## Earthquake Hazards in Elko County

## Presentation to the Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee 26 April 2011 by Jonathan G. Price Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology





# Earthquake faults occur throughout Nevada, and potential losses from earthquakes are high for many communities.





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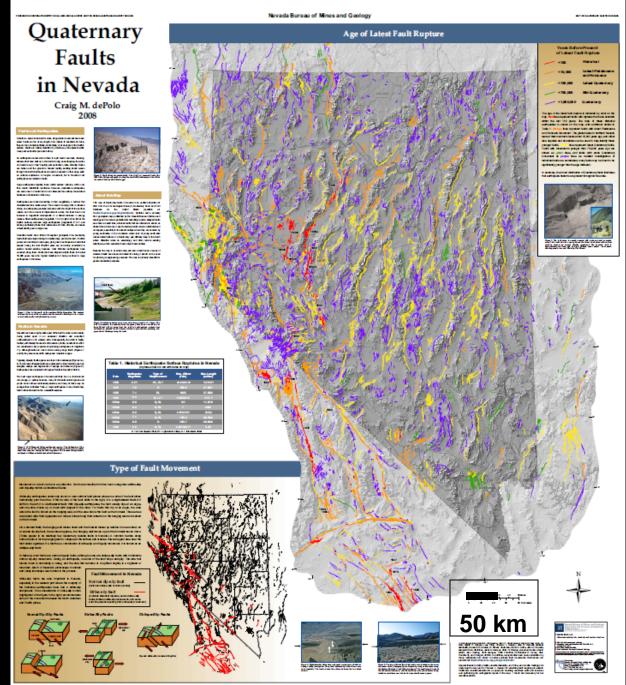
NBMG Map 167, *Quaternary Faults in Nevada*, is now available not only as a poster but also as an interactive map (Open-File Report 09-9) on line at <u>www.nbmg.unr.edu.</u> You can use it to locate your home or business.



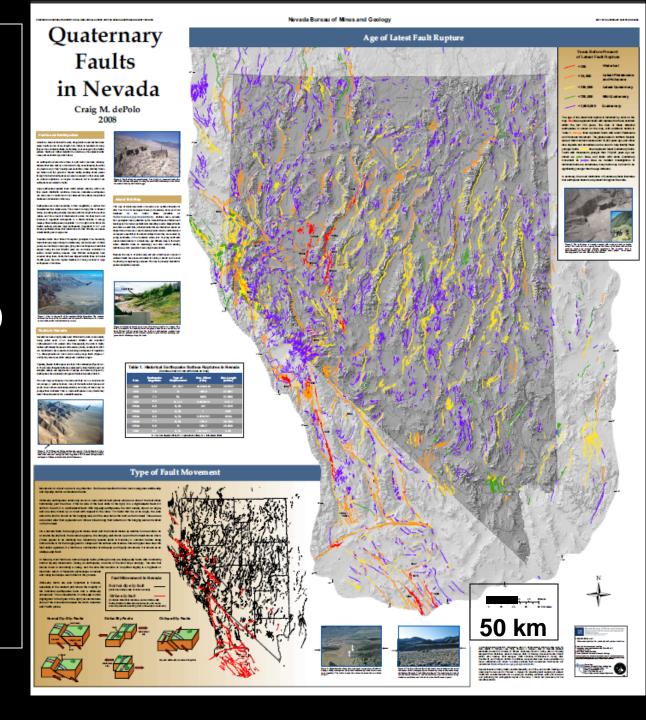




www.nbmg.unr.edu



The map has ~130 major faults (with lengths >19 miles or 30 km), ~300 intermediate faults with lengths of 6-19 miles (10-30 km), and >1,150 smaller faults. Surface breakage typically occurs when an earthquake is greater than or equal to magnitude 6.5.



# Earthquake-active faults in Elko County

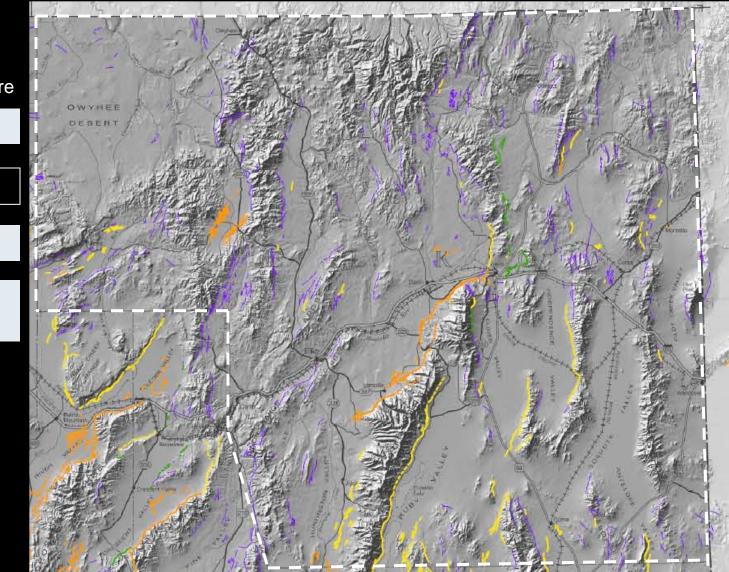
Age of Latest Fault Rupture

< 15,000 years

< 130,000 years

< 750,000 years

< 1,800,000 years (Quaternary)



#### Look for a fault | Find an Address | Print a Map

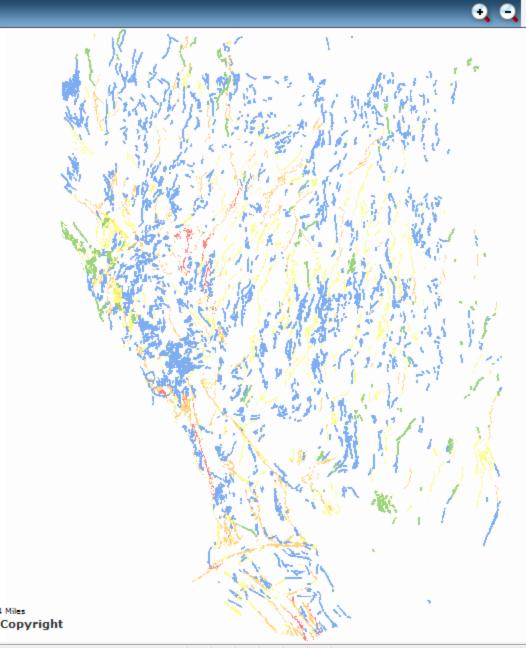
#### Results

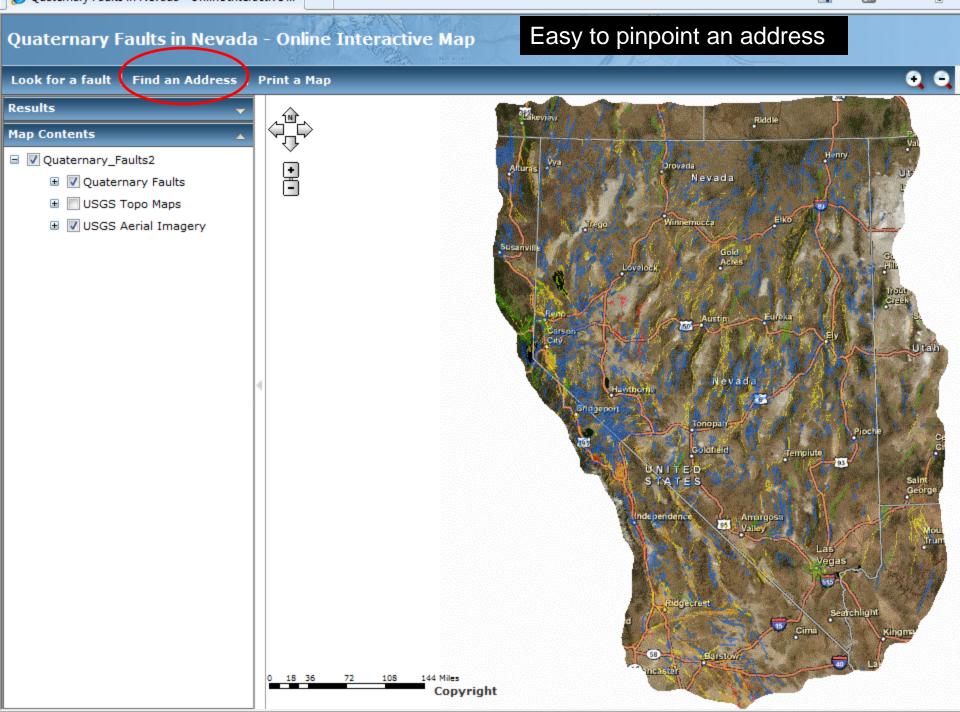
#### Map Contents

- 🖃 📝 Quaternary\_Faults2
  - 🗄 📝 Quaternary Faults
  - USGS Topo Maps
  - 🗄 📃 USGS Aerial Imagery

Print a Maj

The locations, ages of latest rupture, and other features of the faults are in a geographic information systems (GIS) database, which is accessible on line at www.nbmg.unr.edu.





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## Look for a fault Find an Address Print a Map Results Find an Address ▲ X Map Contents Street or 🖃 🔽 Quaternar 540 Court Street Intersection 🗄 🔽 Qua City Elko USC USC ± Nevada State 🗄 🔽 US( 89803 ZIP Find 18 36 72 108

## Easy to pinpoint an address

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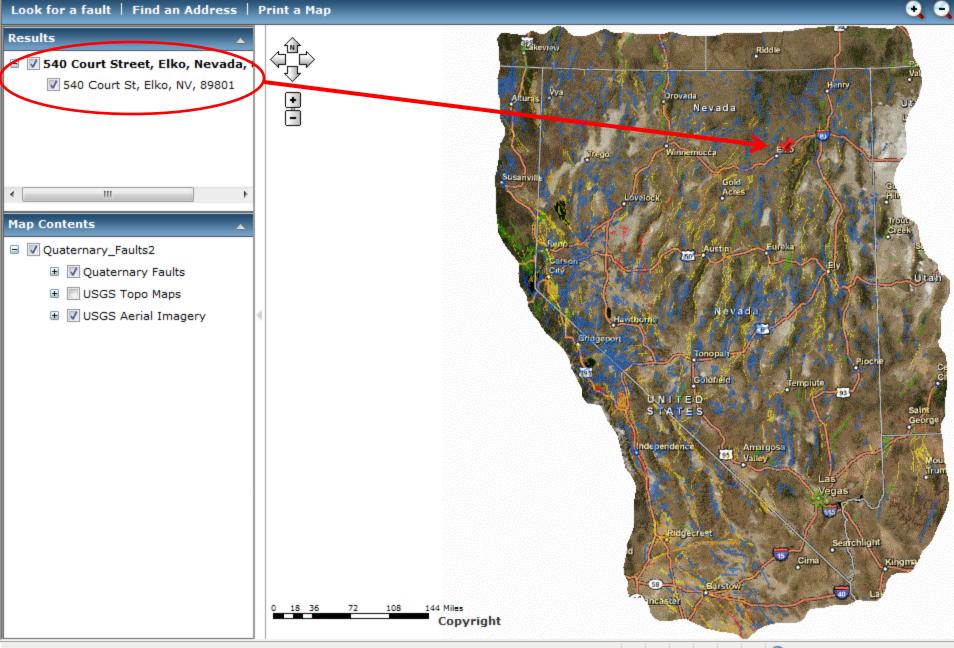






