

Metchosin home destroyed by fire



By Goldstream News Gazette

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An isolated home deep in the woods off Kangaroo Road in Metchosin went up in flames Wednesday night.

A lone male and his dog escaped the blaze unharmed, called in at 5:11 p.m. as a chimney fire.

"When we arrived there were lots of flames coming out of the top two storeys," said Metchosin fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop.

Fire departments from Langford, Sooke and East Sooke attended the call to help the Metchosin Volunteer Fire Department pump water up the windy, half-kilometre long driveway.

Firefighters pumped water from a hydrant on Kangaroo Road into a large pool, which was then pumped through multiple tender trucks to keep water pressure up and flowing to the fire site.

After fire officials determined no one was in the three-level house, crews determined it was safer to take up a defensive posture. Not having direct water source made it too dangerous for firefighters to attack the fire from within the building, Dunlop said.

"We were going defensive because there were no other options, and there was a lack of water," she said.

Firefighters controlled the fire from the outside and protected surrounding exposures, such as the garage, trees and a vehicle under a tarp.

The cause of the fire is unknown and is currently under investigation.

In total, 25 firefighters attended the call. Firefighters remained at the scene until 11:30 p.m.
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