

Pacific Northwest Highway Interdiction Program

Northwest HIDTA allocated Highway Interdiction funds for FY2004 have to date been applied as described below. As of September 1, 2005, \$65,581 has been expended, and \$95,000 in contracts has been written with key counties in Washington State.

Washington State Patrol (WSP) canine (K-9) and WSP Serious Highway Crime Action Team (SHCAT) members have participated in several emphases utilizing HIDTA funds in 2005. The emphases include Wenatchee Apple Blossom, Omak Stampede (working with U.S. Customs & Border Protection on in/out bound border searches), and the Blue Line emphasis in Clallam County. An additional similar emphasis is being coordinated in the Yakima/Tri-Cities area.

Additionally, K-9 and SHCAT troopers and sergeants are scheduled to attend Desert Snow Criminal Interdiction training, the Anti-Smuggling Intelligence Association Conference, the CO-BIJA Operational Planning Conference, and the COBIJA Regionalization Implementation Development Meeting.

WSP Narcotic K-9 teams have conducted 1,016 searches with 1,066 narcotic finds, resulting in 487 Misdemeanor and 127 Felony arrests, the seizure of over \$640,000 in U.S. currency, 13 pounds of cocaine, 1 pound of heroin, 1,400 pounds of marijuana, and 62 pounds of methamphetamine. Of the 1,016 searches, 358 have been at the request of Federal and local agencies and drug task forces.

Recently, Washington State Patrol and SHCAT K-9 Trooper Paul Woodside was the subject of a radio story about the challenges of methamphetamine on our society.

Article URL: http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/kplu/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=815135

Additional interdiction operations are in the planning stages.

The Northwest HIDTA Investigative Support Center (ISC) receives reports from all interdictions meeting the following guidelines:

1. 8 oz or more of heroin
2. 10 lb of more of marijuana
3. 1 lb or more of cocaine
4. 1 oz or more of crack
5. 1 lb or more of methamphetamine
6. 100 dosage units or 1 oz or more of LSD, GHB, PCP, ecstasy, etc.
7. \$1,000 or more of drug related U.S. currency
8. Any other situation when the investigating officer feels the subject is related to a significant drug trafficking organization

Since the inception of the Pacific Northwest Highway Interdiction Program, the Northwest HIDTA ISC has received and processed 36 highway seizure reports. Of these reports, 24 were re-

ceived from agencies within Washington State, which contained information about seizures that occurred in state. Twelve of the reports were received from agencies outside of Washington State and contained information about seizures that occurred in other parts of the country but were determined to have some links to Washington State.

From the 36 seizures processed, 59 subjects were entered into the Western States Information Network database and then submitted to El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) for inclusion in the EPIC database. Of these 59 subjects, 34 (58%) had a prior criminal history and 31 (53%) had prior arrests for drug activity. Of the 59 subjects entered, 5 were determined to be targets in active investigations. In these cases, the seizure information was disseminated to the appropriate case agent. Over 1,164 database inquiries were conducted while researching these 59 subjects.

Twelve of the seizure reports were disseminated to agencies within Washington for information or follow-up. Five of the reports were disseminated to agencies outside of Washington.

The Northwest HIDTA sponsored a 40-hour training class "Highway Drug Investigations For Patrol" from May 2 – 6, 2005, at the Des Moines, WA Police Dept. training room. This course is designed to greatly enhance the ability of law enforcement officers involved in traffic stops to detect, identify, and apprehend traveling criminals. The concept and strategy in this program of instruction makes use of innovative enforcement techniques applied through the deliberate use of traffic law enforcement as a means of apprehending people who are involved in criminal activities. This course was attended by 36 officers from 19 different State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies from the states of Washington and Oregon.

Additionally, Drug Enforcement Administration Seattle Field Division and Spokane Resident Office hosted the EPIC Operation Pipeline Training in Spokane, WA from August 17 - 19, 2004. This basic course of instruction covered the fundamental principles of criminal highway interdiction for uniformed patrol officers. Training topics included search and seizure law, asset forfeiture, fairness in law enforcement, and passenger and commercial motor vehicle interdiction.

Prevention/Treatment Initiative

A primary role for the Northwest HIDTA is to facilitate and enhance collaboration. One tool used to facilitate collaboration between citizens and law enforcement is the Northwest HIDTA Meth Hotline, 1.888.609.METH (6384). This 24-hour service is provided by the Northwest HIDTA Watch Center, and accepts

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2005 OCDETF Pacific Region Awards Banquet



Operation Frequent Flyer Western District of Washington

District Award recipients include: DEA, IRS, U.S. Attorneys Office, King County SO Seattle PD, and New York PD



Operation No Mas Eastern District of Washington

District Award recipients include: DEA, IRS, and U.S. Attorneys Office



Operation Birdnest Eastern District of Washington

District Award recipients include: DEA, ICE, IRS, U.S. Attorneys Office, Washington State Patrol, Spokane County SO, and Spokane PD



Operation Bomb-Bomb Western District of Washington

Regional Award recipients include: DEA, U.S. Attorneys Office, and the Snohomish Regional Drug Task Force