



# Protecting Washington Schools from Damaging Earthquakes

**Partners in Emergency Preparedness – April 4, 2024**

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University of Washington – Pacific Northwest Seismic Network

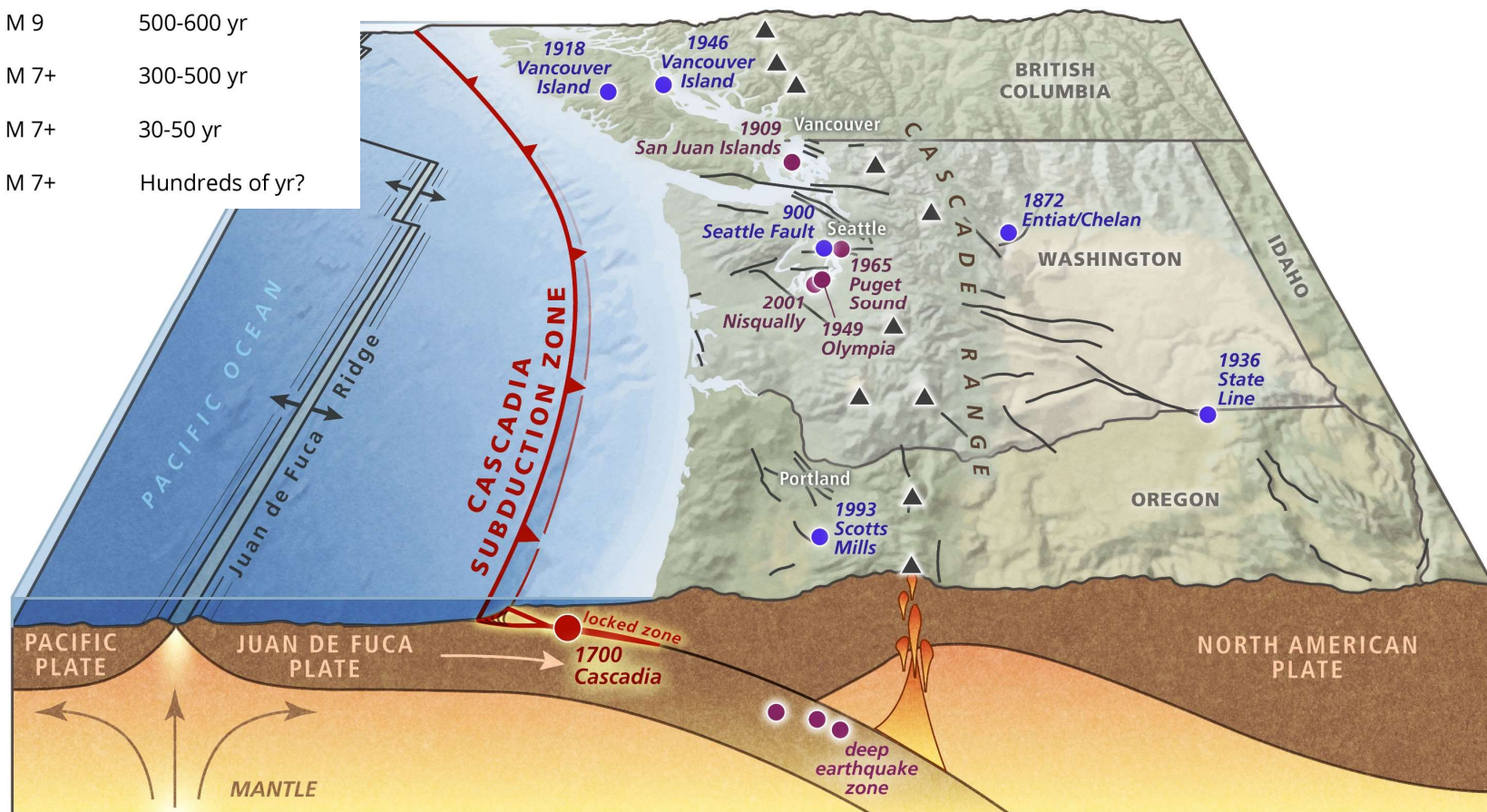


**Why do we have  
earthquakes in  
Washington?**



## There are 3 kinds of earthquakes that affect us

Source	Max. Size	Recurrence
● Subduction Zone	M 9	500-600 yr
	M 7+	300-500 yr
● Deep Juan de Fuca plate	M 7+	30-50 yr
● Crustal Faults	M 7+	Hundreds of yr?

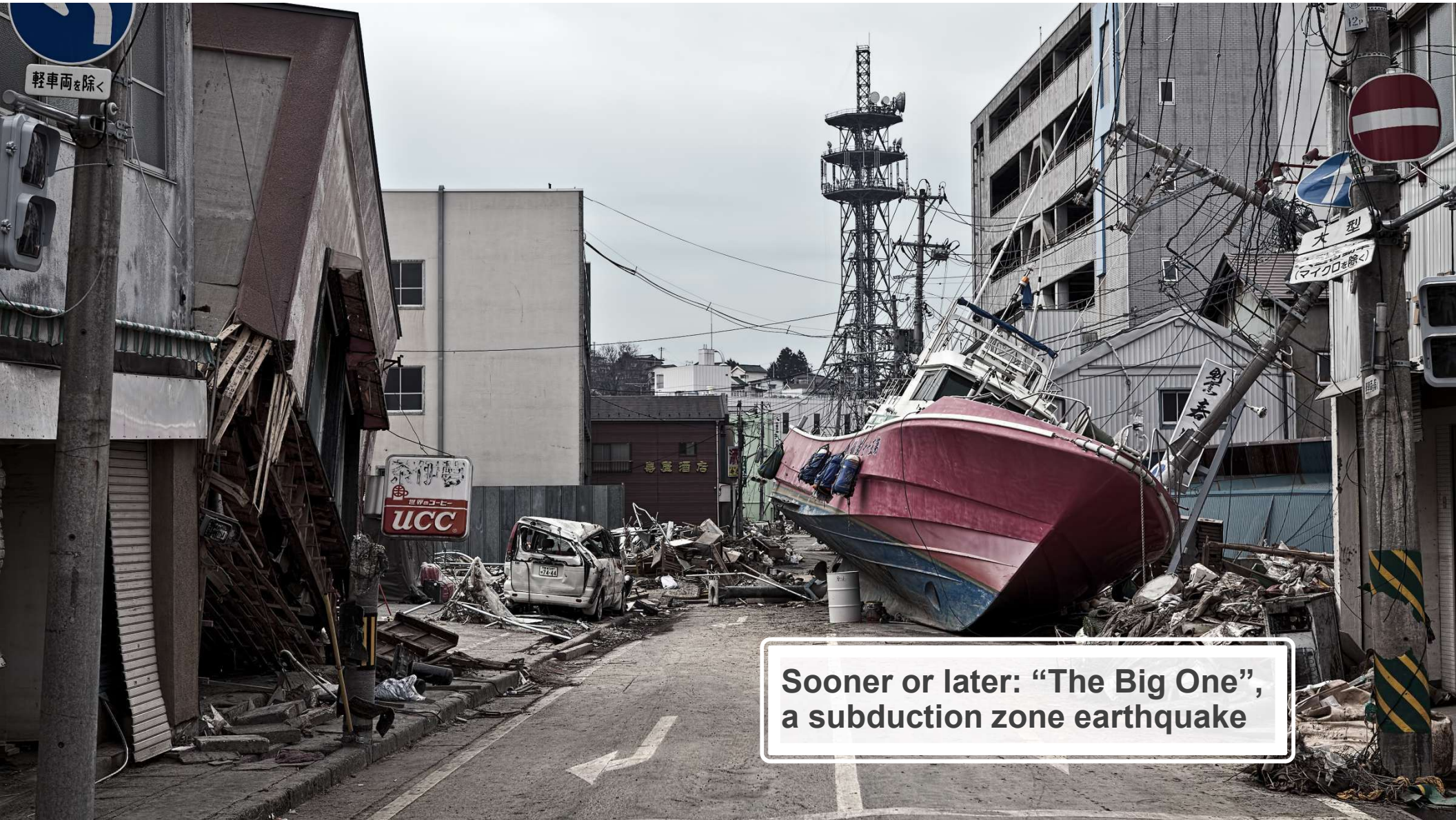




Most likely: an earthquake  
like Nisqually 2001





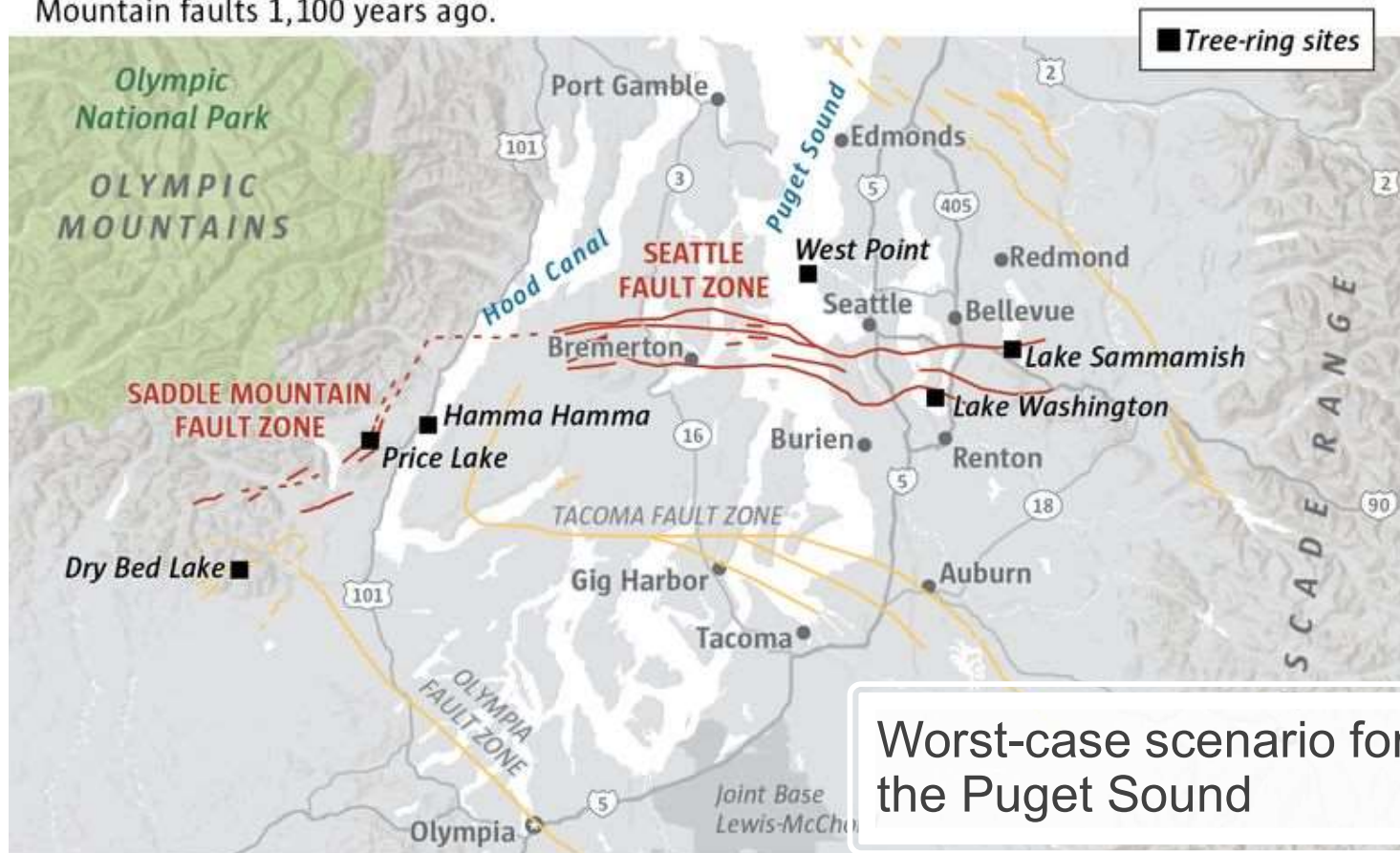


Sooner or later: “The Big One”,  
a subduction zone earthquake



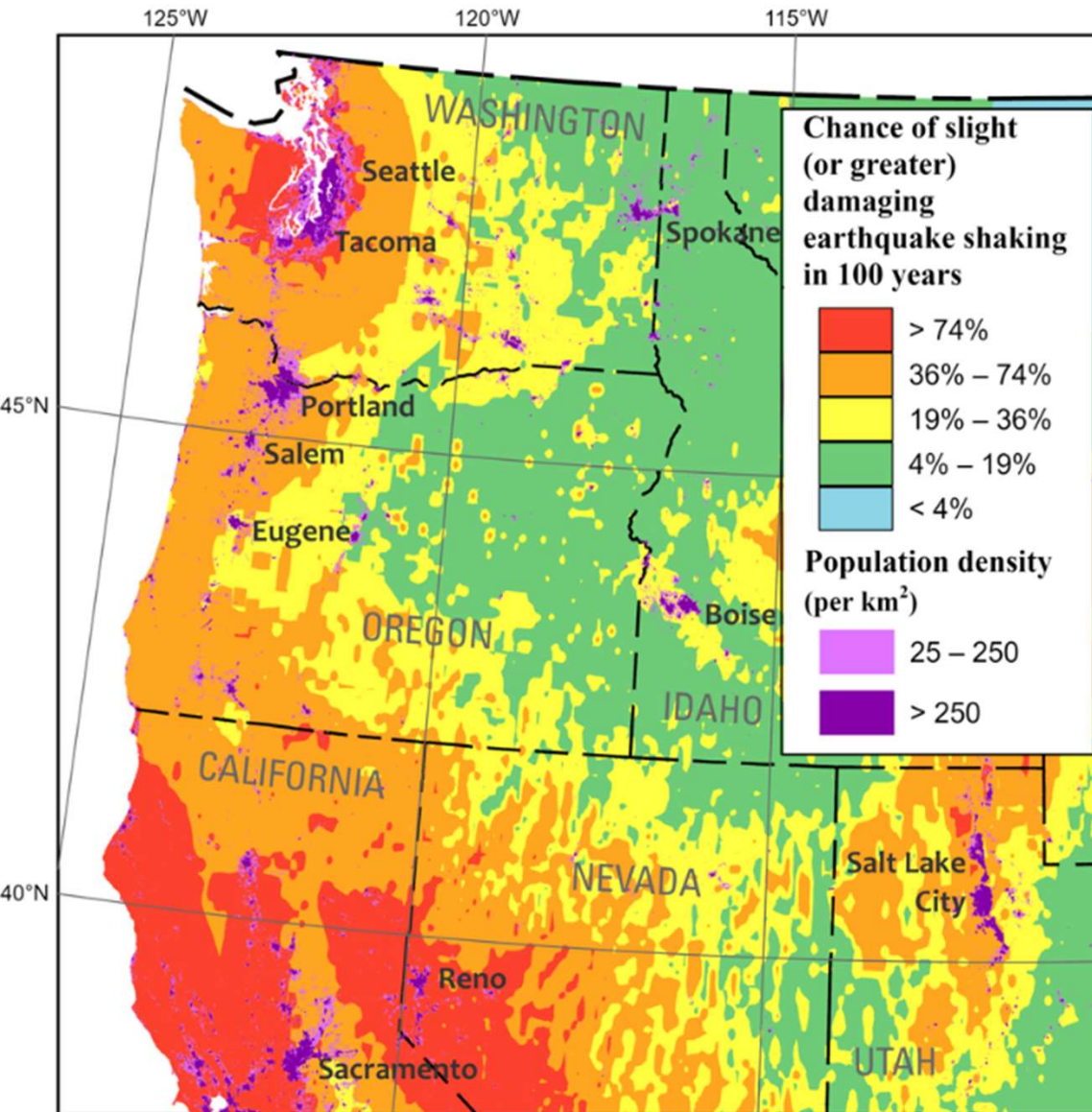
## An ancient, one-two earthquake punch raises the stakes for future seismic scenarios in the Puget Sound region

Tree-ring dating from six sites suggests linked earthquakes occurred on the Seattle and Saddle Mountain faults 1,100 years ago.



Sources: Esri, Bryan Black, University of Arizona

MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES



High hazard  
+  
Large population  
=  
High risk

**Our job at the PNSN is to  
monitor earthquakes in WA  
and OR**

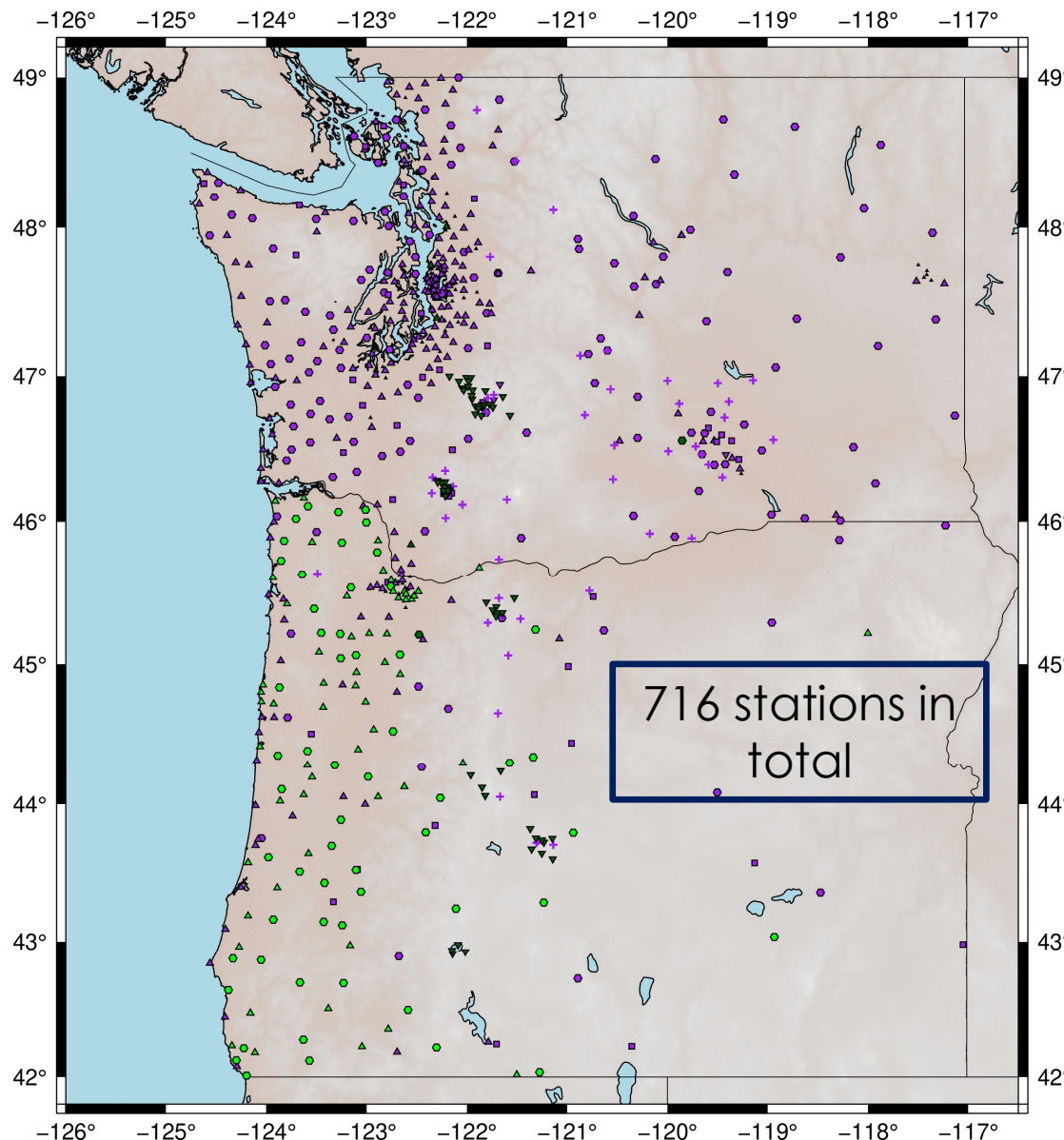




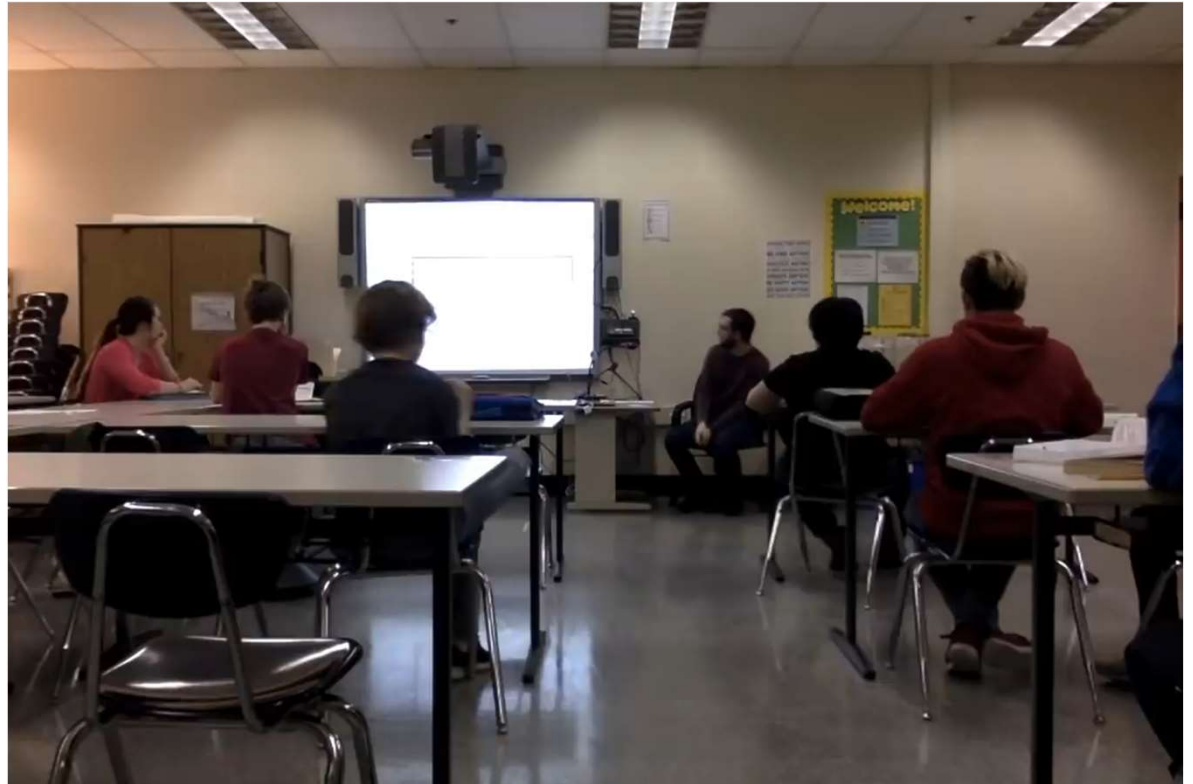
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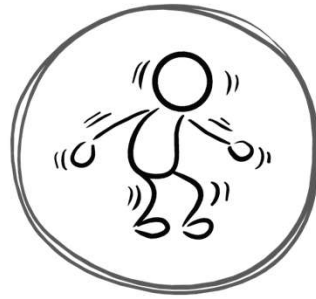
Network	Type
▲ CC	+ SP
▲ UO	△ SM
▲ UW	▽ BB
▲ planned	■ SM/SP
	● SM/BB



