

# Wyoming Annual Report FY 2015

**Name of Department/Division/Program:** Wyoming Office of Homeland Security

- Guy Cameron, Director
- Agency Contact: Kelly Ruiz, 777-4909  
5500 Bishop Blvd  
Cheyenne, WY 82002
- Web address: <http://hls.wyo.gov>
- Statutory References: W.S. 19-13-101 et seq.
- Clients Served: Counties, Municipalities, Private Industry, Non-Profit Organizations, Individuals

**Report Period:** FY2015 (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015)

## Wyoming Quality of Life Result:

Homeland Security affects every aspect of the Wyoming Quality of Life; however, the most benefit and quality of life result is seen in the following three areas:

1. **Stable Families:** Wyoming families and individuals live in a stable, safe, supportive, nurturing, healthy environment.
2. **Education:** Students are successfully educated and prepared for life's opportunities.
3. **Government:** Wyoming state government is a responsible steward of state assets and effectively responds to the needs of residents and guests.

## Contribution to Wyoming Quality of Life:

1. The primary missions of the Office of Homeland Security are to:
  - (A) Prepare, prevent, mitigate, respond, and recover from natural/manmade disasters to include adversarial and technological hazards;
  - (B) Manage and administer federal homeland security grants. These grants provide necessary funding to the first responder community to enhance the capacity of state and local agencies to respond to disasters/terrorism through the following:
    1. Planning,
    2. Organization,
    3. Equipment,
    4. Training, and
    5. Exercises.
  - (C) Coordinate state agencies and appropriate federal agencies during a disaster or terrorist attack;
  - (D) Conduct public education and outreach to inform the public about their role in crime prevention, mitigation, emergency preparedness for all hazards, public health measures and to encourage personal responsibility;
  - (E) Support Search and Rescue operations including the administration of the Search and Rescue account; and.

- (F) Facilitate chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive activations to incidents utilizing eight Regional Emergency Response Teams, seven bomb teams and seven canine teams strategically located throughout the state.

**Basic Facts:**

1. Show total number of staff at the end of the report period: 23 positions authorized - of which 23 were filled.

2. Amount appropriated in 2013-2014 Biennium Budget by total appropriation, federal funds and general funds:

\$2,755,951	general funds
\$619,310	special fund (Search and Rescue)
<u>\$20,452,104</u>	<u>federal funds</u>
\$24,109,866	total biennium budget

3. 2015-2016 biennium budget:

\$2,717,310	general funds
\$854,963	special fund ( <i>Search and Rescue, I80 Corridor fees for transport of nuclear waste</i> )
<u>\$19,998,831</u>	<u>federal funds</u>
\$23,571,104	total biennium budget

4. List the five most important programs or functions provided to Wyoming residents:

- Regional Emergency Response Teams (RERT)
- Improvised Explosive Device and Explosive Detection Canine Programs
- School Safety
- Community Preparedness
- Interoperable Communications/WyoLink

5. Show the number of Wyoming people served in the report period: The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security provides support to each of the 23 counties and two tribes.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security 2015 performance summary:

- **Regional Emergency Response Teams (Graph 1):**
  - Eight Regional Emergency Response Teams are geographically located throughout the state and have a two-hour response time. The teams are intended to support local first responders in major hazardous material (HazMat) and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incidents.
  - (Graph 2) The current number of calls for service is 329. Reimbursement requests from RERTs for those 589 response calls total approximately \$425,745 as of June 30, 2015.

