earthquake preparedness, IOEM has partnered once again with Idaho State University and the University of Idaho to get the message out, extending our working relationship to over five years. You'll see these banners on GoVandals.com and ISUBengals.com until the end of August, linked with information about the Great Idaho ShakeOut and an opportunity to register.

Last year, Idaho had more than 90,000 people register to participate in the Great Idaho ShakeOut. Most of the participants were school students. This year, in order to make it easier for K-12 students and teachers to participate, IOEM is also creating an educational and instructional video to go along with the drill. Teachers will be able to access the video through IOEM's YouTube channel where students will learn about earthquakes and what to do if one hits. After the video concludes, teachers will then lead their class in the earthquake drill and discuss what they learned. In this way, IOEM is making earthquake preparedness more accessible and convenient for Idaho's residents.

Stay tuned for more information about our upcoming videos and events. Contact Aaron Blake, the IOEM Community Preparedness Coordinator, for information on how schools or organizations in your community can get involved.

Aaron Blake

IOEM Community Preparedness Coordinator

Idaho Office of Emergency Management

208-991-7707 (Cell)

208-258-6522 (Office)

ablake@imd.idaho.gov

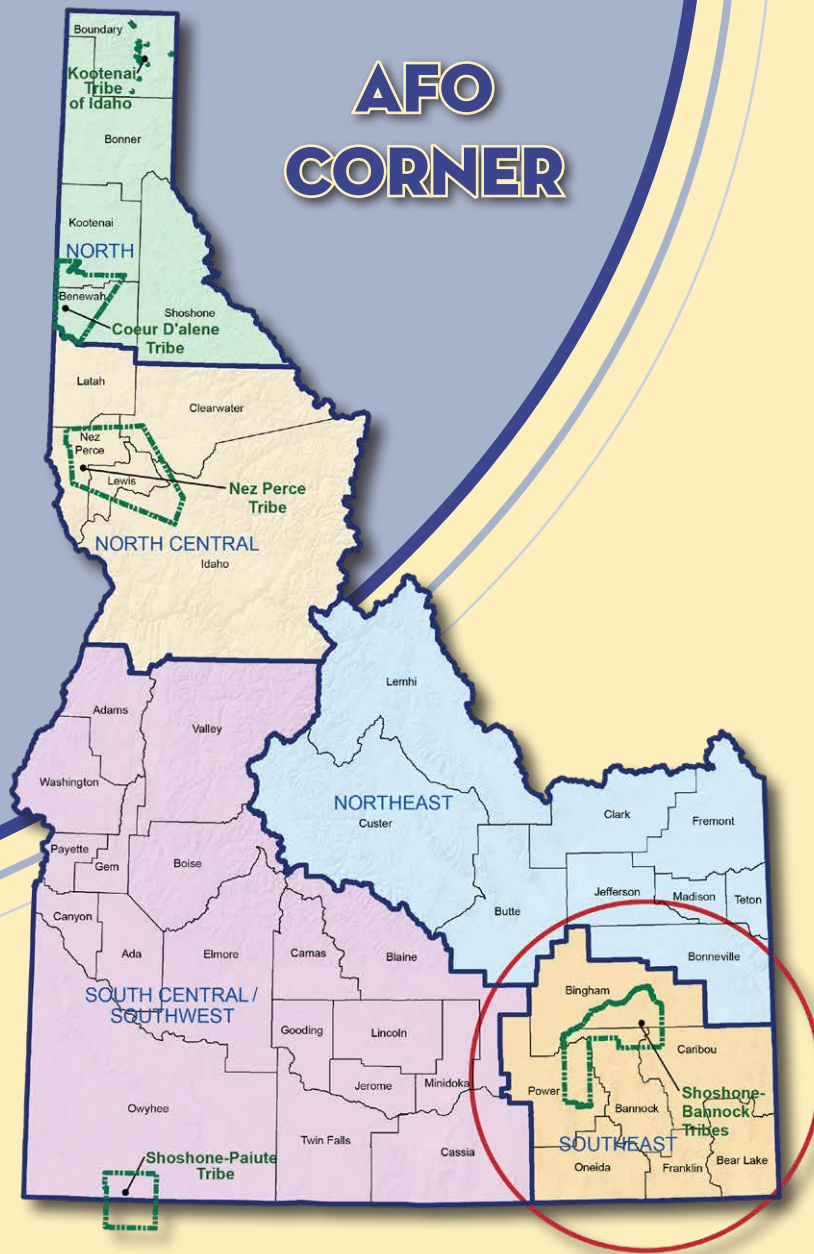


SOUTHEAST REGION

IOEM has five diverse Area Field Office regions throughout the state. Area Field Officers live and work in their regions, providing the agency with real world situational awareness of any and all challenges faced by counties in each particular area. For a state with more than 84,000 square miles of diverse terrain and demographics, this has proven critically important during a wide variety of disasters. It also allows for important relationship-building so county emergency managers, and county leadership, have a consistent point of contact they see on a regular basis.



