

LOCAL TSUNAMI

A local tsunami can be caused by a major earthquake or one that goes on for over 1 minute. They can also be caused by a landslide under the sea or one that goes into the sea. Also if you are on the coast and the sea level suddenly goes down then you should head inland or up immediately. If a Tsunami is generated it will probably arrive between 20-30 minutes after an earthquake. If you see the sea suddenly recedes then you should get about 3-5 minutes to get inland.

You will need to make your own decision about evacuating to a safe area as it is extremely unlikely there will be any warnings.

The only warning you will get is a natural warning - you may feel a major or a long duration (over one minute) earthquake or you may see the sea doing something you have never seen before. This will be your only warning to leave. If no Tsunami is generated it should be safe to return after one hour.

What to do:

- If you are inland from the local event area shown on the map you can stay where you are, but keep a close eye on what the sea is doing. If you are inside the Local event line then you should get above the line. Suggested safe sites are:

For Hicks Bay township residents - Hicks Bay Hill or at least 2km up SH35 towards Potaka. Those who live at the wharf end – Matakaoa Stn Woolshed and Onepoto residents should head up Hospital Hill either on foot behind the houses or by car.

You need to talk to the Kura to find out their plans for evacuating the children – DO NOT wait until the earthquake happens to find out.

- There is a risk from rivers so make sure you stay well clear of the banks. The threat will be greatly reduced from about a kilometre upstream.
- Take your getaway kit. Items for this are listed in the Telephone Directory.
- If you do evacuate to somewhere you can listen to the radio or from your car listen to RNP 585AM.

Keep listening to your radio for information updates

THERE WILL BE NO OFFICIAL WARNINGS FOR A LOCALISED TSUNAMI IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET YOURSELF/FAMILY TO SAFETY

DISTANT TSUNAMI

A distant Tsunami is caused when a major earthquake occurs in another region of the Pacific, in our case this is the West Coast of South America. There will be warnings issued for these events, as there is usually many hours (about 11 hours in most cases) between the earthquake and the arrival of a tsunami. There will be a declared Civil Defence Emergency if evacuations are necessary.

What To Do:

- Make sure you know whether you are in the area that will be evacuated, see Distant Event shaded area on map over, or if you are unsure ask your Civil Defence contact. (see last yellow page in centre of phone book)
- Police, Fire and your Civil Defence Team will initiate the evacuation by door knocking. Please do exactly as they say, there will be no need to panic as you will have plenty of time.
- You should also listen to the radio (RNP 585AM) and follow the direction of the Police and Civil Defence. If you hear information that conflicts with what you have been told by Police or Civil Defence – obey the information you are given by them.
- It is possible you will be evacuated for up to 8 hours.
- You should plan to go to family and friends that are outside of the evacuation area or to the Hicks Bay Motel if you have nowhere else to go.
- If you have kids at the Kura there should be plenty of time to pick them up or arrange for a family member to.
- Continue to listen to the radio to receive information updates.

Remember to make plans with your whanau before an emergency. Make sure all family members know where you will go and who will care for the elderly or those in need in the wider community.

* People camping will have time to pack up and go home or move to a safe area inland.