TSUNAMIREADY PROPOSED GUIDELINES – FOUNDATION (7/10/15v)

The TsunamiReady Guidelines in this document will be required for TsunamiReady recognition for new communities or counties seeking such recognition on or after [date]*. Until this date, the 2001 TsunamiReady Guidelines found on this web page are still current and are to be used.

http://www.tsunamiready.noaa.gov/guidelines.htm

The date for cut-over from the 2001 TsunamiReady Guidelines to the updated TsunamiReady Guidelines is undetermined. It will occur upon approval of a new TsunamiReady Application within the National Weather Service and by the Office of Management and Budget. This action can take up to one year to occur and be fully effective.

Communities or counties that have a current TsunamiReady recognition will work through a "grandfathering" process to transition from meeting the 2001 TsunamiReady Guidelines to these new Guidelines. That process will be defined in an updated NWS Instructions document (10-704) when fully reviewed and vetted within the NWS and concurrently with NTHMP partners.

FUNDAMENTAL LEVEL—TSUNAMIREADY

Coastal communities seeking TsunamiReady® recognition should meet all elements included in Tier One. The specific actions required to meet each element will vary among communities depending on the types of tsunami hazards and related vulnerability and as determined by the local, state, or regional TsunamiReady Board (composed of a NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist and a state-appointed emergency management representative) and additional stakeholders identified by the WCM.

Communities with plausible local tsunami threats should include efforts that enable individuals at risk for tsunami inundation to take self-protective actions, in addition to strategies for all coastal communities that address regional and distant tsunamis. Determination of the range of plausible local, regional, and distant tsunami threats in a particular community rests with the designated TsunamiReady® Board who will be in close communication with tsunami experts from the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP), such as NOAA, the U.S. Geological Survey, state geological surveys and emergency managers, universities, or consultants.

SUMMARY TABLE OF GUIDELINES

MIT-1	Have designated and mapped tsunami hazard zones.
MIT-2	Include tsunami hazard and community vulnerability information in the community's FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan.
MIT-3	Install signage, as needed, that identifies for example: (1) tsunami danger area and/or hazard zone (entering and leaving signs), evacuation routes, and assembly area; and (2) provides tsunami response education (go to high ground).
PREP-1	Produce easily understood tsunami evacuation maps as determined to be appropriate by local authorities
PREP-2	Support an ongoing sustained tsunami public education effort. This effort should include the development and distribution of outreach materials.
PREP-3	Support an ongoing sustained tsunami education effort specific to public schools in coastal community pursuing TsunamiReady recognition.
PREP-4	Hold at least one community-wide outreach or education activity annually.
PREP-5	Conduct community exercises that reinforce the concepts contained in Prep-1 through Prep-4.
PREP-6	Conduct evacuation drills for all public schools in the mapped tsunami evacuation zone to reinforce the concepts contained in Prep-1 through Prep-4.
RESP-1	Address tsunami hazards in the community's emergency operations plan (EOP)
RESP-2	Address tsunami hazards in the emergency operations plans (EOP) for all public schools in the tsunami hazard zone.
RESP-3	Commit to supporting the emergency operations center (EOC) during tsunami incidents if an EOC is opened and activated.
RESP-4	Have redundant and reliable means for a 24-hour warning point (and EOC if activated) to receive official tsunami watch, advisory, and warning alerts.
RESP-5	Have redundant and reliable means for 24-hour warning point and/or EOC to disseminate official tsunami watch, advisory, and warning alerts to the public.
RESP-6	Have Public Alert-certified NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) receivers in critical facilities and public venues.
RESP-7	Conduct emergency operations plan exercises that test at least one component of the community's EOP or one item from Resp-4 through Resp-6.

MITIGATION (MIT)

Mit-1. Have designated and mapped tsunami hazard zones. The primary source for mapping potential tsunami hazard zones is inundation modeling, which illustrates expected areas to be flooded by the tsunami. If models are unavailable, other acceptable sources include guidance from tsunami experts from NOAA, the U.S. Geological Survey, state geological surveys, universities, or consultants. Modeling and mapping efforts should meet NOAA/NTHMP guidelines. *Note: for communities on the coasts of the Atlantic Ocean or Gulf of Mexico, a "baseline tsunami zone" has been prepared and, where observed, is approved to meet this requirement. SLOSH modeling is also approved for use for this purpose. Tsunami Hazard Zone maps are used by emergency managers for planning purposes and are different from, but related to, evacuation maps described in Prep-1.*

