MES Meeting 5/19/2020

Notes

**Roll Call by Region** (Alaska/HI, Pacific, East Coast, Gulf Coast, Caribbean, West Coast)

Kevin Miller, California  
Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade, NOAA  
Tamra Biasco, FEMA  
Summer Ohlendorf, NTWC  
Nic Arcos, NCEI  
Althea Rizzo, Oregon  
Jeff Lorens, NWS Western Region  
Yvette LaDuke, California  
Todd Becker, California  
Wildaomaris Gonzalez Ruiz, Puerto Rico  
Ian Sears, NOAA

MES Co-Chair, Kevin Miller

- Welcome new representative from Puerto Rico’s PREMB: Wildaomaris Gonzalez Ruiz
- Hope everyone is doing well and taking care of themselves and those around them during the interesting times we’re now living through and working in
- Wanted to take a slightly new approach to this meeting one given the above,
- Also we’re in a new era in the administration and we want to continue to move forward, while also insuring that everyone has a voice and isn’t afraid to speak up with their accomplishments toward or needs from the program.

**MES Work Plan Projects**

- **TsunamiZone.org**  
  - Currently have the following websites (Alaska, California, Caribbean, Guam, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington)  
  - Calif scaled back and went online for Tsu Prep Week, but still are using the website for registration and to point people to.  
  - Caribbean – conducted the CARIBE WAVE but the focus changed to communications between the Tsunami Service Provider (PTWC), Tsunami Warning Centers and Tsunami Warning Focal Points. Before the change of focus, 102,000 people had registered on TsunamiZone.org

- **Social Science Report**  
  - Released to NTHMP  
  - Findings – see April 22nd – Email from Elyssa Tappero
• **Key takeaways:**
  - Many people source information through internet,
  - outreach should focus on getting alerts through EEW app.
  - More focus is needed on the differences between distant and local source tsunamis,
    - especially alerting vs. natural warnings,
  - differences in arrival times, and the need to evac immediately after natural warnings.
  - Continue to remind people how little time they have for a local source event, and
  - that sirens are for outdoor warning only and not meant to be heard inside.

• **Tsunami Maritime – Guidance Website** –
  - Provided as a resource for tsunami hazard planning and preparedness for Maritime Communities. Maritime Communities
    - include harbors, ports, and other communities that are economically and socially linked to marine waterways.
  - Presents resources for life-safety and damage-reduction mitigation measures that Maritime Communities can implement before, during, and after tsunami to reduce risk, improve resilience, and facilitate recovery.
  - Existing Components:
    - Part 1: Vessel Owners and Boating Community: Vessel Captains, Boat Owners
    - Part 2: Hazard Analysis: Tsunami Geoscientists, Engineers, and Numerical Modelers
    - Part 3: Response and Exercise Planning: Port Emergency Managers, Harbor Operators, and Coast Guard
    - Part 5: Mitigation: Engineers, Mitigation Specialists
    - Part 6: Recovery: Port and Harbor Operators, Coast Guard
    - Reference Material: Links to Documents and Resources Referenced Throughout This Site
    - Agency Links: Links to Ports, Harbors, Coast Guard, and NTHMP Partner Agencies
  - We’ve been gathering feedback (AK, HI, WA, OR) and will seek a bit more from (Puerto Rico, USVI, South Pacific, East/Gulf coast partners)
  - Next Steps, then will be finalizing the components of the website, designed to be a living guidance document
• **AWR-217**
  - Reviewed by – Laura Kong, ITIC Director, is the lead
    - Christa vonH, Nic Arcos, Kevin Miller, Yvette LaDuke, Todd Becker, and others have reviewed.
  - Updates of current providing examples from Japan 2011 and Indian Ocean 2004, as well as Continental US, Alaska
  - Need for both PRE test and POST test
  - Localization – leaving room for adapting and have local subject matter experts in the room during trainings
    - Module 2: Hazard Assessment
      - Relevant Examples / videos from Japan/Indo, Santa Cruz, etc.
      - Physical characteristics description improvements
      - Natural Warnings description improvements
    - Module 3: Warning
      - Updated descriptions
    - Module 4: Preparedness, Mitigation, and Response
      - Accurate descriptions of current messaging (DCHO< Hi Ground < Stay There)
      - Examples of Tsunami Warning Signs
      - Evacuation Map Examples from around the US
      - Updated Warning/Advisory/Watch/Info descript
      - Updated bulletins
      - All clear further defined
      - Vertical Evac descriptions
    - Module 5: Exercise Scenario
    - Module 6: End-to-End Tsunami Warning, Going Forward: Planning for the Future
    - Module 7: Course Summary and Administration
  - Appendix A: Glossary
  - Appendix B: Supplemental Materials
  - Appendix C: Exercise Scenario – Pacific Region
  - Appendix D: Exercise Scenario – East Coast Region

• **Tsunami Exercise Planning**
  - Establish a Calendar for PacifEX, LantEX
    - Choose scenarios for next three years – can use those from this year not used due to the Pandemic
  - CARIBE WAVE is to be held on March 11, 2021 with two scenarios: Jamaica and Northeastern Lesser Antilles.
  - How do we engage this topic with WCS?
Discuss any inputs from MMS?

- **TsunamiReady Tier2**
  - Those who have undertaken additional planning in terms of
    - Vertical Evacuation measures if no low lying land exists
    - Recovery Plan in place

**Round Robin**

**Oregon – Althea Rizzo**

- Some Project Delays Due to Pandemic Response
- Resuming Work on Tsunami Debris Project. Althea – working on Tsunami Debris planning, workshops, issues, guidance
- Roll-Out for New Inundation Mapping for 3 Counties. Jon Allan – working on new inundation mapping; and changes to inundation maps
- DOGAMI – working on Community Supply Cadre Guidebook
- Question about Blue Line
  - Well received (painting vs. thermos plastic are considerations and climate)
  - Environment wet, coastal weather conditions affect maintenance
  - More clear where to do than signs on posts

**California – Yvette LaDuke**

- Partnering with CGS – updating inundation maps after 10 years, to finish during 2021. Currently LA, Alameda, Humboldt, Del Norte Counties. SLO, SF are next.
- 100 Tsunami Warning Signs have been purchased (City of Alameda, Humboldt County).
- Tsunami Info Kiosks – being implemented (tsu evac maps & rip current)
- Gap Analysis: warning, planning, outreach, modeling.
  - Useful for biannual reporting and grand development
- Exercise Series:
  - 2 Tabletop Exercises Planning FY19 (1 may be delayed)
    - partnering w/NWS and City of LA.
    - 1 TTX this year. Testing comms flow: NTWC – State (FASTER/Playbooks for scenario-specific response)
- Full Scale Exercise Planning for FY20

**California – Todd Becker**

- Maritime Website: Received feedback from various state partners and making updates on a mirror, non-pub site
  - Incl. videos, images, example projects (e.g. mitigation/recovery)
• PLEASE SEND ANY EXAMPLES
  • HAZUS Tsunami Scenario Community Impacts Library
    o 20 Coastal Counties
    o Coordinating w/CGS on pre-processing inundation and other input data
    o Working w/NIAM FEMA Contractor
    o County-level assessments (LHMP; prep/planning)
      ▪ With ability to extract smaller areas like cities, expected
    o Reports for coastal communities for proposed June CA Tsu Steering Committee Meeting

Puerto Rico – Wildaomaris Ruiz

• Supporting TsunamiReady Renewals and Providing Assistance to Areas Impacted by the Hurricanes
• Looking at recognizing Emergency Management Zones administratively, in add’n to municipalities, as it is now.
• Buying more signs
• Improving and updating maps
• Developing COVID 19 Guidance Document based on International (CARIBE EWS) guidance document on Tsunami Response/Evacuation During a Pandemic. Will Share with MES Partners the PR document (Spanish)

NOAA Caribbean – Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade

• An international document has been developed about how to respond during COVID
• Document is available in English and Spanish and will share
• Confirming notification capability still stands

NTWC - Summer Ohlendorf

• Twitter has ended all support of Text SMS notifications – incl those coming from NTWC. Can enable push from Twitter, No 40404 longer exists. Tsunami.Gov has Information
• Dave Snider – New Warning Coordinator (WCM) started in March 2020
• Boater Safety Week – maritime opportunities for learning
• NTWC Videos going live now: virtual office tour, 5 videos, Education & Outreach Videos in Development (each 5-10 min), Will be Added to NTWC FaceBook Page

NWS Western Region - Jeff Lorens

• Western Region – Tsunami Funds to WFO’s – spending by August
• NTWC training was cancelled
• Working w/WFO’s:
o Eureka – printing, signs, etc.

NOAA Tsunami - Ian Sears

- Summer Meeting – thoughts/ideas
- TsunamiReady: any communities expiring currently are being extended beyond 2020. Open-ended at the moment. With opportunity to review.
- Welcome to Puerto Rico’s new membership in MES
- Grants: Feedback Anticipated to NTHMP Partners by COB on 5/20/20. Will Send Email Blast When Available on Grants On-Line