

LOCAL TSUNAMI

A local tsunami can be caused by a major earthquake similar to the one experienced in 2007) or any earthquake 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. If you are on the beach and the sea level rapidly recedes 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 the sea suddenly recedes then you should get about 3-5 minutes to get inland.

Do not go down to the sea after an earthquake too see if it recedes

You will need to make your own decision about evacuating to a safe area as there will be no formal warnings.

The only warning you will get is a natural warning – if you feel a major or any 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 two hours, if one is generated you will need to wait for the all clear.

What to do/info:

- You need to pre plan an escape route, preferably one that does not require use of a vehicle, especially if you are fit and able bodied.
- If everyone tries to evacuate by vehicle it is more than likely there will be traffic problems and you may find yourself trapped in your vehicle in the danger area.
- If you can get onto the hills behind Wainui and get a view of the ocean you do not need to gain too much height as you will see any surge coming from some distance or at night you will hear it. If this does occur then you can go higher if you are concerned. When the first wave comes ashore it soon slows to walking speed, but be aware that if there is a second wave its path is lubricated by the first and it moves considerable faster and will potentially go further inland. Modelling has shown that it is unlikely any tsunami will cross the State Highway.
- Take a portable radio (90.9FM or 98.9FM) and a torch if it is dark.
- Before returning you should wait for the official all clear, but generally if no wave has arrived two hours after the earthquake it is safe to return home.
- The school has a plan to keep your kids safe during school hours.
- If you can take your getaway kit. Items for this are listed in the Telephone Directory.

Keep listening to your radio for information updates

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

DISTANT TSUNAMI

A distant Tsunami is caused when an 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 are many hours (about 14 - 11 in most cases) between the earthquake and the arrival of a tsunami. There will be a declared 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 the map. This is only the beach front sections south of the Okitu stream.
- Elsewhere you should stay well clear of the beach.
- 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 listen to the radio (90.9FM or 98.9FM) 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 24 hours.
- You should plan to go to family and friends that are outside of the evacuation area or go to Te Poho O Rawiri Marae.
- If you have kids at the School or the Preschool there will be plenty of time to pick them up or arrange for a family member too.
- Continue to listen to the radio to receive information updates.
- If you can take your getaway kit. Items for this are listed in the Telephone Directory.

Remember to make plans with your family 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.