

Northern Bay Area Earthquake Report

March 13 - 19, 2003

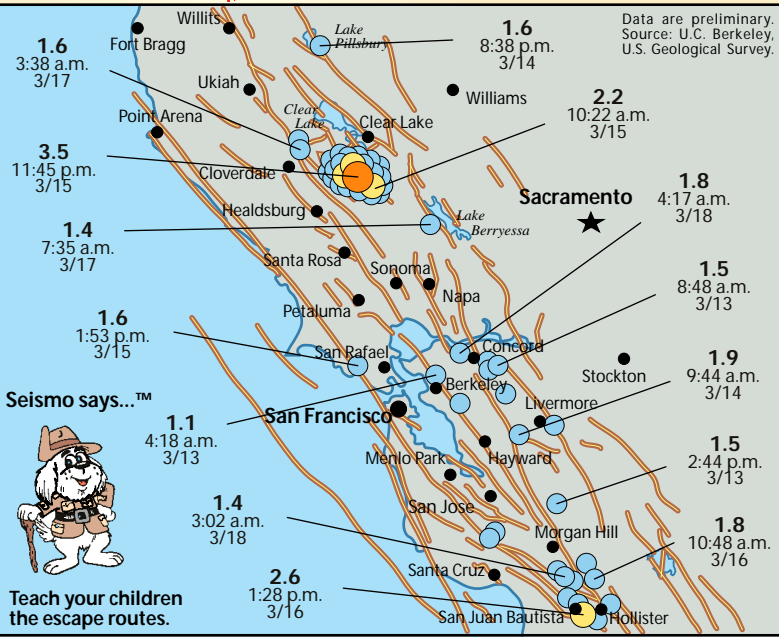
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By: Charles P. Watson, Chief geologist
Seismo-Watch, Inc.

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Data are preliminary.
Source: U.C. Berkeley,
U.S. Geological Survey.

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	26	1	0	27
Last week	27	5	1	33
The Geysers	48	3	1	52
Last week	54	8	0	62

- ▼ After peaking in early February with 80 events number of earthquakes declined for the last seven straight weeks, falling below the 30 quake-per-week mark for the first time this year. The intensity of seismicity declined as well, releasing only one quake registering in the M 2.0 range.
- ▼ The largest earthquake measured M 2.6 and occurred along the San Andreas Fault a couple miles south of San Juan Bautista near Fremont Peak. It may have been an aftershock to a M 3.0 event last week.

- ▼ Although a number of tremors were recorded in the San Francisco Bay Area, but all registered in the M 1.0 range. One event stood out, however, a M 1.6 along the locked northern segment of the San Andreas Fault at Bolinas – site of a M 5.0 temblor on August 17, 1999.
- ▼ Activity at The Geysers declined below the 60 quake-per-week mark for the first time in five weeks. The largest "geothermal-quake" measured M 3.5 and occurred at 10:22 a.m. on Friday, March 15 on the south side of Cobb Mountain in upper Anderson Creek. Nearby residents felt the ground lurched back and forth with a few hard jerks and then followed by a series of quick vibrations that rattle windows, pictures, dishes and nerves. Many reported a large crack or boom that startled them. One person ran outside for safety. Another on the toilet thought the end of the world was near and quickly disposed of his business.

