

CERI Rapid Response Plan

Version 20111102

This document is intended as a guide not policy. The specific response to any given event varies depending on location, size, affected population, media interest, etc.

Four Basic Elements for CERI Rapid Response to Earthquakes

1. Verification and Notification – Verify that an earthquake has happened and initiate notification. (Mitch Withers, Steve Brewer, Holly Withers)
 - a. Integrated with NEIC Response
 - b. <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/ens/>
2. Field Studies – Coordinate and conduct appropriate field studies following an earthquake. (Steve Horton, Staff)
 - a. Coordinate with USGS, State EMA and Geological Survey
 - b. CUS Clearinghouse Plan
 - c. CUS RAMP
3. Information Response – Coordinate the media/public interaction from CERI. (Gary Patterson, CEOC, Faculty and Staff)
 - a. Information Coordinator and the Coordination Desk
 - b. troubleshooter
 - c. Talking Points
4. Assessment – Evaluate CERI’s response following significant earthquakes. (RRC)

1. Verification and Notification

The CERI seismic network automatically locates earthquakes in the NMSZ and generates a text message (within about 5 minutes of the event). The message is sent to a select list of people that includes Mitch Withers, Holly Withers, and Steve Brewer.

One of these people will verify there has been an earthquake.

- Notify the **Information Coordinator** and the **Field Studies Team**.
- Modify the (678-2007) CERI phone message to indicate an earthquake has happened (after hours).
- Notify State EMA

- Re-Locate Event and Determine Magnitude
 - Coordinate reviewed information with NEIC, SLU, and relevant partners (call NEIC hotline and either Harley Benz or Paul Earle).
 - It could take up to several hours for the “Verified” notification to go out through ENS

- Disseminate Notification
 - Update Information Coordinator.
 - Update the 678-2007 phone message
 - Update ENS
 - Update State EMA as needed
 - Update CERI faculty, staff, and students (and include NEIC Executive Summary if available)

2. Field Studies - To deploy or not to deploy?

For a moderate earthquake (e.g. $4 < M < 5.0$) where deploying seismic instruments to record aftershocks is the only action required, CERI has a decision process regarding deployments.

A group of CERI scientists discuss the scientific justification for a temporary seismic network deployment in the first hours following the main event.

If the decision of this group is that the event does not warrant the effort, no further action is taken. If we decide the event may warrant further effort, we generally seek funding from CERI or the USGS to cover the expenses.

If support is promised, we initiate the deployment.

Specific information on instrument deployment strategy and data analysis procedures is provided.

3. Information Response

During business hours central coordination will be established as soon as possible following significant earthquakes that generate public and media attention. It will provide a central location and people as a first point of contact. And it will assure a smooth and coordinated response by the CERI community.

Central coordination will consist of two components:

- The **coordinator** and the **Coordination Desk** will be located in the office of the coordinator. The to-be-named CERI E&O Coordinator (CEOC) is primary.
 - The coordinator will gather lists of available personnel and tasks that need to be performed. All other CERI personnel should report to the coordinator upon arrival at CERI.
 - The coordinator will prioritize and distribute interviews, and other tasks as they arise.
 - Incoming telephone calls can be routed to the coordinator after initial screening.

- The **troubleshooter** will roam CERI to provide onsite direction for various tasks and to observe general operations to identify problems and areas requiring attention.
 - The troubleshooter will be the mobile extension of the coordination desk. The troubleshooter and coordinator will work closely together, and they may maintain walkie-talkie contact.
 - Kent Moran is primary

The specific person to whom information requests should be directed depends on the event specifics, availability of personnel, the information requested, and other variables. Nominally, the order of succession is:

1. Gary Patterson
2. Mitch Withers
3. Chuck Langston
4. Steve Horton
5. Other faculty and appropriate staff as available