

2017 Tsunami Preparedness Campaigns

Call #3 - March 7, 2017

Nic Arcos (NOAA/NCEI)

Mona Barnes (Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency)

Jason Ballmann (Southern California Earthquake Center)

Dan Belanger (Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management)

Mark Benthien (Southern California Earthquake Center)

Ted Buehner (NOAA/NWS/Seattle)

Tammy Fukuji (NOAA/NWS/International Tsunami Information Center)

Glorymar Gomez (Puerto Rico Seismic Network)

Christa von Hillebrandt (NOAA/NWS/Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program)

Carolina Hincapie (NOAA/NWS/Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program)

Kieran Isidore (Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency)

Yvette LaDuke (California Office of Emergency Services)

Kevin Miller (California Office of Emergency Services)

Cindi Preller (NOAA/NWS/Alaska Region)

Cindy Pridmore (California Geological Survey)

Christa Rabenold (NOAA/NWS/HQ)

Kevin Richards (Hawaii Emergency Management Agency)

Alex Tardy (NOAA/NWS/San Diego)

Sarah Tomt (Washington Emergency Management Division)

Liz Vanacore (Puerto Rico Seismic Network)

Roy Watlington (Professor Emeritus, U.S. Virgin Islands)

Christa Rabenold (NWS/HQ) informed the group that [materials for the NWS's spring campaign](#) are now available. They can also be accessed from the weather.gov home page and the NTHMP website's [Tsunami Preparedness Campaigns page](#). She also shared that the NWS is launching a #SafePlaceSelfie social media campaign the week of April 3, culminating in a TweetChat on Thursday, April 6. It is a grass roots campaign as part of NOAA's Weather-Ready Nation initiative to get individuals, businesses, and all organizations ready, responsive, and resilient to extreme events. People are encouraged to post photos of themselves in their "safe places," and challenge others by tagging them and asking "Where is your safe place?" Follow #SafePlaceSelfie on Twitter to learn more.

Kevin Miller and Yvette LaDuke (California Office of Emergency Services) shared plans for Tsunami Preparedness Week in California (March 27-31). They had a coordinating call with their coastal partners recently, and a number of events are planned, including several tsunami walks, town halls, and trainings. A few counties are seeing proclamations for the week. There will be a statewide playbook drill on March 29. See the [Schedule of Events](#) for more details. Yvette has updated some of the outreach materials, which will be used to support local events.

Alex Tardy (NOAA/NWS/San Diego) mentioned that he will likely support the San Diego County outreach event.

Jason Ballmann (Southern California Earthquake Center) noted that some of the California events mentioned were not on the TsunamiZone events calendar. To get them added, details can be sent to <mailto:info@tsunamizone.org>.

Kevin Richards (Hawaii Emergency Management Agency) reminded the group that April is Tsunami Awareness Month in Hawaii and this will include several school visits, an open house at the Pacific Tsunami Museum, and outreach through the newspaper and movie theaters.

Tammy Fukuji (NOAA/NWS/International Tsunami Information Center) mentioned that the ITIC is working with state and Hawaii County officials to support their efforts through their historic photos project and by providing Tsunami Teacher packets and [historic tsunami posters](#).

Christa von Hillebrandt (NOAA/NWS/Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program) mentioned that webinars are being held this week for the Caribe Wave exercise. Each participating country is organizing their own activities and registering them on the TsunamiZone.

Glorymar Gomez and Liz Vanacore (Puerto Rico Seismic Network) shared some of Puerto Rico's recent and planned activities, including a live code test (with radio spots daily until Caribe Wave on the 21st), school evacuation drills, and the first night time evacuation drill of a proposed new evacuation route in San Jose.

Kieran Isidore (Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency, VITEMA) shared that VITEMA is also preparing for Caribe Wave. They will be testing all of the sirens territory-wide, holding a tabletop exercise, and activating the EOC to test work stations and communications systems. Schools will be conducting tsunami drills, and hotels and the public will be doing tsunami walks.

Dan Belanger (Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management) noted that Alaska will be conducting a live code test on March 29, activating test codes on sirens and activating the EOC to do the drill, test communications, and update contact information for coastal communities. There will be a 2 ½ day tsunami operations workshop in Homer that will focus on warning operations and EOP and communications planning for tsunamis. Representatives from a dozen communities are expected to attend, including harbormasters, emergency managers, fire chiefs, and planners. The second Alaska earthquake and tsunami resilience conference is being planned for Anchorage in May. Expected attendees include city officials and representatives from hospitals, schools, infrastructure, and utilities. Extra note: The Alaska governor issued a [proclamation](#) declaring the week of March 26-April 1 "Tsunami Preparedness Week."

Cindi Preller (NOAA/NWS/Alaska Region) shared that the National Tsunami Warning Center will be hosting an open house during Alaska's Tsunami Preparedness Week and will also be launching the three exercises and participating in a variety of outreach events with schools and rotaries. The center will also be hosting a tsunami warning workshop the first week of April.

Sarah Tomt (Washington Emergency Management Division) shared that Washington is planning a Tsunami Road Show April 12-15. Visits to coastal counties will feature public presentations about tsunami history, science, and preparedness.

Ted Buehner (NOAA/NWS/Seattle) mentioned that he will be supporting the state road show activities by describing the roles of the NWS, the National Tsunami Warning Center, and the local forecast office in disseminating tsunami messages.

TsunamiZone Updates

Mark Benthien and Jason Ballmann (Southern California Earthquake Center) updated the group about the TsunamiZone. Current regions include California and the Caribbean. Other states and territories are invited and encouraged to create pages or submit resources. They clarified the difference between registering an event (which is for the purpose of tracking the number of participants) and scheduling events on the calendar (which is to publicize the event for the public and

media to garner attention and attendees). More information about this distinction will be provided separately. The list of potential activities that can be registered is broad and even incorporates preparedness actions by individuals independent of larger activities. Activities can be registered before or after they happen (numbers can be updated if they change after registration). It was suggested that media contacts for the Caribbean and NOAA be included on the News and Events page (along with California). Follow the TsunamiZone on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. **Christa Rabenold** noted that links to these social media resources are included in the [NTHMP partners social media sites list](#). Links to resources, news stories, and questions about the TsunamiZone should be directed to <mailto:info@tsunamizone.org>.

Other

- The FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards will soon be open for nominations. These awards highlight innovative local practices and achievements by recognizing individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions toward strengthening their community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster. Visit the [web page](#) to learn more about these awards and how to nominate someone (the latter is still to come).
- The theme of World Tsunami Awareness Day 2017 is reducing the number of people affected by a tsunami.

Next Call

May 9, 2-3pm EDT

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