



# Tsunami Warnings in Australia

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## Overview

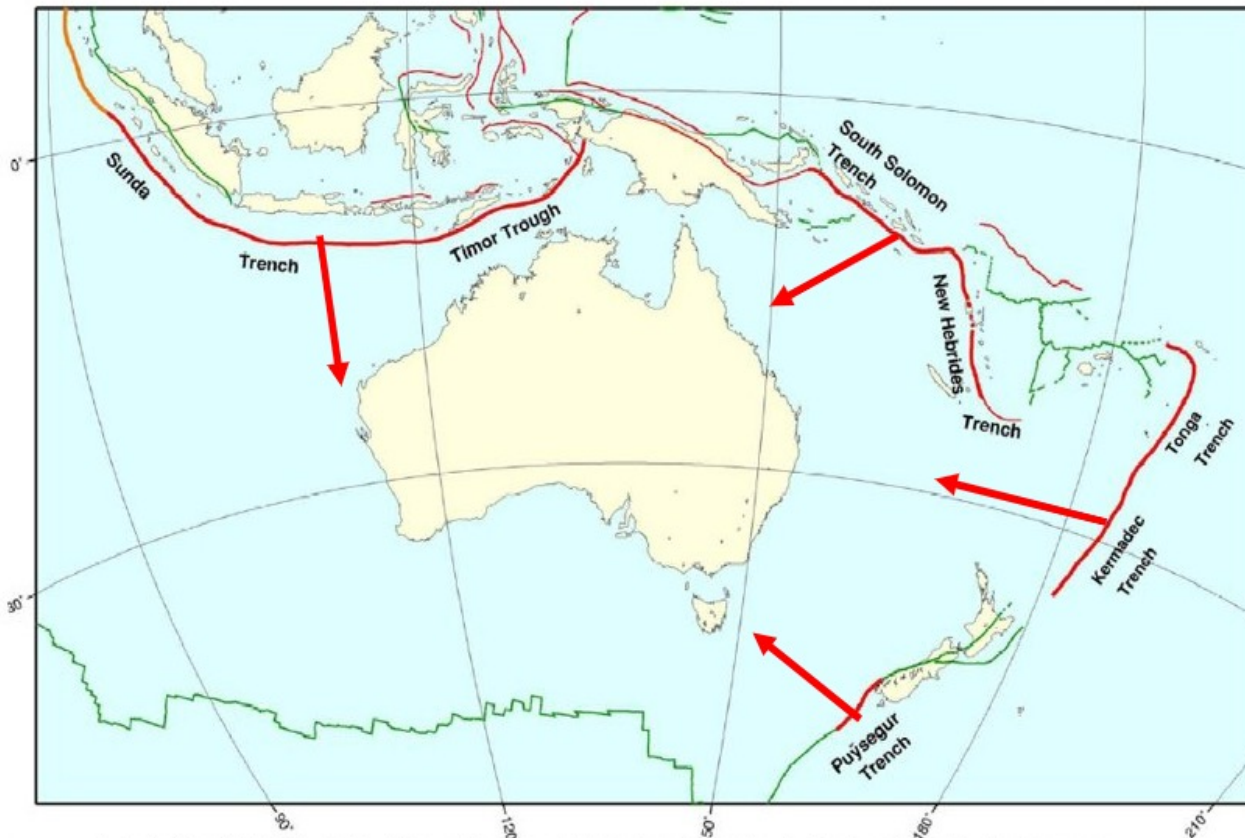
- The Need for the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC)
- JATWC and the Australian Tsunami Warning System (ATWS)
- Tsunami Processes and Products
- Tsunami SOPs
- Training, Exercises, and Current and Future Work



# The Need for the JATWC

# Likely Tsunami Source Zones

Thrust Zones around the Australian Plate



Australia sits within the Australian Plate and is surrounded by tectonic boundaries. In this figure the subduction zones are plotted in red and the other types of plate boundary in green, with the boundary ruptured by the 2004 Andaman-Sunda earthquake in orange. The thick red lines are those subduction zone plate boundaries with the potential to excite a large tsunami that could directly impact Australia.

Australia, in recent history, has experienced more than 50 tsunami events

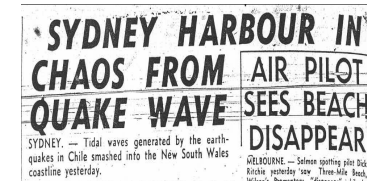
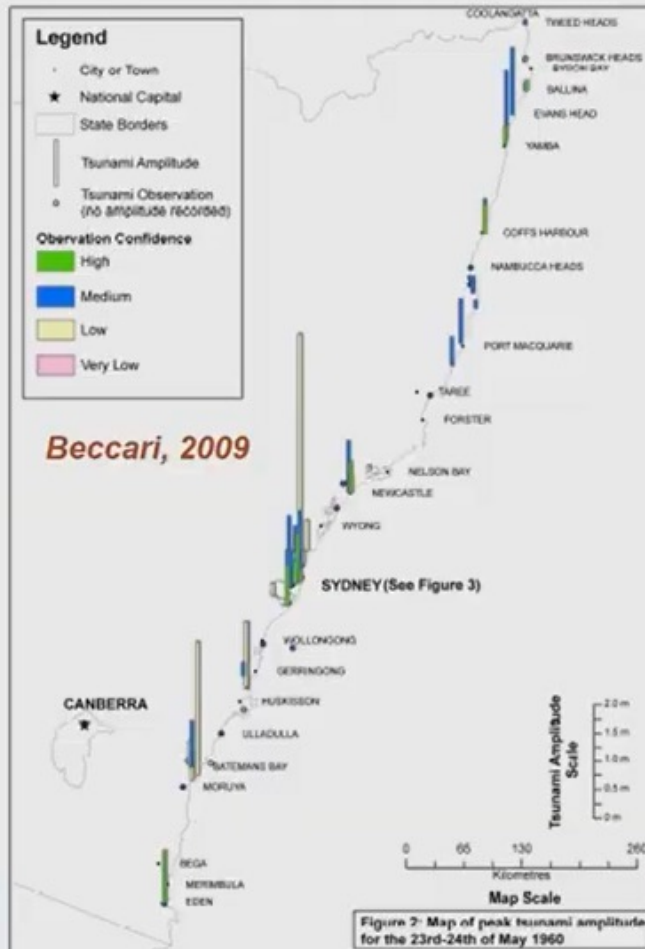
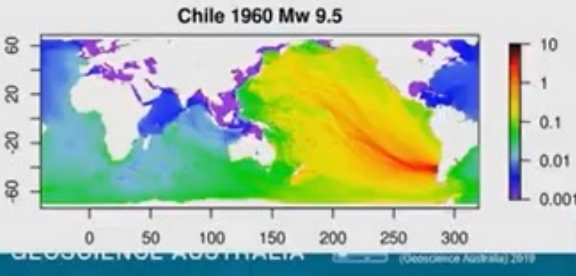




# Australia's Tsunami Vulnerability

## Mw 9.5, Chile 1960

- Widely observed in east Australia
  - Mostly marine impacts
  - Limited inundation
- Damages
  - Boats damaged, sunk
  - Oyster industry





## Swift Action from Australia after Indian Ocean Tsunami 2004

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) led a major proposal to develop a National Tsunami Warning System.
- This proposal was successful and announced in the [joint media release](#) of 10 May 2005 by the then Foreign Minister The Hon Alexander Downer and the Attorney-General Philip Ruddock.
- \$68.9million (AUD) over 4 years of 2005-2009 to
  - Develop a comprehensive Australian Tsunami Warning System (ATWS).
  - Support international efforts to establish an Indian Ocean tsunami warning system.
  - Contribute to the facilitation of tsunami warnings for the South West Pacific.
- A core deliverable was to establish the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC)
  - Through partnership between Geoscience Australia (GA) and Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)
  - Emergency Management Australia a key operational arm in the ATWS, supported by all State/Territory Emergency Services

The Hon. Alexander Downer, MP  
FORMER MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AUSTRALIA

ARCHIVED MATERIAL

Joint Media Release

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer and The Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock  
10 May 2005

**National Tsunami Warning System**

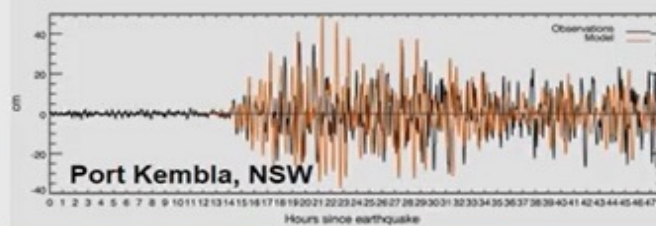
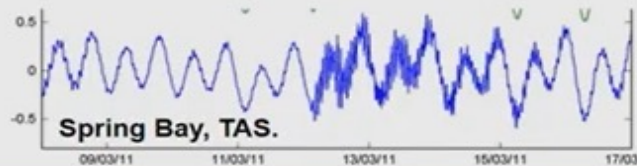
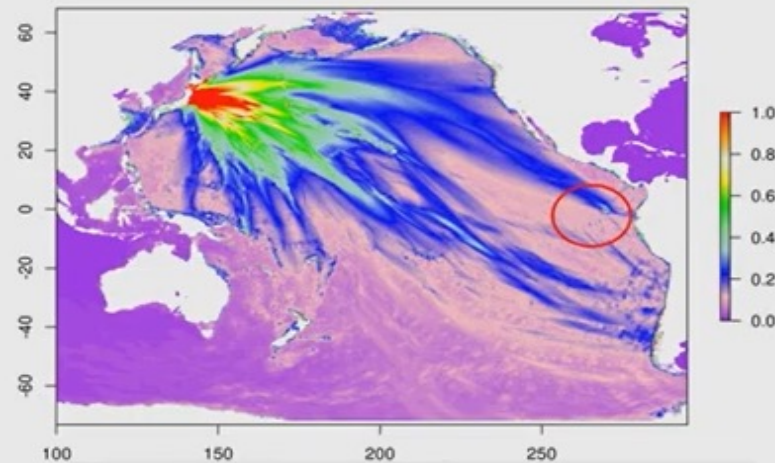
Following the tragic events of the Indian Ocean tsunami in December last year, the Australian Government has announced a major initiative to establish a National Tsunami Warning System.

Navigation: Home, Speeches, Media Releases, Transcripts, Current Minister, Department

# Australia's Tsunami Vulnerability

## Mw 9.1, Offshore Japan, 2011

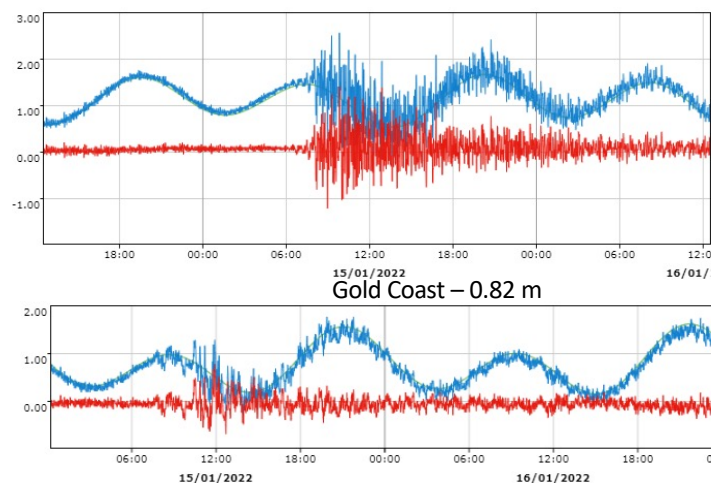
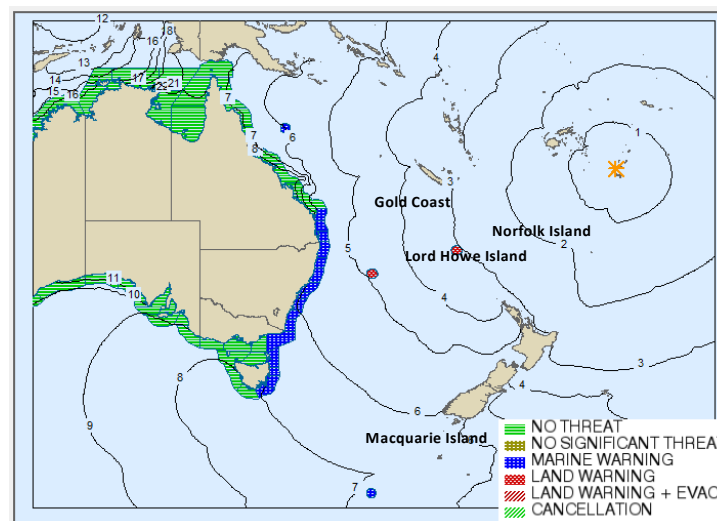
- SE Australia ~ 30 cm wave amplitudes
  - No significant inundation
- Swimmers @ Merimbula washed 500m into lagoon
- Galapagos Islands
  - 5 m runup



# JATWC in the HUNGA TONGA-HUNGA HA'APAI (HTHH) Volcanic Tsunami

JATWC Tsunami Threat Assessment – Within 7 Hours Travel Time

UTC	AEDT	Elapsed Time hh:mm	15-16 January 2022 JATWC key actions
04:10	15:10	00:00	Explosive volcanic eruption of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano (Tonga)
04:30	15:30	00:20	1.2m tsunami waves observed at a Nuku Alofa tide gauge station (but JATWC was unaware of it till later)
05:48	16:58	01:48	No Threat Bulletin issued. Based on <b>3 hours travel time (TTT)</b> with <b>Norfolk just outside the 3hr isochrone</b> , VEI assessed as 3 or 4
08:26	19:36	04:26	Marine Warning for Norfolk Island issued after 50 cm wave observed at the tide gauge. <b>Reactively revised.</b>
09:00	20:00	04:50	Marine Warning issued for Lord Howe Island ( <b>in 5hr TTT</b> ).
09:37	20:37	05:27	Significant observations in NSW and QLD: (40cm at Twofold Bay, NSW at 20:10 AEDT; 25 cm at Gold Coast, QLD at 19:40 AEDT) prompts the issuing of Marine Warnings to south QLD & entire NSW. Also <b>revised VEI &gt;=5</b> , <b>expanding areas covered by 6hr TTT</b>
09:58	20:58	05:48	Norfolk Island Marine Warning upgraded to <b>Land Threat</b> Warning after wave observations exceed 1.0 m at the tide gauge.
10:00	21:00	05:50	Marine Warnings extended to Victoria, Tasmania and Macquarie Island <b>covered by 7hr TTT</b> .
10:18	21:18	06:08	Lord Howe Island Marine Warning upgraded to <b>Land Threat</b> Warning with evacuation order issued by NSWSES at 20:12 AEDT.
		06 – 18	<b>Each warning updated on hourly basis during the 12 hr period</b>
23:09	10:09 +1 day	18:59	Land Threat Warnings for Norfolk Island and Lord Howe Island <b>downgraded</b> to Marine Warnings.
23:30 – 00:50 +1 day	10:30 – 11:50 +1 day	19:20 to 20:40	<b>Cancelled</b> QLD, Macquarie Island, Victoria and Tasmanian Marine Warnings.
08:56 – 10:59 +1 day	19:56 – 21:59 +1 day	28:46 to 30:49	<b>Cancelled</b> Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island and NSW Warnings.







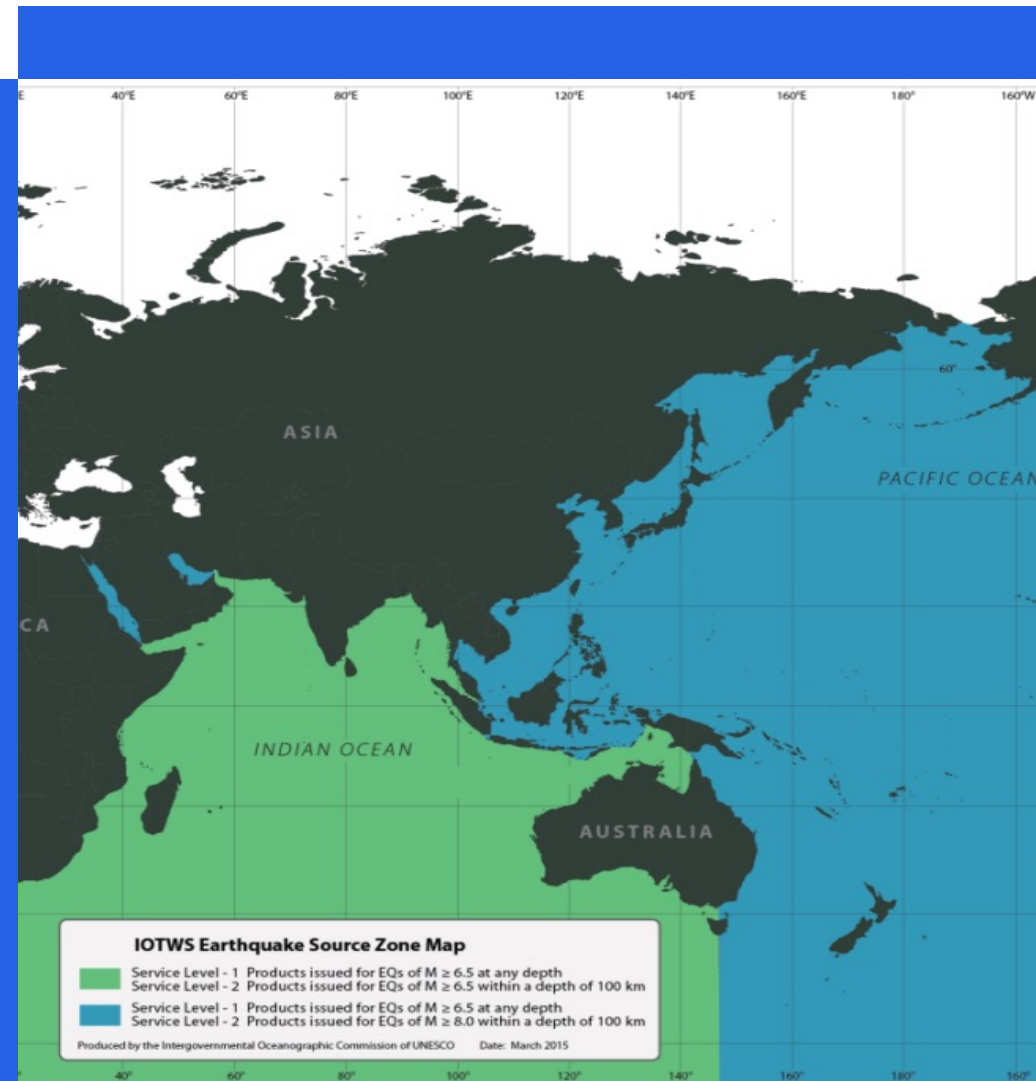
# JATWC and ATWS



# Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC)

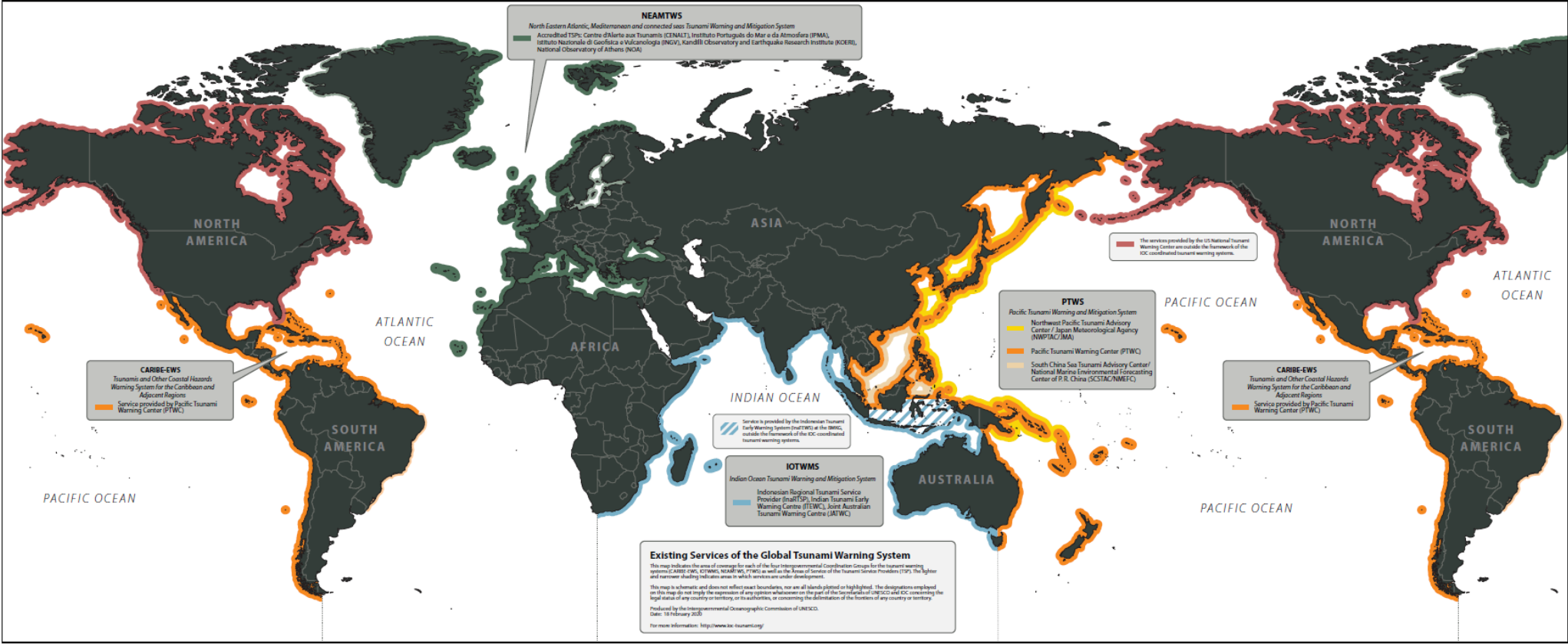
Australian Tsunami Warning System (ATWS)

