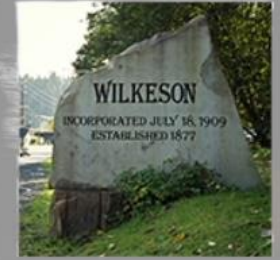




EAST PIERCE INTERLOCAL COALITION FOR
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



East Pierce Interlocal Coalition for
Emergency Management (EPIC-EM)

Agenda

- East Pierce Interlocal Coalition for Emergency Management (EPIC-EM)
- EPIC-EM multi-year work plans
- Preparedness, Planning, Training, and Exercises
- Lahar Evacuation Exercises
- Successes and Challenges
- What's next?

Timeline

- Pre-2015: Multiple evacuation drills and exercises effort by schools, first responders, and emergency management partners throughout the region
- 2015: Orting School District lahar evacuation in coordination with the City of Orting and Orting Valley Fire and Rescue
- 2019: Puyallup School District and City of Puyallup Lahar Evacuation Exercise
- 2018-2019: Puyallup approached by individual jurisdictions to partner on planning and exercises
- Spring of 2020: Total of 7 jurisdictions began to meet about collaboration efforts:
 - Committed to planning, preparedness, training and exercise

Timeline (continued)

- Summer of 2020: Discussions Continued
 - Met with multiple partners
 - Drafted Interlocal Agreement, multiple rounds of edits
- February 2021: Interlocal Agreement signed by all partners
 - Jurisdiction representatives meet monthly
 - Joint Board meets two times a year
- April 2022: Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise (at the time, the largest in North America)
- March 2024: Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise (largest in the world)
- May 2024: Partners agree to continue efforts to “get to 72”

EPIC-EM First 3-Year Workplan

- Regional Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
- Regional Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for the jurisdictions of Puyallup, Bonney Lake, Sumner, Orting, Buckley, Carbonado, and Wilkeson
- Regional communication plan, to include mass notification capabilities
- Community preparedness
- Emergency management resources and capabilities inventory and assessment
- Regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) readiness

Year 1: February 2021 – February 2022

- Jurisdiction Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plans complete
- Jurisdictions worked with City of Tacoma Emergency Management and the West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition to purchase CodeRed for mass notification capabilities
- Conducted Mass Care and Sheltering Full-Scale Exercise, “Puyallup Chill Out 2021” On October 12, 2021
- Completed the East Pierce Lahar Rapid Action Plan (RAP), designed for first responder and emergency management critical actions to take during a no-notice lahar from Mount Rainier
- Designed and launched www.epiceoc.com with a customizable dashboard for use during incidents and emergencies
- Began planning effort for April 2022 Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise



“Puyallup Chill Out 2021” (October 12, 2021)

East Pierce County Emergency Management Dashboard

Severe Weather

Fire

Volcanic

Crime & Safety

Health

Volcanic Monitoring



USGS Volcanoes



191K followers



USGS Volcanoes
about an hour ago



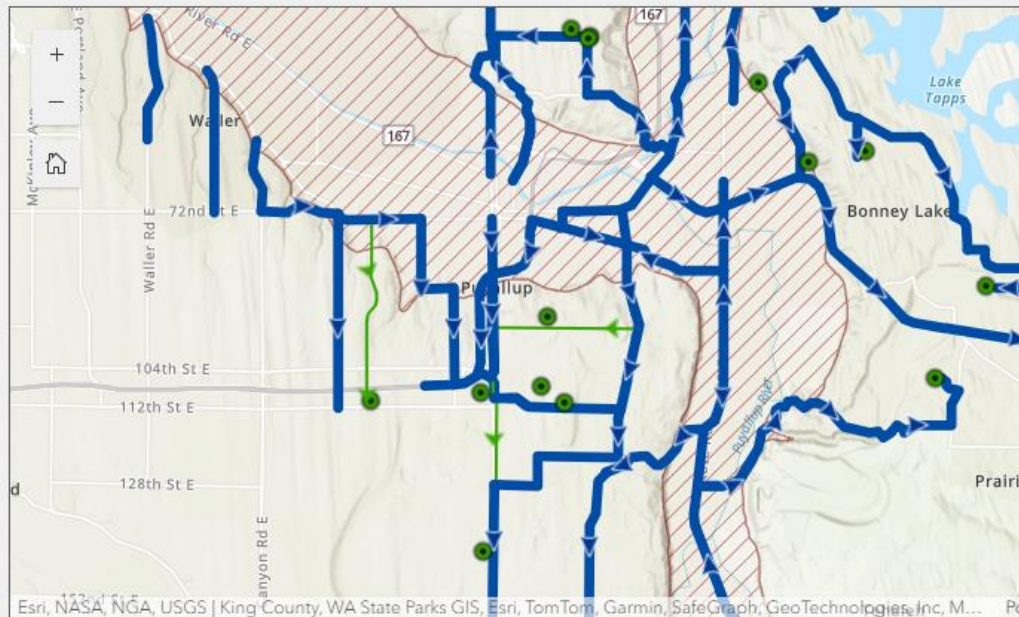
Shishaldin Volcano is looking normal, wouldn't you say? Activity associated with an eruption that began in July 2023 and continued until November 2023 has been declining over the past several months. AVO lowered the alert level and color code to NORMAL/GREEN.

Live View of Mount Rainier



Last updated: 8/7/2024

2:44

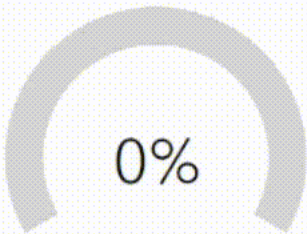


EPIC-EM
Dashboard

Year 2: February 2022 – February 2023

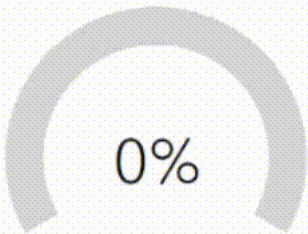
- Launched jurisdiction mass notification systems (March 2022)
- Developed jurisdiction-specific mass notification policies and procedures
- Started monthly CodeRed users training, designed to provide opportunities to practice sending messages and share lessons learned and experiences <https://www.epiceoc.com/pages/alerts>
- Launched Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and Puyallup CERT
- Conducted 2022 Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise on April 29, 2022

Schools Evacuated



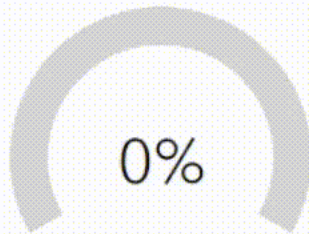
Last update: a few seconds ago

Sheltered In Place



Last update: a few seconds ago

Exercise Complete



Last update: a few seconds ago

Evacuating

- Not Started: All Saints School - Puyallup
- Not Started: Aylen Junior High School
- Not Started: Carbonado Historic School
- Not Started: Cascade Christian Jr High and High School
- Not Started: Cascade Christian School - Puyallup Elementary
- Not Started: Cornerstone Montessori
- Not Started: Daffodil Valley Elementary School
- Not Started: Elhi High School
- Not Started: Kalles Junior High School
- Not Started:

Sheltering In Place

- Not Started: Bonney Lake Elementary School
- Not Started: Bonney Lake High School
- Not Started: Crestwood Elementary School
- Not Started: Donald Eismann Elementary School
- Not Started: Elk Ridge Elementary School
- Not Started: Emerald Hills Elementary School

Total Participating

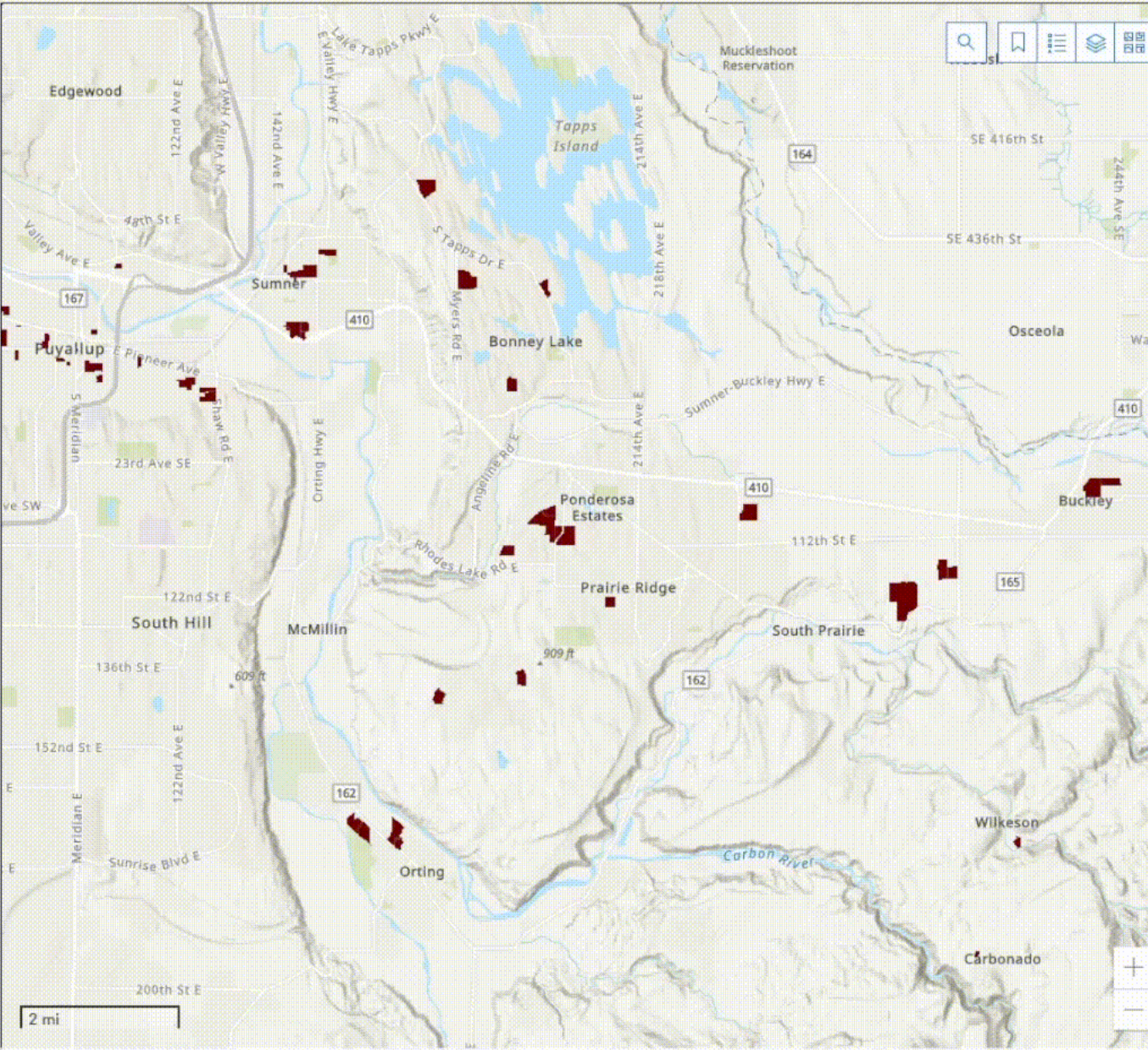
25,864

Returning / Complete

No Schools reporting as "Returning to School"

Live Drone Feeds:

- Feed 1 - PPD
- Feed 2
- Feed 3
- Feed 4







Year 3: February 2023 – February 2024

- Completed the Regional Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
- Revised the jurisdiction Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)
- Completed EPIC-EM Mass Care Response Framework
- Completed jurisdiction-specific EOC Activation Plans
- Conducted “EPIC Freeze and Thaw 2023” on July 27, 2023
 - Functional exercise
 - Mass Care and Shelter operations
- Began planning efforts for 2024 Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise (conducted on March 21, 2024)
- Continue to offer CERT and support Puyallup CERT
 - Puyallup CERT meets quarterly and supports EPIC-EM cities and towns

2024 Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise



Thursday, March 21, 2024

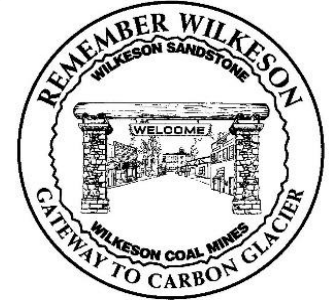
www.laharexercise.com



PUYALLUP
SCHOOL DISTRICT
A Tradition of Excellence



BONNEY
Lake



EPIC EM



Overall Exercise Objectives

1. Provide for the safety and accountability of all participants and responders throughout the East Pierce Regional Lahar Evacuation Exercise
2. Maintain traffic control and safe travels for all students and staff
3. Utilize the East Pierce School Evacuation Dashboard (GIS resource) throughout the duration of the exercise
4. Familiarize students with the evacuation routes and provide them with the tools to be prepared for a real-life lahar evacuation

