

Quaternary Fault and Fold Database of the United States

As of January 12, 2017, the USGS maintains a limited number of metadata fields that characterize the Quaternary faults and folds of the United States. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the [interactive fault map](#).

Happy Camp fault (Class A) No. 882

Last Review Date: 2002-05-31

citation for this record: Personius, S.F., compiler, 2002, Fault number 882, Happy Camp fault, in Quaternary fault and fold database of the United States: U.S. Geological Survey website, <https://earthquakes.usgs.gov/hazards/qfaults>, accessed 12/14/2020 03:14 PM.

Synopsis	The Happy Camp fault is an east-striking thrust fault that offsets the Miocene sedimentary rocks of the Astoria Formation on the west flank of the Coast Range uplift. The fault may project offshore as the Nehalem Bank fault. Locally, the fault thrusts Miocene Grande Ronde Basalt over poorly dated Quaternary deposits in sea cliffs near Happy Camp, at the north end of Netarts Bay. As with other folds and faults located in the Cascadia forearc, it is unknown if coseismic displacements on this fault are always related to great megathrust earthquakes on the subduction zone, or whether some displacements are related to smaller earthquakes in the North American Plate.
Name comments	The Happy Camp fault was mapped by Parker (1990 #3971) and Wells and others (1994 #3988). The fault was named after the nearby community of Happy Camp. Parker (1990 #3971). Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. (1995 #3593) used the name "Netarts Bay fault", but most later references use Happy Camp fault (McNeill and others, 1998 #4089; Wong and others, 1999 #4073), so that name is retained here. The fault may be the onshore projection of the Nehalem Bank fault [789] (McNeill and others, 1998 #4089).

	Fault ID: This is fault number 12 of Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. (1995 #3593).
County(s) and State(s)	TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON
Physiographic province(s)	PACIFIC BORDER
Reliability of location	Good Compiled at 1:62,000 scale. <i>Comments:</i> Location of fault from ORActiveFaults (http://www.oregongeology.org/arcgis/rest/services/Public/ORActiveFaults/MapServer downloaded 06/02/2016) attributed to 1:62,500-scale mapping of Wells and others (1994 #3988).
Geologic setting	The Happy Camp fault is an east-striking thrust fault that offsets the Miocene sedimentary rocks of the Astoria Formation on the west flank of the Coast Range (Wells and others, 1994 #3988). Locally, the fault offsets Miocene Grande Ronde Basalt in sea cliffs near Happy Camp at the north end of Netarts Bay (Parker, 1990 #3971; Wells and Snively, 1992 #4300; Wells and others, 1994 #3988). McNeill and others (1998 #4089) show a parallel anticline and north-dipping thrust fault (Nehalem Bank fault) as offshore extensions of the Happy Camp fault. As with other folds and faults located in the Cascadia forearc, it is unknown if coseismic displacements on this fault are always related to great megathrust earthquakes on the subduction zone, or whether some displacements are related to smaller earthquakes in the North American Plate.
Length (km)	3 km.
Average strike	N73°W
Sense of movement	Thrust <i>Comments:</i> Geologic mapping of a sea cliff shows low angle, north-dipping thrust faulting along this structure (Parker, 1990 #3971; Wells and Snively, 1992 #4300).
Dip	10–18° N. <i>Comments:</i> Parker (1990 #3971) measured a dip of 10° and R.E. Wells (pers. commun., 2000) measured a dip of 18° on the Happy Camp fault; no other fault dip data are published (Wells and Snively, 1992 #4300; Wells and others, 1994 #3988).
Paleoseismology	

