

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PACIFIC REGION SUPPLEMENT 02-2010
APPLICABLE TO NWSI 10-701
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***Operations and Services
Tsunami Warning Services, NWSPD 10-7
Tsunami Warning Center Operations, NWSI 10-701***

***LOCAL TSUNAMI WARNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR
WSO PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA***

NOTICE: This publication is available at: [NWS Directives System](#).

OPR: W/PR1x5 (J. Bush)

Certified by: W/PR1 (E. Lau)

Type of Issuance: Routine

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This Supplement supersedes Pacific Region Supplement 02-2010, dated August 13, 2010 and the recertification of July 6, 2012.

The following changes were made in this issuance:

- The OPR, Certifier, and Approver have been updated.
- The “Type of Issuance” has been updated to “Routine”.
- Updated the location of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.
- Changed “West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC/ATWC)” to the “National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC)”.
- Other minor formatting changes.

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Raymond M. Tanabe
Director, Pacific Region

Date

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1. General Responsibilities

This Supplement describes responsibilities and provides guidance for Weather Service Office (WSO) Pago Pago, American Samoa, in the event of a locally generated tsunami.

2. Tsunami Product Dissemination

Tsunami products for American Samoa are issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), located at the Inouye Regional Center (IRC), Ford Island, Oahu, Hawaii; or, their designated backup.

Under normal circumstances, WSO Pago Pago will disseminate tsunami advisories, watches, and warnings issued by the PTWC via prescribed methods found in [NWSI 10-1701](#), *Text Product Formats and Codes*, and, the local Station Duty Manual (SDM). In the event of a locally generated tsunami, time is of the essence and the following instructions will be followed.

2.1 Locally Generated Tsunami Definition

A locally generated tsunami can occur when an earthquake of 7.1 magnitude or greater occurs within the perimeter of the Northern Tonga Trench. An earthquake of such magnitude is determined to have occurred when confirmed by the PTWC, the National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC), or observed via the California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) display.

3. Local Tsunami Warning Issuance and Dissemination

In the event of an earthquake, where WSO Pago Pago staff experience extreme shaking indicating an event possible of generating a tsunami, the following steps will be followed:

- Immediately place a call to the PTWC to determine the location and magnitude of the earthquake.
- If the PTWC determines that the location and magnitude of the earthquake is sufficient to generate a tsunami, a verbal confirmation to proceed with a tsunami warning will be provided.
- If the communications system becomes inoperable, and/or the PTWC cannot be reached by phone, it will be assumed that the locally felt earthquake is of sufficient magnitude to generate a tsunami. The staff member on duty is authorized to proceed

with the following local warning procedures:

- Immediately broadcast the pre-recorded local tsunami warning message which will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS) using the Tsunami Warning code (TS.W), and proceed with all instructions in the *Emergency* section of the SDM related to issuing a local tsunami warning.