

GPS Precision Monitoring of Natural Hazards

USTTI 2015 Course:

GPS Applications for Disaster Management

Larry Hothem, Senior Physical Scientist

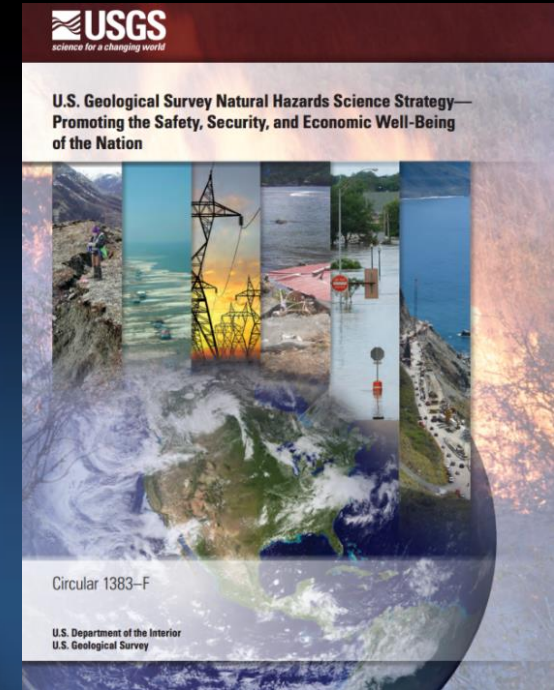
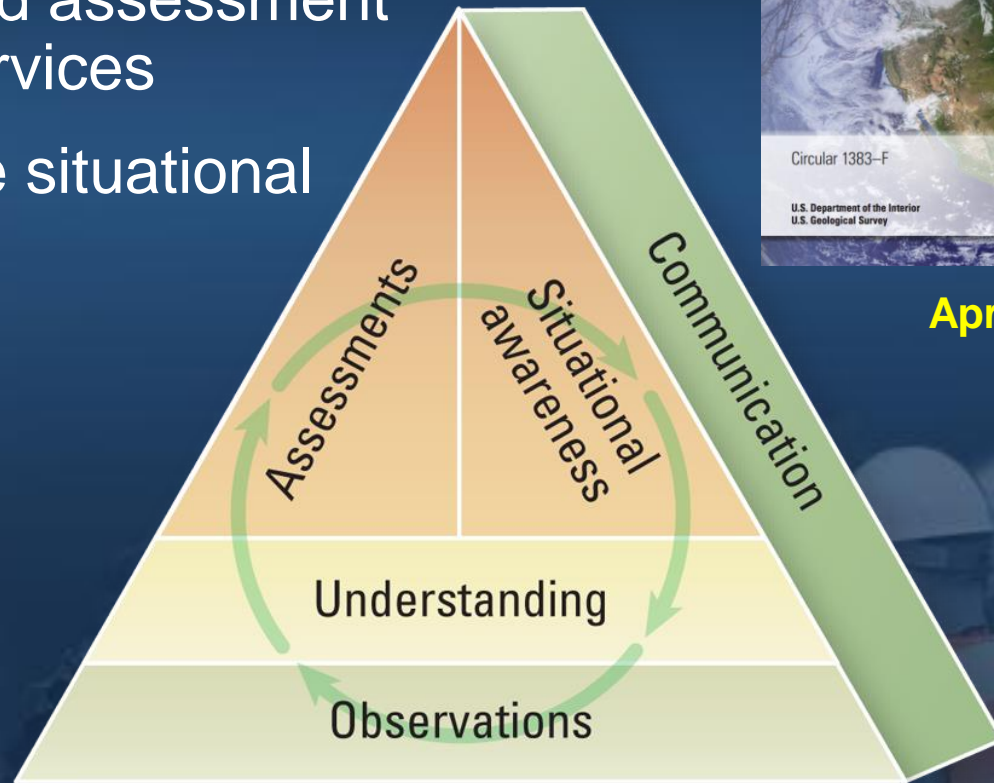
U.S. Geological Survey, The Department of the Interior

Reston, Virginia, USA

October 13, 2015

USGS Natural Hazards Science Strategy

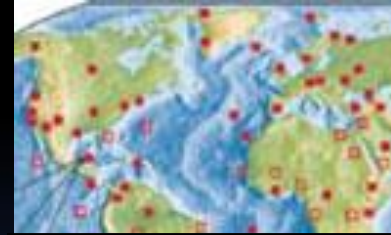
- **Goal 1:** Enhanced observations
 - GPS/GNSS, optical, LiDAR, InSAR and seismic
- **Goal 2:** Fundamental understanding of hazards and impacts
- **Goal 3:** Improved assessment products and services
- **Goal 4:** Effective situational awareness



April 2013

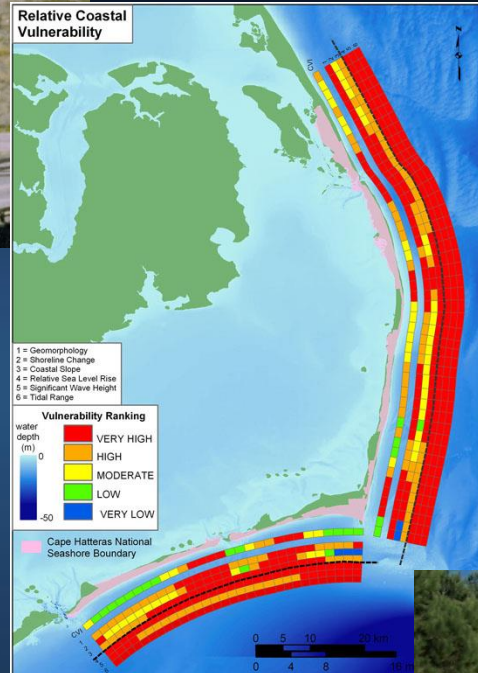
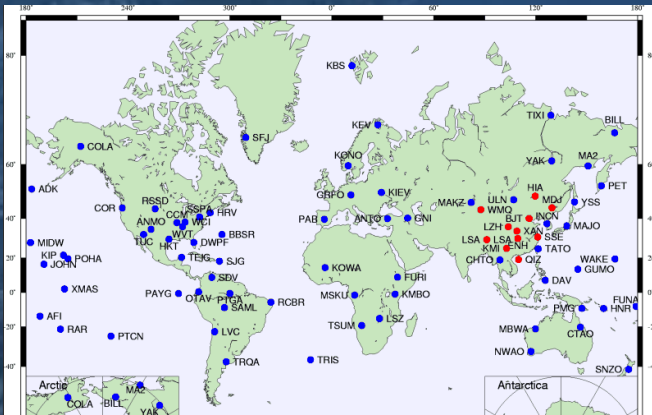
USGS key natural hazard roles and responsibilities

- 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



Natural Hazards Mission Area programs

Earthquake Hazards



Volcano Hazards



Landslide Hazards

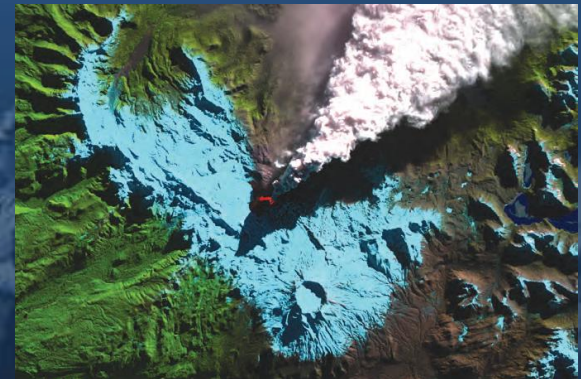
Coastal & Marine Geology

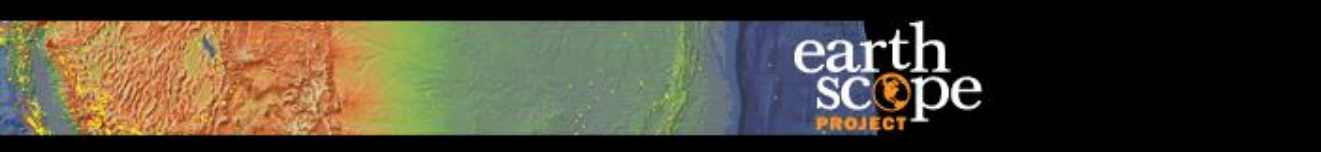
Global Seismographic Network



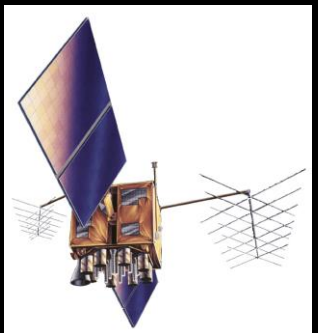
USGS Emergency Management

- The **Natural Hazards Mission Area** is responsible for overseeing the USGS's emergency management activities.
- Function includes the **USGS Hazard Response Executive Committee**, which provides executive direction, oversight, and support to USGS managers in responding to major hazard events.
- During incidents of national significance, the USGS provides support to certain **National Response Framework** emergency support functions.





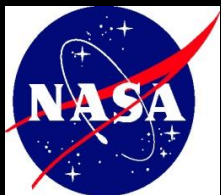
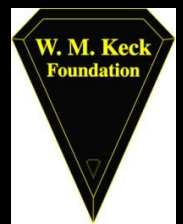
GPS/GNSS



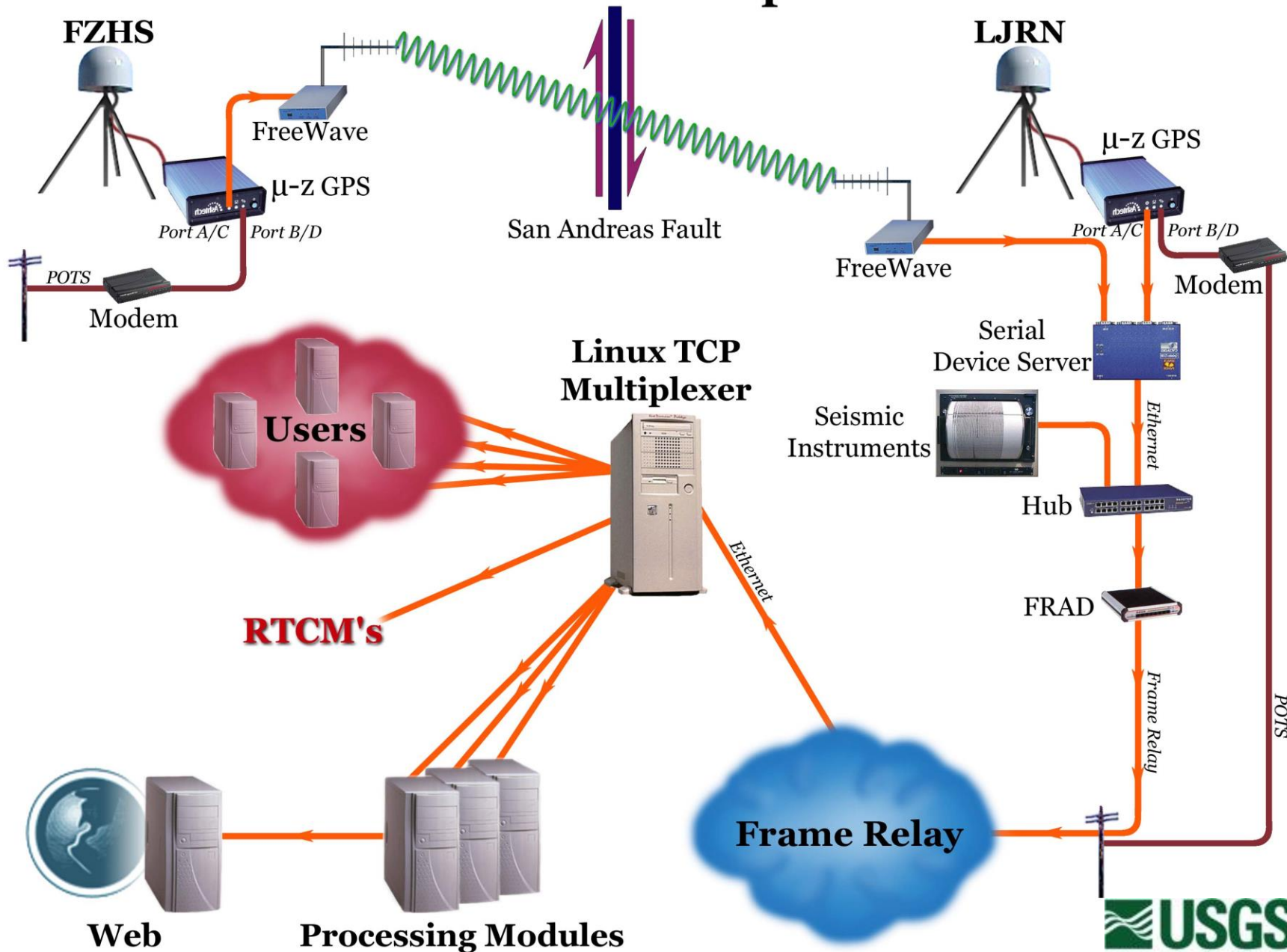
A network of GPS/GNSS stations measures plate tectonic motions and land surface deformation to an accuracy of better than

1 mm/yr

We can see whether the **motion** is 'slow and steady,' or perhaps more interestingly, is it **sometimes accelerating or decelerating**

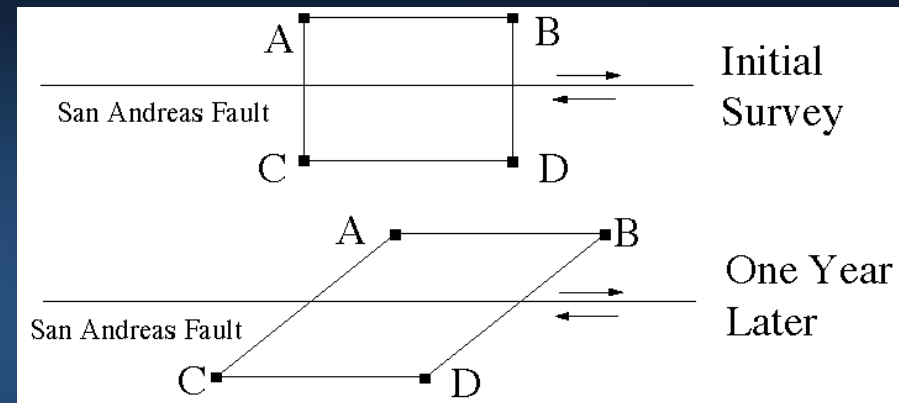


Real-Time GPS Slip Sensor



How does the USGS use GPS/GNSS to measure fault motion?

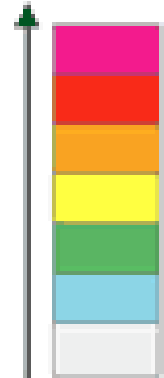
- **Objective:** determine how stations near active faults move relative to each other.
- **Occupy stations simultaneously.**
- **Relative positions and possible motion are determined** between stations separated by up to several 100 km to a precision of better than a few millimeters.
- Months or years later we **reoccupy the same stations.**
- **Determine the change in relative position** between stations.
- **Calculate accumulated strain and slip** between faults.



