Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue

Fire Chief's Report

October 2026

Vision

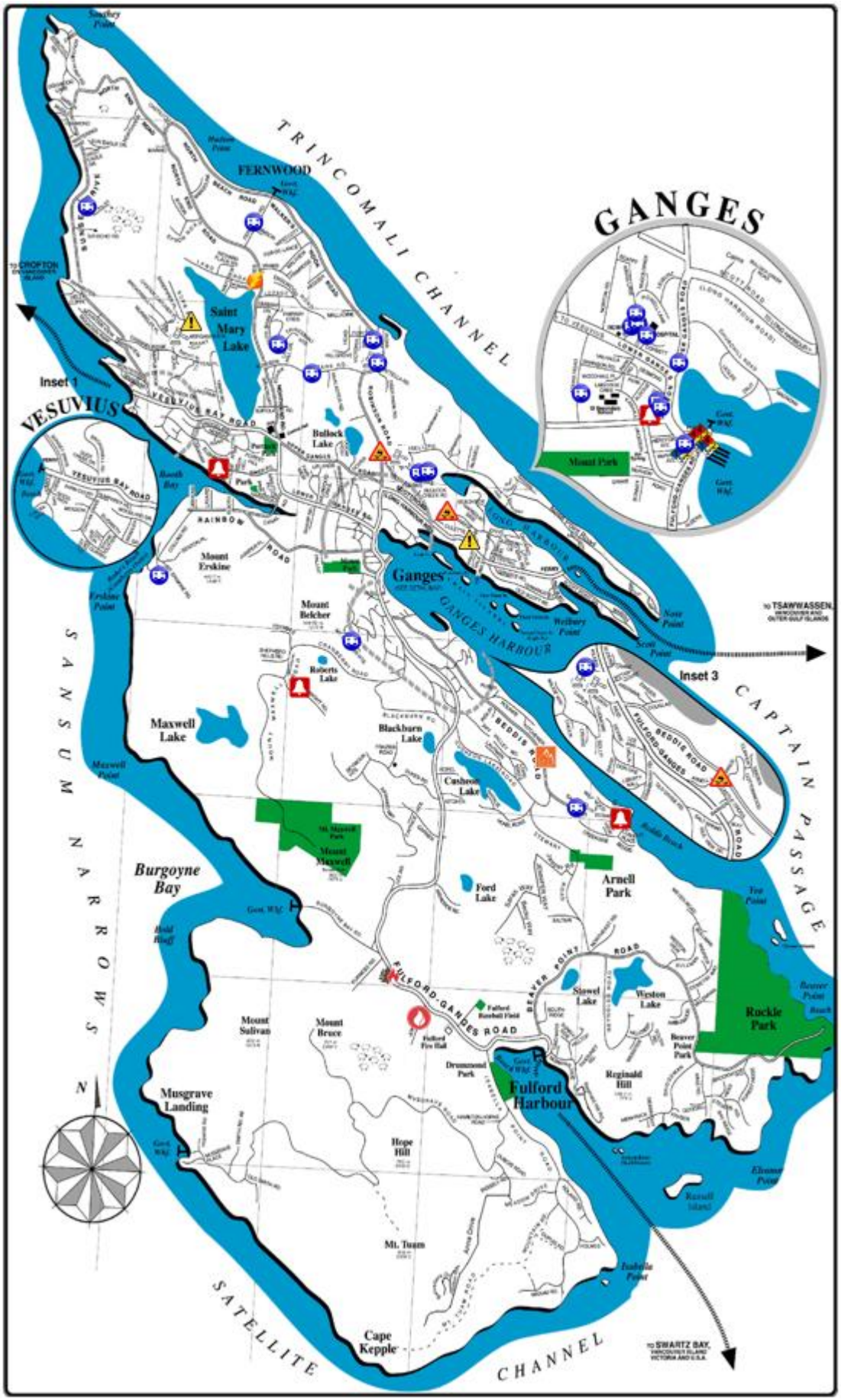
A responsive and sustainable fire-rescue service, effectively meeting community needs and valued by those we serve.

Mission

Always learning, engaging and adapting to be response ready.

Response Report

INCIDENT LEGEND		Oct-26										44
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	
Act/Bylaw	Complaint	10	1	1	8	21	11	10	13	11	6	92
Aircraft	Emergency											0
Alarm	Alarm	7	6	7	8	4	4	5	7	10	4	62
Assistance	Assistance	2	8	5	5	6	5	4	9	3	2	49
Explosion	Explosion											0
Fire	Brush					2	3	2	1		1	9
	Chimney											0
	Misc	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	4	1	1	17
	Structure		1			1	1		1		1	5
	Boat											0
	Vehicle			1			1		1			3
HazMat	HazMat	1		1					1		4	7
Hydro	Hydro	4	1	17	2		8	2	1	2	1	38
Medical	Medical	20	25	24	23	22	30	42	31	32	21	270
MVI	MVI	1	2	1	5	3	2	2	4	6	3	29
Rescue	Rescue		1			1		1	3	1		7
Smoke/Smell/Sighting	Brush		1		2	1	5	6	9	1		25
	Structure	1		1		2	1	1	1	2		9
Total Calls for the month:		47	47	59	56	64	73	77	86	69	44	622
	2017	63	66	46	39	74	55	72	76	58	44	593
	2018	47	38	45	41	62	59	71	108	79	49	599
	2019	59	58	49	64	61	58	52	58	66	32	557
	2020	62	52	57	53	30	38	40	60	81	73	546
	2021	43	52	60	46	43	81	93	103	65	64	650
	2022	33	29	32	53	85	42	78	77	66	62	557
	2023	55	40	54	46	75	96	81	77	81	37	642
	2024	60	48	57	56	49	64	78	69	58	47	586
	2025	52	44	57	51	56	78	63	86	75	65	627
	2026	47	47	59	56	64	73	77	86	69	44	622
	2026											
	FIRE	14	10	28	15	11	25	18	26	16	12	175
	RESCUE	1	3	1	5	4	2	3	7	7	3	36
	MEDICAL	20	25	24	23	22	30	42	31	32	21	270
	ASSISTANCE	12	9	6	13	27	16	14	22	14	8	141
	TOTAL	47	47	59	56	64	73	77	86	69	44	622

