

Memorandum

To: Mid-Columbia Communities
From: Oregon Natural Hazard Workgroup at the University of Oregon
Date: December 13, 2005
Re: Resources for Identifying Historical Hazard Events

Overview

For the January Community Vulnerability Training, we have asked that you begin working on your communities' risk assessments by gathering information for historic hazard occurrences. Documenting historical occurrences of natural hazard events can help you identify vulnerable areas within your community and serve as a foundation for your risk assessments. This memo provides a list of resources that may be useful in gathering information on historic hazard occurrences.

Multi-Hazard Resources

The following list includes resources that can be used to gather information on historic occurrences for any natural hazard:

- Local newspaper archives
- Local historians or historical societies
- Local emergency management department's "after-incident reports"
- Local GIS, public works, planning, or engineering departments
- Oregon State Police – Office of Emergency Management
Phone: (503) 378-2911
<http://egov.oregon.gov/OOHS/OEM/>
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
Phone: (503) 373-0050
<http://www.lcd.state.or.us/>
- State Natural Risk Assessment: Region 5 Natural Hazards Assessment (available online at www.oregonshowcase.org under "State Projects")
- FEMA – Region X
Phone: (425) 487-4678
www.fema.gov
- NOAA National Climatic Data Center
This database documents historical events from 1950 to 2005 for most major hazards and includes local impact details. To access the database:
Google: national climatic data center
Select "Data & Products" from left hand column
Select "US Storm Events Database" about ¾ way down the page
Select Oregon
Select County
Select "List Storms" button on right

Hazard Specific Resources

The following lists include resources that can be used for specific hazards for gathering information on previous historic occurrences.

Earthquake:

- Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup
Phone: (360) 336-5494
<http://www.crew.org>
- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Phone: (503) 731-4100
<http://sarvis.dogami.state.or.us/homepage/mission.html>
- U.S. Geological Survey – Geologic Hazards Team
Phone: (303) 273-8582
<http://geohazards.cr.usgs.gov/>
- U.S. Geological Survey – National Earthquake Information Center
Phone (303) 273-8500

Flood:

- Oregon Technical Resource Guide: Flood Technical Resource Guide – *Table 1. Historic Flooding in Oregon*
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Floodplain Information Branch
Phone: (503) 808-4874
<http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/>
- U.S. Geological Survey – Oregon District Office
Phone: (503) 251-3200
<http://www.usgs.gov>

Landslide:

- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Phone: (503) 731-4100
<http://sarvis.dogami.state.or.us/homepage/mission.html>
- Oregon Department of Transportation
Phone: (888) 275-6368
<http://www.odot.state.or.us/>

Wildfire:

- Oregon Department of Forestry
Phone: (503) 945-7440
<http://www.odf.state.or.us>
- Office of the State Fire Marshal
Phone: (503) 378-3473
<http://www.sfm.state.or.us>
- Bureau of Land Management – Oregon
Phone: (503) 808-6001
- U.S. Forest Service – Pacific Northwest Region
Phone: (503) 808-2468

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/welcome.shtml>