



# Ready to Respond

Health Security, Preparedness and Response

Winter 2014

## Special points of interest:

- Check out the Director's Message for insights into our Ebola response
- Take a look back at this year's successful ECHO conference
- Be prepared for winter with winter weather and driving tips and resources
- January 1700 was the last known Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake

## Director's message

This has been another busy season for the Health Security, Preparedness and Response Program (HSPR). We can look back with a sense of true accomplishment at the resulting work and partnerships and look forward to the continuation of our efforts.

HSPR hosted a very successful annual ECHO conference in Central Oregon in the first few days of October. Guest speakers covered a wide range of timely preparedness topics from lessons learned during the Route 530 Landslide response, the importance of disaster behavioral health and how to prepare for a massive Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. We engaged in many discussions during our large group gatherings as well as during our breakout sessions. We were able to offer more breakout sessions, speakers and topics than ever before. And as always it was a time of connecting with those who share in the work we do.



Mike Harryman, Director

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Many of our staff attended the Oregon Emergency Management Association annual conference held in Central Oregon the following week. Shortly after that conference, we were faced with the West Africa Ebola outbreak. The Public Health Division established an incident management team (IMT) to respond to the threat, provide evidence-based data and prepare for possible Ebola cases in Oregon. Our IMT is tracking persons under monitoring (PUMs) in Oregon and maintaining communications through a variety of methods.

Over the past 8+ weeks, Oregon's public health and healthcare workforce have worked together to ensure the safety of all Oregonians; the focused mitigation, planning, and in some cases responses to the Ebola virus has been the best real world opportunity to enhance all our plans toward emerging diseases we face in our communities. The planning has felt like a long running tabletop with bits of functional and full scale events being injected at times to actually see the entire public health and healthcare system function while still maintaining daily operations.

The IMT developed a continuum of care road map. The road map demonstrates the

## Director's Message (continued)

collaborative systems in place to address PUMs and what might take place when a PUM develops further symptoms and is designated as a Person Under Investigation (PUI). We developed plans and deepened our relationships with response partners including but not limited to local public health authorities, emergency medical services (EMS), Oregon Military Department, State Fire Marshal, waste management and funeral and mortuary service providers. If you would like information relating to Ebola, visit our Web page at [www.healthoregon.org/ebola](http://www.healthoregon.org/ebola). If you have additional questions, you can submit those to our designated Ebola email address, [ebola.oregon@state.or.us](mailto:ebola.oregon@state.or.us).

We have made real progress toward a more resilient Oregon through this activation. Multnomah County faced Oregon's first PUI and did so with outstanding partnership, professionalism and success. We worked closely with the county, Providence Health System and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). During this activation, we also engaged in a multi-day, tri-county joint preparedness effort and hosted members of the military, the Governor and the multiple the media in our Agency Operation Center (AOC). Although we are always looking for ways to improve, we are very proud of the work we are doing and how far we have come.

Winter is a time to remember safety and health. We face colder temperatures, winter storms and icy roads. We are also in the middle of flu season, so we encourage you to get your flu shot and wash your hands frequently to prevent the spread of illness. If you have not already done so, we would also remind you to put an emergency preparedness kit in your home and car. Be sure to include blankets and warm clothing, food and water and medications. Consider all of the occupants of your home including children, older adults and pets and add what they would need in case of emergency in your kit. Check out [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for complete lists of what to put in your preparedness kits.

Say safe, stay focused,  
Mike Harryman



**Governor Kitzhaber during an Ebola press conference held at the Portland State Office Building on October 27, 2014**

*"If you would like information relating to Ebola, visit our Web page at [www.healthoregon.org/ebola](http://www.healthoregon.org/ebola)."*

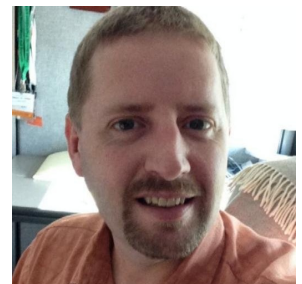
## Recovery Planning

By Larry Torris

The Office of Emergency Management has begun the coordination of recovery planning statewide. This work is guided by the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF), which according to the FEMA website, defines:

Core recovery *principles*,

- *Roles and responsibilities* of recovery coordinators and other stakeholders,
- *A coordinating structure* that facilitates communication and collaboration



**Larry Torris**

## Recovery Planning (continued)

among all stakeholders, guidance for pre- and post-disaster recovery *planning* and;

- The overall process by which communities can capitalize on opportunities to rebuild stronger, smarter and safer.

