WHAT IS AN EARTHQUAKE?

An earthquake is a sudden slip on a fault, and the shaking caused by that slip. Focal depths range from near the surface to depths of about 60 kilometers. In Nevada, the largest magnitude earthquake that occurred during the 1990s was magnitude 7.8, on the Wells Fault near Wells, Nevada, on May 28, 1992. This earthquake occurred in the Wells Valley, east of the Walker Lake and west of the Ruby Valley. The Wells Valley is a geologically active region, and it is likely that additional magnitude 7 earthquakes will occur in the future.

EARTHQUAKES IN NEVADA

Nevada has a long geological history, with earthquakes occurring throughout the state. The largest earthquake in Nevada occurred in 1877, and it was magnitude 7.5. Since then, there have been several magnitude 7 earthquakes, including one in 1962 near Winnemucca, Nevada. The largest earthquake of the past century occurred in 1990, near Fallon, Nevada. This earthquake was magnitude 7.8 and caused significant damage in the Fallon area.

USE OF THE EARTHQUAKE MAP

The map shows the locations of earthquakes that have occurred in Nevada since 1980. The map is divided into two sections: one for earthquakes that occurred within 75 miles of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and another for earthquakes that occurred outside the NTS. This allows for a more detailed analysis of seismic activity in the state.

SOURCES OF THE DATA

The information used to create the map comes from the Nevada Seismological Laboratory, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology. The data includes historical and modern earthquake information, as well as information about the location and magnitude of the earthquakes.

REFERENCES


EARTHQUAKES IN NEVADA

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Diane M. dePolio
Nevada Seismological Laboratory
and
Craig M. dePolio
Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology

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