

Submitted by Commonwealth of Dominica

**BASIC INFORMATION**

**1. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC)**

Name: Fitzoy Pascal  
Title: National Disaster Coordinator  
Organization: Office of Disaster Management (ODM)  
Postal Address: Jimmit, Commonwealth of Dominica  
E-mail Address: odm@dominica.gov.dm  
Telephone Number: 767 266 4412  
Fax Number: N/A  
Cellular Telephone Number: 767 618 3252

**2. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)**

Name: Fitzoy Pascal  
Title: National Disaster Coordinator  
Responsible Organization: Office of Disaster Management (ODM)  
Postal Address: Jimmit, Commonwealth of Dominica  
E-mail Address: odm@dominica.gov.dm  
Emergency Telephone Number: 767 266 4412/266 4411  
Emergency Fax Number: na  
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number: 767 275 6806

**National Tsunami Warning Centre ( )**

Office of Disaster Management  
Jimmit, Commonwealth of Dominica.  
[odm@dominica.gov.dm](mailto:odm@dominica.gov.dm)  
767 266 4412/266 4411

**3. Tsunami Advisor(s), if applicable**

Not Applicable

**4. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Local Tsunami (when a local tsunami threat exists, less than 1 hour travel time)**

Action Principles:

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of PTWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Media, Decision Makers, Public

Rapid Notification of Emergency Staff

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters

<b># of Minutes after EQ</b>	<b>National Activities</b>	<b>Agencies Responsible</b>	<b>Community Activities</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
0 – Strong ground shaking felt				
1 – 5	Seismic information received and analysis initiated  DMO, Government Officials and Media provided initial information.	PTWC, SRC  ODM	Communities receive initial information	ODM
5 – 15	Seismic information processed.  Watch/Monitor sea level data.	PTCW  PTWC	Self Evacuate	

5 – 15	Issue Evacuation Warning to Dominican Public	ODM	Community leaders (CBOs) etc mobilize persons to evacuate	Police, Assigned persons with megaphones etc, Village Council, Disaster Committee, town criers, CBOs
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**5. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Regional Tsunami (when a regional tsunami threat exists, 1–3 hour travel time)**

**Action Principles:**

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of PTWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Media, Decision Makers, Public

Rapid Notification of Emergency Staff

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters

# of Minutes after EQ	National Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
<b>0 – Strong ground shaking felt</b>				
<b>1 – 5</b>	Seismic informatio	PTWC, SRC		

	<p>n received and analysis initiated</p> <p>DMO, Government Officials and Media provided initial information.</p>	ODM		ODM
<b>5 – 15</b>	<p>Seismic information processed.</p> <p>Watch/Monitor sea level data.</p>	<p>PTCW</p> <p>PTWC</p>	Communities receive initial information by ODM	<p>Police, Fire Service,</p> <p>Village Council</p> <p>Disaster Committees,</p> <p>CBOs</p>
<b>15 – 30</b>	<p>DMO, Government Officials provided PTWC graphical products</p>	PTWC	Communities receive second announcement / notice by ODM through media etc	<p>Police, Fire Service,</p> <p>Village Council</p> <p>Disaster Committees,</p> <p>CBOs</p>
<b>30 – 60</b> <b>If NO Tsunami is forthcoming</b>	<p>DMO informed</p> <p>Media and Public informed</p>	<p>PTWC</p> <p>ODM</p>	Reassure public / community members that no Tsunami is forthcoming	<p>Police,</p> <p>Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council,</p> <p>Disaster</p>

				Committee, town criers  CBOs
<b>60+</b> <b>If a Tsunami IS forthcoming</b>	DMO informed  All relevant agencies informed.  Public informed.  Government informed	PTWC  ODM  ODM and Media  ODM	Community leaders to ensure all stakeholders groups are informed and on alert   Fisher folk to secure boats on higher ground utilizing trucks, trailers etc.	Police,  Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs   Police, Fisheries, Village Council
<b>1 - 3hrs</b>	Tsunami confirmed  Issue Evacuation   Activate Emergency Shelters	PTWC  ODM, EOC   Local Gov't	Community leaders (CBOs) etc. mobilize persons to evacuate   Open Emergency Shelters	Police,  Assigned persons with megaphones etc., Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs, Town Crier   Emergency Shelter Managers, Village Councils, Disaster

				Committees etc.
<b>3hrs+</b>	All Clear	PTWC to ODM to Public	Assess the damage along the coastal area  Assist persons to return to their homes	Police, Fire Services, Disaster Committee, Village Council, Red Cross  Police, Disaster Committee, Village Council

**6. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Distant Tsunami (when a distant tsunami threat exists, more than 3-hour travel time)**

Action Principles:

Understand and interpret Tsunami Warning Center messages into actions (i.e. evacuations – yes or no)

Receipt of TWC messages on a 24x7 basis

Rapid Notification of Decision Makers

Rapid Notification of the Public

Rapid Notification of Media

Rapid Notification and Recall of Emergency Staff

Rapid Notification of Government agencies; NGO's; other organizations

Enact land and sea evacuations procedures

Activate Emergency Shelters

# of Minutes after EQ	Activities	Agencies Responsible	Community Activities	Responsible
0 – Strong ground shaking felt	Not Applicable			
1 – 5	Seismic information received and analysis initiated	PTWC, SRC		
5 – 15	Seismic information processed.  Watch/Monitor sea level data.  DMO is notified	PTWC  PTWC  PTCW		
15 – 30	DMO, Government Officials and Media provided initial information.	ODM	Community leaders (CBOs) and community members informed	Police, Village Council, Disaster Committees, CBOs

**(CANCELLATION BULLETIN)**

## **PURPOSE**

To provide procedural guidance and action steps to be followed in responding to a PTWC issued TSUNAMI INFORMATION STATEMENT due to a local or regional seismic event.

## **GENERAL**

The PTWC will issue a Tsunami Information Statement advising that all danger of a Tsunami has passed.

## **ACTIONS CHECKLIST**

**i.** The NTWFP / NTWC Duty Officer must contact the NEPO and the Commonwealth of Dominica Police Force and report receipt of cancellation message from the PTWC.

A record of the date and time the cancellation message was communicated must be kept.

A. Contact the Office Disaster Preparedness and Management.

B. Notify the government, non-governmental organizations, communities, media and public of the cancellation using all available means of communication

C. If the NEOC has been activated, stand down NEOC as per SOPs.

**ii.** ODPM/NEOC issues Safe to Return message using all dissemination means

**iii.** No further action required. End of Procedure.

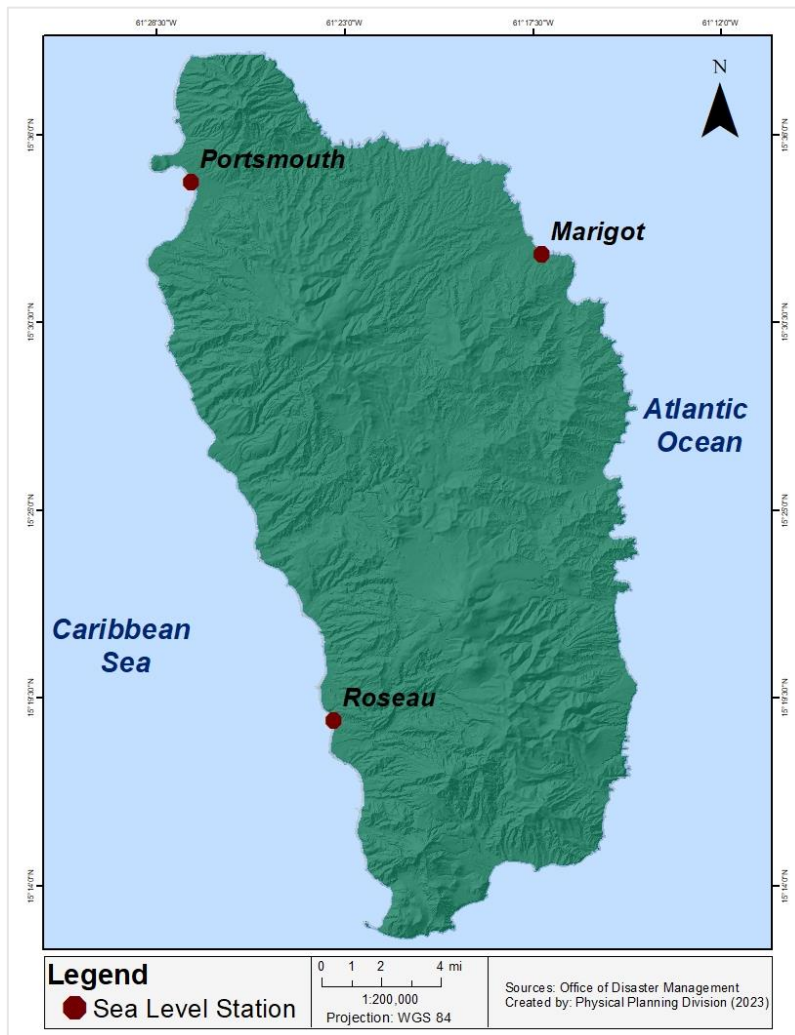
## **7. National Sea Level Network**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Description of station</b>
Roseau Stations located at Coast Guard Base.	Measures water heights using 3 sensors types 1 Pressure sensor; 1 radar sensor and 1 Bubbler Sensor type Operator: University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (USA)



<p>Portsmouth located at the Portsmouth Fisheries Terminal</p>	<p>Measures sea level height using 2 radar sensors 1 pressure sensor</p>
<p>Marigot Stations is located at the Marigot Fisheries Terminal</p>	<p>It was installed in 2017 along with and stations at Cabrit Cruise Ship Berth. The Portsmouth station was functional and was destroyed during Hurricane Maria in 2017. Marigot Station however never worked after installation.</p>

**Map 1: Locations of Sea Level monitoring stations**



## 8. Information on Tsunami occurrences/Tsunami Exercises

Dominica did not participate in the CaribeWave Exercise this year. The intention is to conduct a number of simulation exercises later in the year as part of the Tsunami Ready Program.

