

Oklahoma City Hosts National Earthquake Program Managers Meeting

Induced seismicity and the increase in earthquakes in Oklahoma were front and center on the agenda when state, territorial, and FEMA Regional Earthquake Program managers, other FEMA representatives, and partners met to share best practices and programs, receive training, and develop new relationships that will lead to further earthquake resiliency.

The U.S. Geological Survey, FEMA, and others delivered presentations during the meeting. Presentations included a USGS Earthquake Hazard Brief, FEMA NEHRP Update, Learning from Earthquakes the EERI Response to Cushing Okla. Earthquake, Fundamentals of a Solid Earthquake Program, Improving Seismic Performance of Manufactured Housing, Earthquake Mitigation for Manufactured Housing Outreach, and a Yes Earthquakes Occur in Oklahoma panel session.

Oklahoma experienced 855 M3 or lower earthquakes during the 35-year period from 1973 to 2008. The number of earthquakes recorded increased to 2,310 from 2009 to January 2016, according to the Oklahoma Geological Survey. In November of 2011, Prague, OK, experienced a M5.7 quake and in September of 2016 a M5.8 earthquake struck Pawnee, Okla. Risk analysis suggests a similar earthquake in Dallas would cause \$5 billion in damage.

The increase in the number and magnitude of the earthquakes in Oklahoma has been linked to wastewater injection wells. In response, the Oklahoma Geological Survey created an ad-hoc seismic network to monitor and assess the threat. Integrated studies of earthquake seismicity and wastewater, and fault interactions, are needed to fully assess the continued seismic hazard.

Matthew Wall, Virginia State Earthquake Program Manager, served as chair of the planning committee with support from the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium at this year's annual meeting held April 25 - 27 in Oklahoma City, Okla. The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management hosted the meeting. Oklahoma Emergency Manager Albert Ashwood, FEMA Region VI Administrator Tony Robinson, and FEMA/FIMA Risk Management Assistant Administrator Nick Shufro welcomed attendees.

The agenda and presentation slides from the Oklahoma City meeting are available [here](#). Meeting notes will be posted soon. For questions about the meeting, please contact NEPM Meeting Chair Wall at (804) 897-6500.