

# Seattle Public Utilities Seismic Study Summary

City of Bellevue  
Environmental Services Commission  
February 7, 2019

# Presentation Outline

- Background
- Seismic Hazards
- Seismic Study Findings
- Seismic Mitigation Recommendations



# Importance of Post-Earthquake Water Supply

- Fire Fighting
- Public Health
- Economic Prosperity

*Water is essential*



# Seismic Hazards - Recent Earthquakes

	Year	Magnitude	Impacts
Loma Prieta, Bay Area	1989	6.9	Water outages mostly less than a few days; fire suppression water was an issue in the Marina District
Northridge, So. Cal	1994	6.7	Over 100 fires; water system damage mostly in areas of poor soils; outage durations 8 to 13+ days
Kobe, Japan	1995	6.9	109 Kobe fires immediately after earthquake (another 88 in surrounding cities); 60+ days for restoration of service
Christchurch, NZ*	2011	6.2	45+ days for restoration of service
Tohoku, Japan*	2011	9.0	345 fires; 45+ days for substantial restoration of service

\*15%-20% chance of a Christchurch-like or Tohoku-like type event in Seattle in next 50 years

# SPU Seismic Mitigation Program History

- Seismic Reliability Study of the Seattle Water Department's Water Supply System (Cygn Energy Services, 1990)
- Earthquake Loss Modeling of the Seattle Water System (Kennedy Jenks Chilton/USGS, 1990)

Job No. 88175  
Report No.: 1  
Revision: 0

SEISMIC RELIABILITY STUDY OF THE  
SEATTLE WATER DEPARTMENT'S  
WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

Prepared for:

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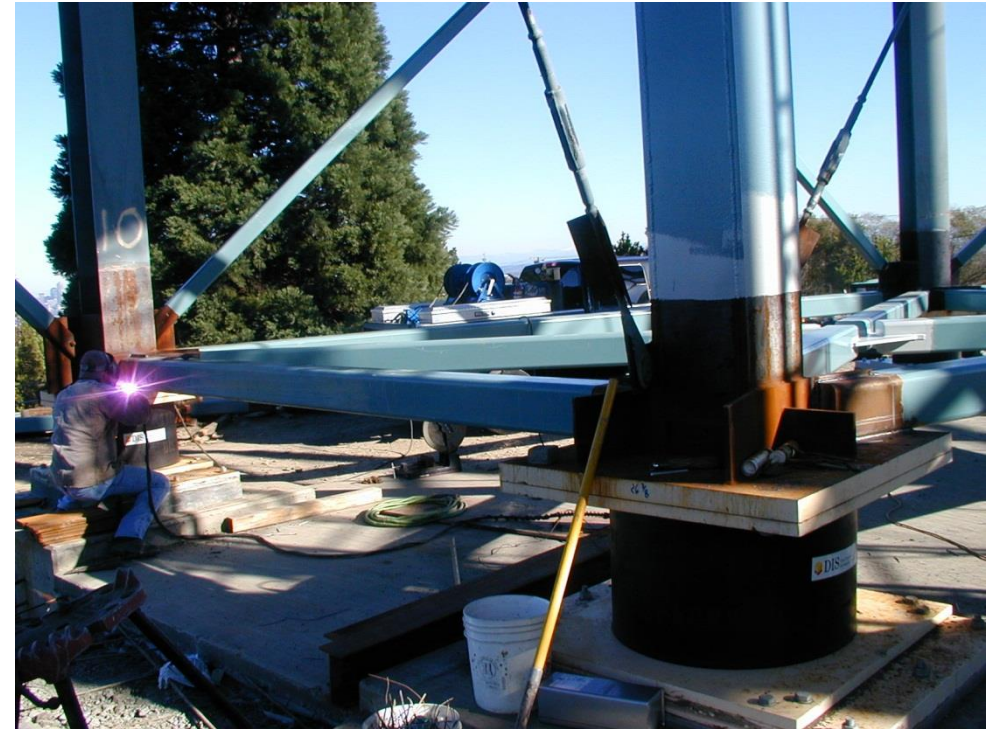


February 6, 1990



# SPU Seismic Mitigation Program History (continued)

- SPU Seismic Upgrade Program (e.g., OCC, Myrtle Elevated Tanks, Barton Standpipe, etc.)
- Performance of Water Supply Systems in the February 28, 2001 Nisqually Earthquake (system post-earthquake hydraulic modeling, Water Research Foundation, 2008)



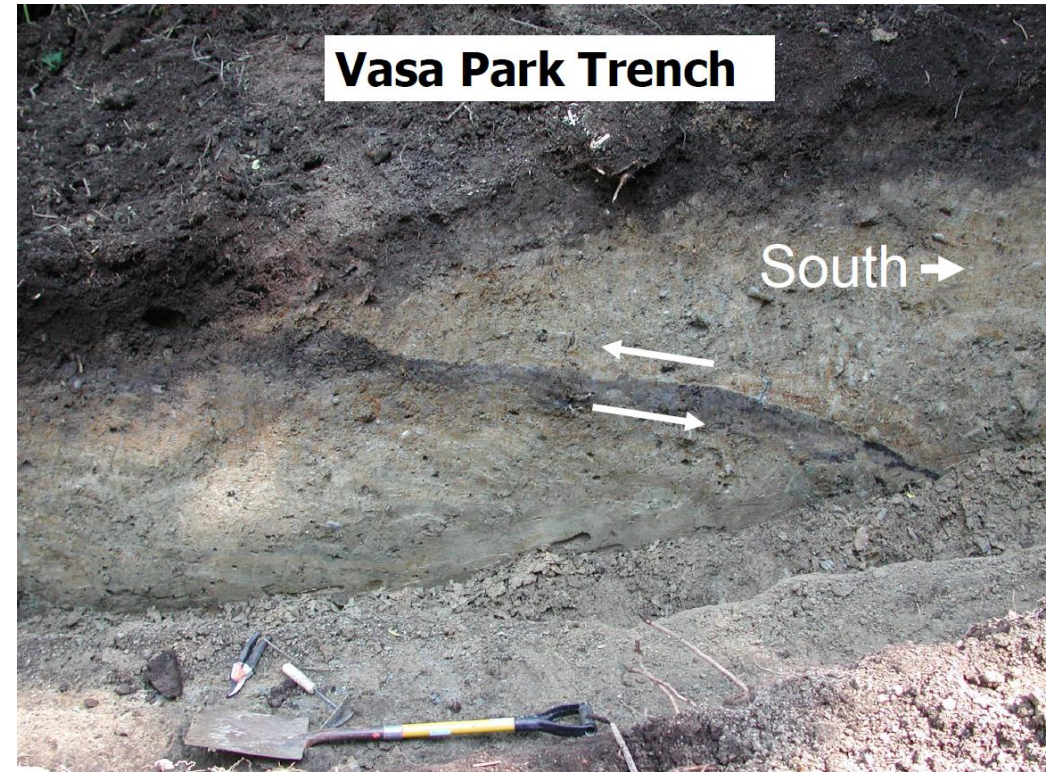
# Water Supply Forum – Resilience Study

- Regional analysis of vulnerabilities (Everett, Seattle, Tacoma areas)
- Focus areas: Water quality, drought, climate change, seismic
- Future briefing topic for Operating Board



