

Operations

The biggest call of note in October was the fire fatality on October 30th, 2021. At 04:37 hrs. SSIFR received a duty page for an unknown fire in the 600 block of Beaver Point Rd. At 04:43 hrs. that call was upgraded to a residential structure fire at 671 Beaver Point Rd.

Upon arrival, at 05:02 hrs., a small 400 ft² cabin was fully involved with fire, and the building collapsed as crews were setting up to apply water. With no driveway access to the cabin, crews had to access the building up a narrow trail. SSIFR had water on the fire at 05:08, contained the fire to the building of origin, and knocked down the visible flames by 05:15. The fire was completely extinguished by 05:44 hrs. using 5,500 gallons of water through a tender shuttle. The crews cleared scene at 09:30 hrs.

Throughout the call the whereabouts of the tenant was unknown, leading the crews to take extra care during operations to confirm whether the building had any occupants. A body was discovered during overhaul and RCMP on scene were notified immediately. The fire is still under investigation but appears to be accidental in nature at this time.

I would like to commend our crews on their professional approach to a very tragic situation and express our condolences to the family and friends of the deceased. A CISM defusing was held for our members later that night with both peer and professional support.

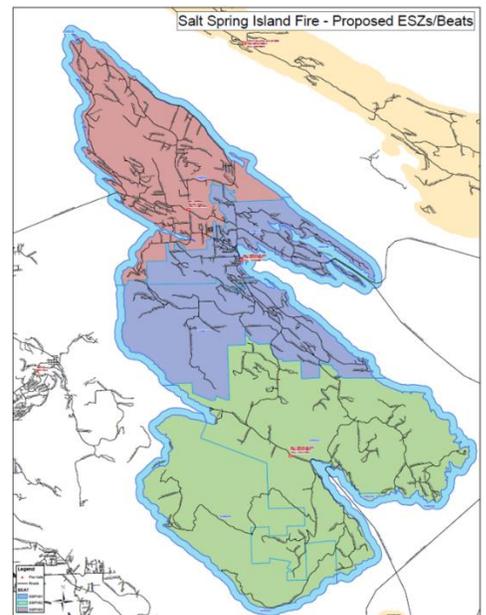
Here's a brief update on a few other items:

Dispatch: In consultation with E-Comm we have re-worked our emergency responses for SSIFR. As the map to the left shows, SSI will be broken up in to three zones, one for each hall, and some sub zones within them. With that, there will be three new levels of page outs. (1) Duty Crew, (2) Duty Crew and Local Hall, (3) All Halls Page. This will help alleviate pager fatigue and let POC members know when they are really needed.

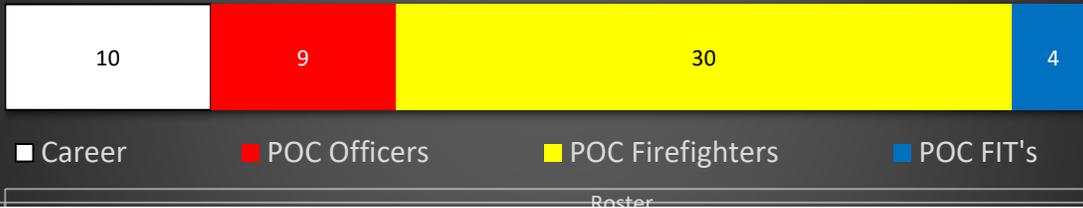
Apparatus Shuffle: Batt 1 (509) has been brought back to hall 1 and will serve as Medic 1 for a trial basis to lighten the load of Engine 1 (202). The pick-up truck has been moved to hall 3 in its place.

Support Vehicles: Two support vehicles were scheduled for replacement this year, but I have decided to hold off for now due to dealer shortages and higher than normal pricing.

Engine 205: So far, we are still on schedule for a December delivery, but the chassis has still not arrived at Fort Garry yet. The pump house and body are currently being painted and I will pass along pictures as soon as I receive them.



Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue Roster



Membership

Eleven applications were received during our recent recruitment drive and interviews will be held this month. There are many strong candidates and I'm certain we will end up with a good size recruit class in 2022.

Fire Safety Education

In October 2021 we completed the following tasks within the FLSE area (overall, 1,022 public interactions at 23 F&LSE events in October):

- Hosted an Open House with FireSmart information and Firefighter Recruit Drive booth at Hall 1 (approximately 200 attendees).
- Attended five elementary schools to provide education sessions for Fire Prevention Week (627 attendees).
- Partnered with the SSI Conservancy and Transition SSI to host a Forests and Fire Prevention webinar (87 attendees).
- We conducted 37 Residential FireSmart Assessments (including Bayside Strata (15 units), with a total of 36 attendees).
- Hosted a CPR/AED course for GISS students in the Real-9 program (23 attendees)
- We also contributed to a technical committee with the Islands Trust investigating mapping and protection of Coastal Douglas Fir ecosystems (18 attendees).
- We applied for a 2022 Community Resilience Investment (CRI) grant of \$100,000 in partnership with the CRD.
- A car-seat install, support for an Eco-Action grant application by Transition SSI, and various meetings with partner agencies saw an additional 31 public interactions

Campfires	Incinerators	Backyard Burns	Machine Piles
 Permitted	 Permitted	 Permitted	 Permitted

Training



In September crews worked on Driver training, Pumps and Pumping, Drone flight, and Vehicle Fire Attack. We also hosted an Open House for the recruit drive which saw four applicants attend the drill night to get a peak of what to expect if successful.

2 members attended THARR course in Shawnigan Lake receiving Rope Rescue Tech certification.

2 members completed NFPA 1021 Fire Officer level 2 through VIERA in Nanaimo.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Jamie Holmes, Acting Fire Chief

