



# Evaluating ShakeAlert™ performance in the Cascadia subduction zone region

Dr. Renate Hartog

[jrhartog@uw.edu](mailto:jrhartog@uw.edu), [www.pnsn.org](http://www.pnsn.org)



UNIVERSITY of  
WASHINGTON



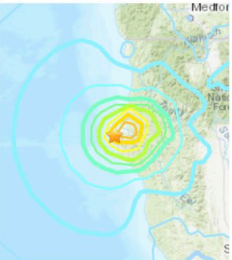
# ANSS Earthquake situational awareness products

## M 6.4 - 15km WSW of Ferndale, CA

2022-12-20 10:34:24 (UTC) | 40.525°N 124.423°W | 17.9 km depth

# EARTHQUAKE.USGS.GOV

[Interactive Map](#)



Contributed by NC.<sup>5</sup>

[Regional Information](#)

**3-5 minutes reviewed within 10-20 minutes**

[Felt Report - Tell Us!](#)

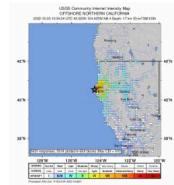
0 0 5 9 3 1

Responses

Contribute to citizen science. Please [tell us](#) about your experience.

Citizen Scientist Contributions

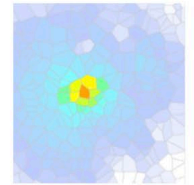
[Did You Feel It?](#) **VIII**



Correlation Intensity

**within minutes**

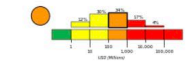
[ShakeMap](#) **VIII**



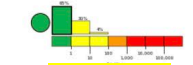
Estimated Intensity Map

**10-15 minutes**

[PAGER](#) **ORANGE**



Estimated Economic Losses



**15-30 minutes**

[Ground Failure](#)

Landslide Estimate

- Limited area affected
- Limited population exposed

Liquefaction Estimate

- Limited area affected
- Limited population exposed

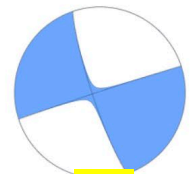
**30 minutes**

[Origin](#)

**3-5 minutes reviewed within 10-20 minutes**

Contributed by NC.<sup>5</sup>

[Moment Tensor](#)

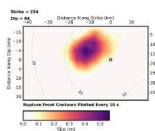


Fault Solution

**45 minutes**

Contributed by NC.<sup>5</sup>

[Finite Fault](#)



Cross-section of slip distance

**>45 minutes**

Contributed by US.<sup>6</sup>

[Aftershock Forecast](#)

Be ready for more earthquakes.

Our model of the expected numbers and odds of future earthquakes

**20 minutes**

Contributed by US.<sup>6</sup>

[Tsunami](#)



U.S. Tsunami Warning System

To view any current tsunami advisories for this and other events please visit <https://www.tsunami.gov>.

NOAA

[View Nearby Seismicity](#)

Time Range

± Three Weeks

Search Radius


250.0 km

Magnitude Range

≥ 3.0

ANSS Comcat

[ShakeAlert®](#)



**5-25 Seconds**

Contributed by EW.<sup>4</sup>



USGS ShakeAlert®  
system

Real-Time Earthquake  
Monitoring



Algorithm Detects  
Earthquake

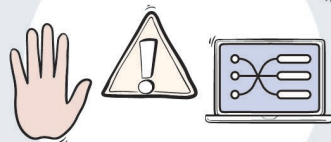


ShakeAlert Messages  
published in XML format

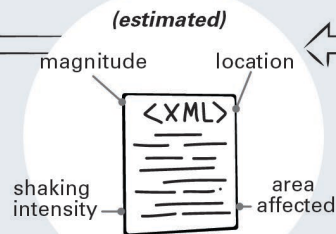


Technical Partner

Partner-Defined  
Actions based on  
Extracted Values



Values of Interest  
Extracted from  
Message



Subscribe to Data Feed  
and "Listen" for  
Desired Message Type



# ShakeAlert® Messages have three components

Technical Partners can subscribe to one or more components

1

## EVENT ONLY

ActiveMQ "topic": eew.dm.data



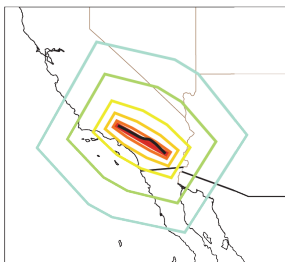
Provides estimated earthquake **magnitude and location**, along with uncertainty. For earthquakes M6.0+, **fault geometry** is included.

Technical Partner must calculate shaking effects and affected areas.

2

## EVENT + CONTOUR

ActiveMQ "topic": eew.gm-contour.data



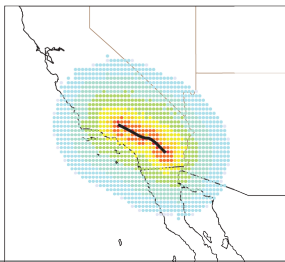
Contains **EVENT COMPONENT** plus data for **contours of shaking intensity**.

Polygons enclose areas according to estimated Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI), Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA), and Peak Ground Velocity (PGV).

3

## EVENT + GRID

ActiveMQ "topic": eew.gm-map.data



Contains **EVENT COMPONENT** plus data for a **grid map of shaking intensities**.

Grid cells are 0.2 x 0.2 degree (~20 x 20 km) identified by latitude and longitude.

# System Overview

Earthquake point-source integrated code

Finite-Fault Rupture Detector

G-FAST PGD magnitude (soon)

Solution Aggregator combines the source estimates

eqInfo2GM takes source information from the SA then uses a GMM and GMICE to determine GM contours and a 0.2° x 0.2° GM grid map

Figures derived from: Given, D.D. et al, "Revised technical implementation plan for the ShakeAlert system—An earthquake early warning system for the West Coast of the United States" (2018), <https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20181155>

## Alert Thresholds

### To Alert People



**Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)**



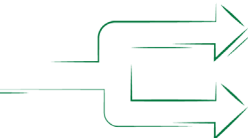
Who is Alerted	Magnitude Threshold	Intensity Threshold
General public with WEA-capable devices	5.0+	MMI IV+
People who have downloaded a cell phone app	4.5+	MMI III+ (user selectable)
Android cell phone users through push notifications	4.5+	MMI III - MMI IV
Android cell phone users through full-screen takeover	4.5+	MMI V+
Institutions that use ShakeAlert to alert people to take a protective action	4.0+	MMI III+



**Cell Phone Apps**



**Android Operating System**



**Automated Alerts through Public Address Systems, Lights, Sirens, In-House Apps, etc.**



### To Alert Systems and Machines



**Automated "Machine-to-Machine" Alerts**



Institutions that use ShakeAlert to automate actions to mitigate damage to vital equipment, systems, and infrastructure

4.0+

MMI III+

We evaluated the accuracy of the ground motion contour product

Thompson et al., (2022). *Effect of Fixing Earthquake Depth in ShakeAlert Algorithms on Performance for Intraslab Earthquakes*, Seism. Res. Lett.

