Abstract

INTRODUCING GIS TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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The State of Washington's Emergency Management Division introduced GIS in 2001 after the 6.9 Nisqually earthquake. This presentation will retrace the steps that were taken to build a GIS in Emergency Management. It will explain how the difficult choices were made—what base layers to provide, where to obtain the datasets, how to maintain metadata, what software to use, how to distribute themes, what training to provide to employees, and most importantly how to use GIS as another tool in the emergency manager's daily activities.

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