# North Whatcom Fire & Rescue

# Annual Report 2014

"Semper Paratus"

# TABLE OF CONTENTS


MISSION, VISION & VALUES ..... 1
INTRODUCTION ..... 2
ADMINISTRATION ..... 3
ROSTER OF MEMBERS ..... 4
PERSONNEL ..... 5
EMERGENCY RESPONSE ..... 6
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ..... 11
OPERATIONS ..... 12
TRAINING ..... 14
SPECIAL PROJECTS ..... 15
PREVENTION & EDUCATION ..... 16
COMMUNITY EVENTS ..... 17
HEALTH AND WELLNESS ..... 18
FACILITIES ..... 19
APPARTATUS & EQUIPMENT ..... 30
WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING… ..... 31

# MISSION, VISION & VALUES

## Mission Statement

To always be ready to protect the lives and property of our community to the best of our abilities with the resources provided while focused on compassionate care, teamwork and professionalism.

## Vision Statement

It is the Vision of North Whatcom Fire and Rescue to be:

- Strives to provide a consistent level of excellence in the provision of services to the residents and guests of the community
- A progressive organization that influences and embraces change
- Promotes a safe, productive and healthy work environment
- Maintains a high level of professionalism while promoting a team of legislative/management and member partnerships that embraces collaborative decision making
- Strives to provide resources and services that reflect the diverse needs of the community and environment
- A leading source for community relations, public safety education and prevention
- Always preparing for future emergency needs

## Values Statement

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue embraces and strives to influence all decisions and actions by our organizational core values:

- We value trust, honesty, integrity and humility
- We embrace accountability and respect for all
- We are committed to teamwork and dedicated to excellence
- We value safety and service

# INTRODUCTION

*by Fire Chief Ron Anderson*

*"We are a service orientated business with deep ties to the community"*

The New Year "2014" ushered in many changes for us here at North Whatcom Fire & Rescue beginning with the election of a new Fire Commissioner, Dean Berkeley. While being new to his role as Commissioner he is certainly not new to the District. Prior to becoming a Fire Commissioner Dean served as volunteer firefighter for several years and holds a great passion for volunteers. Commissioner Berkeley stated that one of the primary reasons he ran for the Commissioner position was to ensure that our volunteers felt valued and respected. Dean's knowledge of our department and respect for its members will go a long way in guaranteeing his success with our organization. Good luck Commissioner Berkeley and welcome aboard!

We also underwent an important change within our administration with the arrival of our new Division Chief of Operations, William "Bill" Pernett. Bill brings with him a fresh perspective and a great wealth of knowledge and experience that he gained while working for the Golder Ranch Fire District in Arizona. Bill has been working hard to familiarize himself with both the department and its people. His likeability and leadership are already having a positive impact within our organization.

The department dealt with a multitude of issues throughout the course of the year ranging from fairly routine to more complex. Here's a bulleted list of a few of these items we were directly involved with:

- County Council's adoption of the latest edition of the International Fire Code
- Code compliance issues at Semiahmoo Marina, re-installation of FDC & updates to standpipe system on the dock.
- Sale of Station 71 (Lynden) and relocation of Sheriff's patrol division
- Retiring two of District 21 debt payments on the Lynden Station and Andgar properties
- Working with the County to update its comprehensive plan to include our department's capital facilities plan and adopted response standards
- Completion and refinement of Dept.'s Hose and Ladder testing procedures
- Participation in both the County Firefighter Recruit Academy and our own joint Lynden/NWFR Recruit Academy
- We spear-headed the Emergency Services involvement from the U.S. side in the 9-11 Memorial Service and Ride held annually at the U.S./Canadian Border Peach Arch Park
- Labor negotiations began in October and are continuing into 2015
- Participated in countywide training and preparations for Ebola Virus, identifying Tsunami evacuations routes and crude oil rail shipments
- Applied for and received FEMA Fire Act grant to install vehicle exhaust removal systems in apparatus bays of Station 61 & 63 as well as the shop
- We received Financial & Accountability Audits for 2012/2013, both were clean

During our Annual Retreat in September we took the opportunity to update our Mission Statement to more accurately reflect not only what the public can expect from us but how we expect our members to conduct themselves. We are a service oriented business with deep ties to the community and as professionals we must always strive to treat all of our customers with respect, dignity and above all compassion. We look forward to another safe and prosperous year while serving our community to the best of our abilities.

# ADMINISTRATION

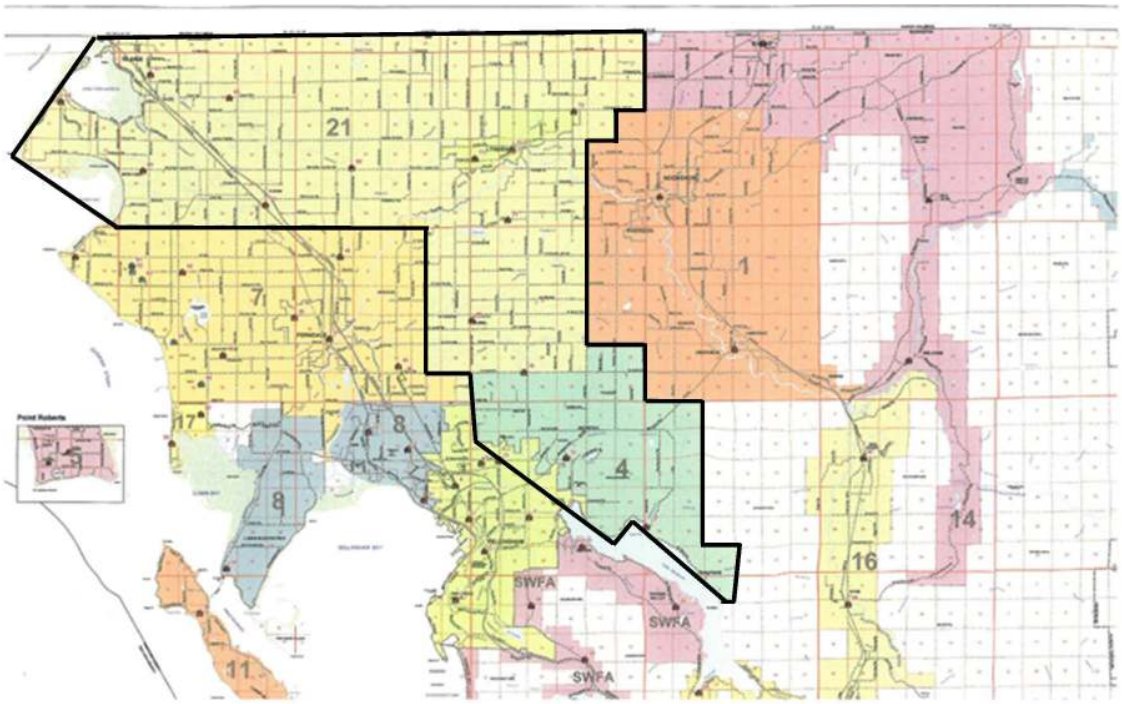
## Department Overview

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue was formed December 7, 2006, from a vote to merge Whatcom County Fire Protection District #3 and Whatcom County Fire Protection District #13. In January 2007 the Fire District officially changed their name to Whatcom County Fire Protection District #21 and operates as North Whatcom Fire & Rescue.

North Whatcom formed a functional consolidation with Whatcom County Fire Protection District #4 on July 1, 2011.

## District Statistics

- Service area including District 4 is one-hundred eighty-two square miles.
- Varied land use that includes forestry, rural and rural agricultural, suburban, urban and some commercial and light industrial.
- The Fire District operates twelve fire stations strategically located throughout the district.
- The City of Blaine includes two marinas, two border crossing stations, and Interstate 5 running parallel to and acting as a feeder into the city.
- The Fire District operates forty-nine pieces of apparatus including fire engines, tenders, two ladder trucks, brush trucks, ambulances and some specialized apparatus.
- The Fire District is classified as a “combination” fire district incorporating both paid and volunteer “on-call” personnel.
- The Fire District has forty-nine full paid firefighters, seventy volunteers including ten support staff members.
- Fire District operations include fire response, emergency medical services including basic life support (BLS) transport, hazardous materials response at the operations level, some limited rescue, and fire prevention and public education activities.




Whatcom County Fire Districts and Stations

# 2014 ROSTER OF MEMBERS

## Fire Commissioners

**District 21**
Bill Salter, Chairman
Dean Whitney, Vice Chairman
Rich Bosman
Larry McPhail
Dean Berkeley

**District 4**
Harry Andrews, Chairman
Mary Beth Neal
Steve Ness

## Chief Officers

Ron Anderson, District Fire Chief
William Pernett, Division Chief / Operations
Henry Hollander, Division Chief / Support Services

## Support Staff

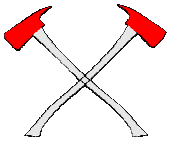
Benita Williams, Business Manager
Jennie Sand, Administrative Assistant
Kris Parks, Financial Assistant
Kelly Freeman, Health and Wellness Coordinator
Kirsten Stout, Data Entry Training Division
Elliot Courage, Mechanic
John Lovatt, Mechanic

## Captains

Ray Davidson
Craig Johnson
Mike Schmidt
Shaun Ward
Joe Noonchester, Training Captain

## Lieutenants

Jon Ahrenholz
Kevin Biery
Doug Clark
Kris Jorgensen
Mike Nelson
Joel Nielsen
Burr McPhail
D.J. Riehl
Adam Smith
Leslee Smith
Jason VanderVeen
Keith Zylstra



## Firefighters

Gina Ball
Scott Brown
Kaleb Bruch
David Comp
Jason Donnelly
Troy Freeman
Jeff Hofstad
Chris Hollander
Danny Jensen
Mike Lyshol
Micah McConkey
D.J. Neyens
Mike Ross
Jeff Schwab
Joel Sellinger
John Swobody
Russ Briskin
Darren Bruya
Chris Byer
Kenneth Cunningham
Tony Esser
John Geleynse
T.J. Holert
John Hollstein
Tom Kettman
Andrew Martin
Rob Mulrooney
Stefen Paige
Wayne Sanders
Blake Scott
Chuck Shipp
Mark Wohlrab

## Volunteer Firefighters

Shawn Atwood
Joshua Bavaro
Brian Botta Pillo
Elisabeth Bowman
Brandon Brubaker
Jordan Clark
Paul Earhart
Kim Gates
Tyler Hanon
Valeska Harper
Jesse Harris
Jeremy Hensley
Dalton King
Jerilyn Klix
Brandon Lee
Jessa Loudon
Tom McAuliffe
Scott Mellema
Gareth Moore
Mel Mulligan
Juan Ocegueda
Diego Oliver
Ryan Oppewall
Thomas Rawls
Chet Renskers
Jon Richardson
Bill Salter
Boris Shintar
Malcolm Simshauser
Travis Tallquist
Paul VanDyken
David Varivoda
Richard Walter
Andrew Winch
Scott Wood
Gary Baar
Todd Berge
Stephen Bowerman
James Brown
Dylan Charrier
Tim Dean
Christopher Faber
Jeff Haley
Tyler Hanson
Austin Harris
John Hatfield
Larry Johnston
Robert King
Amanda LaPierre
Clayton Levien
Kae Lourie
Justin McGarvin
Branden Millsap
Tom Morell
Daniel Murphy
Ben Ocheltree
Sabrina Ooms
Gary Quintrall
Mark Rehberger
Lane Renskers
Dale Rutgers
Zachary Scott
Taylor Simpson
Kailee Steele
Haley Urling-Ehinger
Londa VanKirk
Joshua Walker
Doug Ward
Damon Winters
Robert Yaple

# PERSONNEL

## General Information

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue is a **129** member department with personnel in the following areas:

- **49** full-paid firefighters
- **70** volunteers
- **10** support staff

## New Fire Commissioner

Dean Berkeley was sworn into office at the regularly scheduled NWFR Fire Commissioner meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2014. Dean is a local businessman and a former volunteer who is an ardent supporter of the district volunteer program.

## New Career Firefighter

Former Volunteer David Comp was hired as a full time career firefighter on August, 6, 2014. He attended the Washington State Fire Academy in North Bend and following graduation on October 31, 2014 he was assigned to C-Shift.

### ANNUAL AWARDS

*Firefighter of the Year:* Scott Brown

*Volunteer of the Year:* Daniel Murphy

*Employee of the Year:* Jennie Sand

*Career Most Training Hours:*

Kris Jorgensen (396 hours)

*Volunteer Most Training Hours:*

Robert Yaple (136 hours)

*Volunteer Most Shifts:*

Doug Ward (741 hours)

*Volunteer Most Call Responses:*

Todd Berge (69 Fire/EMS Calls)

## New Members

*Welcome to the new members of North Whatcom Fire and Rescue*

**Tender Support**

Retire/Rehire Paul VanDyken

**Volunteers**

Elisabeth Bowman

Jordan Clark

Christopher Faber

Austin Harris

Jesse Harris

Jeff Haley

Amanda LaPierre

Justin McGarvin

Zachary Scott

Kailee Steele

Travis Tallquist

Haley Urling-Ehinger

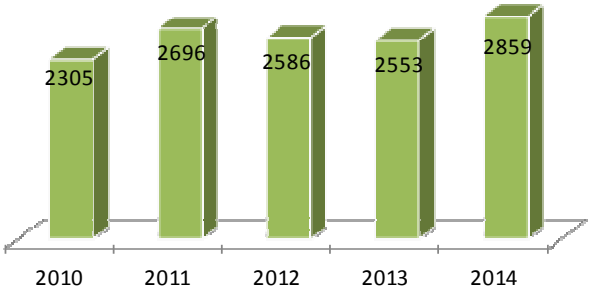
Richard Walter

Andrew Winch

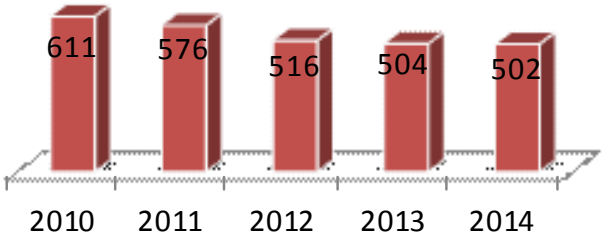
# EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## Call Volume

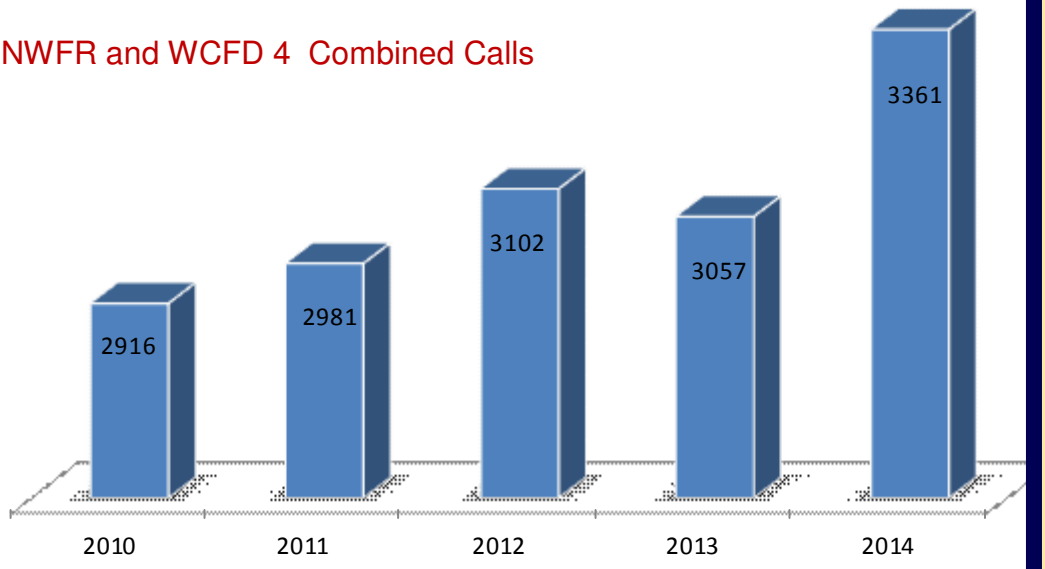
### NWFR Calls



### WCFD 4 Calls

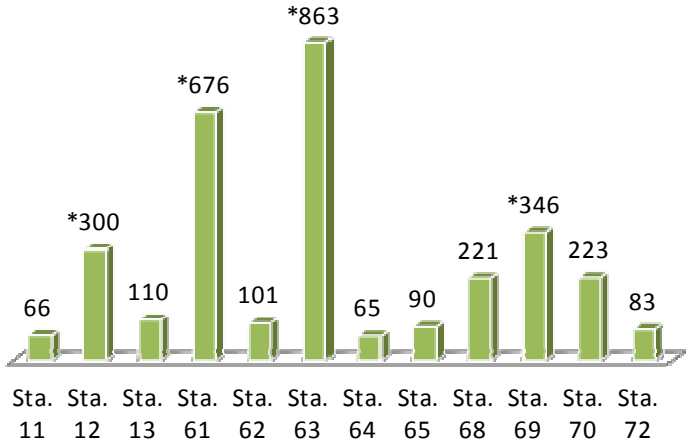


### NWFR and WCFD 4 Combined Calls



# Calls by Station Response

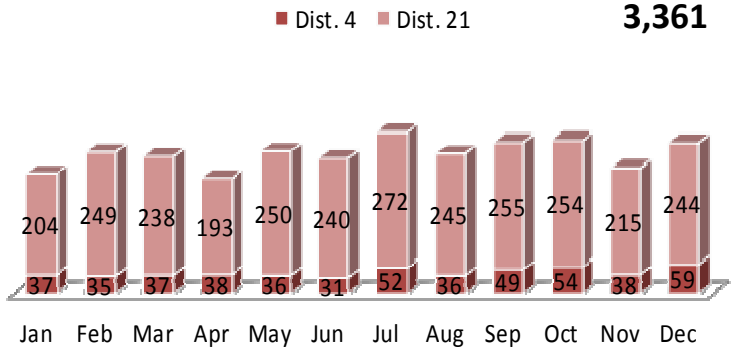
*career stations



# Monthly Incident Responses

**Total**

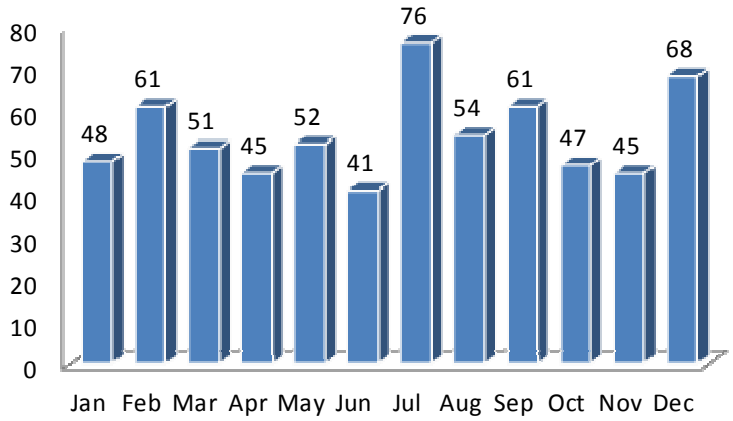
**3,361**



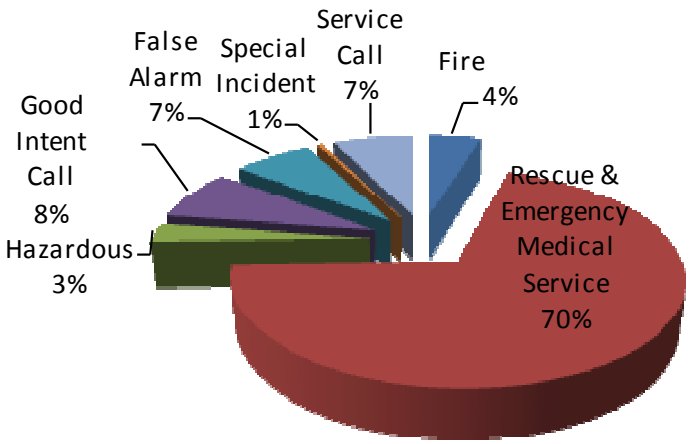
# Monthly Overlapping Incidents

(district responds to more than one call simultaneously)

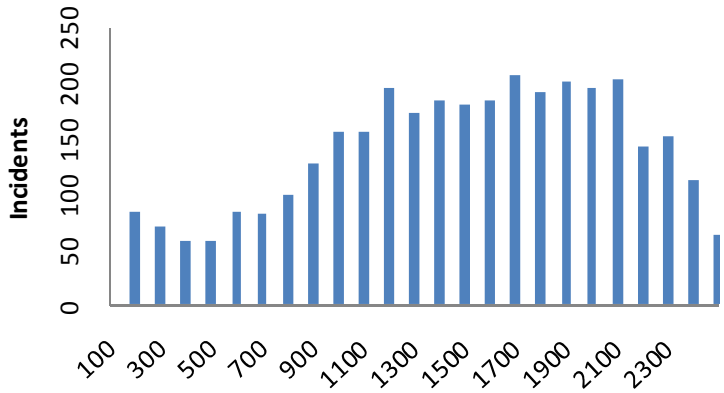
**Total 649**



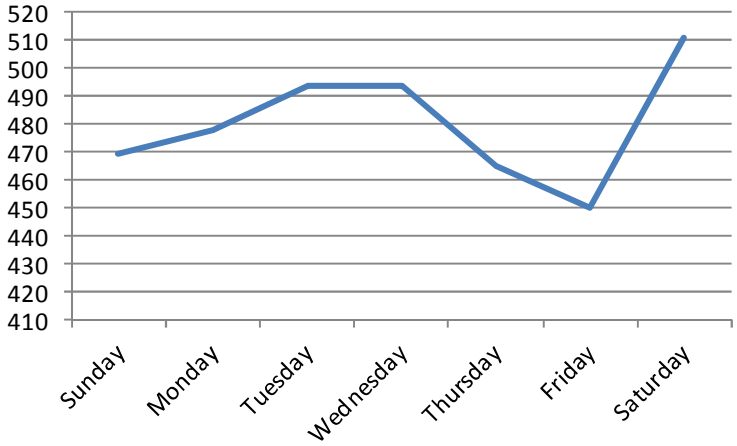
## Responses by Type




## Calls by Time of Day




## Calls by Day of Week




**Hazardous Condition**
Spills and leaks, chemical releases, electrical, building collapse, aircraft standby, bomb removal

