



## PRESS RELEASE

April 5, 2011

### Public Statement of the Puerto Rico Seismic Network about the 19°N Fault Zone seismic swarm

The Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) has located 36 minor and micro earthquakes associated to a seismic swarm in the 19° N Fault Zone (19NFZ) within the period of April 4<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>. The term seismic swarm is applied when a sequence of seismic events, with similar characteristics occurs in the same region, during a short period of time (within a few hours or days).

On April 4<sup>th</sup> at 20:00 Puerto Rico local time (00:00 GMT on April 5<sup>th</sup>) until April 5<sup>th</sup> at 08:21 Puerto Rico local time (12:21 GMT), PRSN have identified a total of **107 seismic events during a period of 12.5 hours in the 19NFZ**, 71.87 km North of the coast of Manatí (PR). Approximately 71 of those seismic events have been classified as “undetermined” due to the lack of information to process them (registered in less than 3 seismic stations). This seismic swarm was generated specifically between latitudes 18.994° N - 19.197° N and longitudes 66.527° W - 66.459° W. The seismic events range in magnitudes between 2.2 to 3.46 Md, and depths from 5.9 km to 33.7 km. Eight (8) earthquakes had magnitudes greater than 3.0 Md during this swarm period. Two (2) events were reported as felt in Puerto Rico. The first felt event occurred on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 23:42:05 (Puerto Rico local time) with a magnitude of 3.46, maximum intensity of II in Isabela (PR), and was located 80.76 km North of Manatí (PR). The second felt event occurred on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 02:34:30 (Puerto Rico local time) with a magnitude of 2.87, a maximum intensity of III in Villalba (PR), and was located 74.96 km North of Manatí (PR).

The PRSN continues the routine processing of seismicity activity in the Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Region. During the month of April (until today) PRSN has located 51 earthquakes in the Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Region. This level of seismic activity is considered normal for our region. For more information about the seismicity in the Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Region visit our website: <http://redsismica.uprm.edu>.

