

Summary Report of the Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Steering Group Meeting

**April 15-16, 1998
Honolulu, Hawaii**

Attendees

Steering Group

Eddie Bernard - NOAA	Lori Dengler - State of California
Frank González - NOAA	Brian Yanagi - State of Hawaii
Richard Hagemeyer - NOAA	Augustine Furumoto - State of Hawaii
Richard Hutcheon - NOAA	Donald Hull - State of Oregon
Chris Jonientz-Trisler - FEMA	Mark Darienzo - State of Oregon
Roger Hansen - State of Alaska	Timothy Walsh - State of Washington
Mike Webb - State of Alaska	George Crawford - State of Washington

Tsunami Public Affairs Working Group Members

Delores Clark - NOAA/NWS	Ruth Barritt - NOAA/NWS
Ann Thomason - NOAA/PMEL	Jeff Wells - State of Alaska

Guests

Michael Blackford - ITIC	Charles McCreery - PTWC
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Overview

Eddie Bernard gave an [overview of the program and a report on the budget status](#). Funds have been transferred from NOAA to FEMA and USGS. Funds went through FEMA to the states in March. The National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program funding was removed from the NOAA FY 99 budget by the Department of Commerce.

FY 98 funds were divided as follows (after the 2.4% NOAA surcharge):

	Revised FY 98 Budget
Produce Inundation Maps	\$390,400
Develop Hazard Mitigation Programs	\$390,400
Install Tsunami Detectors	\$683,300
Improve Seismic Network	\$780,800
TOTAL	\$2,244,800

Brian Yanagi to prepare and forward draft letter to Steering group members. Members to prepare letters of support for FY 99 budget and have them in the mail by April 30, 1998.
ACTION: Brian Yanagi

The National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program brochure has been made and copies have been sent to all agencies. It was suggested that the brochure be made into a web page that could be downloaded and printed.
ACTION: Eddie Bernard.

Eddie Bernard reported that the *Eos* overview article has been submitted, reviewed, and should go to print in four to six weeks.
ACTION: Eddie Bernard to forward black and white as well as color copies of *Eos* article to Steering Group members as soon as it is printed.

Eddie Bernard reported that he is still working with NHK to obtain rights to the 68 seconds of tsunami footage for the video.
ACTION: Eddie Bernard to continue to follow up and report his progress to the group via e-mail.

[Develop State/NOAA Coordination and Technical Support](#)

Richard Hagemeyer reported that the EMWIN procedure for disseminating small earthquake information has been tested and is in operation. Mr. Hagemeyer reminded everyone that NOAA makes the earthquake information available through EMWIN but the responsibility for the information belongs to the USGS.

Richard Hagemeyer reported that work continues on the Historical Tsunami Database for the U.S. Pacific Coast.

ACTION: Michael Blackford will work with Connie Manson on the cataloging effort at ITIC.

Deploy Tsunami Detection Buoys

Eddie Bernard reported on the buoy program. He provided a written report and explained the upcoming process of buoy recovery and deployment. The group suggested that buoy locations (lat. and long.) be added to the near real-time web site.

ACTION: Eddie Bernard will modify the web page.

Produce Inundation Maps

Frank González gave a report on inundation mapping for Oregon, Alaska, California, and Washington. He reviewed his written report . Alaska is looking for funding sources to help with joint mapping proposal and would appreciate letters of support to Alaska's delegation by May 1, 1998.

ACTION: Bernard to provide Hansen with letter of support by May 1, 1998.

Develop Hazard Mitigation Programs

Chris Jonientz-Trisler presented the mitigation report. Each state gave a brief report on their activities.

ACTION: Chris Jonientz-Trisler to meet with Ann Thomason at PMEL to include subcommittee reports on the web site.

Lori Dengler to make changes to the Implementation Plan and work with PMEL to publish it as a PMEL report.

With regard to the inconsistencies of the various communities' warning systems, it was determined that a group of volunteers (Mark Darienzo, Chair; Augustine Furumoto, Eddie Bernard, Chris Jonientz-Trisler, and Michael Blackford) would formulate questions and develop a plan of action. This plan would be presented to the Steering Group at the October 1998 meeting in Anchorage, Alaska.

Dr. Furumoto was asked to find out how the Japanese authorities disseminate tsunami warnings to the ordinary people, literally to the men and women in the streets. Dr. Furumoto gladly accepted the task and will report at the October meeting.

[Improve Seismic Networks](#)

David Oppenheimer discussed his written report ([link](#)) on the Consolidated Reporting of Earthquakes and Tsunamis. He reported that the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center has been integrated with the Earthworm Core Tsunami System that enables them to access all seismic data via the Earthworm front end.

Outreach Activities and Products Discussion

Don Hull presented a report on the many outreach activities in Oregon and on the various tsunami hazard mitigation products they have produced. These include an educational and entertaining tsunami mug, bookmarks, tent cards, signs, trivia quizzes, and educational materials for schools containing the rules for tsunami evacuation.

[Public Affairs Working Group Report](#)

Delores Clark presented the Public Affairs Working Group (PAWG) Report. In April, Hawaii is holding its Tsunami Awareness month, Washington is having a Disaster Preparedness month, and Oregon and California are having Earthquake Awareness month. All states have been active in outreach activities. See the PAWG Report for highlights.

Empirical Method of Numerical Forecasting of Tsunami Wave Heights in Hawaii

Augustine Furumoto gave a presentation on the Empirical Method of Numerical Forecasting of Tsunami Wave Heights in Hawaii .

Tour of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)

At the invitation of Charles McCreery, Director, PTWC, the group was given an overview of the operations of the center followed by a tour of the PTWC facilities.