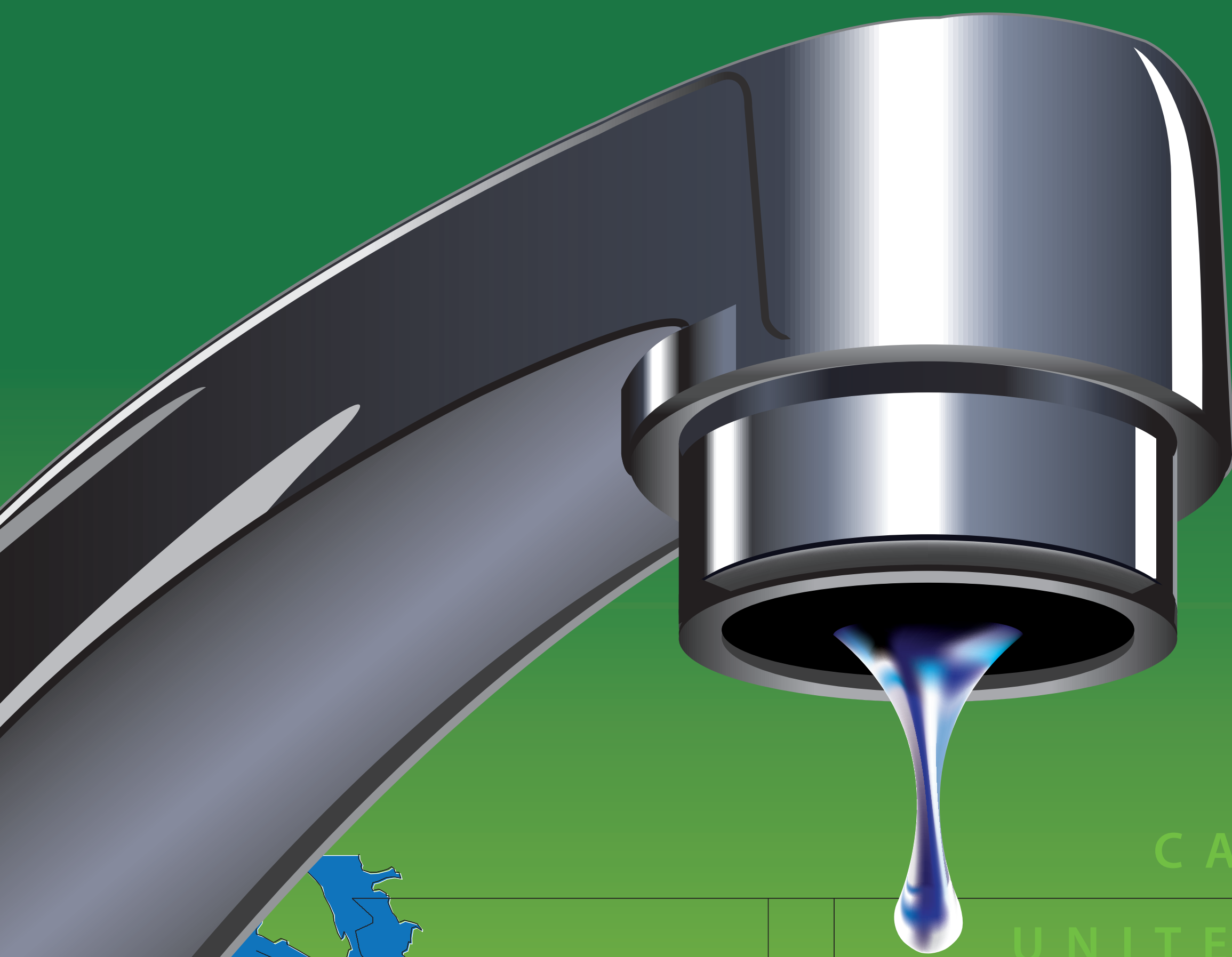




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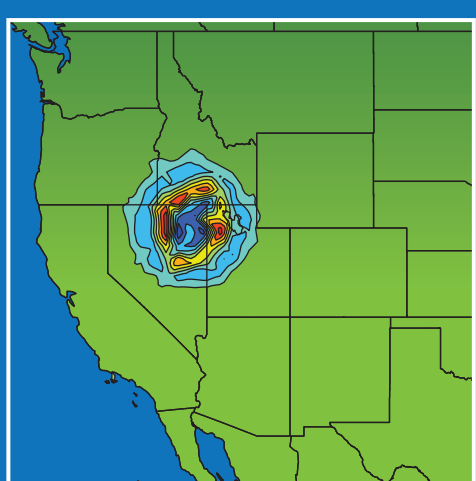
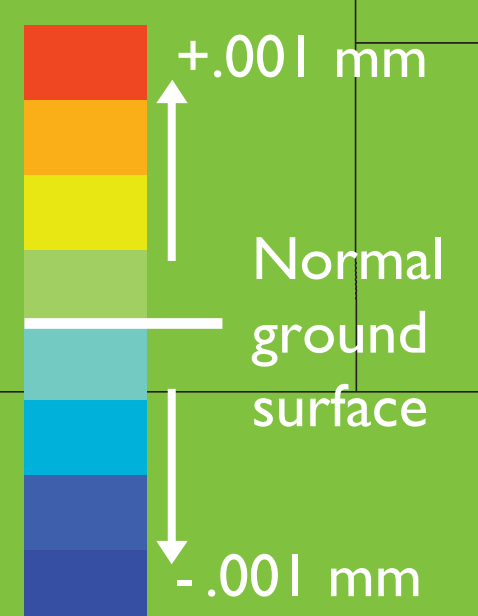


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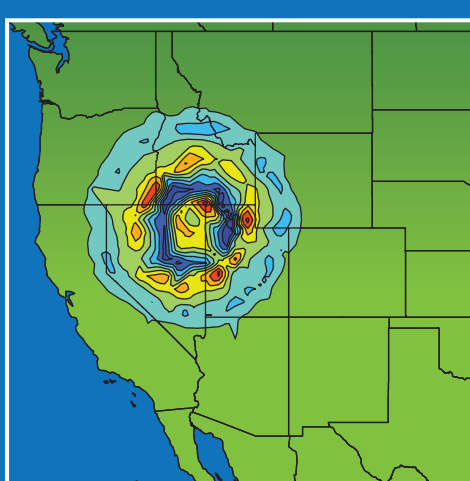


Earthquakes...

like ripples on water?

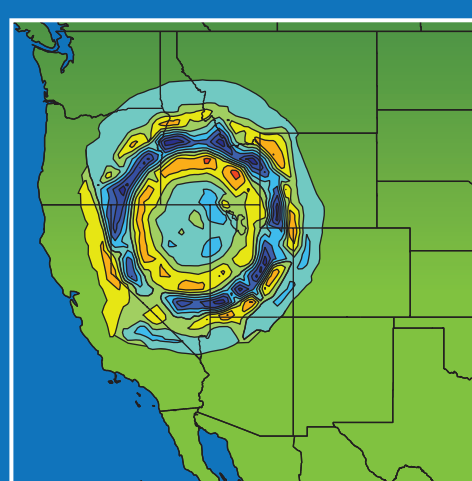


50 seconds



95 seconds

Time after earthquake



150 seconds

★ February 21, 2008 — Wells, Nevada, M=6.0

An earthquake can be compared to a water drop that is suspended from a faucet and falls into a pool creating ripples. Like the drop that falls, earthquakes result from the sudden conversion of potential energy, stored elastically in rocks, to kinetic energy. Then, like the ripples on water, the released energy travels outward through Earth in all directions as seismic waves. Seismic waves propagate by temporarily deforming the ground. Sensitive instruments called seismometers detect and record these ground changes. Ground deformations following the Wells, NV earthquake were recorded at nearly 400 seismometers and combined to create the visualization in this poster.

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