

Roll call:

NOAA: Aimee Devaris, Chair, NOAA/NWS Alaska Region  
Mike Angove, Tsunami Program, NWS Headquarters  
Laura Kong, International Tsunami Information Center  
Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program, NWS Headquarters  
Christa vonHillebrandt-Andrade, Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program  
Paul Whitmore, NOAA/NWS National Tsunami Warning Center

FEMA: Tamra Biasco, FEMA Region 10  
Mike Mahoney, FEMA Headquarters

USGS: Stephanie Ross, USGS Menlo Park, California

Alaska: Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska/Fairbanks  
Erv Petty, Alaska Dept. Homeland Security & Emergency Management

American Samoa: Vinnie Atofou, American Samoa DHS/EM

California: Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services  
Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

CNMI: Juan Camacho, CNMI DHS/Emergency Management

East Coast: Jim Kirby, University of Delaware

Gulf Coast: Juan Horrillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Hawaii: Kevin Richards, State of Hawaii Civil Defense

Oregon: George Priest, Oregon Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries  
Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management

Puerto Rico: Wilfredo Ramos, State Emergency Management Agency

US Virgin Islands: Gen. Elton Lewis, Virgin Islands Territorial Emer. Mgmt. Agency  
Roy Watlington, Science Representative

Washington: John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management

The meeting was called to order by NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris at 12:10pm PT.

The purpose of this special meeting was to discuss potential locations and dates for the NTHMP Annual Meeting, especially considering that the MMS will have a two-day pre-meeting before the annual meeting.

1. Four potential locations were suggested. The name of the person to check on availability of space in the listed facility follows in (parentheses)
  - a. NOAA Inouye Regional Center, Ford Island, Oahu, Hawaii (Laura Kong)
  - b. State Office Building, Portland, Oregon (George Priest)
  - c. NOAA AOML facility, Miami, Florida (Rocky Lopes)
  - d. FEMA Region 4 facility, Atlanta, Georgia (Mike Mahoney)

Locations discussed but excluded were: NOAA/NWS headquarters, Silver Spring, MD; NOAA/NGDC facility, Boulder, CO; NOAA/NWS Southern Region HQ, Fort Worth, TX.

2. Dates and format considered are:

- a. January 26 – 30
- b. February 9 – 13

Meeting Format:

Sunday – travel for MMS pre-meeting attendees

Monday – MMS pre-meeting

- One room/25 people

Tuesday – MMS pre-meeting; MES meeting AM; WCS meeting PM

- Two rooms/25 people each

Wednesday – Annual Meeting

- One large room/50 people

Thursday – Annual Meeting

- One large room/50 people

- Annual meeting concludes end of day Thursday

Friday – Coordinating Committee Meeting (AM)

- One room/30 people

- CC meeting concludes about noon

3. Next steps:

Rocky will prepare cost estimates for travel expense estimates for meeting in the four locations and report back to Aimee Devaris and Mike Angove. They will share the results at the next regularly scheduled NTHMP meeting on September 16 to enable the CC to confirm a recommended location considering costs, availability of meeting space, and other factors.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55pm PT

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

SPECIAL NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- December 2, 2014

1. Call to order – NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris called the meeting to order at 3:01pm ET.

2. Roll call – Rocky Lopes

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove\*, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Aimee Devaris, NWS Alaska Region Director, Anchorage, AK  
Ms. Marie Eblé\*, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Laura Kong\*, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky\*, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes\*, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa VonHillebrandt-Andrade\*, NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayaguez PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, NWS National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

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

USGS

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

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Department of Homeland Security & Emer. Mgmt, Anchorage, AK  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

American Samoa

Mr. Vinnie Atofau, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS  
Ms. Elinor Lutu-McMoore, NWS WSO American Samoa, 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

Mr. Juan Camacho, CNMI Department of Homeland Security & Emer. Mgmt, Saipan, MP

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, Boston, MA

Guam

Ms. Pilar Carbullido, Guam Department of Homeland Security, Agana Heights, Guam

Gulf Coast States

No representatives

Hawaii

Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii State Civil Defense, Honolulu, HI

Oregon

Dr. George Priest, Oregon Department of Geology & Mineral Industries, Newport, OR  
Dr. Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management, Salem, OR

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Mayaguez, PR

U.S. Virgin Islands

Mr. Elton Lewis, USVI Territorial Emergency Management Agency, St. Thomas, VI  
Mr. Roy Watlington, USVI Science Representative

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management, Camp Murray, WA

\*Non-voting; ex-officio or guest

3. [INFO] Subcommittee update about February subcommittee meeting plans

a. MMS Benchmarking workshop – update -- Rick Wilson

Rick Wilson reported that planning for this workshop is well under way and is being co-led by Dr. Pat Lynette of the University of Southern California. A specific website with information about the benchmark datasets to be discussed and evaluated has been developed:

[http://coastal.usc.edu/currents\\_workshop/index.html](http://coastal.usc.edu/currents_workshop/index.html)

Wilson said that if time permits, each state doing modeling will be asked to determine/discuss the appropriate maritime evacuation depth to lead to a discussion and perhaps a decision during the Annual Meeting.

Rocky Lopes reported that as of 12/2, 38 people were registered to participate in this workshop.

b. MES meeting – update -- Tamra Biasco

Tamra Biasco reported that an agenda for the MES meeting has been developed and posted on the NTHMP annual meeting website. She anticipates an interactive discussion at the meeting.

Rocky Lopes reported that as of 12/2, 32 people were registered to participate in this subcommittee meeting.

c. WCS meeting – update -- Paul Whitmore & Althea Rizzo

Paul Whitmore reported that a draft WCS meeting agenda is on the website. It will be updated before the meeting and reposted when available. Social scientist Jeanette Sutton is not available to attend the meeting, but Chris Gregg will be there.

Rocky Lopes reported that as of 12/2, 27 people were registered to participate in this subcommittee meeting.

George Priest reminded everyone that there is no wifi in the first floor main meeting room. This is the room where the MMS workshop and the Annual Meeting will be held.

Rocky Lopes also announced that as of 12/2, 68 people had registered to participate in the NTHMP Annual Meeting overall – the largest attendance to date.

#### 4. [INFO] Update about Annual Meeting and Group Travel – Rocky Lopes

Aimee Devaris extended her appreciation to Rocky Lopes for getting the NOAA Group Travel request through the system in record time.

Rocky Lopes asked everyone for whom NOAA/NWS Headquarters is paying for travel to make travel plans per the instructions in the email that he sent to you and to return the travel itinerary worksheet to Debbie Greeley ([debra.greeley@noaa.gov](mailto:debra.greeley@noaa.gov)).

Erv Petty asked if it was okay to take some personal time before or after the meeting. Rocky Lopes said yes, that is permissible, as long as the actual dates when you will depart your home and return are indicated on the travel itinerary form that Debbie Greeley is collecting. The entire travel time must be shown on that form. You will be reimbursed for meals & hotel per diem only for the actual dates in which you are involved in NTHMP meetings.

Victor Huerfano asked about an overdue reimbursement for Aurelio Mercado's travel for the NTHMP summer meeting.

Mike Angove acknowledged that NWS management is looking into that specific situation. He reminded everyone: submit vouchers on time. Get confirmation of receipt of the voucher.

When a voucher is submitted, administrative staff at NWS HQ reviews it then submits it for approval within the agency then it is submitted for payment. Sometimes vouchers get held up. You're not done until you get your money. If you don't get reimbursed when you think you should, please contact Rocky Lopes and Debra Greeley so they can follow up.

#### 5. [DISCUSSION] FY15 NTHMP Grants – Rocky Lopes

Updated FY15 NTHMP Grant Guidance, as well as project & budget narrative templates, were released on November 10, and posted here: <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2015grant/index.html>.

Rocky Lopes held an optional conference call on Monday, December 1, with grantees. Highlights of changes to this round of NTHMP grant guidance include:

- This is a ONE-year grant, with an "up to" two-year performance period. There are some tasks that will take longer than one year to complete. Each requesting entity can choose if it wants to request a one or two year performance period. Some states do not permit a performance period for a one-year grant to exceed 12 months, while other states do. The choice is up to the applicant. This change should avoid having to request no-cost extensions.

- Clarifications were made on what is considered a joint collaboration: for projects that are jointly funded among two or more NTHMP partners. Each applicant should indicate on its project narrative what activity on which collaboration is taking place on a jointly-funded project, and note the task number of the other applicant's project on its project narrative, and vice-versa.
- Personnel and associated fringe/indirect costs should be requested for one year, not two years. The two-year performance period option is only for projects that require implementation time, such as siren installation, conducting workshops, and the like.

Lopes explained that the initial due-date of the first draft of the Project Narrative, Budget Narrative, and Forward Performance Outlook is due to him by January 16, 2015. He will do an administrative review and provide feedback to each submitter before the NTHMP Annual Meeting. These first drafts are not sent to the NOAA Grants Office – they are only for preliminary review so we can have an overall idea of what NTHMP partners will be asking for and to provide opportunities to correct any administrative or technical errors.

On the afternoon of February 12, each NTHMP grant requestor is expected to make a short presentation about what projects are being requested. We will look for opportunities for collaboration and synergy.

By February 27, each grant requester should submit the final project narrative, budget narrative, and forward performance outlook to Rocky Lopes who will assemble the documents to prepare the Federal Grant Review Panel to review them.

The schedule for the entire FY15 Grant process is described in the Grant Guidance. If there are any questions, however minor, please ask Rocky Lopes.

6. [INFO] Update on status of Tsunami Warning, Education, and Research Act of 2014 – Mike Angove

Mike Angove reported that he and Rocky Lopes met twice (once in August and once in November) with staffers of the Senate Commerce, Justice, and Science committee to brief them on tsunami science and to discuss TWERA.

TWERA House Bill 5309 was passed by the House of Representatives last summer. This bill has not been introduced into the Senate. A slightly different (but preferred) bill sponsored by Senator Begich (S2181) may be considered by the Senate or they may consider the House version. We don't know if the Begich bill will be passed by the Senate during the lame duck session, or if either bill will receive action.

John Schelling: was there language in the House bill that was explicit that there would be another warning center developed?

Mike Angove: there was not language that specified another warning center in the Caribbean, but there were errors on the AORs for Caribbean, so that's where there may be some discussion.

## 7. [INFO] TsunamiReady Guidelines update – Rocky Lopes

Rocky Lopes stated that after many months of open discussion, review, and significant stakeholder participation – including feedback provided during the 3-hour NTHMP TsunamiReady workshop this summer – a final revised set of TsunamiReady Guidelines has been developed. Three interrelated documents are now available for review here: <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/tr/index.html>

The “fundamental” (formerly referred to as “Tier 1”) Guidelines are now out for official public comment. Further, Rocky is working with NTHMP partners and selected NWS WCMs on a pilot project to examine the practicality of the proposed new TsunamiReady Guidelines and also to develop documentation to describe how a community/county would achieve each Guideline.

The formal public review period will be open through February. More of an update will be provided during the NTHMP Annual Meeting, at which time guidance will be needed on implementation, including “grandfathering” of existing TsunamiReady sites.

## 8. Old Business

None

## 9. New Business

Kevin Richards: recommend appointment of Tamra Biasco, Marie Eble, and Rocky Lopes to the FY15 NTHMP Grant Review Panel. The members of the Coordinating Committee on the call agreed without dissent.

NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris made the appointment.

## 10. Adjourn

Aimee Devaris wished everyone a pleasant and happy holiday season.

The meeting was adjourned 3:47pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator



NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- January 31, 2014

Meeting held at USGS Science Center, Menlo Park, California

1. Call to order -- Aimee Devaris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05am PT.

2. Roll call

NOAA

Ms. Aimee Devaris, NTHMP Chair & Director, NWS Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK  
Ms. Marie Eble, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Laura Kong, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Dr. Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Charles (Chip) McCreery, Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Ewa Beach, HI  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, Director, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

Mr. Mike Mahoney, FEMA Headquarters, Washington, DC

USGS

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

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Dept. of Homeland Security & Emergency Management  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, Alaska Earthquake Information Center

American Samoa

Mr. Adulbeau Lomi Akapo, American Samoa Territorial Emer. Mgmt Coordinating Office

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

No representative

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium  
Dr. Jim Kirby, University of Delaware

Guam

Ms. Pilar Carbidullo, Guam Department of Homeland Security & Emer. Mgmt.

Gulf Coast States

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

Hawaii

Dr. Kwok Fai Cheung, University of Hawaii  
Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii State Civil Defense

Oregon

Dr. Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management  
Dr. George Priest, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Pacific Islands

No representatives

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

U.S. Virgin Islands

Gen. Elton Lewis, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency  
Mr. Roy Wattlington, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management  
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

### 3. NTHMP CC Membership/appointments business

- a. [WELCOME] Officially welcome new members Roy Wattlington from USVI, Ed Fratto from NESEC for East Coast EM Rep, and Amy Godsey from Florida Division of Emergency Management as the Gulf Coast EM Representative.

NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris welcomed Roy, Ed, and Amy.

- b. [CONFIRM] NTHMP Program Administrator as defined in Rules of Procedure.

NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris appointed Rocky Lopes to serve as the NTHMP Program Administrator.

- c. [ACTION] Discuss Coordinating Committee membership for Pacific Islands. Consider a vote to change the RoPs on who official members to serve on the CC from the Pacific Islands will be.

Schelling: tsunami assessment makes compelling case for appointments to CC

Wilson: confirmed that assessment indicates membership for each island.

Richards: agrees

Schelling moved/Richards seconded to have NTHMP CC membership status extended to American Samoa, CNMI, and Guam.

Richards: amendment to have 1 EM rep and 1 science rep for each island

Vote: The motion as amended was approved unanimously.

Lopes advised that each island's Government must make the appointment and send a letter to Aimee Devaris via Lopes naming the EM and science representative to serve on the NTHMP.

- d. [DISCUSSION/ACTION] Subcommittee Chairs – MES.

Schelling offered slate of Laura Kong as NOAA Co-Chair; Tamra Biasco as the FEMA Co-Chair; Kevin Miller as the state Co-Chair.

Schelling: moved that the NTHMP Coordinating Committee approve this slate of Co-Chairs to serve for the next two years. Kevin Richards seconded.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

Aimee Devaris thanked John Schelling for his past four years of service as the state Co-Chair on the NTHMP Mitigation and Education subcommittee.

- e. [ACTION] Confirm frequency and schedule of NTHMP CC meetings for 2014 between now and the next Annual Meeting.

Richards: moved to keep CC meetings on same schedule as before -- every two months on third Tuesday at 3pm ET. Kevin Miller seconded.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

NTHMP CC meetings during 2014 will be on: March 18, May 20, July 15, September 16, and November 18. The following CC meeting two months later will be at the annual meeting in January or February, 2015.

4. RoP Required annual meeting business:

- a. [ACTION] NTHMP Rules of Procedure require a vote by the CC in even years to recommend a Chair of the NTHMP to the NWS Director. Reconfirm Aimee Devaris.

Schelling moved to nominate Aimee Devaris to continue in the role as NTHMP Chair. Mike Mahoney seconded.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

- b. [DISCUSSION] Review the Strategic Plan measures and milestones to ensure progress is on track.

MMS: Rick Wilson provided a report from MMS. He read each milestone in the strategic plan and said each were on track.

WCS: Paul Whitmore stated that strategic plan measures for WCS are on track.

MES: John Schelling reported that the MES is on track but there is a need to review/update the NTHMP national education plan.

Devaris: status check to be done in six months.

Schelling: we should plan to do this at the summer meeting.

Devaris: need to articulate successes of NTHMP. Report on this progress will help tell this story.

Schelling: need to include development of guidelines for TsunamiReady supporter in process for development of updated/new TR Guidelines.

- c. [DISCUSSION] Formulate out-year priorities for the long-term vision of the NTHMP, which take into account recommendations of individual subcommittees and NTHMP members.

Devaris: concerned about number of activities due in FY14. Should there be an annual plan against the strategic plan?

Schelling: the Forward Performance Outlook provided for planning for the FY14 NTHMP grants is a valuable tool to use for planning out-year vision.

Lopes: he will take the "future" section from Forward Performance Outlook documents and consolidate that information into one document/matrix to share with NTHMP CC.

Devaris: in the future, should we have articulated guides/measurements to include in future NTHMP Grant Guidance? Think about how many milestones x-off as done and how many more remain to be completed. How to articulate more details about activities to be completed each year moving forward?

Schelling volunteered to work with Devaris on thinking through "binning of an annual framework."

Priest suggested simple metrics -- such as of each state, % evacuation plans done, % maps done, % states that have disaster drill each year; # of ports that have had training ...

Kevin Richards, Althea Rizzo, John Schelling, and Rick Wilson volunteered to work on this.

5. [DISCUSSION] NOAA Response to NAS Report - what are the broader implications for the NTHMP?

Devaris suggested that this discussion be tabled since the document was just released, people have not had adequate time to review it, and today's meeting is short. General sense of agreement to defer.

Woods asked, "what kind of broad implications to discuss?"

Devaris: are there sections in the report that can be improved, made more specific from the general?

Angove: it is valuable for us to hear from the NTHMP about what do we still need to work on?

Richards: the implications are that the NOAA response is how NOAA sees the NTHMP.

Agreement to defer discussion until the March NTHMP CC meeting.

6. [ACTION] Rules of Procedure – time for a review and update. Appoint review task team and a facilitator.

RoPs are outdated now that the budget is done differently. Time to appoint a team to update the RoPs.

Devaris appointed Wilson, Rizzo, Walsh, Titov with Lopes to facilitate. She suggested to start by identifying things that require attention.

7. [DISCUSSION] Educational repository on nthmp.tsunami.gov - what is maintenance strategy?

Lopes described that what we have now has not been updated since it was posted in 2012. He further said that the NTHMP website may be able to be moved to the main tsunami.gov site once promised access via a Content Management System is provided to him at NWS HQ. Date of when CMS access may occur is unknown.

Kong offered help to upload content on the repository if she (or ITIC) can be given access to a content management system.

Devaris asked how will content be updated? Each partner needs to identify and provide updates for it.

Lopes: to call for each state's updates for it.

8. [DISCUSSION] Tsunami Advisory/LAE matter (Rizzo) Solution to get the Tsunami Advisories to tone the alert radios but not the EAS system.

Rizzo discussed this matter during the WCS meeting this week. She hopes to have a final solution to offer at the NTHMP summer meeting. We are back to the drawing board on this matter. Issue is that a tsunami advisory does not tone alert NOAA Weather Radio, which is especially important to mariners. Rizzo explained that she has been working on this matter for about two years and thought we had a solution, but it turns out that it tone alerts only older NOAA Weather Radio, not new ones that are SAME encoded. Each state would have to go to its respective EAS commission to request approval of an LAE (local area emergency) code to be used over NOAA WR.

More on this to follow at the summer NTHMP meeting.

9. [DISCUSSION] Meteotsunami Warning (Fratto, Whitmore)

Whitmore said that this matter was discussed adequately during the WCS meeting this week. The NTWC has an internal action to work on by the end of this FY.

## 10. New business

Nicolsky: Good to have USGS representation on NTHMP source working group.

Woods: Stephanie Ross and I were asked to attend this week's meeting to report back to David Applegate about what type of involvement USGS should have with the NTHMP. Do you need someone from USGS in the MMS? Would you want someone to show up? Let Nate know via email ([nwoods@usgs.gov](mailto:nwoods@usgs.gov)) and be specific about what type of USGS representation to do what with the NTHMP is needed.

USGS is considering appointing a "tsunami coordinator" at USGS HQ.

Hope is that the USGS participation is more formal and not geographic-specific.

NTHMP members to let Angove and Lopes know needs for USGS on ongoing work so Angove can consolidate request to USGS for what their NTHMP representatives would be asked to do/help with.

Nicolsky: there is a need for landslide modeling. Looking for resources to do it better than the model they are using now. Wilson offered to help by including a landslide marigram component of a planned MMS workshop.

Devaris: Would landslide modeling meet a requirement of the MES? In other words, how does it fit into NTHMP objectives?

Titov: Landslide modeling is not a charter of NTHMP; it is a scientific project.

Rizzo: what is the TsunamiReady revised guideline process? Lopes explained that the plan for revisions of TsunamiReady Guidelines was discussed during this week's MES meeting. He provided a short synopsis of the plan and referred people to the MES meeting minutes.

Kong: is there an assumption that there will be an in-person meeting in the summer?

Devaris: yes, let's put this meeting on the agenda for the March CC meeting.

## 11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris at 10:40am.

Faithfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Program Administrator

NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- July 15, 2014

*NOTE: These minutes were approved by the NTHMP Chair retroactively on August 6, 2014.*

1. Call to order – Mike Angove called the meeting to order at 3:02pm ET on behalf of NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris who could not attend the meeting.