**Good Intent Call**
Dispatch cancelled en route, wrong location, controlled burn, vicinity alarm

**False Alarm**
Malicious, mischievous alarm, bomb scare, system malfunction

**Special Incident Type**
Citizen complaints, severe weather

**Service Call**
Person in distress, water problem, smoke odor, animal problem, public assist, unauthorized burning, standby

**Fire**
Building, mobile property, vehicle, natural vegetation, outside rubbish or equipment

**Rescue & Emergency Service**
Medical assist, EMS, MVA's, water rescue, electrical, extrication

2014 Total Calls

3,361

2014 Fire Loss

$883,039

2014 Fire Saves

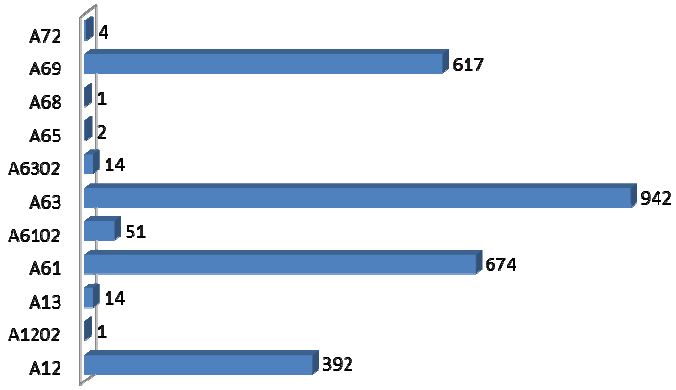
$5,700,62

Total Percent Saved

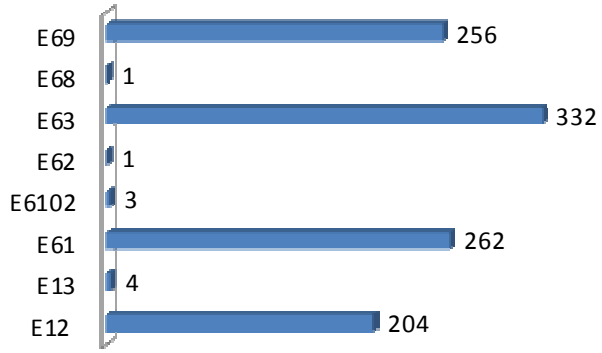
86.6%

# Calls by Apparatus Response

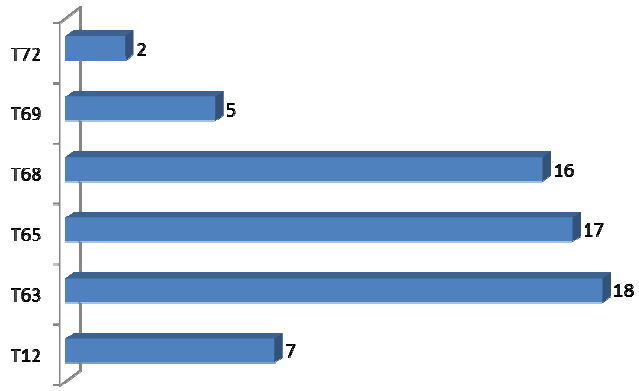
## BLS Aid Unit / Ambulance Responses (*basic life support vehicle equipped for taking sick or injured people to the hospital)*




## Engine Responses *(large motor vehicle that carry firefighters and equipment and support extinguishing operations to a fire)*




## Tender Responses (*large motor vehicle that carry water to support fire engines and firefighters where hydrants are not available)*



# Responses Times

NWFR continues to focus on reducing incident response times. Faster response times mean decreased damage to property and better outcomes in life-threatening medical emergencies.

Even with crews in quarters there are times when a twelve to fourteen minute response time occurs because of long distance travel throughout the one hundred eighty-two square miles the district protects.

Many fire service organizations in the area have entered into automatic aid agreements to improve response times across the county. In 2013, the district entered into an automatic aid agreement to coincide with their mutual aid agreement with the City of Lynden Fire Department to improve response times to the district's area north of the City of Lynden.

The single biggest obstacle to improving response times to the standard adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners is staffing limitations.

**Urban**
Population >1000 per square mile

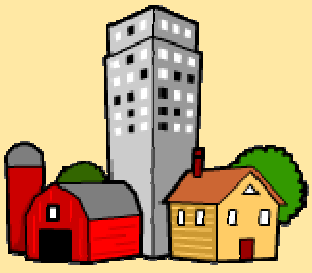
Eight minutes eighty percent of the time of the arrival of the first due fire engine company/ ambulance.

**Suburban**
Population of 500-1000 per square mile

Ten minutes eighty percent of the time of the arrival of the first due fire engine company/ ambulance.

**Rural**
population < 500 per square mile

Twelve minutes eighty percent of the time of the arrival of the first due fire engine company/ ambulance



# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The District received a clean audit from January 2012 through December 2013 from the Washington State Auditor's Office.

## Grants

- **FEMA Grant:** The District received $57,812.00 to install two vehicle exhaust removal systems for Birch Bay St 63. The district will be responsible for 10% of the cost of the systems.
- **Pre-Hospital Participation Grant:** $1,473.00
- **Firefighter 1 Training Grant:** Washington State Patrol $9,000.00
- **North Region Education Grant:** Whatcom County Emergency Medical Services and Training $1,868.15

| North Whatcom Fire and Rescue | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Expenses** | **2014 Budgeted** | **2014 Actual** |
| Salaries | $4,774,040 | $4,423,661 |
| Deferred Comp | $5,500 | $5,500 |
| Benefits | $1,284.760 | $1,504,107 |
| Operational Supplies | $91,400 | $81,181 |
| Fuel & Oil | $109,000 | $84,600 |
| Items Purchased for Resale | $2,000 | $2,073 |
| Small Tools & Equipment | $37,000 | $30,602 |
| Professional Services | $302,166 | $243,493 |
| Communication Systems | $25,500 | $22,390 |
| Travel | $9,500 | $11,292 |
| Advertising, Rentals & Insurance | 95,252 | $152,180 |
| Facilities Utilities | $176,350 | $176,199 |
| Maintenance | $76,350 | $87,433 |
| Miscellaneous | $4,000 | $2,314 |
| Intergovernmental Services | $7,200 | $13,002 |
| **Total Operations** | **$6,998,018** | **$6,840,027** |
| | | |
| F/C Debt Principal | 356,612 | 701,497 |
| F/C Debt Service | 71,896 | 37,350 |
| **Total Debt Payment** | **428,538** | ***738,847** |
| | | |
| Capital Projects | $51,150 | $41,068 |
| Capital Facilities | $69,100 | $68,428 |
| Capital Apparatus | 00 | $6,523 |
| **Total Capital Improvements** | $120,250 | $116,019 |
| | | |
| **Transfers to Capital and Reserve** | | |
| | | |
| ***TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET** | 7,546,806 | 7,694,893 |

**NWFR paid off two debt payments on Lynden Station 71 and Andgar properties.*

# OPERATIONS

*by William Pernett*
*Operations Division Chief*

## 2014 Highlights

2014 was a busy year for the operations division. Crews ran a total of 3,361 calls which is the highest in District history. Responses were mostly for emergency medical incidents with fires and public assistance calls making up the remainder. Fire District 21 and 4 continued to work together seamlessly under a consolidation agreement.

In 2013, the decision was made to sell Lynden Station 71. The crews were relocated to Laurel Station 69 in July 2013 and the station was sold in May 2014. This move has placed full time crews closer to an urban area and overall decreased response times to this area.

On June 16, 2014 I was hired and joined the administrative team. My focus over the last eight months has been to develop new relationships with internal and external customers and learn about Whatcom county emergency services, North Whatcom Fire Rescue history, and promote operational readiness.

Operations participated in recruitment and selection of a new career firefighter as well as two new groups of volunteers. Increased focus on recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters remained a priority in 2014.

*"My focus...to develop new relationships with internal and external customers..."*

Staying connected to our community is a priority. Career and volunteer staff participated in multiple community events and fundraisers such as the Birch Bay Discovery Days, Blaine Fourth of July parade and fireworks, Pumpkin Carving Party, Pancake Breakfast, Camp Horizon, distribution of Tsunami emergency flyers, the 911 Memorial Ride, Thanksgiving Baskets, and many others.

FF Health and wellness continues to be a priority. Award of a Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant allowed the installation of a vehicle exhaust removal system at Station 63 (Birch Bay Station) and the upgrading of the existing system at Station 61 (Blaine Station). These systems will reduce the amount of exhaust fumes that firefighters are exposed to.

Firefighters conducted annual hose and ladder testing, began a tool identification and inventory program, conducted business Inspections in the City of Blaine, and participated in annual fitness evaluations. Firefighters also received special training on how to respond to a suspected Ebola case.

Operations continued to foster relationships with our regional partners to streamline and consolidate processes that are a benefit to all. In 2014 North Whatcom Fire Rescue began working with the Northwest Regional Council to refer patients that request assistance with social services. This voluntary program has so far assisted fifteen District residents in connecting with an appropriate social service based on their specific needs.

As I look forward to 2015, my goal is to continue to lead the operations division and focus on achieving the vision and mission of the organization.

# TRAINING

## Firefighter Highlights

Our firefighters accomplished many training evolutions in 2014 including:

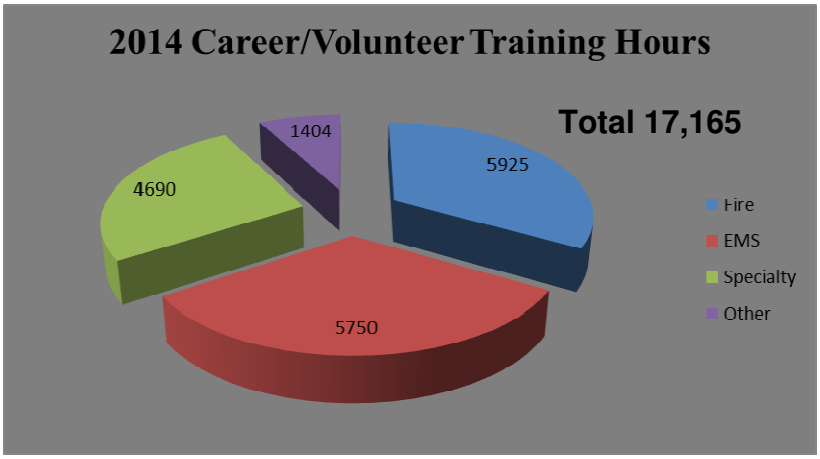
- ◊ Vent training
- ◊ Live fire
- ◊ EMS
- ◊ Ebola PPE awareness
- ◊ Air management
- ◊ Search and rescue
- ◊ Ground ladders
- ◊ Hazardous materials
- ◊ Company enrichment rills

Joint Academy Spring 2014

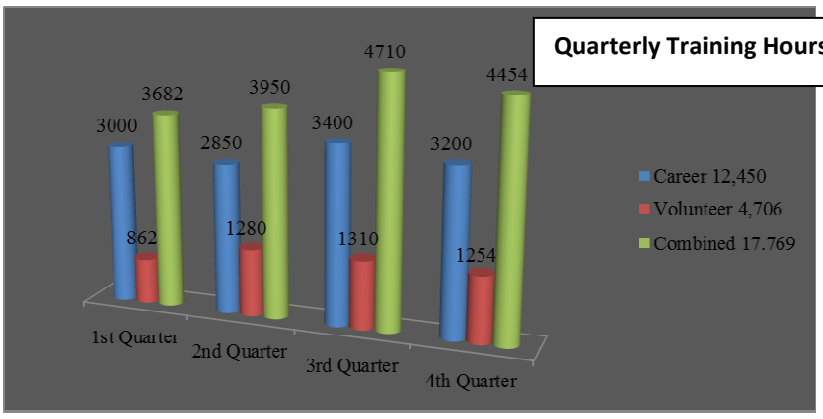
## 2014 Summary

North Whatcom and the City of Lynden also organized a joint effort this year with its first annual recruit academy. Our two agencies combined resources and successfully trained 11 new volunteer firefighters to join our forces. These recruits will be actively responding to calls early in 2015 both from the City of Lynden as well as Station 72 Northwood.

We also had the opportunity to burn a donated house in the Birch Bay area early in the year. The property owner wanted this old house taken down for new development which provided our crews the chance to gain some valuable live fire time in a real building.



Shintaffer/Lincoln Spring 2014



FF Lyshol, Scott and Lt. Riehl B-69

# SPECIAL PROJECTS

## 2014 Highlights

**Birch Bay Station 63 / Blaine Station 61 Exhaust Removal System**

NWFR was successful in obtaining a 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant request for two vehicle exhaust removal systems for Birch Bay Station 63 and Blaine Station 61. The exhaust removal system will reduce soot and exhaust emissions resulting in a healthier work environment for firefighters. Work was completed on Birch Bay Station 63 in December and Blaine Station 61 will be completed in early 2015. The grant requires a ten percent match by the district.

**Aid 69 (AP115) Engine Replacement**

During a routine brake job, head gasket leaks on the 6.0 liter diesel engine was discovered on Aid 69 (AP115). To save money, NWFR made the decision to have the shop maintenance crew replace the motor. The shop did an outstanding job of completing the difficult repair in eight days.

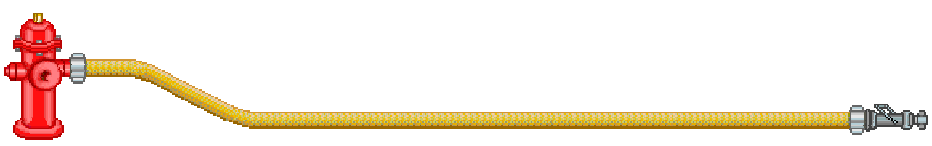
**Bunker Gear**

2014 was a busy year for bunker gear at North Whatcom Fire and Rescue. All personal protective equipment (PPE) was moved from Lynden Station 71 and brought to Britton Loop Station 12. Part of building D was retrofitted to store all the incoming gear and all the extra pieces of our structural firefighting ensemble. In 2014 all gear (*new and previously issued*) was inspected, inventoried and data was inputted into our firehouse system in an effort to better track all gear. Once documented the gear is ready to be issued out as replacement gear or to new members.

After reviewing several bids for new bunker gear, North Whatcom purchased 15 sets of globe turnouts to replace turnouts that were failing inspection and would not be cost effective to repair.

**Apparatus Upgrade**

To help maintain an efficient fleet of support vehicles NWFR replaced a 1986 Chevy Suburban with a used 2005 GMS Passenger Van. This vehicle is a nineteen years newer and also gives the district the ability to transport larger groups of members to trainings or incidents. The Chevy Suburban was sold at auction in September, 2014.



# PREVENTION & EDUCATION

## 2014 Highlights

- Provided the district monthly newsletter electronically to members and the community via email, Facebook and the website
- Constantly finding ways to share information through social media
- Nearly 246 Occupancy Inspections in the City of Blaine Follow Up & Citizen Requested Inspections by staff

## Fire Safety Education

Fire Safety and Public Education Programs were presented to over 1,400 students in local schools and Senior Community Group members.

**Station Tours**
North Whatcom Fire and Rescue frequently opens up its doors on request to accommodate large group of students to share their fire safety knowledge. Many of the lessons augment what the students are already learning in school. Groups are given tours of the station, engine and ambulances. Weather permitting students are also given the chance to test their aim with a fire hose. Tours are provided to area schools, local day care facilities, scout troops, church groups and the general public.

**Fire Extinguisher Training**
Occasionally the District is asked by local businesses to provide specific training. Fire extinguisher training is available upon request.

**CPR Training**
North Whatcom Fire and Rescue offered free monthly Friends and Family CPR classes at numerous stations within the district. The course was designed for friends and family members of the general community who want to learn CPR but do not need a course completion card.

**Blood Pressure Checks**
Every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. the Blaine Station 61 crew can be found providing free blood pressure checks at the Blaine Senior Center. This gives firefighters a chance to meet people in the community and offer safety information. Free blood pressure checks are also available at any of the four career stations.

**Home Depot Safety Fair**
North Whatcom Fire and Rescue participated in the 2014 Home Depot Safety Fair. NWFR's role was to educate children and their families through the use of the fire safety house.

**Football Games**
North Whatcom Fire and Rescue provides Emergency Medical Services for all the Blaine and Meridian School District home football games.

## Events

National Fire Prevention Week

Trade/Tech Fairs at local schools

Home Depot Safety Fair

Barkley Safe Kid's Safety Fair

Station Tours

Senior Citizen Blood Pressure Checks

Fire Extinguisher Training

CPR/First Aide Training

Britton Loop Block Party

Pancake Breakfast

Bike Rodeo

Community Meal

9-11 Memorial Ride

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Pancake Breakfast / Bike Rodeo**
NWFR held a pancake breakfast / bike rodeo on Saturday, September 6 at Britton Loop Station 12. Children of all ages enjoyed a free breakfast, the fire safety house and a bike rodeo. Volunteers and career firefighters along with administration and a few fire commissioners were on hand to ensure everyone had a good time while learning bike safety.

**Haulin' Axe Run/Walk**
The Haulin' Axe is a 5K trail run or a 2 mile walk from Barkley Haggen to Bloedel Donovan following the Railroad trail.

The 2014 Run was held on Sunday, May 18. A shuttle was set up for those needing to return to the starting line. District apparatus was set up for tours near the finish line.

Proceeds from this event went to Mountain Rescue and Royal Family Kids. Many local businesses donated prizes for the raffle.

**North Lake Loop Block Party**
NWFR participated in neighborhood block party hosted by North Lake Community Church on Wednesday, July 30. The event featured a classic car show, live music, face painting and a bouncy house. The Britton Loop Station 12 crew provided fire safety education with the fire safety house and tested the skills of future firefighters as they battled mock smoke and flames with a booster line from Brush 12.

**Friends and Family CPR Classes**
NWFR offered free monthly CPR classes to the community at various stations around the district. Approximately 455 people ages 13-92 were educated in CPR/AED/Choking for and adult, child and infant.

**Community Pumpkin Party**
NWFR opened up Britton Loop station 12 on Monday, October 27 for a community pumpkin party. Families were invited to carve pumpkins, make crafts and play games.

**Community Assistance Program**
Members of NWFR teamed up with the Community Meals of Blaine Program to help serve dinner on two separate occasions at the Blaine Senior Center. Approximately 25 volunteers utilizing over 77 hours served over 100 guests during one meal.

**Ramp Build**
Local 106 NW Union members often come together to build ramps for community members as the need arises. This year the group was involved in building two ramps.

**Blaine Thanksgiving Baskets**
Blaine's Community Assistance Program provided Thanksgiving baskets to 338 families. NWFR firefighters donated their time by hanging the banner, transporting the donated foods from local businesses as well as loading baskets into recipients' vehicles.

**Santa Run**
NWFR supported Whatcom County Project Santa by having a Santa Run on Saturday, December 6 to collect donations for the charity, serve hot chocolate, provide apparatus tours and socialize with the community.

**9-11 Memorial Ride**
NWFR was instrumental in planning and participating the 9-11 Memorial Ride that began at the Swinomish Casino Resort in Anacortes and ended at Blaine Peach Arch Park where a ceremony took place honoring those who died on the attacks of September 11, 2011.

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

- April 2014 marked the beginning of our fitness testing for the year with our VO2 Max testing. The vast majority of the body scored within the Good and Excellent fitness categories.
- In May of 2014 we continued our Air Management Course at Birch Bay station 63 for all career crews as well as an evening training for volunteers. Anaerobic threshold scores from VO2 Max testing and bottle consumption time for Air Management Testing were correlated together.
- Annual physical fitness assessments were conducted in October again this year. The majority of testing scores showed that individuals were maintaining their fitness at appropriate levels. Due to weather conditions in late October, annual physical fitness assessments will be bumped up a month and will be held in September 2015.
- All three annual testing processes were organized for each member on an individual spreadsheet for their personal knowledge as well as to aid with review of progression, maintenance or regression from year to year.

## 2014 Highlights

**Emergency Responder Fitness Challenge**: The winning team from this year's emergency responder fitness challenge was a North Whatcom team again with B Shift's "In Schwab We Trust" taking first place. This team was comprised of Rob Mulrooney, Darren Bruya and Brandon Lee. Brandon also took the prize for best male in the challenge.

**Lake Padden Tri June 2014**: This year Kaleb Bruch jumped in again completing his second Lake Padden Tri, joining him was Troy Freeman for his first triathlon event. Kaleb, Troy and Joel are all signed up to compete in a ½ Ironman event in June 2015

**Lake Padden Half Marathon:** In October Joel Sellinger completed this event coming in at 71/210. Great job Joel!

**Bellingham Run Like A Girl 5K**: Lt. Leslee Smith completed this great 5K for women in October 2014.

**Seattle Marathon**: Ken Cunningham and Danny Jensen both completed the Seattle Marathon over the bitter cold Thanksgiving weekend. This was a first ever marathon for both of them.

## 2014 Injuries

- 11 Company Reported Injuries
- 3 Company Reported Exposures

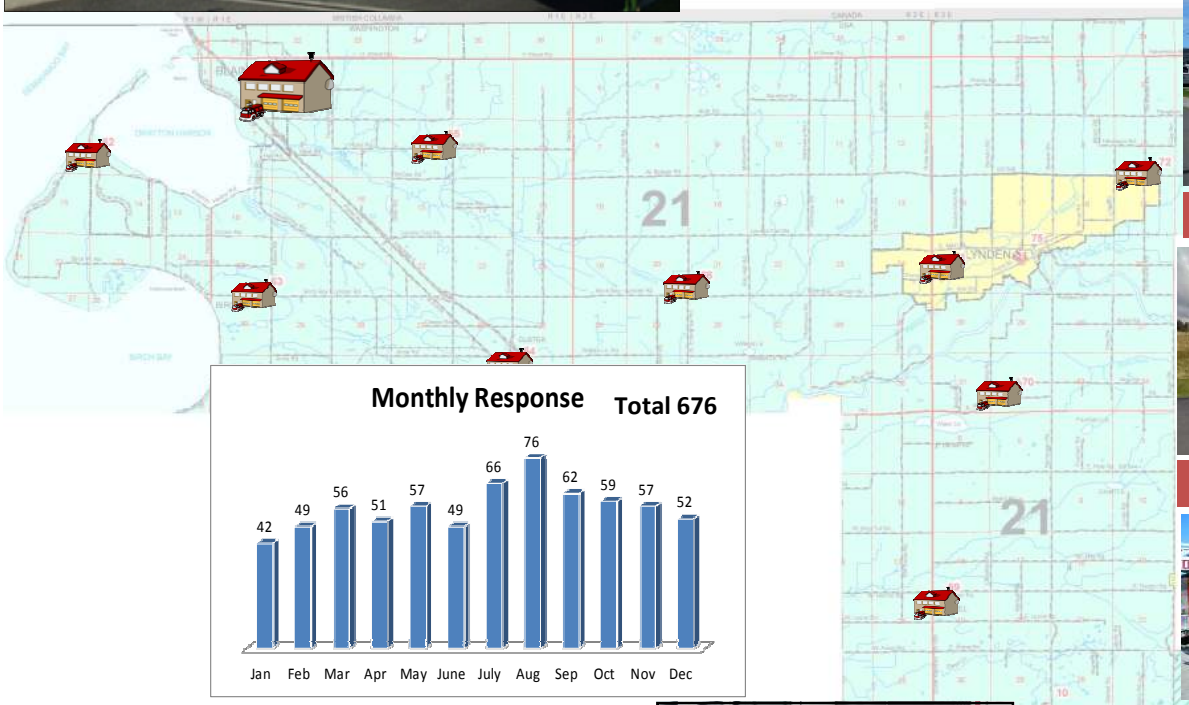
** Of the above injuries three were OSHA recordable injuries.