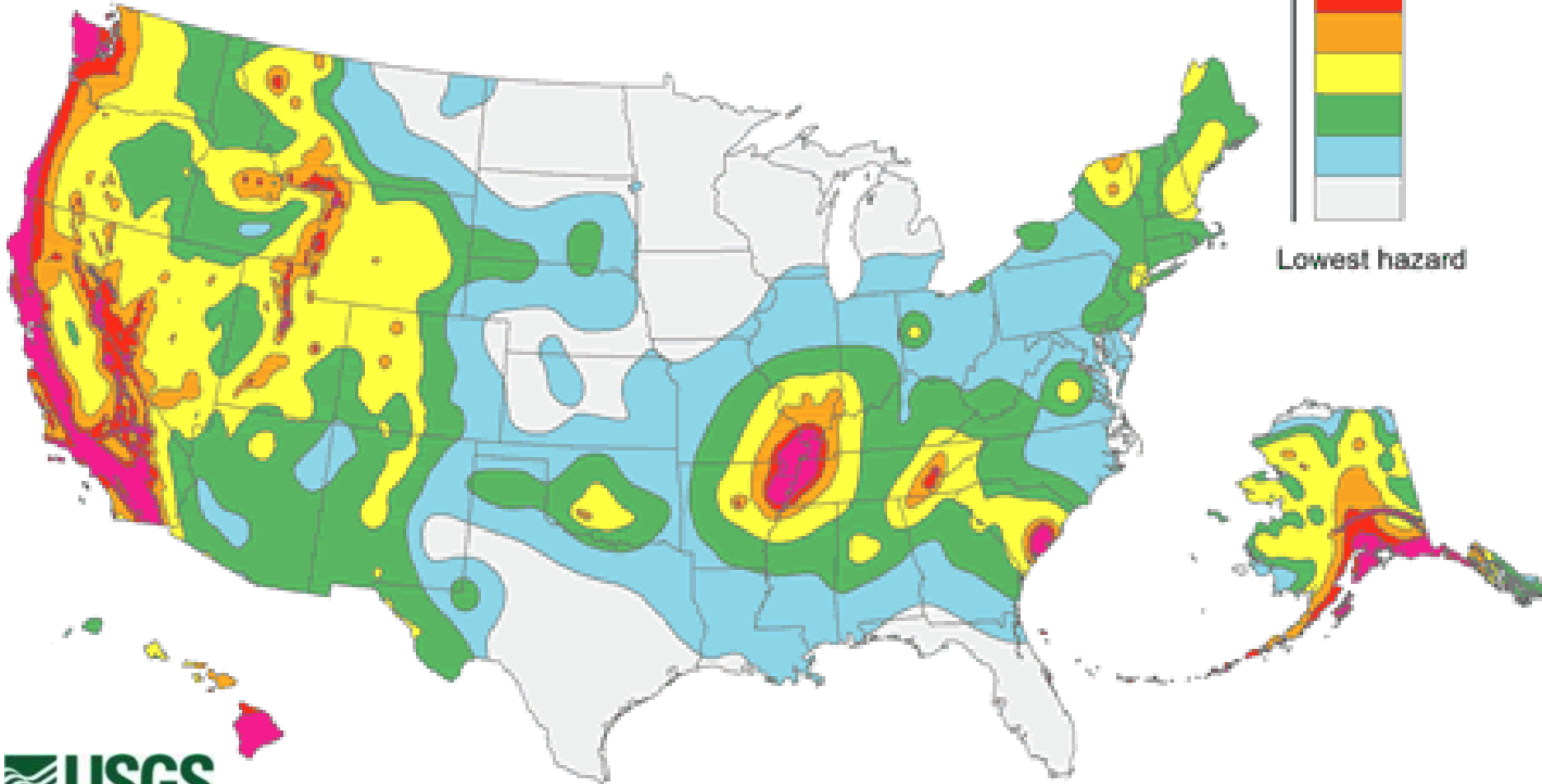
National Seismic Hazard Map, 2014



Highest hazard

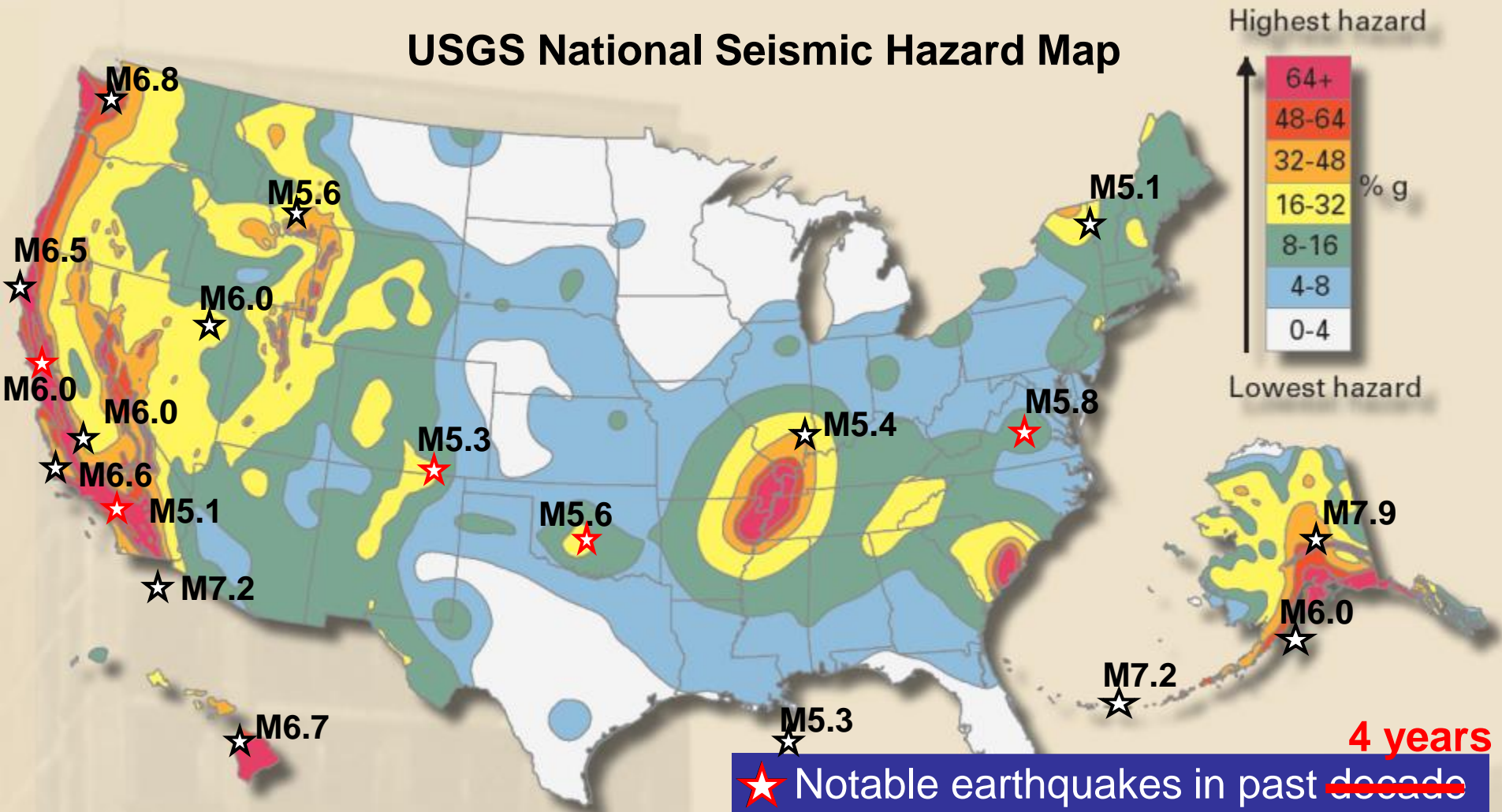


Lowest hazard



Earthquakes are a national hazard

USGS National Seismic Hazard Map



4 years
★ Notable earthquakes in past ~~decade~~



FEMA

NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology

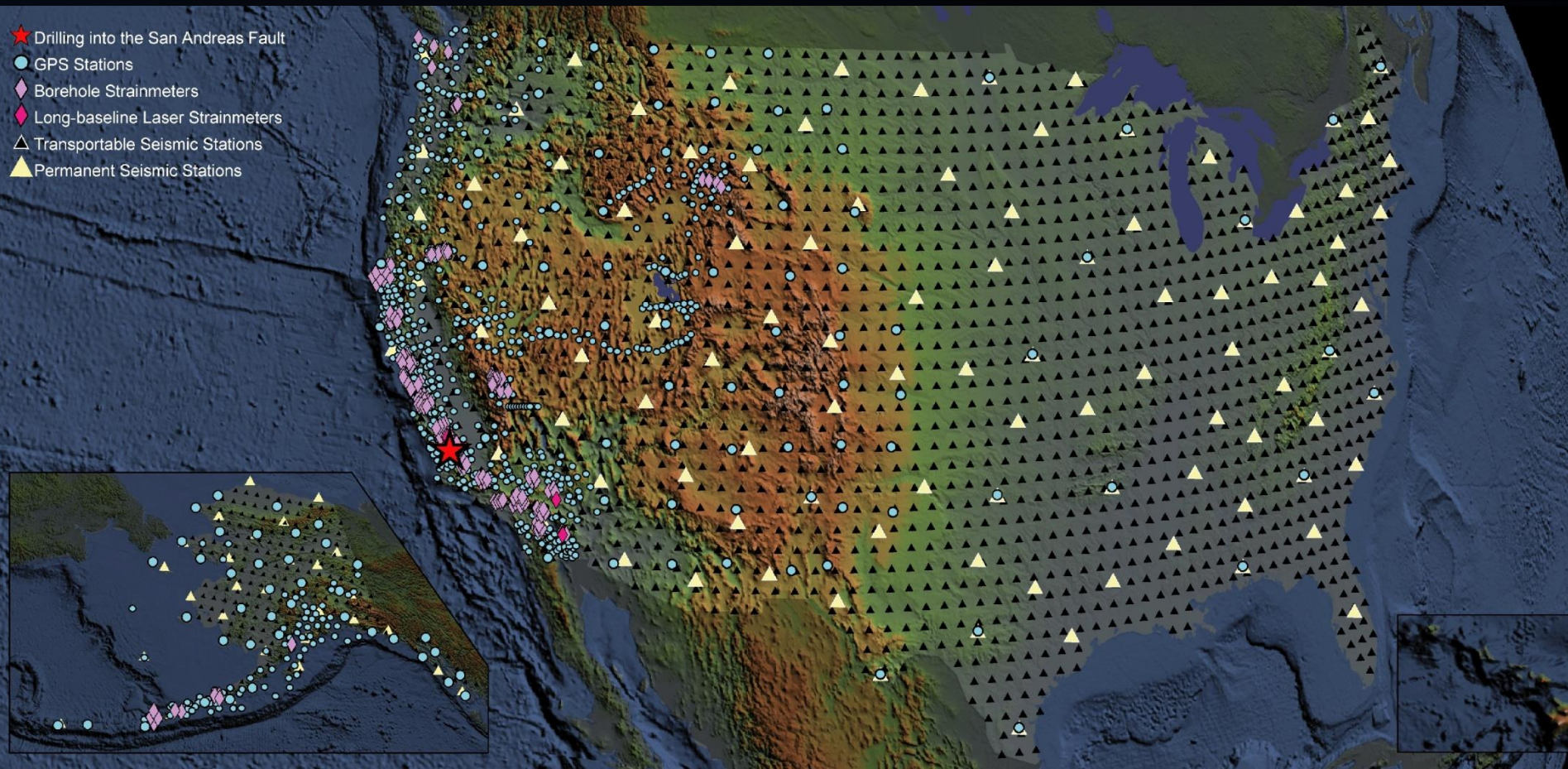


USGS
science for a changing world



national **earthquake** hazards reduction program

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



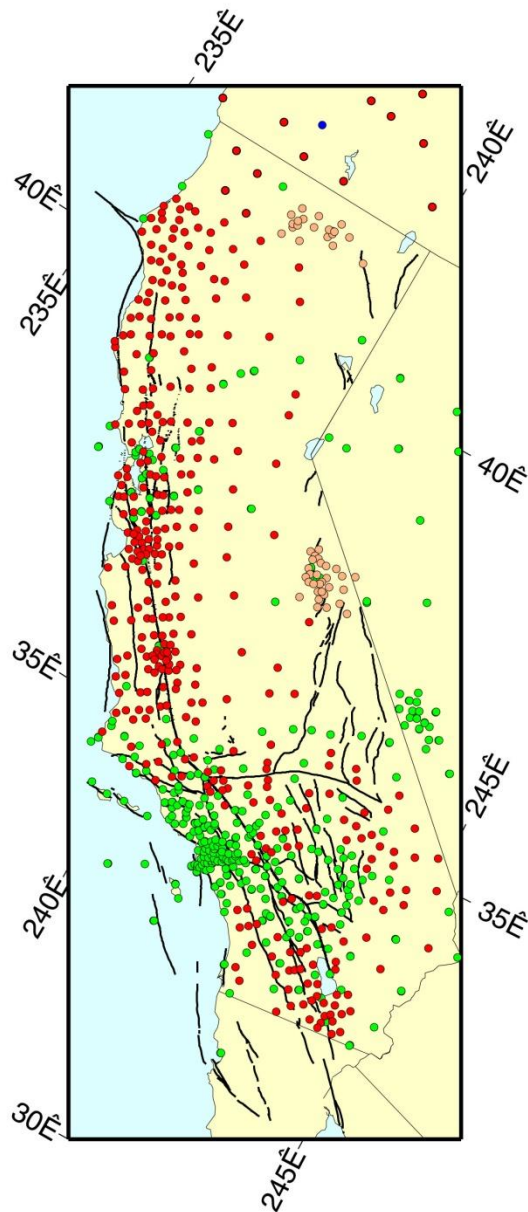


