

Quake termed a 7.1

Aftershock Tuesday a 4.5

From staff and wire reports

SAN FRANCISCO — The U.S. Geological Survey Tuesday raised its estimate of the magnitude of the California earthquake on Tuesday to 7.1 on the Richter scale from 6.9.

Steve Kirby, a geophysicist for the agency, said the new value is based on measurements of waves that travel across the surface of the earth, rather than the previous measurements of waves that travel through the earth.

"I view it as the change not being terribly significant," he said. "Psychologically, it may be."

An aftershock registering 4.5 on the Richter scale shook the Santa Cruz area at 6:27 p.m. Tuesday. It was centered 14 miles to the northeast of Santa Cruz along the center of the aftershock zone, according to the United States Geographical Society.

No damage was reported.

It was the 20th aftershock of 4.0 or greater to strike since last Tuesday's 7.1 quake. The Santa Cruz area has been shaken by more than 3,500 aftershocks, most of which are too subtle to feel.

State Controller Gray Davis was touring damage on the Pacific Garden Mall when the temblor struck Tuesday evening. Davis and television news crews were standing near the Palomar Hotel and kept an anxious watch on the building until the shaking subsided. Davis quickly completed his tour of the mall and left after the shake.