

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN TO EVACUATE

The West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center continuously monitors the seismic activity and ocean surface level of the Pacific Basin. When a Tsunami Warning is issued, State, County, and Local officials will alert the public within the inundation hazard area.

Emergency Alert System

An EAS message will be issued over the radio and television alerting you to the hazard.

Community Alert Sirens

The Community Alert Sirens can be activated using the public address function to alert the public in the low-lying coastal area to evacuate to higher ground.

Automated Emergency Calling System

The City operates an automated emergency calling system which can be used to notify the public within the tsunami hazard zone via phone lines.

TSUNAMI EVACUATION

When you are located within the hazard zone and are alerted to a tsunami warning, follow the Tsunami Evacuation Route signs to a safe distance. You should move beyond the "Evacuation Site" signs.



TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE

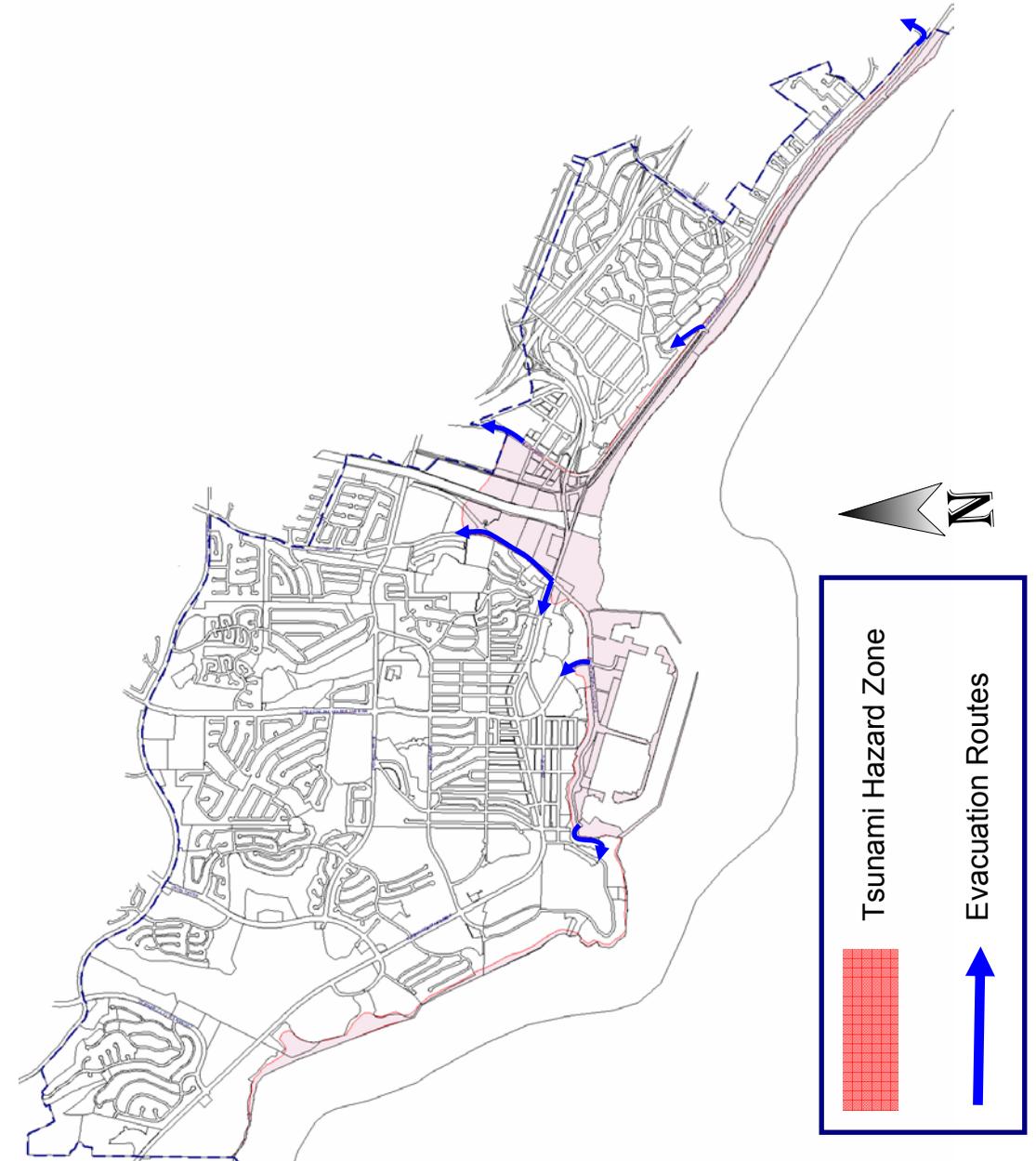
The topography of Dana Point provides significant protection for the majority of the City. Unlike other coastal communities where much of the developed area is at, or very near sea level, the Dana Point Coast is backed by very high bluffs. The low-lying area between these bluffs and the ocean is the local Tsunami Hazard Zone.

The projected worst case scenario for a tsunami in Southern California is a 10-12m run-up, or approximately 40 foot change in mean sea level.



HOW CAN I PREPARE

- ❖ Make a family disaster plan NOW.
- ❖ Assemble a portable disaster supply kit.
- ❖ Take first aid classes and learn survival skills.
- ❖ If you are physically unable to evacuate on your own:
 - Register with the City and County by submitting a "Special Assistance Request Card"
 - Establish an arrangement with a friend or neighbor to assist you when an evacuation is ordered.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Tsunamis

West Coast & Alaska Tsunami Warning Center

<http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov/>

International Tsunami Information Center

<http://www.tsunamiwave.info/>

Disaster Preparedness

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

<http://www.ready.gov/>

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

<http://www.oes.ca.gov>

City of Dana Point

Emergency and Support Services

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City of Dana Point
Emergency and Support Services

LOCAL TSUNAMI RISK

History has shown that the probability of a tsunami in Orange County is low. However, if a tsunami should occur, the impact could cause loss of life, destroy hundreds of homes, greatly affect coastal businesses, and impact tourism. Even if all residents and visitors were safely evacuated, the property damage in this area would still be tremendous.

One of the largest tsunamis that caused widespread death and destruction throughout the Pacific was generated by an earthquake located off the coast of Chile in 1960. It caused loss of life and property damage not only along the Chile coast, but also in Hawaii and as far away as Japan. The Great Alaskan Earthquake of 1964 killed 106 people and produced deadly tsunami waves in Alaska, Oregon and California.

WHAT IS A TSUNAMI?

A tsunami, sometimes called a tidal wave, is a series of fast moving sea waves. There are many causes of tsunamis, but the most prevalent is earthquakes. Landslides, volcanic eruptions, explosions, and even the impact of cosmic bodies, such as meteorites, can also generate tsunamis. In the open ocean, tsunami waves travel at speeds of up to 600 miles per hour. As the waves enter shallow water, they slow down and may rise to several feet or, in rare cases, tens of feet.

Two kinds of tsunami could affect the Southern California Coastline:

LOCAL-SOURCE TSUNAMI

If a very large earthquake displaces the sea floor near the coast, the first waves may reach the shore within minutes. **There is no time for local authorities to issue a warning.**

DISTANT-SOURCE TSUNAMI

Tsunami waves may also be generated by very large earthquakes in the Pacific Ocean. These waves reach the coast of Southern California many hours after the earthquake occurred. The Alaska Pacific Tsunami Warning Center will alert local officials. The public will be notified via the Emergency Alert System, Community Alert Siren System, NOAA Weather Radio, automated phone systems, and emergency vehicles. The public should listen to and obey any evacuation orders given by local officials.