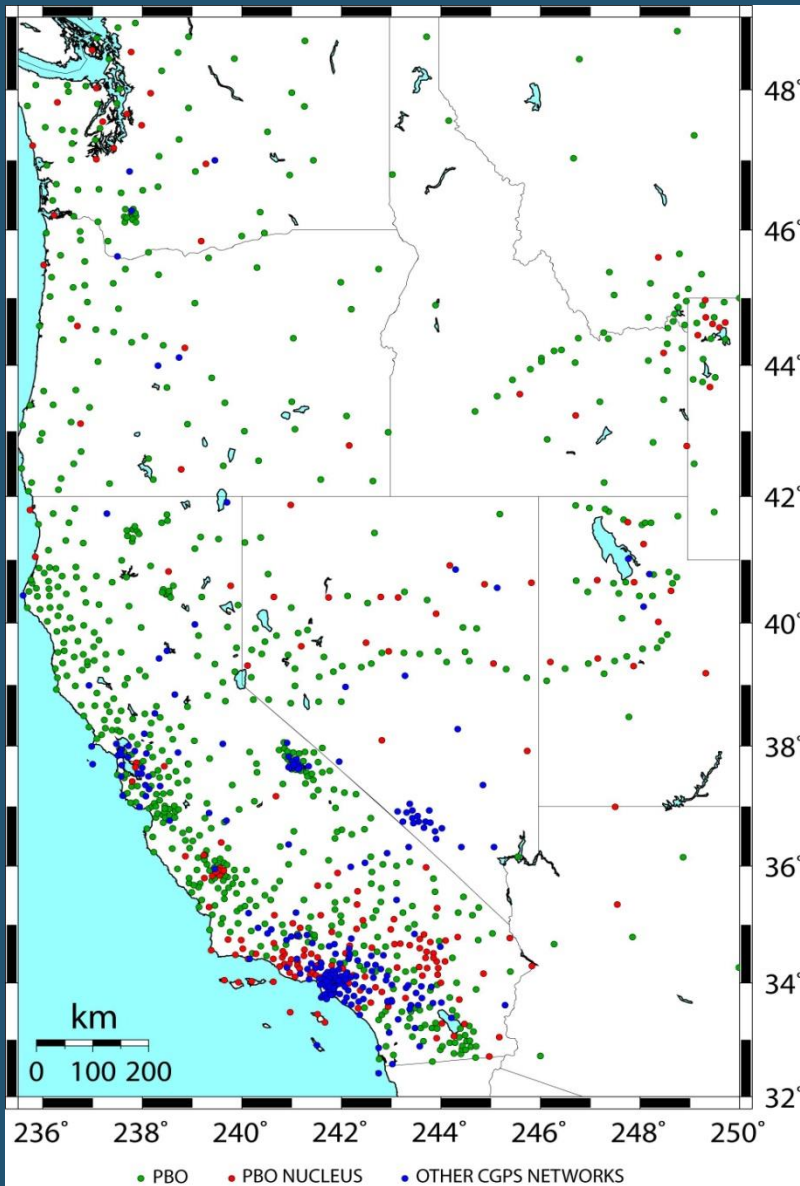
Plate Boundary Observatory

San Andreas plan

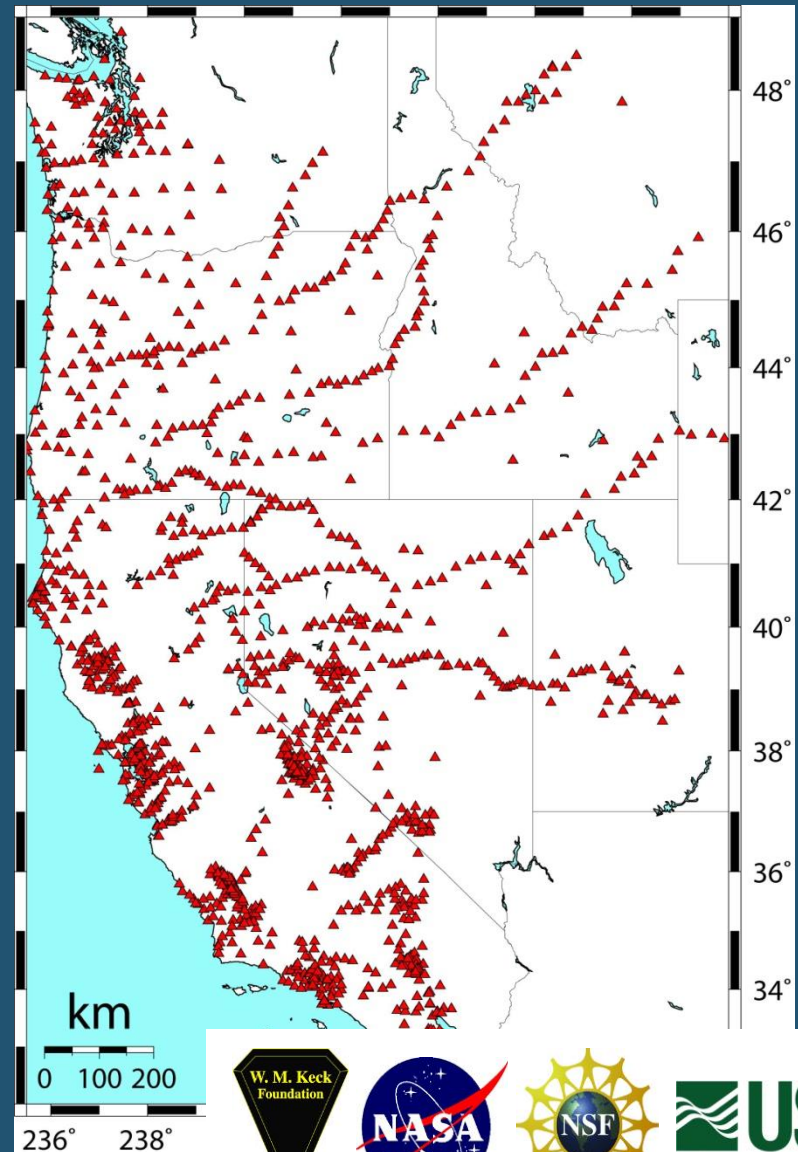
GNSS station clusters along San Andreas fault, especially along transitions from creeping to locked sections

Continuous and campaign GPS arrays

Continuously Operating GPS Stations

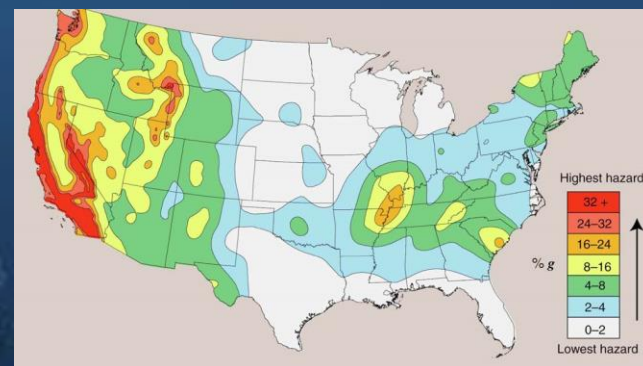
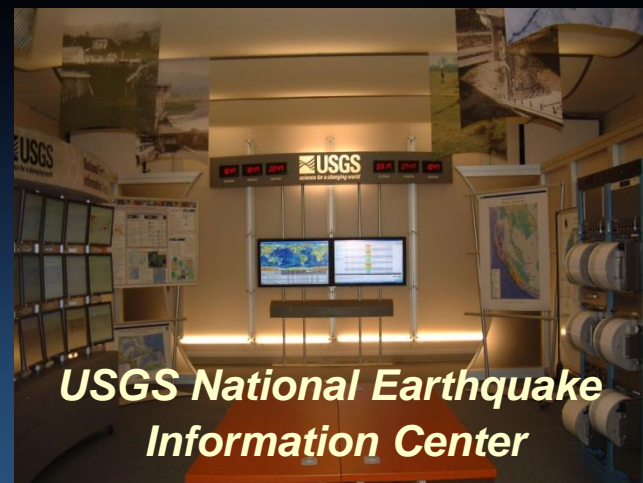


Campaign Survey GPS Points



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



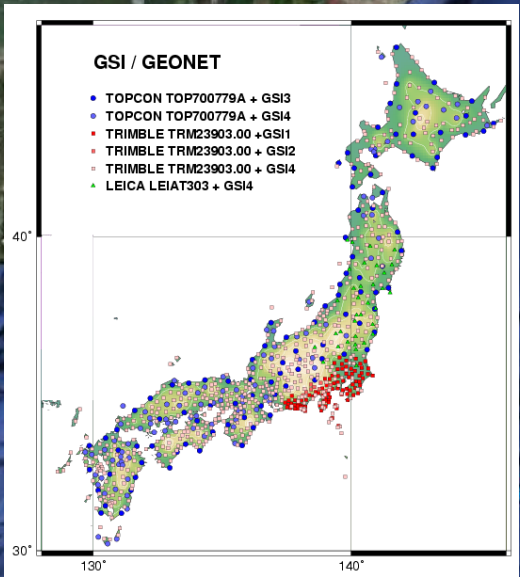
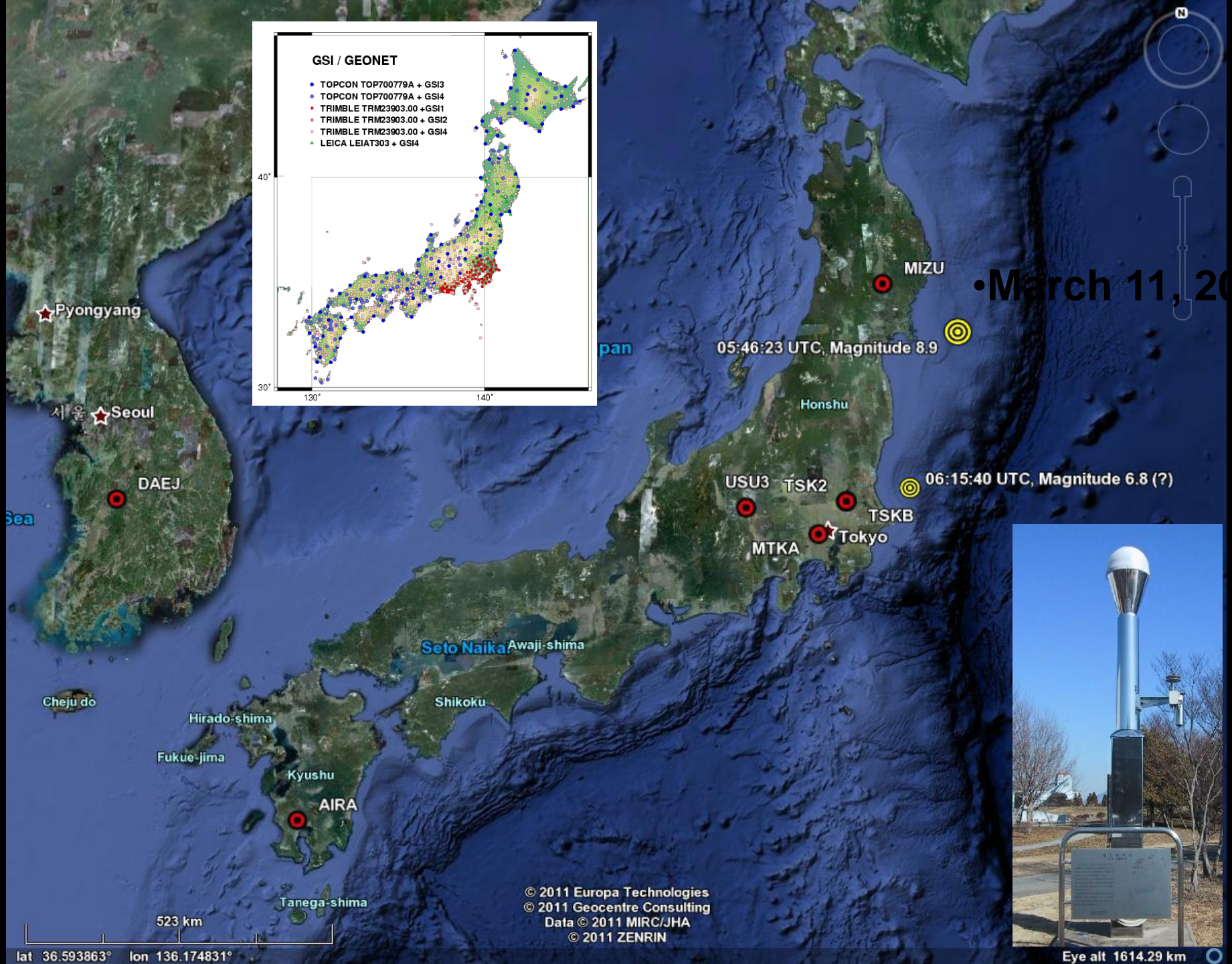
USGS
science for a changing world

