

NTHMP Coordinating Committee Call Notes
3/19/2013

Attendees:

NOAA:

Ms. Vickie Nadolski, NTHMP Chair, NWS Western Region Headquarters
Ms. Marie Eble, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory
Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program, NWS Headquarters
Mr. Paul Whitmore, West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center

USGS

Dr. Craig Weaver, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

FEMA

Mr. Mark Mahoney, FEMA Headquarters, Washington, DC
Ms. Tamra Biasco, FEMA Region X, Lynwood, Washington

Alaska

Mr. Ervin Petty, Alaska Division of Emergency Management,
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, Alaska Earthquake Information Center

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Emergency Management Agency
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

East Coast States

No participants

Gulf Coast States

Mr. Charles Williams, Alabama Emergency Management
Dr. Juan Horrillo, Texas A&M University

Hawaii

No participants

Oregon

No participants

Pacific Islands

Ms. Lisa Togia, American Samoa Department of Homeland Security

Puerto Rico

No participants

U.S. Virgin Islands

General Elton Lewis, Director, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management
George Lindsay, VITEMA

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

Additional participants:

Mr. Lewis Kozloski, NWS Headquarters, Tsunami Program

Dr. Rocky Lopes, NWS Headquarters, Tsunami Program (Contractor)

1. Mike Angove summarized that a Tsunami Preparedness Week press release is pending. Rocky Lopes added that the web page is on the NTHMP web site, and additional input is welcome.
2. Mike indicated that Legislative Affairs has not provided any additional information regarding the TWEA Reauthorization. John Schelling is working with various partners on related activities.
3. The 3rd quarter budget allocation is still unknown. Potential impacts include a possible Continuing Resolution or even a Government shutdown. Mike added that the *plan* remains to execute a full program budget. Unless appropriated by Congress, however, there are no plans to implement an “off-cycle” grant process. Other activities will be pursued, including COOP tide stations, accelerating funding for the FEMA HAZUS module on tsunami loss estimation, and working with USGS/SAFRR (Science Application for Risk Reduction) Project on tsunami messaging. Rocky elaborated that the messaging effort included pulling together all types of tsunami-related messages from multiple public and private sources and looking into research that supports accuracy of messages to develop a comprehensive, consensus-based message library.
4. It will be highly questionable if funding to sponsor the annual MMS/MES meeting this summer will be available due to the budget situation. Meeting alternatives not involving travel should be explored.
5. Erv Petty referenced a letter from Senator Barbara Mikulski’s office indicating restoration of tsunami funding. Vickie Nadolski pointed out that news of any new allocations should be made available in the next couple days.
6. Lewis Kozlosky indicated the grant progress report reviews are underway, and are being handled in the streamlined process used last fall. Any no-cost extensions need to be submitted 30 days prior to the end of the original grant time frame.
7. TsunamiReady signs are being purchased for distribution to eligible communities.
8. Mike thanked Vickie for serving as NTHMP Chair. Vickie will be retiring on April 2. Members of the Committee also thanked her for her service. Vickie thanked the Committee for all the work they accomplished in the past several years, and expressed confidence that the NTHMP can meet the challenges ahead. She indicated a new Chair will be recommended shortly. Update: The NWS Director has named Ms. Aimee Devaris, Acting Regional Director--National Weather Service Alaska Region, as Vickie’s replacement as NTHMP Chair.
9. NTHMP Coordinating Committee conference calls are to be held bi-monthly. The next call is scheduled for May 21st, 2013, from 3:00-4:00ET.