

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

~~location of fire stations these response times are not likely to improve. To shorten the response time requires the manning of the fire station at Point Whitehorn on a round the clock basis. The cost of such an operation is significant.~~

Consolidated Fire District No. 13#21

Existing Facilities and Services. Fire District ~~13#21~~ serves all of the Birch Bay community planning area north of Bay Road. They also serve the City of Blaine, as well as the Custer, and Haynie areas. The Fire District provides fire protection, emergency medical, and hazardous materials response services. ~~Fire District #13 has entered into a Cooperative Interlocal Agreement with Fire District #3, and #5 that has resulted in the formation of the North Whatcom Fire & Rescue Services (NWFRS) organization. The NWFRS organization~~ Fire District #21 serves a 165 square mile total area. ~~This agreement allows enhanced training programs and more depth in staffing, volunteers, and resources than would otherwise be possible.~~

Fire District #21, also known as North Whatcom Fire & Rescue, Services organization is a combination paid and volunteer fire department. There are currently 28 paid employees, which include a fire chief, Assistant Fire Chief, 3 Division Chiefs, Training Captain, Volunteer Resource Coordinator, Finance Manger, 2 Administrative Assistants, two apparatus maintenance technicians, 1 Emergency Medicine Physician, five Career Company Officer Lieutenants, and nine Career Firefighters. The NWFRS organization also has 165 volunteer officer/fire fighters posted to 10 fire stations.

North Whatcom Fire & Rescue operates 7 staff vehicles, 14 engines, 12 aid ambulances, 5 water tenders, 1 Re-Habilitation unit, one Breathing Air response unit and 5 utility units to support requests for fire and aid services from the general public.

Fire District ~~13#21~~ operates 5 stations. The 3 fire stations serving the Birch Bay community are Station 1 at 4581 Birch Bay-Lynden Road, Station 2 located in Custer, and Station 4 located in Blaine. The Birch Bay Station is staffed 24 hours a day with career Firefighters/EMTS and is also served by 30 volunteer members participating in a sleeper program. The Birch Bay Station is equipped with 2 Rescue/Aid pumps, 1 ladder truck, and 1 BLS Ambulance Aid vehicle. The Custer Station is equipped with one Rescue/Aid pumper, 1 water tender, and 1 BLS Ambulance Aid vehicle; the Blaine station has 2 Rescue/Aid pumps and 1 BLS Ambulance.