



NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Contact: Jeff Lorens
801-524-5137 x265

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2014

**Officials to test tsunami warning system in Del Norte,
Humboldt and Mendocino counties during Tsunami Preparedness Week**

NOAA and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) plan to conduct a test of the tsunami warning communications system on March 26 between 11 a.m. and noon PDT in coastal areas of northern California.

This emergency test will be broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, local television and radio stations in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties. Residents in some communities may hear warning sirens.

Some television systems are programmed to scroll a standard emergency alert text message and in some cases, the message may not contain the word "TEST." An audio message will say that the message is only a test, but if the volume is turned down or otherwise unheard, viewers may not realize the message is a test.

To avoid confusion with an actual alert the test will be canceled if there is excessive seismic activity 24 hours prior to the test. People monitoring the test in coastal areas who do not receive it are asked to inform their local National Weather Service office. The public can provide feedback online at weather.gov/test.

The test is a cooperative effort between NOAA, Cal OES, California Broadcasters Association, and local emergency management officials in coastal California.

During [Tsunami Preparedness Week](#), March 23 - 29, NOAA and emergency managers promote tsunami safety and awareness and urge coastal residents and visitors to prepare themselves and their families for a tsunami.

NOAA's [National Tsunami Warning Center](#) offers complete information, including the current status of tsunami warnings, watches, and advisories and [frequently asked questions](#).

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

On the Web:

NOAA's National Weather Service: <http://www.weather.gov>

NOAA Tsunami Web sites: <http://www.tsunami.noaa.gov> and www.tsunami.gov

NOAA's National Tsunami Warning Center: <http://ntwc.arh.noaa.gov>

###