



## 2020-21 California Tsunami Hazard Area Map Updates



The California Tsunami Program (State), led by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the California Geological Survey, is responsible for updating the State's tsunami inundation maps that will define our tsunami hazard areas in support of evacuation planning and public safety. Communities use the State's tsunami hazard maps to develop and update their evacuation route maps and emergency response plans. The State is constantly evaluating tsunami events, sources, and analysis techniques to ensure that coastal communities are safe from tsunami hazards.

The State completed the previous set of statewide tsunami inundation maps in 2009. Lesson's learned from 2011 Japan tsunami, and new tsunami hazard data and mapping tools developed over the past 10 years indicate that some areas of the California coastline may have a higher tsunami hazard than is represented in the 2009 maps. Based on this more recent information, the State has determined that an update of the 2009 maps is warranted to protect the public from tsunami hazards. The following steps summarize the plan for updating the tsunami hazard maps, and provide guidance and a timeline for communities to update their emergency response plans, tsunami sign locations, etc.

### Process for the State to update tsunami hazard maps:

- The updated tsunami hazard maps encompass the tsunami model flood areas (inundation areas) for maximum considered events and include a logical inland buffer which typically extends to the nearest streets and landmarks and/or to a set elevation.
- These maps could be used directly for evacuation purposes if a community so chooses.
- The State will meet with communities to discuss the new tsunami hazard maps and, if needed, help identify where community response plans may require updating.
- To allow time for communities to digest and accommodate changes in the State tsunami hazard maps, the maps will be made available to community planners at least one month prior to the State updating them in the "California Tsunami Preparedness Guide" on the [www.tsunami.ca.gov](http://www.tsunami.ca.gov) website.
- The State will update the tsunami response decision-support tools/products (Playbooks) to include the new tsunami hazard area map (or an associated community tsunami evacuation map) as the updated maximum phase evacuation maps.

### Guidance for communities in updating local plans and tsunami sign locations:

- Before the new tsunami hazard area maps are made available to the public, communities are encouraged to share the maps with key decision makers and response personnel to determine if their tsunami response plans should be updated, and if and where tsunami hazard signs should be placed or moved.
- The State tsunami program has resources available and is happy to assist communities throughout this process.