



# Coordinated Response to Support Detroit and Idanha Snow Event January 2017

Marion County Emergency Management



# Agenda

- Timeline
- Lessons Learned



# Participating agencies / offices / teams

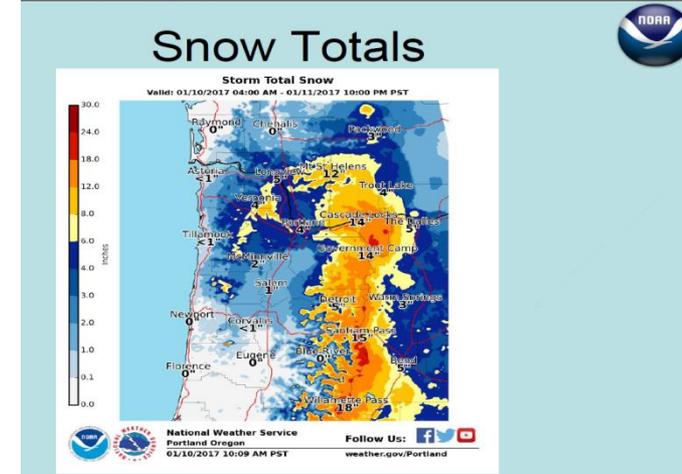
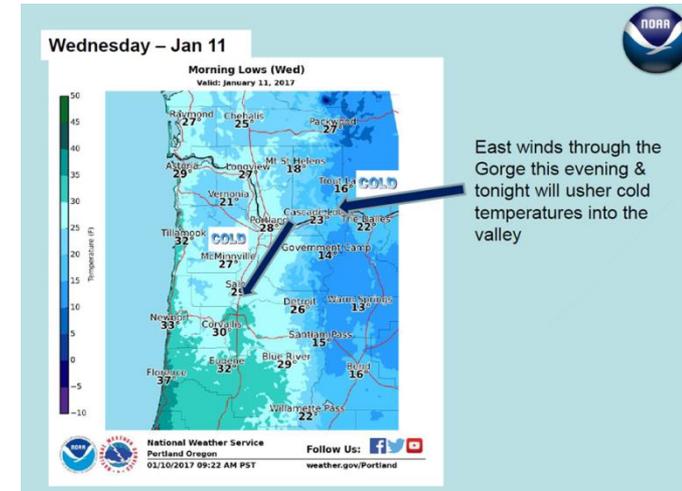
- Idanha Detroit Fire District (IDFD)
- City of Detroit
- City of Idanha
- Marion County
  - Marion County Public Works (MCPW)
  - Marion County Emergency Management (MCEM)
    - Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
    - Emergency Management Auxiliary Radio
  - Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)
  - Marion County Legal Department
  - Marion County Board of Commissioners Public Information Officer (PIO)
- Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO)
  - Emergency Management (EM)
  - Search and Rescue (SAR)
- Marion Area Multi-Agency Emergency Telecommunications (METCOM)
- National Weather Service (NWS)

# Timeline

## Monday Jan 9



- National Weather Service issues initial alerts for cold / snow
- Schedules webinar for Jan 10



# Timeline - Tuesday Jan 10



- NWS webinar
- MCEM distributes warning information
- MCEM, MCPW initial planning
- Letter of concern from IDFD to cities
- IDFD notifies MCEM
- MCEM contacts City of Detroit, schedules meeting for Jan 11
- Warming shelters open in Salem and Silverton

A screenshot of the Marion County Emergency Management Facebook page. The page header includes "Page", "Notifications", "Insights", "Publishing Tools", "Settings", and "Help". The profile picture is the Marion County logo. The page name is "Marion County Emergency Management" with the handle "@MCEmergency". The page is set to "Public" and has 1,127 likes and 1,127 followers. A post from "Linda C. Sell" is visible, stating "WOW no snow in Aumsville!!!! That is a first!". Below it, a post from "Marion County Emergency Management" shares a US National Weather Service Portland Oregon post. The shared post includes a map titled "Storm Total Snow" and "Watches Warnings and Advisories" showing snow accumulation in the Portland area. The text of the shared post reads: "We have UPGRADED the Winter Weather Advisory to a WINTER STORM WARNING for the north Coast Range, Lower Columbia-5 Corridor, and the Portland metro area (Espe...". The right sidebar shows contact information for Marion County: 5155 Silverton Rd NE, Salem, Oregon, (503) 391-7294, and a website link. It also lists "Government Organization" and "Hours 8:00AM - 5:00PM Open Now". A "PEOPLE ALSO LIKE" section lists "Metcom 911", "Willamette Valley Communicatio...", "Salem-Keizer Public Schools", and "Hubbard Fire District".

A screenshot of an email from Kevin Cameron to Edwin Flick. The email is dated 1/9/2017 7:08 PM. The subject is "Re: WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 AM PST Wednesday for Cascade Foothills". The body of the email says: "Thank you Ed. Kevin Commissioner Kevin Cameron Sent from my iPhone (Voice recognition software may have been used for dictation) kcameron@co.marion.or.us 503-391-7292 Board office". Below this, it says: "On Jan 9, 2017, at 4:04 PM, Edwin Flick &lt;eflick@co.marion.or.us&gt; wrote: 170109T2343Z-170111T1800Z NORTHERN OREGON CASCADE FOOTHILLS, NORTHERN OREGON CASCADES INCLUDING THE CITIES OF SANDY, ESTACADA, SWEET HOME 343 PM PST MON JAN 9 2017 ... WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 10 AM PST WEDNESDAY FOR THE NORTHERN OREGON CASCADE FOOTHILLS AND NORTHERN OREGON".



# IDFD Letters

## Letter of Concern



### Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District

P.O. Box B • 160 Detroit Ave. N. • Detroit, OR 97342  
Detroit Office: 503-854-3494 • Idanha Station: 503-854-3540  
[idanhadetroit@gmail.com](mailto:idanhadetroit@gmail.com) • [www.idanhadetroitfire.com](http://www.idanhadetroitfire.com)

#### MEMORANDUM

January 10, 2017

To: Cities of Idanha and Detroit  
From: Marshall Rash, Fire Chief *MR*  
Subject: Snow Removal, Emergency Vehicle Access, and Fire Hydrants

We appreciate the partnerships we have with each city and truly value those relationships. The amount of snow this year has been unexpected and has put a burden on all of us. It takes all of us doing our parts to make sure we can respond to the emergency services needs of our two cities.

The fire district's priority is to keep both the Idanha and Detroit Fire Stations cleared of snow so emergency vehicles can respond and to clear parking spaces at the fire stations so our members can get to those emergency vehicles. We appreciate the assistance of each city and our own members with plows in helping us keep the stations accessible, especially since we are limited shoveling.

Last week, our staff dug out all of the city fire hydrants in Idanha and Detroit, 47 total. Some were completely buried. We ask your assistance in keeping your hydrants accessible, preferably 3 feet around all sides of the hydrant as well as a walking access path to the hydrant if appropriate.

We understand the challenges each city has had in keeping your streets accessible and cleared of snow this winter. The amount of snow and the lack of cleared city roads have created access complications for the fire district when responding to emergencies. Our 2 fire engines in Detroit and Idanha have chains on their rear tires, but that does not guarantee we can access properties.

The fire district is doing all we can, but has to limit its exposure and reduce its risks while providing for the safety of our members and the public. Because of these access issues and lack of adequate snow removal this winter, we have to provide this notice to each city that the snow situation has become a serious public safety concern because it has hampered access for our emergency vehicles and our ability to provide services. Unless your city roads are cleared and maintained, preferably at least 16 feet wide, we may not be able to adequately, safely, and in a timely manner, access structures or persons in the city in the event of a fire or other emergency.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [mt.rash1968@gmail.com](mailto:mt.rash1968@gmail.com) or 503-871-7599.

Heavy snow  
load on  
structures

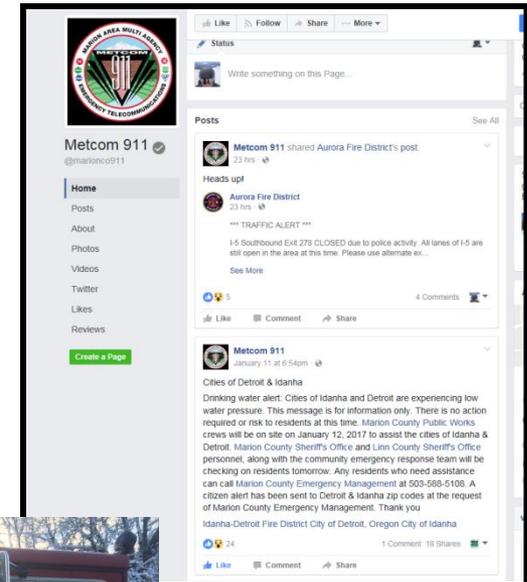


Roads not  
plowed  
wide  
enough for  
emergency  
vehicles

# Timeline - Wednesday Jan 11



- MCEM meets with cities, IDFD
  - Reviews situation
  - Establishes objectives
  - Legal consultation
  - ODOT mutual aid request
  - Cities declare
- Coordination with Linn County
- MCEM coordinates Incident Action Plan
- IDFD id's vulnerable populations and structures
- MCPW provides access to Idanha water system
- Coordinated public messaging using Everbridge
- Governor Brown declares statewide emergency