Thompson, M. (2022). *Using Local, Global, and Simulated Earthquakes to Inform Earthquake Resilience Efforts in the Pacific Northwest* (Order No. 29061275). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (2652067864). <https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/using-local-global-simulated-earthquakes-inform/docview/2652067864/se-2>

Böse, M., Andrews, J., O'Rourke, C., Kilb, D., Lux, A., Bunn, J., & McGuire, J. (2023). Testing the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system using synthesized earthquake sequences. *Seismological Society of America*, 94(1), 243-259.

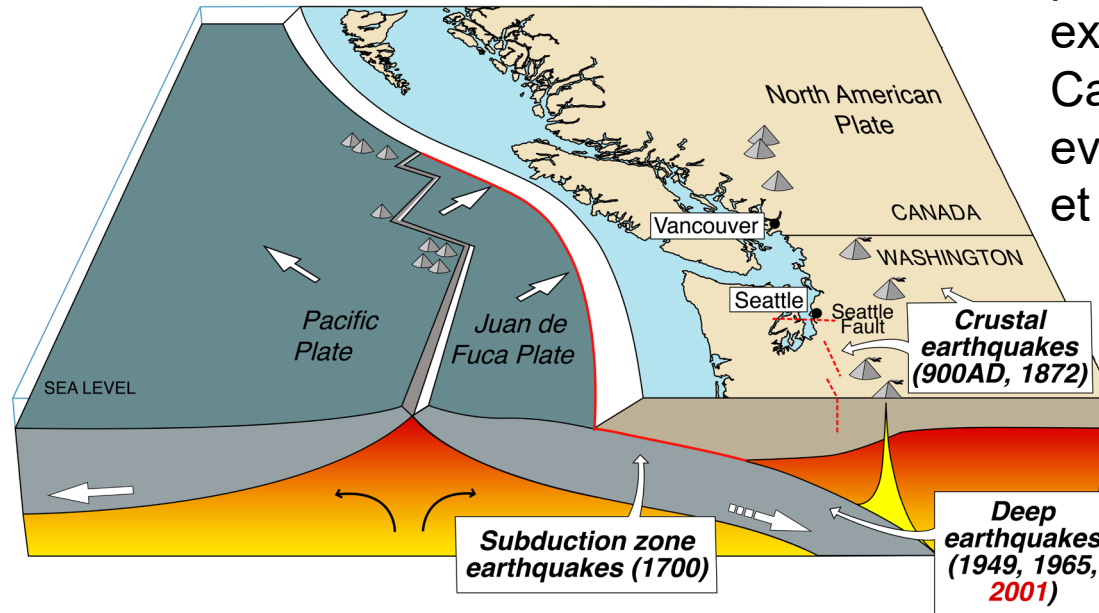
McGuire, J. J., Smith, D. E., Frankel, A. D., Wirth, E. A., McBride, S. K., & de Groot, R. M. (2021). *Expected warning times from the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system for earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest* (No. 2021-1026). US Geological Survey.

Meier, M. A., Kodera, Y., Böse, M., Chung, A., Hoshiba, M., Cochran, E., ... & Heaton, T. (2020). How often can earthquake early warning systems alert sites with high-intensity ground motion?. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 125(2), e2019JB017718.

Cochran, E. S., Kohler, M. D., Given, D. D., Guiwits, S., Andrews, J., Meier, M. A., ... & Smith, D. (2018). *Earthquake early warning ShakeAlert system: Testing and certification platform*. *Seismological Research Letters*, 89(1), 108-117.

Hartog, J. R., Kress, V. C., Malone, S. D., Bodin, P., Vidale, J. E., & Crowell, B. W. (2016). Earthquake Early Warning: ShakeAlert in the Pacific Northwest. *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, 106(4), 1875-1886.

## Cascadia earthquake sources



The same performance is expected as in California for crustal events (e.g., Hartog et al., 2016)

# Intraslab Events

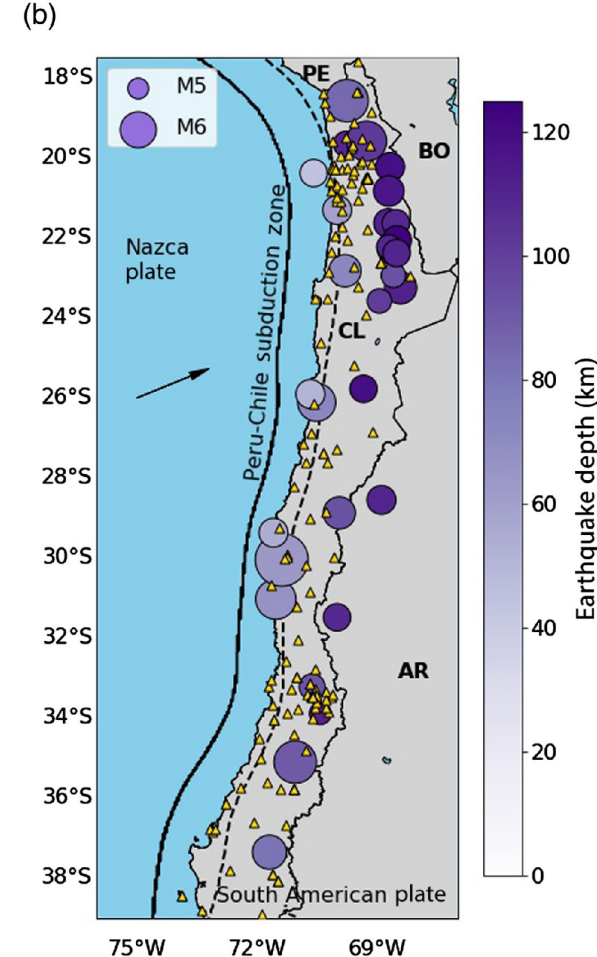
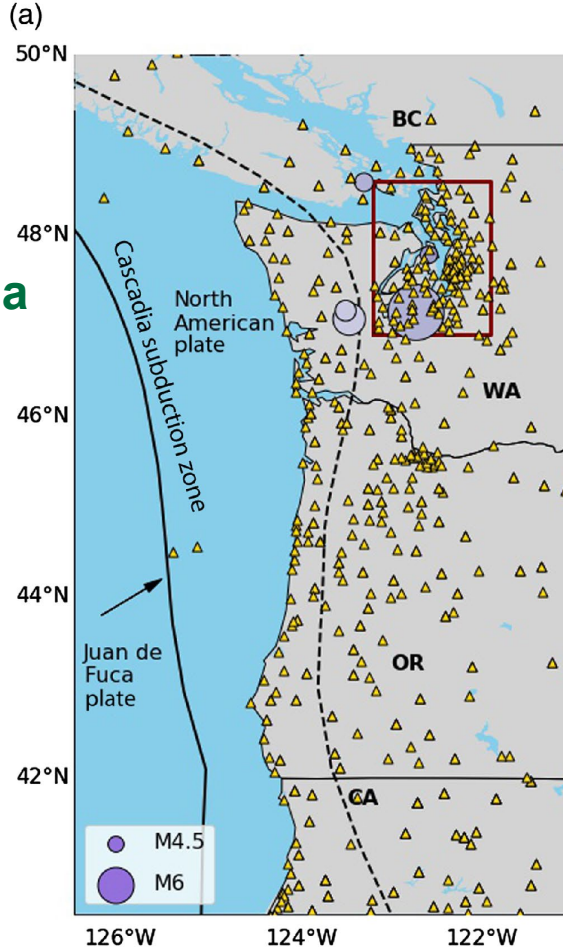
## How bad is it that we assume a fixed shallow depth?

