

NTHMP MES Meeting

January 21, 2026

Agenda:

- Welcome and Sign In
- MES Partner Announcements
- 'Tsunami Aware' recognition
- MES Work Plan Discussion
- Next Meeting and Closing

****Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.**

MES Partner Announcements

- Please use the raise your hand button if you would like to make an announcement to the group.

TsunamiAware Recognition Option

- Presentation by Ed Fratto, Executive Director
Northeast States Emergency Consortium (NESEC)

NTHMP MES Work Plan Review

Work Plan Activity Review

- 1) Will the activity continue or not?
- 2) Are there any updates or needs for the MES?

Next Meeting

- Date/Time
 - Wednesday, March 18, 2026
 - 1300-1400 PT
- Topics:
 - NTHMP Annual Meeting Planning

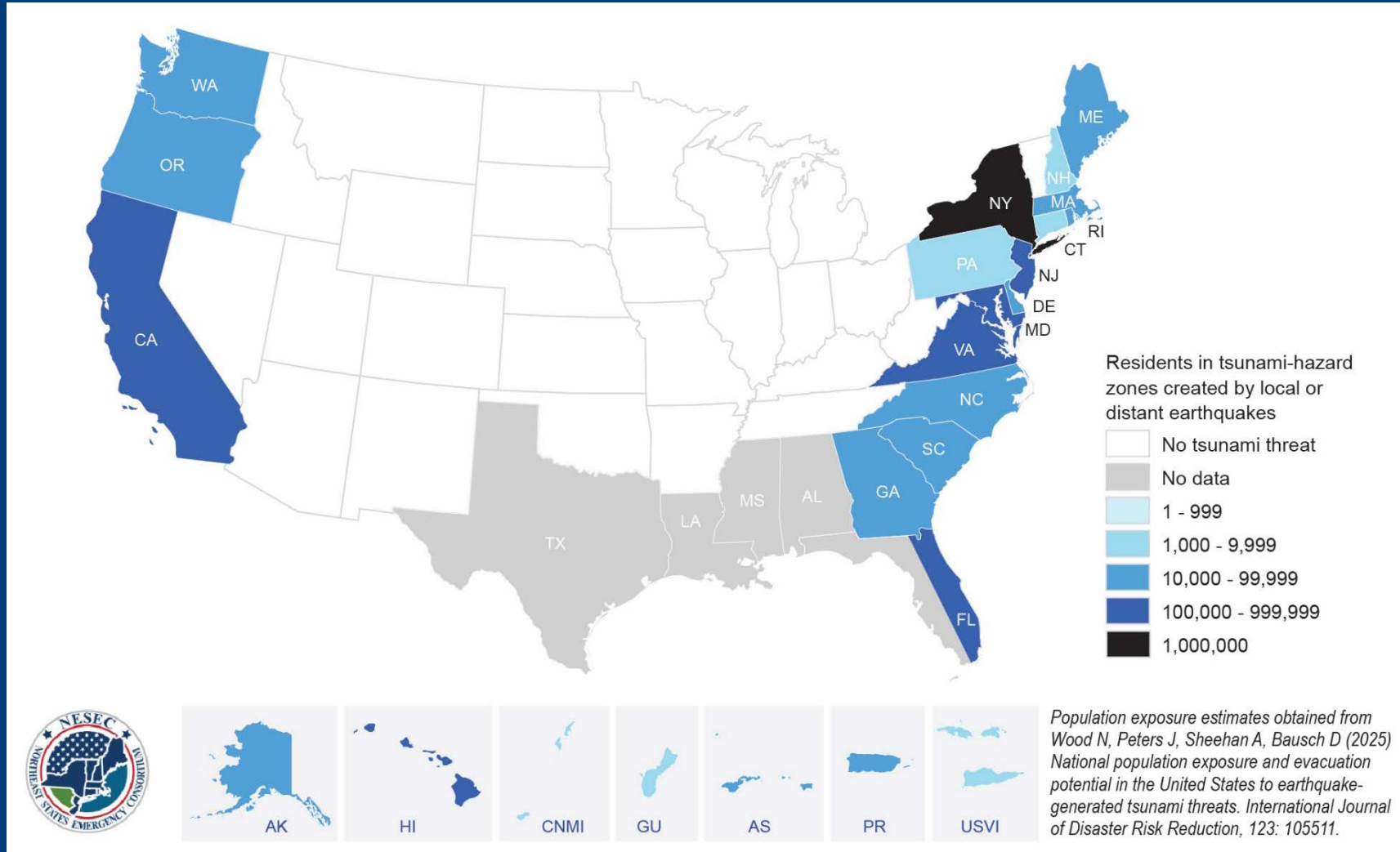
Establishing a TsunamiAware Recognition Option



Ed Fratto, Executive Director
Northeast States Emergency Consortium (NESEC)

Over 2.5 M USEC Residents Live in Tsunami Hazard Zones

1M in New York and 600 K in Florida



The US East Coast Receives Monthly Tsunami Warning Center Tests



Product: WEXX20 PIL Header: TSUAT1		Start of Test Time Zones:	UTC	1630		
		12/16/2025				
Telecommunications Systems						
National Weather Service - AWIPS / GTS		AWIPS IDENTIFIER: ANCTSUA1		Message Received	Comment	NAWAS Response
Eastern Region Coastal Forecast Offices		TMA code				
WFO Caribou ME		TMACAR SEUS41 KCAR	ME	x		
WFO Gray/Portland ME		TMAGYX SEUS41 KGYX	ME	x		
WFO Boston MA		TMABOX SEUS41 KBOX	MA	x		
WFO New York NY		TMAOKX SEUS41 KOKX	NY	x		
Philadelphia PA / Mt Holly NJ		TMAPHI SEUS41 KPHI	PA / NJ	x		
Wakefield VA		TMAAKO SEUS41 KAKO	VA	x		
Newport/Morehead City NC		TMAMHX SEUS42 KMHX	NC	x		
Wilmington NC		TMALM SEUS42 KILM	NC	x		
Charleston SC		TMACHS SEUS42 KCHS	SC	x		
Southern Region Coastal Forecast Offices		0:00				
Jacksonville FL		TMJAX SEUS42 KJAX	FL	x		
Melbourne FL		TMMLB SEUS42 KMLB	FL	x		
Miami FL		TMAMFL SEUS42 KMFL	FL	x		
Key West FL		TMKEW SEUS42 KKEY	FL	x		
Tampa FL		TMATBW SEUS42 KTBW	FL	x		
Tallahassee FL		TMATAE SEUS42 KTAE	FL	x		
Mobile AL		TMAMOB SEUS44 KMOB	AL	x		
New Orleans LA		TMALIX SEUS44 KLIX	LA	x		
Lake Charles LA		TMALCH SEUS44 KLCH	LA	x		
Houston TX		TMHGX SEUS44 KHGX	TX	x		
Corpus Cristi TX		TMACRP SEUS44 KCRP	TX	x		
Brownsville TX		TMABRO SEUS44 KBRO	TX	x		
San Juan PR		TMASJU SECAR42 TJSJ	PR	x		
https://forecast.weather.gov/product_sites.php?site=CRH&product=TMA						
Hurricane/Tropical Prediction Center			FL	x		
Canada		https://www.burman.org/commtest/commtest.php				
Forecasting Center in Toulouse		permanence-dprevi@meteo.fr	FR	x		
Forecaster St-Pierre and Miquelon arch.		previ975@meteo.fr	FR	x		
Meteorological Service of Canada		Nova Scotia - @canada.ca				
Environment Canada		telecom@ec.gc.ca	NS	x		
FEMA		NOAA Weather Wire		0:00		
Region I		Maine EMA - Dept of Public Safety	ME	x		
Region I		Connecticut Office of Emergency Management - State Police HQ	CT	x		
Region I		Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)	MA	x		x
Region I		New Hampshire Bureau Of Emergency Management - State Police	NH	x		
Region I		Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (State Police)	RI	x		x
Region II		New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO)	NY	x		x
Region II		New Jersey Office of Emergency Management - NJ State Police HQ	NJ	x		x
Region III		Delaware Emergency Management Agency - State Police	DE	x		
Region III		Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Joint Ops Center	MD	x		
Region III		Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency	PA	x		
Region III		Virginia Emergency Operations Center	VA	x		x
Region IV		North Carolina Division of Emergency Management (State Hwy Patrol 919-73)	NC	x		x
Region IV		South Carolina Emergency Management Division	SC	x		x
Region IV		Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)	GA	x		x
Region IV		Florida Division of Emergency Management	FL	x		x
Region IV		Alabama Emergency Management Agency	SWP - 205-280-2310 or 800-843-0699	AL	x	x
Region IV		Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)	MS	x		x
Region VI		Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LHLEP)	LA	x		x
Region VI		Texas Division of Emergency (TDEM) - The Watch	TX	x		
Canada		Government of Canada Operations Centre (GOC-COG)	ON	x		x
Region II		Puerto Rico Emergency Management Agency (PREMA) (Control AEMEAD).				
Region II		No longer tested. Response optional!!	PR			x
Military and		U.S. Coast Guard		0:00		
		USCG COMMCOM, Chesapeake (relay to CGMS)	VA	x		
		USCG District 1, Boston	MA	x		
		Atlantic Area Command Center - Portsmouth, USCG Atlantic Area - VA (replaces District 5 entry) LANTWATCH	VA	x		
		USCG District 7, Miami	FL	x		
		USCG District 8, New Orleans	LA	x		x
		FLEWEACEN, Norfolk	VA	x		
		NAVMARFSCEN	VA	x		
Test...Tsunami Message Number 1...Test		Total participation in test:		100.0%		
		Phone calls to nonresponders:			0.0%	
		Total participation in NAWAS:				65.2%

BUT WHAT IF A TSUNAMI WARNING IS ISSUED TONIGHT ?
IS THE EAST COAST READY?



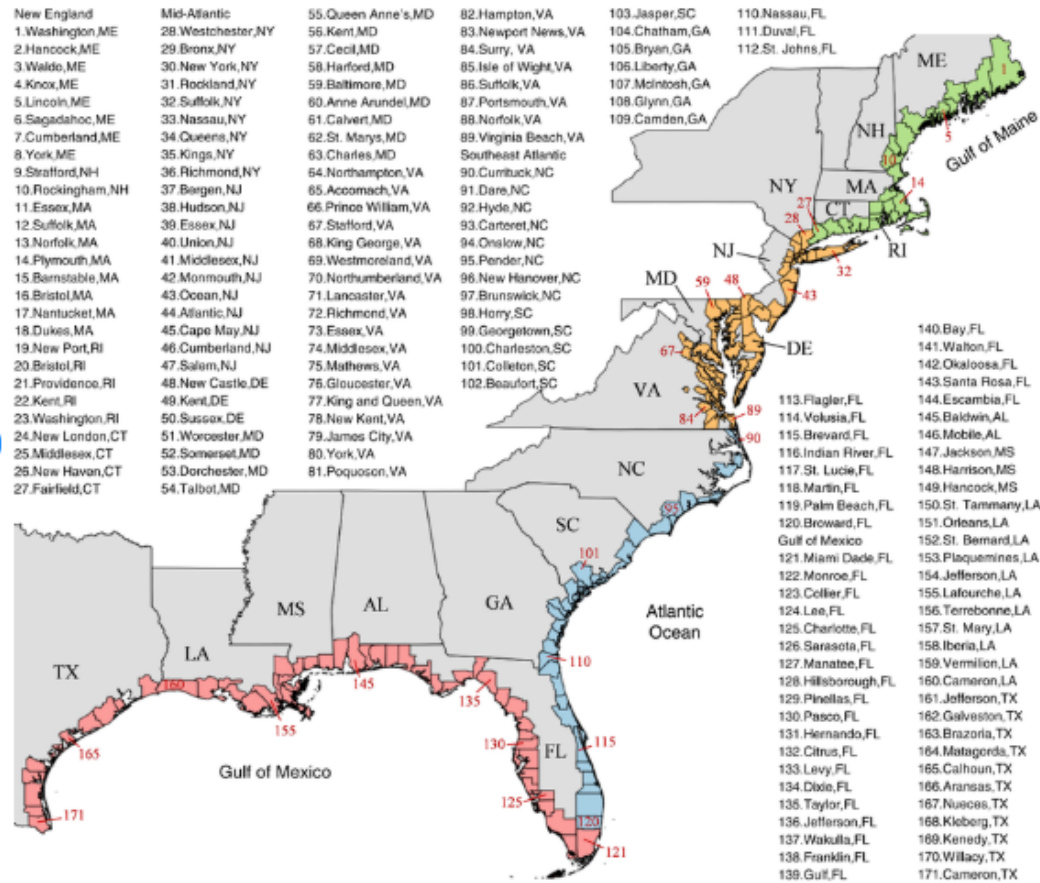
There are 121 Counties on THE USEC...

Figure - available from: [Nature Communications](#) 

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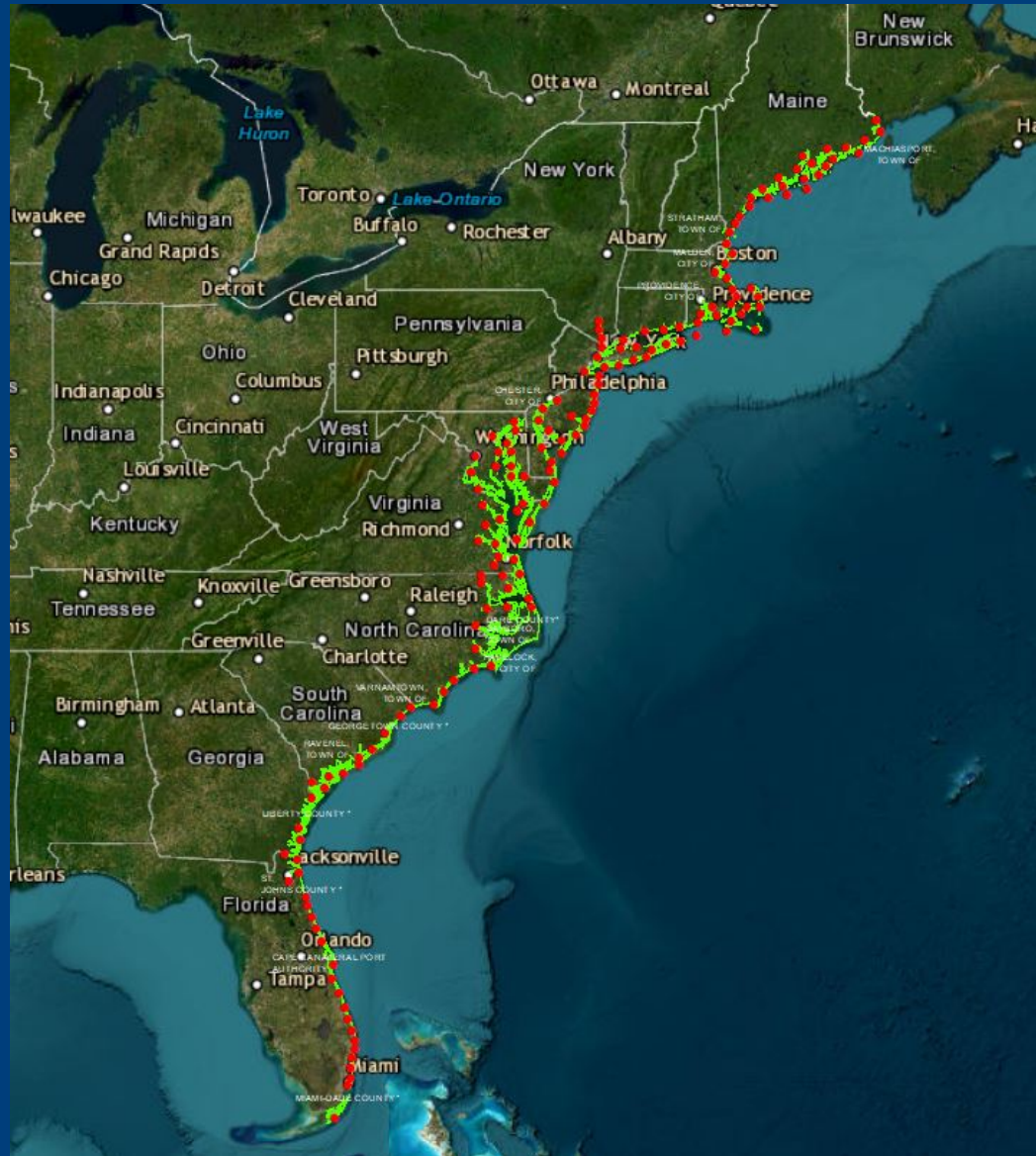
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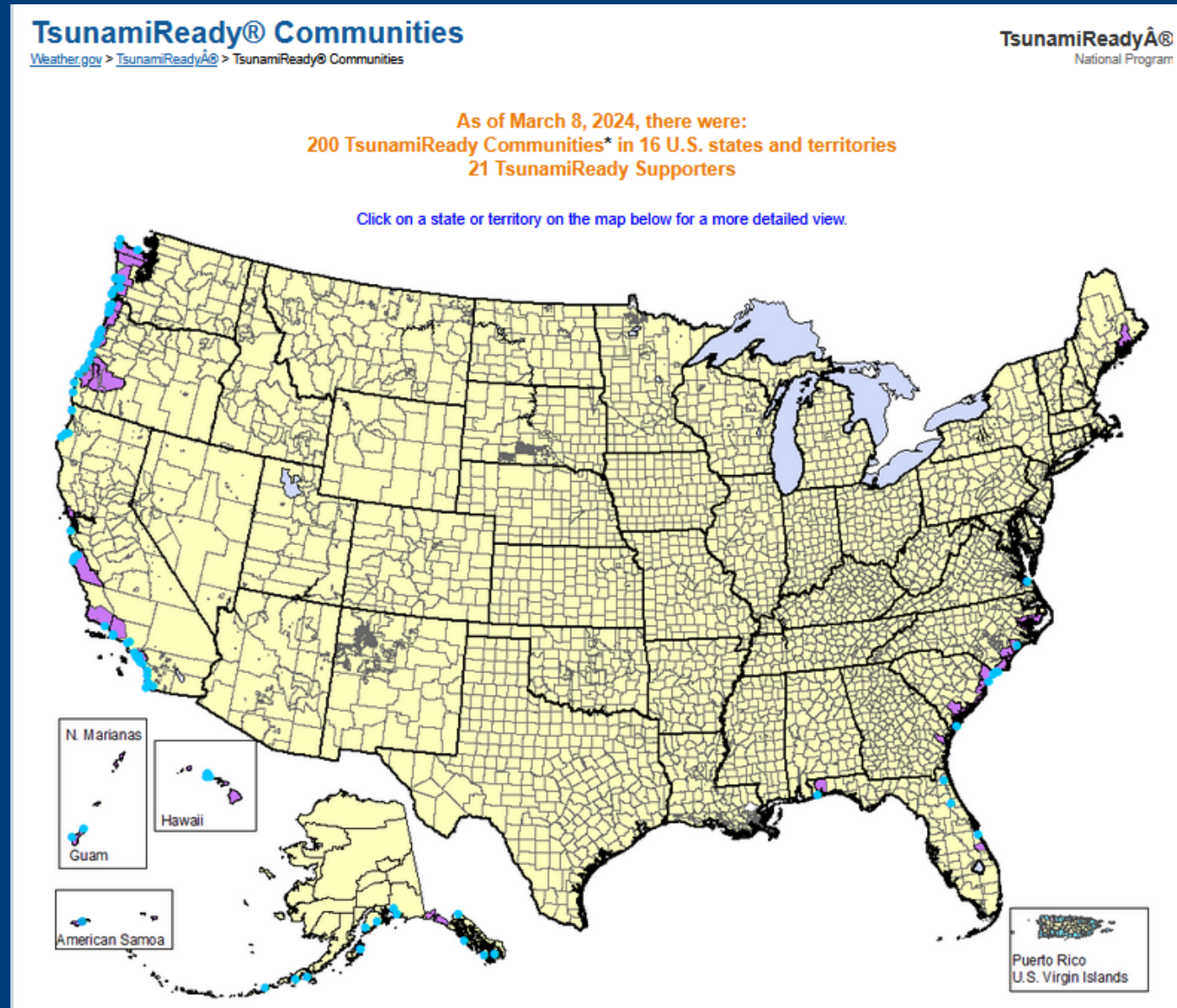


Coastal counties along the US Atlantic and Gulf Coasts (numbers represent the county ID). The study area is divided into four regions: New England (green), mid-Atlantic (orange), southeast Atlantic (blue), and Gulf of Mexico (red). Source data are provided as a Source data file

653 communities...



and 26 or only about 4% are TsunamiReady



Tsunami Ready East Coast Communities Barriers to Entry



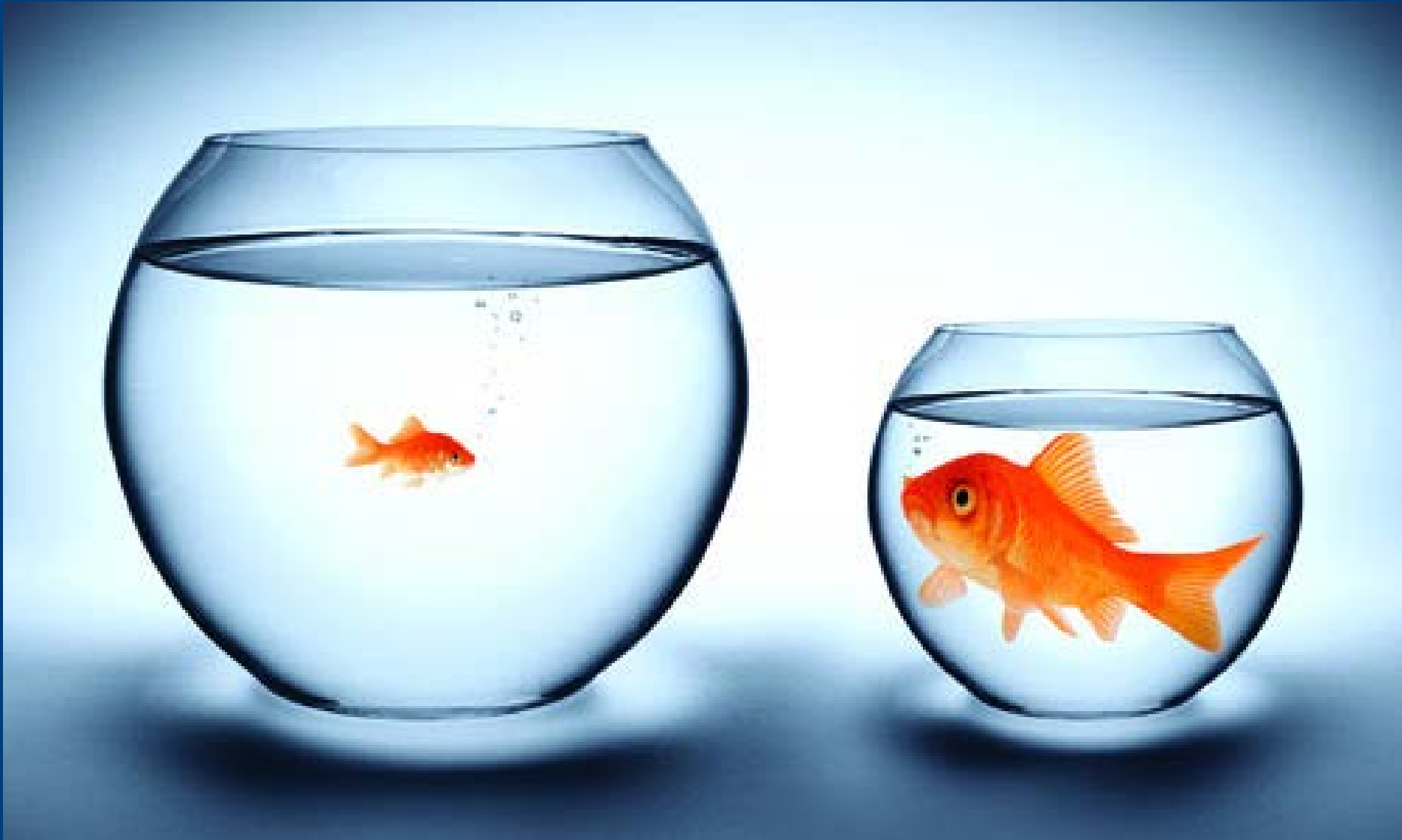
- Low perceived tsunami risk
- Cost/Benefit imbalance (requirements vs. perceived risk)
- Growing competing coastal threats (hurricanes, tropical storms, noreasters, etc)
- Diminishing EM resources
- Hazard zone signage requirements
- Recurring evacuation drills
- Ongoing sustained hazard awareness
- No intermediate milestone (interest stalls without achievable first step)

Proposed Solution – TsunamiAware Option

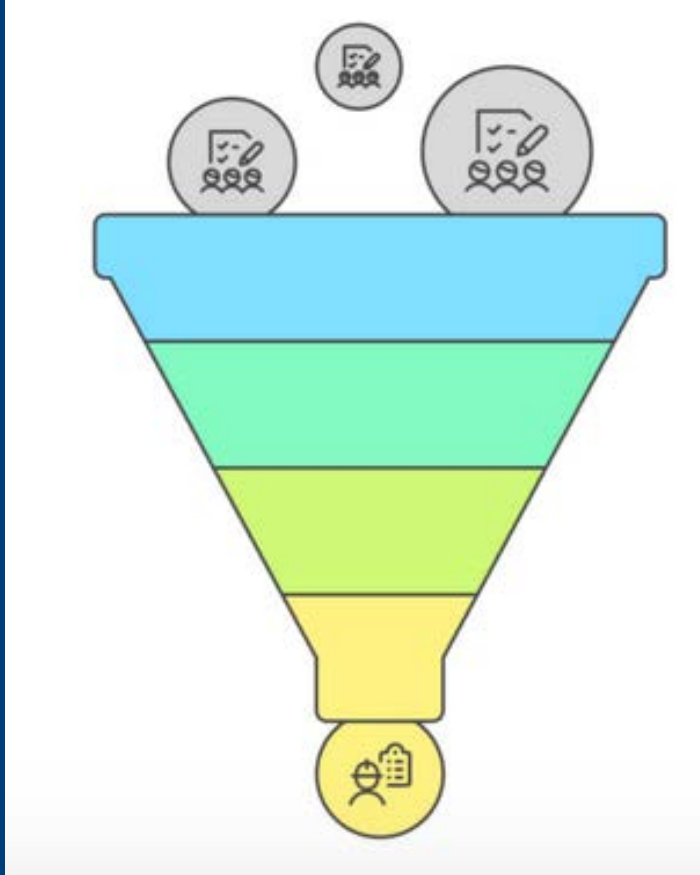


- . Hazard awareness
- . Receive warnings
- . Notify the public
- . Develop a basic plan
- . Prepare a Hazard map
- . Conduct a risk assessment

Not Lowering TsunamiReady Standards - Right Sizing them for the USEC



Seven Right-Size Requirements



TsunamiAware Requirements

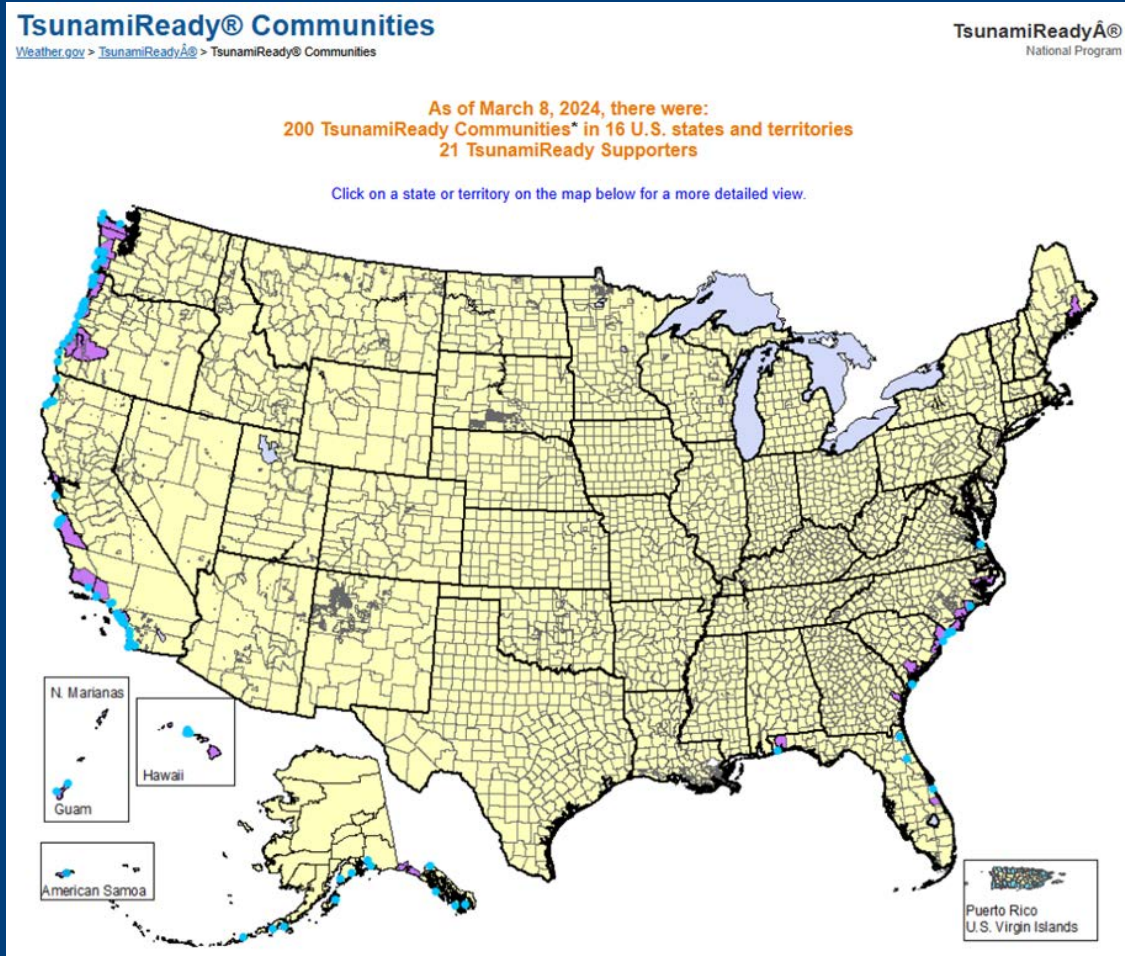
1. Hazard zones mapped (MIT1)
2. Hazard data in mitigation plan (MIT2)
3. Evacuation map posted online (PREP1)
4. Tsunami procedures in EOP (RESP1)
5. EOC activation/support (RESP3)
6. Redundant alert reception systems (RESP4)
7. Redundant public alert dissemination methods (RESP5)

Strategic Plan Alignment



- Theme 1 Hazard & Risk Assessment
Communities Identify Tsunami Hazard Areas
- Theme 2 Education & Preparedness
Communities Build Foundational Tsunami Preparedness
- Theme 4 Alert, Warning & Response
Verified Warning Reception & Dissemination
- Efficient Resource Use
Leverage Existing Federal, State and Local Data and Resources

Why TsunamiAware is Needed

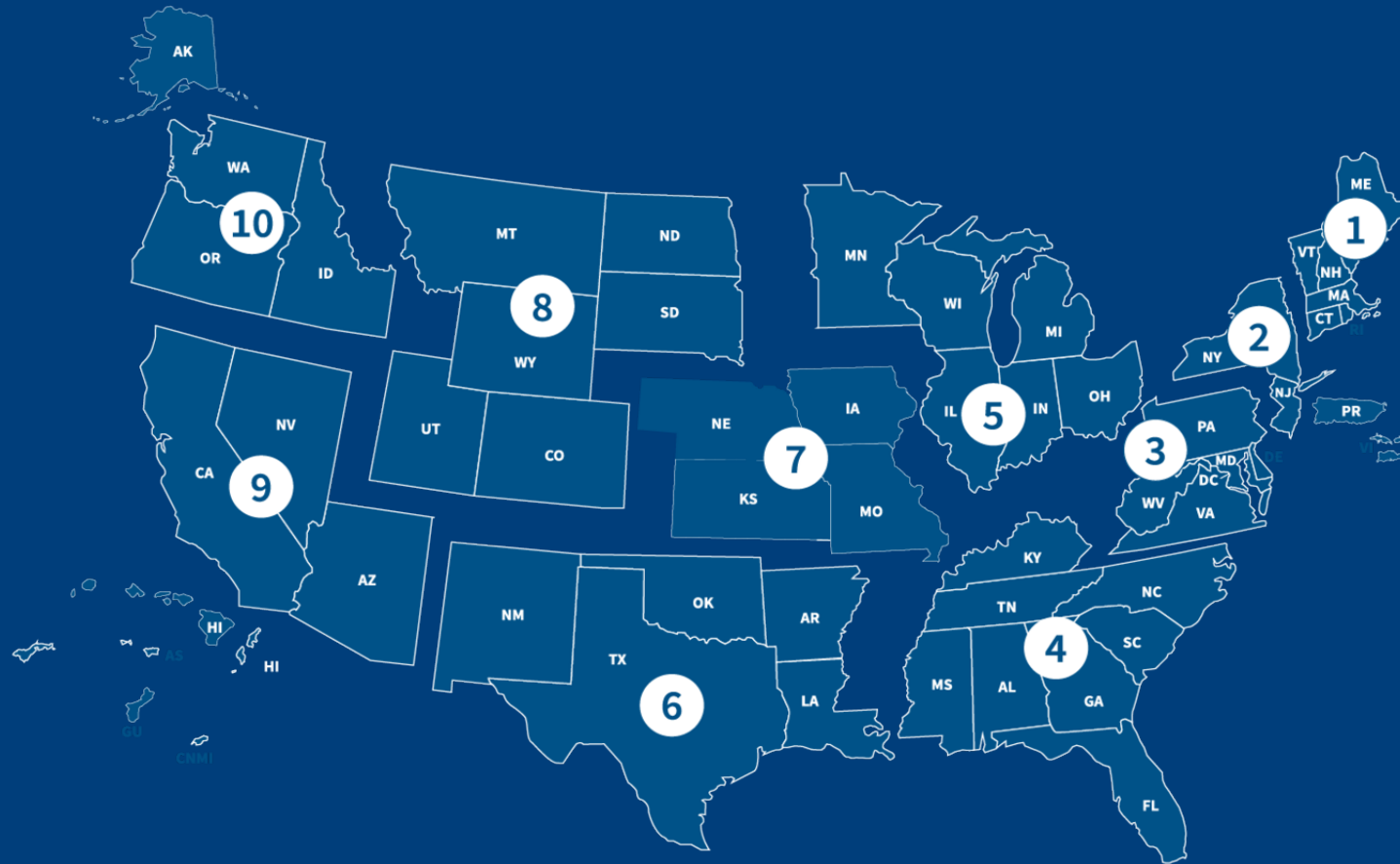


- USEC has only 26 (4%) TsunamiReady Communities
- 96% have no tsunami preparedness designation
- If only 25% of USEC Communities became TsunamiAware - six fold improvement in preparedness
- If 50% participated - order of magnitude improvement

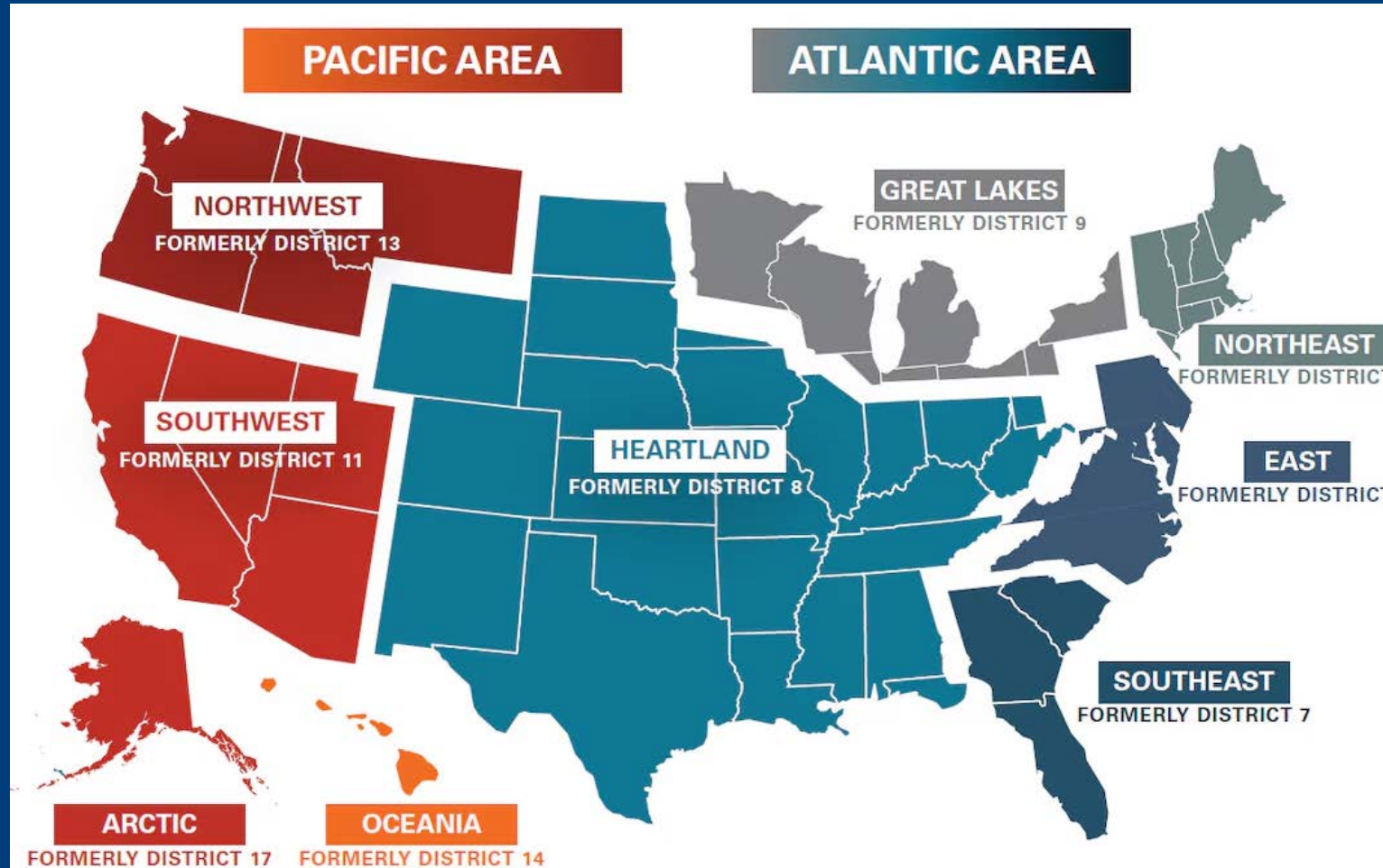
We Need the Regional Weather Forecast Offices to Participate and Encourage Participation of State and Local Emergency Managers



