



# **ICG/PTWS Scientific meeting of experts, Arica, August. 20-08 2023**

**Meeting of Experts on Tsunami Sources  
and Hazard in Southern Peru and  
Northern Chile**

Diego Arcas

NOAA Center for Tsunami Research

Seattle, WA



# Motivation for the Workshop

- IOC/PTWS Workshops Standardization and Guidance for Potential Tsunami Sources.
- Assessment of current tsunami warning and evacuation capabilities in the region.
- Evaluation of tsunami forecasting capabilities.
- Discussion on regional warning and research instrument networks.
- Open discussion on Seismic and Non-seismic Sources.
- Outcomes



## UNESCO/IOC Workshop Series on Tsunami Sources

- **ICG/CEWS Sources of Tsunamis in the Caribbean with Possibility to Impact the Southern Coast of the Dominican Republic, expert meeting.** Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, May 2016
- **ICG/PTWS Scientific meeting of experts to understand tsunami sources, hazards, risk and uncertainties associated with the Tonga-Kermadec Subduction Zone.** Wellington, New Zealand, October 2018
- **ICG/CEWS Experts Meeting on Sources of Tsunamis in the Lesser Antilles.** Fort-de-France, Martinique (France) March 2019.
- **ICG/PTWS Scientific meeting of experts to understand tsunami sources, hazards, risk and uncertainties associated with the Colombia-Ecuador Subduction Zone.** Guayaquil, Ecuador, Nov. 2020
- **ICG/PTWS Meeting of Experts on Tsunami Sources and Hazard in Southern Peru and Northern Chile.** Arica, Chile, August 2023.



Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission  
Workshop Report No. 276



### Sources of tsunamis in the Caribbean with possibility to impact the southern coast of the Dominican Republic

Expert Meeting  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
6–7 May 2016

UNESCO

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During the first working session, a state of current knowledge was presented, whereas during the second part, experts discussed privately the most likely tsunami sources that might strike the Southern Coast of the Dominican Republic based on current knowledge.

**General session**

The technical working session at the Library of the UASD started with the speaker Roger Acosta, former Director of the Seismological Institute of the Dominican Republic. Acosta synthesized the main thirteen earthquakes affecting the Dominican Republic from the first one in 1615 to the last one in 1984. Acosta said six of these caused casualties but just three caused tsunamis.



Figure 1 - Kick off meeting Group picture.



Figure 2 - Kick off meeting during the working session.

Followed Eric Cahais, Professor at the École Normale Supérieure (France), who mainly talked about present-day tectonics with GPS comparative measurements between each tectonic plate and microplates in the Caribbean, showing basically how GPS velocities can be interpreted both where there is motion (compression/extension, strike-slip and transitional regimes) and where there are no registered movements (rigid behaviour).

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission  
Workshop Report No. 291



### Experts Meeting on Sources of Tsunamis in the Lesser Antilles

Fort-de-France, Martinique (France)  
18–20 March 2019

UNESCO

IOC Workshop Reports, 291  
Paris, September 2020  
English only

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# Tsunami Evacuation Map

## WHAT IS A TSUNAMI?

A tsunami is a series of waves most commonly caused by an earthquake beneath the sea floor. As tsunamis enter shallow water near land, they increase in height and can cause great loss of life and property damage where they come ashore. Recent research suggests that tsunamis have struck the Washington coast on a regular basis. They can occur at any time of

the day or night, under any and all weather conditions,

and in all seasons. Beaches open to the ocean, bay entrances, tidal flats, and coastal rivers are especially vulnerable to tsunamis.

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A 'DISTANT' AND A 'LOCAL' TSUNAMI?

When a tsunami has been generated by a distant earthquake, it will not reach the Washington coast for

several hours, and there is time to issue a warning.

When a tsunami is generated by a strong earthquake in

the Puget Sound area, its first waves would reach the

inland shorelines minutes after the ground stops shaking. Feeling an earthquake could be your only warning!

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PROTECT MYSELF FROM A TSUNAMI?

>Develop a family disaster plan. Everyone needs to know what to do on their own to protect themselves in

case of disaster.

>Be familiar with local earthquake and tsunami plans.

Know where to go to survive a tsunami. Identify an evacuation site within 15 minutes walking distance of home and/or work.

## HOW DO I KNOW WHEN TO EVACUATE?

If you feel the ground shake, evacuate inland to high ground immediately! A wave as high as 30 feet could reach the Port of Tacoma area within 10-15 minutes of the quake. The first wave is often not the largest; successive waves may be spaced many minutes apart and continue to arrive for several hours. Return only after emergency officials say it is safe.

## WHERE DO I EVACUATE TO?

The map shows primary tsunami hazard zone (salmon), secondary tsunami hazard zones (yellow) and areas of higher ground (light green) and arrows (blue) for suggested evacuation routes to high ground.

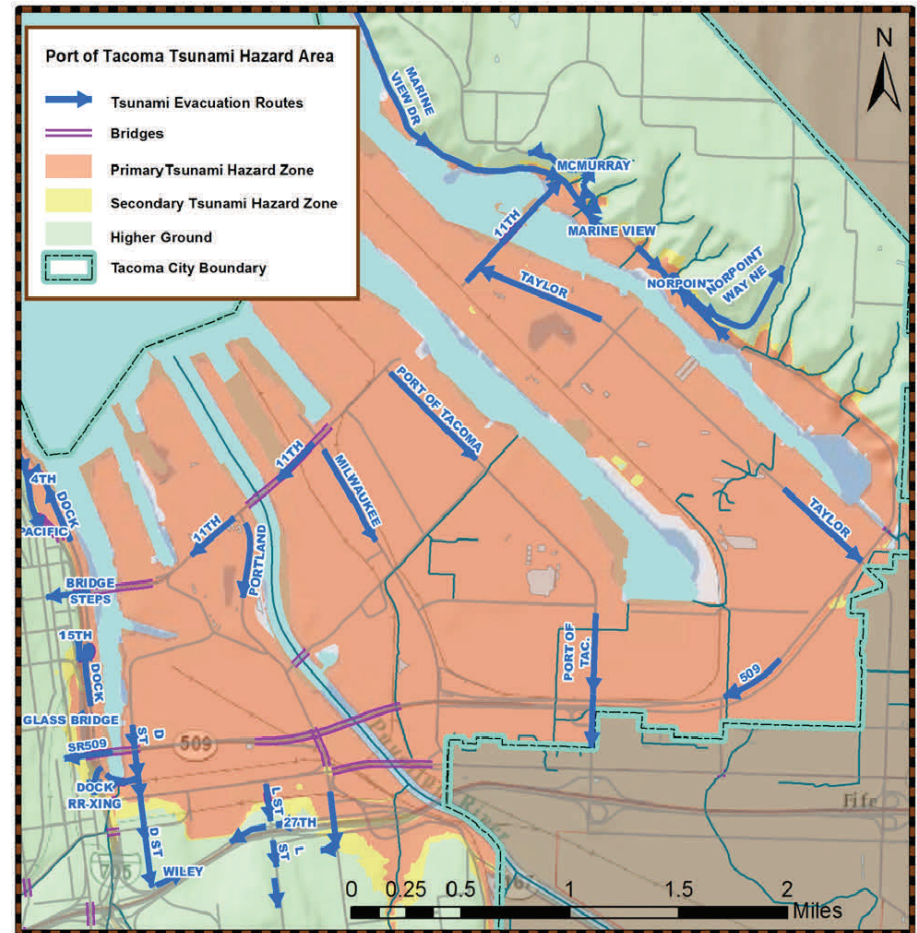
Go to the nearest high ground—at least 30 feet above sea level, if possible 50 feet. If you don't



have time to travel to high ground, but are in a multi-story building, go to an upper level.

## WHAT DO THE EVACUATION SIGNS MEAN?

Tsunami evacuation routes were developed to guide residents and visitors to safer locations when evacuation is possible. Evacuation signs along the main roads direct pedestrians and motorists to higher ground. In some places, there may be more than one way to reach safer areas. These routes are marked with multiple signs showing additional options for evacuation. In some instances walking/running will be



## HOW DO I GET INLAND OR TO HIGH GROUND?

Car evacuation may not be possible if an earthquake has damaged roads and power

lines and resulted in significant debris. If this is the case, evacuate on foot directly to the nearest high ground. Avoid lakes and wetlands, which are prone to flooding

# Tsunami Hazard Map (Inundation Map)

## Tsunami Hazard Map of Tacoma, Washington: Model Results for Seattle Fault and Tacoma Fault Earthquake Tsunamis

by  
Timothy J. Walsh<sup>1</sup>, Diego Arcas<sup>2</sup>, Angie J. Ventura<sup>3</sup>, Vasily V. Titov<sup>4</sup>, Harold O. Mofjeld<sup>5</sup>, Chris C. Chamberlin<sup>6</sup>, and Frank I. González<sup>6</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources, PO Box 47007, Olympia, WA 98504-47007; tim.walsh@dnr.wa.gov  
<sup>2</sup>NOAA Center for Tsunami Research, NOAA/PMEL/LLWUISAKO, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

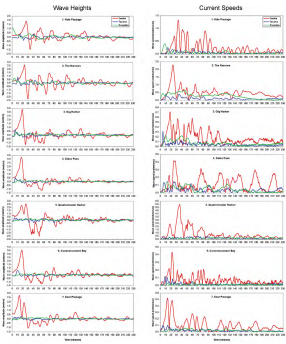
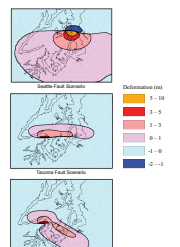
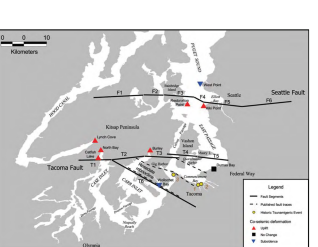
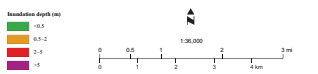
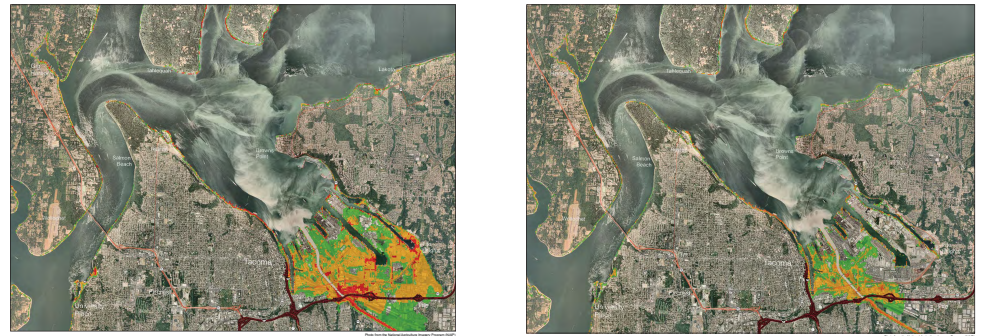
[The Seattle Fault modeling below is superseded by Map Series 2022-03]

[The Tacoma fault modeling and Tacoma-Rosedale fault modeling below is NOT superseded]

### Modeled Inundation from a Seattle Fault Tsunami



### Modeled Inundation from a Tacoma Fault (left) and a Tacoma-Rosedale Fault (right) Tsunami



**ABSTRACT**  
Natural likelihood of tsunami generated by rupture on the Seattle Fault and the Tacoma Fault show that Tacoma would be subjected to larger and more damaging waves than Seattle. Earthquake modeling using the Seattle Fault as a model for the Tacoma Fault shows that the Tacoma Fault rupture would generate a tsunami with a maximum inundation depth of about 10 m in the center of the Puget Sound. Although the Port of Tacoma has experienced enhanced dredging and filling, there is still potential for the main basin of the Puget Sound to be filled with sediment. Sediment in the main basin would be displaced by the tsunami, and the resulting tsunami would be larger than that from a Tacoma Fault event. This model will help guide future land-use planning and post-tsunami investigation of a 10 m inundation depth and potential for erosion along the Tacoma Fault earthquake, which was about 100 years ago but is still considered.

**INTRODUCTION**  
In 1993 Congress created the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/NOAA to develop a program for the United States to respond effectively to a potential catastrophe from the Pacific Ocean. One of the major responsibilities of NOAA is to provide information on the natural hazards that threaten the United States. One of the major responsibilities of NOAA is to provide information on the natural hazards that threaten the United States. One of the major responsibilities of NOAA is to provide information on the natural hazards that threaten the United States.

**THE SEATTLE FAULT**  
Geographic information systems (GIS) are used to model the Seattle Fault. The Seattle Fault is a major geological feature in the Puget Sound region of Washington. The Seattle Fault is a major geological feature in the Puget Sound region of Washington. The Seattle Fault is a major geological feature in the Puget Sound region of Washington.

**THE TACOMA FAULT**  
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**MODELING**  
The model used in this study is based on the Method of Images (MORI) model (Titov and Gonzalez, 1997) and was used by Titov (2000). The model used in this study is based on the Method of Images (MORI) model (Titov and Gonzalez, 1997) and was used by Titov (2000).

**REFERENCES**  
Arcas, D., Walsh, T. J., Titov, V. V., Chamberlin, C. C., and Gonzalez, F. I., 2007. Tsunami hazard assessment for the Tacoma Fault, Puget Sound, Washington. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 112, C08001, doi:10.1029/2006JC004111.  
Chamberlin, C. C., Walsh, T. J., and Gonzalez, F. I., 2007. Tsunami hazard assessment for the Seattle Fault, Puget Sound, Washington. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 112, C08002, doi:10.1029/2006JC004112.  
Titov, V. V., and Gonzalez, F. I., 1997. Tsunami hazard assessment for the Puget Sound, Washington. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 102, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Handwritten signature: Timothy J. Walsh  
Date: 7-8-09

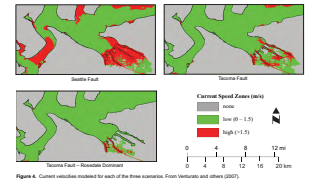


Figure 4. Current velocities modeled for each of the three scenarios. Foot: Vectorial and other (2007).

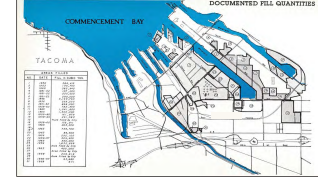
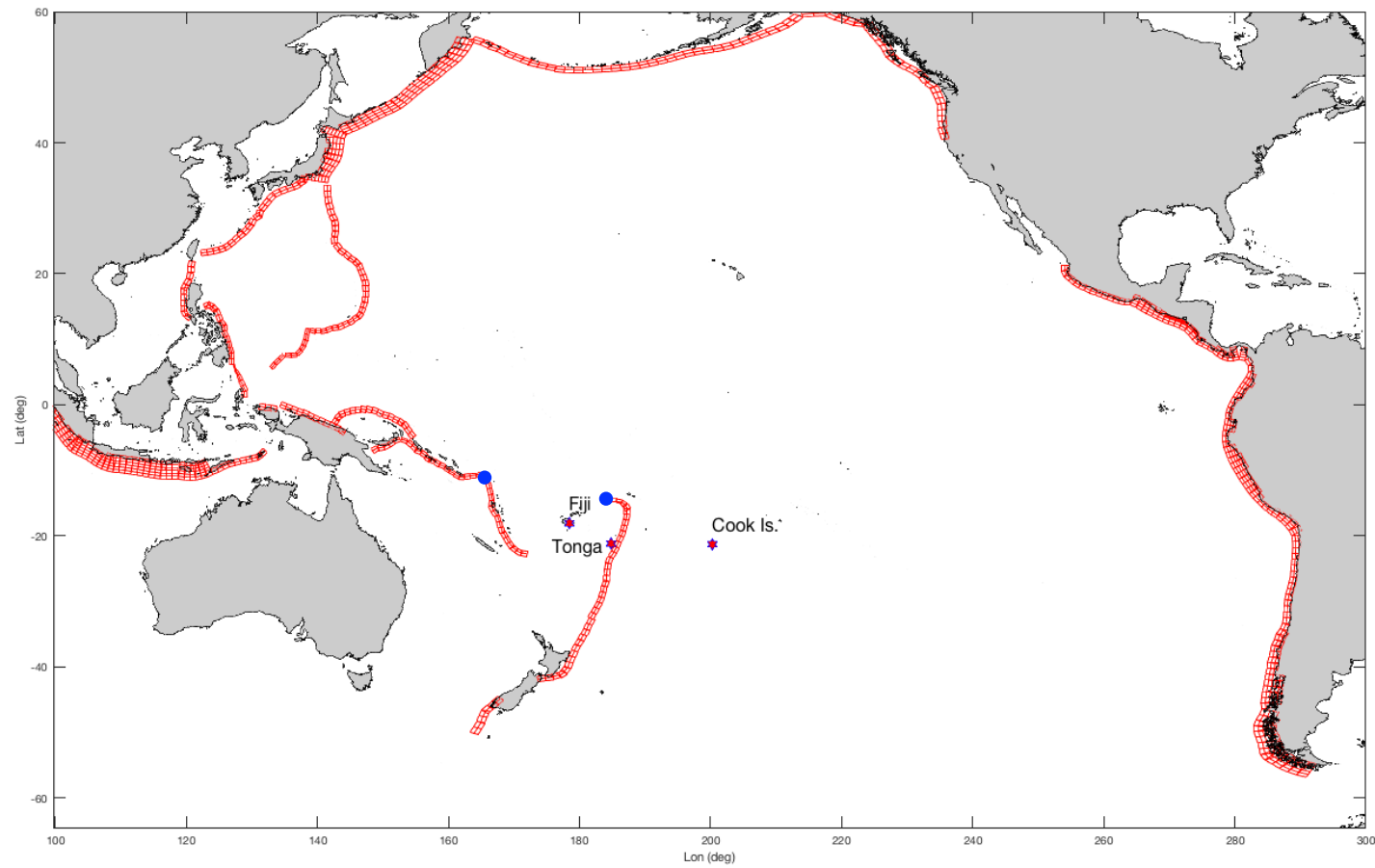


Figure 5. Known fill quantities and dates of emplacement at the Port of Tacoma. Foot: Chamberlin and Associates, Inc. (1984).



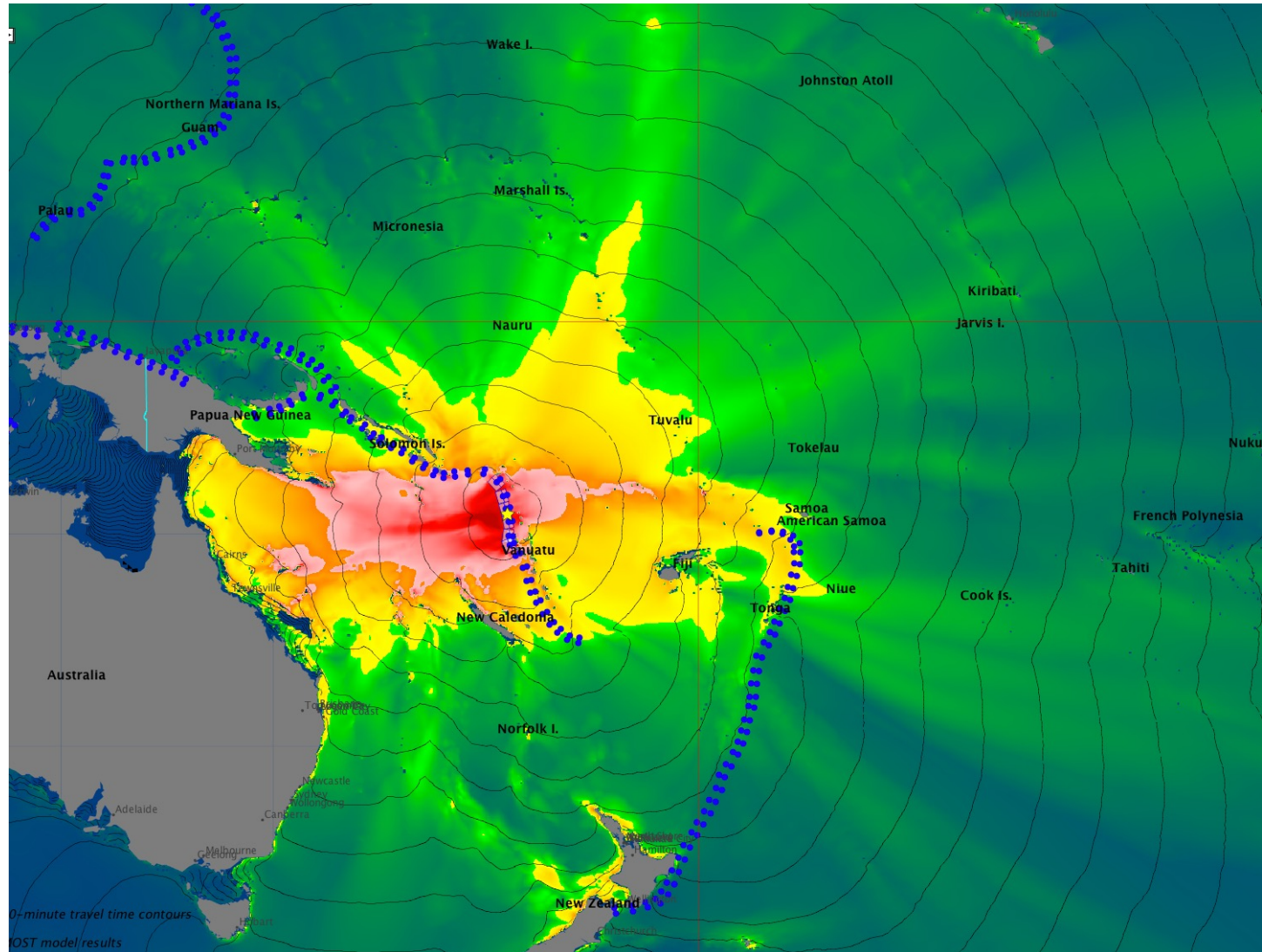
# NCTR Tsunami Hazard Assessment Methodology

## NCTR Precomputed Sources

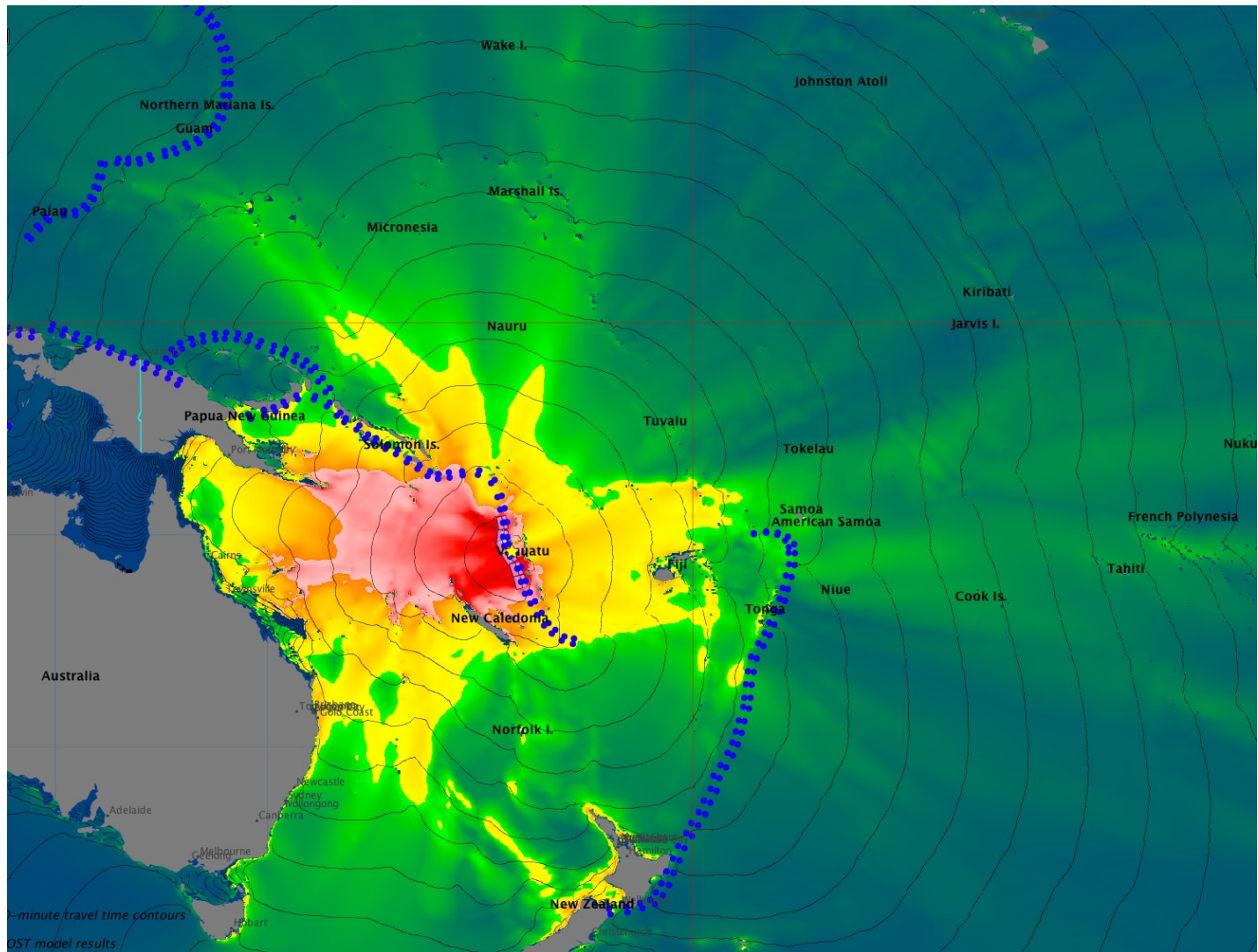




# Tsunami Energy- Directivity (New Hebrides Subduction Zone)

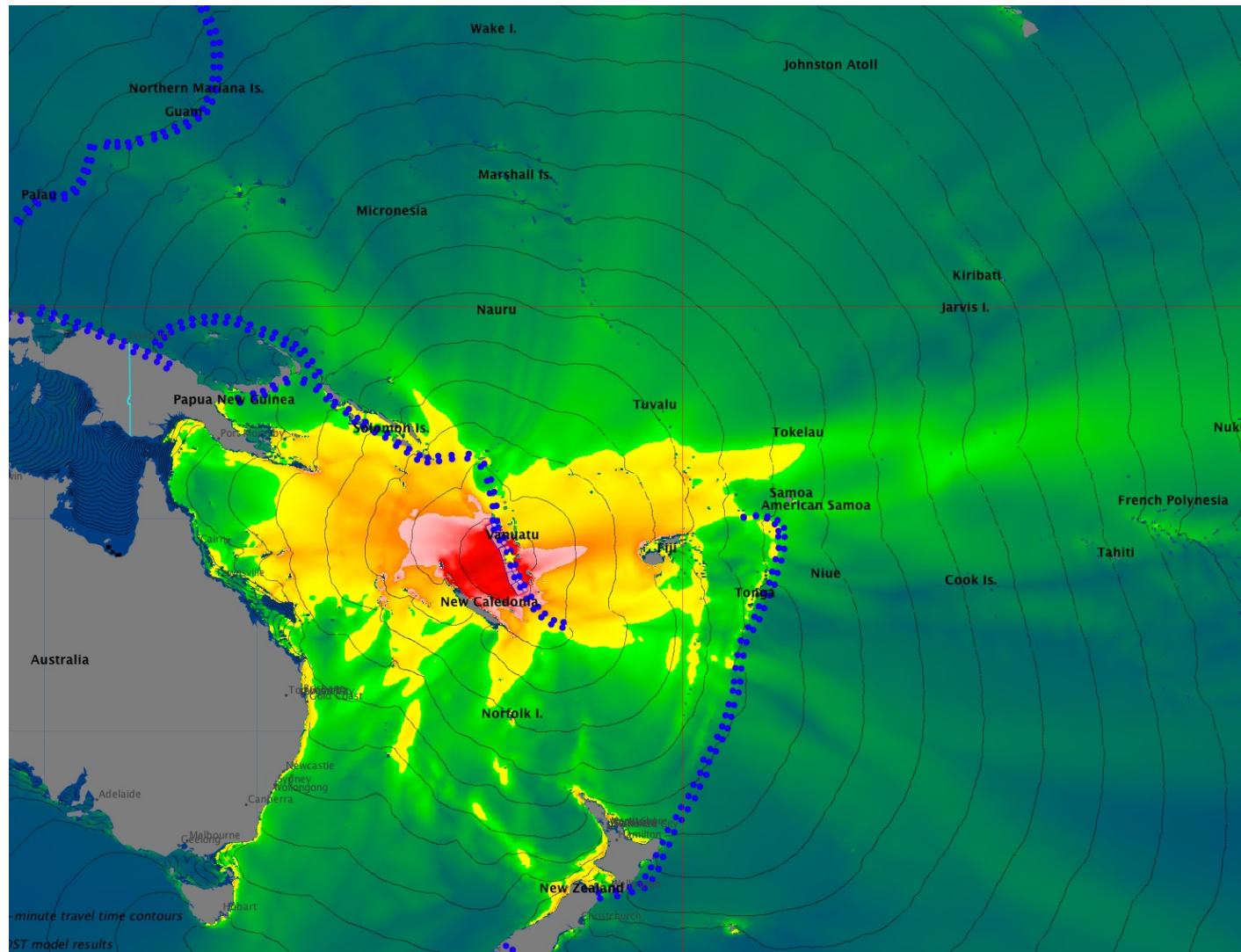


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