The most recent surface-faulting earthquake is older than the Holocene time (about the past 11,000 years). Because California has a well-recognized earthquake hazard and development along known active faults, defines an “active” fault as one that has had “surface displacement within approximately the past 1,800,000 years and has been large enough to break the ground surface.”

Effectively avoiding surface faulting requires conducting a site-specific investigation to (1) identify all potentially hazardous surface faults and (2) evaluate the site to identify the surface trace of the fault. We recommend that, at a minimum, the following tasks be performed to better define surface-fault-rupture hazards:

1. Conducting a site-specific investigation to (1) identify all potentially hazardous surface faults and (2) evaluate the site to identify the surface trace of the fault, other faults not evident at 1:24,000-scale, or other approximately located fault. These investigations can resolve uncertainties inherent in generalized hazard assessment methods.

2. Evaluating the site to identify the surface trace of the fault. The Utah Geological Survey (1995) provides guidelines for evaluating surface-fault-rupture hazards in Utah, which can be adapted for other areas.

3. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

4. Reviewing published and unpublished maps, literature, and records concerning faulting.

5. Depositing evidence for faulting, including mapping of geologic units as necessary to identify the surface trace of the fault.

6. Surface evidence for faulting, including mapping of geologic units as necessary to identify the surface trace of the fault.

7. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

8. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

9. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

10. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

11. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

12. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

13. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

14. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

15. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

16. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

17. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

18. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

19. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

20. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

21. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

22. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

23. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

24. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

25. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

26. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

27. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

28. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

29. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

30. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

31. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

32. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

33. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

34. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

35. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

36. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

37. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

38. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

39. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

40. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

41. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

42. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

43. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

44. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

45. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

46. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

47. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

48. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

49. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

50. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

51. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

52. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

53. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

54. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

55. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

56. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

57. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

58. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

59. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.

60. Conducting additional investigations to constrain the time of most recent surface faulting.