

# Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

## Fire Chief's Report

Jan. 2024



### Vision

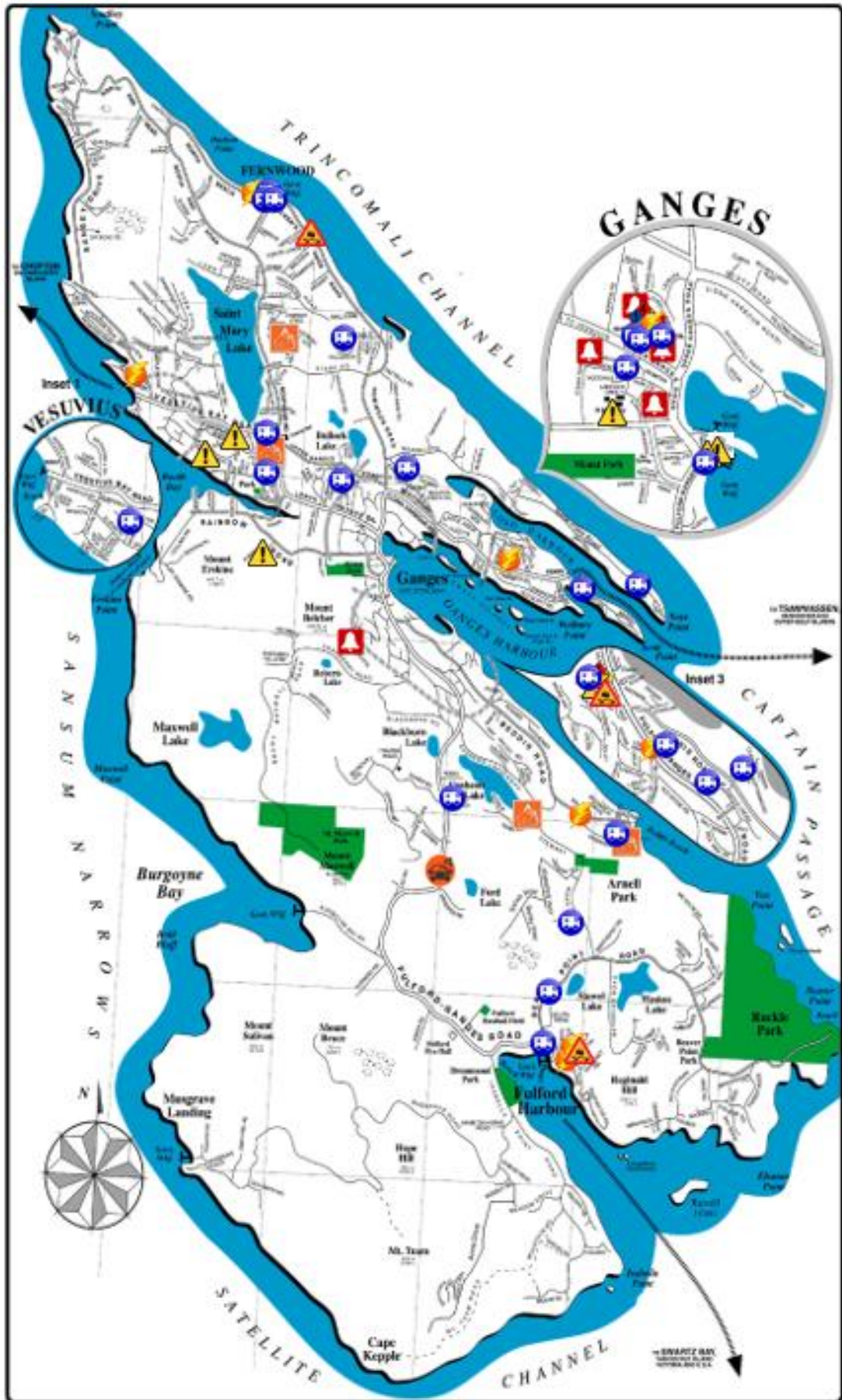
A responsive and sustainable fire-rescue service, effectively meeting community needs and valued by those we serve.

### Mission

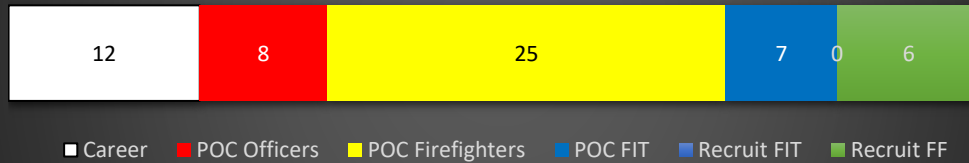
Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

### Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND		2024										TOTAL CALLS: 60
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		
Act/Bylaw	<b>Complaint</b>	1									1	
Aircraft	<b>Emergency</b>										0	
Alarm	<b>Alarm</b>	7									7	
Assistance	<b>Assistance</b>	7									7	
Explosion	<b>Explosion</b>										0	
Fire	<b>Brush</b>										0	
	<b>Chimney</b>	2									2	
	<b>Misc</b>										0	
	<b>Structure</b>	2									2	
	<b>Boat</b>										0	
	<b>Vehicle</b>	1									1	
HazMat	<b>HazMat</b>	2									2	
Hydro	<b>Hydro</b>	8									8	
Medical	<b>Medical</b>	26									26	
MVI	<b>MVI</b>	3									3	
Rescue	<b>Rescue</b>										0	
Smoke/Smell/Sighting	<b>Brush</b>	1									1	
	<b>Structure</b>										0	
	<b>Total Calls for the month:</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60</b>	
	2014	35	51	50	27	39	45	31	56	31	539	
	2015	32	36	44	31	44	45	41	44	49	545	
	2016	46	35	34	46	72	52	65	52	48	647	
	2017	63	66	46	39	74	58	44	45	63	701	
	2018	47	38	45	41	62	79	49	34	183	816	
	2019	59	58	49	64	61	66	32	54	44	655	
	2020	62	52	57	53	30	81	73	39	89	674	
	2021	43	52	60	46	43	65	64	63	46	759	
	2022	33	29	32	53	85	66	62	61	50	668	
	2023	55	40	54	46	75	81	37	45	48	735	
	2024	60										
	<b>2024</b>											
	<b>FIRE</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	
	<b>RESCUE</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	
	<b>MEDICAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	
	<b>ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	
		<b>60</b>										



# Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Roster



## Operations

A couples of fires to note in January.

On January 12, around 8 pm, crews were dispatched for a structure fire on Cusheon Place. Twenty-one members were utilized to shuttle over 20,000 gallons of water and extinguish the fire. Extremely cold weather and strong winds were added challenges for crews who were on scene for six hours working to control and overhaul the building. No injuries were reported, and the insurance company is still investigating, but the incident has not been deemed suspicious.

The cold weather also played a factor in a RV Fire on January 11. Extra load on electrical circuits likely caused the fire which left the vehicle uninhabitable and need 2500 gallons of water to extinguish. Sixteen members were on scene for two hours dealing with the fire.

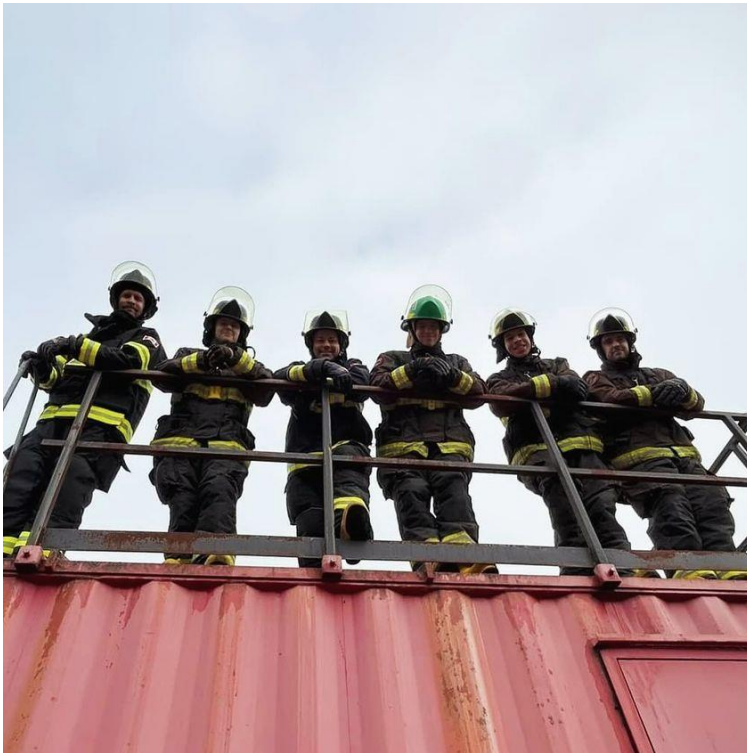
At 0146 on January 22, we were called to a structure fire at 145 Vesuvius Bay Rd. Portlock Park. Upon arrival crews found a maintenance shed and adjacent storage lockers fully involved in fire. Fifteen crew members used 3000 gallons of water over a three-hour period to extinguish the blaze. The investigation led to an accidental undetermined cause.



# Prevention

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue partnered with Transition Salt Spring Society to produce a number of short videos in the “Burn it Smart” series. These videos encourage wood smoke reduction and make key recommendations when using wood fueled stoves. You can check out the series at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRc6q-90hHqVctOPA8JBxAjb3eY-knzc>

January also completed the 2023 FireSmart funding. We will look to partner with the CRD and UBCM for 2024 to be able to offer similar programs as in the past years.



# Training

Members dedicated **718.25 hours** collectively for the month of January.

We started our 2024 recruit class this month. We have 6 new members embarking on their fire careers.

- Gray Wardle
- Lewis Muirhead
- Hayden Churchill
- Noah Logan
- Jamie Charlebois
- Daniel Pachkowsky

Noah and Jamie both participate in the Gulf Island Fire Cadet Camp in 2023.

The 2023 recruits have all been integrated into the regular POC platoons. Most are only needing their Haz-Mat Operations to be certified to NFPA 1001 Firefighter 1 & 2. Haz-Mat Ops is planned for May of this year.

Several members are also working on courses online.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL HBL".

**Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief**

