

Northern Bay Area Earthquake Report

February 13 - 19, 2003

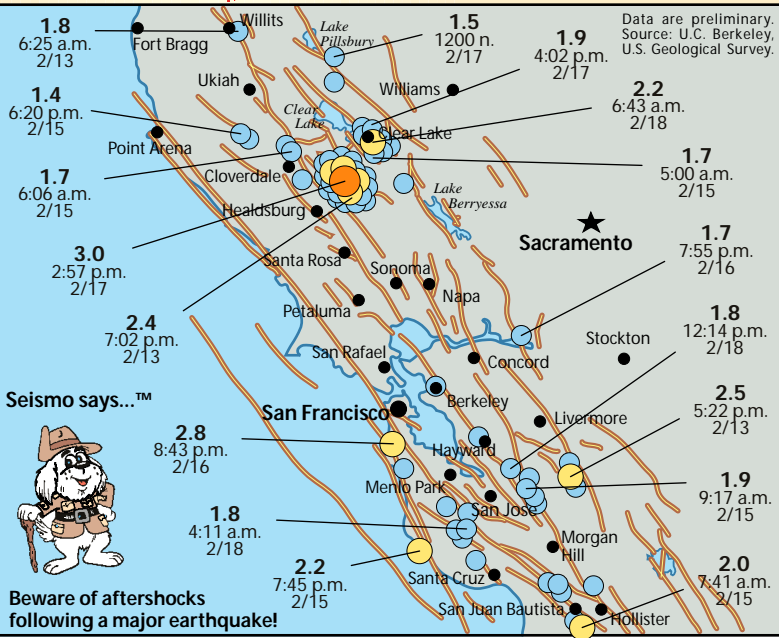
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following a major earthquake!**

**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

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Magnitude M ≥ 1.0	1	2	3+	Total
Regional	37	5	0	42
Last week	40	6	1	48
The Geysers	61	4	1	66
Last week	80	2	0	82

- ▼ The number of earthquakes relaxed from the previous week, producing only 42 events. The intensity of regional seismicity relaxed as well, releasing only five quakes registering in the M 2.0 range and no M 3.0s.
- ▼ The largest earthquake measured M 2.8 and occurred at 8:43 p.m. Sunday, February 16, about 12 mi. south of San Francisco City Hall near Pacifica. It was the largest earthquake in the ongoing Pacifica series since a M 3.6 struck on Christmas eve of last year. The sequence has slowed down a

bit in 2003, producing only 12 events thus far. Historically, this section of the San Andreas fault zone typically produces between 5-20 quakes-per-year. Activity was elevated after the 1989 Loma Prieta M 7.1 earthquake, producing four straight years with +20 events, the largest of which was in 1991 with 54 events. Seismicity subsided during the mid to late 1990s, but produced 28 in 2000, 53 in 2001 and 159 in 2002. The largest earthquakes near Pacifica in the last 100 years were a M 5.3 in 1957 and a M 4.1 in 1979. The epicenter of the Great 1906 San Francisco M -8.0 quake is thought to be just off the coast of Daly City - located just a few miles to the north.

- ▼ The largest of nine quakes east of Lower Lake where Herndon Creek meets Anderson Flats measured M 2.2. It occurred between February 14-18.
- ▼ A M 3.0 at The Geysers on February 17 was sharply felt at Anderson Springs.

