



NORTH WHATCOM FIRE & RESCUE

SEMPER PARATUS

Fire District Month End Administrative Report for July 2021:

Date: September 2021

To: NWFR & WCFD#4 Board of Commissioners

From: Fire Chief Jason Van der Veen

Subject: August 2021 Chiefs Report

Levy Lid Lift Update

Development of our outreach for the November Levy vote continues. We have been working on the D4 FAQ's and will now use that as a template for D21. A special edition of "The Responder" will go out this week. That edition will focus solely on the levy, the financial history of the districts, and where the money raised from how the levy will be used.

Commissioner McMurray has done an outstanding job setting up opportunities for me to meet with stakeholders on the eastside of our district. I have met with two citizens that are large business owners who have strong ties to the Wisner Lake and Laurel communities, as well as the Superintendent of the Meridian School District. Each of these meetings have been immensely helpful in outreach planning. Thank you, Commissioner McMurray!

NWFR/D4 2022 ILA

The Board chairs have met with me about the drafting of the 2022 ILA between D21 and D4. One of the most important parts of the ILA is the calculations of the D4 payment. Benita has added a D4 column to our budgeting spreadsheet so both Boards will be able to see the how changes to the D21 budget affect the D4 payment. I am still waiting for some final numbers to come in before I can finish the first draft of the D21 budget, the most important being our L&I rates for 2022. Based on history we are projecting that our rates will go down, as we should have a few claims dropping off. Once the first draft is done, I will present it to the Board Chairs, per their request. I expect that to be by the end of next week.

New Apparatus Update

The new engine has been delivered and is in the process of being readied for placement in service. It is having equipment brackets mounted, reflective decals placed, and radio equipment installed. This engine will be put in service at Station 69, and the current engine will become a reserve engine at Station 12. That will give Stations 63 and 61 a reserve, and a separate reserve engine for Stations 69 and 12. This will alleviate the logistical problems we have when an engine goes out of service for mechanical issues. This will be the first new engine placed in service at North Whatcom in a decade.

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate

As everyone is aware, Governor Inslee instituted a vaccine mandate for all healthcare workers and direct support staff. The deadline for all workers who are covered by the mandate to be vaccinated is October 18, 2021. For our agency the mandate covers anyone who holds a healthcare license as a Washington State Emergency Medical Technician, as well as our mechanics. The mechanics fall under the mandate because they physically work on the apparatus that respond to and transport patients in a healthcare setting.

We are continuing to collect documentation of each members vaccination status, but I am confident that we will have all our emergency response and shop employees vaccinated by the deadline.



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New Hires Update

Recruit Noah Silverman is in his fourth week at the Fire Academy at North Bend. His progress reports are excellent. Chief Ward and I will each be making trips to visit him in the next few weeks.

Katherine “Kat” Stewart started as a lateral on September 1st. FF Stewart comes to us from the Lynden Fire Department, where she has been an FTE for the past three years. Prior to that she was a part time FF with WCFD# 7, as well as worked for BP at the Cherry Point refinery. FF Stewart is undergoing orientation as a fourth on a shift for roughly a month, and then will be assigned to C shift.

Lieutenant Promotional

The Lieutenant and Training Captain promotional process has concluded. I have the privilege of promoting two of our personnel to the rank of Lieutenant. Danny Jensen and Troy Freeman have both successfully passed all the necessary steps for promotion. Their promotion will take effect September 14, 2021.

We have reposted for another Lieutenant and Training Captain promotional process per the current CBA. The written and assessment tests will be conducted in mid-January of 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Van der Veen





Operations Division Report

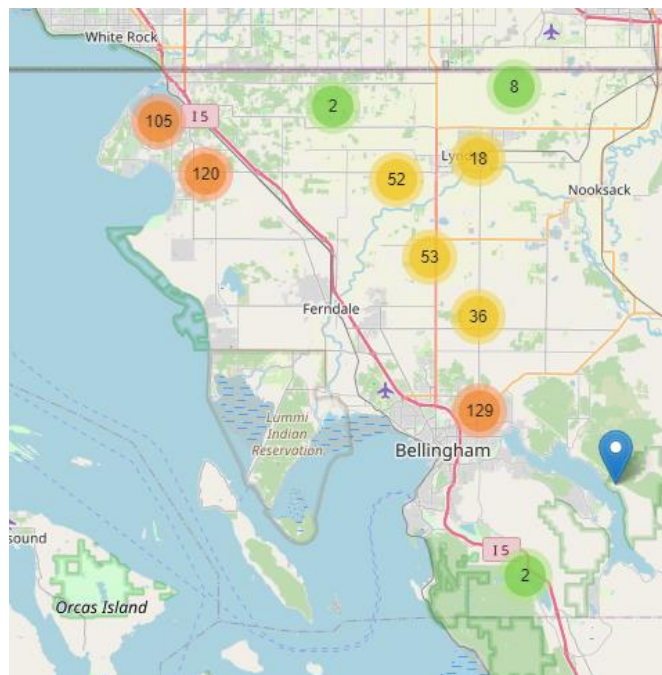
Crew Activities

Assisted FF Hollstein with set up of new layouts for new ambulances
ESE training at 63 and 69 (BLS Evaluator)

