



# Identifying Seismic Effects and Design Criteria:

## Geotechnical Input for Seismic Design

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# Overview

- Design Earthquake
- Site Characterization
- Site Response Design Parameters
- Assess Seismic Impacts at Site
- Mitigation of Seismic Impacts



# Design Earthquake

- Select Reoccurrence Interval
  - Based on code used by Agency
    - 2009/12 International Building Code (IBC)
    - ASCE 7
- Select importance of structure
  - For IBC 2012: Water facilities are in Risk Category III or IV

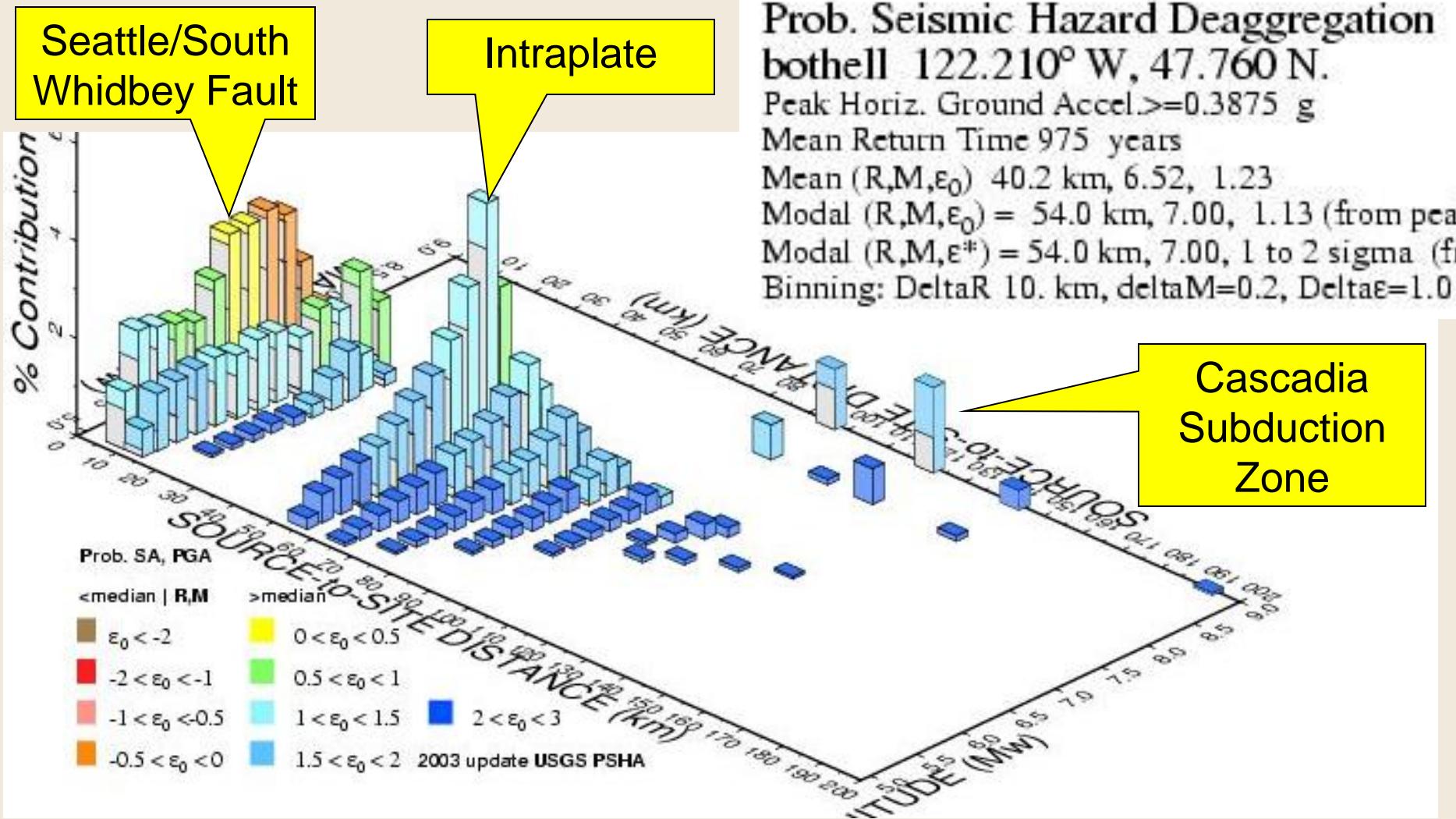


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# Design Earthquake Parameters

- Determine ground motion parameters for bedrock:
  - IBC 2012 = 2% probability of exceedance in 50 years
  - Return Period = 2,475 yrs
- Obtain from USGS Hazard Maps
  - Response acceleration for structural period of 0.2 sec ( $S_s$ )
  - Response acceleration for structural period of 1.0 sec ( $S_1$ )