Tsunami Service Provider (TSP) for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation Service (IOTWMS)



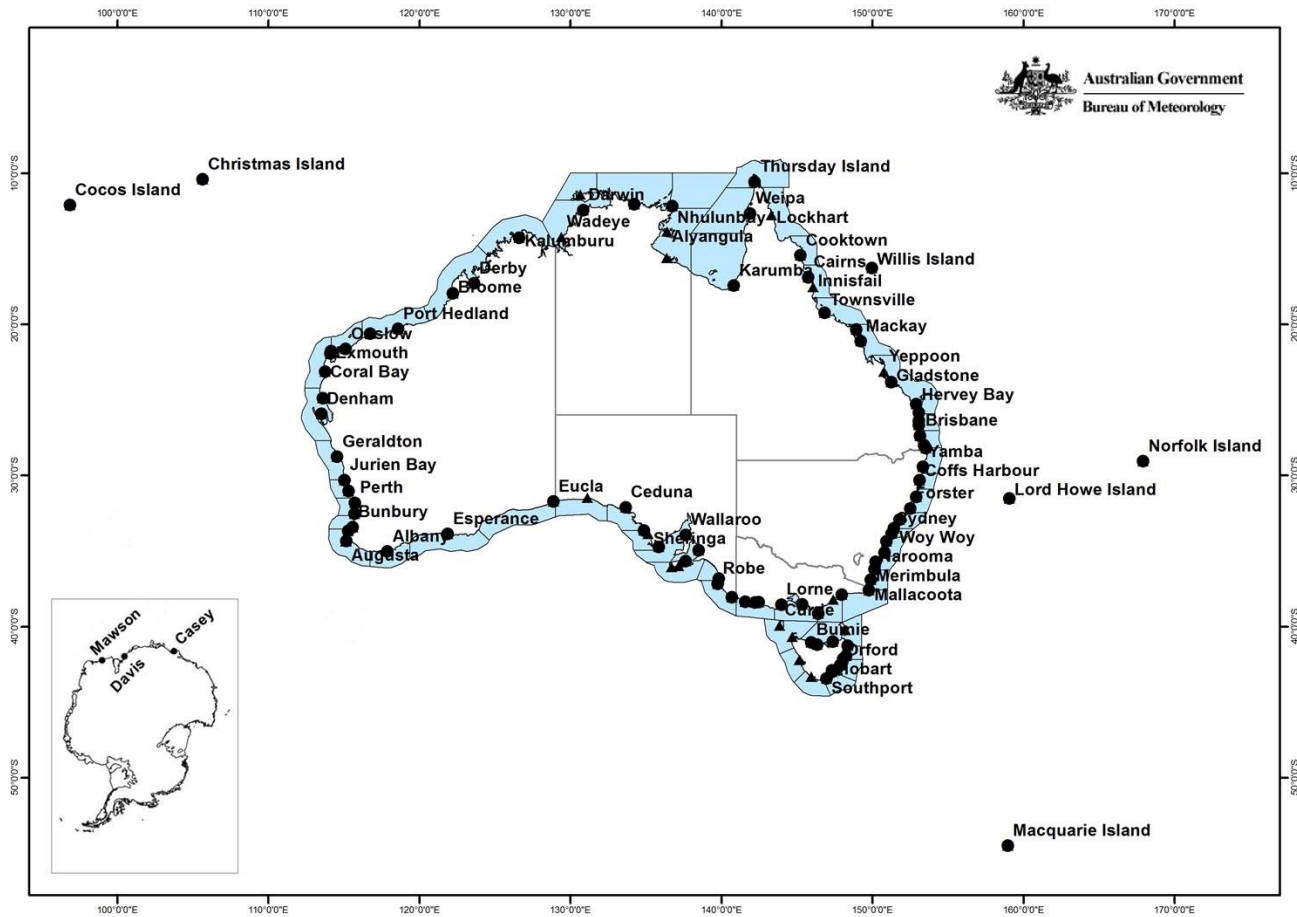
## Australian Role in International Tsunami Warning Systems







# ATWS Area of Coverage



# Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre - JATWC



**Australian Government**  
**Geoscience Australia**

Detect and analyse seismic signals

Estimate earthquake parameters of location, magnitude, and depth etc.

Provide an earthquake solution to BoM within 15min of an earthquake, then provide updates as available



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**

Assess tsunami threat to Australia, usually via MOST model tsunami wave prediction

Issue tsunami advice (No Threat/Watch/Warning) to Australia **within 15min** after receiving GA solution (so **within 30min** of earthquake)

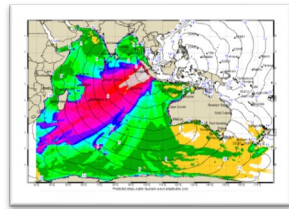
Liaise with emergency response partners, and TWC authorities in the Indian Ocean

Monitor tsunami with Australian and global sea level networks



# Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre

# JATWC



Tsunami Scenario Database using **MOST** model

**ATWS Project**  
(2005-2009)



Australian Deep Ocean and Coastal Sea Level Monitoring Network - **ASLOS**

**IOTWMS**  
Indian Ocean  
Tsunami  
Warning &  
Mitigation  
System  
(IOTWMS)



Bureau of Meteorology

Geoscience Australia

**ATWS**  
Australian  
Tsunami  
Warning System  
(ATWS)

As one of the three designated Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) for IOTWMS

Issue earthquake and tsunami bulletins to NTWCs in the IOTWMS

**JATWC** (2008 – present)  
Jointly operated by the **Bureau of Meteorology** and **Geoscience Australia**

As national tsunami warning centre for Australia

Issue tsunami warnings for Australia including offshore islands and Antarctic stations

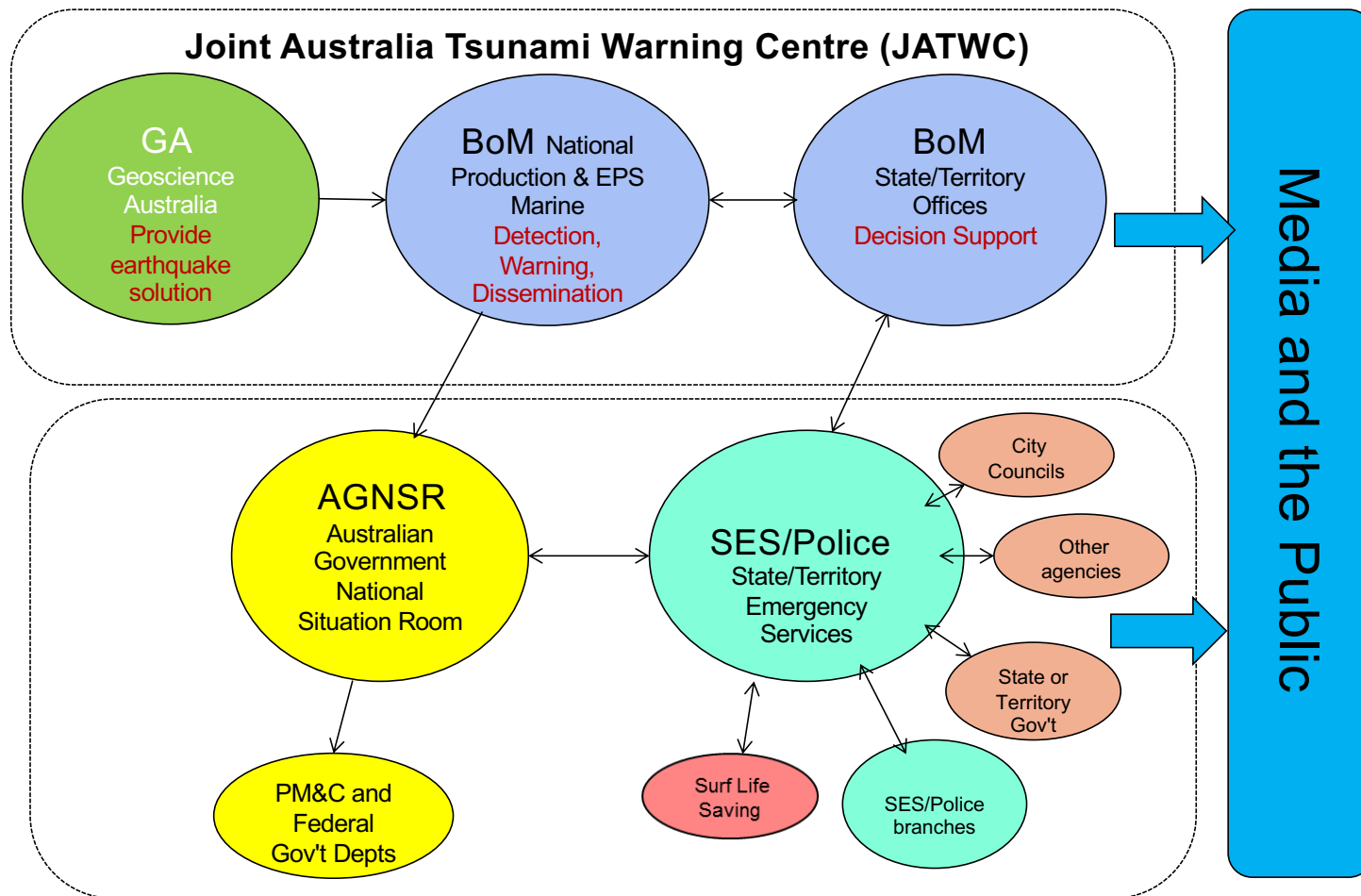
NTWCs = National Tsunami Warning Centres



# Tsunami Processes and Products



# Australian Tsunami Warning System (ATWS)



# Decision Support Tool (DST)

Event Selection Mode Settings Configuration

Current Time: 03:24UTC Wed 26 Jul 2023 Elapsed Time Since Earthquake: 68 day(s) 0 hour(s) and 27 minute(s) Number of locations with ETA < 105 minutes: 108 Show locations Threat countdown **\*\*\* OPERATIONAL MODE \*\*\***

Assessment Observations Travel Times Warnings Event Log

ATWS Assessment IOTWMS Assessment

Source Geoscience Australia Manual Solution View Travel Times

MAG 7.7 7.7 ( Source Mag 7.7 )

Location Southeast of Loyalty Islands

Time 02:57 19/05/2023 UTC

Epicentre

Lat / Lon 23.13S 170.71E

Depth 31km

Centroid

Lat / Lon 22.83S 170.91E

Depth 12km

Guidance MOST Scenario 197 96km Guidance Details Show Video Current Location

ATWS (Sorted by arrival time)  IOTWMS (Sorted by country)

Threat Locations Threat Location Details

LORD HOWE ISLAND: Marine

Legend:

- NO THREAT
- NO SIGNIFICANT THREAT
- MARINE WARNING
- LAND WARNING
- LAND WARNING + EVAC
- CANCELLATION

Map Controls:

- Zoom out
- Change Region
- Save map as PNG
- Cursor Zooming
- Zone Selection

Map Features:

- Map Legend
- Labels (as on webpage)
- TTT Gauges and Buoys
- Country Borders
- TTT Isochrones
- Country Names
- Epicentre
- Centroid

Deep Water Amplitudes (Plot):

Display MOST scenario  Show/Hide Current Event Scenario 197 mag 7.7

Earthquake in JATWC Source Zone: Outside Indian Ocean (in Pacific, South Atlantic, Red Sea or Persian Gulf)  
 For ATWS, need to issue: National Bulletins, and Regional Warnings if required  
 For IOTWMS, need to issue: Service Level 1 (Earthquake Bulletins)

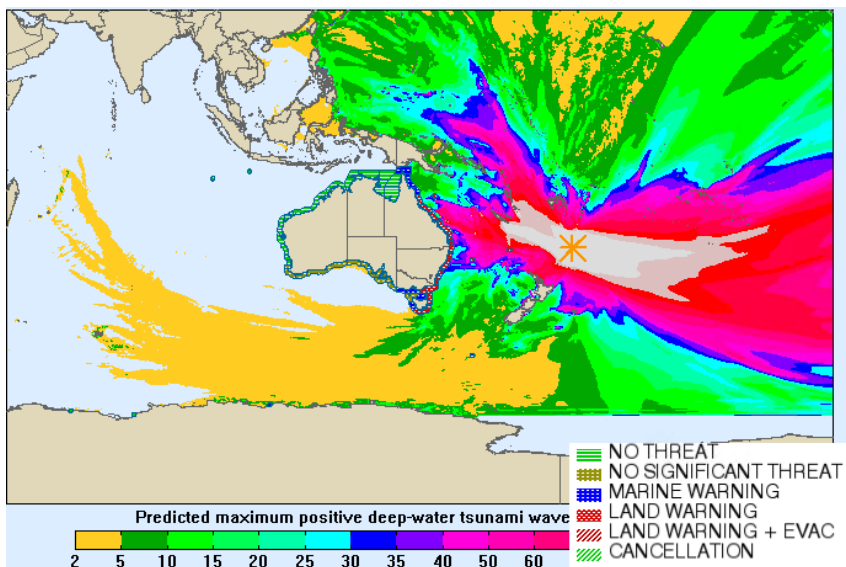


DST set to be replaced by TOAST (bespoke version) in 2024



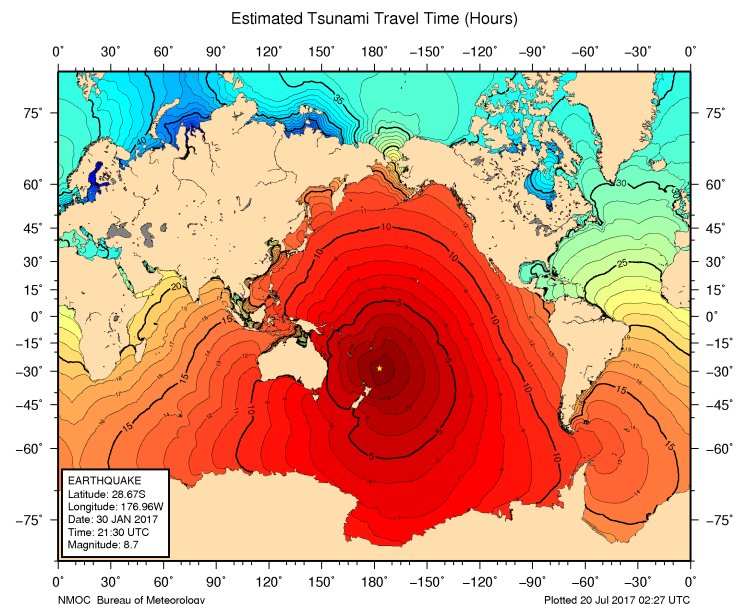
# Tsunami Threat Assessment

## Modeled Scenarios



Tsunami Threat Tier (Classification)	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Deep Water Threshold Value
No Threat	<20cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) <10cm (Offshore territories)
No Threat (low level effects)	10 – 20cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) 5 – 10cm (Offshore territories)
Marine Threat	20 – 55cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) 10 – 50cm (Offshore territories)
Land Inundation Threat	>55cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) >50cm (Offshore territories)

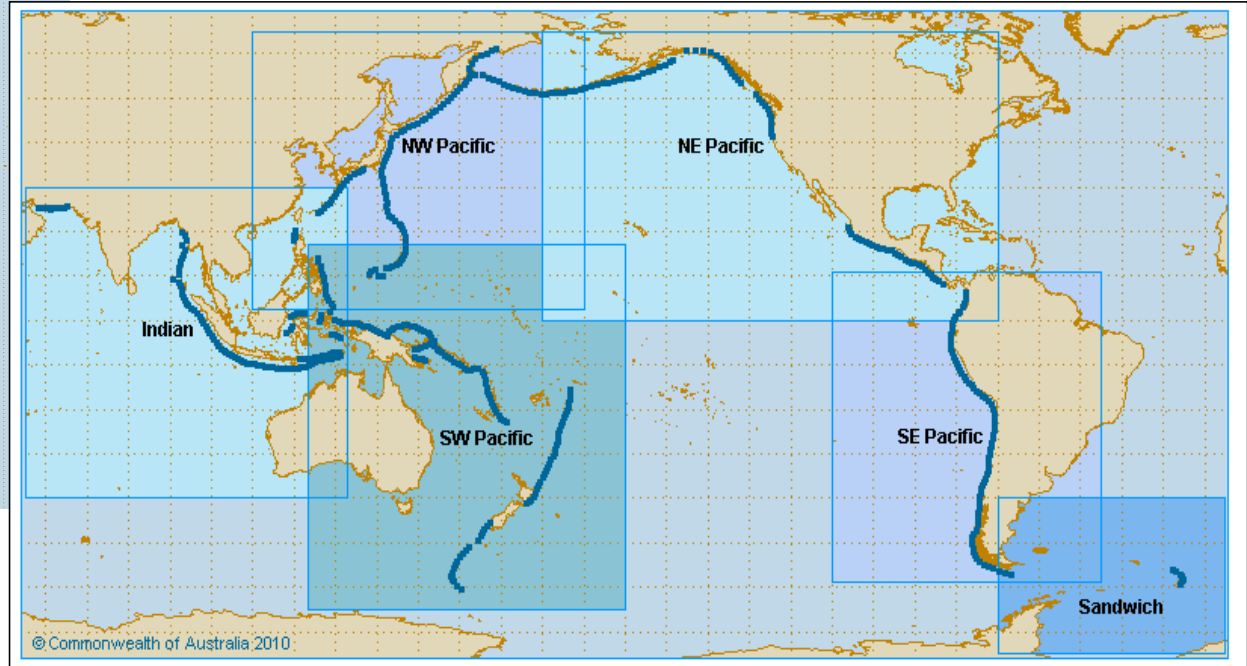
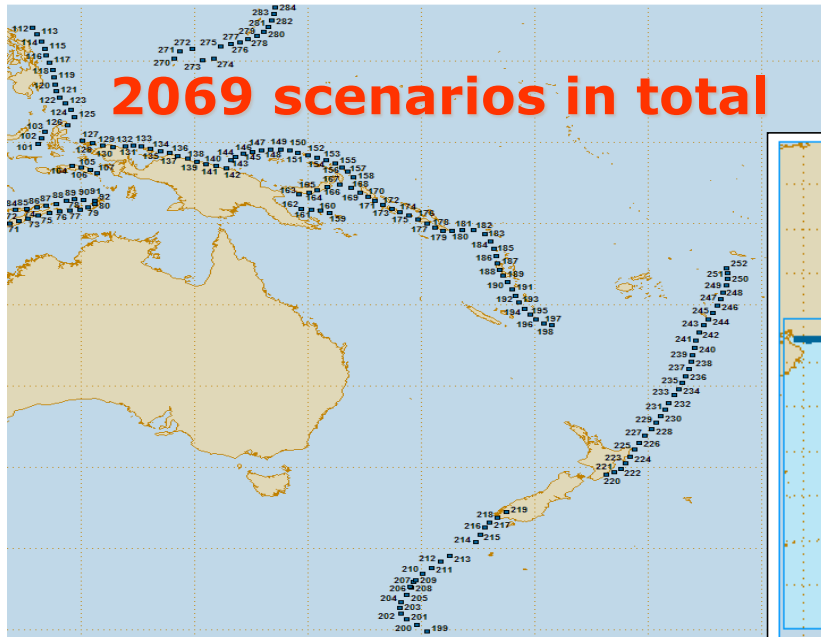
## Tsunami Travel Times



Mag	Action
6.5 to 7.5	The threat area is defined to be within the 1 hour travel time isochrone
7.6 to 7.8	The threat area is defined to be within the 3 hour travel time isochrone
7.9 and above	The threat area is defined to be within the 6 hour travel time isochrone

A **scenario** is pre-computed tsunami propagation modelling for a given earthquake magnitude, location and focal mechanism.

Australia currently uses the MOST Model to generate the scenario database



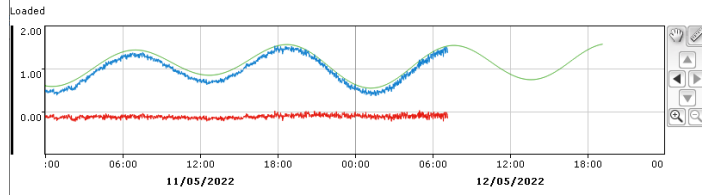
[http://web.bom.gov.au/nmoc/src/Tsunami/resources/MOST/MOST\\_scenario\\_locations.shtml](http://web.bom.gov.au/nmoc/src/Tsunami/resources/MOST/MOST_scenario_locations.shtml) (choose a scenario for maximum wave prediction map)

[web.bom.gov.au/nmoc/src/most\\_t2\\_threats/coastal\\_threats\\_t2\\_aust\\_v2.html](http://web.bom.gov.au/nmoc/src/most_t2_threats/coastal_threats_t2_aust_v2.html) (choose a scenario number and magnitude to assess threat to Australian coastal zones)

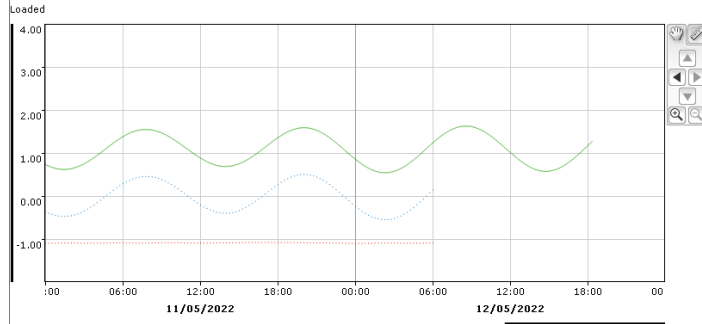


# Sea Level Observations

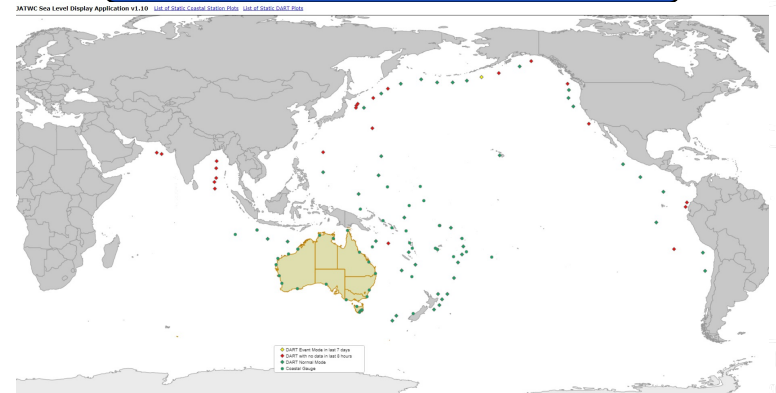
Twofold Bay (NSW,Australia)(69129) [1 Day Static Plot](#) [7 Day Static Plot](#)



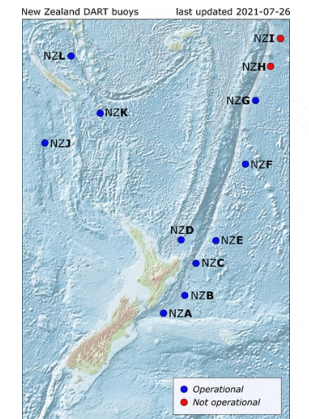
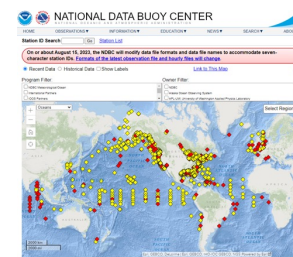
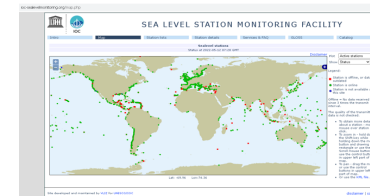
DART 55042 (Tasman Sea 2,Australia) [1 Day Static Plot](#) [7 Day Static Plot](#)



## Internal Sea level viewer

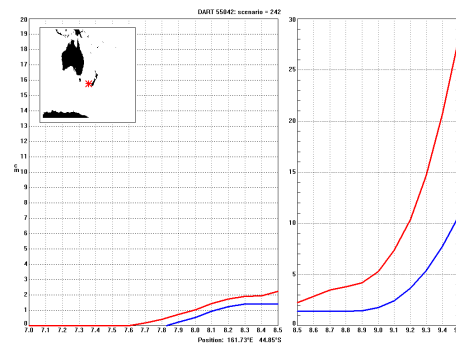


## Sea level monitoring



## Wave observation to Threat Level

Tsunami Threat Tier (Classification)	At tide gauge depth (~5m)
No Threat	<40cm
Marine Threat	40cm – 100cm
Land Inundation Threat	>100cm



# Warning Process

**TSUNAMI WARNING**  
**Marine Threat**

Emphasise potential danger from:  
- strong rips, ocean currents and dangerous waves for people swimming, surfing and boating in coastal waters  
Advise that people should get out of the water, secure boats and move away from beaches, harbours, marinas, coastal estuaries and rock platforms even though major evacuations are NOT required

**TSUNAMI WARNING**  
**Land Threat**

Emphasise potential danger from:  
- major flooding for people in low lying coastal areas  
- dangerous waves, strong rips, ocean currents for people swimming, surfing or boating in coastal waters  
Advise people in identified regions to move to higher ground (10m above sea level or 1km inland)

No Threat or Potential Threat advice – target <= 30mins

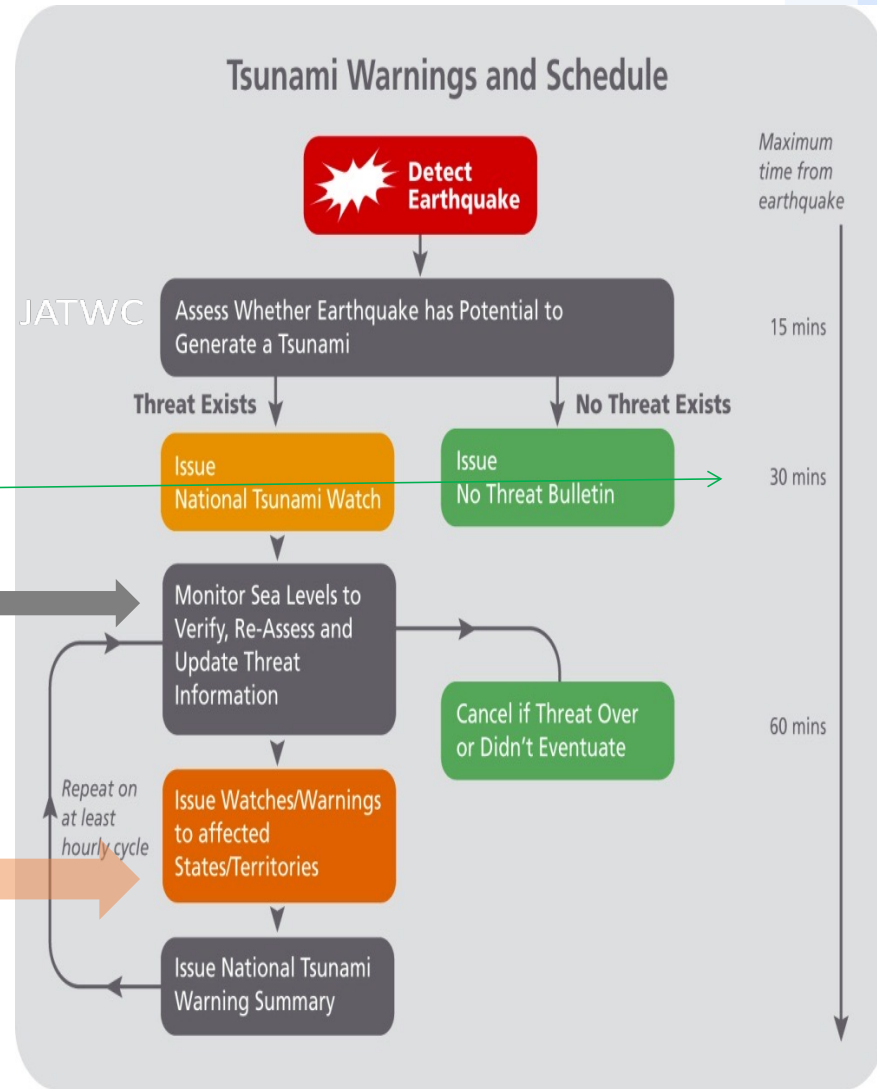
Use Australian and global sea level networks to monitor



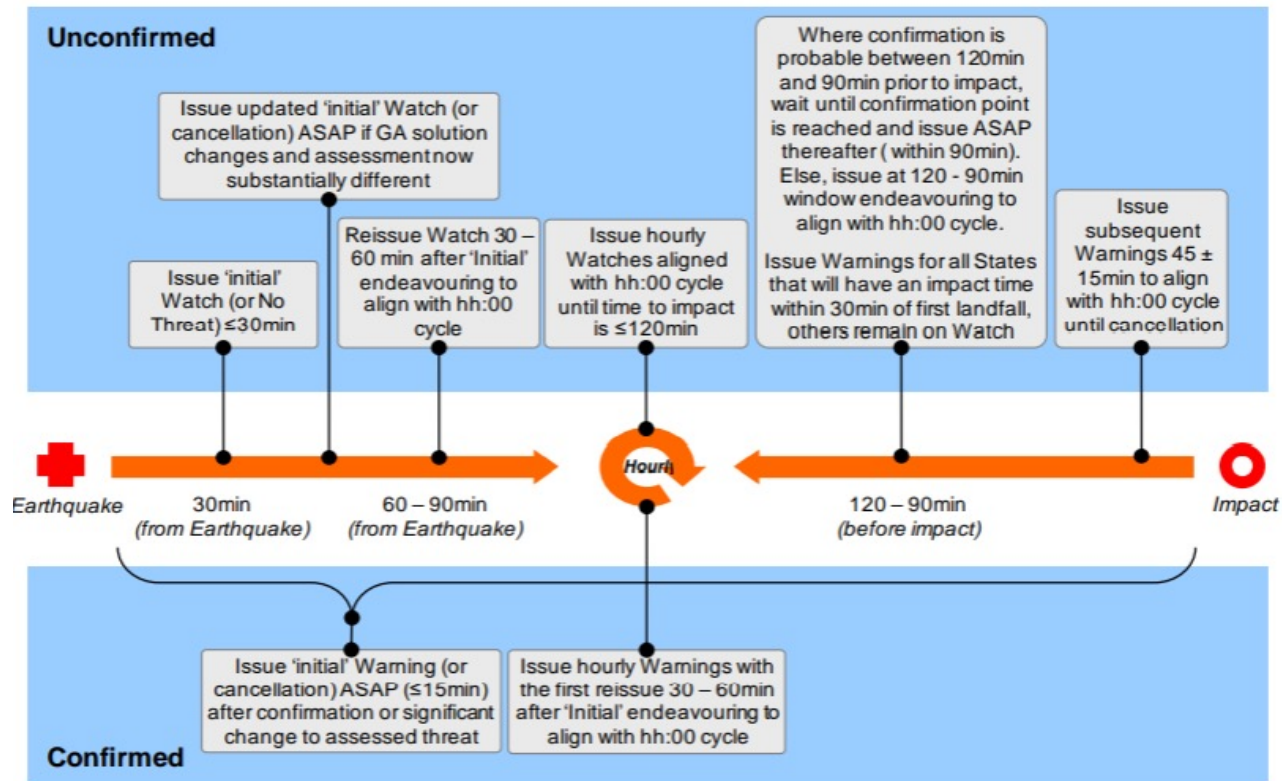
Warnings if tsunami is confirmed or threat less than 105min away

Provincial Emergency Services to review draft warnings which include action statements and whether evacuation order has been issued by SES/Police