## Easy to pinpoint an address

Look for a fault | Find an Address | Print a Map

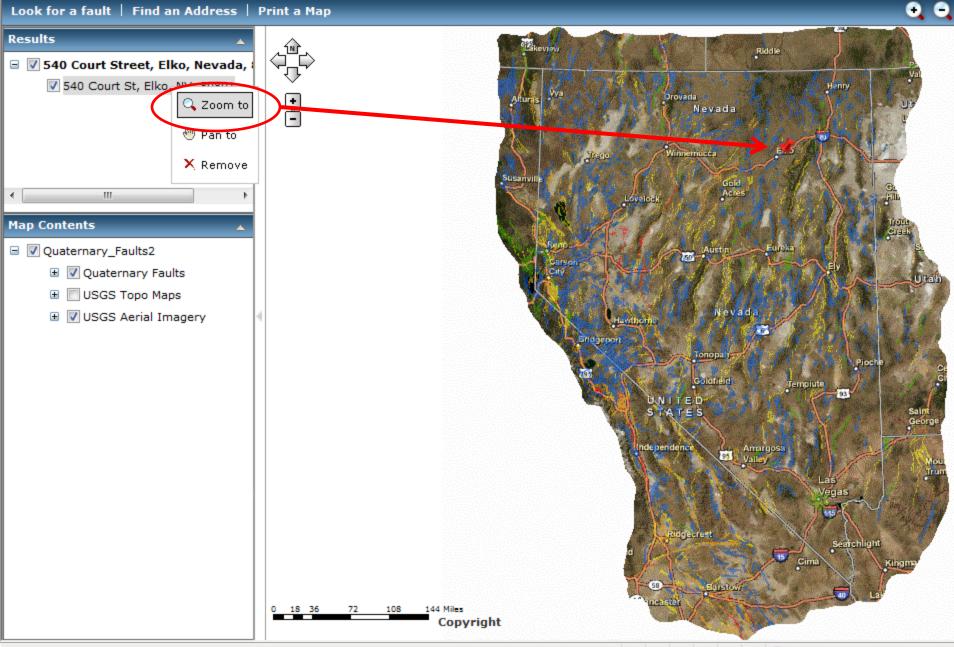




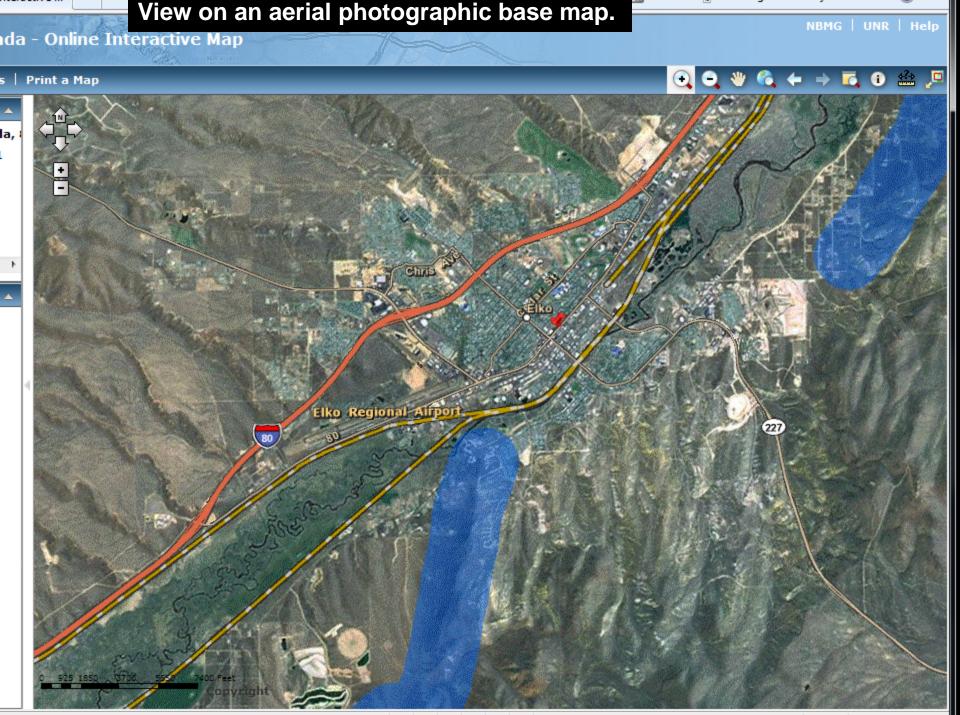


## Easy to zoom in on an address

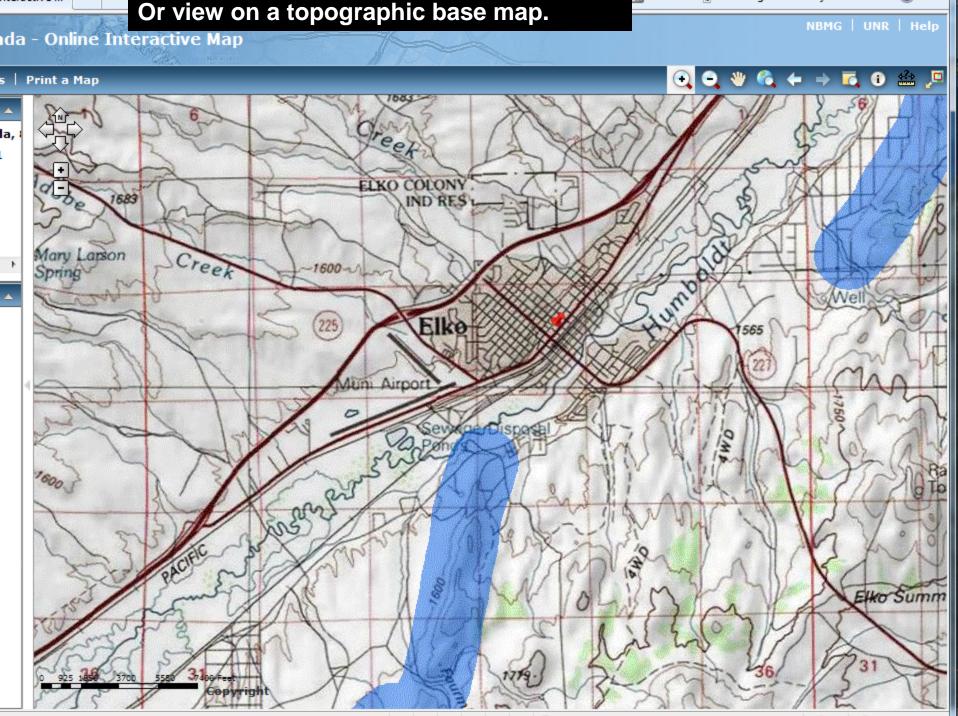
Look for a fault | Find an Address | Print a Map







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Print a Map

#### ida - Online Interactive Map

# 🔁 🛈 🔛 🔎 $\odot$ a, MUNICIPAL AIRPORT RIVER Disposal Plant HUMBOLDT Drive-in Theater \$ \$170 Faults are shown as 1,000-meter-wide swaths, here on a topographic map base.



s 🕴 Print a Map

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#### NBMG | UNR | Help

#### ida - Online Interactive Map

#### $( \bullet )$ Ð



Faults are shown as 1,000-meter-wide swaths, here on a topographic map base.

ko Regional Airport



## Easy to get information about faults

NBMG UNR Help

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#### s | Print a Map

ida - Online Interactive Map



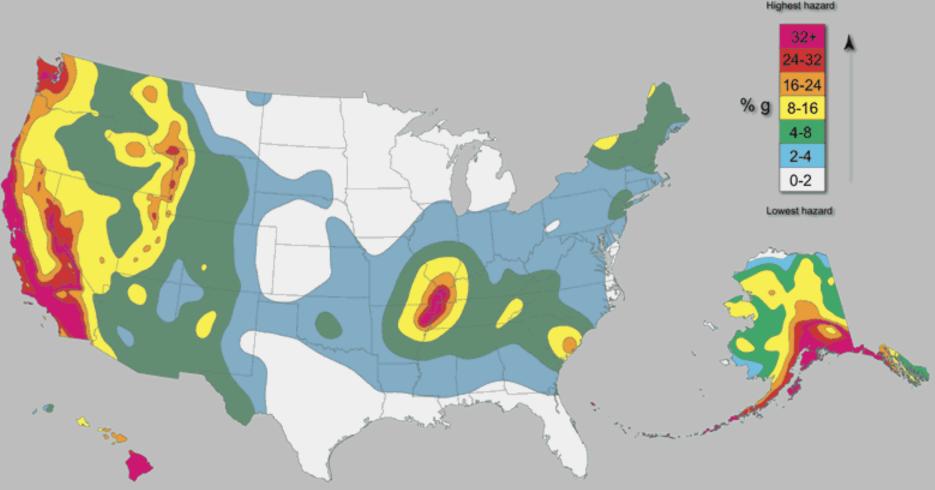


Name Zone	9	Quaternary Faults) $ riangle \otimes$ Elko fault	
Name Zone	9		N LT
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	_		
Age		<1,800,000	1020
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	mary_Fa	ults2 > Quaternary Faults	•

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The USGS integrates (1) fault, (2) earthquake, and (3) geodetic data into its probabilistic seismic hazard analysis.

# Earthquake-active faults in Elko County

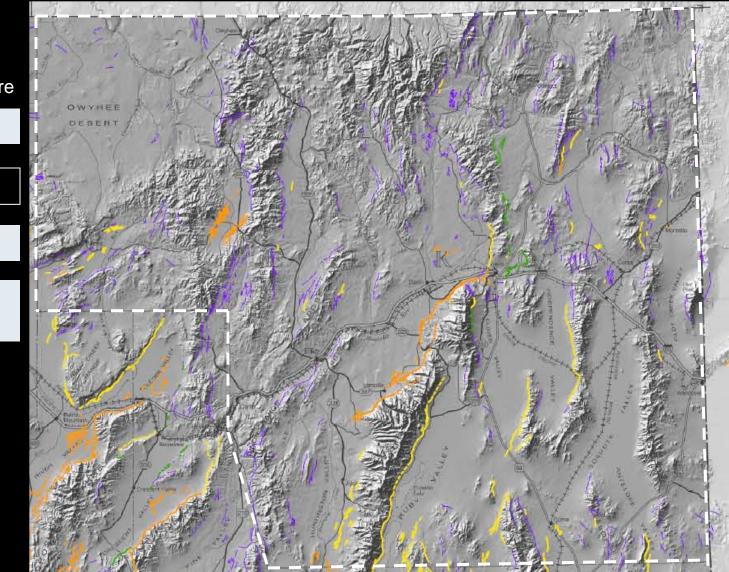
Age of Latest Fault Rupture

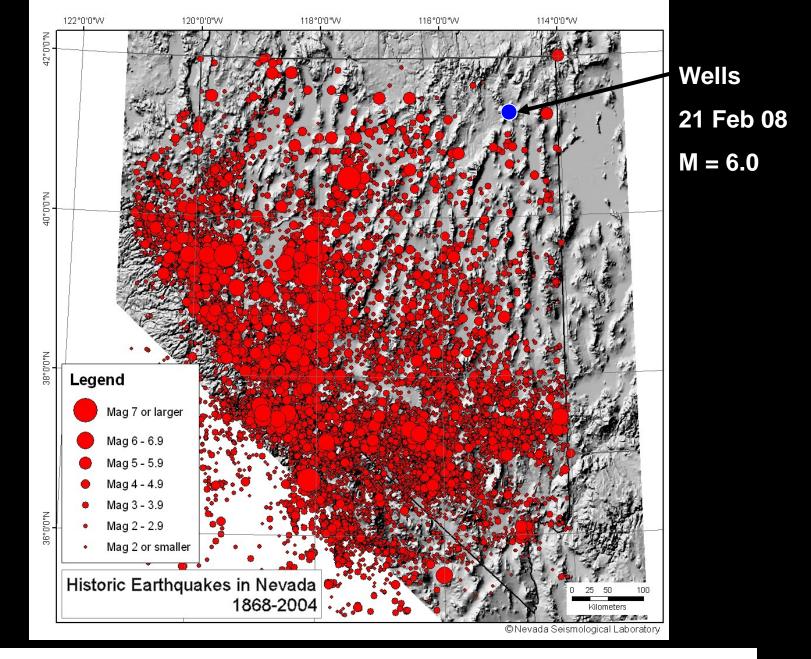
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< 750,000 years

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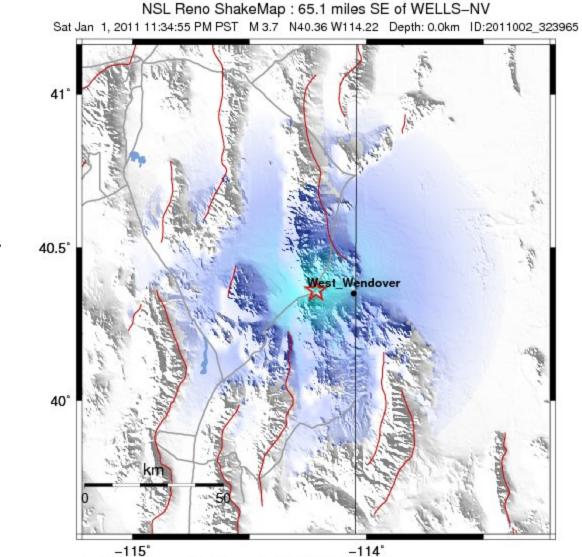




(2) Earthquakes have occurred throughout Nevada.

## Large Historical Earthquakes in Elko County





Map Version 1 Processed Sun Jan 2, 2011 01:01:01 PM PST - ShakeMap v3.5

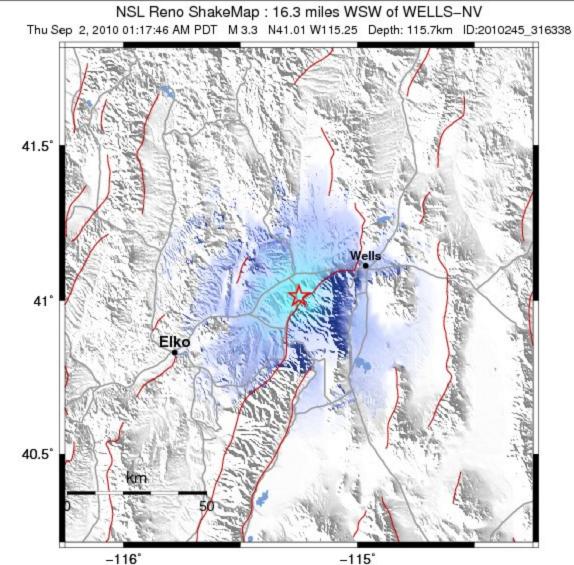
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	1	11-111	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2–18	18-34	34-65	65–124	>124
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	enon	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme

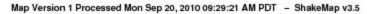
January 1, 2011 Magnitude 3.7 near West Wendover September 2, 2010