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six new Recovery Support Functions that provide a structure to facilitate problem solving, improve access to resources, and foster coordination among state and federal agencies, nongovernmental partners and stakeholders. Each Recovery Support Function has coordinating and primary federal agencies and supporting organizations that operate together with local, state and tribal government officials, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector partners.

The Recovery Support Functions are used to coordinate recovery efforts by identifying key areas, lead, supporting and adjunct agencies. The areas identified by the NDRF are:

- Community planning and capacity building
- Economic recovery
- Health and social services
- Housing recovery
- Infrastructure systems
- Natural and cultural recovery

The support functions will be modified to fit the culture and needs of Oregon while meeting the guidelines developed by FEMA. This will allow each agency to know who their partners are and how to best focus the efforts needed to drive recovery. This is exciting for OEM and the HSPR program. With the addition of recovery, the response area will be improved and the Oregon Health Authority's role will be more defined.

Recovery can begin almost immediately when each agency has a better understanding of what they need to accomplish. The task is large and will take an extended period of time. The HSPR planners will continue to work with OEM and all of our close partners to coordinate effort, share information and develop an effective recovery plan. ESF 8 will be working with stakeholders and coalitions in these areas to improve our recovery planning. Stay tuned for more information.

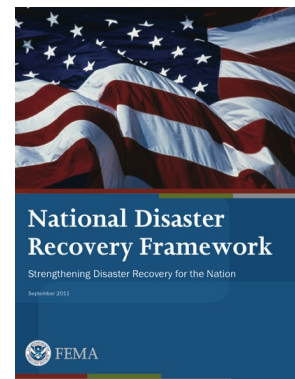
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## ***Medical countermeasures/strategic national stockpile update:***

### **Operational Readiness Review (ORR) November 2014**

By *Cristin Corcoran*

The CDC's Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL) audit of Oregon's ability to



**National Disaster Recovery Framework**

For more information on recovery planning, check out the [FEMA National Disaster Recovery Framework](#)



**Cristin Corcoran**

## Operational Readiness Review (continued)

receive, stage, store, distribute and dispense emergency medical countermeasures and medical assets took place in October.

Oregon must recertify its Receipt, Stage and Storage (RSS) warehouses with the CDC every three years. In a major public health emergency, these secured sites receive assets from the CDC's Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS). The Oregon Health Authority's Immunization Program (OIP) hosted the CDC's site verification tour with facility managers, state and federal law enforcement, and staff from the Health Security Preparedness and Response (HSPR) program.

In addition to the site review, there was an annual audit to analyze state and local response capabilities. The audit, called the Technical Assistance Review (TAR), measured statewide progress on two public health capabilities: Medical Countermeasure Dispensing, and Medical Material Management and Distribution. Last year, Oregon earned a 99% on the TAR.

This year, the CDC rolled out a new audit tool called the Operational Readiness Review (ORR) that will replace TAR. The CDC asked states to volunteer to go through the assessment to collect data on the usability of the tool and help inform process improvements for the next budget year (when the ORR would be mandatory for every state.) Oregon did volunteer, but a score was not assessed this year.

The ORR examined eight state and local public health emergency capabilities including, Community Recovery; Emergency Operations Coordination; Emergency Public Information and Warning; Information Sharing; Medical Countermeasure Dispensing; Medical Material Management and Distribution; Responder Safety and Health; and Volunteer Management. This proved to be the most comprehensive qualitative review that state public health preparedness has undergone so far.

Sincere thanks for assisting us with these very important assessments go to all Oregon Health Authority OIP, Communications, Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention, Environmental Health and HSPR staff and to all state partners.

