



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

### Chief's Report

July 11, 2024

#### **Mission**

Save Lives, Protect Property, Safeguard the Environment, and Take Care of People

#### **Vision**

We will be a proactive regional emergency services leader by partnering to provide safe communities for people to live, work and explore.

#### **Guiding Values**

Respect, Accountability, Integrity, Teamwork, Service

### OPERATIONS

#### Promotion

Congratulations to Jerry Aamold for his promotion to Captain MSO! Great job Jerry!

#### 4th of July Response

Total Calls: 96

Total Unit Responses: 196 Total

Fire Suppression Calls: 38

- 3 Residential Structure Fires (all fireworks related)
- 4 Brush, Grass, Vegetation, Rubbish Fires (fireworks related)

Total EMS Calls: 57

- 1 Firework Related Injury
- 31 Transports

Water Rescue: 1, Victim underwater at Eagle Falls

#### Significant Alarms

##### **Vehicle Fire**

On July 2nd, Engine 33 and Ladder 71 responded to a report of a semi-truck on fire on SR522. Engine 33 arrived to find a tractor trailer that had just picked up a load of compacted cardboard boxes from Lowes in Monroe. There were approximately 20 - 1000lbs bales of cardboard with eight of the front bales on fire. Engine 33 had the truck driver detach the tractor from the trailer and a hose line was stretched to contain the fire. SR522 was closed in both directions causing a significant traffic issue.

Engine 33's officer did an excellent job with an early request for Tender 31. Tender 31, Battalion 31, and multiple staff units responded to assist with water supply and traffic control. This was not an ordinary fire, the bales of cardboard needed to be removed from the truck and broken



apart to get total extinguishment. Dumping them off the truck would have shut down SR522 for hours and would have been exceedingly difficult to deal with once they were on the ground. The crews put their heads together and came up with a solution that was “out of the box.” (Pun intended.)

Engine 33 dumped their booster tank, left the fire still smoldering, and created a lot of smoke. Battalion 31 contacted the DTG recycling company on West Bostain and they agreed to allow us to dump the burning bales on a slab in their recycle yard. The truck driver was asked to hook back up to the trailer and move the burning material to the recycling company. Staff vehicles surrounded the truck and trailer so as not to allow cars to pass in case a burning bale fell off the truck and Engine 33 led them to West Bostain. When the truck pulled into the recycling yard the bales were on fire again, but Tender 31 was there to start extinguishment. Heavy machinery was used to remove the bales and break them up so we could fully extinguish.

## **Fire Suppression / Special Operations**

### **Boat 31**

From July 1st to September 1st, Sky Valley Fire has agreed to let Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue operate Boat 54 as Boat 31. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue will respond mutual aid to assist Sky Valley Fire with any water rescue response as part of this agreement, plus we have agreed to teach a group of their members how to operate Boat 54. This is a great chance to keep building on our positive relationship with Sky Valley Fire.

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue's new Jet Boat has started production, and here are some pictures of the progress:





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### **Training & Safety**

#### **Second Quarter Training for 2024**

The second quarter block of training for 2024 was conducted by our Special Ops Team - Technical Rescue Technicians at the Ray Lee Brown Training Center in Snohomish. Thank you Chad Squire for leading this training that involved training on the new CMC Clutch device that can be used for hauling or descending in rope systems, patient packaging in a stokes basket, basic knots and anchors, and operations level scenarios for the crews. Thank you to all the instructors who assisted in this training: Randy Mickels, Kevin Gleason, Jerem Rhoades, Logan Harding, and Bryan Kerr.

#### **Wellness Incentive Program**

All employees who can participate in the Wellness Incentive Program are encouraged to start working on the form's five steps, now that all members have received their results packet from PHS. The five sections are: Peer Fitness Trainer Physical Assessment, Peer Support Team Interaction, Private Physician Evaluation, Annual Employer Provided Physical, and Employee Affirmation. The Peer Support Team Interaction instructions will be posted in Target Solutions. Thank you for caring about your wellness!

### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

#### **Community Relations**

On July 4th we connected with our Lake Stevens community at the Old-Fashioned 4th at the Lake, and North Cove Park was busy with families enjoying the sunshine. We supported our Lake Stevens Chamber of Commerce by working the Welcome/Info Table and we shared info with numerous families about water safety, Summer Safety BINGO, and upcoming events.



### **Office of the Fire Marshal**

The OFM has reviewed 657 fire construction permits to date. This is an increase of 25% at this time last year.

Annual fire and life safety inspections are ongoing in the cities of Lake Stevens, Monroe and Sultan. To date around 700 inspections have been completed.

Eleven Consumer Fireworks Retail Stands have been permitted in the cities of Monroe and Lake Stevens. The city of Monroe sales period is from July 1st – 4th and Lake Stevens is from June 28th – July 4th.

On July 10th the OFM responded with the Operations to a river drowning. Station 31 responders were out of quarters and the crews needed the UTV to extricate the victim. The OFM responded by driving the UTV code through town to the scene and helped with victim extraction.

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief

