

1. Call to order: Chair Grant Cooper called the meeting to order at 3:00pm EDST.

2. Roll Call

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove\*, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Grant Cooper, NWS Western Region Director, Salt Lake City, UT  
Ms. Marie Eblé\*, NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Laura Kong\*, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky\*, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes\*, NOAA/National Weather Service HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Christa Rabenold\*, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa VonHillebrandt\*, Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayagüez, PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

Ms. Tamra Biasco, FEMA Region 10, Lynnwood, WA

USGS

Ms. Stephanie Ross, USGS Menlo Park, CA  
Dr. Nate Wood, USGS Portland

Alaska

Mr. Dan Belanger, Alaska DHSEM, Anchorage, AK  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

American Samoa

Ms. Jacinta Brown, American Samoa Dept. of Homeland Security, Pago Pago, AS  
Ms. Elinor Lutu-McMoore, National Weather Service, Pago Pago, AS

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services, San Francisco, CA  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

No representatives

East Coast States

Dr. Jim Kirby, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Guam

Mr. Chip Guard, National Weather Service, Agana Heights, Guam

Gulf Coast States

Dr. Juan Horrillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, TX

Hawaii

Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Honolulu, HI

Oregon

No representatives

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huérfano, Puerto Rico Seismic Network, Mayagüez, PR

U.S. Virgin Islands

Ms. Mona Barnes, USVI Territorial Emergency Mgmt Agency, St. Thomas, VI  
Mr. Roy Watlington, Professor Emeritus, St. Thomas, VI

Washington

Mr. Maximilian Dixon, Washington EMD, Camp Murray, WA  
Mr. Tim Walsh, Washington Division of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA

28 present, 9 state votes (min 7); 5 Fed votes (min 4). Quorum requirement was met.

\*Non-voting; ex-officio or guest 7).

3. Minutes of Coordinating Committee meeting of May 17, 2016.

Chair Grant Cooper called for approval of the minutes. With no objections, the minutes of the May 17 meeting were approved.

4. Update from Mitigation & Education Subcommittee

See Mitigation & Education Subcommittee Report as Attachment 1 to these minutes.

5. [INFO] Update from Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee

a. Landslide Workshop

Jim Kirby reported that the MMS Landslide workshop has been scheduled January 9 – 11 in Galveston, TX, and will be hosted by Juan Horrillo of Texas A&M University at Galveston. Dr. Kirby and Dr. Grilli will meet soon to plan a workshop agenda with cases to study for benchmarks. An invitation list for those who can be funded through a small FY14 NTHMP grant award to the University of Delaware is being developed in coordination with MMS Co-Chairs.

Rocky Lopes stated that the following NTHMP partners requested and were approved to have travel funds in their FY16 NTHMP grants to sponsor travel for one person to this workshop: Alaska (subaward to Univ. of Alaska), California (subaward to California Geological Survey), Delaware (subaward to Univ. of Rhode Island), Gulf Coast (Texas A&M), Hawaii (subaward to Univ. of Hawaii), Oregon (DOGAMI), Puerto Rico (UPRM), U.S. Virgin Islands (VITEMA), Washington (subaward to Washington DNR). Note: Texas A&M may use grant funding in the travel object class awarded for workshop travel to cover meeting hosting costs including ground transportation.

Rocky also stated that the National Weather Service Headquarters will not be offering invitational travel for anyone to attend this workshop.

b. MMS activities

Marie Eblé reported that the MMS held a conference call on July 5 with MMS members. Discussions included criteria or policy for benchmarking new models. Dmitry and Marie will develop a draft policy for review with MMS members.

Dmitry Nicolsky stated that he is formalizing the MMS portion of the maritime guidance in advance of the upcoming MES meeting, including minimum safe offshore depth. He is preparing a table to be published on the NTHMP website with this information, starting with the Pacific Coast first; East Coast and Caribbean information will follow.

Jim Kirby stated that due to the long Atlantic continental shelf, the recommended offshore safe tsunami depths will not look anything like they will for the West Coast.

Dmitry Nicolsky said that the MMS is looking to hold the Science Exchange Meeting at the end of May, 2017, on the East Coast, which is at a time more convenient for University faculty.

