

City of Capitola NEWS RELEASE

Attention: Editors

For Immediate Release March 26, 2011 11:15 a.m. PDT Contact: Derek Johnson

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FLOODS RETURN TO CAPITOLA VILLAGE

CAPITOLA—Crews cleared the collapsed culvert yesterday and low water volumes were moving through the culvert and making its way to the Pacific Ocean.

Crews arrived at 5:00 am this morning to continue work to keep the culvert clear with incoming rains. Heavy rains returned this morning and saturated soils from the last week of heavy rains and quickly returned Noble Gulch Creek to flood stage. Crews were removing debris, but water volumes rose quickly and overwhelmed crews. Crews had to abandon equipment and take refuge on higher ground.

Central Fire Protection District personnel were on alert and ready to assist residents stranded by the flood. Central Fire Protection District personnel removed five persons stranded by this morning's flood. State Parks Swift Water Rescue crews are also on standby.

A voluntary evacuation is effect in the Capitola Village until further notice. All roads have been closed into the Village. The Red Cross has established shelter at Jade Street Community Center and New Brighton Middle School. Red Cross personnel is ready to assist residents impacted by the flood.

Capitola residents can reach the Red Cross at 831-427-8115 should shelter other immediate needs be required. For immediate emergencies, call 911.

For more information contact Derek Johnson at (831) 475-7300 or at (831) 234-3737.