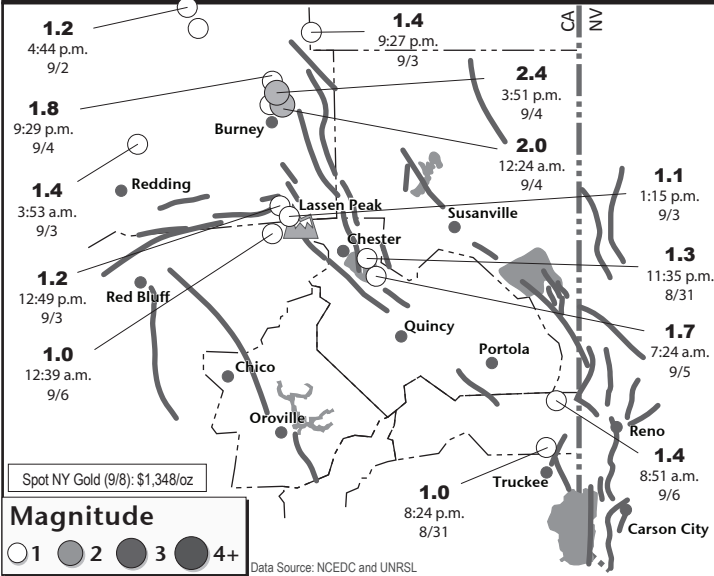


Earthquake Report

August 17 - 23, 2017

By: Charles P. Watson, California Professional Geologist No. 7818



Magnitude $M \geq 1$	1	2	3+	Total
Regional	13	2	0	15
Previous week	11	5	1	17

■ It is interesting to watch the earthquake activity from week to week and notice how it changes, where things move and don't move, how much activity is there, whether it is a lot or a little, and how big or small the activity can be. Generally, most of this region's activity occurs along a northwest-southeast trend from Lassen Peak to Truckee. This is the Mohawk-Lake Almanor fault zone and is the boundary between the Sierra and Basin and Range geomorphologic provinces. The other two prominent

seismic zones are the Battle Creek and Hat Creek faulty zones. Hat Creek FZ extends north of Lassen Peak and the Battle Creek FZ extends southwestward from Lassen Peak to Cottonwood and beyond. Of course, Lassen Peak is an active volcano and has its share of seismic activity. It is no wonder magma leaks to the surface here because it is at the junction of these three prominent fault zones. They have created a tectonic zone of weakness that extends deep into the continental crust which forms the conduits by which magma can rise to the surface. Rocks around these zones are fractured as well and move in response to the major tectonic forces at play. A dynamic area, for sure!

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