

Commission







UNESCO/IOC – NOAA ITIC Training Program in Hawaii (ITP-TEWS Chile)

TSUNAMI EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS
AND THE PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER (PTWC) ENHANCED PRODUCTS
TSUNAMI EVACUATION PLANNING AND UNESCO IOC TSUNAMI READY PROGRAMME
19-30 August 2024, Valparaiso, Chile

A Not Too Technical Introduction To PTWC Operations

Stuart A. Weinstein NOAA/NWS/PTWC







General TWC SOP during an Event

0. EQ!!! - Digital Alarm - Duty Staff paged

- Detect and Analyze Large Earthquake
- Determine Tsunami Hazard based on Pre-Determined Criteria
- 3. Issue Initial Message
- 4. Further Seismic Analyses
- 5. Detect and Analyze Tsunami Signals
- 6. Re-evaluate Tsunami Hazard
- 7. Issue Additional Message
- 8. Repeat Steps 4-7 until Threat Passed
- 9. Cancellation or Final Message

BASIC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

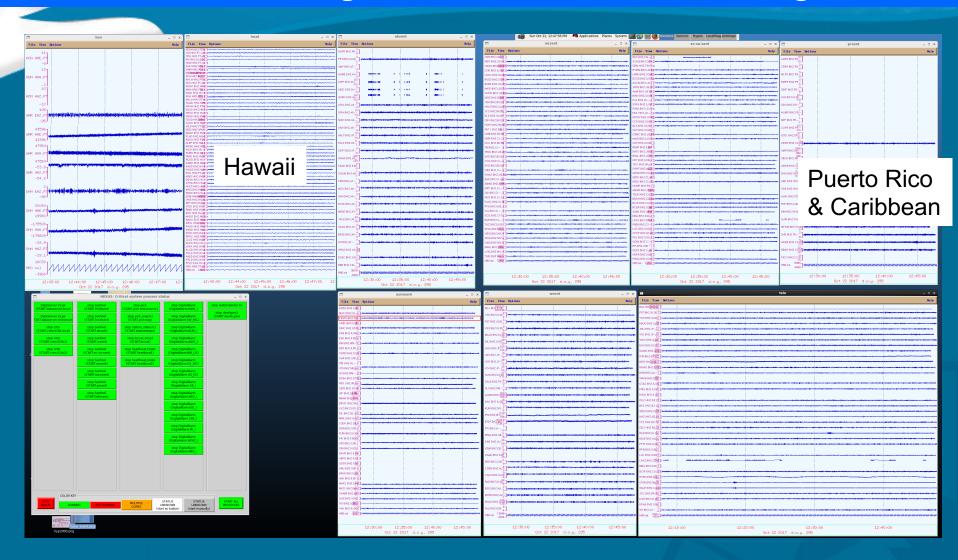
- SEISMIC DATA COLLECTION,
 MONITORING, PROCESSING & ANALYSES
- SEA-LEVEL DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, PROCESSING & ANALYSES
- TSUNAMI FORECASTING
- MESSAGE CREATION & DISSEMINATION



Global Seismic Processing



Select Seismograms from Different Regions



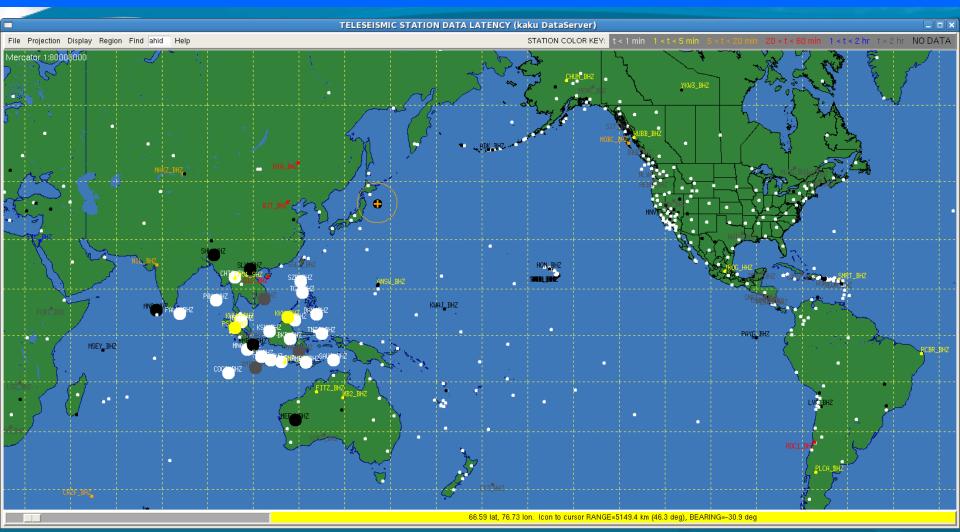
Broadband Seismometer Distribution NEIC HVO Menlo **AEIC IDA IRIS NTWC CNSN GFZ ERI UCB GAU GNZ RSNC GEOscope PRSN ORSnet UNAM CTBTO FUNVSIS** -7.98 lat, 24.97 lon. Icon to cursor RANGE=11529.9 km (103.8 deg), BEARING=-85.3 deg Cal Tech LDO

