

Tsunami Warning and Mitigation WG - South East Pacific Region

Emergency Responses and Data Analysis



Outline

- General Actions and Emergency Responses.
- Maximum Tsunami Amplitudes at Sea Level Stations in SEP.
- Use of DART Buoy Network and Historical data.
- Atmosferic Pressure vs Sea Level Observations.
- Final Remarks.







General Actions and Emergency Response

- A total of 43 Sea Level Stations registered Tsunami readings, helping update and cancel Tsunami Threat Levels.
- Continuos comunications were stablished between most of the National Tsunami Warning Centers from the Regional Working Group:
 - Every Bulletin sent by all of the different NTWC were shared by e-mail.
 - Every Bulletin sent by all of the different NTWC were published in a dedicated platform created by the SEP Regional Working Group.
 - Dedicated Chat used by the SEP Regional Working Group, was used to share information and solve doubts regarding to the tsunami Emergency.
- Direct telephone communications with PTWC helped to better analyze the tsunami threat.
- Tsunami Threat Evaluations from the different NTWC that were sent to the National Emergency Agencies, successfully triggered the activation of the National Tsunami Emergency Plans.







Some observations to be remarked

- First 06 PTWC Bulletins about the Emergency were not able to reach some Tsunami National Warning Centers.
- PTWC manually re-sent its Bulletins to as many National Tsunami Focal Points as possible, which helped to start early monitoring of Sea Level Stations and DART systems close to the Volcanic Event in Tonga.
- Based on PTWC's Bulletin N°4 and Tsunami amplitudes detected at Rikitea, Chile issued its Bulletin N°1 with a Threat Message to the National Emergency Management Agency (ONEMI) establishing "Caution Level" for all its Islands in the Pacific as well as the Antartic Peninsula.
- New statements had to be created to include Non Seismic Variables in the Tsunami Warnings Bulletins.
- Some countries did not have their sea level data fully available online, which could have been used to help better advise if a tsunami was identified near their coast.







Country	Sea Level Station	Max Amplitude (m)		
	Tumaco	0.06		
COLOMBIA	Bahía Málaga	0.06		
ECUADOR	Baltra, Galápagos	0.50		
	Santa Cruz, Galápagos	0.90		
	La Libertad, Galápagos	0.30		
	Arica	1.40		
CHILE	Chañaral	2.00		
	Coquimbo	1.50		















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Bolivia

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Tumaco, Colombia











Use of Tsunami DART Buoy Network Data and Historical data











Use of Tsunami DART Buoy Network Data and Historical data











DART Buoy vs Coastal Amplitudes

Tonga event

Historical data 2011



Sea Level Station	Start of Tsunami Recording (UTC)	Max Height (m)	Time Max Height (UTC)	Sea Level Station	Start of Tsunami Recording (UTC)	Max Height (m)	Time Max Height (UTC)
Chañaral	15-01-2022 14:07	1.95	15-01-2022 22:14	Arica	12-03-2011 03:28	2.2	12-02-2011 08:09
Caldera	15-01-2022 13:49	0.90	15-01-2022 23:32	Pisagua	12-03-2011 03:13	0.8	12-02-2011 04:44
				Iquique	12-03-2011 03:14	1.0	12-02-2011 07:59





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Tonga Eruption 2022, Atmosferic Pressure vs Sea Level



Location	Start of Tsunami Recording (UTC)	Atmospheric Pressure Peak (UTC)		
Arica, CL	15-01-2022 15:27	15-01-2022 14:07		
Chañaral, CL	15-01-2022 14:03	15-01-2022 13:43		







- Tsunami

18-01/12:00

19-01/00:00

Final Remarks

- Importance to count with fully funcioning DART systems and sharing information from Seal Level Stations with IOC website.
- Usefulness of keeping fully documented records of past Tsunami events, that can be consulted in emergencies where Tsunami Models can not be run based on seismic parameters.
- National Tsunami Focal Points should always be reachable, highlighting the importance of always having their information updated.
- Direct telephone communications with PTWC helped to better analyze the tsunami threat.
- Interesting atmospheric pressure recordings with early Tsunami readings, were registered in most of the Sea Level Stations of the SEP-WG.
- Social Media for early Tsunami awareness.







THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION





