

## What You Can Do Before the Next Tsunami

### Be Prepared

- Know the best evacuation route – practice walking your route at night and in stormy weather
- Keep a “grab and go” kit by the door
- Discuss emergency plans with family, coworkers and neighbors
- Have a NOAA Weather Radio at home and at work
- Consider how to evacuate pets – such as dogs on leashes and cats in crates
- Prearrange assistance from neighbors if you need help evacuating

### Questions or want more information?

Call:

Humboldt Co. Red Cross (707) 443-4521  
Humboldt Co. Sheriff's Office OES  
(707) 268-2500

National Weather Service (707) 443-6484  
HSU Geology Department (707) 826-3931

Online:

West Coast Alaska Tsunami Warning Center  
[wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/](http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/)

Living on Shaky Ground  
[www.humboldt.edu/shakyground/](http://www.humboldt.edu/shakyground/)

Cal EMA My Hazards  
[myhazards.calema.ca.gov/](http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/)

Great California ShakeOut  
[shakeout.org](http://shakeout.org)

U.S. Geological Survey  
<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/prepare/>

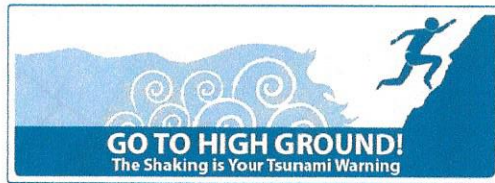
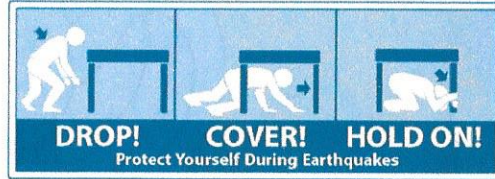
California Geological Survey  
[http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/geologic\\_hazards/](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_hazards/)

**Preparing for Tsunamis will help you  
prepare for all emergencies**

Redwood Coast  
**Tsunami Work Group**  
a member of the  
Earthquake Country Alliance  
*We're all in this together*



# HOW TO SURVIVE A TSUNAMI In Shelter Cove



## Two Ways to Find Out a Tsunami is Coming

### NATURAL WARNING

Earthquake ground shaking, a loud ocean roar, or the water receding unusually far exposing the sea floor, are all Nature's warnings that a tsunami may be coming. If you observe any of these signs, immediately move to higher ground or inland. A tsunami may arrive within minutes. Stay away from low coastal areas until told by officials that the danger has passed. Waves may attack the coast at irregular intervals for twelve hours or longer.

### OFFICIAL WARNING

You may learn that a **Tsunami Warning** has been issued by listening to TV and radio stations, NOAA weather radios, or in some cases by announcements from emergency officials, airplanes, reverse calling, or outdoor sirens. Move away from beaches or harbor areas and seek more information **without using a phone**. Tune into local radio or television stations for more information. Follow the instructions of emergency personnel.

***Both Natural and Official Warnings are equally important. Respond to whatever you hear or observe first!***



2004 Tsunami in Thailand



2009 Tsunami in Pago Pago, American Samoa

**About Tsunamis:** A tsunami is a series of water surges usually caused by an earthquake beneath the sea floor.

### Tsunamis can trick you!

- The first wave is not the largest.
- It is not unusual for tsunami surges to last at least 12 hours and in some cases much longer.
- Just when you think it is all over, another very large surge may come.

### What Areas are at Risk?

The beach, harbor, the bay, and river mouths are at greatest risk. If you are in the YELLOW areas on the map (inside), you should leave after feeling an earthquake that lasts a long time. **If you are in the white area; stay where you are.**

### How Do I Know If an Earthquake is Big Enough to Cause a Tsunami?

If you are on the beach and feel an earthquake, no matter how small, immediately move inland or to high ground.

In other low lying areas, COUNT how long the earthquake lasts. If you count 20 seconds or more of ground shaking and are located in a tsunami hazard zone, head to high ground **soon as it is safe to do so**.

**GO ON FOOT.** Roads and bridges may be damaged by strong ground shaking. Avoid downed power lines. High voltage transmission lines should withstand strong shaking, but look carefully to make sure there are no lines dangling or on the ground before you pass underneath! **If evacuation is impossible**, go to the upper floor of a sturdy building or climb a tree, but only as a last resort.

