



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 22 – 26, 2021

Tsunami Preparedness Week

This March, California commemorates the 10-year anniversary of the devastating Tohoku Tsunami. The tsunami, which originated from an earthquake off the coast of Japan on March 11, 2011, traveled across the Pacific Ocean, resulting in one death and more than \$100 million in damage in California.

Education and awareness are fundamental to saving lives in a tsunami event. While tsunamis created by a distant source like the 2011 Tohoku Tsunami provide the state with time to activate alert and warning systems and implement response processes, their impacts can be devastating. In addition, local source events caused by underwater landslides or offshore earthquakes can occur at any time and with little warning.

During Tsunami Preparedness Week, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the California Geological Survey partner with other state, local and federal agencies to practice response protocols to ensure the state's readiness for future tsunami incidents that may impact California. Virtual outreach events and warning system tests will promote actions that individuals and communities can take to reduce casualties and property damage from tsunamis.

I urge all Californians to continue their vigilance and increase their efforts to make our families, communities, state and nation better prepared for tsunami events. Education materials are available at tsunamizone.org, rctwg.humboldt.edu and tsunami.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom