

# **BIG ROCK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

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## **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board Policy**

In an emergency that physically isolates the *Township of Hiouchi* (Hiouchi) from other communities due to bridge failures and/or landslides that close U.S. Highway 199, the *Big Rock CSD* will convene and operate an Incident Command Post (ICP) at Fire Station #2 in Hiouchi. The following policy is oriented toward worst-case planning.

The ICP would utilize the County's Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors (NHN) capability for operational implementation of the Special District's Catastrophic Disaster Plan and other emergency requirements that might occur. Served neighborhoods include all that are physically located within the *Big Rock CSD's* legal jurisdiction, plus the adjoining neighborhood within the Special District's Sphere of Influence surrounding U.S. Highway 197's intersection with Ashford Road and the residences situated up Ashford Road. The ICP would not be able to accommodate other areas served by U.S. Highway 197 when the highway section north of Ashford Road becomes impassable.

In cases involving physical isolation, the Acting President, Board of Directors/Trustees, will assume (a) the role of Emergency Manager (Manager) and (b) responsibility for all emergency actions taken by the ICP within the aforesaid area. The Township's NHN Coordinator (Coordinator) will serve under the direction of the Manager. Each Neighborhood Leader will respond to the Coordinator.

In the event of physical isolation, the Manager will represent Hiouchi's needs when coordinating with FEMA and other emergency relief agencies. The ICP will do what it can at the time to assist residents of Douglas Park and along South Bank Road up to Big Flat. The ICP must endeavor to open a communications link with Del Norte County's Emergency Operations Center via OASIS and other

emergency radio means. If such is not possible, the ICP will open an emergency radio connection with the Josephine County Emergency Center for relief.

Periods of extended isolation might result in FEMA conducting emergency relief operations to Del Norte County from its designated Point of Distribution at Ward Field in Gasquet. In that case FEMA hopes to supply Hiouchi via CH-47 helicopters employing “sling loaded” logistical support. Heavy helicopters may not land in Hiouchi due to the high probability of downwash damage.

The *Big Rock CSD* will identify an NHN Coordinator and various Neighborhood Leaders for the purposes stated above. EOC training, ICP exercises, and quarterly meetings will be necessary to maintain operational readiness. On a continuing basis, the Coordinator will assist the Board of Directors/Trustees in an advisory capacity with an eye toward adequate catastrophic disaster planning.

In addition, the Board of Directors/Trustees will assemble a permanent Disaster Planning Committee (DPC) comprised of three local residents to serve in an advisory role regarding the following tasks:

- Local Hazard Mitigation Planning (FEMA requirement)
- Catastrophic Disaster Planning
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The DPC will be chaired by the Acting President, Board of Directors/Trustees.

On Behalf of the Board,

Craig Bradford  
President