

February 9, 2015



Fire Chief's Report

- Community Events
 - Met with Mabana Ladies Auxiliary on Feb 5th
 - Citizen's Benevolent Fund
- Strategic Plan discussion
 - 2014 Annual Report

2014 CIFR Response Analysis

Total Incidents

There was a significant increase in incident numbers for CIFR in 2014. In fact, this was the highest number of emergency calls (1761) over a one year period in recent history on Camano Island. However, CIFR has recorded more total calls in years past during the time period when ALS transport service was provided to the City of Stanwood. Of the calls recorded in 2014 97% were on Camano Island with the remainder those calls in which we assisted our neighbors. The majority of mutual aid responses requested from CIFR were for assistance on marine rescue calls in the area around Whidbey Island and both fire and EMS assistance to North County Regional Fire Authority.

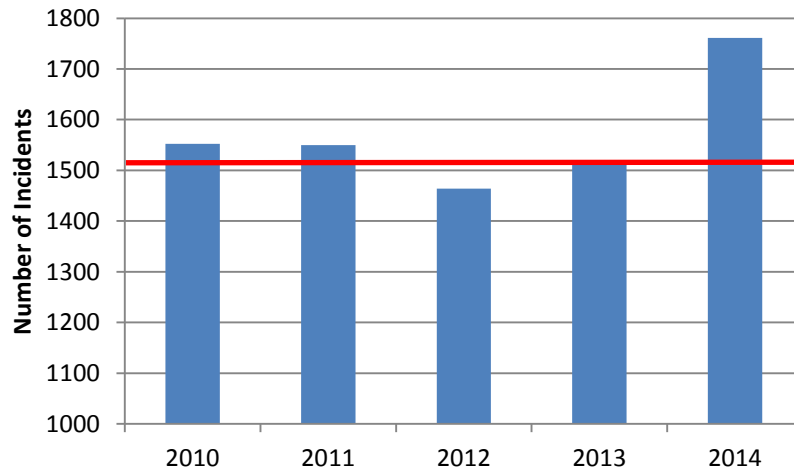


Figure 1-Total incidents per year. Average number of incidents from 2010-2013 indicated by the red line (1,521 calls).

Types of calls

Requests for Emergency Medical Service continue to be the most common incident type for CIFR. Over the last four years CIFR has experienced an average of 69.2% of their calls as EMS with 2014 similar at 71.6% of the calls as medical incidents.

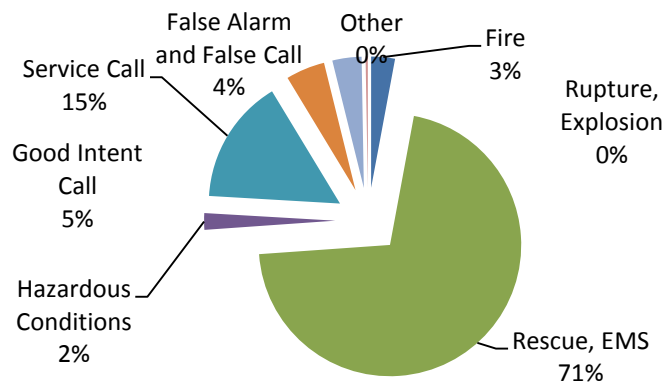


Figure 2-Incidents by call type.

Response Times

For every call that CIFR responds to call data is automatically downloaded into our reporting software. With this information we can analyze our response times and get a better idea on how we are performing. We look at four different parameters when examining our response times. Call processing time represents how long it takes for the 911 communications center to receive a call and notify emergency responders. Although call processing is out of our direct control it does play a role in how long it takes before emergency responder show up at your door. In Figure 3 you will see the time frames which we do have direct control of. Alarm Time is the period between when we receive notification of a call through our paging system and the first unit to announce on the radio that they are responding. On average in 2014 CIFR firefighters responded in 1 min 34 seconds. Travel Time is the time it takes for an emergency vehicle to arrive at the correct address following notification of an emergency. The Total Response time is simply the addition of the Alarm and Travel Times. In 2014 the average response time on Camano Island was 8 min 3 seconds and the 90th percentile for response times was 12 min 27 sec.

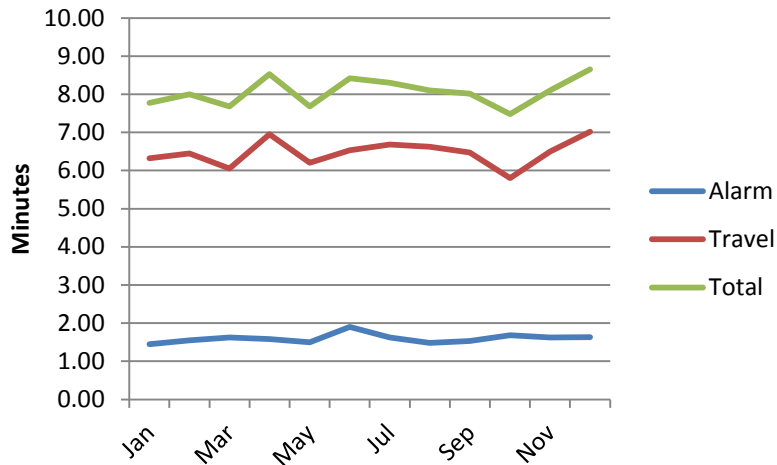


Figure 3-Average response times by month

A common statistical tool used by most fire agencies is to present response time as a 90th percentile. Our average 90th percentile for 2014 was 12 min 21 sec.

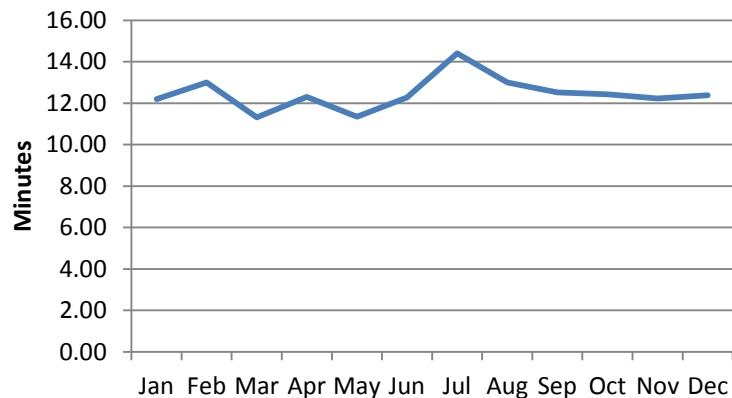


Figure 4-90th percentile for total response times

As you would expect the distance a call is from a staffed fire station has a great influence on how fast we can respond. In the figure below the size of the circle corresponds to the number of calls within the square (Small - <10 calls, Medium – 10 to 24 calls, Large > 24 calls) while the color corresponds to the average response time in that same square (Green - < 7.50 minutes, Yellow – 7.50 to 9.0 minutes, Red - > 9.0 minutes).

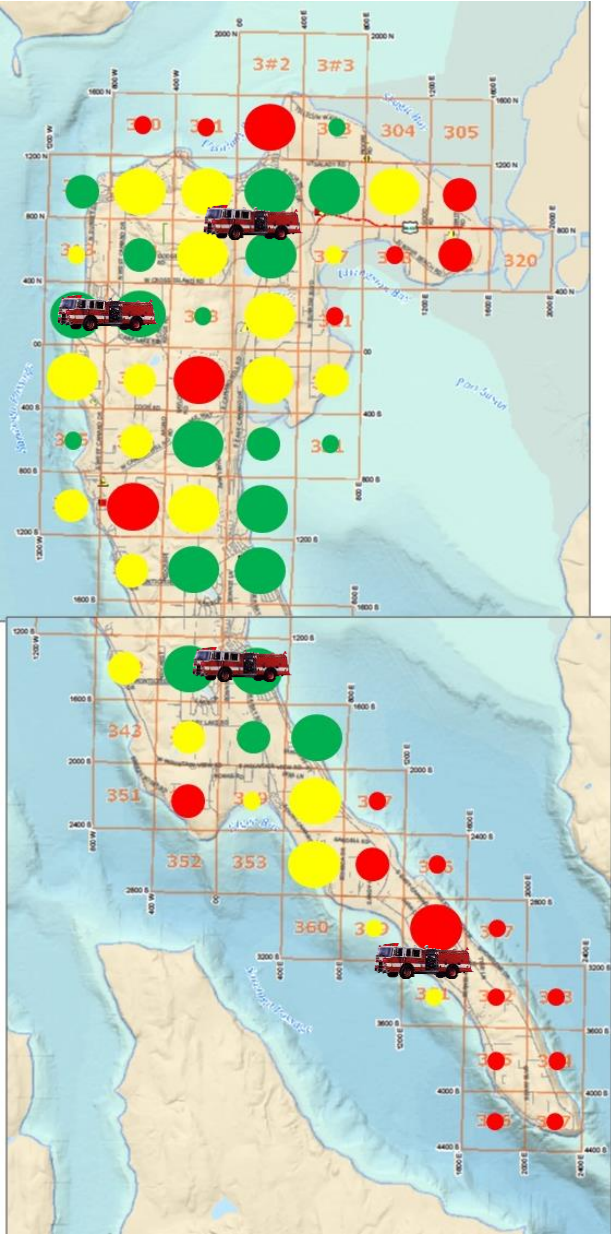


Figure 5-Incident density and response time

Incident Location

As you can see in Figure 6 the emergency calls that we responded to are primarily in areas with a higher population density. These are the areas where, for the most part, we have located our fire stations. We are watching closely as our call volume increases to make sure that we are placing personnel in the most appropriate areas to have the most effective and efficient response. As with any small fire department this means that sometimes we have a little slower response times to those areas considered more rural and during those times when we have multiple calls occurring at the same time.

