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Service Change Notice 26-14 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
330 PM EST Wed Feb 11 2026

To: Subscribers:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPORT
 Other NWS Partners and NWS Employees

From: Dr. Avichal Mehra, Deputy Director
 Ocean Prediction Center

Subject: Updated: Implementation of Updated Wireless Emergency Alerts
Messages for NWS Tsunami Warnings or around March 19, 2026

Updated to correct the Implementation Date to on or around March 19, 2026

On or around March 19, 2026, the NWS will implement updated 360- and 90-
character English and Spanish language Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)
messages for Tsunami Warnings. These messages better reflect the level
of urgency and actions to take during tsunami events that reach warning
level.

The following are the proposed 360- and 90- character limit messages for
Tsunami Warnings.

360-Character Limit (English):

The National Weather Service has issued a TSUNAMI WARNING. A series of
dangerous, life-threatening currents and waves are expected to flood low-
lying coastal areas. MOVE TO HIGH GROUND OR INLAND NOW to prevent injury
or death. Stay away until local officials say you can return. Check your
official sources or tsunami.gov for more information.

360-Character Limit (Spanish):

SNM ha emitido un AVISO DE TSUNAMI. Se espera que una serie de corrientes
y olas peligrosas amenazantes a la vida inunden zonas costeras bajas.
MUÉVASE AHORA A UN LUGAR ALTO O TIERRA ADENTRO para evitar heridas o
muerte. No regrese hasta que las autoridades indiquen que es seguro.
Consulte sus fuentes oficiales o tsunami.gov para más información.

90-Character Limit (English):

NWS: TSUNAMI WARNING! Danger at the coast. MOVE TO HIGHER GROUND OR
INLAND NOW.

90-Character Limit (Spanish):

SNM: AVISO TSUNAMI. Peligro en la costa. MUÉVASE AHORA A UN LUGAR ALTO O
TIERRA ADENTRO.

Current messages (360- and 90-character English and Spanish versions) can
be found via the following link:

<https://www.weather.gov/wrn/wea360>

WEA is a joint effort between the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the wireless industry. WEA messages are supported for a maximum of 360 characters for most devices and up to 90 characters for legacy devices, with Spanish language translations for both. The NWS messages intended for WEA are included in routinely-produced CAP messages issued by the NWS. These messages are routed through FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to wireless carriers who transmit them to wireless customers in the warning area.

Further questions on the use of WEA for Tsunamis by the NWS should be directed to:

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National Service Changes Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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