

Seaside Fire Department

2008 Annual Report

The mission of the *Seaside Fire Department* is to provide the community with professional services in order to protect life, the environment and property from fire, disaster and health emergencies.

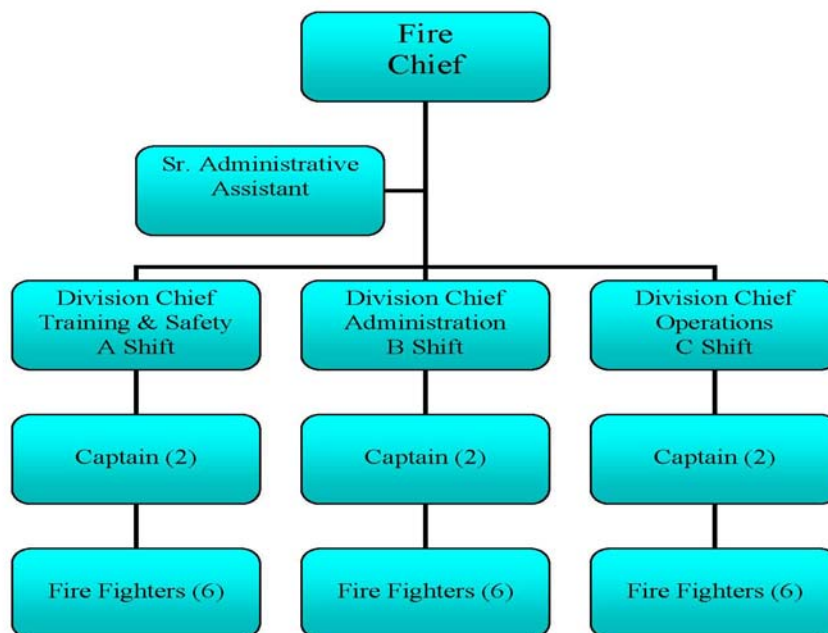
The *City of Seaside* is dedicated to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for our diverse community.

A Message from the Chief...

The Seaside Fire Department is made up of a group of dedicated personnel that represent the diversity of the community. These persons work every day of the year to improve the quality of service provided to Seaside residents. The Firefighters Association participates in a wide range of donations of time, funds and resources of their own to meet the needs of community programs for the youth, elderly and the community as a whole. I am proud to serve Seaside with the quality of persons that personally give so much back to the community. The transfer of lands from the former Fort Ord Military installation represents a growth opportunity for Seaside that will hopefully meet the goals of the community as a whole. From this community growth evolves the need to increase public safety in the form of growth of the fire department. It is because of this upcoming expansion that the fire department planners are working with various groups to identify the best method to provide timely and quality services to the community, as has been a hallmark of our history.

Jerry Wombacher, Fire Chief

2008 Organization Chart



The Seaside Fire Department in 2008

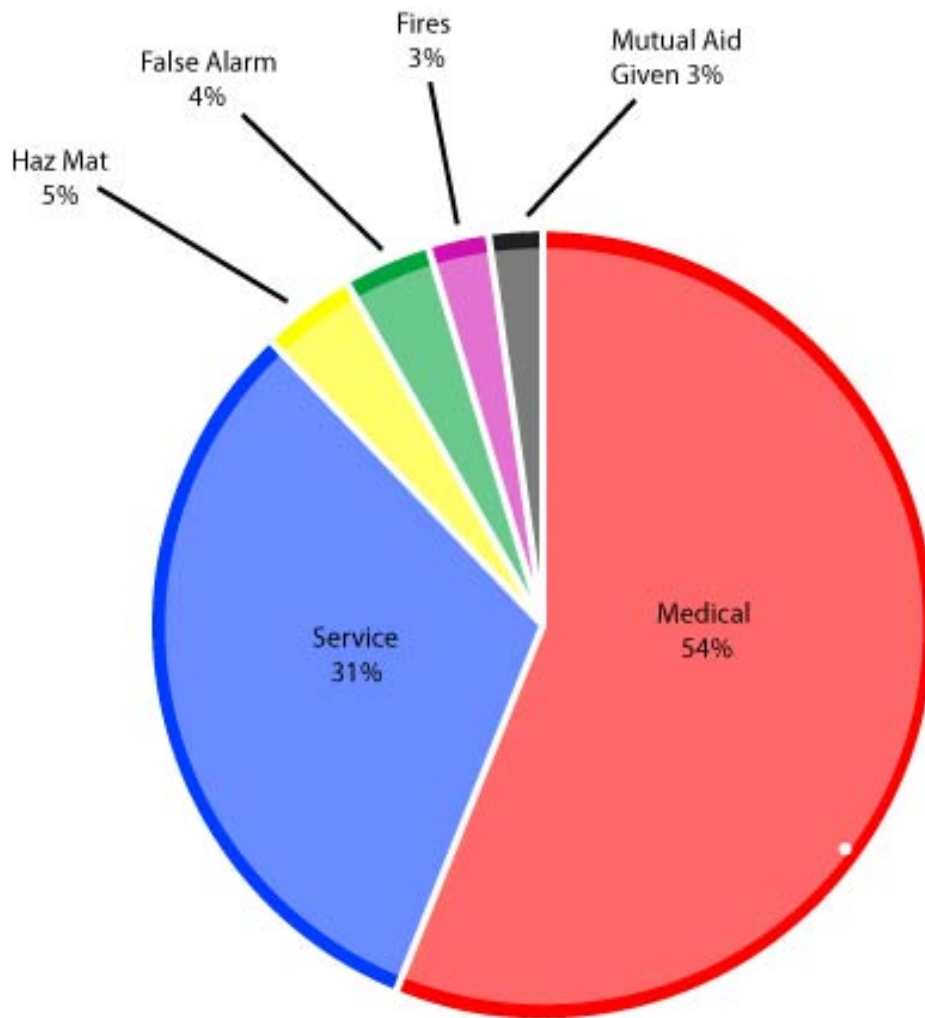
The Seaside Fire Department continues to provide fire protection and emergency services to the City of Del Rey Oaks on a contractual basis. Our relationship with the citizens, employees and officials of Del Rey Oaks has been outstanding. We look forward to continuing our service to the community of Del Rey Oaks for many years to come.

Accomplishments for 2008

- Hired three new firefighters from Reserve pool
- Division Chief Test: 1 on list
- Open House
- Assorted Wildland Strike Teams
- Assistance to Fire fighter grant submitted
- SAFER grant submitted
- Lola continued to pass S&R testing
- 2007 Annual Report
- Fire loss less than 6% = 94.55% saved
- \$249K in reimbursement for 2008 strike teams
- Conducted one PAT
- Completed citywide business & apartment inspections
- Part-time Fire Marshal
- Monterey County HazMat reimbursements
- Active participation in various Chief-related associations and committees
- Participation in various City events: Santa, National Night Out, Homecoming, etc.
- Participated in FOR A jurisdictional meetings (ESCA)

2008 STATISTICS

The Seaside Fire Department responded to a total of 2,364 calls during 2008.



	<i># of Calls</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Medical (includes auto accidents w/ injuries)	1,283	54 %
Service Calls/Public Assistance	726	31%
Hazardous Materials/Conditions	130	5%
False Alarms/Cancellations/Other	96	4%
Fires	62	3%
Mutual Aid Given	67	3%

Mutual Aid /Automatic Aid Responses in 2008

Agency	<i>Given to</i>	<i>Received from</i>
North County Fire Protection District	1	0
Carmel Fire	1	1
Salinas Fire Department	3	0
Salinas Rural Fire Protection District	3	1
Marina Department of Public Safety	6	1
Presidio of Monterey Fire Department	4	2
Monterey Fire Department	11	3

Fire Loss/Save

Seaside Fire Calls:

Total value involved	\$23,528
Total loss	\$1,281,810
Total value saved	\$22,245,800
Total percent lost	6%
Total percent saved	94%

Del Rey Oaks Fire Calls:

Total value involved	\$12,250,000
Total loss	\$600
Total value saved	\$12,249,400
Total percent lost	.01
Total percent saved	99.9%

2008 TRAINING

The Seaside Fire Department is committed to a well-trained professional organization by providing a comprehensive training program through both in-house training sessions and sponsorships to outside training opportunities. The Seaside Fire Department believes that a highly trained workforce increases performance and productivity, enhances teamwork, promotes a safe workplace environment, and is the foundation for our commitment in providing the best and most efficient service to the community.

The Training Division of the Seaside Fire Department is managed by the Department Training Officer who coordinates all in-house training activities by developing a monthly training calendar based on identified training needs and mandated training topics. The Training Officer also coordinates and manages our probationary training program, all off-site training sponsorships, and oversees the Department training budget. The Training Officer maintains an active membership in the Northern California Training Officers Association and a leadership role in the Monterey County Fire Training Officers Association. The Training Officer also serves as the Department Health and Safety Officer and coordinates the Standard Operating Procedures Update Program.

During 2008, the Seaside Fire Department conducted a cumulative personnel total of 1,804 in-house training sessions for an average of 66 in-house training sessions per person for the year. The department conducted 335 training sessions for a total of 607.51 hours. These sessions covered a wide variety of fire service training topics including fire suppression operations, emergency apparatus procedures, incident management, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, Wildland firefighting techniques, search & rescue, highway incident safety, and rapid intervention crew tactics. A total of 3,038.28 personnel training hours were logged by 27 fulltime personnel for a yearly average of 112.52 hours of in-house training per employee.

A major focus of our training in 2008 was completing our Emergency Medical Technician recertification process that was due in June of 2008. All employees of the Seaside Fire Department recertified as an EMT after completing 24 hours of continuing education and mastering ten essential pre-hospital care skills. Recertification for Emergency Medical Technician occurs every two years.

Practical training exercises are an essential part of a comprehensive training program. In 2008, the Seaside Fire Department emphasized practical, realistic training in topics such as Wildland firefighting, vehicle extrication and stabilization, confined space rescue, rapid intervention crew tactics, thermal imaging camera techniques, and fire suppression tactics. In 2008, the Seaside Fire Department participated in the annual Wildland Fire School at Fort Hunter Liggett along with over 300 fire service personnel from throughout California. During Wildland Fire School, the Seaside Fire Department Training Officer served as the school's overall Safety Officer.

2008 OPERATIONS

The Operations section of the fire department encompasses all the personnel, equipment, and other resources necessary to provide emergency responses for fire, medical, hazardous materials, and other emergencies. The fire department provides emergency responses based upon an all-risk design such that personnel and vehicles are trained and equipped to provide cross-over capabilities through multiple vehicle deployments. Seaside Fire Department staffs one of two Monterey County HMR (Hazardous Materials Response) vehicles and works closely with the other HRM vehicle staffed by Salinas Fire Department. Additional involvement in area wide emergency services includes the presence of one search dog as part of a state US&R task force.

The Operations section provides the staff needed to fill the engine company based fire code enforcement inspection program, public education program, emergency preparedness program, training program, and oversight of the reserve firefighter program. This program staff sharing process has increased the organizational training and skill levels of fire personnel while providing the community with a very involved fire department presence in multiple fire department activities over and above that of emergency responses.

2008 PUBLIC EDUCATION

Seaside Fire Department ran a total of 104 public education training sessions for a grand total of 223 hours. Public education took the form of station tours, lectures on and off-site to classrooms, adult emergency training, church/club education, as well as senior training.

2008 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Several of our Seaside fire fighters have received specialized training to serve on the countywide hazardous materials team. Seaside houses one of two hazardous materials response vehicles. To be eligible to participate as a member of the team, a fire fighter must complete a minimum of four weeks of intensive training in chemistry, hazard detection and hazard mitigation. Many members go on to complete additional weeks of training in topics such as radiation response, explosives recognition and chemical and biological weapons response.



Here, members of the National Guard CST participated in a joint exercise with Haz Mat Team members at the California State University Monterey Bay campus in September 2008.

Recently four of our members returned from New Mexico after a week of training in response to terrorist bombings. This training culminated in live testing of various explosives on a range used by the Department of Homeland Security. During 2008, our team members also participated in a series of joint field exercise, including one with the California National Guard's 95th Civil Support Team, a specialized unit that responds to potential terrorist and hazardous materials incidents on behalf of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.



Haz Mat Team Members plan an entry into the Hot Zone during a February 2008 drill at Roberts Lake.

2008 SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG



This year was a big year for the Seaside Fire Department Canine Search and Rescue Program. On February 23, 2008, Fire Fighter Johnny Subia and his canine "Lola" passed their FEMA Advance Certification test in Miami, Florida. Fire Fighter Subia and Lola passed the test with 13 other canine teams from all across the nation. Lola is now one of 218 canines that are currently certified to be deployed through FEMA to any natural or man-made disaster in the United States. Lola also becomes one of 50 certified canines in the state of California. Fire fighter Subia and Lola are now considered a single resource for the City of Seaside, County of Monterey, and State of California. Also, by passing this test, Fire Fighter Subia's position on the Oakland Urban Search and Rescue team, California Task Force- 4 is now that of a Canine Search Specialist.

2008 RESERVE PROGRAM

The Firefighter Reserve Program is designed to provide supplemental fire department personnel to assist with various daily tasks, special assignments, medical, rescue and fire scenes and large scale incidents on an as need basis. Reserve personnel receive monthly training and are required to spend "on-duty" time at the fire station. The program has been our hiring pool for over fifteen years.

2008 found us with three Reserves in the program. All three have completed necessary training and are able to ride on the engines and function on a variety of emergency calls. Recruitment and bi-annual Physical Agility Testing (PAT) are ongoing.