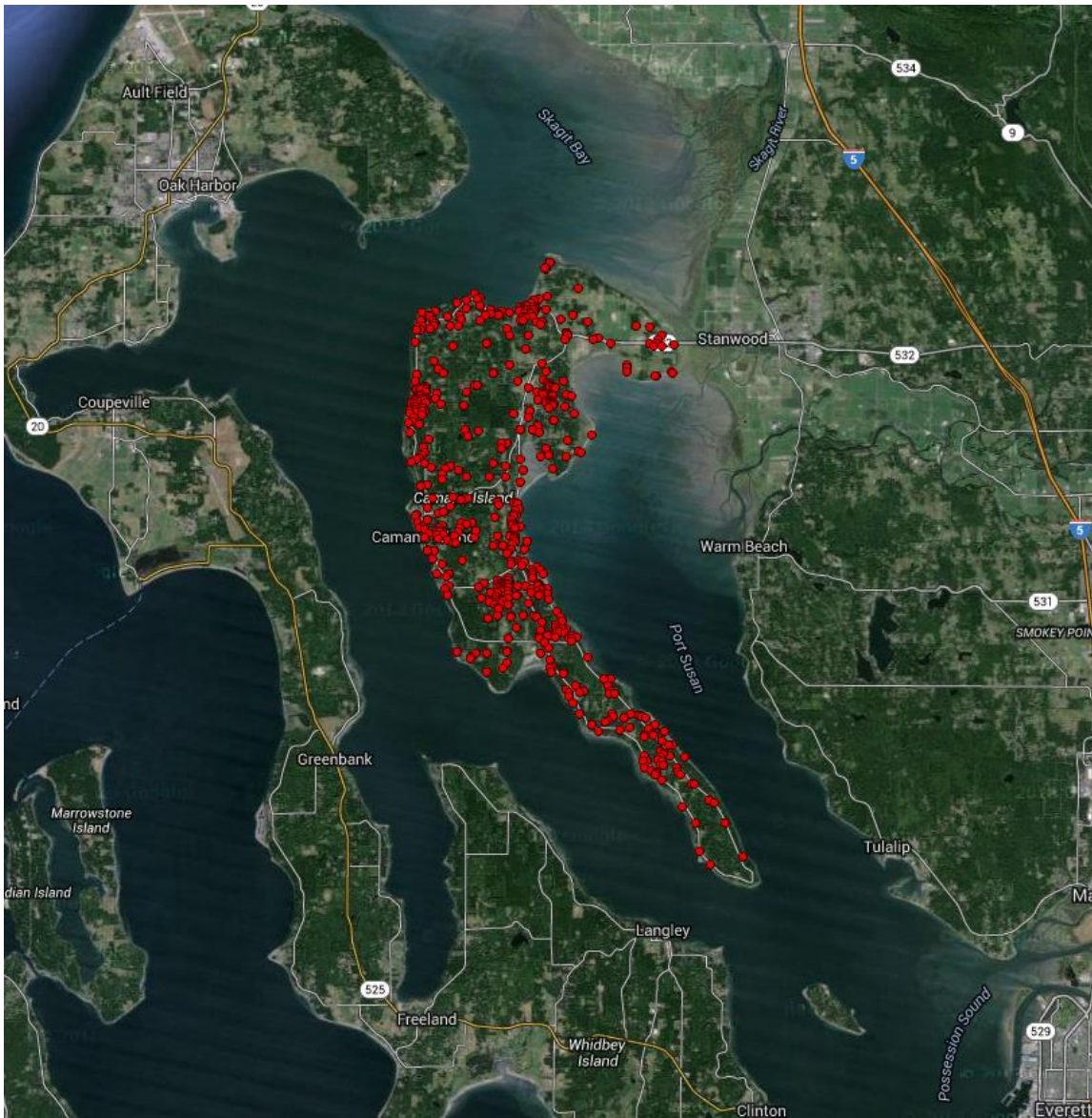


Figure 6-Incident locations.

When looking at a breakdown of calls by station approximately two thirds of the calls were in the Station 2 (35.9%) and Station 3 (26.7%) response areas. Station 4 (15.0%), Station 5 (13.9%), and Station 1 (9.0%) response areas had fewer requests for calls as to be expected due to lower population densities.

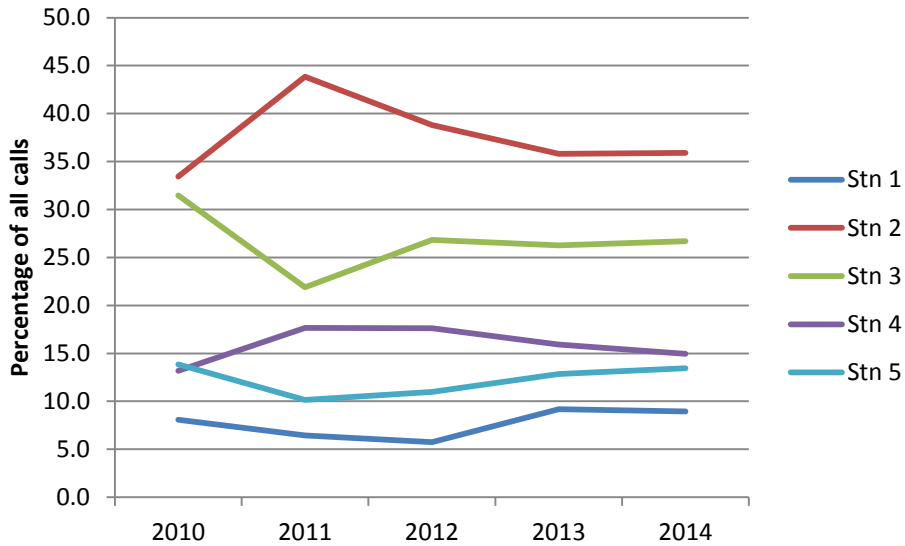


Figure 7-Calls by Station

Fire Incidents

Although fire calls made up just under 3% of our total calls these types of calls remain among the most dangerous and most costly of all of our calls. The financial loss on Camano Island due to fires was estimated to be lightly over \$420,000. The most common type of fire on Camano Island in 2014 involved grass or natural vegetation fires. Although vegetation and building fires both involve flames the tactics, equipment and training required are quite different.

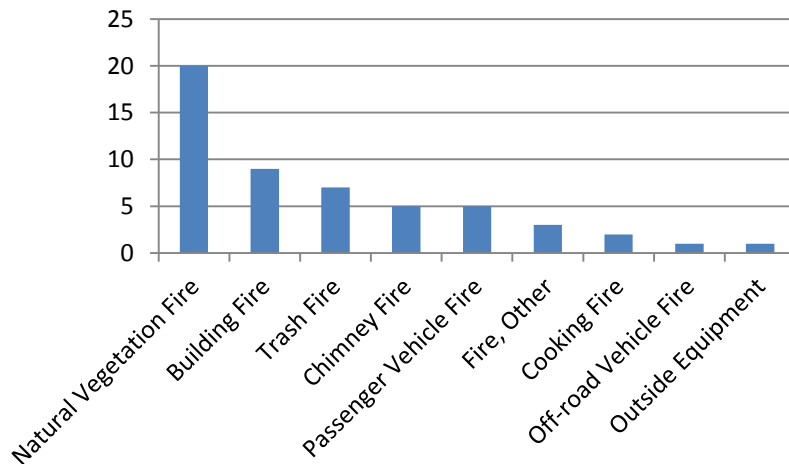


Figure 7-Breakdown of fire call types

EMS Incidents

A request for medical assistance is the most common call dispatched for CIFR at 71% of our total calls. Included within this incident type are motor vehicle accidents, rope rescue, vehicle extrication, and water/ice rescues. The most common medical complaint involved Trauma followed by Chest Pain and Weakness. In over 66% of our medical calls the patient was older than 60 years of age. As the average age of our population increases we will likely see a corresponding increase in medical issues and therefore an increase in service requests.

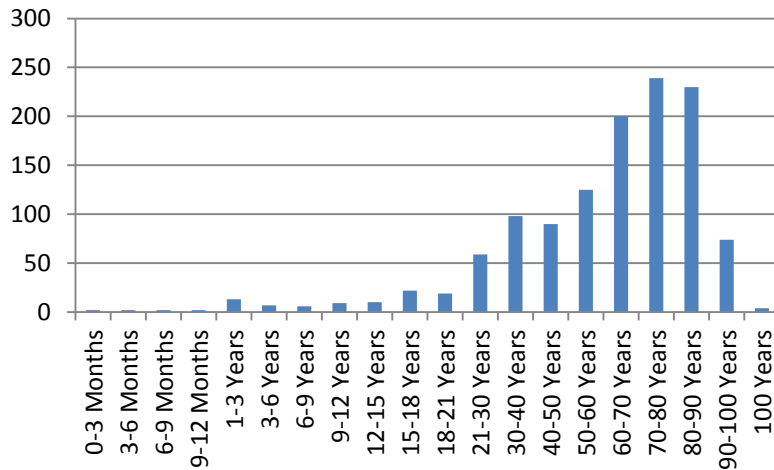


Figure 8-Patient age

TIME VERSUS PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION

NOTE: All Times are Based Upon National Averages