# Declaration

## BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

FOR THE COUNTY OF MARION, OREGON

In the Matter of Requesting The  
Board of Commissioners of Marion )  
County and the Governor of the )  
State of Oregon to Declare the )  
Cities of Detroit & Idanha An )  
Emergency/Disaster Area. )

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of January, 2017, a snow/ice emergency has occurred and  
(incident/date/time of occurrence)  
has affected the Cities of Detroit and Idanha, specifically:

entire city limits, and  
(specify N, E, W, S boundaries of impacted area, entire city limits)

WHEREAS, this emergency/disaster was caused by a series of winter storms beginning in December of 2016;  
(describe cause of incident more specifically)

WHEREAS, the following conditions exist in the impacted area:

- snow and ice are blocking roads restricting emergency access to residences;
- snow blocking access to Idanha water system;
- snow berms piled on water meters preventing access to find excessive water leaks;
- berms are blocking hydrants throughout both cities;
- heavy snow loads on roofs are endangering structures;
- citizens with functional and access needs are unable to leave residences for necessary medical care;
- large snow berms are hindering movement throughout both cities

WHEREAS, there have been zero fatalities and zero injuries, and residents of the Cities of Detroit and Idanha are at risk of emergency service unable to respond to fire or medical emergencies; citizens of Idanha at risk of water system failure; citizens unable to go to work or medical appointments; both communities at high risk for structural damage because of this emergency. Initial estimates of costs and losses total \$ unknown as summarized on the attached Initial Damage Assessment report form. (This paragraph is optional depending upon needs and type of emergency.)

WHEREAS, the City Resolution No. 489, serves as a basis for an emergency declaration and shall be an exercise of police power and emergency control in the public's interest.

WHEREAS, the Cities of Detroit and Idanha have declared the area described in the first paragraph above, to be in a "State of Emergency" on the 11th day of January, 2017 at 1:30 o'clock pm.

WHEREAS, the Cities of Detroit and Idanha have expended all its own resources and resources of its mutual aid/cooperative assistance agencies in response to the emergency and further response to the emergency is beyond the Cities of Detroit & Idanha's capability.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that:

1. A "State of Emergency" exists in the Cities of Detroit & Idanha, and
2. All appropriate and available resources have been expended and further response is beyond the capability of the Cities of Detroit & Idanha.

I respectfully request appropriate support from County, State, and/or Federal agencies, as provided in ROS 401.115, for the following forms of assistance. (State needs or support, not agencies):

Plowing access road to Idanha Water System Reservoir.  
Road snow removal to access water meters, fire hydrants, and water shut-off valves, and allow emergency vehicle access to residences.  
Remove snow from building structures and roofs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is respectfully requested that the Board of Commissioners of Marion County and the Governor of the State of Oregon declare a "State of Emergency" for the Cities of Detroit and Idanha, as provided in ORS 401.055.

DATED THIS 11th day of January, 2017

CITY OF DETROIT, OREGON

By [Signature]  
Authorized Official

CITY OF IDANHA, OREGON

By [Signature]  
Authorized Official

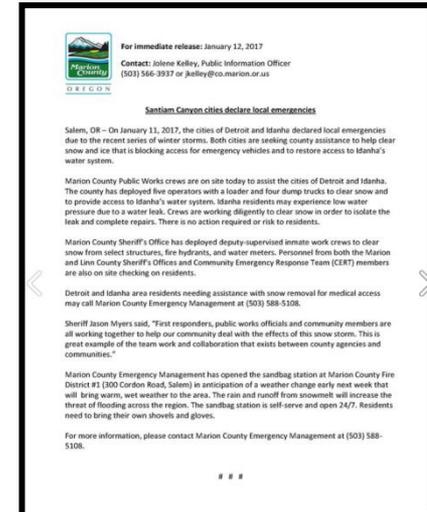
REVIEWED

By \_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

(This request may be passed to the County via radio, telephone, or FAX. Hard copies must be sent to the County Office of Emergency Management with a copy placed in the final incident package.)

