

Operation Pathfinder* 2026

DATES: Friday and Saturday, May 15 & 16

LOCATION: Newport, Oregon

This scenario based, full-scale exercise is an opportunity to practice rapid medical response operations alongside civilian, state, and federal public health and medical responders. This year's participants will include volunteers from the SERV-OR's State Managed Volunteer Pool (SMVP), City of Newport, Lincoln County MRC, Lincoln County Medical Examiner, Lincoln County Public Health, Lincoln County Emergency Management, Samaritan Health, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Disaster Medical Team (ODMT), Oregon Air National Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard. The exercise will be a combination of didactic learning with full-scale, hands-on medical and incident response drills.

Pathfinder gives volunteers the opportunity to train in realistic conditions, strengthen interagency coordination, and build the skills needed to support communities during the crucial first 36 to 72 hours. Participation directly supports Oregon's disaster readiness.

We will be highlighting this event in a future edition of the *SERV-OR Bulletin*.

Would you like to get involved? This year there were only 20 slots available to SMVP members. Because this is a popular event, those spaces filled quickly. There may be availability on the waitlist. If you have questions or an interest, please email SERV.OR@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

* The Pathfinder exercise has been an annual event since 2014. In 2020, the exercise took a hiatus in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, resuming in June 2024.

