STATE OF OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES
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Landslide Inventory Map of Western Hood River County, Oregon

2025

OPEN-FILE REPORT O-25-03
Landslide Inventory of Western Hood River County, Oregon

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The project described in this publication was supported in part by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Grants EMS-2021-CA-00011 and EMS-2022-CA-00019.

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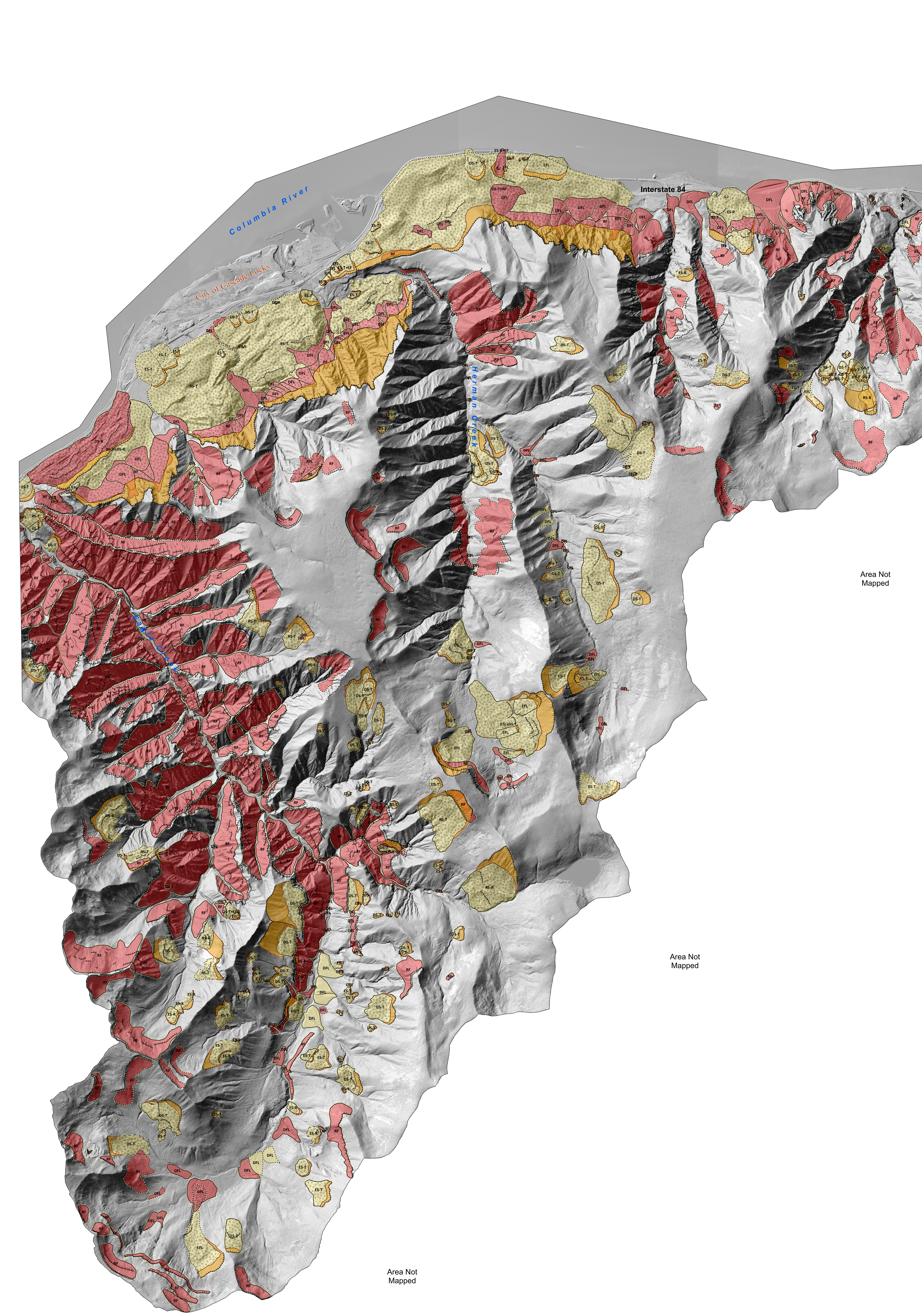


INTRODUCTION

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to better understand the landslide hazards in the western portion of Hood River County, Oregon. The goal of the partnership was to create detailed landslide inventories. The text below explains how this was done.

EXPLANATION

This map is an inventory of existing landslides in the study area. The landslide inventory is one of the essential data layers used to delineate regional landslide susceptibility. This landslide inventory is not regulatory, and revisions can happen when new information regarding landslides is found or when new landslides occur. Therefore, it is possible that landslides within the mapped area were not identified or occurred after the map was prepared.

This inventory map was prepared by following the Protocol for Inventory Mapping of Landslide Deposits from Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) Imagery developed by Burns and Madin (2009) and updated by Franczyk and others (2023). The three primary tasks included compilation of previously mapped landslides (including review of the Statewide Landslide Information Layer for Oregon (SLIDO) Release 4 [Franczyk and others, 2019]), lidar-based morphologic mapping of landslide features, and review of aerial photographs (NAIP 1995-2022). Landslides identified by these methods were digitally compiled into a GIS database at varying scales. The protocol recommends data use at a map scale of 1:8,000, and this geodatabase contains data at 1:8,000 or better, but for representation this data has been visualized on the map plate at 1:27,500. Each landslide was also attributed with classifications for activity, depth of failure, movement type, and confidence of interpretation. The landslide data are displayed on top of a base map that consists of an aerial photograph (orthorectified) overlaid on the lidar-derived hillshade image.

This landslide inventory map is intended to provide users with basic information regarding landslides within the study area. The geologic, terrain, and climatic conditions that led to landslides in the past may provide clues to the locations and conditions of future landslides. It is intended that this map will provide useful information to develop regional landslide susceptibility maps, to guide site-specific investigations for future developments, and to assist in regional planning and mitigation of existing landslides.

LANDSLIDE CLASSIFICATION

This map plate displays each landslide deposit in the mapped watershed and symbolizes them based on several key characteristics, which are explained below. Additional characteristics can be found in the digital geodatabase included with this publication. The specific characteristics shown for each landslide are the landslide activity, landslide features, deep or shallow failure, confidence of landslide interpretation, and type of landslide movement. These landslide characteristics are determined primarily on the basis of geomorphic features, or landforms, observed for each landslide. The symbology used to display these characteristics is explained below.

LANDSLIDE ACTIVITY: Each landslide has been classified according to the relative age of most recent movement. This map display uses color to show the relative age of activity.

HISTORIC and/or ACTIVE (movement less than 150 years ago): The landslide appears to have moved within historic time or is currently moving (active).

PRE-HISTORIC or ANCIENT (movement greater than 150 years ago): Landslide features are slightly eroded and there is no evidence of historic movement. In some cases, the observed landslide features have been greatly eroded and/or covered with non-landslide deposits, for example, loess, which resulted in smoothed and subdued

LANDSLIDE FEATURES: Because of the high resolution of the lidar-derived topographic data, some additional landslide features were identified. These include:

HEAD SCARP ZONE and FLANK ZONE: The head scarp or uppermost scarp, which in many cases exposes the primary failure plane (surface of rupture), and flanks or shear zones.

HEAD SCARP LINE and INTERNAL SCARP LINES: Uppermost extent of the head scarp and internal scarps within the body of the landslide. Hatching is in the down-dropped direction.

DEPTH OF FAILURE: The depth of landslide failure was estimated from scarp height. Failures less than 4.5 m (15 ft) deep are classified as shallow, and failures greater than 4.5 m (15 ft) deep are classified as deep.

SHALLOW LANDSLIDE: Estimated failure plane depth is less than 4.5 m (15 ft).

DEEP LANDSLIDE: Estimated failure plane depth is greater than 4.5 m (15 ft).

CONFIDENCE OF INTERPRETATION: Each landslide was classified according to our "confidence" that the landslide actually exists. We mapped landslides on the basis of characteristic morphology, and the confidence of the interpretation was based on how clearly visible that morphology is. As a landslide ages, after its most recent movement, weathering (primarily through erosion) degrades the morphology produced by landsliding. With time, landslide morphologies may become so subtle that they resemble morphologies produced by geologic processes and conditions unrelated to landsliding.

Landslides may have several different types of associated morphologies, and we define confidence through a simple point system (see table below). The point system is based on a 0 to 10 point ranking of each of four primary landslide features. For example, if the head scarp and toe of a landslide were identifiable and clearly visible during mapping, the mapper would apply 10 points for the head scarp and 10 points for the toe, equaling 20 points, which would be associated with a moderate confidence of identification.