2. Roll call – Rocky Lopes

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Kara Gately, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK  
Dr. Laura Kong, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Dr. Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Christa Rabenold (observer), Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD

FEMA

No representatives

USGS

Ms. Stephanie Ross, USGS Menlo Park, CA

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

American Samoa

Mr. Vinnie Atofau, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

No representatives (attempted but missed the time zone.)

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium

Guam

Ms. Pilar Carbullido, Guam DHS  
Mr. Chip Guard, NWS WSFO, Tiyan, Guam

Gulf Coast States

Dr. Juan Horillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Hawaii

No representatives

Oregon

Mr. George Priest, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Dr. Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

U.S. Virgin Islands

Mr. Roy Watlington, USVI Science Representative

Washington

Mr. George Crawford (observer/non-voting), Washington Emergency Management  
Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management  
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

## 2. [INFO] Status of FY14 NTHMP Grants

Rocky Lopes reported that 13 NTHMP grant applications were submitted and are with NOAA's Grants Management Division and are in process of review. He thanked grant applicants who have responded to questions sent by Lewis Kozlosky, Donald Gooding (NOAA Grants Officer), or himself. Answering these questions in a timely manner keeps the review process flowing.

Two FY14 NTHMP grants have been awarded already: University of Delaware and Texas A&M University. All others remain in process. The grant performance period will be September 1, 2014, through August 31, 2015. Grants can be awarded at any time between now and the beginning of the performance period.

Victor Huerfano raised a question about university officials requiring formal notice of where the grant request is in the system. Rocky Lopes asked Victor to send him an email and he will try to provide an answer. Essentially, the report is that the grant request has been received by NOAA Grants Management Division and is in process of review.

## 4. [INFO] Previous year NTHMP grants – no-cost extensions

Lopes described that no-cost extensions are being frequently requested. 60% of FY13 NTHMP grantees have requested an extension. There is history of a majority of grantees requesting extensions for past NTHMP grants.

There are various reasons why extensions are requested. We ask that when considering submitting a request for a no-cost extension, grantees write an email to Lopes and Kozlosky first, so that we can evaluate it and advise about any issues that may cause a problem. In particular, the Grants Management Division requires an assurance that staff paid by an extended grant will not be oversubscribed. The hours and names of staff time assigned as well as the mathematical computation of percentage of assigned time by month and by task must be provided.

Lopes noted that it is difficult to recommend and establish consistent funding levels while also having to explain the inability of states to use the funds requested and awarded within the period of performance.

There are no pending questions or issues, but this matter is something that we thought the CC should be aware of that Members of Congress, their staffs, as well as NOAA/NWS leadership sometimes ask "how much is enough and how much is too much for the NTHMP to be able to execute?" We really do not know the answers, but these questions continue to be asked in various ways.



Discussion:

Erv Petty: four-year grants were tough to execute appropriately. Staff coming and going makes it difficult to execute as well as deal with technical execution situations.

Mike Angove: a four-year spend plan is indeed tough to execute. Lopes brought up that even a year-to-year grant is tough.

Althea Rizzo: one of the issues is not that we have been given too much money, but we don't have enough time. A 12-month performance period is difficult to execute. Can we look into an 18-month performance period?

Angove: good point. Meeting in the middle may be something to look at.

Rizzo: NEHRP would allow 18 months for a performance period. That extra six months helped to facilitate completion of larger projects. They still provide an annual disbursement, but allow 18 months to complete.

Huerfano: some regulations of how university deals with money will not allow grants for more than one year. However, they may accept a performance period of 18 months.

Lopes thanked everyone for their input to the discussion. Should NTHMP grants return, we should consider a revised performance period. But right now the only official thing we have to go on is the President's FY15 Budget which has zeroed out NTHMP grants. Congress may choose to appropriate differently when it considers and passes a budget for FY15.

## 5. NTHMP Return on NTHMP Grant Investment Project Update

Rocky Lopes provided update on the project being done by Kazuki Ito, an intern who is with the Japanese Meteorological Agency and also a Graduate Student at the University of Michigan working on a Masters of Public Policy.

Ito will be working with us through August 15. He has reviewed all NTHMP grant project narratives, budget narratives, semi-annual reports, as well as SF-424A Grant Budget reports as well as supporting documentation to develop a massive and complex spreadsheet which identifies as best possible what products and outcomes have been funded by NTHMP grants from FY08 through FY12 (and extensions).

Lopes further described that some data is missing, unavailable, or budgets and projects were renegotiated without adequate documentation. We are collecting information based on available "hard data" only, and not interpolating data or results if not available.

The initial quantitative analysis will be completed right before the NTHMP Summer Meeting. A slot on the MES agenda has been scheduled for Lopes to provide initial insights from the quantitative analysis. More information will follow.

George Priest: Will there be a narrative?

Lopes: Yes, I will lead development of a narrative (added note: Rocky will be happy to have any volunteers (hint) who wish to help).

Priest: Emphasize that each of the state's produced products are owned by the states and are designed specifically for their constituents, which helps to sell programs locally. Ownership gets lost in many Federal reports.

## 6. [INFO] NTHMP Summer Meeting – Updates

Agenda: Lopes thanked the Co-Chairs of MES and MMS for jointly developing the agenda and for answering his persistent (and sometimes nagging) questions. The final agenda for the Summer Meeting is on the NTHMP website, here: <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2014mesmms/index.html>

Also, a complete list of anticipated attendees is available on that web page, too.

Subcommittee reports:

Kevin Miller (MES): we appreciate that the agenda and attendees list is on the website. Agenda highlights: TsunamiReady workshop, review of National Tsunami Education Plan, and a review of high priority objectives from 2017 strategic plan. MES members are asked to prepare a 3-minute update on Tsunami Preparedness Week success stories. Read-ahead materials will also be provided for the maritime session on Wednesday.

Rick Wilson (MMS): agenda highlights – will focus a lot on new mapping issues for East Coast and Gulf Coast states; benchmark workshop discussion; and as we are focusing a lot more on maritime issues, the agenda on Thursday will go into the guidelines on maritime products and working with MES to develop a full guidelines on how to create and use the products.

George Priest: The Oregon maritime brochure for offshore response is on the OR DOGAMI website <http://www.oregongeology.org/tsuclearinghouse/maritime.htm>

Kara Gately: The MMS is monopolizing the agenda with a lot of maritime discussion. Background reading material and a list of desired outcomes will be provided.

Dmitry Nicolski: what cooperation is there from USGS on tsunami sources?

Rick Wilson: it will be covered in the discussion on probabilistic modeling. Eric Geist from USGS will be at the meeting. Stephanie Ross and Nate Wood promote the NTHMP within USGS.

Kara Gately: Please send an email with MMS topics and concerns to her, Rick and cc Rocky. Stephanie Ross: will any sections of the meeting be available electronically?

Rocky Lopes: currently, the TsunamiReady Workshop on Tuesday morning and the Tsunami Messaging Project live webinar on Thursday morning are set up as GoTo Webinars. Please review the agenda and if there are sections of any parts of the meeting that you want to attend electronically, please send an email to me and I'll set it up.

## 7. [INFO] NTHMP Rules of Procedure

Rocky Lopes described procedures for the update process to the NTHMP Rules of Procedure. He thanked the work group that NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris assigned: Althea Rizzo, Vasily Titov, Tim Walsh and Rick Wilson.

A draft revision to the RoPs has been prepared. It took into account that TWEA has expired, so it includes language along the lines of "in the spirit of...". Also, language was added about NTHMP Grants that says, "When Congress appropriates funding for NTHMP grants... (this section will apply)."

(addition to these notes by Lopes): Further, since the NWS budgets specifically for NTHMP activities only by object class (travel, grants) there is not a way to provide a report or engagement on the "NTHMP mitigation budget" since there is no such specific budget.

Lopes sent the draft recommended RoPs to NTHMP Chair Devaris, who said that she would schedule a dedicated meeting of the Coordinating Committee to discuss the RoPs and try to come to agreement on revisions and vote as necessary. This meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Please look for a Word file that has the proposed revisions on this page of the NTHMP website: <http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/organization.html>

## 8. New Business

Erv Petty: asked about reimbursements for NTHMP travel. Can Direct Deposit be made to a state and not to an individual?

Rocky Lopes (checked with informed people on July 16): Federal regulations require direct deposit for travel reimbursements to be made to an individual, not a business

(like a state.) You have to work it out with your state if the state imposes some other regulations that conflict with Federal travel reimbursement requirements.

Chip Guard: how can we provide agenda items?

Lopes advised that the agenda for the NTHMP summer meeting is set, but if you have questions or thoughts about the agenda, to please reach out to the subcommittee Co-Chairs who set the agenda.

If there are items for the NTHMP Annual Meeting agenda, please send them via email to Rocky. We will be setting the annual meeting agenda late this Fall.

Rick Wilson: Whitmore, Devaris, Wilson, and Miller are convening a session at AGU meeting on Tsunami Preparedness. If you have something to present there, please submit an abstract. Abstracts due August 8. More information is here:

<http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2014/>

9. Adjourn

Mike Angove thanked Rick Wilson and Kevin Miller for their support during recent TsunamiReady recognition ceremonies in Oceanside and Naval Station Coronado, California.

The meeting adjourned at 3:57pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- March 18, 2014

1. Call to order -- Aimee Devaris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:02pm ET

2. Roll call

NOAA

Ms. Aimee Devaris, NTHMP Chair & Director, NWS Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK  
Ms. Marie Eble, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Dr. Laura Kong, International Tsunami Information Center, Honolulu, HI  
Dr. Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Mr. Lewis Kozloski, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa Von Hillebrandt-Andrade, NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayaguez, PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, Director, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

Ms. Tamra Biasco and Mr. Mike Mahoney tried to join the call but technological problem prevented.

USGS

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

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Dept. of Homeland Security & Emergency Management  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, Alaska Earthquake Information Center

American Samoa

No representative

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

No representative

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto – attempted but was unable to join.

Guam

Ms. Pilar Carbidullo, Guam Department of Homeland Security & Emer. Mgmt.

Gulf Coast States

Ms. Amy Godsey, State of Florida Emergency Management  
Dr. Juan Horrillo, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Hawaii

Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii State Civil Defense

Oregon

Dr. Althea Rizzo, Oregon Emergency Management  
Dr. George Priest, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez – attempted but was unable to join.

U.S. Virgin Islands

No representative

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management  
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

3. NTHMP CC Membership/appointments – updates

- a. [WELCOME] NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris officially welcomed new member Pilar Carbullido as the EM representative from Guam.
- b. [INFO] The Governments of American Samoa and the CNMI have not responded to a request to appoint members of the Coordinating Committee (yet.)

4. [ACTION] NTHMP Summer Meeting

Location suggestions: Aimee Devaris suggested that we use a Government space and rotate around to different locations. One suggestion was Boulder, CO at NGDC. Paul Whitmore suggested that PMEL is okay. Kevin Richards suggested that Washington or West Coast is preferable because meeting locations are closer to the airport than the distance from the Denver airport to Boulder. Concerned that the Best Western close to NGDC may not have enough space.

Marie Eble will help with PMEL. Tim Walsh suggested Portland space at the University and at DOGAMI. White Stag Room – Univ. of Oregon, but don't know if it is free.

Lopes will contact NTHMP colleagues to explore feasibility of space and report back to the CC to affirm a location.

Dates: After discussion, the week of August 18 – 22 seemed to be the best option.

MMS and MES co-chairs will set agendas and work with Rocky to distribute.

5. [INFO] FY14 NTHMP Grants – Devaris, Angove, Lopes

Aimee Devaris announced that she approved FY14 NTHMP grant recommendations on March 17 as submitted to her by the grant review panel. She thanked the Grant Review Panel team for their hard work and thorough review.

Rocky Lopes provided a logistical update about next steps. Grantees will need to formally apply in response to an RFA that will be posted on grants.gov. Lopes will contact each grantee directly to inform what was approved and how to apply. Notifications will go out by the end of the week (March 21.)

Kevin Miller asked when the formal on-line submissions were due. Lopes answered by the end of April. A firm date will be announced in the transmittal/approval email.

## 6. Old Business follow-up

### a. [DISCUSSION] NOAA Response to NAS Report.

There were no comments from members of the Coordinating Committee. Aimee Devaris invited comments via email to her ([Aimee.Devaris@noaa.gov](mailto:Aimee.Devaris@noaa.gov)) if anyone has any.

Mike Angove mentioned that he and Rocky Lopes appeared before the NAS Ocean Studies Board on March 13. Rick Wilson requested a brief report about that meeting. Angove agreed to provide.

### b. [DISCUSSION] Binning of Annual NTHMP Framework.

Laura Kong stated that the MES is preparing a report of accomplishments, and will discuss it at the MES meeting planned for 9 April. Rick Wilson also stated that a similar report could be produced by the MMS.

Aimee Devaris will contact Rizzo, Richards, Schelling, and Wilson to discuss binning process after reports from subcommittees are prepared.

### c. [INFO] Successes of NTHMP documentation.

Mike Angove announced that this summer, a grad student intern from the Japanese Meteorological Agency will be serving at NWS HQ. His main task will be to develop a report to document NTHMP successes and determine as best possible a "return on investment" for NTHMP grants.

Rick Wilson offered to help prepare a high-level list of NTHMP accomplishments to be available sooner than later. Aimee Devaris said that we should look for ways to showcase community resilience.

Laura Kong requested a list of documents being requested and come up with a strategy on helping to tell the story better. Angove thanked her for the suggestion.

Kevin Richards asked if the intern will have access to all of the semiannual grant reports. Rocky Lopes said that yes, those reports will be provided to him.

### [INFO] NTHMP Rules of Procedure update

Rocky Lopes announced that he had marked up a copy of the Rules of Procedure with notes about potentially outdated sections and sent them to the appointed task team of Rizzo, Titov, Walsh, and Wilson. Lopes is working to establish a mutually-convenient time for the task team to meet by phone.

## 7. [INFO] TsunamiReady Program

Rocky Lopes stated that he expected the final report from Dr. Chris Gregg's work to be delivered by March 15, but has not received it yet. He has followed up with Dr. Gregg about the status. Lopes assured the Coordinating Committee members that they will be included in efforts to share the report, its recommendations, and involve the NTHMP and all tsunami stakeholders in the process of reviewing TsunamiReady Guidelines based on that report.

