

JULY-DECEMBER 2008 WASHINGTON CSEPP REPORT

WebEOC

- The Umatilla CSEPP Community moved from WebEOC 6.5 to WebEOC 7.0 and implemented the use of EsiWebFusion in early 2008. Currently, BCES is hosting EsiWebFusion for WEMD, allowing for information to be shared across the Northwest region, as it is also hosting nine of 50 Northwest WebEOC accounts.
- BCES is following directions from CMA to transition to life after CSEPP.
- BCES worked with IEM to move the agency to WebPuff 3.1.

AUTOMATION AND DATA PROCESSING (ADP)

- ADP has completed a network upgrade to BCEM intranet and wireless connections.
- ADP has started to migrate BCEM server farm to virtual servers which will allow BCES to maintain more capabilities after CSEPP closeout.

EOCs

- WEMD used EOC Utilities funding to maintain the State EOC at Camp Murray, Wash.
- BCES made emergency repairs to its EOC heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system when a compressor went out, dividing the cost between all BCES programs.

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

- BCES has developed a technical implementation mutual aid interoperability plan for operations during a CSEPP event.
- WEMD is nearly 90 percent complete with a \$40,000 project to install Met Towers at three sites that will increase the number of data points furnishing data to the Umatilla Chemical Depot for developing plume models.
- BCES is in the process of building new 800MHz sites at Golgotha and Sillusi buttes. The sites will be a mutual aid interoperability solution for communication between Oregon's 450MHz radio system and the BCES 800MHz radio system.
- BCES completed the Badger Mountain 800MHz simulcast site addition.
- BCES continues to work with Adcomm Engineering and Motorola to finalize the system design. The system is on schedule to be operational by the end of 2009.
- BCES has completed 800MHz rebanding with the exception of a few outstanding radios that were not located during the process. BCES is working with user agencies to identify these radios and, if not found, remove them from the system.
- BCES reports the 800MHz digital upgrade is progressing on schedule. BCES received the final system design from Motorola in October 2008 and is in the process of identifying any options, changes or additions necessary to finalize it. BCES's Executive Board signed the contract offer of sale from Motorola in the base amount of \$7,500,000, with additional system options pending final design approval. Joe Butte, Prosser Butte, Sillusi Butte, Badger Mountain and a new Energy Northwest site at Rattlesnake Mountain will be the other simulcast sites, each operating 10 trunked channels. Two new sites will be constructed to provide countywide radio coverage that meets the current APCO standard of 98% coverage from a portable radio with a remote speaker microphone. One site will replace the existing Umatilla Ridge communications site to provide better coverage in south Benton County. The second site is the Intelli-Repeater (IR) site. Each site will operate six trunked channels and have a communications shelter and tower.
- BCES notes that lease negotiations for the Sillusi Butte site are progressing between Adcomm Engineering and Agri-Northwest. Adcomm expects to have the lease agreement executed by March 2009.
- WEMD's \$100,000 Microwave Router Management project to improve the CSEPP Microwave System is approximately 50 percent complete.
- BCES says the lease agreement with McBride Hereford Ranches Inc. for Golgotha Butte has been executed as of Dec. 18, 2008.



CHEMICAL STOCKPILE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

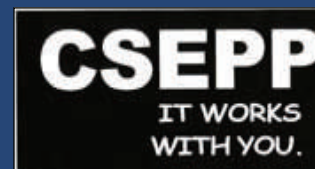
WASHINGTON STATE

CSEPP REPORT

July-December 2008

Benton County
Emergency Services
(BCES)
Richland, Wash.

Washington
Emergency
Management Division
(WEMD)
Camp Murray, Wash.



Washington State CSEPP Closeout Activities

The Washington CSEP Program has been focusing on closing out the program for the past two years. In coordination with FEMA Region and Headquarters, the program at Washington State Emergency Management (WEMD) has reorganized the funding of state staff and reduced the total FTE count to eight. By agreement with FEMA, a second FTE will be dropped from WEMD's CSEP Program on Oct. 1, 2009. This is part of a strategy to garner support from the Washington State Legislature to continue funding of automation and communication FTEs scheduled to lose funding by the end of FFY 10.

The Washington CSEP Program is also perfecting the closeout process with regard to the disposition of CSEPP purchased assets. Following the direction of a letter from Richard Donovan of FEMA Region 10 on the disposition of assets and 44CFR, Part 13, the state is working to improve the documentation of high-value equipment supplied by the CSEP Program. Initial steps may include early removal of Washington CSEPP sirens located outside the Immediate Response Zone. Washington CSEPP continues to coordinate with Rodney Boast of FEMA Region 10's Hermiston Field Office to formalize the program closeout process.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

- BCES participated in CAIRA exercises.
- BCES PIO attended FEMA's Advanced CSEPP Public Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Course in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- Several BCES staff members and CSEPP community responders completed All-Hazards Incident Management Team Training.
- WEMD printed student manuals and binders for ICS 100 and ICS 200 training courses and NIMS implementation.
- BCES PIO worked as an evaluator for the annual CEPP Exercise at Blue Grass, Kentucky.
- BCES PIO and Logistician participated as evaluators for the Umatilla Community School exercise.
- BCES Logistician hosted and attended the national Logistics Staging Area training.
- WEMD's new training and exercise coordinator, Chris Utzinger, is collaborating with federal, state, and local members of the CSEPP community to plan the 2009 Annual CSEPP Exercise at the Umatilla Chemical Depot the evening of April 21, followed by a workshop on monitoring and sampling plans, April 22. Washington State's Extent of Play has been finalized and signed by Exercise Co-Directors.

