

# National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program

## Warning Coordination Subcommittee

### Annual Meeting Notes

July 2022

#### 1. Hazard Simplification Project

##### A. Review of WCS Recommendation Submitted to NOAA/NWS in October 2021

- “Advisory” term will no longer exist; however, the Alert Level will remain and be replaced with a “Warning” option
- “Maritime and Shoreline Tsunami Warning” was the previous WCS recommendation for new Warning Level Headline (Advisory Replacement)
- Discussed the importance and need for follow-on messaging
- Need to clearly differentiate between 2 Warning Levels
- Desire discussed to include “Tsunami” and “Warning” words in new headline
- Need to use understandable terminology; desired actions from alert levels
- Short/concise statement, no more than 5 to 6 words
- Important to consider Spanish Translation – current recommendation to state “Aviso de Tsunami” will cause problems and does not include maritime
- Other headline options considered by WCS were discussed during the meeting. These options are listed in the Hazard Simplification Project paper submitted by the WCS to NOAA/NWS
- Identify impacts to format of other NOAA products

##### B. Washington “Deep Dive” proposal

- State of Washington included a task proposal to conduct a Hazard Simplification Project “Deep Dive” on their FY22 NOAA Tsunami Grant application.
- Goal: 100% WCS Membership participation
- Identify Implementation Needs for deploying Hazard Simplification messaging
- Define how messages are (and will be) disseminated through all dissemination chains to get to end points

##### C. WCS Decision Point:

- WCS must make recommendation based on 2 options at September 2022 NTHMP Coordinating Committee meetings:
  - Option 1: 2 Warning Levels
  - Option 2: 1 Warning Level w/ Qualifiers
- WCS Co-Chairs will distribute membership survey to vote on the 2 options in August 2022

#### D. WCS Future Tasks

- Language contained in Bulletins
- Bulletin format

### 2. Breakpoint Discussion

- A. Some breakpoints no longer align with current public forecast zones; future zone changes may continue to add to misalignment
- B. PTWC does not use Breakpoints - Pacific Island partners (Guam, CNMI) may not be Breakpoints due to size and wrap-around (tsunami action)
- C. NTWC understands need for additional Breakpoints:
  - NTWC does not currently have capability to add Breakpoints – possibly in the future
  - NWS is changing Forecast Zone alignment – impacts Breakpoint alignment
  - Alerting area changes can over or under alert
- D. Can Breakpoints be moved? (NTWC – not currently)
  - 2014 SAFRR Project – Breakpoint moved from Orange County/Los Angeles County line to the Orange County/San Diego County line
- E. Technology limitations need to be defined
- F. NOAA reminded us that there will not be a delay in moving forward in the "Advisory" change process
- G. Technology Discussion – request to MMS for technical assistance
  - Vertices cannot currently be expanded – potentially in future system upgrade
  - Deep ocean instrumentation needed: GNSS, ionospheric tomography – quickly constrain tsunami source so high resolution models can convey information
  - Additional impact modeling needed – not currently modeling to edge and resonance along the coast. A finer scale of the impacts along the coast is needed.
  - Current system set-up to alert outer coast. NTWC has modified this for some non-seismic sources, and for some inside waters locations.
- H. Forecasting Dissemination
  - Determine how to get higher resolution data along the coast
  - Islands need support

- Gaps exist and needs to be addressed
- Support and resources are needed
- First to experience tsunami impacts in many tsunami events
- GNSS cables – provide deep ocean observations. More work needed regarding this technology
  - Potentially improve WCs confidence in data
- I. WCS formally voted to submit a request to the NTHMP Mapping and Modeling Sub-committee to provide guidance and input on the Tsunami Warning System/Breakpoint recommendations to NOAA/NWS.
  - Identify what is needed to meet state and local needs
  - Provide steps on how to get to “where we need”