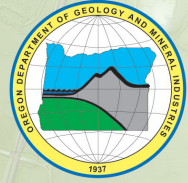


# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

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## New Cascadia earthquake and tsunami scenario released

*Report issued just days before the Great Oregon Shakeout, a statewide earthquake drill this Thursday*

SEATTLE — On January 26, 1700 an estimated M9 earthquake unzipped the 700+ mile Cascadia Subduction Zone fault from northern California, USA to southern British Columbia, Canada, much like recent events in 2011 in Japan and 2010 in Chile. The newly released “Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquakes: A Magnitude 9.0 Earthquake Scenario” examines how the Pacific Northwest may fare after the next great ‘megathrust’ earthquake and tsunami. “The new report conveys the most current scientific and emergency planning information accessible to a wide variety of audiences.” said Tamra Biasco of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, one of the lead authors.

The report comes just days before the Great Oregon Shakeout, a statewide earthquake drill this Thursday, Oct. 17 at 10:17am. Tens of thousands of Oregonians will “drop, cover, and hold on,” the recommended steps for protecting yourself during an earthquake. Join them by registering at [www.shakeout.org/oregon](http://www.shakeout.org/oregon).

The scenario authored by the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup (CREW) summarizes not only why Cascadia earthquakes occur repeatedly, but also the likely consequences of the next subduction zone fault rupture. Future such earthquakes and tsunamis will have lasting impacts to coastal communities and the potential to inflict tens of billions of dollars in physical damage, dramatically impacting the region’s economy.

The CREW report, written by a team of social scientists, emergency managers, earth scientists, engineers, public administrators, and businessmen under the umbrella of CREW, provides a guide to citizens curious about the geologic processes that make the Pacific Northwest so rich in natural beauty and resources, to planners wanting to know what hazards they face, and to policy makers striving to make the Pacific Northwest more resilient.

The newly released “Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquakes: A Magnitude 9.0 Earthquake Scenario” and other free preparedness materials to help Cascadia residents, schools, businesses, and emergency managers become better prepared for future earthquakes are accessible online at <http://www.crew.org>. Production of the new scenario was made possible with support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CREW’s member organizations.

To see a preview of this publication or to download a PDF, visit:  
<http://www.oregongeology.org/pubs/ofr/p-O-13-22.htm>

*DOGAMI's mission is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.*

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CD-ROMs can be purchased for \$15 each from the **Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW)**, 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 965, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (971) 673-2331 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4.95 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items.

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The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State and has a broad responsibility in developing an understanding of the state's geologic resources and natural hazards. The Department then makes this information available to communities and individuals to help inform and reduce the risks from natural hazards, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. The Department assists in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards is key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation. Learn more at [www.OregonGeology.org](http://www.OregonGeology.org).

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