Rocky Lopes clarified that the MMS Science Exchange Meeting is the new name for the "MMS Summer Meeting." The primary funding source is NTHMP grants for MMS members from Alaska, California, East Coast, Gulf of Mexico, Hawaii, Oregon, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington. Currently there is a budget plan at NWS Headquarters to offer invitational (or NOAA direct cite) travel support for MMS members for NOAA employees from American Samoa and Guam, as well as any MMS Co-Chair member who cannot travel on grant funds to attend this meeting.

Kevin Miller asked: will you be sending an updated maritime guidance document? Dmitry Nicolsky said that he would send it to Kevin for use at the MES meeting.

#### 6. Update from Warning Coordination Subcommittee

On behalf of the WCS, Co-Chair Paul Whitmore reviewed progress on the WCS Actions Chart. Paul stated that a Service Change Notice will be issued about combining tsunami information statements and earthquake information bulletins into one Tsunami Information Bulletin effective 8/16/2016. Also effective that date, tsunami messages from the NOAA National Tsunami Warning Center will be transitioning to mixed case, rather than all upper case.

Paul stated that the website consolidation for both Tsunami Warning Centers is ongoing for implementation in the Fall.

Christa VonHillebrandt asked, "the new website might be ready by Fall? Will that affect transition of Caribbean alert services from NTWC to PTWC by Sept. 30?"

Paul Whitmore replied that this work is very complex, and while it remains highest of priority, he cannot promise an exact date. When the new site is ready, it will undergo testing and review. When it is fully operational and approved, a Service Change Notice will be issued to advise the date the new website and Caribbean transition will be effective.

Paul stated that they are looking at moving the warning coordination effectiveness survey to Hawaii.

Paul also asked about the status of coastal zone alerting for Wireless Emergency Alerts for Southern California.

Mike Angove replied that we recognize the need to do this, but management has advised that we need to look at this issue more broadly. We are in a holding pattern pending inclusion of other hazards.

Victor Huérfino asked about the status of OPSNET transition for Puerto Rico.

Paul Whitmore said that he asked the OPSNET group two months ago for action; no response was received. He will follow up with them.

## 7. Plans for NTHMP Annual Meeting

Rocky Lopes stated that the dates and location for the NTHMP Annual and related subcommittee and work group meetings has been selected: January 30 to February 3, 2017, in Portland, Oregon.

Preliminary information is on this page of the NTHMP website:  
<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2017annualmeeting/index.html>

Lopes reviewed the planned schedule of meetings as the NTHMP Coordinating Committee requested at the February 5, 2016, meeting. After a thorough explanation of the planned meeting days, full days Monday through Friday of that week, Lopes asked for and received confirmation of the schedule.

Coordinating Committee members should be aware and plan that they will be expected to attend five full days of meetings starting Monday January 30 in the morning and ending Friday February 3 afternoon, and that travel on weekend days before and after the meeting likely will be necessary. There was no objection to this schedule – so mark your calendars!

Funding for fully appointed Coordinating Committee members will be a hybrid. These partners will have funds in their FY16 NTHMP grant to cover travel for:

- a. Two representatives: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington.
- b. One representative: American Samoa (EM rep), East Coast (Univ. of Delaware—Science Rep), Guam (EM rep), Gulf Coast (Texas A&M University—Science Rep), and Puerto Rico (Univ. of PR—Science Rep).

NOAA/NWS HQ will provide invitational travel (or direct cite) funding for: American Samoa (Science rep), East Coast (EM rep); Guam (Science rep), Gulf Coast (EM rep); Puerto Rico (EM rep); two FEMA employees; NTHMP Subcommittee Co-Chairs who are NOAA employees; NOAA Coordinating Committee voting members; NOAA NWS Tsunami Program Lead. Funding for five (5) NTHMP Reviewers to travel to the Annual Meeting will be included in the Oregon/DOGAMI grant.

Chip Guard asked, "What is the island caucus?"

Kevin Richards explained that this is a non-voting collaborative group of people who represent islands and want to discuss tsunami issues unique to islands. This informal group was agreed to be formed and provided meeting time during the February 5 Coordinating Committee meeting. Kevin said that he intends to get input from island members and develop a loose agenda.

Chair Grant Cooper called for volunteers to serve on Annual Meeting agenda development workgroup with Rocky Lopes. The following people volunteered:

Cinta Brown, American Samoa  
Victor Huérfano, Puerto Rico  
Kevin Miller, California  
Kevin Richards, Hawaii  
Rick Wilson, California  
Paul Whitmore or Althea Rizzo, representing WCS

#### 8. Puerto Rico island-wide TsunamiReady recognition

Victor Huérfano stated that on July 6 at a ceremony held at the Puerto Rico State Emergency Management Agency headquarters in San Juan, the entire island of Puerto Rico was recognized as TsunamiReady. This involved getting all 46 coastal municipalities to achieve individual recognition over an 11-year span, which then resulted in all-island recognition.

Rocky Lopes attended the ceremony and congratulated the team of people who contributed to this success by providing TsunamiReady Champion recognition. The Champions recognized were: Wildamaris Gonzalez, Carolina Hincapié, Dr. Victor Huérfano, Israel Matos, Dr. José Martínez-Cruzado, Prof. Aurelio Mercado, Rafael Mojica, Wilfredo Ramos, Roy Ruiz Vélez, and Alberto Trabal.

#### 9. FY16 NTHMP Grants status

Rocky Lopes reported that Lewis Kozlosky has prepared all the supporting documentation for each grant file, and shepherded each application through the NWS system for funding authorization by the NWS Chief Financial Officer. The FY16 NTHMP grant applications were forwarded to the NOAA Grants Management Division for the next stage of review and processing. This was accomplished ten days before the Grants Management Division deadline, which is a new record. Lewis Kozlosky thanked Rocky Lopes and the review panel for doing an exceptional job of working with the recipients and evaluating each application prior to formal submission in the online system.

Rocky also stated that grantees that have tasks related to siren maintenance will expect to see a Special Award Condition appended to their grants that describes the local support required for siren maintenance.

Chip Guard asked, "Was there an issue about receipt of a grant?"

Rocky Lopes explained that a grantee may not announce that a grant was made based on a recommendation to apply. Public announcement of a NOAA grant may only be made after a grant is awarded and accepted. So please wait to make public statements until you receive and formally accept the grant award.

10. Old Business

There was no old business.

11. New Business

There was no new business.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:51pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

## ATTACHMENT 1: Mitigation & Education Subcommittee Report

A planning team comprised of the MES Co-Chairs, Rocky Lopes, Kevin Richards, and James Waddell developed a summer meeting agenda, and solicited input from MES membership.

Information has been posted on the NTHMP MES site, along with Participant List, Hotel, Meeting location info <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2016messummer/index.html>

Approximately 30 persons are expected each day.

Key working topics will include Working Sessions:

1. **Maritime Guidance document development for: Part 2 (Tsunami Response, Preparedness, and Education) & Part 3 (Mitigation & Recovery Planning)**
  - a. Please read ahead (document to be provided to all members) and be prepared to discuss your status using the below form/template:
  - b. Each State/territory bring a status summary/white paper of their maritime o (Provide members questions to help provide Common Topics to Discuss)
    - i. What is your recommended offshore depth?
    - ii. Current maritime R&D/planning work status? (Where do people see themselves in 5 years.)
    - iii. Bring any existing, local Maritime Preparedness materials by various partners (Playbooks, technical/science)
2. **Evacuation approaches, vulnerability assessment, and studies;** Nate Wood, Kevin Miller
  - a. Status: Review of what modeling is existing in select State/Territory examples (a couple to report out) o Understanding population in hazard zone and how to address evacuating them
  - b. Goal of an NTHMP MES Online Resource page
  - c. Discuss combining two papers:
    - i. MMS: Guidelines and Best Practices for Tsunami Inundation Mapping for Evacuation Planning, here: [http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMP\\_Modeling\\_Mapping\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMP_Modeling_Mapping_Guidelines.pdf) **start on page 4**
    - ii. MES: Guidelines and Best Practices for Tsunami Evacuation Mapping <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/documents/NTHMPTsunamiEvacuationMappingGuidelines.pdf>
  - d. Action: Where do we go from here? Discuss development of online resource (NTHMP MES webpage development)
  - e. Future direction: Goal of Guidance Paper to be developed in 2018-2023 Strategic Plan
3. **TsunamiReady Supporter MES Feedback, TsunamiReady Tier Two MES Feedback, Announce/Show: TsunamiReady COMET Training (online)**

Other updates include HAZUS Tsunami Module development and EERI School Earthquake Safety Initiative Tsunami Subcommittee, both of which will mutually benefit from MES engagement.