

# Tsunami Preparedness in Nauru

Emergency Services Briefing | September 16, 2025

Prepared by Ricky Joram



# Geographic Vulnerability

21

Square kilometers

Total land area

65

Meters elevation

Command Ridge highest point

0.5°

South latitude

Near equatorial location

**Critical exposure:** Most population lives within hundreds of meters of coastline



## Department of Emergency Services – Organizational Structure

Head of Department:

Secretary of Emergency Services - Barrasi Botelanga

- Overall leadership, strategic coordination, inter-agency liaison, and policy oversight.

### Sectoral Divisions (Reporting to the Secretary)

Sector	Lead Role	Primary Functions
National Meteorology & Hydrology Services	Director of Meteorology & Hydrology	Weather forecasting, climate monitoring, hydrological data, early warning systems.
Life Guards	Chief Lifeguard	Coastal safety, drowning prevention, beach patrols, public awareness campaigns.
Ambulance Services	Chief Ambo	Pre-hospital care, patient transport, medical response coordination.
Fire & Rescue Services	Fire Chief	Fire suppression, rescue operations, hazardous material response, fire safety audits.
National Disaster & Resilience Office	Director of Disaster Management	Disaster preparedness, response planning, community resilience, recovery coordination.

# Emergency Response Structure

## Department of NES

Lead disaster response agency

- National Rescue & Fire Services
- Emergency & Ambulance Service
- Meteorology & Hydrology Service
- NDRMO
- Nauru Life-Guards

## National Controller

Secretary of NES coordinates all disaster response



# Tsunami Warning Sources



## Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

**Primary source:** PTWC/NOAA regional advisories and bulletins

PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MAPS inbox x



**ptwc@ptwc.noaa.gov**  
to me ▾

TSUNAMI MESSAGE NUMBER 2  
NWS PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER HONOLULU HI  
0016 UTC WED JUL 30 2025

...PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MESSAGE...

\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*

THIS MESSAGE IS ISSUED FOR INFORMATION ONLY IN SUPPORT OF THE UNESCO/IOC PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING AND MITIGATION SYSTEM AND IS MEANT FOR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN EACH COUNTRY OF THAT SYSTEM.

NATIONAL AUTHORITIES WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ALERT FOR EACH COUNTRY AND MAY ISSUE ADDITIONAL OR MORE REFINED INFORMATION.

\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*

THE TSUNAMI FORECAST IS UPDATED IN THIS MESSAGE.

PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS

- \* MAGNITUDE 8.7
- \* ORIGIN TIME 2325 UTC JUL 29 2025
- \* COORDINATES 52.2 NORTH 160.0 EAST
- \* DEPTH 74 KM / 46 MILES
- \* LOCATION OFF THE EAST COAST OF KAMCHATKA RUSSIA



**Nauru Meteorological Services**  
Published by Joshua Wishua Eobob · July 31 ·

Tsunami Information,

Based on all available data the tsunami is no longer a threat to Nauru.

The general public is advice the tsunami has been cancelled and business as usual.

Source, Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre

The screenshot shows the NOAA National Weather Service U.S. Tsunami Warning System website. The main heading is "Tsunami Advisory". Below it, the earthquake details are listed: Magnitude: 8.8, Depth: 46 mi., Location: 315 miles SW of Bering I., Komandorski. The origin time is 30/07/2025, 11:24:56. The coordinates are Lat: 52.2° N, Lon: 160° E. The website also features a map of the Pacific Ocean showing the tsunami advisory area. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Products/Messages, Tsunami Data, Education/Outreach, Exercises, NOAA Tsunami Program, TsunamiReady, International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC), ITIC Caribbean Office, Tsunami Research, National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Programme, Tsunami Warning Centers, and Follow Us! The bottom of the page has a legend for Warning, Advisory, Watch, Threat, and Earthquake, along with a Map FAQ link.



**Nauru Meteorological Services** updated their status.  
Published by Joshua Wishua Eobob · July 30 ·

Tsunami information,

AN EARTHQUAKE WITH A PRELIMINARY MAGNITUDE OF 8.7 OCCURRED OFF THE EAST COAST OF KAMCHATKA, RUSSIA AT 9:25 AM CHST ON WEDNESDAY JULY 30 2025.

PRECAUTION, TSUNAMI ON WATCH FOR SEA ACTIVITIES FROM DENIG, ANETAN AND MENENG DISTRICT.

NAURU MET WILL INFORM THE PUBLIC FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

SOURCE FROM: PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTRE



# Warning Protocol Steps

01

## Receive

NMHS monitors PTWC bulletins and sea-level gauges

03

## Decide

Secretary for National Emergency Services declares protective action per NDRM Plan



02

## Assess

NMHS Assess threat comparing it to national thresholds.

04

## Disseminate

Multiple channels: SMS, radio, sirens, social media, NTV News.



# Threshold

PTWC Product Type	Earthquake Parameters	Threat Levels (Tsunami Amplitude Indicated for Nauru)	Threatened Coast	Time left for Initial Wave Arrival	NES Alert Level and Recommended action
Tsunami Information Statement	Magnitude of 6.5-6.9 < 100 km depth			2 hours	<b>INFORMATION</b> *Issue Tsunami Information Bulletin * Monitor subsequent PTWC messages
Tsunami Threat Message	Magnitude 7.0 or greater, undersea or very near the sea, and < 100 km depth	< 0.3 m	None	2 hours	<b>INFORMATION</b> *Issue Tsunami Information Bulletin * Monitor subsequent PTWC messages
	Magnitude 7.0 or greater, undersea or very near the sea, and < 100 km depth	0.3 to 1 m	Sections of coast with forecast amplitudes 0.3 to 1 m	2 hours	<b>ADVISORY</b> * Issue Tsunami Advisory Bulletin (people to be stand-by) * Monitor subsequent PTWC messages
	Magnitude 8.0 or greater, undersea or very near the sea, and < 100 km depth	≥ 1 m	Sections of coast with forecast amplitudes ≥ 1 m	2 hours	<b>WARNING</b> *Issue Tsunami Warning Bulletin (people along coasts evacuate)



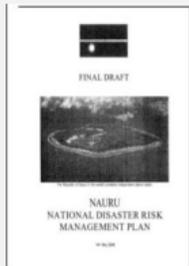
# SOPs



The **National Disaster Risk Management Act (NDRM Act) (2016)** establishes arrangements related to DRM in Nauru. It establishes the key roles and committees for DRM. It was last amended in 2020.



The **National Disaster Risk Management Plan (NDRM Plan) (2008)** operationalises the provisions of the (old) Act. The NDRM Plan needs to be updated to align with the new NDRM Act (2016).



This update is a priority action under the SREM.



The **Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Roadmap (NDCIR) (2019)** details priority actions needed to adapt to and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. Across six priority areas it includes key DRM actions, including in alignment with the NDRM Act.

**RONAdapt (2015)** is the high-level framework outlining Government's disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation priorities, strategies and actions across key sectors.

The SREM provides a mechanism to strengthen and support implementation of the RONAdapt..





**Tubwa.  
Thank you.**