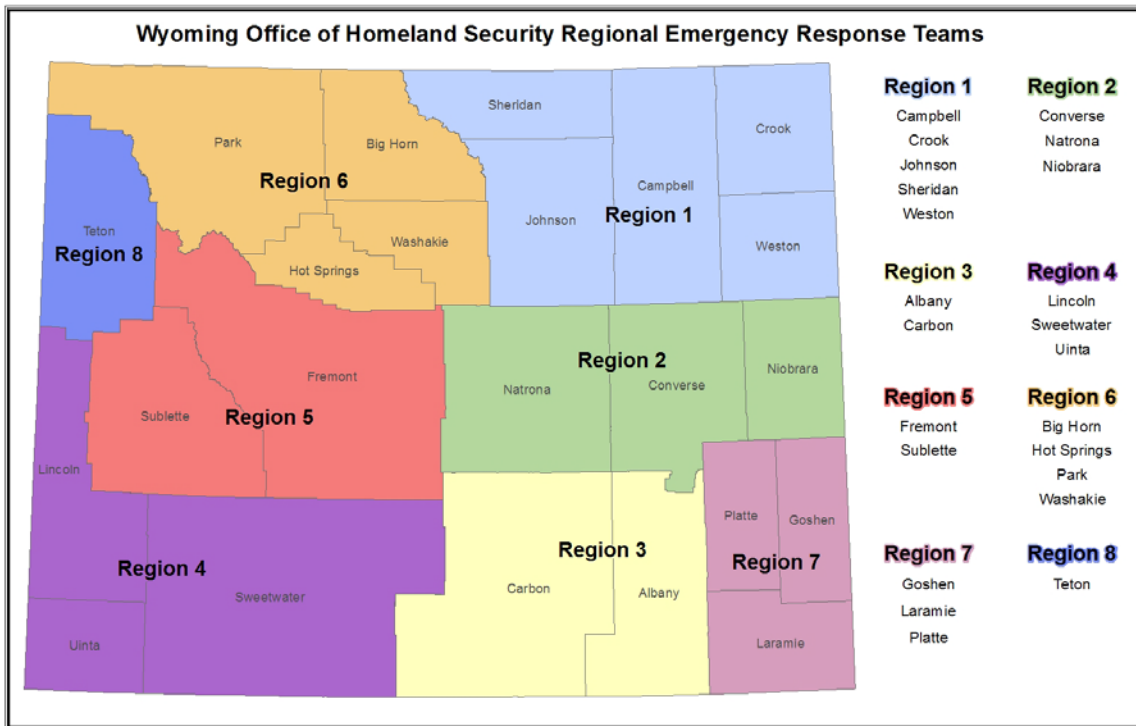
- **Improvised Explosive Device and Explosive Detection Canine Programs:** (Graphs 3 and 4)
  - There are seven bomb squads and seven Explosive Detection Canine Teams (handler and canine) geographically located throughout the state. Statistics began in 2009.
    - 2009-14 requests,
    - 2010-14 requests,
    - 2011 -22 requests,
    - 2012 -20 requests,
    - 2013 -29 requests,
    - 2014 -33 requests and,
    - 2015 -17 requests through June 30, 2015.
  - Improvised Explosive Device and Explosive Detection Canine responses are available 24 hour a day/seven days a week. There are currently seven FBI accredited bomb squads and seven certified Explosive Detection Canine Teams (handler and canine) in the State of Wyoming. Each of the seven bomb squads is assigned to a Regional Emergency Response Team. The Explosive Detection Canine Teams are deployed based upon need and availability throughout the state.
- **Critical Infrastructure/Exercises:**
  - The State of Wyoming's exercise program is driven by state and local entities. Governor's exercises are conducted with elected and appointed officials focusing on hazards identified in the Wyoming Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). All exercises include a variety of types to include, workshops and drills, table top, functional and full scale exercises.
  - WOHS will host an annual Training and Exercise Planning Workshop to create a Three Year State Training and Exercise Plan. This plan incorporates all training and exercise information obtained from state agencies and local jurisdictions. This is a living document that will be continually updated. The consolidation of this information will lead to less duplication of effort and greater awareness of training and exercise opportunities.
  - Improved participation of state and local entities in all types of exercises has increased the skills and knowledge for all-hazards response. The state continues to work with state and local entities in exercise design, facilitation, and reporting.
- **Community Preparedness**
  - Work in partnership with the Wyoming American Red Cross to strengthen Volunteers Active in Disaster (VOAD) statewide to help protect the lives of Wyoming residents by providing accurate and timely disaster preparedness information and ensure that individuals who are impacted by disasters receive needed crucial services.
  - Acquire additional non-perishable food-stocks (meals ready to eat) and other disaster supply commodities for Point-Of-Distribution (POD) program.

