

Tectonic Geomorphic and Paleoseismic Investigations for the Panama Canal

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This talk summarizes five years of geological exploration in Panama to quantify the fault hazards to the Panama Canal and the Canal Expansion Project, using tectonic geomorphic mapping and analysis, paleoseismic trenching, and seismic hazard analysis. Faults that were investigated include the Gatún, Limón, Azota, Pedro Miguel, Miraflores, and Agua Blanca. The talk will illustrate techniques of field reconnaissance, trench site selection, 3-D trenching of strike slip faults, and how to assemble into a seismic hazard model.