



Earthquake Movie Offers High Fiction, Low Facts

Real risks for Puget Sound region described by scientists

SEATTLE — Fiction is definitely stranger than truth in the NBC mini-series “10.5” set to air on May 2 and 3 on KING-TV. Emergency managers in the Puget Sound area want viewers to know that the mayhem and destruction depicted in the made-for-TV movie bears little resemblance to the real risks of earthquakes in our region.

“The production is blatantly inconsistent with everything we know about earthquakes,” said Lucy Jones of the U.S. Geological Survey office in Pasadena , Calif. “It’s complete fantasy, but, as long as people know that, they can sit back and enjoy the special effects.”

While the Puget Sound region does face the threat of earthquake, being prepared limits the damage they cause. People’s lives and property can be saved with a little advance planning.

“We want everyone to be prepared for a quake,” said Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels. “They need the most current information about how to be safe and how to react quickly.”

Complete information about how to prepare for earthquakes is available at <http://www.seattle.gov/emergency/library/personal.htm>

Emergency Managers from the City of Seattle, City of Bellevue, and the State of Washington have collaborated with scientists from the University of Washington seismology laboratory and the U.S. Geological Survey to provide more information about how to prepare and respond to earthquakes. See press packet for more information.

Other Resources:

- Here are the facts from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) with links to more information about earthquakes:
 - <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learning/topics/megaquakes.php>
- University of Washington Seismology Lab and Pacific NW Seismograph Network (PNSN) earthquake info, facts, and response to "10.5":
 - http://www.pnsn.org/NEWS/PRESS_RELEASES/10point5.html
- Washington State Emergency Management links to other jurisdiction's web sites and info (click on city names on list or click on map for county):
 - <http://emd.wa.gov/site-general/wa-map/wa-state.htm>