Magnitude 3.3

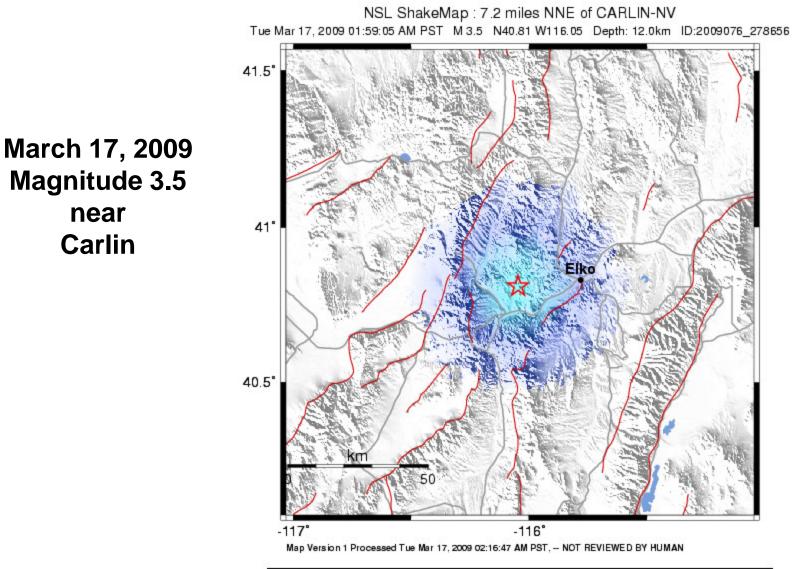
near

Deeth

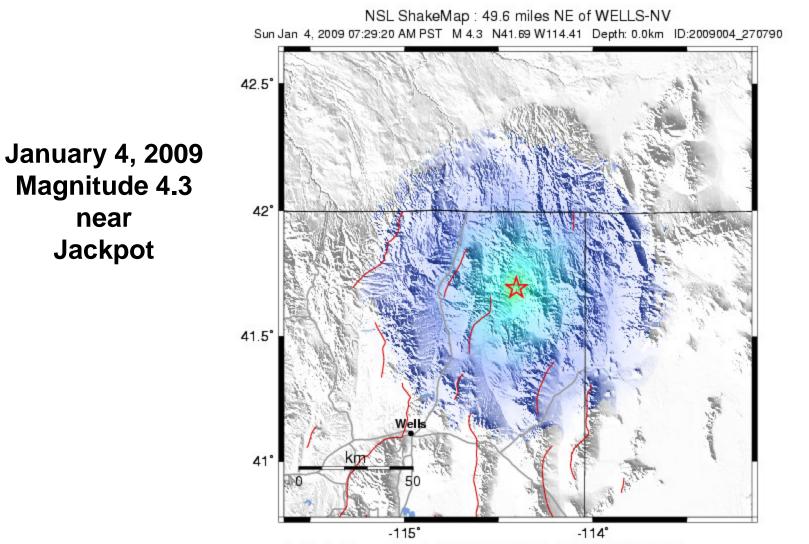




INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	1	11-111	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
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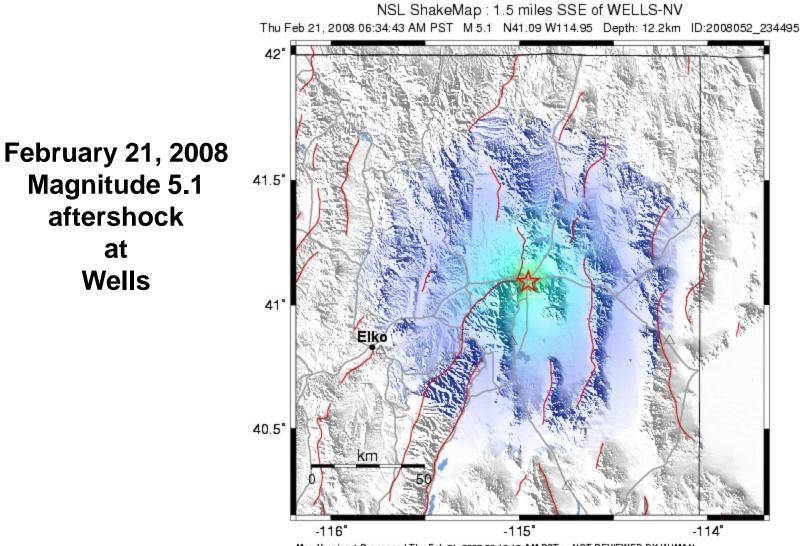


Map Version 1 Processed Sun Jan 4, 2009 07:45:25 AM PST, -- NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	1	11-111	IV	۷	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
PEAK ACC (%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
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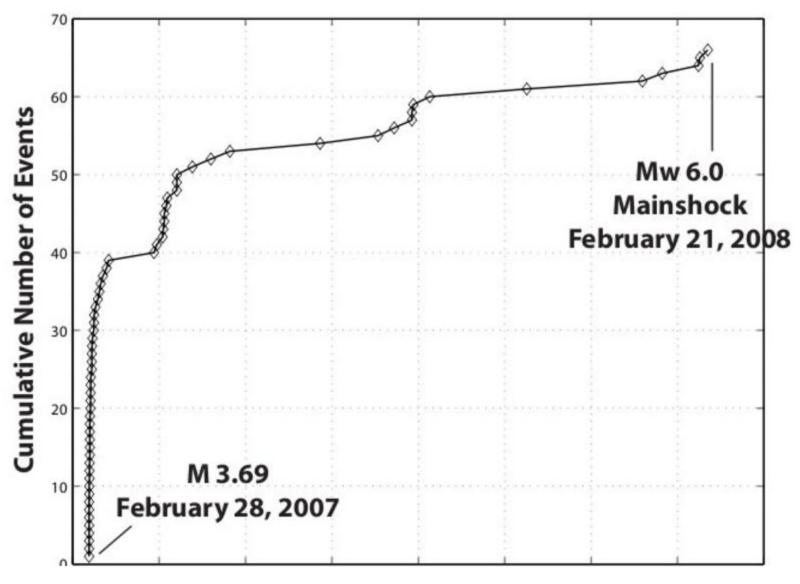
at

Wells



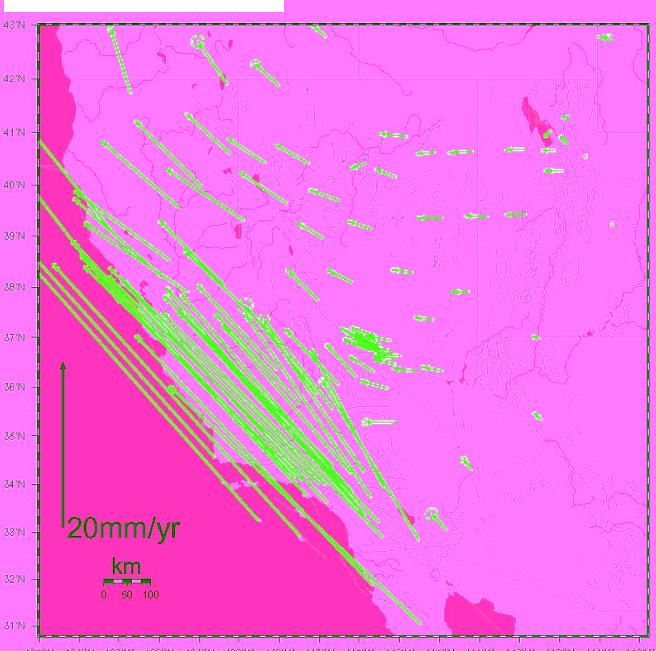
Map Version 1 Processed Thu Feb 21	, 2008 09:16:10 AM PST	NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN
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PERCEIVED SHAKING	Nottell	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violen1	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very ight	Light	Moderate	Modera1e/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
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Days since January 1, 2007

Source: Nevada Seismological Laboratory, UNR



(3) Geodetic data indicate that the **Basin and Range** province is gaining about 1.3 acres of area per year through crustal extension, and that western Nevada is accommodating ~20% of the North American-**Pacific plate** interaction.

