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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 20-06  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
320 PM EDT Mon Jan 13 2020

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPORT  
              Other NWS partners and NWS employees

FROM:       Darren Wright, 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 January 16, 2020

The 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, January 16, 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.  
[https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn18-94vtec\\_tsunami.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdfs/scn18-94vtec_tsunami.pdf)

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 (ETN) 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	TSUAK1	WEAK51

for West Coast/BC/Alaska

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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National Service Change Notices are online at:  
<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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