

NTHMP 2014 Mitigation and Education Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Wednesday January 29, 2014

Attendees:			
Tamra Biasco, FEMA MES Co-Chair	John Schelling, State MES Co-Chair, Washington	Laura Kong – NOAA MES Co-Chair, NOAA NWS ITIC	Adulbeau Akapo – American Samoa
Vinnie Atofau – American Samoa	Aimee Devaris, NOAA NWS AK	Ed Fratto, Massachusetts	Chris Gregg – East Tennessee State
Elton Lewis – US Virgin Islands	Rocky Lopes, NOAA NWS HQ	Jeff Lorens, NOAA NWS WR	Kevin Miller – California
Ervin Petty – Alaska	Cindi Preller – NOAA NWS AK	Wilfredo Ramos – Puerto Rico	Patrick Reid – American Samoa
Kevin Richards – Hawaii	Althea Rizzo – Oregon	Brent Tompkins, Canada	Faletoa Ulufale – American Samoa
Christa von Hillebrandt, NOAA NWS SR	Brynne Walker – Washington	Nate Wood, USGS Portland	Roy Watlington, US Virgin Islands
Stephanie Ross – USGS Menlo Park	Russell Jackson, NOAA NOS CSC	Justin Van Es, US Navy JTWC	Christa Rabenold, NOAA NWS HQ

**MES Priorities for FY14:**

**Presentation of ranking of MES priorities based on the Strategic Plan – High Priorities (presented by John Schelling)**

Looking for volunteers to help lead the efforts on high priority items and determine if MES needs funding for these efforts.

*\*Discussion on Maps pre-dated 2013 that they needed to adopt guidelines (Assessment of Mapping Inventory)*

**ACTION – MES / NOAA to poll to see what is still outstanding. For those who have not, need to submit so it can be placed on the NTHMP site.**

*\*Develop a Decision Support Tool to address populations at risk by 2015 (Strategic Plan p. 31). A tool was presented by Puerto Rico at the 2013 MES Summer Meeting. Looking at integrating Emergency Response Tools utilized for populations at risk to Tsunami's.*

**ACTION – Workgroup formed to address issues and a way forward to achieve strategy: Hawaii (Kevin Richards), California (Kevin Miller), USGS (Nate Wood), NOAA Tsunami Program (Rocky Lopes), NOAA Alaska (Cindi Preller), Alaska (Ann Gravier)**

Terms of Reference:

- Define Boundary of Risk: Decided that Boundary = Evacuation Zone
- Define Characteristics of Population
  - o Questions to answer:
  - o What is the decision wanted and who is making the decision? What are the criteria?
  - o Who are we trying to help, and with what?
    - person at risk
    - person in charge to make sure they don't die
  - o Who is the Populations at Risk (PAR)?
  - o What is the type of tool that is needed? Cadillac vs minimum

Discussion: Any community or persons subject to tsunami impact? Anyone who lives, works, plays, drives, and/or commutes through evacuation zone. Different levels of complexity, drive by who it is for and what do they need. Best to involve everyone because of the varied decisions Use the word “assess,” rather than “address” – need to understand what the tool is trying to achieve. Tool to ID resources needed to address the risk was discussed. Tied to tsunami hazard assessment – Decision Support Tools will help emergency officials and wide range of decision makers to better visualize the potential impacts of a particular event. Puerto Rico has developed a tool that could support the effort which was presented at summer MES meeting in 2013.

*\*Education Strategy online and finalized by 2014 – Completed on-line will continue to assess the strategy and update as needed.*

**ACTION - Currently being assessed by and provide feedback at summer 2014 MES meeting in coordination with Rocky Lopes at the NOAA Tsunami Program.**

*\*Conduct an evaluation of tsunami education products and programs in 10 communities by 2014.*

**ACTION - NOAA Tsunami Program to develop a tool for stakeholder use – share with MES mid-2014. States to consider tool (questions) can conduct within their jurisdictions**

Discussion: Hawaii – legislative mandate in 2014 – on timeline. Hawaii has something similar in grant proposal.  
Washington - David Johnston has done and can summarize  
Alaska – has a tool that was well-evaluated, but it could be updated.  
National Academy Science report cross-over action in relation to this strategy.  
NOAA Tsunami Program to develop a tool for stakeholder use.

*\*Conduct state-level review of all local response plans for accuracy and effectiveness by the end of 2014.*

**ACTION: MES Chairs, assisted by NOAA Tsunami Program, to compile status and encourage completion by end of 2014**

Discussion: Workload and how to accomplish. Leverage FEMA, TsunamiReady programs, all hazard planning efforts and CEMP reviews.

*\* Educational Events in all at-risk communities by 2017. Keep a running toll during project delivery and capture for yearly/strategic report outs.*

**ACTION: MES will define.**

Discussion: Who is “all” needs a definition. MES will utilize the national NTHMP exercise to identify all TsunamiReady communities.

**Tsunami Preparedness Week 2014 (presented by Rocky Lopes and Christa Rabenold)**

Postings on Facebook and Twitter during the week and will provide them ahead of time for partners. NWS Aware, NWS Insider and NOAA Home page, WCM messaging.

Webinar for AK and West Coast for regional and local media to get them more informed on what Tsunami Preparedness week is and assessing National Media input.

Website: <http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/tpw/tsunami-preparedness-week.html>

**ACTION: Would like MES to share State efforts with Christa Rabenold, and discussion on regular meeting time that can be attended.**

**Alaska 1964 50th Anniversary (Presented by Cindi Preller, Erv Petty, and Anne Gravier)**

Cindi Preller provided an update of National Tsunami Center support to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities. USGS doing a large commemoration event, survivor interviews, Valdez to “survive” on their preparedness kits.

Erv Petty and Anne Gravier provided an update of the Alaska events for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Live code test will launch the Alaska Shield Exercise, local news involvement, Anchorage Museum and WSSPC Annual Meeting.

**TsunamiReady Guidelines Update (presented by Rocky Lopes)**

Presentation posted on NTHMP website under Annual Meeting

**ACTION – NOAA National Program will take the lead – MES agreed to plan.**

1. Communication to explain that TR is now within the Tsunami Program at NWS
2. Gregg report will be on Focus Group Summary with recommended TR guidelines to NWS (anticipated 3/15/2014).
3. Develop a timeline and tasks to be accomplished – Rocky to take the lead to suggest, with input from all
4. Give stakeholders opportunity to review proposed new Guidelines along with report that provides context. Engagement may take on different forms
  - a. NOAA and NWS family from all over including Coastal WCMs
  - b. NTHMP
  - c. Existing TR communities and state/territory/commonwealth partners (will want to know grandfathering - for what happens to us. Previously, agreed that existing had 3 yrs to transition, and other 3 before declining)
  - d. Broader range of participants/interested parties, including focus group
5. Develop plan to deal with findings – review, discuss, edit
6. Establish TsunamiReady Board.
  - a. Include NWS Staff – recommends on how NWS implements TR – regional POCs and key WCM. Include TR Directive Review
  - b. Include MES representation
7. Develop implementation plan
  - a. “grandfathering”
  - b. recognition of new
  - c. Enhancements of TR pages on NWS website
  - d. Regional Advisory Board – promote consistency w/l state

**Evacuation Study Guidelines (presented by Nate Wood)**

Presentation *Modeling Pedestrian Evacuations* will be available on NTHMP Annual Meeting web page.

**ACTION – Provide Draft guidelines to assist the MES strategy for Summer MES 2014 Meeting  
Team: Washington (John Schelling), Oregon (Althea Rizzo), ITIC (Laura Kong), US Virgin Islands  
(Elton Lewis), Alaska (Erv Petty), Hawaii (Kevin Richards)**

**SAFRR Project Presentation (presented by Stephanie Ross and Kevin Miller)**

Presentation will be available on the NTHMP Annual Meeting web page

**MES Co-Chair Elections:**

FEMA Co-Chair – Tamra Biasco nominated by MES to CC. No other nominations

NOAA Co-Chair – Nominations for Cindi Preller (NWS AK), Laura Kong (ITIC) and Troy Nicolini (NWS WR)

MES recommends Laura to the CC

State Co-Chair – John Schelling stepping down as State co-chair. Nominations for Kevin Miller (CA) and Kevin Richards (HI) – MES nominates Kevin Miller (CA).