

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

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Oregon Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment Final Report released

Portland, Oregon: The Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment: Implementation of Oregon 2005 Senate Bill 2 Relating to Public Safety, Earthquakes, and Seismic Rehabilitation of Public Buildings By Don Lewis, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has been released. This report is Open-File Report O-07-02 and is released in its final form.

Preliminary results of this report were released to the state legislature on Tuesday, May 22, 2007.

The report is available free online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com> or a CD-ROM copy of the report can be purchased for \$10 from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (503) 872-2750 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items.

A comprehensive website that includes the complete report, all data, spreadsheets, frequently asked questions, individual site summary reports and additional information can be accessed online at:

<http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/projects/rvs/default.htm>

The Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment covers public school buildings, acute inpatient care facilities, fire stations, police stations, sheriffs' offices and other law enforcement agency buildings. Over 1,000 K-12 schools qualified for the assessment, covering 90% of enrolled public school students in every county and 100% of the vulnerable coastal community schools were surveyed.

Minor data errors and errata have been corrected for the release of the final report.

The result of the assessment is a list of the above mentioned buildings that are ranked for the "probability of collapse" due to the maximum possible earthquake for any given area. The rankings range from Very High, High, Moderate to Low.

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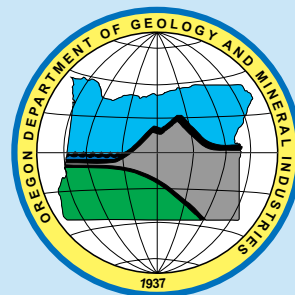
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The assessment looked at these key factors:

Seismic hazard zone (high vs. low history/probability of earthquake)

Building structural type (wood, concrete, masonry, reinforced, etc.)

Original construction date

Soil type (dense to soft)

The Assessment also incorporated a "Rapid Visual Screening" process for each building which is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommended method for the visual observation from the exterior, or sidewalk survey, of buildings for potential seismic hazards.

This report is only the first step in a multi-part process that will eventually create a pool of state money that can be used to seismically retrofit eligible buildings. The general process of creating the granting committee and issuing funds has been written into law but the specific process of how the money gets allocated has not yet been defined.

You can learn more about the process of creating the report online at: <http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/projects/rvs/default.htm>

O-07-02 - **The Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment** - is available free online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>, or is available for purchase on CD-ROM for \$10.

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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. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are 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 about Oregon's geology by going online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>

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