- Coordinate mass care response elements (sheltering, feeding, bulk distribution, and volunteers/donations management).
  - Create training for all VOAD partner agencies to best integrate nongovernment and government entities before, during and after a disaster.
  - Distribute preparedness information to Wyoming residents to raise the level of awareness statewide. Materials will be disseminated via Public Service Announcements, standard news releases, Internet and web, and social media outlets.
  - A Digital Information Response Team has been created to monitor media – to include mainstream, social and alternative media sources. Team currently has approximately 30 members and has been approved for regional use by FEMA Region VIII.
- **Interoperable Communications:** (Graph 3)
    - Communications equipment will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure capabilities remain in line with industry standards.
    - Data and voice broadband Interoperable Emergency Communications is integral to initial response, public health, safety of communities, national security and economic stability. The State of Wyoming has the following assets available for all-hazard emergency response operations:
      - i. Two Mobile Support Vehicles (MSVs); two Tactical Communications Trailers (TCT), one Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) trailer that have the ability to respond to any emergency and provide interoperable communications. These trailers consist of:
        - 1) An onboard very small aperture terminal (VSAT) satellite system for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telecommunications and data networking.
        - 2) Two cellular phones (Verizon and Union) for access to commercial carriers.
      - ii. Tactical communications caches that consist of:
        - 1) Six portable Very High Frequency (VHF) repeaters used to augment/expand radio communications during events such as wild land fires.
        - 2) One hundred portable VHF conventional and 50 Wyolink compatible hand-held radios that can be distributed to responders during events.
        - 3) Two transportable VSAT satellite systems for voice and data networks.
        - 4) An ACU-T interoperable radio gateway.
        - 5) Two High Frequency (HF) amateur radios for use by ARES/RACES personnel.
      - iii. A rapid-deployment transportable 105 foot tower system with an ACU-1000 interoperable radio gateway system for use when communications is required in challenging terrain or when temporary tower replacement is required.
        - Regional Emergency Response Teams (RERT) have been provided a Strategic Technology Reserve (STR) Package to enhance

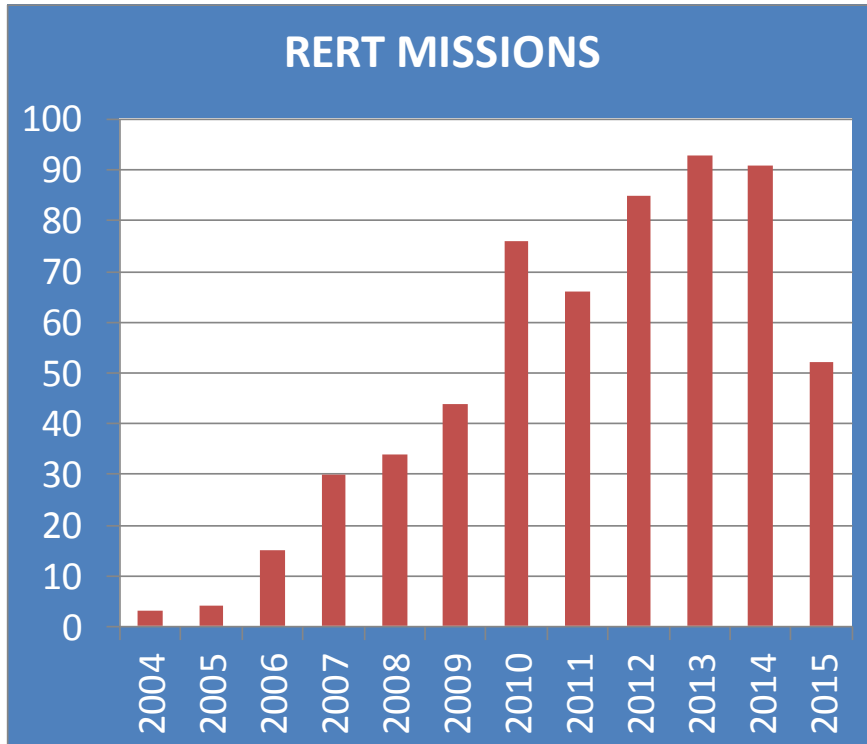
communication capabilities. STR packages will ensure the ability of interoperable communication across first responder groups for all local/tribal/state and federal agencies.