# Timeline - Thursday Jan 12

- IDFD, MCEM, MCSO, LCSO/EM establish Unified Command
- MCEM establishes small incident management team, partial Emergency operations Center activation
  - Call center
  - Documentation
- MCEM volunteers, MCSO inmate work crews and LCSO SAR conduct detailed assessments, clear snow
- MCPW clears roads
- MC PIO coordinates press



# MCEM Volunteers

11 volunteers - total hours 137

309 structures checked in Detroit and Idanha

## Issues we found:

Snow on roof needing removal: 24

Snow of sidewalk needing removal: 6

Snow on vehicle: 2

Structure damage due to snow: 5

Several fire hydrants buried

Water leaks: 2

Tree limbs into power lines: 2

Streets needing plowed: 2

Tree limb on roof of structure: 1

All the issues listed above were at homes by owners who were either not on site or physically unable to do the work themselves.

## Other issues:

1 resident stuck in house with no water for 7 days

1 resident needing social services



MCEM Auxiliary Radio

Community Emergency Response Teams

-Woodburn

-Keizer

-East Salem

-Stayton

-Turner



# IDFD Letters

## Closeout Letter



### **Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District**

P.O. Box B • 160 Detroit Ave. N. • Detroit, OR 97342  
Detroit Office: 503-854-3494 • Idanha Station: 503-854-3540  
idanhadetroit@gmail.com • www.idanhadetroitfire.com

#### MEMORANDUM

January 13, 2017

To: Cities of Idanha and Detroit  
From: Marshall Rash, Fire Chief *MR*  
Subject: Snow Emergency Incident Closeout

The Idanha-Detroit Fire District initiated and coordinated the emergency response and co-management of the snow emergency experienced in both cities. We could not have successfully accomplished this without the guidance and assistance from Marion County Emergency Management plus the support of over 70 people from Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County Public Works, Linn County Sheriff's Office, the Cities of Idanha and Detroit, members of the Idanha-Detroit Fire District, and many other volunteers.

Per the emergency plans, once both mayors declared a "State of Emergency" on January 11, 2017 at 1:30 PM, the Fire Chief assumed command of the incident which was instantly delegated to Assistant Chief Jack Krill. He established a Unified Command with Marion County Emergency Manager Ed Flick and Marion County Sheriff's Office Sargent Shane Burnham.

The primary objectives of the emergency incident have been met. Therefore we are declaring the overall "State of Emergency" concluded and terminating the emergency incident as of 3:00 PM on January 13, 2017. This means that each city is now coordinating their ongoing efforts.

Emergency vehicle access has been improved in both cities; most roads to occupied structures are currently passable for emergency vehicles and all fire hydrants are accessible again. We strongly encourage each city to keep improving and maintaining hydrant clearance and roadway access for emergency vehicles. This needs to be a continued and ongoing effort. Both cities also need to consider putting immediate plans in place for additional snow and ice accumulation, potential melting, and potential flooding in the days and weeks ahead in order to prevent future emergency conditions.

Access to the Idanha water supply and reservoir was successfully accomplished and resources are on scene and/or responding through the ORWARN system to assist the City of Idanha with water system distribution issues. With regards to other utilities, CPI and Frontier were notified of potential heavy snow, ice, and trees on their overhead lines that could potentially compromise power and communications in the area.

Marion County Emergency Management will be planning an After Action Review in the near future; we look forward to participating in that with all of you. The Idanha-Detroit Fire District truly appreciates the good working relationship with each city and we are here to help when called upon. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [mt.rash1968@gmail.com](mailto:mt.rash1968@gmail.com) or 503-871-7599.



# Timeline

## Friday Jan 13

- MCPW completes snow removal
- MCEM begins flood planning

## Saturday Jan 14

Social Media

Sandbag stations (Turner, Marion County Fire District 1)

Salem Public Works assists cities focused on water systems



# Lessons Learned

## Strengths

- All objectives met
- Involvement of elected leaders
- Contribution of volunteers
- Excellent cooperation between all agencies and with cities
- Model for cooperation between SAR and EM
- EOC scalable staffing
- Aux communications
- Public Information
- Small city Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Documentation

## Improvements

- Technology (GIS, SAR tools)
- Small city Emergency Operations Plans
- Mutual aid agreements with cities and fire districts
- Tow vehicle for mobile EOC
- City winter storm resource contracts









NARROW  
BRIDGE

01.12.2017 13:41



01.12.2017 13:42





01.12.2017 13:39