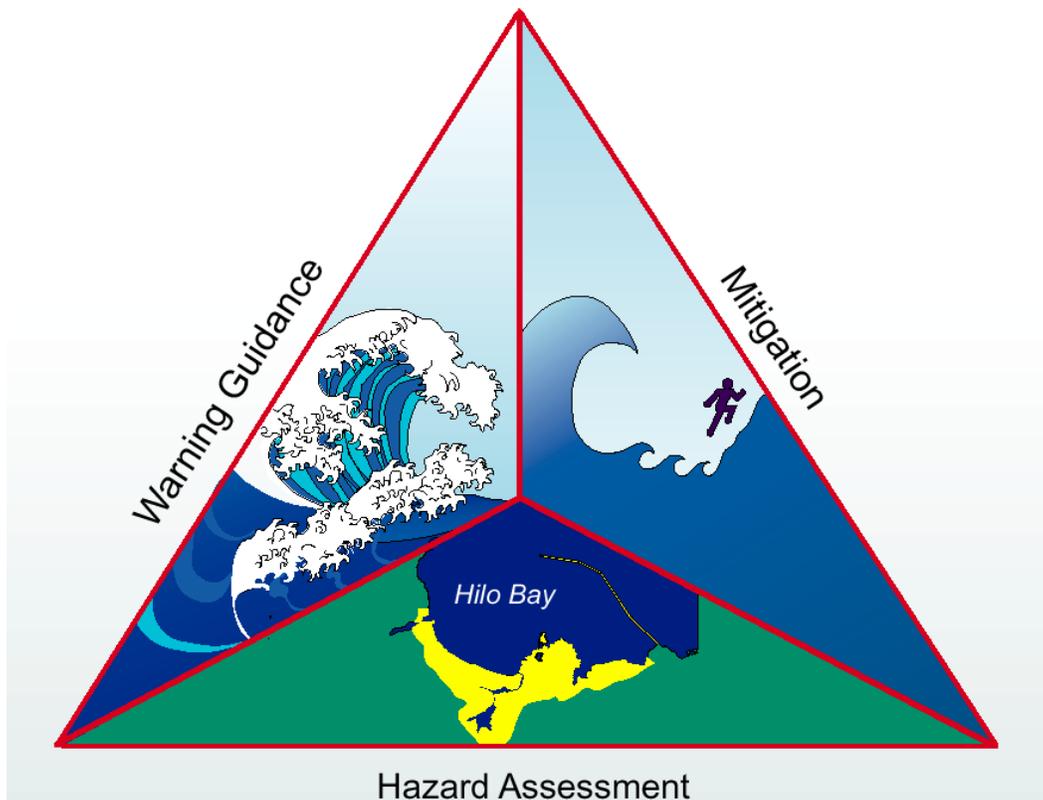


National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP)  
Program Charter  
April 2008  
Revised 11/2008



**VISION-** Resilient coastal communities that are so informed and prepared for all tsunami hazards that loss of life is negligible and loss of property is minimized should a tsunami strike any U.S. state, commonwealth or territorial coastline.

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**MISSION –** The NTHMP’s mission is to reduce the loss of life and property damage from tsunamis

## **DEFINITION AND PURPOSE**

The National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, a partnership between Federal, State, local and tribal representatives, is the instrument through which the National Weather Service shall implement “a community-based tsunami hazard mitigation program to improve tsunami preparedness of at-risk areas in the United States and its territories.” As specified in P.L. 109-424, the Program’s responsibilities include conducting five activities identified in the Tsunami Warning and Education Act:

- (1) Use inundation models that meet a standard of accuracy defined by the Administration to improve the quality and extent of inundation mapping, including assessment of vulnerable inner coastal and nearshore areas, in a coordinated and standardized fashion to maximize resources and the utility of data collected;
- (2) Promote and improve community outreach and education networks and programs to ensure community readiness, including the development of comprehensive coastal risk and vulnerability assessment training and decision support tools, implementation of technical training and public education programs, and providing for certification of prepared communities;
- (3) Integrate tsunami preparedness and mitigation programs into ongoing hazard warning and risk management activities, emergency response plans, and mitigation programs in affected areas, including integrating information to assist in tsunami evacuation route planning;
- (4) Promote the adoption of tsunami warning and mitigation measures by Federal, State, tribal, and local governments and non-government entities, including educational programs to discourage development in high-risk areas; and
- (5) Provide for periodic external review of the program.

The NTHMP Rules and Procedures is the guiding document for NTHMP Membership and Meeting Conduct.

## GENERAL PHILOSOPHY

The NTHMP will achieve the vision and implement its mission by promoting a community-based approach involving local stakeholders wherever possible. To this end all implementation and funding recommendations will be made in full partnership with U.S. states, commonwealths and territories through a democratic process apportioned by objective criteria set forth in the NTHMP Rules of Procedure.

## CORE VALUES

- *Respect* helps people get along and work together in a complementary way, especially among a group of people working toward a common goal. Respect assumes that social interactions involve good faith and competence on the part of others and oneself.
- *Honesty* involves the truthful and accurate communication of information and purpose of action.
- *Integrity* of an individual or group of people describes the consistency of actions related to a set of guiding principles or core values.
- *Trust* establishes relationships of reliance where one can count on another's actions.
- Be Objective and Reasonable
- Support for all NTHMP Members

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Achieving program outcomes will enable the NTHMP to reach its vision. These outcomes, further explained in the NTHMP Strategic Plan, are:

- ❖ Reduction of loss of life and property damage from tsunami
- ❖ Successful execution of NTHMP tsunami mapping, modeling, mitigation, planning and education efforts
- ❖ Tsunami inundation maps that support informed decision making in tsunami-threatened communities
- ❖ Tsunami evacuation maps that support effective preparedness and response
- ❖ A culture of tsunami preparedness and response
- ❖ Establishment of more tsunami resilient communities
- ❖ Effective and reliable warning dissemination to people at risk
- ❖ Understandable and effective Tsunami Warning Center products

Specific strategies, performance measures and milestones that track the Program's progress toward reaching these outcomes are defined in the NTHMP Strategic Plan.

## **ENDORSEMENT**

We, the members of the NTHMP Coordinating Committee, enthusiastically and fully endorse this Program Charter for guiding and enhancing efforts in tsunami hazard assessment, warning coordination, and mitigation and preparedness.

### **Alaska:**

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Erv Petty

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Roger Hanson

### **East Coast States:**

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Robert Ward (Maryland)

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James Kirby (Delaware)

### **California:**

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Jim Goltz

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Rick Wilson

### **Gulf Coast States:**

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Charles Williams (Alabama)

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Juan Horillo (Texas)

nthmp\_charter

**Hawaii:**

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Kevin Richards

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Kwok Fai Cheung

**Oregon:**

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Althea Turner

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Rob Witter

**Pacific Island Territories:**

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Technical Rep. - TBD

**Puerto Rico:**

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Christa von Hillebrandt

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**Washington:**

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Tim Walsh

**Federal Emergency Management Agency:**

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Chris Jonientz-Trisler

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Mike Mahoney

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:**

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Eddie Bernard

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Paul Whitmore

**United States Geological Survey:**

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Craig Weaver

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David Oppenheimer