

IDAHO WING

Wing Quickly Responds to Coronavirus

The Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron was contacted in March by the Kootenai County Emergency Operations Center to provide staffing assistance for the local COVID-19 response. The wing became the fourth in Civil Air Patrol to be activated for pandemic response support.

Nineteen Idaho Wing volunteers worked 17 shifts totaling 517 hours. The staffing support included serving as liaison to the state Office of Emergency Management and State Emergency Management Office. Responsibilities included providing 64 daily situation reports to CAP's National Operations

Center at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and key staff members within the organization.

The wing had 20 vehicles and eight aircraft on constant standby for COVID-19 missions, ready for deployment at a moment's notice. Additional areas supported were logistics, mission safety, public affairs and planning.

The Idaho Wing continues to encourage and train its members to be available to assist in the event of an emergency. The wing meets its challenges with highly trained members who perform on a

professional level, donating their time, skills and talents in carrying out CAP's core missions of aerospace education, emergency services and cadet programs.

In addition to more than 150 orientation flights in CAP planes, Idaho Wing cadets received Army National Guard military orientation rides in UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and A-10 Flight Simulator orientation time from the Air National Guard. Cadets from across the wing have continued to participate in the the Air Force Association's national CyberPatriot high school cyber defense competition.

Lt. Col. Sarah Lynch (left) and Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Hunter Greene provide staff support at the Kootenai County Emergency Operations Center.



Photo courtesy of the Kootenai County EOC



Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron cadets Carolyn Jackson, Erika Gallus, Hannah Hoatson and Hunter Greene pose for a group photo earlier in the year, prior to the pandemic.

Idaho Wing 2020 Statistics

Volunteer Members

251 adult members
273 cadets
91 aircrew personnel
317 emergency responders

Squadrons

10 locations statewide

Aircraft

8 single engine

Vehicles

21 vehicles

Interoperable Communications

9 VHF/FM repeaters
159 VHF/FM stations
36 HF stations

Missions

5 search and rescue missions
6 lives saved*
13 finds*
* Includes lives saved and finds credited with national team support
2 disaster relief missions
1 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flight mission
4 other Air Force support missions
7 training missions

COVID-19 Mission Support

Augmenting EOCs; distributing test kits and PPE; transporting completed test kits

Cadet Flying

279 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown

851

Financial

\$1,459,381 value of wing's volunteer hours

National Commander

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Region Commander

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Wing Commander

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Wing Info

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Website

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DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Cadet 1st Lt. Erika Gallus of the Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron was accepted into the U.S. Air Force Academy. "Civil Air Patrol helped me achieve that goal," she said. "I used to be shy, but CAP helped me develop critical leadership and communication skills."
- ✓ Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Carolyn Jackson, another Coeur d'Alene member, was accepted into the Merchant Marine Academy. "CAP is a youth-oriented program that helped me develop the skills I need to interact with people and move outside of my comfort zone," she said.
- ✓ Fourteen Idaho Wing cadets have been recognized with CAP's top cadet honor, the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award. Less than one-half of 1% of all cadets achieve the Spaatz award.