# New Developments (since 1990)

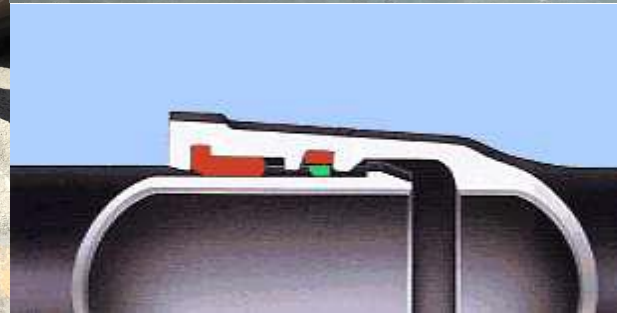
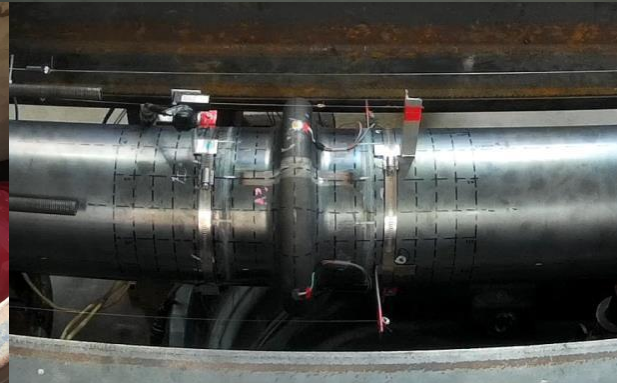
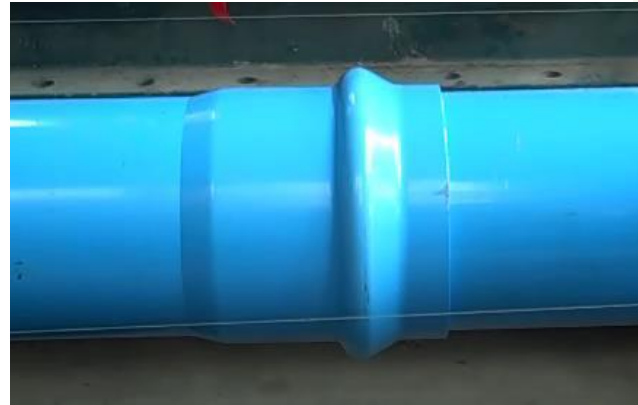
- Active surface faults identified throughout Puget Sound region (e.g., Seattle Fault, South Whidbey Island Fault, Tacoma Fault, etc.)
- Migration from 10% probability of exceedance in 50 years (475 year return interval) design earthquake to 2% probability of exceedance in 50 years (2475 year return interval) design earthquake





# New Developments (since 1990 - cont)

- Earthquake Experience (e.g., Northridge, Japanese, Chilean and New Zealand events)
- Potential for mass availability of earthquake-resistant pipe in U.S.



# Seismic Vulnerability Assessment

## - Project Goals

- Preliminary seismic vulnerability assessments for all critical water transmission and distribution system facilities.
