

**February 1, 2006**

Jeff L. Introduced John Jones as the new NTHMP Chair

John talked about the U.S. Expansion Effort & the OSTP Tsunami Risk Reduction A Framework for Action; stressing the framework will be the guide for tsunami preparedness. John then discussed the highlights of the Framework:

- a. Develop Standardized and coordinated tsunami hazard and risk assessments for **all coastal regions** of the United States and its commonwealths and territories (**want addressed by December 2006**)
- b. Conduct an annual review of the status of tsunami research and develop a strategic plan for tsunami research in the U.S. (**want addressed by December 2006**)
- c. Enhance tsunami forecast and warning capability along our coastlines (ongoing)
- d. Data Exchange (international)
- e. Promote development of model mitigation meas. And encourage communities to adopt & increase outreach to all communities.... (need state involvement)
- f. States indicated that they were not engaged in the development of the Framework for action and would like to provide feedback to make modifications for a future version.

Other items discussed:

- 1) Implementation Plan to address the TSU Risk Reduction Action Items; should include:
  - a. NTHMP is a Customer Based (local/state) Program
  - b. Mitigation - FEMA Lead - Chris Jonientz-Trisler, 5 states, NOAA, USGS, & NIST, NSF**
  - c. Outreach – FEMA Lead**
    - i. Oregon has a product that could be used as a template for building tsunami preparedness
    - ii. Cascadia Region Earthquake Working Group Materials & Info (Wash)
    - iii. Pacific States would probably be willing to share their outreach materials (Wash)
    - iv. Oregon highlighted its approach to look at Assessment, Research and Outreach around a scenario event (local Cascadia generated tsunami) and work to develop plans, drills, etc around the scenario; also works on trans-pacific consortium for teletsunamis; Oregon does post-tsunami impacts (event day, 1-week, 1-month, 6-mos, etc) “recovery planning”

Kodiak, Alaska wants to develop outreach products in 25 languages (AK has 100 spoken languages); could tie-in to international

- v. Need to bring in ITIC for outreach assistance w/regions (Wash).
  - vi. Washington willing to share social science information (worked with tribes)
  - vii. NOAA willing to take the lead on the outreach (Jones); outreach needs to be taken up to a national level (LaDouce)**
  - d. Seismic – USGS Lead
    - viii. Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization willing to share data (McCreery)
    - ix. GPS Instruments could possibly be used
    - x. NSF a partner in this? (Green) NSF more interested in a Global Subduction Zone scenario (Oregon) Need to improve seismic and data exchange (real-time element). Should link the seismic and data exchange actions (Green)
    - xi. USGS Lead, 5 states and TWCs**
  - e. Forecast and Warning – NOAA Lead
    - xii. NWR on-a-stick
    - xiii. Sub-Committee Outcomes (Whitmore)
      - 1. Improve coordination
      - 2. Reviewing current procedures & discussing potential messages
      - 3. Need to develop better products (actionable warnings and bulletins verses informational)
      - 4. NOAA Lead**
  - f. Interoperability of Systems – NOAA Lead
    - xiv. Includes warning and Comms systems
    - xv. PTWS
    - xvi. Canadian (missing opportunities to engage with them within the NTHMP)
    - xvii. Caribbean
    - xviii. Mexico
    - xix. Form International Subcommittee for Interoperability, International, and Data Exchange issues (Bernard) - Agreed – NOAA Lead to USGS will help out**
  - g. Social Science needs to be highlighted/used more in this program (California) – Needs a team formulated
  - h. Research – NOAA/PMEL (lead), NSF, USGS**
- 2) How to develop the regional structure to expand the program to include the additional states
- a. NTHMP to be split into three groups: Pacific (includes original 5 states, Southern and Eastern.
  - b. March/April – Hold Southern and Eastern Regional Meetings w/institutionalized states providing lessons learned

- 3) Will Obligate all FY06 \$s by September 2006
- 4) Need to provide SDR annual reports on progress
- 5) Regional Meeting in D.C. in August/September for FY09-13 Cycle Input
- 6) Determined Funding distribution within the program
- 7) Senator Wolf's Letter to Governors of the 23 States, and Wolf's letter to Sec'y Gutierrez with expectation for DOC/NOAA to have a plan.

Had Additional Discussion of John's Actions:

1) Hazard Assessment – NOAA Lead – At the time it was unclear who would be performing the assessment. Since this is based on historical data, NOAA is using its National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) for this assessment.

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> Priority is national tsunami hazard and risk assessment
- b. Hazard assessment should include probability (California)
- c. True assessment can't be done with out inundation mapping (Wash)
- d. Assessment should be phased w/a tiered approach (Alaska)
- e. USGS is working on a probabilistic assessment for tsunamis, difficult for Eastern and Southern Coasts of U.S. due to lack of paleo-tsunami information (David Oppenheimer USGS)
- f. Assess current FEMA Approved All-Hazard Plans for Coastal Cities (FEMA)
- g. Use TIME Ctr in partnership w/USGS to develop a Regional Assessment (Oregon)
  - i. Some level could be done (working closely with USGS Coastal Marine Group), PMEL could do this, but resources would have to be redirected from the High Risk Maps (PMEL, Gonzalez)
- h. How do we go forward? Could do a preliminary assessment where we have data and deal with lack of data issues in a research plan (PMEL, Bernard)
- i. We should use more sources other than the NGDC & PMEL (Hinojosa)
- j. Selected Approach - Do Hazard Assessment 1<sup>st</sup>; then move to Risk Assessment (LaDouce)**

**NOAA, USGS, State of Washington, State of Alaska, Puerto Rico, Oregon, Hawaii, & California will participate in Hazard Assessment Task, Melina H. and Don M. will contact states in their respective NWS Regions**

- 2) Regional Approach for NTHMP
  - a. Keep five regions (LaDouce)
  - b. Original 5 States have synergy and it makes sense to combine them into one region (Crawford)
  - c. Combine Southern & Eastern Regions into one (Whitmore)
  - d. Decision – NTHMP will have 3 Regions in 2006 (Pacific, Eastern, and Southern)**
    - i. Concern with each NOAA region having 2 votes would give more weight to the east coast; NTHMP Institutional knowledge resides with 5 pacific states

- 3) East and South regional meetings, respectively, Mar/Apr '06 with help from Pacific area
- 4) **National Meetings**
  - a. **Telecon in June**
  - b. **Telecon in Sept**
  - c. **National Mtg in Nov in DC to finalize presentation to SDR**
    - i. **Needs to be held at a time where we have the results for the SDR**
    - ii. **Need to address governance & recommendations**
  - d. **Canada becoming more than an “observer” in NTHMP is not a priority right now**
- 5) Funding Decisions – Jeff L has budget chart
  - a. Each state received its normal allocation of approximately \$275K. Washington and Oregon also received \$500K (approximate) in earmarks (from TsunamiReady) for sirens.
  - b. Funding for NTHMP was at the amount requested in the President’s budget (approximately \$2.3M); however, the state allocations stayed the same as previous years due to the removal of DART and PMEL Research funding into the NOAA Budget
  - c. Agreed to set aside \$280K in funding for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands
  - d. Agreed to a scaled down budget w/\$48K left over for admin costs
  - e. Part of the \$48K will be used to cover the meeting costs of the Spring Meeting with the Southern and Eastern Coastal States.
  - f. USGS CREST and AEIC were funded at normal levels

The following funding proposals were presented:

- 1) George Priest presented Cascadia Tsunami Scenario: A National Priority A regional planning tool. Would like cooperative effort among the Pacific Northwest including environmental changes, tidal impacts, flooding. Proposal in early stages, so no budget \$1M per anum; multi-year support ~2-3 yrs; Multiple partners (state + university. Propose a 4-day Cascadia Source Workshop (review models, paleo-tsunami information). Cost \$35K from NSF and \$35K from NOAA NTHMP (or H.R. 50). Possible NEHERP (sic) \$. CREW could lend support – Regional Approach for response, assessments (George Crawford) – **Oregon has SEAGRANT Orgs! – Not funded**
- 2) Tsunami Coordination Tool presented by James Partain. Ability to view TWC briefings by WFOs and EM, develop graphical briefings w/key info for decision-makers (e.g., tsunami travel times, expected times for confirming tsunamis; and tsunami history); and Public Affairs and Media would also benefit. FY06 Proposal \$361K – Prototype Development and Testing. – Not funded
- 3) Alabama NTHMP Participation – presented by Melinda Hinojosa. Research past events, determine susceptible areas, determine potential for geological events, create a base and inundation maps, public

outreach and education (website, video, pamphlets). Risk Assessment \$75K and Outreach \$25K. 65 miles of coastline plus Mobile Bay. Comments: very focused effort when NOAA is already doing this in a regional context (Washington St.). Education is the more important aspect. Need to have a face-to-face conversation w/them via the WFO (Jones, Wash St.). Alabama needs to work w/Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, & Texas – A regional approach (Oregon). \$5 or \$10K could come from TsunamiReady. Risk Assessment will take years. FEMA suggested this proposal get submitted to the FEMA Region for the Post Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. – Not funded

- 4) Massachusetts NTHMP Participation – presented by Don Miller. Conduct historical analysis Atlantic Ocean tsunami data and past events, identify potential tsunami sources, understand tsunami risk for MA, identify and prioritize susceptible areas/communities along the MA coast, develop inundation maps for MA, develop evacuation maps for MA. Comments: Need regional approach, use WFO and planned regional meeting. FEMA suggested this proposal get submitted to the FEMA Region for the Post Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. – Not funded

Jay Wilson provided a video presentation of a tsunami drill. Reference: The City of Seaside's Tsunami Awareness Program – Outreach assessment – How to implement an effective tsunami preparedness outreach program. Report can be found at [Oregon.geology.com](http://Oregon.geology.com)

George Crawford Washington State Tsunami Program Discusses lessons learned and changes made in Wash St. Tsunami Emergency Plan since Jul 14, 2005 event.

### **February 2, 2006**

Paul Whitmore presented an event timeline from June 14, 2005 using a laptop version of the simulator, and summarized the recommendations from the NWS Service Assessment

- Response from the states centered on two items: 1) the PTWC international message caused great confusion at the local and state level and 2) west states would like input concerning WC/ATWC procedures for west coast events
- Oregon and California representatives then discussed their observations on the event (WA did so the day before). Both OR and CA compiled reports on the warning

All states and groups receiving funding from NTHMP reviewed their projects

Scott Simmons (Alaska DHS & EM) proposed a new set of guidelines for Tsunami recognition. He broke the recognition into four separate levels. Participants agreed that this is an outline of a potential improvement to TsunamiReady, and that further interaction with NTHMP Members, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist, and the National Board would need to take place.

NTHMP Meeting Notes

Members also discussed the possibility of having one uniform message from both TWCs; however there was no resolution on the issue.

Attendees:

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NTHMP Meeting Notes

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