



Date: 7 Feb, 2013 Revised; 08 Aug, 2015

Subject: Real world events for exercise credit

In order for a real world incident to be considered for exercise credit for the State of Montana the following criteria must be met:

- **The timeline of the incident must cover one 7-9 hour operational period**
- **An ICS structure must be in place and be followed**
- **The county/jurisdiction must follow their EOP (to the best extent)**
- **Must involve multiple levels of coordination and collaboration (this would be 3-4 other agencies that are external to the county/jurisdiction)**
- **There must be an After Action Report (AAR) and Improvement Plan completed and submitted to the State Exercise Coordinator through their District Field Officer.**

An example might be; an overturned tanker full of diesel on a State highway in Redfork County along State Highway 99 near the little Hornplow River. Something like this would cover the 7-9 hour period (or more), it may involve the County, State Highway Patrol, State DES, State DEQ and DNRC office.

Real-World Incidents

Conducting a post incident After Action Review of a real-world incident can be extremely beneficial. Senior Officials and facilitators can identify preliminary capabilities to be reviewed and evaluated by participating responders and staff. Employment of a scribe may be helpful to capture comments, lessons learned and areas for improvement. As defined by DHS/FEMA, an incident is an occurrence, natural or human-caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can include terrorist attacks, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, aircraft accidents, tropical storms, public health and medical emergencies. An event is a planned, non-emergency activity such as parades, concerts or sporting events. In addition to meeting the full-scale exercise reporting requirements, the After Action Report for Real-World Incidents (RWI) must document that a minimum of three of the following conditions were met during the incident response:

- The jurisdiction's chief elected official or a plan designated representative identified in the jurisdiction's emergency management plan participated.
- At a minimum, four emergency management core capabilities must be tested and evaluated (one must include the jurisdiction's Operational Coordination)
- A declaration of local disaster was issued
- The emergency response involved resources from outside the jurisdiction.

RWI may be used to meet EMPG exercise requirements only once per fiscal year and does not substitute for the triennial full-scale exercise requirement. Reference [EMPG Information Bulletin 2012-0002](#)