# Site Classification

- Develop a Subsurface Profile

Based on the characteristics of soils in  
upper 100 feet

Peat

Highly plastic soft clays

Liquefiable soils

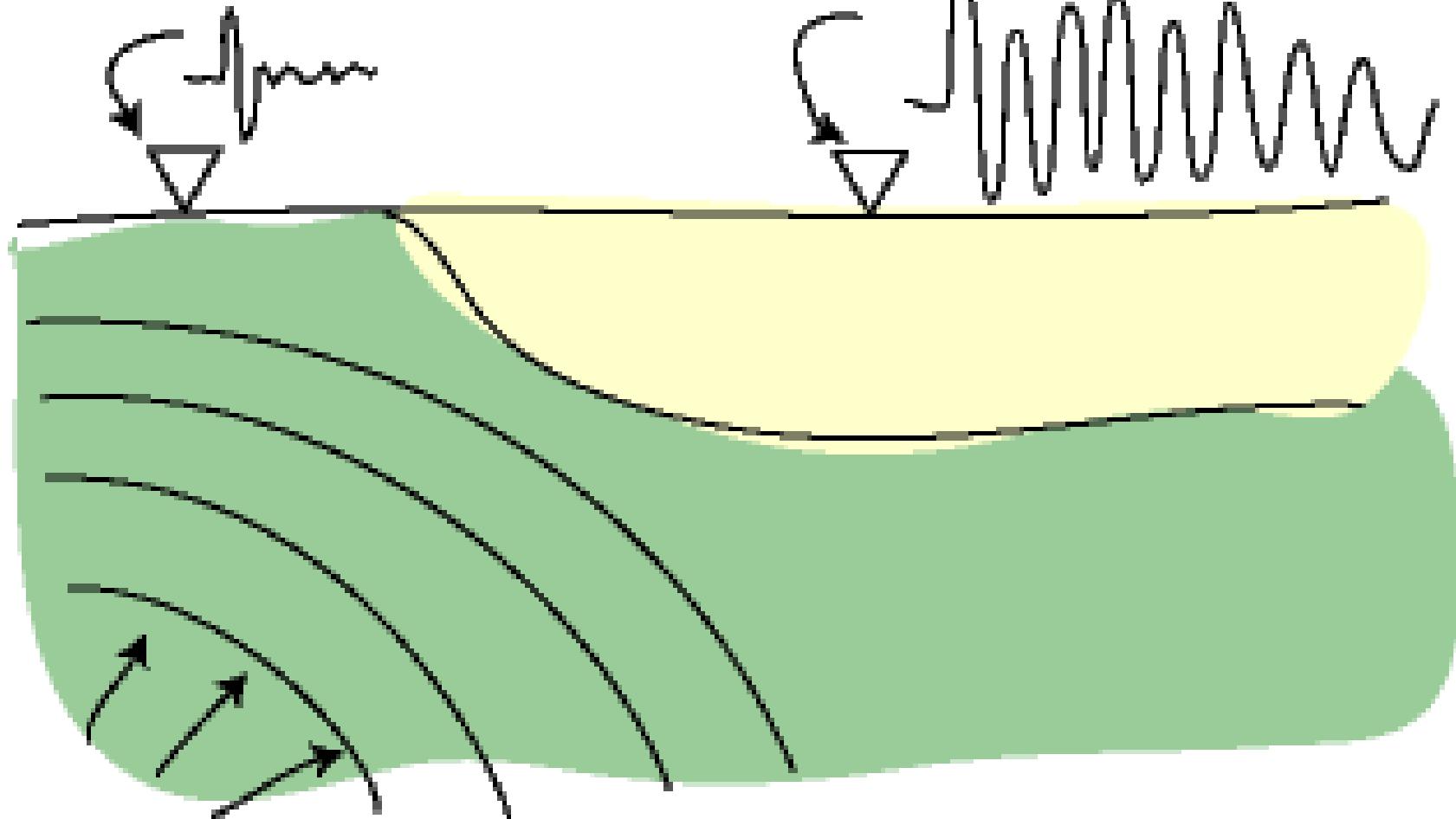
Collapsible soils



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## Hard Rock Site



## Soft Soil Site





# Soil Properties to be Determined

- Soil classification
- Relative density (sands, non-plastic silt)
- Unit weight of the soil
- Shear strength (clay)
- Index properties
- Residual shear strength (clays)



# Testing

- In situ Methods
  - Borings with Standard Penetration Test (SPT)
  - Cone Penetration Test (CPT) - Sands, Clays
  - Becker Hammer - Gravel
- Lab Testing
  - Moisture Content
  - Grain Size Distribution
  - Atterberg Limits



# Testing

- More detailed analyses may need
  - Shear wave velocity/Initial shear modulus
    - Crosshole / Downhole testing
    - Seismic CPT
    - Geophysical
  - Cyclic stress-strain behavior - lab testing
    - Cyclic triaxial, cyclic simple shear



# Example Geologic Profile

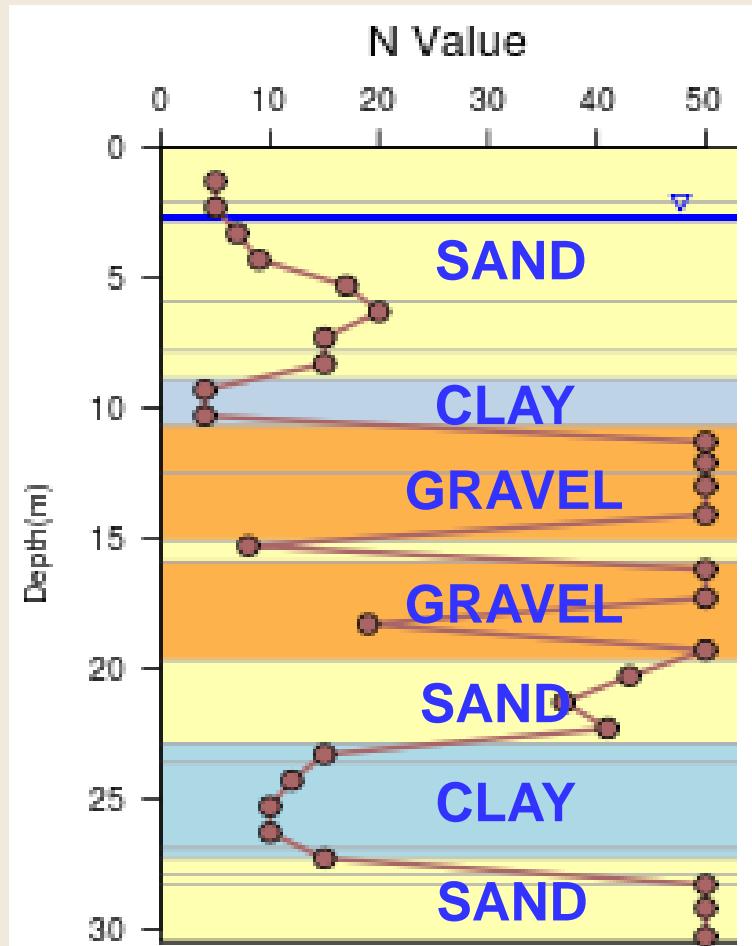




TABLE 1613.5.2  
SITE CLASS DEFINITIONS

SITE CLASS	SOIL PROFILE NAME	AVERAGE PROPERTIES IN TOP 100 feet, SEE SECTION 1613.5.5		
		Soil shear wave velocity, $\bar{v}_s$ , (ft/s)	Standard penetration resistance, $N$	Soil undrained shear strength, $\bar{s}_u$ , (psf)
A	Hard rock	$\bar{v}_s > 5,000$	N/A	N/A
B	Rock	$2,500 < \bar{v}_s \leq 5,000$	N/A	N/A
C	Very dense soil and soft rock	$1,200 < \bar{v}_s \leq 2,500$	$\bar{N} > 50$	$\bar{s}_u \geq 2,000$
D	Stiff soil profile	$600 \leq \bar{v}_s \leq 1,200$	$15 \leq \bar{N} \leq 50$	$1,000 \leq \bar{s}_u \leq 2,000$
E	Soft soil profile	$\bar{v}_s < 600$	$\bar{N} < 15$	$\bar{s}_u < 1,000$
E	—	Any profile with more than 10 feet of soil having the following characteristics: 1. Plasticity index $PI > 20$ , 2. Moisture content $w \geq 40\%$ , and 3. Undrained shear strength $\bar{s}_u < 500$ psf		
F	—	Any profile containing soils having one or more of the following characteristics: 1. Soils vulnerable to potential failure or collapse under seismic loading such as liquefiable soils, quick and highly sensitive clays, collapsible weakly cemented soils. 2. Peats and/or highly organic clays ( $H > 10$ feet of peat and/or highly organic clay where $H$ = thickness of soil) 3. Very high plasticity clays ( $H > 25$ feet with plasticity index $PI > 75$ ) 4. Very thick soft/medium stiff clays ( $H > 120$ feet)		

[Application](#)[Batch Mode](#)[Help](#)

## Design Code Reference Document

Consult your local design official if you need help selecting this.

