**CIVIL DEFENCE**

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Date/time: 31 August 2016   Release No: 04 12.47pm**

**This information is part of Exercise Tangaroa**.

There is no tsunami. We are part of a test of New Zealand’s arrangements for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a national tsunami impact. For more information to go <http://www.civildefence.govt.nz/cdem-sector/exercises/exercisetangaroa2016/>

Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management

A tsunami has struck the Bay of Plenty coastline at 10.29am this morning. The extent of damage is currently being assessed by air. Further waves and damage are expected in the coming hours.

People in ALL low-lying coastal areas of Bay of Plenty should move to and remain on higher ground. Evacuation by foot is recommended, follow tsunami evacuation route signs where available.

Bay of Plenty residents are asked not to go sightseeing and to:

1. Stay out of the water (sea, rivers and estuaries, including boating activities)
2. Stay off beaches and shore areas
3. Share this information with family, neighbours and friends
4. Listen to the radio for updates
5. Follow instructions of local civil defence authorities

All State Highways into the Bay of Plenty are currently closed to inward non-essential traffic due to widespread damage. Motorists are asked to please avoid all travel into the Bay of Plenty.

All coastal roads have been badly affected and should be avoided. Other road closures and road blocks include the Tauranga side of the Tauranga Harbour Bridge, Maungatapu roundabout, Domain Road in Pāpāmoa, and the Waioeka Bridge. Rotorua residents are being urged to stay off the roads to help make it easier for evacuees from coastal areas to enter the city.

Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) has issued a National Declaration - National State of Emergency and a land threat warning for the Bay of Plenty due to the tsunami. This warning will remain in effect until a cancellation message is issued by MCDEM.

Local Civil Defence staff, MCDEM and scientific advisors are continuously monitoring the situation.

Rotorua is not directly affected by a tsunami. Tauranga residents have been evacuated and told that they can make their way to the Rotorua Racecourse on near Rydges Hotel at 272 Fenton. Pets are welcome there. Kawerau’s Firmin Lodge has also been set up as a registration welfare centre.

Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Group will be posting updates on [www.facebook.com/BOPCivilDefence](http://www.facebook.com/BOPCivilDefence) and [www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz](http://www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz)

Note:

•           The wave amplitudes given indicate the largest expected wave activity at any coastal point in the particular coastal zone and at any time during the entire period this warning is in effect (tsunami activity will vary in a zone and with time; the first wave activity may also not be the largest).

•           The amplitudes given are at shore. Tsunami run-up on steep slopes onshore can be up to twice as high i.e. a 5m wave at shore can run up as high as 10m on land near the shore.

At this stage we anticipate the next Bay of Plenty update will be issued at approximately 14.00hrs.

**ENDS**

For more information, contact Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Duty Public Information Officer ph 027 440 9528 email [media@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:media@boprc.govt.nz)

**From:** BOPGECC PIM   
**Sent:** Wednesday, 31 August 2016 11:18 a.m.  
**To:** Exercise Tangaroa; [pim@ncmc.govt.nz](mailto:pim@ncmc.govt.nz); [CDEMexercises@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:CDEMexercises@dpmc.govt.nz); 'Mervin.johnson@newswire.co.nz'  
**Subject:** Exercise Tangaroa - Exercise ONLY - BOP Civil defence Media statement 3: Tsunami has struck BOP

**This information is part of Exercise Tangaroa**.

There is no tsunami. We are part of a test of New Zealand’s arrangements for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a national tsunami impact. For more information to go <http://www.civildefence.govt.nz/cdem-sector/exercises/exercisetangaroa2016/>

Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management

**CIVIL DEFENCE**

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Date/time: 31 August 2016   Release No: 03 11.17am**

**This information is part of Exercise Tangaroa**.

There is no tsunami. We are part of a test of New Zealand’s arrangements for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a national tsunami impact. For more information to go <http://www.civildefence.govt.nz/cdem-sector/exercises/exercisetangaroa2016/>

Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management

A tsunami has struck the Bay of Plenty coastline at 10.29am this morning. The extent of damage has yet to be assessed by further waves are expected.

People in the ALL coastal areas should move to higher ground, preferably by foot, and.

1. Stay out of the water (sea, rivers and estuaries, including boating activities)
2. Stay off beaches and shore areas
3. Do not go sightseeing
4. Share this information with family, neighbours and friends
5. Listen to the radio for updates
6. Follow instructions of local civil defence authorities

Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) has issued a National Declaration - National State of Emergency and a land threat warning for the Bay of Plenty due to the tsunami. This warning will remain in effect until a cancellation message is issued by MCDEM.

Local Civil Defence staff, MCDEM and scientific advisors are continuously monitoring the situation.

Rotorua is not directly affected by a tsunami. Tauranga residents have been evacuated and told that they can make their way to the Rotorua Racecourse on near Rydges Hotel at 272 Fenton.

Note:

•           The wave amplitudes given indicate the largest expected wave activity at any coastal point in the particular coastal zone and at any time during the entire period this warning is in effect (tsunami activity will vary in a zone and with time; the first wave activity may also not be the largest).

•           The amplitudes given are at shore. Tsunami run-up on steep slopes onshore can be up to twice as high i.e. a 5m wave at shore can run up as high as 10m on land near the shore.

At this stage we anticipate the next Bay of Plenty update will be issued at approximately 12 noon.

**ENDS**

For more media information, contact Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Duty Public Information Officer ph 027 440 9528 email [media@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:media@boprc.govt.nz)