



# Overview of NTHMP

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# History

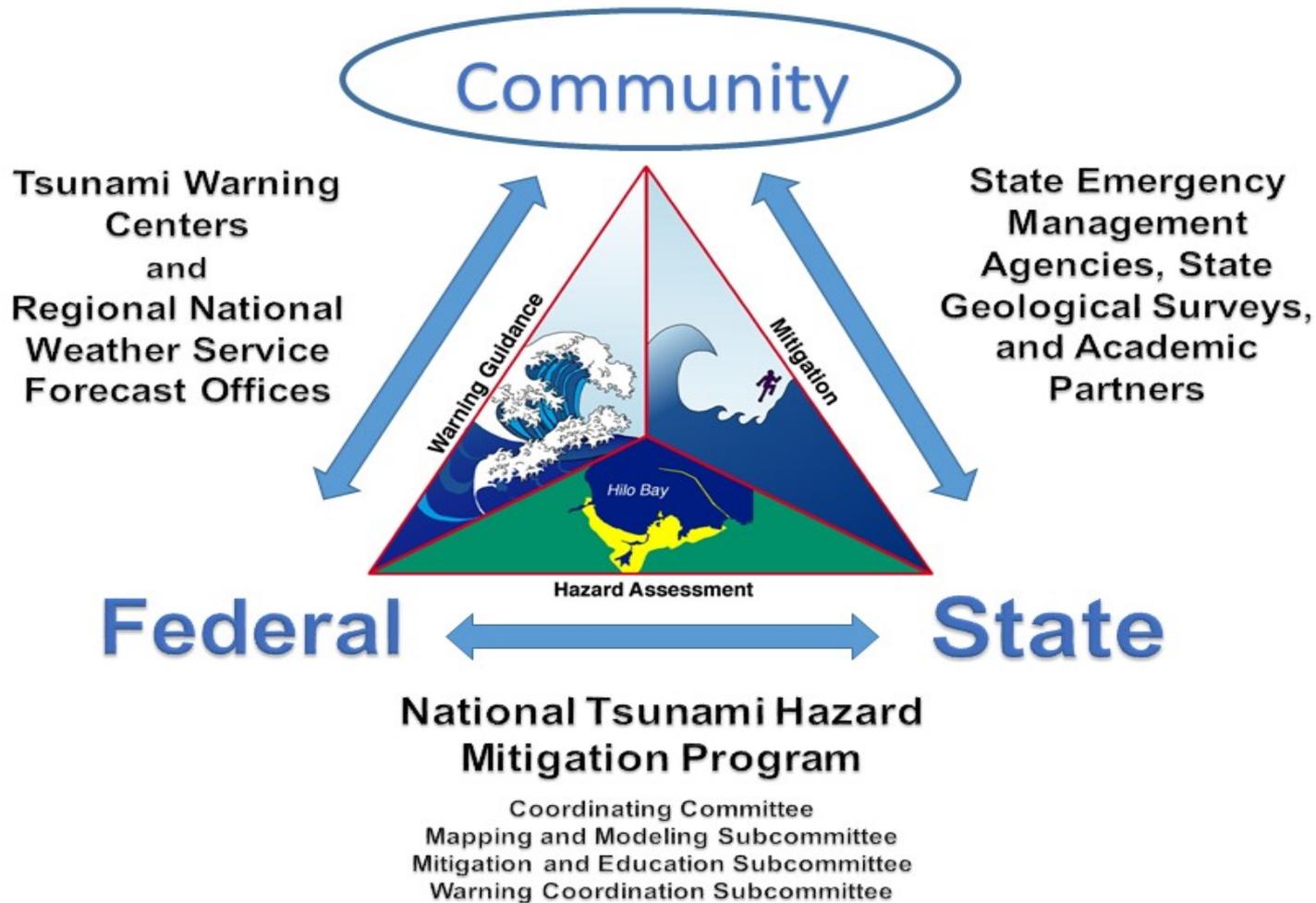
- In 1995, recognizing the threat, the U.S. Congress directed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to form and lead a federal/state working group to develop a plan for reducing tsunami risk to U.S. coastal communities.
- Following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, Congress passed the Tsunami Warning and Education Act to strengthen the capabilities of this partnership “to improve tsunami preparedness of at-risk areas in the United States and its territories.”

# Present

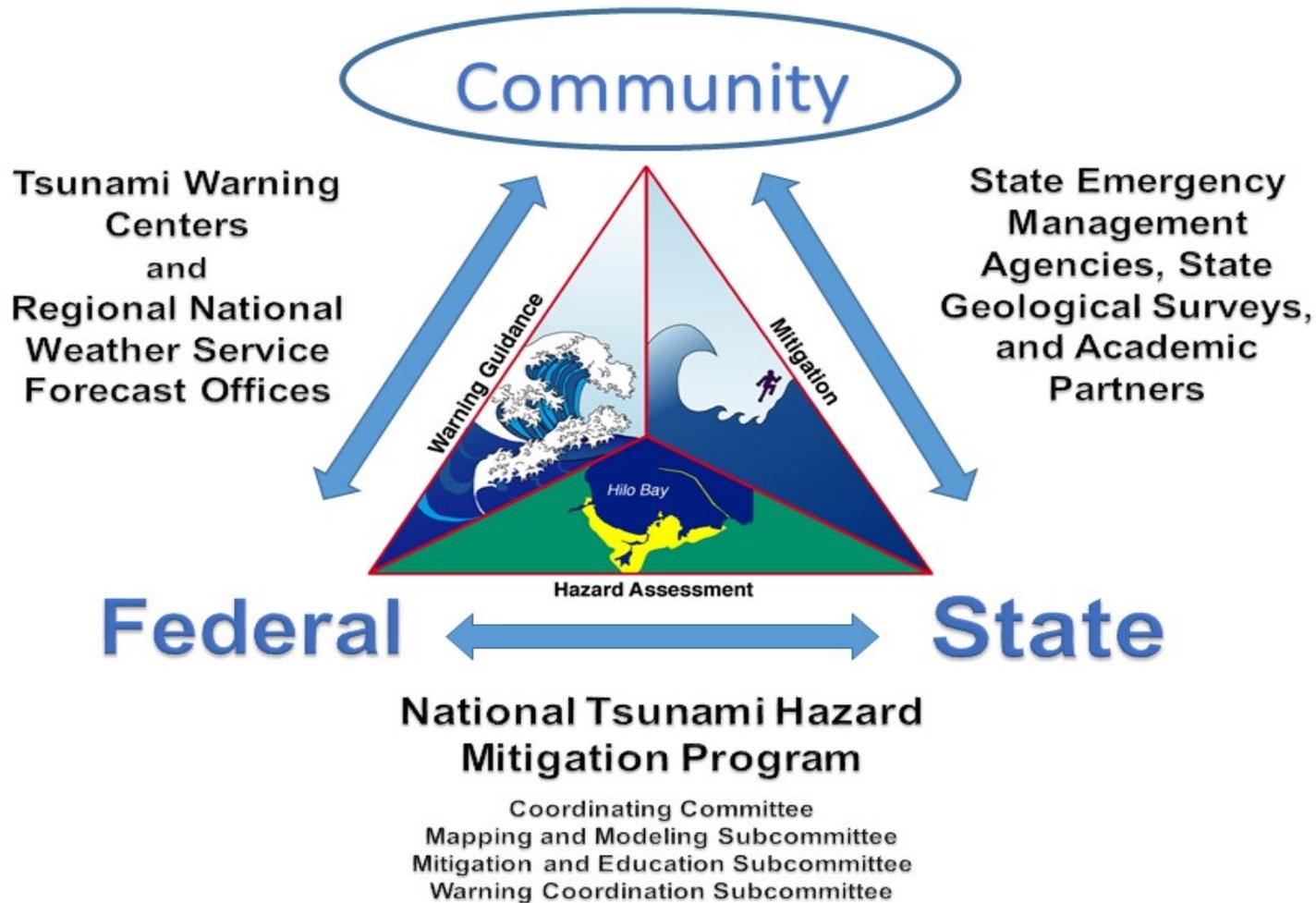
**Today's NTHMP includes NOAA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey, and 28 U.S. states and territories.**

## **NTHMP Vision:**

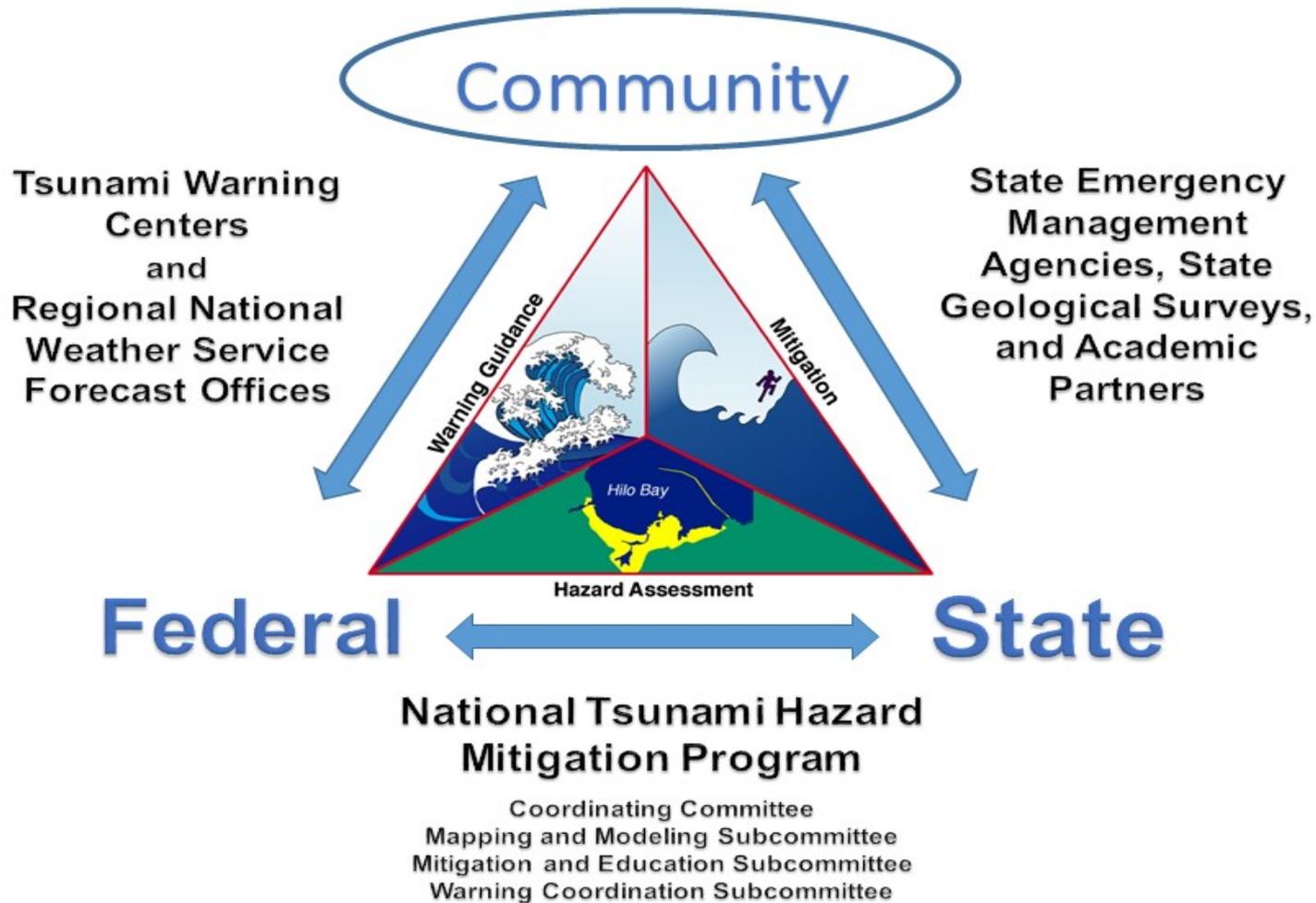
- Minimal loss of life and property should a tsunami strike**
- Resilient coastal communities that are prepared for tsunami hazards**