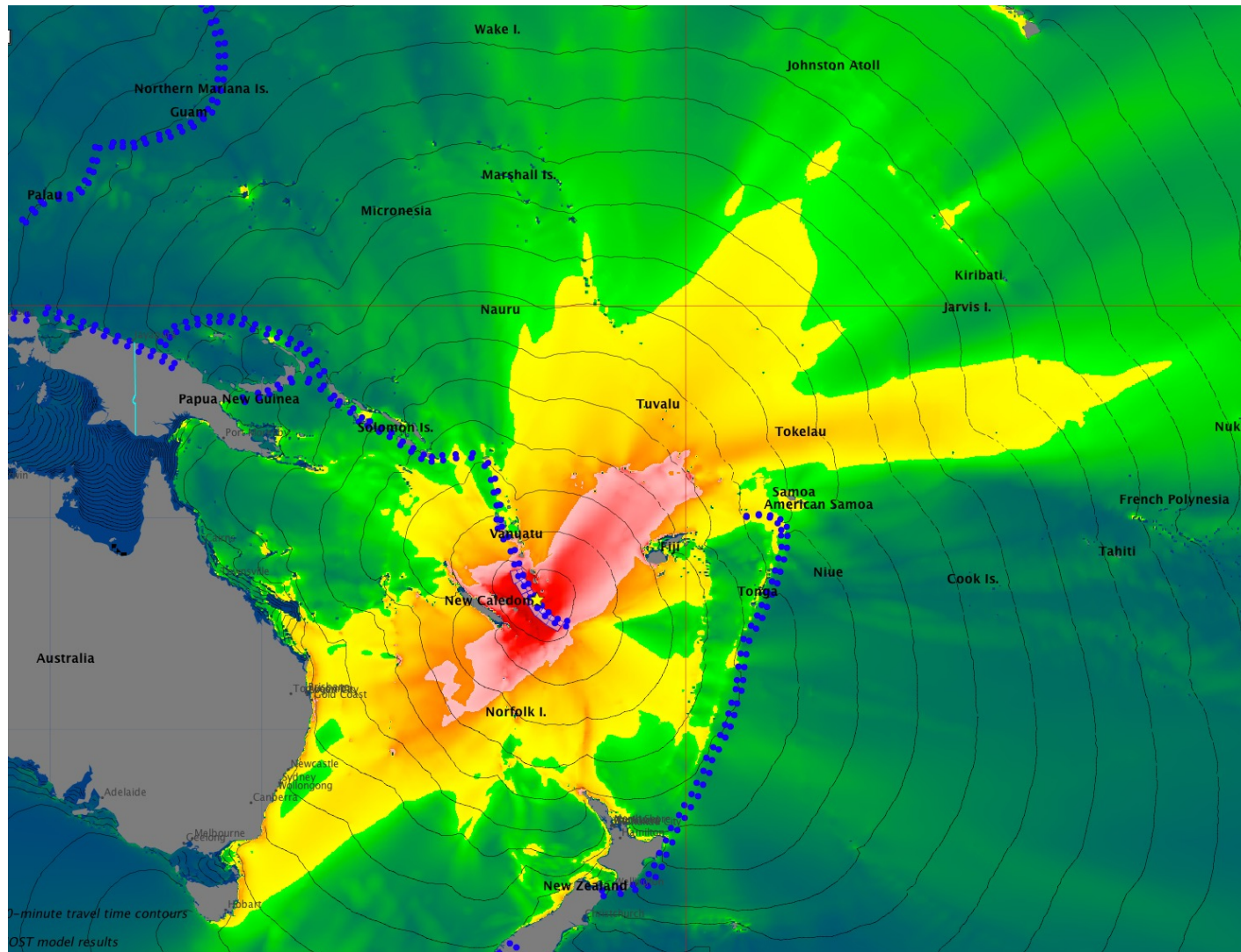




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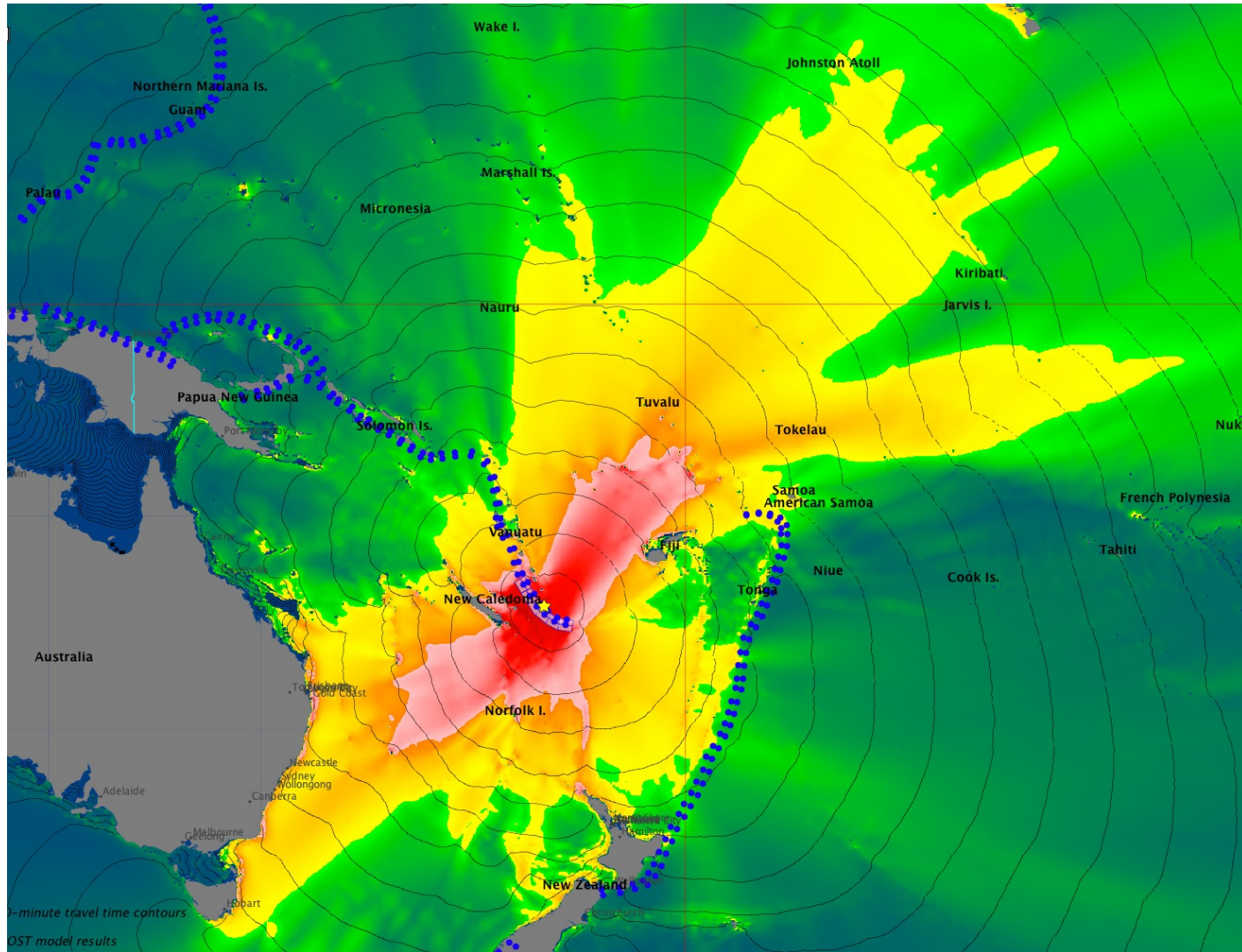
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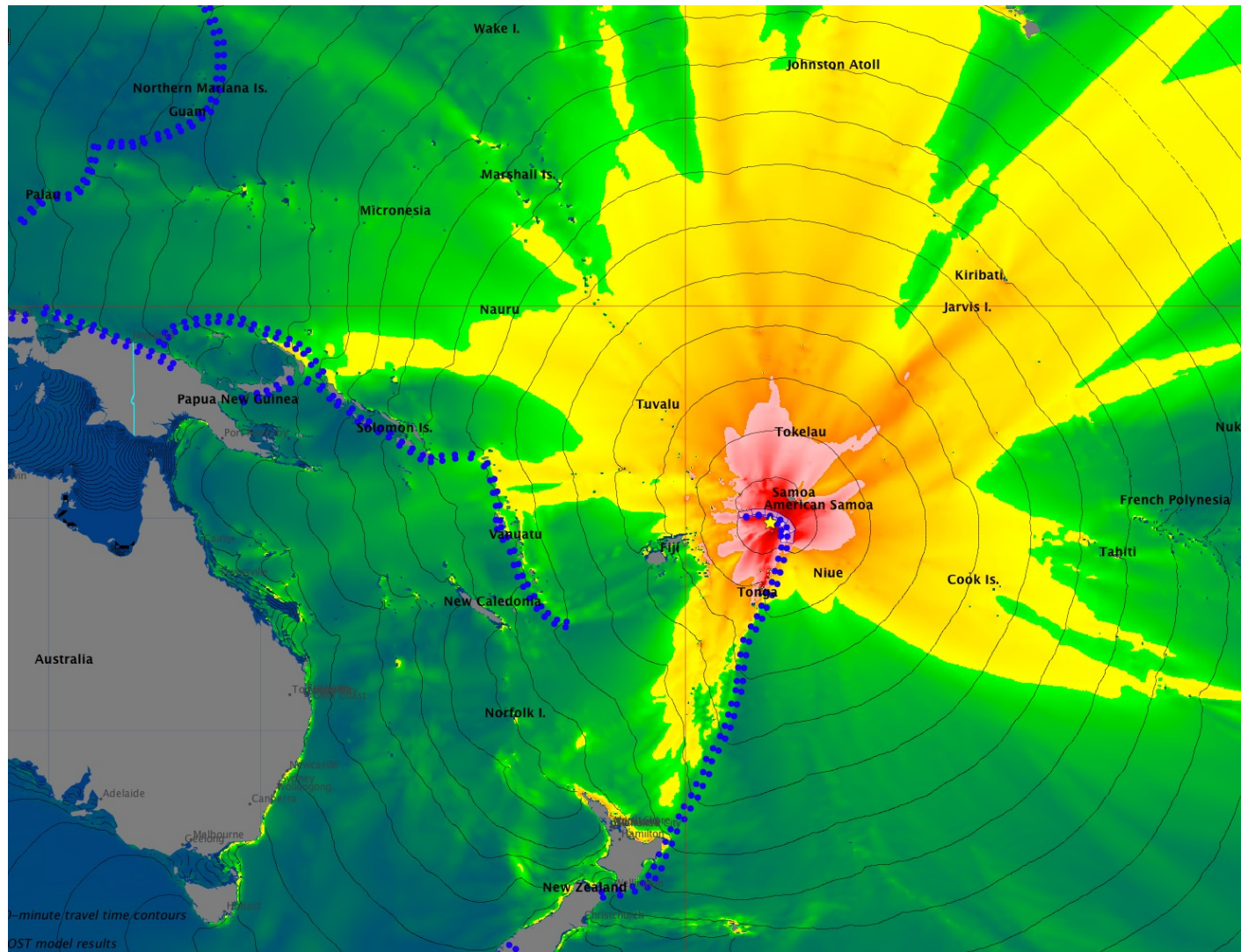


