

# Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

## Fire Chief's Report

August 2022



### Vision

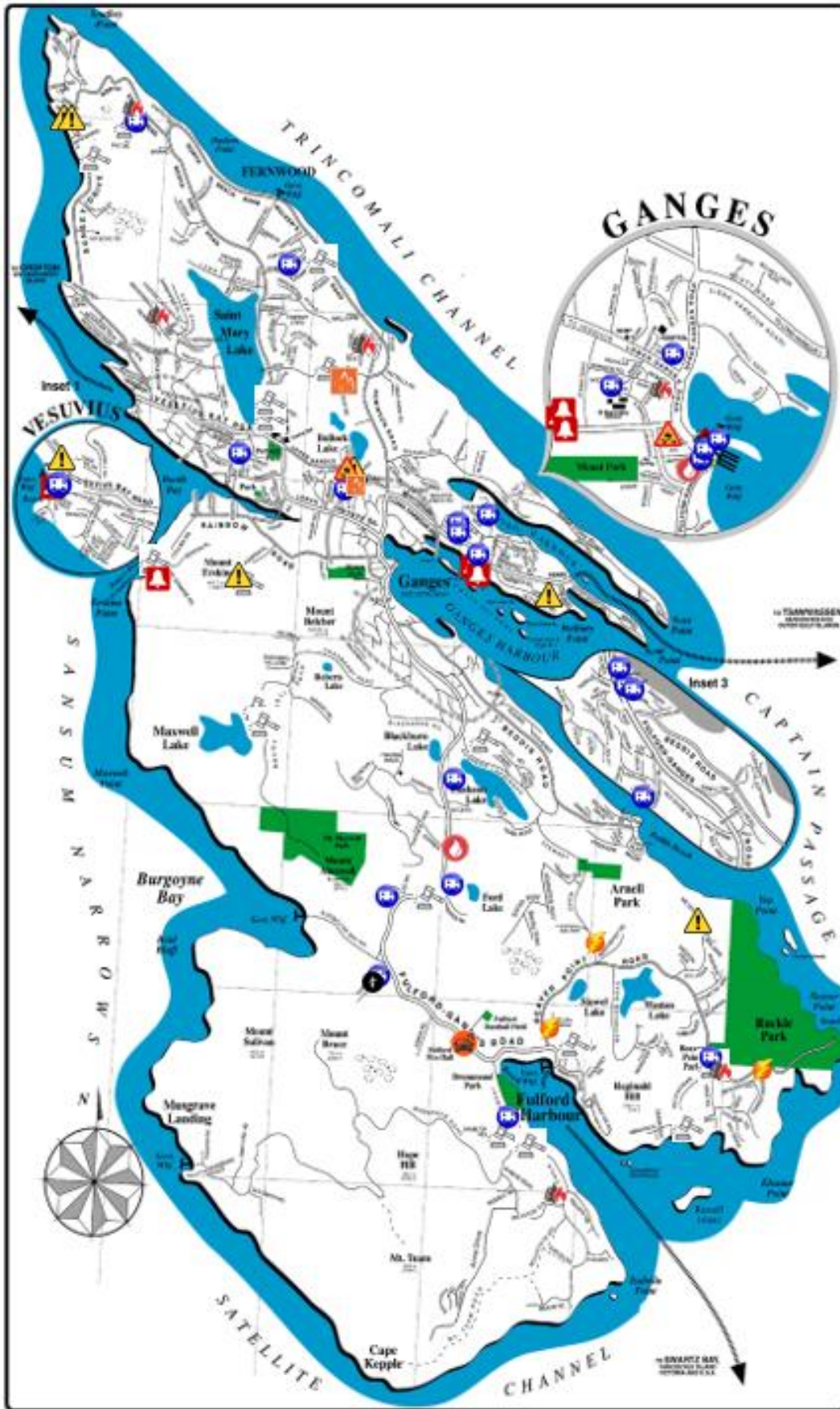
A responsive and sustainable fire-rescue service, effectively meeting community needs and valued by those we serve.

