



Nevada Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management

August 2016

Nevada Division of Emergency Management's July News & Highlights...

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The Division of Emergency Management's monthly newsletter for August.

We hope that you find these newsletters helpful and we welcome any feedback to help us to support you in our overall mission.

- * DEM News and Events for July
- * Interview with Dr. Graham Kent, Director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering
- * 2017 National Special Events Data Call
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- ◆ Lincoln County Declaration due to Panaca Bombing. On Wednesday, July 13, 2016, DPS Dispatch received a call from Lincoln County reporting two explosions in the town of Panaca. Resources from multiple DPS divisions were deployed immediately. On Thursday, July 13, the DPS Director and DEM Chief arrived in Panaca and assisted with the incident at which point resources from local governments (Lincoln and Clark County, primarily), state government (DPS divisions primarily), and the federal government (ATF and FBI) were processing the scene. By the 14th, the investigation had spread across state lines into Arizona. On Friday, July 15, 2016, Lincoln County had signed a declaration, Governor Sandoval arrived for briefings and community events, and the investigation continued to develop.
- ◆ On July 11, 2016, DEM participated in a border summit with counterparts in California. Topics included fire resources, expectations for fire season, and homeland security.
- ◆ On July 12, 2016, DEM hosted an exercise in the EOC, which focused on a cyber attack to critical infrastructure and tested the capabilities of the Joint Information System. Numerous ESFs, volunteer organizations, and other agencies participated.
- ◆ On July 13, 2016, DEM participated in Washoe County's statewide recovery framework training. This effort will result in a completed statewide Recovery Framework, and will be released on December 6, 2016. The completion of this framework will be DEM's first step toward aligning Nevada's emergency management vision with the "100 Resilient Cities" model as required in the Governor's Strategic Planning Framework.
- ◆ On July 15, 2016, DEM conducted a regulations development workshop for NRS 414A in Carson City and in Las Vegas. Approximately 12 people were present at the meeting and comments gathered will be incorporated into the regulations upon submittal to LCB. After receiving the draft regulations back from LCB, DEM will hold a hearing to adopt these regulations.
- ◆ DEM obtained approval from the Legislative Commission on three sets of NAC Regulations. The regulations include: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, the Emergency Assistance Account, and the Disaster Relief Account.
- ◆ On Sunday, July 31 DEM staff members coordinated assistance efforts to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Washoe County and various response staff during the Tule fire.

On Thursday, July 14, 2016, DEM hosted a statewide Emergency Managers conference in Carson City. This conference was the second of 2016, and focused on various issues, from the DEM multi-year strategic plan currently under development, to communications efforts, and the THIRA.



Dr. Graham Kent, Director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering

Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM): What is your role as the state seismologist?

Chief Dr. Graham M. Kent, Director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory and Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno (GK): The “state seismologist” title comes with being Director of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory at UNR. In day-to-day practice, the state seismologist oversees the operation of the Nevada and eastern California seismic network; works towards building a statewide seismic network; and helps various governmental agencies, including Nevada DEM when a large earthquake strikes the state. I also oversee an amazing group of people!



DEM: What does the UNR seismology lab do?

GK: Our lab not only runs the seismic network, which includes locating some 18,000 earthquakes per year, but is also responsible for the Great Nevada ShakeOut, our statewide earthquake drill that had 630,000 participants in 2015. We are also deploying a statewide fire camera network to help discover, provide early Intel and situational awareness during our fire season. In the first seven weeks of our 2016 fire season, the lab has been involved with 40+ fires.

DEM: What is your role with the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council?

GK: My formal role is Vice-Chair of the Council. What I try to do is help bring some of the excellent ideas that were started in other states such as the Great ShakeOut to Nevada, or when Nevada has a great idea such as multi-hazard monitoring (e.g., fire cameras) we work to export that to our neighbors. Lets not always reinvent the wheel, but work together instead. As such, I've embedded into the California system to learn more about their approach — and many of our large earthquakes will be on a common boarder so better to plan now, instead of after the fact.

DEM: What should Nevadans know about seismic activity in our state?

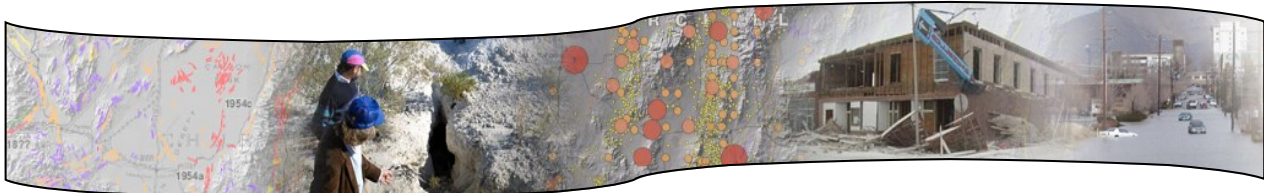
GK: We are experiencing a prolonged earthquake “drought” with our last M7 earthquake over 60 year ago! We expect to have a M7 earthquake every 30 years. A M6 earthquake is expected every decade in Nevada, and many of those quakes are likely to be near the California–Nevada border. So we spend time reminding people that all streaks come to an end—are we prepared? We have been pushing the notion of “Economic Resilience” for our communities so a single earthquake doesn’t derail our economy.