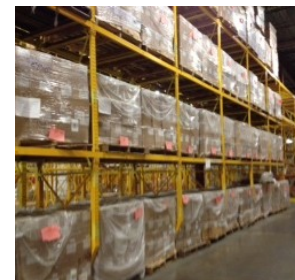
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## SERV-OR: Volunteers step up for Project Connect

By DeWayne Hatcher

Project Connect, the region's largest single-day social services event, was held on Sept. 13, 2014, at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond. An astounding 186 SERV-OR Volunteers from around Oregon again stepped up to staff this successful event!

This annual event, now in its eighth year, brought together more than 750 volunteers and 100 organizations that provide medical, veterinary and other services to 1,748 homeless and low-income people at the one-day, one stop event.



**Strategic National Stockpile**

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## Volunteers step up for Project Connect (continued)

Volunteer health care professionals provided many medical services to an estimated one-third of the visitors. These services included dental, vision, mental health, women’s health, HIV and hepatitis C screening and testing, immunizations, addiction services, fluoride treatments and foot care.

The volunteers included 40 registered nurses, one licensed practical nurse and four nurse practitioners. Four emergency medical technicians volunteers provided services such as blood pressure checks to ensure patients were able to undergo dental procedures. There were 16 dentists in the dental clinic itself! Many other clinicians volunteered and provided hours of service.



Volunteers prepare for the day ahead



Successful turnout

Major social service events like Project Connect can exercise Oregon’s disaster response systems with partners that serve current public health needs. SERV-OR volunteers were deployed as if it were a real mass casualty event and had their credentials verified as they would

during an official state-sanctioned

*“...services included dental, vision, mental health, women’s health, HIV and hepatitis C screening and testing, immunizations, addiction services, fluoride treatments and foot care.”*

SERV-OR disaster deployment.

The benefit to health care professionals through exercises such as this is significant, as they can receive state liability and worker protection coverage. The SERV-OR staff and stakeholders benefitted from the full-scale testing of deployment protocol, volunteer registration processes and legal policies. The event also doubles as a recruiting tool for SERV-OR volunteers and to building resiliency in our communities.



Volunteers working during Project Connect

## The 2014 ECHO Summit was a huge success!

By Kris Hansen

The 2014 ECHO (Explore—Connect—Highlight—Obtain) Summit was held in October in Bend, Oregon. The Summit (formerly known as the Preparedness Conference) included diverse topics such as The SR530 Mudslide and Flooding Event, presented by Peter Mayer (Snohomish Health District) to The Connected Community: The Key to Brilliance and Resilience, presented by Ana-Marie Jones (CARD). One hundred-forty-five people registered for the 16 breakout sessions and five plenary sessions. The registrants were from public health, health care, emergency management, EMS agencies and more.

ECHO attendees provided excellent evaluation, giving an aggregate score of 4.61 out of 5 to the value of attending the Summit. Numerous attendees gave high scores to emcee Julie Black, and to the opportunity to network with others. For next year's Summit, requests were made for more collaborating sessions and other options such as tabletop exercises.

Breakout sessions' scores and evaluations are under review and results will be sent to each presenter. Many Summit participants appreciated the variety of breakout sessions yet felt there were too many choices.

Much gratitude to all presenters who shared their knowledge, skills, work and lessons learned to build upon the efforts made in the emergency preparedness and management fields! Also, a big thank you to the 2014 ECHO Summit Planning Team.

The 2015 ECHO Summit will soon be here. Please look for surveys and calls for presenters for the next Summit. See you in 2015!



Selfie taken during a breakout session at the ECHO conference

*Much gratitude to all presenters who shared their knowledge, skills, work and lessons learned to build upon the efforts made in the emergency preparedness and management fields!*

## Exploring Oregon's preparedness tools

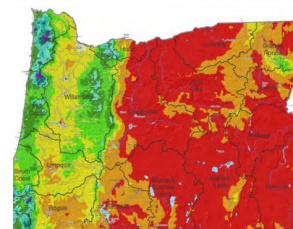
By Julie Black

Oregon has received 28 major disaster declarations and two emergency declarations since 1955, when the U.S. began formally tracking natural disasters. Forty-nine fire management assistance declarations have also been issued in Oregon. In 2013 alone, Presidential Disaster Declarations were issued in 12 Oregon counties.

Are you interested in information about the hazards we are most likely to experience this time of year? Here are some links to the many available tools:

Oregon hazard risk assessment resources:

- [2015 Oregon Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Risk Assessment](#) - Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- [Oregon Hazards Explorer](#) website - Oregon State University



Annual precipitation map within the 2015 Oregon Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

## Exploring Oregon's preparedness tools (continued)

### Flooding:

- [Floods](#) – DLCD Web page
- [Flooding potential hazards](#) - Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Web page

### Winter storms:

- [Winter Storms](#) - OHA Web page

### Landslides

- [Landslides](#) – DLCD Web page
- [Landslides](#) - OHA Web page
- [Landslides Hazard Program](#) - U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Web page

### Earthquakes:

- [Earthquakes](#) - DLCD Web page
- [Earthquakes](#) - OHA Web page
- [Earthquakes](#) - Oregon Emergency Management Web page
- [Oregon's Earthquake Commission](#) (also called the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission, OSSPAC)
- [Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup](#) (CREW)
- [Living on Shaky Ground](#): How to survive earthquakes and tsunamis in Oregon
- [Oregon HazVu](#): create a map of hazards in your neighborhood



Flooding

## Keep safety a priority this winter

By Julie Black

Stay safe this winter by being informed of current hazards and preparing before they arrive. You can always visit the Health Security, Preparedness and Response Program's [Current Hazards Web page](#) for information on current or likely hazards. Our [Winter Storms page](#) is full of tips from avoiding frostbite to preparing your home and car for winter. Here are some additional tools to help you have a safer winter.

### Extreme cold and weather

- Oregon's winter weather can change without warning. [NOAA's Watches, Warnings or Advisories Web page](#) can help you plan.
- Ready.gov has a Web page dedicated to [Winter Storms and Extreme Cold](#) with tips for staying safe before, during and after.

### Winter driving

- Stay ahead of traffic delays and dangerous roads by checking [Oregon Department of Transportation's \(ODOT\) TripCheck site](#).
- ODOT also offers a ton of safety information on their [Winter Travel Tips and Information page](#).

*“Stay safe this winter by being informed of current hazards and preparing before they arrive.”*



Have a beautiful and safe Oregon winter



Stay safe, stay focused



Health Security,  
Preparedness and Response

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Winter 2014

## About Health Security, Preparedness and Response

Our efforts are an emergency response collaboration with Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) and our local, regional and national Emergency Management partners.

The Health Security, Preparedness and Response program is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Cooperative Agreement and the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP).

HSPR ensures that Oregon's communities and hospitals have an improving level of preparedness for health and medical emergencies by supporting the development and testing of plans, providing training, managing volunteers and encouraging collaboration.

To ensure that the required elements of federal preparedness grant agreements are implemented, HSPR coordinates work plans with state staff working on:

- Epidemiology and disease surveillance
- Public health laboratory preparedness and Laboratory Response Network (LRN)
- Strategic national stockpile

## Preparedness Moments to Remember — Winter 2014



The last known Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake occurred in 1700

By Julie Black

### January 26, 1700

This was the night of the last known major Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake (9.0). The quake stretched 600 miles affecting California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. The resulting tsunami damaged the North American west coast, as well as the coast of Japan. ([USGS](#))

### January 12, 2010

This is the day of the unforgettable Haiti earthquake (8.7–9.2) killed an estimated 316,000, injured 300,000 and displaced 1.3 million people in southern Haiti. ([USGS](#))

### February 27, 2010

On this day, the 8.8 magnitude Chilean earthquake killed at least 523 people and displaced 800,000. Property damages included 370,000 houses, 4,013 schools, 79 hospitals and 4,200 boats. ([USGS](#))