Mit-2. Include tsunami hazard and community vulnerability information in the community's FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan. As described in section 44CFR Part 201.6 (c)(2) of the Stafford Disaster Mitigation Act, this information should include, where available, the following:

- A tsunami-hazard profile, including source locations, extent of inundation, run-up or height that a wave reaches above sea level, previous tsunami occurrences, and likelihood of future tsunamis
- A description of community vulnerability, including areas exposed to inundation and an impact summary of the resident population and specific sub-populations of people expected to be affected (e.g., individuals with access and functional needs, visitors, seasonal workers), businesses, infrastructure, and critical facilities

Estimates of population exposure in tsunami evacuation zones should be based on local knowledge or on analysis of population data (e.g., Census), and can include ranges of population counts to recognize daily or seasonal fluctuations in workers, visitors, and temporary residents.

Communities that do not have resources to support development of a multi-hazard mitigation plan should work with the county where the community is located to be incorporated into the county's multi-hazard mitigation plan.

This requirement is met if there is a FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan that includes tsunamis.

Mit-3. Install signage, as needed, that identifies for example: (1) tsunami danger area and/or hazard zone (entering and leaving signs), evacuation routes, and assembly area; and (2) provides tsunami response education (go to high ground). Signage should be implemented according to state and local policies and as determined to be appropriate by local authorities, the local TsunamiReady Board, and with possible assistance from partners. Wherever possible, signage should comply with specifications aimed at standardization so that all coastal communities eventually will have identical signage. Continuity of signage benefits domestic residents and international visitors. In cases where tribal law supersedes state laws, tribes should make every effort to try to be consistent with state codes while also maintaining their own tribal codes. Multi-hazard signs that include the tsunami hazard are adequate for this item.

PREPAREDNESS (PREP)

Prep-1. Produce easily understood tsunami evacuation maps as determined to be appropriate by local authorities that depict tsunami evacuation routes and assembly areas (see Mit-1). Maps should be based on tsunami hazard zone mapping and in accordance with the community's emergency operations plan. Maps should be made available via appropriate print and/or digital media. *Note: for communities on the coasts of the Atlantic Ocean or Gulf of Mexico, a "baseline tsunami hazard zone" has been prepared and, where observed, is approved to meet this guideline.*

Prep-2. Support an ongoing sustained tsunami public education effort. This effort should include the development and distribution of outreach materials that include, where appropriate, tsunami evacuation maps, evacuation routes, safety tips, and information about when and how to respond to warnings (including natural warnings for regions with a local tsunami threat). They should be tailored to meet local information needs and be based on location-specific tsunami threats. Distribution should use three or more wide-reaching diverse methods, including, but not limited to:

- Brochures and flyers distributed at public venues and/or bulk mailed to local residents and businesses
- Newspaper inserts
- Public utility/service industry bill safety notices
- Local faith-based and civic organization bulletins/mailings
- Local radio and television
- Billboard, roadside, highway, or educational signs
- Historical markers and interpretative signs
- Websites/Social media
- Bulk email

Possible physical locations for distribution of materials include:

- Visitor centers and local tourist businesses (e.g., restaurants, bars)
- Hotels, motels, and campgrounds where visitors to beach areas stay
- Public libraries
- Community centers
- Recreation centers
- Kiosks or information centers in places where the public visits (e.g., malls, stores, etc.)
- Child care centers

Prep-3. Support an ongoing sustained tsunami education effort specific to public schools in coastal community pursuing TsunamiReady recognition. This effort can leverage the outreach materials from Prep-2 but should also be augmented if needed to cover tsunami threats specific to any given school. Distribution can be through existing state, regional, or local educational governing bodies but cover letters transmitting materials should be included that provide schools with a means to get support from the community's TsunamiReady Board. Distribution to all schools in the tsunami hazard zone should occur for initial TsunamiReady Recognition and then again every three years. At the discretion of the TsunamiReady Board, and to address the cases where the tsunami hazard zone represents a very small percentage of total

area of the community, the distribution can be limited to schools that are in or near the tsunami hazard zone. This applies to both the initial and periodic distribution. This Distribution should also occur for private schools when possible.

Prep-4. Hold at least one community-wide outreach or education activity annually to educate community residents, businesses, and visitors, with an emphasis on those in the tsunami hazard zone, on tsunami hazards, evacuation routes, how warning information will be received (including natural warnings for regions with a local tsunami threat), safety, and response. These activities may be multi-hazard as long as they include tsunamis in the content. The number of activities required for a given community is to be determined by the TsunamiReady Board but will generally include at least one community-wide event and/or multiple smaller scale events.

Acceptable activities include, but are not limited to:

- Leveraging of national, state, and regional campaigns through use of social media.
- Multi-hazard events or presentations.
- Adding on to *The Great Shakeout* drills and practice.
- Booths at community events and county fairs.
- Community tsunami safety workshops, town halls, or similar public meetings.
- Presentations or workshops for faith-based organizations, community or civic groups.
- Local public safety campaigns, such as "Tsunami Preparedness" week/month.
- Local business workshops to help them develop response and business continuity plans.
- Information for business owners for employee training, outreach, or education that targets high-occupancy businesses in tsunami hazard zones (e.g., hotels, restaurants, fisheries, industrial sites).
- Door-to-door safety campaigns targeted to residents and businesses who live or work in the community's tsunami hazard zone.

Prep-5. Conduct community exercises that reinforce the concepts contained in Prep-1 through Prep-4. The exercises can focus solely on the tsunami hazard or can be a multi-hazard exercises that also address the tsunami hazard. One exercise should be conducted for initial Tsunami Ready recognition and then at least one other should be conducted within the three-year period following recognition. The exercises could be tabletop, functional, or full-scale.

Prep-6. Conduct evacuation drills for all public schools in the mapped tsunami evacuation zone to reinforce the concepts contained in Prep-1 through Prep-4. Evacuation drills should be conducted annually but can be conducted as part of a multi-hazard drill (for example, combined with a fire evacuation drill). Private schools in the tsunami evacuation zone should be encouraged to also conduct annual evacuation drills.

For additional recommendations of activities that increase preparedness, see Appendix A: Other Recommended Efforts to Increase Community Resilience.

RESPONSE (RESP)

Resp–1. Address tsunami hazards in the community's emergency operations plan (EOP). If a community-level plan does not exist, other acceptable plans include a countywide EOP or a state or local comprehensive emergency management plan. To meet this requirement, plans should:

- Identify tsunami as a hazard and provide a risk assessment
- Detail 24-hour warning point procedures relating to tsunamis
- Specify emergency operations center activation criteria~~,~~ and staffing expectations~~, and~~
- Specify tsunami criteria and procedures for the activation of the public warning system in its area of responsibility
  - Criteria and procedures for siren activation, cable television override, and/or local activation in accordance with state EAS plans, warning fan-out procedures, and communication to functional and access needs populations
- Provide contact information for all jurisdictional agencies and response partners, including the NWS
- Include evacuation plans for tsunamis, roles of community entities/agencies, tsunami hazard zone maps with evacuation routes, and protocols for access and functional needs populations
- Include procedures for updating information and determining when to advise it is safe for (1) emergency response personnel to enter the evacuated zones, and (2) when it is safe for the public to return to homes and businesses in the evacuated zone(s)
- Include procedures for providing security for the evacuated zone(s)
- Include procedures for reporting tsunami impacts in the community

Resp-2. Address tsunami hazards in the emergency operations plans (EOP) for all public schools in the tsunami hazard zone, or have a section in community's emergency operations plan (EOP), from Resp-1, that addresses emergency operations for public schools in the community. Encourage this for private schools.

Resp–3. Commit to supporting the emergency operations center (EOC) during tsunami incidents if an EOC is opened and activated. Ensure that the EOC can execute tsunami warning functions (public notifications) based on predetermined guidelines related to NWS tsunami information and/or tsunami incidents. *Note: this applies only for communities with a year-round population of 15,000 or more. For communities with less than a 15,000 year-round population, there must be ties to an EOC serving that community.*

- Has 24-hour operations or plan to activate an EOC for tsunami incidents in accordance with the EOP
- Has warning reception and dissemination capability
- Has the ability and authority to activate the public warning system in its area of responsibility
- Maintains the ability to communicate within and across jurisdictions (e.g., with other EOCs, including those maintained by private organizations, incident command posts, etc.); communication capabilities should be equal to or better than the communication/ dispatch center
- Maintains established communication links with NWS (e.g., NWSChat, phone, etc.) to

relay real-time weather and flood reports to support the warning decision making process

Resp–4. Have redundant and reliable means for a 24-hour warning point (and EOC if activated) <u>to receive</u> official tsunami watch, advisory, and warning alerts from NOAA Tsunami Warning Centers, local NWS Offices, or other officially recognized U.S.-based agencies such as state and local emergency management agencies**.** Alerts must be able to reach the 24-hour warning point by <u>at least three</u> of the following

- Public Alert™ certified NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) receiver: ***Required*** *for recognition only if within reliable reception range of a NWR transmitter*
- Statewide warning fan-out notification system (documented in writing with backup indicated)
- NOAAPORT receiving station
- National Warning System (NAWAS) drop: FEMA-controlled, 24-hour, continuous-private-line telephone system used to convey warnings to federal, state and local governments, as well as the military and civilian population
- NWSChat: An instant messaging program available via the Internet used by NWS operational personnel to share critical warning decision expertise and other significant weather information
- Emergency Management Weather Information Network (EMWIN) receiver: Device that receives satellite feed and/or VHF radio transmission of NWS products
- Statewide telecommunications system: Automatic relay of NWS products, usually on law enforcement systems
- California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) Display Program
- Amateur Radio transceiver: Potential communications directly to NWS office
- Alerts provided through a third-party provider: Typically received via phone, email and/or a texting service to a smartphone, tablet, or computer
- Local Radio: Emergency Alert System, LP1/LP2
- Active Internet monitoring capability, including social media such as Facebook and Twitter
- NOAA Weather Wire drop: Satellite downlink data feed from NWS
- Direct email from Tsunami Warning Center
- Direct fax from Tsunami Warning Center
- Text message or direct pager message from Tsunami Warning Center
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) broadcasts: warning point monitoring of USCG marine channels
- Other communications channel (e.g., active participation in a state-run warning network, two-way, local emergency responder radio network, etc.), please explain.

Note: Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are NOT included as a means of receiving tsunami alerts because WEA is only activated for the first tsunami warning and not for other levels of alerts (Tsunami Advisory, Tsunami Watch, Tsunami Information Statement.) Also, WEA does not work everywhere.

Resp–5. Have redundant and reliable means for 24-hour warning point and/or EOC <u>to disseminate</u> official tsunami watch, advisory, and warning alerts to the public. Alerts must

be able to be disseminated from the 24-hour Warning Point and/or EOC through at least three of the following methods:

- Emergency Alert System (EAS) message initiation and broadcast
- Cable television audio/video overrides
- Local flood warning systems ideally with no single point of failure
- Plan for siren/megaphone notification on emergency vehicles
- Outdoor warning sirens
- Other local alert broadcast system
- Local pager/texting system
- Amateur radio operator network (ham radio)
- Telephone mass notification system
- Telephone tree to critical facilities
- Coordinated jurisdiction-wide radio network
- For counties, parishes, boroughs, etc., a countywide communications network that ensures the flow of information between all cities and towns within its borders, including acting as the surrogate warning point and/or EOC for communities without those capabilities
- Social media usage (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)
- Lifeguards on beaches and on patrol
- Other, please explain

All response requirements should recognize that during a local tsunami event, initial response would be performed primarily by at-risk individuals. Individuals in local tsunamis, including emergency personnel, will need to take personal responsibility for evacuating after recognizing the natural warnings or environmental cues of a possible or imminent tsunami (e.g., ground shaking from an earthquake, unusual rapid rise or fall of a shoreline). Official communications and warnings may be difficult to perform given the potential for infrastructure and telecommunication damage from the preceding earthquake and the limited time between the generation and arrival of the first wave in the tsunami.

Resp–6. Have Public Alert-certified NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) receivers in critical facilities and public venues in and around the tsunami evacuation zone (where reception is available), including:

Required locations:

- Communication/dispatch center serving as the 24-hour warning point
- EOC or standby location (such as a conference room) that will become a defacto EOC, if designated
- City hall, county courthouse, or similar local elected executive office building
- Public school superintendent's office—for all public school jurisdiction(s) in tsunami evacuation zones

Recommended, but not required, locations:

- Courthouses

- Public school superintendent's office—for all public school jurisdiction(s) in tsunami hazard zones (different from tsunami evacuation zone under "required" above.)
- Private school headmaster's (or equivalent) office—for all private schools with a student population exceeding 100Public libraries
- Recreation centers
- Community centers
- Hospitals
- All schools, usually located in principal's or designee's office
- Childcare centers
- Fairgrounds, parks and recreation areas*
- Public utilities*
- Large-event venues, e.g., arenas, stadiums, etc.*
- Transportation departments*
- Nursing homes/assisted living facilities*
- Harbor masters' offices
- Life guard towers

**Note: usually, the NWR receivers would be located in the primary management office/facility that is accessible 24/7 (where appropriate) and has the authority to alter operations and the ability to order protective actions based on the NWS hazardous weather or flood warning received.*

Resp–7 Conduct emergency operations plan exercises that test at least one component of the community's EOP or one item from Resp-4 through Resp-6. These exercises can be part of a multi-hazard exercise and/or can be part of an exercise that satisfies the Prep-5 requirement to conduct a community exercise. One exercise should be conducted for initial Tsunami Ready recognition and at least one other should be conducted within the three-year period following recognition. The exercises could be tabletop, functional, or full-scale.