More than 630 Stations!

UCHILE

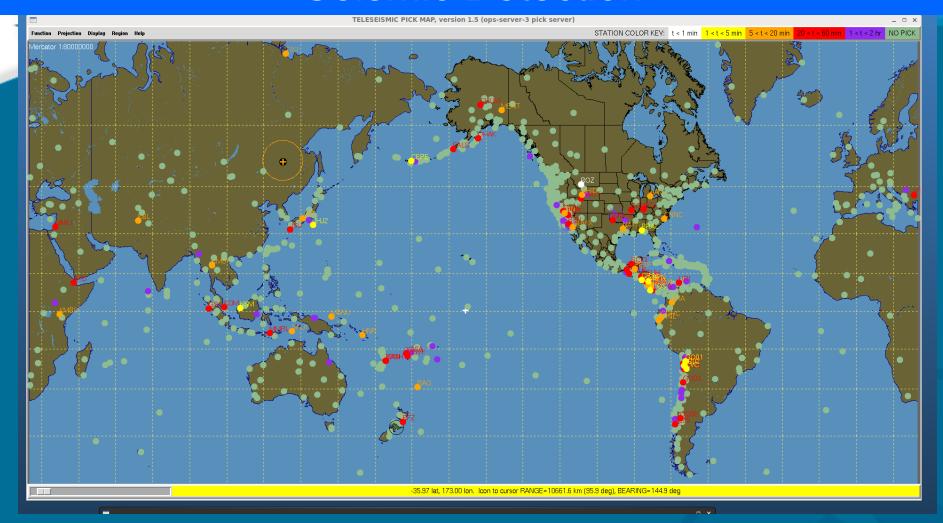
UWash

Broadband Seismometer Distribution

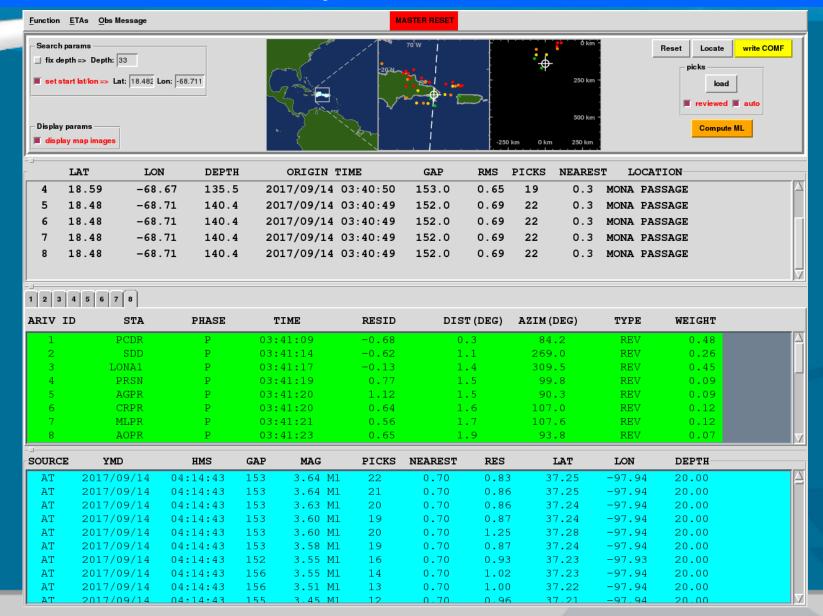


The large dots are the stations involved in the East Indian Ocean Alarm region. PTWC has 14 such alarm regions.

