



Chief's Report

April 10, 2025

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

Technical Rescue Response

On March 29, units from Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR), Marysville Fire District, and Granite Falls Fire District 17 were dispatched to a vehicle off the roadway, approximately 100 feet down a steep mountain hillside with one entrapped patient.

SRFR's Medic 81, Aid 81, and Battalion 81 met at the intersection of Lower Green Mountain Road and Mountain Loop Highway to combine rescue personnel and equipment, due to narrow and difficult access to the scene. Engine 86 and Aid 86 from Granite Falls Fire District 17 arrived first and located a male patient down an embankment in a silver, single-cab, full-size Chevy pickup. The patient was reported to be stable. However, Engine 86 did not attempt to reach him immediately because the steep and hazardous terrain required specialized equipment and support.

Battalion 81 took command and two rescue technicians from Medic 81 proceeded to the scene, with the lieutenant from Medic 81 assigned as the Rescue Group Supervisor.





Using rope provided by Engine 86, the team from Medic 81 carefully made their way down the slope. They confirmed this was a steep-angle rescue that would require additional personnel and resources to ensure safety. The team stabilized and extricated the patient using a haul system set up by Ladder 62 and Technical Rescue 61 from Marysville Fire District. The patient was safely removed from the hazardous area without further incident. We are thankful for the mutual aid support provided by Granite Falls Fire District 17 and Marysville Fire District in assisting with this effort.

Motor Home Fire

On April 1, SRFR units responded to reports of a loud explosion that shook nearby homes, followed by a large fire at a neighboring residence. Additional reports mentioned a heavy black smoke plume and one person with burn injuries in need of medical attention.

Battalion 71 arrived to find a motor home fully engulfed in flames, with fire spreading to multiple nearby outbuildings and debris. Several propane tanks were involved, releasing flames through their pressure relief valves. A defensive fire strategy was determined as the best option for the safety of crews and the surrounding area. Ladder 71 arrived and was assigned to stretch a hose line and begin fire suppression efforts. Battalion 31 took on the role of Water Supply Officer and was supported by Tender 31 and Tender 43 (from Snohomish Fire District 4) upon their arrival.

Medical Services Officer 71 made initial contact with the burn patient and took command of medical operations, coordinating with King County Medic 135 once they arrived. Medic 71 provided treatment and transported the patient to Providence Regional Medical Center.

Engine 73 was assigned to pump water and put a second hose line in place to help fight the fire. King County Engine 135 worked from the south side of the scene, using water from their truck for fire suppression. Battalion 31 checked the entire area for hazards and assisted the command team before leaving. Engine 33 tried to access the scene from Echo Lake Road but had to reroute to Paradise Lake Road and stayed in a standby position until cleared.

Snohomish PUD shut off power to the area so crews could safely begin overhaul work. Once the fire was brought under control, Ladder 71 and other crews searched the property and nearby outbuildings. No additional victims were found. Two dogs were reported to be on site, but unfortunately, they were not located by crews. King County Ladder 131 was canceled due to difficulty accessing the scene.

Evidence on scene suggested a large explosion occurred in the motor home prior to the fire department's arrival. The force of the blast displaced the vehicle's slide-out and windshield approximately 30 feet from the original location. The fire was brought under control with the use of approximately 7,000 gallons of water. The cause of the fire is under investigation. We are grateful for the mutual aid from Snohomish Fire District 4.



Training

Incident Safety Officer Class

The Training Division recently hosted an Incident Safety Officer class at Station 71, attended by several SRFR members as well as firefighters from neighboring departments. This course is one of many required for employees working toward becoming an officer.

Health & Safety

New Peer Support Software

On April 4, Health & Safety launched a new partnership with First Response Mental Health to provide SRFR employees with access to the PeerConnect app. With support from Peer Support Lead Lieutenant Chris McGraw and the entire peer support team, all SRFR personnel now have full access to this valuable resource.

PeerConnect is designed to enhance the work of our Peer Support Team by giving members a confidential and convenient way to reach out to a peer supporter of their choice for health and wellness support.

Thank you to all SRFR team members for your hard work and dedication each day!

Take care and stay safe,

Office of the Fire Chief