# FACILITIES

## Blaine Station 61

9408 Odell Rd, Blaine
Year Built: 2004 Land: 1.16 acres

- Staffed 24-hours by a 3 member full-paid crew
- Houses a ladder truck, 2 aid units, 2 engines
- Monthly Fire Commissioner meetings
- Community meeting room
- Total call volume — 676



AP102—1999 Ford

AP118—2012 GMC/

AP502—1992 Pierce

AP401 —1976 Vanpelt

AP513—2009 Crimson

A SHIFT

B SHIFT

C SHIFT

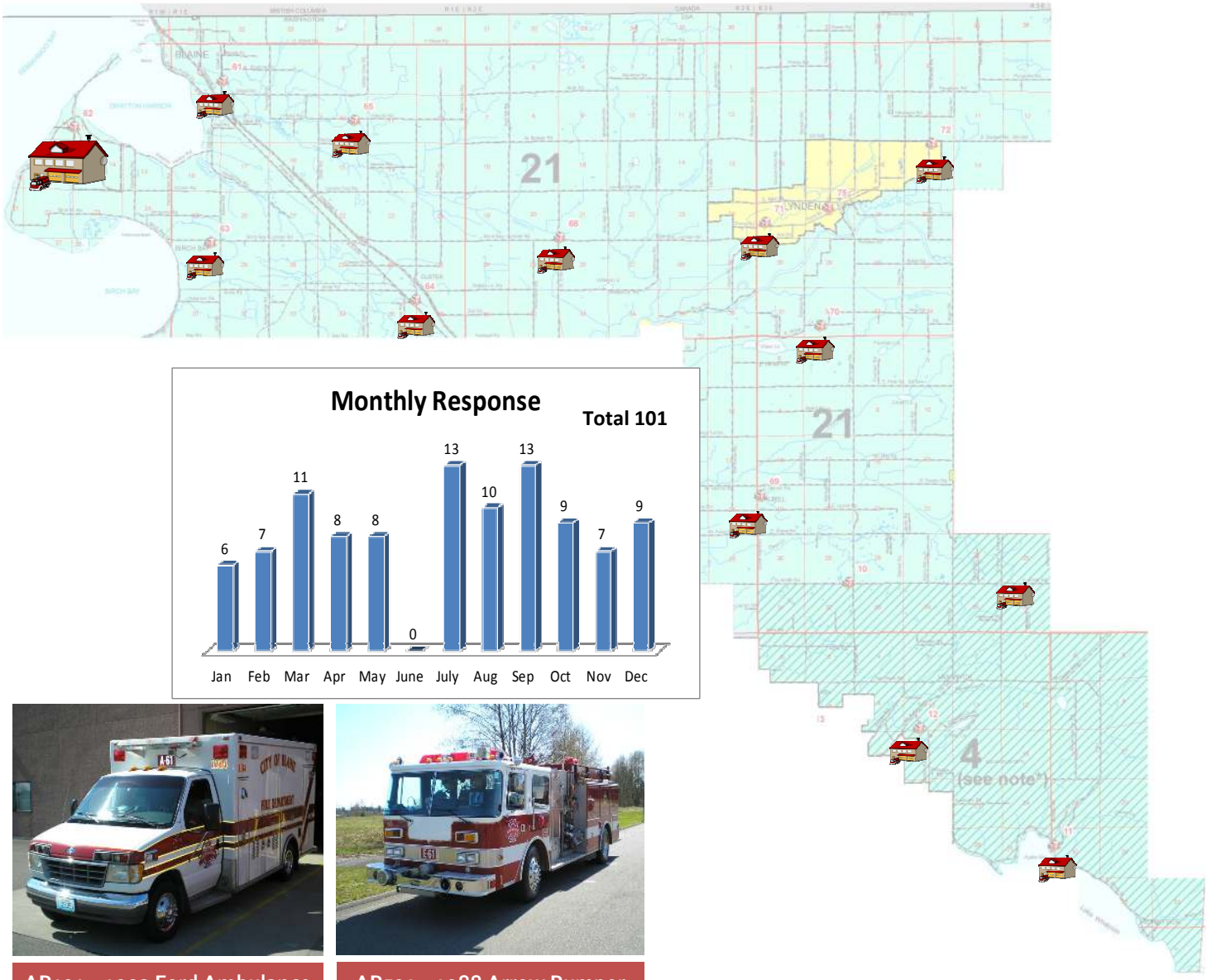
D SHIFT

# FACILITIES

## Semiahmoo Station 62

9001 Semiahmoo Pkwy, Blaine
Year Built: 1995 Land: 0.92 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine
- Community meeting room
- Office space rented to Semiahmoo Resort
- Total call volume —101









AP104—1992 Ford Ambulance



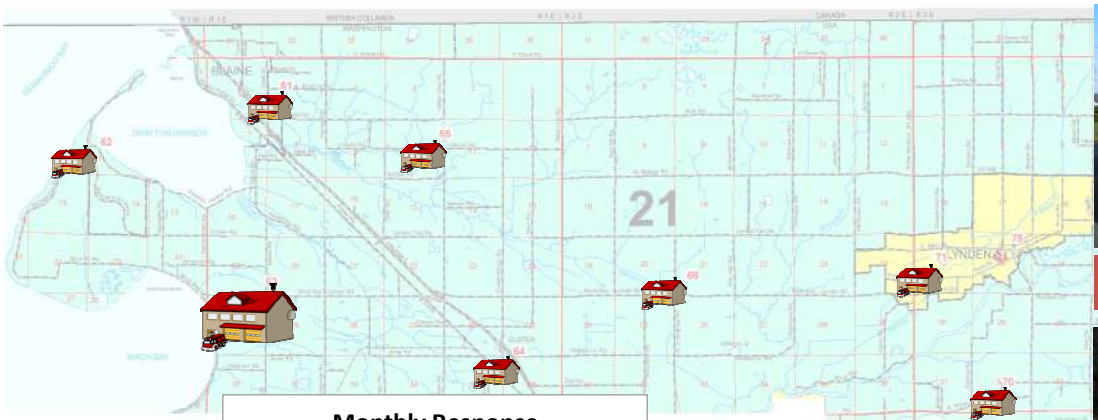
AP504—1988 Arrow Pumper

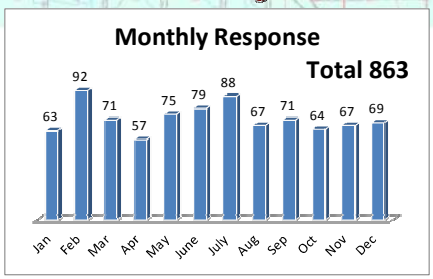
# FACILITIES

## Birch Bay Station 63

4581 Birch Bay Lynden Rd, Blaine
Year Built: 1981 Land: 2 acres

- Staffed 24-hours by a 3 member full-paid crew
- Shop added in 1996 and staffed by 2 full-time mechanics
- Division Chief of Support Services office
- Total call volume — 863



AP115—2009 Ford / Braun

AP116—2002 Ford

AP201—1994 Pierce

Ap511—2008 Crimson

A SHIFT

B SHIFT

C SHIFT

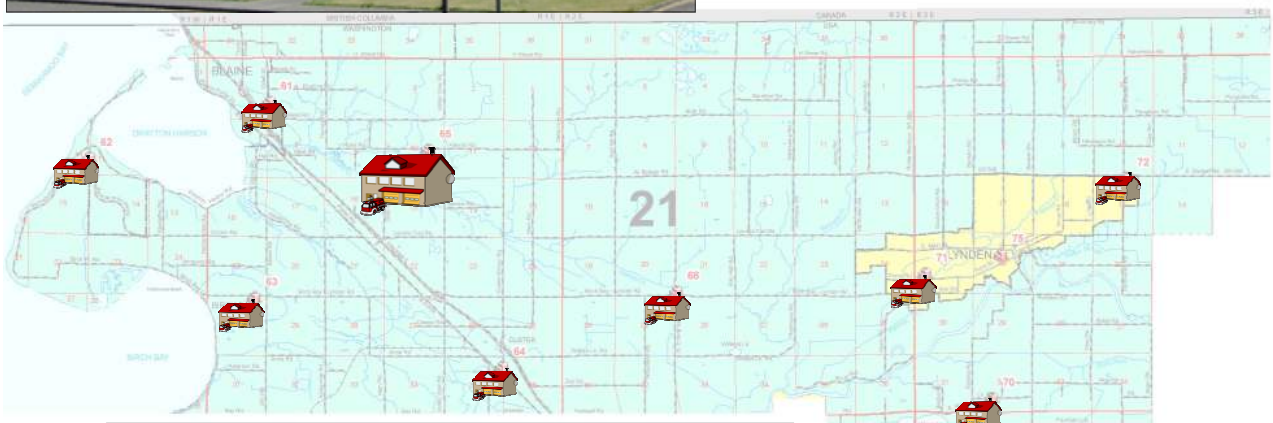
D SHIFT

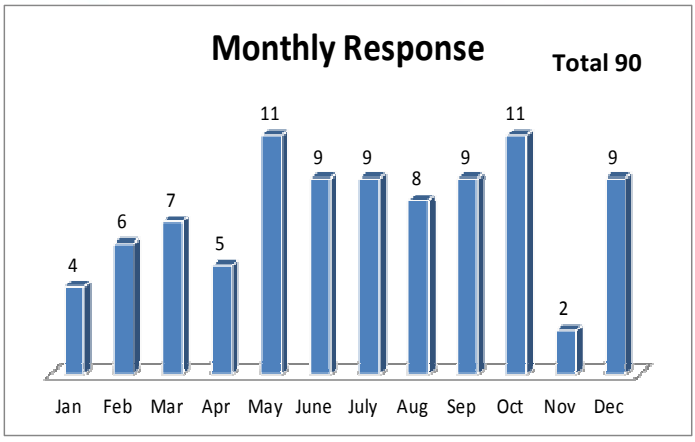
# FACILITIES

## Haynie Station 65

3401 Haynie Rd., Blaine
Year Built: 1987 Land: 1.85 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine, 1 tender
- Total call volume — 90