Seismic Detection



Earthquake Location

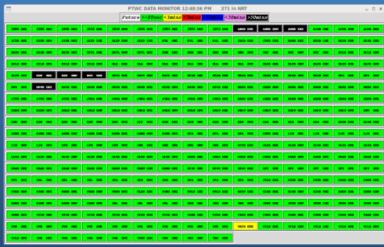


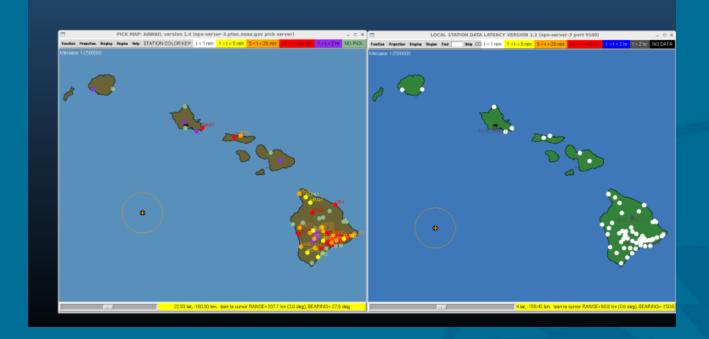
Hawaii Seismic Data Processing

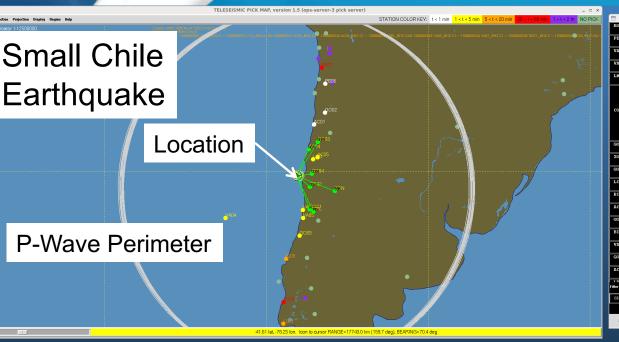




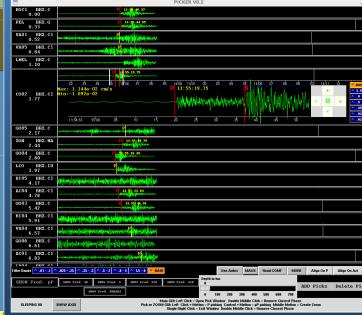
