

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE
Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

SUBJECT:

Response to 'No District Areas'

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APPROVED BY:



Board Chair

POLICY:

Purpose

To establish a policy for East County Fire and Rescue (ECFR) incident response into areas that are not part of any fire district; or are not in an area that has an established mutual aid agreement with the District – herein referred to as 'No District Areas'.

Overview

While ECFR's purpose is to save lives and property, and to mitigate hazards, the District is first obligated to the residents of ECFR and will, as a matter of practice, prioritize its response to them.

ECFR has mutual aid agreements with all of the fire jurisdictions within Clark County, Skamania County Fire District 4, and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). NOTE: The agreement with DNR is for fire suppression only and does not include Emergency Medical (EMS) response. Nothing in this policy is intended to overrule or otherwise alter these agreements.

ECFR will respond with appropriate resources at their disposal whenever there is an imminent life hazard or a confirmed life threat reported.

Response Policy

Fire Response into 'No District' Areas

All fire response to No District areas will be defensive in nature. That is, crews will take actions to prevent the fire from spreading to neighboring structures or property but will not engage in any interior structure firefighting. If called as initial response into an area that is not covered by any fire jurisdiction ECFR will respond with enough apparatus (typically one unit) to investigate and determine if additional units are needed to keep the fire from spreading or to protect lives.

EMS Response into 'No District' Areas and DNR Lands

ECFR will respond with appropriate resources at their disposal whenever there is an imminent life hazard or a confirmed life threat reported. That is, ECFR will utilize its normal response protocols for all priority one and two medical incidents. However, ECFR will not respond to priority three or lower EMS calls into these areas.

Billing for Services

ECFR reserves the right to bill for any and all response to No District areas. Fees for apparatus response will be billed by using the most current adopted Recommended Rate Schedule of the Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs. Fees for responding personnel and any related backfill will be according to the ECFR wage scale.