

# GPS Precision Monitoring of Natural Hazards

**USTTI Seminar: Global Positioning System Applications for Disaster Management and Societal Benefits**

**Larry Hothem**

**U.S. Geological Survey**

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# Acknowledgements

## David Applegate, Ph.D.

- **Associate Director for Natural Hazards**, USGS, Reston, VA
- Email: [Applegate@usgs.gov](mailto:Applegate@usgs.gov), +1-703-648-6600
- [http://www.usgs.gov/natural\\_hazards/](http://www.usgs.gov/natural_hazards/)

## William S. Leith, Ph.D.

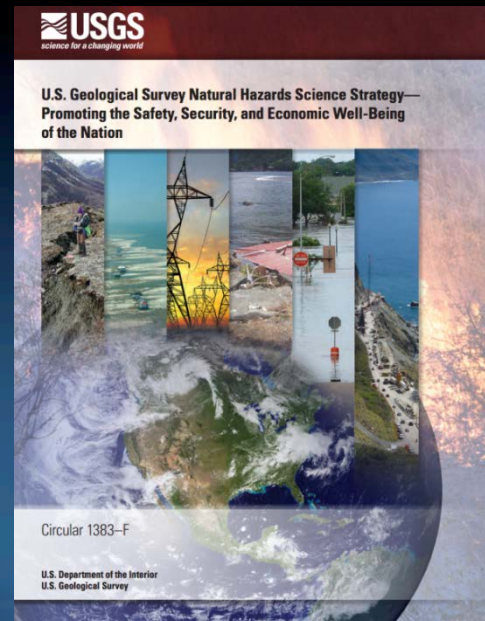
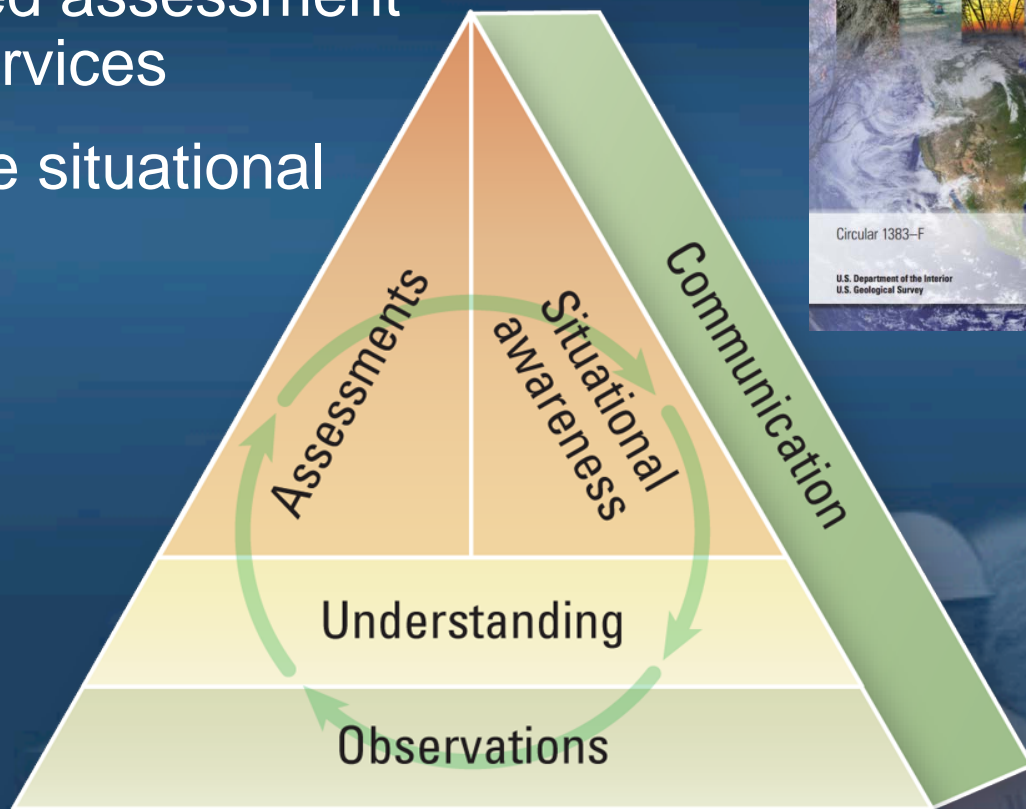
- **Senior Science Advisor for Earthquake and Geologic Hazards**, USGS, Reston, Virginia
- Email: [wleith@usgs.gov](mailto:wleith@usgs.gov), +1-703-648-6786
- [http://www.usgs.gov/natural\\_hazards/](http://www.usgs.gov/natural_hazards/)

## Kenneth W. Hudnut, Ph.D.

- **Geophysicist, Earthquake Science Center**, USGS, Pasadena, CA
- Email: [Hudnut@usgs.gov](mailto:Hudnut@usgs.gov), +1-626-583-7232
- <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/monitoring/gps/>

# USGS Natural Hazards Science Strategy

- **Goal 1:** Enhanced observations
- **Goal 2:** Fundamental understanding of hazards and impacts
- **Goal 3:** Improved assessment products and services
- **Goal 4:** Effective situational awareness





# USGS hazard roles and responsibilities

- Responsible for providing assessments and warnings for **earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and landslides**
- Seismic networks support NOAA's **tsunami** warnings
- Streamgages and storm surge monitors support NOAA's **flood and severe weather (including hurricane)** warnings
- Coastal and marine geologic surveys and research support assessments of earthquake and tsunami hazards, and **coastal impacts from storms, hurricanes and sea-level rise**
- Geomagnetic observatories support NOAA and AFWA **geomagnetic storm** forecasts
- USGS has key role in tracking **chemical and biological threats**, in particular **zoonotic diseases**
- Geospatial information supports response operations for **wildfire** and many other disasters



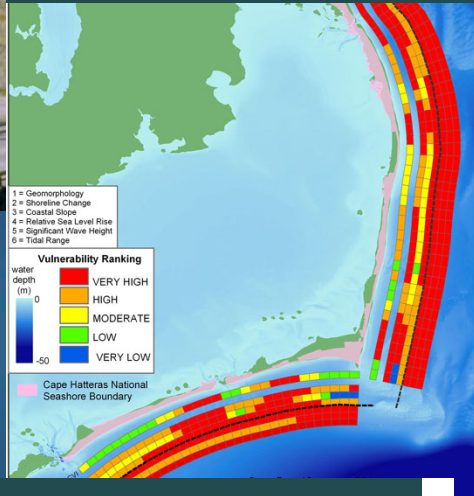


# Natural Hazards Mission Area programs

## Earthquake Hazards



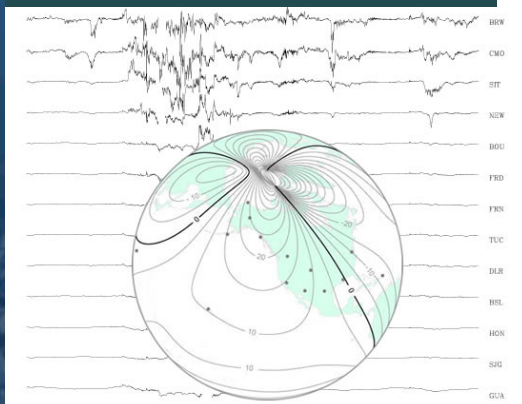
## Coastal & Marine Geology



## Volcano Hazards



## Geomagnetism

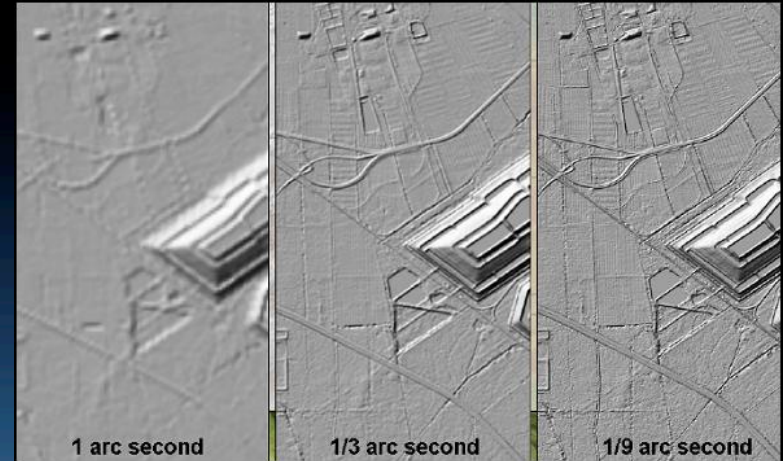


## Landslide Hazards



# GPS used for high-accuracy base geospatial data products

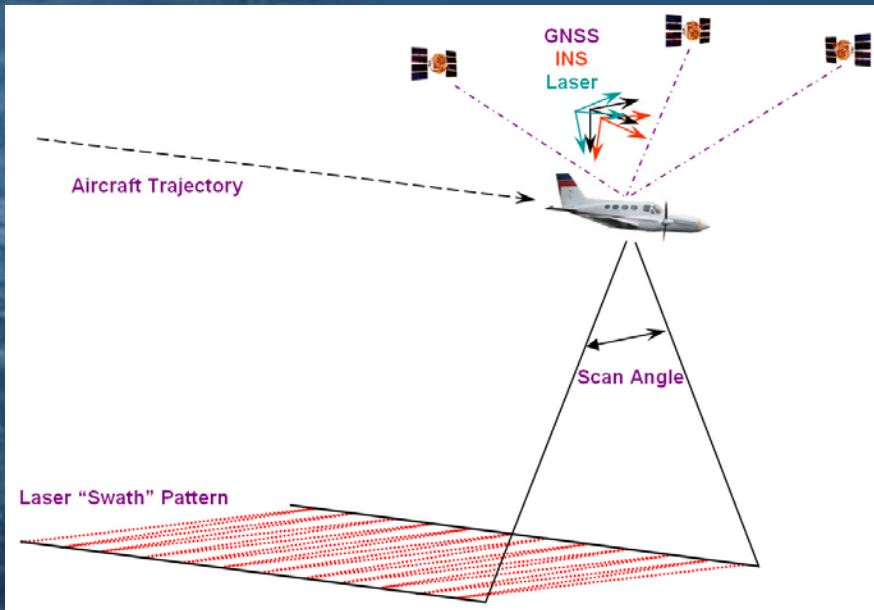
GPS provides precise positions or direct georeferencing of airborne sensors so that highly accurate base geospatial data products can be produced efficiently, such as high resolution terrain (elevation) data and orthorectified imagery.



Highly accurate terrain elevation data is replacing older, lower resolution data

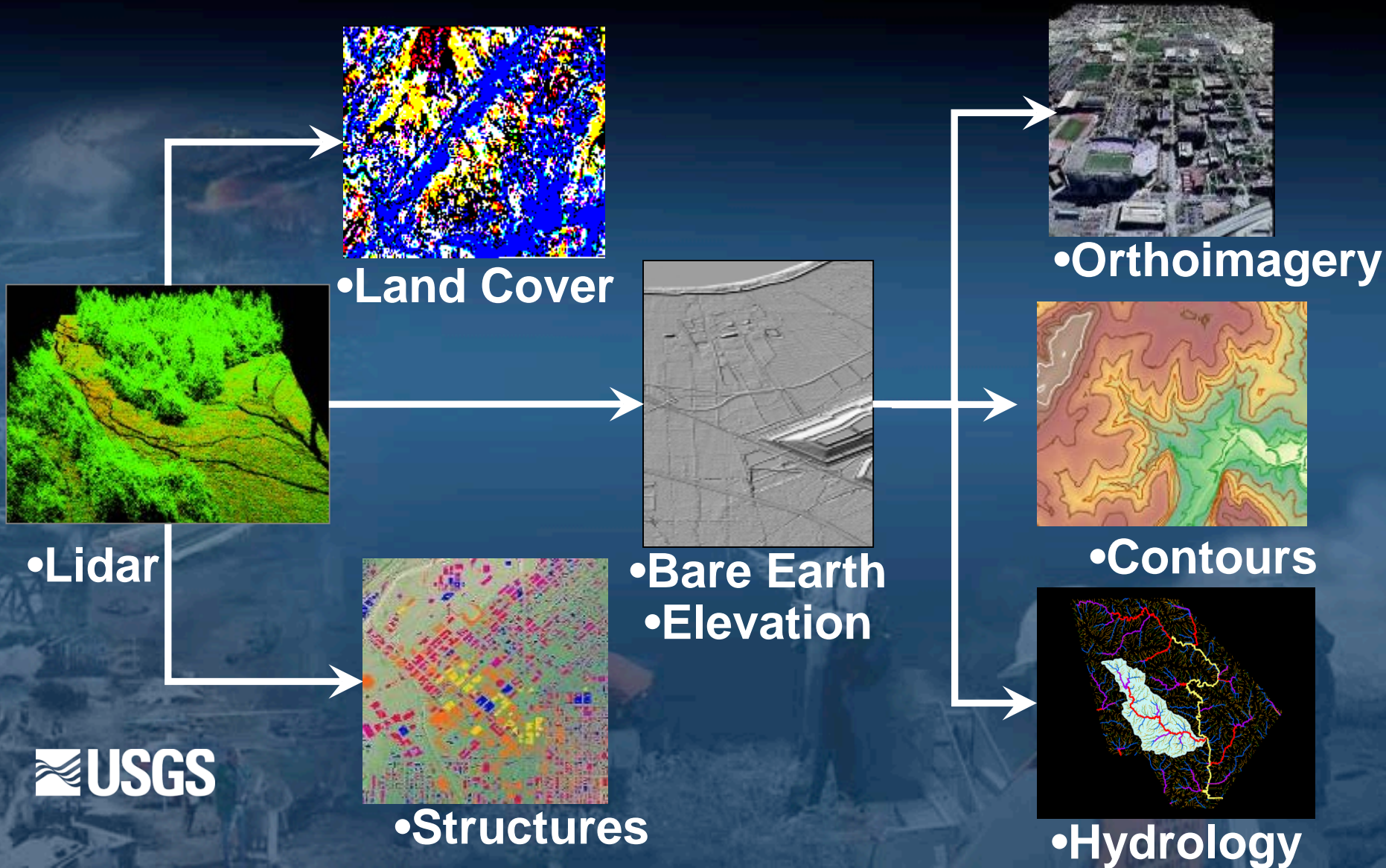


Example of high resolution orthorectified imagery acquired in partnership with other Fed, state, and local agencies

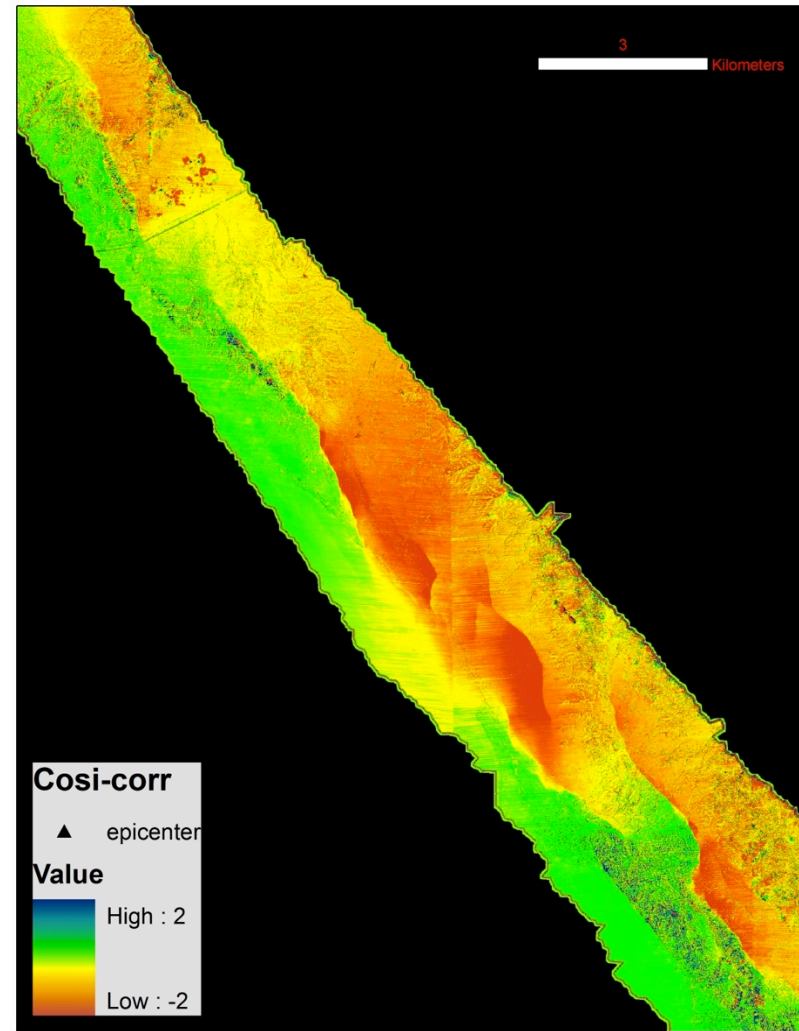
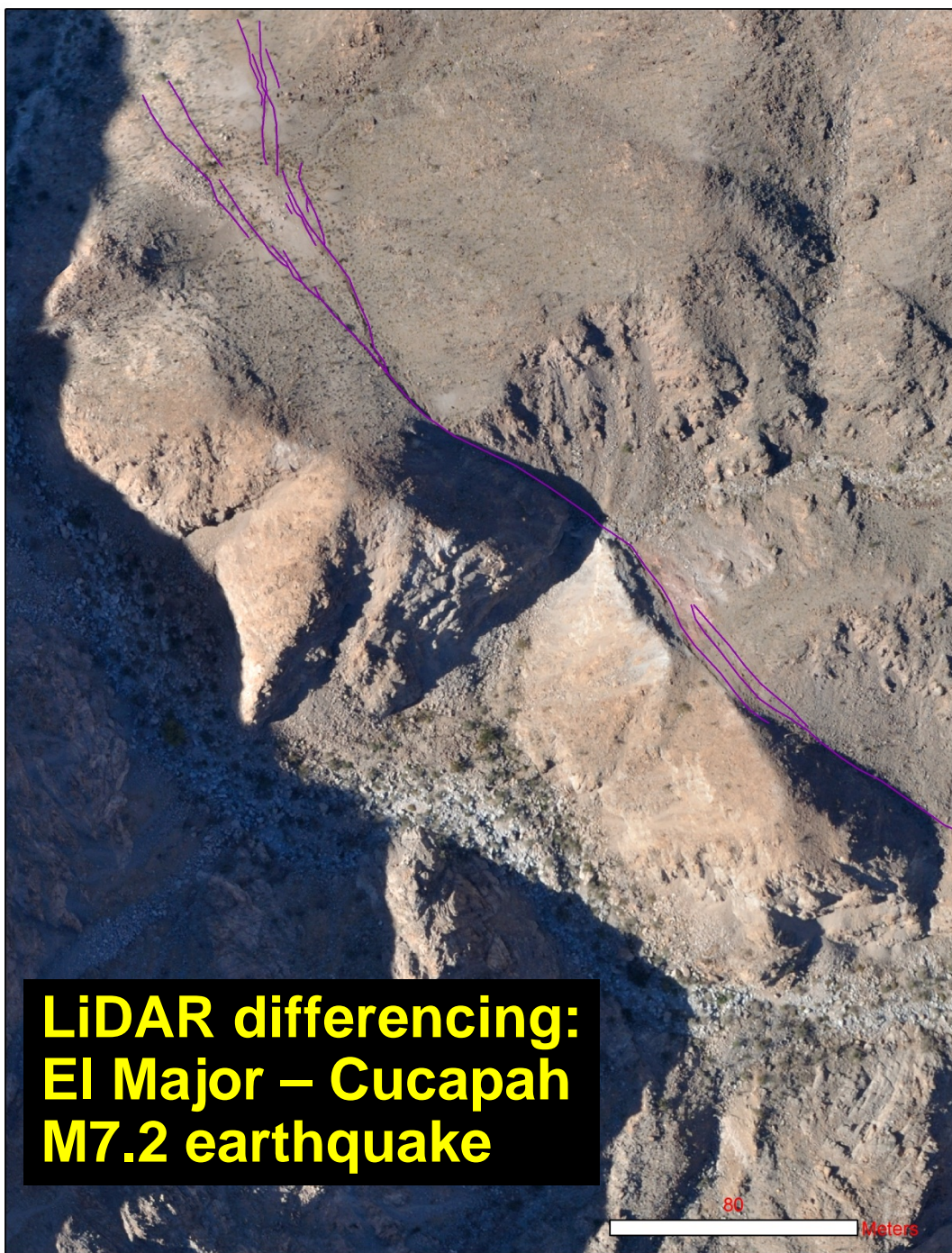




