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A Framework to Update the Plan to Coordinate NEHRP Post-Earthquake Investigations

NEHRP Consultants Joint Venture
*A partnership of the Applied Technology Council and the
Consortium of Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering*



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Cover image – Damage in the San Francisco Marina district after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake (courtesy of J.K. Nakata, U.S. Geological Survey).

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*U.S. Department of Commerce
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By
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*A partnership of the Applied Technology Council and the
Consortium of Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering*

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U.S. Department of Commerce
Penny Pritzker, Secretary

National Institute of Standards and Technology
*Patrick D. Gallagher, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards
and Technology and Director*

Participants

National Institute of Standards and Technology

John (Jack) R. Hayes, Jr., Director, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program
Steven L. McCabe, Deputy Director, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program

NEHRP Consultants Joint Venture

Applied Technology Council
201 Redwood Shores Parkway, Suite 240
Redwood City, California 94065
www.ATCouncil.org

Consortium of Universities for
Research in Earthquake Engineering
1301 S. 46th Street, Building 420
Richmond, California 94804
www.CUREE.org

Joint Venture Management Committee

James R. Harris
Robert Reitherman
Christopher Rojahn
Andrew Whittaker

Joint Venture Program Committee

Jon A. Heintz (Program Manager)
Michael Constantinou
C.B. Crouse
James R. Harris
William T. Holmes
Jack Moehle
Andrew Whittaker

Project Technical Committee

William T. Holmes (Project Director)
Jonathan Bray
Thomas Holzer
Laurie A. Johnson
Jack Moehle
Sharon Wood

Project Review Panel

Gregory Anderson
Michael Blanpied
Sergio Breña
Michel Bruneau
John Filson
J. David Frost
Marjorie Greene
Eric Letvin
Michael Mahoney
Joy Pauschke
Santiago Pujol
Kathleen Tierney

Project Manager

Laura Dwelley Samant

Preface

Four agencies are included in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP): the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The agencies have complementary but unique roles in NEHRP that extend to their activities in performing field investigations following earthquakes. In 2002, with support from NSF, the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) conducted a workshop that examined many of the key post-earthquake investigation issues relevant to NEHRP. The result was the publication of USGS Circular 1242, *The Plan to Coordinate NEHRP Post-Earthquake Investigations* (USGS, 2003), which outlines interactions that were envisioned for the NEHRP agencies to employ in investigating earthquakes.

In 2007, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) awarded a National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) “Earthquake Structural and Engineering Research” contract (SB1341-07-CQ-0019) to the NEHRP Consultants Joint Venture, a partnership between the Applied Technology Council (ATC) and the Consortium of Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREE), to conduct a variety of tasks, including Task Order 12-478 entitled, “Development of Updated NEHRP Post-Earthquake Investigations Strategy: Phase I.” The objective of this project was to develop a framework that could be used to update the plan to coordinate NEHRP post-earthquake investigations, currently presented in USGS Circular 1242. The result is a series of issues, documented in this report, ranging from how and when the plan should be updated to the content and detail of specific elements that should be included in the plan. The issues, along with their recommended solutions, form a framework that may be used in the development of an updated plan.

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affiliations of all who contributed to this report are provided in the list of Project Participants.

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Jon A. Heintz
Program Manager

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