



**News Release**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **San Juan Island Fire and Rescue Responds to Wildland Fire**

FRIDAY HARBOR, WA -- On Sunday late afternoon, July 21, 2019, San Juan Island Fire and Rescue crews responded to multiple 911 calls reporting a wildland fire in the area of Hannah Heights on the west side of San Juan Island.

Upon arrival, firefighters found several hot spots actively burning in a large area of approximately ½ acre adjacent to two residential structures. The homes were not occupied at the time of the fire and all pets and animals had been removed from the fire scene. Firefighters immediately began extinguishing the fire nearest the homes and where an unoccupied camper trailer was fully engulfed.

Firefighters were able to knock down the fire in the immediate area of concern while other teams began attacking other hotspots. Fire teams were able to successfully contain the fire to an area of approximately ½ acre in size. The conditions of vegetation and terrain made a difficult effort to fully extinguish the fire. Teams worked through the night on Sunday and into Monday to continue containment and to fully extinguish the fire.

In addition to San Juan Island Fire and Rescue teams, a wildland fire crew from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources arrived Monday afternoon to fully complete mop-up operations, consisting of cleaning up through the containment area by dousing any embers and spot fires that have made their way across control lines and under the soil.

San Juan Island Fire and Rescue Logistics team volunteers provided critical support to firefighters through wildfire operations.

San Juan Island Fire Chief Norvin Collins said, "The rapid response by our firefighters allowed for an aggressive attack on this challenging wildfire. Our career and volunteer firefighters train for multiple wildland fire situations so we can safely protect our all of our island residents and visitors."

Chief Collins added, "Chief Collins added, "We are grateful for the support we received from Washington State DNR firefighters and their expertise on the scene. We are particularly grateful for the assistance of the neighbors who provided excellent support, assistance and cooperation throughout the duration of this fire."

(NOTE: Editors photographs are attached – Credit San Juan Island Fire and Rescue)

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*The San Juan Island Fire & Rescue was established on October 6, 1958. The fire department covers about 55 square miles, includes all of San Juan Island, as well as Brown and Pearl Islands. For more information, please visit <http://www.sjfire.org/>*