



State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

On April 7, 2017, the kickoff meeting for the 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was held at NH Department of Environmental Services in Concord.

The State Hazard Mitigation Plan is a state plan required by FEMA which reviews the threats and hazards that impact the state as well as strategies to reduce the likelihood and/or impacts of the identified threats and hazards. The Plan is required to be updated every 5 years to maintain compliance with federal regulations to receive disaster, mitigation and recovery funding.

Hosted by Parker Moore (Emergency Management Planning Specialist), Whitney Welch (State Hazard Mitigation Planner), and Heather Dunkerley (State Hazard Mitigation Officer), more than 30 participants from a dozen state agencies and a representative from FEMA Region I Mitigation were in attendance. The meeting involved a review of the purpose, requirements, and update process of the Plan.

The update, due in 2018, is a complete revision and reorganization of the 2013

State Hazard Mitigation Plan due to an update in Federal Requirements released by FEMA in 2015. The Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) process was reviewed and the committee deliberated on the threats and hazards to be included in this year's Plan update. After determining the threats and hazards that the committee felt the State could be impacted by, the committee reviewed the 2013 Mitigation Plan goals and created new goals for the 2018 Plan.

The meeting ended with a brief description of the next steps of the Plan update process which involve continued outreach to the committee, finalization and review of the information determined at this meeting, and the upcoming risk assessment portion of the Plan based upon the threats and hazards determined at this meeting.

As part of the outreach process, HSEM welcomes any comments and input for the 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update which may be sent to HazardMitigationPlanning@dos.nh.gov

School Resource Officers Conference



Attendees of the conference work together on tabletop exercises during the School Resource Officers Conference on April 25th

The School Emergency Management Program at NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management invited school resource officers and law enforcement agencies to its annual School Resource Officers Conference at the NH Fire Academy on Tuesday, April 25.

More than 50 school resource officers, law enforcement agencies and guest speakers attended the full-day workshop/presentation on school safety.

The conference opened with introductory remarks by HSEM Director Perry Plummer, NHDOS Commissioner John Barthelmes, NHDOE Commissioner Frank Edelblut, and representing the NH Association of Chiefs of Police, Chief Andrew Shagoury.

Presentations on current threats, legal issues and behavioral health were followed by an exercise in which attendees were introduced to a training aid that can be used to test school policy and procedures against all hazards.

REP Program Holds State-Level Workshop and Tabletop Exercises

The Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program held a State-level Workshop and Tabletop Exercise (TTX) focused on identifying gaps and conflicting procedures in current REP Plans and Procedures. The Workshop was held on March 13 and the TTX on April 14.

The TTX had approximately 85 individuals representing a variety of State agencies. Participants were seated at three tables, each table focusing on a different area of response and/or recovery from a radiological incident. The scenario consisted of a fictional nuclear power plant located in Laconia. The National Weather Service from Gray, Maine provided an overview of a line of severe thunderstorms with tornado cells (also fictional) causing other all-hazard issues for the area surrounding “the plant.”

The all-day activity was well received and provided many good recommended adjustments to REP documents. An After-Action Report with an Improvement Plan was distributed to participants shortly after the event.

WebEOC Upgrade Information

With the upcoming release of WebEOC 8 scheduled for June, there are a few things users should be aware of:

Users will not require a new username or password to gain access to the system. The system is simply being upgraded, meaning all user information should still be intact. System requirements will also be the same. If users are using an older browser, they will need to make sure it is up to date as older versions are no longer supported and may cause issues.

New features include the ability to upload documents to a file library that can be accessed by the specific position a user is logged in to. For example, if a community wants to upload their emergency operations plan (LEOP) so it can be accessed by other members of the community in different locations, the system will allow the user to do so and keep it private so the rest of the state does not see that plan. Another new feature is an instant messaging chat system that allows real-time communication between individuals, and chat rooms that are pre-designated. Intermedix is releasing new features on a regular basis. Add-ons and features will be evaluated and implemented if they pertain to New Hampshire and funding is available.

The system itself has not changed in general. The look and user interface is more modern and easier to use. Users will no longer require pop-ups to be enabled on their system in order for WebEOC to work properly. There will be a learning curve on locating information within the system as there have been changes to where things are located.

Although the overall use of WebEOC has not changed, some changes to message sharing and mission tasks will be implemented. State and other partners will now have the option to share information to branch logs. These branch logs replace the ESF logs. For example, ESF 4 (Firefighting), ESF 9 (Search and Rescue), ESF 10 (Hazardous Materials), and ESF 13 (Public Safety and Law Enforcement) all fall under the Public Safety Branch. If information that is being posted is related to public safety, the user is expected to share the information to that branch log. This new system aligns with our State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) and will allow for ease of access when searching for information. Mission tasks will now be more streamlined and follow two separate processes. If a user is requesting information, a simple "Task Assignment" is completed; however, if the user is requesting a resource, a "Resource Request" area is opened where a user can specify what type of resource they are looking for and their quantity. Other tweaks and changes have been made to the system, but are fairly easy to follow and do not change the function or how a board operates.

Training will not be required, however it is strongly suggested. Once the system goes live, if an incident were to occur, users will need to use the new system. Training videos and user guides will be created to show step-by-step functions of how to work in WebEOC. Training classes are also held regularly both at the Incident Planning and Operations Center (IPOC) in Concord and in the field based on agency requests.

If you are interested in hosting a WebEOC training, please contact our WebEOC Coordinator at nheoc@dos.nh.gov or 603-271-2231.

Emergency Management Planning Specialist Completes CHDS-NPS Emergence Program

MONTEREY, Calif. – Parker Moore, Emergency Management Planning Specialist with New Hampshire Homeland Security & Emergency Management, completed the inaugural Emergence Program at Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security on March 10.

The CHDS Emergence program enhances the next generation of homeland security leaders' understanding of the homeland security discipline and emerging trends. The sessions are designed to facilitate participants' homeland security perspectives and help identify what they view as opportunities for change to the evolving homeland security enterprise.

Moore was chosen because of his experience and recognized vision in the disciplines that comprise homeland security.

Participants met for a one-week intensive session at the NPS Center for Homeland Defense and Security in Monterey, California. The 32 participants represent a snapshot of homeland security across the country and include

professionals from the various federal, state and local government and private sector emergency management, law enforcement, fire, EMS, state and municipal governments, public health, and intelligence agencies.

HSEM Team Spotlight

To better serve you, the newsletter includes the HSEM Team Spotlight section featuring new members of the HSEM team and members of the team who have changed jobs within the agency.

If you have questions or concerns and would like to know more about what we do or a particular program, please do not hesitate to reach out to HSEM staff for assistance.

Heather Dunkerley
Senior Field Representative, Field Services
223-3605

I am a Senior Field Representative and am the primary liaison between Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), and New Hampshire municipalities, state agencies and other stakeholders. I work with all of the communities within Cheshire and Hillsborough county as well as Portsmouth and Exeter. In addition, I also work with the NH Department of Corrections, Department of Resources and Economic Development, Department of Transportation and

Meghan Geoffrion
State Exercise & Training Officer, Operations
223-3651

I have recently been promoted to the State Exercise & Training Officer position. In addition to creating and facilitating exercises, I look forward to assisting with the Training and Exercise Unit improvement efforts in order to better provide training and exercise services to our state and local emergency management partners.

the Department of Justice



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