

THOMAS D. ALLMAN
Sheriff-Coroner



Captain Kurt O. Smallcomb
Field Services
Captain Tim Pearce
Corrections
Sergeant Shannon Barney
Office of Emergency Services

County of Mendocino Office Of The Sheriff-Coroner

Public Service Announcement - 03/11/2010

On Wednesday March 24, 2010 the National Weather Service, the California Emergency Management Agency, and Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties will conduct a tsunami warning communication test using the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

Between 10:15 and 10:45 AM PDT a test message will originate with the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center and will be transmitted to the California State Warning Center and the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Eureka. The California State Warning Center will relay the message to Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino County OES Offices, and the NWS Weather Forecast Office will activate the Emergency Alert System for the three north coast counties. People watching television will see a scroll announcing that a tsunami warning has been issued; those listening to radio will hear the EAS announcement; and those with NOAA Weather Radios with automatic activation will also receive the warning message. The message will be preceded and followed by an announcement making it clear that this is only a test. ***While crawlers on TV screens may only include the words "tsunami warning", the audio will clearly indicate that it is a test. If you don't hear the audio for any reason, again, please remember that this is only a test... and don't evacuate or call 911.***

After receiving the tsunami warning, the Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services will initiate a test of the Reverse 911 system along the South Mendocino Coastal communities of Gualala and Anchor Bay. Those residents and businesses located south of Iversen Road, west of Highway 1 to the Sonoma County line should receive a call on the telephone with a pre-recorded test message. These calls will not include cellular telephones unless the resident has an address in this location and they have pre-registered their telephone numbers with the Sheriff's Office.

The Mendocino County Amateur Radio Communications Service (McCARCS) Group will also participate by assisting the Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services in the relaying of their observations of the test from Coastal locations, via Hamm Radio, to the Mendocino County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Ukiah. These observations and additional messages will then be relayed by McCARCS operators to the Humboldt County EOC.

In the event there is an actual earthquake that could possibly trigger a real tsunami event on the date of the test the participating agencies have agreed to cancel the test to avoid possible confusion or endangerment of the public.

For further information or clarification please contact Sgt. Shannon Barney at the Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services at (707)463-5667 or at barneys@co.mendocino.ca.us.

Sincerely,
THOMAS ALLMAN
SHERIFF CORONER

By: Sergeant Shannon Barney-Office of Emergency Services