



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

Chief's Report

November 25, 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

Significant Alarms

Water Rescue

On Friday, November 15th at 3:29 p.m., Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue units were dispatched to Russell Road Bridge on the Pilchuck River, to a report of a male who jumped in the river approximately one hour prior and had not returned. The reporting party stated the male was attempting to float to OK Mill Bridge but had not arrived. Units B81 and M81 arrived at OK Mill Bridge and established a unified command with SCSO. District 4 B43 and TN73 monitored the river at Three Lakes and Dubuque, and E42 with water personnel were sent to Russell Road to await SW techs from BT31 and BT82. A drone from North County and UAS 55 from Gold Bar were en route. Command was able to confirm that the male was out of the water between where he entered and the OK Mill Bridge. MSO 71 spotted the male and notified command that he was walking the river toward North Machias. A83 and SCSO were subsequently able to locate the male who was evaluated for hypothermia but declined both treatment and transport.

Residential Fire

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue units were dispatched to a residential fire on November 16th at 11:45 a.m. Units arrived at a small, two-story duplex with a working fire in Unit A. E31 aggressively attacked the second floor while M31 conducted a primary search on the second floor. Multiple units responded from all SRFR Battalions and SCFD #4. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office. The fire was mostly contained to the room of origin.

Commercial Fire Response

On November 19th at 11:38 p.m., Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue and multiple mutual aid departments were dispatched to a confirmed commercial fire, with a report of an apartment on fire at the 12700 block of 16th Street NE. Units E81, A81, and B81 arrived at a two-story multi-



family complex with a fire in a second-floor apartment. E81 deployed and extinguished the fire quickly with assistance from A81, E82, and E83. M82 transported one victim for smoke inhalation. The fire is being investigated by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office.

“Bomb Cyclone” Weather Event

On November 19th, a “bomb cyclone” weather event occurred in Western Washington, specifically hitting Snohomish County and King County. The decision was made to activate the TAC-3 FOC to help SNO911 dispatch lower acuity calls. SRFR units ran 134 responses over the 24-hour shift. (Typically, SRFR averages 40.5 calls per 24-hour shift.) Special thanks to Battalion Chief DiMonda, Lieutenant Gardner and the rest of the C-shift 31 crew, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Deputy Chief Hodkinson for helping staff the FOC. Great job by all crews on a busy shift.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Community Relations

Fire and Police Appreciation Luncheon

The East Battalion duty crew and staff attended the Police and Fire Appreciation Luncheon at St. Mary of the Valley Church on Friday, November 22nd. Many Monroe community members spoke generous words of appreciation for SRFR and our police brothers and sisters.

Chamber of Commerce Membership Meetings

The Sky Valley Chamber Membership Luncheon held on November 6th was attended by Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen and Acting Deputy Fire Marshal Dahl. The November topics included Snohomish PUD Storm Preparations presented by SnoCo PUD Corporate Communications' Aaron Swaney, as well as a brief update from their regional fire district.

The Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon held on November 12th was attended by Chief O'Brien, Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Steinruck, Commissioner Waugh, District Admin Coordinator Jenkins, Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen, PIEO King, and PIEO Mongillo. The topic for November was the Police and Fire State of Address with Police Chief Jolley and Fire Chief O'Brien.

The Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Luncheon held on November 13th was attended by Commissioner Elmore, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen, Deputy Fire Marshal LeDuc, and Program Specialist Larson. The topics for November included the Washington State Small Business Credit Initiative with Heritage Bank, as well as an update on the Lake Stevens High School DECA program.



Capital Facilities Update

Station 31 Shop Remodel

Gen-Cap continues to make great progress. This week the drywall is nearing completion and painting has begun. Exterior work this week includes finishing the brickwork and initializing construction on the carport area. Windows and garage doors are anticipated to arrive either this week or early next week, keeping the project on track for a January completion date.

Station 32

Last week SRFR staff and OAC staff met with the City of Monroe, Dept. of Ecology, and Dept. of Fish and Wildlife at the Station 32 property to receive a determination on the north side drainage ditch. We received positive preliminary news this week that the ditch is not fish-bearing.

Station 81

OAC and BNB/Miller Hull met with the city of Lake Stevens last week to discuss the potential shared stormwater facility and to go over initial discussions on temporary housing.

Station 72

Donna Breske and Associates are nearing completion of the sewer and water hookup design. Upon completion, the design will be submitted to Snohomish County for permitting, and a developer extension agreement with Alderwood Water District will be required. During our weekly tank pumping last Friday, we encountered a problem. Every tank was completely full. Superior Septic pumped the tanks but observed several instances of groundwater intrusion inside the tanks. Superior Septic is working on a solution for trying to seal the areas of intrusion, however, we may need to increase our weekly pumping frequencies during the wet season.

On this Thanksgiving week, I wish all of you a safe and warm holiday.

With gratitude,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief