

THE FAULTLINE

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

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UGS Receives NEHRP Grant.

Barry Solomon, P.I. from the Utah Geological Survey, has received a NEHRP grant from the U.S. Geological Survey to produce a surficial geologic map of the West Cache Fault zone. The fault trends along the west side of the Cache Valley and is one of the last remaining Holocene faults in the northern Wasatch Front area for which little paleoseismic information exists. The study is the first step in evaluating the activity of the fault and defining areas for trenching and detailed paleoseismic investigations.

UUSSS Receives NEHRP Grant to Personalize the Earthquake Threat.

Deedee O'Brien and Sue Nava, Co P.I.'s, received a NEHRP grant to personalize the earthquake threat in the intermountain region by preparing (1) an internet archive of historical earthquake information, (2) scripted slide sets to explain earthquake phenomena and illustrate local and regional effects, (3) a short book using from newspapers and photos from local earthquakes, and (4) a traveling museum exhibit for local museums and public libraries.

CEM Natural Hazards Section Offers Workshops.

The Natural Hazards Section of the Utah Division of Comprehensive Emergency Management is conducting workshops titled "Natural Disasters in Utah: How Can We Better Prepare." These workshops are designed after FEMA's National Mitigation Strategy, which encourages local communities to develop mitigation plans to lessen the impact of a disaster. The first workshop was held in Richfield on Nov. 9, 1994, and involved Sevier, Sanpete, Piute, Juab, and Millard Counties. Two workshops are planned for Price in February, and St. George in March.

UGS Publishes Flyers on Liquefaction.

The Utah Geological Survey has just published four generalized one-page flyers showing (and explaining) liquefaction potential for Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties. In addition, the five full-length liquefaction-potential reports by Loren Anderson and others at USU for Salt Lake, Davis, and Utah Counties and Northern and Central Utah are now available for purchase as UGS Contract Reports.

EERI Regional Seminar Series on the Wasatch Front Seismic Risk to be Held November 29-30, 1994.

EERI Regional Seminar Series will be held on November 29-30, 1994 at the Salt Lake Airport Hilton and will present the latest developments in earthquake engineering and research. These seminars will provide state-of-the-art information on earthquake engineering, as well as to provide the professional community with a better understanding of structural and nonstructural earthquake damage mitigation techniques. For more information call (510) 451-0905.

"Seismotectonics of north-central Utah and southwestern Wyoming" is Published by UGS.

The UGS recently published "Seismotectonics of north-central Utah and southwestern Wyoming" by Michael W. West (UGS Special Study 82). The report discusses the paleoseismic history and earthquake potential of the Bear River fault zone and other faults in the area north of the Uinta Mountains.

Kuril Islands Hit by 7.9 Earthquake.

On October 4, 1994, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake, centered 20 km beneath the ocean floor, struck about 150 km east of Japan's northernmost main island, Hokkaido. The earthquake damage is estimated at 70 million dollars. There were 83 collapsed buildings and 167 buildings were badly damaged in the earthquake. Tsunami warnings were issued throughout the pacific. The largest wave height was reported in the Kuril Islands, 3 m.

CEM to Conduct Energy Exercise.

On April 18, 1995, The Utah Division of Comprehensive Emergency Management will conduct an Energy Exercise. The purpose of Energy '95 is to test and evaluate the adequacy of the Energy Annex to the State EOP and to evaluate the ability of the emergency response community to coordinate resources. The scenario will be an earthquake during severe winter cold in order to simulate an energy shortage.