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Public Information Statement 20-59
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Allison Allen, Chief
 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 August 6, 2020

The NWS National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) and coastal NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) will perform routine monthly tsunami communication tests to ensure end-to-end readiness of NWS dissemination software and hardware on Thursday, August 6, 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 (ETNs) for Domestic Tsunami Test Products: Effective April 1, 2019:

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, ETNs 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 Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) Product Identifiers (PILs) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Identifiers (IDs):

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 for West Coast/BC/Alaska	TSUAK1	WEAK51

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 Bay Area/Monterey, CA (MTR)
Oxnard/Los Angeles, CA (LOX)
San Diego, CA (SGX)

For more information, please contact:

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National Public Information Statements are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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