

DAMAGE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

DISASTER CA25-1 EARTHQUAKE

DEL NORTE, HUMBOLDT, AND MENDOCINO COUNTIES

COMMENCING DECEMBER 5, 2024

Prepared by:
California Department of Transportation
Division of Budgets
Federal Resources Office

Introduction

This Damage Survey Summary Report (DSSR) has been prepared for submission to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in response to a statewide multiple earthquakes and aftershocks event impacting De Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties, which first began on December 5, 2024. According to FHWA’s Emergency Relief Manual (May 2013), the purpose of this DSSR is to “summarize the damage assessment and provide information and documentation for the FHWA Division Administrator to make a finding that a natural disaster or catastrophic failure has occurred within the intent of 23 U.S.C. 125.” The DSSR also “provides the Division Administrator with a basis to make a finding that the disaster is eligible for funding under the FHWA ER program.”

Damage Description

Beginning on December 5, 2024, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake occurred off the Northern California coastline near Humboldt County, impacting local and tribal communities. Multiple earthquake aftershocks continue to impact the region. The earthquake resulted in strong motion shaking that damaged roads, bridges, and buildings, including schools. It also resulted in widespread evacuation orders and caused widespread power outages.

On December 5, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for the Route Fire. A copy of the Governor’s State of Emergency Proclamation is included in this Damage Survey Summary Report.

A Damage Assessment Form time extension will be requested for this Earthquake, as the DAF due date for this disaster would be March 31, 2025.

Damage Estimate

To date, the preliminary estimated cost to repair or reconstruct the damage to federal-aid highways in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 125 is \$10.00 million for State facilities, and no Local damages have been reported at this time.

In accordance with 23 CFR 668.105(j), the minimum \$700,000 threshold for event eligibility will be applied to the earthquake event identified under this Disaster.

Additional earthquake damages are expected to supplement this initial ER Application Letter requesting eligibility for ER funding through the DAF approval process. As state and local agencies assess damages, additional counties may need to be added to this Disaster via Supplemental ER Applications. Additional earthquakes associated with this disaster event will be submitted under separate cover through a Supplemental ER Application Letter to determine eligibility for ER funding, if required.

Additional Information

The following attached information describes the statewide earthquake damage in additional detail:

- Governor's Proclamation (Earthquake executed December 5, 2024)
- State and Local damage estimates (to date)
- Sampling of news articles
- Pictures of reported damage

DISASTER CA25-1
EARTHQUAKE

DEL NORTE, HUMBOLDT, AND MENDOCINO COUNTIES

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on December 5, 2024, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake occurred off the Northern California coastline near Humboldt County, impacting local and tribal communities; and

WHEREAS the earthquake resulted in strong motion shaking that impacted roads, bridges and buildings, including schools; and

WHEREAS the earthquake and associated tsunami warning, now lifted, have resulted in widespread evacuation orders; and

WHEREAS the earthquake has caused widespread power outages, impacting thousands of customers; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties due to the earthquake; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the earthquake, by reason of its magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the damage caused by the earthquake; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this order would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the earthquake.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance to local governments, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.



3. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public health and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of the earthquake. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address promptly the effects of the earthquake.
4. Any fairgrounds that the Office of Emergency Services determines are suitable to assist individuals impacted by this earthquake shall be made available to the Office of Emergency Services pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, Government Code section 8589. The Office of Emergency Services shall notify the fairgrounds of the intended use and may immediately utilize the fairgrounds without the fairground board of directors' approval.
5. Any state-owned properties that the Office of Emergency Services determines are suitable for temporary sheltering of individuals impacted by this earthquake shall be made available to the Office of Emergency Services for this purpose in accordance with Government Code section 8570.
6. The California National Guard may be mobilized under Military and Veterans Code section 146 to support disaster response and relief efforts, as directed by the Office of Emergency Services, and to coordinate with all relevant state agencies and state and local emergency responders and law enforcement within the impacted areas. Sections 147 and 188 of the Military and Veterans Code are applicable during the period of participation in this mission, exempting the California Military Department from applicable procurement rules for specified emergency purchases, and those rules are hereby suspended.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 5th day of December 2024.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH. D
Secretary of State

DISASTER CA25-1
EARTHQUAKE

DEL NORTE, HUMBOLDT, AND MENDOCINO
COUNTIES

STATE & LOCAL
DAMAGE ESTIMATES

State Damage Estimate CA25-1:

District	Date of Incident	Event Name	Main Damages	Work Description	County	Route Prefix	Route	ER Potential Eligibility?	Cost Estimate	No. of DAF	ER Program Code	TOTAL COST TO DATE	COMMENTS
1	12/5/2024	December Earthquake	Damage to bridges (9 total as of 12/06/2024)	Bridge repair	HUM	VAR	VAR	YES	\$10,000,000			\$ 10,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HUM 101 PM 57.69 Route 36/101 Separation - 04-0301 HUM 211 PM 77.53 Fernbridge - 04-0134 HUM 283 PM 0.12 Eagle Prairie - 04-0015 HUM 101 PM 56.84 Van Duzen River - 04-0017R HUM 101 PM 35.92 101/Dyerville - 04-0076 HUM 101 PM 48.28 Eel River (Stafford) - 04-0014 HUM 101 PM 14.36 Dean Creek - 04-0006 HUM 101 PM 61.67 Fortuna OH - 04-0145 HUM 101 PM 53.91 Eel River - 04-0016R

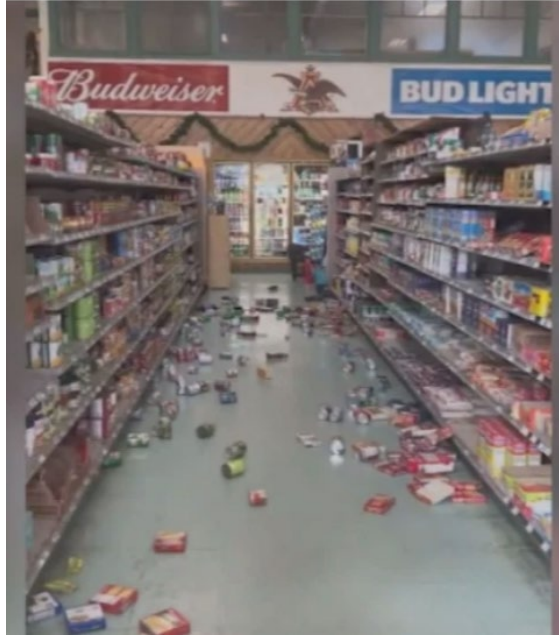
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SAMPLING OF NEWS ARTICLES



**Northern California Coast gets hit with 7.0 earthquake,
experts explain causes
by RUDY AGUADO
Thu, December 5th 2024**



EUREKA, Calif. — The [major earthquake](#) that was measured on Thursday morning off the coast of Cape Mendocino was initially reported as a magnitude 6.0, then revised upward.

As of now, no significant damage or injuries have been reported in Humboldt County, unlike the December 2022 earthquake.

A tsunami warning was briefly issued by the National Weather Service in Eureka but that was cancelled shortly thereafter.