  - Defined earthquake scenarios
  - ASCE/SEI 7-10 (Building Code)
- Hydraulic modeling of post-earthquake water system performance
- Establish post-earthquake water transmission and distribution system performance goals



# Seismic Vulnerability Assessment

## - Project Goals (continued)

- Develop planning level mitigation measures, cost estimates and timeframe to meet service level goals.
- Define seismic design standards for water transmission and distribution pipelines.



### AmericanLifelinesAlliance

A public-private partnership to reduce risk to utility and transportation systems from natural hazards and manmade threats

#### Seismic Guidelines for Water Pipelines

March 2005



FEMA

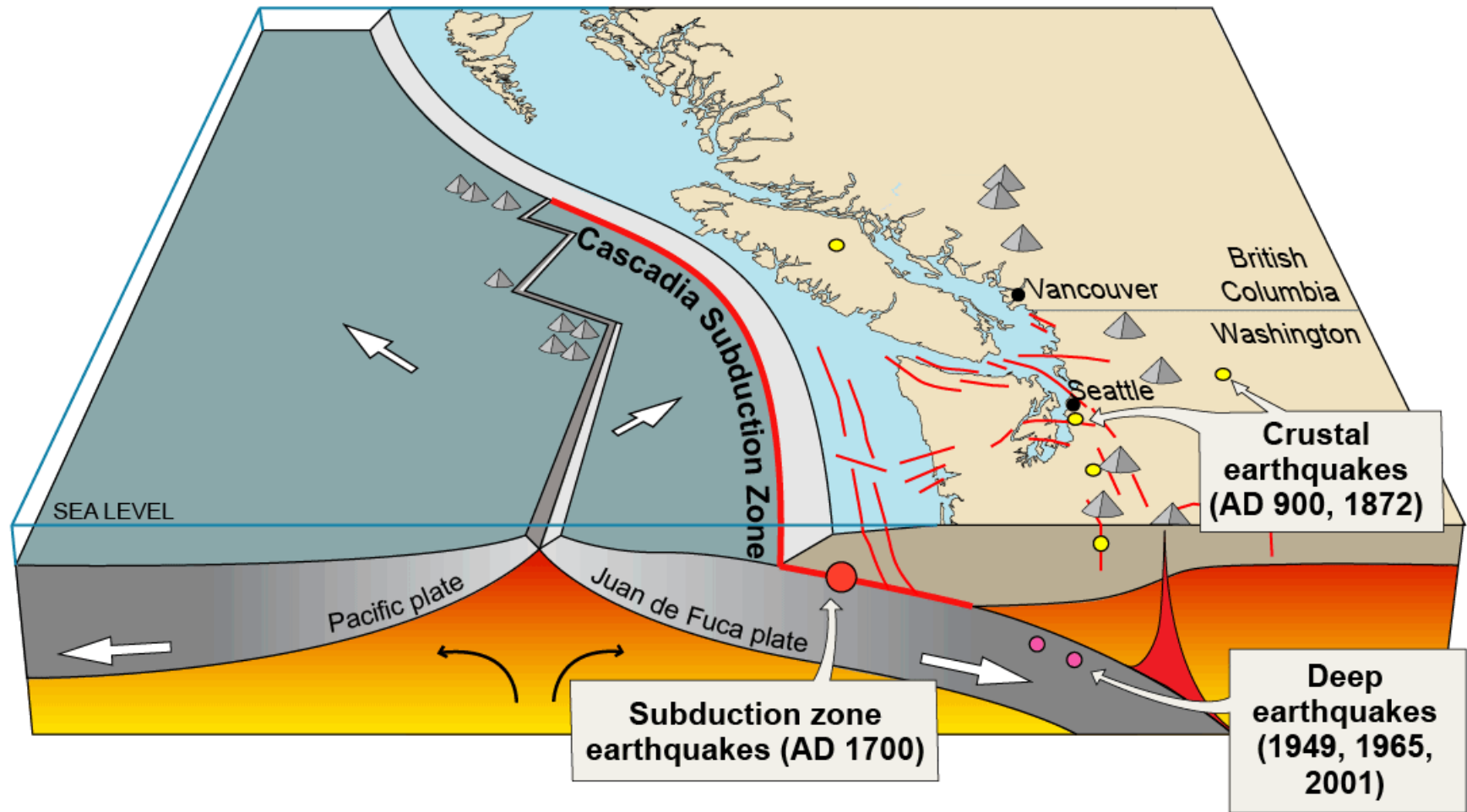
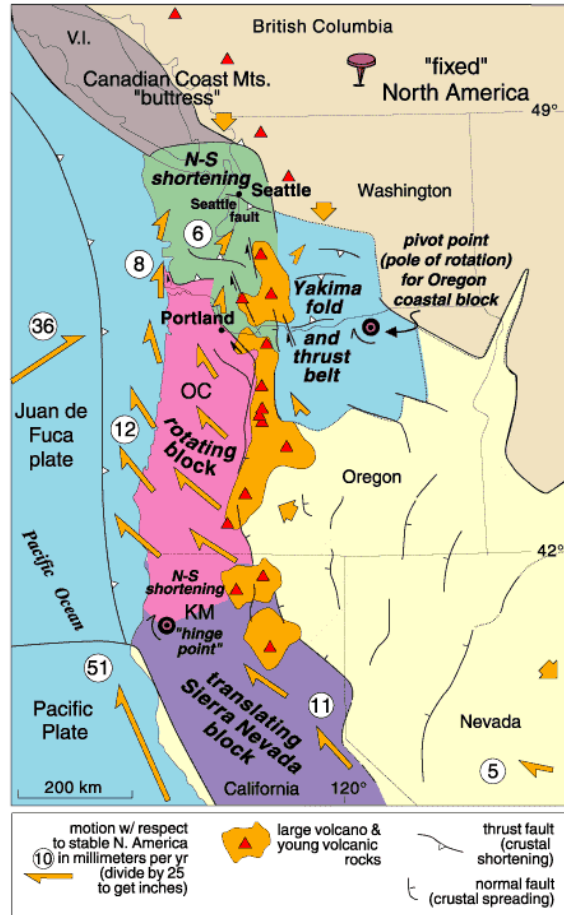


National Institute of  
BUILDING SCIENCES





# Earthquake Source Zones



Source	Max. Size	Recurrence
● Subduction zone	M 9+	200–600 years
● Deep Juan de Fuca plate	M 7+	30–50 years
● Crustal faults	M 7+	Hundreds of years?

- ▲ Volcano
- Active crustal fault
- Active plate boundary fault

\*figure modified from USGS Cascadia earthquake graphics at <http://geomaps.wr.usgs.gov/pacnw/pacnweq/index.html>

# Seattle Earthquake Likelihood in the Next 50 Years

- 15% to 20% chance of catastrophic earthquake, similar to 2011 Christchurch or Tohoku earthquakes
  - 14% chance of M9 (plus or minus) Cascadia subduction earthquake
  - 5% chance of M6.5 or larger Seattle Fault earthquake
- 85% chance of at least one intraplate earthquake “similar” to the 2001 Nisqually earthquake

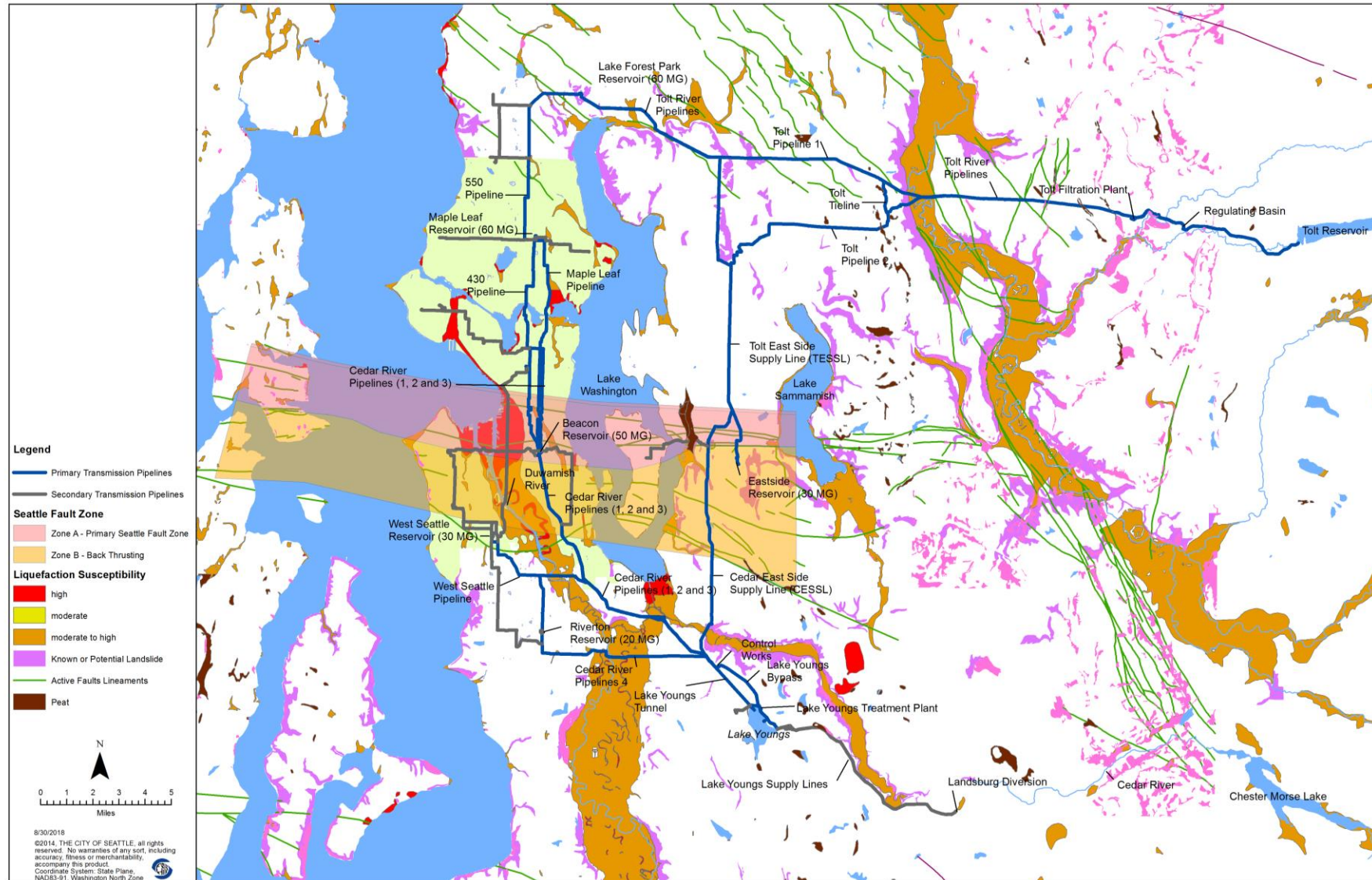


# Seismic Hazard Analysis - Scenarios

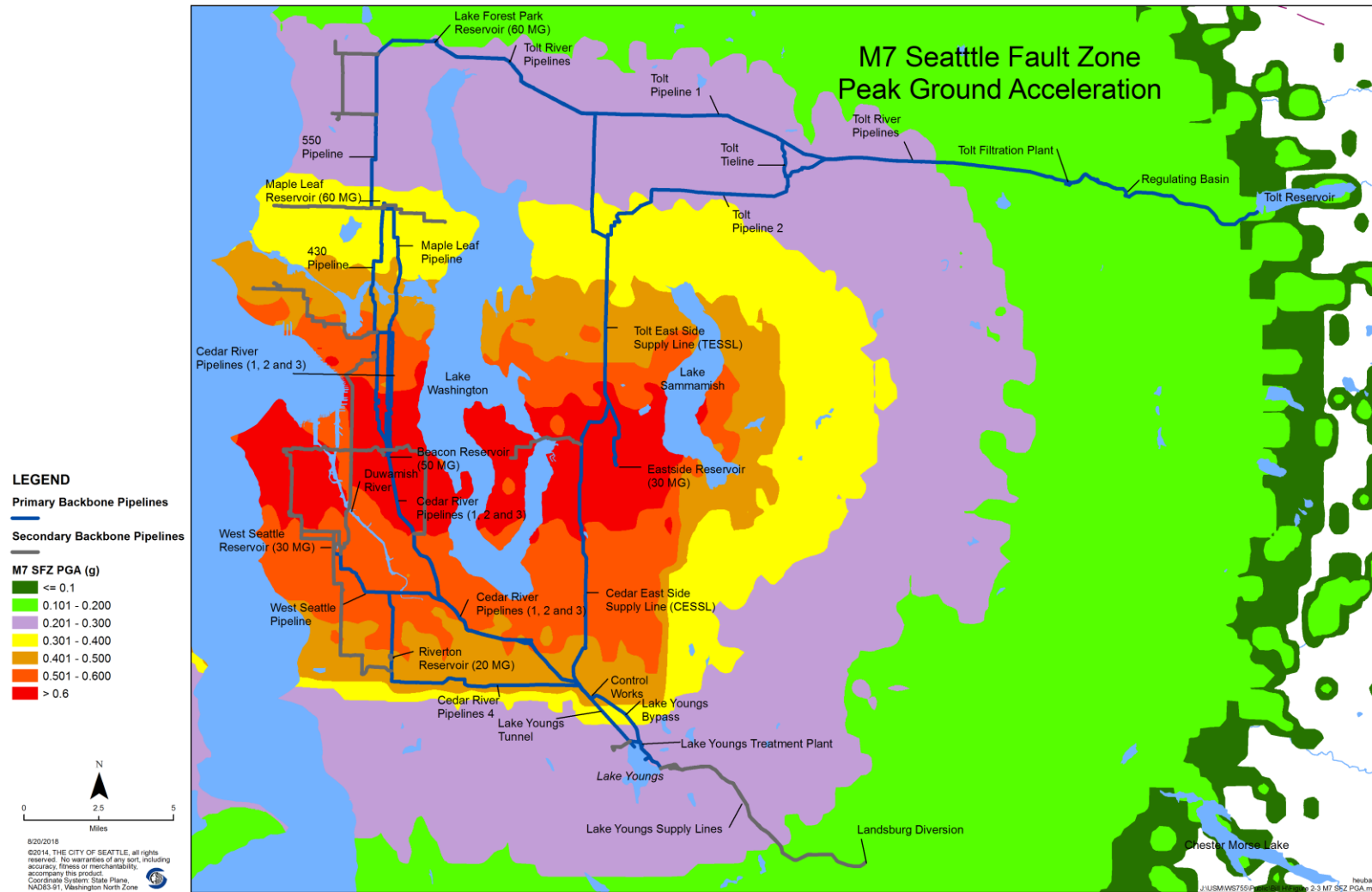
- Three Scenarios
  - M7.0 Seattle Fault
  - M9.0 Cascadia Subduction Zone
  - 0.02 Probability of Exceedance in 50 Years Ground Motions
- Hazards Evaluated
  - Ground Shaking Intensity (PGA)
  - Permanent Ground Displacements



