

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ⇒ [Connecting Iowa Newsletter](#)
- ⇒ [Current Training Opportunities](#)
- ⇒ The March 2025 FirstNet Newsletter is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ The April 2025 FirstNet Newsletter is available [HERE](#)
- ⇒ Click [HERE](#) to see the March 2025 CISA Report
- ⇒ Click [HERE](#) to see the April 2025 CISA Report

ISICS System Administrator Reports

February 2025

Radios = 42,873 (up 308 from January 2025)

Talkgroups = 3,593 (up 4 from January 2025)

Push-to-Talks = 2,817,404 (down 49,318 from January 2025)

March 2025

Radios = 43,277 (up 404 from February 2025)

Talkgroups = 3,605 (up 12 from February 2025)

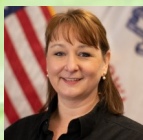
Push-to-Talks = 3,322,334 (up 504,930 from February 2025)

Note From the SWIC

Happy springtime in Iowa...with the blooms and buds we must also be weather aware as you all know. The systems and people in place in our state make interoperable information sharing effective and resilient for our responders and our residents; from the Alert Iowa system, the single statewide notification for emergency public safety messages, to the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System for statewide radio coverage border to border with redundant back up, we will weather the storms and enjoy the summer suns.

Interoperability means not working in a silo. In today's environment, incidents span jurisdictions and resources much more regularly and we must prepare to work cross-discipline for successful outcomes. The best way to do this is to communicate and plan beforehand. The ISICS system provides resources when the need arises for expanded incidents.

There has been no change since I received notice on Friday February 21st that there has been a pause on the grant funds allocated to the iMED project. This is the grant in which \$1.8 million was awarded to ISICSB to fund radio equipment and emerging technology to improve EMS to hospital communications. This project is well underway, and radio equipment is ready for install, and is depending on these funds to be dispersed. This is all the information I have currently.



Respectfully,

Haley Nichols, SWIC

Who's on FirstNet?

"Who's on FirstNet" is a peer-reported platform for public safety professionals. Discover which agencies are using the platform and access contact information to ask questions directly from those with firsthand experience. If your public safety agency is using FirstNet, please share how you are utilizing it at Who's on FirstNet. If you're considering using FirstNet or have questions, this is a great way to learn from others' experiences and pick up some tips and tricks. Visit Who's on FirstNet to sign up or review the information.

www.whosonfirstnet.com/

New Approved ISICS Users

- ◆ Broadlawn Medical Center—Level 2
- ◆ Civil Air Patrol-Iowa Wing—Level 2
- ◆ Mitchell County EMA (update)—Level 2
- ◆ Pella Cooperative Electric Assoc.—Level 2

Congratulations!



ISICSB would like to congratulate DPS Communications Engineer Alvaro Paredes as he officially became an American citizen on March 14, 2025. Alvaro also recently celebrated his five year anniversary as a DPS employee. Congratulations, Al, on both of these excellent achievements!



New COMU Credentials

During the March 13, 2025, ISICSB Meeting, SWIC Haley Nichols presented a COMU credentialing certificate to Brian Albright for his successful completion of and fulfilling all requirements necessary to be credentialed as an Incident Tactical Dispatcher (INTD). Congratulations Brian!



ISICSB Contacts

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New FirstNet Sites

- ⇒ One in **Council Bluffs, IA** near Kanesville Blvd. and N. Broadway
- ⇒ One near **Iowa City, IA** along IA-1 and Maier Ave.

To Join ISICS

For more info about joining ISICS click [HERE](#)

To start the process to JOIN ISICS click [HERE](#)

If you need assistance or have questions regarding the ISICS joining process, please contact SWIC Haley Nichols @ nichols@dps.state.ia.us

“Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway.”

~ John Wayne

View Happenings [HERE](#)



Loess Hills Cooperative Burn Week

Loess Hills Cooperative Burn Week was held March 31-April 4, 2025. Cooperative Burn Week is run as a Type 3 Incident with a full Incident Management Team (IMT) responsible for the planning, logistics and implementation. The IMT is made up of 24 personnel from multiple agencies and organizations across the state. A total of 125 participants attended throughout the week from 45 conservation agencies and organizations, including several volunteers and volunteer fire departments. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources was represented by 10 different wildlife units, state parks, forestry districts, and bureaus. Participants from 12 different states and 1 country (Canada) were also represented at this year's event. This year's event had a southern focal area of Fremont, Mills, and Pottawattamie counties. Throughout the week, 25 ISICS cache radios were used to communicate on the interoperability talkgroups. A video of the burn can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcsxBW0LRH0>