5 PNW and 32 Chilean events

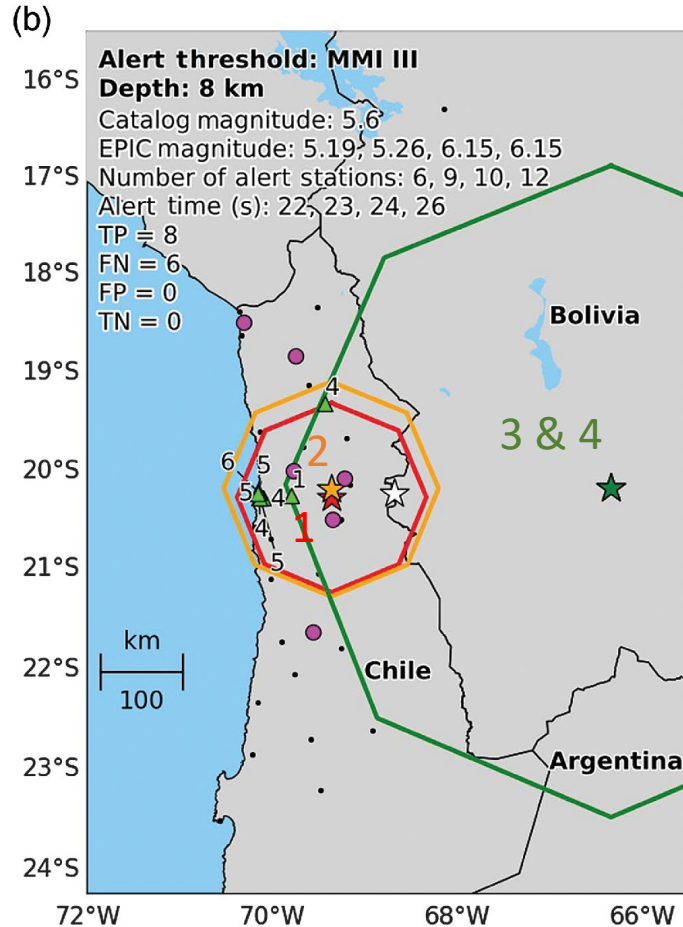
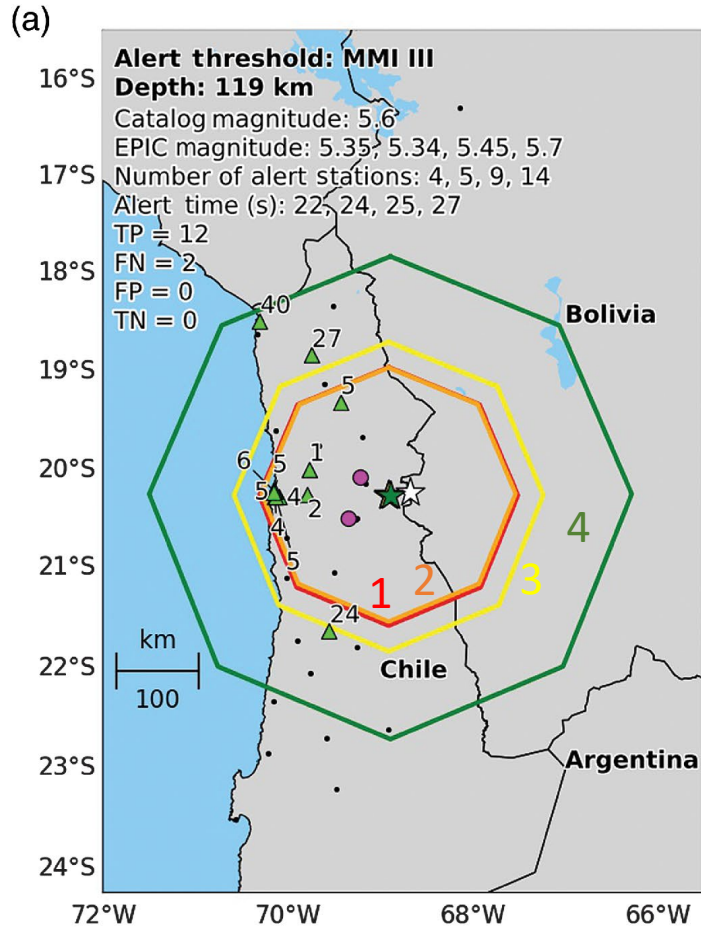
Play data through the ShakeAlert algorithms EPIC, SA, eqInfo2GM (GMPE: Zhao, 2006) in two ways:

1. Assume 8 km earthquake depth
2. Assume catalog earthquake depth

Compare the performance of the MMI III and IV contours

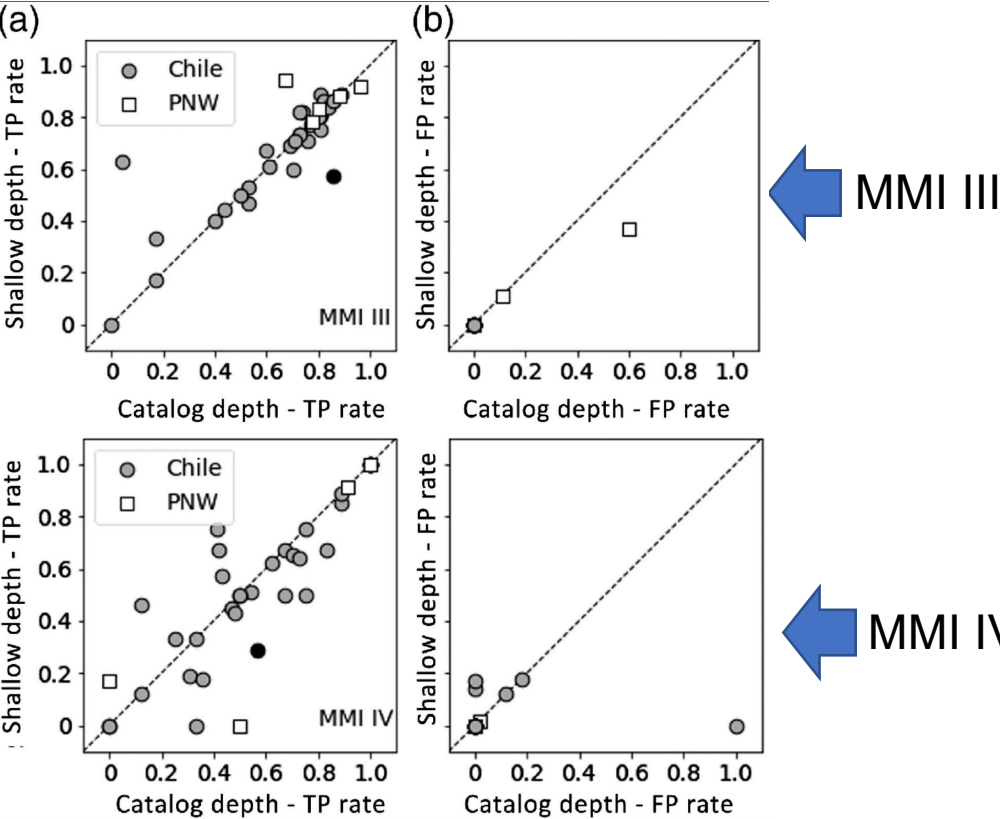






Bad location errors when the event is on the edge or outside of the network

Station density for the Chilean events is low



## Alert Accuracy by MMI level

Desired number of alerts: all stations where the MMI level was exceeded

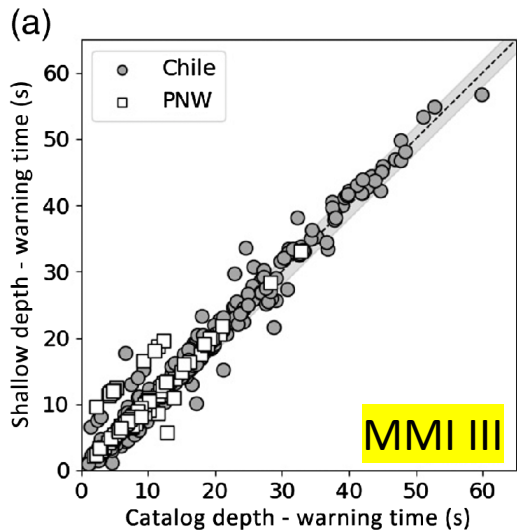
True Positive rate: fraction of sites for which a timely alert was issued for this MMI level

False Positive rate: fraction of sites for which an alert was not needed for this MMI level

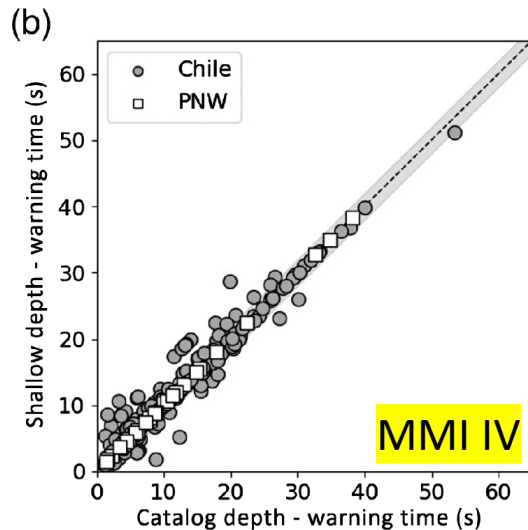
No clear advantage by assuming catalog depth

## Effects on Timeliness

Assuming shallow depth



Assuming catalog depth



Assuming catalog depth

Time between the release of  
MMI III or IV alert contour and  
arrival of that level of shaking

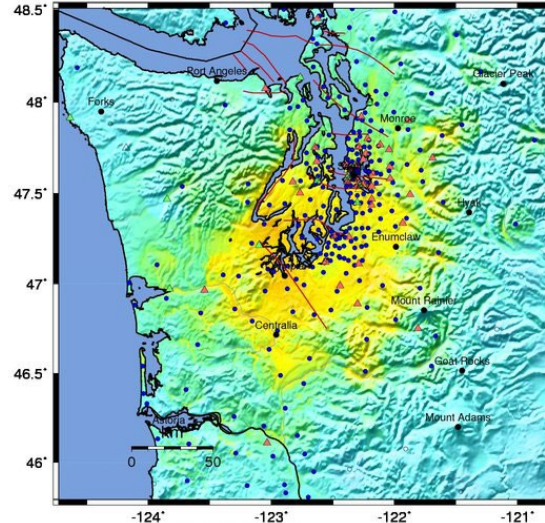
Symbols denote station  
observations

No clear advantage by assuming  
catalog depth

## Conclusion for PNW intraslab events

PNSN ShakeMap : 16.9 km (10.5 mi) NE of Olympia, WA

Feb 28, 2001 10:54:32 AM PST M 6.8 N47.15 W122.73 Depth: 51.9km ID:10530748

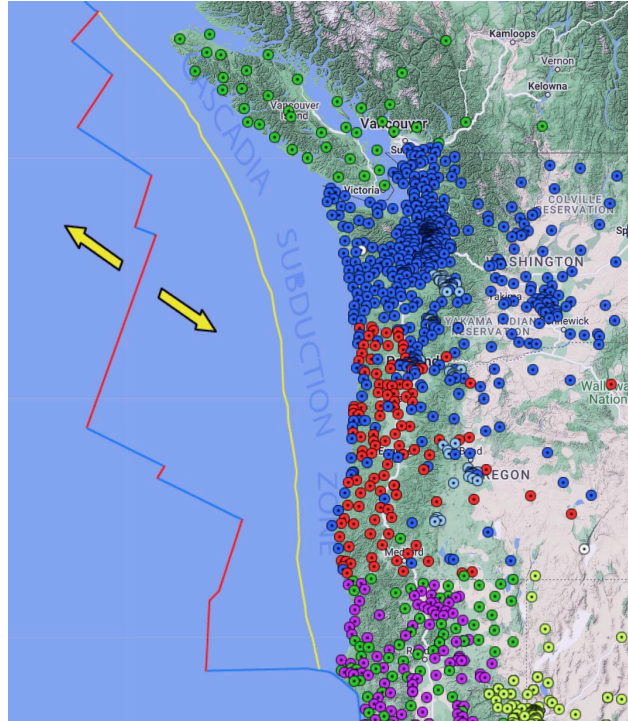


Map Version 1 Processed 2019-01-27 04:35:18 PM PST

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Mod./Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%)	<0.05	0.3	2.8	6.2	12	22	40	75	>139
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.02	0.1	1.4	4.7	9.6	20	41	86	>178
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

Scale based upon Worden et al. (2012)

Using a fixed shallow depth for intraslab earthquakes in the PNW does not have a significant impact on alert accuracy and timing for alert thresholds of MMI III and IV because intraslab events occur beneath dense parts of the network

