



KATHERINE HIGH SCHOOL

FLOOD COUNTER DISASTER PLAN

Rationale

The township of Katherine is located in a recognised flood zone. Katherine High School is situated outside the historical flood zone and is a designated evacuation centre. The safe evacuation of all persons in the event of a flood emergency is a priority.

Counter Disaster Preparations

November

- Nominate teams and team leaders to assist with implementation of the plan if needed.
- Make provision for informing incoming staff.
- Update the school's staff register including home contact details.
- Ensure all staff members are aware of counter disaster measures and expectations.
- Confirm availability of staff to assist with each stage.
- Locate the portable radio and new batteries in Business Manager's Office.
- Ensure the plan is included in the *Katherine High School Policy and Procedures Handbook* for the following year.

January

- Review teams and team leaders.
- Ensure new staff members are recorded on staff register
- Identify all staff members who will need to be released if the Katherine River rises.
- At the school-based-induction ensure all new staff are aware of counter disaster measures and expectations.
- Confirm with Emergency Services personnel that an orderly request for assistance will be made. NB: Students will need to have parental permission.

Counter Disaster Procedures

Stage 1 - Activation Category LOW

The regional Counter Disaster Controller declares this stage when a warning is received which may necessitate a counter disaster response. The height of the Katherine River (measured at the Gorge) is 5.5m rising to 6.4m. This translates to a predicted height 12 hours later at the Railway Bridge of 15.5m rising to 16.4m.

- Contact all staff and appraise them of the situation.
- Ensure all school vehicles are fully fuelled.
- Respond to preparations being made by the community, including bussing of students to outlying areas, arranging for the temporary housing of students unable to return home.

- Staff who live in potentially affected areas be released if within eight hours of expected impact.

Stage 2 - Activation Category MODERATE

The regional Counter Disaster Controller declares this stage when a counter disaster response is imminent. The height of the Katherine River (measured at the Gorge) is 6.5m rising to 7.4m. This translates to a predicted height 12 hours later at the Railway Bridge of 16.5m rising to 17.4m.

- Contact all staff and appraise them of the situation.
- Establish a priority order to release staff to attend to personal situation. Those in danger of being cut off are to return home as highest priority.
- Arrange for all students to be returned to the care of their parents/guardians.
- Prepare the Gymnasium, N Block Toilets and Canteen area for use as an Evacuation Centre.
- Prepare the Administration Block (at minimum Principal's Office, Business Manager's Office and Staff Room) for use as an Evacuation Centre.

Stage 3 - Activation Category EXTREME

This stage is declared when counter disaster measures are required. The height of the Katherine River (measured at the Gorge) is 7.5m and rising. This translates to a predicted height 12 hours later at the Railway Bridge of 17.5m and rising.

- Supervise students until parents/guardians are able to collect.
- Hand facility to Evacuation Centre controllers (either Emergency Services personnel or NT Police).
- Assist as needed with the management of the School and its facilities.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

2007