AP205—1986 Ford Tender

AP503—1989 Pierce / Lance

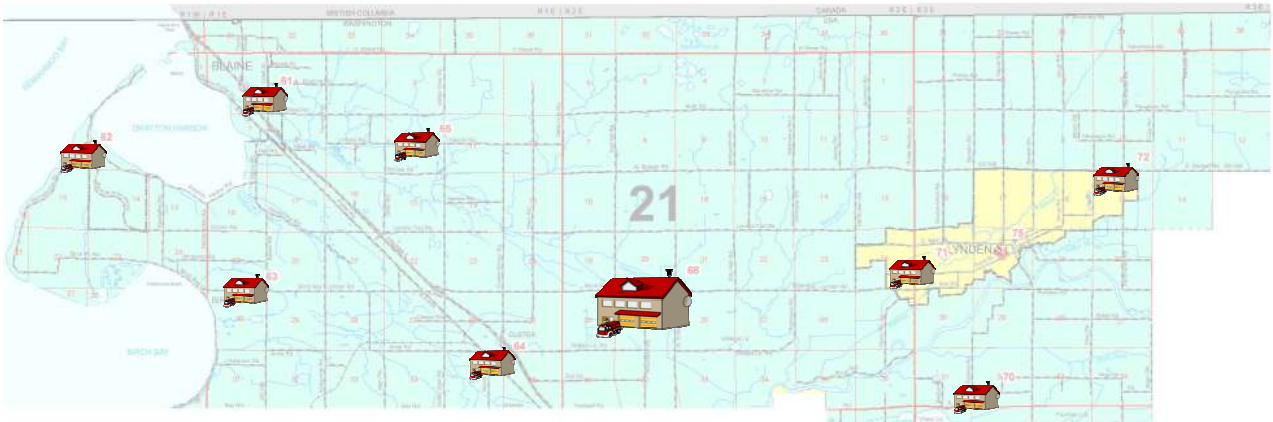
AP106—1994 Chevy

# FACILITIES

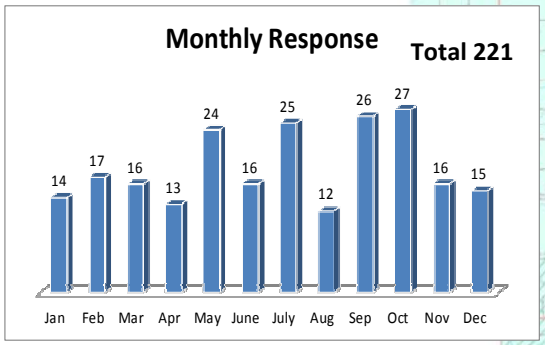
## Delta Station 68

8118 N. Enterprise Rd, Custer
Year Built: 1974 Land: 0.9 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Tender Support
- Houses 1 engine, 2 tenders, 1 brush truck
- Monthly labor group meetings
- Total call volume — 221



AP208—1999 Freightliner



AP506—1990 Pierce / Lance

AP805—2002 Ford

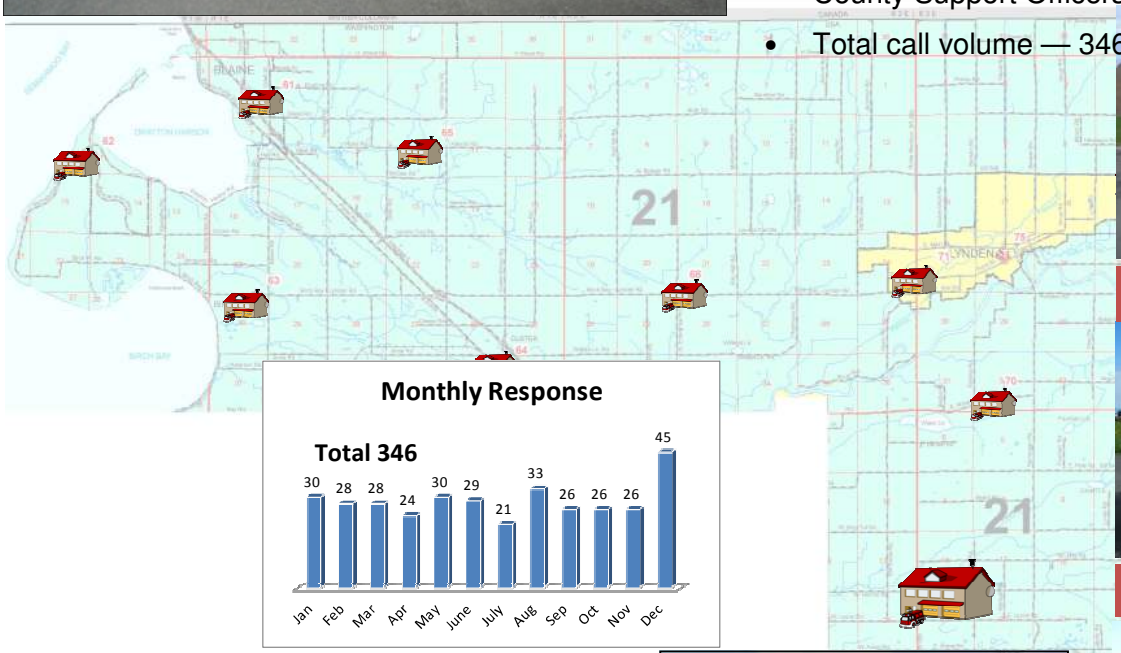
AP204—1998 International

# FACILITIES

## Laurel Station 69

6028 Guide Meridian, Bellingham
Year Built: Approx. 1972 Land: 1.47 acres

- Staffed 24-hours by a 3 member full-paid crew
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine, 1 tender
- County Fire Safety Education Trailer
- Meeting space provided to Whatcom County Support Officers
- Total call volume — 346

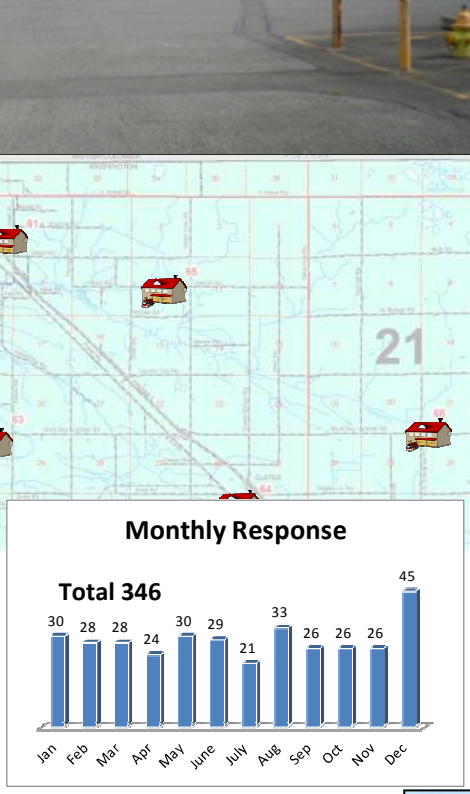


AP114—2008 North Star

AP203 1998

AP512—2009 Crimson

AP802—2002 Ford



A SHIFT

B SHIFT

C SHIFT

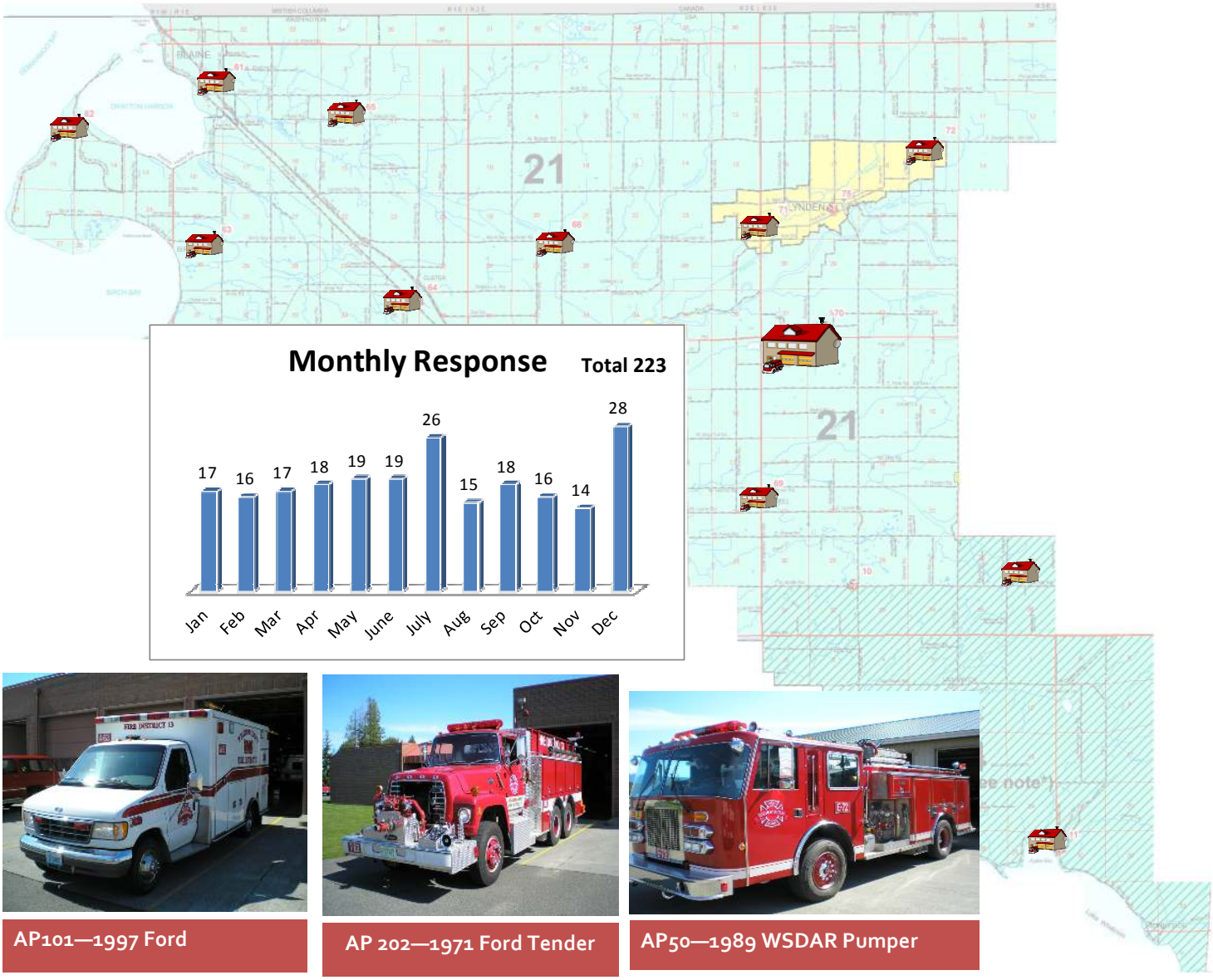
D SHIFT

# FACILITIES

## Wiser Lake Station 70

633 E. Wiser Lk Rd, Lynden
Year Built: 1995 Land: 1.0 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 tender, 1 engine
- District Records Archives
- Total call volume — 223






AP101—1997 Ford



AP 202—1971 Ford Tender



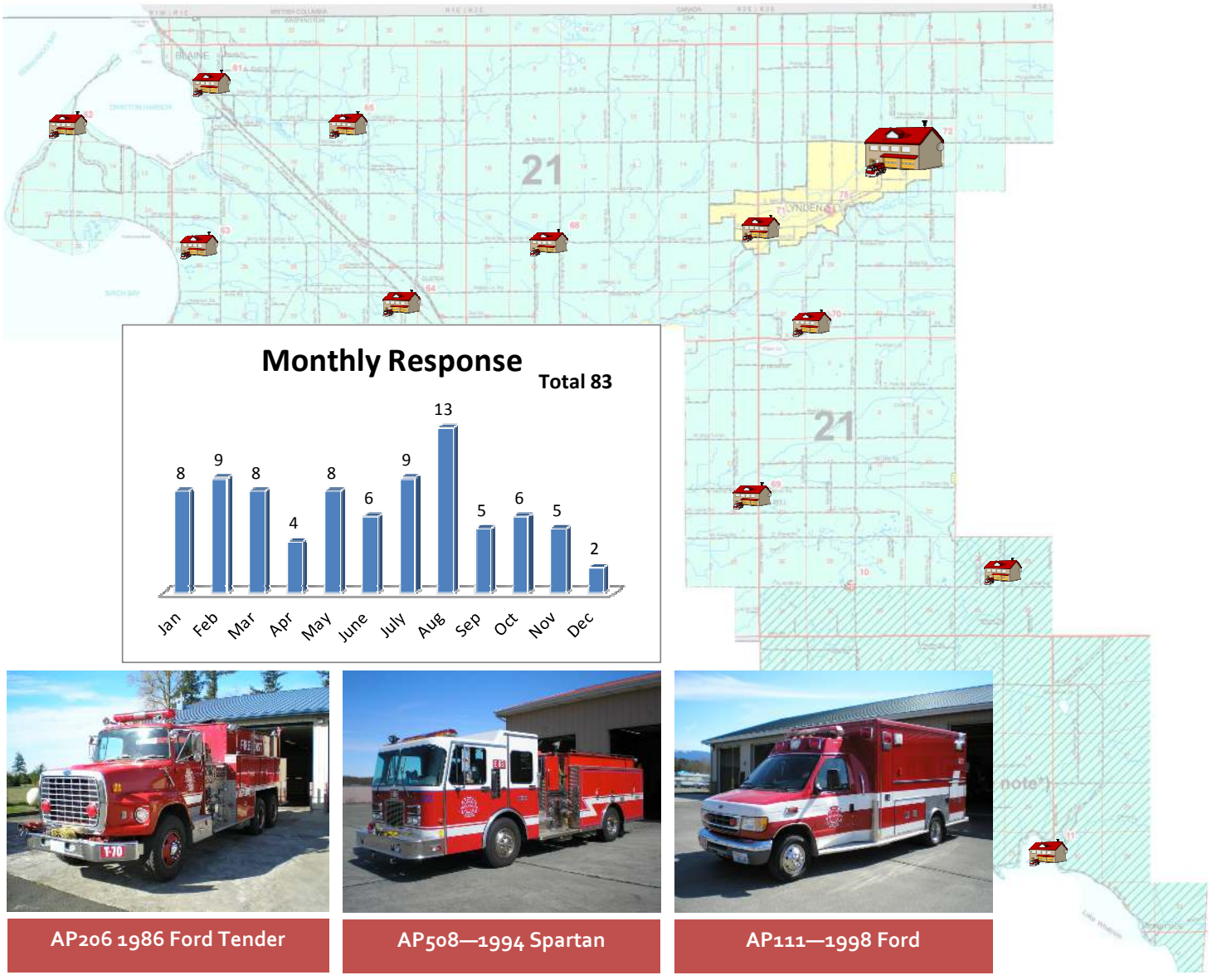
AP50—1989 WSDAR Pumper

# FACILITIES

## Northwood Station 72

1507 E Badger Rd, Lynden
Year Built: Approx. 1980 Land: 1.65 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine, 1 tender—can be utilized by Lynden Fire Department as needed
- Bellingham Pipes & Drums practice space
- Total call volume — 83









AP206 1986 Ford Tender



AP508—1994 Spartan



AP111—1998 Ford

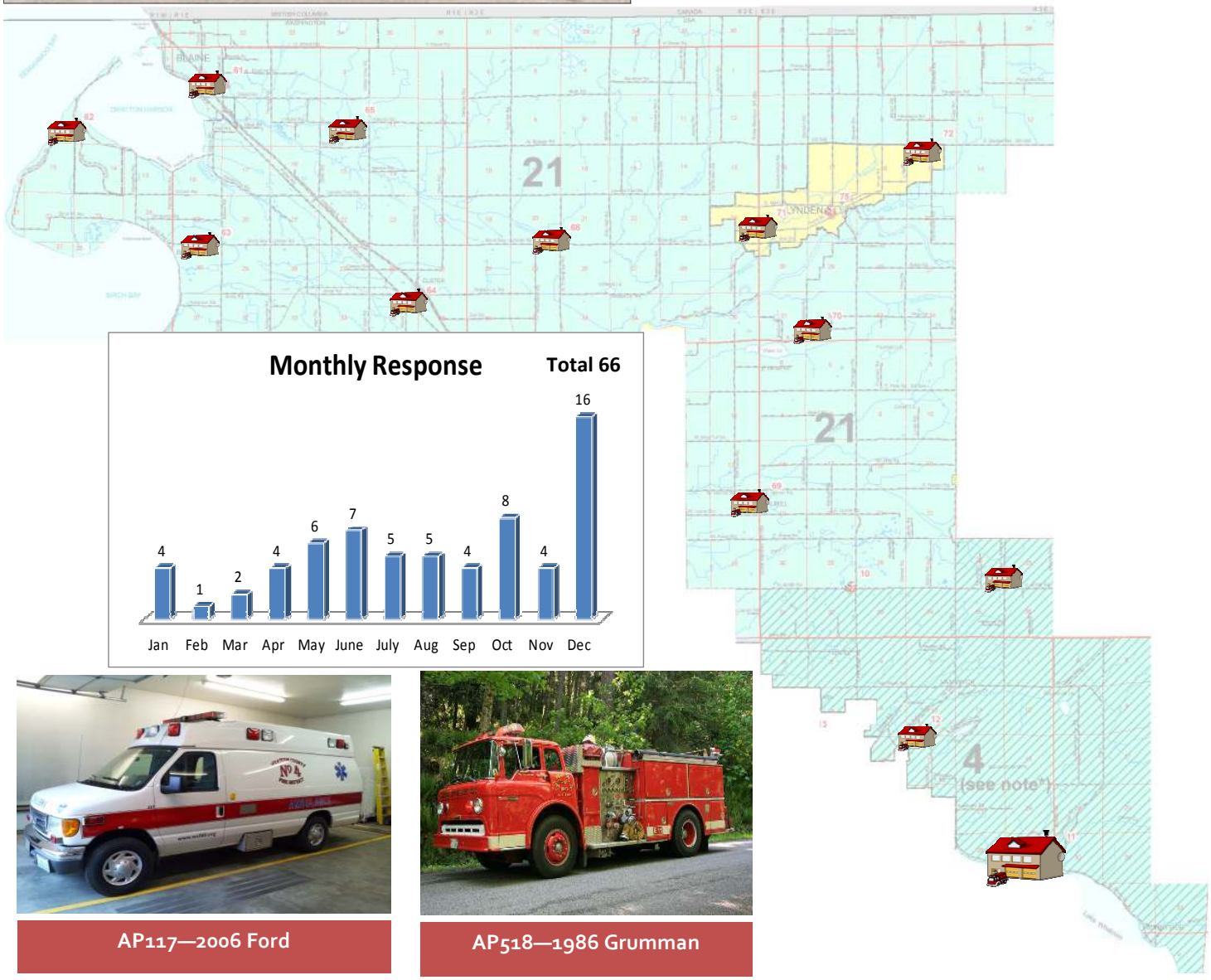
# FACILITIES

## Agate Bay Station 11

3131 Y Rd, Bellingham
Year Built: Unknown

Land: Less than 0.25 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine
- Total call volume — 66









AP117—2006 Ford



AP518—1986 Grumman

# FACILITIES

## Britton Loop Station 12

4142 Britton Loop Rd, Bellingham
Year Built: Approx. 2001 Land: Less than 7.06 acres

- Administrative Headquarters
- Staffed 24-hours by a 3 member full-paid crew
- Houses 2 aid units, 1 engine, 1 tender, 1 brush truck
- Training tower / grounds / props
- Houses Whatcom Fire Chiefs Fire Safety House
- Bellingham Pipes & Drums practice space
- Community meeting room
- Total call volume - 300

