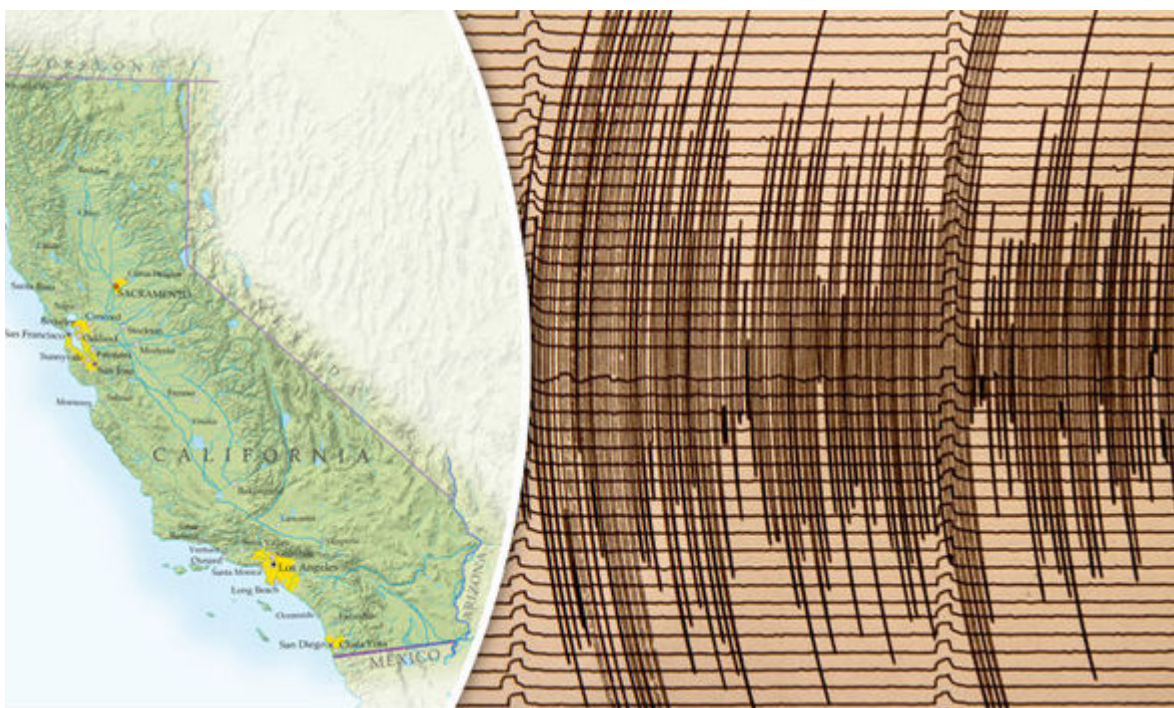


BIG ONE WARNING: Huge California earthquake 'INEVITABLE' as more tremor hits

A HUGE California earthquake is an “inevitability” as scientists reinforce their warnings that the south western State in the US is long overdue a massive tremor that could leave the region devastated.



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Huge California earthquake 'INEVITABLE' as more tremor hits California sits on top of the North American and Pacific tectonic plates and the San Andreas fault runs through it.

For decades, residents of the southwestern state have been concerned a huge earthquake, known as the Big One, is on its way.

California is constantly being hit by quakes including two 2.6 tremors which have hit in the last 24 hours.

Now, scientists are claiming that the situation could be much worse than previously thought.



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The San Andreas fault runs through California Richard Aster, Professor of Geophysics at Colorado State University wrote for the Conversation: “The earthquake situation in California is actually more dire than people who aren’t seismologists like myself may realise.

“Although many Californians can recount experiencing an earthquake, most have never personally experienced a strong one.

“For major events, with magnitudes of seven or greater, California is actually in an earthquake drought.”

The last time there was a magnitude seven quake or higher in California was in 1906 which struck San Francisco and ultimately killed around 3,000 people.



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California is no stranger to earthquakes

But Prof Aster says the damage this time could be much worse.

He said: “California’s population has grown more than 20-fold since the 1906 earthquake and currently is close to 40 million.”

The professor adds that despite some of the “most advanced [earthquake preparedness] in the world”, there could be serious devastation.

Prof Aster said: “Nonetheless, California’s infrastructure, response planning and general preparedness will doubtlessly be tested when the inevitable and long-delayed ‘big ones’ occur along the San Andreas Fault system.

“Ultimate damage and casualty levels are hard to project, and hinge on the severity of associated hazards such as landslides and fires.”

He added: “As California prepares for large earthquakes after a hiatus of more than a century, the clock is ticking.”

Source: <https://www.express.co.uk/news/science/913267/california-earthquake-big-one-warning-san-andreas-fault-ring-of-fire>

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