## 8. New business

Aimee Devaris discussed what she could about the FY15 President's budget where it says that funding for NTHMP grants were recommended to be discontinued. There is not much more that she can say publicly, but she has contacted a number of people to discuss the situation.

Rick Wilson stated that the budget cut is \$6M, and it seems to be more of a cut than what NTHMP has received before. Does this also mean cuts to warning centers or other tsunami program activities? Mike Angove replied that the only change request in the President's Budget request is in the NTHMP line. Aimee Devaris stated that because the FY14 tsunami budget is higher than the FY13, the amount of the cut appears to be higher. Angove confirmed that the cut includes TsunamiReady as much as it is supported through NTHMP grants, but that NWS support to its regions and local offices will remain about the same for WCM support, signage, and the like.

Dmitry Nicolsky asked how inundation mapping projects that are being funded through NTHMP grants would be funded if NTHMP is zeroed out. Mike Angove responded to say that states would have to pick up this cost if that work is to continue.

## 9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris at 4:05pm ET.

*Note: some people attempted to join the call but encountered a "capacity" problem which prevented access. Mike Angove is following up with NWS HQ staff about this matter. We will ensure that it does not happen again.*

Faithfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Program Administrator



NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- May 20, 2014

1. Call to order -- Aimee Devaris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03pm ET.
2. Roll call – Rocky Lopes

NOAA

Ms. Aimee Devaris, NTHMP Chair & Director, NWS Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK  
Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Marie Eble, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Kara Gately, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa Von Hillebrandt-Andrade, NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayaguez, PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, Director, National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

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

USGS

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

Alaska

No representatives.

American Samoa

Mr. Akapo Akapo, NWSFO, Pago Pago, AS  
Mr. Vinnie Atofau, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS

California

Mr. Kevin Miller, California Office of Emergency Services  
Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Mr. Juan Camacho, CNMI DHS/EM

East Coast States

No representatives

Guam

Mr. Chip Guard, NWS WSFO, Tiyan, Guam

Gulf Coast States

No representatives

Hawaii

No representatives

Oregon

No representatives

Puerto Rico

No representatives

U.S. Virgin Islands

Mr. Roy Wattlington, USVI Emeritus

Washington

Ms. Brynne' Walker (observer/non-voting), Washington Emergency Management  
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

3. NTHMP CC Membership/appointments – updates

[WELCOME] NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris officially welcomed new Coordinating Committee members:

\* Juan Camacho (technical rep) and Marvin Seman (EM rep) of the CNMI  
Marvin and Juan have attended some of our meetings in the past. They are both with the Government of the CNMI.

\* Chip Guard (technical rep) for Guam. Chip is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the NWS Forecast Office on Guam and has been a long-standing supporter of the NTHMP.

\* Mase Akapo (technical rep) for Samoa. Akapo is the Meteorologist-in-Charge for the NWS Forecast Office on American Samoa. He also has been a long-standing supporter of the NTHMP over the years.

Aimee announced that all positions are filled. She officially welcomed all new members. She thanked them for joining the CC and for their service.

#### 4. [INFO] NTHMP Summer Meeting – Updates Travel – Lopes

Lopes updated everyone about travel. He urged everyone to make hotel and air reservations now. Hotel space at the negotiated rate is limited and is first-come, first-served. He also described that invitational travelers are allowed to request NOAA's travel agency, AdTrav, to book a non-refundable flight on a different carrier if the final cost is advantageous to the Government. But it is not necessary to do that. You can use the Government unrestricted, changeable, fare as long as you use the airline approved through the GSA City Pairs program.

Marie Eble requested a list of attendees.

More information about the summer meeting and a list of attendees is on the NTHMP's website, here:

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2014mesmms/index.html>

Tamra Biasco reported that the MES Co-Chairs are working on the MES agenda. She will be emailing some selected individuals for input.

Rick Wilson is working with MMS Co-Chair Kara Gately to put together an agenda, and is looking at action items from last meeting.

He discussed two options for the combined workshop for Wednesday.

1. Single-focus workshop on maritime issues or
2. Multihazard workshop covering multiple aspects of preparedness and mitigation like past years.

Wilson asked for input from CC members.

Miller asked for more info. Wilson replied that the Wednesday workshop could be set up like it was for the last two years – full slate of multihazard aspects or a full slate of a narrow, single-focused aspect.

Whitmore suggested to look at a single focus.

Chip Guard asked for discussion on the international Pacific products and training on their application for AS, GU, and CNMI. Whitmore replied that those issues are part of what the Warning Coordination Subcommittee works on, and the WCS will not be meeting at this meeting. Lopes referred Guard to the PTWC and Laura Kong at ITIC for more information.

Stephanie Ross suggested that Eric Geist's work in probabilistic analysis would be good to include, especially for the Gulf Coast and West Coast. Geist will be there representing the USGS.

Biasco asked to coordinate with MMS to avoid having the joint day become too technical. Wilson agreed to hold conference call.

vonHillebrandt reminded everyone of work going on in PR and USVI and requested that experience from these areas be included as well. Wilson agreed.

#### 5. [INFO] FY14 NTHMP Grants – Update / Lopes - Kozlosky

Lewis Kozlosky stated that all applications were received from 13 applicants. He is working behind the scenes to process the grants. He may need to touch base with recipients to resolve questions. Lopes described that many supporting documents must be prepared and uploaded by Kozlosky into the system to prepare a comprehensive "grant package" and that much of this work is tedious and time consuming, but is being done. Mike Angove affirmed that June 11 is the deadline for the program office to submit to the NOAA Grants office.

#### 6. Old Business follow-up

[INFO] NTHMP Rules of Procedure update

Wilson reported that the work group of himself, Rizzo, Walsh, Titov and facilitated by Lopes met three times via conference call to review the RoPs. The edits of the document as agreed by the group are fairly complete.

Highlights of changes:

- Updated membership to reflect CNMI, American Samoa, Guam
- Program Administrator position has been identified already, but its duties were better described.
- Grants and funding language that was already in the RoPs was updated. Information about NTHMP Grants remains in the RoPs, but under the heading, "If Congress appropriates funding for NTHMP Grants...." To cover the situation if funds for NTHMP grants are not appropriated by Congress and the NWS does not have authority to offer them.

- Subcommittee Terms of Reference need to be updated. The Terms of Reference are incorporated in the RoPs. Each subcommittee was asked to make sure that their respective Terms of Reference are up-to-date.
- Fundable mitigation activities section has been updated.

Lopes stated that he is waiting for final feedback on the draft RoPs from work group members. He will then send them to NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris for review and with her direction, send them to the CC members for review and discussion at a future CC meeting.

## 7. New Business

Christa vohHillebrandt asked for information on WeatherReady Nation Ambassadors Program. Aimee Devaris said that this will be discussed at the WCM meeting in June that Christa will be attending. More information is also on this website: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/ambassadors.html>

Roy Wattlington said that the U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. John and, St. Thomas) and the British Virgin Islands received TsunamiReady® recognition. Wattlington said that he was honored to receive a TsunamiReady® Champion recognition award during the Caribbean EWS meeting last week.

