

County of San Luis Obispo

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, RM. D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5011



JIM GRANT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

News Release

from the County Office of Emergency Services – Four Pages Total

Tsunami Advisory Information for San Luis Obispo County

Contact: Ron Alsop, Emergency Services Manager, (805) 781-1328

February 27, 2010 – San Luis Obispo, CA

A tsunami advisory has been issued for areas of the West Coast of the United States that includes the San Luis Obispo County coastline. There is not a tsunami warning or watch for our coastline.

In the below information, projected arrival time for our area, at Port San Luis Harbor is about 12:35 P.M. Also note that the initial wave may not be the largest and that minor wave fluctuations could continue for several hours.

The below information was issued by the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center, in Palmer, Alaska, at 9:04 A.M. Following the Tsunami Warning Center information is National Weather Service information sent at 8:33 A.M.

Note in the Tsunami Warning Center information that they are projecting a possible 4.6 foot wave for Pismo Beach and the National Weather Service information lists a possible 2 – 3 foot wave for Port San Luis; this may be because as the tsunami continues to cross the Pacific, buoys are able to make measurements as the tsunami passes them, thus possible height estimates may continue to change.

The County Office of Emergency Services and other local agencies are monitoring the situation and urge people to follow the instructions shown below, including staying away from beaches, piers, and marinas.

Weather, tsunami statements, and other emergency type information can be found online at <http://edis.oes.ca.gov/> and <http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/>

Tsunami Advisory

TSUNAMI MESSAGE NUMBER 11
NWS WEST COAST/ALASKA TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER PALMER AK
904 AM PST SAT FEB 27 2010

...A TSUNAMI ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT WHICH INCLUDES THE
COASTAL AREAS OF CALIFORNIA - OREGON - WASHINGTON - BRITISH

Continues

COLUMBIA AND ALASKA FROM THE CALIFORNIA-MEXICO BORDER TO
ATTU ALASKA...

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS - A TSUNAMI HAS BEEN GENERATED WHICH COULD IMPACT THE
ADVISORY REGIONS LISTED IN THE HEADLINE. PERSONS IN LOW-LYING COASTAL
AREAS SHOULD BE ALERT TO INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR LOCAL EMERGENCY
OFFICIALS. EVACUATIONS ARE ONLY ORDERED BY EMERGENCY RESPONSE AGENCIES.

- PERSONS IN TSUNAMI ADVISORY AREAS SHOULD MOVE OUT OF THE
WATER... OFF THE BEACH AND OUT OF HARBORS AND MARINAS.

THIS MESSAGE IS BASED ON EARTHQUAKE DATA... OBSERVED TSUNAMI
AMPLITUDES... HISTORICAL INFORMATION AND FORECAST MODELS.

A TSUNAMI HAS BEEN OBSERVED AT THE FOLLOWING SITES

LOCATION	LAT	LON	TIME	AMPL
IQUIQUE CHILE	20.2S	70.2W	0851UTC	0.30M/1.0FT
ANTOFAGASTA CHILE	23.3S	70.4W	0956UTC	0.46M/1.4FT
ANCUD CHILE	41.9S	74.3W	0943UTC	0.34M/1.1FT
CORRAL CHILE	39.9S	73.4W	1012UTC	1.54M/5.2FT
CALLAO LA PUNTA PERU	12.1S	77.2W	1029UTC	0.66M/2.2FT
BALTRA ECUADOR	0.4S	90.3W	1430UTC	0.45M/1.5FT
QUEPO COSTA RICA	9.4N	84.2W	1417UTC	0.27M/0.9FT
ACAPULCO MEXICO	16.8N	99.9W	1549UTC	0.34M/1.1FT
SANTA CRUZ GALAPAGOS E	0.5S	90.2W	1241UTC	1.07M/3.5FT
MANZANILLO MEXICO	19.0N	104.2W	1636UTC	0.23M/0.7FT

TSUNAMI FORECASTS AT SELECTED POINTS -

LA JOLLA CA	0.8M/2.6 FT	LOS ANGELES CA	0.8M/2.6 FT
MAILBU CA	1.0M/3.3 FT	PISMO BEACH CA	1.4M/4.6 FT
HALF MOON BAY CA	1.0M/3.3 FT	SAN FRANCISCO CA	0.2M/0.7 FT
HUMBOLDT BAY CA	0.4M/1.3FT	CRESCENT CITY CA	0.6M/2.0 FT
PORT ORFORD OR	0.3M/1.0 FT	MOCLIPS WA	0.4M/1.3 FT
TOFINO BC	0.5M/1.7 FT	SITKA AK	0.4M/1.3 FT
SEWARD AK	0.4M/1.3 FT	KODIAK AK	0.7M/2.3 FT

WAVE HEIGHTS ARE EXPECTED TO PEAK APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS
AFTER INITIAL ARRIVAL.