Kreemer and Hammond (2007)

125°W 124°W 123°W 122°W 121°W 120°W 119°W 118°W 117°W 116°W 115°W 114°W 113°W 112°W 111°W 110°W

Quaternary faults
Quaternary sediments
Quaternary-Tertiary volcanic rocks
Upper Tertiary volcanic rocks
Tertiary sedimentary rocks
Lower Tertiary volcanic rocks
Mesozoic and Tertiary intrusive rocks
Jurassic or Cretaceous igneous and metamorphic complex
Mesozoic sedimentary, volcanic, and intrusive rocks
Upper Paleozoic sedimentary and volcanic rocks
Upper Paleozoic carbonate rocks

Lower Paleozoic sedimentary and volcanic rocks

Lower Paleozoic carbonate rocks

Precambrian metamorphic and intrusive rocks

In Nevada, much of the right-lateral shear between the North American and Pacific plates occurs along northwest-striking strike-slip faults of the Walker Lane.

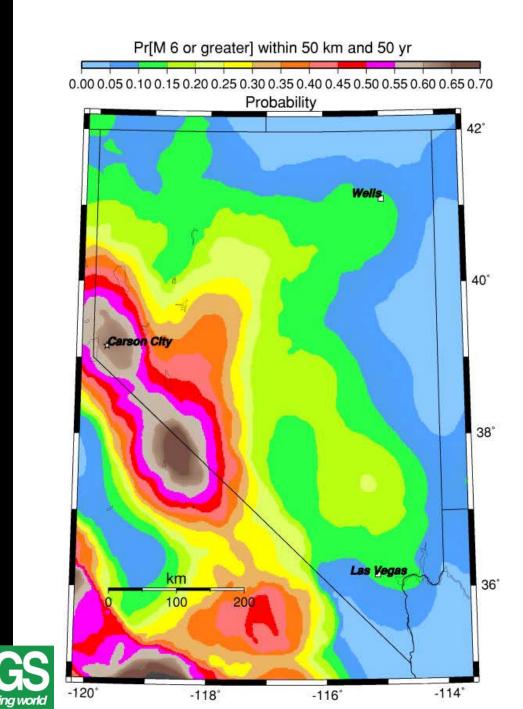
Extension largely is accommodated along N- to NE-striking, basin-bounding normal faults.

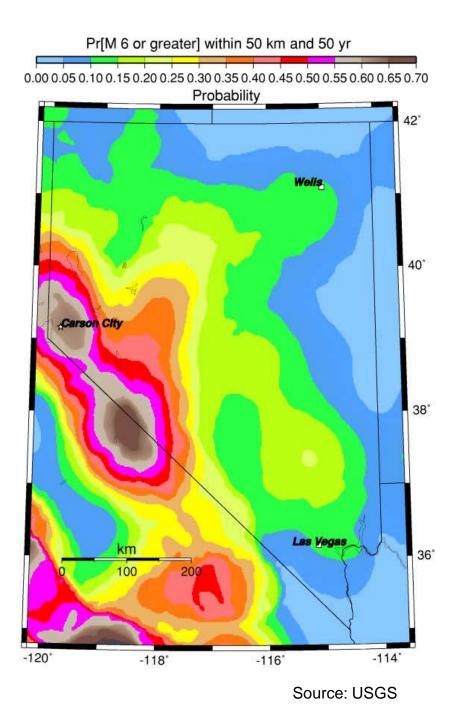
Walker Lane

40 60 kilometers

The U.S. Geological Survey integrates our geologic, seismic, and geodetic observations to create a probabilistic seismic hazard analysis, which is used in the International Building Code.







The probability of a magnitude 6.0 earthquake occurring within 50 km of Las Vegas within the next 50 years is about the same as that for Wells, and it happened there.

The probability for the Reno-Carson City urban corridor is about 6 times higher than for Wells.

# The hazard: expressed in terms of probability of an earthquake of a given magnitude occurring within 50 years and within 50 km of the community.

	% Probab	oility of magn	itude greatei	than or equ	al to magnitude
Community	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0
Dayton	>90	~80	70-75	50-55	15-18
Carson City	>90	~80	70	50-55	12-15
Reno	>90	~80	67	50	12-15
Las Vegas	40-50	~30	12	4-5	<0.5
Elko	30-40	~25	10-15	6-8	0.5-1
Wells	30-40	~20	9	6	0.5-1
Laughlin	10-20	~5	2-3	0.5-1	<0.5

Data are from the USGS at http://eqint.cr.usgs.gov/eqprob/2002/index.php . Values for magnitude 5.5 are extrapolated between 5.0 and 6.0.

# So what?

# Who cares?

NBMG Open-File Report 09-8, *Estimated Losses from Earthquakes near Nevada Communities*, demonstrates that the consequences of earthquakes can be huge in Nevada, particularly if individuals are not prepared.





Earthquake risks in Nevada are assessed by the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's lossestimation model, HAZUS-MH, and the U.S. Geological Survey's probabilistic seismic hazard analysis. These loss estimates are useful in hazard-mitigation planning, in building scenarios for emergency response and recovery exercises, and in helping emergency managers and the Governor make decisions on official disaster declarations after an actual earthquake.



Earthquake risks in Nevada are assessed by the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's lossestimation model, HAZUS-MH, and the U.S. Geological Survey's probabilistic seismic hazard analysis.

