NATIONAL REPORT

Submitted by Solomon Islands

BASIC INFORMATION

1. ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC)

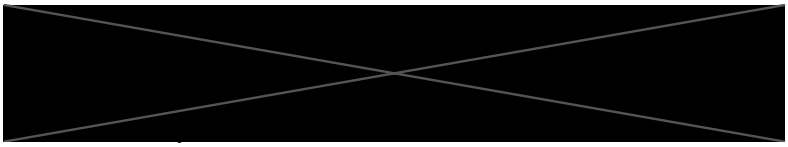
Name: **Jonathan Tafiariki**

Title: **Director**

Organization: **National Disaster Management Office**

Postal Address: **P.O. BOX 21, Honiara, Solomon Islands**

E-mail Address: **JTafiariki@ndmo.gov.sb**



2. ICG/PTWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)

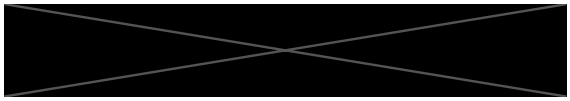
TWFP Agency name: Solomon Islands Meteorological Service

(If different from NTWC agency)

TWFP Agency Contact or Officer in Charge (if different from NTWC Agency):

Name: **David Hiriasia**

Position: **Director**

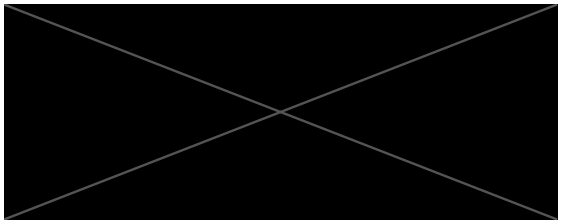


Email Address: **david.hiba@met.gov.sb**

Postal Address: **P.O. BOX 21, Honiara, Solomon Islands**

TWFP 24x7 point of contact (office, operational unit or position, **not a person**): **Chief Met Officer**

Name of office, operational unit or position: **National Weather Forecasting Center**



National Tsunami Warning Centre (if different from the above)

A centre (see picture below) officially designated by the national government to monitor and issue tsunami warnings and other related statements/advisories within their country according to established National Standard Operating Procedures.

Figure 1. The new National Weather Forecasting Center, Honiara.

Keys of the new National Weather Forecasting Centre (Figure 1) which is also the Tsunami Warning Centre has been handed over to the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) by UNDPs Residential Representative.

NTWC Agency Name: **National Weather Forecasting Center**

NTWC Agency Contact or Officer in Charge (person):

Name: **Manoah Tepa**

Position: **Acting Head of Weather Forecasting Services**

[redacted]

Email address: **m.tepa@met.gov.sb**

Postal Address: **Same as above**

3. Tsunami Advisor(s), if applicable

(Person, Committee or Agency managing Tsunami Mitigation in country)

Name: **National Emergency Operation Center**

Title: **Chief Operation Officer**

Postal Address: **National Disaster Management Office, P.O. BOX 21, Honiara, Solomon Islands.**

E-mail Address: **NEOC@ndmo.gov.sb**

[redacted]

4. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Local Tsunami

i. What organization identifies and characterizes tsunami genic events?

- **This is performed by the duty officer at National Weather Forecasting Center by**
  - **Size of the felt earthquake with support of Geological Service Division (GSD).**
  - **PTWC/NWPTAC information bulletin**
  - **Threat analysis from the National Tsunami MOST Model.**
  - **Threat analysis from TSUCAT.**
- **Information is vetted by the Directors–SIMS/NDMO**

ii. *What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?*

- **Threshold is Mw=7.0 but must have potential threat as analyzed by our tsunami tools**
- **Size of the felt earthquake.**
- **PTWC/NWPTAC Information bulletin.**

iii. What organization acts on the information provided by the agency

responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?

- **Information is then disseminated to National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) under NDMO and the media.**
- **NEOC further transmit the information if there is any tsunami threat.**

iv. How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country?

- **Radio, Emails, HF radio, website, facebook and soon through sms.**

v. Who is it disseminated to?

- **Email is sent to first response agencies such NDMO, Police and Search & Rescue.**
- **Radio and others are sent to the general public**

vi. How is the emergency situation terminated?

- **PTWC/ NWPTAC cancellation bulletin**
- **Based on observed tide gauge sea level data.**
- **Two hours after cancellation from PTWC and tide gauge data.**
- **NEOC also disseminates All Clear Message**

Below is an example of an Mw = 8.0 earthquake close to Gizo, scenario 173 on the national MOST Tsunami Tool in Western Province. This is an example of local tsunami event.