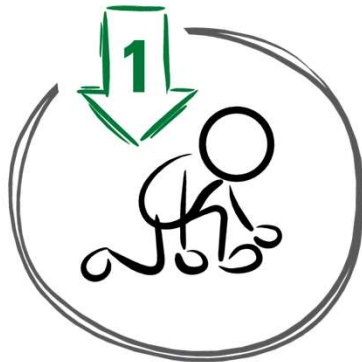
**What is it like  
to be in an  
earthquake?**



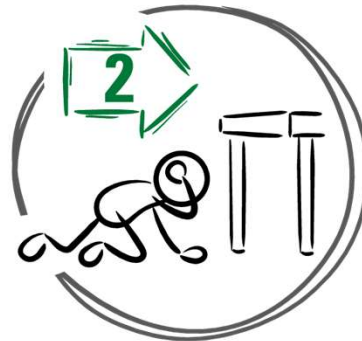




If you **FEEL SHAKING** or **GET AN ALERT...**



**DROP!**



**COVER!**



**HOLD ON!**

## REMS provides valuable earthquake preparedness information for schools



### Earthquake Sample Annex: A Fictional Example for Schools Before, During, and After an Earthquake

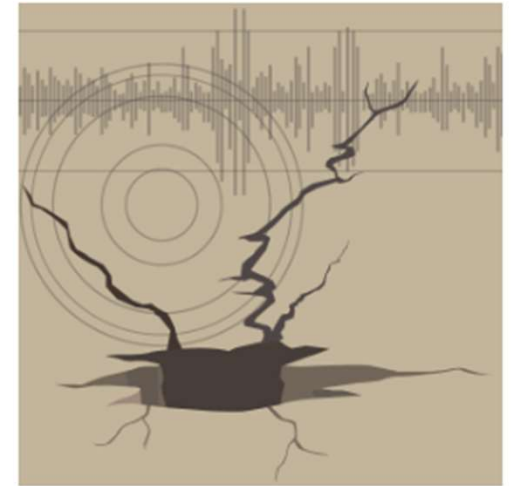


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✉ [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org)

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🌐 <https://rem.ed.gov>



Access resources on planning for earthquakes:

[Sample Annex](#)

[Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills](#)

[Live and Virtual Training by Request](#)

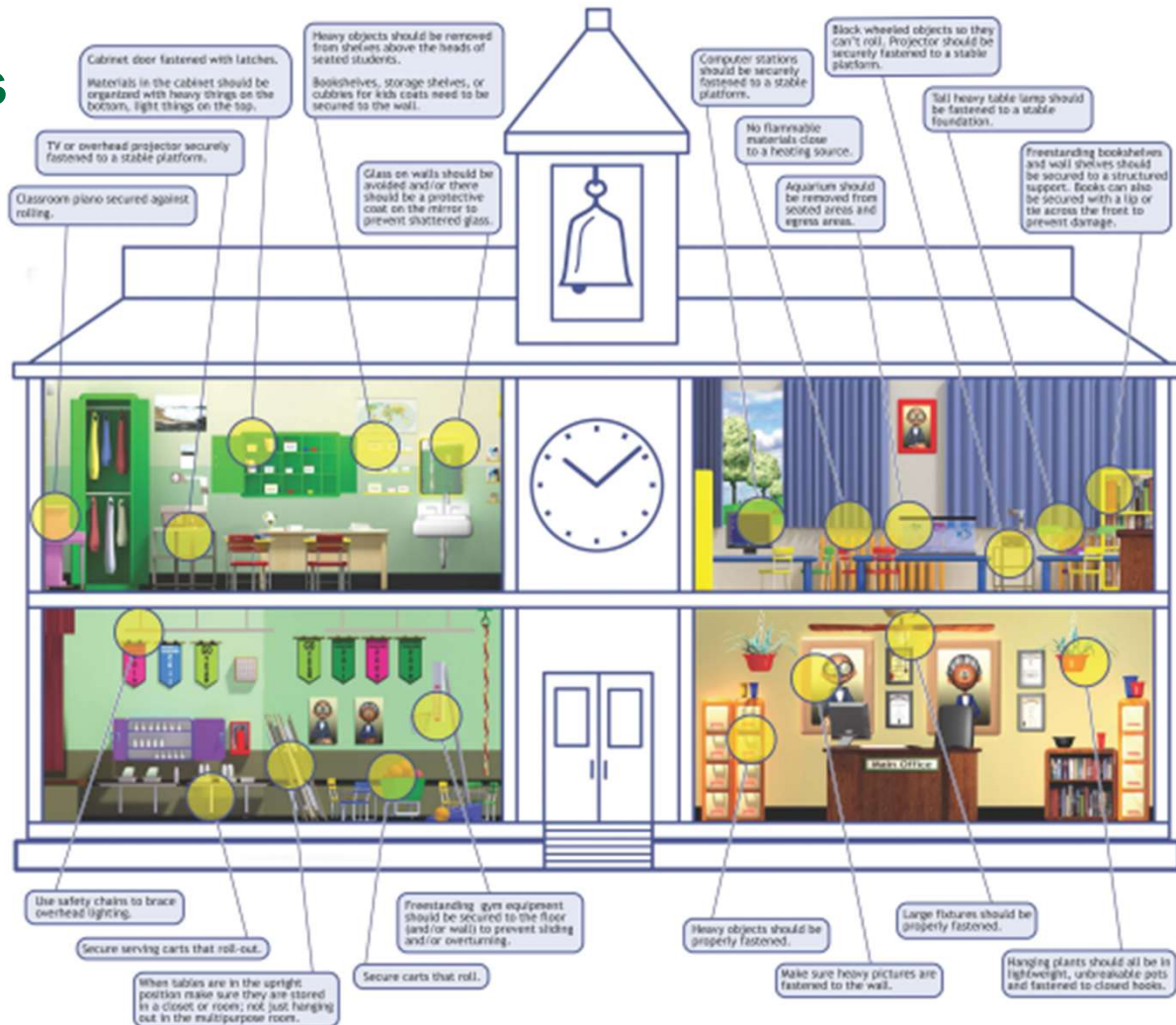
[Earthquake Preparedness for K-12 Schools and School Districts Online Course](#)



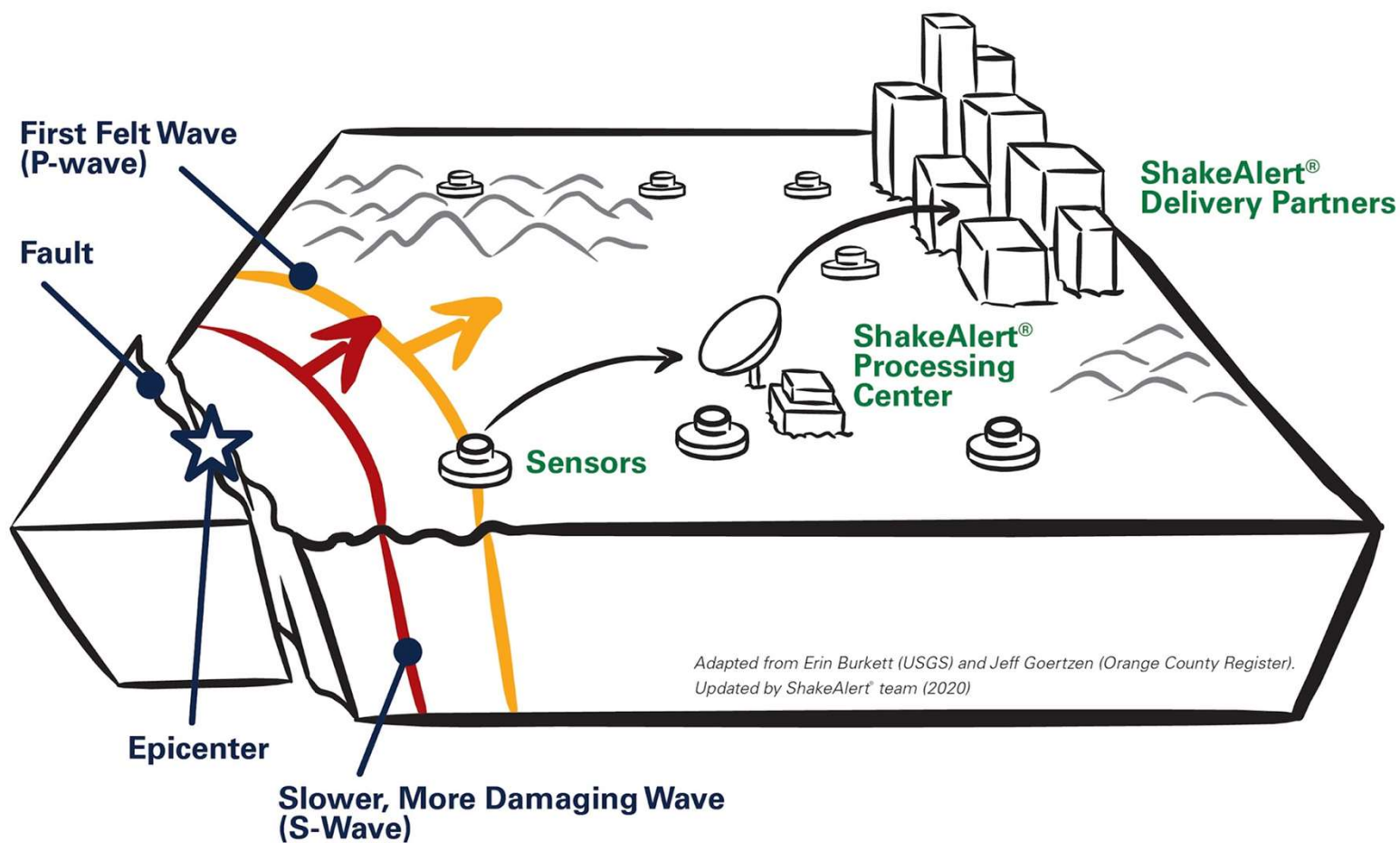
## FEMA has school hazard hunt resources

# Earthquake School Hazard Hunt

Recommendations for reducing earthquake hazards in your school.

