



## MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

# NEWS RELEASE

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TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

FR: COUNTY OF MENDOCINO OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (OES)

**“Live” Emergency Alert System Activation Part of Tsunami Awareness Week  
NOAA’S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TO TEST TSUNAMI WARNING COMMUNICATIONS  
IN MENDOCINO, DEL NORTE, AND HUMBOLDT COUNTIES**

**Ukiah, California... [March 17, 2009]**

Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services will conduct a limited test of the warning communications system on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, between 10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. The test is part of Tsunami Awareness Week, March 23 – 29, as proclaimed by Mendocino County Board of Supervisors.

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be activated as if a real tsunami warning has been issued. Messages will be broadcast on radio and television stations in Mendocino County. The EAS alert will be disseminated by NOAA Weather Radio, as well as broadcast TV and radio stations.

It is very important, therefore, that the public is informed about this test ahead of time so they do not mistake the test for a real tsunami warning. **Broadcast Radio** listeners should hear the familiar alerting tone followed by an audio message describing the test, similar to the routine monthly tests of the Emergency Alert System. **NOAA Weather Radios** with the Public Alert feature should turn on automatically during the test. **Television** viewers should expect to see the following words crawl across the bottom or top of their TV screens:

*“The National Weather Service in Eureka has issued a Tsunami Warning for Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino Counties”*

**Important reminder** for the general public - you do NOT need to take any action

- Do NOT call 911 or local authorities
- Do NOT evacuate your home or business.

The goal of this test is to make sure the EAS system will function properly when it is activated for a real emergency. If you DO NOT hear/see the test through television, commercial or weather radio **REPORT IT** at [www.weather.gov/eureka](http://www.weather.gov/eureka) or call: (707) 443-6484. It is especially important that people monitoring the test in coastal areas receive your feedback after the test at [www.weather.gov/eureka](http://www.weather.gov/eureka) or call: (707) 443-6484.

Released by:

  
Tom Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer