

SKAGIT COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #17

Critical Facilities:

Fire Stations & Office (2 buildings) @ 6310 Guemes Island Road; estimated value: **\$314,000**

Equipment:

Apparatus; estimated value: **\$400,000**

Contents; estimated value: **\$250,000**

Outline of Area Served:

Skagit County Fire District #17 serves the entirety of Guemes Island with an approximate valuation of \$297,343,612.

Current and Anticipated Service Trends:

The district anticipates a moderate growth in the number of single family homes on the island and no future commercial/industrial growth.

Natural Hazard Vulnerability Analysis Rating:

The district is most vulnerable to the following natural hazards, ranked in order:

1. Severe Storm/Wind
2. Tidal Flooding
3. Earthquake

Natural Hazard Event History:

During the 2003 – 2008 plan cycle, the district was impacted by several winter storms that caused power outages due to downed trees and power lines in numerous locations on Guemes Island. Significant storms occurred as follows:

- February, 2006
- November, 2006
- December, 2006
- December, 2007

The December, 2006 storm caused a power outage that affected all of Guemes Island for several days and also resulted in a loss of ferry service to the island.

Existing Applicable Natural Hazard Mitigation Policies, Ordinances, and Codes:

The district has not adopted any natural hazard mitigation policies, ordinances, or codes.

Natural Hazard Mitigation Accomplishments 2003 - 2008:

Because of its location, Guemes Island is susceptible to strong damaging winds from both the north and the southwest which typically cause power outages due to downed trees and power lines. In January, 2008, Skagit County Fire District #17 took action to mitigate chronic power outages impacting district facilities by installing an alternate power supply system at the Guemes Island Road facility. The system and is comprised of 45 solar panels affixed to the roof of the station as well as a bank of large-capacity batteries. In the event of a power outage, the system is capable of operating the Guemes Island Road facility for up to 2-weeks in support of fire operations.

Proposed Natural Hazard Mitigation Measures:

The mitigation measures listed below were identified in 2003 as part of the original development of the Skagit County Natural hazards Mitigation Plan. Due to lack of local funds, no progress has been made towards accomplishing these mitigation measures. However, these measures remain valid for Skagit County Fire District #17 and have been re-affirmed for the 2008 – 2013 plan cycle.

Mitigation Measure	Lead Agency	Funding Source	Time Line
Structural reinforcement of existing 3-bay pole building to withstand severe wind & earthquake events	Commissioners	Grant funding	Short Term
Main office building structural reinforcement of existing 2-bay wood building to withstand severe wind & earthquake events	Commissioners	Grant Funding	Short Term
Place existing "above ground" utilities underground within 600' of facilities	Commissioners	Grant Funding	Short Term