



State of California • Department of Transportation
County of Humboldt • Sheriff's Office
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration • National Weather Service

NEWS RELEASE

08-138

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Contact/Caltrans: Julie East
Phone: 707-441-3998

Contact/Sheriff's Office: Brenda Godsey
Phone: 707-268-3645

Contact/National Weather Service: Troy Nicolini
Phone: 707-443-6484

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TSUNAMI SIGNS THEFT ALERT

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Caltrans, and the National Weather Service announced today that almost 5% of the 400 tsunami hazard zone signs in Humboldt County have been stolen, damaged, or vandalized in the past five months.

The 400 tsunami hazard zone signs in Humboldt County are on state highways and county roads. The cities of Eureka, Arcata, and Trinidad will be installing tsunami signs as well. Tsunami signs are already posted in areas of Del Norte and Mendocino Counties.

"Eventually, all coastal communities in California will have tsunami warning signs," said Troy Nicolini of the National Weather Service.

The tsunami hazard zone signs are part of a larger public information campaign to help keep the public safe.

“These signs tell people when they are entering, in, or leaving a tsunami hazard zone,” said Royal McCarthy, Caltrans District 1 Maintenance Engineer.

It is important for people to be aware if they are in a tsunami hazard zone.

“Knowing if you are in a tsunami hazard zone tells you if you need to leave or not if a big earthquake hits,” said Dan Larkin, Program Coordinator for the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services.

Any tsunami hazard zone signs found can be returned to any Caltrans or law enforcement office.

#