Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security


Other Duties

1. Provide a Communications Moderator for all chemical, biological, radiological, explosive and weapons of mass destruction incidents.
2. Create and prepare state emergency response teams to respond to hazardous substance and weapons of mass destruction incidents.
3. Contract to meet state emergency response needs.
4. Advise, consult, and cooperate on matters relating to and arising out of weapons of mass destruction and hazardous substance incidents.
5. Encourage, participate in, or conduct studies, investigations, training research and demonstrations.
6. Collect and disseminate information relating to emergency response to weapons of mass destruction and hazardous substance incidents.
7. Coordinate emergency response cost recovery efforts on the part of the emergency responders.
8. Recommend to the Adjutant General that he appoint a State of Idaho On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) for larger, interagency, or inter-jurisdictional weapons of mass destruction and hazardous materials emergency incidents – typically those incidents classified as Levels II or III. (See pages 8-1 and Tab 1-2 for duties of SOSC).
9. Assure that weapons of mass destruction response planning in the State of Idaho is current.
10. Establish and maintain a State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for coordinating, controlling and directing state emergency operations in support of local jurisdictions.
11. Maintain continuity and congruence of this plan with the State Emergency Plan, Governor’s Executive Order, and the various Federal Emergency Operations Plans.
12. Coordinate state activities when a state declaration is imminent or declared, typically represented by a Level III Classification.
13. Coordinate the formation of Multi-Agency Damage Assessment Teams in support of this plan, local government and/or state declaration as appropriate.
14. Prepare state declarations and formal requests for Federal assistance when appropriate.
15. Coordinate follow-up request for Department of Energy Idaho (DOE-ID) emergency radiological assistance response as prescribed under the DOE-ID Radiological Assistance Plan.

16. Conduct incident action reviews as requested and/or appropriate.

Emergency Notification

The BHS Haz Mat Duty Officer will be notified of every weapons of mass destruction and hazardous substance incident reported to the state pursuant to the Idaho Hazardous Substance Emergency Response Act. The Bureau will participate as the Communications Moderator in the initial classification call for an incident, as well as subsequent calls, to facilitate the implementation of this plan and coordinate its use in providing emergency response assistance.

The BHS Duty officer, and the appropriate Area Field Officer will be contacted when an incident is classified a level II or level III or involves a Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD). Upon Notification, the BHS Area Field Officers will contact the appropriate local Emergency Management Coordinators.

Regional Response Team

The BHS is responsible for seven Regional Response Teams (RRT) strategically located in fire departments in Pocatello, Boise, Nampa/Caldwell, Lewiston, Kootenai County, South Central Idaho, and Idaho Falls/Jefferson Fire. These teams are available 24 hours per day 365 days per year. Each team consists of a minimum of 15 highly trained hazardous materials/WMD emergency response personnel equipped with specialized apparatus, including a vehicle, protective suits, communications, monitoring, detection and decontamination equipment. The teams are equipped, trained, and organized through the combined efforts of the state and local fire departments, and operate under the direction of a team leader. The teams are intended to respond to critical hazardous chemical/WMD emergencies in the state in support of an established incident command organization and to provide competent emergency response advice. Their primary objective is to protect human life while reducing the impact on the environment. RRT are equipped and trained with support from the State of Idaho. Their operations, however, are dependent upon local host fire departments in which they are housed.

Call Out Procedures

State RRTs can be called into action through Idaho State Communications (StateComm) 1-800-632-8000 or 208-846-7610. Requests may come from a local incident commander or emergency response authority that determines the incident is beyond the capabilities normally available to a city, county, or other response entity. In addition, the teams may be dispatched in response to a request from the Communications Moderator who has been in communication with local, state or federal emergency response or environmental personnel who in their judgment feel that a team should be dispatched to an incident. The BHS is notified immediately upon dispatch and must concur. The team becomes a State of Idaho resource upon dispatch and remains administratively responsible to the Bureau.

Operational Capability

RRTs have the capability of operating in the most hostile and extreme chemical environments for all nine chemical hazard classes. They maintain equipment and training to make entry, and operate when “Level A” protection is required for site personnel. They have a variety of chemical and biological analysis, monitoring and detection equipment and computer support. They have equipment and training to patch or repair containers and offload hazardous materials in response to virtually all fixed facility, highway and rail related chemical emergencies. Team vehicles are equipped with radio communications...
capability and cellular phones. The team will generally require a water supply on scene and logistical support for extended operations.

Team member training substantially exceeds federal and industry standards for emergency personnel. In addition, team members may develop individual expertise in chemistry, computer modeling, biological hazards, decontamination, radioactive materials, instrumentation and other emergency response areas. Typical team dispatch will normally include 5 team members, a hazardous materials response vehicle and all necessary equipment to operate on site. Exact configuration of the team should be discussed at time of dispatch. Dispatches can be made with as few as two members to provide technical advice and provide for use of specialized equipment.

Command

RRTs will not assume incident command at an incident. The team operates at the direction of a team leader under the direct authority of on-scene Incident Command. They will provide technical advice and support to the incident commander and “coaching” if requested. Most often the teams are used as the Operations Section or Hazardous Materials Group within the Incident Command organization. If requested and appropriate, team members may fill other positions. A team member is often used as Incident Safety Officer.

Use of the team does not release local response agencies from their liability to provide their normal response functions.

Cost Recovery for State Regional Response Teams

Response costs incurred by regional response teams in response to a hazardous substance incident, as defined in Chapter 71, Title 39, Idaho Code, is reimbursed by the state. Recovery of those costs from the spiller will be pursued by the state and coordinated by the Bureau of Homeland Security.

Idaho National Guard

1. General

   A. The Idaho National Guard (IDNG) provides military support to civilian authorities during a hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction event. Upon approval of the Governor and Commanding General, IDNG, military resources will deploy to the incident site as rapidly as possible to provide for the protection and preservation of life and property.

   B. The IDNG is non-competitive with the private sector and civil resources must be applied first to the emergency response.

   C. IDNG assets and personnel are normally utilized during a state emergency when requirements exceed the capability of civil authorities. The 101st Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (WMD CST) is the only dedicated response agency for HAZMAT/WMD events.

   D. Additional IDNG resources for Military Support to Civil Authorities (MSCA) will be provided when requested by civil authorities through the BHS and so directed by the Commanding General and Governor.

2. 101st WMD CST

   A. The primary response unit for WMD events is the 101st Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team (CST). The CST is comprised of 22 full-time Army and Air Force personnel.
Team composition includes a command, operations, medical, survey, communications, and administrative/logistics section.

B. The CST is activated via requests for support through the StateComm conference call. Approval authority rests with the Command General and/or the Governor. Deployment options include ground and air. Response times vary based on distance to the site and deployment teams. The CST goal is to have advanced unit presence on scene within 4 hours anywhere in Idaho.

C. Capabilities:

1. Chemical, Radiological, and Biological detection and analysis.

2. Hazard Plume Modeling and threat analysis via current modeling software.

3. On-scene analysis of unknown WMD agents utilizing a state-of-the-art Analytical Laboratory System (ALS).

4. Liaison with EMS/Medical/ Public Health agencies.

5. Robust, highly mobile communications capability utilizing a Unified Command Suite (UCS).
   - Satellite communications – voice, data, secure and non-secure
   - Full Radio Frequency (RF) suite – FM, HF, VHS, UHF
   - Multi-ban scanner
   - Deployable Local Area Networks (LAN)
   - Multiple telephone lines
   - Cross – banding utilizing an ACU-1000
   - TV with access to CNN and other news agencies.

6. Technical decontamination (DECON) for first responders and the CST.

7. Technical research and reach back to state and federal level WMD expertise.

8. Advice and recommendations to the Incident Commander regarding event disposition, consequences and mitigation.

D. Response:

The CST is capable of tailoring response assets to meet the incident commander’s needs. In addition to this flexibility, it is important during suspected WMD terrorist events or unknown substance situations that consideration be given to deploying the CST at the same time as the RRT. The CST and all seven RRT’s have a habitual training and working relationship. Both organizations working jointly in an interagency response greatly increase the incident commander’s chances of timely success.

3. Other IDNG WMD Support Assets

A. The following are examples of other National Guard assets available. These resources must be pulled from existing military units and specifically organized to provide an appropriate means of support to the incident. It is likely that the CST commander will serve as the initial IDNG Liaison Officer on scene for all military support request:
1. Heavy construction equipment.
2. Limited man-portable communication equipment.
3. Aviation support (fixed-wing and rotary-wing).
4. Power generation equipment.
5. Limited hand-held NBC detection equipment
6. Lighting equipment
7. Reverse-osmosis purification units/water storage
8. Transportation assets (surface transportation)
9. Life support equipment and limited medical support
10. Personnel support in the following functional areas: Communications, security, medical, engineering, logistics, operations, public information
11. Aerial port unit support for military aircraft on and off-load capability.

B. Support Timelines (Different from CST Procedures)
Alert through 4 hours – Command Group is notified. Appropriate unit commanders are alerted. Joint Operations Center (JOC) is activated. Liaison with BHS begins.

1. 4 hours through 48 hours – Assets and personnel are phased into the incident depending on the size, scope and availability of troops.

2. Beyond 48 hours – Military operations to support civilian incident sites will continue through the recovery phase as directed by the Commanding General.