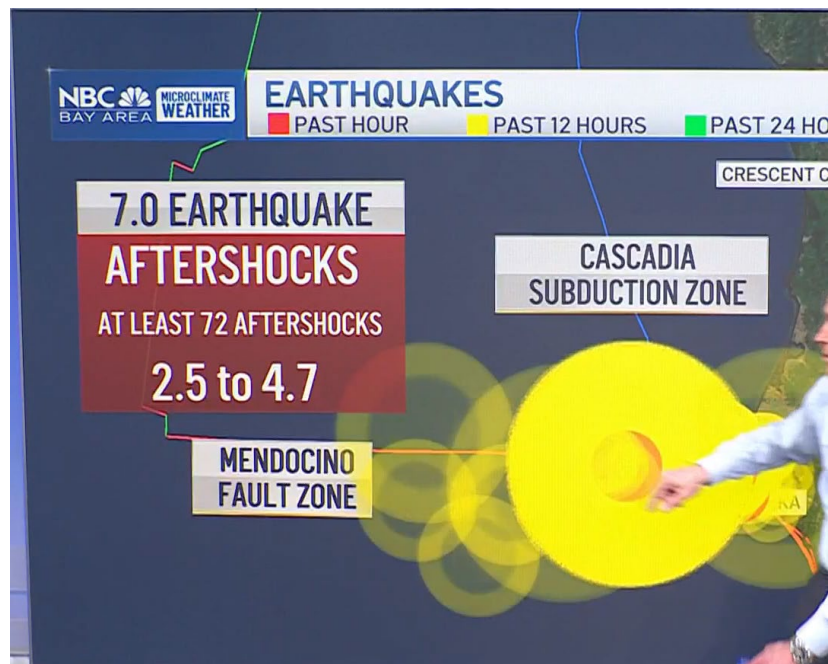
"The reason for the magnitude jumps around is because we do not have seismic instruments offshore on the sea floor bottom, and as a result, it is a little trickier to get a good location of earthquakes that are offshore," said Cal Poly Humboldt Geology Professor Emeritus, Lori Dengler, who said that determining the exact magnitude can sometimes be tricky.

Experts say the earthquake although large, produced less severe shaking on land due to its offshore location.

7.0 earthquake aftermath: Aftershocks, cleanup, tsunami alert system; Several earthquakes were reported across Northern California

By [Kristofer Noceda](#) • Published December 5, 2024

Several earthquakes struck Northern California Thursday, including a magnitude-7.0 offshore in the Pacific Ocean at 10:44 a.m. PT that triggered a tsunami warning along coastal areas from Santa Cruz into Oregon. The tsunami warning was canceled just before noon PT.



At least two other earthquakes were initially reported around the same time:

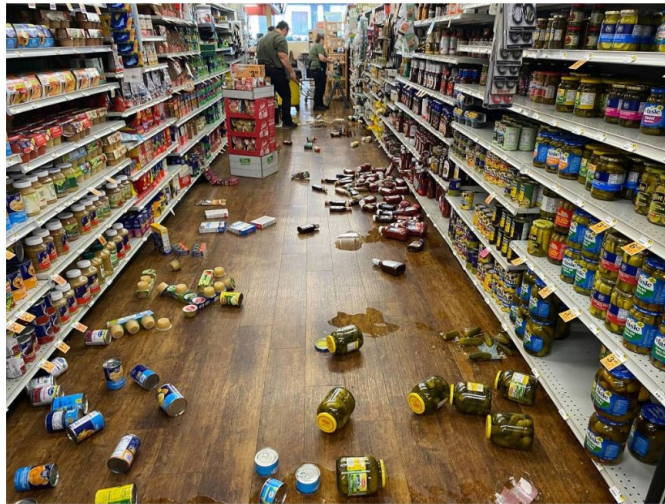
A preliminary 6.0 magnitude earthquake was reported in Humboldt County, which was later downgraded to a [4.7 magnitude temblor](#). A [preliminary 5.8 magnitude earthquake](#) was reported in Cobb in Lake County, but has since been downgraded to a 4.1 magnitude quake.

Earthquake struck near Mendocino Triple Junction: The 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck off the California coast near the Mendocino Triple Junction, which is considered the "most seismically active part of California."

California Tsunami Warning Triggered by Quake Was No False Alarm, Officials Say

[Jared Servantez](#)[Katie DeBenedetti](#), Dec 5

A widespread tsunami warning that was triggered by a magnitude 7.0 earthquake Thursday morning set off an hour of scrambled evacuation efforts across coastal Northern California before it was canceled.



Shaking from the large quake, which struck at 10:44 a.m. off the coast of Humboldt County, was felt across Northern California and the Bay Area, and it prompted early warning alerts on cellphones. It was followed by at least two dozen smaller aftershocks in the area, [according to the U.S. Geological Survey](#).

By 11:55 a.m., the National Tsunami Warning Center called off the warning, which had covered the Bay Area and other coastal areas stretching from Santa Cruz County to Oregon.