Darin Letzring, IOEM Southeast Area AFO



This summer IOEM welcomed a new Area Field Officer for the Southeast AFO Region. The region includes seven counties and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. Darin Letzring has a solid background in emergency management having worked for Southeastern Idaho Public Health as a Public Health Emergency Preparedness staffer for more than twelve years. Letzring is a retired US Marine Corps reservist with 25 year's service in logistics. Letzring, who grew up in North Dakota, lives with his wife and family in Pocatello. Letzring says he lives in an area that suits his lifestyle and hobbies including all-season backcountry activities like hiking, fishing, skiing, and hunting.

"I'm excited to be part of the IOEM team. During my orientation week at IOEM offices in Boise, I noticed a professional and positive work environment that I hope I can contribute to. I also look forward to working closely with local officials in the Southeast Region."

Darin can be reached at
Dletzring@imd.idaho.gov
(208) 258-6563
(208) 417-9546

FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE AT BORAH HIGH SCHOOL IN BOISE

Armed Assailant Exercise Provides Real World Experience for Multiple Agencies

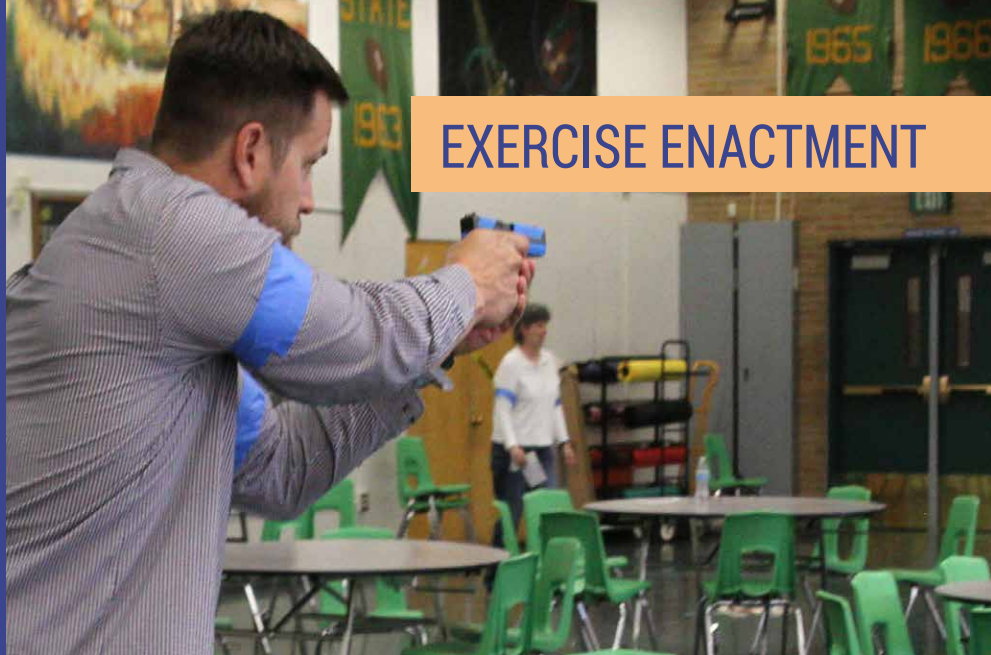
Simulating threat events that communities across the country can face is one of the most important ways to provide training for local, state, and federal agencies.

On July 18, 2018 the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), Boise Police Department, Boise Fire Department, and Ada County Paramedics and others were able to test their response protocols for an active assailant event. The functional exercise was planned and facilitated by IOEM to provide a realistic threat event for the agencies, and the opportunity for staff to benefit from Active Shooter training.

As IOEM planned the event, a key issue was ensuring that residents and individuals traveling in the area of the school would not be alarmed by the large police presence. IOEM worked with the City of Boise, and the Boise School District to make sure there was an awareness of the event through social media and direct communication with parents, school staff, and neighborhood associations. Although the location was selected because school was not in session, the agencies were mindful of possible concern from passersby and the public. ITD also provided electronic Readerboard messages that said "Training in Progress," at key locations around the school's perimeter.

The official name for the exercise was the I-STEP Boise Highway Motor Carrier Full Scale Exercise (FSE) and was sponsored by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). I-STEP is TSA's Intermodal Security Training and Exercise Program. It provides exercise, training, and security planning tools and services to the transportation sector. In this instance the Idaho Transportation Department was the transportation link, and an active shooter was the planned scenario with involvement by emergency services listed above, along with the FBI. IOEM and ITD personnel acted as the players in the exercise while the local emergency services responded to the exercise-based active shooter incident.



