

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Fire Services



Annual Report 2025

Dedicated Volunteers. Resilient Communities. Trusted Service.



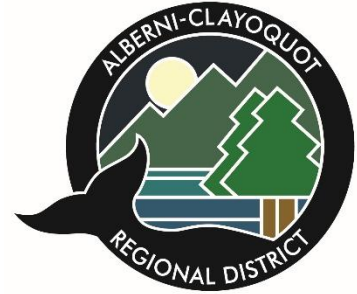
ACRD Fire Services Annual Report 2025

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Introduction

It is my pleasure to present the 2025 Fire Services Annual Report for the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD). This report highlights the activities, accomplishments, and service delivery of the Bamfield, Beaver Creek, and Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Departments throughout the year. Together, these departments provide essential emergency services and contribute significantly to the safety, resilience, and well-being of our communities.



The volunteers who serve within our fire departments continue to demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to their communities. Whether responding to emergencies, participating in training, supporting regional operations, or engaging in public education and community events, these dedicated individuals generously contribute their time, skills, and expertise in service to others. Their professionalism, compassion, and willingness to answer the call, at any hour, are the foundation of our fire services program and exemplify the spirit of community service that makes our region stronger.

The achievements highlighted throughout this report reflect the importance of collaboration, preparedness, and continuous improvement. Through ongoing training, strong partnerships, dedicated volunteers, and meaningful community engagement, our departments remain well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of the areas they serve. Their commitment to excellence ensures that residents can continue to rely on responsive, professional, and effective emergency services when they need them most.

On behalf of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our Fire Chiefs, firefighters, their families, the ACRD Board of Directors, and regional district staff for their continued support and dedication. The success of our fire services depends on the collective efforts of many individuals, and we are deeply grateful for the time, efforts, and commitment they invest in keeping our communities safe.

This report highlights the remarkable contributions of our volunteer fire departments and the dedicated people behind them. Together, we remain committed to protecting our communities and delivering responsive, professional, and reliable fire and emergency services for the residents of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

Sincerely,

Karen Taylor

Karen Taylor
General Manager of Emergency and Fire Services
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department



Message from the Fire Chief

Hello from the West Coast!

2025 was a challenging year for our small community as we navigated the impacts of the Mount Underwood Wildfire. For 74 days, Bamfield was disconnected from Port Alberni due to road closures, and residents experienced a 12-day power outage. Throughout these incidents, the Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) remained committed to the well-being of our community. The department offered support to residents, ensuring first responders could maintain public safety and coordinate assistance for those in need. During the power outage, the BVFD responded to eight incidents, and during the road closure, the department responded to an additional 18 incidents. Throughout the wildfire response, our members played an important role in supporting first responders, advocating for community needs, and helping maintain communication with agencies and organizations assisting from outside our community.



Despite these challenges, the BVFD continued to maintain strong membership, operational readiness, and service. Adversity often brings people together, and this year forged stronger relationships with many valued partners, response organizations, and provincial agencies, including Island Health, Health Emergency Management BC, Huu-ay-aht First Nations, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Ditidaht First Nation, the Ministry of Transportation and Transit, Bamfield Community Emergency Program, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and BC Wildfire Service.

Our investment in new equipment proved useful as the West Bamfield Mini Pumper was successfully deployed to extinguish fires, and the new boat pump helped save a home along the historic Bamfield Boardwalk. As we move forward, we are looking to secure a first-line pumper to complement our aging, but still useful, east side engine. 2025 proved to be the busiest year in our department's history, with a total of 53 calls.

Community involvement continues to be a cornerstone of the BVFD. We were pleased to support events such as Nuu-chah-nulth Beach Day, Canada Day celebrations, fishing derbies, and other local fundraisers.

The department has a proud history of community engagement and remains committed to supporting opportunities to bring people together. Whether hosting a Halloween dance, participating in the Fungus Festival, assisting with an auction, or supporting a memorial gathering, the BVFD is proud to play a role in strengthening the social fabric of our community.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to outgoing Fire Chief Phil Lavoie, who continues to support me and the department in his new role as Deputy Chief. Beginning in 2026, the BVFD will have a paid part-time Fire Chief position to help support the effective management of fire services, ensure compliance with legislative requirements, and advance the department's ongoing development. Phil has contributed immensely to our community in diverse ways, and I am thankful to have his continued mentorship and support in this role.

We ended 2025 with 24 active members who generously dedicate their time, energy, and expertise to support others. Their dedication, professionalism, and commitment to community service are the foundation of our department. Quite simply, without our volunteers, there would be no BVFD. I am deeply grateful for everything they do, and for the support of their families that makes their service possible. Bamfield is a safer, stronger, and more resilient community because of them.

Sincerely,

Dan Zayonc

Dan Zayonc

Fire Chief

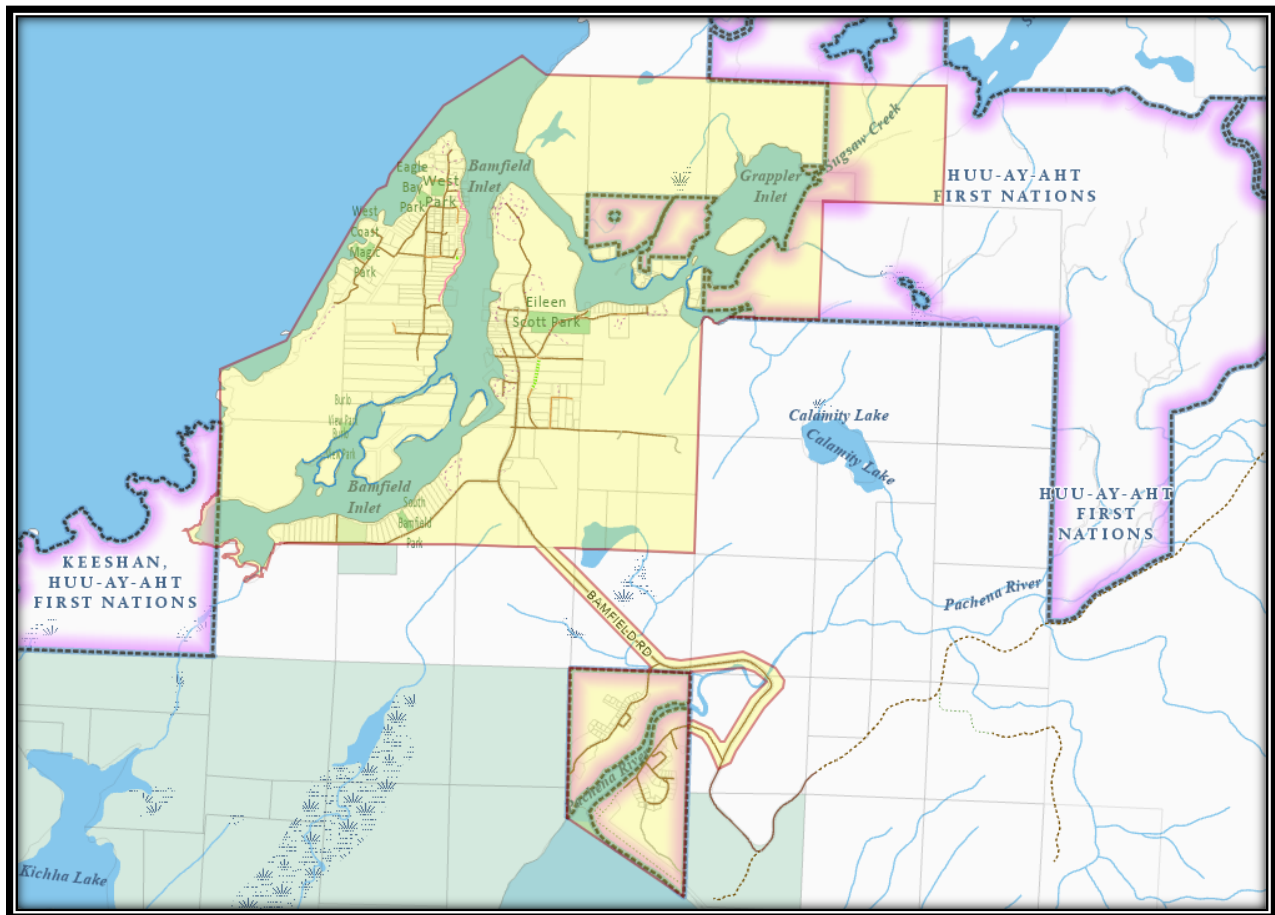
Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department



Bamfield Fire Protection Area

The Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) provides service to the area shown on the map below, highlighted in yellow, including a portion of the road from Bamfield to Anacla.