We Need the Regional FEMA Offices to Participate and Encourage Participation of State and Local Emergency Managers



We Need the Regional Coast Guard Offices to Participate and Encourage Participation of State and Local Emergency Managers



TsunamiAware Exponentially Increases Opportunities to Achieve NTHMP Metrics



- Improves Public Safety
- Strengthens the NTHMP
- Demonstrates National Progress
- Justifies Continued Federal Investment

Let's Work Together to Empower USEC Communities to Become TsunamiAware



NTHMP MES Meeting, March 18, 2026

Skylar Suiso, HIEMA; Nick Graehl, CGS; Sarah Rogowski, NOAA; Althea Rizzo, Oregon; Stephanie Ross, USGS; Robert White, BC EMCR; Todd Becker, Cal OES; Stephen Cahill, Guam MES; Mike Lucio, AK DHS&EM; Pat Leisure, NOAA; Regina Browne, VITEMA; Nic Arcos, NOAA; Gregory Schoor, NOAA; Ed Fratto NESEC; Don Leisure, NOAA; Dave Snider, NOAA; Christa VonHilbrandt, NOAA; Ethan Weller, WA EMD; Rebecca Heim, NOAA; Elyssa Tappero WA EMD; Althea Rizzo, OEM; Victor Huerfano, PRSN; Jeremy Agee, AK DHS&EM; Ling Liu, NOAA; Aukusitino Steffany, AS DHS

Caribe Wave 26, Registration on TsunamiZone is over 460k. Scenarios: Cayman Islands source and Kick'em Jenny Volcano. Puerto Rico and USVI are using the volcano scenario.

NTWC coordinating with TsunamiZone for PACIFEX for registration.

ACTION: If you did not receive emails about the exercise, please let someone at NTWC know so you can be added.

Tori Tsunami and Teo Earthquake video launched. Audience visually impaired or deaf children. This resource includes sign language and special effects to make tsunami and earthquake safety information accessible to all, with English and Spanish versions coming soon. This is a collaboration between ITIC and PRSN.

MES on NTHMP Website.

- Sarah R. has been building it out.
- May not be the best place for a “base camp” for document storage.
- Primarily a landing place for MES meeting info/notes and work plans.
- Consider including NTHMP-funded mitigation and education docs would be good, maybe, since those have to be publicly available anyway. Oregon's debris guide, our wayfinding guide, etc. (*comment from E. Tappero*)

ACTION: Call to MES for any resources you may want to have posted. Please share with the MES Co-chairs past documents and/or final products of NTHMP funded work.

MES Meeting in May (in-person):

Request from MES Co-chairs went out for a call for discussion topics. Session will be 60 -min for MES. WA EMD and Island Caucus will have a separate session about hospitality industry session and cruise ship evacuation planning.

Discussion about MES briefings:

- Sarah notes that there may be an option for “NTHMP-wide Brief outs”. Discussion about how this may make the brief-outs to rushed, unless a large chunk of time was dedicated.
- Discussion about how brief outs are beneficial.
- Focus on updates and deeper discussion about topics that are meaningful or how we may have been struggling.
- Need to consider how we structure time.
- It would be good to have examples in the room of materials we have so you can see it more clearly than on a slide. Materials could be shipped to WA office ahead of time.
- Regions should coordinate their MES/MMS/WCS briefings so they don't overlap too much as many will be in attendance
- Overall, it seems that partner briefs are what people want, but maybe they don't need to be mandatory.

ACTION: MES Co-chairs will send out an email to partners to see if they want to submit a brief and how much time you would like to take if available.

We will work at developing at 60-minute agenda for the MES Annual meeting by next week.

MES Co-chair openings:

Todd ends in Nov 2026

Nic ends in January 2027

ACTION: Call for people to fill the State and Federal Position.

For NTHMP Annual meeting:

- Make your hotel reservations if not done already.
- Some meeting room space limitations, they are being worked out.
- Virtual option will be available.
- Other discussion on travel logistics.

ACTION: Please contact Elyssa Tappero if you would like to ship materials to display/distribute at the annual meeting in May.

NTHMP MES Meeting March 18, 2026

Agenda:

- Welcome and Sign In
- MES Partner Announcements
- MES on NTHMP website
- MES at in-person meeting in May
- Next Meeting and Closing

****Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.**

MES Partner Announcements

- CARIBE WAVE 26 exercise on March 19, 2026
- PACIFEX tsunami exercise on May 5th, 2026
 - Register your on TsunamiZone.org
- **Please use the raise your hand button** if you would like to make an announcement to the group.

***Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.*

MES on NTHMP website

<https://www.weather.gov/nthmp/SubEducation>

Additional resources you'd like to see? Email co-chairs

Currently:

- Overview of MES
- Meeting Info/Notes
- Work Plans

***Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.*

MES meeting in May

- Tentatively 60 minutes for MES, *might request 90 minutes*
- Possibly WA EMD and Island Caucus will have a 60-minute session to discuss hospitality industry (including a focus on cruise ship evacuation)
- Options for MES time:

(a) **Partner briefings focusing on one or two selected topics** (i.e., TsunamiReady, WEA outreach, etc.). If so, what topic area(s) would you like addressed?

Alternatively, could have a topics be on any MES prioritized strategies:

- Develop, update, and disseminate consistent outreach materials;
- Promote effective planning for tsunami preparedness response;
- Conduct training and outreach events and campaigns.

(b) **A single topic selected for a 'workshop' type session.** Are you looking to gain feedback and discussion on a specific MES focus area and would like to use the May meeting for it?