2012 IBC

## Report Title (Optional)

This will appear at the top of the generated report.

Bothell

## Site Soil Classification

This is not automatically selected based on site location.

Site Class D – "Stiff Soil" (Default)

## Risk Category

Used to compute the seismic design category.

IV (e.g., essential facilities)

## Site Latitude

Decimal degrees for the site location.

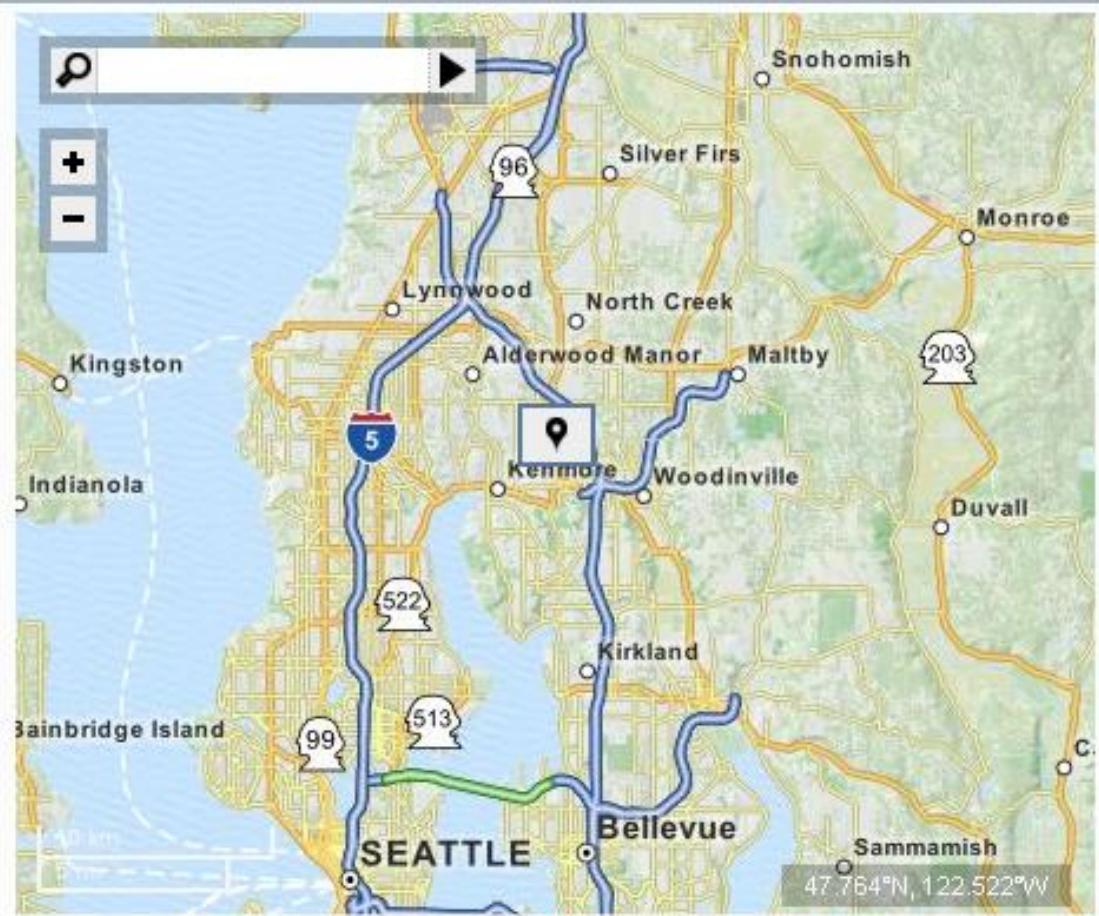
47.76

## Site Longitude

Decimal degrees for the site location.

-122.21

[Compute Values](#)



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## USGS-Provided Output

$$S_s = 1.265 \text{ g}$$

$$S_1 = 0.490 \text{ g}$$

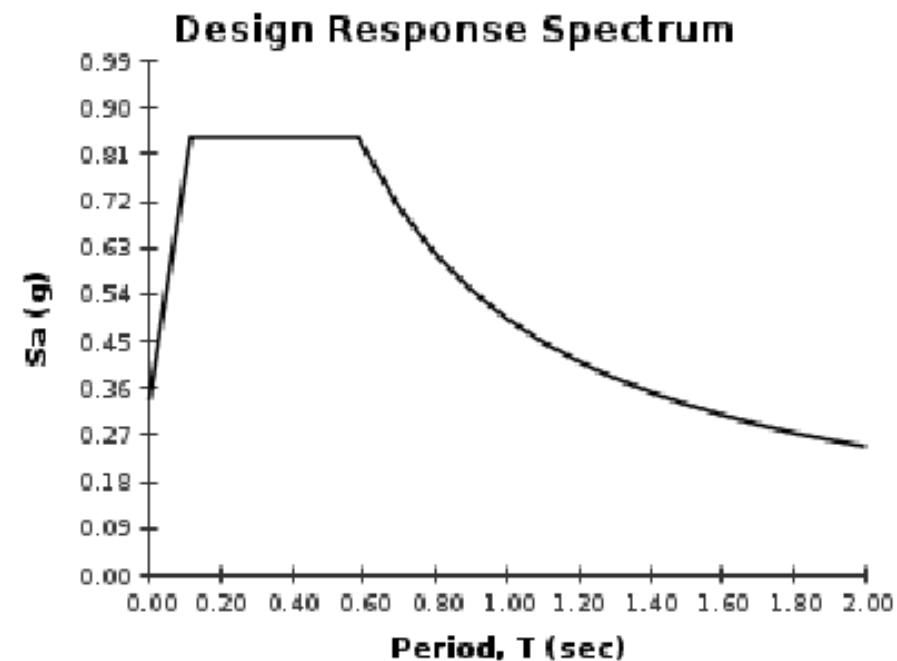
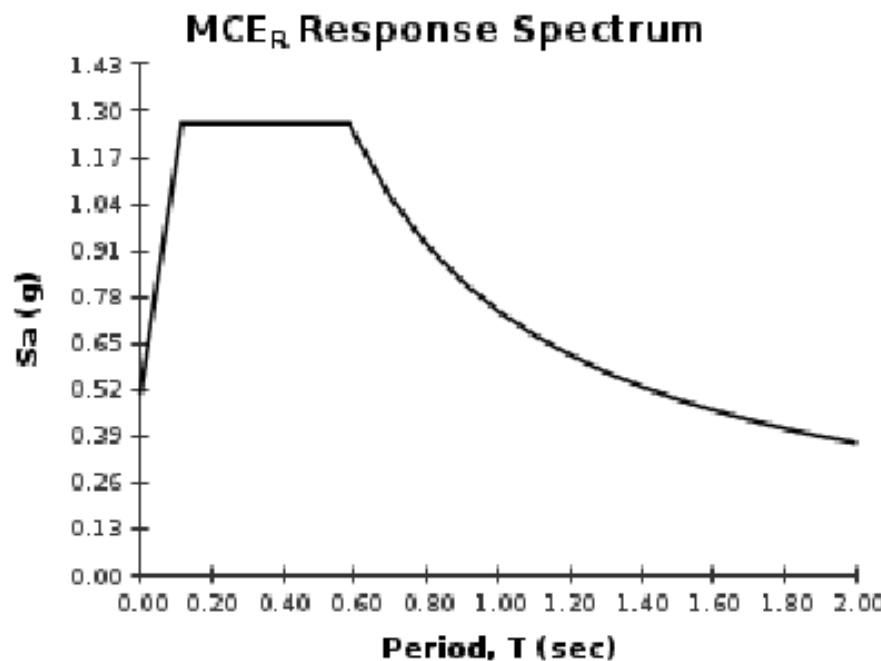
$$S_{ms} = 1.265 \text{ g}$$

