

INL safety drills instill security

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*This is part two of a
two-part story*

IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY — The supposed accident was set on the road leading to EBR-1, rather than on Hwy. 26, to protect the participants and the observers.

The drill was conducted to practice and maintain mutual aid emergency

response capabilities of Butte County and the INL. Involved in the drill were the INL fire department, security and emergency management department, Butte County sheriff and emergency medical services from Lost River Hospital, the Arco fire department and the Idaho State Police.

The drill was conducted in an effort to practice and maintain mutual aid

See INL, 2A



Submitted photo

One of the 'victims' at the INL-Butte County drill is transported from the pick-up to a waiting ambulance on Tuesday.

emergency response capabilities and is centered around INL emergency supported by Butte County sheriff and emergency medical services (EMS), and Arco fire department.

Mutual aid agreements exist to provide extra resources in the event of an emergency that may exceed capacity of available on-site response resources. INL has 24 mutual aid agreements between the U.S. Department of Energy and other city, county and federal agencies.

The INL site is 890 square miles. There are five counties that surround the site. These are Butte, Bingham, Bonneville, Jefferson and Clark.

"Helping each other out is essential," INL News Media contact Lori McNamara said.

"The mutual aid agreement is very important; it helps us utilize resources," the Arco assistant fire chief said.

INL Fire Chief Gossweiler said, "The INL drills frequently."

The next drill for INL is Thursday with the Idaho Falls Police in Idaho Falls.

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INL Fire Chief Gossweiler said, "The INL drills all the time."

The "victims" were moved, via ambulance, to the Lost River Rest Area where they were met by an air ambulance where emergency medical personnel from Lost River Hospital practiced moving a patient from an ambulance into an air ambulance helicopter. When the "patients" were delivered to the Lost River Hospital in Arco, the hospital crew was ready to practice an emergency drill on site.

The next mutual aid drill for INL is today, Thursday, April 13, with the Idaho Falls Police in Idaho Falls.