

# Northern Bay Area Earthquake Report

March 14 - 20, 2002

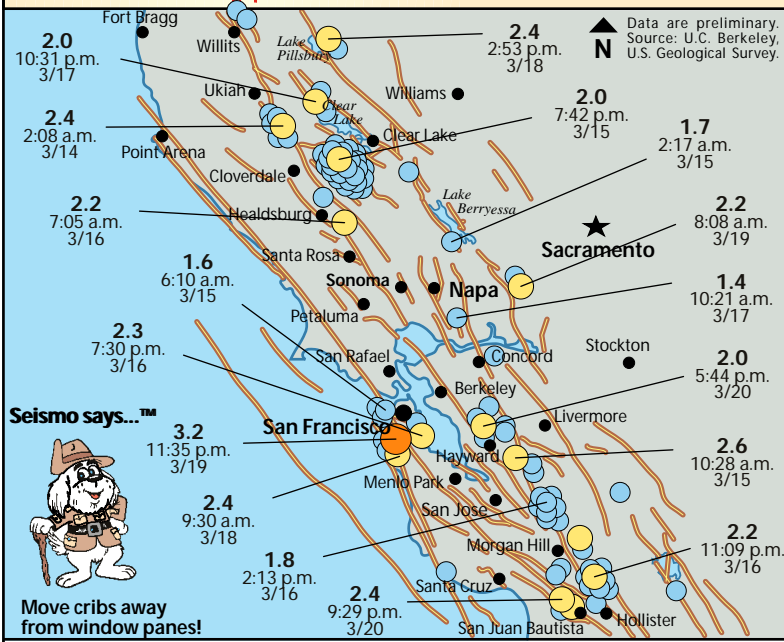
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Think: what would you  
do if a strong earthquake  
occurred right now!

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

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### Magnitude

- **4+** most felt
- **3** some felt
- **2** few felt
- **1** not felt

By:  
**Charles P. Watson**  
*Chief geologist*  
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### Seismo says...™



**Move cribs away from window panes!**

Magnitude $M \geq 1$	1	2	3+	Total
<b>Regional</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>
Last week	26	2	0	28
<b>The Geysers</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>
Last week	76	11	0	87

- Earthquake activity more than doubled from the previous week, producing a total of 64 events – the most in nearly three months. The intensity of seismicity jumped as well, posting 14 quakes measuring M2.0 or stronger. No major swarms caused the elevated seismicity, just an over all increase in regional tectonic action.
- The largest earthquake measured M3.2 and occurred at 11:35 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 19, about 13 mi. south of San Francisco and 2 mi. southeast of Pacifica at San Pedro Valley County Park. It was

felt by many people locally and by a few as far away as Novato, Benicia, Concord and Palo Alto. It was preceded by a few foreshocks, the largest of which measured M2.4. It occurred slightly west of the main trace of the San Andreas Fault and in nearly the same location as a M3.0 temblor on Sept. 6 of last year and many smaller events since. To the east and close to the San Francisco Airport were two quakes (largest: M2.4) and a trio of M1s triggered west of San Francisco (largest: M1.6).

- Clusters of seismicity were common from about Hayward south to Hollister, but most measured M1.5 or less and only four hit the M2 level (largest: M2.6).
- Seismicity in The Geysers remained elevated at the 80 quake per week level for a record second straight week. Only one "geothermal-quake" measured in the M2 range and more than 30% registered M1.2 or less.

### Regional seismic record

