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A study of evacuation activities of the residents in Hidaka and Tokachi Coast on the Great East Japan Earthquake-Tsunami

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The 3.11 Tsunami attacked also the Pacific coast of Hokkaido. Although the tsunami had been 3-3.5 m in wave height, it had locally run up to the height of 6-9 msl. People had been expected to evacuate, according to the Great Tsunami Warning. How had the people living along the coast responded as the evacuation activity? We have carried out the hearing survey to 259 residents, using questionnaire in some selected villages and towns. Below are major key issues obtained from this survey.

1. Individual evacuation activity of each residents:

Evacuated: mostly judged from TV news (live broadcasting from Tohoku)

Not evacuated: judged from the 1952-, 2003-Tokachioki Tsunami.

2. The evacuation mark indicating the route and distance and the evacuation facilities are problematic in most cases.

3. Understanding the topographic condition against the tsunami, where each village or town is located: almost no knowledge

4. Understanding the Tsunami Hazard Map prepared by the Administrative Bureau: mostly poor

Keywords: Questionnaire, Evacuation Activities, Hidaka- Tokachi Coast