Tsunami Campaigns Southern Region NWS

Walt Zaleski Warning Coordination Meteorologist NTHMP – MES Summer Meeting 07/26/16

Spring Tsunami Campaign

- NWS Regional Push Coastal Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs) across Gulf of Mexico and Florida strongly encouraged to utilize tsunami resources and participate in exercises by Southern Region H.Q.
- WFO Push NWS Tsunami hazard outreach toolkit information incorporated into WFO Spring 2016 preparedness presentations and outreach materials.
- **Tsunami Exercise Participation** WFO Melbourne (Florida) actively participated in Lantex 2016.

Promote New TsunamiReady Guidelines

- Hosted/coordinated webinars to inform and encourage coastal WFOs to promote new TsunamiReady Guidelines.
- Introduce Chayne Sparagowski, Emergency Management Planner for the Coastal Blend (Texas) Council of Governments, as new Gulf Coast Emergency Management representative for the NTHMP and TsunamiReady partner.

JetStream – Tsunami Tutorial

 Actively promote tsunami educational material from NWS "JetStream" online school.

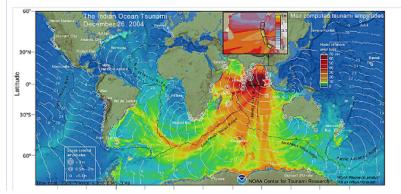


Mistakenly called "tidal wave" the word tsunami is a Japanese word meaning, "harbor wave". A tsunami is a series of traveling ocean waves of extremely long length generated by disturbances associated primarily with earthquakes occurring below or near the ocean floor.

Tsunamis are primarily the result of a vertical displacement of water and rank high on the scale of natural disasters.

Since 1850, tsunamis have been responsible for the loss of over 440,000 lives and billions of dollars of damage to coastal structures and habitats. One very large tsunami occurred in 2004.

At 7:59 am local time (00592; <u>How to read Z-time</u>), December 26, 2004, a extremely powerful underwater earthquake (magnitude 9.1 on the Richter scale) occurred just off the coast of the island of Sumatra in the Indian Ocean.



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