TIME - TIME OF MEASUREMENT

AMPL - TSUNAMI AMPLITUDES ARE MEASURED RELATIVE TO NORMAL SEA LEVEL.
IT IS ...NOT... CREST-TO-TROUGH WAVE HEIGHT.

VALUES ARE GIVEN IN BOTH METERS(M) AND FEET(FT).

PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS

MAGNITUDE - 8.8

TIME - 2134 AKST FEB 26 2010

2234 PST FEB 26 2010

0634 UTC FEB 27 2010

LOCATION - 36.1 SOUTH 72.6 WEST

- NEAR COAST OF CENTRAL CHILE

DEPTH - 19 MILES/31 KM

THE PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER IN EWA BEACH HAWAII WILL
ISSUE MESSAGES FOR HAWAII AND OTHER AREAS OF THE PACIFIC
OUTSIDE THE STATES AND PROVINCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED.

Continues

TSUNAMI ADVISORIES MEAN THAT A TSUNAMI CAPABLE OF PRODUCING STRONG CURRENTS OR WAVES DANGEROUS TO PERSONS IN OR VERY NEAR THE WATER IS IMMINENT OR EXPECTED. SIGNIFICANT WIDESPREAD INUNDATION IS NOT EXPECTED FOR AREAS UNDER AN ADVISORY. CURRENTS MAY BE

HAZARDOUS TO SWIMMERS... BOATS... AND COASTAL STRUCTURES AND MAY CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE INITIAL WAVE ARRIVAL.

THIS MESSAGE WILL BE UPDATED IN 60 MINUTES OR SOONER IF THE SITUATION WARRANTS. THE TSUNAMI MESSAGE WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. REFER TO THE INTERNET SITE WCATWC.ARH.NOAA.GOV FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Below is information sent by the National Weather Service Oxnard at 8:33 A.M.

Description: UPDATE THIS IS NOT A TSUNAMI WARNING OR TSUNAMI WATCH. REPEAT... THIS IS NOT A TSUNAMI WARNING OR TSUNAMI WATCH. PORT SAN LUIS HARBOR...AT 1235 PM PST. SANTA BARBARA HARBOR...AT 1231 PM PST. SANTA MONICA HARBOR....AT 1225 PM PST. SAN PEDRO HARBOR.....AT 1215 PM PST. ...NEW INFO... THE TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER IN PALMER ALASKA HAS RECEIVED THE LATEST NOAA DART BUOY INFORMATION TO HELP UPDATE WAVE HEIGHT INFORMATION. LATEST MODEL DATA CONTINUES TO INDICATE POTENTIAL TSUNAMI WAVE HEIGHTS TO RANGE FROM TWO FEET TO JUST BELOW THREE FEET ACROSS SOME COASTAL AREAS. PEAK WAVE HEIGHTS WILL LIKELY OCCUR AROUND 2 HOURS AFTER THE INITIAL WAVE ARRIVAL. THERE WILL BE MORE UPDATES AS MORE DATA BECOMES AVAILABLE. ...END OF NEW INFO... THESE MINOR WAVE FLUCTUATIONS COULD CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL HOURS. THE INITIAL WAVE MAY NOT BE THE LARGEST. MARINERS IN WATER DEEPER THAN 600 FEET SHOULD NOT BE

AFFECTED BY THE TSUNAMI. THE TSUNAMI ADVISORY IS A RESULT OF AN EARTHQUAKE WITH A PRELIMINARY MAGNITUDE OF 8.8 ON THE RICHTER SCALE THAT OCCURRED AT 1034 PM PST. THE EARTHQUAKE LOCATION WAS NEAR OF CHILE.

Instructions: HOWEVER... A MINOR TSUNAMI MAY BE RECORDED IN SOME AREAS OF THE COAST WHICH COULD PRODUCE DANGEROUS CURRENTS AND SURGES IN HARBORS AND BAYS. PEOPLE ARE ADVISED TO STAY AWAY FROM THE BEACHES AND MARINAS. WAVE HEIGHTS AND CURRENTS ARE AMPLIFIED BY IRREGULAR SHORELINES AND ARE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT. WAVE FLUCTUATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF THE ESTIMATED ARRIVAL TIMES LISTED BELOW: TSUNAMI ADVISORIES MEAN THAT A TSUNAMI CAPABLE OF PRODUCING

Continues

STRONG CURRENTS OR WAVES DANGEROUS TO PERSONS IN OR NEAR THE WATER IS IMMINENT OR EXPECTED. STAY TUNED TO YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE AND NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. THIS PRODUCT WILL BE UPDATED AS NEW INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

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