



# Selkirk Fire, Rescue & EMS



## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



FIRE/RESCUE



EMS





# SELKIRK FIRE, RESCUE & EMS

1123 Lake Street · Sandpoint, ID 83864-1714 · 208/263-3502 · [www.selkirkfire.com](http://www.selkirkfire.com)

**Proudly Serving Sagle, Sandpoint & Westside Communities**

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## Who We Serve

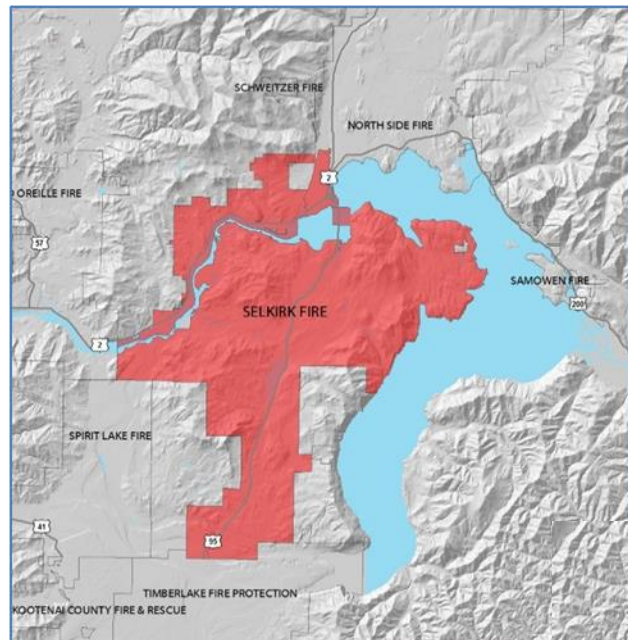
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Selkirk Fire Rescue & EMS serves and protects approximately 25,000 people in 194 square miles. Despite our best efforts of prevention, when response is required, it will be effective and purposeful. We will seek innovations and external partnerships to increase efficiencies and maximize resources, and will serve as role models for implementing change in our industry.

Serving our community is a privilege. Whether it is a true emergency or a situation where a citizen has simply exhausted their personal resources, we will exceed the expectations of our community. We recognize that we are accountable to the public we serve and will be good stewards of the finances and resources entrusted to us.

Our fire stations are strategically located throughout our service area, ensuring a quick and immediate response to any situation. Keeping in mind, we service a large rural area, which can result in extended responses. Our service area includes the following cities and unincorporated portions of Bonner County:

Bottle Bay  
Careywood  
Cocolalla  
Dover  
Garfield Bay  
Laclede  
Sagle  
Sandpoint  
Westmond  
Willow Bay  
Wrenco



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## Who We Are

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Whether it is a medical incident, fire, hazardous material incident, rescue situation, marine incident, or natural disaster, our Firefighters are trained and ready to respond. Selkirk Fire's specialty rescue teams respond to incidents involving hazardous materials, high angle rope rescue, confined space rescue, structural collapse and ice rescue. Our personnel logged approximately **8,128** hours of training in 2018.

Our department staff is comprised of one Chief, one Assistant Chief, one Executive Assistant, 22 Career Firefighters, four Resident Firefighters, and 22 Volunteer Firefighters. The community is served from four full-time staffed stations, and five volunteer stations.

**Station 1 (Sandpoint)** is our administrative headquarters. The administrative office is open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Station 1 also houses Battalion Chief 1103 and Truck Company 1141. Both units operate 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Station 2 (Dover)** has four Resident Firefighters. The Resident Firefighters and Battalion Chief respond to all emergencies in the Westside Fire District.

**Station 3 (Sagle)** staffs Engine 1231 with two Firefighters. Cities and un-incorporated areas in 1231's response area includes: Bottle Bay, North end of Cocolalla, Garfield Bay, Sagle, Westmond, and Willow Bay. This is Selkirk Fires largest response area.

**Station 4 (Careywood)** was remodeled in 2018 and opened on January 1, 2019, which converted two of the pole buildings four vehicle bay into a living space. It has been our long-standing goal to improve response times and coverage in southern Bonner County. Response time is currently 20 to 25 minutes. Staffing at the station is expected to cut our response times roughly in half. Sagle spent approximately \$121,563.00 on the remodel.



*Opened on January 1 and is staffed 24/7.*

Selkirk Fire, representing Sagle Fire, secured a three year Federal Emergency Management Agency Safer Grant for \$720,351.00 to hire three new Firefighters. Together with the capital remodel improvements the Careywood Station 4 will have 24-hour/7 days a week coverage. The station staffs a Tactical Tender with two Firefighter EMT's most of the time for an additional cost of approximately



*Cody Lile, Chris Lewis & Tennille Toussaint*

\$40,000/year. Station 4's response area includes: South end of Cocolalla and Careywood to the county line. This station works down to one person when another Firefighter in the district is on vacation.

Due to budget constraints, Sagle is not currently able to staff this station constantly with two Firefighters. The station is staffed 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Station 5 (Wrenco)** is staffed with one 40-hour week Firefighter who is responsible for maintaining the Dover, Wrenco, and Laclede stations and apparatus. During the day, the Firefighter and Battalion Chief respond to all emergencies in the Westside Fire District. With the Resident Firefighters in Dover and the 40-hour week Firefighter, the citizens in Westside Fire District have 24-hour, 7 days a week coverage.

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## Joint Powers Agreement

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It is economically unfeasible for any single government jurisdiction to equip and staff itself with sufficient forces to cope with the maximum situation that may occur. The combining of emergency services among local units of government provides opportunities to improve the level of services provided to the citizens while maintaining a consentient level of funding. Prior to the Selkirk JPA, the emergency service delivery system was fragmented which led to a significant duplication of services and inefficient utilization of resources. The Selkirk Fire JPA system allows for the closest unit response and a regional approach to emergency services delivery.

The principle benefits of a regional system is a more efficient use of funds, increased effectiveness and a depth of resources unmatched in the county. The consolidation of resources, the streamlining of overhead and a partnership in a regional protection system is beneficial for all parties.

The Selkirk Fire Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) has allowed fire departments to increase their capabilities and become more efficient in regards to emergency responses, fire prevention, public education and community outreach. The JPA has been developed that will allow other organizations to join and participate in the consolidation.

The JPA is managed by a Board who is represented by two Sandpoint City Council Members (Bill Aitken and Tom Eddy), two Sagle Fire Board Commissioners (Matt Linscott and Tom Trulock), two Westside Fire Board Commissioners (Will Gadsby and Allo Pucci) and a member from the community (Brett Converse). The Board approves all aspects of the District except finances, which are currently kept separate; however, employees and equipment are intermingled.

What occurred between the City of Sandpoint, Sagle Fire District, and Westside Fire District is a great example of good government at work. Instead of having three separate fire departments operating separately, the community now has a better-equipped emergency services delivery system.

Selkirk Fire JPA shares the cost of salaries and benefits for its administrative staff and includes a Fire Chief, an Assistant Fire Chief, and an Executive Assistant. Each agency is responsible for a total yearly cost of \$101,000.00.

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## JPA Benefits

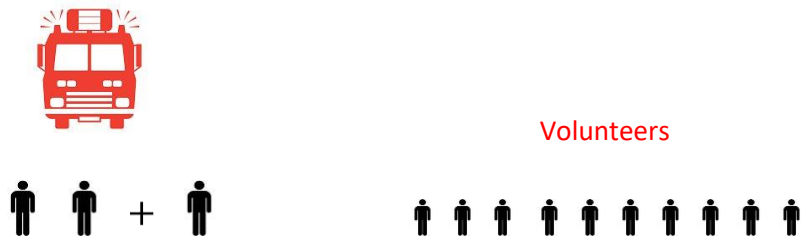
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### City of Sandpoint

Through the JPA, the City is saving \$21,000. In addition to the savings, the City gains an Executive Assistant, Assistant Chief, constant staffing of three which includes the Battalion Chief, four additional 24/7 staffed stations with four Firefighters on duty each day, one 40-hour a week Firefighter, four resident Firefighters, and 22 Volunteer Firefighters.

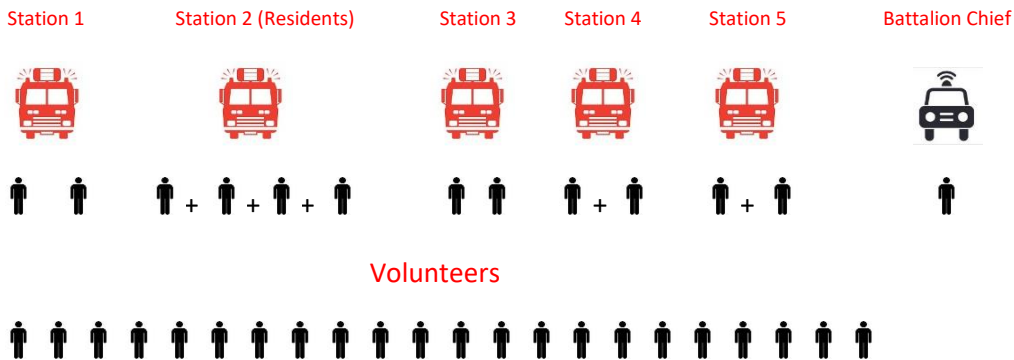
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#### Sanpoint Staffed Apparatus prior to Selkirk Fire



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#### Selkirk Staffed Apparatus



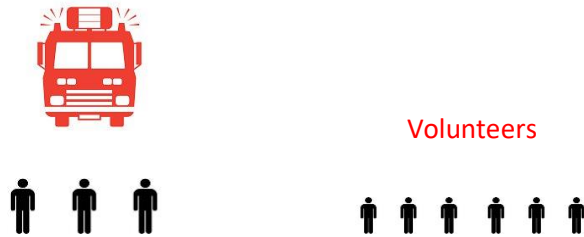
\*Plus sign (+) represents a fluctuation in staffing

**Sagle Fire District**

Through the JPA, the savings is \$86,000. In addition to the savings, Sagle Fire gains an Assistant Chief, Battalion Chief, three additional 24/7 staffed stations with two personnel on duty each day, one 40-hour a week Firefighter, four resident Firefighters, and 22 Volunteer Firefighters.

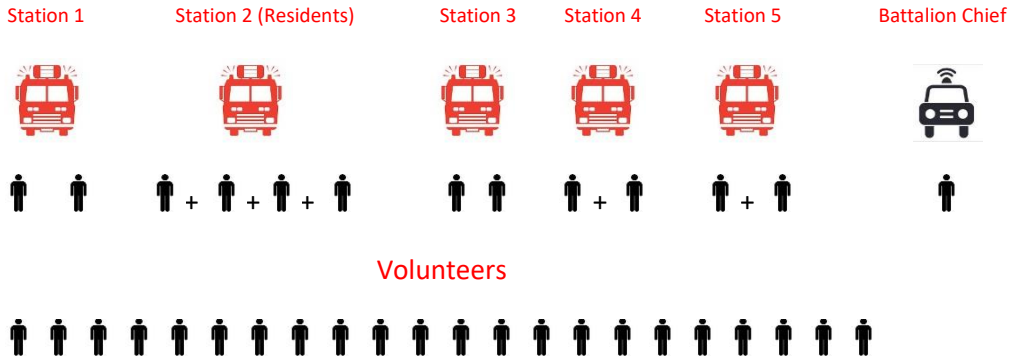
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Sagle Staffed Apparatus prior to Selkirk Fire



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Selkirk Staffed Apparatus



\*Plus sign (+) represents a fluctuation in staffing



**Westside Fire**

For the JPA, \$35,000 was re-allocated in the current budget to personnel costs. Westside Fire gains an additional Chief Officer, Executive Assistant, Battalion Chief, three additional 24/7 staffed stations with six personnel on duty each day, four resident Firefighters, and 22 Volunteer Firefighters.

