

Know before you go:
TIDES | WIND | WEATHER | CURRENTS
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Humboldt Bay Water Trails

Grab your life jacket, whistle, light and weather radio, and safely paddle the Bay. Launch into the Bay 2 hours before high tide.

HAZARD AREAS - Use Caution!

Federal Navigation channel is used by commercial and industrial boats - always yield to larger vessels and stay at least 100 feet from boat traffic.

Exercise extreme caution in the **marina areas**. Paddlers are not visible to exiting boats.

The Humboldt Bay entrance can be treacherous - swift currents, gusty winds, breaking waves and large vessels are common.

5 Signal Blasts: Immediate Danger!

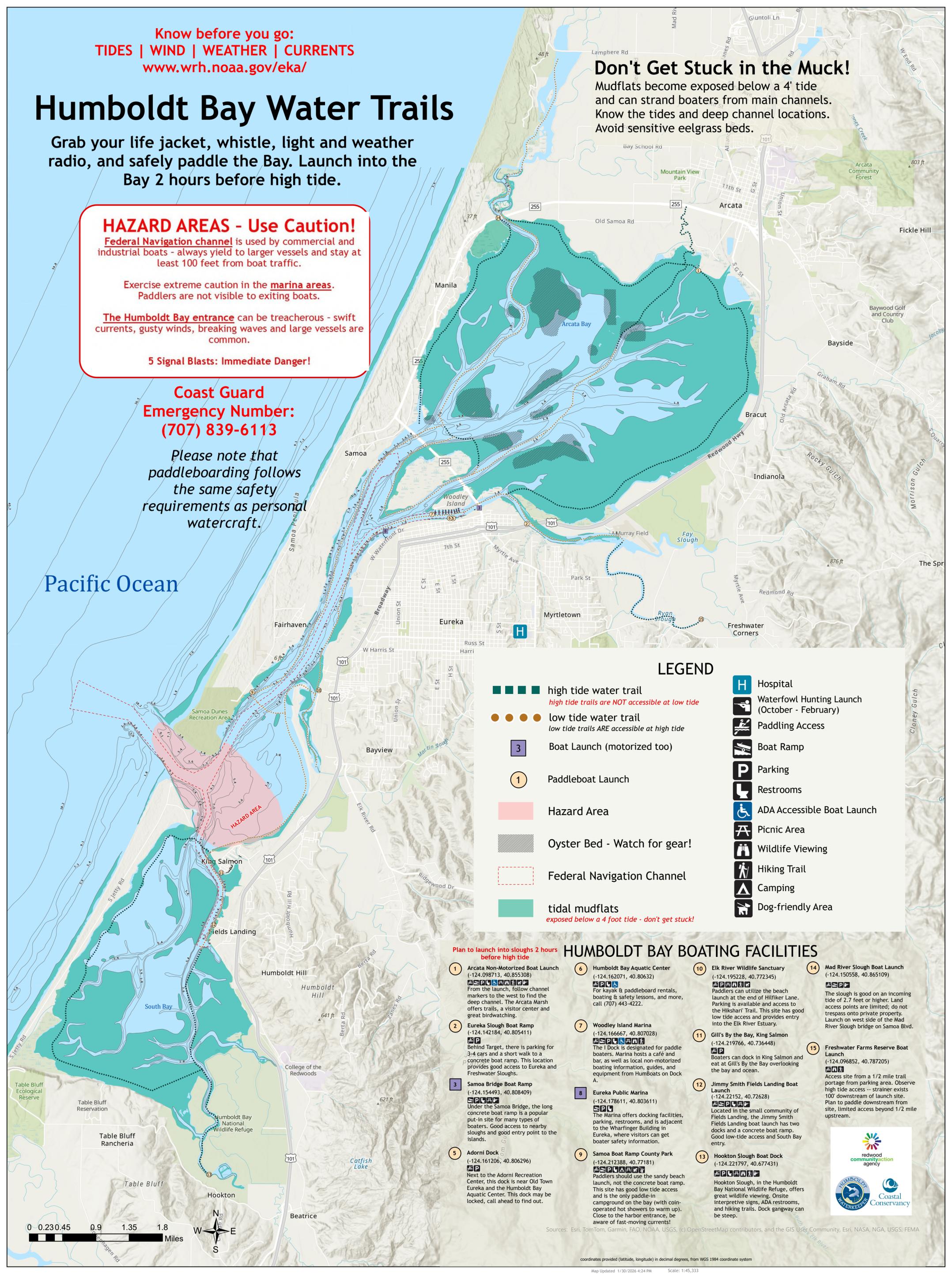
**Coast Guard
 Emergency Number:
 (707) 839-6113**

Please note that
 paddleboarding follows
 the same safety
 requirements as personal
 watercraft.

Pacific Ocean

Don't Get Stuck in the Muck!

Mudflats become exposed below a 4' tide and can strand boaters from main channels. Know the tides and deep channel locations. Avoid sensitive eelgrass beds.



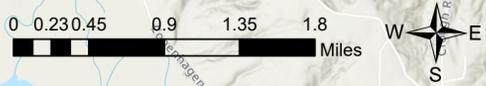
LEGEND

- high tide water trail
high tide trails are NOT accessible at low tide
- low tide water trail
low tide trails ARE accessible at high tide
- Boat Launch (motorized too)
- Paddleboat Launch
- Hazard Area
- Oyster Bed - Watch for gear!
- Federal Navigation Channel
- tidal mudflats
exposed below a 4 foot tide - don't get stuck!
- H Hospital
- 🦆 Waterfowl Hunting Launch (October - February)
- 🚣 Paddling Access
- 🚤 Boat Ramp
- P Parking
- 🚻 Restrooms
- ♿ ADA Accessible Boat Launch
- 🏖️ Picnic Area
- 🦋 Wildlife Viewing
- 🚶 Hiking Trail
- 🏕️ Camping
- 🐕 Dog-friendly Area

Plan to launch into sloughs 2 hours before high tide

HUMBOLDT BAY BOATING FACILITIES

- 1** Arcata Non-Motorized Boat Launch (-124.098713, 40.855308)
 🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤🚤
 From the launch, follow channel markers to the west to find the deep channel. The Arcata Marsh offers trails, a visitor center and great birdwatching.
- 2** Eureka Slough Boat Ramp (-124.142184, 40.805411)
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 Behind Target, there is parking for 3-4 cars and a short walk to a concrete boat ramp. This location provides good access to Eureka and Freshwater Sloughs.
- 3** Samoa Bridge Boat Ramp (-124.154493, 40.808409)
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 Under the Samoa Bridge, the long concrete boat ramp is a popular put-in site for many types of boaters. Good access to nearby sloughs and good entry point to the islands.
- 5** Adorni Dock (-124.161206, 40.806296)
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 Next to the Adorni Recreation Center, this dock is near Old Town Eureka and the Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center. This dock may be locked, call ahead to find out.
- 6** Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center (-124.162071, 40.80632)
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 For kayak & paddleboard rentals, boating & safety lessons, and more, call (707) 443-4222.
- 7** Woodley Island Marina (-124.166667, 40.807028)
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 The dock is designated for paddle boaters. Marina hosts a café and bar, as well as local non-motorized boating information, guides, and equipment from HumBoats on Dock A.
- 8** Eureka Public Marina (-124.178611, 40.803611)
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 The Marina offers docking facilities, parking, restrooms, and is adjacent to the Wharfinger Building in Eureka, where visitors can get boater safety information.
- 9** Samoa Boat Ramp County Park (-124.212388, 40.77181)
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 Paddlers should use the sandy beach launch, not the concrete boat ramp. This site has good low tide access and is the only paddle-in campground on the bay (with coin-operated hot showers to warm up). Close to the harbor entrance, be aware of fast-moving currents!
- 10** Elk River Wildlife Sanctuary (-124.195228, 40.772345)
 🚤🚤🚤🚤
 Paddlers can utilize the beach launch at the end of Hilkifer Lane. Parking is available and access to the Hilkifer Trail. This site has good low tide access and provides entry into the Elk River Estuary.
- 11** Gill's By the Bay, King Salmon (-124.219766, 40.736448)
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 Boaters can dock in King Salmon and eat at Gill's By the Bay overlooking the bay and ocean.
- 12** Jimmy Smith Fields Landing Boat Launch (-124.22152, 40.72628)
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 Located in the small community of Fields Landing, the Jimmy Smith Fields Landing boat launch has two docks and a concrete boat ramp. Good low-tide access and South Bay entry.
- 13** Hookton Slough Boat Dock (-124.221797, 40.677431)
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 Hookton Slough, in the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, offers great wildlife viewing. Onsite interpretive signs, ADA restrooms, and hiking trails. Dock gangway can be steep.
- 14** Mad River Slough Boat Launch (-124.150558, 40.865109)
 🚤🚤🚤
 The slough is good on an incoming tide of 2.7 feet or higher. Land access points are limited; do not trespass onto private property. Launch on west side of the Mad River Slough bridge on Samoa Blvd.
- 15** Freshwater Farms Reserve Boat Launch (-124.096852, 40.787205)
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 Access site from a 1/2 mile trail portage from parking area. Observe high tide access -- strainer exists 100' downstream of launch site. Plan to paddle downstream from site, limited access beyond 1/2 mile upstream.



Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA

coordinates provided (latitude, longitude) in decimal degrees, from WGS 1984 coordinate system

Map Updated: 1/30/2026 4:24 PM Scale: 1:45,333

