

# COASTAL CONNECTIONS



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

A BIMONTHLY PUBLICATION FOCUSED ON TOOLS FOR COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGERS

APRIL/MAY 2008

C O A S T A L M A N A G E M E N T P R O F I L E



**Ann Ogata-Deal**  
Planning and Policy Analyst,  
Hawaii Coastal Zone  
Management Program,  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**Where you grew up:** Honolulu, which is where I still live.

**Job description:** My main project is coastal hazards, and I'm also working on performance measures for the Coastal Zone Management Act.

**Family:** I have a son, Michael, who is a sophomore at the University of Hawaii. My extended family is close, and most still live in Honolulu. Many of us live in close proximity on land bought by my grandparents in the late 1940s.

**Education:** B.A. in English literature, B.Ed., and J.D. from the University of Hawaii.

**Most fulfilling, and most challenging, aspect of your job:** I like coming to work, and the people I work with are so dedicated and positive. We make a difference in people's lives. Sometimes it's very hard to prioritize tasks, though, because every coastal issue seems so important.

*Continued on Page 2*

## FOCUS

### LESSENING THE TSUNAMI'S BLOW

*Hawaii's tsunami awareness and mitigation efforts benefit coastal communities in the state and across the globe.*

On December 26, 2004, a tsunami of devastating impact struck coastal communities in the Indian Ocean region, causing unprecedented destruction and loss of life.

As part of the U.S. response to the catastrophe, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has worked closely with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide leadership for an integrated Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System (IOTWS).

One product of that partnership is a new guide, *How Resilient Is Your Coastal Community? A Guide for Evaluating Coastal Community Resilience to Tsunamis and Other Hazards*. Developed by the NOAA Pacific Services Center (PSC) and five national and international partners, the guide includes contributions from approximately 140 other agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and academic institutions from the Indian Ocean region. (More information on this product and others can be found in "Aids for Tsunami Mitigation" on page 3.)

This publication, and the overall IOTWS effort, is comprehensive. "In addition to supporting regional-level warning system components in the Indian Ocean region, our work includes targeted technical support to Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, and the Maldives. These are the five countries most affected by the December 2004 tsunami," says Russell Jackson, a contributor to the guide and the coastal hazards program coordinator with PSC. "Over time, our support will involve both national and local-level contributions so that each of these countries can develop end-to-end warning capabilities."

#### Hawaii Covers the Contingencies

Coastal resource managers and emergency managers in Hawaii have worked diligently to provide "end-to-end" tsunami education and evacuation resources for state residents and visitors, and many of their strategies are being adapted for use in Indian Ocean coastal communities.

"Hawaii is set up with a well-established network of hazard mitigation committees that deal with tsunamis, lava flows,

*Continued on Page 2*

Profile continued from Page 1

**Work-related accomplishment that makes you proud:**

Recently, I prepared a report for the governor on our agency's coastal hazards accomplishments from 2003 to 2007. We accomplished a lot! I am especially proud of the "Natural Hazards Preparedness Wheel" [see illustration on page 3] because it was a grassroots effort that grew into something used worldwide.

**Personal accomplishment that makes you proud:**

My son. I'm also proud that I'm finally able to balance work and family. This took a long time to learn, because I love my work so much.

**Hobbies:** I collect Japanese print art created after World War II and up to the present. It's modern and more abstract than ancient art forms, and it's beautiful.

Ann Ogata-Deal is deeply involved in tsunami awareness and preparedness efforts. In addition to creating the popular hazards wheel, the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program assisted in updating "Tsunami—the Great Wave," a popular brochure originally authored by NOAA's National Weather Service, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the International Tsunami Information Centre. "This publication went all over the world," she says. "With the wheel and the publication, we have made an impact that could save lives."

Focus continued from Page 1

earthquakes, and other hazards," says Ann Ogata-Deal, a planning and policy analyst for Hawaii's Coastal Zone Management Program. "We partner with a wide variety of federal, state, and county agencies, and these networks help us avoid duplication of effort while also getting input from everyone involved."

Community awareness and readiness are high-priority goals. "A seriously damaging tsunami has not hit our state for decades, so the most important thing we can do is to make people aware of the risk," says Jackson.

To that end, the State of Hawaii is introducing a tsunami education curriculum for elementary schoolchildren. Eventually, these children will learn how to use an interactive on-line tool developed by PSC named the Tsunami Hazard Information Service. Any person entering a street address into the webpage field can instantly determine the tsunami risk, learn

how to prepare, and find other essential awareness information.

The tool recently received a serious workout when an earthquake in the South American nation of Ecuador placed Hawaii in a tsunami "advisory" state (which is less severe than a tsunami warning). "That day, we had more than 3,000 visitors to the website," says Jackson. The tool is accessible via many state and local government websites and on local TV and radio station websites as well.

Moreover, new data can be uploaded to keep the tool up to date. "Recently, the State of Hawaii completed new coastal inundation modeling of the north shore of Oahu. They saw that some areas would suffer more severe inundation than previously thought. As a result, the tsunami evacuation zones are being moved a little further inland to accommodate this new data and err on the side of safety," explains Jackson.



**The Hazard Education and Awareness Tool (HEAT) is an innovative, free Internet tool.**

Users enter addresses into the search box to identify hazard risks near them.

Agencies pair the easy-to-understand risk map with added information, such as evacuation instructions and sheltering procedures.

You can customize the HEAT template for your website and your area's natural-hazard risk. To learn more, contact Russell Jackson at the NOAA Pacific Services Center at (808) 532-3200.

To see how Hawaii is using the HEAT, visit [www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/tsunami/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/tsunami/).

## Aids for Tsunami Mitigation

Personnel from the NOAA Pacific Services Center helped to develop the following publication:

***How Resilient Is Your Coastal Community? A Guide for Evaluating Coastal Community Resilience to Tsunamis and Other Hazards*** – This 164-page guide was created by partners of the U.S. Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System Program and involved input from more than 140 national and international entities. The guide is available for download at [www.us-iotws.gov](http://www.us-iotws.gov). A CD version is also available by request from PSC. To request a CD, contact Russell Jackson at (808) 532-3200.

In addition, NOAA's Coastal Services Center and Pacific Services Center have worked with other partners to develop three interactive mapping and information tools.

The tool templates are applicable to other communities and hazard-management scenarios:

**Tsunami Hazard Information Service** – This product was created by PSC in partnership with the State of Hawaii. This service, a customized application of the HEAT template (see ad on page 2), provides the state's residents and visitors with easy, on-line hazard maps and planning, preparedness, and evacuation information. View [www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/tsunami/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/psc/tsunami/).

**Tutuila Hazard Assessment Tool (T-HAT)** – Developed in partnership with the American Samoa Coastal Management Program, this tool enables users to view site-specific geographic information system hazard data for villages in American Samoa. View [www.csc.noaa.gov/t\\_hat/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/t_hat/).

**Kauai Online Hazards Assessment (KOHA) Tool** – This product is an interactive mapping application for Hawaii's Kauai County that generates reports on flood and tsunami vulnerability for parcels throughout the county. View [maps.csc.noaa.gov/khat/](http://maps.csc.noaa.gov/khat/).

**TSUNAMI AWARENESS**  
*at a Glance*

The handheld "Natural Hazards Preparedness Wheel" (far left), produced by Hawaii's Coastal Zone Management Program, provides public safety information on tsunamis, earthquakes, lava flows, and other coastal hazard events. The wheel received international attention that prompted the government of Thailand to create its own hazards wheel (near left) with the help of the National Disaster Warning Center.

*Coastal Connections* is a publication of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center, produced for the coastal resource management community. Each issue of this free bimonthly newsletter focuses on a tool, information resource, or methodology of interest to the nation's coastal resource managers.

Please send us your questions and suggestions for future editions. To subscribe or contribute to the newsletter, contact our editors at

*Coastal Connections*  
NOAA Coastal Services Center  
2234 South Hobson Avenue  
Charleston, South Carolina 29405  
(843) 740-1200  
[CoastalConnections@noaa.gov](mailto:CoastalConnections@noaa.gov)  
[www.csc.noaa.gov/newsletter/](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/newsletter/)

**Editor:**  
Kitty Fahey

**Communications Director:**  
Donna McCaskill

**Current Events Editor:**  
Hanna Goss

**Copy Editor:**  
Gerald Esch

**Graphic Designer:**  
Frank Ruopoli

NOAA/CSC/CC 08-6-2

This paper is made with 100% recycled fiber and contains at least 25% post-consumer waste.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Publication Explores Applied Research Strategies

A new publication, "Best Practices for Increasing the Impact of Research Investments," examines optimal ways to turn research into applications that benefit the nation. This document was produced by a special task force of the Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel and can be accessed at [www.nopp.org/Dev2Go.web?id=207773](http://www.nopp.org/Dev2Go.web?id=207773).

### Accolades

**Margaret Davidson**, the director of NOAA's Coastal Services Center, was a contributing author to the third assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to former Vice-President Al Gore and to the IPCC team of contributors and principal authors "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change."

In addition, Davidson was inducted as a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS). The AMS Fellows are recognized for their exceptional contributions to the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences, including scientific applications. For more information, contact [Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov](mailto:Donna.McCaskill@noaa.gov).

### Transitions

**Kacky Andrews**, former executive director of the Coastal States Organization, has become NOAA's program manager and division chief for the Coral Reef Conservation Program... **Kate Barba** is now division chief of NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management and chief of the National Policy and Evaluation Division. She previously served as deputy chief and education specialist with the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management's Estuarine Reserves Division... **Mary Glackin**, who previously served as NOAA's acting deputy undersecretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, has been appointed to the permanent position... After 37 years of government service, **Steven Resler** has retired from his position as deputy bureau chief of New York's Coastal Management Program.

NOAA Coastal Services Center  
2234 South Hobson Avenue  
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

PRST STD  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
NOAA COASTAL  
SERVICES CENTER  
PERMIT NO. G-19

