

San Mateo County Fire Service POLICIES AND STANDARDS MANUAL

Title: Tsunami Notification Procedures

Policy No. 1998-08

Adopted 12/28/98

Revised 09/27/06

- Purpose:** To establish a standard procedure for notification of a tsunami threat.
- Policy:** It is the policy of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs that PSC and operational Battalion Chiefs on duty during a tsunami warning will follow the notification procedures outlined in this policy.
- Background:** Fire Net /Public Safety Communications Operations Policy/Procedure #008
- Scope:** This policy pertains to notification and dissemination of information known to Public Safety Communications regarding possible tsunami activity. Once notification has occurred, strategies used to manage the threat of a tsunami are the discretion of the local agency and/or Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator including when to stand down.

Procedure:

1. Notification criteria
 - a. PSC shall initiate a tsunami notification when:
 - i. PSC receives a tsunami watch or warning for any area of California coast between Mendocino (Pt. Arena) and Monterey (Pt. Pinos). Tsunami information bulletins are not to be broadcast or otherwise disseminated.
2. Incident entry and broadcast
 - a. Once notified of a tsunami watch or warning, PSC shall:
 - i. Create a single CAD event
 - ii. Ring down all stations and broadcast pertinent details including preliminary earthquake magnitude, location, time, etc.

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3. Information dissemination

- a. Following the broadcast, PSC will page all logged on Fire personnel and equipment summarizing the details in the broadcast.
- b. Subsequent information received by PSC will be disseminated in accordance with the above procedures.