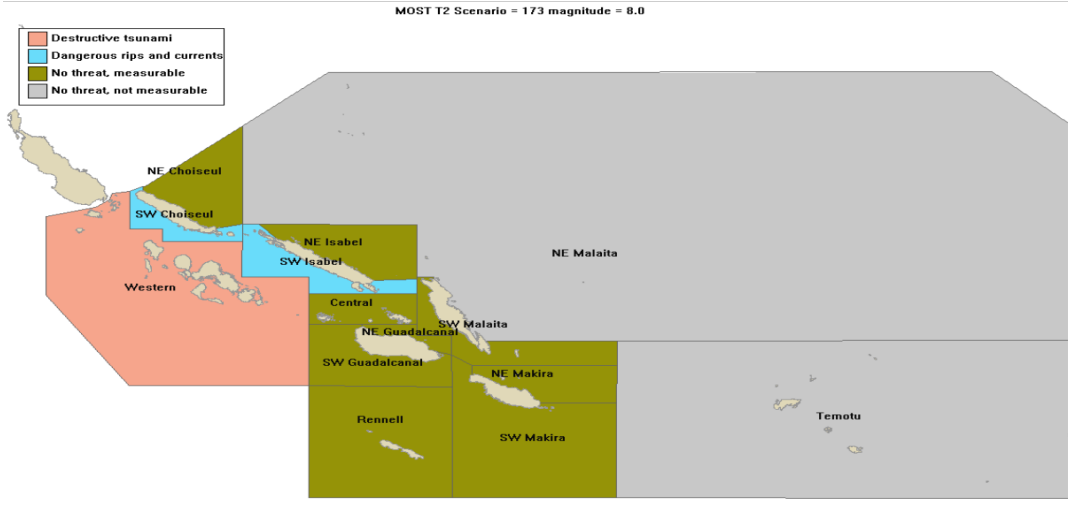


Figure 2. An example of local tsunami in Solomon Islands

5. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Distant Tsunami

(When a distant tsunami hazard exists)

i. *What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?*
   - **This is performed by the duty officers at the National Weather Forecasting Center by**
     - **PTWC information bulletin**
     - **Threat analysis from the National Tsunami MOST Model.**
     - **Threat analysis from TSUCAT**
   - **Information is vetted by the Directors–SIMS/NDMO**

ii. *What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?*
   - **Threshold is Mw=7.0 but must have potential threat as analyzed by our tsunami tools (MOST and TSUCAT)**
   - **PTWC/JMA Information bulletin.**

iii. *What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?*
   - **Information is then disseminated to National Emergency Operation Centre under NDMO and the media.**
   - **NEOC further transmit the information if there is any tsunami threat.**

iv. *How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country?*
   - **Radio, Emails, HF radio, website, facebook and soon sms**

v. *Who is it disseminated to?*
   - **Email is sent to first response agencies such NDMO, Police and Search & Rescue.**
   - **Radio and others are sent to the general public.**

vi. *How is the emergency situation terminated?*
   - **PTWC/ NWPTAC cancellation bulletin**
   - **Based on observed tide gauge sea level data.**
   - **Two hours after cancellation from PTWC and tide gauge data.**
   - **NEOC also disseminates All Clear Message**

Figure 2 below is an example of an Mw = 8.0 earthquake within Vanuatu, scenario 185 on the national MOST Tsunami Tool in Western Province.

Or an example of not too distant tsunami event.

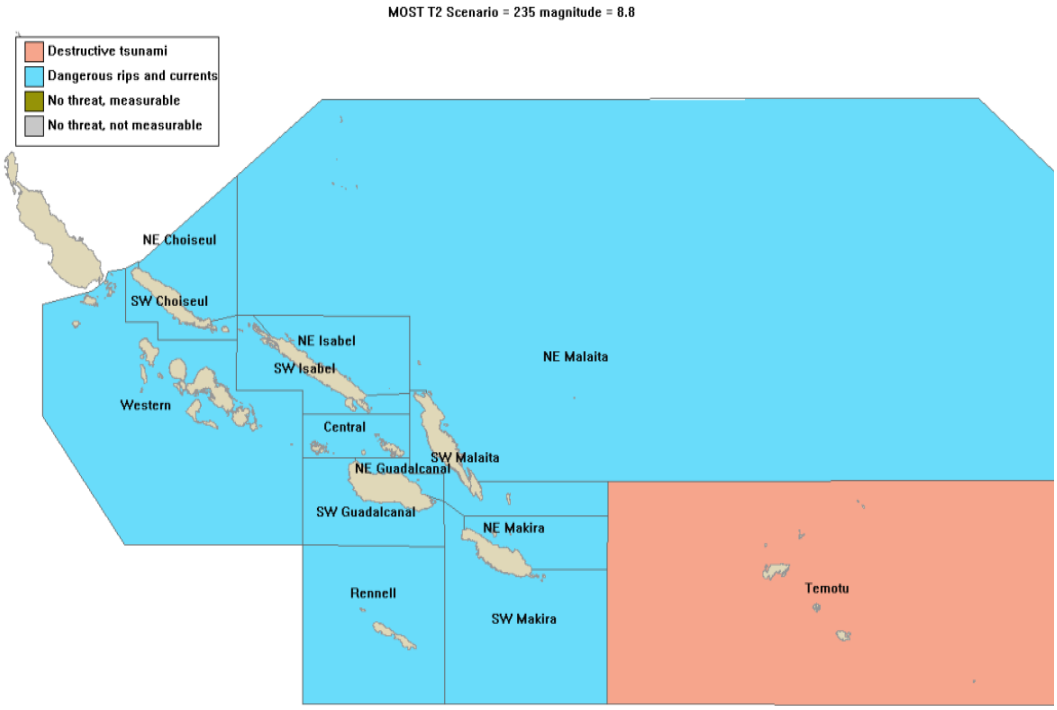


Figure 2. An example of a "not too distant" tsunami event.

Next is a tsunami event from a distant. Figure 3 showing a tsunami threat from a distant source Mw = 8.8, Scenario 235 around northern New Zealand.

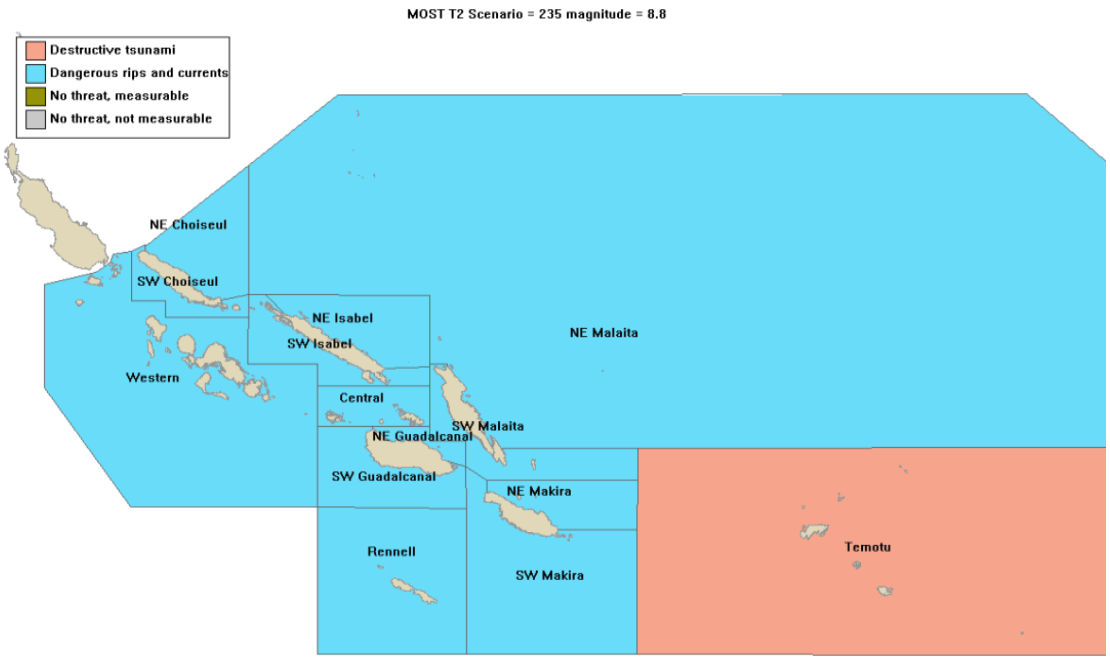


Figure 3. An example of distant tsunami.

- **For Distant Tsunami Procedures:**

Actions are performed by the duty officer as per the Standard Operation Procedures (SOP).

In general, when information is received from PTWC, NWPTAC and other sources, they (information) are analyzed for threats according to the SOP, together with these from the national MOST Tsunami Tool.