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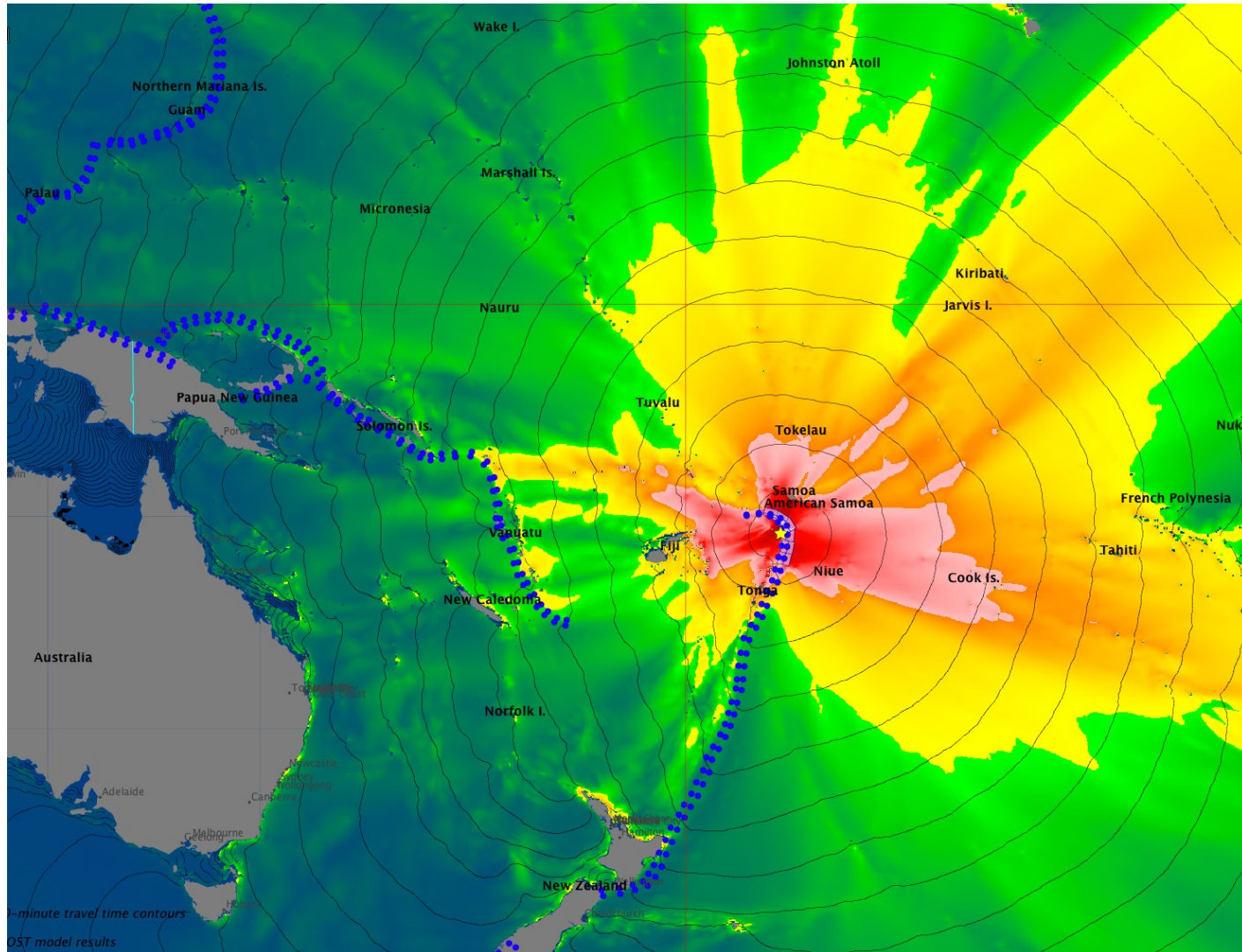




