

Media Advisory: HayWired Scenario Roll Out (Part 2)

Release Date: MARCH TBD, 2018

The USGS and its HayWired Coalition partners roll out the HayWired Earthquake Scenario for the San Francisco Bay Area.

What: USGS scientists and HayWired Coalition member partners will officially roll out the HayWired scenario to press and communities' partners and leaders. This event will include an overview of the scenario, brief statements concerning specific points of interest about the scenario and its potential impacts to the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as comments from federal, state, and local communities' leaders and partners. The press event will include Hayward fault tours, a formal press event, and one-on-one media availability with various members of the HayWired coalition.

Where: Memorial Stadium, U.C. Berkeley Campus, Koret Visitors Center at the Memorial Stadium, 2227 Piedmont Avenue; Berkeley, CA 94720 (Part 1 event at Central Park, Fremont California)

When: Wednesday, April 18, 2018, tours begin at 12:00; press event begins at 2:00 pm

The HayWired scenario is a hypothetical earthquake sequence that is being used to better understand hazards for the San Francisco Bay region during and after an earthquake of magnitude 7 on the Hayward Fault.

A large Hayward Fault earthquake will produce strong ground shaking, permanent displacement of the Earth's surface, landslides, liquefaction (soils becoming liquid-like during shaking), and subsequent fault slip, known as afterslip, and earthquakes, known as aftershocks.

The most recent large earthquake on the Hayward Fault occurred on October 21, 1868, and it ruptured the southern part of the fault. The 1868 magnitude-6.8 earthquake occurred when the San Francisco Bay region had far fewer people, buildings, and infrastructure (roads, communication lines, and utilities) than it does today, yet the strong ground shaking from the earthquake still caused significant building damage and loss of life. The next large Hayward Fault earthquake is anticipated to affect thousands of structures and disrupt the lives of millions of people. Earthquake risk in the San Francisco Bay region has been greatly reduced as a result of previous concerted efforts; for example, tens of billions of dollars of investment in strengthening infrastructure was motivated in large part by the 1989 magnitude 6.9 Loma Prieta earthquake. To build on efforts to reduce earthquake risk in the San Francisco Bay region, the HayWired earthquake scenario comprehensively examines the earthquake hazards to help provide the crucial scientific information that the San Francisco Bay region can use to prepare for the next large earthquake.

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