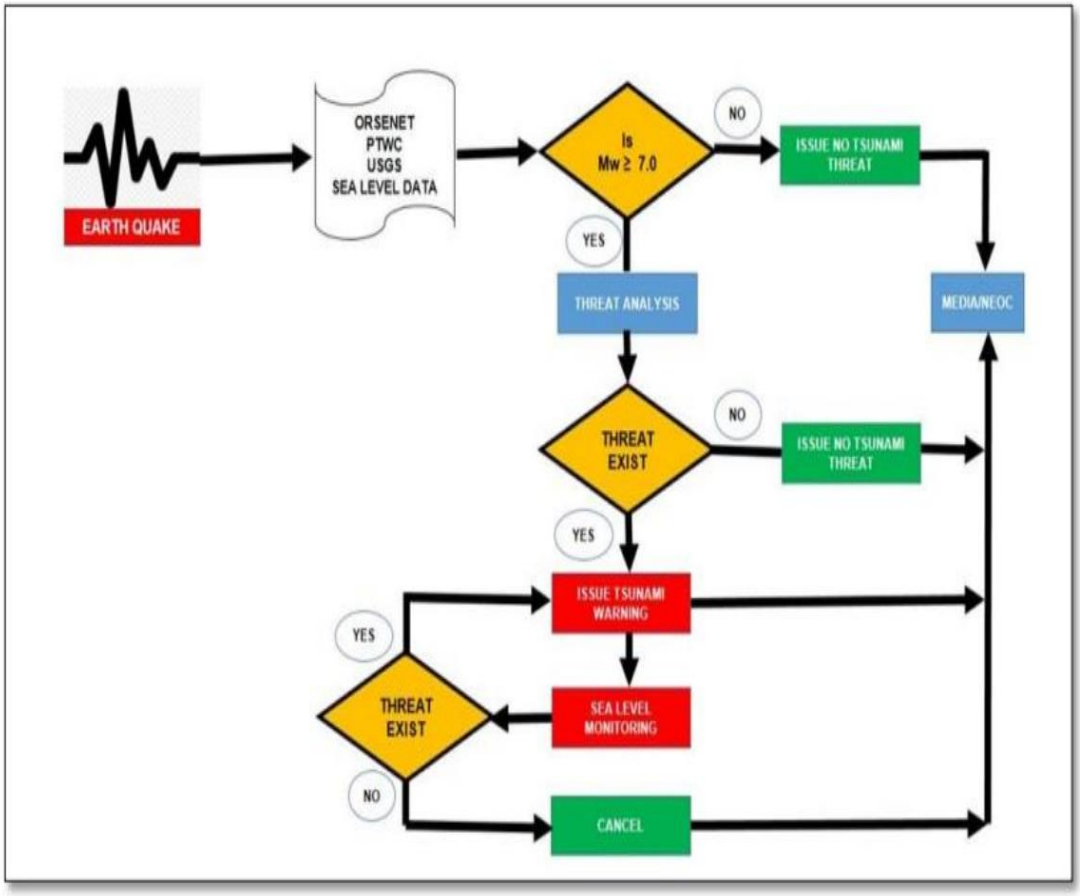


Figure 4. Flow chart demonstrating procedures in tsunami analysis for threats in the Solomon Islands.

If there is no threat, then NO TSUNAMI THREAT STATEMENT is issued otherwise a Tsunami Warning will be issued if there is a tsunami threat.

6. National Sea Level Network

Solomon Islands does not own any sea level stations at the moment but hosts two sea level stations owned by the Australian Tsunami Warning System, one sea level stations owned by the Climate and Ocean Services Program in the Pacific Islands (COSPPac) and a DART buoy owned by NOAA.