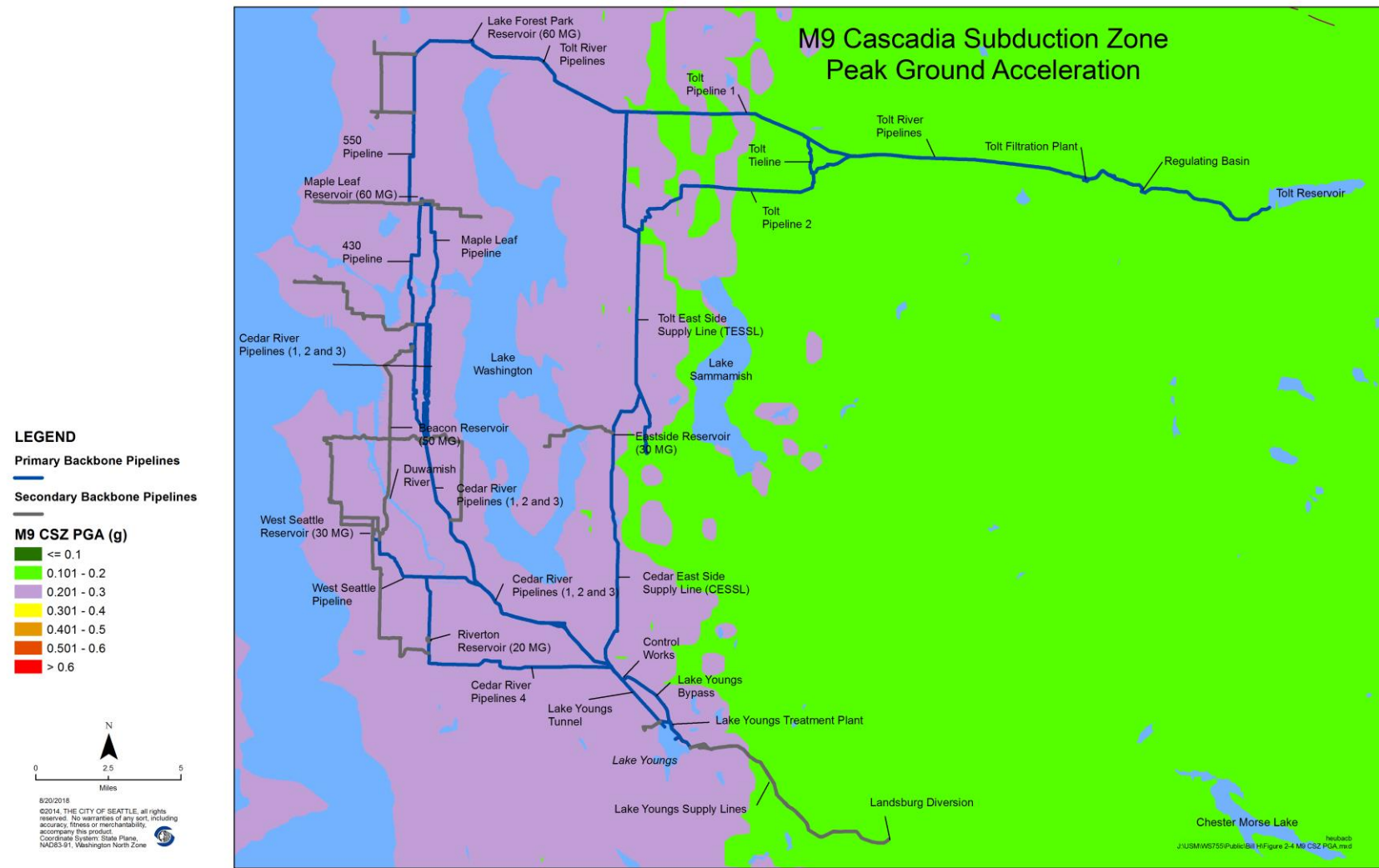
# SPU Water System Seismic Hazard Map



# M7 Seattle Fault Zone Peak Ground Acceleration

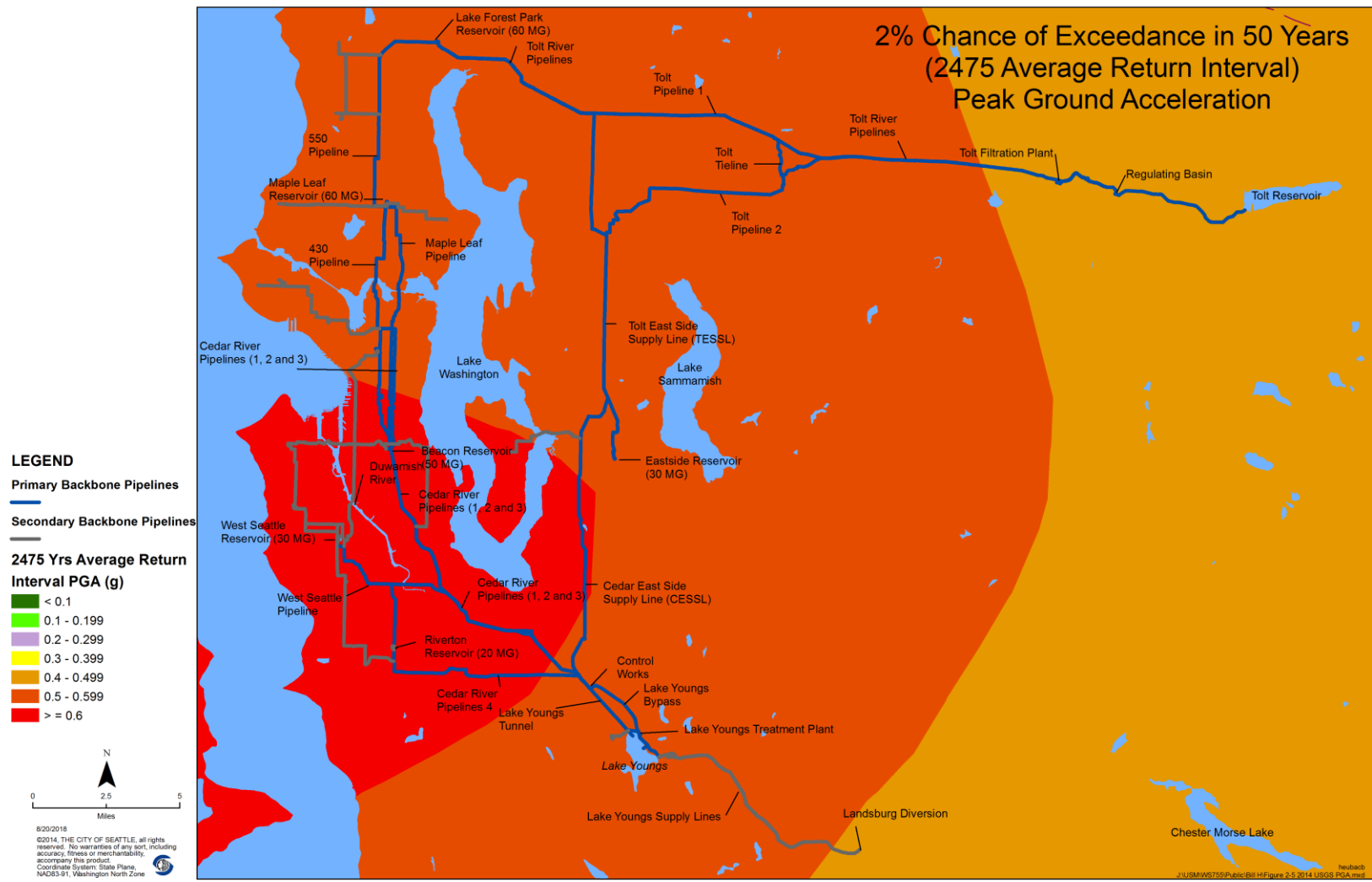


# M9.0 Cascadia Subduction Zone Peak Ground Acceleration





# USGS 0.02 Probability of Exceedance in 50 Years Ground Motions

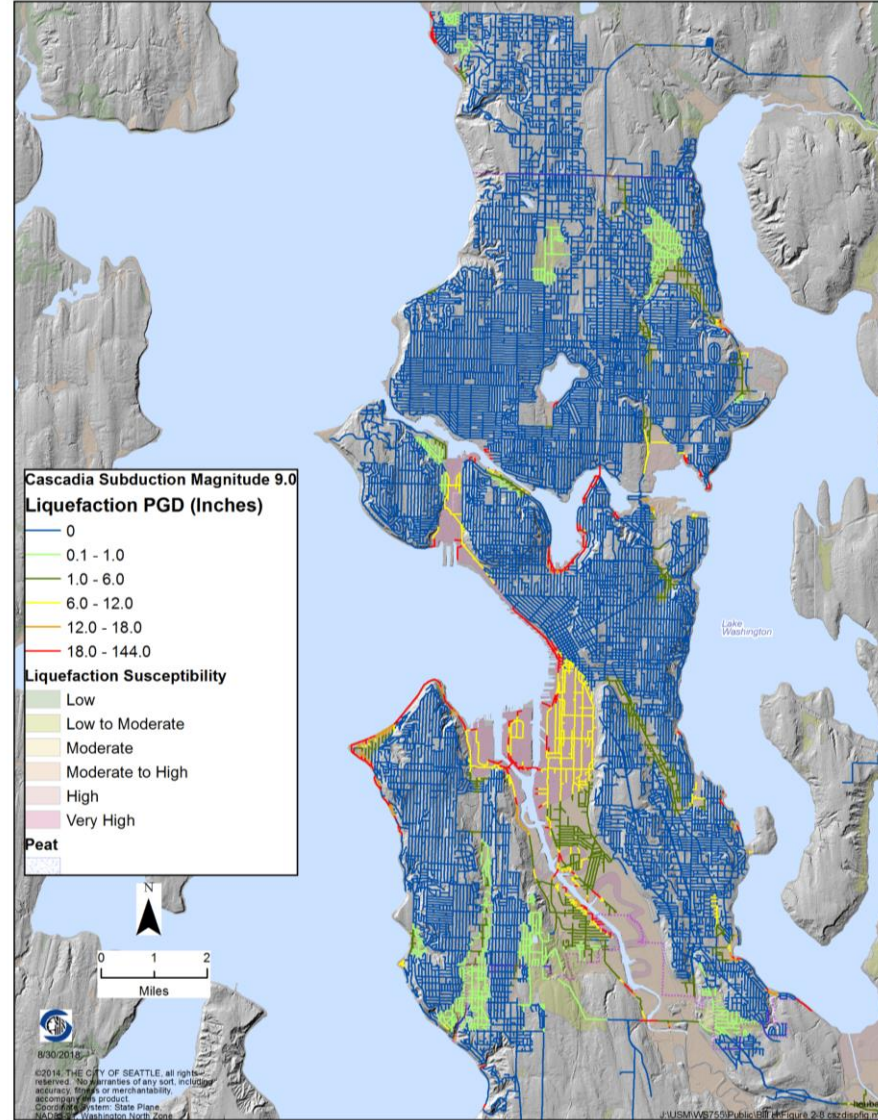
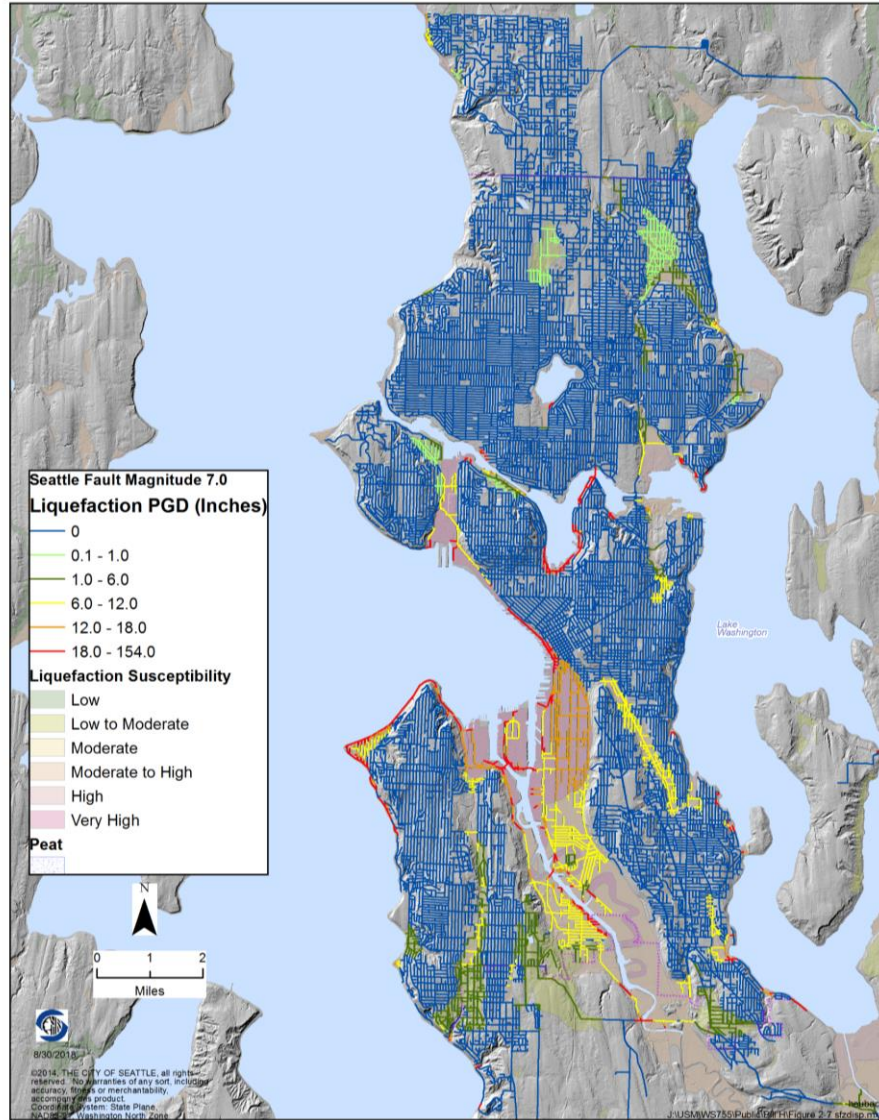


# Earthquake Hazards - Liquefaction





# Permanent Ground Displacement





# Seismic Vulnerability Assessments

- “Vertical” Facilities
  - Watersheds
  - Treatment Plants
  - Reservoirs/Tanks
  - Pump Stations and Gatehouses
  - Support Facilities
- Pipelines
  - Transmission
  - Distribution

# Watersheds

- Dams – Meet FERC requirements
- Landslides
  - Minor impacts in M7.0 SFZ and M9.0 CSZ events
  - Moderate or more severe impacts possible for building code ground motions
- Other Facilities
  - Tolt intake bridge connections
  - Tolt screenhouse
  - Landsburg Tunnel Gatehouse



# Treatment Plants

- Structural Performance – generally good
- Some Nonstructural Concerns
- Sloshing in Basins
- Emergency Power
- Clearwells – some damage (particularly for building code ground motions) but expected to remain functional