studies	
Geomorphic expression	The Happy Camp fault is exposed in surficial deposits in a sea cliff near Happy C (Parker, 1990 #3971; Wells and Snavely, 1992 #4300), but no other geomorphic expression of the fault has been described.
Age of faulted surficial deposits	The Happy Camp fault offsets Miocene bedrock in the vicinity of Happy Camp (Parker, 1990 #3971; Wells and Snavely, 1992 #4300; Wells and others, 1994 #3972). The ages of offset surficial deposits exposed in the Happy Camp sea cliff are poorly known. Mulder (1992 #3969) observed no deformation of the 80-ka marine terrace across this fault zone. Soil development on late? Pleistocene (Wells and Snavely, #4300) offset channel deposits suggests an age of >125 ka (H.M. Kelsey, pers. commun., in Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1995 #3593). More recent unpublished yield infinite (>50 ka) radiocarbon ages from the offset deposits, and a radiocarbon of about 3.9 ka in a probable unfaulted deposit overlying the zone (R.E. Wells, pers. commun., 2000). The Happy Camp fault may be the onshore projection of the Nehalem Bank fault [789], which has been active in the Holocene (Niem and others, 1990 #4149; Goldfinger, 1994 #3972; McNeill and others, 1998 #4089).
Historic earthquake	
Most recent prehistoric deformation	undifferentiated Quaternary (<1.6 Ma) <i>Comments:</i> Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. (1995 #3593) and Madin and Mabey (1994 #3575) mapped the Happy Camp fault as active in the Quaternary (<1.8 Ma). Pezzopane (1993 #3544) mapped the fault as active in the Holocene and McNeill and others (1998 #4089) mapped the fault as late Pleistocene-Holocene, but given the age control at the Happy Camp exposure, the fault is mapped as Quaternary here.
Recurrence interval	
Slip-rate category	Less than 0.2 mm/yr <i>Comments:</i> Parker (1990 #3971) measured about 1 m of offset of Columbia River Basalt Group rocks in a sea cliff exposure; no other detailed slip rate data have been published, but low rates of slip are likely.
Date and Compiler(s)	2002 Stephen F. Personius, U.S. Geological Survey
References	#3593 Geomatrix Consultants, Inc., 1995, Seismic design mapping, State of Oregon Technical report to Oregon Department of Transportation, Salem, Oregon, under Contract 11688, January 1995, unpaginated, 5 pls., scale 1:1,250,000. #3972 Goldfinger, C., 1994, Active deformation of the Cascadia Forearc—Implic

for great earthquake potential in Oregon and Washington: Oregon State University unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, 246 p., <http://hdl.handle.net/1957/36664>.

#3575 Madin, I.P., and Mabey, M.A., 1996, Earthquake hazard maps for Oregon: Oregon State University, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Geological Map Series GMS-100, 1 sheet.

#4089 McNeill, L.C., Goldfinger, C., Yeats, R.S., and Kulm, L.D., 1998, The effects of upper plate deformation on records of prehistoric Cascadia subduction zone earthquakes, in Stewart, I.S., and Vita-Finzi, C., eds., Coastal tectonics: Geological Society Special Publication No. 146, p. 321-342.

#3969 Mulder, R.A., 1992, Regional tectonic deformation of the northern Oregon coast as recorded by Pleistocene marine terraces: Portland, Oregon, Portland State University, unpublished M.S. thesis, 96 p.

#4149 Niem, A.R., Snavely, P.D., Jr., and Niem, W., A., 1990, Onshore-offshore geologic cross section from the Mist Gas Field, Northern Oregon Coast Range, to the northwest Oregon continental shelf: State of Oregon, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Oil and Gas Investigations 17, 46 p., 1 pl.

#3971 Parker, M.J., 1990, The Oligocene and Miocene geology of the Tillamook Embayment Tillamook County, northwest Oregon: Oregon State University, unpublished M.S. thesis, 515 p.

#3544 Pezzopane, S.K., 1993, Active faults and earthquake ground motions in Oregon: Eugene, Oregon, University of Oregon, unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, 208 p.

#4300 Wells, R.E., and Snavely, P.D., Jr., 1992, Quaternary thrust faulting at Netarts Bay, northern Oregon coast: Geological Society of America Abstracts with Programs v. 24, no. 5, p. 89.

#3988 Wells, R.E., Snavely, P.D., MacLeod, N.S., Kelly, M.M., and Parker, M.J., 1994, Geologic map of the Tillamook Highlands, northwest Oregon Coast Range: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 94-21, 24 p., 2 pls., scale 1:62,500.

#4073 Wong, I., Silva, W., Bott, J., Wright, D., Thomas, P., Gregor, N., Li, S., Mearns, M., Sojourner, A., and Wang, Y., 1999, Earthquake scenario and probabilistic ground shaking maps for the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area: Technical report to U.S. Geological Survey, under Contract 1434-HQ-96-GR-02727, 16 p., 12 pls.

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