Montana 2025 Geohazards Workshop Draft Agenda

Dates: May 8-9, 2025

Location: Flathead Valley Community College, Arts and Technology Building
Room AT-139
745 Grandview Drive
Kalispell, Montana, 59901

Background: Held annually since 2022, the Montana Geohazards Workshop brings together federal, state and local partners. Attendees discuss Montana's earthquake risk, research and mitigation. In 2025, the Geohazards Workshop will gain insights from attendees to advance Montana's earthquake resilience. Participants will discuss how research and collaboration can better inform mitigation planning to take action to reduce risk.

Objectives:

1. Advance seismic safety collaboration with local, regional and state partners in Montana.
2. Build a network and buy-in for seismic safety work locally and across the state.
3. Present updates and identify priorities for research and hazard mitigation planning across Montana.
4. Give updates and get feedback on the Montana Earthquake Working Group (MEWG). Discuss how its strategic planning process can support hazard mitigation planning in Montana.

Thursday, May 8: Agency Updates, Mitigation Planning, and MEWG Strategic Plan

Time	Presenter/Facilitator	Topic
8:00 a.m.		Check-in and coffee.
8:30-9:00 a.m.	John LaFave and Yann Gavillot (Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology [MBMG])	Welcoming remarks, overview of MEWG, and introductions. *John LaFave and Yann Gavillot will welcome everyone and review the objectives of the workshop and of MEWG. Attendees will also be invited to introduce themselves.*
9:00-9:25 a.m.	Michael Stickney (MBMG)	Earthquake history in Montana. *This presentation will include an overview of Montana's earthquake history and seismic hazards. It will also highlight lessons learned, challenges, and outlook for communities and infrastructure in Montana faced with seismic hazards.*
9:25-9:45 a.m.	Robb Moss (CalPoly)	Living with seismic hazards. *This presentation will provide insights from lessons learned, challenges, and outlook for communities and infrastructure in Montana faced with seismic hazards.*
10:00-10:15 a.m.		Break.
10:15-12:00 p.m.		Updates from agencies across Montana (including discussion of priorities). *Partners from different agencies across Montana will share updates about efforts to address earthquake and geological hazards, their priorities, and their challenges.*
	Yann Gavillot (MBMG)	MBMG Geohazards Program
	Mike Stickney (MBMG)	MBMG Montana Regional Seismic Network
	Jeff Jackson (DOT)	Montana Department of Transportation
	Jeffrey Blend (DEQ)	Energy Bureau – Montana Dept. of Environmental and Quality
	Doug Brugger, Chad Hill (DRNC)	Dam Safety, Water Resources Division – Montana Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
	Andrew Long (DES)	Mitigation Grants – Montana Disaster & Emergency Services
12:00-1:00 p.m.		Lunch.
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Anna Lang (Earthquake Engineering Research Institute), and Andrew Long (DES)	Call to action on seismic risk and hazard mitigation planning in Montana. *This session will review Montana's current earthquake risk and the importance of addressing this risk now. This session will introduce the concepts of hazard mitigation planning.*
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Colleen Elliott, Yann Gavillot (MBMG); Andrew Long (DES)	Review of the MEWG progress update and strategic plan. *MEWG is developing a strategic plan to outline hazard mitigation objectives for the next five years. This session will describe efforts underway and progress to date. After the afternoon break, attendees can provide feedback.*
3:00-3:15 p.m.		Break.
3:15-5:00 p.m.	Subcommittee leads	MEWG subcommittee breakout sessions: strategic plan feedback. *Attendees will be asked to join a theme-oriented small group. Groups will consider the day's discussion and where there is*

		alignment between seismic hazard mitigation planning and discussion topics, and how to include these in the Strategic Plan.
5:00 p.m.		**Adjournment.**
TBA		**Evening social activity.**

Friday, May 9: Research and Local Insights

Time	Presenter/Facilitator	Topic
8:00-8:30 a.m.		**Check-in and coffee.**
8:30-10:30 a.m.		**Earthquake hazards in the Mission and Flathead valleys.** *This session will introduce current understanding and recent research on earthquake hazards in the region. This session will also highlight research gaps and future projects.*
	Yann Gavillot (MBMG)	**Recent research and current understanding of the earthquake hazards of the Mission fault**
	Mike Stickney (MBMG)	**Recent seismicity in the Flathead & Mission valleys.**
	Jim Sears (University of Montana)	**Landslide hazard mapping along the Ninemile fault, Missoula County.**
	Marc Hendrix (University of Montana)	**Interpretation of seismic reflection profiles from Flathead Lake: seismic hazards, glacial history, and Holocene Lake level fluctuations.**
	Stuart Parker (MBMG)	**Geological mapping in NW Montana – Implications for geological hazards.**
10:30-10:45 a.m.		**Break.**
10:45-11:00 a.m.	Yann Gavillot (MBMG).	**Earthquake risk in the Mission and Flathead valleys.** *This session will review current understanding of the earthquake risk in the region.*
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Anna Lang (EERI)	**Disaster Resilience in our Flathead Valley.** *This session will present and discuss with local businesses and partners the major challenges and concerns on earthquake risk. This session will also present a case scenario for what a major earthquake would look like in the Flathead Valley.*
12:00-1:00 p.m.		**Working lunch with breakout groups.**
1:00-5:00 p.m.		**Field trip.** *After learning about local earthquake hazards, attendees will be invited to join a field trip to see relevant local sites in person.*