

ESF 8 – From Theory to Reality

A local perspective



Presented by: Lisa Powell

To: 2016 Healthcare Preparedness Summit

Date: April 26-27, 2016

Embassy Suites, Loveland Colorado



Prevent • Promote • Protect

Community Picture

- El Paso County
 - 644,964
- Colorado Springs
 - 431,834
- Manitou Springs
 - 5,172



First, lets all get on the same page



Emergency Manager



What my friends think I do



What my mom thinks I do



What my boss thinks I do



What the world thinks I do



What I think I do



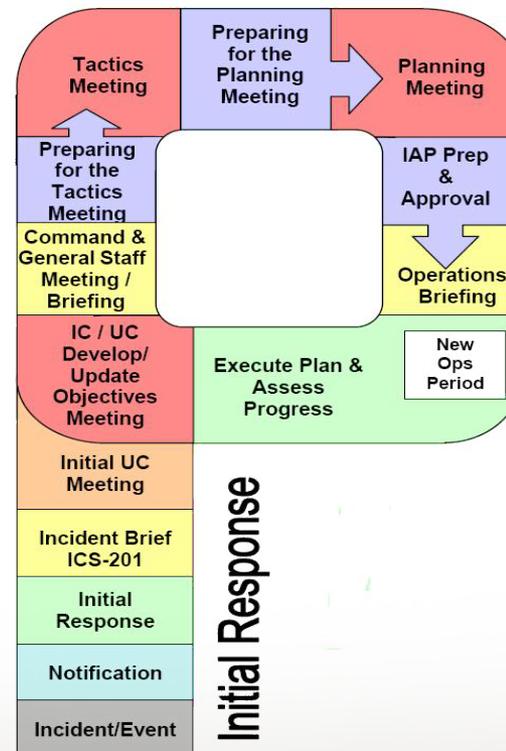
What I actually do

Emergency Support Function 8

- Public Health and Medical Services has a large role in the emergency operations center including responding to medical needs associated with mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse considerations of incident victims and response workers.
- In Colorado, many public health departments serve as the ESF 8 lead.

Incident Command System

- Incident Command vs. Incident support
- Incident command vs. regular administration of an organization



How this all looks in reality



"I faced my first reality check today. My mom kissed my boo boo but it didn't get better."

2012 Waldo Canyon Fire-mission

focus mass care

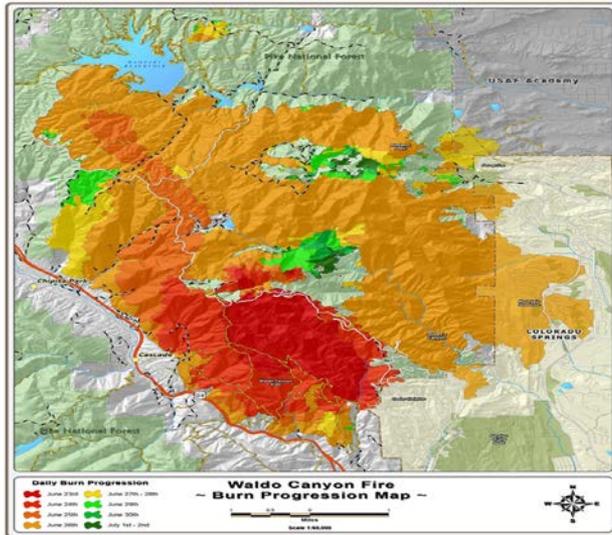
- evacuation
- Re-entry
- recovery



Waldo Canyon

Most expensive fire in Colorado History

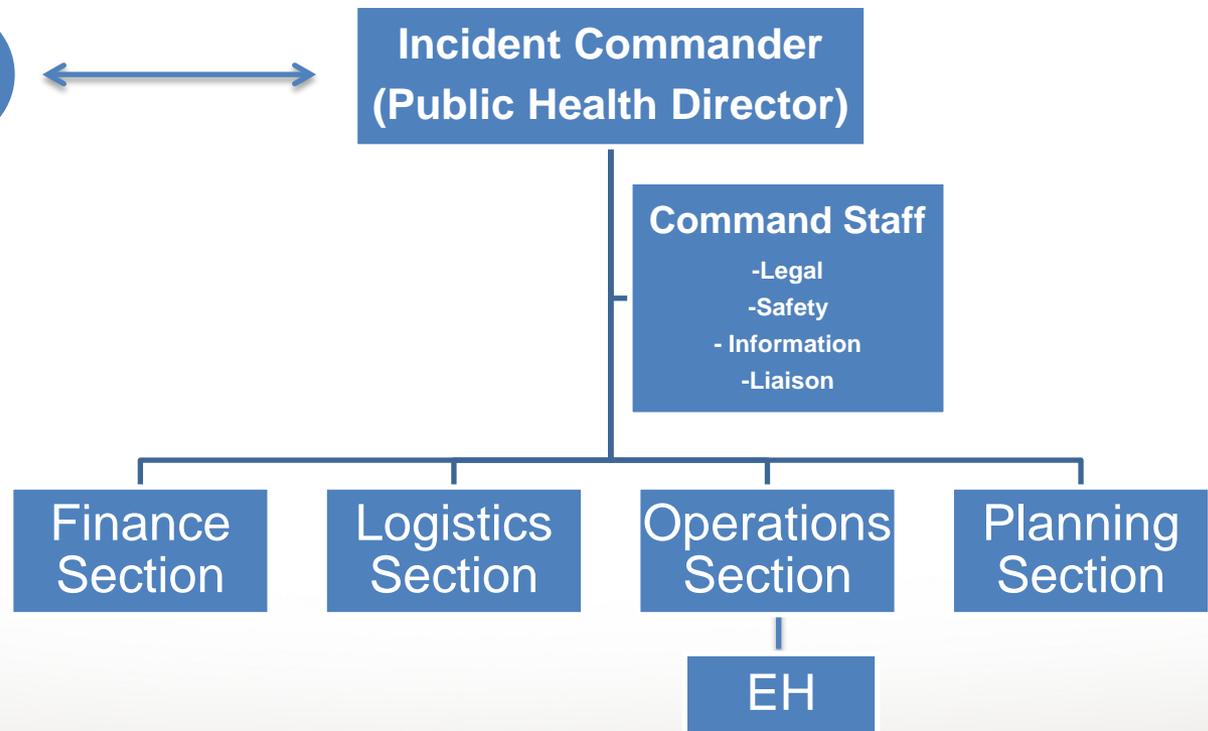
- 32,000+ evacuated
- 4 Red Cross Shelters
- 347 homes destroyed
- 18,247 acres burned
- 2 people died
- \$353 Million in insurance losses



Response Partners



El Paso County Public Health Incident Command Structure





1645

Mass Shelter Team





Re-Entry

2013 Black Forest Fire-mission focus community recovery

- Environmental health



Black Forest

Most destructive fire in Colorado History

- 41,000+ evacuated
- 2 Red Cross Shelters
- 485 homes destroyed
- 14,198 acres burned
- 2 people died
- \$298 Million in insurance losses
- Large animal mortalities
- Homeowner utilities above ground 185 damaged/open wells
- Potential long term contamination of aquifer



