

Tsunami Information

Tsunamis are a *series* of enormous waves or surges created by an underwater disturbance such as an earthquake, landslide, volcanic eruption, or meteorite. From the area where the tsunami originates, waves travel outward in all directions. In the open ocean, tsunami waves travel at speeds of up to 600 miles per hour. Once the wave approaches the shore, it builds in height. The first wave is *almost never* the largest and successive waves may be *ten or more minutes* apart. Tsunami waves will continue arriving for *8 or more hours*. If a large earthquake displaces the sea floor near the coast, the first waves may reach the shore minutes after the ground stops shaking. There is no time for authorities to issue a warning.

The Tsunami Warning Center will issue a message when there is a chance of a tsunami.

- **Advisory** – A tsunami advisory is issued due to the threat of a potential tsunami which may produce strong currents or waves dangerous to those in or near the water. Coastal regions historically prone to damage due to strong currents induced by tsunamis are at the greatest risk. The threat may continue for several hours after the arrival of the initial wave, but significant widespread inundation is not expected for areas under an advisory.
- **Warning** - A tsunami warning is issued when a potential tsunami with significant widespread inundation is imminent or expected. **TSUNAMI SIRENS WILL BE SOUNDED AT THE WARNING STAGE.** Warnings alert the public that widespread, dangerous coastal flooding accompanied by powerful currents is possible and may continue for several hours after arrival of the initial wave. Warnings also alert emergency management official to take action for the entire tsunami hazard (inundation) zone. **AREAS WITHIN THE “INUNDATION ZONE” ARE TO BE EVACUATED IMMEDIATELY!**

Should you be on the beach and feel an earthquake, do not hesitate, but move to higher ground as soon and safely as you are able.


For more information you can contact the Natural Resources Department at (707) 487-9255
Also you can visit these websites.

NOAA-<http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/#>

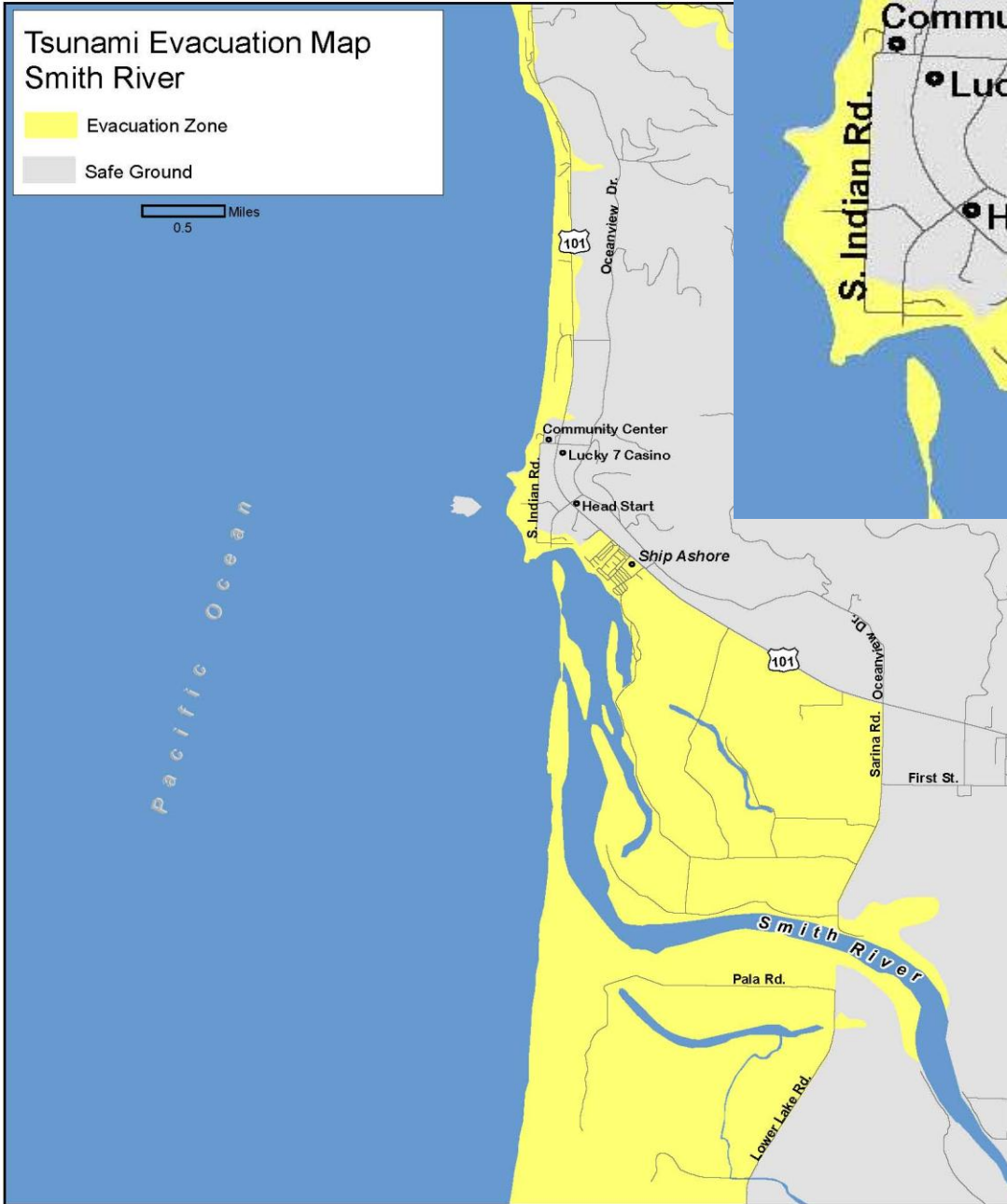
CalEMA-<http://cms.calema.ca.gov/preparednesshome.aspx>

American Red Cross-<http://www.redcross.org/>

Tsunami Evacuation Map Smith River

 Evacuation Zone

 Safe Ground



Note: This evacuation map is based on the State of California inundation projections and the best currently available scientific information. It is intended for emergency planning purposes only. This map may be revised as new information becomes available.

