

**SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SEATTLE WA
918 AM PST SAT FEB 27 2010**

...A TSUNAMI ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR THE NORTHERN AND CENTRAL WASHINGTON COAST...

THERE IS NO TSUNAMI WATCH OR WARNING IN EFFECT FOR THE WASHINGTON COAST. REPEAT...THERE IS NO TSUNAMI WATCH OR WARNING IN EFFECT.

A POWERFUL 8.8 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE OCCURRED AT 1034 PM PDT FRIDAY NEAR THE CENTRAL COAST OF CHILE. IT HAS GENERATED A TSUNAMI WAVE...WHICH IS NOW SPREADING OUT ACROSS THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE FIRST TSUNAMI WAVES ARE EXPECTED TO REACH THE WASHINGTON COAST BETWEEN 250 PM AND 310 PM PST THIS AFTERNOON. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ESTIMATED ARRIVAL TIMES OF THE FIRST WAVES.

SEASIDE OR.....246 PM PST
WESTPORT WA.....257 PM PST
NEAH BAY WA.....307 PM PST

THE LARGEST TSUNAMI WAVES ARE EXPECTED TWO HOURS AFTER THE FIRST ARRIVAL.

THE WAVES ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE LARGE ENOUGH TO CAUSE COASTAL FLOODING ALONG THE WASHINGTON COAST. HOWEVER...SOME COASTAL AREAS COULD EXPERIENCE DANGEROUS CURRENTS AND SURGES IN HARBORS AND BAYS. FORECAST TSUNAMI WAVE AMPLITUDES FOLLOW.

LONG BEACH WA.....0.46 FT
WESTPORT.....0.78 FT
MOCLIPS.....1.27 FT
NEAH BAY.....0.65 FT
PORT ANGELES.....0.33 FT
BELLINGHAM.....0.46 FT
EVERETT.....0.13 FT
SEATTLE-PIER 48...0.13 FT

THE MINIMUM WAVE HEIGHT FOR A TSUNAMI ADVISORY ON THE WASHINGTON COAST IS 6 INCHES OR 15 CENTIMETERS.

THE INITIAL WAVE WILL NOT BE THE LARGEST. COASTAL RESIDENTS ARE ADVISED TO STAY OUT OF THE WATER...OFF THE BEACH...AND AWAY FROM HARBORS AND MARINAS. WAVE HEIGHTS AND CURRENTS ARE AMPLIFIED BY IRREGULAR SHORELINE AND ARE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT. THE TSUNAMI MAY NOT BE VISIBLE AMONG THE COMMON OCEAN SURF...YET TIDE GAGES WILL LIKELY REPORT SOME FLUCTUATIONS.

THERE IS NO TSUNAMI WATCH OR WARNING IN EFFECT. REPEAT NO WATCH OR WARNING IS IN EFFECT. NO SIGNIFICANT COASTAL FLOODING IS EXPECTED TO BE PRODUCED BY THIS WAVE. HOWEVER...SOME AREAS OF THE COAST COULD EXPERIENCE DANGEROUS CURRENTS AND SURGES IN HARBORS AND BAYS DUE TO THIS TSUNAMI. COASTAL RESIDENTS ARE ADVISED TO STAY OUT OF THE WATER, OFF THE BEACH, AND AWAY FROM HARBORS AND MARINAS. WAVE

HEIGHTS AND CURRENTS ARE AMPLIFIED BY IRREGULAR SHORELINE AND ARE DIFFICULT TO PREDICT.

PREDICTED ARRIVAL TIMES OF THE ONSET OF THE SEA LEVEL RISES ARE:

CHARLESTON, OR 202 PM THIS AFTERNOON MAXIMUM WAVE AMPLITUDE 0.40 FT
SEASIDE, OR 246 PM THIS AFTERNOON MAXIMUM WAVE AMPLITUDE 0.89 FT
WESTPORT, WA 257 PM THIS AFTERNOON MAXIMUM WAVE AMPLITUDE 0.66 FT

THE THREAT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN AROUND 2 PM PST THIS AFTERNOON ALONG THE CENTRAL OREGON COAST. SEA LEVEL RISES COULD CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL HOURS. THE INITIAL WAVE MAY NOT BE THE LARGEST. THE GREATEST SEA LEVEL RISE MAY NOT BE UNTIL AN HOUR OR TWO AFTER THE INITIAL WAVE ONSET.

THESE TSUNAMI HAVE BEEN GENERATED BY A VERY STRONG EARTHQUAKE... REGISTERING 8.8 ON THE RICHTER SCALE...THAT OCCURRED NEAR THE COAST OF CHILE LATE FRIDAY EVENING.

MARINERS IN WATER DEEPER THAN 600 FEET SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY A TSUNAMI.

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