



Monthly Bulletin September 2020

WSSPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

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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 WSSPC Fall Board meeting is scheduled for 13 November 2020. Due to COVID travel concerns and other constraints, the Fall Board Meeting will be convened online using our web platform.
- Committees have edited the 2021 DRAFT WSSPC policies. They will be submitted to the WSSPC Board during the Fall meeting for reviewed. Once reviewed by the Board, they will then be returned to the committees for a second review prior to the Spring Board and Annual Business Meeting.
- The WSSPC Affiliate Membership campaign is in process! Information on how you or your organization can become a WSSPC Affiliate member is found at: <https://www.wsspc.org/members/affiliate-members/>. Join or renew today!
- WSSPC is continuing the process of expanding our partnerships with other earthquake consortia. Specific project examples include working with CUSEC to expand use of their Regional Information Sharing Platform (RISP) and coordinating with CREW in their earthquake insurance outreach project.

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

REMINDER:

WSSPC hosts three regularly scheduled monthly calls:

- 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
- Member Earthquake Program Managers—typically held on the third Thursday of each month

These monthly calls support regular communication and work to advance the shared goals of 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.



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News of interest:

- Disaster and Emergency Management professionals understand Risk Analysis is a process where one identifies the event which may strike a geographic area or a system and then evaluates the potential impacts of that event. However, the public does not always understand that concept but rather chooses to believe that natural events are just inevitable and cannot be addressed. This public perception directly hinders their ability to prepare for disasters.

This raises the question of “How can Disaster and Emergency Management professionals communicate the risk in such a manner as to change public perception?” The [Colorado Natural Hazard Center](#) recently published an article discussing both this challenge and presenting the compounding concept of vulnerability in a social, cultural, and political sense.

- [Ridgecrest quake shook tall LA buildings up to 4 times more than expected.](#) Los Angeles, being a city built within a basin area, experienced more shaking at a higher intensity than if it had been built in a non-basin area in the same location. From the article, “Though the epicenter was nearly 124 miles (200 kilometers) away, shaking was felt throughout downtown L.A. Data from those sensors has revealed that shaking was amplified by as much as four times the expected intensity in some parts of Los Angeles ...”

While expected, the increased shaking indicates that the risk analysis for the city may need to be reassessed. The shaking data can also be used to inform building code development and land use planning.

The research article supporting the story: <https://pubs.geoscienceworld.org/ssa/srl/article-abstract/doi/10.1785/0220200170/591401/2019-Ridgecrest-Earthquake-Reveals-Areas-of-Los?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

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



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News of interest (cont.):

- As part of their earthquake education and outreach, the [University of Alaska, Fairbanks \(UAF\)](#) has launched its first virtual exhibit, “**shAKE: Earthquakes in Interior Alaska**” located at: <https://www.uaf.edu/museum/exhibits/virtual-exhibits/shake-earthquakes/>. The virtual exhibit was created to look at the facts behind and history of earthquakes in the interior of Alaska. From the [article](#) announcing the exhibit, ““The ‘first virtual exhibit’ label is earned in large part from the architectural replication of the physical exhibit’s space and content,” Topp said. “It’s not a website so much as a multimedia architecture.” A primary objective for the virtual exhibit is to broaden the audience and to “fuse earthquake science with history.”
- On October 15, 2020 at 10:15 local time, the Great Shakeout happened. Due to COVID-19 this year’s ShakeOut required new strategies for reaching out to people and encouraging participation. WSSPC members total 2020 participation for was approximately [10.2 million people](#). Congratulations to all who supported and facilitated this exercise, especially under the current COVID-19 conditions.
- On October 13, 2020, FEMA released the new [Geology Field Reconnaissance and Pipeline Inspector Resource Typing Documents](#). These typing documents are the result of years of work in identifying needs and requirements associated with the specific resource needs. Defining in detail what each resource is and what it needs helps to facilitate the request and deployment of assistance to a requesting state or territory through the [Emergency Management Assistance Compact \(EMAC\)](#) system. The inclusion of geologic expertise teams is new FEMA and demonstrates they recognize the need for scientific data be gathered post-event, potentially as part of a Clearinghouse. The “[Resource Typing Library Tool](#)” is the public site providing an easy way to look up the required resource specifics.



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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.)

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

AGU Fall Meeting

Virtual Meeting
December 1-17, 2020

<https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting>

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

**For more information on upcoming NEHRP related events, please visit:
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 also be an Affiliate Member!

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