## Tsunami Energy- Directivity (Kermadec-Tonga Subduction Zone)

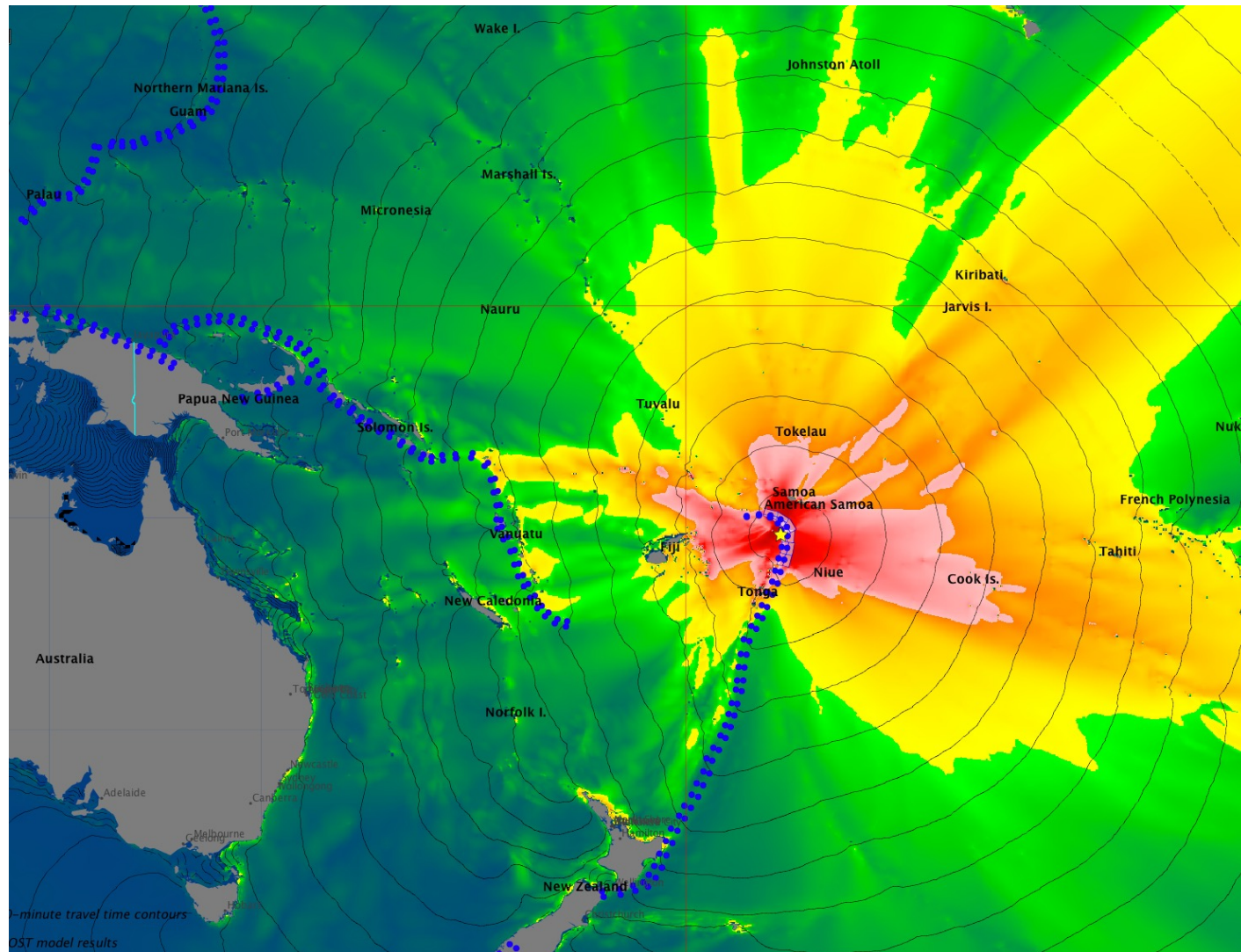


## Tsunami Energy- Directivity (Kermadec-Tonga Subduction Zone)

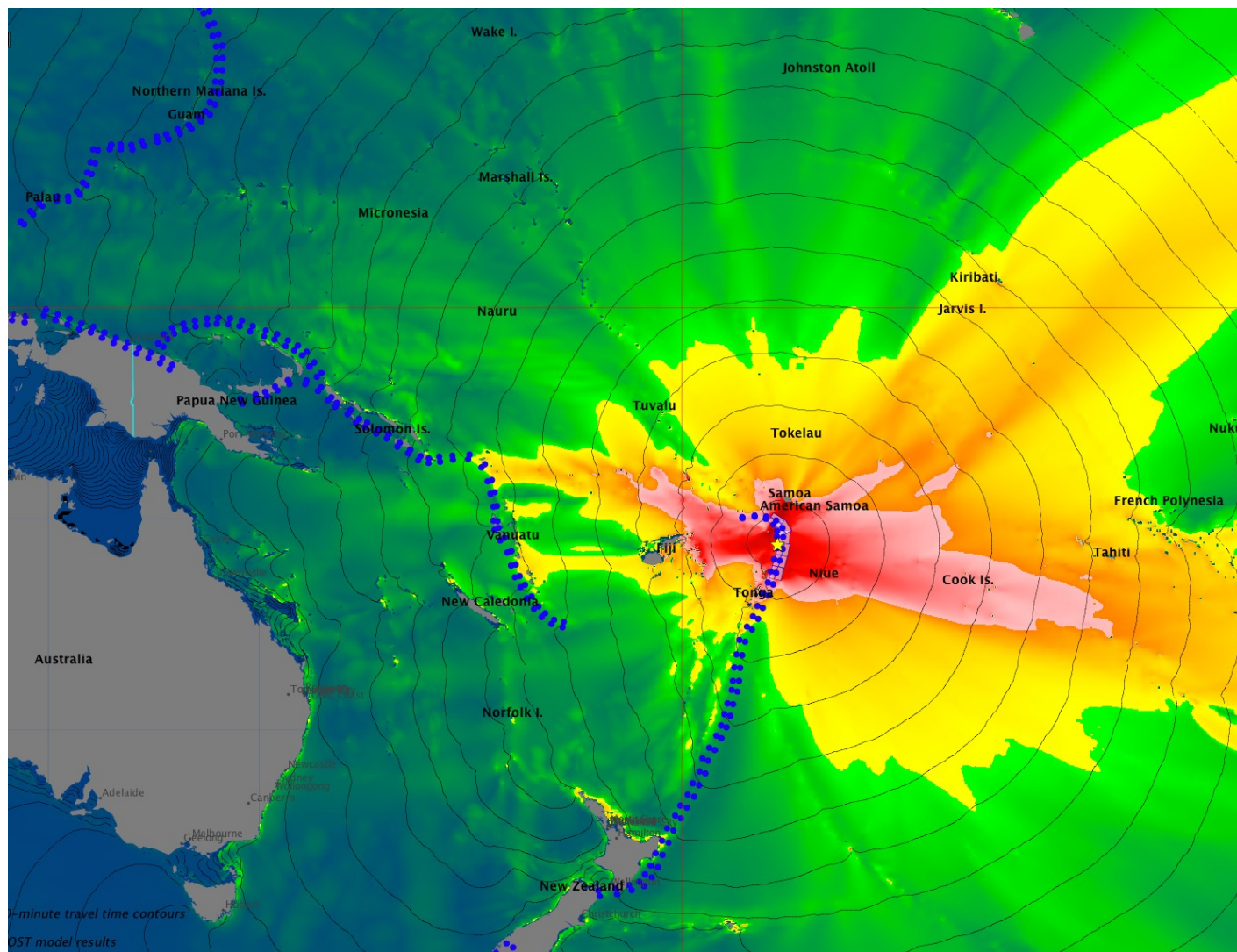




## Tsunami Energy- Directivity (Kermadec-Tonga Subduction Zone)

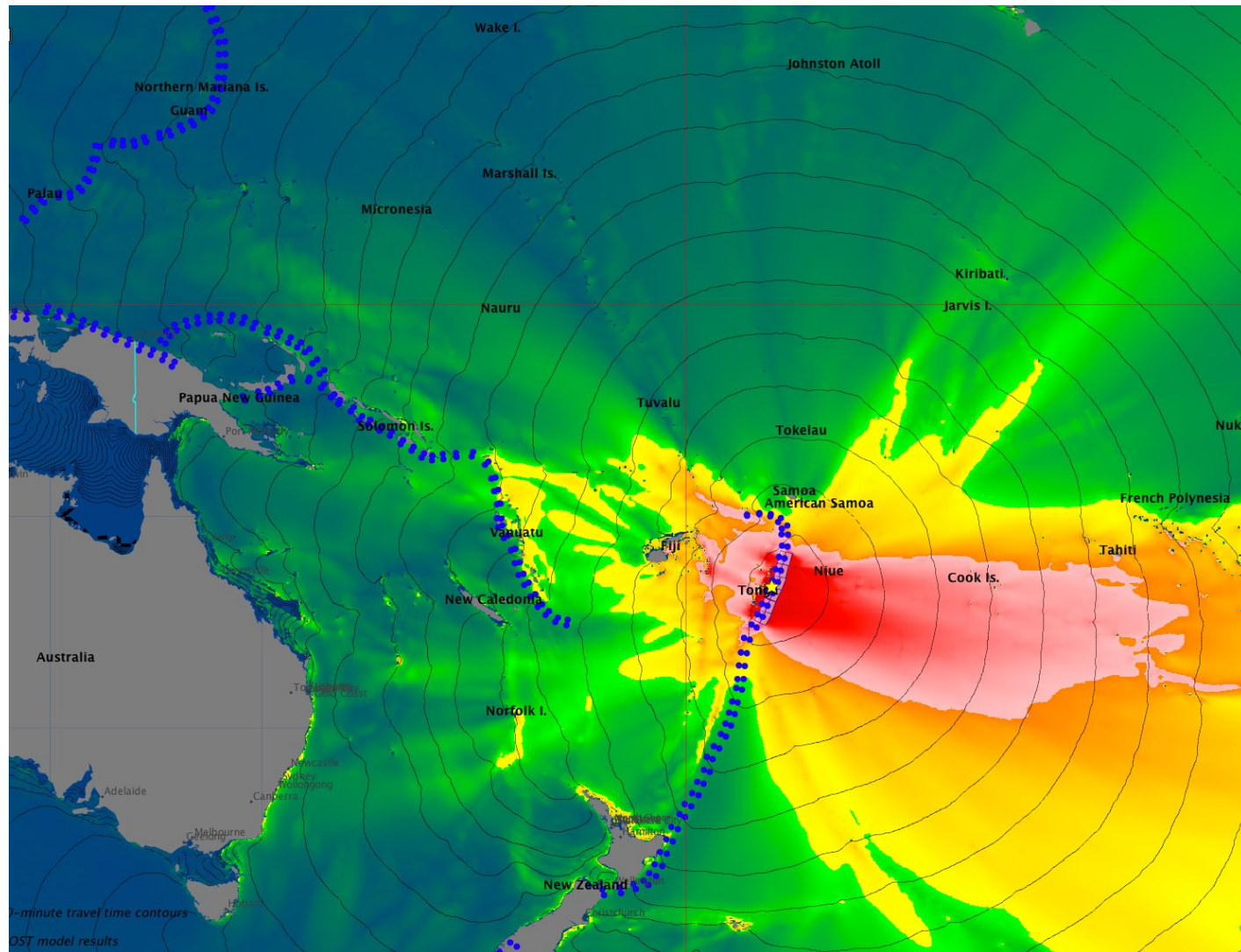


## Tsunami Energy- Directivity (Kermadec-Tonga Subduction Zone)

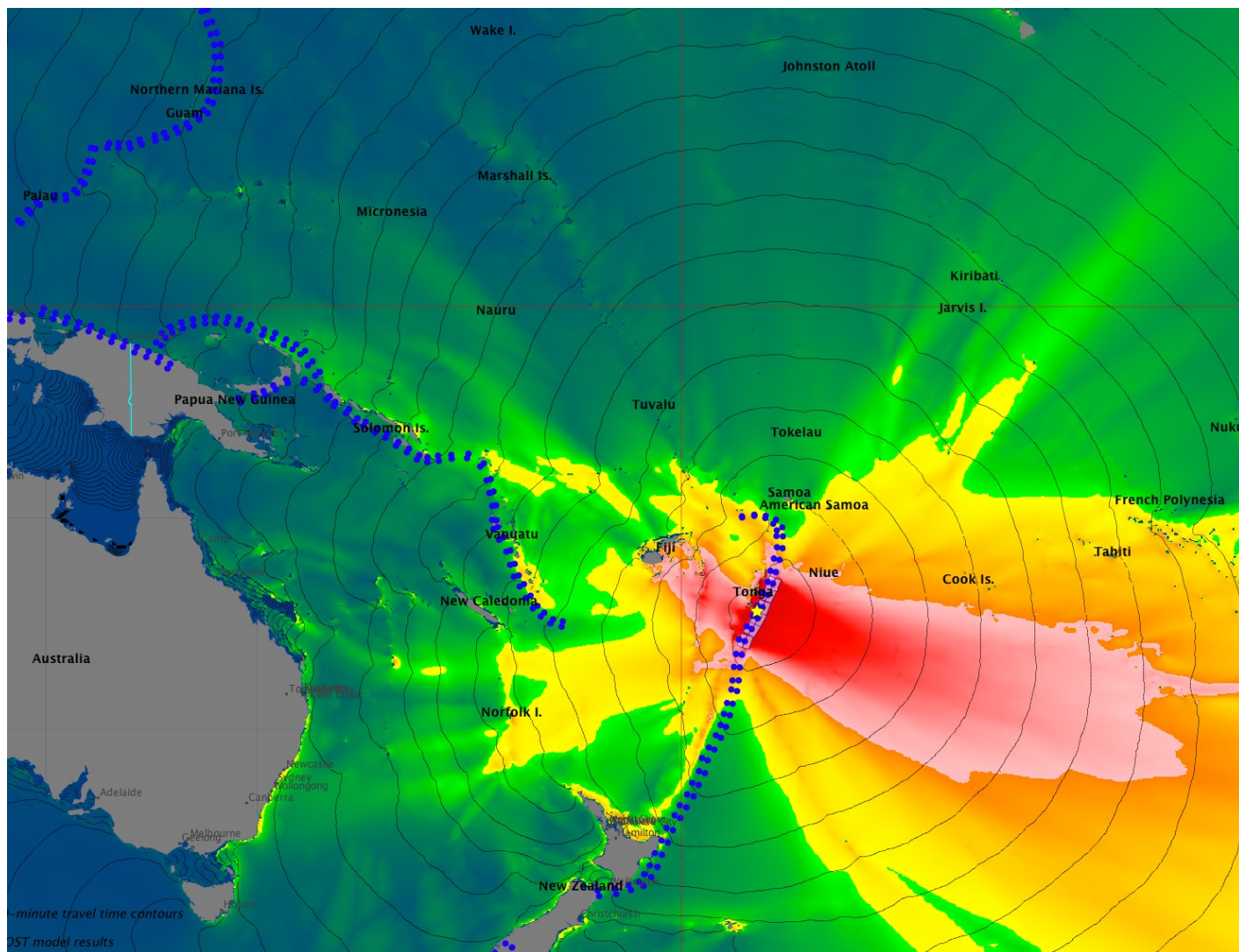




## Tsunami Energy- Directivity (Kermadec-Tonga Subduction Zone)

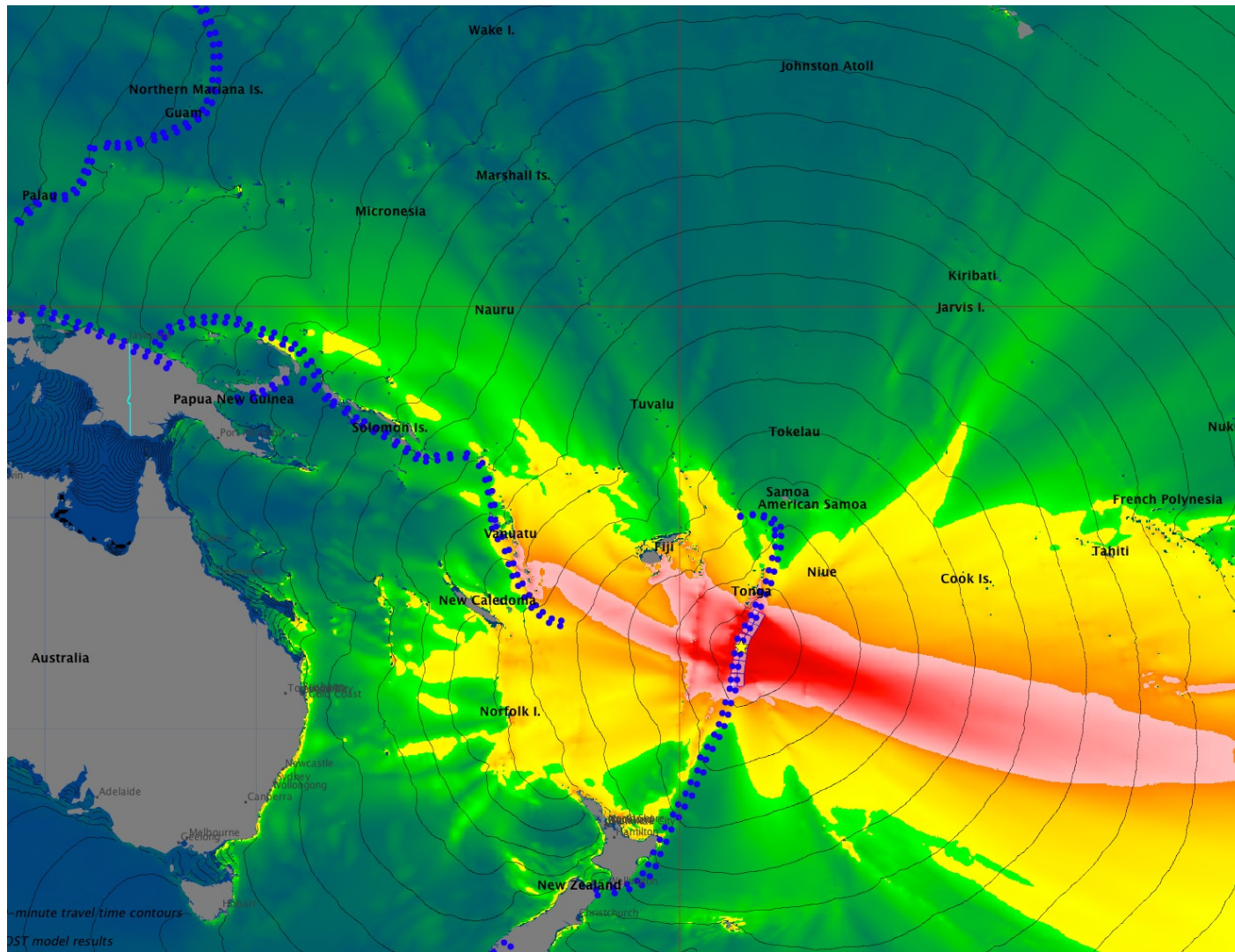


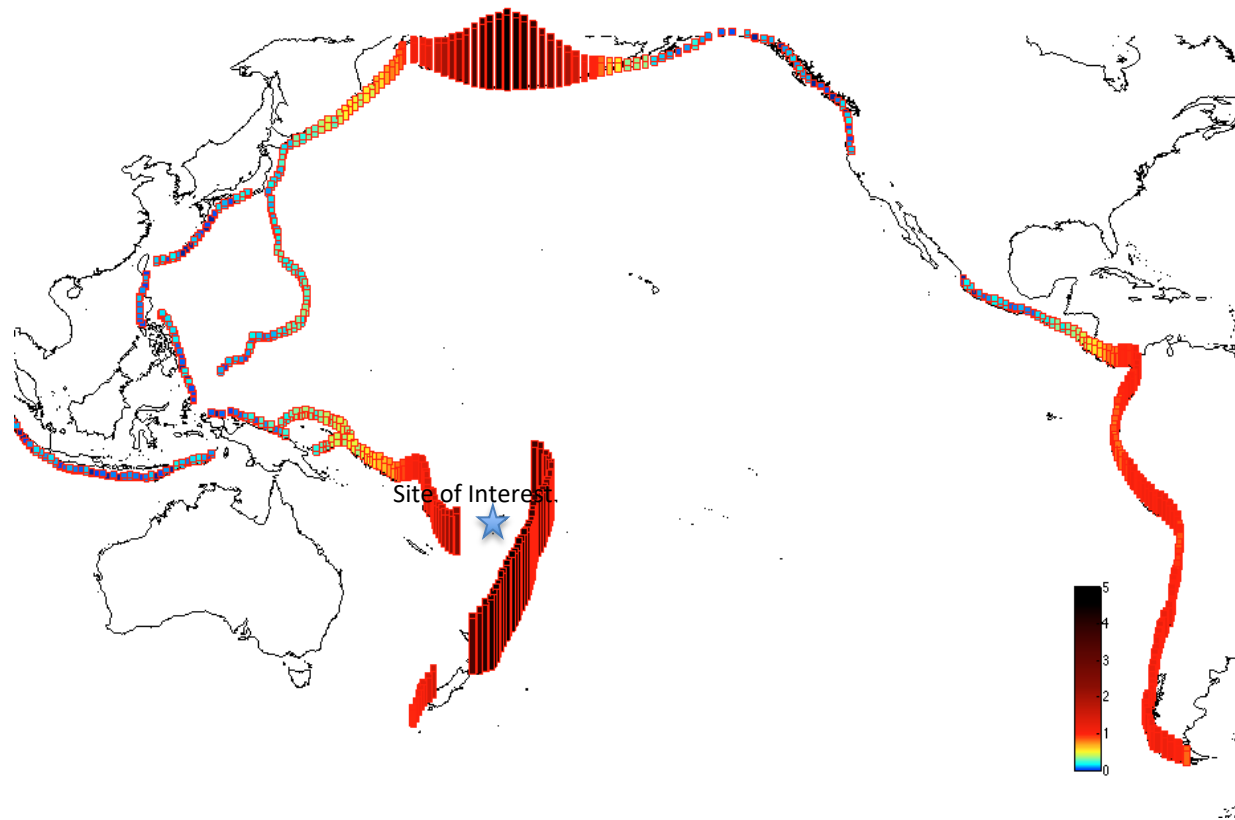
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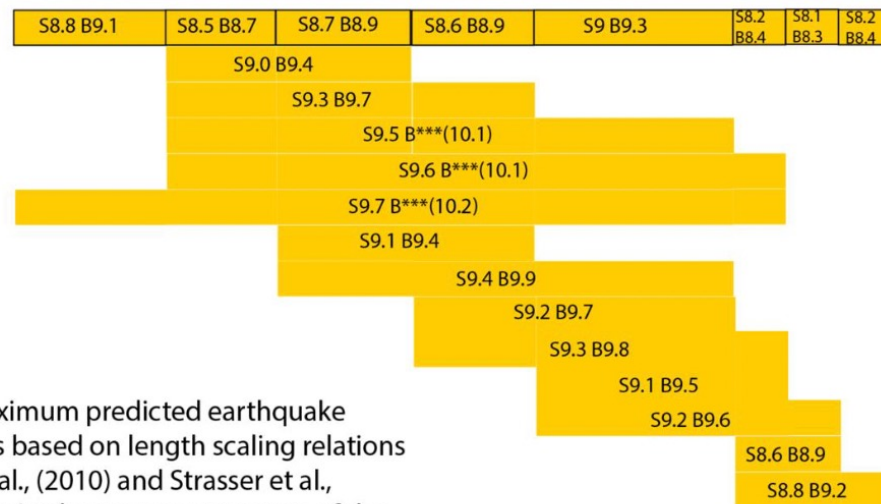
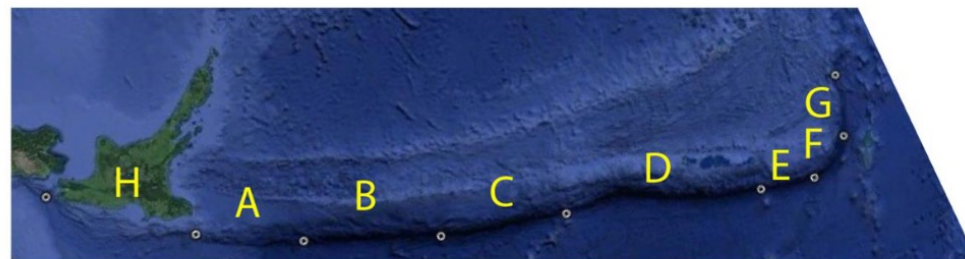








## Estimation of Tsunami Sources Along the Tonga-Keramdec Subduction Zone



Median maximum predicted earthquake magnitudes based on length scaling relations in Blaser et al., (2010) and Strasser et al., (2010). Magnitudes represent rupture of the entire segment(s).

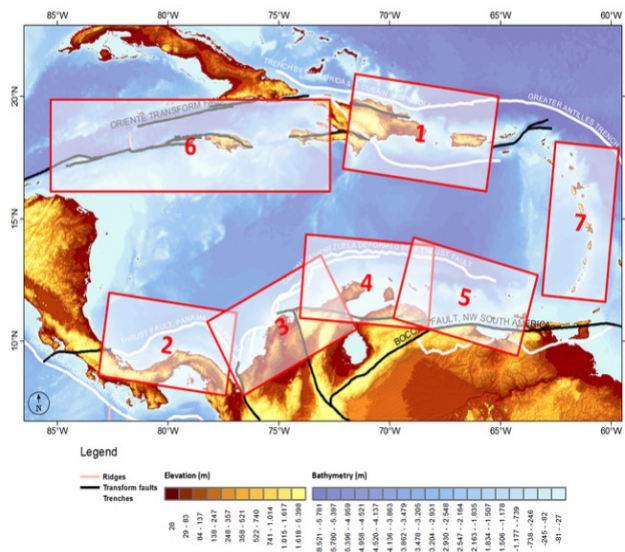

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Figure 10.-General overview of main tectonic structures (from <http://ig.utexas.edu/marine-and-tectonics/plates-project/>; background elevation from GEBCO08). Red boxes include the following sources: box 1, near sources (WMT, SMT1, SMT2, MS, PRT, MEF, CS); boxes 2 to 5: distant sources (NPDB, WSCDB, FSCDB); boxes 6 and 7 other sources (not included in **Erreur ! Source du renvoi introuvable.**).

