Major Earthquakes of the Pacific Northwest

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1997

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
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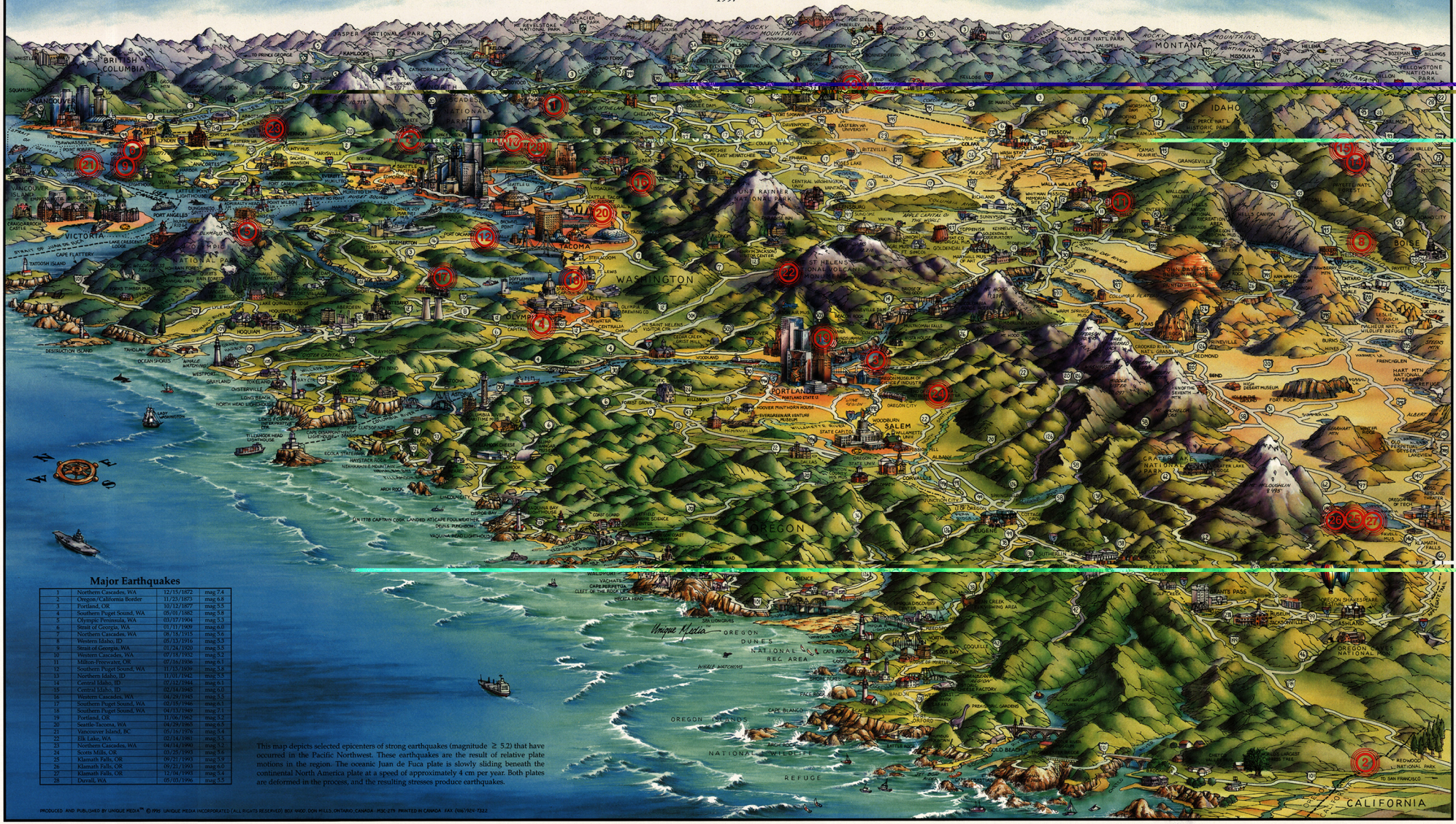

Major Earthquakes

1	Northern Cascades, WA	12/15/1872	mag 7.4
2	Oregon/California Border	11/23/1873	mag 6.8
3	Portland, OR	10/12/1877	mag 5.5
4	Southern Puget Sound, WA	05/01/1882	mag 5.8
5	Olympic Peninsula, WA	03/17/1904	mag 5.3
6	Strait of Georgia, WA	01/17/1909	mag 6.0
7	Northern Cascades, WA	08/18/1915	mag 5.5
8	Western Idaho, ID	05/13/1916	mag 5.3
9	Strait of Georgia, WA	01/24/1920	mag 5.5
10	Western Cascades, WA	07/18/1932	mag 5.3
11	Milton-Freewater, OR	07/16/1936	mag 6.1
12	Southern Puget Sound, WA	11/13/1939	mag 5.8
13	Northern Idaho, ID	11/01/1942	mag 5.9
14	Central Idaho, ID	07/12/1944	mag 6.1
15	Central Idaho, ID	02/14/1945	mag 6.0
16	Western Cascades, WA	04/29/1945	mag 5.6
17	Southern Puget Sound, WA	02/15/1946	mag 6.1
18	Southern Puget Sound, WA	04/13/1949	mag 7.1
19	Portland, OR	11/06/1962	mag 5.2
20	Seattle-Tacoma, WA	04/29/1965	mag 6.5
21	Vancouver Island, BC	05/16/1976	mag 5.4
22	Elk Lake, WA	02/14/1981	mag 5.1
23	Northern Cascades, WA	04/14/1990	mag 5.5
24	Scotts Mills, OR	03/25/1993	mag 5.6
25	Klamath Falls, OR	09/21/1993	mag 5.9
26	Klamath Falls, OR	09/21/1993	mag 6.0
27	Klamath Falls, OR	12/06/1993	mag 5.4
28	Duvall, WA	05/03/1996	mag 5.5

This map depicts selected epicenters of strong earthquakes (magnitude ≥ 5.2) that have occurred in the Pacific Northwest. These earthquakes are the result of relative plate motions in the region. The oceanic Juan de Fuca plate is slowly sliding beneath the continental North America plate at a speed of approximately 4 cm per year. Both plates are deformed in the process, and the resulting stresses produce earthquakes.

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