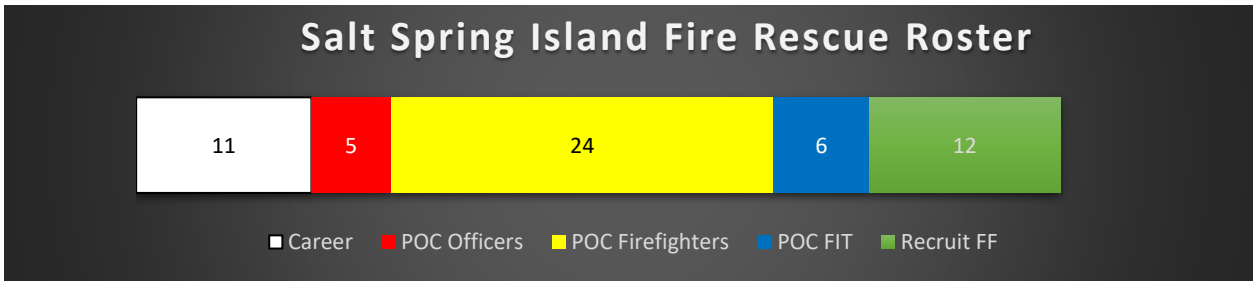

GANGES
TRINCOMALI CHANNEL
FERNWOOD
Saint Mary Lake
Inset 1
VESUVIUS
Bullock Lake
Mount Park
Mount Erskine
Ganges
GANGES HARBOUR
Mount Belcher
Roberts Lake
Inset 3
CAPTAIN PASSAGE
Maxwell Lake
Blackburn Lake
Cushion Lake
Mount Maxwell
Burgoyne Bay
Ford Lake
Arnell Park
Stowel Lake
Weston Lake
Rockle Park
Mount Sulivan
Mount Bruce
Drummond Park
Fulford Harbour
Reginald Hill
Musgrave Landing
Hope Hill
Mt. Tuam
Cape Kepple
SATELLITE CHANNEL
SANSUM NARROWS
N

Operations

You heard a little of October's call of the month at our last meeting but here is some more information after our review.

On Monday Oct. 19/26 at 10:10 SSIFR was called to 109 Purvis Lane for a "white powder" hazardous materials incident. After communication with the occupants, it was reported that an employee was in contact with an unknown substance received a small burn to the forearm. There were three employees in the area of the unknown substance, who were isolated to one portion of the parking lot. The remaining employees were moved to a separate area, and the building and parking areas were cordoned off. The patient with minor burn/skin irritation was check by SSIFR and BCAS and it was decided for patient to stay at scene. It was unknown if the emergency was going to be managed by RCMP or SSIFR because of possible white substance reported which delayed any activation of the CRD Hazmat Team. After several conversations with employee that had contacted the substance, it was confirmed there was not a white powder, and it was a white burn mark on arm. At this point SSIFR confirmed they would manage emergency, and it was decided to bring the CRD Hazmat team over to assist. They arrived approximately at 16:00 from Saanich. Two entry teams were sent into building for a primary search, and nothing was found. The following morning at 08:30 a package in the same area, with liquid damage, was reported to SSIFR. Upon investigation the original source of the burn was identified as concentrated hydrogen peroxide that the worker came in contact with through a damaged container. SSIFR would like to thank Saanich Fire and the CRD Hazmat team for their assistance.





Training

878.50 total training hours for the month of October. Regular members worked on a variety of disciplines including Occupational Awareness, Marina/ Boat Fires, First Responder Skills, and Nozzles Forward, which are skills for managing hose lines and more ergonomic movements advancing on fire.

The FIT group, when not working with platoons reviewed Station Manager duties, and driving and trailering skills.

The Recruit team finished their textbook chapters in October. 2 more weeks of Vehicle Extrication, Fire & Life Safety Initiatives, and Fire Cause and Origin.

On top of our regular training, 3 members attended a weekend course on Vancouver Island taking the Wild Land Fire Fighting Train the Trainer. This enables our training for the annual wildland FF training to be continued to be taught in-house.

We also had 14 members attend the Aerial Ladder Strategies & Tactics weekend course in October. This was offered by Saanich Fire as a bonus for purchasing the ladder truck.





Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Holmes, Fire Chief