national **earthquake** hazards reduction program

San Andreas Fault lifeline crossings



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



• March 11, 2011

05:46:23 UTC, Magnitude 8.9

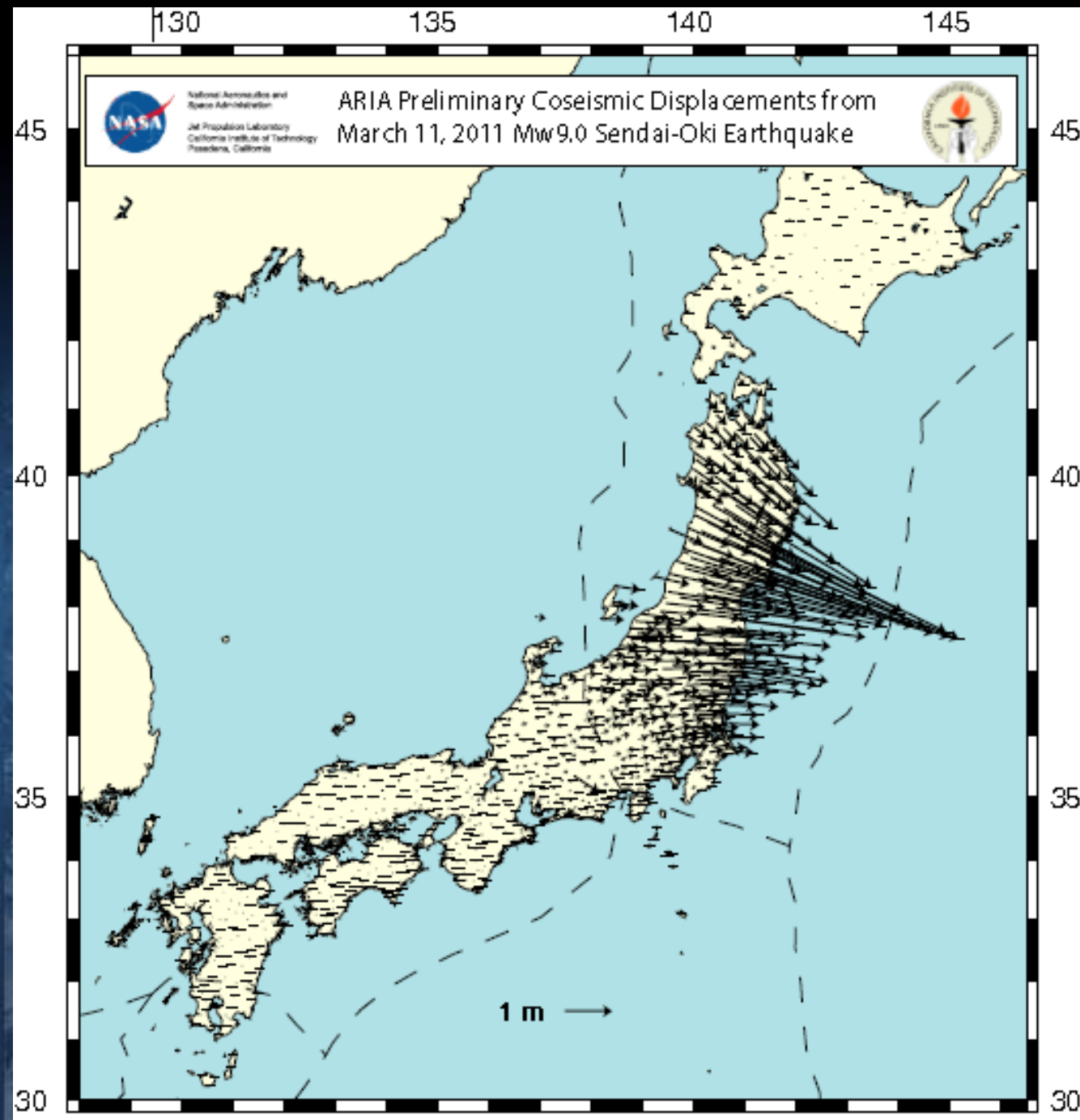
06:15:40 UTC, Magnitude 6.8 (?)

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 Data © 2011 MIRC/JHA
 © 2011 ZENRIN



Eye alt 1614.29 km

523 km
 lat 36.593863° lon 136.174831°



Horizontal Displacements

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

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



130

135

140

145

45

45

40

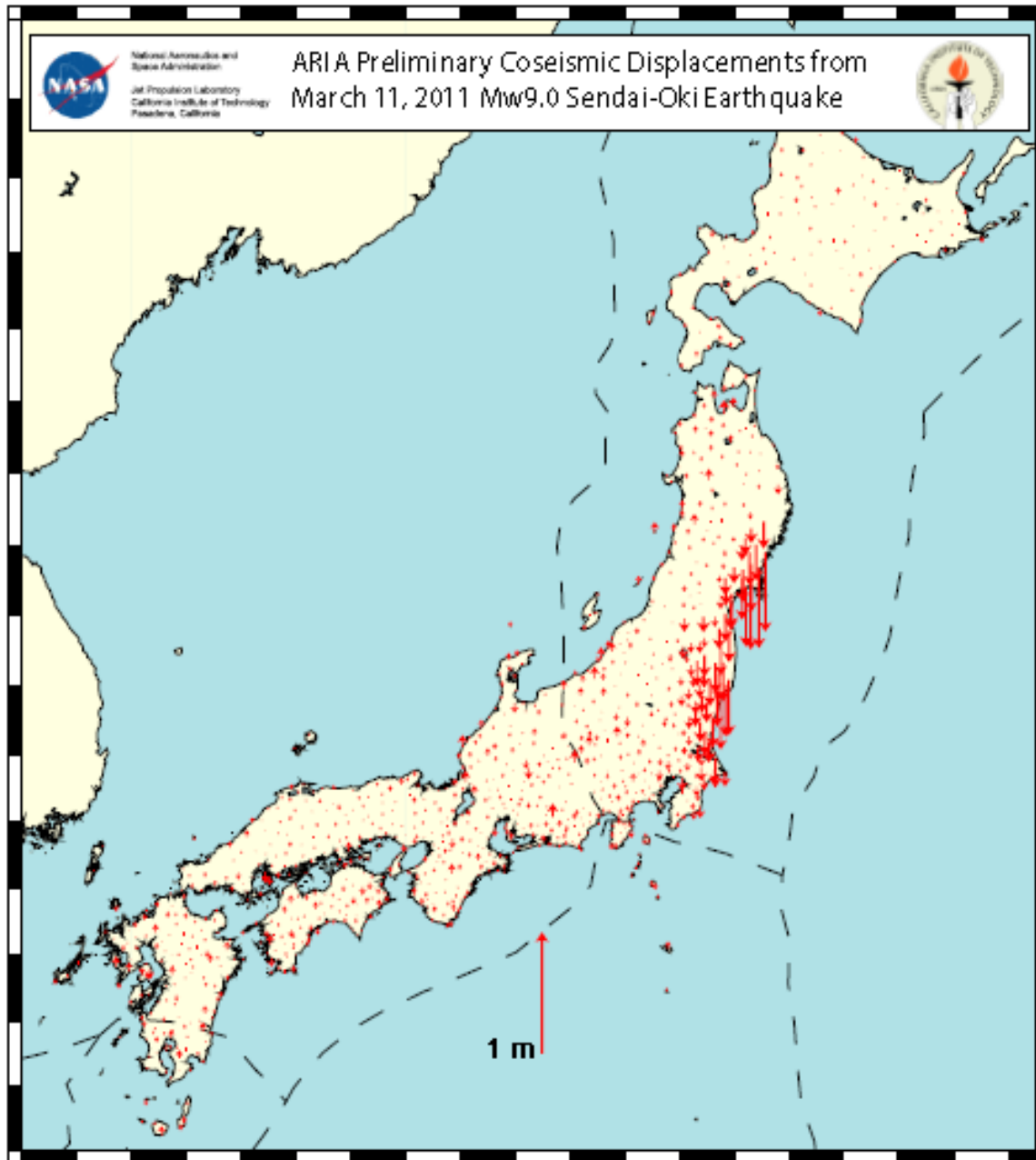
40

35

35

30

30



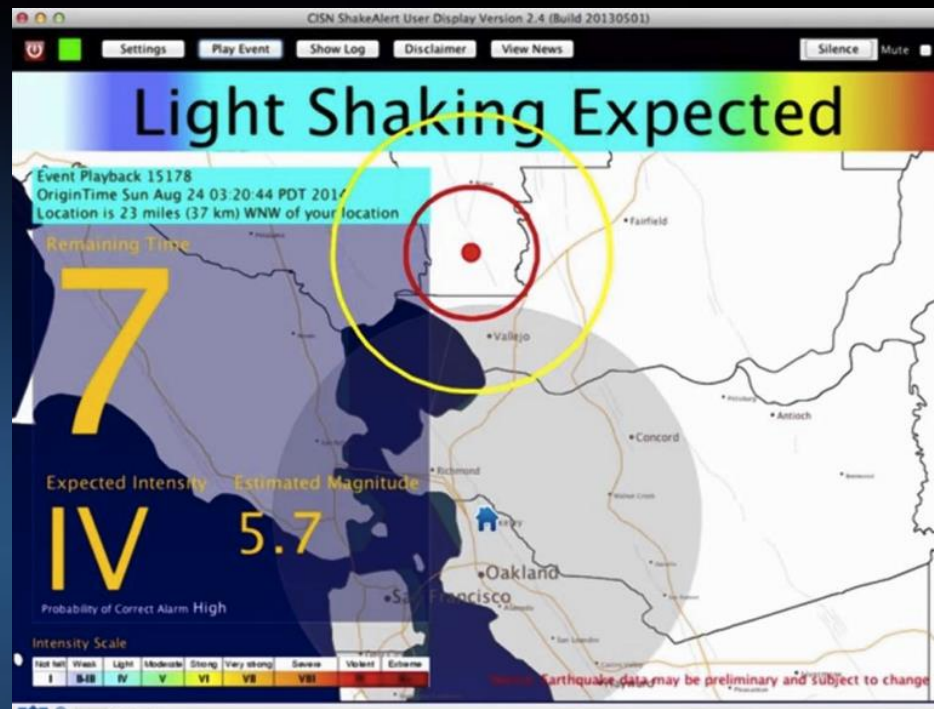
Vertical Displacements

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

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

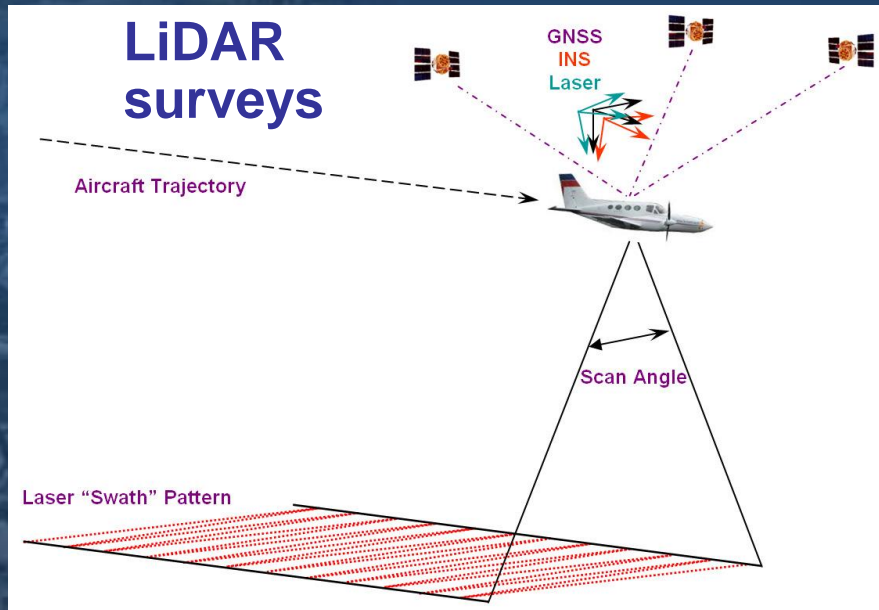
Earthquake early warning

- 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.

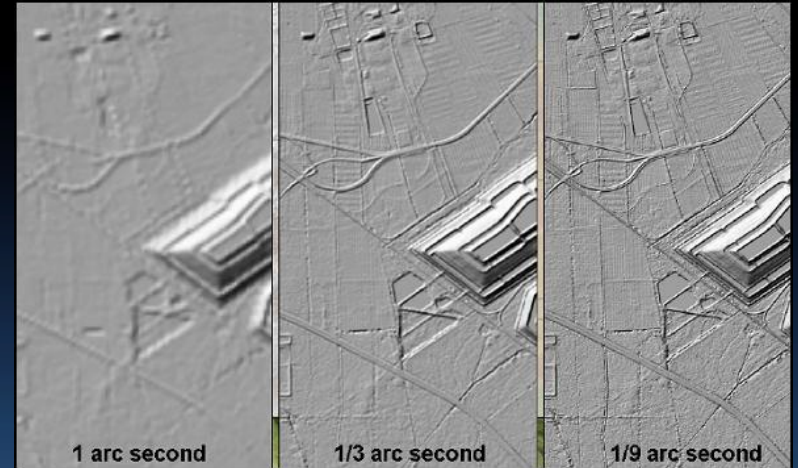


GPS is used for high-accuracy base geospatial data products

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.



LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) - a remote sensing technology