$$S_{m1} = 0.740 \text{ g}$$

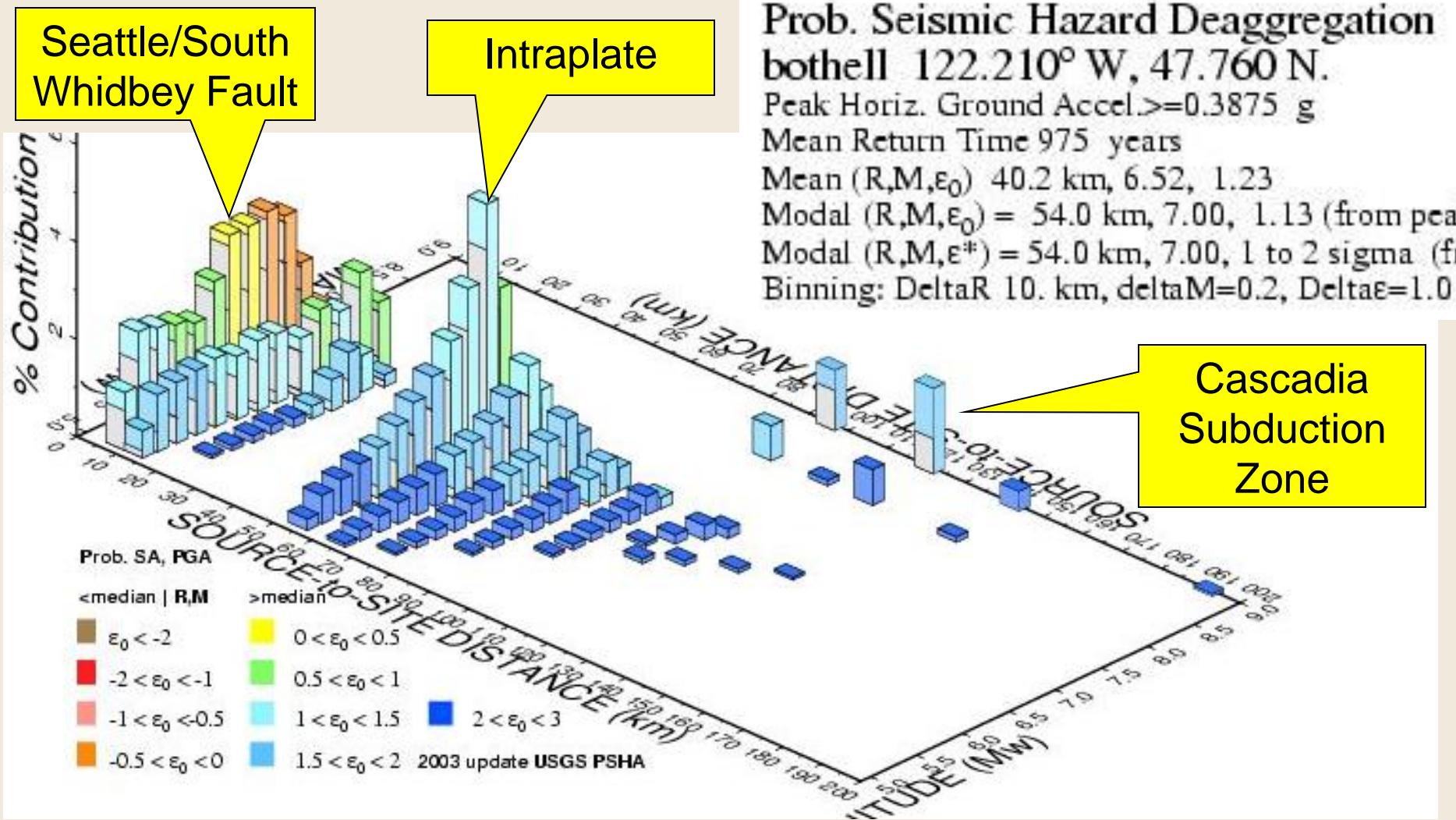
$$S_{os} = 0.843 \text{ g}$$

$$S_{o1} = 0.493 \text{ g}$$

For information on how the SS and S1 values above have been calculated from probabilistic (risk-targeted) and deterministic ground motions in the direction of maximum horizontal response, please return to the application and select the "2009 NEHRP" building code reference document.



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# Seismic Impacts at Site

- Ground Rupture
- Seismic Induced Landslides
- Liquefaction



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# Seismic Effects of Liquefaction

- Loss of bearing capacity
- Settlement
- Lateral Spreading
- Flow liquefaction
- Buoyancy



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# Potential for Liquefaction

- Identify relative density
- Establish ground water elevation
- Determine fines content
- Atterberg Limits and water content
  - Plastic soils have less tendency to liquefy



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# Mitigation for Liquefaction

- Design for Liquefaction
  - Install deep foundations
- Reduce Liquefaction Potential
  - Remove and replace
  - Densify loose granular soils
  - Increase cohesion



# Soil Improvement Options

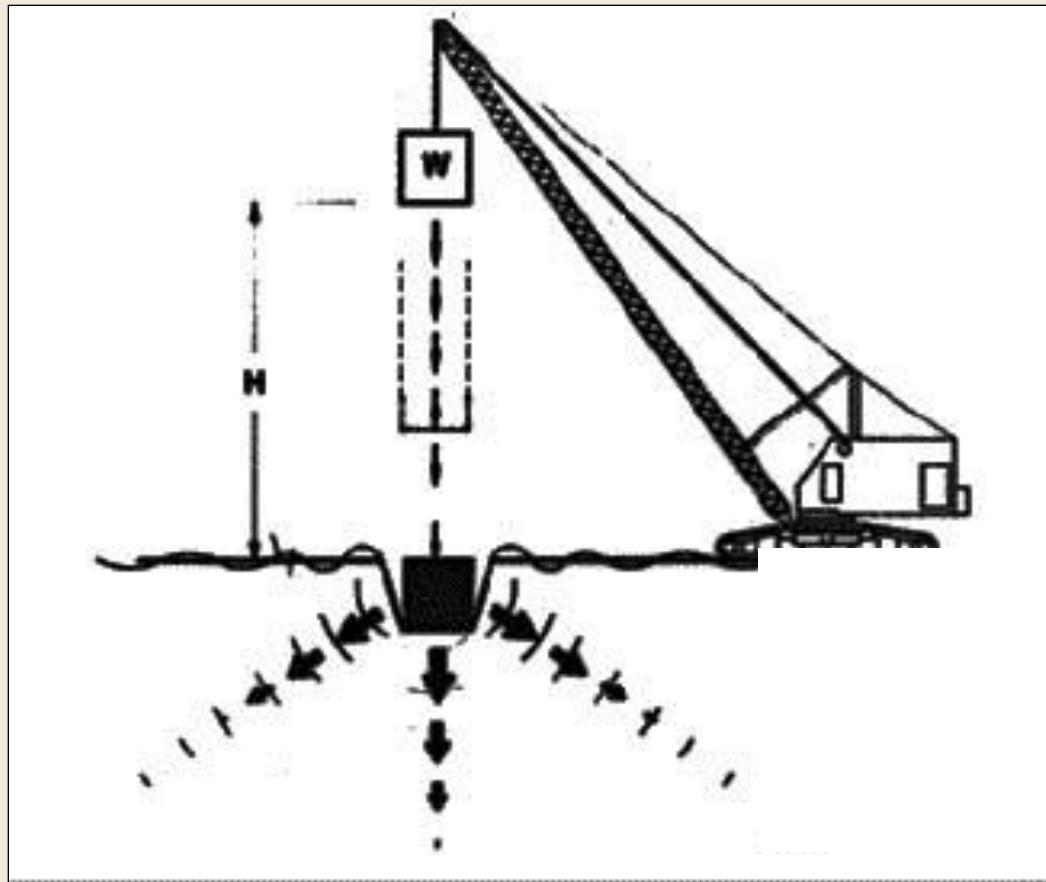
- Densification
  - Deep dynamic compaction
  - Vibro Compaction/Stone Columns
  - Compaction Grouting



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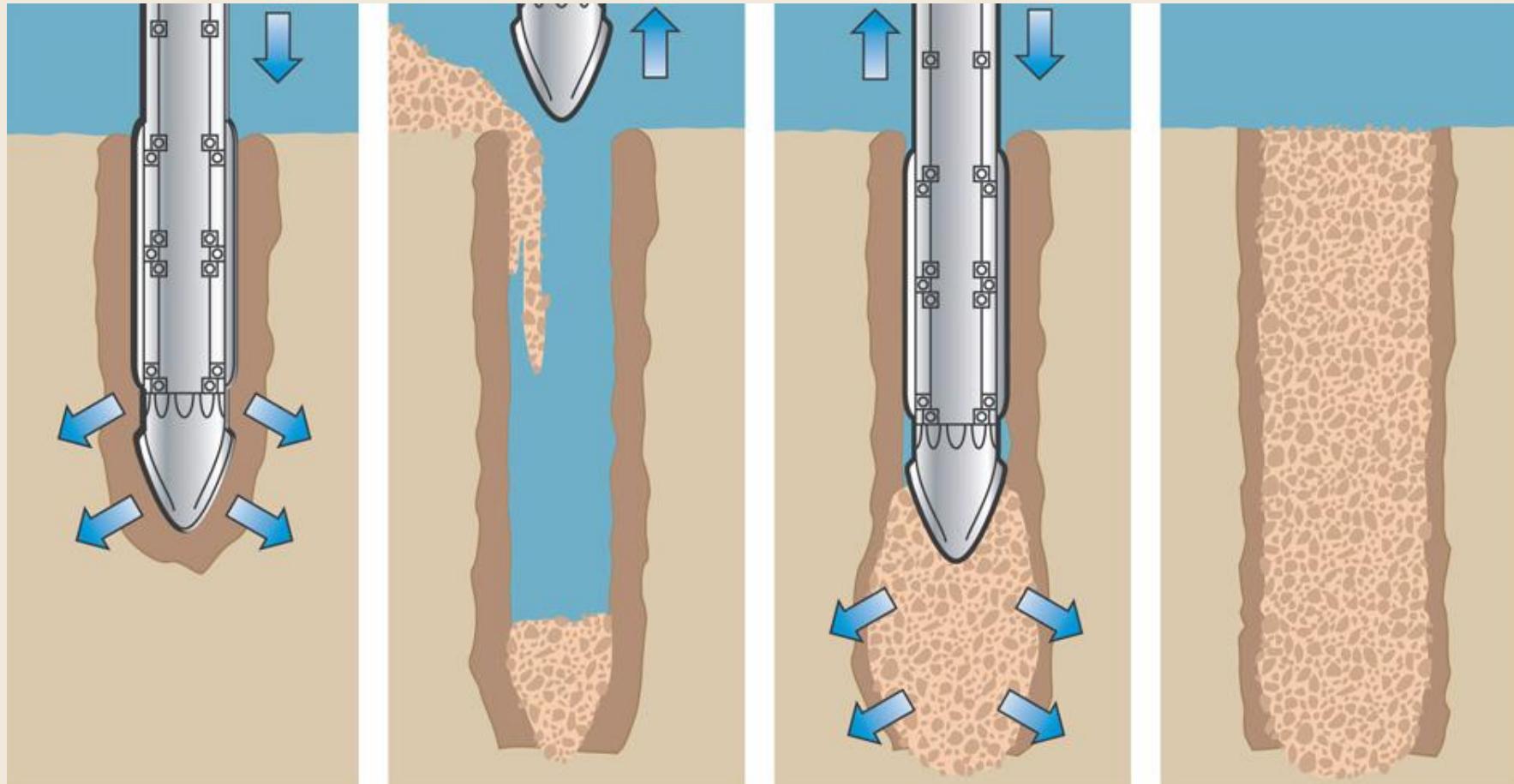
# Deep Dynamic Compaction



