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1. General: This Regional Supplement describes responsibilities and provides guidance to National Weather Service (NWS) Western Region (WR) Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) with coastal areas of responsibility. WR WFOs with coastal areas of responsibility are responsible for planning for and taking appropriate action when there is a threat of a tsunami, including local area dissemination of tsunami watches, warnings, and advisories from the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC/ATWC). Written instructions cannot address every situation. Operational personnel must exercise initiative and professional judgement to minimize risk to public safety and property in instances when written instructions do not provide appropriate guidance.

Coastal WFOs in WR are also responsible for ensuring the readiness of office staff and systems through routine operational drills, for coordinating community outreach activities to increase tsunami hazard awareness, and to assist in emergency preparedness for tsunami events (e.g. through promotion of the TsunamiReady program). State and local emergency management officials are responsible for local evacuation plans and procedures. WFOs should cooperate with these agencies and, where possible, aid in warning dissemination. Specific local tsunami operational procedures will be included in WFO Station Duty Manuals.

2. Tsunami Products: The WC/ATWC, located at Palmer, Alaska, is the official source of all tsunami watches, warnings, and advisories for Washington, Oregon, and California. If needed, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), located in Hawaii, has operational back-up responsibility for WC/ATWC. Tsunami Watch, Warning, Advisory, and Information Statement products are described at: <http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/Products/msgdefs.htm>. Tsunami product dissemination from WC/ATWC is described at: <http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/Products/messagesumm-nolink.htm>. Voice announcement of tsunami watches, warnings, and advisories are also normally conducted over the National Warning System (NAWAS).

2.1. Tsunami Watches and Warnings (AWIPS product ID: TSUWCA): Tsunami watches and warnings will be given top priority. Rapid, accurate, and efficient dissemination of this information within WFO's designated areas of geographical responsibility is critical (including marine zones). In accordance with local WFO procedures and state/local Emergency Alert System (EAS) plans. WFOs may prepare and broadcast tsunami watches and warnings via NOAA Weather Radio (NWR), including appropriate SAME codes.

Minimum information for broadcast:

- a. Effective area(s) for watches/warnings
- b. Time, location, and magnitude of tsunami-generating earthquake
- c. Estimated times of arrival of initial tsunami waves at well-known geographical points within the WFOs area of responsibility (as provided by WC/ATWC in issued products or on the WC/ATWC web site), as needed.

2.2. Updates to Tsunami Watches and Warnings: WFOs will follow similar procedures as outlined in paragraph 2.1 (above) when WC/ATWC issues updated Tsunami Watches and Warnings.

2.3. Tsunami Advisories (AWIPS product ID: TSUWCA): Information contained in Tsunami Advisory products from WC/ATWC may be broadcast on NWR, particularly when there is a possibility of hazardous conditions associated with the expected tsunami event (including selected marine zones, as necessary). Broadcast areas and message content will be locally-determined, according to the situation.

2.4. Local Information Statements: Following issuance of Tsunami Watches, Warnings, and/or Advisories, coastal WFOs should issue local information statements (using the Special Weather Statement (AWIPS product ID: SPS)). Additionally, WFOs should issue updated local statements at a sufficient frequency (after WC/ATWC watch/warning/advisory bulletin updates) to satisfy users' needs to follow-up information. Local information statements supplement Tsunami Watches, Warnings, and/or Advisories and will not contradict official information provided by WC/ATWC. Information contained in these statements should be based on WC/ATWC products, conference calls (between WC/ATWC, WFOs, and state warning points), and/or reliable local information. As a minimum, these statements should include Tsunami Watches, Warnings, and/or Advisories in effect for each WFOs area of responsibility, and be locally specific as much as possible with respect to other related information.

2.5. "ALL CLEAR": The WC/ATWC is responsible for issuing Tsunami Watch, Warning, and Advisory cancellation bulletins (using TSUWCA product). However, local emergency management authorities are ultimately responsible for providing the final "ALL CLEAR" message.

3. Tsunami Information Statements (AWIPS product ID: TIBWCA) and Tsunami Seismic Information Statements (AWIPS product ID: EQIWOC). Information contained in these statements may be selectively broadcast in Local Information Statements, via NWR, if needed, according the situation and local requirements.

4. Acknowledgment of Test products: Rapid dissemination of tsunami watch/warning/advisory information is a top priority. Therefore, WFOs will not acknowledge (via AWIPS) tsunami watch/warning/advisory products. However, WFOs should acknowledge monthly and special “test” products issued by WC/ATWC, using the AWIPS product ID **TMAXXX** (where “XXX” = WFO identifier). In the Acknowledgment message, provide time of receipt (UTC), WFO name (or 3-letter WFO ID), email address of the responding individual, and WFO phone number.