- In Wyoming, a total of nine STR packages were designed and staged with the eight RERTs and at WOHS Headquarters in Cheyenne. Each STR package has the capability to provide interoperable communications using the following systems:
    - HF amateur radio communications,
    - VHF WyoLink compatible hand held radio communications cache,
    - Portable satellite transceiver with VoIP telecommunications,
    - Portable VHF radio repeater system, and
    - ACU-1000 interoperable radio gateway.
  - Wyoming is utilizing a statewide digital trunked communication system known as “WyoLink.” WyoLink has been recognized at a national level as a positive step toward ensuring the safety and well-being of Wyoming first responders, at the local, state and federal levels, as well as its residents, on a daily basis as man-made and natural disasters or terrorist events occur.
  - The Wyoming Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) with the assistance of Administration and Information, Economic Analysis completed a WyoLink User’s Survey. From the survey results, the PSCC created the WyoLink Needs Recommendations for Biennial Fiscal Years 2017/2018 and 2019/2020. The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security will assist and support the PSCC recommendations as approved by the Legislature.
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- **Wyoming School Safety/Security:**
    - In 2014 the Wyoming Legislature increased the school safety responsibilities of the Wyoming Department of Education, the Office of Attorney General, and Office of Homeland Security in a collaborative way through the introduction and passing of House Bill 1, Enrolled Act 41, Section 336.
    - **Legislative Directives Accomplishments:**
      - Convened School Safety and Security Advisory Committee: Seven members with experience in a variety of professional areas.
      - Develop and refine School Crisis Management Plans: In Spring 2014, the Wyoming Comprehensive Public Safety Planning Model was sent to all forty-eight school districts, and to public safety agencies.
      - Developing Interoperable Communications: The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security has purchased twenty-seven radio packages for distribution to districts with priority based on extended response times, lack of a School Resource Officer, and geographic limitations to communications.
      - Providing Crisis Management Training: The development of semi-annual school safety training curriculum is underway and is being administered by the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy through the Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium.

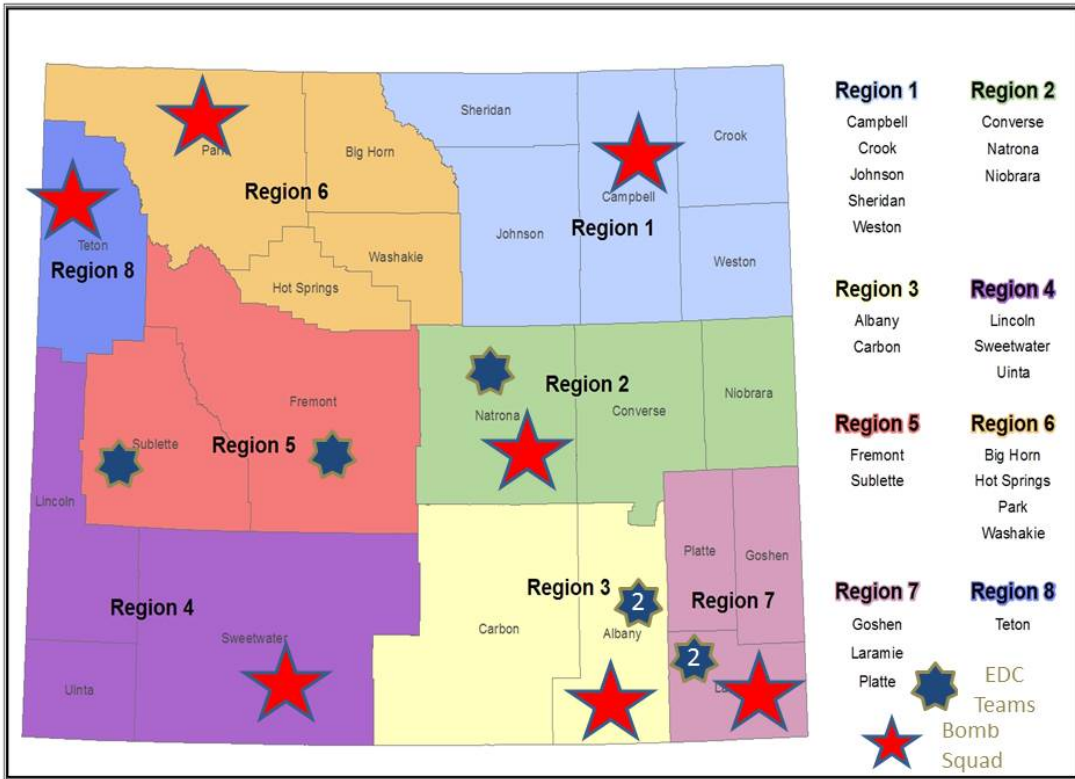
Graph 1



Graph 2



Graph 3 - Wyoming Office of Homeland Security Bomb Teams and EDCs



Graph 4