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# Stone Columns





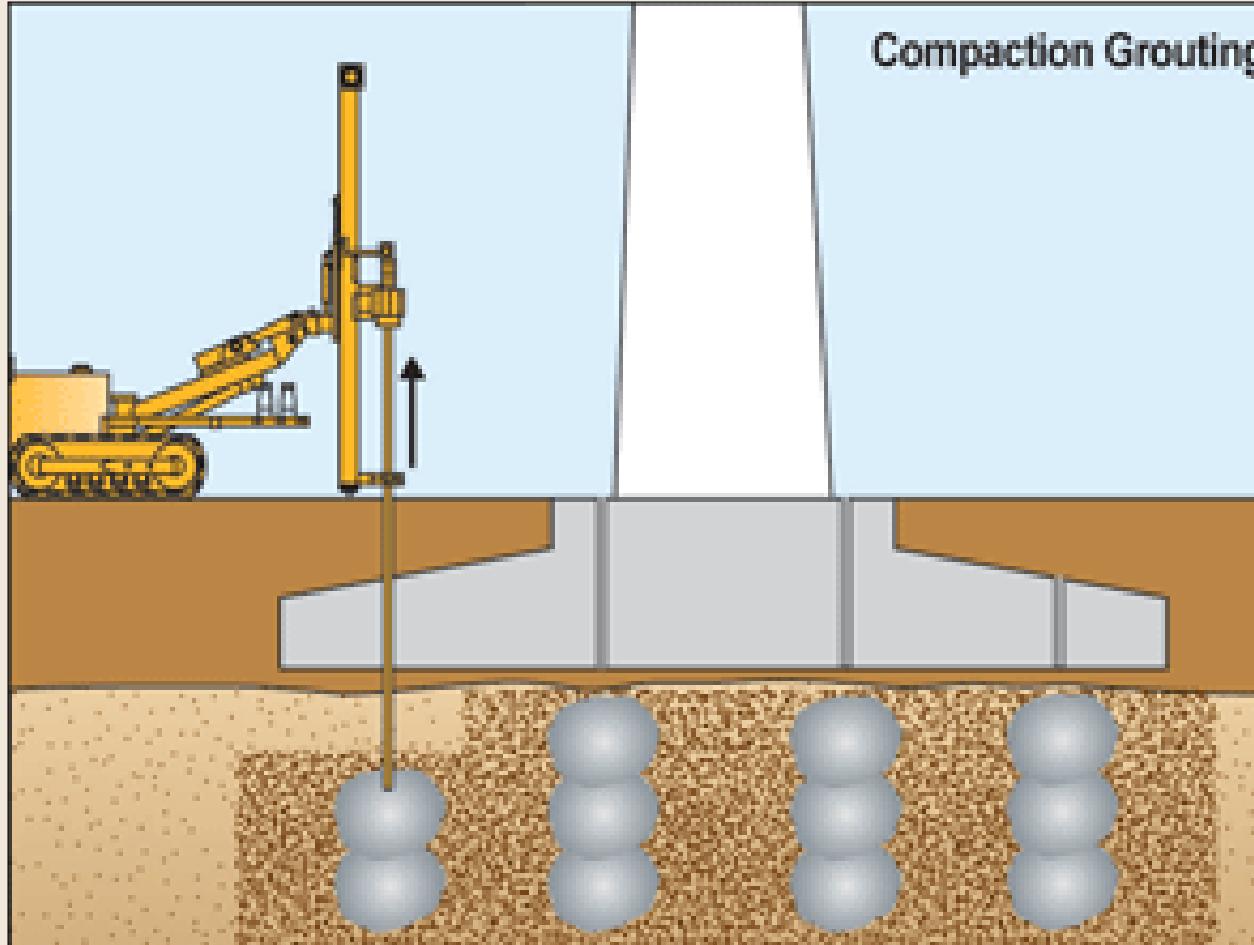
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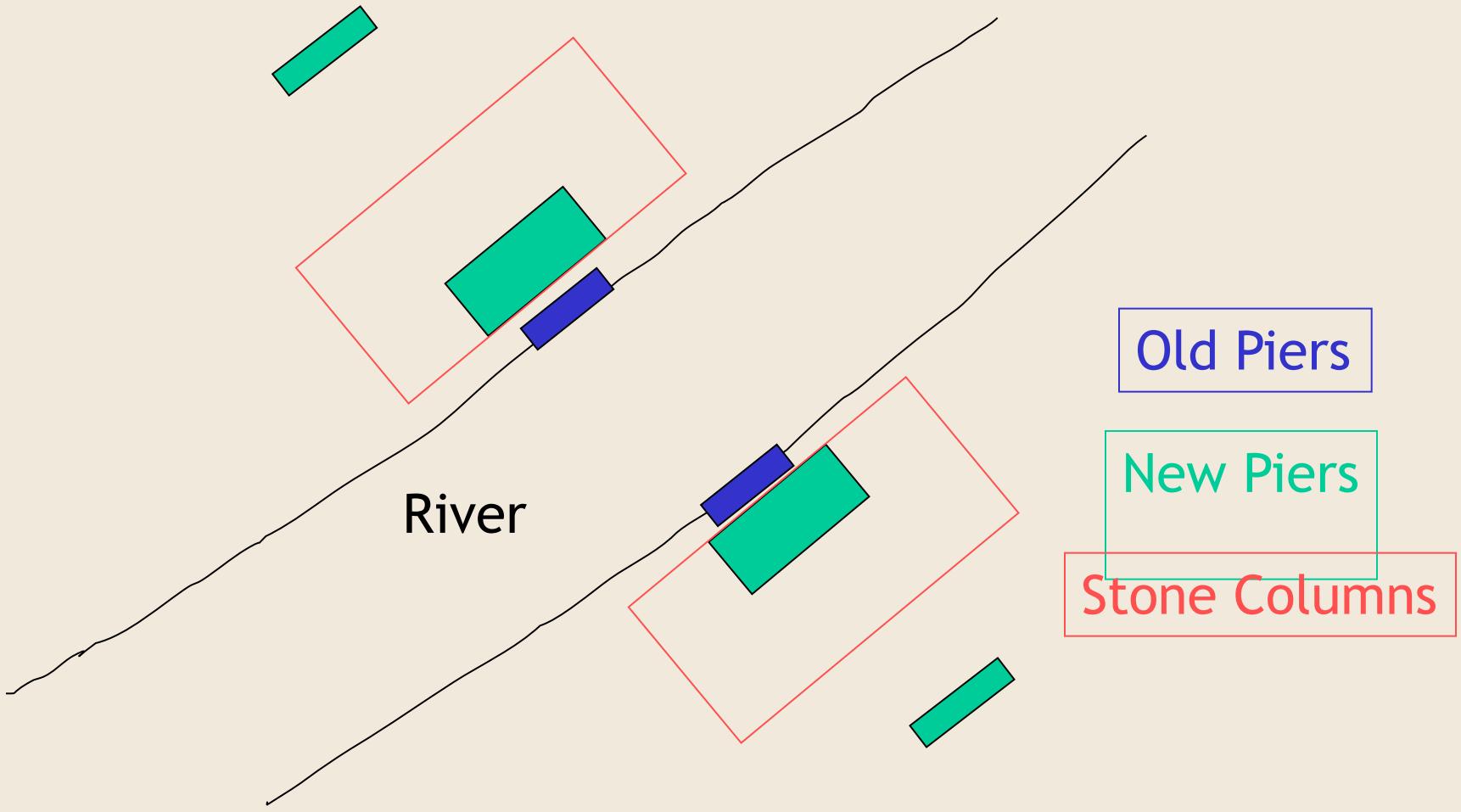
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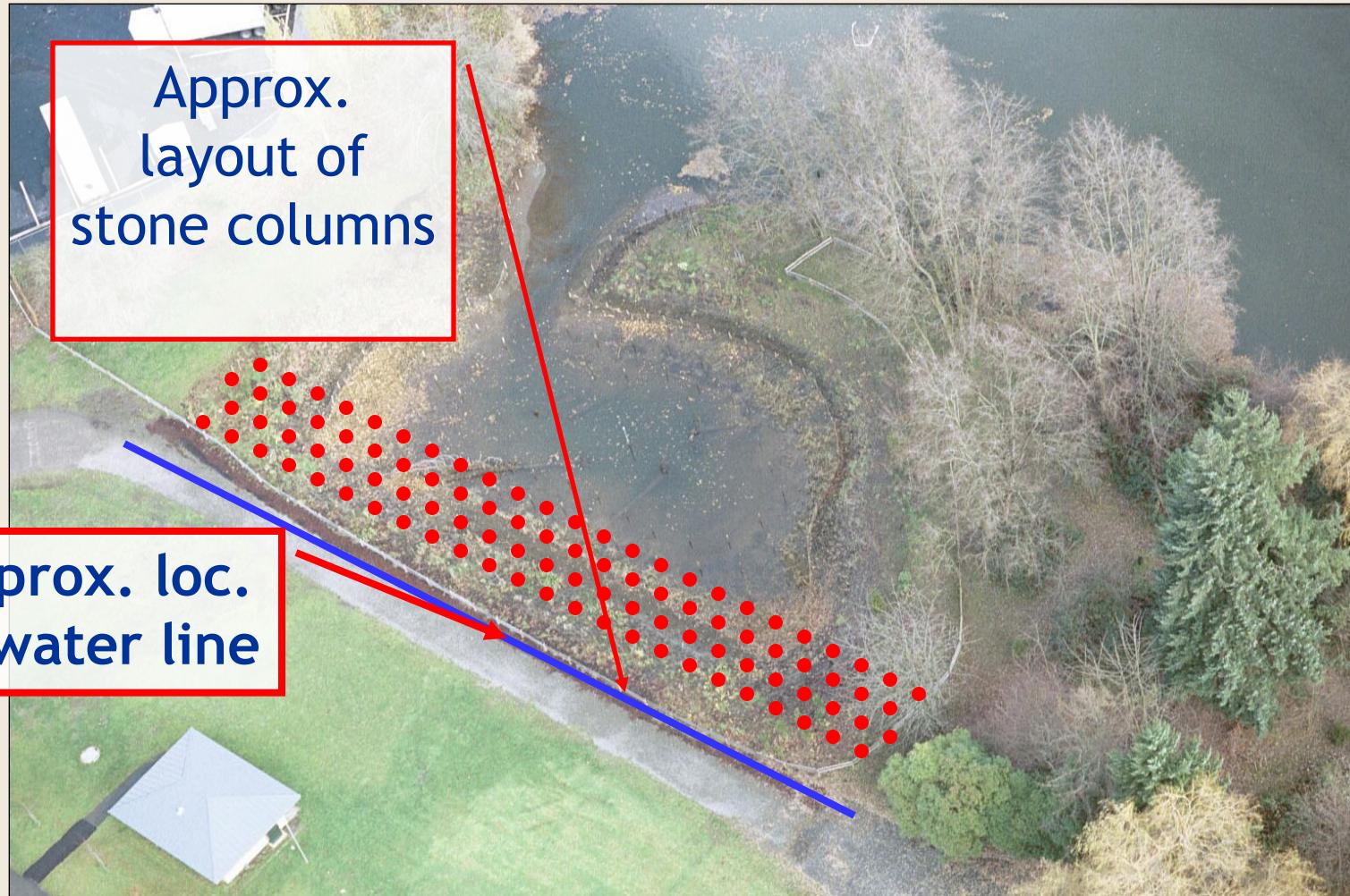


# Compaction Grouting



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# Soil Improvement Options

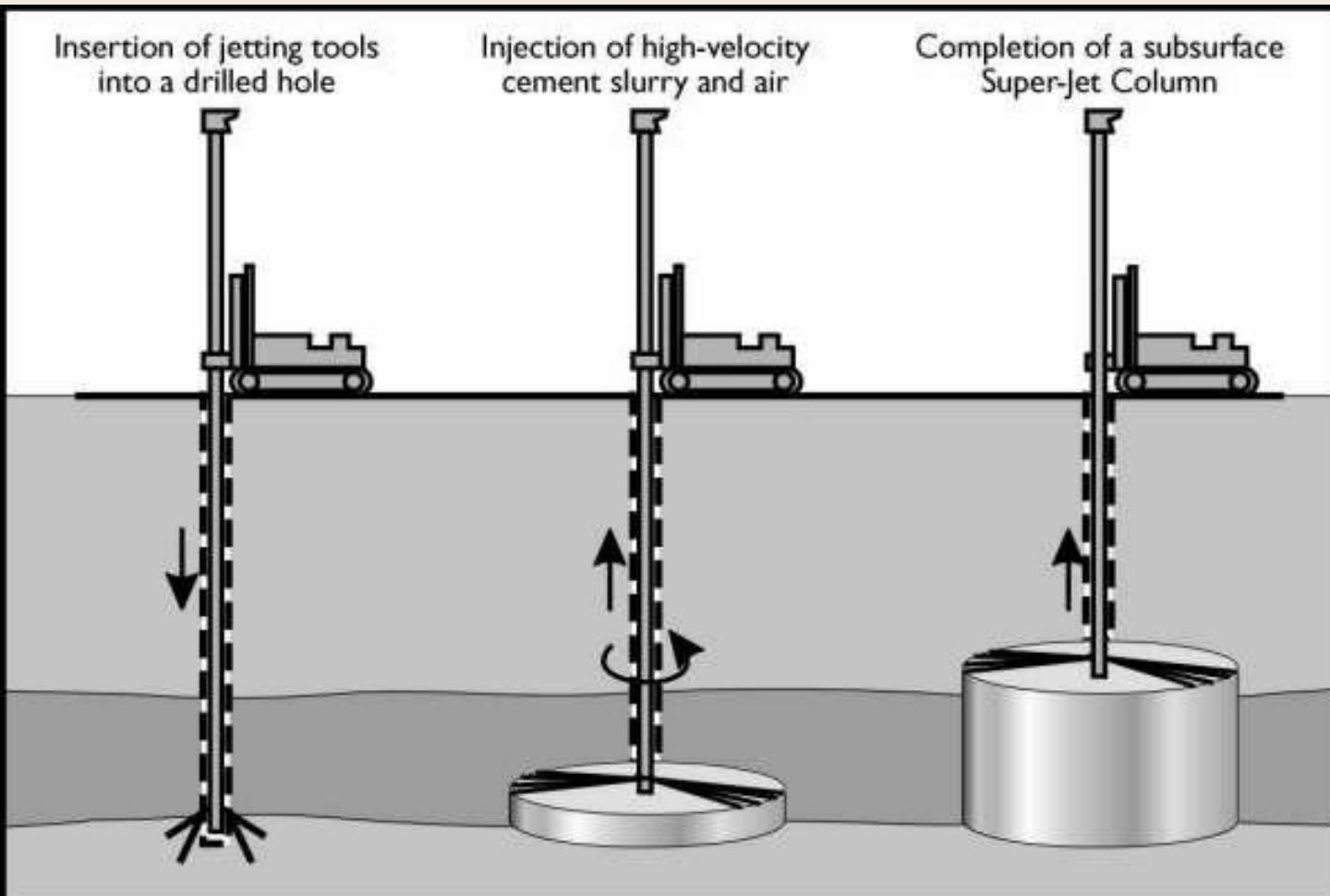
- Increase Cohesion
  - Deep soil mixing
  - Grouting
    - Permeation
    - Jet



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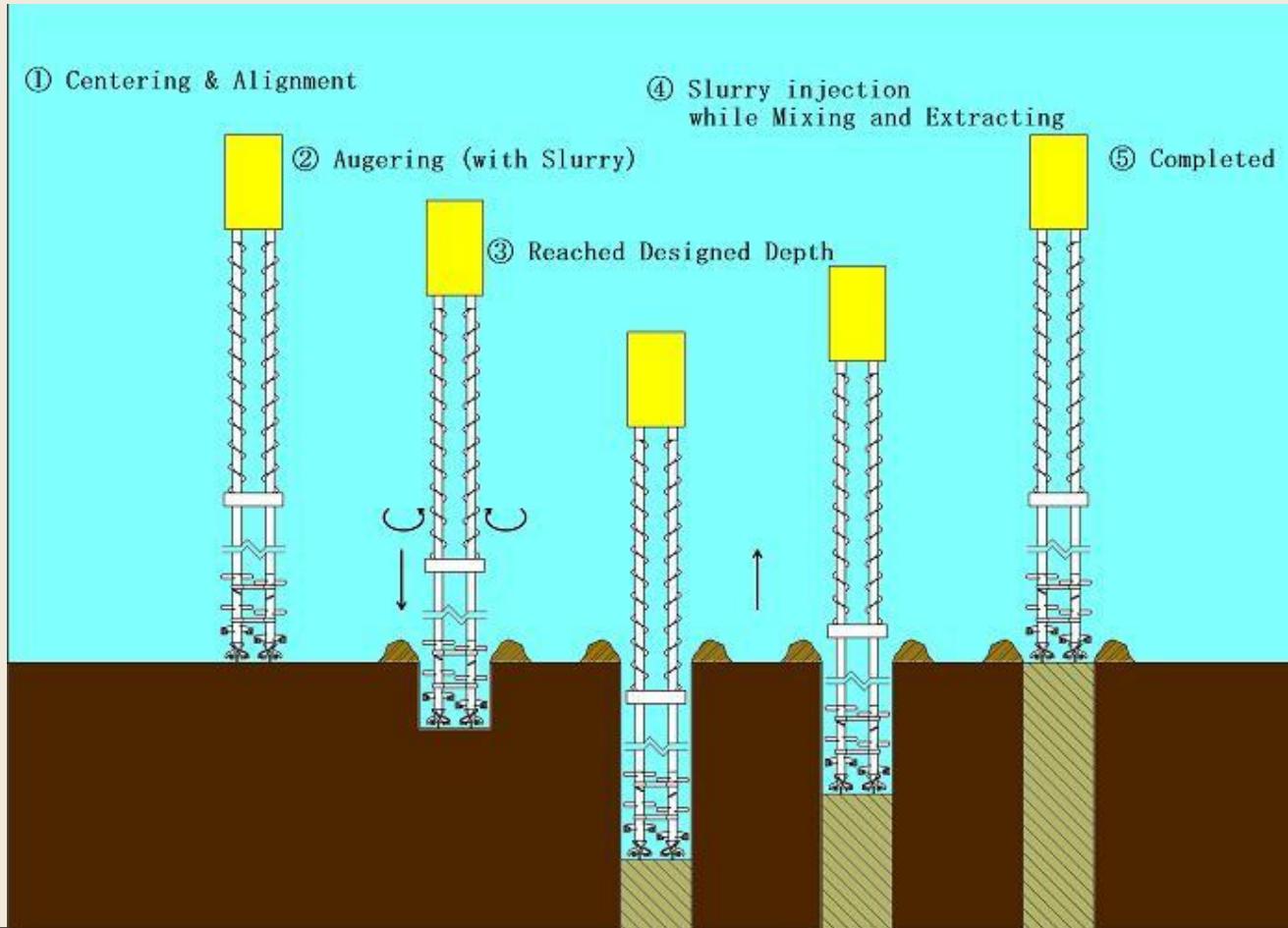
# Jet Grouting



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# Deep Soil Mixing



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# Summary

- Provide Design Response Spectra
- Evaluate Potential Impacts
- Propose Mitigation Methods
- Work with Team to Select Preferred Mitigation Method



CHI-CHI EQ 1999

A 20-foot waterfall that  
formed from fault rupture

Questions?



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