Hawaii Seismic Data Processing





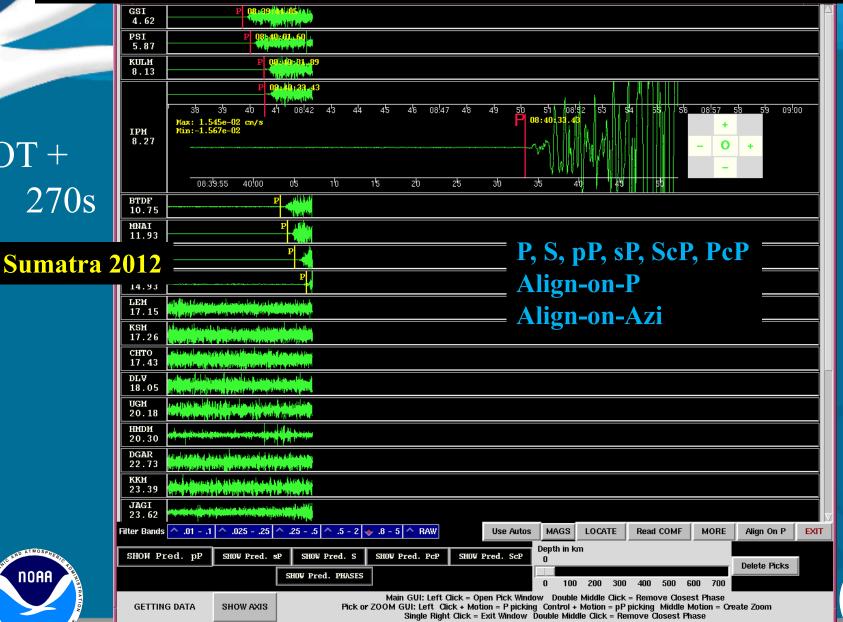








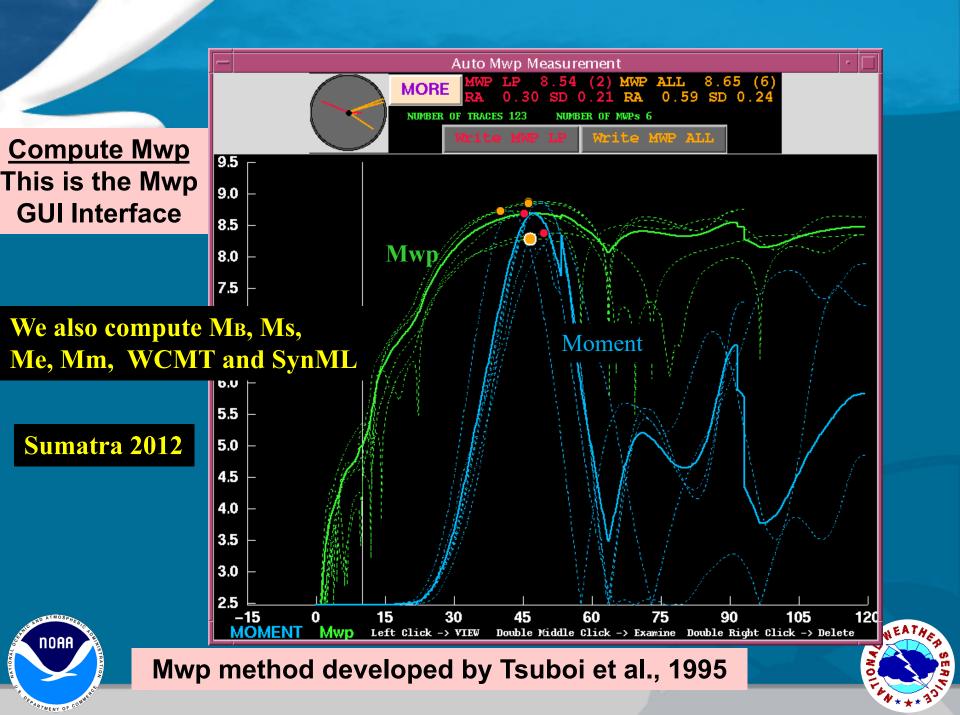
Interactive Phase Picker





OT +









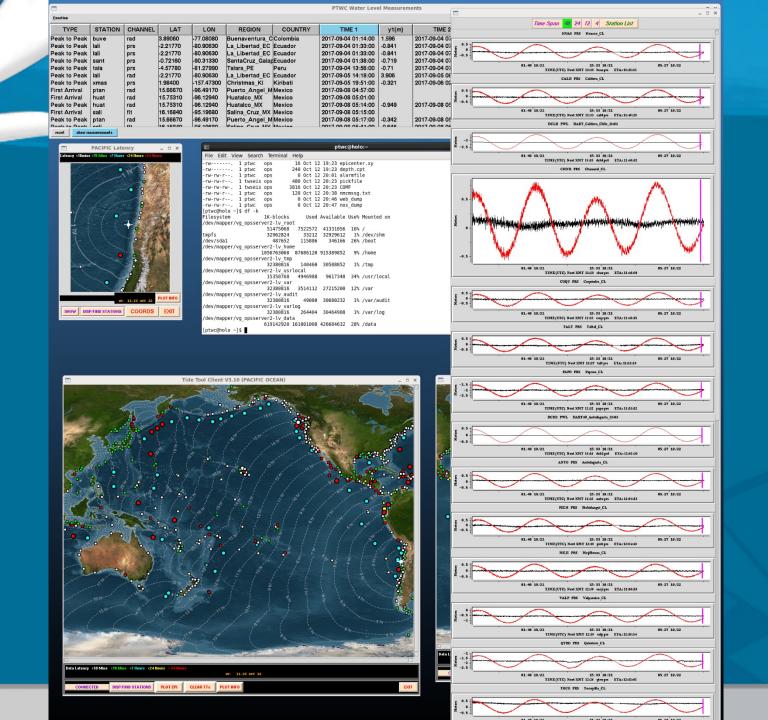
BASIC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

