

Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

Fire Chief's Report

October 2022



Vision

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

Mission

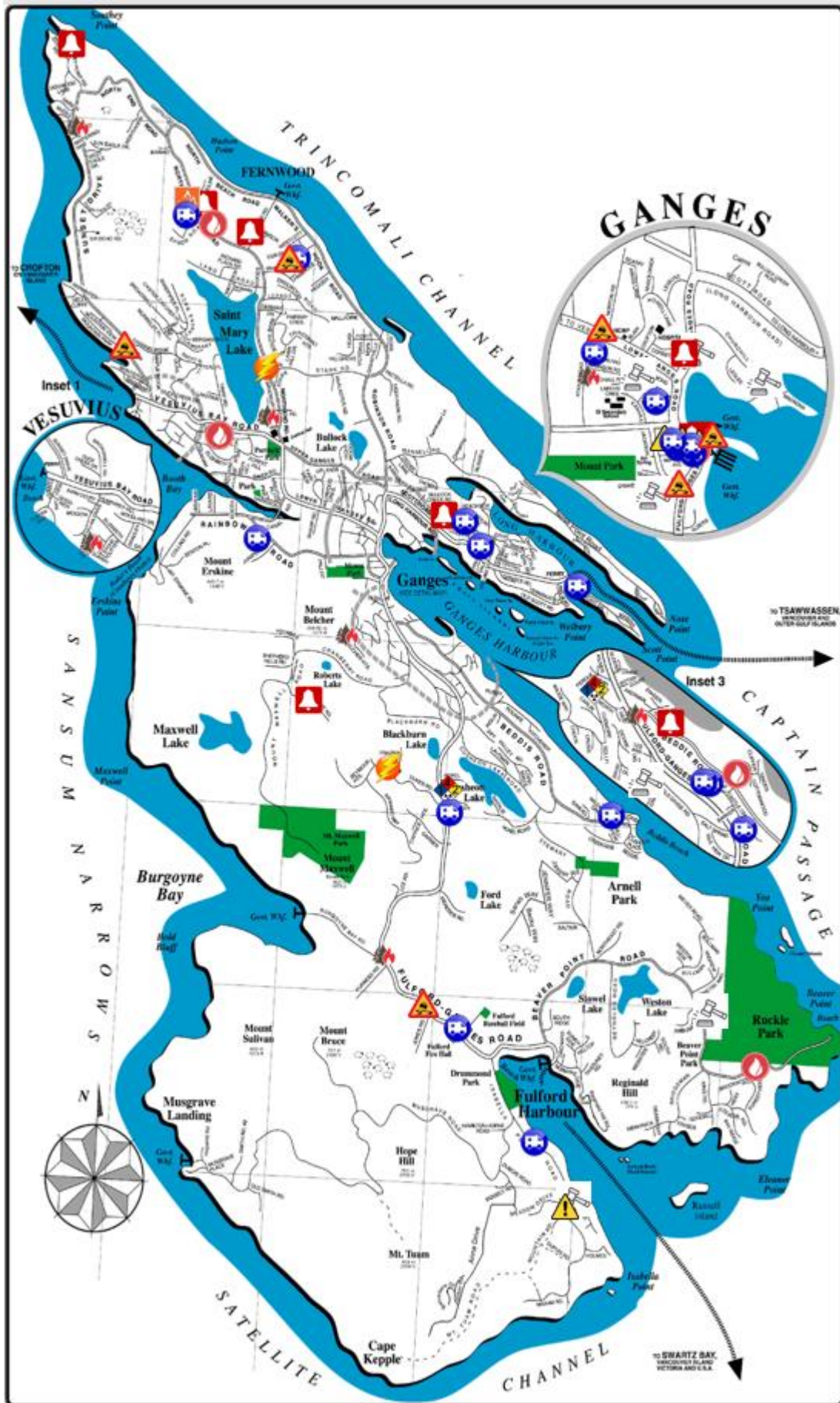
Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND

2022

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	
Act/Bylaw	Complaint	2	6	4	5	8	2	19	18	6	7	77
Aircraft	Emergency											0
Alarm	Alarm	1	2	3	3	3	5	5	7	5	9	43
Assistance	Assistance	4	3	2	4	5	2	4	7	5	4	40
Explosion	Explosion											0
Fire	Brush					1		1		3	3	8
	Chimney		1								1	2
	Misc							5	2	1	5	13
	Structure	1							1			2
	Boat		1		1			1				3
	Vehicle		1			1		3	1			6
HazMat	HazMat	2			1	2	1	4	2	1	2	15
Hydro	Hydro	5	1	1	4	26	4	1	3	2	2	49
Medical	Medical	15	10	21	31	29	24	25	26	29	19	229
MVI	MVI	2	1		2	5		4	2	4	6	26
Rescue	Rescue				1	2	1		1	1		6
Smoke/Smell	Brush							5	6	8	4	23
	Structure	1	3	1	1	3	3	1	1	1		15
Total Calls for the month:		33	29	32	53	85	42	78	77	66	62	557



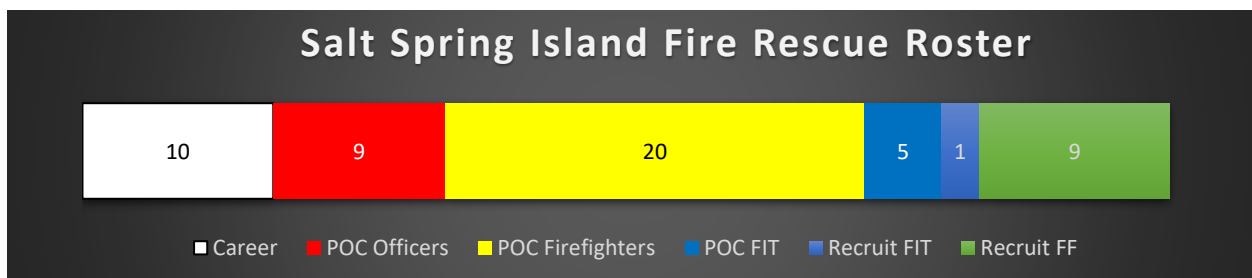
Operations

As result of our late summer, we had a few brush fires in October, the most noteworthy occurring on Mount Maxwell on Oct. 8th, 2022. While the fire was small, it was in an area inaccessible to crews. The duty crew did manage to lob water over the area by securing a member on a rope line over the lookout point atop the mountain. BC Forest Service was advised of the fire, and they bucketed water by helicopter the next day and followed up with ground crews later in the week to ensure the fire was extinguished. The fire was most likely human caused and our investigation is leaning towards debris from the lookout being discarded over the edge.



Cusheon Lake Dry Hydrant: The department is working with the CRD and Beddis Water District to install a dry hydrant at the Cusheon Lake pump station. This will allow us quicker access to the lake water and has better year-round access than the swimming area provides.

Halloween Fireworks: October ended with a bang and lots of smiles. It was wonderful to see the annual fireworks display back again this year along with some hotdogs and hot chocolate. Thank you to the Firefighters' Association all the effort that goes in to making a successful event and thank you to Country Grocer for the kind donation of hotdogs and coco supplies.



Fire and Life Safety Education

Here are some highlights from activity in October (one of the busiest months of the year for the FP Division).

Fire Prevention Week

- Our crews attended all five elementary schools to deliver fire safety messages to 457 students and 56 adults.
- We also held an open house with approximately 200 attendees.
- Three other school-based visits in October had firefighters teaching life safety messages to another 51 students and 9 adults.

FireSmart

- Conducted 23 residential inspections including a 15-unit townhouse complex. A total of 13 people received instruction in FireSmart principals.
- SSIFR applied for two more grants under the FireSmart program for a total of \$115,000 (UBCM and Wawanesa Insurance).

In addition

- 45 islanders attended a Wood-Heat Safety Webinar held in conjunction with Transition SSI.
- SSIFR applied for a \$30,000 grant to obtain equipment to support training and outfit the reserve engine.



Training

 **Hours** **1162**

October was a busy month for training within the organization. The collective total of training hours was 1162.50 hours. That's a big commitment from our members that we truly appreciate.

The extra courses in addition to regular Tuesday night drills were:

RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) 15 members

Leadership Within – 22 members

SOFA (Safe Operations of Fire Apparatus) – 3 members off island

Live Fire Accreditation – 8 Recruits, 3 instructors off island

Wellness Summit – 2 members off island

First Aid/CPR Instructor 4 members off island



Respectfully submitted,

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

Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief