

Australia's east coast on tsunami alert

AAP February 28, 2010, 8:48 am

[Australia on tsunami alert](#)

Sunday February 28, 2010

A huge earthquake in Chile has left over 120 people dead, and sparked a tsunami warning for Australia's east coast.



Australia's east coast is bracing for a potential tsunami after an 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the central coast of Chile.

The Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre has issued tsunami warnings since the devastating quake struck early Saturday morning Chilean time (late Saturday afternoon AEDT), toppling buildings and killing hundreds.

Tsunami effects would be felt at Sydney from 8.45am (AEDT) on Sunday and minutes later along other parts of the NSW coast, the centre said.

Queensland's southeast coast is also under threat with the possibility of dangerous waves and strong ocean currents arriving from 8.15am (AEST), stretching from the NSW coast to just south of Rockhampton.

In Victoria, an alert remains in place from the coastal border with NSW to Lakes Entrance.

Similar ocean conditions and foreshore flooding may threaten those areas from 8am (AEDT).

Threatened areas in Tasmania extend along the east and south coasts from the northern tip of Flinders Island to Low Rocky Point, including Banks Strait.

Tasmania's affected areas will remain on alert from 7.45am (AEDT)

Effects from the tsunami could hit Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island from 8.30am (AEDT).