NBMG Open-File Report 09-8, *Estimated Losses from Earthquakes near Nevada Communities*, contains HAZUS scenarios for magnitude 5.0, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5, and 7.0 earthquakes near 38 communities in Nevada.

Uncertainties in the location of epicenters, depths, and magnitude, when combined with changing population and uncertainties in local effects (soil and rock types, assumptions about attenuation, basin geometry, liquefaction potential, and directivity), make loss estimates generally consistent within one order of magnitude (a factor of 10).

HAZUS estimates for total economic loss from a magnitude 6.0 earthquake and probability of an earthquake of this magnitude or greater occurring within 50 years and within 50 km of the community.

Community	<b>Total Economic Loss</b>	Probability in 50 years within 50 km
Las Vegas	\$7.2 billion	12%
Reno	\$1.9 billion	67%
Stateline	\$590 million	60 to 70%
Dayton	\$340 million	70-75%
Elko	\$160 million	10 to 15%
Wells	\$30 million	9%

Total economic loss is from HAZUS. Probabilities are from the USGS at http://eqint.cr.usgs.gov/eqprob/2002/index.php .

Earthquake faults occur throughout Nevada, and potential losses from earthquakes are high for many communities.

The consequences of earthquakes can be huge in Nevada, particularly if individuals are not prepared.

A. Be prepared to respond.

B. Mitigate structural risks, largely through building codes and avoiding faults and areas of liquefaction.

C. Mitigate nonstructural risks.

Unreinforced masonry building (URM) that collapsed during the Wells earthquake on 21 February 2008

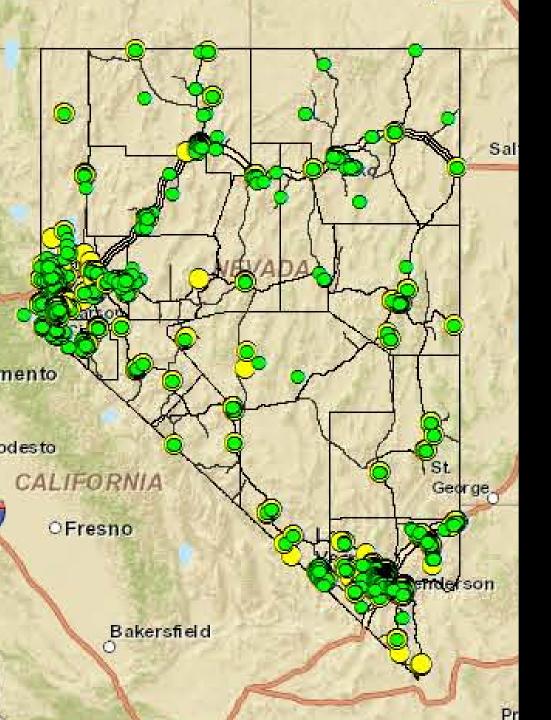
View from back, 20 May 2009

View from front, 20 May 2009

San Marin Hotel, Wells, Nevada before the 21 February 2008 M<sub>w</sub> 6.0 earthquake

Lesson learned (again): Unreinforced masonry buildings tend to collapse during large earthquakes. Front and back of the hotel after the earthquake

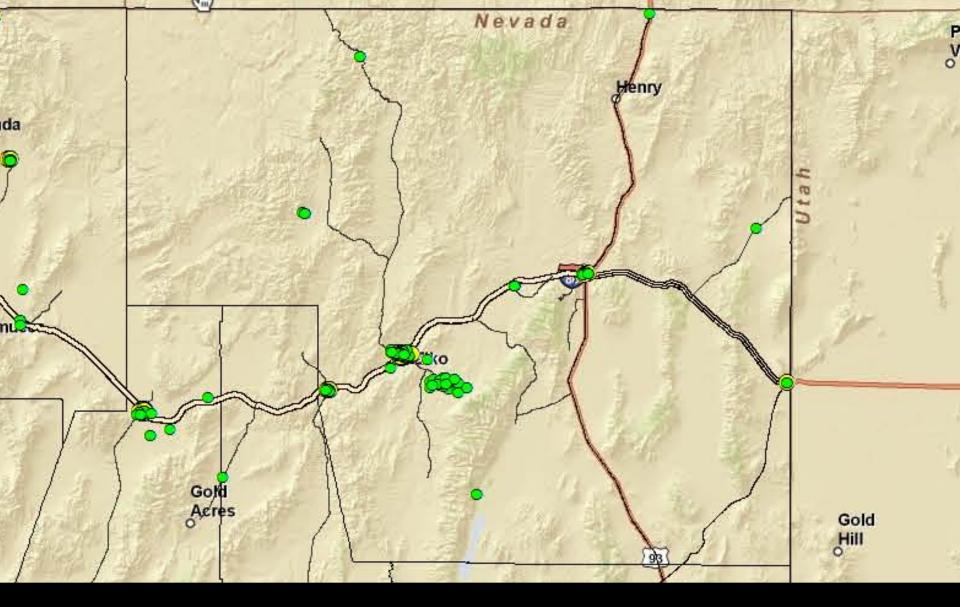




## Some possible URMs in Nevada



## Residential



Some possible URMs in Elko County





Some possible URMs in Elko







Nonstructural damage often can be easily prevented.





Secured computers at the Clark County Building Department

## Thank you!

And thanks to Gary Johnson, Christine Ballard, Heather Armeno, Irene Seeley, Linda D. Goar, and Jordan T. Hastings for their work on the open-file reports (OF 09-8 and 09-9), which are available as online documents at www.nbmg.unr.edu.

From there, go to online documents at http://www.nbmg.unr.edu/dox/dox.htm, then scroll down to OF 09-8 or 09-9. Link to the fault map from OF 09-9.



