

## CRESCENT CITY TSUNAMI OPERATIONS CENTER NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 22, 2011 Time: 1200

### **Media Contacts:**

Paul Roszkowski, US Coast Guard, (252) 267-4732

Carol Singleton, California Dept. of Fish and Game, (916) 539-6124

Levi Read, US Coast Guard, (503) 686-8729

## **Crescent City Harbor Again Open for Business**

Crescent City Tsunami Response Update #10

**Location:** Crescent City Inner Basin Harbor, Crescent City, California

**Cause:** Tsunami following 9.0 earthquake in Japan (March 11)

### **Operational Update:**

- Cleanup crews removed 1,275 gallons of petroleum products from damaged vessels.
- The Coast Guard reduced the safety zone yesterday, opening up the Crescent City Harbor to vessel traffic. Only the inner boat basin remains closed due to continued cleanup operations.
- Commercial fishing has resumed as the first crab boats began bringing in their catches.
- The *City of Eureka*, a fishing vessel that was blocking the fuel pier, has been removed, opening up access to other boats to refuel.
- Responders have removed approximately 1,200 cubic yards of debris from the inner boat basin.
- Tuesday's salvage operations include continued work on sunken vessels, removal of damaged docks and the repositioning of vessels in the inner boat basin. The Unified Command is working with the Crescent City Harbor Master in this effort.
- Vessel owners who need to use the public boat lift are asked to leave their vessels in the water if they are in a safe place.
- The Unified Command is preparing the harbor for the arrival of a heavy-lift crane barge from San Francisco. The crane will facilitate the removal of damaged pilings, dock fragments and other debris, and will aid in the refloating and repositioning of damaged and sunken vessels. The crane is scheduled to arrive Friday if weather holds.
- There are 79 responders working to remove environmental and navigational hazards from the Crescent City Harbor. This includes two contracted dive teams.

- The Unified Command remains focused on using local resources whenever possible.

### **MEDIA ALERT:**

To gain access to the operations area, please check in at the Media trailer. Please come equipped with hardhat, reflective vest, steel-toed shoes and eye protection. Media tours of operations will be available from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

### **Damage:**

- 47 vessels afloat but with some level of damage
- 15 sunken vessels
- 1 vessel removed
- 1 vessel grounded at mouth of Elk River
- Large debris including rocks, logs, and vessel debris is scattered about inner harbor and shore
- Significant damage to moorings and docks

### **Closures or restrictions:**

- Harbor access is restricted for public safety within the inner boat basin; however, boat owners have some access to their vessels and property. Personal flotation devices (PFDs) are required on all docks.
- Harbor is closed to the public at night, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. until further notice.
- Commercial fishermen are advised to not pull crab pots or other traps up through water if a visible sheen is present.
- Safety zone in place for inner boat basin only. The harbor is now open to vessel traffic.
- Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., C, D, E, and F docks are open to owners of vessels within the boomed off area. Vessel owners should contact Coast Guard Auxiliary members at the Harbor Office to schedule a visit. For emergencies only, owners wishing to access their vessels outside of that time frame may contact the Coast Guard. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **Harbor operations:**

- Crescent City Harbor asks affected boat owners to contact the harbor at 707-464-6174 ext. 22 to provide the following information:
- Boat name
- Official number/vin
- Fuel capacity

- Actual fuel onboard
- All contact information

**Wildlife:** There has been no oiled wildlife reported. Department of Fish and Game will continue to monitor for impacts to wildlife and habitat.

**Crews deployed:** US Coast Guard, California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), Harbor District Personnel and oil spill response organizations.

**Information numbers:**

Crescent City Harbor boat owners contact 707-464-6174 ext. 22

Report oil 1-800-852-7550

Report Injured Wildlife 1-877-823-6926

###