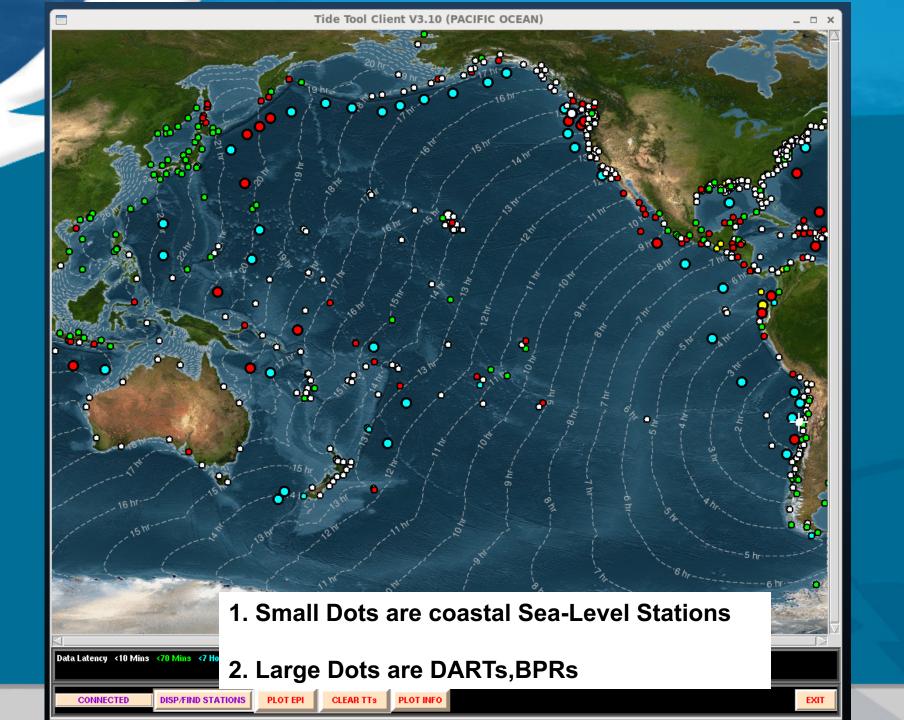
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Global Sea-Level Processing Desktop







Coastal Sea-Level Stations:

- 1. Situated in shallow water
- 2. Typically installed along piers.
- 3. Usually first to detect tsunami
- 4. Provide "facts on the ground"
- 5. Lots of them.

CHANNEL 32



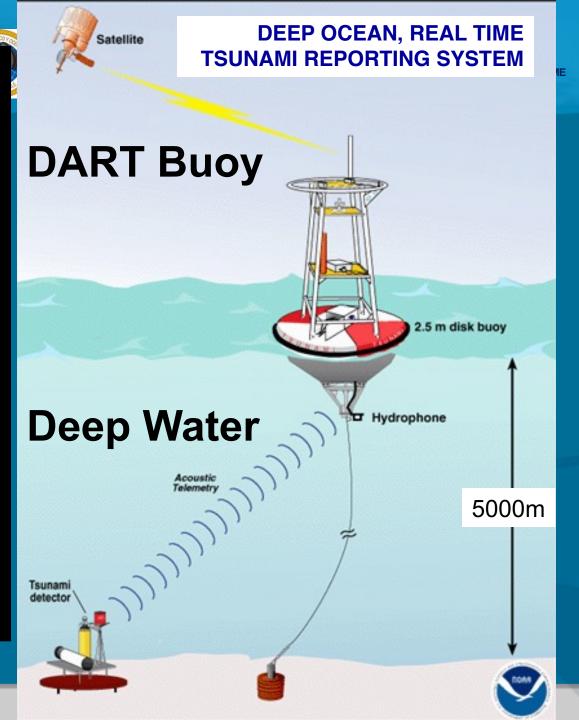




Downloaded at Wallops Island VA/USA and forwarded to the US TWCs and Met. Offices.

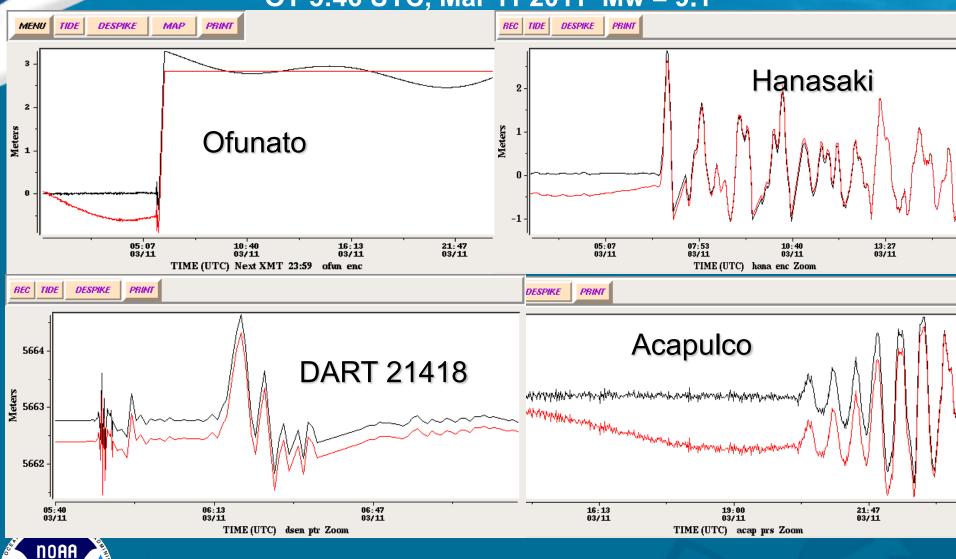
The tsunami signal is detected by a pressure sensor on the ocean floor. That signal is relayed by acoustic telemetry to the buoy. The buoy in turn transmits the signal via satellite back to the warning centers.

Can measure changes in sea-level as small as 1mm!



Tohoku Tsunami Marigrams

OT 5:46 UTC, Mar 11 2011 Mw = 9.1



DEPARTMENT OF COM

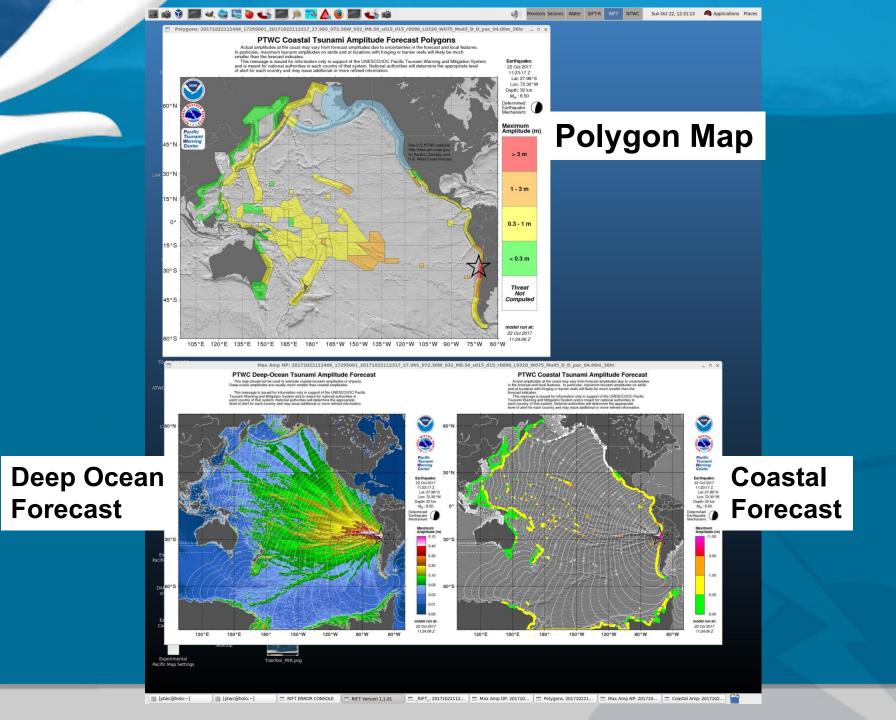
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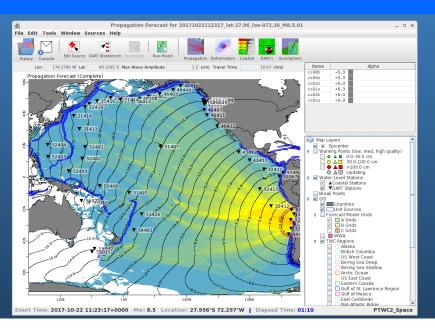


