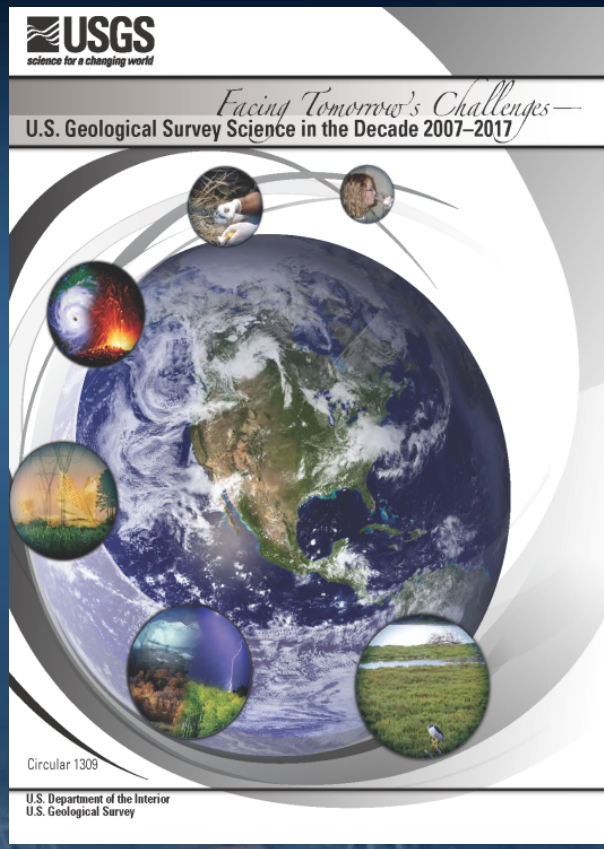
USGS
science for a changing world

Listening Session with the Hazards Science Strategy Planning Team

USGS Changes in Organizational Structure and Science Planning Process

- Structure and management now align with the major science directions of Circular 1309:
  - Climate and Land Use Change
  - Ecosystems
  - Natural Hazards
  - Water
  - Core Science Systems
  - Energy, Minerals & Environmental Health
- Science Strategy Planning Teams (SSPTs) exist for these 6 directions, now called *Mission Areas*



Circular 1309 – the starting point

USGS Natural Hazards Mission Area

- Has direct responsibility for these funded Programs:
  - Coastal & Marine Geology
  - Earthquake Hazards
  - Geomagnetism
  - Global Seismographic Network
  - Landslide Hazards
  - Volcano Hazards
- Will coordinate and support the broader hazards vision of the USGS including floods, hurricanes and severe storms, tsunamis, and wildfires.
- Will coordinate USGS response activities following disasters.

Hazards Science Strategy Planning Team (H-SSPT)

- The H-SSPT is charged to report to the Director on near and longer term science goals.
- The report will guide future investment and initiatives.
- The process must involve scientists, managers, and other stakeholders.
- The team is composed of "seats":

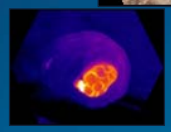
  - Co-chairs: Bob Holmes and Lucy Jones
  - Coastal Processes – Nathaniel Plant
  - Earthquakes – Craig Weaver
  - Floods – Mickey Plunkett
  - Geomagnetism – Jeffrey Love
  - Landslides – Jonathan Godt
  - Tsunamis – Steve Kirby
  - Volcanoes – Christina Neal
  - Wildfires – Jeff Eidenshink
  - Societal Consequences – Anne Wein

USGS

U.S. Geological Survey
Natural Hazards Mission Area

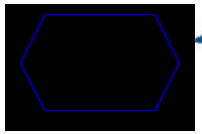
Geomagnetism

Volcanism

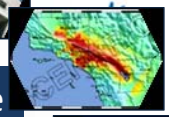


Tsunami

Landslide



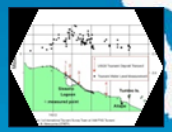
Flood



Earthquake

Wildfire

Coastal Erosion



Storm Surge

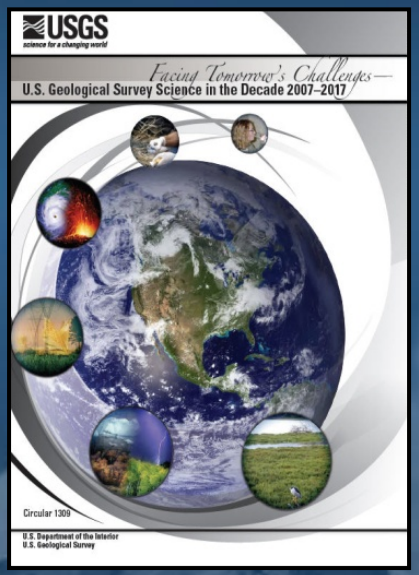
Global Seismic Network

Our Statuatory Roles and Responsibilities

- USGS has the delegated federal responsibility to provide notification and warnings for earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and landslides.
- USGS seismic networks support NOAA's tsunami warnings.
- USGS streamgages and storm surge monitors support NOAA's flood and severe weather (including hurricane) warnings.
- USGS geomagnetic observatories support geomagnetic storm forecasts.
- USGS geospatial information supports response operations for wildfire and many other disasters.

Hazards in the USGS Science Strategy

- Advance fundamental understanding of hazards processes
- Develop and support robust monitoring and communications and infrastructure
- Characterize hazards, assess vulnerability, and communicate risks
- Improve forecasting capability



Partnerships are vital for success

USGS

Questions to Start Our Conversation

To support the USGS mission, we seek answers to these questions:

1. **For those hazards in which USGS has a role, what are the priority issues?**
2. **What future USGS investments in hazards science will have the greatest return?**
3. **How can the USGS improve the access and usability of its natural hazards science information to make the greatest positive societal impact?**
4. **What partnerships will be essential to inform policy and actions?**

Additional comments welcome:

conversation@usgs.gov