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

Odm.gov.dm

## 10. Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements.

The main plan is the implementation of the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme. The Tsunami Ready Project will be implemented in the town of Portsmouth which is located in the north of the island.

On February 27, 2023, the Commonwealth of Dominica through the Office of Disaster Management formally expressed interest in implementing the Tsunami Ready Project. This project is funded by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR). The implementation of this programme will support the education, preparedness, and response for tsunami events.

Since then, we have worked closely with the International Tsunami Information Center – Caribbean Office (ITIC- CAR) to begin the process. We have also received support from the National University of Costa Rica who provided us with the inundation model for Dominica. The results showed that in the event of a tsunami low-laying coastal communities located along the east, northeast and northern coast of the island would be most affected. The office identified three possible communities: Portsmouth(north), Calibishie(northeast) and Castle Bruce (east) for the implementation of the programme.



**Figure 1: Calibishie, Dominica- Results of inundation model**



**Figure 2: Portsmouth, Dominica- Tsunami inundation model result**

Ultimately, Portsmouth which is also the second town of Dominica was chosen as the most suitable for the programme. The decision was based on number of reasons:

- Large population (4,167).
- Large yachting sector.
- History of earthquakes.
- Short evacuation time in case of a local tsunami (in some scenarios ETA is about 4 minutes).
- Portsmouth had also participated in preparedness work for Tsunamis and Early Warning Systems in 2013/2014.
- They also have their own town council, Police Station, Fire Station, Hospital and other structures critical for readiness.

A meeting was held with the Portsmouth town council on April 17, 2023, in which members of the town council were introduced to the Tsunami Ready programme. Following the presentation, the mayor expressed keen interest in the programme and agreed to participate. The Communities of Calibishie and Castle Bruce will remain options for future Tsunami Ready Communities.

### **Next steps**

- Preparation of the evacuation maps as well as follow up meetings to receive the council input and recommendations.
- Preparation of signage.
- Increase tsunami education and awareness.
- Get Portsmouth tsunami ready.

## **NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES INFORMATION**

### **11. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **12. NARRATIVE**

Dominica's ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC) and ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP) is the same individual who is the Coordinator of the Office of Disaster Management. The National Tsunami Warning Centre is the Office of Disaster Management. There are no Tsunami Advisors.

The Dominica National Tsunami Warning Protocol and Standard Operating Procedures was developed in January 2020 utilizing the models of Tsunami protocols from countries such as Barbados, Grenada, Trinidad & Tobago, Sri Lanka and the Republic of Maldives, including the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), in order to maintain consistency with terminology /descriptions and processes. It was prepared through consultation and training with national stakeholders in Dominica and tested through a Tsunami simulation exercise in the north eastern community of Calibishie. This was made possible through the financial support of the General Directorate of Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid of the European Union (ECHO) and UNDP and with the technical assistance of CDEMA, the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) and the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) as part of the regional project titled "Strengthening Integrated and Cohesive Preparedness Capacity at a Regional, National and Community Level in the Caribbean." This wider project supported concrete actions for effective early warning systems and aimed to improve information management and operational capacity for an improved preparedness mechanism for the Caribbean Regional Response.

The Tsunami Warning Protocol and Standard Operating Procedures document is the direct result of the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica taking a multi-hazard early warning systems approach to Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) and forging its way to being a more resilient country.

There are three National Sea Level Stations. Roseau, Portsmouth and Marigot. Roseau Stations located at Coast Guard Base. Measures water heights using 3 sensors types, 1 Pressure sensor; 1 radar sensor and 1 Bubbler Sensor type. The Operator for this station is the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center (USA). Portsmouth station is located at the Portsmouth Fisheries Terminal. Measures sea level height using 2 radar sensors and 1 pressure sensor. Marigot Stations is located at the Marigot Fisheries Terminal. It was installed in 2017 along with and stations at Cabrit Cruise Ship Berth. The Portsmouth station was functional and was destroyed during Hurricane Maria in 2017. Marigot Station however never worked after installation.

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- Large population (4,167).
- Large yachting sector.
- History of earthquakes.
- Short evacuation time in case of a local tsunami (in some scenarios ETA is about 4 minutes).
- Portsmouth had also participated in preparedness work for Tsunamis and Early Warning Systems in 2013/2014.

They also have their own town council, Police Station, Fire Station, Hospital and other structures critical for readiness.

We hope to have Portsmouth Tsunami Ready in the next 6 months.

Date: 25/04/2023    Name: Leah St Jean Tyson