RIFT TSUNAMI FORECASTING DESKTOP

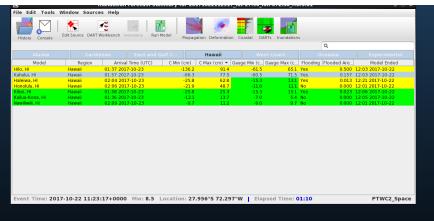


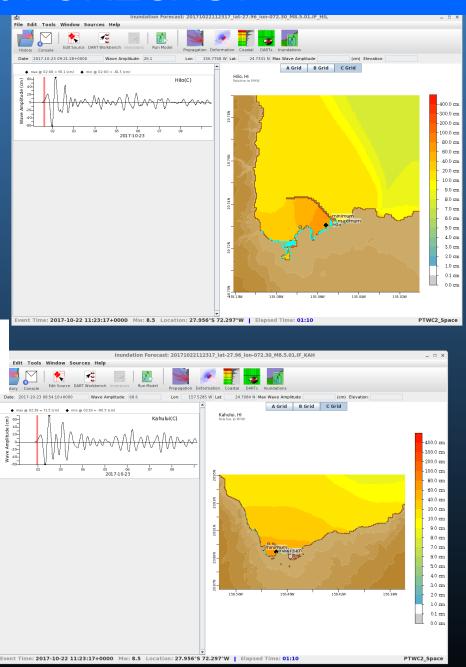


SIFT TSUNAMI FORECAST



Uses a more complicated algorithm To model the effects along the shore





BASIC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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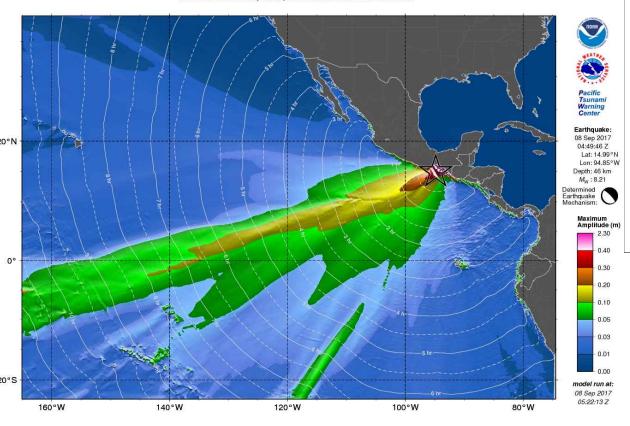


Graphical Product: Deep-Ocean Forecast

PTWC Deep-Ocean Tsunami Amplitude Forecast

This map should not be used to estimate coastal tsunami amplitudes or impacts. Deep-ocean amplitudes are usually much smaller than coastal amplitudes.

This message is issued for information only in support of the UNESCO/IOC Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and is meant for national authorities in each country of that system. National authorities will determine the appropriate level of alert for each country and may issue additional or more refined information.



- Tsunami Travel Time contours
- Color range scaled so red / white show maxima
- Shaded textures show energy distribution





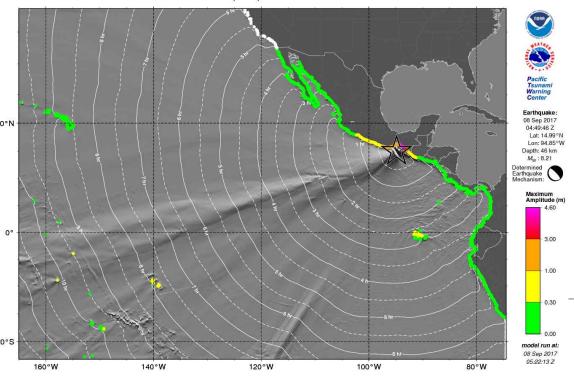
Graphical Product: Coastal Forecast



PTWC Coastal Tsunami Amplitude Forecast

Actual amplitudes at the coast may vary from forecast amplitudes due to uncertainties in the forecast and local features. In particular, maximum Isunami amplitudes on atolls and at locations with fringing or barrier reefs will likely be much smaller than the forecast indicates.

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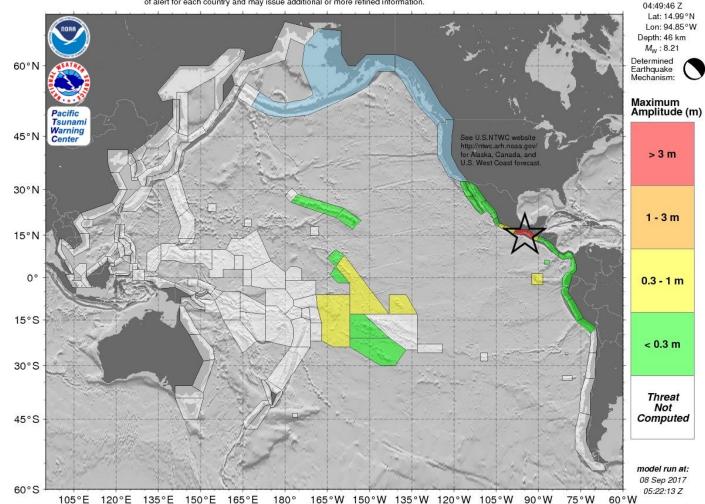
- Green's Law used to propagate off-shore, deepocean to coast
- Tsunami Travel Time contours
- Tsunami Wave Amplitudes at designated coastal forecast points (Green's Law)
- Shaded textures show energy distribution
- Pacific-wide, sub-region plots

