New Zealand’s entire coast is at risk of tsunami. These maps show scenarios for Hawke’s Bay for tsunami coming from both a very large local earthquake or from across the Pacific Ocean. These events may happen on average only once in 2,500 years.

Maps for Cape Kidnappers to Haumoana were completed last year and the community response planning is well underway; Wairoa and Central Hawke’s Bay tsunami maps will be completed next year.

What now?
Community response plans to follow.

These are overview maps only and are not specific enough to predict impact on your individual property. These modelled results for Clive to Tangoio will be used over coming months by Hastings and Napier councils working with local people to prepare community response plans and evacuation maps. If you are keen to be involved, please contact your local Council for information.

Natural warnings for near source tsunami
Natural warning signals may be the only warnings you get of a tsunami that starts near the coast. You may:
- Feel a strong earthquake that makes it hard to stand OR a weak, rolling earthquake shaking that lasts for a minute or more
- See strange sea behaviour or the water level suddenly rising or falling
- Hear loud and unusual noises from the sea, especially roaring like a jet engine

The first wave may arrive within minutes, but modelling indicates the largest may take about 20 minutes.

Official warnings
Tsunami coming from across the Pacific (South America, Pacific Islands) are tracked. There is usually time (12-24 hours) for official warnings on the radio or television. There may also be local warnings given through a siren, telephone, bt, loud hailer or other – know what applies in your area.

Unofficial / Informal warnings
You may also get warnings from friends, other members of the public or even international media. If you are in a risk area and you believe the threat is imminent, evacuate.

How will I know a tsunami is coming?
If you are on the coast, be aware that a tsunami could arrive within minutes after a severe earthquake - without any official warning. Knowing safe locations is important. Go immediately to high ground or, if the surrounding area is flat, go as far inland as possible. Do not wait for an official warning or more information. Put your safety first. A tsunami is a series of waves - the first wave may not be the largest, so the danger may be present for hours. Listen to the radio for Civil Defence advice.