

Coast Guard issues update on tsunami off California coast

Publisher's note: *The following is from the U.S. Coast Guard on March 11 at 1:34pm.*

Northern California Coast Guard response crews are conducting the following actions in response to the West Coast tsunami and related impacts:

- * Coast Guard Air Station Humboldt Bay's MH-65C helicopters are continuing to search for a person in the water near the Klamath River, reportedly swept out to sea while trying to photograph tsunami waves.

- * Six vessels have sunk or are overturned in Santa Cruz Harbor. Coast Guard responder crews are at the harbor that was evacuated due to an oil sheen leaking from the vessels.

- * Overflights today found 20-30 vessels damaged at Crescent City Harbor.

- * Coast Guard is investigating activation of a 406mhz EPIRB in Crescent City. It was found in a sunken vessel with no one on board.

- * Coast Guard Air Station Sacramento HC-130J Hercules aircraft stands by to assist in any long-range air missions.

- * Sector San Francisco's Captain of the Port is currently assessing port conditions and evaluating all vessel entries into port. Vessels are prohibited from transferring hazardous cargo at this time.

- * Coast Guard resources are all accounted for in Northern California with no damage or injuries.

- * The Coast Guard remains ready to respond to any reports of

maritime emergency situations.

The Coast Guard is urging mariners and those planning to recreate on or near the water to take the following special precautions under hazardous conditions:

- * People should stay away from beaches, jetties, and low lying rock areas.
- * Check with the local harbormaster for marina evacuations and to make preparations for the possibility of a surge.
- * Mooring lines for vessels should be doubled-up.
- * People living or visiting tsunami warning areas should be prepared to evacuate.