

# Template for Maritime Tsunami Preparedness Activities

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## Why should your harbor prepare?

Maritime communities are the most vulnerable to tsunami hazards. A recent study by a USGS/NOAA/State work group indicates that large tsunamis can affect all harbors statewide, with loss of life, billions of dollars in direct damage, and months to years for recovery. Local maritime preparedness and mitigation efforts can eliminate 80-90% of the costs.

March 23-29, 2014 is National Tsunami Preparedness Week and federal, state, and local emergency planning agencies are working together to prepare for future tsunamis. Your harbor can benefit from the attention around Tsunami Preparedness Week and get support for activities. Please take advantage of the ideas and resources suggested below.

## Potential activities

Your harbor can prepare staff and boating community with activities that will reduce confusion and protect lives:

- **Education using handouts:** The State can provide brochures and other information specific to each harbor.
- **Education through public meetings:** An expert presentation to your harbor staff and/or boating community can help personalize the hazard and answer important questions, such as where to expect strong currents.
- **Update tsunami response plan:** Bring attention to tsunami hazards by updating your plan with your city or county and promoting it with your boating community.
- **Real or table-top exercise for staff:** Nothing can better prepare your harbor staff than to run a drill to respond to a mock event that may include notifying the public, strengthening boat moorings, and securing harbor infrastructure.
- **Boat relocation drill:** One of the best ways to avoid harbor damage is to move boats from areas of strong currents into safe areas within the harbor or offshore. Practicing and observing these activities will improve response during a real event.
- **Update emergency notification lists:** Registering participants can help with this.

- **Timing offshore evacuation:** If your tsunami response plan includes moving boats offshore, time how long it takes to ready those boats and get them to the appropriate safe depth (30-50 fathoms), then incorporate this information into your tsunami response planning documents.

## Planning Steps

**Select:** One or more activities.

**Decide:** Activity for harbor patrol, boating community, or both?

**Decide:** Date, time and duration.

**Decide:** Need help from outside expert(s)?

**Decide:** Register participants?

**Identify:** Tie-ins to existing events? Signage? Safety efforts?

**List:** Resources required for your activity, such as permits, security, "road closed" signs.

*Optional:*

**Invite:** Local dignitaries to lead the walk. These might include the heads of fire, police, emergency management, faith-based organizations, business owners, community activists.

**Enlist:** Sponsors, donors, volunteers for handouts, events, prizes.

**Organize:** Volunteers to distribute handouts, stage contests, gather prizes.

## Start Publicity Early

As soon as you nail down your activity's date and time, and perhaps a few dignitaries, start spreading the news.

## Share Your Story

We want to hear from you:

- What did you do?
- Who was there?
- How many participated?
- What went well and what would you do differently next time?
- Will you do it again?
- Any feedback, anecdotes or photos you can share?

Contact us: \_\_\_\_\_

## Some Resources

### ***Contacts***

USGS: Stephanie Ross – [sross@usgs.gov](mailto:sross@usgs.gov)

Sue Perry – [scperry@usgs.gov](mailto:scperry@usgs.gov)

NOAA: Alex Tardy (San Diego and Orange counties) – [Alexander.Tardy@noaa.gov](mailto:Alexander.Tardy@noaa.gov)

Eric Boldt (Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo counties) –  
[Eric.Boldt@noaa.gov](mailto:Eric.Boldt@noaa.gov)

State: Kevin Miller, CA Office of Emergency Services – [Kevin.Miller@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:Kevin.Miller@caloes.ca.gov)

Cindy Pridmore, CA Geol. Survey – [Cynthia.Pridmore@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Pridmore@conservation.ca.gov)

Rick Wilson, CA Geol. Survey – [Rick.Wilson@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Rick.Wilson@conservation.ca.gov)

### ***Important Online Resources***

**Official State Tsunami Hazard Zones (links available at <http://www.tsunami.ca.gov>):**

State Tsunami Inundation Maps:

<http://www.quake.ca.gov/gmaps/WH/tsunamimaps.htm>

CalEMA MyHazards <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/>

### **Tsunami Education**

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CGS Tsunami Education links

[http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geologic\\_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/education.aspx](http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/education.aspx)

K-12 curriculum, activity sheets, and booklets

[http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geologic\\_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/student\\_activity.aspx#student](http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/student_activity.aspx#student)

**Tsunami information for California – [www.tsunami.ca.gov](http://www.tsunami.ca.gov)**

### **New tsunami scenario from USGS and the State Tsunami Program**

USGS report on tsunami damage in California –

[http://www.usgs.gov/natural\\_hazards/safrr/projects/tsunamiscenario.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/natural_hazards/safrr/projects/tsunamiscenario.asp)

Inundation map to accompany USGS scenario (CGS website) -

[http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/geologic\\_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/SAFRR.aspx](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_hazards/Tsunami/Pages/SAFRR.aspx)

### **Preparing for earthquakes:**

The Great California ShakeOut <http://www.shakeout.org/>

Earthquake Country Alliance <http://www.earthquakecountry.info/>

Dare to Prepare <http://www.daretoprepare.org/>

CalEMA [http://cms.calema.ca.gov/prep\\_tsunami.aspx](http://cms.calema.ca.gov/prep_tsunami.aspx)

Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org/>

Local County Office of Emergency Services