# Accurate Lidar mapping is highly relevant to several data layers of The National Map







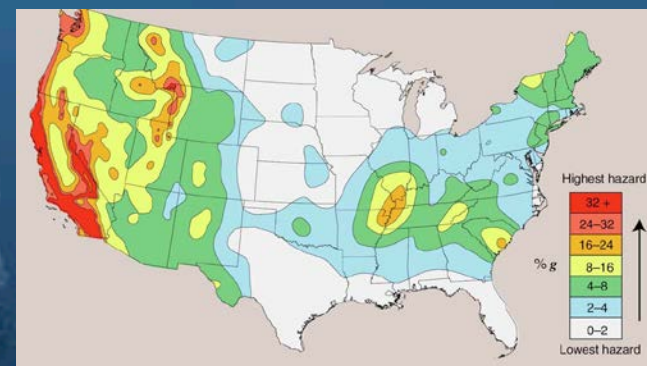
GPS enables ultra-high-precision georeferencing for fault mapping using repeat-pass imagery

- LiDAR
- 3D stereo



# The USGS role in the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program partnership

- Provide earthquake **monitoring and notifications**,
- **Assess** seismic hazards,
- **Conduct targeted research** needed to reduce the risk from earthquake hazards nationwide, and
- Work with NEHRP agencies and many other partners to **support public awareness** of earthquake hazards and impacts.



FEMA

NIST  
National Institute of  
Standards and Technology

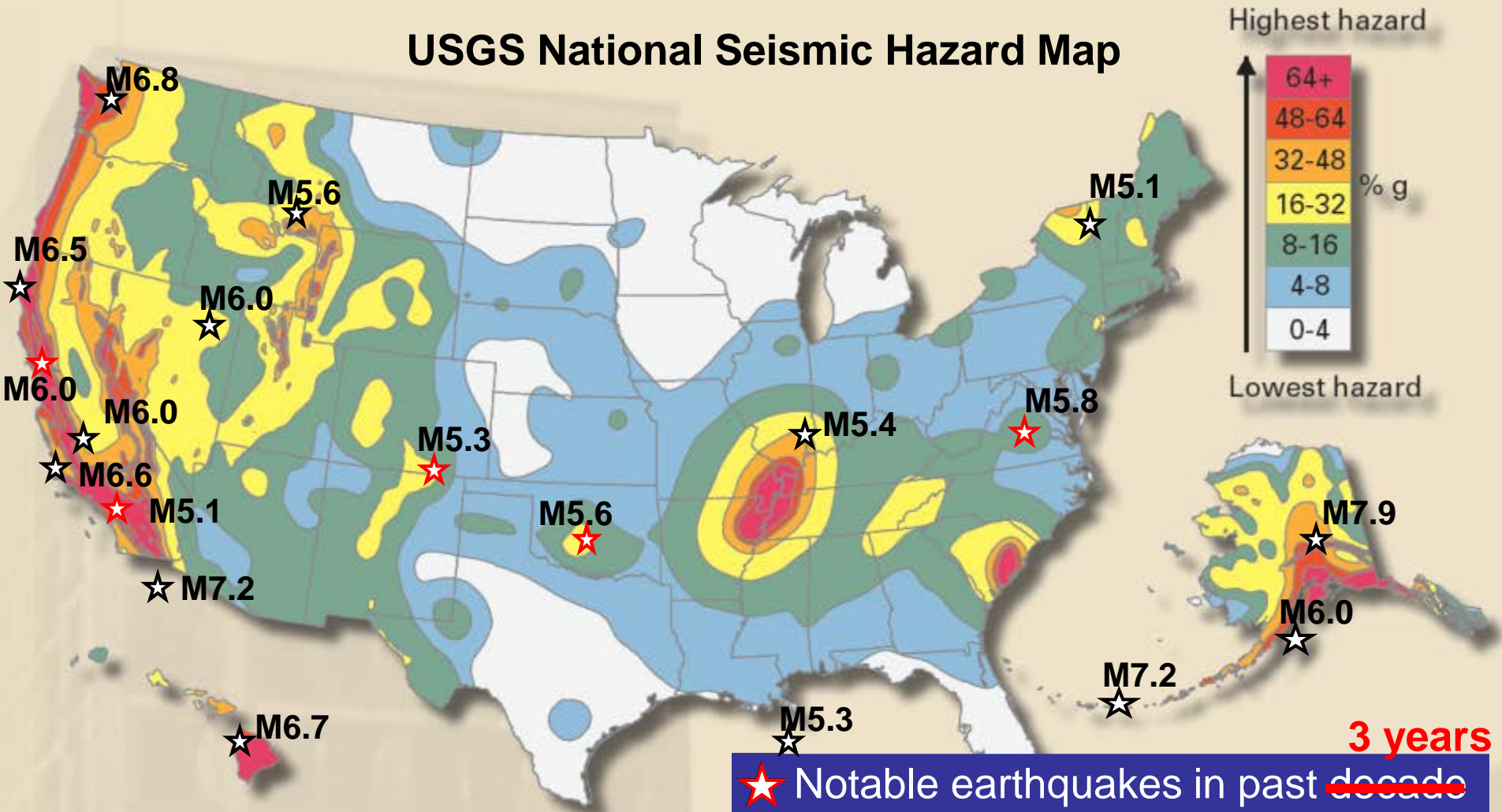


USGS  
science for a changing world

national **earthquake** hazards reduction program

# Earthquakes are a national hazard

## USGS National Seismic Hazard Map



FEMA

NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology



USGS  
science for a changing world

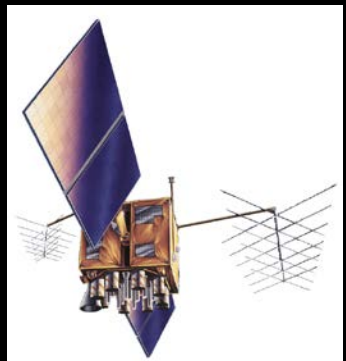


national earthquake hazards reduction program





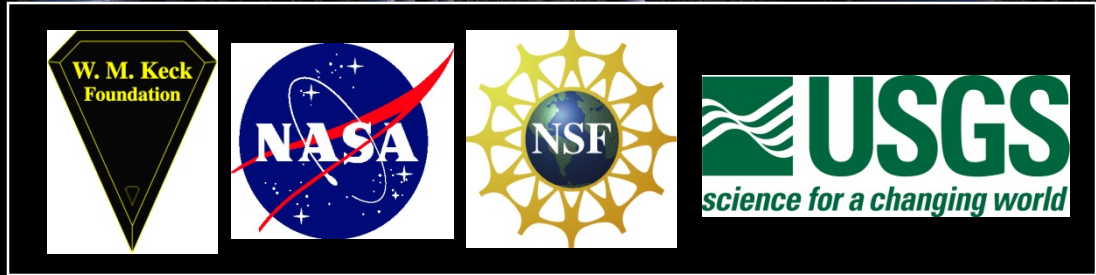
**GPS**



A network of GPS/GNSS stations measures plate tectonic motions to an accuracy of better than

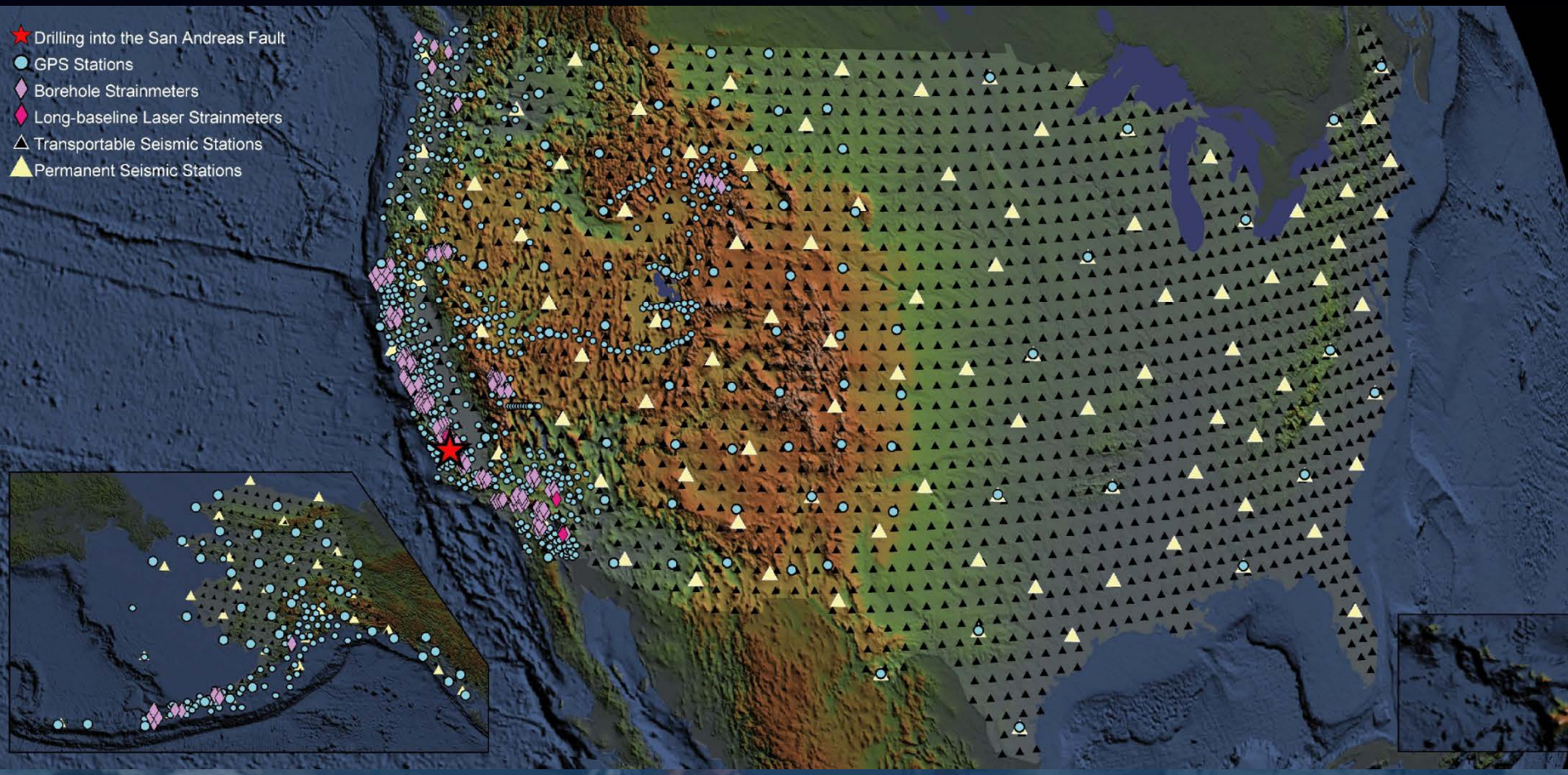
**1 mm/yr**

We can see whether the **motion** is 'slow and steady,' or perhaps more interestingly, it may **sometimes accelerate or decelerate**

