

**U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell**

**Senate Commerce Committee Remarks on Tsunami Alerts, First Responders, and NOAA**

**July 30, 2025**

**Opening Transcript**

**[\[VIDEO\]](#)**

**Sen. Cantwell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I want to first acknowledge, as you did, the tsunami warnings that we had last night and a magnitude 8.8 earthquake off the coast of Russia.

Those warnings were made possible because of the incredible work of NOAA employees [and] emergency responders to make sure that our coastal communities, like the state of Washington, Hawaii and Alaska and California and Oregon and other impacted areas were given warning safely in advance.

We have this capability because of investments we've made in infrastructure.

This includes the DART program, the NOAA buoy[s] positioned in the ocean to monitor for tsunamis in real time, and the work of the NOAA Center for Tsunami Research in Seattle, working to improve the models to provide faster and more accurate weather and warning information.