Warnings then reissued every hour till cancelled



# Product Issue Timeline

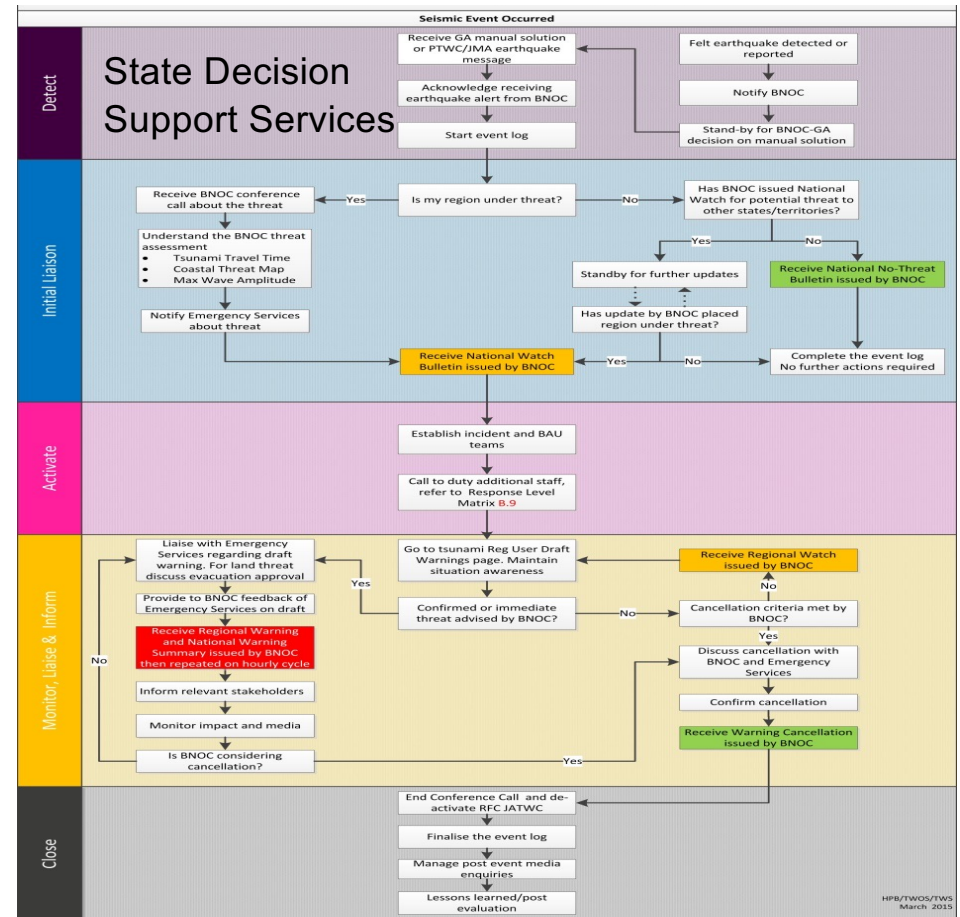
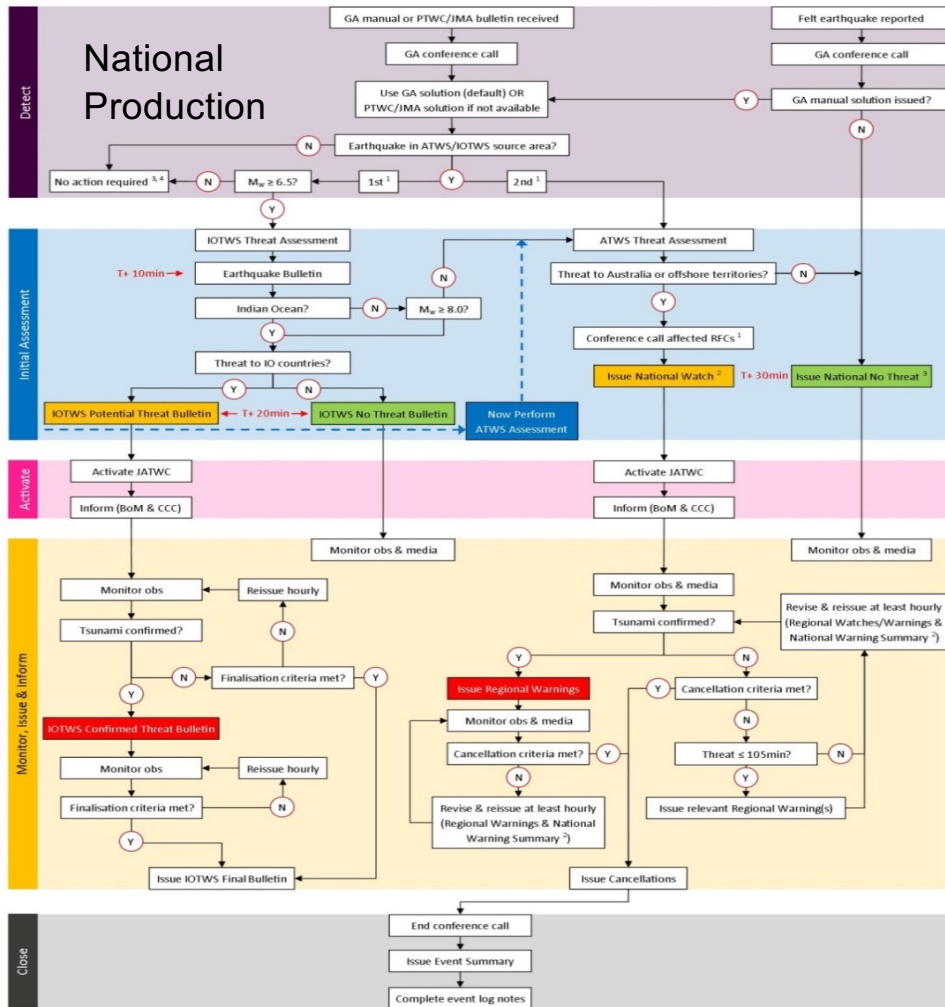


**Preparation and distribution time:**

1. Allow ~15min for preparation and dissemination. Hence to meet the 90min threshold warning development should commence at 105min before impact
2. To meet the hh:00 cycle, messages should be sent 10 minutes beforehand (i.e. hh:50). This allows media time to receive and embed the messages in bulletins / broadcasts



# Decision Flowcharts





## Product Examples

### National Watch

IDY68005

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

**MEDIA:**

NO USE OF STANDARD EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNAL (SEWS)  
TOP PRIORITY FOR IMMEDIATE AND FREQUENT BROADCAST  
\*\*\*\*\*

TSUNAMI WATCH NUMBER 1 FOR AUSTRALIA

Issued by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at #issue\_time\_jatwc#  
\*\*\*\*\*

POTENTIAL TSUNAMI THREAT TO NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND, TASMANIA,  
VICTORIA, MACQUARIE ISLAND, CASEY, LORD HOWE ISLAND, NORFOLK ISLAND  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY:**

An undersea earthquake of magnitude 9.3 occurred at 8:30 AM AEDT on Tuesday 31  
January 2017 near KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION.

AT THIS STAGE NO TSUNAMI WAVES HAVE BEEN OBSERVED THAT MAY  
THREATEN AUSTRALIA.

If a tsunami has been generated, it may start affecting the following States and Territories  
after these local times:

Norfolk Island after 11:00 am (UTC+11hrs) Tuesday  
Lord Howe Island after 12:15 pm (UTC+10.5hrs) Tuesday  
New South Wales after 1:30 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Queensland after 12:45 pm (AEST) Tuesday  
Victoria after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Macquarie Island after 03:00 UTC Tuesday  
Tasmania after 2:15 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Casey after 07:30 UTC Tuesday

The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre is closely monitoring the situation and will  
advise immediately if there is cause for concern.

LISTEN FOR FURTHER UPDATES.

The NEXT UPDATE will be issued by #next\_issue\_jatwc#.

For latest and further information on tsunami warnings, please call 1300 TSUNAMI (1300  
878 626) or visit [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami)

\*\*\*\*\*  
The JATWC is operated by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience

### National No Threat

IDY68009

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

**MEDIA:**

NO USE OF STANDARD EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNAL (SEWS)  
PLEASE BROADCAST THIS INFORMATION IF REFERRING TO THE EARTHQUAKE IN  
NEWS REPORTS.  
\*\*\*\*\*

NO TSUNAMI THREAT TO AUSTRALIA

Issued by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at #issue\_time\_jatwc#  
\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY:**

An undersea earthquake of magnitude 7.8 has occurred at 8:30 AM AEDT on Tuesday 31  
January 2017 near KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION.

THERE IS NO TSUNAMI THREAT TO THE AUSTRALIAN MAINLAND, ISLANDS OR  
TERRITORIES.

For further information check the Bureau's website [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami) or call 1300  
TSUNAMI (1300 878 6264).

No further updates will be issued unless the situation changes.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**DETAILS:**

An undersea earthquake of magnitude 7.8 has occurred at 8:30 AM AEDT on Tuesday 31  
January 2017 near KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION (latitude 28.67S, longitude 176.96W).  
The JATWC has assessed that there is NO TSUNAMI THREAT TO THE AUSTRALIAN  
MAINLAND, ISLANDS OR TERRITORIES from this earthquake.

No further updates will be issued unless the situation changes.

For the latest and further information on tsunami warnings, please call 1300 TSUNAMI  
(1300 878 626) or visit [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami).

\*\*\*\*\*  
The JATWC is operated by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience  
Australia  
\*\*\*\*\*



IDY68029

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

MEDIA:

PLEASE USE THE STANDARD EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNAL (SEWS)  
TOP PRIORITY FOR IMMEDIATE AND FREQUENT BROADCAST

## State Warning

TSUNAMI WARNING NUMBER 1 FOR VICTORIA Issued by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at  
#issue\_time\_state#

TSUNAMI THREAT TO LOW LYING COASTAL AREAS AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY:

Tsunami warning for VICTORIA.

LAND THREAT

For all low-lying coastal areas from Wilsons Promontory to 60nm east of Gabo Island including Central Gippsland Coast, Gippsland Lakes, East Gippsland Coast there is a threat of MAJOR LAND INUNDATION, FLOODING, DANGEROUS RIPS, WAVES AND STRONG OCEAN CURRENTS commencing after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday and persisting for several hours.

People in affected land threat areas are strongly advised by VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE to go to higher ground at least 10 metres above sea level or move to at least one kilometre inland.

MARINE THREAT

For the marine environment from SA-VIC Border to Wilsons Promontory including West Coast, Central Coast, Port Phillip, Western Port there is the possibility of DANGEROUS RIPS, WAVES AND STRONG OCEAN CURRENTS, AND SOME LOCALISED OVERFLOW ONTO THE IMMEDIATE FORESHORE commencing after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday and persisting for several hours.

While evacuations are not necessary for Marine Threat areas, people in these areas are advised to get out of the water and move away from the immediate water's edge.

The NEXT UPDATE will be issued by #next\_issue\_state#.

For latest and further information on tsunami warnings, please call 1300 TSUNAMI (1300 878 626) or visit [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami)

FOR URGENT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE call 000  
FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE ADVICE or GENERAL ASSISTANCE call:  
VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE on 132 500

DETAILS:

LAND THREAT - TSUNAMI THREAT TO LOW LYING COASTAL AREAS

A threat of MAJOR LAND INUNDATION, FLOODING, DANGEROUS RIPS, WAVES AND STRONG OCEAN CURRENTS exists from Wilsons Promontory to 60nm east of Gabo Island including Central Gippsland Coast, Gippsland Lakes, East Gippsland Coast commencing after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday and persisting for several hours.

MARINE THREAT - TSUNAMI THREAT TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

A threat to the marine environment of DANGEROUS RIPS AND WAVES, STRONG OCEAN CURRENTS AND SOME LOCALISED OVERFLOW ONTO THE IMMEDIATE FORESHORE exists from SA-VIC Border to Wilsons Promontory including West Coast, Central Coast, Port Phillip, Western Port commencing after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday and persisting for several hours.

The tsunami threat will commence any time after the following local times and will persist for several hours:

Mallacoota after 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Lakes Entrance after 2:45 pm (AEDT) Tuesday

Port Fairy after 4:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Warrambool after 4:15 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Portland after 4:15 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Wilsons Promontory after 4:45 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Lorne after 5:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday  
Phillip Island after 6:15 pm (AEDT) Tuesday

COMMUNITY RESPONSE ADVICE FROM VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE FOR AREAS UNDER LAND THREAT:

People are strongly advised by VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE to go to higher ground, at least ten metres above sea level, or if possible move at least one kilometre away from all beaches and the water's edge of marinas, harbours and coastal estuaries.

Take only essential items that you can carry including important papers, family photographs and medical needs.

It will be in your own interests to walk to safety if possible to avoid traffic jams.

If you cannot leave the area take shelter in the upper storey of a sturdy brick or concrete multi-storey building.

Boats in harbours, estuaries or shallow coastal water should return to shore. Secure your boat and move away from the waterfront.

Vessels already at sea should stay offshore in water at least 25 metres deep until further advised.

Do not go to the coast to watch the tsunami.

Check that your neighbours have received this advice.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE ADVICE FROM VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE FOR AREAS UNDER MARINE THREAT:

People are strongly advised by VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE to get out of the water and move away from the immediate water's edge of beaches, marinas, harbours, coastal estuaries and rock platforms.

Boats in harbours, estuaries or shallow coastal water should return to shore. Secure your boat and move away from the waterfront.

Vessels already at sea should stay offshore in water at least 25 metres deep until further advised.

Do not go to the coast to watch the tsunami as there is the possibility of dangerous, localised flooding of the immediate foreshore.

Check that your neighbours have received this advice.

CAUTION:

Tsunami waves are more powerful than the same size beach waves. There will be many waves and the first wave may not be the largest. Take care in other coastal areas where low-level effects may be observed.

TSUNAMI SOURCE:

An undersea earthquake of magnitude 9.3 has occurred at 08:30 AM AEDT on Tuesday 31 January 2017 near KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION (28.67S, 176.96W).

The NEXT UPDATE will be issued by #next\_issue\_state#.

For latest and further information on tsunami warnings, please call 1300 TSUNAMI (1300 878 626) or visit [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami)

FOR URGENT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE call 000  
FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE ADVICE or GENERAL ASSISTANCE call:  
VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE on 132 500

# National Warning Summary

IDY68020

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

## MEDIA:

NO USE OF STANDARD EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNAL (SEWS)  
REFER TO INDIVIDUAL STATE AND TERRITORY TSUNAMI WARNINGS AND WATCHES FOR MORE  
DETAILED INFORMATION.

## NATIONAL TSUNAMI WARNING SUMMARY FOR AUSTRALIA NUMBER 2

Issued by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at #issue\_time\_jatwc#

## TSUNAMI SOURCE:

An undersea earthquake of magnitude 8.7 has occurred at 8:30 AM AEDT on Tuesday 31 January 2017 near KERMADEC ISLANDS REGION (latitude 28.67S, longitude 176.96W).

Sea level observations have confirmed a tsunami has been generated.

## NATIONAL TSUNAMI WARNING STATUS:

### NORFOLK ISLAND

Land Warning is current from 11:00 am (00:00 UTC) Tuesday

### LORD HOWE ISLAND

Land Warning is current from 12:15 pm (01:45 UTC) Tuesday

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Land Warning is current for all coastal areas from 1:30 pm (AEDT) Tuesday

### VICTORIA

Land Warning is current for:

Wilsons Promontory to 60nm east of Gabo Island including Central Gippsland Coast, Gippsland Lakes, East Gippsland Coast from 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday

Marine Warning is current for:

SA-VIC Border to Wilsons Promontory including West Coast, Central Coast, Port Phillip, Western Port from 2:00 pm (AEDT) Tuesday

## TSUNAMI DETAILS:

The following sea level gauges have observed a tsunami, heights refer to wave amplitudes (positive wave values):

Name	Country	Lat	Lon	Height (m)	Time (AEDT)
Raoul Island Fishing R	NEW ZEALAND	29.30S	177.90W	6.0	31 Jan 08:30 AM
Raoul Island Boat Cove	NEW ZEALAND	29.30S	177.89W	6.2	31 Jan 08:30 AM
Nuku'Alofa	TONGA	21.10S	175.20W	4.2	31 Jan 09:45 AM
DART 51426	TONGA	23.30S	168.29W	Detected	31 Jan 09:45 AM
East Cape	NEW ZEALAND	37.50S	178.17E	4.3	31 Jan 10:00 AM
Pago Pago	SAMOA	14.30S	170.69W	3.7	31 Jan 10:15 AM

## ADVICE

People in areas with threat of land inundation and flooding are strongly advised by emergency authorities to go to higher ground or at least 1 kilometre inland.

In areas with a threat to the marine environment only, emergency authorities advise people to get out of the water and move away from the immediate water's edge of harbours, coastal estuaries, rock platforms and beaches.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Refer to individual State and Territory tsunami warnings and watches issued by the JATWC for more detailed information.

Listen for any further advice from your local emergency service through the media.

Check the Bureau's web site: [www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami)

Call 1300 TSUNAMI (1300 878 6264)

## FOR URGENT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE call 000

For EMERGENCY SERVICE ADVICE OR GENERAL ASSISTANCE, call your local emergency service on 132 500 (in Tasmania call 131 444, on Norfolk Island call 977, on Cocos or Christmas Islands call (08) 9320 3444).

The NEXT UPDATE will be issued by #next\_issue\_state#.

AEST = AEDT - 1 hour

ACST = AEDT - 1.5 hours

ACDT = AEDT - 0.5 hour

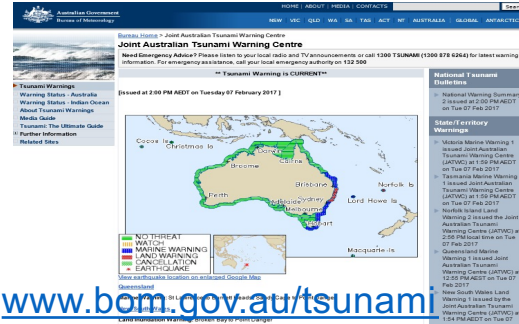
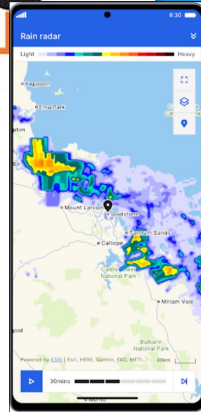
AWST = AEDT - 3 hours

AEDT = Australian Eastern Daylight Time

The JATWC is operated by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience Australia

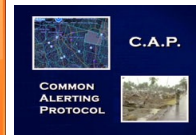
# Ending with Cancellation

# Disseminate Warnings via Multi-channels



[www.bom.gov.au/tsunami](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami)

[www.bom.gov.au/tsunami/iotwms](http://www.bom.gov.au/tsunami/iotwms)



# Public Webpage and the Bureau Weather App

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

HOME | ABOUT | MEDIA | CONTACTS Search

NSW VIC QLD WA SA TAS ACT NT AUSTRALIA GLOBAL ANTARCTICA

Bureau Home > Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre

## Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre

Need Emergency Advice? Please listen to your local radio and TV announcements or call 1300 TSUNAMI (1300 878 6264) for latest warning information. For emergency assistance, call your local emergency authority on 132 500

**\*\* Tsunami Warning is CURRENT\*\***

[issued at 2:00 PM AEDT on Tuesday 07 February 2017]

View earthquake location on enlarged Google Map

[Queensland](#)

**Marine Warning:** St Lawrence to Burnett Heads, Sandy Cape to Point Danger

[New South Wales](#)

**Land Inundation Warning:** Broken Bay to Point Danger

### National Tsunami Bulletins

- National Warning Summary 2 issued at 2:00 PM AEDT on Tue 07 Feb 2017

### State/Territory Warnings

- Victoria Marine Warning 1 issued Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at 1:59 PM AEDT on Tue 07 Feb 2017
- Tasmania Marine Warning 1 issued Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at 1:59 PM AEDT on Tue 07 Feb 2017
- Norfolk Island Land Warning 2 issued the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at 2:56 PM local time on Tue 07 Feb 2017
- Queensland Marine Warning 1 issued Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at 12:55 PM AEST on Tue 07 Feb 2017
- New South Wales Land Warning 1 issued by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) at 1:54 PM AEDT on Tue 07

## Weather overview

View weather that moves with your location

4:10 5G

Apollo Bay, VIC

1 warning for this location

Marine wind warning

16.0°

Feels like 14.2°

17° 9° Max Overnight min

No rain.

Mostly sunny.