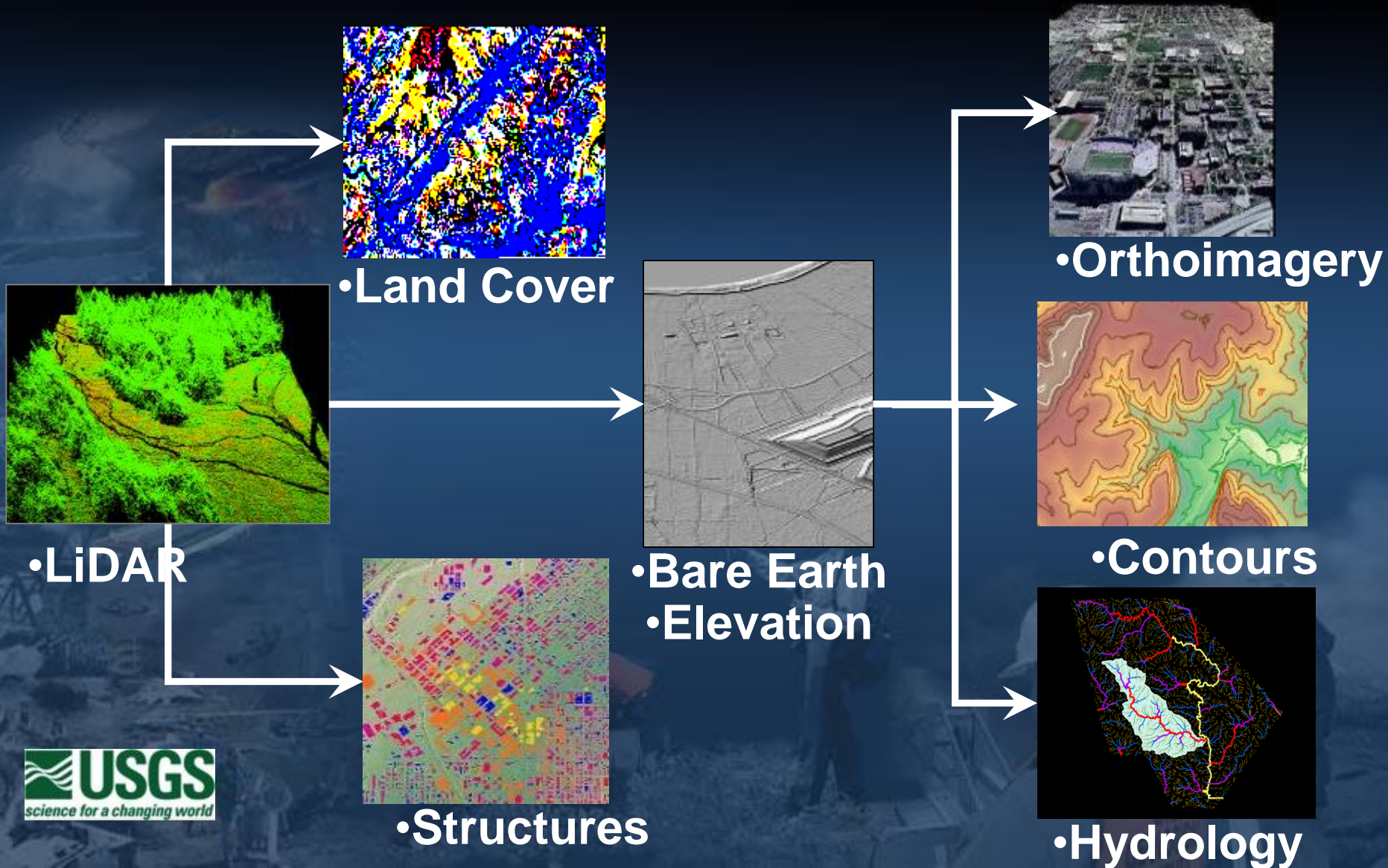


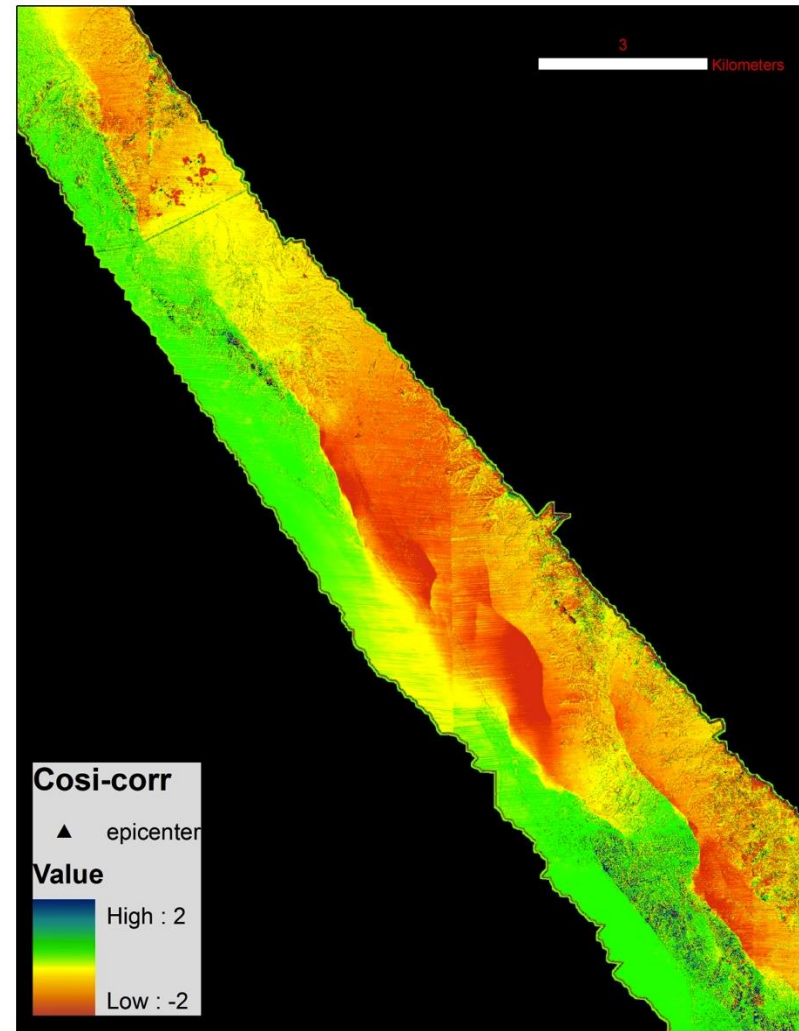
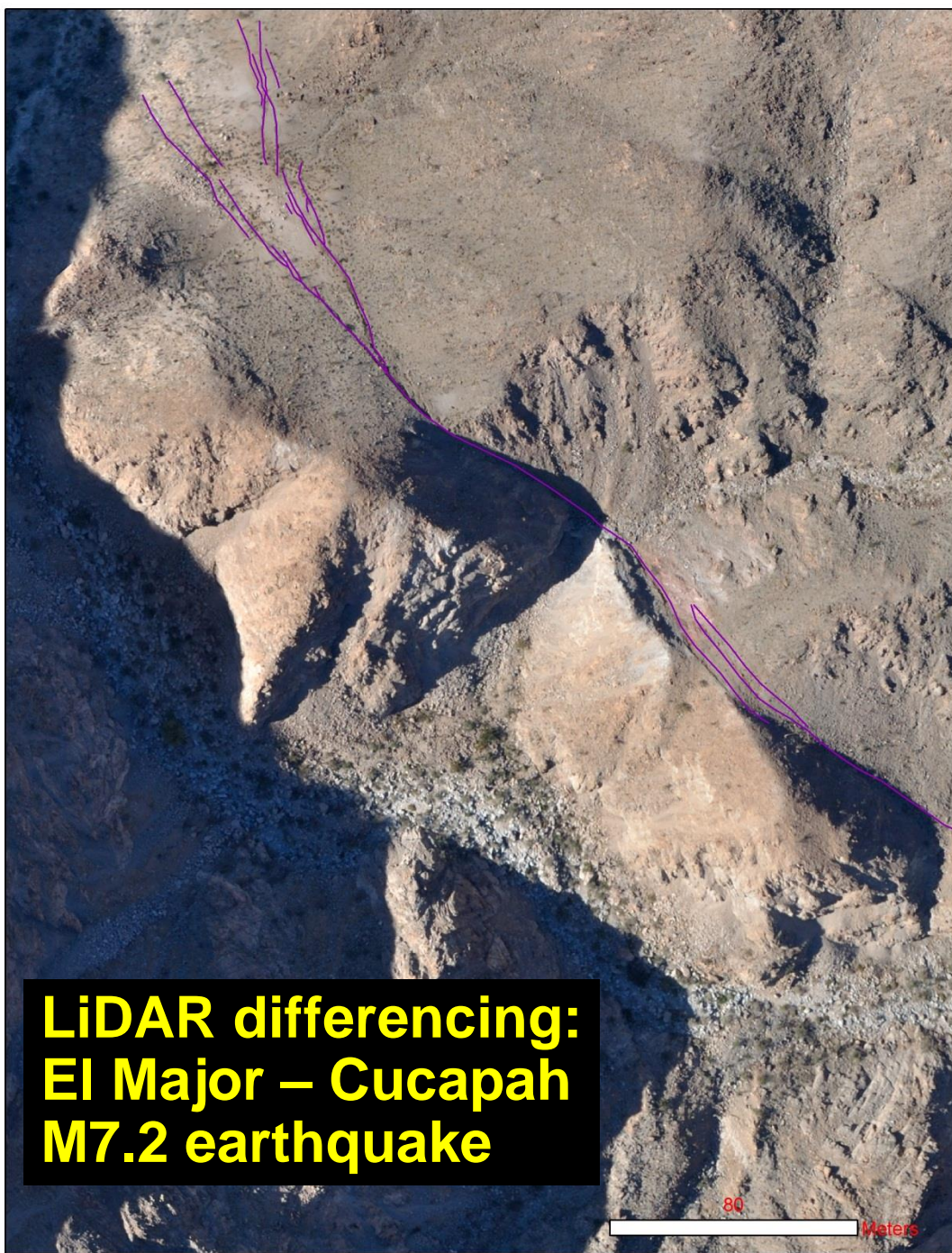
High accuracy terrain elevation data is replacing older, lower resolution data



High resolution orthorectified imagery

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

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

USGS volcano monitoring responsibility

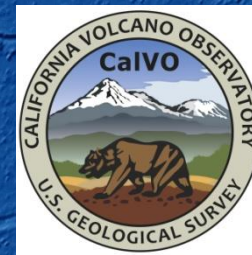
- There are 169 potentially active US volcanoes
- USGS operates 5 volcano observatories in partnership with universities, state and other Federal agencies.
- USGS/USAID Volcano Disaster Assistance Team works globally



AVO

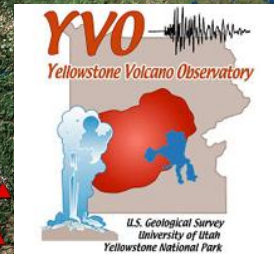


Cascades Volcano Observatory



CVO

CalVO



YVO



HVO

CNMI



Monitoring Volcano Ground Deformation

Changes at the Surface Tell us about the Subsurface



Most volcano deformation can only be detected and measured with precise surveying techniques

GPS/GNSS



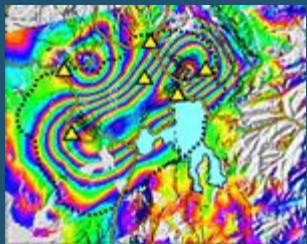
Precision Monitoring at individual ground locations



Tilt

Measuring tiny changes in the slope angle or "tilt" of the ground

InSAR



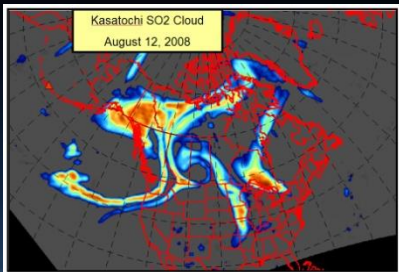
Mapping ground deformation of large areas using radar images from Earth-orbiting satellites.



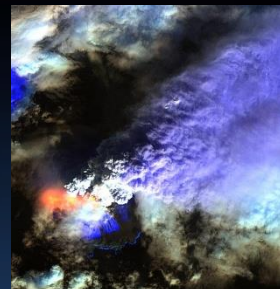
EDM

Measuring the distance between benchmarks placed on a volcano tens to thousands of meters apart

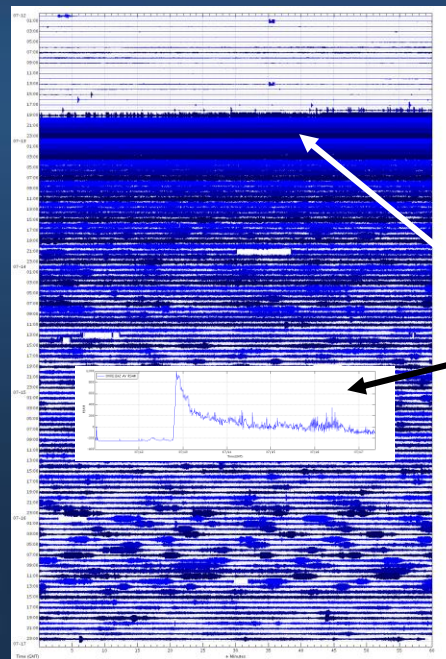
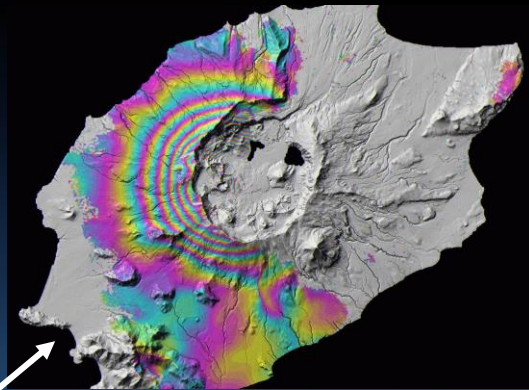
Volcano observatories combine an array of real time data streams to interpret behavior and forecast eruptions



Gas cloud from satellite UV sensor



Satellite surveillance for hotspots and ash

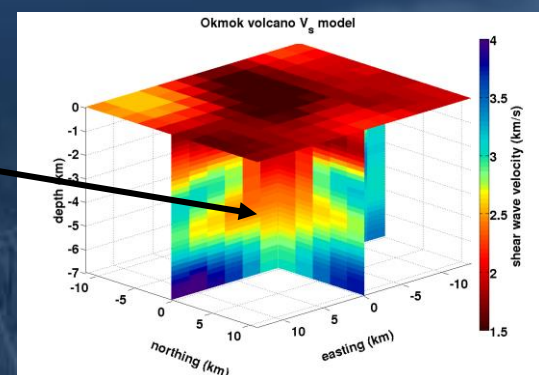
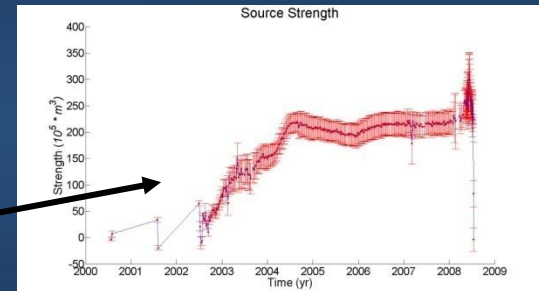


Volcano deformation from radar satellites

Volcano deformation from GPS

Eruption onset from seismic network

Magma chamber location from seismic tomography



GPS uses by USGS Volcano Hazards Program

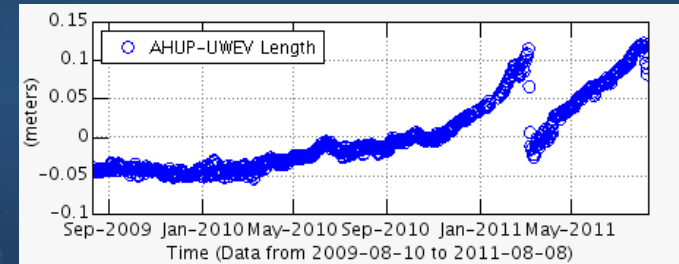
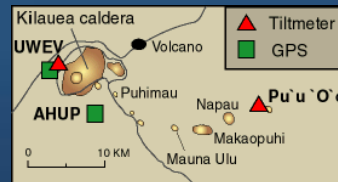
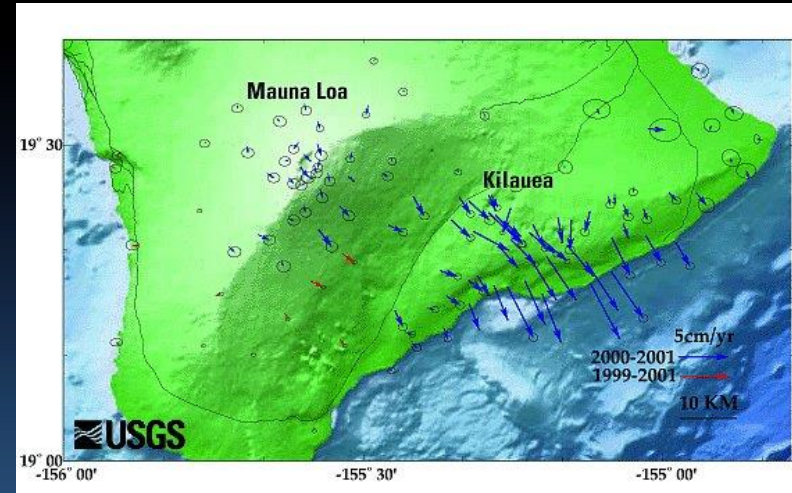


- **Key component of volcano monitoring for flank movements and lava dome growth**
- **Integral part of National Volcano Early Warning System plan for monitoring modernization and expansion**
- **Over 300 continuous GPS units are currently in use by USGS volcano observatories** (nearly all of these are 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



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



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



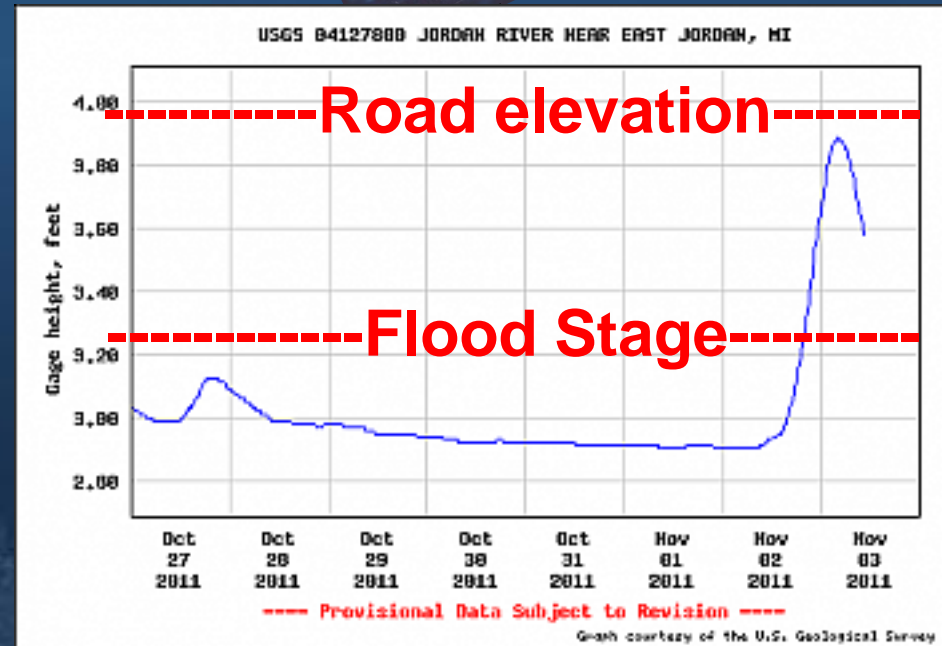
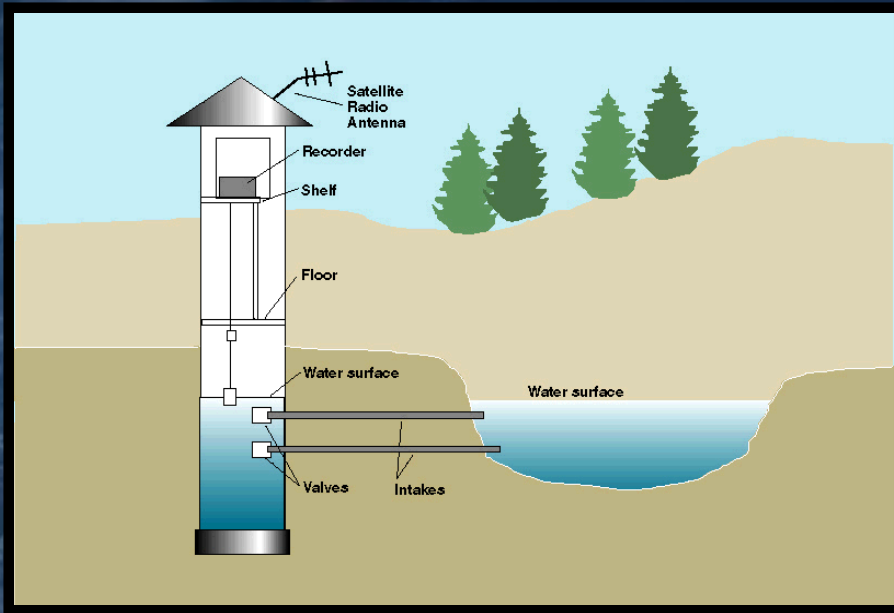
NVEWS TARGETS	MONITORING GAP
Kilauea, HI	1 ERUPTION
St. Helens, WA	1 ERUPTION
Rainier, WA	3
Hood, OR	3
Shasta, CA	3
South Sister, OR	3
Lassen, CA	3
Mauna Loa, HI	2
Redoubt, AK	2
Makushin, AK	2
Glacier Peak, WA	4
Akutan, AK	2
Baker, WA	3
Spurr, AK	2
Newberry Volcano, OR	3
Augustine, AK	2
Crater Lake,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

A photograph of a river with white water rapids. On the right bank, a person wearing a red vest and a white hat is standing. In the foreground on the right, there is a large, cylindrical, corrugated metal water tower with a conical roof. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right. The background shows a wooded area with trees.

**9,000 USGS streamgages
and water-quality
monitoring sites use GPS
timing for satellite
communications**

USGS WaterAlert

Text message or e-mail
customized alerts



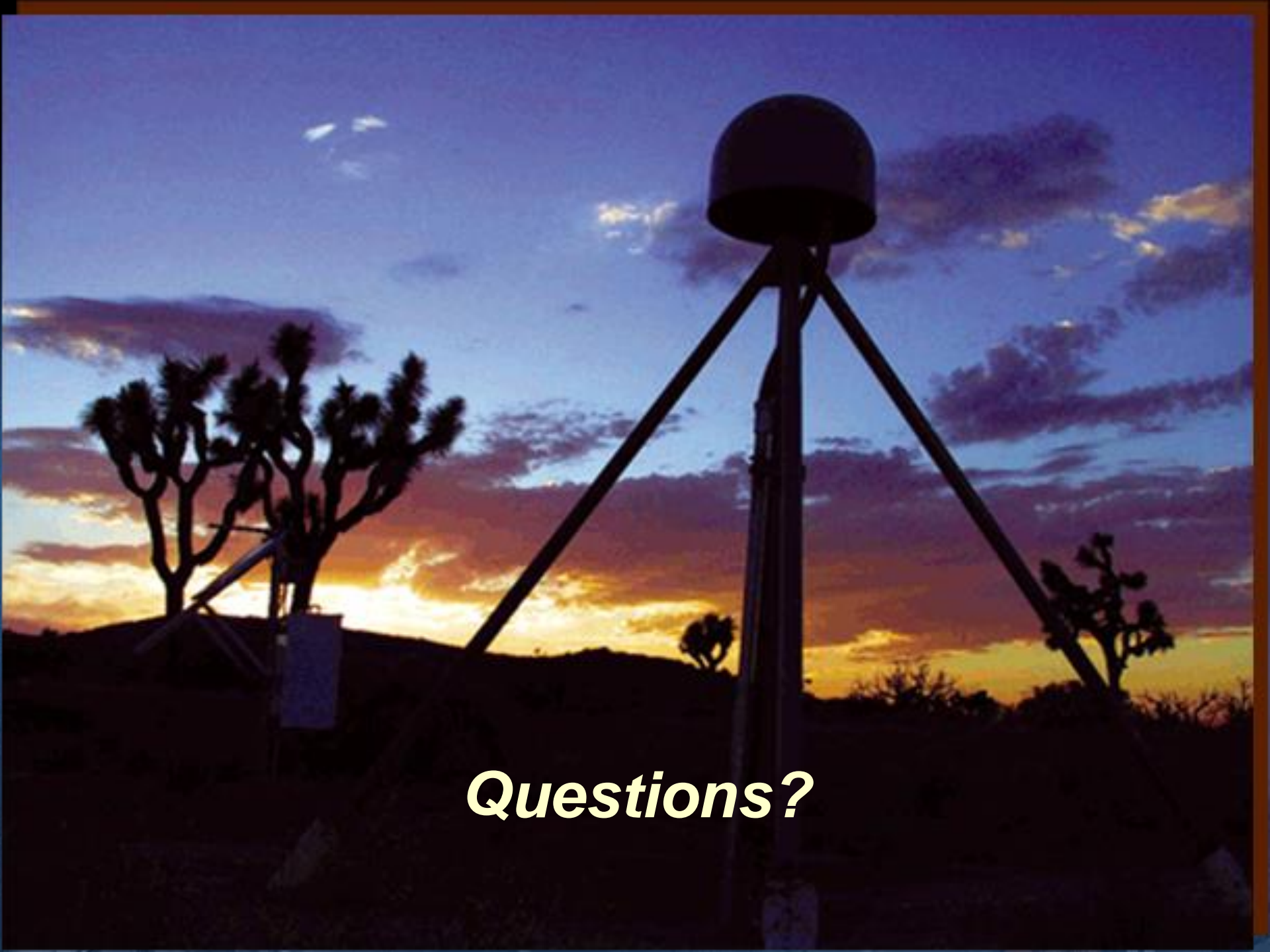
<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>



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?