



Oregon

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Senator Anthony Broadman, Co-Chair
Representative Paul Evans, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means,
Subcommittee on Public Safety
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR, 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Broadman and Evans and Members of the Subcommittee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present on the SPIRE program and the Statewide Disaster Preparedness Stockpile. We appreciate your time and your continued commitment to improving Oregon's emergency response capabilities.

A special thank you to Representative Evans for your question about the Swift Water Rescue Robot. The device is known as the **EMILY Rescue Robot** (Emergency Integrated Lifesaving Lanyard)—a remote-controlled, self-righting water rescue tool used in swift water, flood, and open-water scenarios. It reaches speeds of up to 25 mph, supports up to 150 lbs. of buoyancy, and can perform 40–70 rescues per charge at 100 yards. EMILY also includes waterproof VHF marine radios, sonar for search and rescue, and durable marine-grade construction.

This cutting-edge tool integrates seamlessly with existing SPIRE-supported water rescue equipment, enabling greater interoperability and more robust, coordinated response capabilities in water-based emergencies. As part of the SPIRE program, EMILY units are being issued to the Central Douglas Fire and Rescue and the City of Grants Pass Fire and Rescue, further enhancing swift water rescue capacity in these regions.

This tool exemplifies the types of innovative and practical resources supported by the SPIRE program to enhance local response capacity during disasters.

Thank you again for your continued support of OEM's mission and programs. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any further questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Erin McMahon, Director
Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM)