CALL FOR PAPERS

SPECIAL ISSUE ON THE 2011 TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI

The Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America will publish a special issue on the 11 March 2011 Magnitude 9.0–9.1 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. This is one of the best geophysically recorded great earthquakes and the largest event to have occurred near Japan since at least 869 CE. The earthquake ruptured the megathrust plate boundary in the Japan subduction zone, creating a tsunami that devastated parts of northeastern Honshu for up to 5 kilometers inland and caused damage as far away as western North America. The size of the local tsunami contributed extensively to the high death and damage toll in the densely populated coastal region. Japan’s stringent seismic building codes, early-warning systems, and high public awareness of earthquake and tsunami hazards undoubtedly helped save many lives, but the size of the event and its tsunami exceeded expectations that had guided some earthquake mitigation efforts. The mainshock was preceded by several foreshocks, including one of magnitude 7.2 on March 9. Japan is one of the most heavily instrumented areas on Earth, providing extensive seismological, geodetic, and water-level information that will provide unprecedented resolution of this great earthquake event and the fundamental nature of deformation on the megathrust fault.

This BSSA special issue will focus on results of investigations into all seismological, geodetic, tsunami, other geophysical, geological, paleoseismic, and engineering aspects of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake. Authors working in this area are encouraged to submit research papers for consideration as part of this special issue. We recommend that authors contact one of the guest editors, who are listed below with their primary responsibilities.

Papers on seismology:

Thorne Lay, University of California at Santa Cruz (tlay@es.ucsc.edu)
Justin Rubinstein, U.S. Geological Survey (jrubinstein@usgs.gov)
Kazuki Koketsu, ERI, University of Tokyo (koketsu@eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp)

Papers on the tsunami and its effects:

Eric Geist, U.S. Geological Survey (egeist@usgs.gov)
Yushiro Fujii, IISEE, Building Research Institute (fujii@kenken.go.jp)

Papers on geodesy:

Takeshi Sagiya, Nagoya University (sagiya@seis.nagoya-u.ac.jp)
Mark Simons, California Institute of Technology (simons@caltech.edu)

The special issue will be published in May 2013. BSSA will begin accepting submissions immediately; the submission deadline is 31 March 2012. Manuscripts should be prepared as described at http://www.seismosoc.org/publications/bssa/authors/ and should be submitted via http://bssa.edmgr.com. Authors should select the category “2011 Tohoku Earthquake Special Issue” during the submittal process. Questions related to scientific issues may be addressed to Diane Doser, Editor-in-Chief, at bssaeditor@seismosoc.org; questions related to submission of papers may be addressed to Carol Mark, Managing Editor, at bssa@seismosoc.org.