Our West Hall services West Bamfield, and our East Hall services East Bamfield and Anacla. The BVFD has a fire boat located in Port Desire to protect boat access-only areas within the harbour. The BVFD's service area encompasses approximately 1,201 hectares and serves a population of approximately 370 residents.



Services

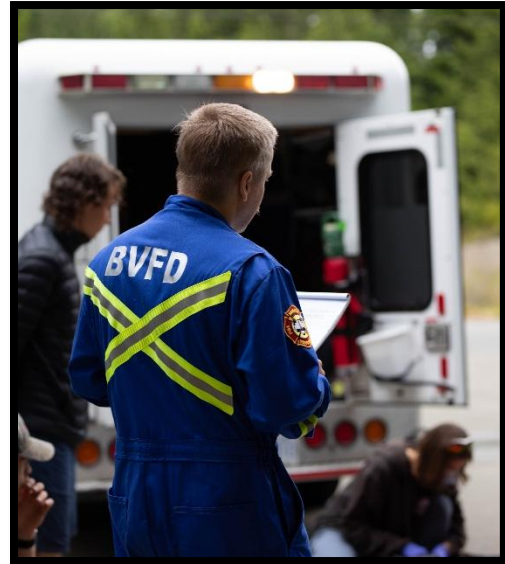
Services include exterior fire suppression, fire protection, fire prevention, and medical incidents requiring first responder expertise. The BVFD also provides structural fire suppression and first responder services to Anacla by way of agreement between the Huu-ay-aht Government and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

Bamfield is an “exterior operations” department who are authorized to control and/or extinguish a fire from an external position to the building or object.

Approved services include:

- Defensive structural firefighting
- Basic first aid
- Forestry/ interface
- Vehicle fires
- Fireboat/ marine firefighting
- Emergency planning

BVFD provides medical services at the EMR level and patient transport to the community in accordance with its agreement with BCEHS.



Bamfield Facilities & Apparatus

Geographically, Bamfield is a fairly unique community as it has 2 sides (east and west) which are separated by an inlet. The east side has road access, while the west is accessed only by boat. Due to this separation, the BVFD must maintain 2 halls, each with a first-line pumper to fulfill the Fire Underwriter's Survey requirements. Also, as there are many properties adjacent to the water, BVFD also has a fireboat and boathouse.

East Side Fire Hall (352 Pachena Road)

The East Side Fire Hall serves as the department's main fire hall. It has two truck bays, an office, a meeting space, a kitchen, an emergency program office, and washrooms with shower facilities. The hall also encompasses a large event space on the main floor where BVFD and community functions are held. A 22kW emergency power generator and above-ground diesel fuel tank for apparatus re-fuelling are located next to the hall.

The East Side Fire Hall is home to 3 apparatus:

- 1 pumper truck
- 1 utility vehicle
- 1 Emergency Medical Response Unit (EMRU)



West Side Fire Hall (164 Bond Street)

The West Side Fire Hall is not accessible by road. It has two narrow truck bays, a small office, and minimal space for equipment storage. This hall is not a functional space for hosting activities or meetings, however, it provides storage for the apparatus and equipment, including:

- 1 pumper truck
- 1 quick attack vehicle



Boathouse (211 Nuthatch Road)

Bamfield has unique challenges as it is separated by two inlets, has a high volume of marine activities and possesses many homes situated along the waterfront. The boathouse is located a short distance from Hall 1 in Port Desire. It is well-built and allows for easy access from the dock to the BVFD fireboat, which is equipped with a pump, hoses and monitors.

- 1 Fireboat



Personnel

With a permanent population of less than 300 people between both Bamfield and Anacla, recruiting and retaining members can be challenging. Although Bamfield has a small population, there is a strong attachment in the community to the Department as we are a community-focused group that actively participates in local events and activities.

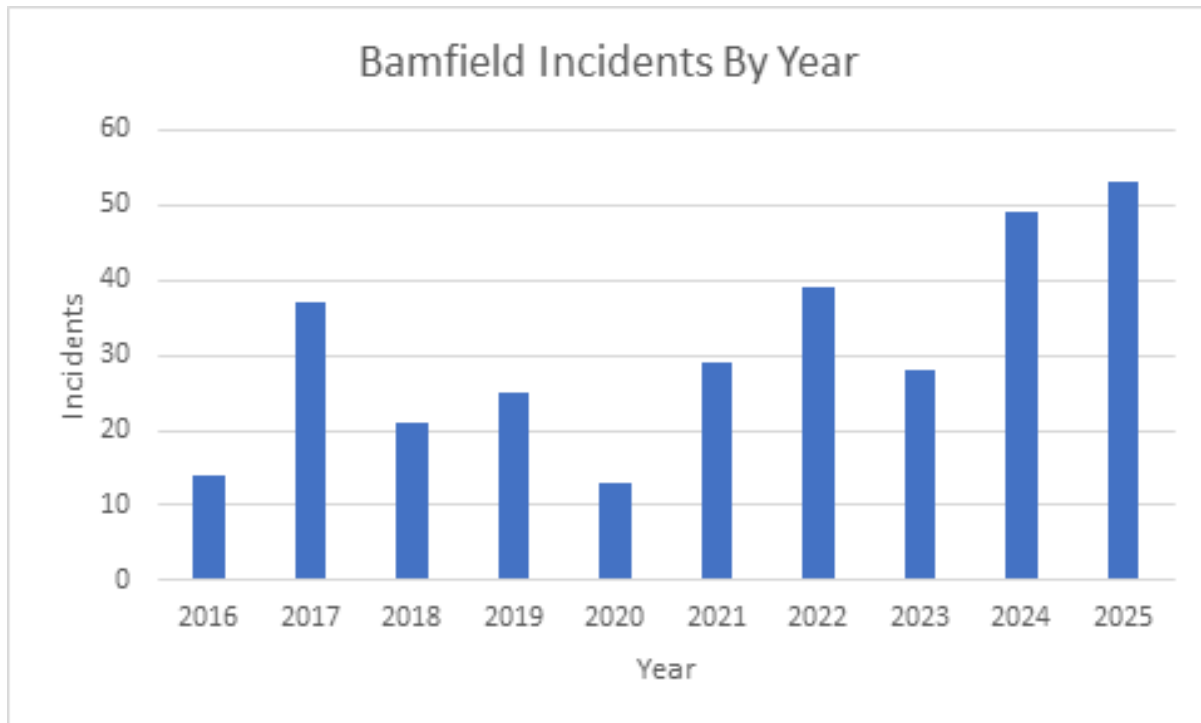
The Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department had 24 members in 2025. The department's structure is:

- 1 Fire Chief
- 2 Deputy Chiefs
- 3 Captains
- 11 Firefighters
- 7 First Responders

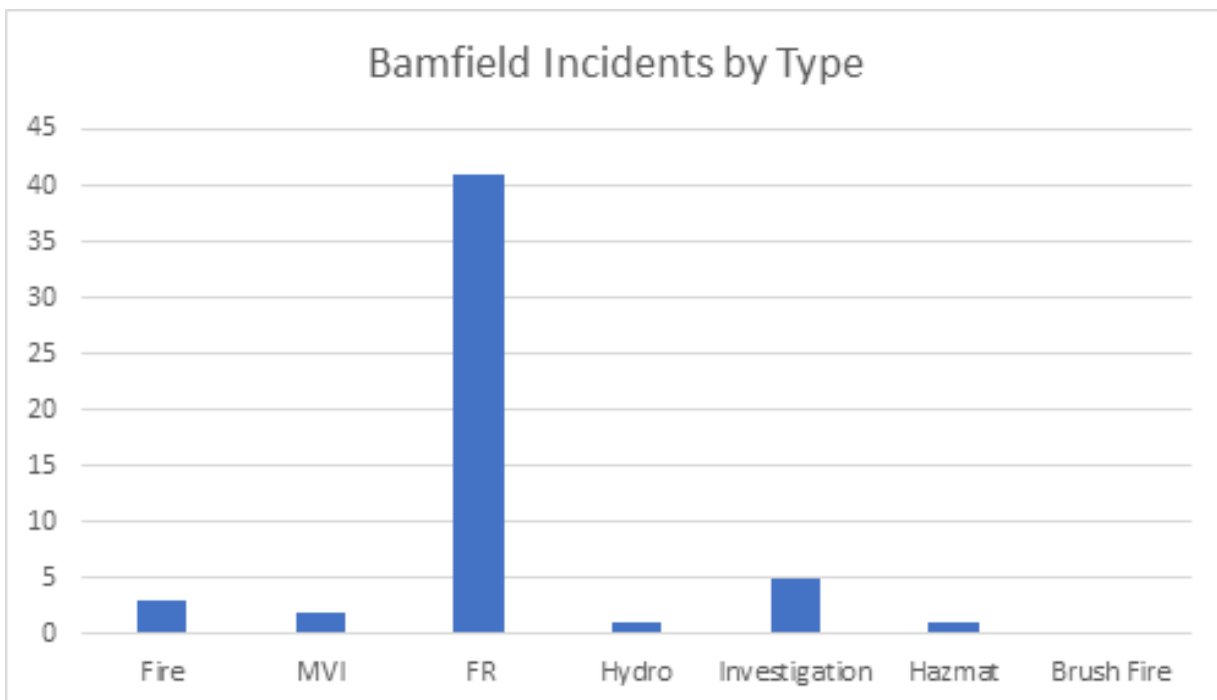
As we enter 2026 with a part-time paid fire chief position, the BVFD will reassess our Fire Department structure to ensure long-term success, recruitment, and retention.