Wilson asked what the status was of TWEA bills?

Mike Angove replied that Senator Begich (AK) introduced it on March 27, 2014. Senators Cantwell (WA) and Schatz (HI) are co-sponsors. We have not heard of any other co-sponsorship in the Senate. We have not observed any movement on the bill.

It was reported that Representative Bonamici (OR) may introduce a companion bill in the House. As of May 21, 2014, it does not appear that such a bill has been introduced.

## 8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by NTHMP Chair Devaris at 3:44pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

SPECIAL NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- September 23, 2014

1. Call to order – NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris called the meeting to order at 3:02pm ET.
2. Roll call – Rocky Lopes

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove\*, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Aimee Devaris, NWS Alaska Region Director, Anchorage, AK  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky\*, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes\*, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, Seattle, WA  
Ms. Christa VonHillebrandt-Andrade\*, NWS Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Mayaguez PR  
Mr. Paul Whitmore, NWS National Tsunami Warning Center, Palmer, AK

FEMA

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

USGS

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

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
Dr. Dmitry Nicolsky, University of Alaska at Fairbanks

American Samoa

Mr. Vinnie Atofau, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS  
Mr. Faletoa Ulufale\*, American Samoa DHS, Pago Pago, AS

California

Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

No representatives

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, Boston, MA

Guam

No representatives

Gulf Coast States

No representatives

Hawaii

No representatives

Oregon

No representatives

Puerto Rico

Dr. Victor Huerfano, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

U.S. Virgin Islands

Mr. Elton Lewis, USVI Territorial Emergency Management Agency  
Mr. Roy Watlington, USVI Science Representative

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management, Camp Murray, WA

\*Non-voting; ex-officio or guest

### 3. Review of Proposed Rules of Procedure

Aimee Devaris thanked a work group composed of Althea Rizzo, Vasily Titov, Tim Walsh, and Rick Wilson, facilitated by Rocky Lopes, for their work on reviewing the 2011 edition of the Rules of Procedure and suggesting updates to the document.

She asked Rocky to walk the group through the document and stop only to discuss revisions or changes.

Rocky proceeded with a page-by-page review. Edits, deletions, or additions were suggested by various Coordinating Committee members.

The revisions made and agreed to by the group are in the attached file marked "NTHMP Rules of Procedures Final Changes 09232014."

### 4. Vote

Aimee Devaris called for final discussion on the proposed changes and updates to the Rules of Procedure. There were no more issues to discuss.

She then called for a vote of acceptance by unanimous consent. There were no objections, so the revised NTHMP Rules of Procedure were approved and adopted.

### 5. Follow-up

Rocky Lopes will clean up final formatting issues and post the updated NTHMP Rules of Procedure on the NTHMP website.

### 6. Adjourn

Aimee Devaris thanked everyone for participating, especially those who participated so actively in the discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

NTHMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING -- September 16, 2014

1. Call to order – Aimee Devaris called the meeting to order at 3:01pm ET
2. Roll call – Rocky Lopes

NOAA

Mr. Mike Angove, Tsunami Program Manager, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Aimee Devaris, NTHMP Chair & Director, NWS Alaska Region, Anchorage, AK  
Mr. Lewis Kozlosky, Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Rocky Lopes, Tsunami Program Deputy Mgr., NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Ms. Christa Rabenold (observer), Tsunami Program, NWS HQ, Silver Spring, MD  
Dr. Vasily Titov, Pacific Marine Environmental Lab, Seattle, WA

FEMA

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

USGS

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

Alaska

Mr. Erv Petty, Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

American Samoa

No representatives

California

Mr. Rick Wilson, California Geological Survey

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Mr. Juan Camacho, Emergency Management, CNMI

East Coast States

Mr. Ed Fratto, Northeast States Emergency Consortium  
Dr. Jim Kirby, University of Delaware

Guam

Ms. Pilar Carbullido, Guam DHS

Gulf Coast States

Ms. Amy Godsey, Florida Emergency Management

Hawaii

Mr. Kevin Richards, Hawaii Civil Defense

Oregon

Mr. George Priest, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Puerto Rico

No appointed representatives

U.S. Virgin Islands

Mr. Roy Watlington, USVI Science Representative

Washington

Mr. John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management  
Dr. Tim Walsh, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

3. [INFO] Selection of NTHMP annual meeting venue and meeting dates

Aimee Devaris confirmed that the NTHMP annual meeting will be in Portland, Oregon, February 9 – 13, 2015. She thanked the members for their input during the summer meeting and acknowledged that Rocky did a complete cost estimate for six suggested venues. The location in Portland provided the best choice considering cost, accessibility, and availability of free meeting space. Devaris thanked George Priest of Oregon DOGAMI for his help in securing the meeting space in the Oregon State Office Building.

Rocky pointed out the annual meeting page on the NTHMP website:  
<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/2015annualmeeting/index.html>

*Note: we must balance occupancy of two hotels, both walkable to the meeting site. Please register for the meeting and Rocky will reply with a hotel to book your room reservations and other logistic information.*

#### 4. TWERA Update

Mike Angove reported that TWERA (HR5309) passed the House of Representatives on September 9. Congress is not in session until after the elections on November 4. We do not expect action by the Senate during the lame duck session, so soonest action expected will not be the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress is convened in January.

George Priest: Does the amount of money indicated in TWERA represent an increase over previous year support?

Angove: Possibly, but we are unsure.

Priest: The amount of NTHMP support directly affects how we plan for our proposals for the next year.

Angove: I understand. Remember as it stands right now, the President's FY15 budget still doesn't include any funding for NTHMP.

Tim Walsh: We will go into a continuing resolution situation. The House appropriation includes significant funding for NTHMP grants.

Angove: Agreed on the CR situation, which will affect how/when/if we can offer NTHMP grants. There remain many unknowns. Once full Congress passes a budget bill (full appropriation), then we will have a better idea.

Lopes: We plan to follow the usual NTHMP grant cycle when it comes to developing project narratives, budget narratives, and supporting documentation. The Grant Guidance will be released in October, with first draft documents due in early January. We will review them together during the NTHMP Annual Meeting like we did last year. Then we will put them through the formal grant review process in March and present recommendations to the NTHMP Chair for approval in April. When approval is given by NWS Management to offer NTHMP grants, the hard work will already have been done. All grantees will need to do is upload the pre-reviewed and approved documents into Grants.gov.



5. [DISCUSSION] Offshore maritime depth recommendation – Rick Wilson

Wilson described the offshore maritime depth recommendation as presented at the summer meeting which was 30 fathoms for distant tsunamis, 100 for near-source tsunamis. He stated that a number of states still want to evaluate the offshore depth recommendation and said that he did not think that we're ready now to vote

He asked that states and territories still evaluating to plan to report at the NTHMP annual meeting.

Wilson also stated that we need to get input from the Navy and Coast Guard.

A work group will convene to develop a plan for the timing of data coming forward for an official national recommendation. Discuss it at the annual meeting and request a vote at that time.

