Tsunami inundation forecast development and usage for NOAA Tsunami Warning System

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Tsunamis are coastal disasters that in many cases allow only minutes of warning before initial impact. Since the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, there had been significant advancements in tsunami forecast methodology, pre-disaster preparedness and basic understanding of tsunami physics. Yet, the destruction resulted from the 2011 Japan tsunami underscored the difficulties of implementing the advances in tsunami science into practical applications. The capability of tsunami inundation forecast has immence potential for increasing coastal resilience and reduce loss of lives during the tsunami. However, realization of such potential requires new standards of robustness and accuracy for practical application of such capability. The presentation describes methodologies of the real-time tsunami flooding forecast, its testing and implementation for the U.S. Tsunami Warning System and lessons learned from initial use.