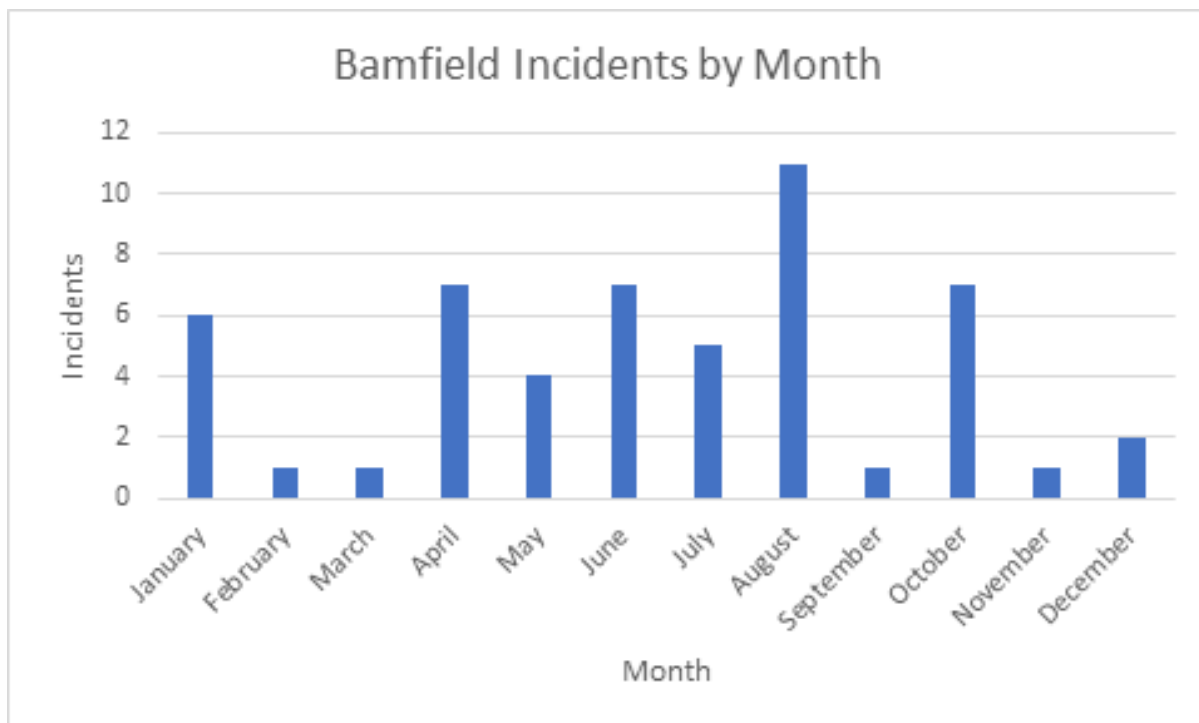


Incidents



The BVFD responded to 53 incidents in 2025 with 85% of calls being first responder calls. We are seeing a steady increase in call volume since the road has been chip sealed and the town is getting more popular with tourism.





The busiest months for the BVFD continue to be the summer months when the town is busier due to tourism. In August 2025, we had our busiest month on record with 11 dispatched calls. Outside of the summer season, the BVFD experienced higher call volume in January and October.



Training

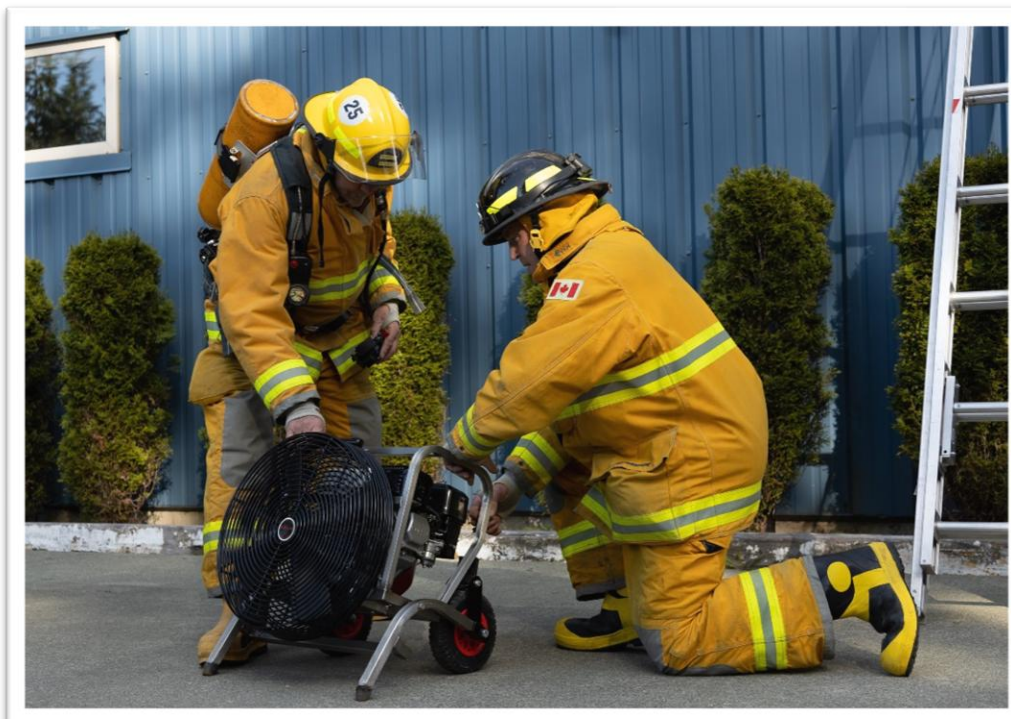
Members of the Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department participated in a total of over 512-person hours of training in 2025. This does not include our home study times and online coursework for VIERA exterior firefighting examinations.

Some of the training topics include:

- Pumper Operations
- Water Supply
- SCBA
- Communications
- Landing Zone Training
- Ladders
- Ropes and Knots
- Incident Command Systems
- Emergency Operations Centre
- Interface Fire
- Exterior Firefighting
- Overhaul
- Wound Management
- Patient Extraction



Required training is provided by the Vancouver Island Emergency Response Academy (VIERA). All members attend weekly training practices to maintain their skills, knowledge, and competencies.



Public Education & Community Events

The Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department is a small department with big community spirit!

- This year we, once again, participated in our local Canada Day Boat Parade.
- Our annual Salmon Derby was a great success! People came out from all over, and we sold nearly 400 tickets!
- We also assisted with the weigh-in station for the Bamfield Tuna Shootout.
- The BVFD has been organizing and hosting a Halloween Dance for many years.
- Chimney fires are the #1 fire call in our area! Every spring and fall we remind folks about the importance of cleaning and inspecting their chimneys by posting information to the local community social media Facebook page.



Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department



Message from the Fire Chief



Dear Beaver Creek Community,

As we reflect on 2025, I would like to share a summary of the past year and extend my sincere appreciation for the continued support of our community. This has been one of the busiest years on record for our department, with a total of 228 emergency responses.

These calls included 51 Automatic Aid responses in collaboration with our regional partners, as well as 14 motor vehicle incidents, several of which were significant in nature. Medical Aid continues to represent the majority of our call volume, accounting for 119 responses. In addition, our crews responded to 2 structure fires within the Beaver Creek District. These numbers underscore the importance of continuous training and preparedness, ensuring our members are ready to deliver the highest level of service when it matters most.