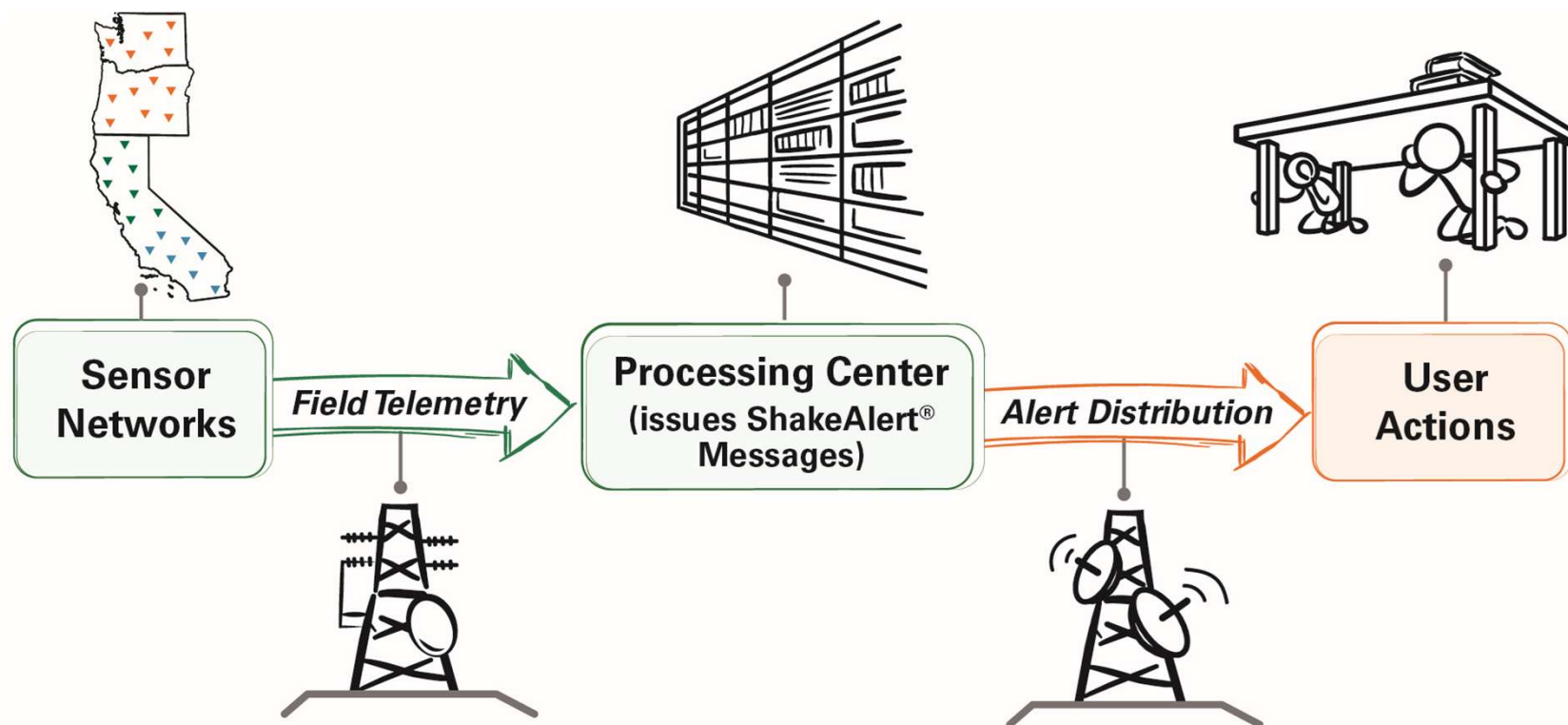


## ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning can protect people in schools

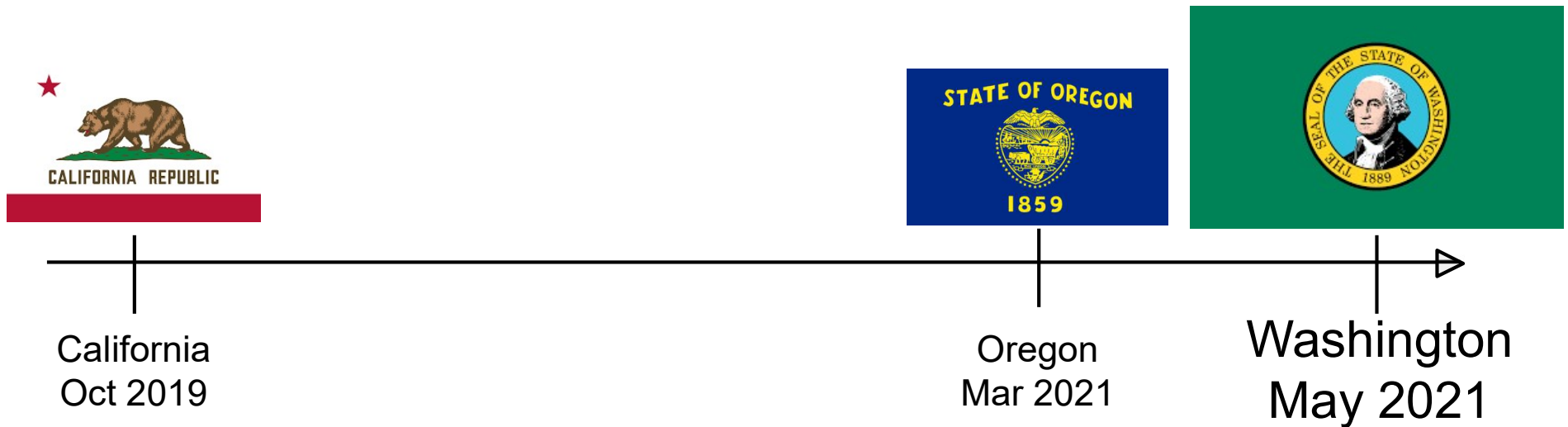




## How earthquake data turns into protective actions



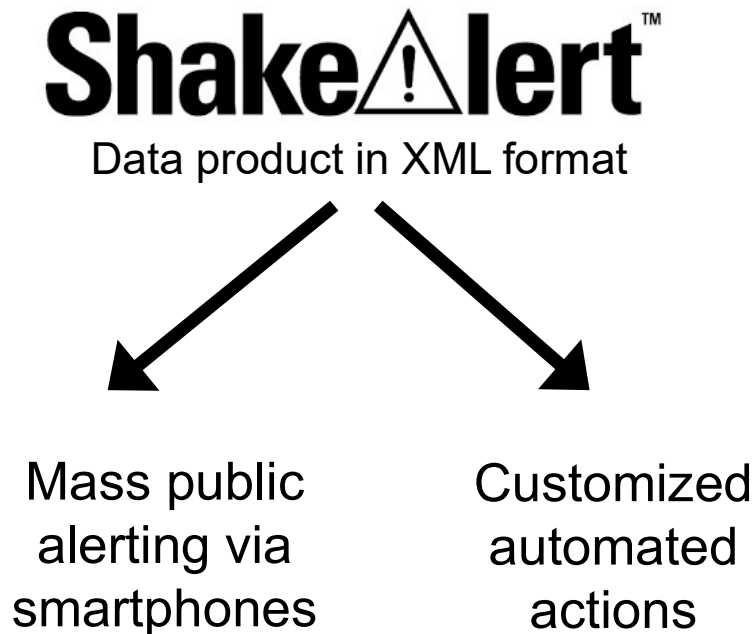
## ShakeAlert is now live across the West Coast



On **May 4, 2021**, Washington launched ShakeAlert alerting for the public. There are currently no mandates in Washington to make use of earthquake early warning systems.



## How does ShakeAlert get out into the world?



## How to get ShakeAlert-powered alerts on your phone

**Download the MyShake app** on iOS or Android phones

- Make sure location services are enabled, or enter in your “Home Base”
- This is the only ShakeAlert-powered app currently available in Washington



Use built-in earthquake alerts on the **Android OS**  
Get alerts through the **Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)** system

- Note: these alerts are slower and only are sent for larger earthquakes



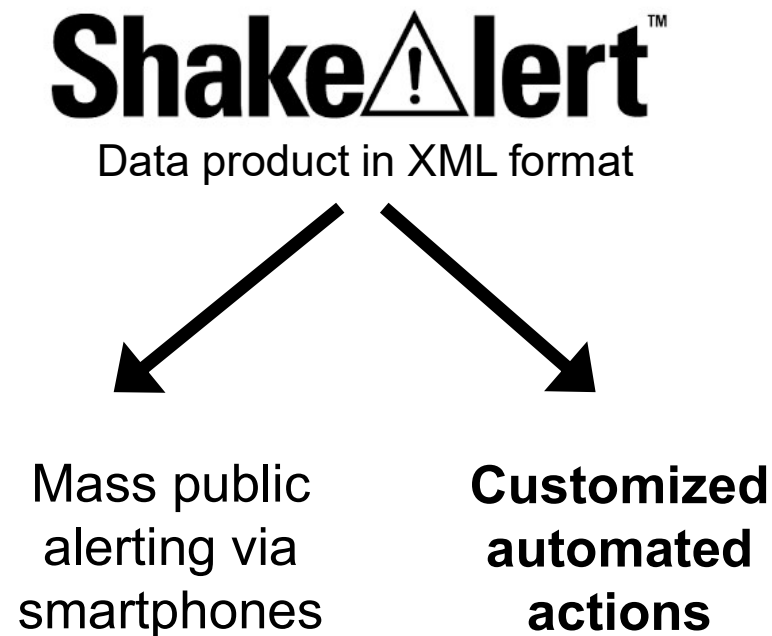
## How to Receive Earthquake Early Warning Alerts on Your Phone

### Wireless Emergency Alerts on iPhones

- Go to Settings > Notifications and scroll to the bottom of the screen
- Tap Emergency Alerts, then turn on Emergency Alerts and Local Awareness to maximize alert delivery speed and accuracy



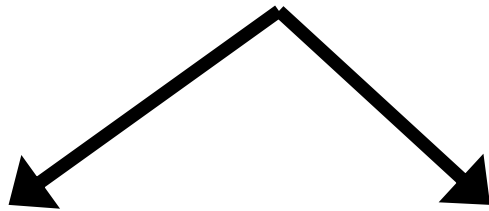
## How does ShakeAlert get out into the world?





# Shake!lert™

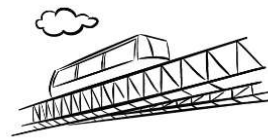
Data product in XML format



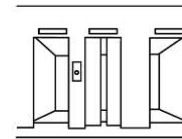
Mass public  
alerting via  
smartphones

**Customized  
automated  
actions**

## Automated "Machine-to-Machine" Actions



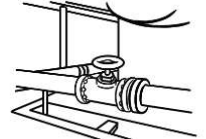
**Slowing  
Trains**



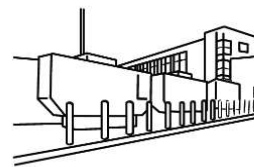
**Recalling  
Elevators**



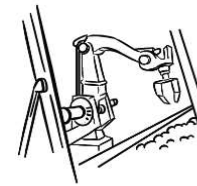
**Opening  
Firehouse  
Doors**



**Shutting Off  
Water and  
Gas Valves**



**Activating  
Generators**



**Parking Delicate  
Machinery**



**Public  
Announcements**

## ShakeAlert<sup>®</sup> Earthquake Early Warning in Schools

### • The Challenge and the Opportunity

An earthquake in a school setting is dangerous. Strong ground motion can topple furniture, dislodge ceiling tiles, and toss students and teachers to the ground.

**Stanwood-Camano** is the first school district in WA to connect to ShakeAlert. Now, ShakeAlert protects nearly 5,000 staff and students across 13 buildings.



- Student and staff have **time to protect themselves**.
- **Earthquake drills** are more realistic.
- ShakeAlert is incorporated into earth science **curriculum** and reinforces learning.





## Choose your pathway to connect to ShakeAlert

***Path 1:***

Work with a licensed vendor

***Path 2:***

Access the ShakeAlert data feed directly and create your own alert

***Either path:*** My job is to connect schools and other organizations to ShakeAlert



## Path 1: Work with an existing ShakeAlert Technical Partner (vendor)

- Learn about the ShakeAlert Technical Partners who have experience working in your industry:  
<https://tinyurl.com/CurrentShakeAlertPartners>
- We recommend all of them
- Reach out to any or all Technical Partners, and compare quotes and product specs





## Path 2: Become your own Technical Partner and connect directly to ShakeAlert servers

- Follow the ShakeAlert Licensing Pathway Step-By-Step Guide
- Develop and test your implementation
- Meet USGS standards for technical performance and training
- No cost to connect

## Schools have access to high-quality educational resources



Classroom activities and lesson plans

Educational videos and animations

Tools for earthquake drills and exercises

Get started at [IRIS.edu/ShakeAlert](https://www.iris.edu/ShakeAlert)



## A Moment to Act: ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning and School Safety Webinar



April 24 from 11:00am-12:30pm  
Register at [bit.ly/ShakeAlert-Schools](https://bit.ly/ShakeAlert-Schools)



**Funding may be available for your school to implement ShakeAlert.  
Reach out for more details.**

Gabriel Lotto – [glotto@uw.edu](mailto:glotto@uw.edu)  
Bill Steele – [wsteele@uw.edu](mailto:wsteele@uw.edu)

## ShakeAlert™



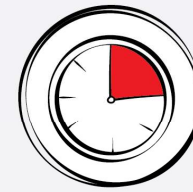
**Saves lives and  
minimizes  
injuries**



**Reduces earthquake  
damage to property  
and infrastructure  
systems**



**Reduces  
economic impacts  
of earthquakes**



**Speeds the return to  
normal operations  
and community  
recovery**