



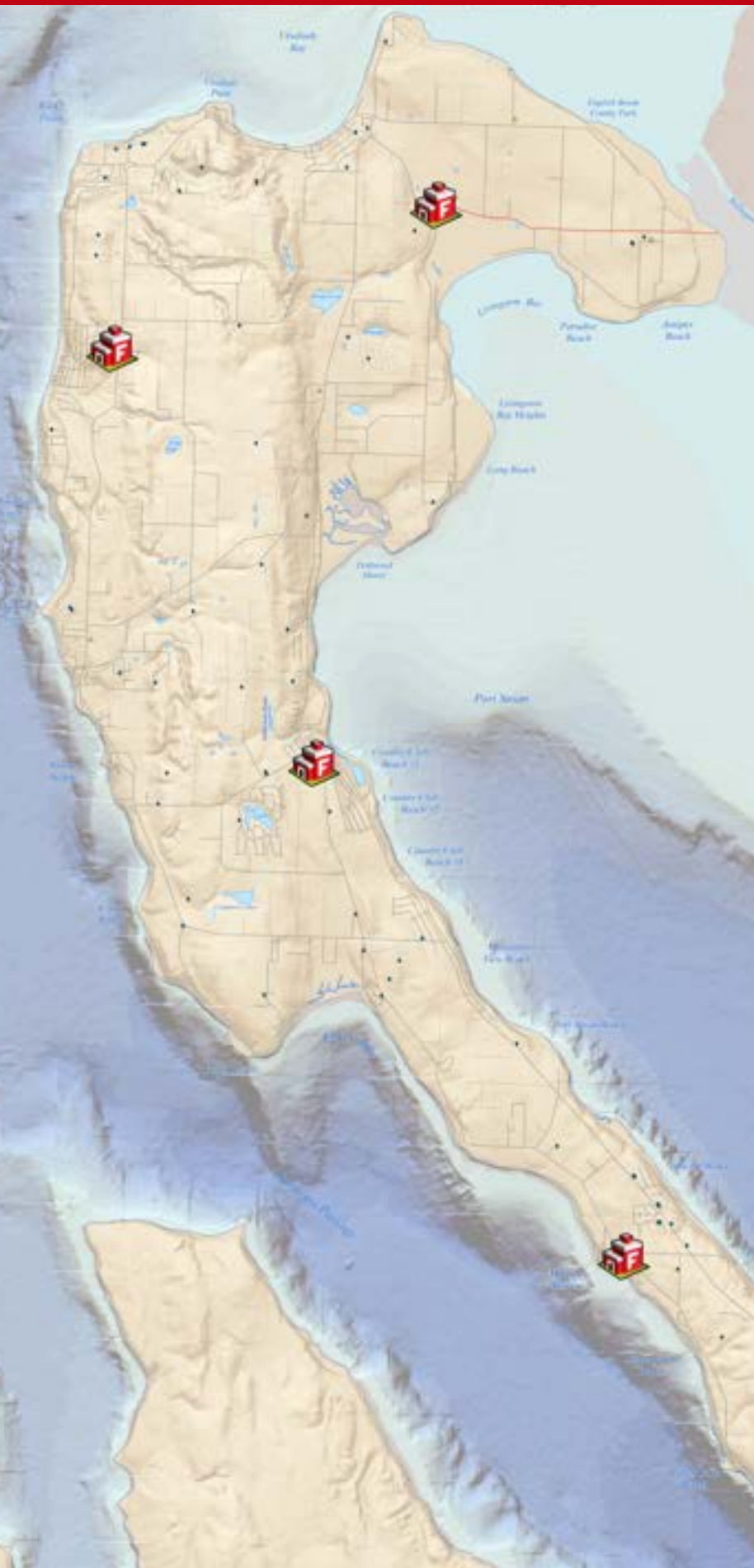
# 2018

## ANNUAL REPORT



CAMANO ISLAND  
FIRE AND RESCUE

# OUR SERVICE AREA



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Camano Island Fire and Rescue



Camano Fire



# INTRODUCTION

Our primary purpose at Camano Island Fire and Rescue is to protect and serve our community - their lives, property, and environment. Our annual report is a chance to review the past year's performance, highlight notable events and successes, and share information about our department.

We are the only elected body that specifically serves Camano Island. We are proud of our dedication and commitment to our community, and our ability to support their health and wellbeing.

## BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS



Camano Island Fire and Rescue is governed by a board of five Commissioners elected to serve six-year terms. The Board develops the District's overall strategic plan and long term vision.

Working closely with the administrative staff, the Board guides the District through the adoption of policies and procedures. In addition to their work for the residents of Camano Island, they are also actively involved in State and County associations that address issues related to the delivery of fire and emergency medical services.



# OUR MISSION

Working together to safely protect our community's lives & property. We fulfill this mission through high quality:

- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Protection
- Technical Rope & Marine Rescue
- Fire Prevention & Public Education

# OUR VISION

Camano Island Fire and Rescue will be a premiere agency and industry-leading role model for combination fire departments, which include full time, part time, and volunteer personnel. We will focus on providing high-quality, cost-effective, and cohesive service that will exceed community expectations. We will accomplish this vision by utilizing a physically fit, healthy, and diverse workforce that is well trained and empowered with a high level of involvement in our success. We will emphasize proactive communication at all levels, and ongoing transparency to our community. Camano Island Fire & Rescue will be a positive and valued part of the community.



## OUR VALUES

### INTEGRITY

- Good ethics
- Walking the talk
- Doing the right thing when no one is looking or when it is unpopular

### TRUSTWORTHINESS

- Honesty
- Feeling safe
- Must be earned
- Willingness to break the cycle of distrust
- Respect our partners & coworkers

### TRANSPARENCY

- Open communication
- Community involvement & information

### PRIDE & OWNERSHIP

- Professionalism
- Knowledge
- Teamwork
- Appearance & uniform
  - Dress and act appropriately
- Self-Motivation
  - Foster an entrepreneurial attitude
  - Take the opportunity to go above and beyond
- Emphasis on Customer Service
- Standards
  - Let people know what is expected of them
- Embrace diversity and creativity



A detailed topographic map of Camano Island, Washington, outlined in red. The map shows various geographical features including rivers (Lyall River, Long River, Lyall River, Lyall River), bays (Lyall Bay, Lyall Bay, Lyall Bay), and numerous smaller water bodies. Several fire stations are marked with red fire truck icons. The island is surrounded by water, and the surrounding land is visible at the bottom.

