AUSTRALIAN TSUNAMI NEWSROOM GUIDE



For information about tsunami warnings go to:

www.bom.gov.au/tsunami

This guide is to assist media to communicate tsunami warnings to the Australian public.

- The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC) is the sole authority for issuing accurate and relevant tsunami warning information for Australia and offshore Territories.
- The JATWC provides the most accurate tsunami warning information for Australian communities. Information from other warning sources do not have the same Australian focus and could be misleading.
- Refer to the lead emergency service agencies for tsunami in your State or Territory for information about emergency arrangements and further public notices.

JATWC Products

JATWC Product Timing

Media Broadcast Action

NO THREAT



No Threat Bulletins are issued within 30 mins of the earthquake if there is no tsunami threat to Australia

1. Broadcast the 'No Threat' if referring to the earthquake in the news

TSUNAMI WATCH



Tsunami Watches are issued within 30 mins of an undersea earthquake if there is a potential threat to Australia

- 1. Broadcast the 'Watch' so that people know there is a potential threat
- 2. Standby for updates on threat status either another Watch, a Warning or a Cancellation will be issued

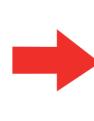
TSUNAMI WARNING Marine Threat



Marine Tsunami Warnings are issued to low lying coastal regions and communities under threat of dangerous ocean conditions EITHER once a tsunami has been confirmed OR if a potential impact to Australia is less than 90 minutes

- 1. Broadcast the Warning issued by the JATWC or the lead emergency agency for tsunami in your State or Territory
- 2. Emphasise potential danger from:
 - strong rips, ocean currents and dangerous waves for people swimming, surfing and boating in coastal waters
- 3. 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



Land Tsunami Warnings are issued to low lying coastal regions and communities under threat of flooding and dangerous ocean conditions EITHER once a tsunami has been confirmed OR if a potential impact to Australia is less than 90 minutes

- 1. Broadcast the Warning issued by the JATWC or the lead emergency agency for tsunami in your State or Territory. Use SEWS as advised
- 2. 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
- 3. Advise people in identified regions to move to higher ground (10m above sea level or 1km inland)

CANCELLATION



Cancellations are issued when the main threat has passed OR if the tsunami threat didn't eventuate

- 1. Broadcast Watch and Warning Cancellations
- 2. Upon cancellation of a confirmed tsunami, advise the Australian public that unusual rips, tides and currents may persist for several hours. Emergency service agencies will advise when it is safe to return to affected areas

*SEWS: the Standard Emergency Warning (audio) Signal is played on public media and used to alert communities to the broadcast of urgent safety messages relating to a major emergency or disaster

The colours represented in this guide correspond to the various product types and threat levels as represented on the web basedTsunamiThreat Map