BLACK FOREST
WATER
DISTRIBUTION

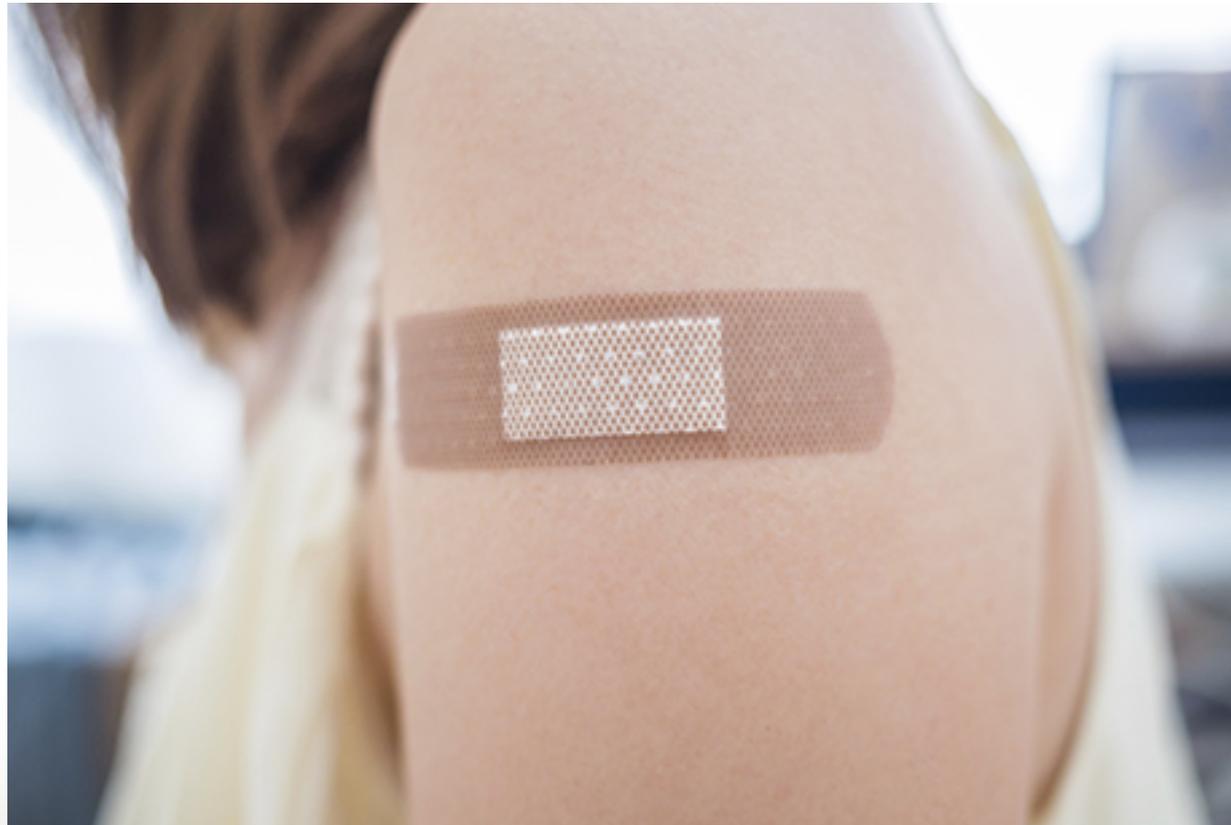


Unified Command



2013 Flooding- mission focus community recovery

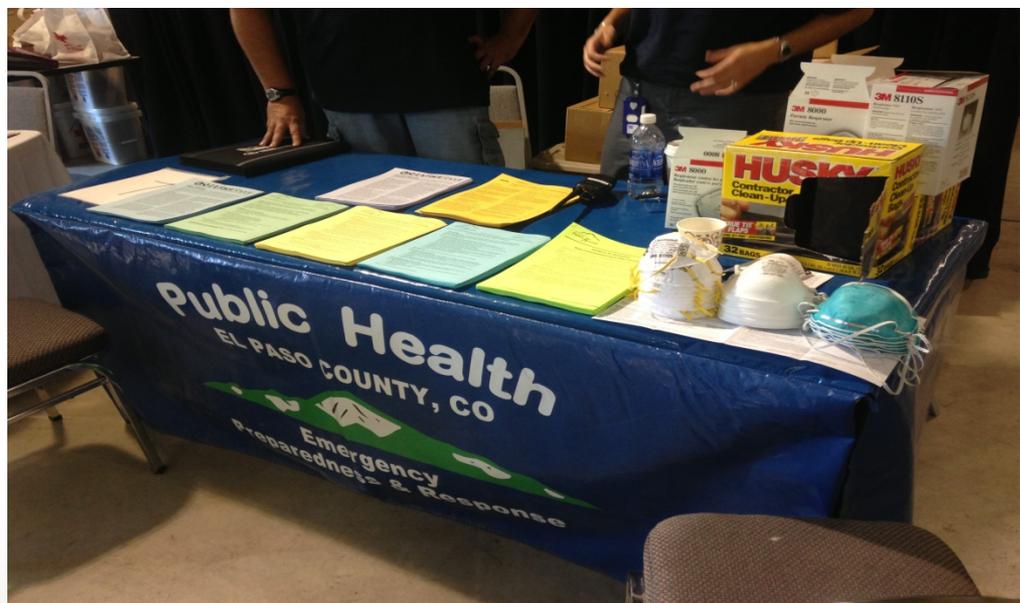
- Responder and volunteer safety



2013 Flooding

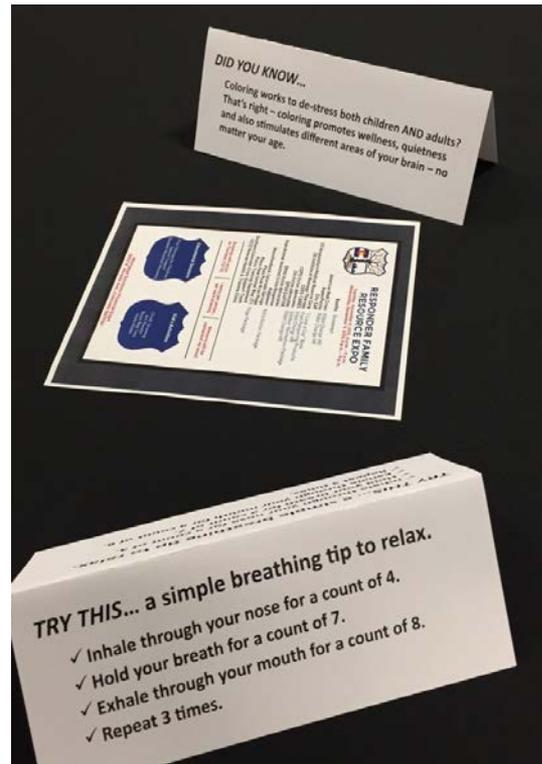


- 15 to 20 inches of rain in 5 days
- 8 dead, 6 missing
- 11,000 evacuated
- 19,000 homes damaged
- 30 state highway bridges destroyed
- Estimated over \$1 billion cost so far
- Large Animal Mortality
- Potentially contaminated aquifers
- 5,250 US gallons of crude oil released into the South Platte River
- State of emergency declared for 15 counties, including El Paso



2015 Centennial Blvd Shooting-mission focus community recovery

- Behavioral health



Mission focus for Every Incident

- Emergency Public Information and Warning



Public Health Messaging

WALDO CANYON FIRE: Beware of health risks from smoke, heat

June 25, 2012 12:10 AM

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ELLIE COLE

THE GAZETTE

BEATING THE HEAT:

High temperatures and smoke from the Waldo Canyon fire are combining to cause health risks in the Colorado Springs area.

Jill Law, interim public health director of El Paso County Public Health, on Monday advised anyone with sensitive health conditions to stay indoors. That includes people with chronic lung disease, COPD, cardiac disease or asthma, along with the elderly and young children who may never have been exposed to smoky conditions such as this. The conditions outside are not



[enlarge](#)

Courtesy Ronald Ste
Plume of smoke from Waldo Ca

42

0

tweets

[Recommend](#)

[tweet](#)

Recommendations



**First winter storm wa
for Pikes Peak**

2 people recommended

NEWS

Health advisory issued due to smoke

Posted: Jun 24, 2012 7:18 PM by Elaine Sheridan

Updated: Jun 25, 2012 6:36 PM

There are multiple updates to this story. Please [click here](#) to get the latest information.



AIR QUALITY
EL PASO COUNTY

- Older Adults
- Children
- Avoid the Outdoors
- Heavy Exertion

Guidance and Public Health Messaging

www.elpasocountyhealth.org/services/waldo-canyon-fire-information

El Paso County, CO
Public Health
Prevent • Promote • Protect

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Report A Public Health Concern

Services ▾ About ▾ Birth & Death Records Board of Health ▾ News ▾ Permits, Licenses & Inspections ▾ Regulations

SERVICES

- Community Health Data & Statistics
- Children's Health
- Health Services
- Public Health Safety
- Public Health Education
- Permits, Licenses & Inspections

Waldo Canyon Fire Information

Wildfires

Air Quality Monitoring Information (Outdoor)

Indoor Air Quality Guidance After A Wildfire

Waldo Canyon Fire **Cleanup Recommendations**

Public Health **FAQs**: Waldo Canyon Fire

Coping with a Disaster: Resources for Individuals and Families

Click here for **FLOOD** information for El Paso County and Colorado Springs.

Re-entry Guidance: For Residents Affected by the Waldo Canyon Fire

- Fire Suppressant Safety Information
- Handling Smoke Damage After a Fire: Getting Soot and Smoke Out
- Health Recommendations for Wildfire Smoke
- Protecting Yourself from Heat Stress

Significant Lessons to propel us forward:

- Two EOCs and an IMT are difficult to manage. Assign a liaison to be a go between.
- Get to the table from the beginning-bring a solution to a problem
- Exercising together is a must, don't be afraid to insert your capabilities that need testing-show how they will enhance the exercise effort

Significant Lessons to propel us forward:

- Plan community events together, we helped with the Zombie Run and Preparedness Day at Sky Sox
- Be available when called-Sunday morning 2am, Tuesday 4pm, Black Friday
- Public Health is huge in Recovery
- There will always be something you didn't expect

Contact Information

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El Paso County Public Health

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“Everything is Awesome”