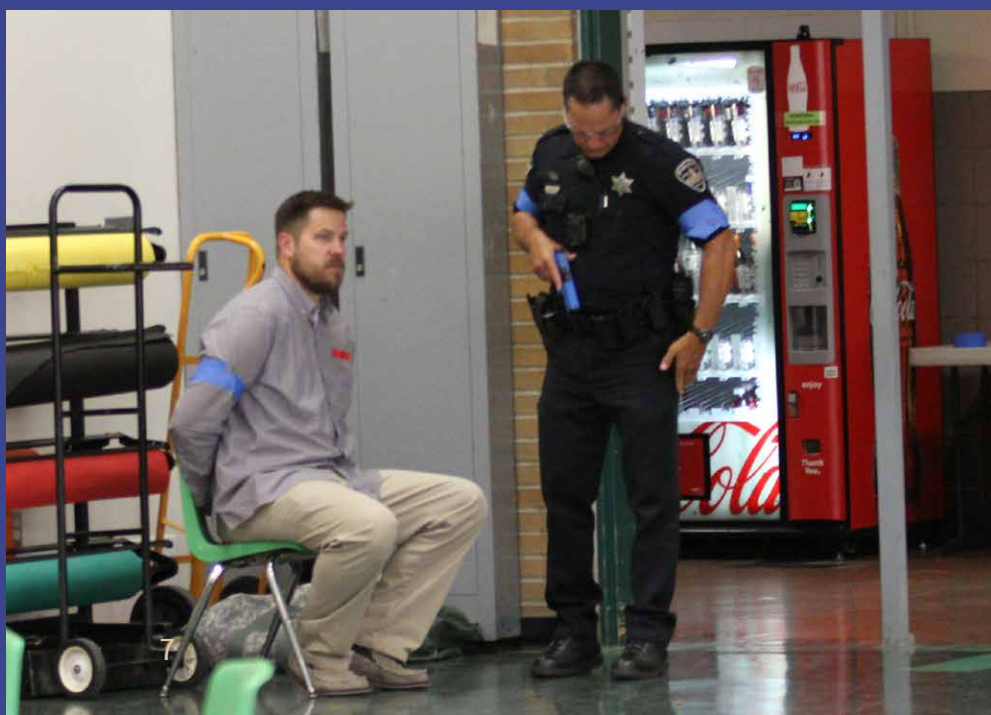


EXERCISE ENACTMENT



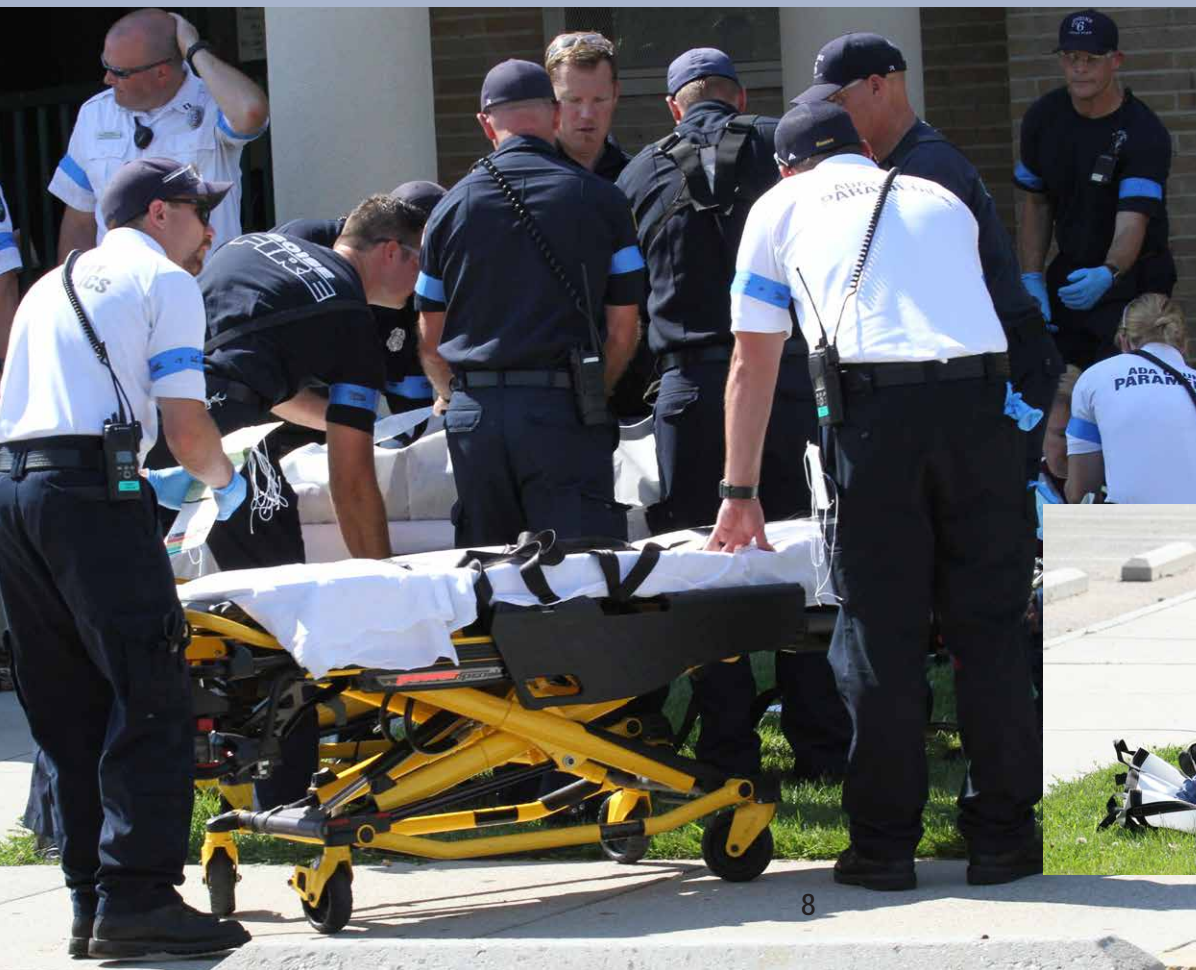
Prior to the actual exercise, the FBI and TSA provided instruction on some history of active assailants along with different strategies for responding to an assailant. Approximately two weeks prior to this exercise an unforeseen parallel occurred in Boise when an assailant instigated a knife attack against children and adults at a child's birthday party resulting in the death of a three-year-old girl and injuries to eight others. As a result we determined it would be appropriate to reclassify the exercise as an active "assailant" rather than shooter. If you are considering an exercise based on the active shooter scenario, you may want to widen your focus to an "active killer", a "violent intruder" or an "active assailant" since the weapon can be a knife, a club, a vehicle, a bomb, a gun, or any combination of these or many other "weapons".

