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Public Information Statement 20-09  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
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FROM: Mike Angove, Chief (acting)  
NWS Marine, Tropical, and Tsunami Services Branch

SUBJECT: National Tsunami Warning Center Routine Communications Tests for the West Coast and Alaska Coast to take place on March 12, 2020

The National Weather Service's (NWS) National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) and coastal NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFO) will perform routine monthly tsunami communication tests in order to ensure end-to-end readiness of NWS dissemination software and hardware on Thursday, March 12, 2020 for Alaska and West Coast states.

The intended recipients of these communication tests include: designated national focal points, state/territorial warning points, coastal WFOs, U.S. Coast Guard, and critical military dissemination points.

Each test message will be clearly identified as such, and will be consistent with the product changes implemented by [Service Change Notice 18-94, "Changes to Valid Time Event Codes \(VTEC\) and Event Tracking Numbers \(ETN\) for Domestic Tsunami Test Products \(Effective April 1, 2019\)."](#)

VTEC codes for the test messages will start with the /T fixed identifier (versus /O for operational messages). To provide additional assurance that a test message is not inadvertently distributed as an actual Warning/Advisory/Watch product, Event Tracking Numbers (ETNs) for the test messages will begin with 9 as the leading digit of the four character code.

The text products affected by routine monthly tsunami communication testing are the national tsunami products issued under the following AWIPS Product Identifiers (PIL) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Identifiers (ID):

NTWC Product	AWIPS PIL	WMO ID
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Segmented Tsunami W/W/A for West Coast/BC/Alaska	TSUWCA	WEPA41
Public Tsunami W/W/A for West Coast/BC/Alaska	TSUAK1	WEAK51

Routine tsunami communications testing will continue monthly. WFOs participating in the national monthly tsunami communications test are listed below by NWS Region:

NWS Alaska Region  
Anchorage, AK (AFC)  
Juneau, AK (AJK)

NWS Western Region  
Seattle/Tacoma, WA (SEW)  
Portland, OR (PQR)  
Medford, OR (MFR)  
Eureka, CA (EKA)  
San Francisco, CA (MTR)  
Los Angeles, CA (LOX)  
San Diego, CA (SGX)

For more information, please contact:

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