

## Wyoming Office of Homeland Security

### 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program State Initiatives

#### 1. WyoLink Interoperability

WyoLink is a statewide Project-25 digital, trunked, VHF Hi-band (136-174 MHz) radio system utilizing 57 sites with four 800 MHz sites providing seamless interoperable communications across multiple frequency bands.

The goal of WyoLink coverage enhancement is to achieve interoperable public safety communications comparable with existing portable radio coverage and in areas of critical concern, identified through testing and cooperative efforts with local public safety providers, determined after statewide deployment in an area. This initiative will facilitate end user purchases of mobile and portable radios and radio frequency equipment.

#### 2. Community Resilience

This initiative is intended to strengthen Wyoming's planning and preparedness capabilities, embracing a Whole Community approach to security and emergency management as well as strengthening prevention and protection capabilities. Three (3) principles represent the foundation for a Whole Community approach:

- Understand and meet the actual needs of the whole community
- Engage and empower all parts of the community
- Strengthen what works well in communities on a daily basis.

These concepts are outlined in FEMA publication FDOC 104-008-1, *A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management: Principles, Themes, and Pathways for Action*.

Additional focus will be on:

- Local jurisdictions' ability to enhance first responder training and equipment programs for all-hazards response.
- Enhancement of relationships and partnerships with private sector entities to strengthen community preparedness
- Recognize, understand, communicate, plan and address risks so that the community can develop a set of actions to accomplish Mitigation and improve resilience

#### 3. Regional Emergency Response Teams

Pursuant to WY State Statute 35-9-152 "Wyoming Emergency Response Act": Homeland Security Regional Emergency Response areas have been created. Eight (8) Regional Emergency Response Teams have been assigned in the state of Wyoming with the purpose of assembling appropriately trained personnel and specialized equipment necessary to respond to an incident or emergency involving

hazardous materials, weapons of mass destruction (WMD) or other natural or manmade disasters. This initiative will continue to equip and train these specialized teams.

#### **4. Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Protection and Response**

Wyoming's seven (7) local bomb squads work in concert with the eight (8) Regional Emergency Response teams to provide comprehensive coverage for the mitigation and prevention of terrorist incidents involving the use of CBRNE weapons of mass destruction. The bomb squads will train with local Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams to work together in terrorist situations that involve both explosive devices and active shooters.

This initiative will continue to assist the rest of the first responder community with aligning the detection and mitigation efforts in IED situations as well as equipping the bomb teams and local first responders.

#### **5. Critical Infrastructure Protection / Geospatial Initiative**

Partnering with federal, state and local resources, WOHS will provide training to state, regional and local emergency managers' and first responders with the input and utilization of the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) for critical infrastructure management. This information, collected and input at the local level will assist in making high-quality decisions about needed resources when responding to emergencies.

Wyoming's geospatial initiative focuses on the regionalization of resources and the ability to easily and effectively deploy those resources for response. Use geospatial technologies to collect information on deployable assets to be included in a statewide web-based enterprise database engine. This web-based geospatial product will assist state and local emergency managers and Regional Emergency Response Teams with planning, training and exercising the core capabilities within the five mission areas.

#### **6. Information Sharing**

The goal of this initiative is to facilitate the sharing and distribution of relevant, actionable, timely classified & un-classified information that is updated frequently for the consumers who need it. This includes steps taken to mitigate the overall risk to critical infrastructure assets, systems, networks, functions or their interconnecting links. This initiative will also focus on actions to deter the threat, mitigate vulnerabilities, or minimize consequences associated with a natural or manmade disaster or terrorist attack.

#### **7. WY Threat and Hazard Identification**

Wyoming has divided the state into eight (8) regions. Hazards affecting Wyoming have an impact on regions within the state, surrounding states and on FEMA's Region VIII. Because of the nature of Wyoming's hazards and threats, the entire country may experience impacts when an event occurs within the state. Likewise, threats and hazards experienced in neighboring states have an impact on Wyoming. Upon identification, incidents related to hazards and threats will be planned for, trained and exercised against, and lessons learned will be applied to refine and develop capabilities within the state. Prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery (the 5 mission areas) will be included in planning, training and exercise processes to identify and address hazards and threats.