



CFB ESQUIMALT

Tsunami Warning System Information

28 January 2015



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Overview

- CFB Esquimalt is installing a Mass Notification System (MNS) which is one of the most effective methods of rapidly conveying a message to personnel. The MNS is an audible warning system consisting of a network of radio controlled public address speakers, and with proper education, using the system can result in fast and efficient notification of various situations.
- There are currently five sirens located within the confines of CFB Esquimalt: three sirens located in Naden/Dockyard and 2 located at Work Point.



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Brief Format

- Overview
- Activation
- System Messaging
- System Testing
- Questions



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Activation

- Information received in RJOC by SWO (PENS msg)
- Upon indication of requirement, activate appropriate 'alert' siren with Command concurrence
- Send notification email to CFB ESQ/EM pers
- Evac RJOC to Alt location (if req'd)



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What the Sirens will mean

- The Sirens will be used as an all-hazards alerting mechanism (not only for tsunami warning). Note: In the event of a local strong earthquake, activation of sirens might not be possible. Although attempts will be made to initiate the sirens the earthquake itself might be the only reliable warning.



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Education - What to do

1. The sirens are intended to be used to warn of a dangerous situation on base or as a warning for the unlikely event of a when a tsunami is approaching the Esquimalt shoreline. In the latter case, the focus of the sirens will be to warn those who are in the harbour or an inundation zone.
2. If you hear the WAIL TONE accompanied with the Tsunami Alert Voice Message, it is your signal to get to higher ground or to move inland. Note: if you feel the earth shaking, get to higher ground immediately and do NOT wait for the tone.
3. If you hear the WAIL TONE accompanied with the Evacuation Warning Voice Message, it is your signal to leave the base. Depart the base using the most expeditious means as is safe and practicable. Seek out information as to the nature of the evacuation using all available means, local radio, social media etc...
4. If you hear the SHELTER TONE accompanied with the Shelter Voice Message, it is your signal to seek shelter indoors as quickly as possible. Seek out information as to the nature of the emergency using all available means, local radio, social media etc... **As a precaution if asked to take shelter personnel should shut doors and windows and turn off ventilation!**
5. If you hear the SHELTER TONE (shortened to 15 seconds) accompanied with the LOCKDOWN Voice Message, it is your signal to commence lockdown procedures. Seek out information as to the nature of the emergency using all available means, including local radio, social media etc. **As a precaution if asked to take shelter personnel should shut doors and windows and turn off ventilation!**



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Mass Notification System – Alarm Summary

Tone	Activation	Voice Message
TEST TONE (alternating tones) <i><u>"test tone"</u></i>	First Wednesday of each month for 30 seconds at 1100 hrs. Followed by the ALL CLEAR tone	Test Voice Message: "This is a test of the siren system. It is only a test. If this had been a real alarm you should listen to this system for further instructions. This is a test."
WAIL TONE (low to high to low) <i><u>"wail tone"</u></i>	Real-time evacuation. 1 minute followed by voice message. Cycle repeated 3 times every 6 min until ALL CLEAR is sounded	One of two messages: Tsunami Alert Voice Message: "Tsunami alert, tsunami alert. Move to higher ground or inland now." This is NOT a drill. Tsunami alert, tsunami alert, move to higher ground now." (Wail tone) French Evacuation Warning Voice Message: "An evacuation order has been issued for the base and you must leave now. This is NOT a drill; an evacuation order has been issued for the Base, leave now." (Wail tone)
SHELTER TONE (repeated blasts of a single tone) <i><u>"shelter tone"</u></i>	Real-time shelter/lockdown. 1 minute followed by a voice message (for Shelter) 15 seconds followed by a voice message (for Lockdown) Cycle repeated 3 times every 6 minutes until the ALL CLEAR is sounded	One of two messages: Shelter Voice Message: "A dangerous condition exists on the base and you must seek shelter indoors. SEEK SHELTER NOW. Do not proceed outside until directed to do so. This is NOT a drill." (repeating tone) Lockdown Voice Message: "Security alert, security alert. This is a Base Emergency. Commence lockdown procedures now. This is not a drill." (repeat)
ALL CLEAR (resembles Westminster chimes) <i><u>"all clear tone"</u></i>	When/if a warning has been cancelled. 1 minute followed by a voice message then a 1 minute rest period. This process will be repeated 3 times.	All Clear Voice Message: "All Clear, All Clear." (All Clear tone)



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Siren Testing - Overview

The system is designed to be audible within the confines of the CFB Esquimalt footprint only, however it is anticipated that it may be heard by neighboring communities during testing. For the information purposes the system will be tested as follows:

SIREN AND EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM TESTING WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 2 – 6 FEBRUARY 2015

- Contractor testing for CFB Esquimalt's Mass Notification System will take place Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. – If you hear the siren / emergency alert system during this period, please disregard
- If you hear the siren at any other time, tune to any local radio or television station for information and stand-by for instructions from emergency management officials
- If a real emergency occurs during the tests, a voice message will indicate "this is not a drill" and local Emergency Management Officials will be contacted immediately
- After these trials are completed the system will be tested at 11 am on the first Wednesday of each month commencing March 4th
- If you have any immediate questions, comments or concerns, please contact CFB Esquimalt's public affairs office



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Questions