If you have an topic you would like considered, please come prepared to discuss it at the March meeting and send the co-chairs an email beforehand.

(c) MES Workplan updates **NEW**

Next Meeting

- Date/Time
 - Week of May 11, 2026
 - In-person in Seattle (*possible virtual component*)

- MES co-chairs openings

Todd ends his 2nd (and last term) at the end of November 2026 (State/Territory)

Nic ends his 2nd (and last term) at the end of January 2027 (Fed)

Please consider this leadership opportunity

NTHMP MES Meeting Notes: July 15, 2026

1) Welcome and Partner Updates.

- CA: Todd introduces Phil Labra new Cal OES EQ and Tsunami Program Manager who replaced Yvette La Duke who retired this Spring.
- WA: Elyssa notes that Taisha has moved from WA EMD to City of Seattle
- B.C: Robert White. April Tsunami Preparedness Week. High Ground Hike. 30 communities including First Nations. ~800 participants. More info here: (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/education-programs-toolkits/high-ground-hike>). Also planning Tsunami Exercise for WTAD, on 11/5
- NTWC: Dave Snider, LANTEX on 11/4. Event off coast of Florida. More info to come.
- CA: Todd, Working on TsunamiReady assessment survey. Next steps to coordinate with WCMs and Regional Cal OES Emergency Services Coordinators. Will share update and processes with MES.
- Guam: Stephen, Working on Tsunami Table Top for end of August.
- Question at end of meeting from WA, Elyssa. Does anyone know where the Tsunami Tent Cards that were once available for order came from? WA would appreciate any leads on these for the Tsunami Hospitality work.

2) Briefing from Sarah Rogowski on the progress of the MES TsunamiReady recommendations.

- Slides shared by Sarah.
- New TsunamiReady Status Map view shared. To be published in near future.
 - Question regarding if an ArcGIS Rest Service would be available.
- WCMs are your first connection for TsunamiReady Community Status and coordination in your regions.

3) Vote on the next MES co-chair

Hold a vote on the next MES co-chair to take Todd Becker's spot in December. We are lucky to have two great candidates! You can find their short bios below.

The vote will be held virtually via a survey/form with a ~24 hour turn around time.

Online voting can better ensure higher participation during summer months, as well as anonymity. [MES Terms of Reference](#) can answer questions on voting.

URL to cast a vote will be provided during the MES meeting on 15 July PT. **Voting will close on 16 July 5pm PT** (8pm ET; 17 July 10am Guam).

Link to Vote on the next MES Co-chair

<https://forms.gle/ztd5c7trzpVLmcKUA>

Candidates for MES co-chair:

Laura Gabel, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)

Laura Gabel is a Registered Geologist with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). She works to help Oregon communities become more resilient through applied research, outreach, and collaborative partnerships. Laura's research focuses on hazards and risks associated with Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as landslides, coastal erosion and other geomorphic processes. She is passionate about translating technical science into practical solutions that support informed decision-making and strengthen community resilience. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics from Penn State University and a Master of Science in Geology from the University of Oregon.

Julie Romig, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Julie Romig is the Research Data Specialist II with the California Tsunami Program at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). She operates at the intersection of science, emergency management, and public awareness, translating tsunami and earthquake research into practical tools, maps, plans, and messages that enhance community resilience. Her primary focus is transforming this research into effective tools and plans for disaster preparedness in communities. Her work includes GIS-based hazard analysis, tsunami mapping, evacuation planning, and public information. She is currently developing a GIS tool for county emergency managers to support risk communication and preparedness. She also serves as a Duty Officer for emergency responses. Julie has over 25 years of experience in Geography and GIS. She previously worked at Caltrans and taught at the university level. She holds a Master's in Geography from USC and a Bachelor's in Geological Sciences from the University of Oregon. Julie is interested in the connections between science and human experiences.

NTHMP MES Meeting

July 15, 2026

Agenda:

- Welcome (new attendees?)
- MES Partner Announcements
- TsunamiReady: MES recommendations. Status Report (Sarah R.)
- MES Co-Chair nominations & voting
- Next Meeting and Closing

****Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.**

MES Partner Announcements

- Please use the raise your hand button if you would like to make an announcement to the group.

***Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.*

TsunamiReady: MES recommendations

- Status Report by Sarah Rogowski

Background

At the request of the NWS in June 2023, the MES was asked to review the TsunamiReady Program Guidelines and forms and provide recommendations for improvements prior to the next renewal scheduled for November 2024.

An MES work group met regularly between September 2023 and May 2024 to develop these TsunamiReady recommendations. The Final recommendations were submitted July 2024.

Documentation can be found on the MES website:

<https://www.weather.gov/nthmp/SubEducation>

***Please enter your name and affiliation in the chat.*

MES co-chair nominations (State/Territory)

- ***Laura Gabel, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)***
Laura Gabel is a Registered Geologist with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). She works to help Oregon communities become more resilient through applied research, outreach, and collaborative partnerships. Laura's research focuses on hazards and risks associated with Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as landslides, coastal erosion and other geomorphic processes. She is passionate about translating technical science into practical solutions that support informed decision-making and strengthen community resilience. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics from Penn State University and a Master of Science in Geology from the University of Oregon.
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****Bios sent to MES via email on 07 July***

MES co-chair nominations (State/Territory)

- Voting is now open at: <https://forms.gle/ztd5c7trzpVLmcKUA>
 - *Email will be sent with link following the meeting*
- Voting will close on 16 July 5pm PT (8pm ET; 17 July 10am Guam).

Who can vote?

Only MES Coordinating Committee Members may vote on an activity (e.g., new Chairperson) requiring a vote. MES Coordinating Committee Members are defined as the 12 state/territory emergency management representatives, though a Coordinating Committee Member may delegate their voting power. Only one vote per State or Territory is permitted. FEMA and NOAA are each permitted a single vote. The federal representative that is an active co-chair will occupy one of those voting positions by default. As a result, in total there may be 14 votes for an activity requiring a vote. A quorum for a vote is defined as greater than 50% of voting members.” (*MES Terms of Reference, 2025*)

MES co-chair nominations (State/Territory)

- Once voting is finalized, the nominee must be **approved by a majority of the NTHMP Coordinating Committee** (at the next CC meeting).
- Once approved, the new MES Co-chair will begin their 3-year term in **December 2026**.

Note: MES co-chair opening for Federal spot is open in February 2027.

Next Meeting

- Date/Time
 - 16 September

- MES co-chairs openings

Nic ends his 2nd (and last term) at the end of January 2027 (Fed)

Please consider this leadership opportunity