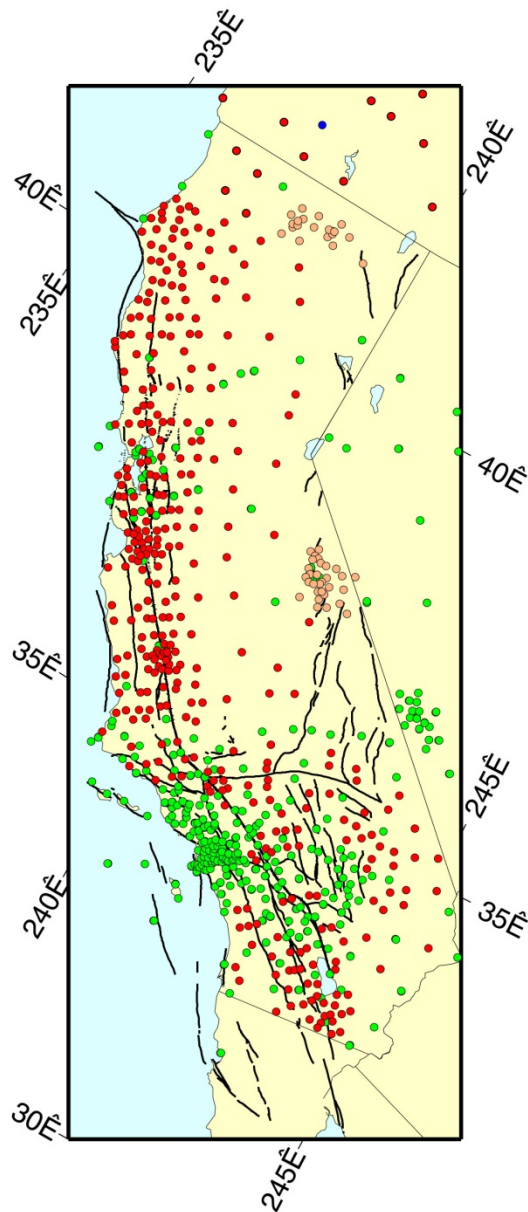




- ★ Drilling into the San Andreas Fault
- GPS Stations
- ◆ Borehole Strainmeters
- ◆ Long-baseline Laser Strainmeters
- △ Transportable Seismic Stations
- ▲ Permanent Seismic Stations







# Plate Boundary Observatory

## San Andreas plan

GNSS station clusters along San Andreas fault, especially along transitions from creeping to locked sections

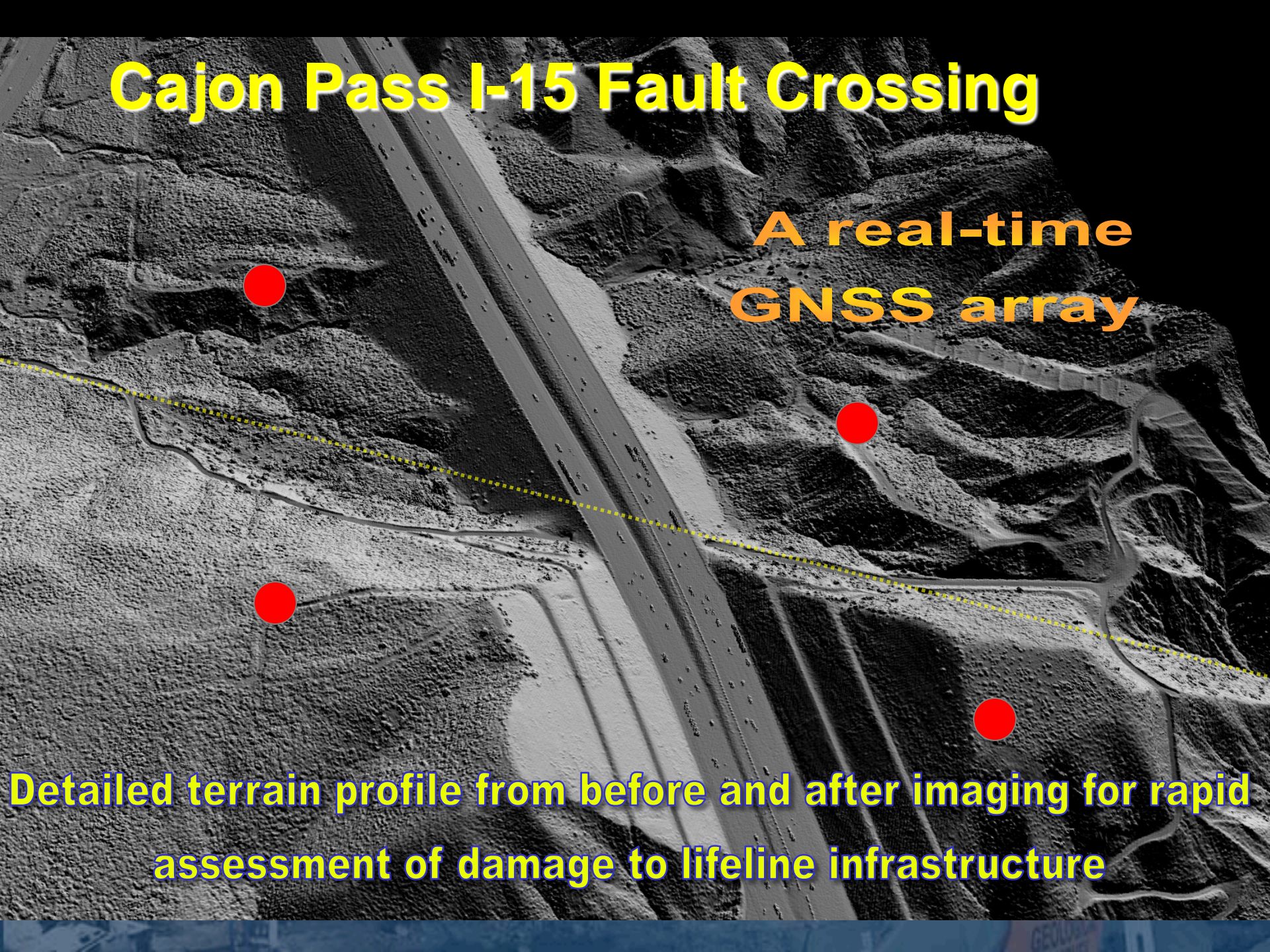




# Cajon Pass I-15 Fault Crossing

A real-time  
GNSS array

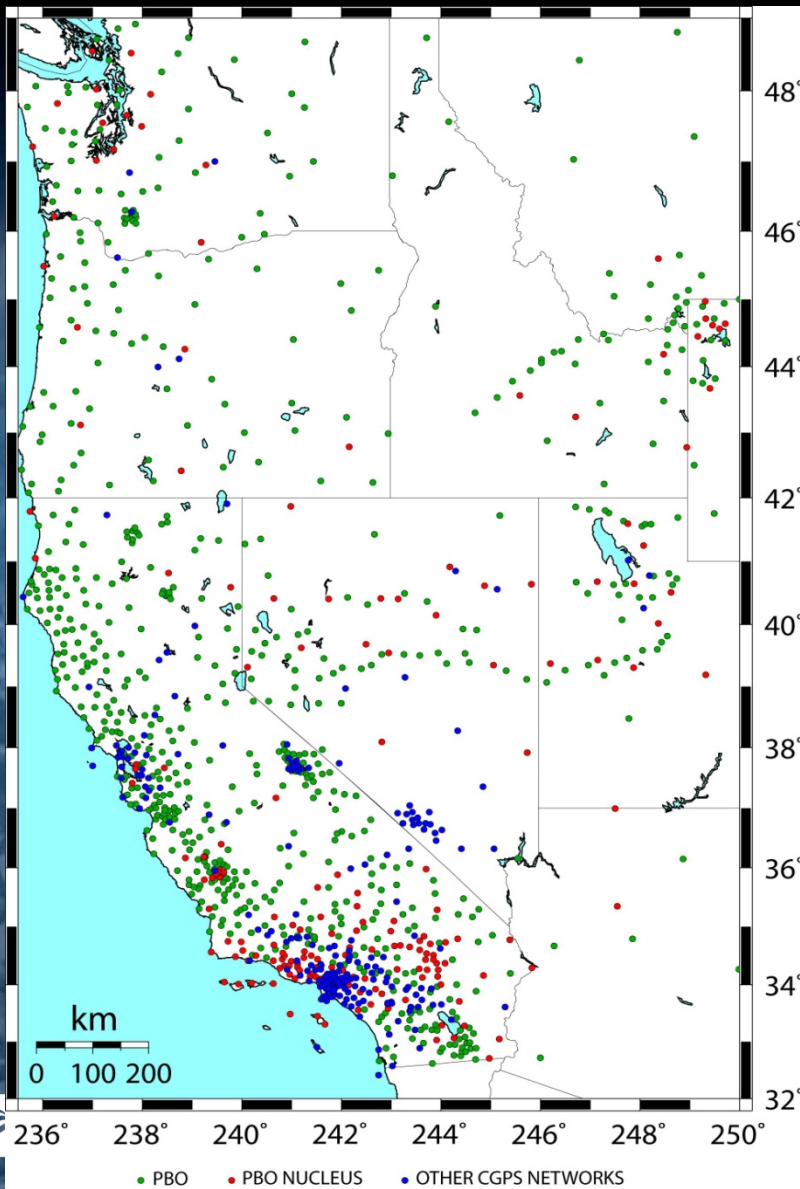
Detailed terrain profile from before and after imaging for rapid  
assessment of damage to lifeline infrastructure