Exercise Partners

- Participating School Districts:
 - Puyallup School District
 - Sumner-Bonney Lake School District
 - Orting School District
 - White River School District
 - Carbonado School District
- Participating Private Schools:
 - All Saints
 - Cascade Christian Elementary
 - Cascade Christian Jr./Sr. High
 - Cascade Christian McAlder Elementary
 - Cascade Christian Early Learning Center
 - Northwest Christian

Exercise Statistics

- Over 75 schools participated
- Approximately 15,000 students and staff practiced their walking evacuation routes
- Approximately 30,000 students and staff practiced their shelter in place procedures
- 3 Emergency Operations Centers with a combined total of over 150 EOC participants participated
- Over 100 first responders, jurisdiction staff, and other personnel assisted the schools

USGS Partnership



- Coordinated with school districts and schools to deliver presentations to students, 11 schools
- USGS scientists (and other partners from the Washington State Emergency Management Division, Mount Rainier National Park, Washington Department of Natural Resources, FEMA Region X) presented to over 2,000 students leading up to the exercise and day of the exercise
- Provided educator guides and information to teachers/educators participating in the exercise



Photo courtesy of Steven Friederich, WA EMD, 3-21-24

Schools Evacuated



100%

Last update: 19 seconds ago

Sheltered In Place



100%

Last update: 19 seconds ago

Exercise Complete



100%

Last update: 19 seconds ago

Evacuating

No schools reporting evacuation in progress.

Sheltering In Place

No schools reporting as "Sheltering In Place"

Returning / Complete

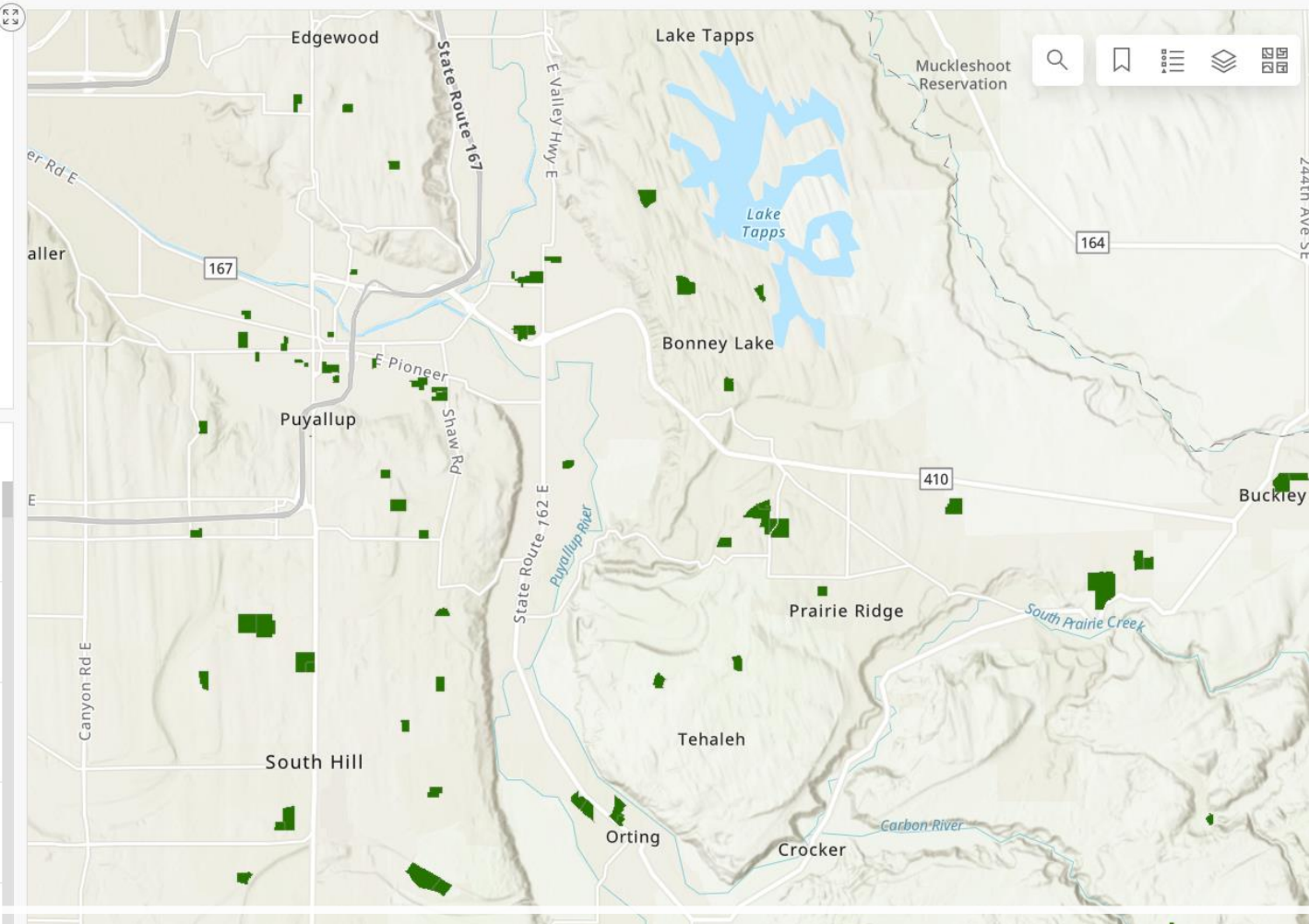
- Exercise Complete All Saints School - Puyallup
- Exercise Complete Aylen Junior High School
- Exercise Complete Ballou Junior High School
- Exercise Complete Bonney Lake Elementary School
- Exercise Complete Bonney Lake High School