### Mission

Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

### Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND		2022								
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	
Act/Bylaw	<b>Complaint</b>	2	6	4	5	8	2	19	18	64
Aircraft	<b>Emergency</b>									0
Alarm	<b>Alarm</b>	1	2	3	3	3	5	5	7	29
Assistance	<b>Assistance</b>	4	3	2	4	5	2	4	7	31
Explosion	<b>Explosion</b>									0
Fire	<b>Brush</b>					1		1		2
	<b>Chimney</b>		1							1
	<b>Misc</b>							5	2	7
	<b>Structure</b>	1							1	2
	<b>Boat</b>		1		1			1		3
	<b>Vehicle</b>		1			1		3	1	6
HazMat	<b>HazMat</b>	2			1	2	1	4	2	12
Hydro	<b>Hydro</b>	5	1	1	4	26	4	1	3	45
Medical	<b>Medical</b>	15	10	21	31	29	24	25	24	179
MVI	<b>MVI</b>	2	1		2	5		4	2	16
Rescue	<b>Rescue</b>				1	2	1		1	5
Smoke/Smell/Sighting	<b>Brush</b>							5	6	11
	<b>Structure</b>	1	3	1	1	3	3	1	1	14
Total Calls for the month:		33	29	32	53	85	42	78	75	427



# Operations

This month's call of note was an abandoned campfire that started moving into the brush in the Maxwell Watershed area. While it turned out not to be a major fire, it could have been much worse had a passing cyclist not called 911. Area resident Greg Bellavance was also a huge help bringing his machine over to help ensure not hotspots were left in the ground. With evening temperature starting to drop the likelihood of more of these fires occurring is a greater risk.



There were 75 calls for assistance (18 bylaw, 7 alarm, 7 assistance calls, 1 vehicle fire, 1 structure fire, 2 misc. fires, 2 hazmat calls, 2 hydro, 24 medical calls, 2 MVI, 2 rescue, 6 smoke sightings).

A vehicle fire on August 30 had the potential to start a difficult brush fire, but quick response and professional teamwork made the difference.

Another structure fire on August 1 was caused by a cooking appliance failure. Correct actions by occupants and rapid response from the duty crew resulted in the fire being confined to the appliance.

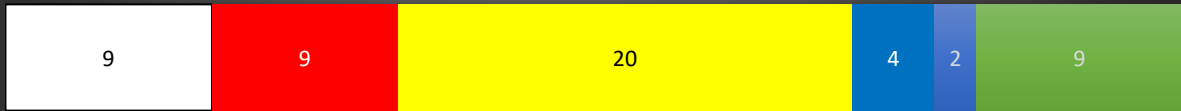
A "misc." fire on August 13 resulted from unattended cooking; crews confined this fire to the appliance.

A five-and-a-half-hour mountain rescue on Aug. 3 was performed in combination with BCAS and SSIGSAR to bring a hiker with a leg injury down Mt. Bruce on a basket stretcher.



Another rescue on August 27, saw SSIGSAR, BCAS and SSIFR bring another hiker down from Mt. Erskine on a basket stretcher with a leg injury

# Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Roster



■ Career ■ POC Officers ■ POC Firefighters ■ POC FIT ■ Recruit FIT ■ Recruit FF

## Fire and Life Safety

### Fire Prevention Activity in August

- We conducted 116 residential FireSmart Assessments (including 40 units at Roscommon and 32 units at Kingfisher and 23 units at Cottonwood Close stratas) - see attached photo from Kingfisher.
- We made FireSmart recommendations during a virtual meeting with local government (CRD and Islands Trust) and members of the Transition SSI climate-action group (9 attendees).
- We hosted a summer safety education session for a CRD day camp (15 attendees).
- We also taught a first-aid class for Harbour Air staff and helped one family install a car seat.



## Training



Over the summer months we combine the platoons together for many of the weekly drills. Crews works on lifting rescue bags, pre-incident planning, rapid intervention, strategies and tactics and tender shuttle.

The recruits are continuing to progress well and are working on hose loading and handling.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JL HBL".

**Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief**