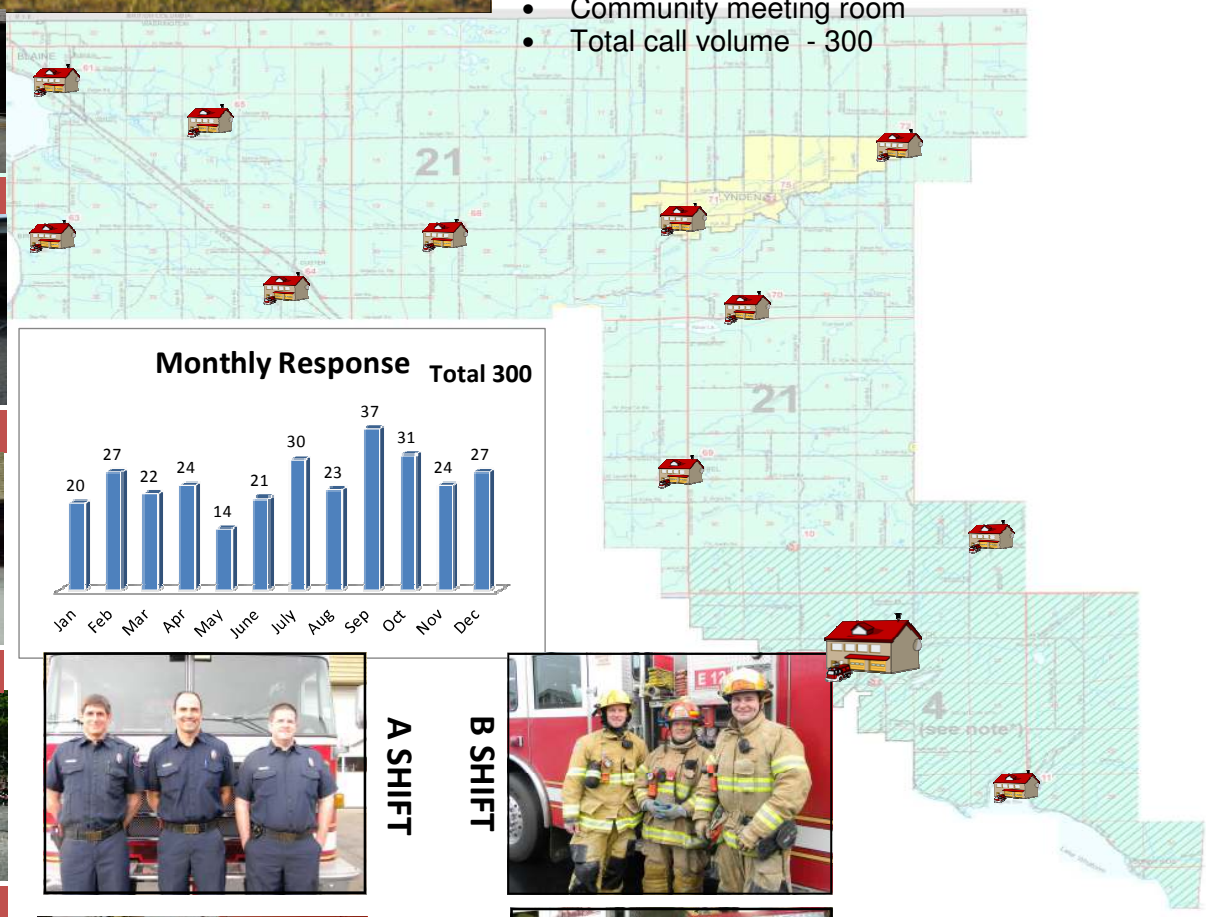
AP103—1999 Ford

AP107 - 2000 Ford /

AP207—1999

AP517—2007 Pierce/

AP806—2001 Ford









A SHIFT



B SHIFT

C SHIFT

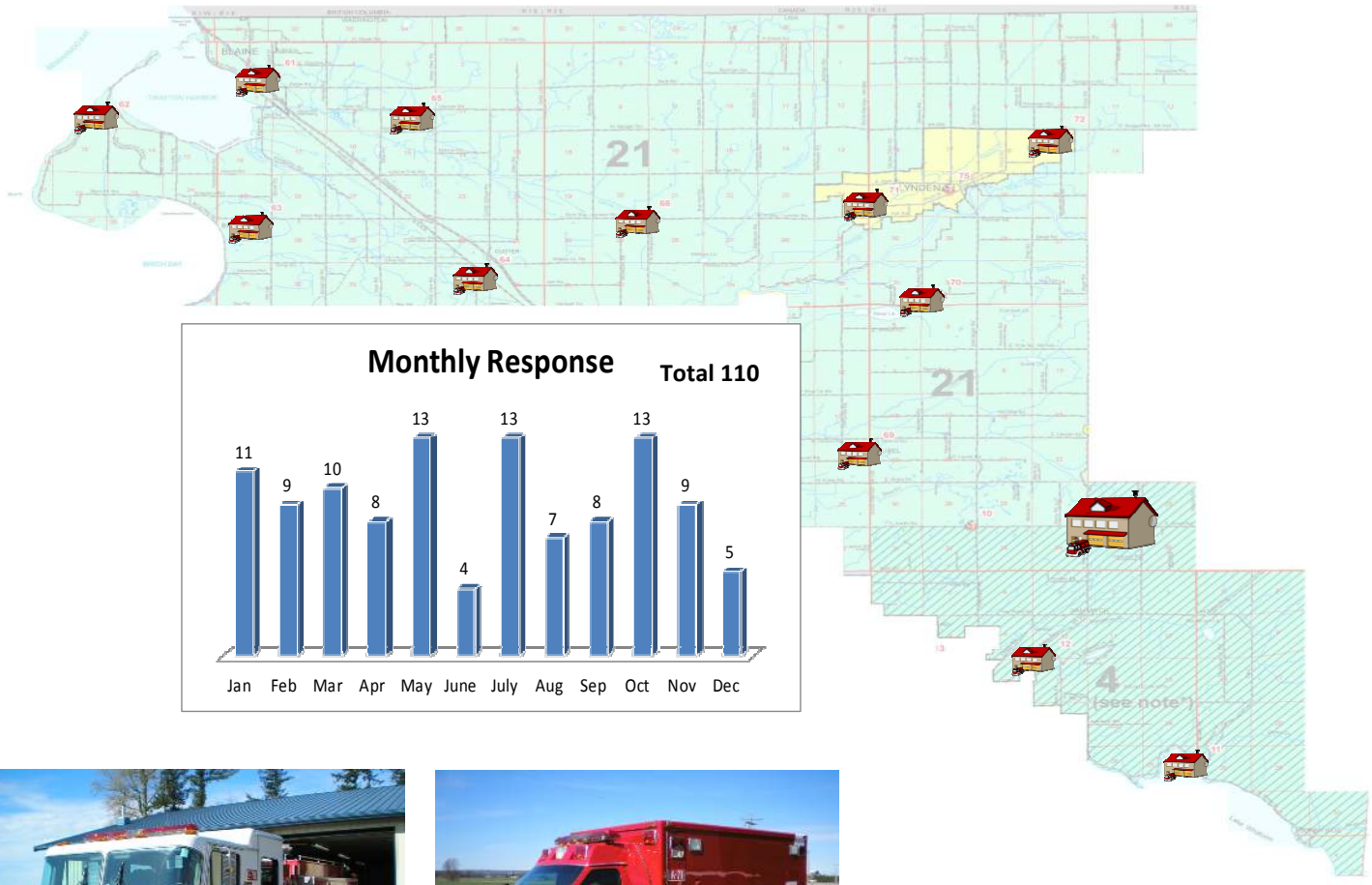
D SHIFT

# FACILITIES

## Smith Road Station 13

2308 E. Smith Rd, Bellingham
Year Built: 1931, Remodeled 200
Land: Less than 4.6 acres

- Volunteer Station
- Houses 1 aid unit, 1 engine
- Total call volume — 110



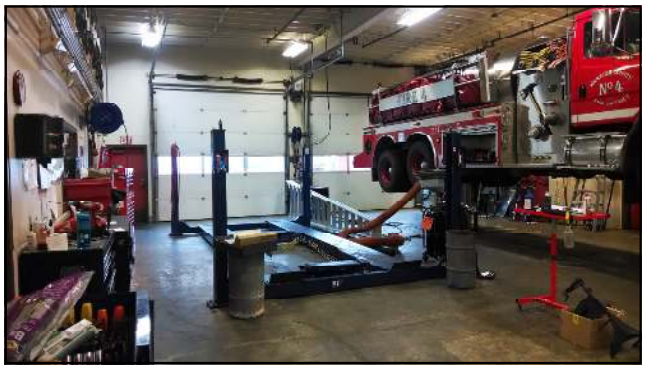
AP510—1994 Spartan

AP112—1998 Ford

# APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

## *Resources

- 12 Fire Stations
- Administration Building and Classroom
- Training Tower and Drill Field
- Fleet Maintenance Shop
- 13 Ambulance (Aid Units)
- 13 Fire Engines
- 8 Water Tenders
- 2 Aerial Ladder Trucks
- 4 Brush Trucks
- 5 Command Vehicles
- 6 Support Vehicles
- **Fire Safety Education Trailer
- *includes District 4 resources

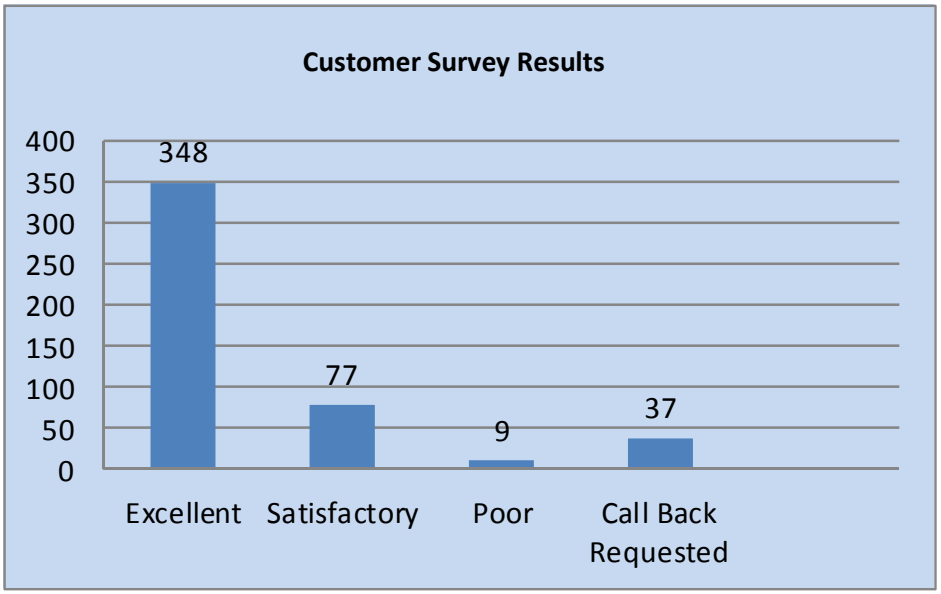


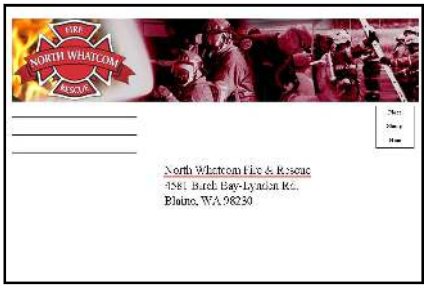
# WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING...

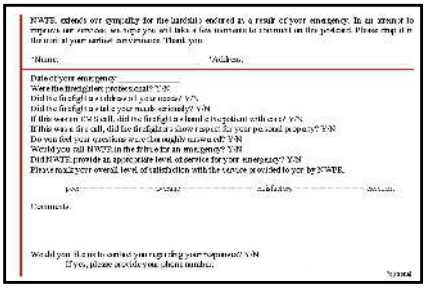
## 2014 Postcard Survey Results

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue aspires to provide the community with the best service possible. In an effort to improve their services NWFR sends out customer survey cards to emergency medical and fire related calls. Any customer desiring additional information is contacted and all pertinent information is passed on to the appropriate division.

| | Total Calls | Sympathy | Surveys Sent out | Returned | Excellent | Satisfactory | Poor | Call Back Requested |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 241 | 2 | 147 | 37 | 32 | 5 | 0 | 1 |
| Feb | 282 | 1 | 142 | 36 | 33 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Mar | 275 | 1 | 144 | 34 | 28 | 5 | 1 | 7 |
| Apr | 231 | 1 | 140 | 30 | 24 | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| May | 286 | 1 | 156 | 35 | 30 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Jun | 270 | 1 | 146 | 36 | 25 | 11 | 0 | 1 |
| Jul | 324 | 3 | 172 | 36 | 25 | 11 | 0 | 3 |
| Aug | 281 | 1 | 129 | 34 | 28 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| Sep | 304 | 0 | 160 | 52 | 36 | 16 | 3 | 3 |
| Oct | 308 | 2 | 131 | 33 | 30 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Nov | 253 | 2 | 166 | 30 | 28 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Dec | 303 | 4 | 144 | 37 | 29 | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| Totals | 3358 | 19 | 1777 | 430 | 348 | 77 | 9 | 37 |



# WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING...

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue receives many letters and comments from people whose lives we touch while carrying out our duties. Below are some of the recent comments we have received.

They were very professional and kind. They even drove my car to the station so it would be safe and off the busy Guide Meridian Road. Thank-you.

Truly the most horrifying event to run out of a burning house and watch it burn. I will always applaud the efficiency of your team as I saw the fire extinguished and a huge sigh of relief for the comfort given.

The response was very quick and they were thorough, friendly and reassuring. While I hope we never need EMTs again, I am so glad to know you are there. Thank you.

They were “on the spot”.

I would like to thank the responders for coming back and to finish cutting my lawn. They were absolutely wonderful. Thanks fellas.

I am thankful for all your firefighters who came to help my husband and me. I don’t know what we would have done without your service this past year.

NORTH WHATCOM FIRE & RESCUE
4142 Britton Loop Road, Bellingham, WA 98226
360-318-9933 www.nwfrs.net