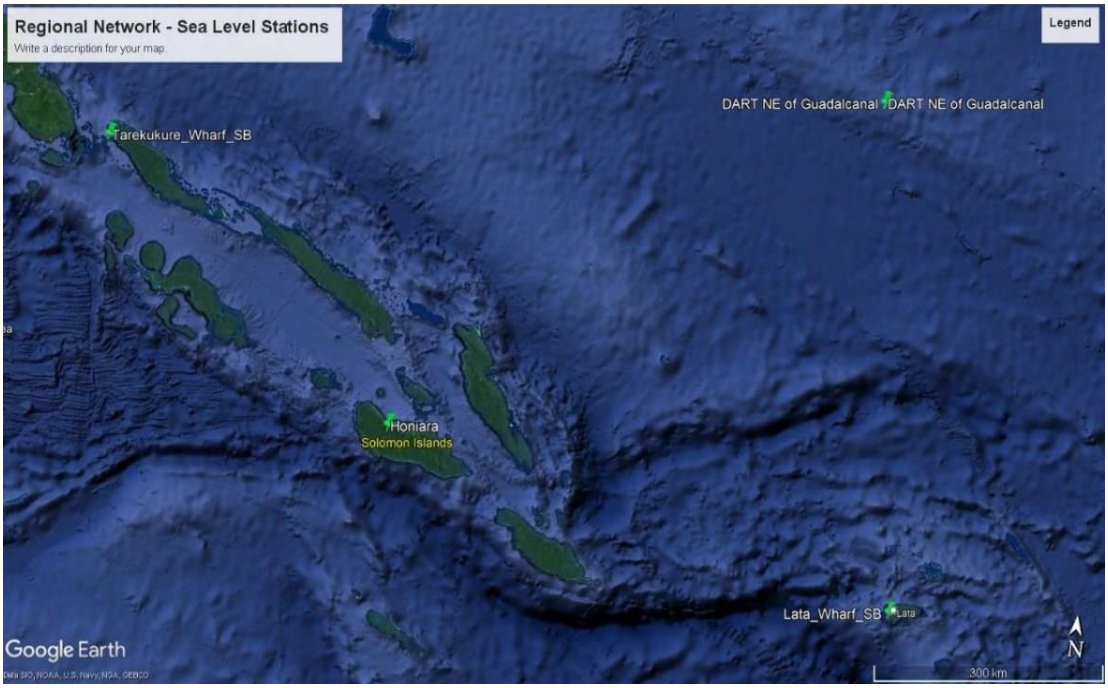


Figure 5. Map showing the sea level monitoring stations hosted by the Solomon Islands.

Currently, the Lata tide gauge is out of service due to damages done by recent storm surges to the wharf and cables.

7. Information on Tsunami occurrences

Table of tsunami occurrences in Solomon Islands since 2007.

DATE	TIME (UTC)	PROVINCE	Mw	LATLON
01/04/2007	20:40	Western Province	8.1	8.460°S 157.044°E
02/09/2007	01:05	Santa Cruz	7.2	11.610°S 165.762°E
03/01/2010	21:48	Tetepare-Western	6.6	8.743°S 157.477°E
03/01/2010	22:36	Tetepare-Western	7.2	8.799°S 157.346°E
05/01/2010	12:16	Tetepare-Western	6.9	9.019°S 157.551°E
06/02/2013	01:12	Santa Cruz	8.0	10.738°S 165.138°E
8/02/2013	15:27	Santa Cruz Islands	7.0	10.910°S 165.964°E
12/04/2014		Makira	7.6	11.315°S, 162.211°E
13/04/2014		Makira	7.4	11.451°S, 162.069°E
08/02/2016	16:19	Makira	7.8	6.621°S 154.742°E
22/11/2022	2:03	Guadalcanal	7.0	9.809°S 159.594°E

Source: http://itic.ioc-unesco.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=1160&It emid=1077

8. Web sites (URLs) of national tsunami-related web sites

Website: https://met.gov.sb/tsunami-warnings/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/SIweather

SMS: https://met.gov.sb/send-bulk-sms/

9. Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements.

- Review and finalize SOP with UNESCO followed by review and update of national tsunami response plan.
- Continue to strengthen the partnership between the lead agencies–SIMS, NDMO, GSD and ICT-SIG

- Community Implementation of UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Programme.
- Collaborate with NGOs/CSO to work with communities under their Disaster Ready Program.
- Strengthen the School Tsunami Ready Program in tsunami prone areas funded by Japan through UNDP.
- Inclusion of IBF colour codes (Traffic lights) for Community Tsunami Early Warnings.
- Continue to seek support to upgrade the National MOST Tsunami Tool.
- Support GST and ICT SIG to maintain and upgrade the seismic network.
- Inclusion of Tsunami Warnings gaps in tsunami warning & response operations in UN EW4ALL as one of the pilot countries.
- Continue to work towards improving gaps especially in terms of communication to the last mile and sustaining our seismic network.
- Review of NDC Act and Meteorology Act to align with tsunami warning arrangements.
- Media awareness is important to address the issue of sovereignty and ensure that warnings are issued by national authorities
- World Tsunami Awareness Day and annual Aelan Wave Exercise

Date: 06/04/2025 **Name: Alick Haruhiru**