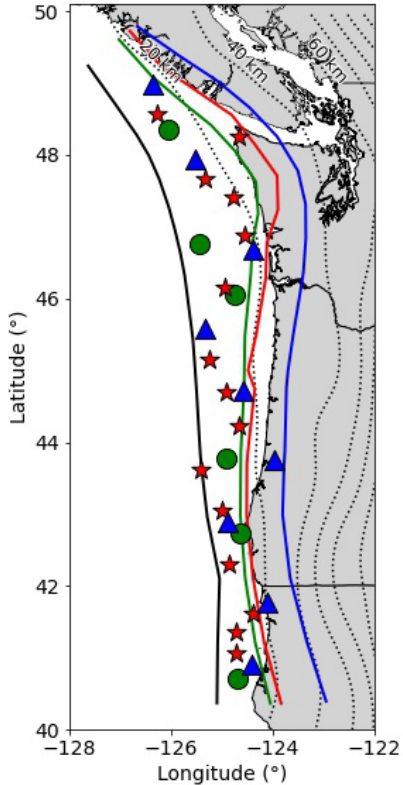


## Megathrust events

There have been no large Cascadia subduction interface events in instrumental history

We used 30 M9 simulations for Cascadia (Frankel et al., 2018; Wirth et al., 2018)

We evaluated the MMI III, IV, and V contours



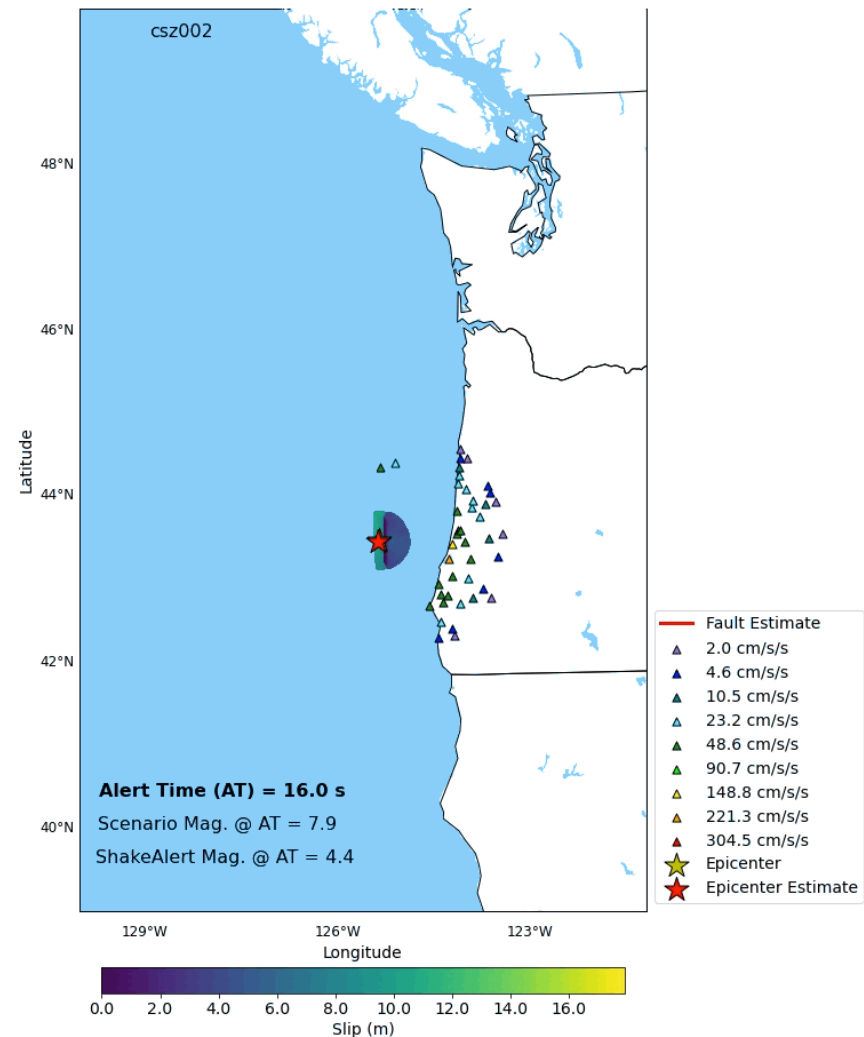
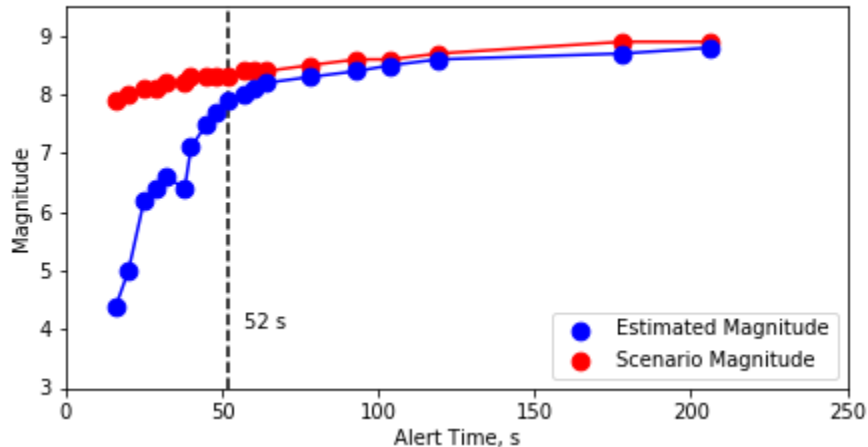
# PGAs and Source Estimates

Hypocenter: **central OR** (csz002)

Final magnitude estimate: 8.8

Final alert time: 206 s (3.4 min.)

Fault rupture ends: 318 s (5.3 min.)



