

CONFERENCE OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS UPDATES



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors



Update

FRMAC Call

January 25, 2023

Ruth McBurney, CHP
Executive Director, CRCPD

Tanya Ridgle
Homeland Security/Emergency Response Council Chair

HS/ER-5: Committee on Emergency Response Planning

- ▶ Serves as point of contact between Federal agency, CRCPCD and state radiological programs for issues related to REP
- ▶ Review, evaluate and provide comments to federal agencies and other organizations regarding regulatory guidance, documents, plans and procedures related to radiological emergency response planning and response.
 - ▶ Under leadership of Ken Evans, the committee will plan to meet with federal partners at the upcoming National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference in Indianapolis, IN, April 3-6, 2023
 - ▶ Committee will use resources to help update the FRMAC list of emergency response assets.

HS/ER Activities Under CDC Grant

- ▶ **HS/ER-13 - Task Force for Development of Population Monitoring Train the Trainer Workshops**
 - ▶ Develop scalable modules that could be used by public health to deliver training to individuals with no prior knowledge of radiation safety.
 - ▶ Workshop #1- September 30-October 1, 2019 - Los Angeles County Environmental Health Branch, Baldwin Park, CA.
 - ▶ Workshop #2- April 11, 2022 - National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference in Nashville, TN.
 - ▶ Workshop #3 - Scheduled for April 24, 2023 at the NACCHO Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, GA

HS/ER Activities Under CDC Grant

- ▶ **HS/ER-14 - Task Force for Guidance Development for Radiological Respiratory Protection for Ancillary Emergency Workers**
 - ▶ Identification of respiratory protection needs for emergency workers that are not first responders
 - ▶ Public Health staff that operating a Community Reception Center or a shelter;
 - ▶ Bus Drivers assisting with evacuations;
 - ▶ Public Works staff assisting with debris removal after a radiological incident

HS/ER Activities Under CDC Grant

- ▶ **HS/ER-17 Task Force for the Review and Development of Guidance of NCRP Statement 14**
 - ▶ Review new NCRP Statement 14, “INSTRUMENT RESPONSE VERIFICATION AND CALIBRATION FOR USE IN RADIATION EMERGENCIES” and develop practical guidance for the state radiation control programs and other organizations
 - ▶ New Task Force established in November, 2022



Radiological Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) Update

William Irwin, ScD, CHP

FEMA Type 1 ROSS

CRCPD Representative to ROSS Steering Committee



Sixth year of ROSS radiological & nuclear emergency training

- Taught ROSS radiological & nuclear emergency response courses to more than 100 people at NREP, CRCPD and HPS in 2022.
- Doing it again in 2023. Hope to see you there!
- Counterterrorism Operations Support (CTOS) taught six initial training classes in FY 22 resulting in 230 trainees in five years of classes.
 - Working to teach an equal number of courses in FY 23.
 - Next initial class is in Corvallis, Oregon the week of February 6 at the HPS Mid-year.
 - Goal to teach additional classes in Sacramento, California; Boston, Massachusetts; Lincoln, Nebraska; New York City; Austin, Texas and Louisville, Kentucky in 2023.



Virtual Evaluation Scenario Tool (VEST)

- VESTs provide ROSS a rare opportunity to participate in a nuclear detonation or radiological dispersal device exercise multiple times a year.
- A combination game & tabletop exercise where ROSS play they are in their state, county or municipal Emergency Operations Center during the simulated scenario.
- Nuclear detonation VEST may be out in early 2023.
- Second VEST for RDD may be out later in 2023.