ALERT AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

- BCES continued normal maintenance and testing of sirens, tone alert radios and highway reader boards.
- BCES's 800MHz System Manager is working with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to convert the activation of highway reader boards to an Internet Protocol (IP). The boards will be activated by WSDOT through their Yakima Traffic Control center with BCES as the backup control site. Eight of the nine boards have been converted to IP. Last outstanding item: Providing BCES with a network login to activate the boards as a backup.

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EQUIPPING RESPONDERS

- The Washington State Department of Health continues its medical program for pre-hospital and hospital medical preparedness that evaluates and assists local responder teams in getting training and proper equipment to protect themselves and the health of Washington citizens in the event of a toxic release from Umatilla Chemical Depot. PPE training is ongoing and decontamination training has been conducted for 2008. Training is being scheduled in 2009 for evaluation of patients exposed to chemical warfare agents, decontamination, PPE and START triage.
- BCES continued normal equipment maintenance, along with training fire agencies involved with CSEPP.
- BCES converted more than 70 Powered Air Purifying Respirators to CBRN at four area hospitals. All cartridges have a five-year life cycle.
- WEMD reports bidding and purchase of a decontamination system is 70% complete and expected to be complete by end of 2008.
- BCES completed 10-year rebuild on eight AirCart Breathing Systems for responding agencies.
- WEMD replaced MARK I Auto Injectors with new DouDote Auto Injectors, which are pre-measured, pre-mixed injectors of Atropine sulfate and 2Pam Chloride nerve agent antidote for first responders.

TRAINING PROJECT A WRAP

WEMD's EOC Training Project, an all-encompassing update of procedures and position descriptions for the State Emergency Operations Center, was completed Dec. 31, 2008. The project produced task book information for more than 100 positions in the State EOC's Operations, Logistics, Plans, Admin/Finance and External Affairs sections, as well as functional specialties including EOC Supervisors, Disaster Managers and State Agency Liaisons. The Task Books include position- and section-specific information and checklists, plus instructions for operating WebEOC and other EOC applications and technologies. The project also generated student manuals and instructor's guides for ongoing EOC training that will carry forward this year. Organized to be delivered by EOC sections and functional areas, the program will also build state cadre by training State Agency Liaisons and staff from their agencies to backfill primary positions in State EOC sections. Another accomplishment of the project was to provide procedures and training for operating Multiple Agency Coordination (MAC) Groups. The EOC Training Project was led by CSEPP Program Manager **Steve DeBow** and CSEPP Exercise and Training Section Supervisor **James Yates** working closely with contractor Innovative Emergency Management (IEM).

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

- In conjunction with FEMA and the Emergency Management Institute, WEMD will host a pilot version of the brand-new NIMS Basic Joint Information System/Joint Information Center course (e.g. NIMS Basic JIS/JIC course) at Camp Murray, Wash. in July 2009. Arizona is conducting similar pilots of NIMS's and EMI's newly revised Basic Public Information Officers course in May and June. CSEPP PIOs from the Umatilla Public Information Group (UPIG), including PIOs from WEMD and BCES, will be on the instruction and evaluation team. The course is tentatively slated to be released nationwide by the end of 2009.
- BCES PIO and WEMD PIO were members of instruction teams for two Basic Public Information Officer training courses.
- BCES PIO continued outreach at community events, including Kennewick General Hospital's Kids Health Fair, the Benton Franklin Fair, Benton City Daze, Richland's City Fair, BCES Open House, and Richland's City Fair.
- BCES PIO made seven presentations to schools and community groups.
- BCES PIO attended regular citizen and government meetings.
- BCES PIO assisted with production of the 2009 CSEPP Calendar that was sent to residents and businesses within the IRZ and PAZ in south Benton County, as well as Oregon's CSEPP counties, Morrow and Umatilla.
- As tasked through the CSEPP Public Affairs IPT, the WEMD PIO has the lead for compiling JIS/JIC plans, procedures, templates and other materials from all CSEPP sites to be made available PIOs around the country for their future use.



THE YAKIMA RIVER TAKES OVER KINGSTON ROAD IN RICHLAND, WASHINGTON. PHOTO BY BCES DIRECTOR BOB SPENCER.

CSEPP MEETS ANOTHER HAZARD

Benton County ended 2008 with cold and snow followed by three days of flooding on the Yakima River in early January. As the flood event unfolded, it became very apparent that years of CSEPP training and exercising have enabled the county to respond quickly and effectively to any kind of emergency.

BCES smoothly transitioned from normal activity into the activation of the Benton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Jan. 8. The tools developed for response were quickly called upon and functioned as designed:

- WebEOC
- Mapping
- Emergency notification
- Logistics
- Use of the Incident Command System
- Forming a Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group from the county and affected cities

BCES delegated an All-Hazard Incident Management Team (IMT) to oversee field operations which were divided into divisions according to each agency's jurisdiction. BCES and the IMT focused heavily on planning and finance to track response costs. The IMT had wildfire experience, but appeared much more efficient after the All-Hazard IMT Course and some of the CSEPP Exercises they were involved in—especially recovery planning

When MAC Group convened for its first briefing on Friday, Jan. 9, members of the group knew each other, had a working relationship and knew the County Declaration and Delegation of Authority process for the IMT. They consistently put into use the plans and procedures they had practiced and exercised.

Another key component to BCES's response was public information. In addition to issuing 16 press releases, the BCES public information officer (PIO) made effective use of the agency's Web site. The PIO posted the latest information on the Internet, along with photos taken during the flooding. Normally, the Website gets 20-30 hits per day. Between Thursday, Jan. 8, and Monday, Jan. 12, there were a total of 1,498 hits.