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**Western States Seismic Policy Council Names 2010 Awards in Excellence
Winners; Humboldt County Chapter of the American Red Cross wins 2010
Overall Award in Excellence**

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Sacramento - The Western States Seismic Policy Council Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of the 2010 WSSPC Awards in Excellence. The *Overall Award in Excellence in Outreach to General Public and Non-Profit Agency Efforts* went to the Humboldt County Chapter of the American Red Cross, for their program *Living on the Faultline – and Along the Coast in Humboldt County*. The program consists of one and three-hour courses offered one to three times a month by the Humboldt County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Participants receive a 32-page manual with checklists and specific steps for preparedness. Local hardware stores have partnered with the Red Cross to offer discount coupons on preparedness supplies to program participants.

“We are deeply honored to be the recipient of the 2010 Overall WSSPC Award in Excellence”, said Judy Warren, the Humboldt County Red Cross volunteer who created the course. “The genesis of the current *Living on the Faultline and Along the Coast* course is based on some 30 years experience as a Red Cross disaster services instructor. When I first volunteered with the American Red Cross, I thought that I was well-prepared for the inevitable earthquakes of the San Francisco Bay Area. However, when the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake occurred, all my preconceptions of being well-prepared changed. What I learned through personal experience has allowed me to create and teach a more pertinent class.”

Also selected for a 2010 WSSPC Award in Excellence in other categories were the following:

Legislation: presented to the Oregon State Legislature for Oregon Senate Bill-5505; and
Research: presented to the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology for *Quaternary Faults in Nevada*, NBM&G Map 167.

The WSSPC Awards in Excellence program was started in 1996 to recognize achievement in different areas of earthquake mitigation, preparedness and response. “The Awards have been an effective method for sharing model programs and products throughout the western United States, western Canada, and the far Pacific region, and in recognizing the hard-working, creative and innovative efforts within the earthquake hazards reduction community,” said WSSPC Chairman John Parrish.

The Awards will be given at the 2010 WSSPC Annual Conference held with the Natural Hazards Center Workshop at the Omni Hotel in Broomfield, Colorado. Summaries of the 2010 winning programs and projects are posted on the Western States Seismic Policy Council’s website at www.wsspc.org.

The mission of the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) is to develop seismic policies and disseminate information about programs intended to reduce earthquake-related losses.

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