Total Participating

45,078

Live Drone Feeds

City of Orting is hosting the links of the regional lahar drone feed. To view, please click here: [2024 Lahar Drill Air Operations](#)



Exercise Dashboard





Bonney Lake EOC



Puyallup EOC



Buckley EOC





City of Buckley Fire Department

March 21 at 5:01 PM · 🌐

...

The City of Buckley Emergency Operations Center was activated today as part of the full scale regional Lahar exercise that included the Cities, Towns and School Districts of East Pierce County. The exercise simulated a sudden Lahar from Mount Rainier that resulted in the Puyallup Valley and portions of the Carbon River being affected, with residents and students in these areas evacuating.

(Notice we said "Lahar" - not Eruption)

A Lahar is a naturally occurring landslide with the consistency of wet concrete. Lahars can happen at any moment, as opposed to Volcanic Eruptions that include lava and ash fallout. Volcanic Eruptions often follow several weeks to months of seismic activity that would serve as indicators for residents to take action. Volcanic Eruptions may also trigger a Lahar

Buckley and Wilkeson were identified as "Shelter in Place" locations that were prepared to accept displaced residents from other affected areas seeking refuge.

We are proud of our partnership and participation with the East Pierce Interlocal Coalition for Emergency Management and will continue to prepare, plan and train for any situation in order to protect and preserve lives and property in the communities that we serve.













Lessons Learned

- Plan early – work with partners to select a date well in advance (9+ months)
- Use existing meetings and collaborative efforts to plan for exercises
- Plan year-round and communicate meetings plans and the purposes of different meetings
- Send reminders, meeting notes, regular check-ins – and then do it again
- Use the “Planning P” process and forms to prepare an IAP/EAP, allow plenty of time for revisions and final approvals
- Communications: planning, training, and equipment at all levels
- Consider the need to focus on established exercise objectives and the pressure to add other components
- Addressing the “what next?” – “How to get to 72”

EPIC-EM Second 3- Year Workplan (2024 – 2027)

- Regional Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for EPIC partners (added training component)
- Regional Communication Plan, to include mass notification capabilities (adding planning and training components)
- Community Preparedness
- Emergency management resources and capabilities inventory and assessment
- Regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) readiness
- Regional Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
- Regional Recovery Planning, Training, and Exercise
- Debris Removal Planning, Training, and Exercise
- EPIC-EM Training and Exercise Coordination and Tracking



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www.epiceoc.com
www.laharexercise.com

Thank you!