



Montana National Guard Public Affairs Office
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83rd Civil Support Team hosts regional joint training exercise

BOZEMAN, Mont. – The Montana National Guard’s 83rd Civil Support Team (CST) is hosting a joint training exercise, Operation Yellowstone, April 22-26, at various locations in Bozeman and Gallatin County. The public should be aware that training aids and safety equipment will be used to simulate hazards and there will be increased military and first responder presence in the area. There is no threat to the public.

Participants include teams from the Alaska, Idaho, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming CSTs. Also participating are the Radiological Assistance Program Teams 6 and 8, the FBI, Dugway Proving Ground staff, and staff from the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, Montana National Guard Joint Operations Center, 95th Troop Command, and State Partnership Program.

The purpose of the training is to conduct all-hazards Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) response, creating conditions to reinforce interoperability among the National Guard Bureau’s Region 6 CSTs. The teams will continue to practice skills to maintain operational readiness for response to an incident of national and/or regional significance, according to Lt. Col. Jason Steichen, commander of the 83rd CST.

Specific training areas being used in Belgrade are the Montana Army National Guard Armory at 350 Airport Road and airport property at 1461 Tubb Road. Locations in Bozeman are the US Post Office at 32 East Babcock Street, US Forest Service at 9900 Fish Hatchery Road and the City of Bozeman Water Treatment Plant at 7024 Sourdough Canyon Road.

“At the end of this training event, we hope to instill confidence in our ability to respond when requested by our community partners,” Steichen said. “This is great training, where we are able to share resources and knowledge, and continue to improve and coordinate responses among the state and region.”

This training is an annual event hosted by a different member state of the region. These events help to build and maintain skill proficiency and organizational relationships, to maintain relevance to a dynamically changing environment. These events enable partners to be ready to respond anytime.

The mission of the 83rd CST is to support civil authorities at a domestic incident site by identifying CBRNE agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for additional state support.

Join our team! For information on the opportunities in the Montana National Guard, please contact Army recruiting at 406-324-3255, or Air recruiting at 406-791-0665.

##MTNG##

Media representatives: There will be a media availability at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 23 at 350 Airport Road in Belgrade, to observe training and get interviews with participants. For more information and to RSVP, please contact one of the below staff by noon, Friday, April 19.

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