In 2025, I had the opportunity to deploy to Bamfield on behalf of the regional district as a liaison for the emergency operations centre. Alongside members from Sproat Lake, I supported the community and the Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department during an extended power outage. We also focused on strengthening our membership. Following a structured intake process, including orientation and interviews, and we welcomed three new members from the Beaver Creek district into our ranks. Recruitment remains a priority, and we encourage anyone interested to step forward, challenge themselves, and contribute meaningfully to the community.

Community engagement remains a cornerstone of our department. This year's events included:

- Our annual Santa Food Drive, in partnership with Buy-Low Foods, which raised approximately \$5,000 in food donations for local families and supported the Ty Watson Kids Pack Program
- Our Easter Egg Hunt for local children

- Our Halloween Fireworks Night, which continues to be a well-attended community celebration

We also hosted our first raffle fundraiser, made possible with support from Port Boathouse, successfully raffling a quad to benefit the department.

The strength of our department lies in the dedication, professionalism, and diverse skill sets of our volunteer members. As we move forward, we remain committed to ongoing training, operational excellence, and strong community relationships. Our mission is clear: to provide reliable, effective, and professional emergency services to the residents of Beaver Creek.

On behalf of the department, thank you for your continued trust and support. We look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Mike Kobus

Mike Kobus

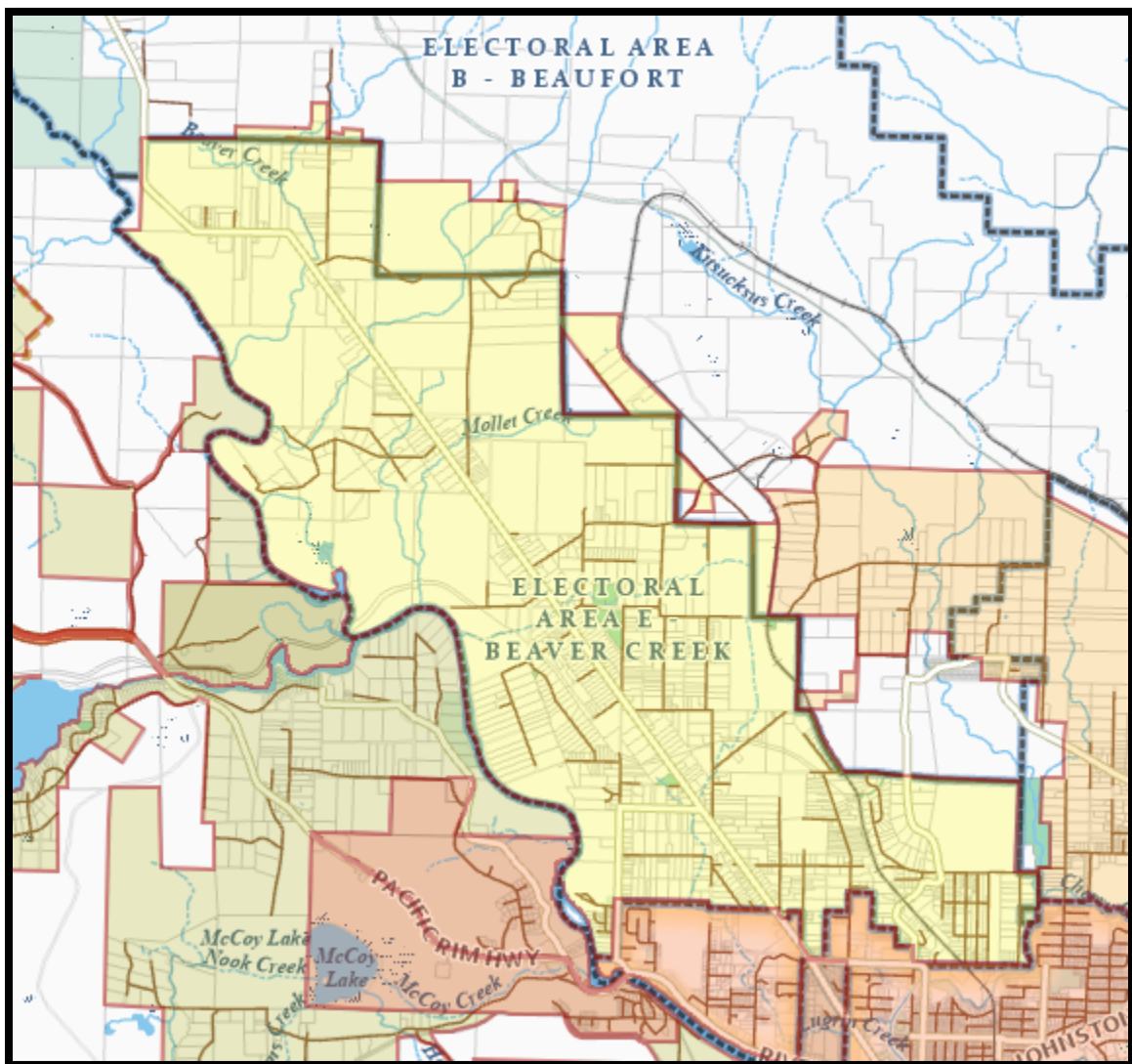
Fire Chief

Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department



Beaver Creek Fire Protection Area

The Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD) provides service to the area highlighted in the map below. Their service area encompasses approximately 2,408 hectares and includes a population of approximately 3,000 residents. The BCVFD provide fire protection, fire prevention, vehicle rescue and medical assistance in the jurisdiction. Further, they also assist the Port Alberni Fire Department, Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department and the Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire Department, when required, through established reciprocal mutual and automatic aid agreements.



Services

The Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department operates at a “full service” level, including exterior and interior firefighting activities and consisting of the following approved services:

- Defensive and offensive structural firefighting
- Medical first responder
 - FR level
 - AED
 - Spinal management
- Vehicle rescue
- Technical rescue
- Low-slope rope rescue
- Hazardous materials (awareness level)
- Forestry/ interface
- Vehicle fires



Beaver Creek Fire Hall & Apparatus

Beaver Creek Fire Hall (6038 Beaver Creek Road)

Beaver Creek Fire Hall is a two-storey building with four bays. It has separate ground-level access to the office/administration area and is equipped with a 150kW power generator. The hall has several offices and a large, upstairs meeting room with kitchen amenities.



Firefighting Apparatus

The Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department is proud to offer exemplary service to our community, with a diverse fleet of specialized equipment. Our apparatus's includes structural engines, a medical response truck, and a versatile rescue vehicle with low-slope capabilities with compressed air foam system for combating car fires and structure fires.



Engine 55 (Frontline Engine)



- 1 Duty Officer Vehicle (Truck 54)
- 2 Engines (51 & 55)
- 1 Rescue Trucks (52)
- First Responder (50)

Our older Engine #53, equipped for forest fire emergencies and ready for any other critical response. Your dedicated Firefighters undergo extensive training, including driving and pump operation, as well as Emergency Vehicle Operator (EVO) training to ensure they are prepared for any situation.

Your safety is our priority, and we're committed to providing exceptional service with the best equipment and trained professionals.



Rescue 52 (Rescue and Extrication/Wildfire)



Engine 51 (Structural Engine)



Rescue 50 (First Responder/ Medical)

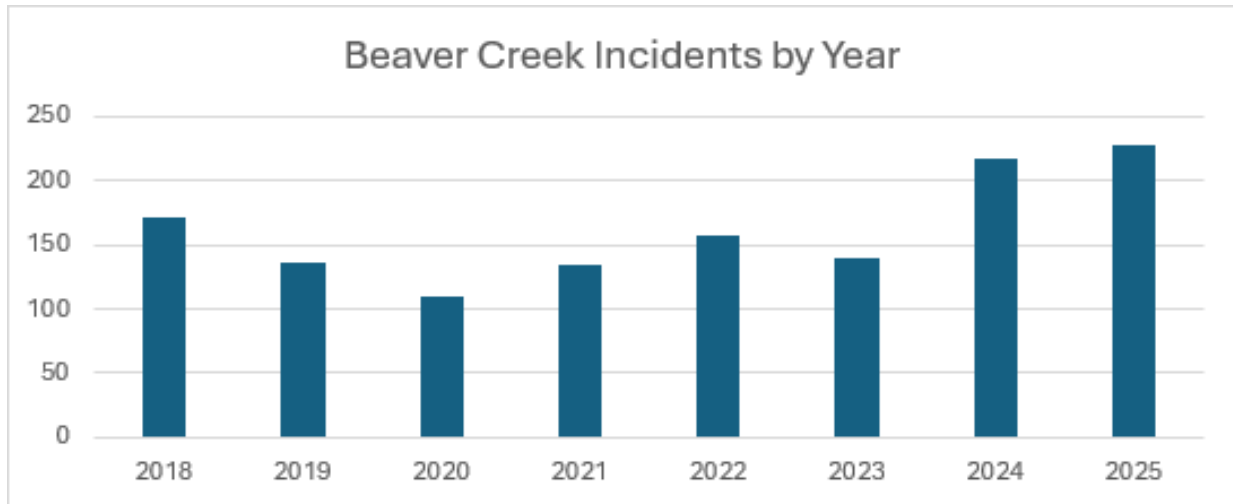
Beaver Creek Personnel

The Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department has 31 active members, consisting of:

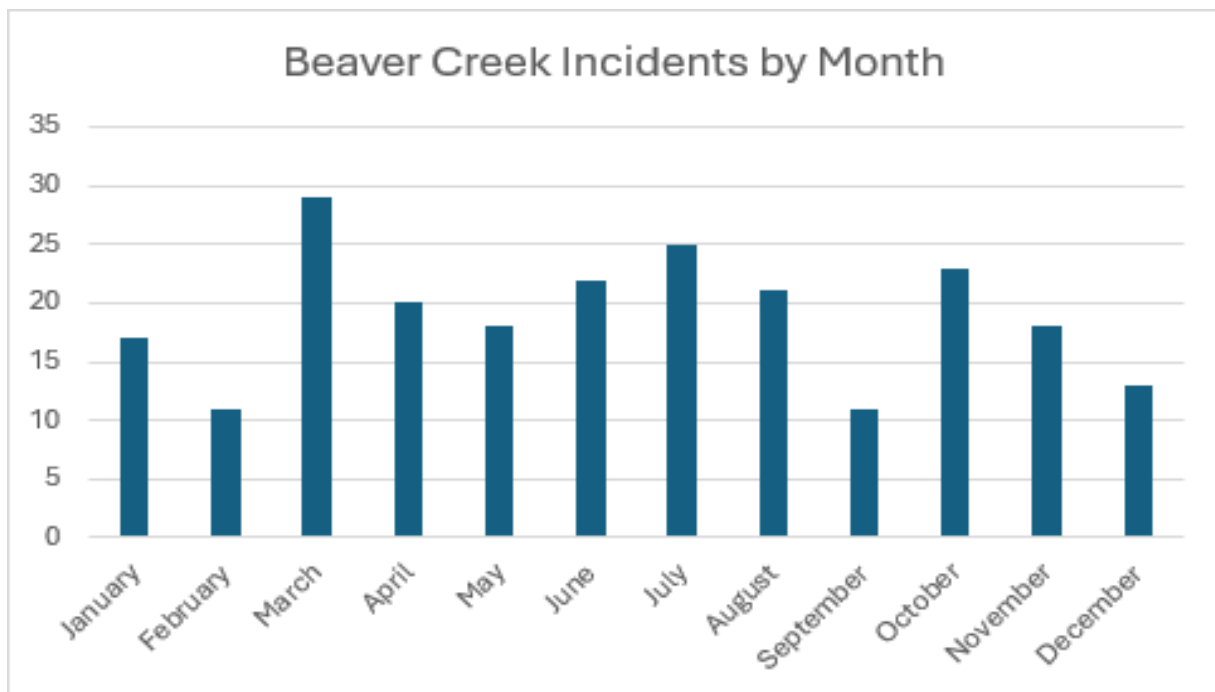
- 1 Fire Chief
- 1 Deputy Fire Chief
- 1 Assistant Chief
- 3 Captains
- 2 Lieutenants
- 1 Training Officer
- 8 Firefighters
- 7 Interior members
- 7 Exterior firefighters



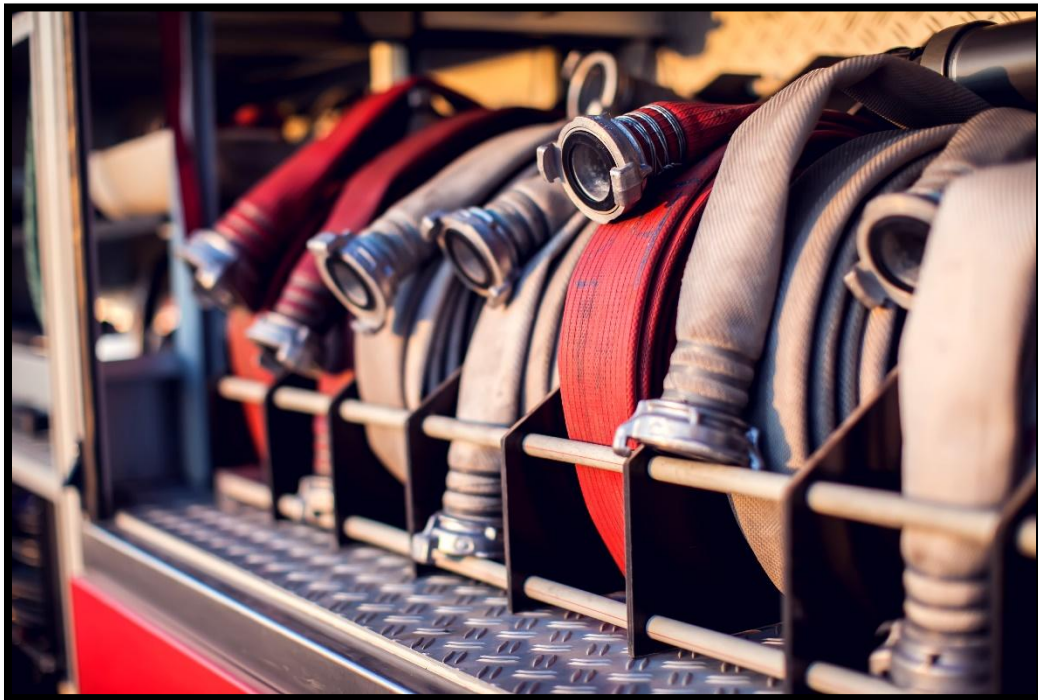
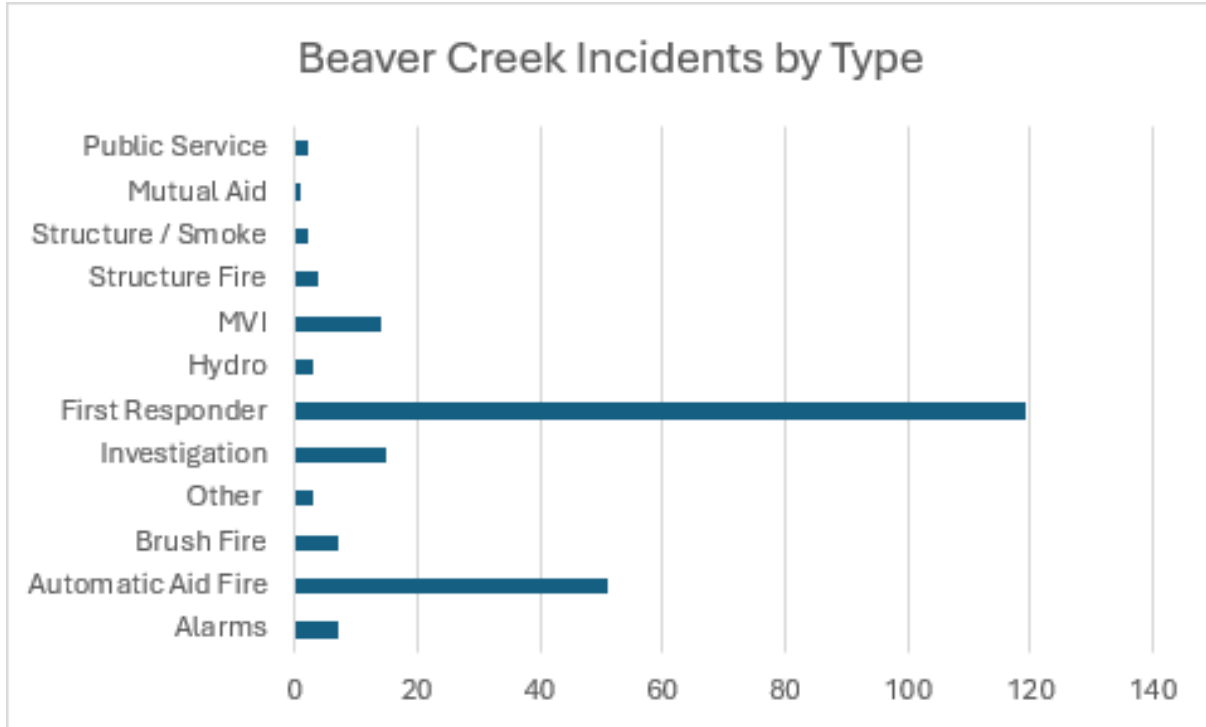
Incidents



In 2025, Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department responded to 228 incidents. The vast majority of calls were first responder incidents, accounting for 60% of all callouts. Automatic aid fire calls made up 14%, while other fire-related incidents comprised 8%.



The Beaver Creek department experienced its busiest month in March, followed by its quietest month in February and September, while the fall season saw a high number of responses.



Training

In 2025, we were able to offer more local training to include Sprinkler Protection Training. We provided Frontline Leadership training to Fire Departments in the valley. Members of the Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department participated in a total of approximately 3,417.73 hours of training in 2025. This included weekly skills training to meet the requirements of the Office of the Fire Commissioner's Playbook and NFPA 1001 as well as specialized training in subjects such as:

- EMR Upgrade Training
- First Responder and CPR training
- Exterior and interior training working towards their full- service certification through Justice
- Institute of BC (JIBC)
- Frontline Leadership Training
- Sprinkler Protection
- Auto Extrication Training



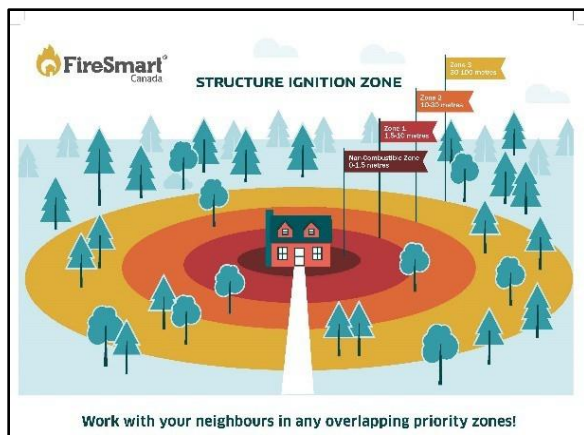
Public Education & Community Events

The BCVFD is committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of residents in the Beaver Creek electoral area and willingly cooperates with other regional and municipal fire departments to provide further assistance and support when needed. The Department seeks opportunities to protect the community through public education and eagerly takes part in community events annually. BCVFD members are dedicated to the well-being of the Beaver Creek District and are always looking for ways to give back to the community.

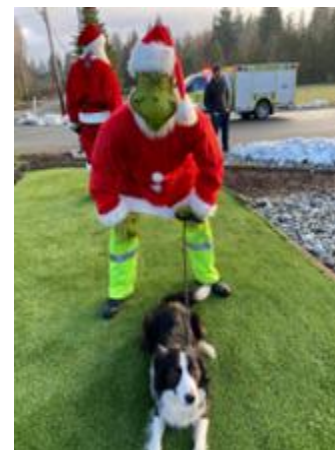
We are incredibly grateful for the support and generosity of our community in 2025. Thanks to you, we had a fantastic year of events, including our Easter egg hunt, the annual Halloween fireworks, and our Santa Food Drive. These successes are a testament to the incredible support we receive from Buy Low Foods and the Beaver Creek community and the public at large.

None of these events would have been possible without the communities unwavering contributions and donations. Your kindness and the tireless efforts of our volunteer firefighters truly make a difference, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has played a role in making these events so memorable.

Fire Smart Program



Halloween Fireworks



Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department

Celebrating 60 Years of Service

Message from the Fire Chief

2025 was a busy and memorable year for the Sproat Lake Fire Department as we proudly celebrated 60 years of service to our community. This milestone provided an opportunity to reflect on the department's history, recognize the dedication of our members, and look ahead to the important work that continues.

During the year, our members responded to 179 calls, including 65 First Responder calls, 53 Automatic Mutual Aid responses and 17 motor vehicle incidents. Automatic Mutual Aid remains an important regional partnership between the Sproat Lake, City of Port Alberni, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek fire departments. This partnership helps ensure that additional firefighters and apparatus can be quickly mobilized when significant incidents occur, strengthening our ability to respond effectively and safely.



Training continued to be a major commitment for our department. Our members participated in 110 training sessions, representing 1,727 hours of scheduled training and an impressive 14,148 member-hours of participation. Five members also completed their Interior Firefighter qualifications through Vancouver Island Emergency Response Academy (VIERA), further strengthening our operational capabilities and ensuring our members are prepared to respond to a wide range of emergencies.

Our members also contributed to regional wildfire responses throughout the year. During the Wesley Ridge wildfire, the department deployed a tender with Alex Davidson and Braeden Reynolds for four days, while Sarah Bingham, Wade Hepp, and Alex Sam staffed another apparatus on initial-attack standby in the Alberni Valley. This allowed us to support the broader wildfire response while maintaining appropriate resources to protect our own community. Additionally, our department supported the Mount Underwood Fire by sending Dallas Cann, Daryl Duperron, and Alex Sam to the Bamfield community, demonstrating once again the importance of cooperation and mutual support between fire departments across the region.

In June, we celebrated our 60th Anniversary Open House, welcoming more than 135 visitors. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with residents and celebrate the department's history with the community. We were grateful for the support of our community partners, including the Industrial Heritage Society, which displayed our historic 1939 SLVFD fire truck and Wellington Foundry, who generously donated a memorial bench honouring firefighters who have fallen in the line of duty. These contributions helped make our anniversary celebration a meaningful reflection of the rich history and legacy of the Sproat Lake Fire Department.

We were pleased to welcome four new members in 2025 and recognized significant milestones among our longstanding members. Larry Ransom and Sarah Bingham celebrated 10 years of service, Bill Bingham celebrated 15 years, and Barry Johnson was recognized for an outstanding 30 years of service. We also congratulated Mike Barker on his retirement following an exceptional 35 years of service to the department. Within our leadership team, Dallas Cann was promoted to Safety Officer and Sarah Bingham to Lieutenant.

Our members continued to give back to the community beyond emergency response. Seven members participated in the BC Lung Foundation's Climb the Wall, raising more than \$2,500. Our annual Haunted Fire Hall welcomed approximately 370 people and raised an additional \$500. Members also supported the Salvation Army through our annual Food Drive and volunteered with the Tseshaht Market Kettle Drive. These activities reflect the strong community spirit that has always been an important part of the Sproat Lake Fire Department.

As we celebrated 60 years of service, we were reminded that the strength of the Sproat Lake Fire Department has always been built on people willing to give their time in service to others. Our members generously volunteer their time, energy, and expertise to continually develop their knowledge, skills and abilities, while supporting those in need. I sincerely thank our members for their dedication and commitment, and I extend my appreciation to their families, our neighbouring fire departments, community partners, and the residents of Sproat Lake for their continued support.

I am proud of what our members accomplished in 2025 and of the legacy they continue to build. As we look toward the future, we remain committed to serving our community with the same dedication, professionalism, and spirit of volunteerism that has defined the Sproat Lake Fire Department for the past 60 years.

Sincerely,

Mike Cann

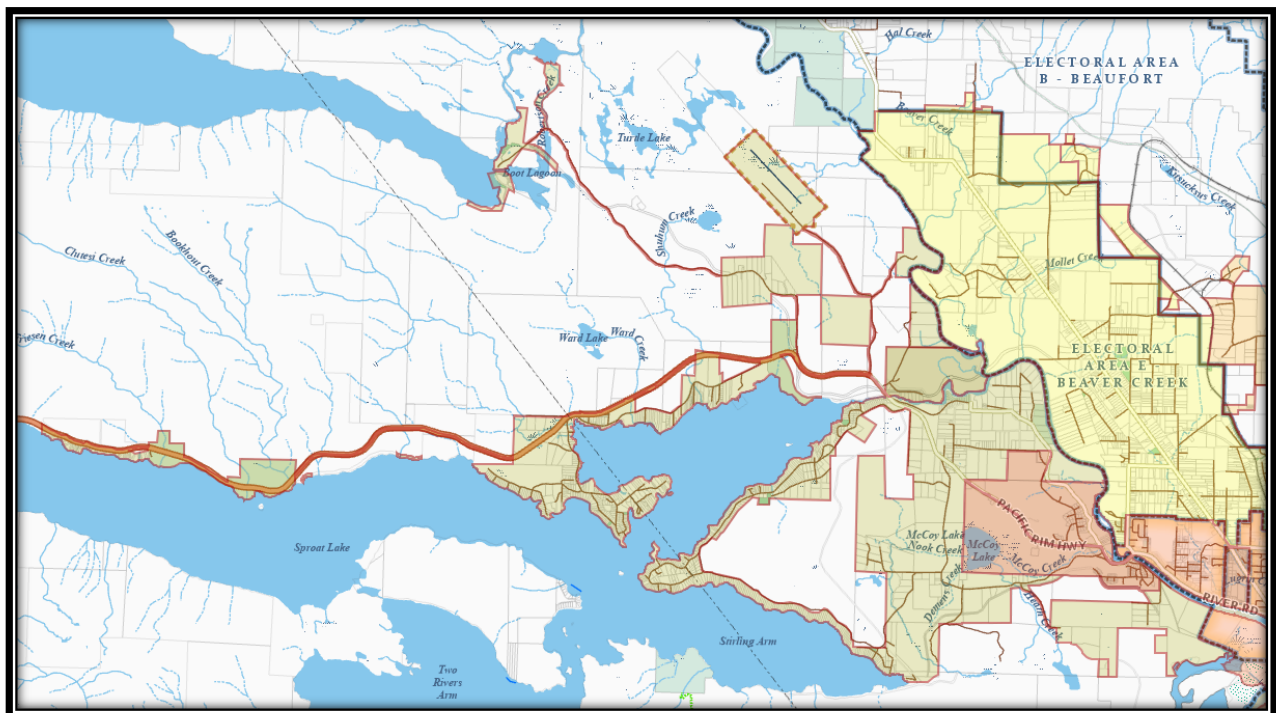
Mike Cann
Fire Chief
Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department



Sproat Lake Fire Protection Area

Established in 1965, the Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department provides service to the area highlighted in green on the map below, as well as providing structural fire protection services to the Kleekhoot Indian Reservation No. 2, by way of agreement between the Hupacasath First Nation and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District. They are responsible for protecting 2,428 hectares and serving a population of approximately 1,850 residents. This is a challenging area to cover from a fire perspective, as there are only 10 fire hydrants connected to a stable water supply in the entire district.

The SLVFD provides fire protection, fire prevention and first responder services in their jurisdiction and also assists the Port Alberni Fire Department, Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department and the Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire Department, when required, through established reciprocal mutual and automatic aid agreements.



 Sproat Lake Fire Protection Area

Services

The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department is categorized as an “interior operations” service level department. With this designation, the Department may enter a fire-involved structure or object to undertake fire suppression activities or conduct rescue operations. Interior operations are generally limited to smaller structures, single-family dwellings and vehicles, except where specific hazard assessments and pre-incident planning have been undertaken. The approved emergency services provided by the Department include:

- Defensive and offensive structural firefighting
- Medical first responder
 - C, D, E, Lift assists
 - AED
 - Spinal management
- Low-angle rope rescue
- Hazardous materials (awareness level)
- Forestry/ interface
- Vehicle fires

While structure fires are not the majority of the yearly call volume, they are, without a doubt, the most complex incidents. Medical calls represent the majority of calls throughout the year; most members are trained and certified as Medical First Responders. Their training provides the necessary skills to effectively respond to motor vehicle incidents and allows members to ensure the comfort and well-being of patients until paramedics arrive on the scene.

With their low-angle rope rescue training, members can use rope, pulley and stretcher systems to access, package, and remove trauma patients from the bottom of slopes less than 45 degrees in incline.



Sproat Lake Facilities & Apparatus

The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department has three fire halls in their jurisdiction, however, only two are currently maintained for fire responses.

Hall #1 (10605 Lakeshore Road)

This hall has three bays, approximately 40 feet in length and is equipped with 14 turnout gear stalls, a turnout gear laundry unit and a modest size training/meeting room. It has been seismically upgraded and houses two apparatus:

- Tender 48
- Tender 45
- Engine 41
- 1943 Jeep Willies 4x4 - equipped with a pump and hose reel (used for ceremonial purposes only)



Hall #2 (9501 Faber Road)

Hall 2 has been partially decommissioned and no longer provides fire response. Its fire response apparatus has been redistributed to other locations. Hall 2 currently serves as a training site and is used exclusively for First Medical Response (FMR). It houses the following apparatus 40 for FMR calls:

- Rescue 40
- Structural Protection Unit 401



The hall has a total of 4 bays. The two on the lower level are used for storage, and the two on the main floor have storage for 15 sets of turnout gear and training props. The hall has a meeting room and is equipped with audio-visual equipment that can be used for classroom training purposes. There is a lengthy dock and launching area on the lake adjacent to the fire hall. Hall 2 is subject to a 10-year lease, renewed by the ACRD, and it is anticipated that the hall will be fully decommissioned around 2036.

Hall #3 (7667 Pacific Rim Highway)

Named as the Harold Bishop Fire Hall, Hall 3 is the SLVFD's main fire hall. It has two apparatus bays, a training/meeting room and offices for administration, fire prevention and the chief officers. The main floor includes two apparatus bays, the SCBA air compressor and cascade filling system, turnout gear laundry and 20 turnout gear stalls. The Fire Chief's office and a small storage room are also located on the main floor. The second floor includes offices for fire prevention and administration, a full kitchen, an open fitness room and a large room used for classroom training and meetings.



The hall has been seismically upgraded and houses the following apparatus:

- Tender 44
- Engine 49

The SLVFD has three fire halls and eight apparatuses: three pumpers, three water tenders, a structural protection unit, and one rescue truck. Additionally, there is also the 1943 Willies Jeep 4x4 that is used for ceremonial purposes.



Personnel



The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department has 35 active members in total, consisting of:

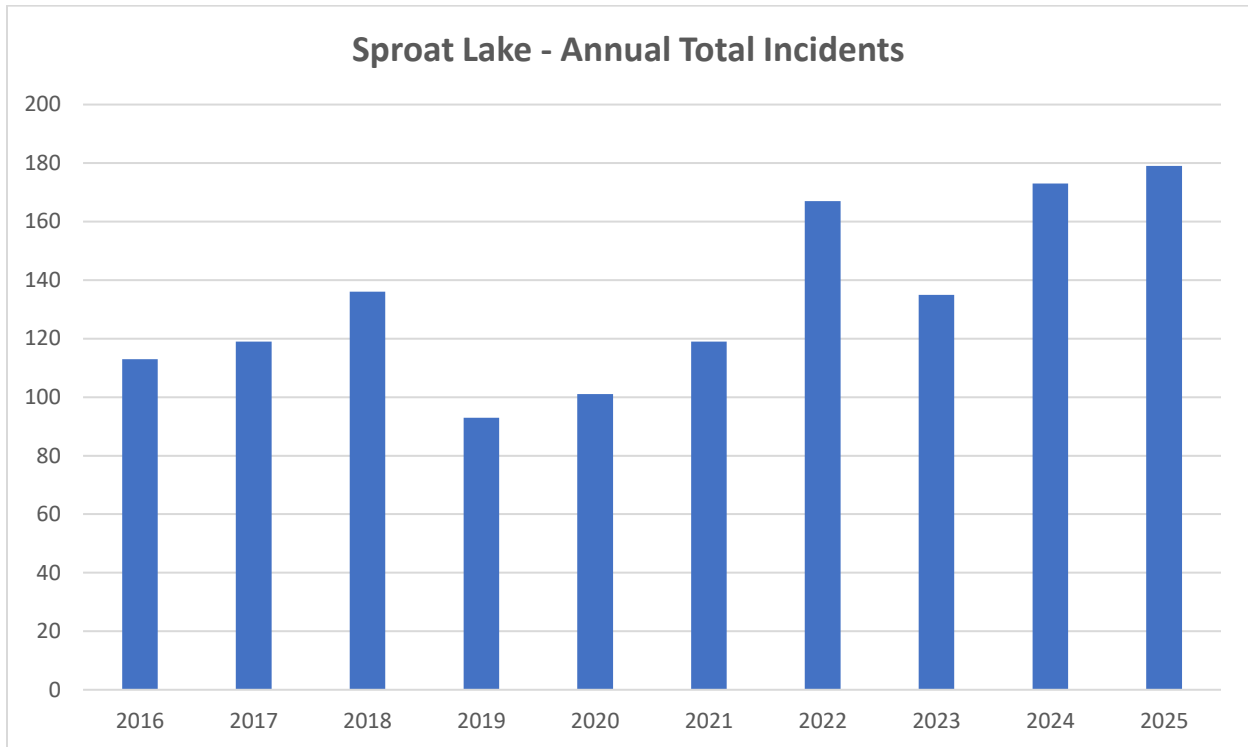
- 1 Fire Chief
- 1 Deputy Fire Chief
- 1 Fire Prevention Officer
- 1 Training Officer
- 3 Captains
- 2 Lieutenants
- 1 Safety Coordinator
- 20 Firefighters

SLVFD members are divided among two fire halls, with firefighters overseen by a Captain and a Lieutenant at each hall.

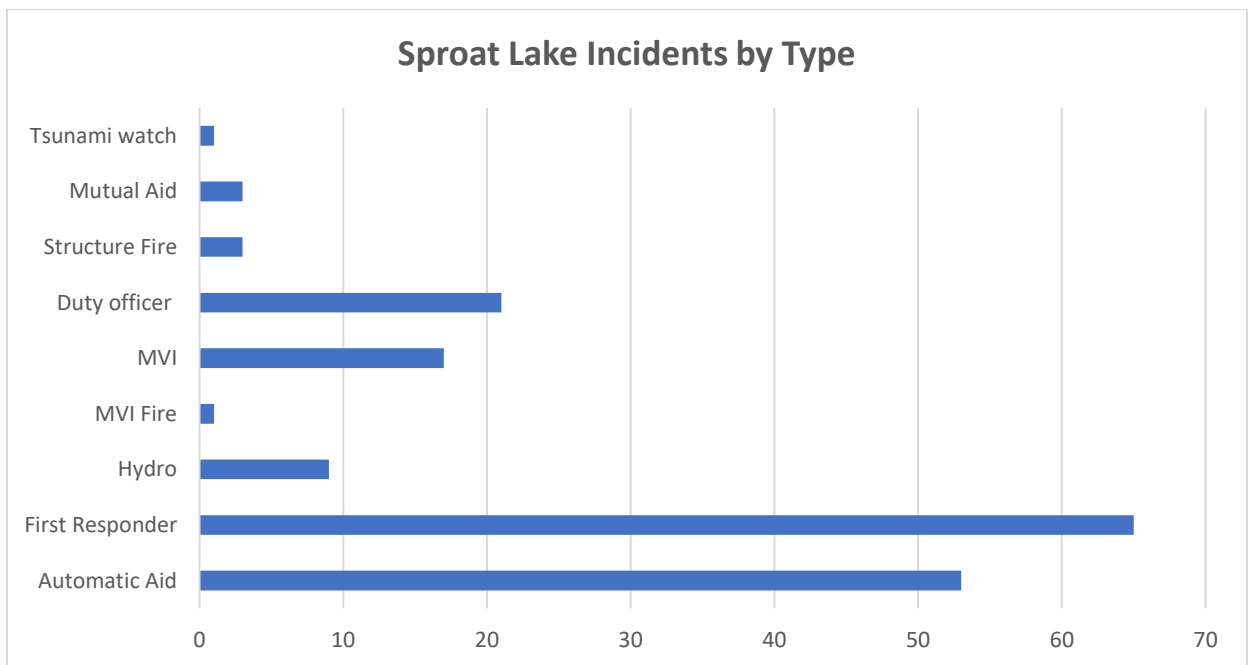
Hall 1 has 13 members and Hall 3 has 22 members.

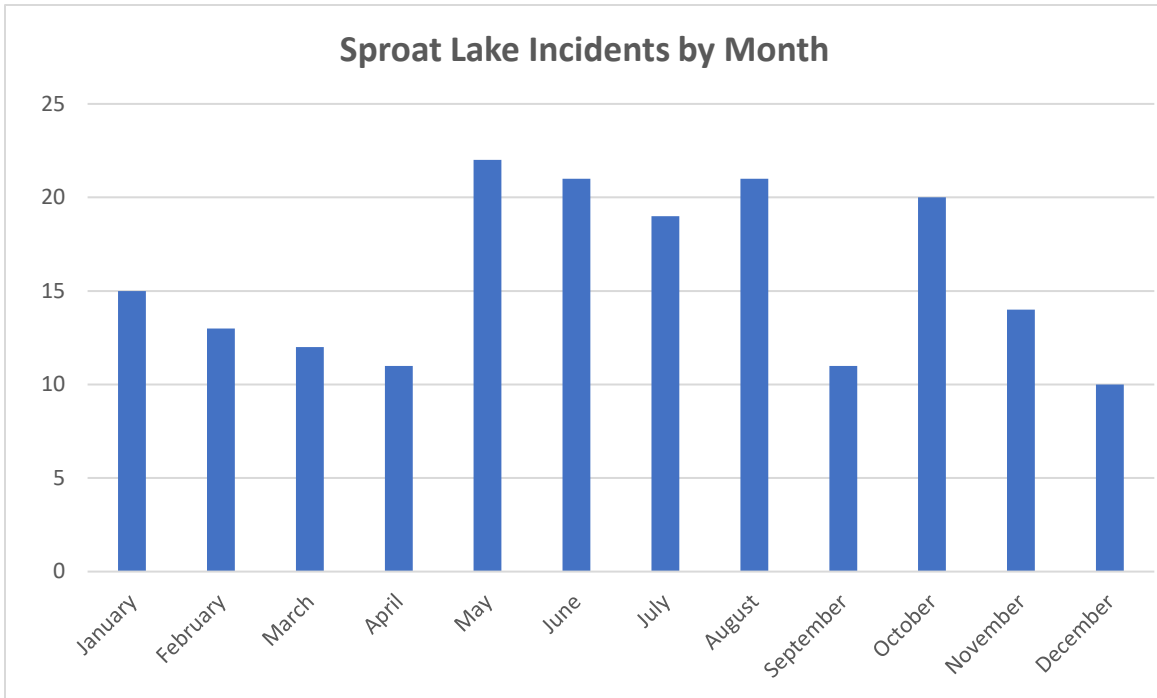


Incidents



The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department responded to 179 incidents in 2025. First responder incidents were the largest category, accounting for 36% of all callouts, while automatic aid responses accounted for 30%, representing the second most common incident type.





The summer months from May through to the end of August represented the busiest time of year for the Sproat Lake department; however, incident call volume remains relatively consistent throughout the year.



Training

The department remains committed to providing high-quality training opportunities that support the development of knowledgeable, capable, and professional firefighters. Ongoing training is essential to maintaining operational readiness and ensuring members can respond safely and effectively to a wide range of emergencies.

To maintain certifications, skills, and competencies, members participate in regular weekly training sessions. Additional specialized courses and certification programs are delivered through VIERA and other accredited training providers.

In 2025, SLVFD members collectively completed approximately 14,148 hours of training. Weekly Tuesday evening practices focused on maintaining core firefighting and emergency response skills, while newer members worked toward their NFPA 1001 certification during dedicated Thursday evening training sessions with support from experienced department mentors.

Advanced and specialty training completed during the year included:

- Auto Extrication
- First responder
- Fire Service Instructor 1
- VIERA Evaluator course



In addition to scheduled training, duty crews participated in rotating Saturday shifts that included four-hour work bees, practical exercises, and equipment maintenance activities.

Equipment familiarization and maintenance training also remain a key component of the department's annual training program. Following operational use, and as part of monthly inspections, all equipment carried on department apparatus is examined for wear, damage, and serviceability to ensure response readiness. Fire hoses are routinely pressure tested and inspected for leaks, damage, and defective couplings. This process requires all hose lines to be removed from apparatus, tested, inspected, and then reloaded to ensure they are fully prepared for future emergency responses.

Public Education & Community Events

The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department is proud to support and strengthen our community through ongoing public education, community engagement, and regional cooperation. Beyond emergency response, the department plays an active role in promoting fire and life safety, supporting emergency preparedness, and working with partner organizations and neighbouring fire departments to enhance the overall safety, well-being, and quality of life of residents and visitors.

Throughout the year, department members participate in a variety of community events and outreach activities designed to increase awareness of fire prevention, emergency preparedness, and life safety practices. These events provide valuable opportunities for residents to engage with firefighters, learn about fire safety, and gain a better understanding of the services provided by the department.

The department maintains strong working relationships with neighbouring municipal and regional fire departments, providing mutual aid and operational support when needed. This collaborative approach strengthens emergency response across the region and contributes to safer, more resilient communities.

As warmer and drier summer conditions continue to increase wildfire risk, the department remains focused on wildfire preparedness and prevention. Working in partnership with the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District's FireSmart Coordinator, the department helps residents understand the steps they can take to reduce wildfire hazards on their properties and improve community resilience. By encouraging proactive FireSmart practices, the department supports more resilient homes, neighbourhoods, and communities.

