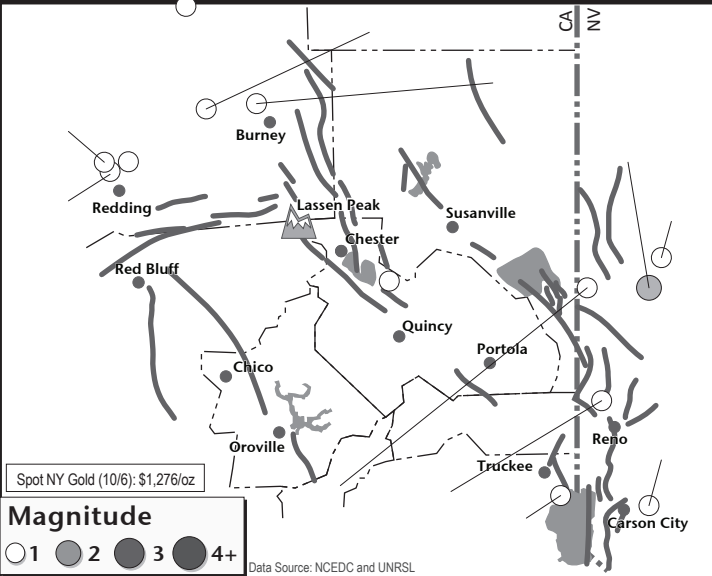


Earthquake Report

Sep. 28 - Oct. 4, 2017

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



| Magnitude $M \geq 1$ | 1 | 2 | 3+ | Total |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Regional | 12 | 1 | 0 | 13 |
| Previous week | 10 | 1 | 0 | 11 |

■ When was the last time you felt an earthquake? Felt that small jiggle, hear the windows rattle, see the hanging plants swing. It doesn't have to be a strong quake, just one that caught your attention. Most people can tell you when. They seem to happen often enough that you can remember those little jiggles. Now when was the last time you felt a strong earthquake? Most long-time Californians can say they have been in one or two. They will tell you it was frightening, life changing. But when

was the last one? How long ago was it? It has been a while, hasn't it? There is a saying in the geologic community about that, "It is not a matter of if it will occur, but when?" Geologists can quantify how many times a fault has moved in the past, tell us the frequency of recurrence. They can say, for example, California experiences a M 6 earthquake every "X" years and a M 7 earthquake every "Y" years. But what happens if the frequency doesn't fall within those parameters? Are they late? Are we due? A M 7 earthquake hasn't occurred in California in nearly 20 years. The average "was" every 11 years. That is disturbing. Should you be concerned, Probably. Should you be prepared? Definitely!

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