

2002 Oregon State Report for the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program

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Tsunami evacuation maps were produced for Seaside/Gearhart, Rockaway Beach, Coos Bay/North Bend and Lincoln City. The development of a detailed tsunami inundation map for Waldport by DOGAMI is underway. The Oregon tsunami brochure was revised and distributed to coastal counties and cities. In coordination with ODOT and coastal communities, 13 locations along Hwy 101 were identified for installation of entering and leaving tsunami hazard zone signs. A graphic will be created for a native legend earthquake and tsunami interpretative sign that will be installed on the coast near Siletz Bay. Preliminary meetings with the Siletz Tribe, ODOT and Lincoln City have been held and two locations are being evaluated (on Hwy 101 or in a Lincoln City park). Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District became the first TsunamiReady community in Oregon. A tsunami sign installation guidance document was developed.

OEM coordinated and facilitated an Oregon Tsunami Warning Workshop in Lincoln City. The present state of warning and warning needs were discussed in both plenary and breakout sessions. Twenty recommendations were developed and agreed to by the participants. Recommendations include develop regulation/rule to post tsunami hazards materials in lodging facilities and promote and increase NOAA Weather Radio coverage and utilization. Tsunami Warning Systems and Procedures: Guidance for Local Officials was released as DOGAMI Special Paper 35.

The Oregon tsunami task force had its first meeting following the workshop. The task force, made up of representatives from the Oregon legislature, state agencies and coastal communities, proposed a few action items. They include 1) write a letter to NOAA supporting the increase in the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program budget, 2) draft legislation requiring lodging facilities to post tsunami evacuation information, and 3) recommend that the Oregon Department of Transportation take into consideration tsunami evacuation routes in their bridge seismic retrofit program.