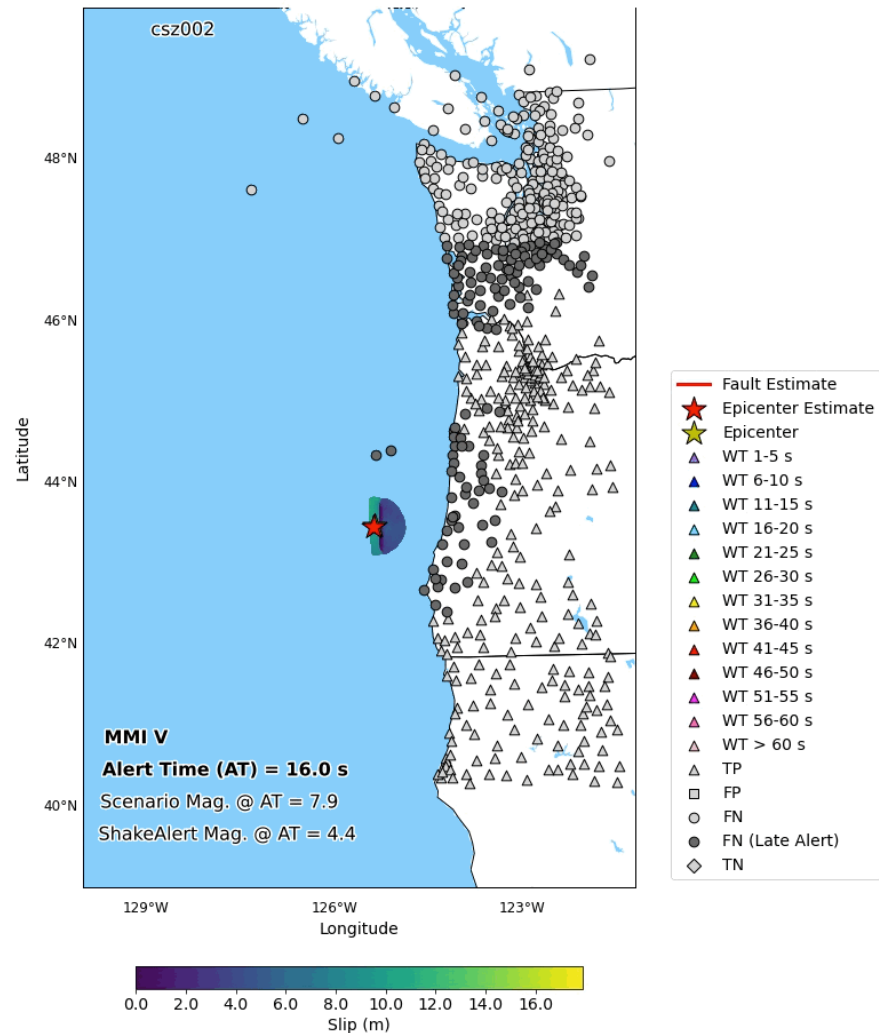
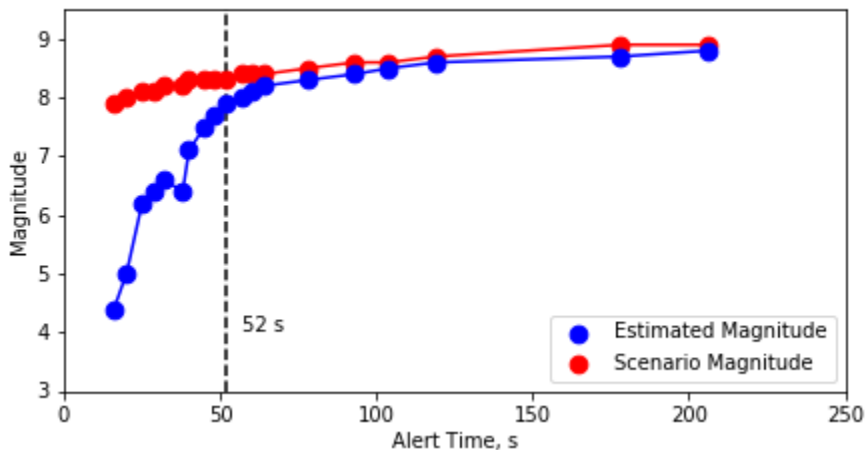
# MMI V Contours and Warning Times

Hypocenter: **central OR** (csz002)

Final magnitude estimate: 8.8

Final alert time: 206 s (3.4 min.)

Fault rupture ends: 318 s (5.3 min.)

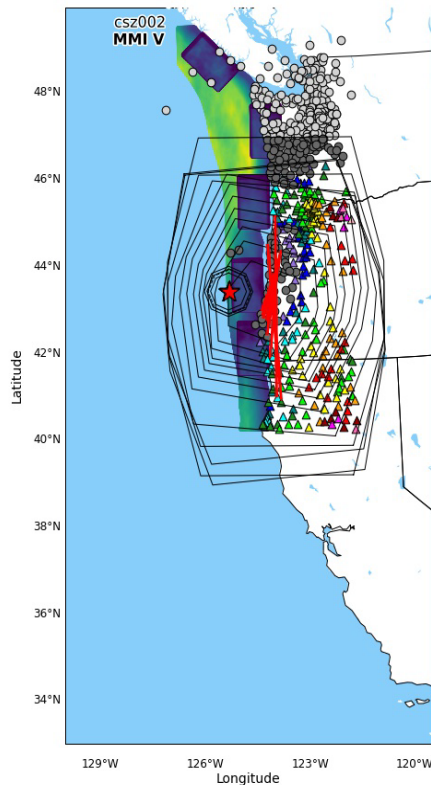
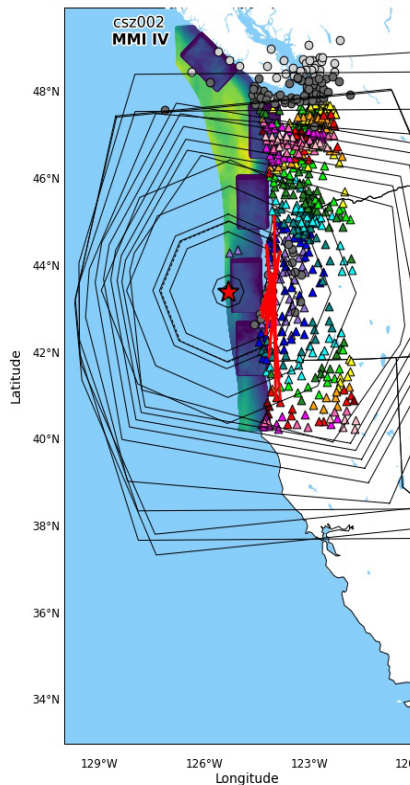
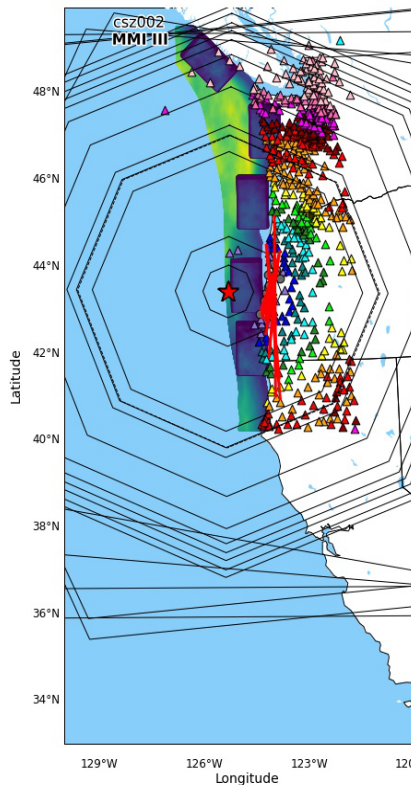


