Del Norte Triplicate

NEWS

# Red Cross Opens Shelter as King Tides and Coastal Flooding Threaten Humboldt Bay Communities

Residents in vulnerable coastal areas urged to be prepared to evacuate as Humboldt Bay water levels may approach or exceed record highs

**By American Red Cross News Release** November 23, 2026



Homes line a canal in King Salmon on Humboldt Bay, about a mile north of Fields Landing. The community sits about 3 feet above sea level. (File photo by Ellin Beltz, March 2014, via Wikimedia Commons)

HUMBOLDT (Nov. 23, 2026) – In partnership with Humboldt County, the American Red Cross Northern California Chapter has opened an evacuation shelter at the Bear River Recreation Center, 265 Keisner Road, Loleta, CA 95551, to support King Salmon and Fields Landing residents who may be impacted by potential coastal flooding associated with this week's King Tides and incoming storm system. Residents in areas at risk of flooding are encouraged to prepare now and be ready to leave if local officials issue evacuation orders.

Red Cross volunteers and county partners are prepared to provide a safe place to stay, meals, snacks, health services, emotional support and additional recovery resources for those affected by flooding. Pets can be accommodated in a designated covered area adjacent to the shelter with support from Humboldt County Animal Control. Pet owners are encouraged to bring food, water, medications, leashes and carriers, if available. Only service animals are permitted inside the shelter.

The National Weather Service Eureka is warning that a combination of exceptionally high King Tides, storm surge, large surf and strong winds could produce moderate to major flooding in low-lying coastal communities around Humboldt Bay. High surf is expected along the Northern California coast Nov. 24-25, with breaking waves potentially reaching 20 to 25 feet. The high surf is expected to coincide with King Tides and a strong storm system, increasing the risk of coastal flooding around periods of high tide from Nov. 23-26. The greatest flood threat is anticipated on Nov. 24 and 25, while strong southerly winds are expected to peak on Nov. 24. Residents should closely monitor local forecasts and emergency notifications and be prepared to act quickly if conditions worsen.

“The combination of King Tides, high surf and storm conditions could create dangerous flooding impacts for coastal communities,” said Caedy Minoletti, Executive Director, Northern California Chapter. “We urge residents to stay informed, have a plan and be prepared to leave if local officials issue evacuation orders. Red Cross volunteers are ready to provide shelter and support to those affected.”

### Find a shelter

Anyone who needs a safe place to stay can find shelter information on redcross.org, the free Red Cross Emergency app, or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767). Search “American Red Cross” in app stores or go to redcross.org/apps.

You can also find information by following your local Red Cross and local emergency officials on social media, signing up for free emergency alerts from your local government or by monitoring local news.

Red Cross shelters are open to everyone in need, regardless of race, ethnicity, age, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability or citizenship status. All disaster assistance is free.

We don’t require people to show any kind of identification to enter a shelter — just their name and where they were living before the disaster.

If possible, we encourage people who plan to stay in a shelter to bring prescription medications, extra clothing, pillows, blankets, hygiene supplies, other comfort items and important documents. Don’t forget to bring any special items for children, such as diapers, formula and toys, or for family members who have unique needs.

### Flooding safety

Be prepared to evacuate immediately if local officials ask you to do so. Don’t return home until they say it is safe.

Don’t walk, swim or drive through floodwaters. Turn around, don’t drown!

Stay off the roads. If you must drive and you encounter a flooded roadway, turn around and go another way.
Follow evacuation routes and don’t try to take shortcuts because they may be blocked.
If you’re caught on a flooded road and waters are rising around you, quickly get out of the car, move to higher ground and stay there.
Check with loved ones and neighbors to see if they need help.

**After a flood:**

Stay away from floodwaters, which may contain sewage, sharp items, bacteria and chemicals that can make you sick.
Cleaning up after a flood can be overwhelming. Be cautious and take care of yourself.
Wear protective clothing, including long pants, boots, work gloves and an N95 respirator to protect your lungs.
Watch out for debris and avoid fallen power lines, poles and wires.
Don’t touch electrical equipment if it’s wet or if you’re standing in water.
Flooding can contaminate drinking water. Follow the advice of local public health officials to protect yourself. Throw out food that got wet or warm. When in doubt, throw it out!
If your home was flooded, completely dry your home and everything in it as quickly as possible to help prevent mold. Keep wet areas well-ventilated and throw away wet materials that can’t be repaired or dried.

## How to help

You can help people affected by disasters like storms, floods and countless other crises by making a donation to Red Cross Disaster Relief. You can donate by visiting redcross.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) or texting the word REDCROSS to 90999. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small, whenever and wherever they occur across the country. You can also sign up to become a trained volunteer for future disasters at redcross.org/volunteer.

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