

## CRESCENT CITY TSUNAMI OPERATIONS CENTER NEWS RELEASE

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### **Crane Barge Prepares for Operations** Crescent City Tsunami Response Update #13

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

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

### **Operational Update:**

- The heavy-lift crane barge has arrived and will begin transiting into the inner harbor today, as weather and tides permit, to prepare for pollution mitigation operations. This is an important step, so Crescent City can begin restoring its harbor.
- It may take several days to prepare the barge, depending on weather conditions. Preparations include anchoring the barge, unlashng the gear from sea transit, launching the work boat, and setting up the diving and salvage gear.
- Once the four-man crew has positioned the barge in the harbor and completed set-up, it will begin hoisting operations to mitigate environmental impact to the harbor. In order to access the sunken vessels, the crane will remove several existing dock pilings.
- The current federal project ceiling from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund is \$2.75 million for pollution mitigation at the Crescent City Harbor. The project budget can be adjusted as needed.
- The Unified Command is working with more than a dozen local businesses, including restaurants and hotels, and remains committed to using local resources whenever possible.
- Cleanup crews have removed approximately 1,307 gallons of petroleum products from damaged vessels and 1,250 cubic yards of debris from the inner boat basin.
- There are 55 personnel participating in the response effort. This includes USCG, DFG and contractors.
- Those seeking to transfer their fishing vessel permits should contact the Department of Fish and Game's License and Revenue Branch at 916-928-7470.

**Closures or restrictions:**

- 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 vessel access. 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. Personal flotation devices are required on all docks.
- Harbor is closed to the public at night, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., until further notice.
- Safety zone in place for inner boat basin only. The harbor is now open to vessel traffic.

**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, and contact information.

**Wildlife:** There have been no reports of oiled wildlife. Monitoring is ongoing.

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

**Information numbers:**

Crescent City Harbormaster's Office: 707-464-6174 ext. 22

Report oil to 1-800-852-7550

Report Injured Wildlife to 1-877-823-6926

DFG's License and Revenue Branch: 916-928-7470.

**Media Alert:** To gain access to the operations area, please check in at the media trailer. Please bring hardhat, reflective vest, steel-toed shoes and eye protection.

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