



# Earthquake Alert Centre and Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre Geoscience Australia

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Co-Director of the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre



#### **Earthquakes in Australia**



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## Adelaide 1954, magnitude 5.4



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Meckering 1968, magnitude 6.9



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Open Day 2012

#### Pre-historic earthquakes, Lake Edgar, Tasmania Approximate magnitude 7 earthquake

Length30 kmHeight4 mAge~17,000 yearsEarthquakes (inferred) magnitude 6.8 – 7.0



Open Day 2012

#### Meckering 1968, magnitude 6.9



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#### Meckering 1968, magnitude 6.9 Main East-West rail line



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#### Meckering 1968, magnitude 6.9



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#### Newcastle 1989, magnitude 5.6



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#### Newcastle 1989, magnitude 5.6



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#### Kalgoorlie 2010, magnitude 5.0



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#### M5.4, Moe, Victoria, 19 June 2012



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#### **Australian Earthquake Hazard Map**



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Australian Government Seasonal Operational Briefing, Victoria 2012

#### Global Earthquakes Magnitude ≥ 5



#### **Tsunami Hazard Mapping**



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#### Australian Tsunami Warning System

The ATWS is defined as an end-to-end system:

- from understanding the hazard and risk to community awareness and preparedness;
- earthquake and tsunami monitoring;
- detection and analysis;
- through to public warnings; and then onto
- evacuation and response.

As the constitutional responsibility for all these components exist within all levels of Government, the Australian Government, State and Territory Governments and some Local Governments are all involved in the ATWS to varying capacities.

### Three Australian Government Agencies Responsible for the ATWS

**Geoscience** Australia

**JATWC** 

Seismic Monitoring & Earthquake Advice

Bureau of Meteorology

Sea Level Monitoring & Warnings

Attorney-General's Department

- Community Awareness & Preparedness
- Situational Awareness to all levels of Government

#### **Tsunami Warning Lead Times**



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#### **State Emergency Management**



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#### **International Coordination**

The body responsible for coordinating international efforts in tsunami warning and mitigation is the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. The IOC General Assembly XXIII in Paris held in June 2005 confirmed the need to establish an interim tsunami warning system in the Indian Ocean. This would be provided through the existing Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii and the Japan Meteorological Agency in Tokyo.

The Paris meeting also adopted resolutions to create three regional Intergovernmental Coordination Groups (ICGs)—for the Indian Ocean, the North-East Atlantic and Mediterranean, and the Caribbean—to establish basin-wide tsunami warning systems.

The first session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System was held in Perth in August 2005. A key resolution of the meeting was that the IOTWS would be a coordinated network of national systems and capacities. It was agreed that each Member State would have responsibility for issuing warnings within their respective territories.



#### **Tsunami Warning Centres ...**



#### **Regional Tsunami Service Provider**

#### RTSP Australia - Regional Tsunami Service Provider for the Indian Ocean

A service provided by the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre (JATWC), operated by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience Australia
<u>\* Disclaimer \*</u>



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#### **GEOSCIENCE** AUSTRALIA

#### **Earthquake Alert Centre**



#### **JATWC Real-time Seismic Network**



#### **Seismic Stations (Lord Howe Island)**







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#### **Real-time Seismic Waveform Displays**

#### Visual display only.

With experience, the Duty Seismologist can approximate location and magnitude.

Duty Seismologist waits for earthquake solution before analysis can be made – about 3 to 6 minutes in our region.



#### **Seis-alert (automatic solution)**

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Unreviewed Automated Earthquake Report         Geoscience Australia has detected an earthquake at:         OFF W. COAST OF S. ISLAND, N.Z., NEW ZEALAND REGION         Magnitude: 6.4 mb, 17 associated stations         Universal Time: 15th Jul 2009 09:22:27         Latitude, Longitude: 45.957S, 166.468E - Google Map         Depth: 0 km         Event ID: BOM76528         This earthquake is currently being reviewed and a Preliminary Earthquake A	Alert/Notification may follow.

Cordless phone rings, control desk alarms activate, Backup BlackBerry sounds, XML sent to Bureau JATWC & email alerts to GA staff

#### **Decision Support System**



#### Map Tool

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#### **Mwp Magnitude**

$$M_{wp} = \frac{\log M_0 - 9.1}{1.5}$$

$$M_0 = \max\left(\int u_z(x_r, t)dt\right) \frac{4\pi\rho\alpha^3 r}{F^P}$$

where  $u_z(x_r,t)$  is the vertical component of far-field *P*-wave displacement at receiver,  $x_r$ ;  $\rho$  and  $\alpha$  is the average density and average *P*-wave velocity along the propagation path; *r* is the epicentral distance between the source and the receiver and  $F^P$  is a radiation pattern due to the double-couple source mechanism. (Tsuboi, et al, 1995)

#### **Decision Support System**



#### Mwp Tool

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#### **Manual Solution Email Alert**



Control desk email alarm sounds, Backup BlackBerry sounds, XML sent to Bureau JATWC & email alerts to RTSP, GA staff & AGCCC, website, RSS, CAP, Twitter

#### **Tsunami Scenario Selected**



Scenario number = 212 Position = 161.80E 51.72S Mag = 8.5

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#### **JATWC** at the Bureau of Meteorology



#### **Tsunami Scenario Selected**



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#### **Tsunami Scenario Selected**



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# Tsunami warning prepared and published



# Categories of Threat Levels within Tsunami Warnings

**No threat** An undersea earthquake has been detected, however it has not generated a tsunami, or the tsunami poses no threat to Australia and its offshore territories.

Marine and immediate foreshore threat Warning of potentially dangerous waves, strong ocean currents in the marine environment and the possibility of only some localised overflow onto the immediate foreshore.

Land inundation threat Warning for lowlying coastal areas of major land inundation, flooding, dangerous waves and strong ocean currents.



#### JATWC Sea Level Monitoring Bottom Pressure Sensors







### **JATWC Sea Level Monitoring** Tide Gauge Network



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#### **Sea Level Gauges**









#### Rupture Animation M9.2 Northern Sumatra, Indonesia 26 Dec 2004



Rupture time was approximately 9 minutes

Rupture Animation M8.8 Southern Chile 27 Feb 2010



Rupture time was approximately 21/2 minutes

#### **Rupture Animation** M9.0 East of Honshu, Japan 11 March 2011



Rupture time was approximately 31/2 minutes

#### **Australian Real-time Seismic Array Processing**







#### **Thanks for your attention**

www.ga.gov.au/earthquakes twitter.com/EarthquakesGA

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