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Westside Staffed Apparatus prior to Selkirk Fire

40 hours a week



Volunteers



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Selkirk Staffed Apparatus

Station 1

Station 2 (Residents)

Station 3

Station 4

Station 5

Battalion Chief



Volunteers



\*Plus sign (+) represents a fluctuation in staffing

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## Idaho Surveying and Rating Bureau

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**Idaho Surveying and Rating Bureau** is an independent rating organization operating with a license from the Idaho Department of Insurance as a “rating making organization” for property insurance.

In 2017, the **City of Dover** and **Laclede** residences insurance rating changed to a **Class 4**. For some, the reduction in insurance cost will save homeowners more than the total amount they pay annually for fire protection. In December 2018, the **City of Sandpoint** improved its rating from a **Class 4 to a Class 3**.

The improved insurance class ratings for both these cities are a direct result from Selkirk Fire’s JPA. Due to the close proximity of the Dover and Sandpoint fire stations, two engines and a ladder truck are able to respond simultaneously. Sagle, Sandpoint, and Westside were able to combine all personnel and received a greater amount of points for “company personnel”. Re-organizing our training program, emphasis on pre-fire plans and inspections also allowed the agency to capture more points. We are continually gathering data on individual homeowner and business insurance savings.

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## Budget and Funding

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Currently, Selkirk Fire, Rescue and EMS is an operational only entity. Each of the communities finances are kept separate. Below is how each District/Department receives funds to operate.

**Sagle Fire District:** Levy Rate is **.001727419**. This means for every \$100,000.00 of value of improved property the Sagle Fire District collects \$172.74. Sagle Fire District is one of a very few fire districts in Idaho that only levies on improved property. In 2015, there was 9,272 levy paying parcels. There are 13735 non-levy paying parcels. 2018 -2019 Annual Budget: \$1,416,647.00.

**Sandpoint Fire Department:** Tax dollars are collected through property taxes. Monies collected are distributed to each of the various City Departments. The Fire Department receives their funding at the discretion of the City Council. 2018 -2019 Annual Budget: \$1,348,755.00

**Westside Fire District:** Levy Rate is **.000712616**. This means for every \$100,000.00 of value of all real property (improved and unimproved) the Westside Fire District receives \$71.26. The Westside Fire District currently has a bond for fire station construction that is an additional assessment to the District residents. The bond rate is **.000087908**. This bond will mature in 2030. 2018 -2019 Annual Budget: \$388,212.00.

**Annexation:** Sagle received 15 parcel requests consisting of approximately 256 acres. Westside received 13 parcel requests consisting of approximately 578 acres. Total annexation value is approximately 2 million dollars.

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## Grants

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Selkirk Fire actively participated in grant opportunities. In 2018 we received \$798,392.00 in grant revenue.

- FEMA Safer Grant for three Firefighters: \$720,351
- Idaho Department of Land Grant: \$6,700 + 10% match for Westside radios  
\$8,850 + 10% match for Sagle radios
- Idaho EMS: \$10,000 for Westside extrication tools  
\$10,000 for Sagle extrication tools
- Homeland Security Grant: \$3,050 for Sagle and Westside BK portable radios
- ITD Parking Lot Grant: \$34,441 + 10% match for paving parking lot at Sagle Station 3
- TransCanada Wildland Personal Protective Clothing Grant: \$5,000 for Sagle protective clothing

We have applied for the following grants:

- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Type 3 Engine

## Dispatch Incidents 2018

### Structure Fire Dollar Value Saved & Loss Analysis

<u>Total Value</u>	<u>Total Losses</u>	<u>Total Saved</u>
\$4,275,500	\$2,706,300	\$1,569,200

Total Percent Lost: 63.30%

Total Percent Saved: 36.70%

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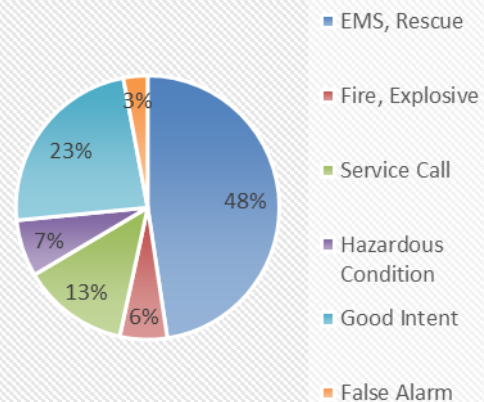
*The above values are estimates completed by the on-scene Captain*

Emergency Medical, Rescue Calls	1107
Fire, Explosive	135
Service Calls	304
Hazardous Conditions	162
Good Intent	548
False Alarms	69

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**Total Calls: 2,235**

### Selkirk Fire Rescue



## Wildland Contract Fires in 2018

Selkirk Fire contracts District for apparatus and personnel with the Idaho Department of Lands, and the U.S. Forest Service for the purpose of assisting regions with protection and suppression of wildland fire. The chart below lists the fires, county, number of days, and revenue brought in by participating in project fire contracts.

Fire	County Served	# of Days	Dates of Service	Revenue
Candle	Bonner, ID	1	June 3, 2018	\$651.00
Candle	Bonner, ID	2	June 3 to 4, 2018	\$2,378.00
Candle	Bonner, ID	2	June 4 to 5, 2018	\$2,378.00
Dufort	Bonner, ID	1	June 21, 2018	\$232.00
Bozo	Bonner, ID	1	June 21, 2018	\$406.00
North Spring	Costilla, CO	12	July 3 to 14, 2018	\$18,792.00
Garner Complex	Jackson, Josephine & Douglas, OR	23	July 18 to August 9, 2018	\$2,163.00
Blacktail	Bonner, ID	2	July 20 to 21, 2018	\$928.00
Indian Valley	Rio Blanco & Moffat, CO	2	July 22 to 23, 2018	\$2,668.00
Sulphur	Rio Blanco, CO	4	July 24 to 27, 2018	\$8,410.00
Tarlac	Bonner, ID	5	July 30 to August 3, 2018	\$9,280.00
Tenmile	Lincoln, MT	23	August 6 to 28, 2018	\$40,426.00
Cougar	Bonner, ID	19	August 11 to 29, 2018	\$14,345.00
Northern	Bonner, ID	1	August 12, 2018	\$589.00
Surprise Creek	Kootenai, ID	19	August 13 to 14, September 4, 2018	\$30,300.00
Lakeshore	Bonner, ID	1	August 14, 2018	\$473.00
Cougar	Bonner, ID	1	August 18, 2018	\$57.00
Surprise Creek	Kootenai, ID	11	August 19 to 29, 2018	\$1,002.00
Cougar	Bonner, ID	4	August 30 to September 2, 2018	\$285.00
Gold Hill	Lincoln, MT	18	September 1 to 18, 2018	\$28,826.00
				<b>164,589.00</b>

In 2018, a limited term Wildland Firefighter position was created for the period of June 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Ryan Jackson and Zach Pohl were hired and assigned to operate a Tactical Tender. The primary mission of the program is to accept wildland contracts for regional protection and suppression. In between assignments, the crew worked at the Careywood station responding to all emergencies.

★ **Total cost for the program: \$46,941.00**      ★ **Total revenue from contracts: \$114,492.00**

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## Community Risk Reduction

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### **Selkirk Fire conducted 789 business inspections and pre-fire plans in 2018.**

When you drop off your kids at school, go to a movie, eat out at a restaurant, or attend a religious service, do you think about how safe the building is? Selkirk Fire does. In fact, our fire crews inspect hundreds of buildings every year in an effort to ensure your safety. The Fire Prevention Division has the responsibility for enforcing local, state, and federal codes in order to reduce the loss of life and property from preventable fires and other emergencies; this is accomplished through inspection and code enforcement, plan review, public education and fire investigative services.

Throughout the year, Selkirk Fire will inspect your building. Some inspections will be pre-scheduled and some will not. The firefighters who conduct the inspections are on duty and their schedules are fluid and frequently interrupted by other emergency responsibilities.

In general, areas of concerns Firefighters will look for are:

- Fire alarm system – is it working with an absence of trouble signals?
- Fire sprinkler system – has it been serviced, tagged and tested?
- Exits – are the exits, exit corridors, and hallways unobstructed? Are the exit signs illuminated?
- Fire extinguishers – have they been serviced and tagged in the last twelve months?
- Kitchen hood system – has it been serviced and tagged?
- General cleanliness – is there combustible trash building up in the common hallways or exterior grounds?
- Walls and ceilings – are there holes in the walls or ceilings that will allow fire to travel in hidden spaces?
- Knox Box – is there a Knox Box in place with proper door keys and fire alarm panel keys?

We want to thank you for your participation in our Fire Prevention Program. We believe that by working together, we can keep your business as safe as possible.

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## Volunteer Program

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Our Department staff is comprised of career and volunteer Firefighters. Our Volunteer Firefighters work and train alongside our paid crews to provide a second line of defense. We currently have **22** commissioned Volunteer Firefighters to perform frontline tasks at emergencies and participate in community support programs.

In 2018 Volunteers conducted **1,370** hours of training. Selkirk Fire spent **\$13,235.00** towards Volunteer incentive pay.

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## Occupational Health and Wellness

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Safety and performance are at the heart of Selkirk Fire's core principles. This principle commands that everyone who comes to work goes home from work, and everyone is expected to perform their duties at the highest level without compromising safety. The investment of staff, equipment, and health screening is a reflection of the importance that Selkirk Fire attaches to the responsibility of protecting our most valuable resource; our personnel.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Occupational Health and Wellness is to ensure that all personnel work safely and effectively during their careers and maintain healthy lifestyle choices continuing into their retirement. We educate employees through a variety of channels about lifestyle behaviors and how they influence one's health, self-esteem, and overall job performance throughout a lifetime. For our uniformed personnel, offering wellness services and implementing programs strategically focused on providing the strength and support they need to meet demands and rigors of the job. District wide, we strive to provide a comprehensive array of in-house prevention driven health and wellness services to all personnel, volunteers, and family to improve the quality of life and longevity.

### **Services include:**

#### Annual Medical Screening

- Lab draws and metabolic testing
- Physical (musculoskeletal), including BMI
- Vision (Snellen) and color (ishihara) testing
- Otoscope
- Vitals
- Spirometry
- UA test

#### Health, Wellness, and Safety Promotion

- Fitness evaluations
- Allotted fitness time during each shift
- Fitness programs
- Nutrition counseling

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## Community Programs and Services

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### **Discretionary Fund**

The Discretionary Fund is sponsored by Angles Over Sandpoint and the Volunteer Firefighter Association. This fund allows on-scene Firefighters to spend up to \$100 to assist a citizen or family in need. \$200 dollars from this fund was donated throughout the community in 2018.

### **THE FESTIVAL** *at Sandpoint*

The Festival Guitar fundraiser is the Volunteer Firefighter Association's biggest annual fundraiser. In 2018 the guitar actioned off for \$15,000.

The Association uses the money for community support, whether it is to purchase smoke detectors, fire prevention materials or host and equip prevention booths.

### **Residential Smoke Alarm Program**

Our goal is to have a working smoke alarm in every home. Smoke alarms and batteries are provided at no cost to homeowners with limited financial means.

### **BonFire**

Creating safer communities by helping individuals prevent fires and other emergencies is a priority at Selkirk Fire. We participate in the Bonner County Wildfire Protection Plan and upon request, conduct residential site evaluations, which includes: terrain features, structure construction, defensible space, water supply, address, access, and fire ignition sources.

In 2018 our Fire Marshal, Mark Sauter met with residence of Gold Hill Road and Eaglecrest. He also visited at Cliffs Above Contest Point, Wagon Bridge, Ledges, Cedar Shoals, Cheval Noir, Travelers Rest, Forest Knolls, Wrenco Loop, Red Tail, Saddle Ridge, Berg Lane, and Festive Lane.

### **Bonner County Food Bank Event**

Firefighters, in conjunction with Super 1 Foods and Safeway raised 1,200 pounds of food and 29 turkeys.

### **Cancer Fund Raisers**

Every year Firefighters participate in the Seattle Stair Climb for the Leukemia event and the Movember Mustache party. In 2018, \$2,406 went to Leukemia and \$1,158 went to the Bonner County Community Center and a local cancer patient.

### **Traffic Control Events**

Volunteer Firefighters are certified and trained to provide traffic control. They provide traffic control for the Sandpoint Scenic Half Marathon and the Winter Carnival.



### **Fill the Boot**

Firefighters raised \$2,408 for Muscular Dystrophy in 2018. This event took place at the intersection of Highway 95 and Sagle Road.

### **Halloween Glow Sticks**

In 2018 Selkirk Firefighters and Selkirk Volunteer Association purchased and handed out 1,500 glow sticks on Halloween night.

### **Fire Prevention Education**

Firefighters visited multiple schools throughout the month of October teaching fire safety to children in preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grades and made contact with 1,000 to 1,250 children, including at our Open House in October. We provided public education at the Bonner County Contractors show (2 days), Schweitzer Mountain Fall Fest (2 days), and the Emergency Preparedness Fair (2 days).

### **Mock DUI**

Firefighters provided a demonstration to the School District seniors to show the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.



### **World Record Run**

*Gwen Le Tutour . . . "That was easy!"*

On April 28th Gwendal Le Tutour (one of our volunteers) ran 100 miles in full Firefighting gear in 28 hours and 43 minutes. By doing so, he set a new world record and was the first to run 100 miles in full gear. The purpose of this run was to raise awareness about cancer prevention. The Firefighter Cancer Support Network and the American Institute for Cancer Research were partners in this world record event.

This event took place in Sandpoint and organized by the non-profit Plant Positive. The Sandpoint community joined the effort by following along biking, running or skateboarding.

## Firefighter Stair Climb



*Connor Robinson, Tennille Toussaint, Gwen Le TuTour*

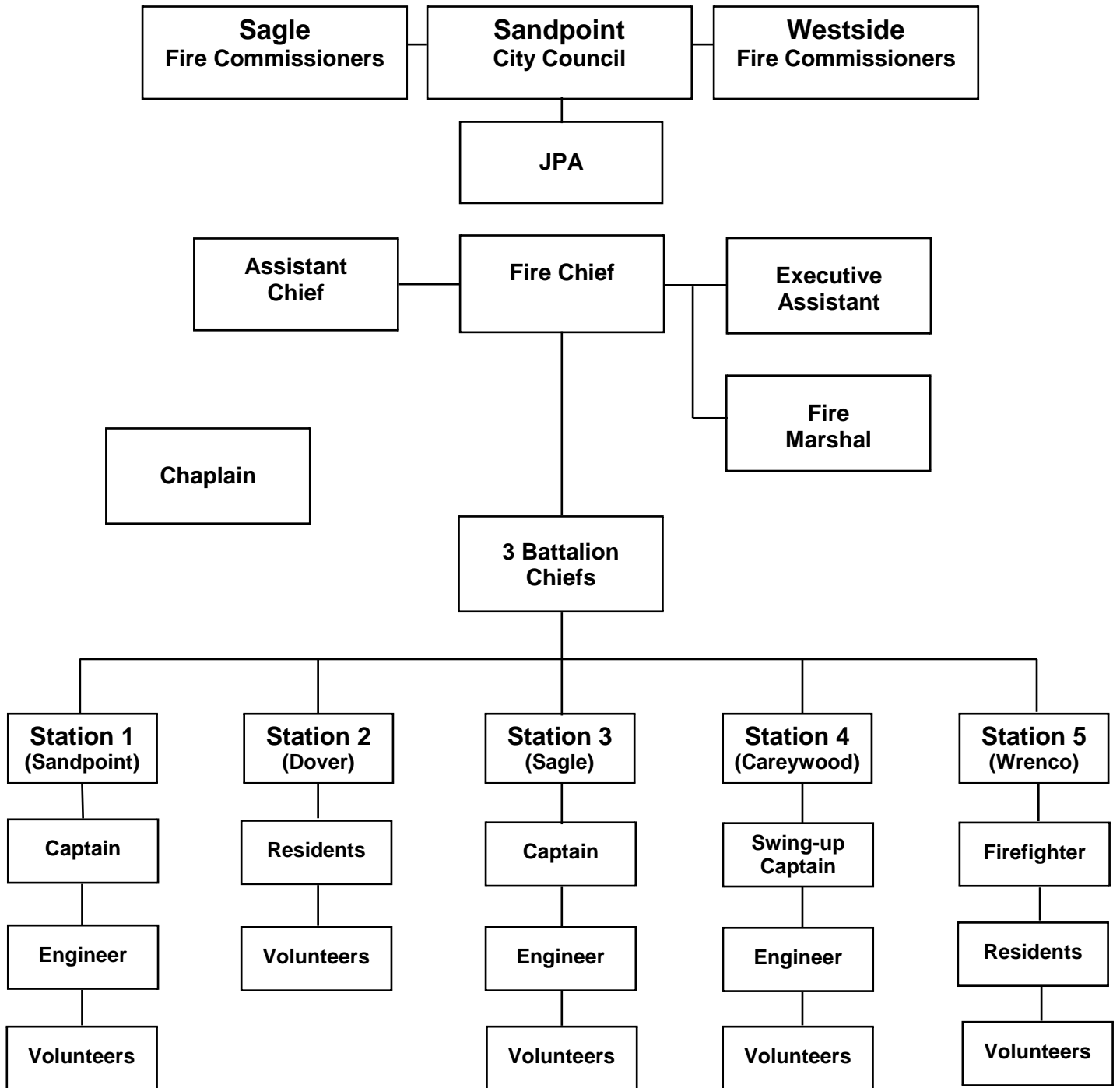
Gwen Le Tutour, Tennille Toussaint, and Conner Robinson were the Firefighters representing Selkirk Fire at the annual Seattle stair climb. They climbed 69 floors in full firefighting gear, on air with breathing apparatus. They raised \$2,406.00 for Leukemia and Lymphoma.

- Gwen was 25<sup>th</sup> overall with a time of 14 minutes and 06 seconds
- Tennille was 30<sup>th</sup> female overall with a time of 21 minutes
- Conner was 1096<sup>th</sup> overall with a time of 24 minutes

2,000 Firefighters from around the world competed in this annual event.



# Selkirk Fire Rescue & EMS



## Our Mission Statement

The mission of Selkirk Fire, Rescue & EMS is to preserve life, property and the environment through dedication, preparedness and quality customer service.

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### Our Staff

Fire Chief — Ron Stocking  
Assistant Fire Chief — Dale Hopkins  
Executive Assistant — RuthAnn Zigler  
Fire Marshal — Mark Sauter

### **A SHIFT**

**Battalion Chief — Michael Gow**  
**Captain — Glen Cassidy**  
**Engineer — Pete Shapanus**

### **B SHIFT**

#### Station 1 — Sandpoint

**Battalion Chief — Jason Cordle**  
**Captain — Mick Adams**  
**Engineer — Clint Frank**

### **C SHIFT**

**Battalion Chief — Kevin Amorebieta**  
**Captain — Jeff Littlefield**  
**Engineer — Jeff Calhoun**

#### Station 2 — Dover

Residents (4)

#### Station 3 — Sagle

**Captain — Britian Whitley**  
**Prob. Firefighter — Tennille Toussaint**

**Captain — Jake Hilton**  
**Engineer — Josh Palkki**

**Captain — Reny Hansen**  
**Prob. Firefighter — Cody Lile**

#### Station 4 — Careywood

**Captain — Troy Badeaux\***  
**Engineer — Jonah Pucci**

**Captain — Ethan Colby\***  
**Engineer — Zach Ukich**

**Captain — Bernie Frechette\***  
**Engineer — Solan Wolf**

#### Station 5 — Wrenco

**Prob. Firefighter — Chris Lewis**  
**Resident (1)**

**\*Step-up Positions**





Selkirk Fire, Rescue & EMS  
Proudly Serving Sagle, Sandpoint & Westside Communities