The visual display of this landslide characteristic is through the use of different line styles as shown below.

HIGH CONFIDENCE (≥ 30 points)

MODERATE CONFIDENCE (20 – 30 points)

LOW CONFIDENCE (≤ 20 points)

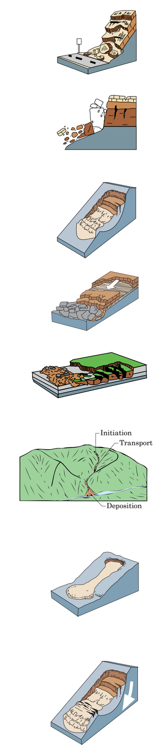
Landslide Feature	Points
Head scarp	0-10
Flanks	0-10
Toe	0-10
Internal scarps, sag ponds, compression ridges, etc.	0-10*

* Applied only once so that total points do not exceed 40.

CLASSIFICATION OF MOVEMENT: Each landslide was classified with its type of movement, of which there are five: slide, flow, topple, and spread (Varnes, 1978). These movement types are combined with material type to form the landslide classification. Not all combinations are common in nature, and not all are present in this study area.

The table below displays the landslide movement types (Varnes, 1978). Generalized diagrams (some modeled from Highland, 2004) showing types of movement are included on this plate in the Types of Landslide Movement section.

Type of Movement	Type of Material		
	Rock	Debris	Soil
Fall	**RF** rock fall	**DF** debris fall	**EF** earth fall
Topple	**RT** rock topple	**DT** debris topple	**ET** earth topple
Slide-rotational	**RS-R** rock slide-rotational	**DS-R** debris slide-rotational	**ES-R** earth slide-rotational
Slide-translational	**RS-T** rock slide-translational	**DS-T** debris slide-translational	**ES-T** earth slide-translational
Lateral spread	**RSP** rock spread	**DSP** debris spread	**ESP** earth spread
Flow	**RFL** rock flow	**DFL** debris flow	**EFL** earth flow
Complex	**C** complex or combinations of two or more types (for example, ES-R + EFL)		



Falls are near-vertical rapid movements of masses of materials, such as rocks or boulders. The rock debris sometimes accumulates as talus at the base of a cliff.

Topples are distinguished by forward rotation about some pivotal point, below or low in the mass.

Slides are downslope movements of soil or rock on a surface of rupture (failure plane or shear zone).

- Rotational slides move along a surface of rupture that is curved and concave.
- Translational slides displace along a planar or undulating surface of rupture, sliding out over the original ground surface.

Spreads are commonly triggered by earthquakes, which can cause liquefaction of an underlying layer and extension and subsidence of otherwise cohesive materials overlying liquefied layers.

Channelized Debris Flows commonly start on steep, concave slopes as small slides or earth flows into channels. As this mixture of landslide debris and water flows down the channel, the mixture picks up more debris, water, and speed, and deposits in a fan at the outlet of the channel.

Earth Flows commonly have a characteristic "hourglass" shape. The slope material liquefies and runs out, forming a bowl or depression at the head.

Complex Landslides are combinations of two or more types. An example of a common complex landslide is a rotational slide + earth flow, which usually exhibits rotational slide features in the upper region and earth flow features near the toe.

(Block Diagrams from Highland, 2004)

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LOCATION MAP

Base Map:

Lidar data for this publication from DOGAMI Lidar Data Quadrangles LDQ-45121-F5 to F8 and 45121-E8.

Digital elevation model (DEM) consists of a 3-foot-square elevation grid that was converted into a hillshade image with sun angle at 315 degrees at a 60-degree angle from horizontal.

2005 NAIP Orthophoto is overlain ontop of the hillshade.

Projection: North American Datum 1983, UTM zone 10.
Software: Esri ArcMap 10.7.1, Adobe Illustrator CS2.
Source File: FEM019_HoodRiver_LandslideProject\Publication_Deliverables

SCALE 1:27,500

3,500 1,750 0 3,500 7,000 10,500 14,000 Feet
0.65 0.325 0 0.65 1.3 1.95 2.6 Miles
0.65 0.325 0 0.65 1.3 1.95 2.6 Kilometers

15½°
TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH
APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 2009

CERTIFIED
OREGON
WILLIAM J. BURNS
E1901
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST
Expires: 1/1/2026

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Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

This map benefited from review by Fletch O'Brien and Rob Hairston-Porter,
Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.