# CAMANO ISLAND

16,427  
population

39.8  
square miles

50  
firefighters

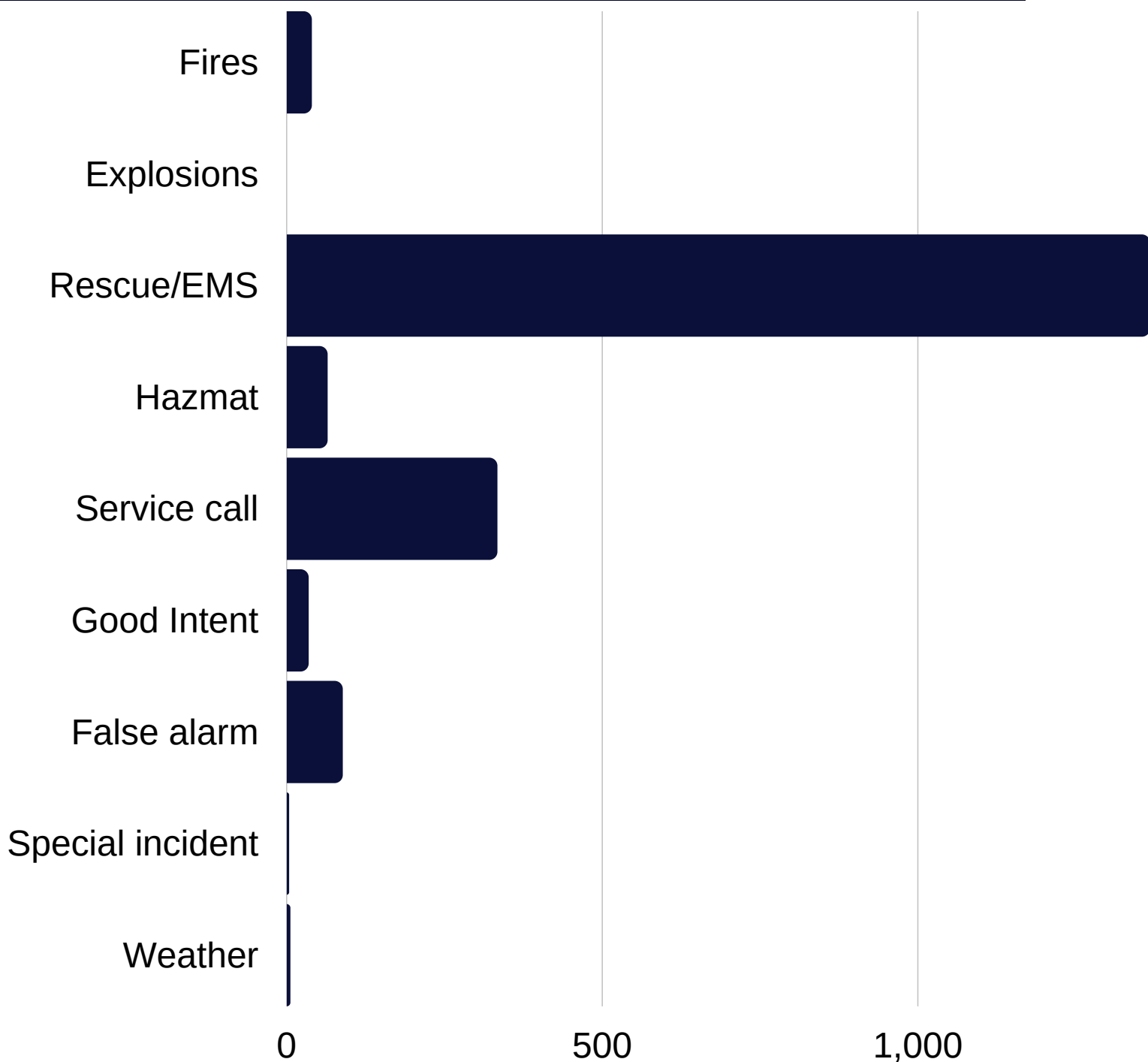
10  
paramedics

10  
administrative  
& maintenance  
personnel

4  
fire stations



# 2018 INCIDENT TYPES



1,933

Number of  
dispatched calls



# RESPONSE TIMELINE

## CIFR Standards

## 2018 Crew performance

### 90th PERCENTILE\* RESPONSE TIMES

*Camano Fire has adopted a turnout time standard of 90 seconds 90% of the time for all priority calls.*

*First arriving unit response time standard of 9 minutes and 30 seconds 90% of the time for all priority calls.*

### Turnout time

data not collected

### Department-wide

11:36

### By response zone

#### Station 2

11:18

#### Station 3

9:24

#### Station 4

11:42

#### Station 5

15:54

## 911 call

someone calls 911



## dispatch

911 dispatch center processes call and dispatches appropriate units



## turnout

Time from unit dispatch to time when crew is geared up, in vehicle & leaving for the call



## travel

Time from unit leaving to when it physically arrives at the call



\*90th Percentile means that 90% of the time we responded at the time listed or more quickly.

\*\* Longer response times are often due to overlapping calls (19% of the time) or ability to rapidly move apparatus from their current location to the physical location of the emergency.



# RESPONSE ANALYSIS

## Predictable consequences

Response standards within the fire service are based on certain critical time factions, e.g. time to flash-over in a burning room, decrease in survival rates over time following a cardiac arrest without defibrillation, and a decrease in survival rates over time following severe traumatic injuries prior to arrival at a trauma facility. We understand the critical nature of these measures and acknowledge the importance of meeting these standards to ensure the safety and well-being of our community members.

All departments face individual challenges in meeting these critical time points and national standards are especially difficult to meet for

rural departments such as CIFR. In addition, Camano Island faces unique challenges. Serving geographically dispersed populations with fewer firefighters and paramedics poses inherent difficulties. Our service is absolutely dependent on mutual aid resources from neighboring departments and aid agreements are in place to support our fire and medical personnel. Our uniquely isolated geography limits our ability to receive aid which can exacerbate staffing and response challenges.

Our commitment to community safety remains a top priority, and these collaborative measures strengthen our capacity to address the needs of our residents efficiently.

## Plan of Action

To improve our emergency response capabilities, we are taking a multifaceted approach that prioritizes both analysis and proactive measures.

First, we recognize that we need to refine our data collection practices and analyze response times in areas where we fell short of standards. This data-driven assessment allows us to identify specific weaknesses, training needs, and procedural improvements. From there, we can develop targeted training programs and refine procedures to enhance efficiency and response times.

Additionally, we are committed to a thorough review of staffing locations. Placing resources in higher-demand areas will enable us to be more responsive to community needs. This strategic placement of personnel and equipment ensures a quicker, more effective response when and where it matters most.

Moreover, we understand the importance of hiring and retaining qualified personnel. As our community grows, we must expand our workforce to meet the increasing demands for our services. Attracting and retaining skilled firefighters and paramedics is essential to maintaining adequate staffing levels and ensuring that our response standards are consistently met.

# SERVICES

## Fire suppression

Our strategy in responding to structure fires is simple – get there fast and extinguish the fire while it's small. When we arrive before flashover (when the temperature closest to the fire rises to a level where everything ignites), they find a fire that requires little water or extinguishment effort.

However, once flashover occurs, ordinary fire suppression techniques have little impact on life and property loss near the fire. After flashover, the smoke and heat generated reduce the chances of safe evacuation in the remainder of the building. This also presents a much greater danger to the firefighters. Unless the building is equipped with sprinklers, firefighters must take hose lines inside to extinguish the fire.

CIFR utilizes an aggressive attack strategy to push the heat, smoke and steam away from potential survivors;



if this is not possible, defensive operations are deployed to prevent the fire from spreading and contain it to the room of origin. The success of fire suppression operations depends on early intervention by response crews.

CIFR dispatches four engines, three tenders, one rescue truck, one medic truck and a chief officer to a working fire. However, quick response times are dependent on the location of the fire in relationship to the fire station and availability of firefighters.

## Marine Rescue



When you live on an island, water rescue is very important. On Camano, we see more water rescues than cardiac arrests. Too often, the victim isn't wearing a life jacket, and time is everything. During crabbing and shrimp season, the number of boaters increases dramatically on the island. As a result, every firefighter with the department is trained for this. With three boats, including a 28 foot fireboat, CIFR's more than 40 water rescue technicians and 13 fire boat operators are increasingly prepared.

# SERVICES

## Emergency Medical Services

All firefighters are cross-trained as EMTs or paramedics, with Medical Control taking place through the Island County Medical Direction.

Personnel maintain rigorous training and recertification processes following Washington State Department of Health guidelines and the adopted and approved continuing education plan.

Emergency Medical Services are provided through the use of engine companies and ambulance crews who are trained as paramedics or EMTs. Based on the need for services, these units will respond with either a fire engine, Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance, or Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance.

Depending on the on-duty personnel available, the on-duty fire engine may be staffed either as a basic or advanced life support unit. Once patient care has been established, an appropriate care level is determined, and either the basic life support personnel, EMTs, or advanced life support paramedics provide care until arriving at a local hospital for definitive care.

One ALS and one BLS ambulance, as well as one fire engine, are staffed 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, and they are strategically positioned on Camano Island to provide rapid response.



### PARAMEDICS

The new recruits serving as paramedics on Camano Island have been through emergency boot camp in Seattle.

Harborview Medical Center in Seattle is the region's busiest trauma center. There, each recruit responds to at least 3,000 emergencies. Those thousands of calls prepare them to serve with other veterans. There are many examples of crew members who served in high-volume areas such as Portland and Seattle. It's all been important training, since Camano Island logs more than a thousand EMS calls per year.



## Community Paramedic program

Community Paramedicine (CP) is the provision of outreach to patients at risk for using the emergency medical or in-patient healthcare system for primary care services, and helping them find more appropriate resources for their medical needs. Providing these services may take many forms, and to be successful, it should be based on filling gaps for local needs.

In 2015, Camano Island Fire and Rescue introduced its own Community Paramedicine program – a medical emergency prevention program – to improve patient care and reduce emergency service costs for taxpayers. The program is one of several community paramedicine programs launched in Washington State to respond to changes in health care law.



## Rope Rescue



Rope rescue operations are a critical piece of the technical rescue response on Camano Island. Much of our shoreline is high bluff, and often it is a homeowner's pet that goes over a cliff. If we don't go get the dog, nine times out of 10 we'll have to go after the owner instead.

The department commits to training every career firefighter in rope rescue; six team members are at the technician level, requiring at least 40 hours of training, though most have 90 or more hours. In addition, the rope rescue equipment and methods are frequently used in other rescue operations, such as fire incidents and car accidents.

# SERVICES

## Community outreach & education

Camano Island Fire and Rescue paramedics offer monthly CPR classes for the public that include Adult, Child & Infant CPR training, Choking, and AED. We participate in public and community events throughout the year, from National Night Out and Touch-A-Truck in August, to our Santa Run in December.

We also offer in-person and virtual safety and health information presentations to community groups as requested, and visit local elementary schools to talk about fire safety education. We even bring Sparky the Fire Dog!





## Training

Camano Island Fire and Rescue is committed to preparing fire and rescue personnel to deliver excellent service to the community's residents while adhering to training requirements as mandated by law. This is accomplished by proactively responding to changes, solving problems, collaborating on issues, assessing the needs of the community and personnel, and developing viable solutions.

The training division accomplishes this by incorporating the best instructional and training methods and continuously evaluating the personnel's capabilities. All Camano Fire personnel are certified in HazMat Awareness and Operations, and Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2.