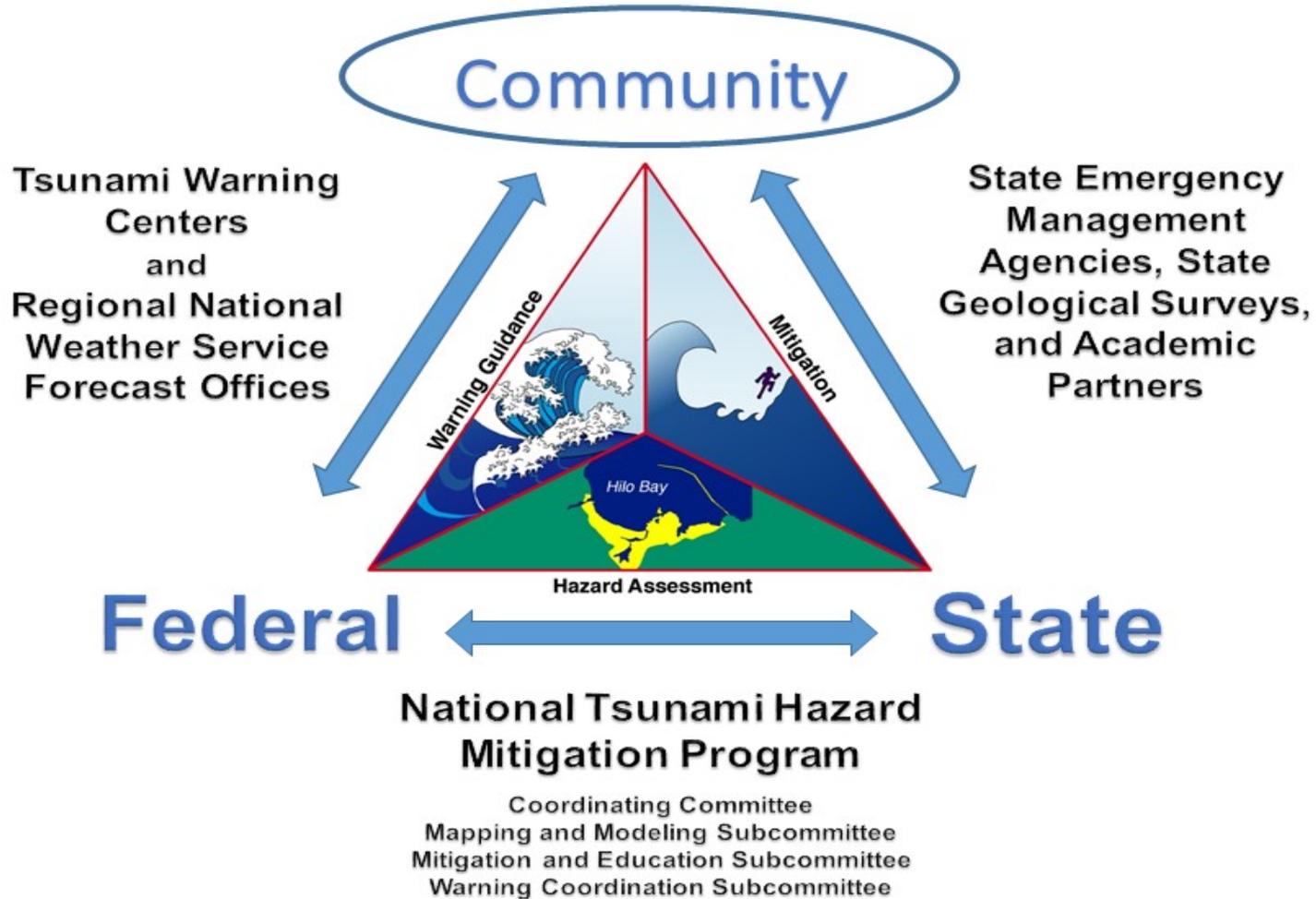
**Coordinating Committee** comprises of representatives of state/territory and federal agencies, which provides recommendations to tsunami preparedness and mitigation programs throughout the U.S.



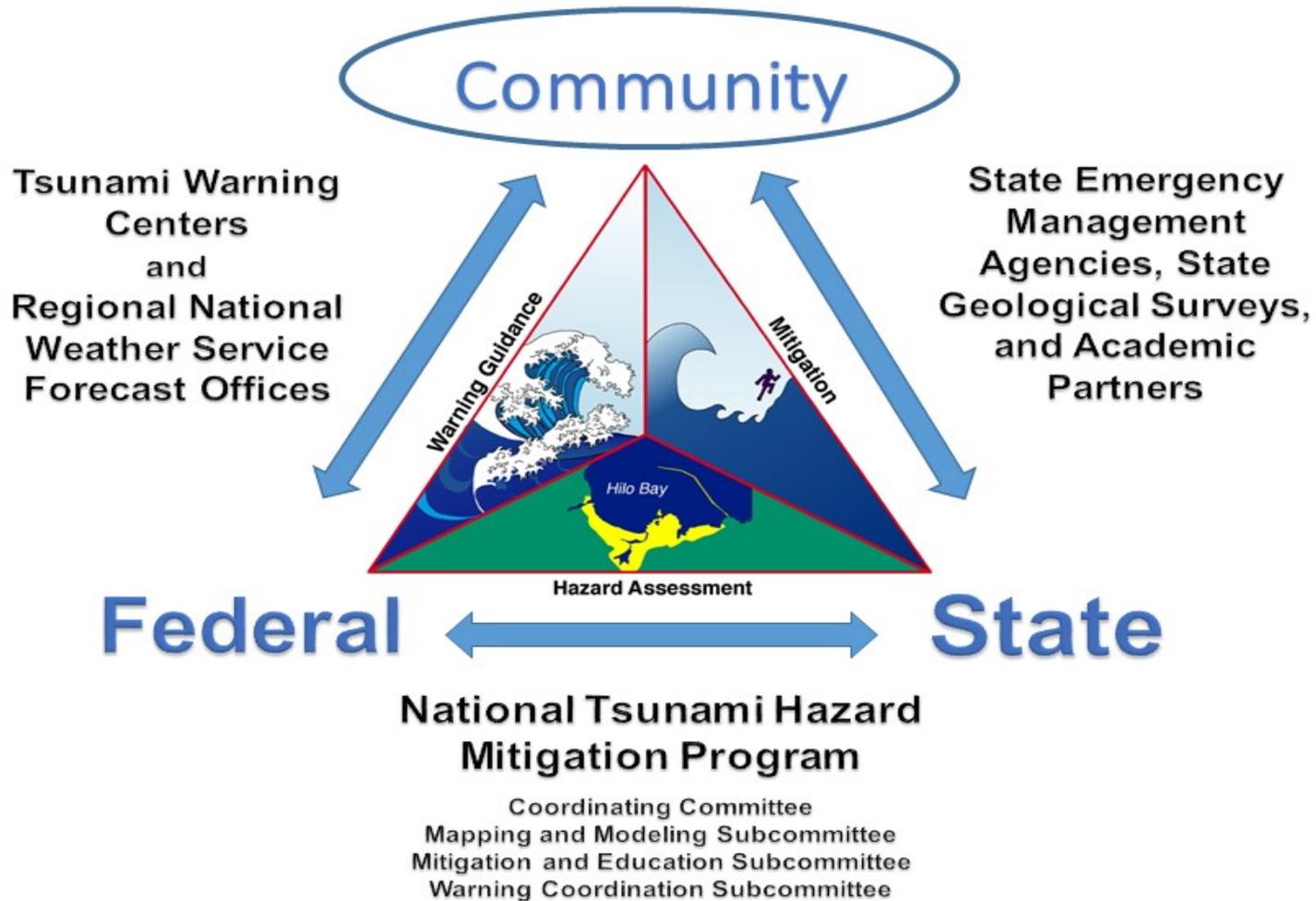
**Mapping and Modeling Subcommittee (MMS)** – ensures tsunami hazard analyses and products are accurate and consistent.



**Mitigation and Education Subcommittee (MES)** – establishes a common platform for tsunami preparedness and outreach activities.

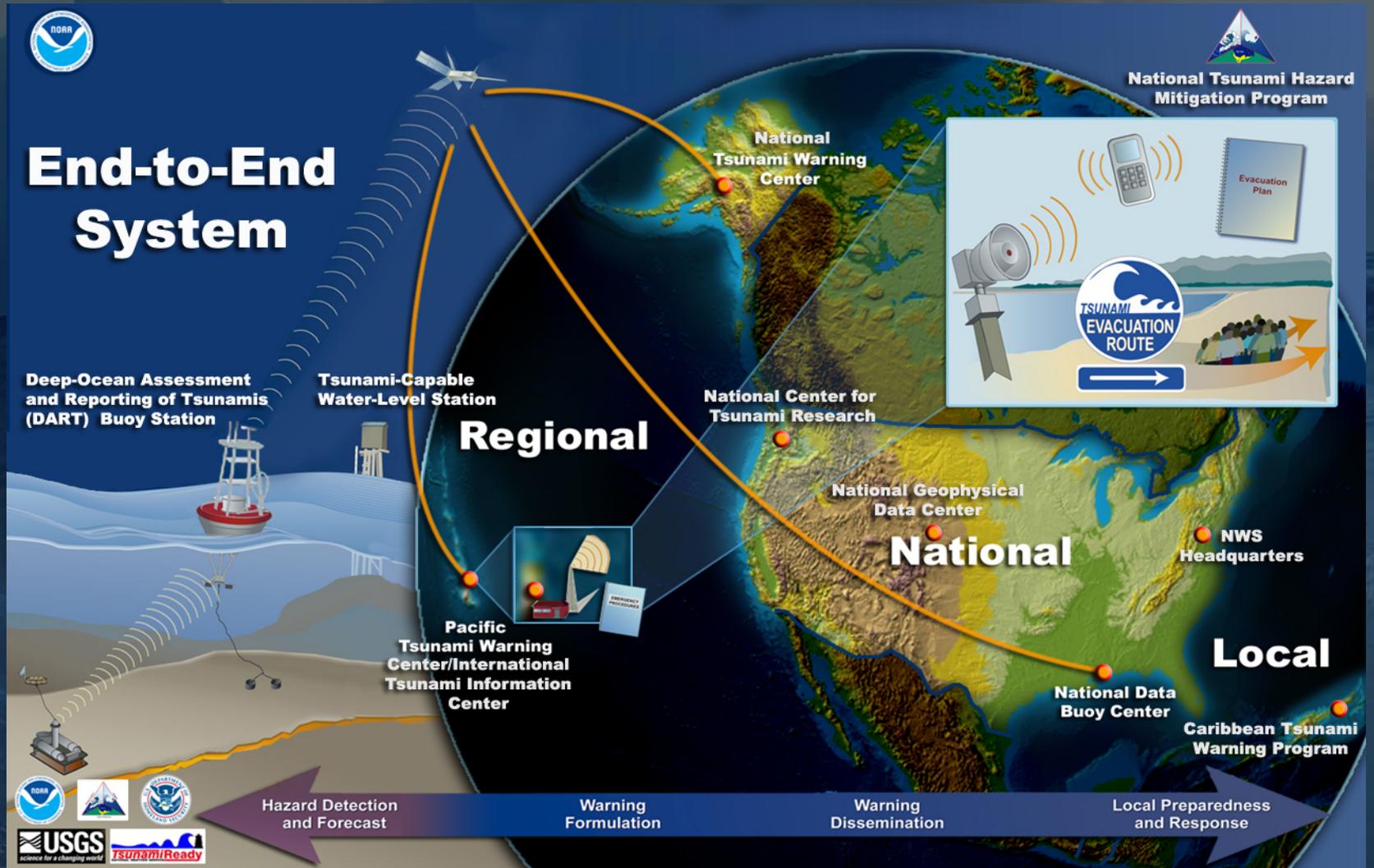


**Warning Coordination Subcommittee (WCS)** – maintains the communication network between the National Weather Service’s Tsunami Warning Centers and at-risk local communities for reliable dissemination of alert information.



The states and territories are important partners with the various federal agencies in the NTHMP.

# U.S. Tsunami Warning System



# **NTHMP's role within the U.S. Tsunami Warning System**

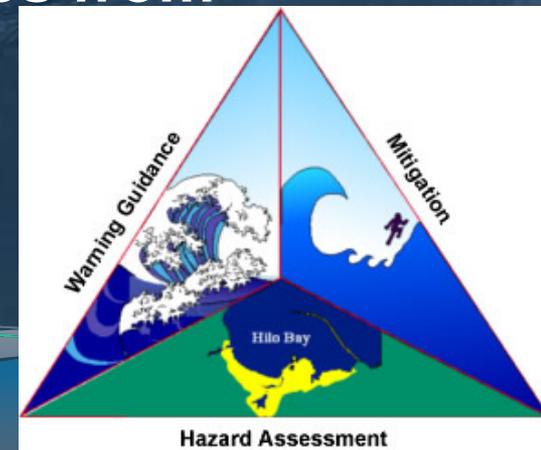
**The U.S. Tsunami Warning System (TWS) is an “end-to-end system” that addresses all stages of early tsunami warning**

- Initial hazard detection and warning dissemination from the Tsunami Warning Centers of timely, accurate, and effective tsunami forecast products to coastal populations and emergency managers**
- Community awareness of tsunami safety, response procedures, and mitigation achieved through NTHMP**

# NTHMP's role within the U.S. Tsunami Warning System

NTHMP provides the framework through which:

- states and federal agencies ensure a coordinated warning system,
- improve warning guidance and mitigation procedures,
- reduce economic losses and casualties from tsunami events through community planning



# **NTHMP Goal**

**The ultimate goal of the NTHMP and its subcommittees is to improve life-safety and increase community resiliency to future tsunamis.**

**On-going community-level tsunami education and preparedness will improve evacuation while reducing casualties, especially during local-source tsunamis where there may only be minutes to respond.**

# **NAS: Tsunami Warning and Preparedness: An Assessment of the U.S. Tsunami Program and the Nation's Preparedness Efforts**

**The report recommends stronger NOAA and NTHMP leadership in assessing:**

- **tsunami sources**
- **developing national guidelines and metrics for creating consistent evacuation maps**
- **identifying vulnerable populations**



# NAS Tsunami Warning and Preparedness: An Assessment of the U.S. Tsunami Program and the Nation's Preparedness Efforts

•**Recommendation:** The NTHMP should seek ways to reduce needless disparities among states and territories in their approaches to inundation modeling.... The USGS could take a lead to organize a series of workshops to determine the design tsunami sources.

To eliminate these unnecessary and costly differences in inundation modeling approaches (e.g. **sources**), the committee recommends that inundation modeling be conducted consistently across state lines and be executed through a cooperative partnership among NOAA, the USGS, and NTHMP members.

•**Recommendation:** For all communities with near-source tsunami threats, the NTHMP should conduct evacuation modeling studies to assess the likelihood of successful evacuations.

# USGS/NTHMP Collaboration

*Thank you for joining us in  
achieving our mission*

