

## Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An online version of this release can be found at:

<http://www.oregongeology.com/news&events/NewsReleases.htm>

## Small earthquake shakes Mount Hood

**Portland, Oregon:** A small earthquake of magnitude 3.3 shook the Mount Hood area this morning about 5:40 A.M. The earthquake epicenter was located about 4 miles SSE of Mount Hood and was about 4 miles deep according to data from the Pacific Northwest Seismograph Network. A few small after shocks have been recorded as well. There were no reports of damage.

“This is the first earthquake of any size on Mount Hood since the swarm of earthquakes that occurred in June of last year,” said Acting State Geologist Vicki McConnell of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). “It is not volcano related in that it does not have anything to do with renewed volcanic activity on the mountain and it is not unusual. Typically, several earthquake swarms occur each year at Mount Hood.”

The June 29th, 2002 earthquake was the strongest earthquake in the Mount Hood area in decades. The magnitude 4.5 event, which was located about 3 miles south of the summit at a depth of about 4 miles, was widely felt. Hundreds of aftershocks followed, including two magnitude 3 earthquakes.

No major eruptive events have occurred at Mount Hood since systematic records began in the 1820's. Reports of steam and tephra emissions accompanied by red glows or "flames" from the area of post-glacial vent are known from 1859, 1865 (twice) and 1903 A.D.

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For more information on Mount Hood, go online to:  
<http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/Volcanoes/Hood/framework.html>

For more information on earthquake activity on Mount Hood go online to:  
<http://www.geophys.washington.edu/SEIS/PNSN/HOOD/>

For more information on oregon geology, go online to:  
<http://www.oregongeology.com>

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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 a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

For more information on upcoming events and current projects, contact James Roddey at 800 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR 97232, (503) 731-4100, ext. 242 or DOGA-MI field offices at: 1510 Campbell St., Baker City, (541) 523-3133; 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496; and the Mined Land Regulation and Reclamation Program, 229 Broadalbin St. SW, Albany, (541) 967-2039.

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