Operations Projects / Meetings

Coordination with delivery and set up of new range at 69
Located structural report from 2017 on tower of 63
Ops Board Meeting
Boiler Inspections
REV Group Zoom Meeting
Zoom Meeting with True North
County Operations Meeting
Meeting with Axiom Division 7 on roof leaks at 63.
ISFSI on site 3-day Fire Tower course
Bid Awarded for painting of Bay doors of St 72, 68 and 63
Bids awarded for HVAC updates for St. 63
Meeting with Lighting Electrical on issues at St. 63

Total August Calls 527

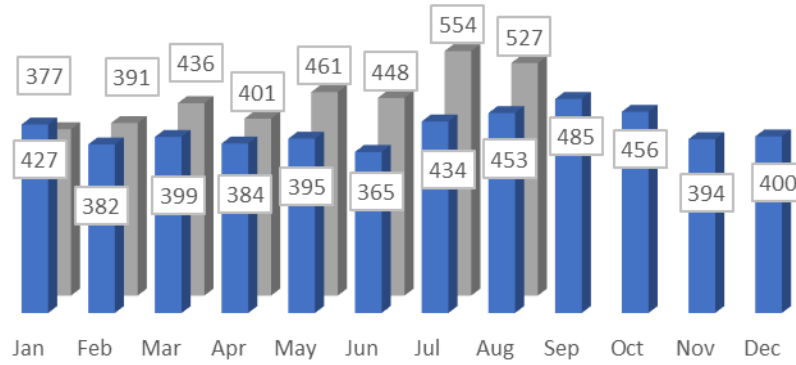




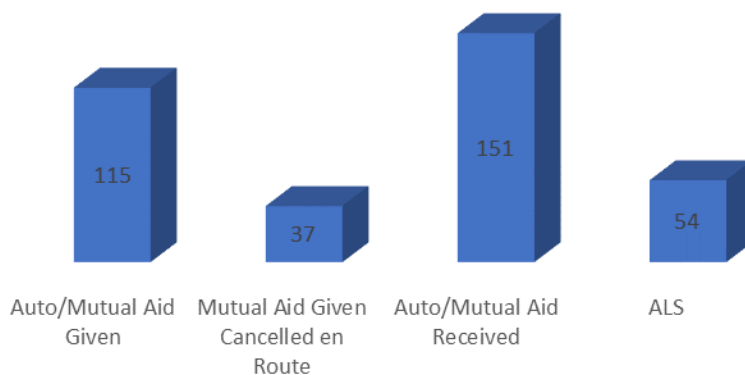
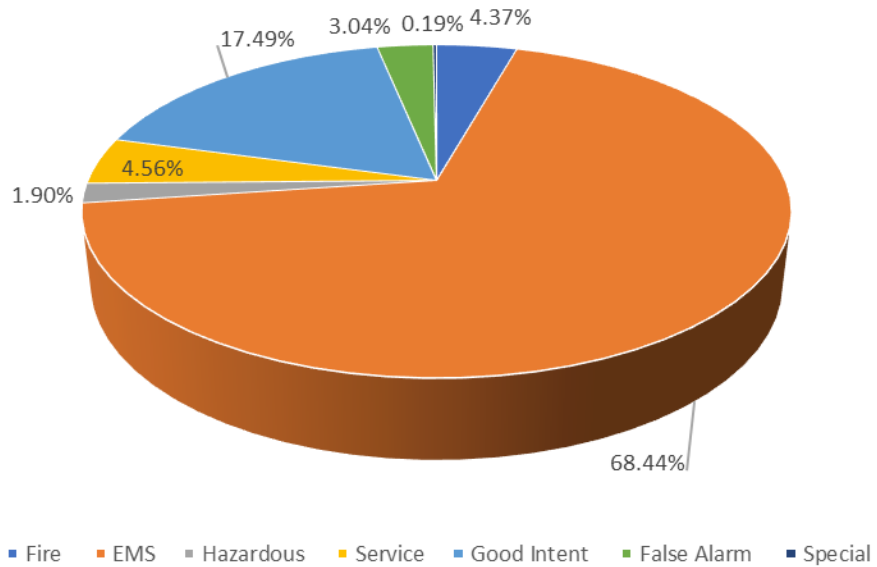
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NWFR Incidents by Month 2020-2021



Month End Response Summary



Aid Given and Received
*Includes ALS Responses



Fire Marshal Report

- Public Education (*None due to COVID-19*)
- Engine Company Inspections (*None due to COVID-19*)
- Site Inspections- 3
- New Fire Alarm/Sprinkler Final- 1
- Plan Review/Meetings- 3
- Hydrant Flow Tests- 0
- Alarm and fire sprinkler test reports- 46
- Blaine City Council Meetings- 1

Active planning projects in Blaine:

- East Maple Ridge
- Gateway North- 5 commercial properties
- Semiahmoo Parcel 6 LLA
- 665 Peace Portal Drive- 5 story multi-use
- 715 PP Dr Peace Portal Center- mixed use
- 2900 Peace Portal Drive- commercial

Updating business information for new inspection software.

Joel Nielsen
Deputy Fire Marshal
North Whatcom Fire and Rescue

Total fire calls for August = **23**

Fire Loss



Fire Incident Type

