

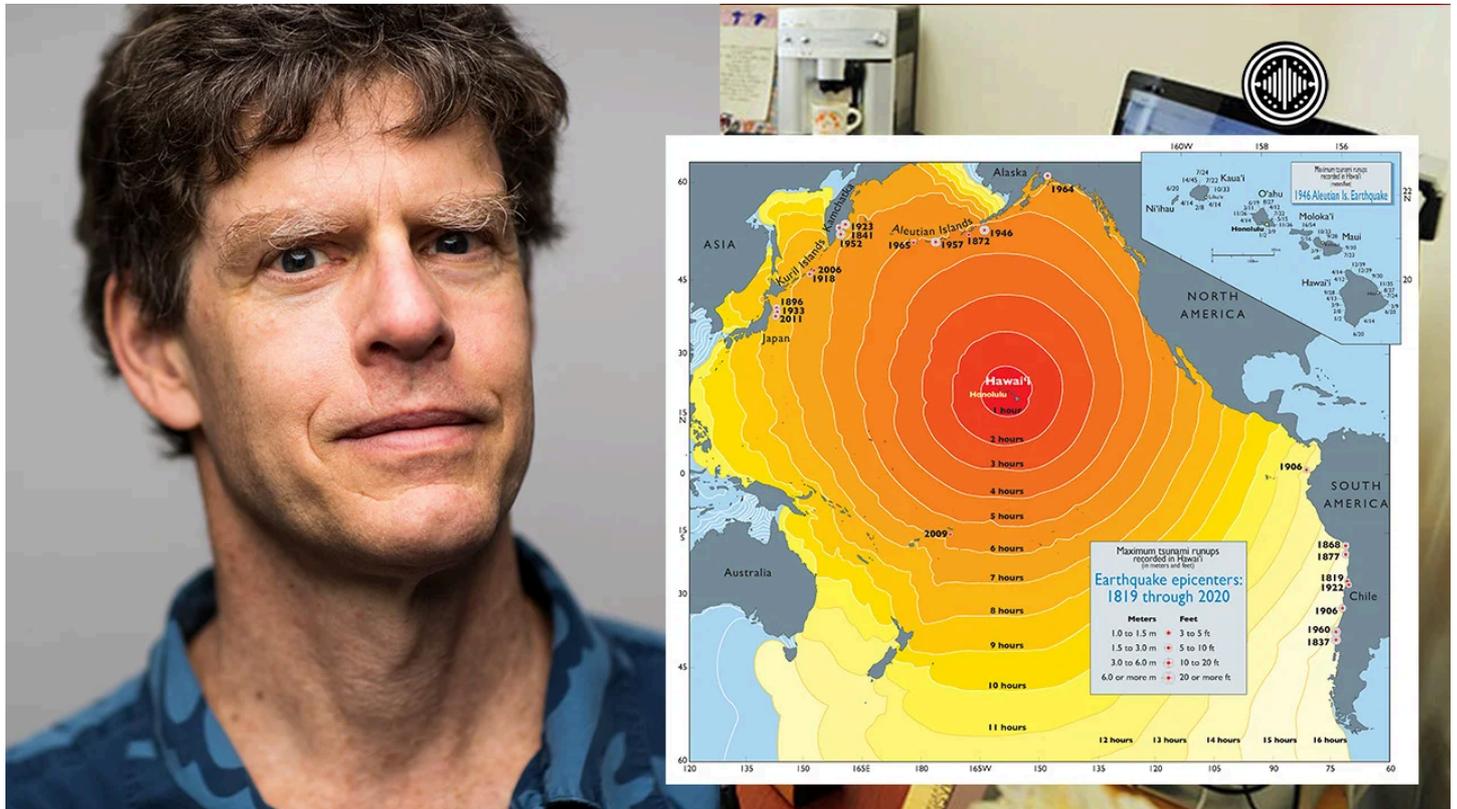
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## Massive Quake Off Russian Coast Among Largest in a Century, Sparks Hawaii Tsunami Alert

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– Categories: Breaking News



A powerful 8.8 magnitude earthquake struck off the eastern coast of Russia, triggering a tsunami warning for Hawaii and raising global concern over its potential impact. The event has been described by seismologist John Vidale, University of Southern California (USC) Dean’s Professor of Earth Sciences, as “the fifth or sixth biggest earthquake we’ve recorded in the last 100 years.”

The quake’s magnitude and offshore location are of particular significance, as large undersea earthquakes can displace enough water to generate far-reaching tsunamis. In this case, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued immediate alerts for coastal

regions, including the Hawaiian Islands, where waves as high as 10 feet are possible in northern areas. Governor Josh Green advised residents to stay clear of all shorelines, emphasizing that such waves do not strike a single beach but can wrap around the islands.

This seismic event draws comparisons to the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake in Japan, a 9.0 to 9.1 magnitude disaster that caused widespread destruction and loss of life due to the tsunami that followed. While current wave activity has appeared smaller than early projections in Japan, authorities stress that conditions can vary greatly across the Pacific Basin. As such, the threat remains fluid, and evacuations are underway in vulnerable areas.

Vidale's long-standing work in geophysics and natural hazard preparedness, including his service with the National Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (NEPEC) and the Earthquake Early Warning External Working Group, lends weight to his assessment of the quake's historical significance. His commentary points to the rarity and danger of seismic events of this scale, reinforcing the need for continued investment in early warning systems and public preparedness strategies.

As emergency management agencies across the Pacific Rim continue to monitor the situation, this event serves as a stark reminder of the unpredictable nature of our planet's geology. It underscores the value of scientific expertise, coordinated communication, and infrastructure readiness when dealing with large-scale natural threats. For now, safety measures remain in place, with authorities urging vigilance and cooperation from the public.