

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

NEWS RELEASE: March 3, 2008

New map identifies tsunami hazards for Florence, Oregon

Portland, Oregon: A new map that highlights three different size tsunamis that could strike Florence has been published by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI).

"This scenario map shows how three different tsunamis generated by an off-shore earthquake might affect the area," explains Dr. George Priest, a coastal hazards geologist with DOGAMI, who prepared the map.

IMS-25 - Tsunami Hazard Map of the Florence-Siuslaw River Area, Lane County, Oregon, by George Priest, Arun Chawla, and Jonathan C. Allan may be viewed as a guide for evacuation and emergency response planning in the event of an earthquake and tsunami. The map is not intended to be used for site specific planning.

"Scientific research in the past two decades has established that great (magnitude 8 to 9) undersea earthquakes off the Oregon coast cause devastating tsunamis to strike every 300 to 600 years," said Priest. "The last event was 308 years ago, on **January 26, 1700**, so another could happen at any time. The earthquake itself might last up to four minutes, damaging roads, bridges and other facilities. Within about 15-30 minutes after the start of the earthquake the first of several large tsunami waves would hit this part of the coast."

"Tsunamis are one of the most dangerous **natural disasters that could affect the Oregon coast**," notes James Roddey, Earth Sciences Information Officer with DOGAMI. "And because of that, it's important that people know the safest way to get to high ground and out of harms way. In addition to hazard maps, the state has partnered with coastal communities to make over **20 evacuation maps**. Our scientists are also doing cutting edge mapping and computer modeling in the Cannon Beach area to better understand the nature of possible tsunamis. This research will eventually be applied to the whole Oregon coast."

IMS 25 - Tsunami Hazard Map of the Florence-Siuslaw River Area is available on CD-ROM for \$10. Printed copies of the maps are \$15. They can be purchased from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE

**800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.com
(971) 673-1555**

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@dogami.state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

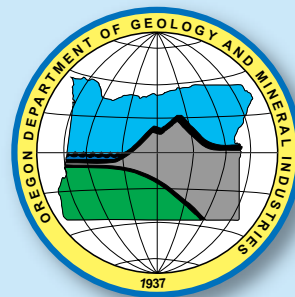
Mineral Land Regulation
and Reclamation Program
229 Broadalbin Street, SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 967-2039
Gary W. Lynch, Assistant Director

Baker City Field Office
1510 Campbell Street
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3133
Mark L. Ferns, Regional Geologist

Coastal Field Office
313 SW 2nd Street, Suite D
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-6642
Jonathan C. Allan, Coastal
Team Leader

Grants Pass Field Office
5375 Monument Drive
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(541) 476-2496
Thomas J. Wiley, Regional Geologist

The Nature of the Northwest
Information Center
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(503) 872-2750
Donald J. Haines, Manager
Internet: <http://www.NatureNW.org>



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Oregon Street, Suite 177, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (503) 872-2750 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items. For additional information, please contact the Nature of the Northwest Information Center. Additionally, these items as well as all department maps and publications can be purchased at DOGAMI Field Offices including 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496 and 1510 Campbell Street, Baker City, (541) 523-3133.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State, and has a broad responsibility in developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:
<http://www.OregonGeology.com>

**800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.com
(971) 673-1555**

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@dogami.state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

Mineral Land Regulation
and Reclamation Program
229 Broadalbin Street, SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 967-2039
Gary W. Lynch, Assistant Director

Baker City Field Office
1510 Campbell Street
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3133
Mark L. Ferns, Regional Geologist

Coastal Field Office
313 SW 2nd Street, Suite D
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-6642
Jonathan C. Allan, Coastal
Team Leader

Grants Pass Field Office
5375 Monument Drive
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(541) 476-2496
Thomas J. Wiley, Regional Geologist

The Nature of the Northwest
Information Center
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(503) 872-2750
Donald J. Haines, Manager
Internet: <http://www.NatureNW.org>

