

State of Hawaii Annual Report National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP) FY 2002

**by
Brian S. Yanagi**

The State of Hawaii continues to accelerate its tsunami preparedness and mitigation projects through funding from the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP). The coordination of state programs was conducted through two Tsunami Technical Review Committee (TTRC) meetings involving Federal, State, County agencies, the University of Hawaii (UH) and Pacific Disaster Center (PDC). The TTRC has three subcommittees: 1) Scientific Working Group, 2) Emergency Management, and 3) Public Affairs.

Among the issues addressed include:

- Successful Installation and Operation of 8 New Coastal Recorders for more rapid PTWC local tsunami detection on the island of Hawaii (\$ 50,000 contract)
- Guidelines established for Hawaii Tsunami Observation Program for Post Tsunami Survey.
- Near Completion of a UH Contract to Use 2-Dimensional Modeling Techniques to Compare Existing 1-Dimensional Inundation Maps used for Evacuation Maps in the Telephone Book. Two sites examined. See <http://oe.eng.hawaii.edu/SCD2002>
- Revision of Urgent (Local) Tsunami Warning Procedures to more rapidly sound sirens and disseminate Emergency Alert System (EAS) message.
- Quarterly Exercises with State Civil Defense staff on Distant Tsunami Emergency Response Procedures.
- Successful April 2002 Tsunami Awareness Month - Media Workshop Training / Dept. of Education Distance Learning.
- Promotion of the State's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Web Site. See <http://www.MotherNature-Hawaii.com>
- Continuous Identification of Various Action Items Needed to Facilitate Tsunami Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Activities.

Funding for the above issues provided through the FY00 and FY01 NOAA contract. The FY02 NOAA contract was signed in late 2002.