MMI III  
WTs: 1 – 77 s

MMI IV  
WTs: 1 – 78 s

MMI V  
WTs: 1 – 60 s

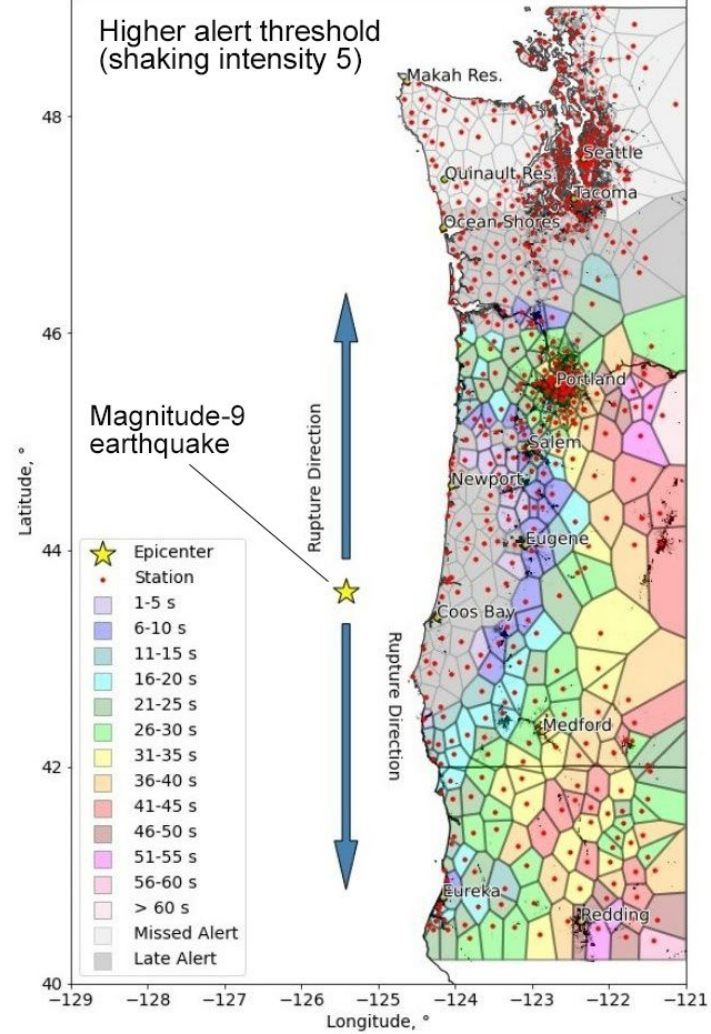
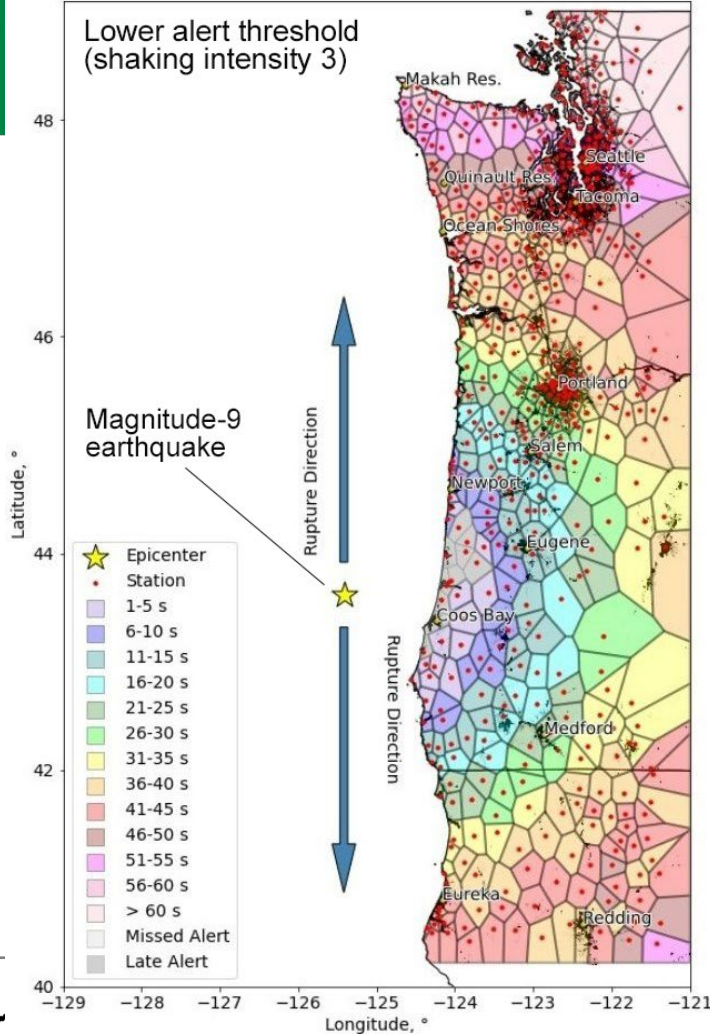
Using higher MMI level contours leads to more late and missed alerts