For additional recommendations of activities that increase preparedness, see the document titled "Other Recommended Efforts to Increase Community Resilience."

APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Based on NWS Instruction 10-704)

24-Hour Warning Point (WP)†: A communication facility at a state or local level, operating 24 hours a day, which has the capability to receive NWS alerts and warnings, plus has the authority and ability to activate the public warning systems in its area of responsibility.

Communications/Dispatch Center: Agency or interagency dispatch centers, 911 call centers, emergency control or command dispatch centers, or other facility and staff who handle emergency calls from the public and communication with emergency management/response personnel. This center may act as a 24-hour warning point.

Critical Facilities: A critical facility provides services and functions essential to a community, especially during and after a tsunami. Examples of critical facilities requiring special consideration include:

- Police stations, fire stations, critical vehicle and equipment storage facilities, and emergency operations centers needed for tsunami response activities before, during, and after a tsunami
- Medical facilities, including hospitals, nursing homes, blood banks, and health care facilities (including those storing vital medical records) likely to have occupants who may not be sufficiently mobile to avoid injury or death during a tsunami
- Schools and day care centers, especially if designated as shelters or evacuation centers
- Power generating stations and other public and private utility facilities vital to maintaining or restoring normal services to tsunami-hit areas
- Drinking water and wastewater treatment plants
- Structures or facilities that produce, use, or store highly volatile, flammable, explosive, toxic, and/or water-reactive materials

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on-scene operations) activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility, a permanently established facility or located at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., federal, state, regional, tribal, city, county), or by some combination thereof.

Distant Tsunami: (Also referred to as a teletsunami). A tsunami originating from a faraway source, generally more than 1,000 km/621 miles or 3 or more hours tsunami travel time from its source to the area impacted. What may be a distant tsunami in one location can be a local tsunami for another location. A distant tsunami may also be referred to as a "far-field" tsunami hazard. The most common distant threats are from dangerous and unpredictable currents resulting in possible significant harbor and shoreline damage.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP): A document maintained by various jurisdictional levels setting procedures for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards. It should include the following:

a) Describe how people and property will be protected
b) Detail who is responsible for carrying out specific actions
c) Identify the personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available
d) Outline how all actions will be coordinated

Emergency Management/Response Personnel: Includes federal, state, territorial, tribal, sub-state regional, and local governments, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), private sector organizations, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and all other organizations and individuals who assume an emergency management role.

Incident: An occurrence, natural or manmade, that requires a response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, civil unrest, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, tsunamis, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Integrated Warning Team (IWT): A local or state level team that consists of emergency management, America's Weather and Climate Industry (typically the broadcast media), and the NWS, that shares the common goal and responsibility of improving the warning system and reducing fatalities, injuries and property damage due to natural hazards.

Inundation: The horizontal distance inland that a tsunami penetrates, generally measured perpendicularly to the shoreline.

Local Tsunami: A tsunami generated from a nearby source with less than 1 hour tsunami travel time from its source to the area impacted. What may be a local tsunami in one location can be a regional or distant tsunami for another location. A local tsunami may also be referred to as a "near-field" tsunami hazard. A local tsunami includes tsunamigenic influences due to tectonics in the source zone such as uplift, subsidence, landslides, and strong shaking. It is the focus of major destruction.

Regional Tsunami: A tsunami generated from a regional source, generally between 100 km/62 miles and 1,000 km/621 miles away or between 1 and 3 hours tsunami travel time from its source to the area impacted. What may be a regional tsunami in one location can be a local tsunami for another location. Regional tsunami also occasionally have very limited and localized effects outside the region. In comparison with a local tsunami, it gives a little more time for authorities to respond than the case of local earthquakes.

Tsunami: A tsunami is a series of waves that can cause dangerous fluctuations of water along shorelines, and are generated by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or landslides that cause a large scale and rapid displacement of the water. Tsunamis can last minutes, hours, or even days. Tsunami is a Japanese word meaning harbor wave. Tsunamis are often incorrectly called tidal waves; they have no relation to the daily ocean tides.

Tsunami Evacuation Map: A graphical representation of coastal areas that outlines the hazard zones and designates limits beyond which people must be evacuated to avoid harm from tsunami waves. Evacuation routes and assembly areas are generally designated to ensure efficient

movement of people out of the evacuation area and to areas of safety. Tsunami evacuation maps should be based on tsunami inundation model outputs or the best available science.

Tsunami Evacuation Zone: Evacuation zones are much larger in surface area than hazard/inundation zones. There is a margin of error in estimation of the hazard/inundation zone. Some areas may not be flooded by tsunami activity but those areas may be isolated by flood waters. This essentially cuts these areas off from other areas. As such, people in those areas are requested to evacuate to prevent them from requiring rescue by first responders.

Tsunami Hazard Zone (aka *Tsunami Inundation Zone*): The area expected to be flooded or inundated by water in coastal areas. Hazard is synonymous with inundation in this sense, even though there are instances where simple inundation (flooding) may not necessarily be hazardous.

TsunamiReady® Community: An Indian tribal government*, local government† entity or facility‡ that has the authority and ability to adopt the TsunamiReady® recognition guidelines within its jurisdiction.

*** The term "Indian tribal government" means** the governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe under the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994 *[25 U.S.C. 479a et seq. January 3, 2012]*.

†The term "local government" means –

a) A county, parish, borough, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government.

b) An Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or organization that is not an Indian tribal government.

c) A rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity, for which an application for assistance is made by a State or political subdivision of a State.

[From Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.; section 5122, as amended by Public Law 113-2, January 29, 2013]

‡The term "facility" for a TsunamiReady® community includes but is not limited to: universities, colleges, military installations, state/national parks, power plants/utilities, major transportation centers (i.e., airports, harbors, ports, railroad stations and other large transit complexes), theme parks/entertainment complexes, corporate business complexes, factories and large event venues (i.e., stadiums, arenas, race tracks, convention centers and other venues that temporarily host large gatherings of people).

TsunamiReady® Sites: A generic term used to collectively identify all categories of TsunamiReady® communities but not Supporter entities.

TsunamiReady® Supporter: An organization, business, facility, or local government entity that has authority to adopt the TsunamiReady® recognition guidelines within its purview, actively promotes the principals of TsunamiReady®, but does not have the ability to meet all of the recognition guidelines.

Some examples of potential TsunamiReady® Supporters might include, but are not limited to: businesses, churches, hospitals, shopping centers, malls, utilities, museums, aquariums, villages, small communities, and individual schools, and broadcasters/broadcast stations.

TsunamiReady® Supporter participation and eligibility is based on the determinations (e.g., by-laws, charters, agreements, implementation plans) of the Local or State TsunamiReady® Boards. An entity applying for TsunamiReady® Supporter status should also receive endorsement from local emergency management within the applying entity's county or parish jurisdiction.

Tsunami Source: Point or area of tsunami origin, usually the site of an earthquake, volcanic eruption, or landslide that caused a large scale and rapid displacement of the water resulting in a tsunami. A comet or meteorite impacting the ocean may also be considered a tsunami source.

Tsunami Warning Center: Facilities operated by the National Weather Service that have responsibility to detect, forecast, and issue tsunami alerts. The National Tsunami Warning Center (NTWC) is based in Palmer, Alaska, and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center is based in Honolulu, Hawaii. More information about each tsunami warning center's area of responsibility (AOR) can be found on tsunami.gov.

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†Note: For jurisdictions without a local communication/Dispatch Center that can serve as a 24-hour WP, another jurisdiction (e.g., county, adjacent community, state, etc.) may act in that capacity for the jurisdiction. This scenario is most likely in smaller jurisdictions (e.g., in Alaska and the U.S. territories) with less than 5,000 residents. This type of working arrangement should be addressed in both jurisdictions' plans and operational protocols. Such an arrangement might also require a standing mutual aid agreement through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) or some other formal means. The smaller jurisdiction should designate responsible officials who are able to receive warnings 24/7 from their surrogate 24-hour WP. NWS recommends the smaller jurisdiction designate several primary and backup points of contact as the responsible officials. These responsible officials should have the authority and ability to activate the public warning system in their jurisdiction in a timely manner. It is also recommended that the responsible officials in the smaller jurisdiction have a 24/7 redundant means to receive alerts, such as NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, InteractiveNWS, and related services provided by AWCI.