

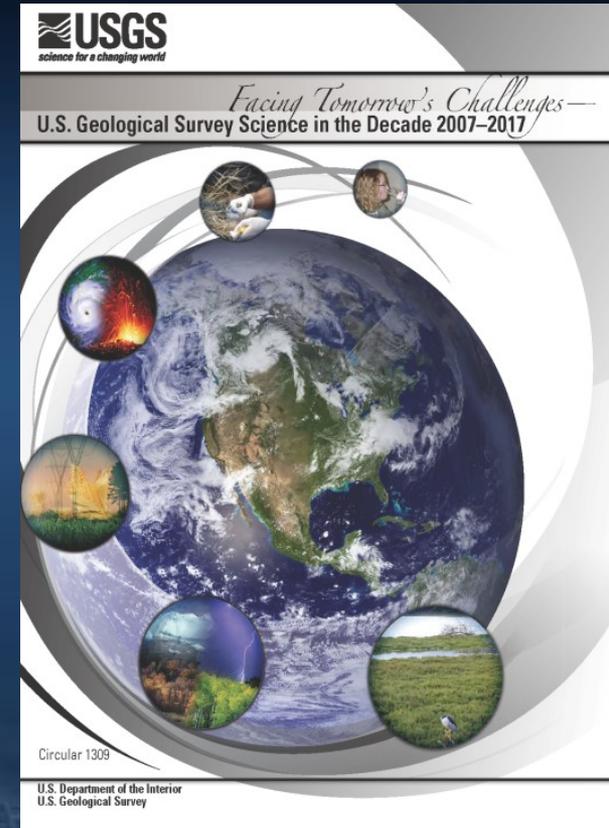


Talking Hazards

Planning the Future of the USGS Natural Hazards Mission Area

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 Eidschink
 - Societal Consequences – Anne Wein



Geomagnetism



Volcanism

U.S. Geological Survey Natural Hazards Mission Area



Landslide



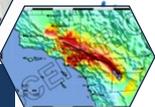
Flood



Tsunami



Earthquake



Wildfire



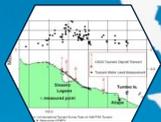
Coastal Erosion



Storm Surge



Global Seismic Network



Our Statutory Roles and Responsibilities

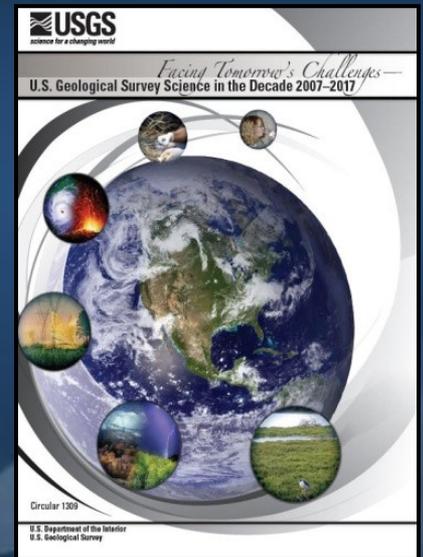
- USGS has the delegated federal responsibility to provide notification and warnings for **earthquakes**, **volcanic eruptions**, and **landslides**.
- USGS seismic networks support NOAA's **tsunami** warnings.
- USGS streamgages and storm surge monitors support NOAA's **flood** and **severe weather (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



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