You can find more information on active shooter training at The Department of Homeland Security Active Shooter Preparedness website at <https://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>.





Idaho Adjutant General Mike Garshak and IOEM Director Brad Richy at the I-STEP Boise Highway Motor Carrier Full Scale Exercise (FSE) at Borah High School.



IDAHO GOVERNOR C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER RECORDS PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT ON DRONES FLYING NEAR WILDFIRES

Drone traffic near wildfires can interfere with Wildland Fire air traffic including tankers, helicopters, and other firefighting aircraft needed to suppress fires. "Be Smart. Never Fly a Drone Near A Wildfire"



IOEM - WHO WE ARE; WHAT WE DO

The Idaho Office of Emergency Management is the state's emergency management agency tasked by Idaho code with providing assistance to the 44 counties and four Tribes in managing man-made and natural disasters in the state. Key to the agency's role is developing and updating the state's Emergency Operations Plan.

This detailed all-hazards plan establishes a framework for managing disasters in Idaho, and develops mechanisms for state support to state, local, and tribal emergency managers. The Idaho Emergency Operations Center (IDEOC) is housed within IOEM and is a central hub for coordination efforts and situational awareness during a disaster. IOEM ensures that partner agencies, are trained and prepared to assist in managing disasters.

The three branches include Operations, Preparedness and Protection, and Grants Management. IOEM is accredited by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), and is a division of the Idaho Military Division.

IOEM is part of FEMA's Region 10 along with Oregon, Washington and Alaska.



Star Card – Idaho's REAL ID



The Star Card is an Idaho driver's license or ID that adds a Star to show it is in compliance with REAL ID security standards. Passed by Congress in 2005, the REAL ID Act requires uniform standards for credentials, such as driver's licenses. The standards focus on proof of identity and the documents you must provide to verify you are who you say you are.

Beginning October 1, 2020, you will need to have a Star Card or another accepted form of ID, such as a passport, to fly commercially or access a federal facility, national laboratory, or military base.

Dates to Remember

January 2018

Star Card is now available in Idaho.

October 1, 2020

You will need a Star Card or another accepted form of identification to fly commercially or access a federal facility.

Helpful Links

ID Requirements

www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification

Documents needed to obtain a Star Card

<http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard>
or scan the QR code.

18070301



9 quick facts on the Star Card

<http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard> 

1 Do I have to get a Star Card?

Star Card is not mandatory. A license or ID without the Star can still be used for most functions, just not for airport security to fly commercially or access federal buildings, including military bases after October 1, 2020.

2 What is the difference between a Star Card and an Idaho driver's license or ID card without the Star?

The only difference is the ability to fly commercially or enter a federal facility. Both allow you to legally drive and prove your identity for tasks like buying alcohol or registering to vote.

3 Should I get a Star Card?

- ☒ Do you fly on commercial aircraft?
- ☒ Do you need to access a federal facility (federal courthouse, national laboratory, or military base)?

If **yes**, you should consider adding the Star.

4 What if my name has changed and doesn't match my birth certificate or other documents?

If your current name has changed through marriage, divorce, adoption, court order or other mechanisms, you will be required to provide evidence of the name change through the appropriate court or government documents. Multiple documents may be needed if your name has changed more than once.

5 What documents do I need to get a Star Card?

You will need to provide documents such as a birth certificate, social security card and two proofs of Idaho residency such as a mortgage statement or current utility bill to verify:

- Your identity
- Your Social Security number
- Your Idaho residency

If your name is different from what is on your birth certificate, you will need to bring a certified name-change document, such as your marriage license, divorce decree or court order. Multiple documents may be needed if your name has changed more than once.

Go to <http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard> for a full list of the documents you can use to add the Star. The website includes an "Add the Star" tool. Simply answer a few questions and the system will create a customized list of documents you need to bring with you to the DMV to get a Star Card.

6 When should I add the Star?

Check your current driver's license or ID card:

- If it expires before Oct. 1, 2020, you can get a Star Card when it's time to renew
- If it expires after Oct. 1, 2020, you should consider renewing early to get a Star Card

You are eligible for renewal up to 25 months prior to the date your license expires. You will just have to provide the additional documentation required to get a Star Card.

7 What is the cost of a Star Card?

The cost will be the same as getting a license or ID without the Star. If you are within the 25 month renewal period, you have the option of renewing your license or ID card for the customary fee:

- \$30 for a four-year license
- \$55 for an eight-year license
- \$40 for a four-year CDL
- \$10 for four-year ID
- \$20 for an eight-year ID

If you are not within the 25 month renewal or don't want to renew at this time, a duplicate for any license is \$15.00, for an ID card it is the same amount as the original ID.

8 Where can I get a Star Card?

Star Card will be available at the same locations where you get a driver's license or ID card.

9 What are the alternatives to getting a Star Card?

You can use a passport or other approved documents to fly or enter a federal building or military base.

For a full list of acceptable documents go to <http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard>.

STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (SHMP) UPDATE

Updates to Hazard Mitigation Plan is posted online to receive public feedback

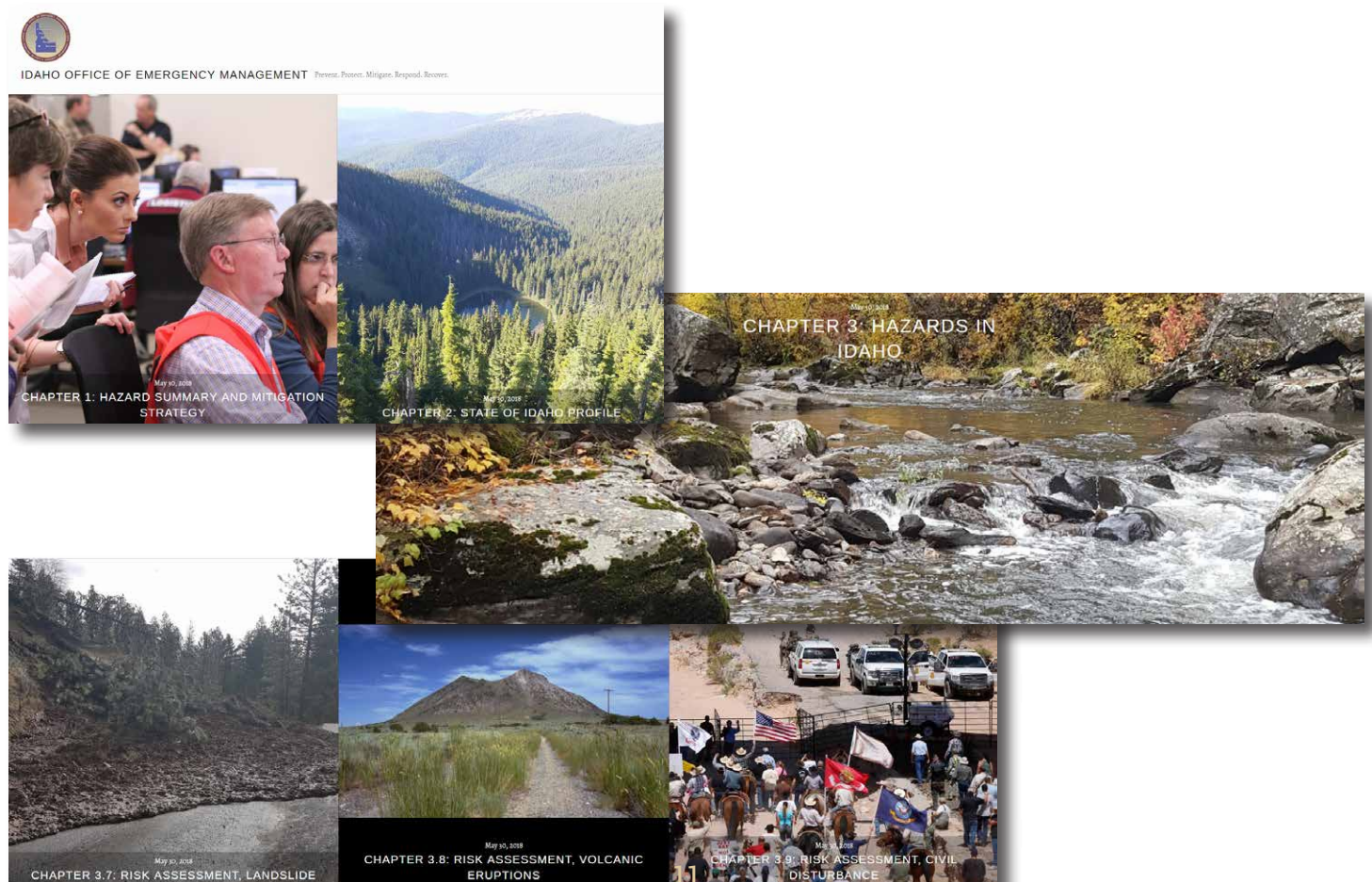
The State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) is in the midst of getting updated, and a draft was placed online and available for review. This draft has been created with information from the initial surveying of public feedback. As IOEM moves forward and revises plans, it is imperative to gain public feedback on plans and preparedness measures.

As such, we are asking for further feedback on the actual draft of the SHMP Update. A Blog Site has been created to host the plan, where it has been separated by chapter. Comments can be left either on the site on a chapter by chapter basis, or can be left on an online survey that links back to the blog.

Once the plan has been finalized with the incorporation of public feedback, it will be posted on the same Blog Site for ease of access to the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. According to Pew Research Center in March of 2018, 89% of Americans regularly use the Internet and 67% cite that they receive their news from Social Media sources. As the Internet grows and moves forward, it is critical to adapt and grow with it. The uploading of this plan for online access reflects that adaptation.

An expansive plan, everything is covered from flooding to pandemics in the recent SHMP Update. The areas that individuals expressed the most concern for in the initial survey were given due consideration as the draft has been created. The finalized version can be found, read, and commented on at <https://idahoofficeofemergencymanagement.wordpress.com/>.

At the time of this articles writing, feedback is being incorporated in the SHMP update, and the finalized version will be posted soon. The time and contribution from the public has been a wonderful asset as we work to increase statewide preparedness.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS GATHER TO PLAN FOR CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

ASPR (HHS Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response) teamed up with NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency) to bring together public health and emergency management professionals from states across the West to engage in catastrophic planning. Idaho's team consisted of members from both the Idaho Office of Emergency Management and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Bureau of EMS and Preparedness.

The team spent months prior to the workshop using an earthquake scenario in Eastern Idaho to identify public health resource availability and needs given a catastrophic disaster of that nature. Idaho's team was recognized by the project lead, John Heltzel, for outstanding work prior to and during the workshop. Team members were awarded "gold stars" for their planning efforts as part of a NEMA-ASPR joint workshop focused on planning for public health and medical needs in a catastrophic disaster.



Pictured from L to R: Katie Harper, Levi Claussen, Jodi Matott, Lindsay Walters, Mallory Wilson, Maija Reed, Joel Price.

BUILDING ON EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS

FEMA and IOEM Announce New Initiative



FEMA Region 10 Administrator Mike O'Hare (L), and IOEM Director Brad Richy announce a new initiative that will build upon the strong relationship already enjoyed by Idaho and FEMA Region 10. In the coming months, FEMA will embed staff at the Idaho Office of Emergency Management. FEMA Integration Teams (FIT) will be hired to live and work in communities in Idaho and other states. The FEMA subject matter experts will be hired to provide guidance and consultation on various emergency management initiatives in each state.

IOEM PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MANAGER (ESF6) RETIRES

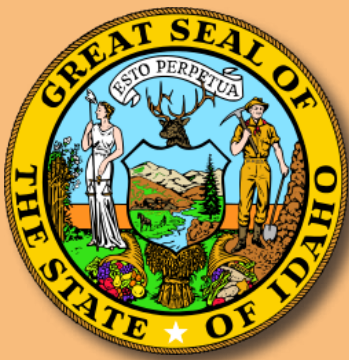
Congratulations, and best wishes to our colleague Mary Marsh, who is retiring after 21 years of distinguished service with the State of Idaho.

Mary began her career for the state in the Bureau of Hazardous Materials, which later combined with the Bureau of Disaster Services, and eventually became the Idaho Office of Emergency Management. Mary's first assignment was to assist counties in setting up Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC's). Because of her experience as a former County Emergency Manager, she encouraged counties to make LEPCs all-hazard committees rather than just hazardous materials. Most counties in the state now have active all-hazard LEPC's.

Mary also worked with Fire Departments, and the Regional Response Teams to recover their costs when responding to hazardous materials incidents. She helped bring about change in state statute to allow for recovery of costs when counties responded to an incident that was a threat - such as explosives or anthrax. She organized a process for facilities to do their required annual chemical reporting electronically through TIER II Submit. This reporting was previously being submitted on paper, but was not efficient when looking for information on locations and types of chemicals stored in Idaho.

Mary worked closely with the Private Sector to encourage their involvement in assisting with incidents that happen in their locations. She also worked with volunteer agencies as the Volunteer Agency Liaison (VAL) and was able to acquire Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) with some volunteer agencies. She created a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to make requests for assistance from the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) more efficient and better coordinated. Mary calls the annual Idaho VOAD Conference a highlight and says she was always amazed by the work they do throughout the country when called upon.

Mary is looking forward to traveling with her husband who is retired from the Idaho Army National Guard. They will be visiting their four children, five grandchildren and other family all over the country, and will be crossing things off her bucket list, which is quite lengthy. Mary says it's been a wonderful career and is honored to have served the citizens of the State of Idaho. Mary's last day at IOEM is September 21, 2018.



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY GATHER FOR ANNUAL MEETING

PIOs discuss emerging issues and New Best Practices

The annual National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Public Information Officer (PIO) Conference took place at FEMA Region 4 offices in Atlanta in June. The annual event occurs two days prior to the annual NEMA conference each year.

Thirty Public information Officers from emergency management agencies across the country attended - from Vermont to Oregon. PIOs from FEMA Region 10, which includes Idaho, Alaska, Washington, and Oregon were all in attendance. In addition to state emergency management PIOs, each FEMA Region's external affairs directors attend the conference, along with FEMA external affairs staff from Washington DC. The conference is an opportunity for PIOs to share best practices, and to be briefed on changes to FEMA messaging on emerging issues.

Included on this year's agenda were presentations on how PIOs handled public information during high profile events in their jurisdictions.

- The Baltimore Riots – Maryland
- Solar Eclipse – Oregon & Idaho
- Mass Casualty – Las Vegas, Nevada Mass Shooting
- Kansas City Police shooting - Missouri
- Mass Evacuations – Virginia (hurricanes)

The group also heard presentations on best practices including how Idaho maintains a robust JIS in the form of the Public Information Emergency Response (PIER) Team.

Other issues addressed included the need to change the verbiage from Public Assistance to Public Sector Assistance, a major issue for PIOs across the country in responding to media.

The EPA and the CDC PIOs also provided information and best practices regarding radiation exposure messaging.

The most useful information gleaned from the conference from Idaho's perspective is how vital a robust social media presence is – especially during a disaster. Additionally, in the public information space, staying on top of emerging trends dealing with how the public stays informed remains important.

Pictured right – Joe Dougherty, PIO Utah Division of Emergency Management briefs group on the public information challenges of high profile memorials and funerals.



IOEM EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to Plans Section Chief Mallory Wilson for being named the Employee of the Quarter. Mallory has been with the agency for over five years and has mastered each area she has worked in. Mallory's professionalism and dedication were unscored this past quarter by the volume of work that went into planning and coordinating the IOEM COOP Exercise (see page



3). In addition to coordinating this effort, Mallory and her team are currently working on the State of Idaho's Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). The THIRA document identifies gaps and capabilities throughout the state. The emphasis of the state's THIRA was recently changed by FEMA so updating the document has required a complete overhaul of processes used in the past.

Mallory and her team are also working with State of Idaho partner agencies to update the Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes. These annexes are critically important to the state emergency operations center (EOC) in our response to all hazards.

On a side note, Mallory joins an elite group of Idahoans who have climbed Mount Borah (August 2018). And there's more! Mallory will be competing in a half marathon this September. Send her a good luck message!

IOEM RESERVIST PROFILE

Adam Gonzales

In December 2017, I became a Reservist at IOEM and I now work as an Exercise Planning contractor. This consists of developing exercises for the Idaho Emergency Operations Center (IDEOC) Staff, and assisting with upcoming exercise hosted by IOEM.

I am originally from Mesa, AZ and was transplanted into Pocatello, where I graduated from Century High School. I also attended Idaho State University where I graduated in 2015 with an Associates of Science in Emergency Management. I will graduate in December with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Emergency Management.

Previously I was an EMT for Bannock County Search and Rescue, and with the New Plymouth Quick Response Unit (QRU). While attending ISU I also worked for ISU's Department of Public Safety as a Dispatcher. I also have a broad spectrum of experience in agriculture, construction, apartment management, and developmental therapy.

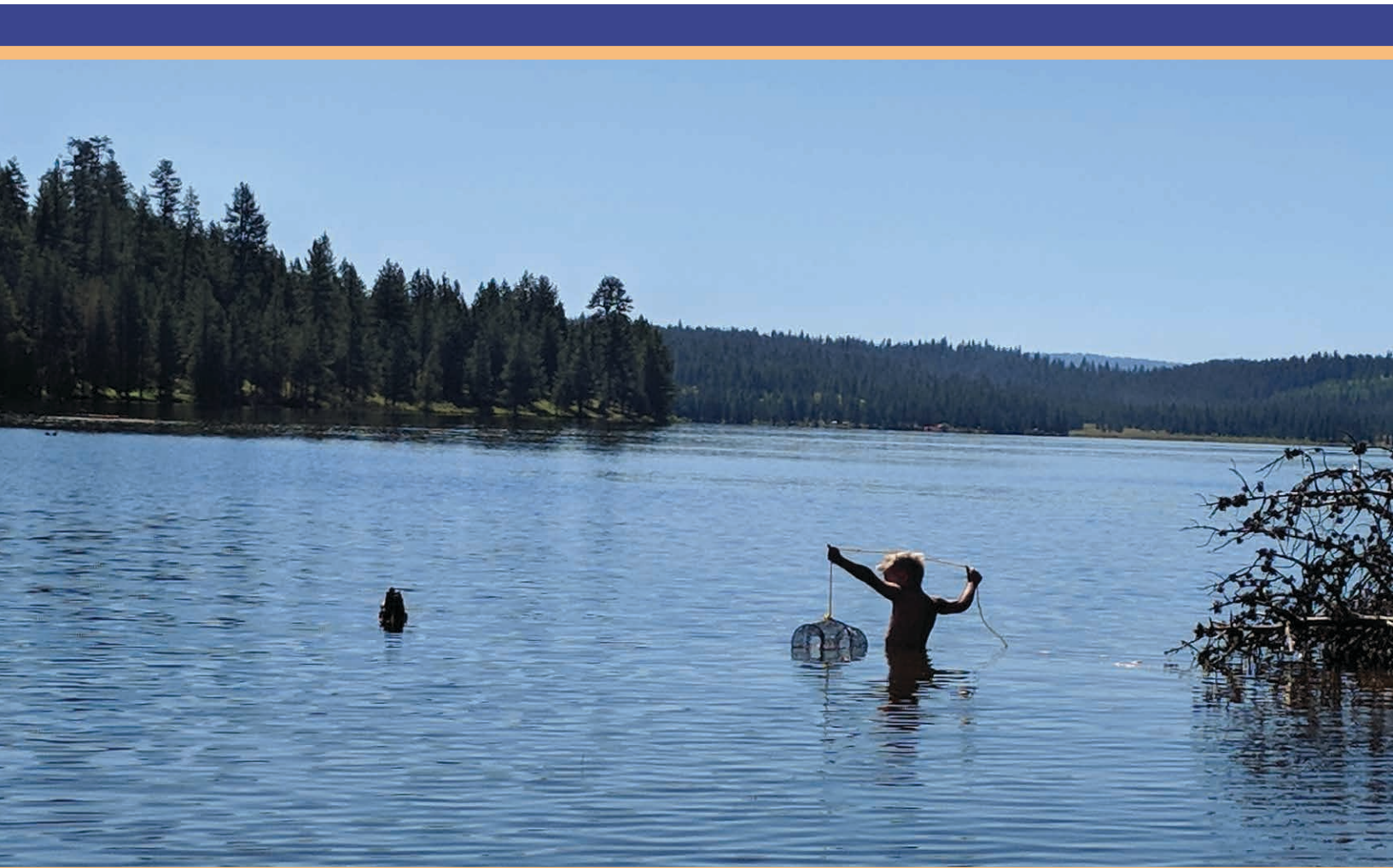
In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my wife, and seven month old daughter. I also enjoy any activity that gets me into the mountains, and participating in civil war reenactments.



If you're interested in signing up to be an IOEM Reservist and you have the ability to attend training programs coordinated by IOEM, please contact Cherylyn Murphy at Cmurphy@imd.idaho.gov



Idaho Office of Emergency Management
4040 W. Guard Street
Boise, Idaho 83705



Setting traps and hunting crawdads at Lost Reservoir
Photo taken June 2018 by IOEM Risk MAP Program Manager Robin Kiska.

Do you have a picture of quintessential Idaho you'd like featured in the IOEM Newsletter?
Send your images to eduncan@imd.idaho.gov Please note where and when the photo was taken and we may use your images.