

Seismo-Watch

Central California Earthquake Report

December 12 - 18, 2002

Seismo says...™



Give the gift of safety
this Holiday Season!

By: Charles P. Watson, Chief geologist
Seismo-Watch, Inc.

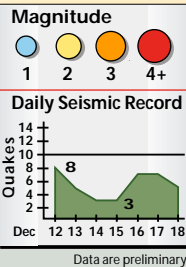
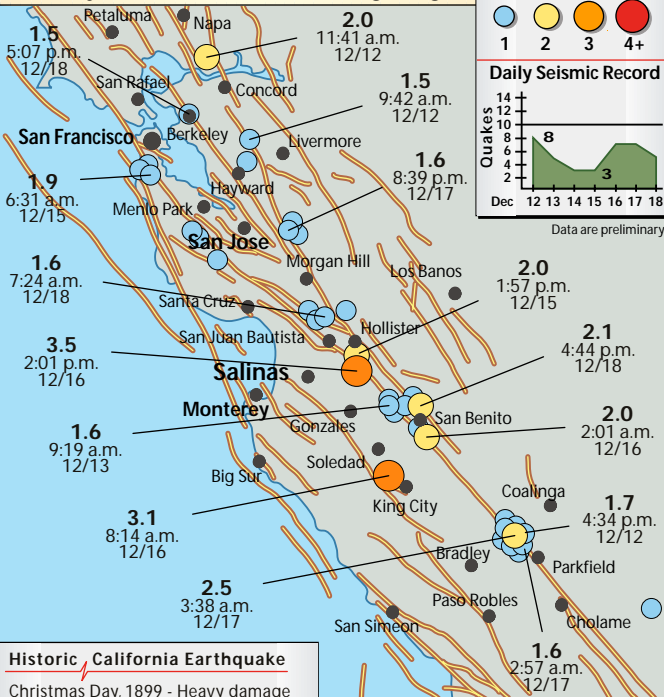
Feel an earthquake? Look, listen and sense the event, then..

Visit: <http://www.seismo-watch.com> or call: 1-800-852-2960

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Magnitude $M \geq 1$	1	2	3+	Total
This Week	31	5	2	38*
Previous week	58	13	0	71

▼ Seismicity declined from the previous week, posting the fewest in ten months. While automatic processing programs exist to locate and determine a magnitude of an earthquake, human analysis is often required to refine the data. In 2002, network analysis typically ran about 2-5% behind "final" catalog data 24 hours post real time. However, the Holiday Season has typically shown a slow down in data processing that has increased the incomplete rate to 10-20%. For example, the data posted for the previous week was about 18% of the updated data shown this week. Yet, even factoring in a 20% data processing delay, the number of events would still be at the lowest levels seen in the past ten months, indicating a genuine relaxed tectonic environment.

▼ The intensity of seismicity is rarely affected by processing delays as the analysts usually tackle the larger events first, then work backward on the smaller ones. Two quakes registered in the M3.0 range, a M3.5 along the San Andreas Fault south of Hollister and a M3.1 in the San Ardo oil fields.

Historic California Earthquake

Christmas Day, 1899 - Heavy damage
San Jacinto **M6.4** Earthquake

Source: U.C. Berkeley, USGS.

FREE EQ FLASH! Alert Bulletins and past reports:
<http://www.seismo-watch.com>
Feel a quake? Call: 1 (800) 852-2960