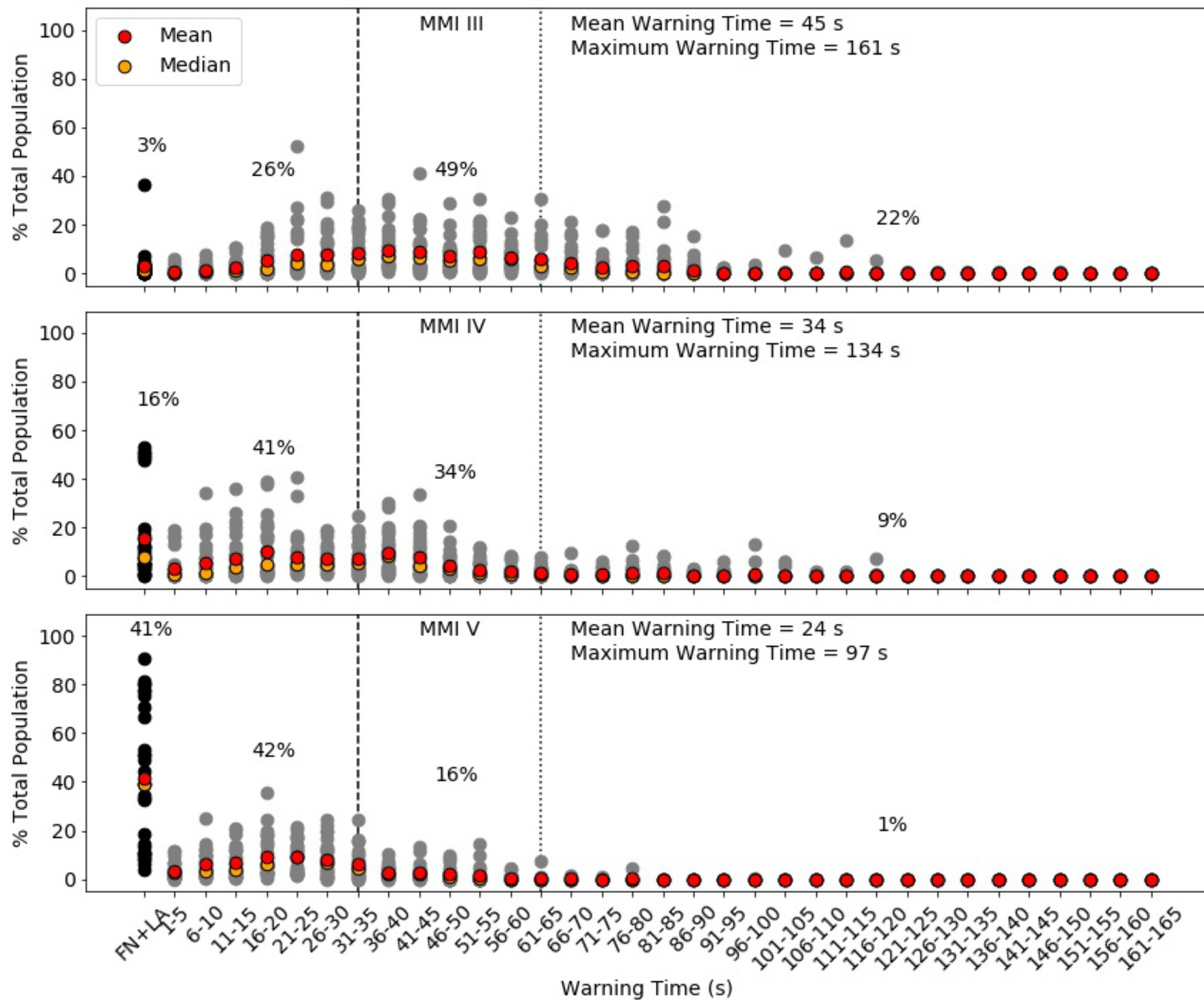
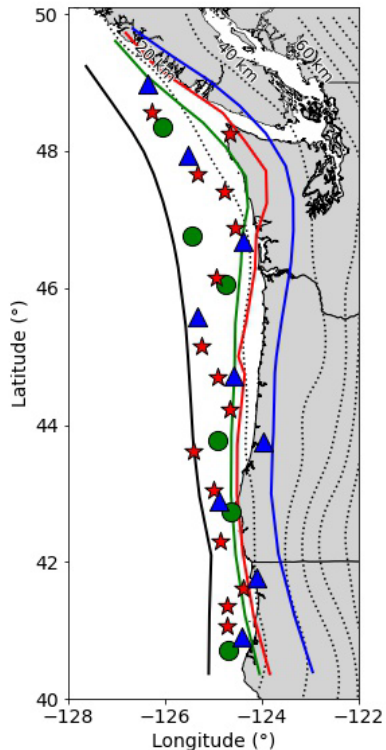


- Fault Estimate
- ★ Epicenter Estimate
- ☆ Station
- ▲ WT 1-5 s
- ▲ WT 6-10 s
- ▲ WT 11-15 s
- ▲ WT 16-20 s
- ▲ WT 21-25 s
- ▲ WT 26-30 s
- ▲ WT 31-35 s
- ▲ WT 36-40 s
- ▲ WT 41-45 s
- ▲ WT 46-50 s
- ▲ WT 51-55 s
- ▲ WT 56-60 s
- ▲ WT > 60 s
- FP
- FN
- FN (Late Alert)
- ◇ TN



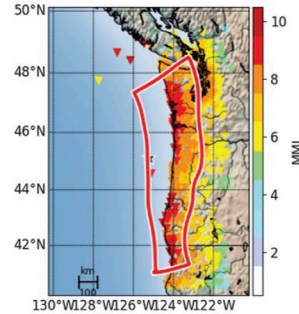
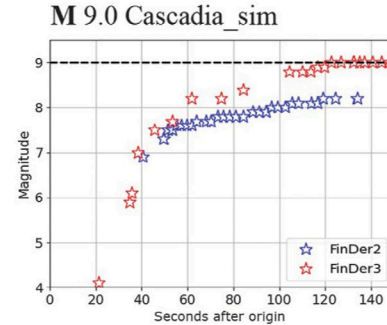
## Population based assessment



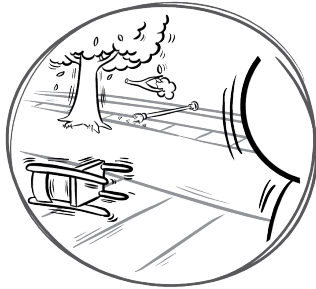


## Coming soon to ShakeAlert?

- **Megathrust fault-specific templates** for FinDer (in testing)
- Crowell, B. W., Schmidt, D. A., Bodin, P., Vidale, J. E., Gomberg, J., Renate Hartog, J., ... & Jamison, D. G. (2016). Demonstration of the Cascadia **G-FAST geodetic earthquake early warning system** for the Nisqually, Washington, earthquake. *Seismological Research Letters*, 87(4), 930-943.
- Murray, J. R., Crowell, B. W., Grapenthin, R., Hodgkinson, K., Langbein, J. O., Melbourne, T., ... & Schmidt, D. A. (2018). Development of a **geodetic component** for the US West Coast earthquake early warning system. *Seismological Research Letters*, 89(6), 2322-2336.
- Saunders, J. K., Minson, S. E., Baltay, A. S., Bunn, J. J., Cochran, E. S., Kilb, D. L., ... & Kodera, Y. (2022). Real-time earthquake detection and alerting behavior of **PLUM** ground-motion-based early warning in the United States. *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, 112(5), 2668-2688.
- Ghahari, S. F., Baltay, A., Çelebi, M., Parker, G. A., McGuire, J. J., & Taciroglu, E. (2022). Earthquake Early Warning for Estimating Floor Shaking Levels of **Tall Buildings**. *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, 112(2), 820-849.



## Things to know about ShakeAlert®



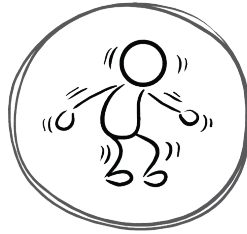
**You may feel shaking and not get an alert.**



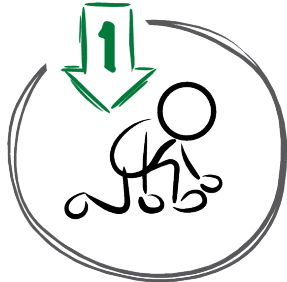
**You may get an alert after you feel shaking.**



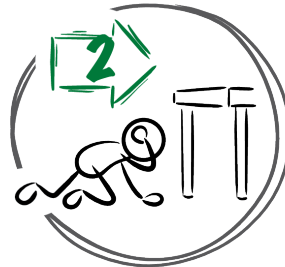
**You may get an alert and not feel strong shaking or any shaking at all.**



If you **FEEL SHAKING** or **GET AN ALERT...**



**DROP!**



**COVER!**



**HOLD ON!**

ShakeAlert™

## Contact Information

Dr. Renate Hartog  
[jrhartog@uw.edu](mailto:jrhartog@uw.edu)



@PNSN1



[www.pnsn.org](http://www.pnsn.org)



[www.ShakeAlert.org](http://www.ShakeAlert.org)



@USGS\_ShakeAlert