Graphical Product: Forecast Polygon

PTWC Coastal Tsunami Amplitude Forecast Polygons

Actual amplitudes at the coast may vary from forecast amplitudes due to uncertainties in the forecast and local features. In particular, maximum tsunami amplitudes on atolls and at locations with fringing or barrier reefs will likely be much smaller than the forecast indicates.

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 Threat level for designated forecast zones (based on geographical, geopolitical)

Earthquake:

08 Sep 2017

 Threat level for polygon based on largest coastal amplitude in polygon

Current Procedures, Products (As of Oct. 2014)

- Base threat on forecast models, not on pre-determined magnitude threshold (can also apply to local tsunamis)
- Initial Products:
 - Forecast based on preliminary earthquake parameters (hypocenter, magnitude)
 - Issued in < 7 min, so helpful for local threat</p>
- Later improved forecasts constrained by earthquake mechanism (WCMT) and sea level readings
- No Alert levels. Instead, 3 THREAT LEVELS based on maximum forecast wave amplitudes:
 - 0.3 to less than 1 m

Words like Warning/Watch no longer used

- 1 to less than 3 m
- 3 m or more
- Other: Forecast not yet computed
- No Threat 0 to less than 0.3 m



Public Text message – Threat Message

(Mw >= 7.1, Earthquake shallow)

1st Message

- Threat
- Take Action
- EQ-based

PTWC guidance information to Country TWFP/NTWC

First Product just based on Earthquake Magnitude, Location, Depth and Distance

TSUNAMI MESSAGE NUMBER 1 NWS PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER EWA BEACH HI 0454 UTC FRI SEP 8 2017

..PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MESSAGE...

**** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE ****

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NATIONAL AUTHORITIES WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ALERT FOR EACH COUNTRY AND MAY ISSUE ADDITIONAL OR MORE REFINED INFORMATION.

**** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE ****

PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS

* MAGNITUDE 8.0

- * ORIGIN TIME 0449 UTC SEP 8 2017
- * COORDINATES 14.9 NORTH 94.0 WEST
- * DEPTH 33 KM / 20 MILES
- * LOCATION OFF THE COAST OF CHIAPAS MEXICO

EVALUATION

- * AN EARTHQUAKE WITH A PRELIMINARY MAGNITUDE OF 8.0 OCCURRED OFF THE COAST OF CHIAPAS, MEXICO AT 0449 UTC ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8 2017.
- * BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS... WIDESPREAD HAZARDOUS TSUNAMI WAVES ARE POSSIBLE.

TSUNAMI THREAT FORECAST

* HAZARDOUS TSUNAMI WAVES FROM THIS FARTHOUAKE ARE POSSIBLE

Public Text message – Threat Message

2nd-3rd Message

- Threat
- Take Action
- Wave Forecast

PTWC guidance information to Country TWFP/NTWC

These Products based on Tsunami Forecast and/or Sea-Level info.

TSUNAMI MESSAGE NUMBER 2 NWS PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER EWA BEACH HI 0524 UTC FRI SEP 8 2017

...PTWC TSUNAMI THREAT MESSAGE...

**** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE ****

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**** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE **** NOTICE ****

THE TSUNAMI FORECAST IS UPDATED IN THIS MESSAGE.

PRELIMINARY EARTHQUAKE PARAMETERS

- * MAGNITUDE 8.2 * ORIGIN TIME 0449 UTC SEP 8 2017
- * COORDINATES 14.9 NORTH 94.0 WEST
- * DEPTH 33 KM / 20 MILES
- * LOCATION OFF THE COAST OF CHIAPAS MEXICO

EVALUATION

- * AN EARTHQUAKE WITH A PRELIMINARY MAGNITUDE OF 8.2 OCCURRED OFF THE COAST OF CHIAPAS, MEXICO AT 0449 UTC ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8 2017.
- * BASED ON ALL AVAILABLE DATA... HAZARDOUS TSUNAMI WAVES ARE FORECAST FOR SOME COASTS.

TSUNAMI THREAT FORECAST...UPDATED

Tohoku Timeline Video





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Muchas Gracias!

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