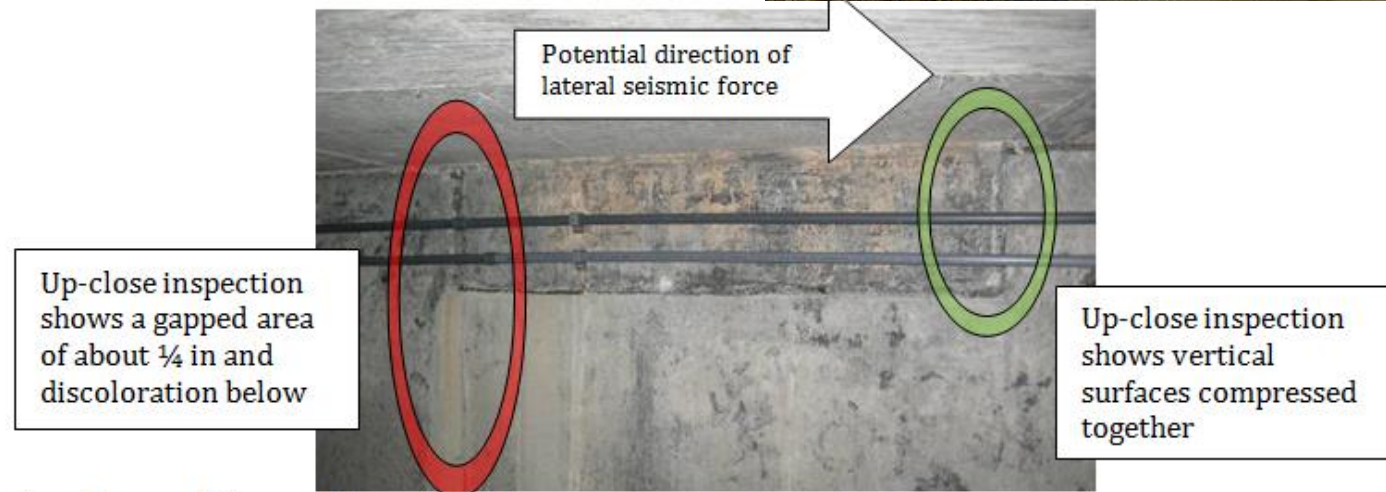
# Regional Reservoirs and Tanks

- Reservoirs
  - Riverton Reservoirs Is Most Vulnerable
  - Eastside Reservoir Also A Concern
  - Damage Possible to Other Reservoirs But Most or All Others Are Expected to Remain Functional
- Elevated Tanks and Standpipes: All Are Vulnerable to Code Level Ground Motions



Myrtle #2

Eastside Reservoir After  
Nisqually Earthquake:



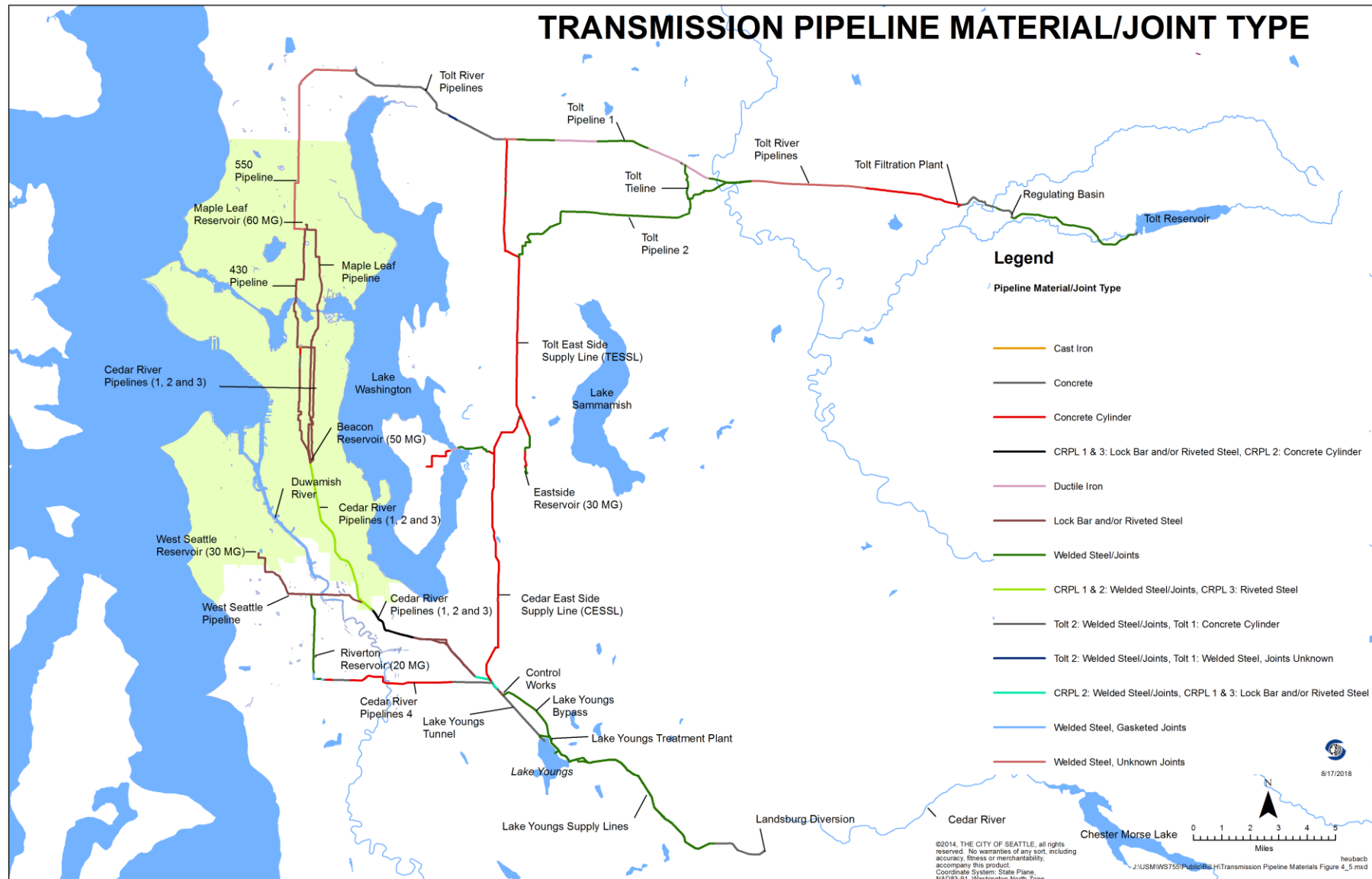


# Regional Pump Stations

Several Pump Stations Are Vulnerable  
But Most of Vulnerable Pump Stations  
Are Not Critical



# Transmission Pipelines





**SPU WATER SYSTEM EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS MAP**

**Legend**

- Primary Transmission Pipelines
- Secondary Transmission Pipelines
- Seattle Fault Zone**
  - Zone A - Primary Seattle Fault Zone
  - Zone B - Back Thrusting
- Liquefaction Susceptibility**
  - high
  - moderate
  - moderate to high
- Known or Potential Landslide
- Active Faults Lineaments
- Peat

**Map Labels:** Lake Forest Park Reservoir (60 MG), Tolt River Pipelines, Tolt Pipeline 1, Tolt Pipeline 2, Tolt Filtration Plant, Regulating Basin, Tolt Reservoir, 550 Pipeline, Maple Leaf Reservoir (60 MG), 430 Pipeline, Maple Leaf Pipeline, Cedar River Pipelines (1, 2 and 3), Lake Washington, Beacon Reservoir (50 MG), Duwamish River, Cedar River Pipelines (1, 2 and 3), Eastside Reservoir (30 MG), Tolt East Side Supply Line (TESSL), Lake Sammamish, West Seattle Reservoir (30 MG), West Seattle Pipeline, Cedar River Pipelines (1, 2 and 3), Cedar East Side Supply Line (CESSL), Riverton Reservoir (20 MG), Cedar River Pipelines 4, Lake Youngs Tunnel, Control Works, Lake Youngs Bypass, Lake Youngs Treatment Plant, Lake Youngs, Lake Youngs Supply Lines, Landsburg Diversion, Cedar River, Chester Morse Lake.