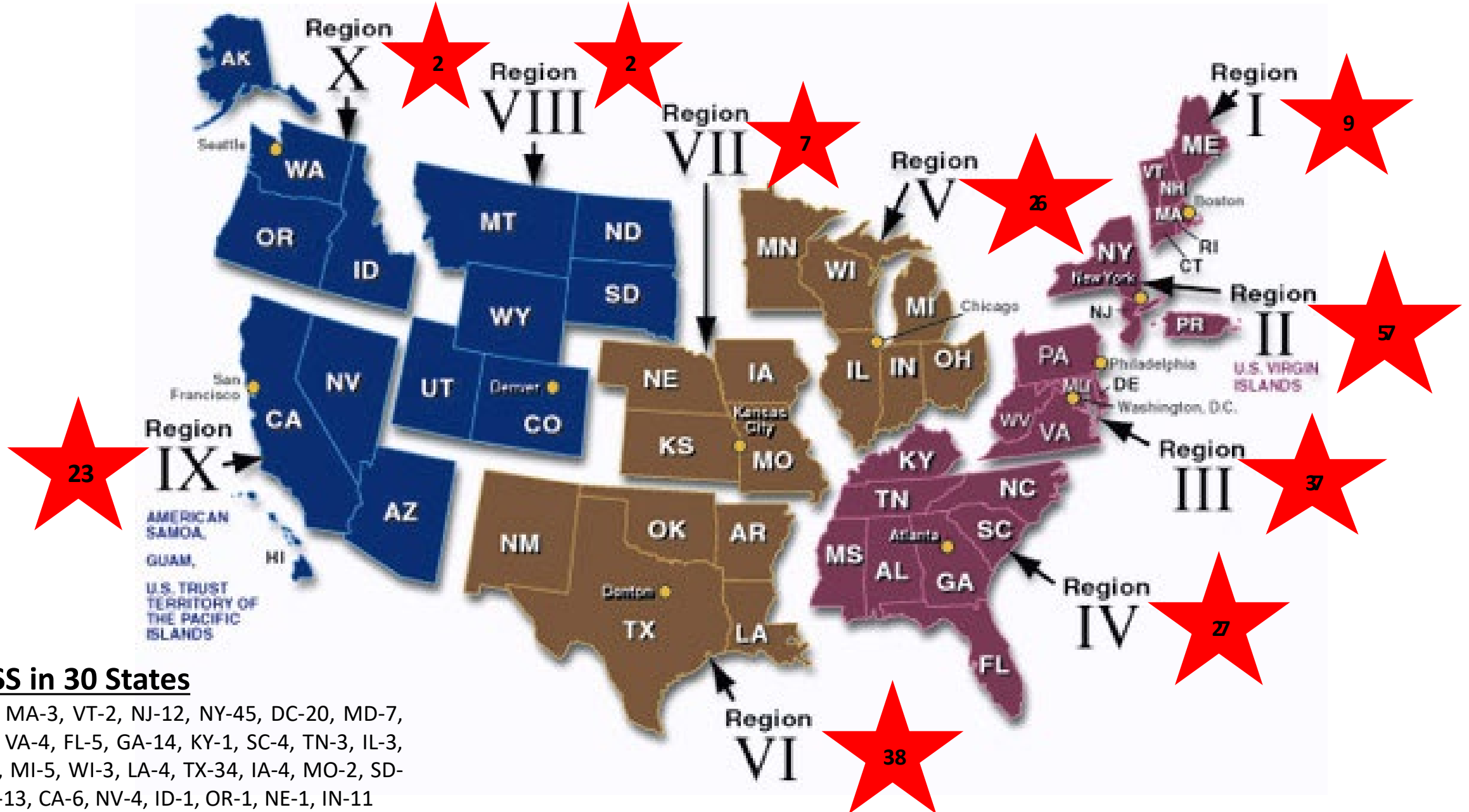


DHS study of ROSS by RAND Corporation

- Overall good foundation, not yet mature.
 - Must recruit more ROSS in all states.
 - Must socialize more with emergency management.
- Could use 350 or more active, advancing ROSS in the US
 - More in higher population, higher risk states and territories.
 - Each state should have one Type 1 or Type 2 ROSS.
 - Best that recruits have no emergency role in their day job.
- States should have larger role, with ROSS Steering Committee oversight and CRCPD Working Group training and standards coordination.



Of about 230 ROSS trained, only about 60 are active as ROSS



ROSS in 30 States

CT-4, MA-3, VT-2, NJ-12, NY-45, DC-20, MD-7, PA-6, VA-4, FL-5, GA-14, KY-1, SC-4, TN-3, IL-3, OH-4, MI-5, WI-3, LA-4, TX-34, IA-4, MO-2, SD-2, AZ-13, CA-6, NV-4, ID-1, OR-1, NE-1, IN-11

The ROSS is moving; join us!

- Recruit ROSS students who are likely to stay active and deploy as higher typed ROSS – more health physicists and radiation protection people.
- Shift ROSS cadre management to the 27 states that have assigned a State ROSS Coordinator.
 - Creating ROSS Task Forces in these states
 - Certify in accordance to national standards as maintained by FEMA
 - Exercise with help from DOE NNSA
 - Learn new tools as developed by DHS and the National Labs
- Endeavor to participate in state rad/nuc emergency preparedness planning, training and exercises as well as national level exercises.



Questions

- Want to get a ROSS class in your area?
- Want to develop a ROSS Task Force in your state?
- Have planning. Training or exercise needs for a ROS/
- Contact us at
 - FEMA-ROSS@FEMA.DHS.GOV
 - William.Irwin@vermont.gov



FRMAC PARTNER UPDATES

INNOVATE. COLLABORATE. DELIVER.

STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES