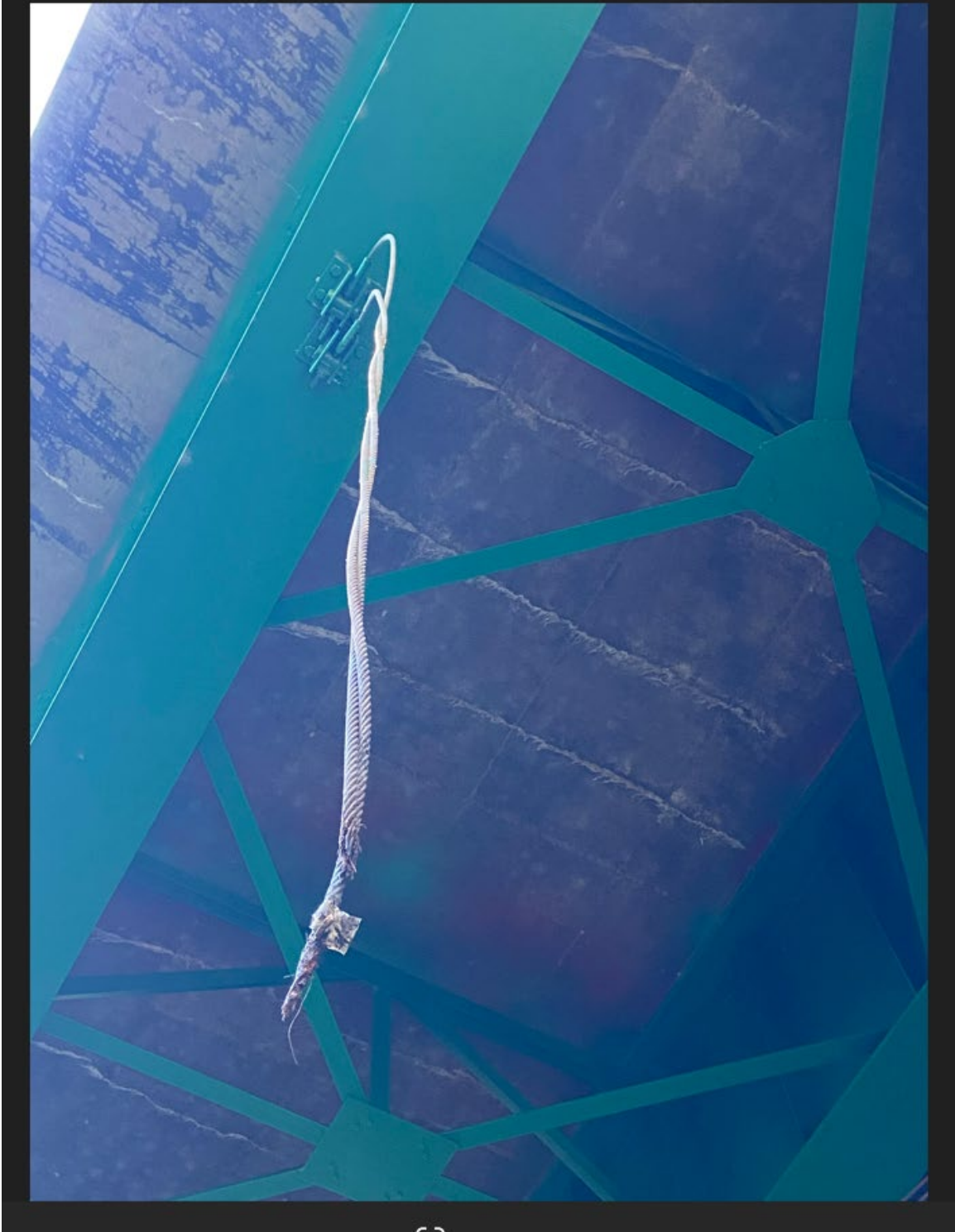
BART halted service in the Transbay Tube for about 45 minutes, and even Salesforce Tower and other downtown San Francisco buildings were in the process of being cleared out, a representative for Pier 39 said before the tsunami warning was canceled.

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PHOTOGRAPHS







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