



## Monthly Bulletin

### March 2021

#### WSSPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

KAREN BERRY CHAIR  
JOHN METEST, VICE-CHAIR  
MARK GHILARDUCCI  
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*Executive Director*

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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 2021 WSSPC Annual Business Meeting and Spring Board Meeting** is being scheduled. It will be a virtual meeting. Watch for additional information on this!
- **Policy reviews have been completed** and will be provided to the WSSPC Board and Voting Members in advance of the 2021 Spring Board and Annual Business Meetings
- **WSSPC and CUSEC are currently cooperating to support the delivery of CUSEC's Regional Information Sharing Platform (RISP)** information and training opportunities for WSSPC partners.
- **WSSPC is developing its workplan** to go through summer of 2022. One proposal is for WSSPC to provide a half-day online forum/workshop each quarter. Two topics currently proposed for these workshops include Earthquake Clearinghouse Planning (in the fall) Considering Equity as a component in hazard response/recovery (in the winter or spring). *What other topics would you be interested in?* Please reach out to Matthew and let him know!
- Based on feedback from participants on all our monthly conference calls, WSSPC will be working to put together a **Western States Seismic Conference** for 2022. Initial consideration is for it to be a 3-day event. The conference will be designed to include topics such as seismology, risk analysis, emergency management, and building codes, etc. Date and location are not yet determined. Input is appreciated!

#### WSSPC Monthly Calls reminder

WSSPC hosts monthly calls for three main groups:

- Member Earthquake Program Managers,
- Member State Geologists and Seismic Commissions & Councils, and
- The WSSPC Clearinghouse. Work Group

These monthly calls allow us to communicate more regularly and create platforms where we can share ideas. If you are eligible and 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).



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### News of interest:

- [\*\*Accommodation of Plate Motion in an Incipient Strike-Slip System: The Central Walker Lane\*\*](#) “We find some of these faults, but they do not produce sufficient earthquakes to make up the expected motion. Thus, we expect future earthquakes in this area may occur on very slow moving faults, that do not leave much lasting evidence on the landscape- similar to the 2019 Ridgecrest earthquakes. In the future this zone of faults may accommodate more slip, forming a continuous fault similar to the San Andreas.” (twitter quote) mismatch is a result of fault maturity, and that as the faults in the Mina Deflection have rotated, they have approached a state of lockup, and are less able to accommodate the right step from the Fish Lake V. to eastern CWL faults
- [\*\*The Role of the NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions in the Development of Nationwide Seismic Building Code Regulations: A Thirty-Five Year Retrospective, FEMA P-2156\*\*](#) was released on February 17, 2021. The document discusses the history and impact of the work while re-emphasizing three key seismic design elements (Risk, Strength and Stiffness, and Detailing) and benefit-cost effectiveness.
- [\*\*A New Approach for Bigger and Better Earthquake Modeling\*\*](#). Oak Ridge National Laboratories supported a team of researchers from Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) in developing ground-shaking simulations using a computational application called “CyberShake” at ten different sites in California. The intent of the simulations was to compare to historical events and other models in order to create a “realistic distribution of earthquake probabilities. The article, published by Oak Ridge National Laboratories, links to the study, [\*\*Toward Physics-Based Nonergodic PSHA: A Prototype Fully Deterministic Seismic Hazard Model for Southern California\*\*](#) as published by the Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America on January 5, 2021.

### 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. With efforts like #FableFriday, we are working to give more attention to earthquake safety. If you have any ideas for legends for #FableFriday or any other content you would like to see us start posting, please reach out with 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.):

- [\*\*Co-location of the Downdip End of Seismic Coupling and the Continental Shelf Break\*\*](#) “ Earthquakes grow larger when the size of the locked contact patch between the ocean floor and the continent is larger. In our article, we propose a new method to estimate the size of this locked patch by looking at the underwater landscape of subduction zones and in particular at the continental platform. The continental platform is a shallow water (as deep as about 200m or 650ft) and flat platform at the margin of the continent beyond which the seafloor is very deep. We show that the edge of this underwater platform is located above border of the locked patch of many subduction zones worldwide. We propose that the underwater landscape can better inform about the average size of large subduction earthquakes.” “shows the outline of solutions for the downdip end of interseismic coupling in Cascadia, and the downdip end of coseismic ruptures in Japan and Central America.”
- The use of remote sensing and viewing tools is increasing. They allow for a rapid overview of an impacted site and facilitate data gathering. On October 30, 2020, the [\*\*Izmir Earthquake\*\*](#) occurred, killing at least 20 and causing a “mini-tsunami.” The use of remote sensing and viewing tools was documented in the article [\*\*Satellites Reveal the Impact of the Izmir Earthquake\*\*](#). From the article, “Synthetic aperture radar (SAR) imagery and high-resolution optical imagery allowed scientists to map impacts rapidly in order to help the recovery efforts on the ground. “

### WSSPC would like to thank the following entities for participating as Affiliate Memberships in 2020!

- **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**

**You and/or your organization can be an Affiliate Member, too! Information on how to join can be found at: <https://www.wsspc.org/members/affiliate-members/>**



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**Upcoming Workshops and Events**

**2021 ICC Committee Action Hearings (Group A Codes)**

April 11—May 5, 2021

Virtual Meeting

[2021 Committee Action Hearings - ICC \(iccsafe.org\)](https://www.iccsafe.org)

**Seismological Society of America (SSA) 2021 Annual Meeting**

April 19-23, 2021

Virtual Meeting

[2021 Annual Meeting | Seismological Society of America \(seismosoc.org\)](https://www.seismosoc.org)

**National Emergency Manager Association (NEMA) 2021 Annual Forum**

September 23-27, 2021

Cleveland, Ohio

*More information will be provided when available*

**Geological Society of America (GSA) 2021 Annual Meeting**

October 10-13, 2021

Portland, Oregon

[Home - Connects 2021 \(geosociety.org\)](https://www.geosociety.org)

**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)**

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Questions? Email: [news@wsspc.org](mailto:news@wsspc.org)