



## **Joint Information Center Press Release**

11 March 2011  
0530  
EUREKA, CA

Residents of Humboldt County, California, are waking up this morning to a tsunami warning which has been issued for coastal areas of California due to a strong earthquake that occurred at about 9:46 p.m. last night near the east coast of Honshu Island, Japan. While our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Japan, our immediate concern is protecting the coastal residents of our community.

A tsunami warning means that all coastal residents in the warning area who are near the beach or in low-lying areas should move immediately inland to higher ground and away from all harbors and inlets, including those sheltered directly from the sea. At this time, warning sirens are being activated in coastal areas of Humboldt County to notify residents of the strong possibility of tsunami wave action.

Law enforcement is advising residents to go to higher ground until wave action subsides, which may be as long as 12 hours after the first wave. Residents are reminded that the first wave of a tsunami event will likely not be the strongest. Residents should listen to local media or NOAA weather radio for updates.

The Humboldt County Emergency Operations Center was activated at approximately 1:00 a.m. A Joint Information Center has been established by the County of Humboldt and the City of Eureka on the first floor of the Humboldt County Courthouse in Eureka. The telephone number for press inquiries is (707) 268-2547.