**Scale:** 0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

**North Arrow:** N

**Metadata:**  
 12/18/2018  
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 Coordinate System: State Plane, NAD83-91, Washington North Zone



# Transmission Pipelines – Steep Slopes





# Transmission Pipelines – River Crossings





# Transmission Pipelines – Swamps and Piles



# Vulnerability Assessment Findings Summary

- For a catastrophic earthquake (15% to 20% chance in next 50 years)
  - Loss of Cedar and Tolt Transmission Systems Likely
  - Loss of Eastside Supply Line Likely
  - Distribution Pipeline Failures
    - M7 SFZ Scenario:  $\pm$  2000 failures
    - M9 CSZ Scenario:  $\pm$  1400 failures
  - Most Terminal Reservoirs Remain Functional
  - Loss of Over One Dozen Critical Facilities
  - Loss of Water Pressure Throughout Direct Service Area Within  $\pm$  24 Hours
- Mitigation plans balancing risk vs cost



# Mitigation Approach – Short Term Measures (Next 15 to 20 Years)

- Enhance emergency preparedness and response planning
  - Earthquake-specific response plan
  - Significantly augment pipeline repair material stocks
  - Assess adequacy/improve emergency drinking water
- Develop/implement isolation and control strategies
  - Reservoir isolation valves
  - Explore isolating areas of large amounts of pipe damage
  - Add valves to make isolation easier



# Mitigation Approach – Long Term Measures (Next 50 Plus Years)

- Build It Right (Now Until Forever)
  - Use earthquake-resistant pipe when pipe is replaced
  - Design new facilities to remain functional
- Upgrade Vulnerable Critical Facilities (Next 50 Plus Years)
  - Most vulnerable transmission pipelines locations (Cedar system has top priority)
  - Critical facilities
    - Large volume reservoirs
    - Key pump stations and support facilities
    - Life-safety

# Seismic Resilience Recommendations

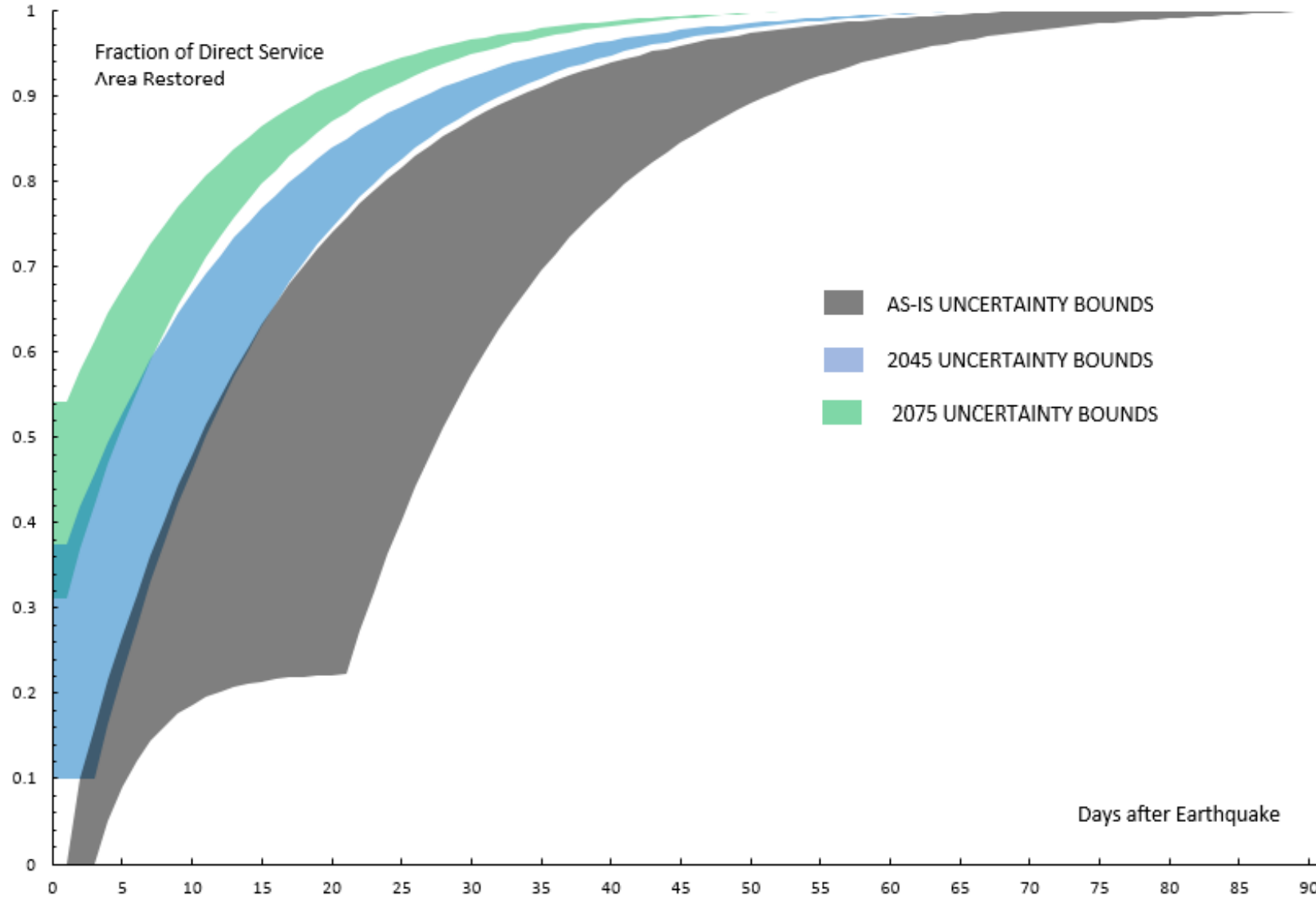
- \$15 to \$20 million per year – 50+ years
- Options analysis for all projects
  - Cost and functional tradeoff between:
    - Full upgrades – functional after design EQ
    - Upgrades – non-functional but repairable
    - Operational/response: expect significant damage, but able to repair quickly
  - Example: a vulnerable pipe crossing
    - Full replacement/seismic upgrade of pipe
    - Slip-line pipe
    - Install emergency connections
    - Place spare pipe immediately adjacent







# Direct Service Area Restoration Projected Improvement





# Questions?