DEM: What is the current risk for earthquakes in Nevada?

GK: Our risk is significant. Nevada is the 3rd most active state in terms of earthquake activity and Nevada has had historical earthquakes as large as M7.3 (Pleasant Valley earthquake, 1915).

DEM: what are some of the more prominent earthquakes in Nevada's history?

GK: Pleasant Valley (7.3, 1915), Cedar Mt. (M7.2, 1932), Excelsior Mts, (M6.5, 1934), Fallon-Stillwater (M6.6, 1954), Stillwater (M6.8, 1954) Fairview Peak (M7.1, 1954) and Dixie Valley (M6.8, 1954). Note the cluster in 1954! Let’s not also forget the nearby Owens Valley earthquake (M7.6, 1872), which is the third largest in California history (and in a tectonic environment similar to western Nevada).



An Interview with Dr. Graham Kent Continued...

DEM: What should Nevadans do to be better prepared for a major earthquake?

GK: Participate in the Great Nevada ShakeOut (shakeout.org/Nevada) every third Thursday in October. Follow the 7 steps to prepare your space (see ShakeOut website). We recommend purchasing earthquake insurance as it is cheap in Nevada and will not only help you after a quake but the community as a whole. Don't run outside during an earthquake, rather Drop, Cover and Hold On.

DEM: You hosted a recent earthquake economic resilience summit in Reno. What did you hope to accomplish with this event?

GK: We hoped to take the first step towards providing a community strategy to not only survive an earthquake but economically thrive after such a catastrophic event. But one has to plan today to thrive tomorrow—it's an "all in" strategy to "game" the system towards greater resiliency.

DEM: Your lab is also spearheading efforts for wildfire early warning. Tell us about that and how it relates to earthquakes.

GK: Our lab is rather unique amongst earthquake networks in the United States in that we run our own microwave communication network to bring seismic data back in real-time. We realized we had a lot of extra bandwidth, so we decided to use this extra bandwidth and stream back HD video so that our partners such as BLM, USFS and other fire safety districts can use the imagery through time lapse or "live view" to discover, provide early Intel and/or situational awareness when fire erupts.



2017 National Special Events Data Call

The 2017 National Special Events Data Call kickoff is underway, running from August 1, 2016 through September 12, 2016. This Data Call is an annual event relying on the voluntary participation of local, state, tribal, and territorial stakeholders nationwide to collect information on events occurring within their jurisdictions. The collection of data encompasses those events occurring between December 1, 2016, through November 30, 2017. Event information collected during the Data Call is reviewed by the Department of

Homeland Security and analyzed to compile a risk-informed ranked list based on a Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR) level which can be used for planning and resource allocation purposes. Although there is no funding attached to the SEAR process itself, nor specific SEAR levels, a SEAR ranking may be used as an evaluative criterion for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant decisions.

What is considered a "special event?"

Special events are those pre-planned events not designated as National Special Security Event (NSSE) that have been submitted to the National Special Events Data Call. More specifically, as defined in DHS Management Directive 111-04, a special event is "an organized, pre-planned occurrence that causes people to gather together in sizeable numbers. Special events typically include sporting events and other contests, festivals, parades, conventions, dedications, memorials, high-profile federal meetings, visits by government officials, and visits by international dignitaries or heads of state.

For more information, contact the Division of Emergency Management's Office of Homeland Security at (775) 687-0424 or klhall@dps.state.nv.us

Brent Harper, DEM Training Consultant

Over the last several months Nevada DEM has been using “mini” exercises to further develop the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) staff and Emergency Support Functions (ESF). These short exercises only last about four hours from the initial briefing to the end of the hot wash. The exercises are prescheduled and once a month. As everyone in emergency management knows putting on an eight hour (or longer) exercise is difficult because many people cannot devote the time, and it takes a lot of preparation.

The exercises use the same scenario over several months. For instance, we are currently working on a scenario involving a massive gas and power shortage to Northern Nevada due to an eco-terrorist attack. By staying on the same scenario we are able to build upon each exercise and focus on different aspects. In June we focused on the planning section and development of the IAP. In July we focused on initial response and the Public Information Officer ESF position. In August we will focus on the “mass care” ESF functions including shelters and support. And in September we will focus on recovery. DEM has been able to bring in and exercise with their partners such as the Nevada Threat Analysis Center and Nevada National Guard.

We also use the exercise focus to train the rest of the SEOC on the responsibilities and duties of the different positions and sections. In EOC operations we often become “compartmentalized” and do not see the big picture. In June we had the Planning Section hold their planning “P” meetings with everyone observing.

In between exercises the separate sections can refine their role in the SEOC. For instance, during this interim before the August exercise, the planning section can develop an IAP and prepare an operational briefing. This briefing will launch the next exercise which starts during the third operational period. Logistics will be able to refine and clarify resource orders, and PIO will prepare for a media briefing. This allows everyone time to develop a quality product rather than rushing through it. During the interim the exercise controller is available to answer questions and clarify information.

Over the next few months we hope to develop several “off the shelf” exercises involving all parts of Nevada, primarily focusing on the less populated counties. County (and local) emergency managers will be invited to participate with their EOC staffs. The SEOC exercise plan and injects can be adapted to the local area, and interaction with the SEOC is very beneficial to both entities. In June we had Sheriff Alan (EM for Humboldt county) start the exercise with a scripted phone briefing. This added realism to the scenario.



DEM Participated in the 14th Annual National Night Out in Mills Park

This community event was developed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, community safety, emergency preparedness, generate support for and participation in, local anticrime programs and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. Several divisions including DEM represented the Department of Public Safety at this year’s event.

This venue continues to grow each year in community attendance along with vendor and agency participation. This year DEM added a moulage station to the booth doubling the foot traffic. As DEM moulage artists created various types of injuries on the children with their make-up skills; staffers were able to spend some uninterrupted time with their parents educating them on preparedness. Families from Carson City, Reno, Dayton and Minden visited the booth.



Paul Burke, State Search and Rescue Coordinator

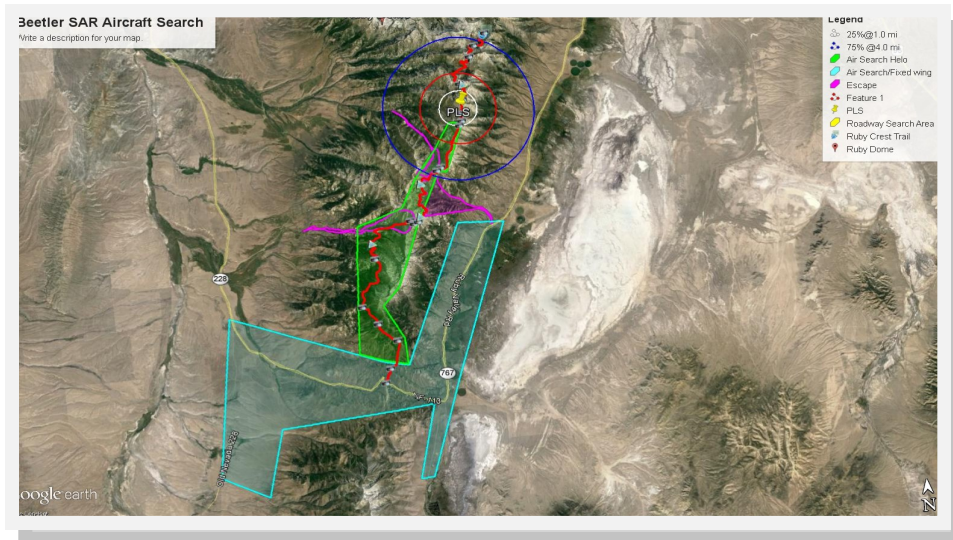
During the week of August 1-5, 2016, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management State (DEM) Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator assisted the Elko County Sheriff's Office (ECSO) and Elko SAR on two separate search and rescue operations on the Ruby Crest Trail.

On Wednesday, July 27, 2016 a 20 year old man, of Spring Creek initiated a hike on the Ruby Crest Trail with few provisions and expected to be out that day. Elko County Sheriff's Office received a report from the young man's parents after he failed to return from the hike, and a search was initiated beginning Friday, July 29, 2016. After two days of search, ECSO contacted DEM and requested assistance from the State SAR Coordinator for both resources and technical assistance. DEM was able to provide Virtual Search Planning assistance as well as direct resources including helicopters from NAS Fallon, Nevada Division of Wildlife, and the Nevada Division of Forestry. Additionally, Civil Air Patrol aircraft were used for search and communications platforms for ground operations. DEM also provided daily assistance with the analysis of clue information and review of operations based upon the prior days operations.

During the course of this operations, an additional search was initiated in the same search area for a 16-year old boy who was separated from his family camping. The boy wandered for six hours before being able to place a cell phone call to Elko 911 explaining his circumstances. Search resources were diverted the evening of Wednesday, August 3, 2016 to look for the boy, but failed to locate the subject in the small window of daylight left. The subject remained lost for that evening. On the morning of August 4, 2016, the subject was again able to make an intermittent cell phone call with a vague description of where he thought he was. Through cell forensic data gathered from the 20-year old Spring Creek man's search, local knowledge of the area, and an observant Nevada Division of Forestry's helicopter crew, the boy was located and transported off the trail and reunited with his family.

Search efforts were then redirected back to the Spring Creek man's search, but after more than seven days of concentrated search efforts using a wide variety of human, canine, and aircraft resources, the subject was not located.

Due to storms forecasted for the search area on Friday, August 5, 2016, the search for the 20-year old was suspended with limited continuing search efforts to be performed as weather allows.



Map: map depicts the statistical data plotted for planning analysis and potential search segments for resource deployment.

Visit us online at www.dem.nv.gov

Business Hours : Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2478 Fairview Drive · Carson City · Nevada 89701 · 775-687-0300

Emergency Calls to Duty Officers: 24 hours a day 775-687-0400

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