

ODOT is working to reduce the impacts of US 101 closures from landslides on the southern Oregon coast.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is studying different concepts to improve transportation resiliency along US 101 between Port Orford and Brookings. Landslides and road failures in this area have been a problem for decades, resulting in road closures that take days or weeks of work to fully reopen to traffic. When US 101 is closed, travelers rely on detours via Interstate 5, OR 42, or US 199.

These landslides are costly to fix, disrupt freight movement, strain emergency service providers, and prevent coastal residents from reaching critical services. Landslides also disrupt tourism, which is an important part of the economy in Oregon's coastal communities and surrounding areas.

Study purpose

The South Coast Slide Study is working to identify sustainable, practical, and cost-effective solutions and strategies to reduce the impacts of high priority landslides while improving how quickly the transportation system can recover after landslides occur.

Managing traffic during a slide

This study is considering alternatives that could be used if US 101 is fully or partially closed, including routes around the slide and improved traffic control and communications. Currently, there are few routes that can accommodate high traffic volumes and heavy vehicles. Many of these potential routes are also within landslide areas of impact, have steep topography, environmental constraints, and other factors that would restrict freight and passenger travel. The routes being evaluated fall into two categories:

- **Detour routes.** These routes include unrestricted, publicly owned roads that are suitable for public and freight use.
- **Restricted access routes.** During major events, these routes would be restricted to vehicles that provide critical services, such as maintenance and emergency vehicles.

This study will also recommend improved traffic control and communication strategies for US 101 and detour routes.

For more information

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Erosion and slope failures are common and natural along this section of the coast.



Leaning power poles and trees are signs of shifting ground adjacent to US 101.

VISIT OUR ONLINE OPEN HOUSE

ODOT wants to work with local communities to develop plans for temporary road signs and communication strategies to alert and guide traffic during landslide events. **Visit our online open house** to share your knowledge and give feedback about your experiences during a landslide. Learn more at:



bit.ly/southcoastslides

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.

South Coast Landslide Areas

Elk River Rd / FS 5502 / Euchre Creek Rd. bypasses all landslides around Humbug Mountain. The route follows a combination of paved county roads, paved local roads, and gravel Forest Service roads. This is being evaluated as restricted access route.

Humbug Mountain

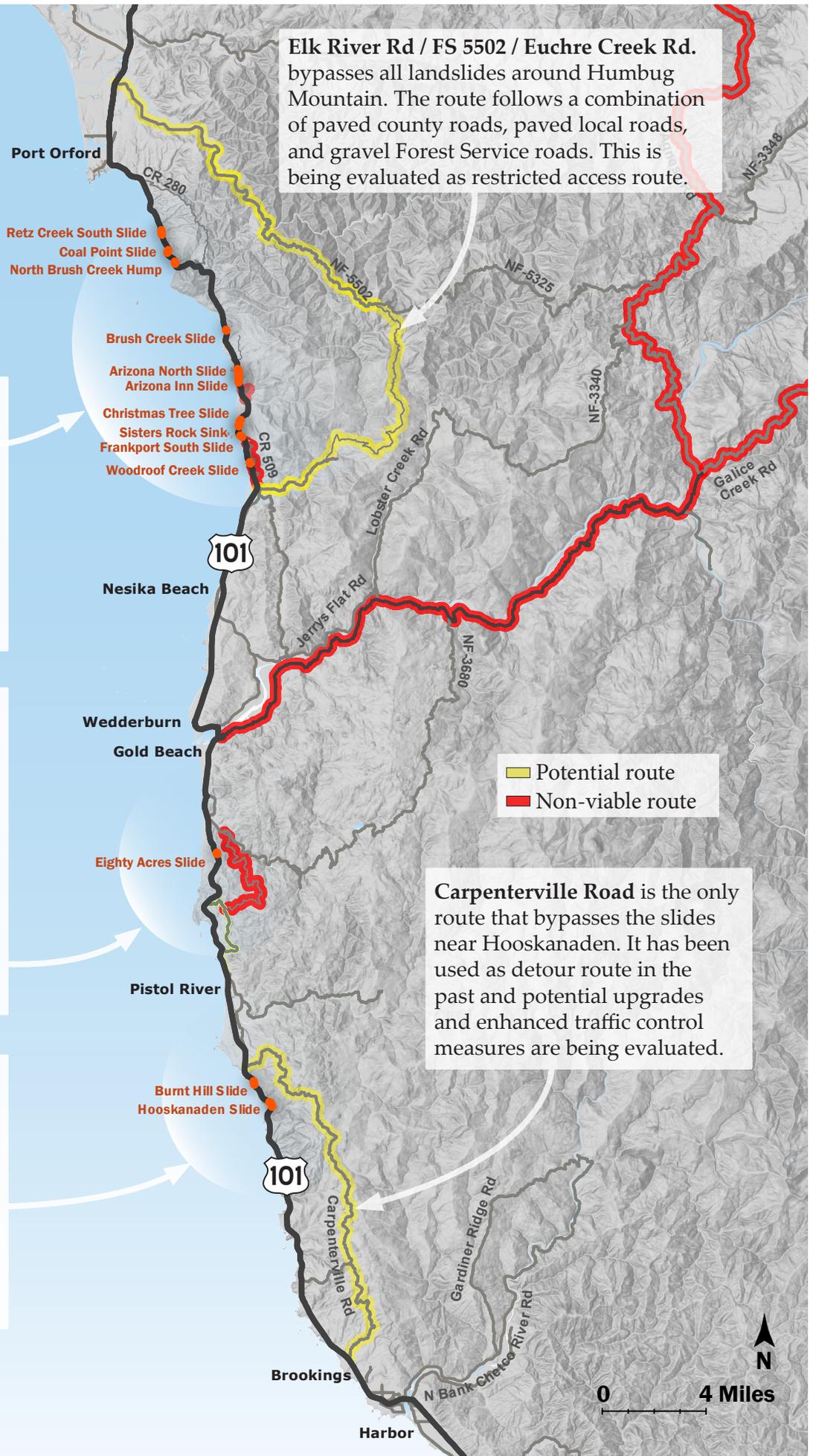
There are 10 landslides near Humbug Mountain between Ophir and Port Orford. The most significant roadway closure occurred in 1993 when the Arizona Inn Slide closed US 101 for over a week.

Eighty Acres Slide

The Eighty Acres slide has a long history of closing southbound lanes on US 101. However, it has not yet resulted in a complete road closure and has had a relatively small impact on the community. There are no viable routes around this slide area.

Hooskanaden

There are two landslides north of Brookings. The Hooskanaden Slide resulted in full road closures in 1977, 1995, and most recently in 2019. The Burnt Hill Slide resulted in a full road closure in 2005.



Retz Creek South Slide
Coal Point Slide
North Brush Creek Hump

Brush Creek Slide
Arizona North Slide
Arizona Inn Slide
Christmas Tree Slide
Sisters Rock Sink
Frankport South Slide
Woodroof Creek Slide

Eighty Acres Slide

Burnt Hill Slide
Hooskanaden Slide

Yellow line: Potential route
Red line: Non-viable route

Carpenterville Road is the only route that bypasses the slides near Hooskanaden. It has been used as detour route in the past and potential upgrades and enhanced traffic control measures are being evaluated.

