



U.S. Department of Transportation

SITUATION REPORT, ESF #1 - TRANSPORTATION

OPERATIONAL STATUS

Agency: DOT ***Op Status** Yellow - Disruption or other than normal operations

***Report #:** DOT-HQ-08 ***Related Event:** Seattle Earthquake -- 2/28/01

Status as of: 03/02/2001 at 15:05

Region/Office: Headquarters

Distribution Level: Open - For Public Release

Situation Summary: Cleanup is underway for the February 28th earthquake, which measured 6.8 on the Richter Scale. On March 1, the President issued a Federal Disaster Declaration for six counties: King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pierce and Thurston. These counties are eligible for Federal Disaster Assistance.

TRANSPORTATION IMPACT

Air: All airports in the area are operational with some tower problems which are being addressed. Boeing Field still has major structural damage limiting its full capacity - time to repair - 3 week. Larger aircraft with a gross weight of no more than 110,000 lbs dual wheel (B727) or 220,000 lbs dual tandem (B767) can now land here. As Boeing Field served as a Boeing delivery center and major cargo hub for the region, these restrictions are limiting operations.

Administrator Garvey signed a memo authorizing administrative waivers and certain benefits to be available to employees affected by the earthquake.

Rail: Burlington Northern identified damages in the Nisqually and Wabash area where tracks shifted several inches laterally, and where some bridge ends had settled. Projected time for reopening is today, March 2. All required inspections are completed.

Amtrak and Union Pacific have resumed service.

Those FRA personnel in the area who telecommute are all accounted for and suffered no structural damage to their homes.

Highways: All Interstates are open. The ramps onto eastbound I-90 in Seattle are closed due to structural damage but this is having little impact to traffic as alternate routes are available. All FHWA office systems are now back in service.

Marine: The Ports of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia are operational with no interruptions. Pier assessments are ongoing. An overflight of the area was conducted with no evidence of marine pollution due to the earthquake. The 1st Avenue Bridge in Seattle is now open to vehicular traffic, but still closed to marine traffic. Local road closures near the port are affecting intermodal container movement for on and off facilities in the Port of Seattle. There are no other indications of significant impacts to the regional marine transportation system and no immediate need for facility or vessel control measures,

Transit: Seattle's monorail and bus operations are operational. There is a heavy-rail-vehicle operation involving one vehicle departing in the morning and another at night.

Trucks are still not able to be loaded on the Coleman Dock ferry due to a problem at the dock.

Pipelines: The RSPA Office of Pipeline Safety continues to work with pipeline companies to verify that no earthquake related damage to pipelines has occurred. RSPA sent two inspectors to monitor the continuing detailed evaluation of the Olympic Pipeline and Williams Gas Pipeline facilities. A minor crack at a weld on Olympic pipeline facilities, identified yesterday, has been determined to not be related to the earthquake and does not pose an integrity risk. No earthquake damage has yet been identified. Immediately following the earthquake, Olympic shut down their pipeline as a precautionary measure. The pipeline was restarted after integrity verification activities were completed. A few minor gas leaks were found and repaired in Olympia, most of which were contained in one mobile home park.

Motor Carrier Safety: Not applicable at this time.

Highway Traffic Safety: Not applicable at this time.

ACTIONS TAKEN

What actions have been taken? The Office of Emergency Transportation is continuing to monitor this situation and will report through the normal communications channels as needed over the weekend.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS

International transportation incidents:

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Attachments: None

Source(s): RETREP Region 10, Region 9, FAA, USCG, FTA, FHWA, RSPA, FRA, Transport Canada and the news media

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