

South Coast Slides Study area and Slide Mitigations

SUMMER 2023

The rugged, mountainous coastline and beaches of Oregon's south coast are still shifting under the main northsouth travel route for visitors, residents, transit, freight, and service vehicles.

The Study

Almost every year, landslides close parts of U.S. 101. The South Coast Slide Study looked at sustainable, practical, and cost-effective solutions and strategies to reduce the impacts of 13 priority slide sites along U.S. 101 between Port Orford and Brookings.

Need

When slides close parts of U.S. 101, drivers often must reroute via Interstate 5 (I-5), OR 42, or U.S. 199, which can add hours of drive time and complicate freight and fuel shipment, access to healthcare, and emergency response services. Returning a slide-impacted roadway to safe and stable driving conditions can be time consuming and expensive.

Results



Mitigate Slides

Because coastal geology is always changing, there is no permanent fix for landslides along U.S. 101. But targeted, small-scale, and cost-effective mitigation measures—such as drains and stone columns—can help stabilize slide slopes.



Roadway Mitigations on Carpenterville Hwy

Measures like pullouts and destination and directional signs can help improve safety and reduce stress for drivers navigating detour routes when there are impacts on U.S. 101.



Traffic Control Plans

Finally, detailed traffic control plans can help us coordinate communication during slide emergencies, manage closures and detours, and organize repair work.

See other side for study area map and slide mitigations.

Learn more about what is causing the landslides and what changes are proposed in the study. Read the final plan and sign up to get the latest news and updates about landslides in your area: bit.ly/SouthCoastSlides



What about a bridge or new road; wouldn't that eliminate slide closures?

For more than 20 years, ODOT has studied both the technical and fiscal feasibility of major construction projects to reduce slides along U.S. 101, including a suspension bridge across the Hooskanaden slide, a full reconstruction of Carpenterville Highway, a new northern bypass route, and a new east-west connection to I-5.

Even if these efforts were financially feasible, the improvements would be similarly susceptible to the coast's unstable land masses. Vibrations from major construction efforts could even trigger new slides or awaken existing ones.



For ADA Title II or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, translation/interpretation services or for additional information call 503-731-4128, TTY 800-735-2900 or use the statewide Oregon Relay Service: 7-1-1.

For more information

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