Show more about today

Temperature and rain Wind and waves Hur

Today

4 pm	5 pm	6 pm	7 pm	8 pm	9 pm
16°	14°	13°	13°	12°	10°

Home Past Rain Warnings

## Notifications

Push warning notifications

4:10 5G

Thurs, 2 Dec

22°C

Marine wind warning • now Manly, NSW

Fire weather warning • 10m Lancefield, VIC



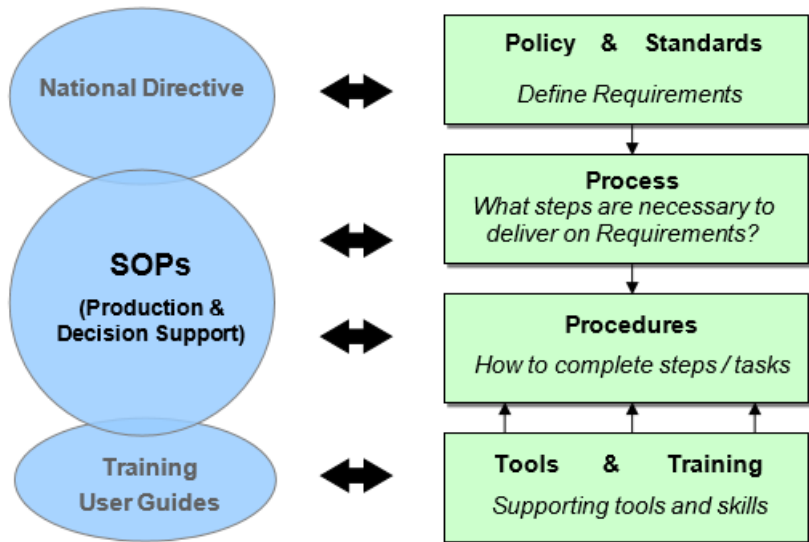


# Tsunami SOPs





# Tsunami Operational Documents



## SOPs - Bureau

- TWS Production SOPs
- TWS Decision Support SOPs
- Media Tsunami SOPs
- ITCC Tsunami Checklist as Comms Officer

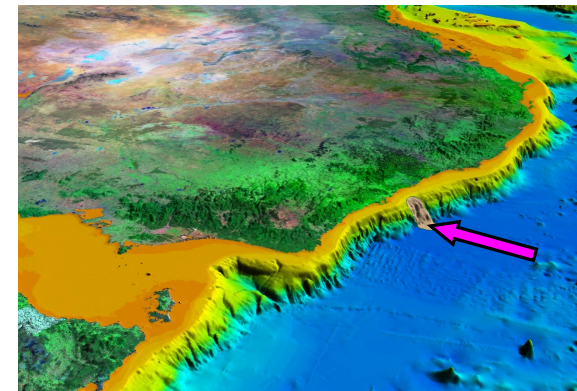
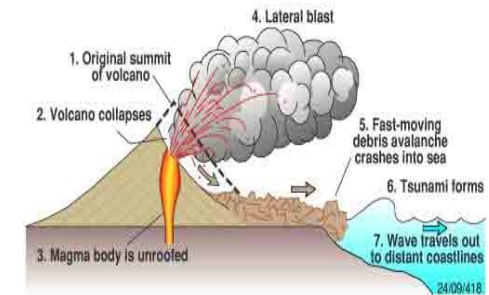
## SOPs - GA and AGCCC

- GA Tsunami SOPs - Australian Polygon less than M3.5
- GA Tsunami SOPs - International M6 Plus
- GA Tsunami SOPs - IOTWMS M6.5
- GA Tsunami SOPs - SW Pacific Polygon M5
- GA Tsunami SOPs - Selector Table
- GA Tsunami SOPs - International less than M6
- GA Tsunami SOPs - Australian Polygon M3.5 Plus
- AGCCC Tsunami SOPs

17/18

## Tsunami Types in SOPs

- Seismic with or without a corresponding MOST scenario
  - Also felt earthquake (no manual solution initially)
- Non-seismic
  - Volcanically generated (with assistance from the Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre)
  - Landslides
  - Celestial impact
- Oceanic – unknown sea level change





With a matching MOST scenario from pre-computed database

Tsunami Threat Classification	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Deep Water Threshold Value	Indicative Threshold Value in shallow water (~ 5m depth)
No Threat	<20cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) <10cm (Offshore Territories)	<40cm
Marine Threat	20 – 55cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) 10 – 50cm (Offshore territories)	40cm – 1m
Land Inundation Threat	>55cm (Australian continent, and Antarctica) >50cm (Offshore territories)	> 1m

Without a matching scenario

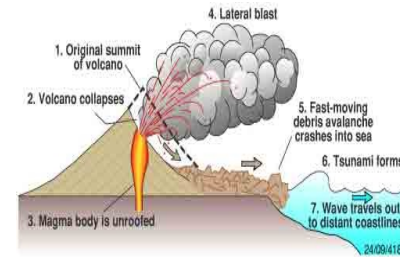
Mag	Action
6.5 to 7.5	The threat area is defined to be within the 1 hour travel time isochrone
7.6 to 7.8	The threat area is defined to be within the 3 hour travel time isochrone
7.9 and above	The threat area is defined to be within the 6 hour travel time isochrone



Define a severity level of 1, 3 or 6 corresponding to TTT hours

<b>Severity</b>	<b>Action</b>
Level 1	The threat area is defined to be within the 1 hour travel time isochrone
Level 3	The threat area is defined to be within the 3 hour travel time isochrone
Level 6	The expanding threat area is defined by the elapsed time since event + 6 hour travel time isochrone

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
General Description	Non-Explosive	Small	Moderate	Moderate-Large	Large	Very Large			
Volume of Tephra (m <sup>3</sup> )	1x10 <sup>4</sup>	1x10 <sup>6</sup>	1x10 <sup>7</sup>	1x10 <sup>8</sup>	1x10 <sup>9</sup>	1x10 <sup>10</sup>	1x10 <sup>11</sup>	1x10 <sup>12</sup>	
Cloud Column Height (km) Above crater Above sea level	<0.1	0.1-1	1-5	3-15	10-25	>25			
Qualitative Description	"Gentle,"	"Effusive"	"Explosive"		"Cataclysmic," "paroxysmal," "Severe," "violent," "terrific"		"colossal"		
Eruption Type	Hawaiian		Strombolian		Vulcanian		Plinian		Ultra-Plinian
Duration (continuous blast)	<1 hour		1-6 hrs		6-12 hrs		>12 hrs		
CAVW max explosivity (most explosive activity listed in CAVW)	Lava flow		Phreatic		Explosion or Nuée ardente				
Tropospheric Injection	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Substantial					
Stratospheric Injection	None	None	None	Possible	Definite	Significant			
Eruptions (total in file)	755	963	3631	924	307	106	46	4	0



(1) Issue no products and monitor for any potential tsunami: This action should be taken if there is little to no stratospheric injection and there is no evidence a tsunami has been generated.

(2) Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 1 hour: This action should be taken if there is little to no stratospheric injection and there is evidence that a small tsunami has been generated and the impacts are consistent with a low-level Marine Threat.

(3) Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 3 hours: This action should be taken if there is obvious stratospheric injection consistent with a VEI of 4 and/or there are reliable observations or reports that indicate a tsunami has been generated and the impacts are consistent with a high-level Marine Threat or low-level Land Threat.

(4) Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 6 hours: This action should be taken if there is significant stratospheric injection consistent with a VEI of 5+ and/or there are reliable observations or reports that indicate a catastrophic tsunami has been generated.

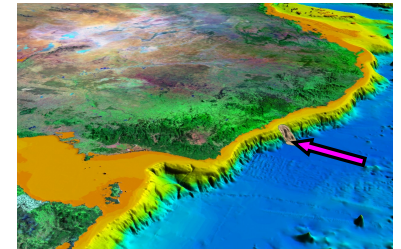
Stratospheric injection	None	None	None	Possible	Definite	Significant
Tsunami NOT observed	Nil	Nil	Nil	1 hour	3 hour	6 hour
Tsunami Observed	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	3 hour	6 hour





## The main area of risk for Australia is a landslide on the continental shelf

If a landslide is identified, then



(1) *Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 1 hour:* This action should be taken if there are reliable observations or reports that indicate a small tsunami has been generated.

(2) *Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 3 hours:* This action should be taken if there are reliable observations or reports that indicate a tsunami has been generated and the impacts are consistent with a low-level Marine Threat.

(3) *Create the event in the DST with a Severity of 6 hours:* This action should be taken if there are reliable observations or reports that indicate a catastrophic tsunami has been generated and the impacts are consistent with a high-level Marine Threat or low-level Land Threat.



## Celestial Impact Tsunamis



Approximate impactor radius	Approximate equivalent earthquake magnitude	Severity level
10m	M6.5	3
20m	M7.0	3
30m	M7.5	3
60m	M8.0	3
110m	M8.5	6
200m	M9.0	6



# Training, Exercises, and Current and Future Work

# Tsunami Training and Competency Framework

**Science:** The [science module](#) is common to NP\* and DSS forecasters. NP forecasters explore a few additional concepts with respect to modelling and seismology. Completion of a quiz ([NP](#) | [DSS](#)) satisfies the assessment requirements for this phase.

**Process:** The process training provides relevant information regarding the SOPs and supports learners through tsunami lessons. Separate online training courses have been created to suit [NP](#) and [DSS](#) forecasters. NP forecasters must also complete the [Decision Support Tool](#) module to use the software effectively for tsunami events. Participation in tsunami exercises may also support skill development during this phase.

**Assessment:** The assessment phase is conducted via workplace observation for NP forecasters every three years and online [Warning Event Simulators](#) for DSS staff every 5 years (manual enrolment required - request by emailing [tsunami\\_training@bom.gov.au](mailto:tsunami_training@bom.gov.au)).

**Maintenance:** Skill maintenance will be achieved through participation in [GA/Bureau joint tsunami exercises](#), self-guided practice (NP) and repeating [Warning Event Simulators](#) (DSS).

\*For the future state of CSG, EPS specialists will offer surge support into NP and will require the same level of learning/development and competency as the NP science officers and tsunami warning leads.

## Learning

### [Tsunami Training Package](#)

Core modules (enrolment key: rootgH):

- [Tsunami Science](#)
- [Tsunami Science Assessment](#) (DSS)
- [Tsunami Warning Process](#) (DSS)
- [Tsunami Process Assessment](#) (DSS)
- [Tsunami Decision Support Tool & 11.2 Upgrade course](#) (NP/EPS)
- [Tsunami Warning Process](#) (NP/EPS)
- [Tsunami Assessment](#) (NP/EPS)

Other resources:

- [COMET modules](#) (search for tsunami)

## Competency Descriptions

NP

- [Science](#) (TsuSciA: 50006169)
- [Process](#) - TWL (TsuProA: 50006171)
- [Process](#) - SO (TsuProB: 50006174)

DSS

- [Science](#) (TsuSciB: 50006172)
- [Process](#) (TsuProD: 50006177)

## Current Plans & Activities

NOC Training & Assessment Plan



# Regular Exercises – Ausnami, IOWave, PacWave, BoM/GA, Comms Tests.





## Current and Future Work

- The Bureau is undertaking a major tsunami decision support tool replacement project.
- The Bureau is developing a future warning framework and capacity to provide impact-based and location specific warnings, in partnership with emergency services and in alignment with the Australian Warning System (AWS). Tsunami is in scope.
  - Need real-time modelling, both in tsunami propagation and inundation, to improve accuracy of tsunami warnings.
- Need more public and emergency services education and engagement activities to raise the current low level of tsunami awareness in Australia.
  - Need to engage the Australian community routinely in tsunami mitigation and participatory planning activities guided by the IOC Tsunami Ready guideline.
- Need to form better partnerships with TV and radio stations (especially commercial).
- Research required to understand the interaction between sea ice and tsunami waves and therefore tsunami impacts on Antarctic stations.





The Bureau  
of Meteorology

## Thank you

Glen Perrin

Bureau of Meteorology

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