



## Monthly Bulletin August 2020

### WSSPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

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JOHN METEST, VICE-CHAIR  
MARK GHILARUCCI  
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### Western States Seismic Policy Council

801 K Street, Suite 1236  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: 916-444-6816  
Fax: 916-444-8077

### WSSPC News

- The FY 2019 FEMA Cooperative Agreement grant Period of Performance ended 31 July 2020. WSSPC genuinely appreciates FEMA's support of our organization and membership. Thank you.
- WSSPC was informed by FEMA on 28 July 2020 that we were not selected by the National Review Panel for grant funding for FY 2020. An emergency Board online meeting was held on 29 July 2020. The Board developed targeted actions to be taken to address the new situation. The actions include: shutting down the office; continuing remote operations (as we've been doing for COVID); developing and implementing a new budget; re-writing WSSPC's Strategic Plan; and identifying new funding streams or mechanisms.

WSSPC is not shutting its doors. The current funding issue does not diminish the mission or intrinsic value of WSSPC. We remain committed to bringing a high level of value, support, and service to membership. WSSPC will continue to implement its policy mission, support regional cooperation and interaction, and work to reduce earthquake related losses.

**If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask!**

### REMINDER:

WSSPC hosts three regularly scheduled monthly calls:

- Member Earthquake Program Managers—typically held on the third Thursday of each month
- Member State Geologists and Seismic Commissions & Councils— typically held on the second Tuesday of each month
- The WSSPC Clearinghouse. Work Group—typically held on the third Wednesday of each month

These monthly calls support regular communication between WSSPC members. If you are not currently participating in at least one of these calls, we encourage you to do so! For more information, contact Matthew Wall at [mwall@wsspc.org](mailto:mwall@wsspc.org).

*Note—Please remember WSSPC's VOIP/telephone and video conference resources are available to WSSPC members. We are happy to help facilitate and/or support you!*



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#### News of interest:

- Key to understanding a hazard is the ability to measure and quantify past events. This allows for a better picture of potential risk and impacts should another event occur. The 18 March 2020 5.7 Magna Earthquake in Utah created an opportunity for additional research. Per the abstract for the article, [“Evidence for a Listric Wasatch Fault From the 2020 Magna, Utah, Earthquake Sequence”](#), findings “suggest that ground shaking in the Salt Lake City region in future Wasatch fault earthquakes may be higher than previously estimated.”
- Starting in 2016, a swarm of small earthquakes were identified occurring near the community of Cahuilla in Riverside County, California. These earthquakes increased in number and intensity over the years. The cause of the swarm remained unidentified. Recently, a group of scientists used machine learning to map out the individual quakes and develop a 3D architecture image of the fault. This image implies the cause of the swarm is fault interaction with natural fluid injections from below. The study, [“3D fault architecture controls the dynamism of earthquake swarms”](#) may have the potential to help better characterize and understand faults elsewhere.
- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) has developed and released a [“Social Media Emergency Management Guidance Tool”](#) designed to support emergency managers, public information officers, and others working to create planning materials for the use of social media in emergency events. The tool consists of a set of customizable and downloadable templates. Included with the tool is a link to a list of additional resources.
- The [Earthquake Engineering and Research Institute](#) has recently published a YouTube webinar entitled, [“Functional Recovery: What It Means to Design for Community Resilience.”](#) The webinar is presented by David Bonowitz, S. E.. Mr. Bonowitz is the recipient of the EERI 2020 Distinguished Lecture Award.

#### You can Provide Input for our Resources Webpage and Social Media Page!

We are continuously updating our resources and reports page on our website! We are looking for input on what you would like to see in our resources page and any specific articles, studies, or projects you would like referenced there.

We have also been expanding our social media. To give more attention to earthquake safety. If you any content you would like to see us start posting, please reach out to WSSPC with your ideas!

If you have any thoughts, either on the concept for the page or possible content, please email our Executive Director Matthew Wall at [mwall@wsspc.org](mailto:mwall@wsspc.org)



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**News of interest (cont.):**

- [The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has published a webpage with advice, resources, and information associated with [Natural Disasters, Severe Weather, and COVID-19](#). This webpage includes information targeted to professionals and emergency management workers in addition to civilians and citizens subjected to the impacts of an event. Included on this page is a link to FEMA’s [“COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season”](#) in both English and Spanish.
- A research and study paper, [“Multiscale variations of the crustal stress field throughout North America”](#) has developed, per the article, “the first quantitative synthesis of relative principal stress magnitudes throughout North America together with hundreds of new horizontal stress orientations, revealing coherent stress fields at various scales.” This study is both explanatory and visual in nature. Portions of the study provide information on the relation between plate motion and horizontal stress orientations as well as observations regarding deglaciation and postglacial rebound.
- Events impact people differently on sociological, community network, and on a personal basis. Much of the work done has been reflective of the ability of what people can do, where they are located during an event, and what they have. An example of this process is illustrated by the 2018 study, [“A Reliability-Based Capability Approach”](#). This approach was expanded on in 2019 with the study, [“Using opportunities in big data analytics to more accurately predict societal consequences of natural disasters.”](#) The “global quieting” of seismic noise created by the COVID-19 shutdowns has provided an opportunity to compare and contrast the high frequency seismic waves created by humans. This compare and contrast study is published at [“Global quieting of high-frequency seismic noise due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdown measures”](#). Information gathered through this analysis can be used to help measure social movement, how humans impact the solid earth, and may influence means/methods of measurements when global conditions return to a more pre-COVID state. It could be used for transportation infrastructure information, which has a direct impact on business, economies, social stability, and societal recovery.





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### Upcoming Workshops and Events

*(Note—WSSPC will continue to post updated information impacting scheduled or cancelled meetings, workshops, or events when we receive it.)*

#### National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) 2020 Annual Forum

Virtual Summit  
September 22-25, 2020

<https://www.nemaweb.org/index.php/forums-meetings/save-the-date>

Registration opens August 24, 2020

#### The Geological Society of America “GSA 2020 Connects Online Meeting”

Virtual Meeting  
October 26-30, 2020

<https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2020/home>

Registration is open now

#### San Fernando Earthquake Conference – 50 Years of Lifeline Engineering

Understanding, Improving, & Operationalizing Hazard Resilience for Lifelines  
University of California, Los Angeles, California USA

February 7-10, 2021

<https://samueli.ucla.edu/lifelines2021/>

If you have an event or workshop you would like to see posted on in the WSSPC bulletins, please email us at [wsspc@wsspc.org](mailto:wsspc@wsspc.org)

For more information on upcoming NEHRP related events, please visit:  
[https://www.nehrp.gov/pdf/NEHRP\\_related\\_Events.pdf](https://www.nehrp.gov/pdf/NEHRP_related_Events.pdf)

WSSPC would like to thank the following entities for continuing their Affiliate Membership status for 2020. Your support is tremendously appreciated!

- [California Earthquake Authority](#)
- [The City of Las Vegas, Department of Building and Safety](#)
- [Clark County, NV Department of Building and Fire Prevention](#)
- [Applied Technology Council](#)

Remember, you and/or your organization can be an Affiliate Member!

Information on how to join can be found at: <https://www.wsspc.org/members/affiliate-members/>