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Scenario	Lat	Lon	Water/EQ Depth	Strike	Dip	Rake	Slip	Length	Width	Mw
1. WMT	17.6	-69.5	2.7/2.5	280	9	90	4	290	30	8.0
2. SMT1	17.6	-70.0	3.8/2.5	285	11	90	3	140	25	7.6
3. SMT2	17.4	-68.7	3.7/2.5	275	10	90	3	150	25	7.6
4. MS	17.7	-69.8	2/3.5	279	14	90	3	190	20	7.7
5. NPDB	9.8	-77.8	25	142	40	90	10	243	80	8.5
6. WSCDB	12.3	-73.7	25	53	17	90	7.4	500	90	8.6
7. ESCDB*	13.1	-69.3	20	96	20	90	8.03	500	90	8.7
8. FSCDB**	**Composite sources (WSCDB + ESCDB)**									
9. PRT	19.3	-66.5	20	86	20	23	8.0	500	110	8.7
10. MEF	18.3	-67.8	10	110	70	270	6.0	80	20	7.6

Table 1-Tsunami source parameters provided during the meeting. Lat/Long coordinates are in WGS84. Strike, dip and rake in degrees. Depth, length and width in km. Depth is expressed as Water depth / Earthquake depth in some cases. Values of event Mw were computed using the Seismic Moment relationship (see text for description). Relations between average displacement (D) and fault dimensions for M0 computations were estimated following Wells and Coppersmith (1994) equation  $[5.08 + 1.16 * \text{Log}(\text{SRL})]$ . Source FSCDB below with star indicate a composite source using two segments; WSCDB and ESCDB, western and eastern SCDB segments, respectively.

\*Eastern segment of the Southern Caribbean Deformed Belt was not simulated as a single source.

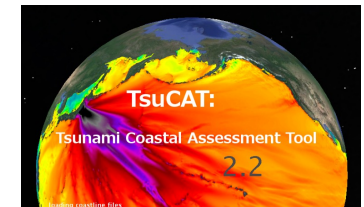
\*\* Entire rupture of the Southern Caribbean Deformed Belt using both western and eastern segments.

Scenario	Lat	Long	Water Depth (km)	Volume
CS	17.6	-69.6	3.4	320 km2 x 0.7 km = 224 km3



## TsuCAT: Tsunami Coastal Assessment Tool (NCTR, ITIC)

- **Why / What:** Request by Pacific Islands for warning DSS  
Gives country capacity to assess tsunami hazard
- **Tool use:**
  - Planning tool - assess threat before – ‘energy beams’
  - Decision system support tool – Customize country sub-regions (polygons), Quick, early assessment through DB lookup
  - Exercise tool – develop scenarios to use (v4.0, April 2019)
- **Features:**
  - Database: ~5000 earthquake scenarios from along active subduction zones, Pacific, Caribbean, Indian Ocean (M6.5-9.5)
  - Results from NOAA models (MOST/SIFT (M8+), RIFT (M6.5-7.9))
    - Offshore max amplitude / coastal wave amplitude (Green’s Law)
    - PTWC or User custom forecast polygons





# Source Impact Estimation Tools: TsuCat



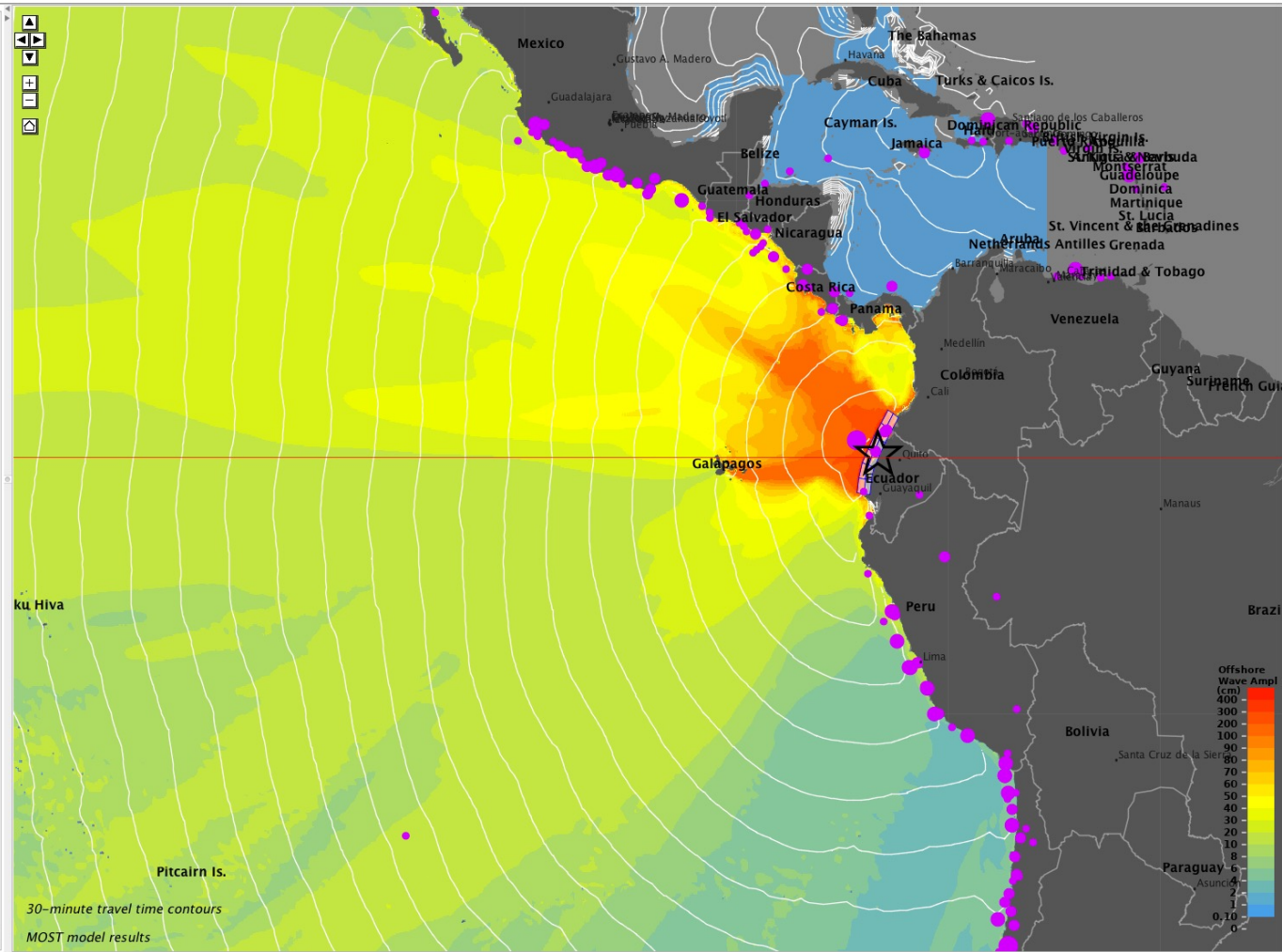
Tsunami Coastal Assessment Tool

Epicerter, Lat:  Lon:

Mw:  Event:

Display Layers

- Offshore Wave Ampl. [cm]
- Travel Time [hrs]
- Earthquake Epicenters
- Nearest Source Epicenter
- PropDB Epicenters
- Tsunami Observations
- Plate Boundaries
- Coastal Hazard Guidance
- Place Names
- User-supplied Maps
- Warning Polygons
  - PTWC Polygons
  - Custom Polygons



30-minute travel time contours  
MOST model results



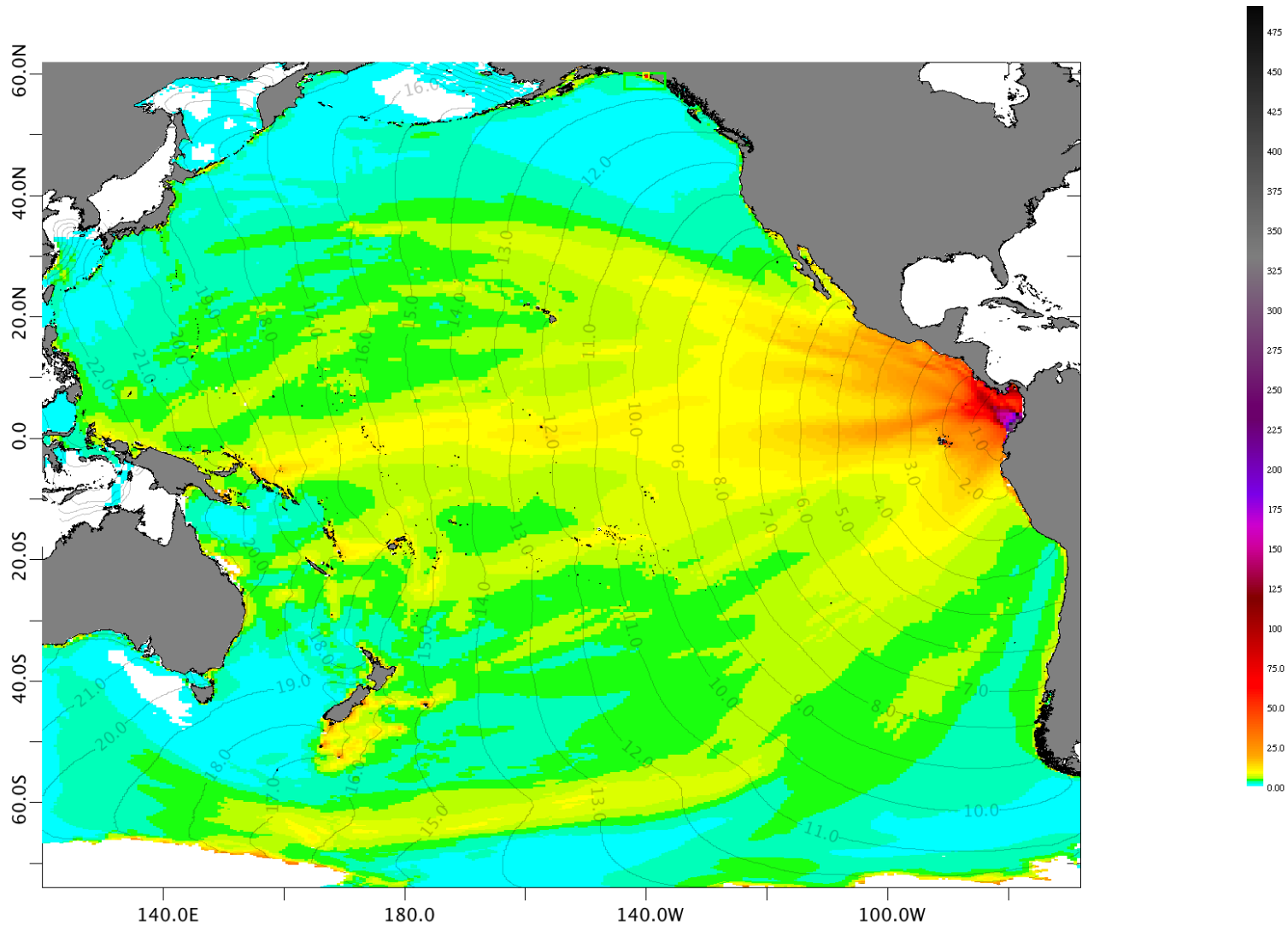
## ComMIT: Community Model Interface for Tsunamis

- **Why / What:** ComMIT is a Graphical User Interface to the Tsunami Numerical Code, MOST.
- **Tool use:**
  - Inundation modeling of at-risk communities.
- **Features:**
  - Online access to the NOAA database of unit sources with full-basin visualization of max amplitude.
  - DEM generation assistance tool.
  - Access to NCTR database of historical event sources.
  - Real-time visualization of model solutions.
  - Tool to create composite wave files into GIS





# Source Impact Estimation Tools: ComMIT





**Thank You**  
**Have a Productive Workshop**