

Summary Report of the Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Steering Group Meeting

October 15, 1997

Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL)

Seattle, Washington

Steering Group Members

Eddie Bernard - NOAA

Richard Eisner - State of California

Frank González - NOAA

Lori Dengler - State of California

Chris Jonientz-Trisler - FEMA

Augustine Furumoto - State of Hawaii

Craig Weaver - USGS

George Priest - State of Oregon

Mike Webb - State of Alaska

Mark Darienzo - State of Oregon

Roger Hansen - State of Alaska

Timothy Walsh - State of Washington

Guests

David Oppenheimer - USGS

Shannon Priem - State of Oregon

Maillian Uphaus - State of Washington

The meeting began with a presentation of the Tsunami coffee mug by Shannon Priem of Oregon. She demonstrated the mug's characteristic of showing the tsunami hazard sign when the mug is filled with hot liquids. Bernard gave a mug to each Steering Committee member.

Bernard gave an overview of the program and a report on the budget status. He handed out the second draft of the tsunami brochure that describes the whole program. The group accepted

the brochure with small editing and requested viewgraphs of the four figures in the brochure. ACTION: Bernard to provide viewgraphs of the brochure and 10 color and 10 black and white copies of the brochure.

Bernard discussed the status of the *Eos* article and thanked the four people who provided comments. ACTION: Bernard to incorporate comments and submit article to *Eos* as soon as possible.

Because Dick Hagemeyer was ill, he did not attend this meeting. Bernard gave his report on [State/NOAA coordination](#). The group reviewed the written report submitted by Hagemeyer. Discussion revolved around the pilot earthquake distribution test in Seattle (item 6). The group requested copies of text of the earthquake message. Tim Walsh and Millian Uphaus requested that this activity be coordinated with the Washington National Guard, Emergency Management Division. ACTION: WNG-EMD will call Bill Steele of the University of Washington.

Hugh Milburn of PMEL gave a report on the buoy program. He provided a written report, explained the process of [buoy deployment](#), and presented the web page that displays real-time data from the two buoys. The group applauded his team's successful efforts.

Frank González gave a report on [inundation mapping](#) for Oregon and Washington. He reviewed his written report and showed computer animations of the OGI tsunami model simulating a Cascadia Subjunction Zone earthquake. He discussed the effects of tides on tsunami dynamics. The group discussed the delays experienced last year in distributing the money for inundation mapping. The group suggested a greater effort to distribute money earlier. ACTION: Copies of the Washington/Oregon proposal be distributed to California and Alaska for a faster start on the process.

Chris Jonientz-Trisler presented the [mitigation report](#). Each state gave a brief report on their activities and Chris reported on her trip to Hawaii to evaluate the resources available in Hawaii. California Office of Emergency Services distributed a report entitled, "Findings and recommendations for mitigating the risks of tsunamis in California."

David Oppenheimer discussed his written report on the [Consolidated Reporting of Earthquakes and Tsunamis](#). He reported that the Northern California Seismic Network, the Northwest Seismic Network, the Alaska Earthquake Information Center, and the Alaska Tsunami Warning Center are all exchanging real-time data using similar software.

The group had a lively discussion about the FY 98 budget. For FY 98, the group assumed an appropriation of \$2,300,000 as stated in the Senate report. The Implementation Plan called for a program funded at the \$3,250K level. Using the four concerns

- Quickly confirm potentially destructive tsunamis and reduce false alarms
- Address local tsunami mitigation and the needs of coastal residents
- Improve coordination and exchange of information to better utilize existing resources
- Sustain support at state and local level for long-term tsunami hazard mitigation

the group decided to allocate the funds in the following way:

	FY 98 Revised Budget
Produce Inundation Maps	\$400,000
Develop Hazard Mitigation Programs	\$400,000
Install Tsunami Detectors	\$700,000
Improve Seismic Network	\$800,000
TOTAL	\$2,300,000

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.