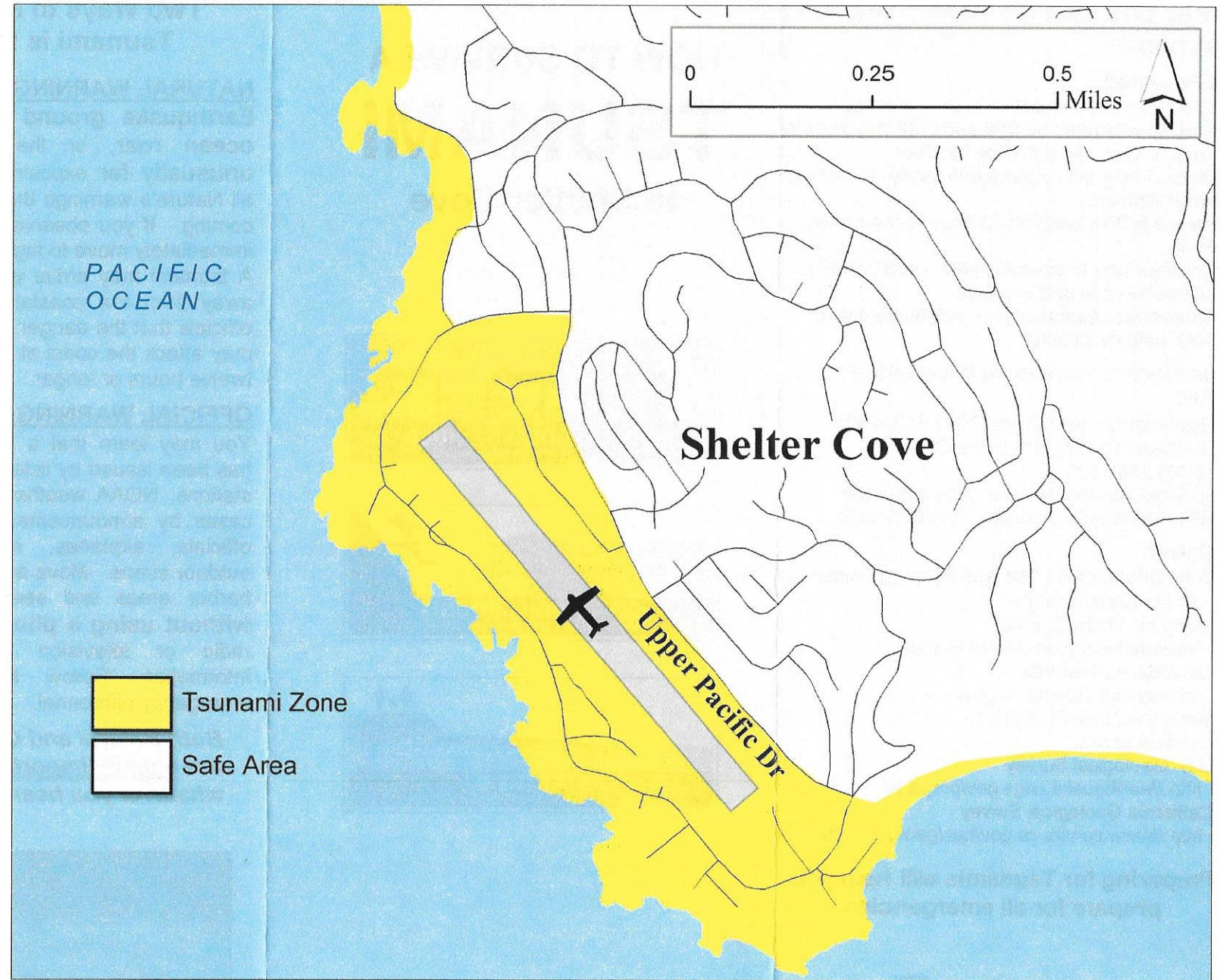


## How to use this map

Locate where you live, work, and play. If you are in the yellow area, evacuate by foot immediately after feeling an earthquake that lasts a long time. Use this map to plan a safe evacuation route. Practice evacuating so that you and your family know what to do during a real tsunami. Remember – **go on foot**. Roads are likely to be impassable.

**Tsunami Zone signs** are placed within the yellow zone as a reminder that you should evacuate if you are in this area when a large earthquake occurs. **Entering and Leaving Tsunami Zone Signs** are placed on roads near where you cross from the white safe area into the yellow tsunami zone. Take note of where these signs are located. If a large earthquake occurs, return to this point to be in a safe area. **Outside the map area?** Use signs to guide you to safe areas. If there are no signs, go to an area 100 feet above sea level or two miles inland. If you cannot get this far, go as high as possible. Every foot inland or upwards can make a difference.

In some areas, **evacuation route** signs and **evacuation site** signs have been posted to help guide you to safe zones. In other communities, routes are in the planning stages.



*This map is to help you protect yourself from the worst-case tsunami event for our area. It is based on the Relative Tsunami Hazard Maps developed by Humboldt State University and tsunami inundation mapping by the California Geological Survey. It uses the best currently available information and may be changed or updated as additional scientific information becomes available. It includes no information about the probability of a tsunami hitting our area and does not reflect how an actual tsunami may impact the region. **It is intended to support tsunami evacuation planning and should not be used for any other purposes.***