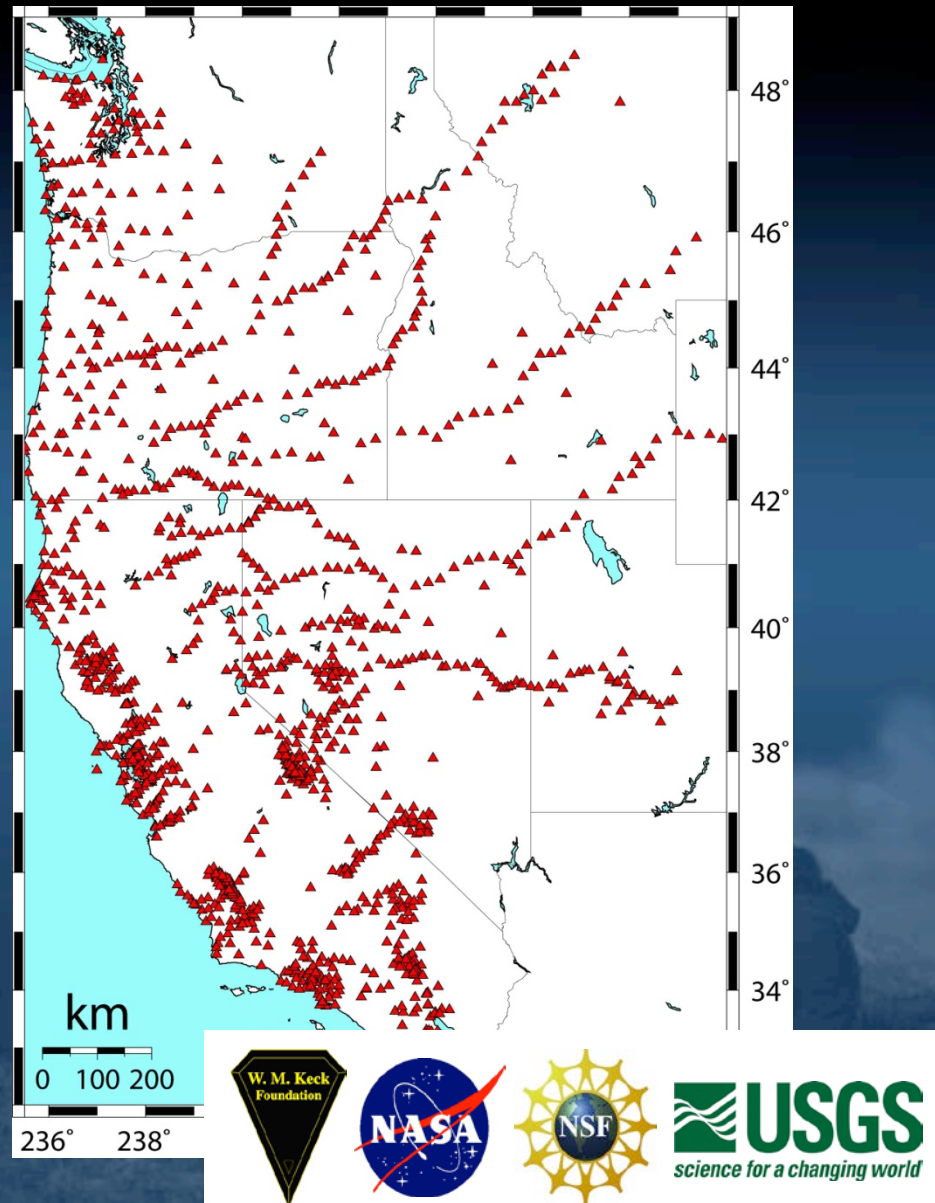


# Continuous and campaign GPS arrays

## Continuously Operating GPS Stations



## Campaign Survey GPS Points





# March 11, 2011 Japan earthquake

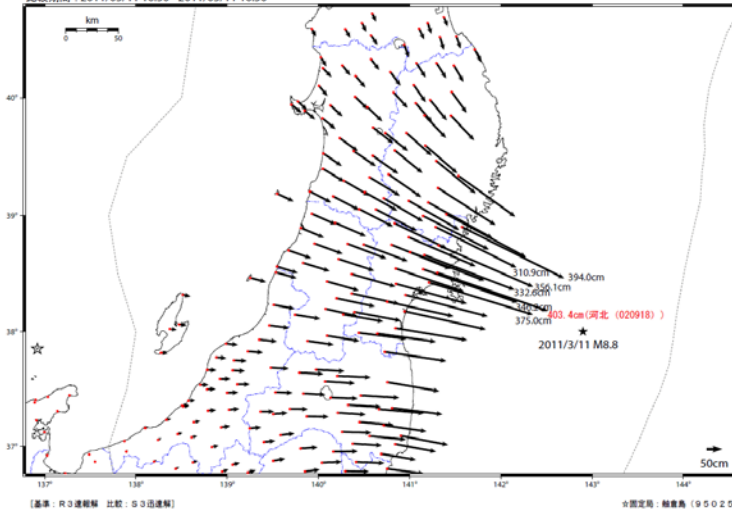
Initial GPS results from GSI showed 2.6 meters shift; later results gave maximum GPS offset of **4.034 m** (13.2 feet)

Data were openly available and other groups quickly confirmed these results and made movies of the displacements to help visualize the information



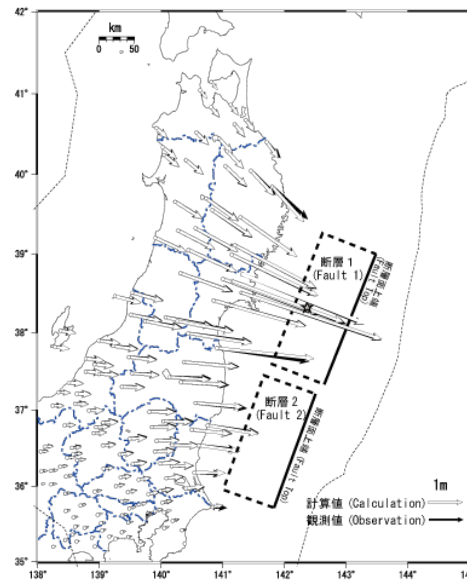
基準期間 : 2011/03/01 21:00 - 2011/03/08 21:00  
比較期間 : 2011/03/11 16:30 - 2011/03/11 16:30

変動ベクトル図 (水平)



[基準: R3速報解 比較: G3速報解]

国土地理院 (950202)



星印は USGS の震央 (142.369° 38.322°)  
A Star indicates an epicenter released from USGS (142.369°, 38.322°)

矩形断層 2 枚での推定結果  
Two rectangular faults with uniform slip are assumed.

西側に傾き下がる逆断層。モーメントマグニチュードは北側 (断層 1) が 8.7、南側 (断層 2) が 8.2、2 つ合わせて 8.8 (暫定)。  
West-dipping reverse fault. Total moment magnitude: Mw 8.8. (Northern segment: Mw=8.7, Southern segment: Mw=8.2)

断層の長さは南北に約 200km の断層 1 と約 180km の断層 2 で合計約 380km。約延長はおおよそ 400km。  
Total major rupture length: ~400 km (Fault Length: Northern segment ~200 km / Southern segment ~180 km)

| 緯度<br>Lat | 経度<br>Lon | 上層深さ<br>Depth<br>km | 長さ<br>Length<br>km | 幅<br>Width<br>km | 走向<br>Strike | 傾斜角<br>Dip | すべり角<br>Rake | すべり量<br>Slip<br>m | Mw   |     |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------|-----|
| 断層 1      | 39.00°    | 143.40°             | 10.0               | 199              | 85           | 202°       | 18°          | 97°               | 27.7 | 8.7 |
| 断層 2      | 37.21°    | 142.51°             | 10.1               | 176              | 82           | 201°       | 15°          | 81°               | 5.9  | 8.2 |

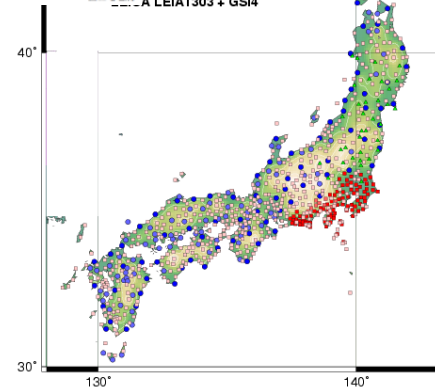
国土地理院資料

Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

Since 1990, US advised Japan on construction of continuously-operating GPS stations (like ones we built in Southern California). They built a network of over 1000 GPS stations called GEONET.

GEONET

- CON TOP700779A + GSI3
- CON TOP700779A + GSI4
- BLE TRM23903.00 + GSI1
- BLE TRM23903.00 + GSI2
- BLE TRM23903.00 + GSI4
- A LEIAT303 + GSI4

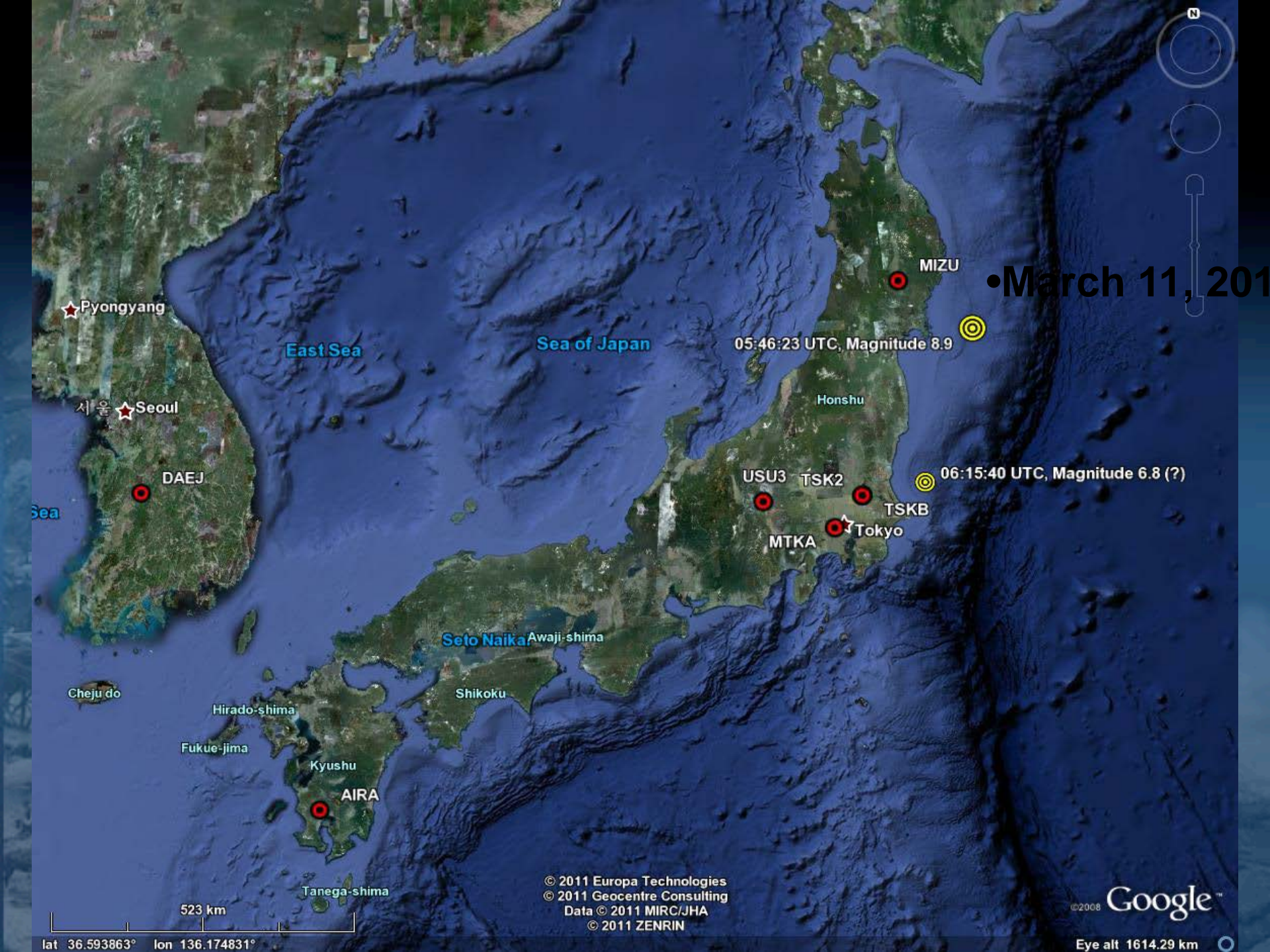


Post-seismic:

re-adjustments will go on for years, GPS is the best way to examine it







• March 11, 2011

East Sea

Sea of Japan

05:46:23 UTC, Magnitude 8.9

06:15:40 UTC, Magnitude 6.8 (?)

Pyongyang

서울 Seoul

DAEJ

MIZU

USU3

TSK2

TSKB

MTKA

Tokyo

Honshu

Seto Naika Awaji-shima

Shikoku

Hirado-shima

Fukue-jima

Kyushu

AIRA

Tanega-shima

Cheju do

523 km

© 2011 Europa Technologies  
© 2011 Geocentre Consulting  
Data © 2011 MIRC/JHA  
© 2011 ZENRIN

©2008 Google™

Eye alt 1614.29 km

lat 36.593863° lon 136.174831°



130

135

140

145

45

45

40

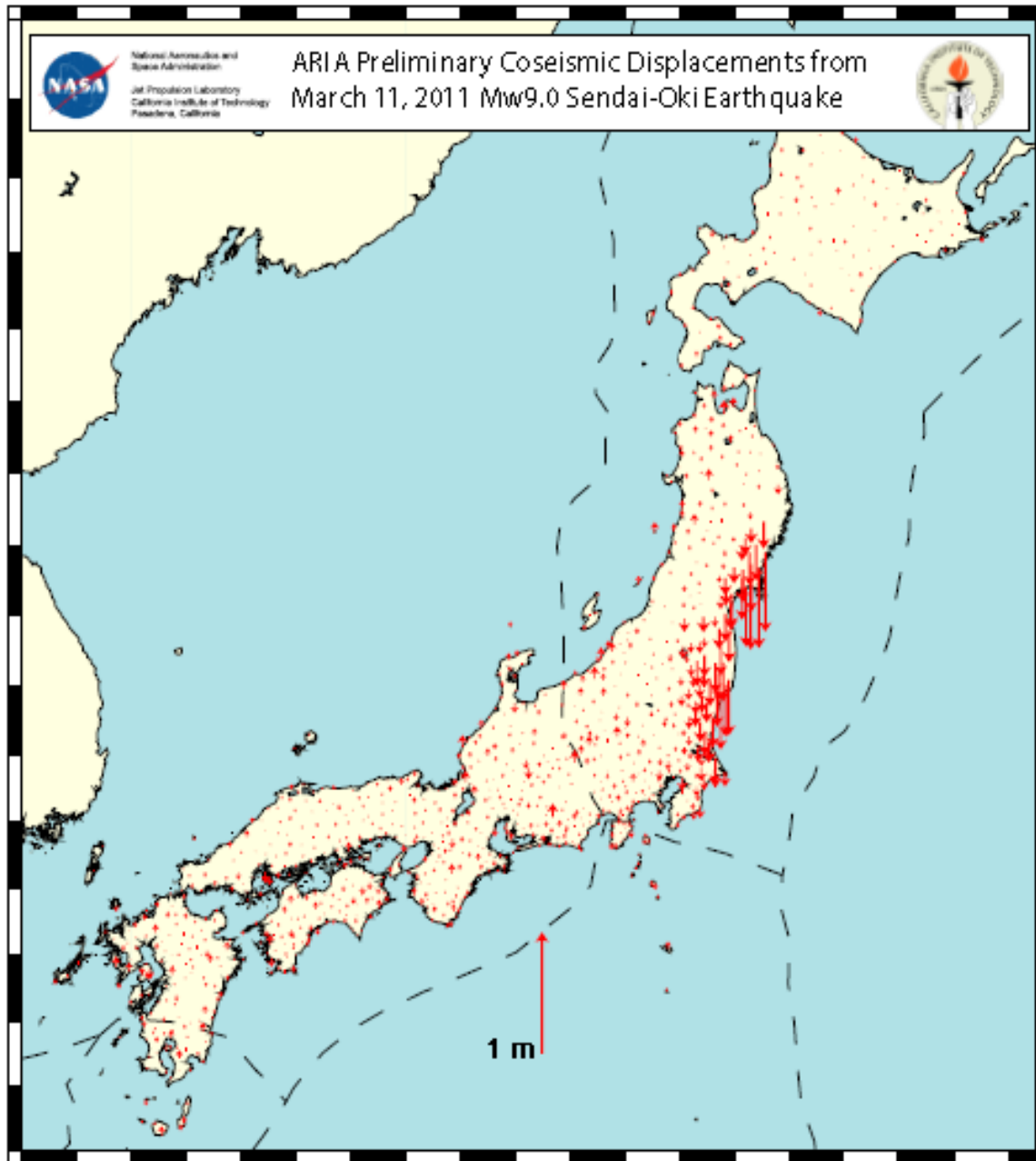
40

35

35

30

30



## Vertical Displacements

Difference between estimated positions of GEONET stations at 05:00 and 06:30 UTC on March 11, 2011

Solutions by JPL and Caltech.

GPS 1 Hz data in RINEX format provided by the Geospatial Information Authority (GSI) of Japan.

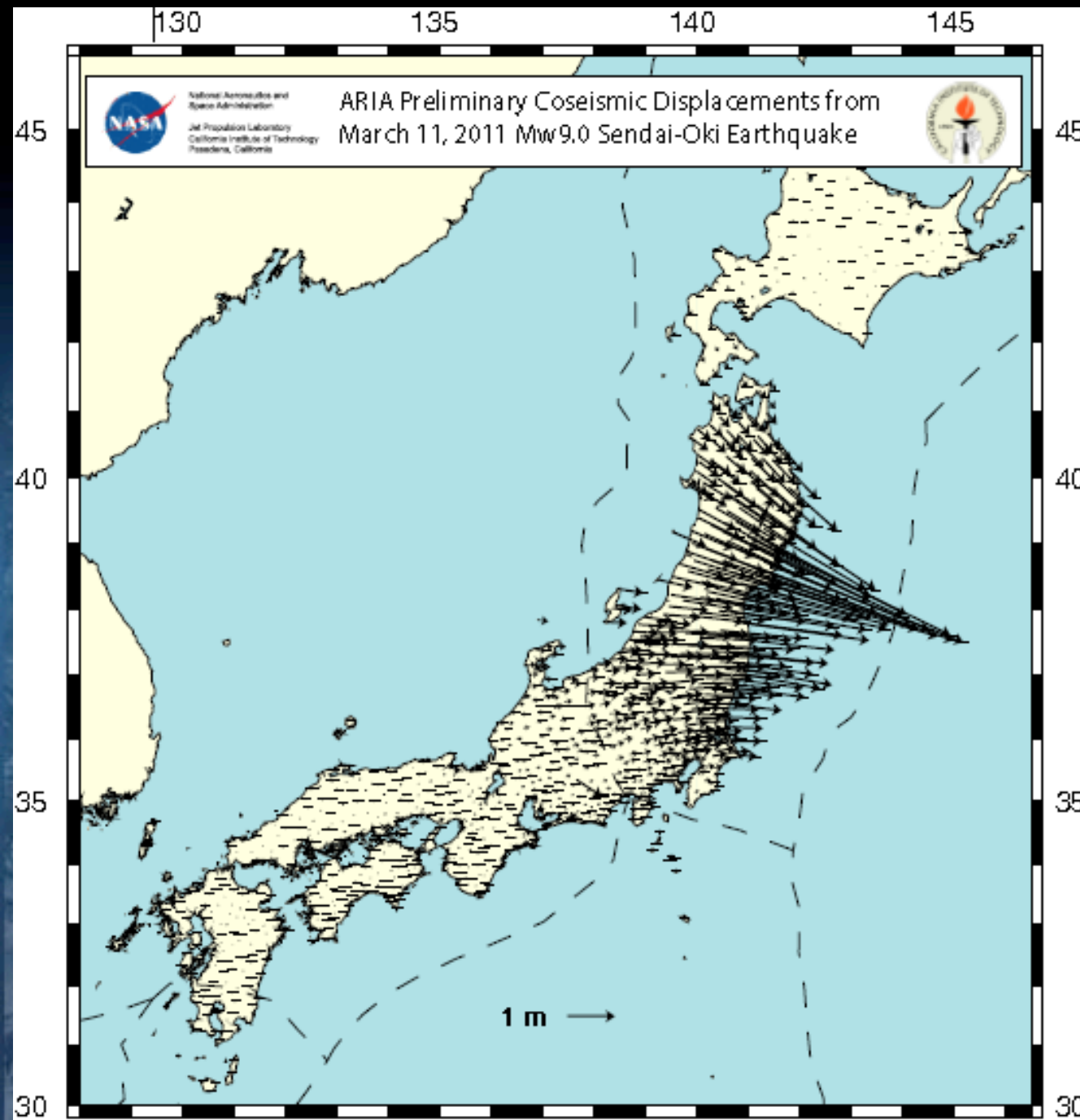
# Horizontal Displacements

Difference between estimated positions of GEONET stations at 05:00 and 06:30 UTC, March 11, 2011

Bars at end of vector show 95% error estimate.

Solutions by JPL and Caltech.

GPS 1 Hz data in RINEX format provided by the Geospatial Information Authority (GSI) of Japan.



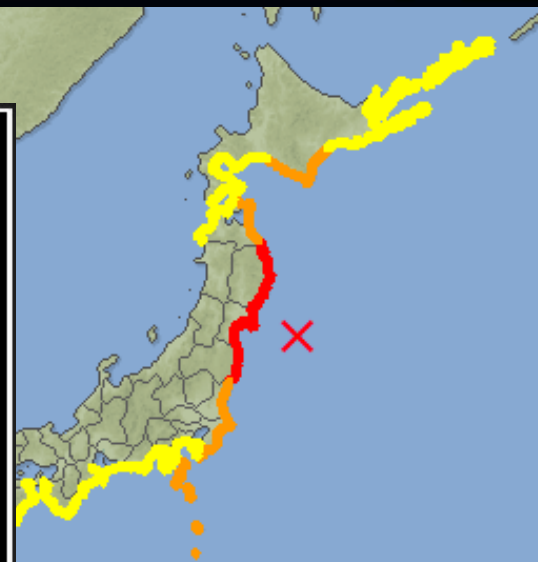


# •Japanese early warning systems

Issued at 14:49 JST, 11 March 2011

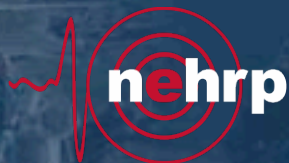


Automatic earthquake warning triggered by computer



•Japan Meteorological Agency initial tsunami warning

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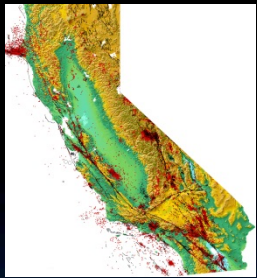


## Tsunami Warning

| Notes | Major Tsunami                                      | Tsunami  |
|-------|--|--|
|       | Tsunami height is estimated to be 3 meters or more | Tsunami height is estimated to be up to 2 meters |

## Tsunami Advisory

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | Tsunami height is estimated to be about 0.5 meter |
| × | Epicenter   |



# USGS Earthquake Early Warning

# ShakeAlert

## Status today:

Prototype system issuing alerts since Jan. 2012

alerts issued for recent So. California quakes

System upgrades ongoing in So. Calif. (DHS funds)

California OES tasked by legislature to find funding for statewide system – USGS engaged

Administration requested and Congress added \$0.85M in 2014 to USGS (total funding \$1.45M)

Cost estimate and implementation plan complete for west-coast system



## Receiving alerts today:

- research scientists

- Google.org

- BART

- Metrolink

- Amgen

- So Cal Edison

- CalEMA

- SF DEM

- L.A. City

- L.A. County

- UC Berkeley OEP

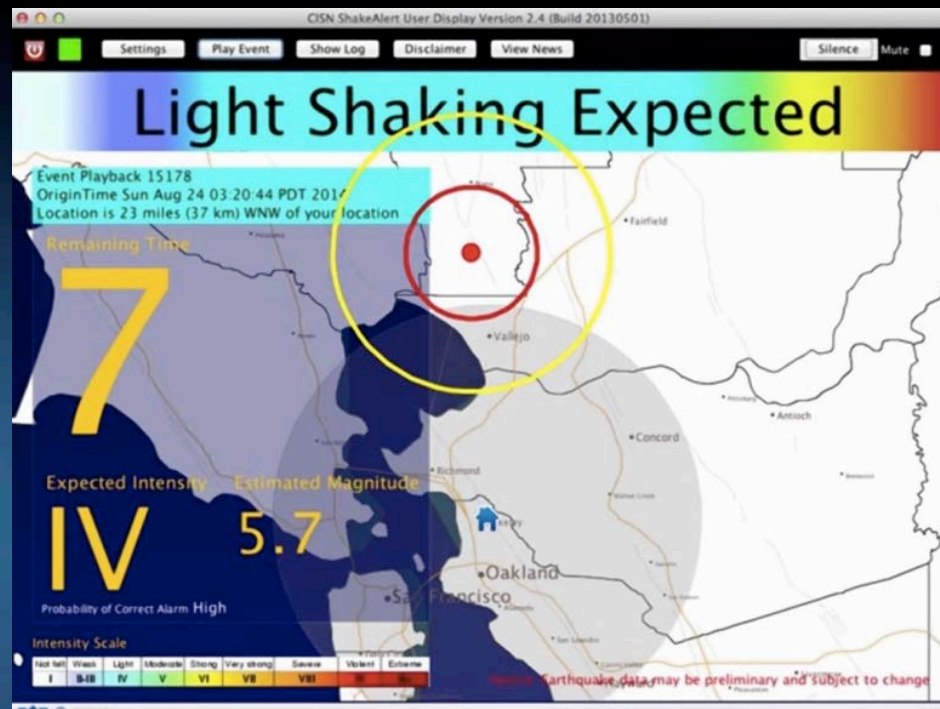
- *more...*





# Earthquake early warning

- Earthquake early warning systems are currently in use in Japan and a number of other countries.
- Magnitude-6.0 South Napa earthquake provided the first major and successful test of the prototype *ShakeAlert* system in California.
- Potential to provide additional situational awareness for critical infrastructure operators.



# San Andreas Fault lifeline crossings



GPS & accelerometer arrays are being explored as part of a fully operational earthquake early warning system

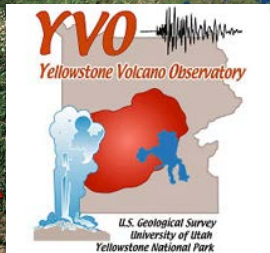


# USGS volcano monitoring responsibility

- There are 169 potentially active US volcanoes
- USGS operates 5 volcano observatories in partnership with universities, state and other Federal agencies.
- USGS/USAID Volcano Disaster Assistance Team works globally



AVO



YVO



CVO

CalVO

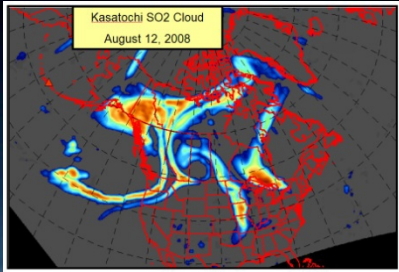


HVO

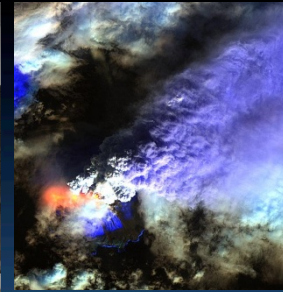
CNMI



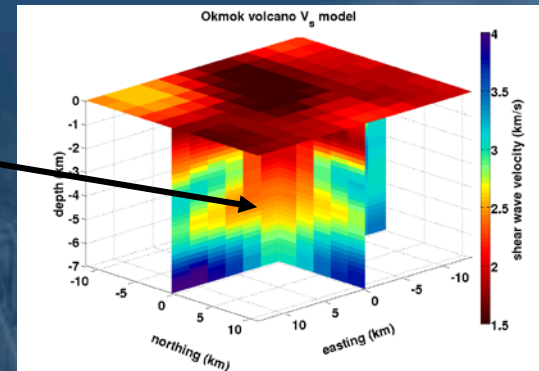
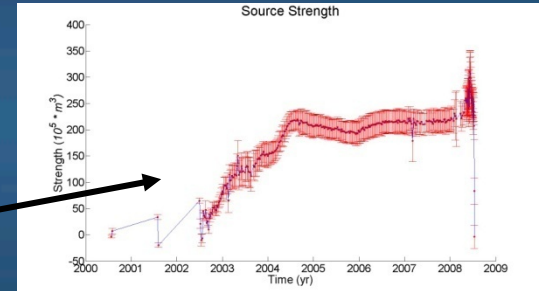
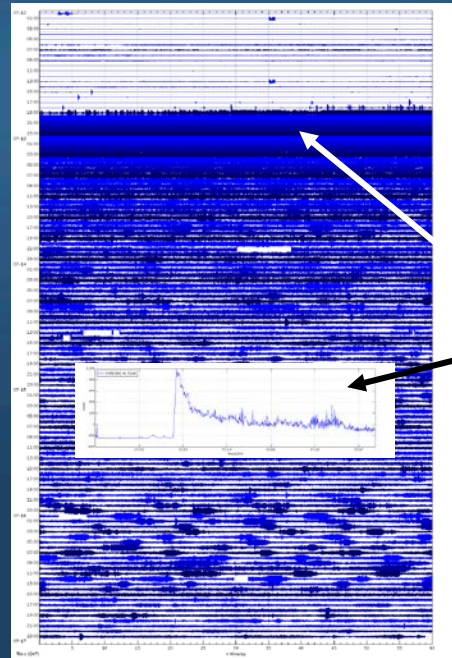
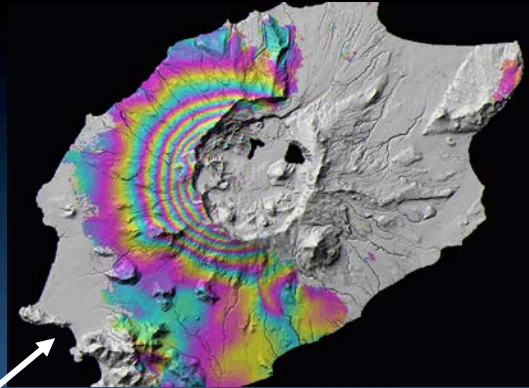
# USGS volcano observatories combine an array of real time data streams to interpret behavior and forecast eruptions



Gas cloud from satellite UV sensor



Satellite surveillance for hotspots and ash





# GPS uses by USGS Volcano Hazards Program



- **Key component of volcano monitoring for flank movements and lava dome growth**
- **Integral part of National Volcano Early Warning System plan for monitoring modernization and expansion**
- **Over 300 continuous GPS units are currently in use by USGS volcano observatories** (nearly all of these are telemetered precise dual-frequency GPS stations; many are Plate Boundary Observatory stations operated by UNAVCO with NSF funding)

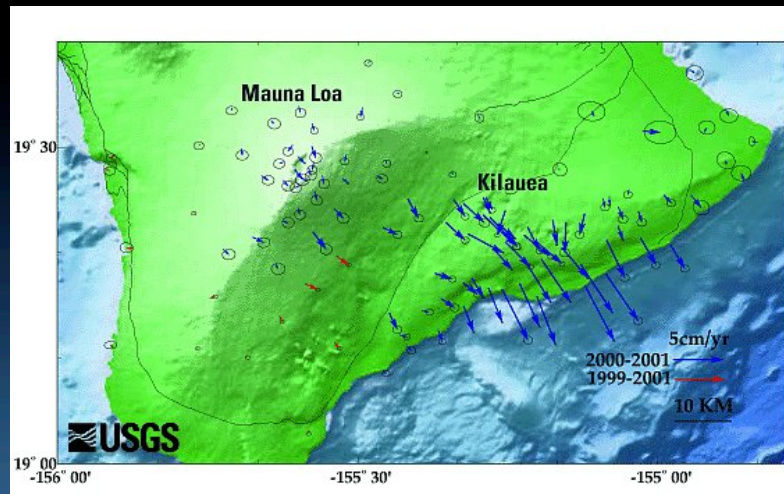


# USGS uses precise GPS for eruption monitoring

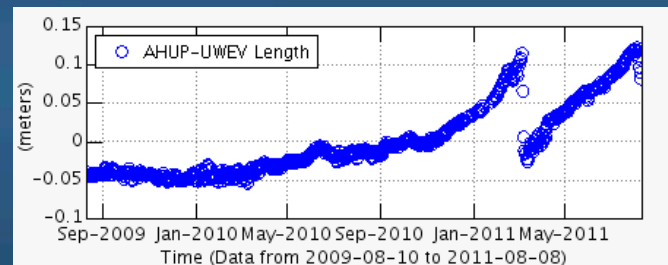
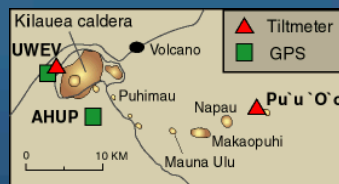


## Flank motions

Motions of volcanoes' flanks can indicate the arrival of new magma; **GPS is used to monitor changes in activity.**



## Dome growth





# National Volcano Early Warning System (NVEWS): Closing the monitoring gap

Based on systematic threat ranking of 169 U.S. Volcanoes

## NVEWS Goals:

- Robust real-time monitoring of the most threatening volcanoes.
- 24/7 Volcano Watch Office.
- Support for collaborative research and communication projects with State, Local and Academic partners.

Authorization bill pending before Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee



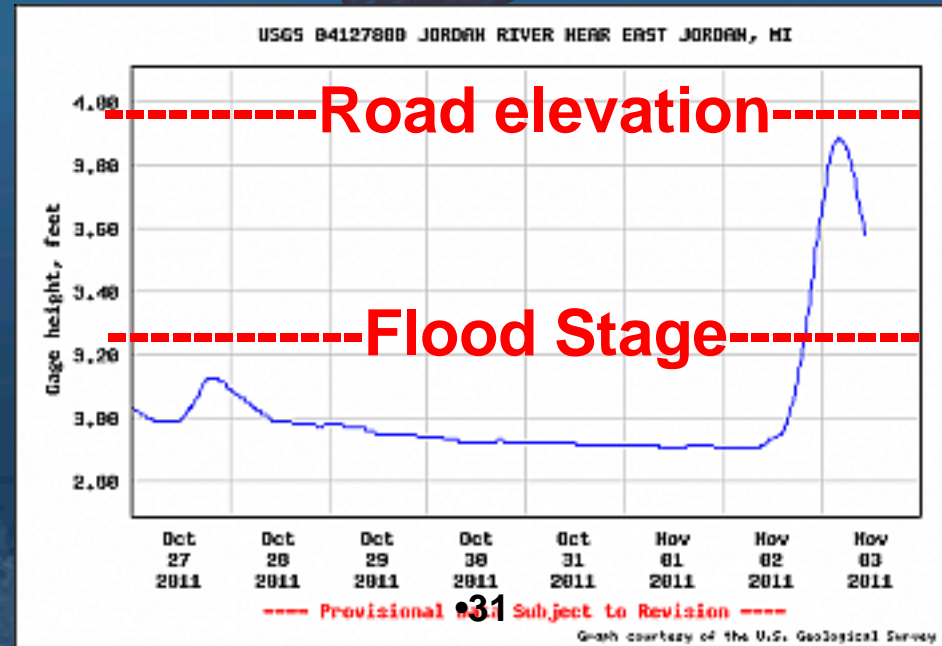
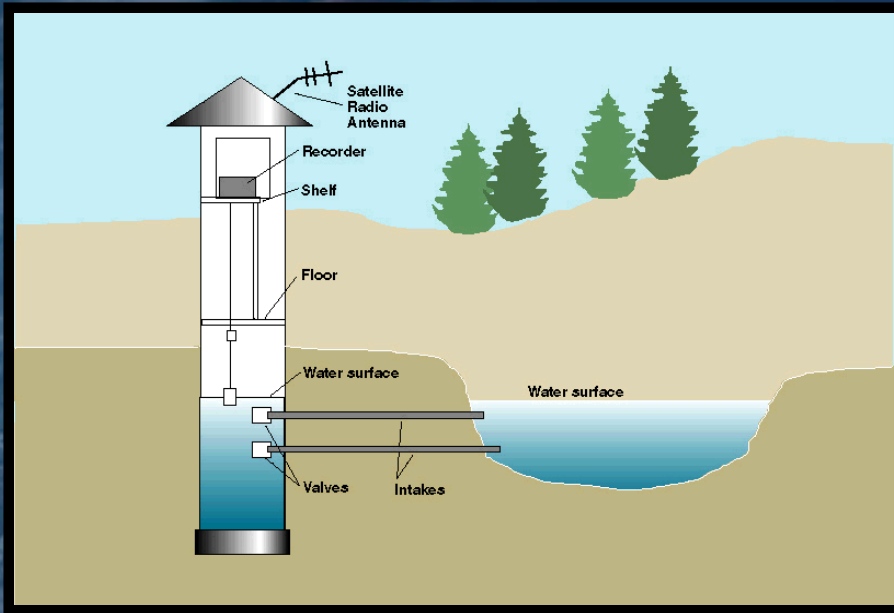
| NVEWS TARGETS        | MONITORING GAP |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Kilauea, HI          | 1 ERUPTION     |
| St. Helens, WA       | 1 ERUPTION     |
| Rainier, WA          | 3              |
| Hood, OR             | 3              |
| Shasta, CA           | 3              |
| South Sister, OR     | 3              |
| Lassen, CA           | 3              |
| Mauna Loa, HI        | 2              |
| Redoubt, AK          | 2              |
| Makushin, AK         | 2              |
| Glacier Peak, WA     | 4              |
| Akutan, AK           | 2              |
| Baker, WA            | 3              |
| Spurr, AK            | 2              |
| Newberry Volcano, OR | 3              |
| Augustine, AK        | 2              |
| Crater Lake, OR      | 4              |
| Inyo Craters., CA    | 3              |
| Adams, WA,           | 2              |

- 
- A photograph of a river with a person in a red life vest on the bank and a water tower in the foreground. The river is turbulent with white water rapids. A person in a red life vest and a white hat is standing on the grassy bank, looking towards the river. In the foreground, there is a large, cylindrical, corrugated metal water tower with a conical roof. The background shows a steep, rocky bank with some vegetation.
- **GPS used for Streamgaging**
  - **9,000 USGS streamgages and water-quality monitoring sites use GPS timing for satellite communications**



# USGS WaterAlert

Text message or e-mail  
customized alerts



<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>



# GPS/GNSS for hazards management

- **GPS/GNSS** is an **essential enabling technology** for the mapping and precise monitoring needed to accomplish science missions in support of hazard warnings.
- In the aftermath of a significant disaster event, **GPS/GNSS** is **critical in support** of new mapping and geopositioning incident features - **essential in support of immediate response** (e.g., support Urban Search & Rescue) as well as for long-term recovery (e.g., organizing debris removal).







***Questions?***