Whitmore: I can understand why everyone would want to look at their own areas, but it would be very beneficial to have one number for the whole coast. Encourage to frame this for the recommended depth nationally for what to use.

Wilson: Agreed. Unless there was some compelling reason to have a variance, everyone should be the same.

Walsh: Agreed. Issue in Washington is not that 30 fathoms isn't the right number, but 30 fathoms is not available where they have boats afloat, such as state ferries.

Priest: Recommendation should really be for only open coastal sites, but not for inland waterways like the Puget Sound.

Kirby: Those numbers are problematic for the East Coast.

Devaris: Do you have enough people to represent the input you need?

Wilson: Work group participants who volunteered -- Priest, VonHillebrandt, Richards, Miller, Petty, Walsh, Wilson, Watlington, Titov

Titov: Is there material available to distribute to the work group before the meeting?

Wilson: Will set up a basecamp site to deposit the information.

Schelling: Caveat for inland waters – it will beg the question about what to do about inland waterways. We must continue to pursue development of guidance for inland areas.

Priest: Agreed – same in Oregon.

Wilson: Any suggestions on CG or USN representatives? (See item 8 below)

6. [ACTION] National Tsunami Education Plan – Christa Rabenold

Rabenold: The plan was included as an attachment on an email from Rocky Lopes sent on September 10. We offer it for acceptance by the Coordinating Committee as the MES has reviewed it and participated during its development.

Devaris: Does anyone have any questions?

Whitmore: Reviewed it. The actions look good.

Devaris: Called for acceptance by acclamation.

Without objection, the Coordinating Committee accepted the revised National Tsunami Education Plan.

7. [DISCUSSION] Consider invitation for USCG/US Navy representatives to participate on the NTHMP in some way – Mike Angove

Angove: How should we formalize the relationship with DOD and DHS to reach USN & USCG? It may not be appropriate for them to be involved at CC level as their role is advisory.

Whitmore: Navy is a member of WCS. (JWC)

Angove: Is level of Navy participation sufficient?

Whitmore: Yes, but they should be included in emails from other subcommittees.

Angove: Will try to solicit participation by USCG in the MMS. He knows who to talk to and will put together a request.

Wilson: Wants a name for USCG rep for the work group described above (item 6)

Devaris: Draft a letter for her signature and will send it as the NTHMP Chair.

8. [INFO] NTHMP Grants - Lewis Kozlosky

The FY09 – 12 grants ended 7/31/2014. We have received most semi-annual progress reports; 3 are delinquent. The NTHMP Co-Chairs comprise the committee to review the progress reports. Those we have received will be sent shortly.

Final reports closeout in process, due October 30. Rocky reported that a closeout reporting template is in process and will be sent soon.

9. [INFO] NTHMP Return on (grant) Investment Project Update – Rocky Lopes

Lopes: A work group met by phone on September 9. An outline for the overall report was developed. Input from each of the subcommittees is expected to be written by them.

State/territory/commonwealth and university partners will be asked questions to develop qualitative information that can be inserted in the report that will describe the impact of the NTHMP grants. Lopes will send these questions to grantees within a week and hopes to have initial replies by early October.

The work group will meet again by phone on September 30 to move forward with developing the comprehensive report.

Devaris: Spoke with Dr. Sullivan (NOAA Administrator) during a visit to Alaska. Also spoke with Dr. Uccellini (Director, NWS) about the NTHMP. She is doing what she can to talk about the successes of the NTHMP and work done by individual states through the NTHMP and successful interaction and coordination done in this way. An RoI report will be very effective.

10. [INFO] TsunamiReady Guidelines update – Rocky Lopes

Lopes described what was done with the Guidelines since the summer meeting. He worked closely with Troy Nicolini (WCM, Eureka) to revise and reorganize the proposed TsunamiReady Guidelines based on discussions during the TR Workshop at the meeting and comments received from many reviewers in advance.

Lopes needs to review them with Mike Angove, and then he will post the next version of the proposed TR Guidelines on the NTHMP website and ask people to review and comment on them. He assured everyone that their thoughts, ideas, concerns, and questions were thoughtfully considered and addressed in the forthcoming revisions. He thanked everyone for their help.

Devaris: It was an effective discussion of the proposed TR Guidelines at the summer meeting. It is a difficult process to adjudicate all of the comments. She thanked Lopes and Nicolini for their work.

## 11. WCS update – NOAA Social Science study for TWC messages – Paul Whitmore

Whitmore: Example NTWC messages have been created using both recommendations from the Social Science review of TWC messages and from the Complex Coast Team based on a meeting of WCS co-chairs in August. These examples are being reviewed by WCS co-chairs and, once complete, will be forwarded to the WCS for review and comment.

Handbooks and scenarios for the National Exercises on March 25, 2015 are nearing completion. Three exercises will be conducted based on the following scenarios:

- Magnitude 8.6 earthquake and tsunami in Kamchatka (US/Canada Pacific)
- Magnitude 8.5 earthquake and tsunami in Panama (Caribbean)
- Slump generated tsunami off the coast of Florida (US/Canada Atlantic with potential Caribbean impact)

Whitmore asked Kevin Richards -- will Hawaii be playing in a March 25 exercise?

Richards: Tentatively, yes.

Whitmore: then we will need to include PTWC messages.

## 12. Old Business

none

## 13. New Business

Priest: Oregon has produced state-sanctioned evacuation maps. Private groups are taking pieces of these products and producing new products with them, some of which have no scale or no directional orientation. Has anyone else had this happen to them?

Schelling: Has encountered similar things. How much time and effort do we want to dedicate to police this?

The issue of consistency is an issue. If it is difficult to obtain the products, then some may say, "thanks, but then we will do our own products."

Priest: School district in Newport OR did a great job with some of their products, so it works both ways.

Angove: Consistency with baseline and analysis is important. The information is in the public domain. We have responsibility to deliver across consistent parameters.

Schelling: Having a benchmark available is important. At the end of the day, it is good that people are using the information that is there.

Priest: For evacuation maps – should we provide minimum suggested rules for use?

Wilson: Steering committee in CA offers to review any tsunami products that go out. Encountered a group in San Diego that was about to produce a product, but got involved before printing and improved the product.

Devaris: Can this be taken up by MES?

Schelling: We have this in the MES work plan. We need to do a course check on existing usage guidelines.

#### Other new business

Rabenold: The Smithsonian is producing a documentary about 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Indian Ocean tsunami. Has anyone been approached by them to be interviewed or filmed?

Whitmore: They are not coming to Alaska, but they are going to Hawaii. They have contacted PTWC.

Priest: Has been contacted in Portland.

#### Other new business not mentioned but requested to be included:

Nate Wood has developed "Pedestrian Evacuation Analyst" for tsunami. It is described here: [http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article\\_pf.asp?ID=4002](http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article_pf.asp?ID=4002)

And directly available here:

<http://geography.wr.usgs.gov/science/vulnerability/tools.html>

#### 14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Lopes  
NTHMP Administrator

Approved by NTHMP Chair Aimee Devaris September 17, 2014.