

# LAST CHANCE GRADE

## COMMUNITY TOWN HALL



Eureka: 03/22/16

Crescent City: 03/23/16

Klamath: 03/24/16

**Sebastian Cohen**

**Caltrans-Project Manager**



# Presentation Overview

- Geology
- History
- Site Status
  - What's Occurring
- Status of Permanent Repair Project (Realignment)
  - Alternatives, Cultural & Environmental Resources
  - Challenges
  - Emergency Project / Emergency Response / Emergency Funding
  - Stakeholders



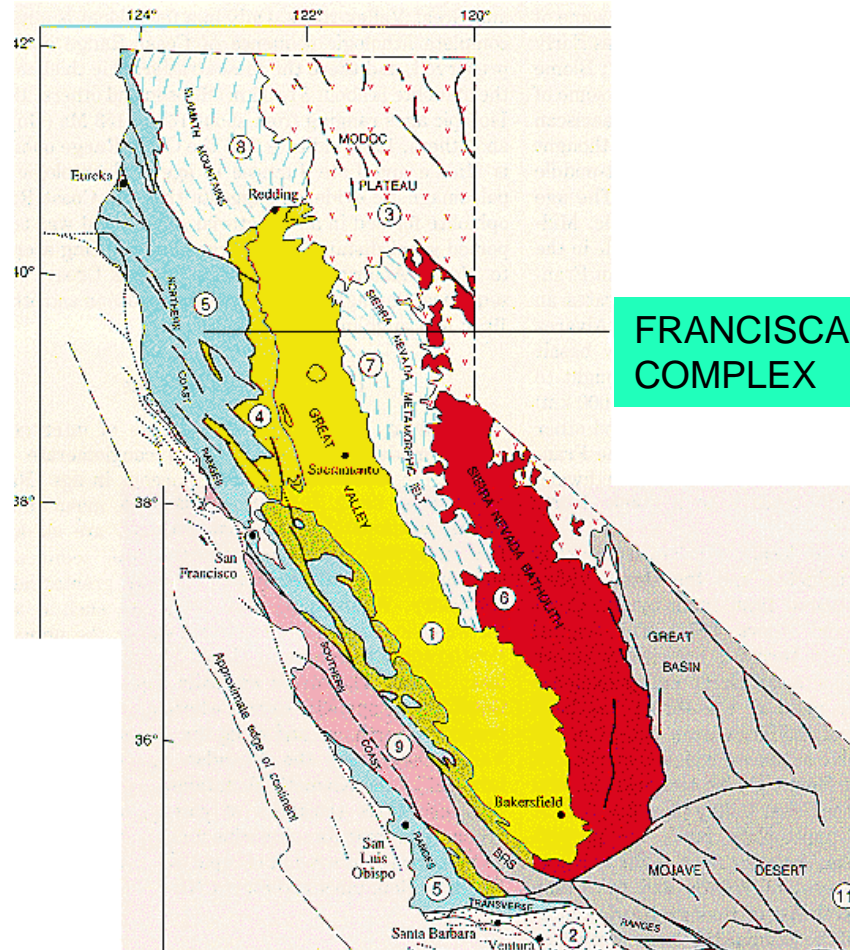
Post Mile 15.6

“Last Chance Grade”

Wilson Creek Bridge  
Post Mile 12.6



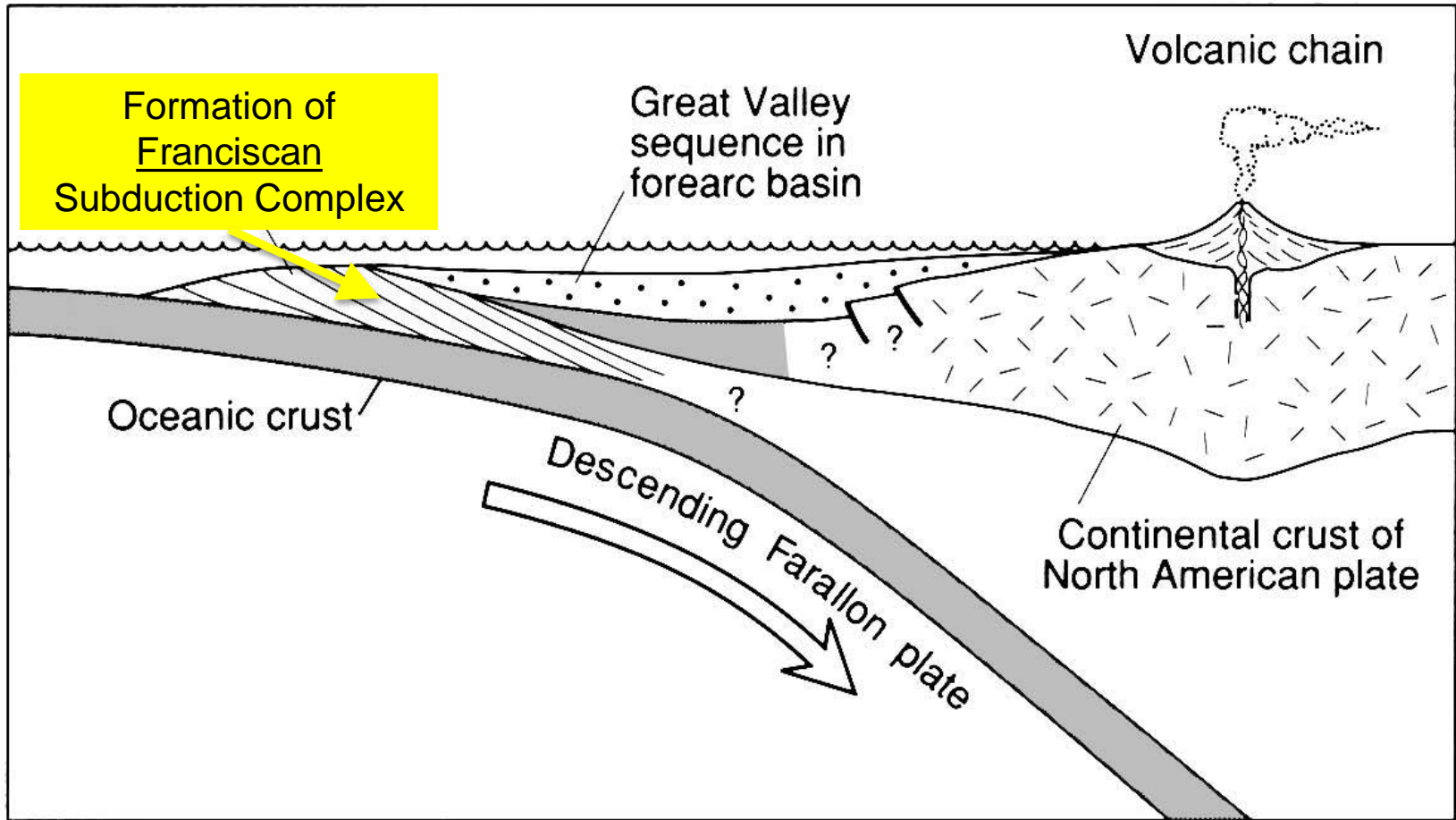
# GEOLOGY



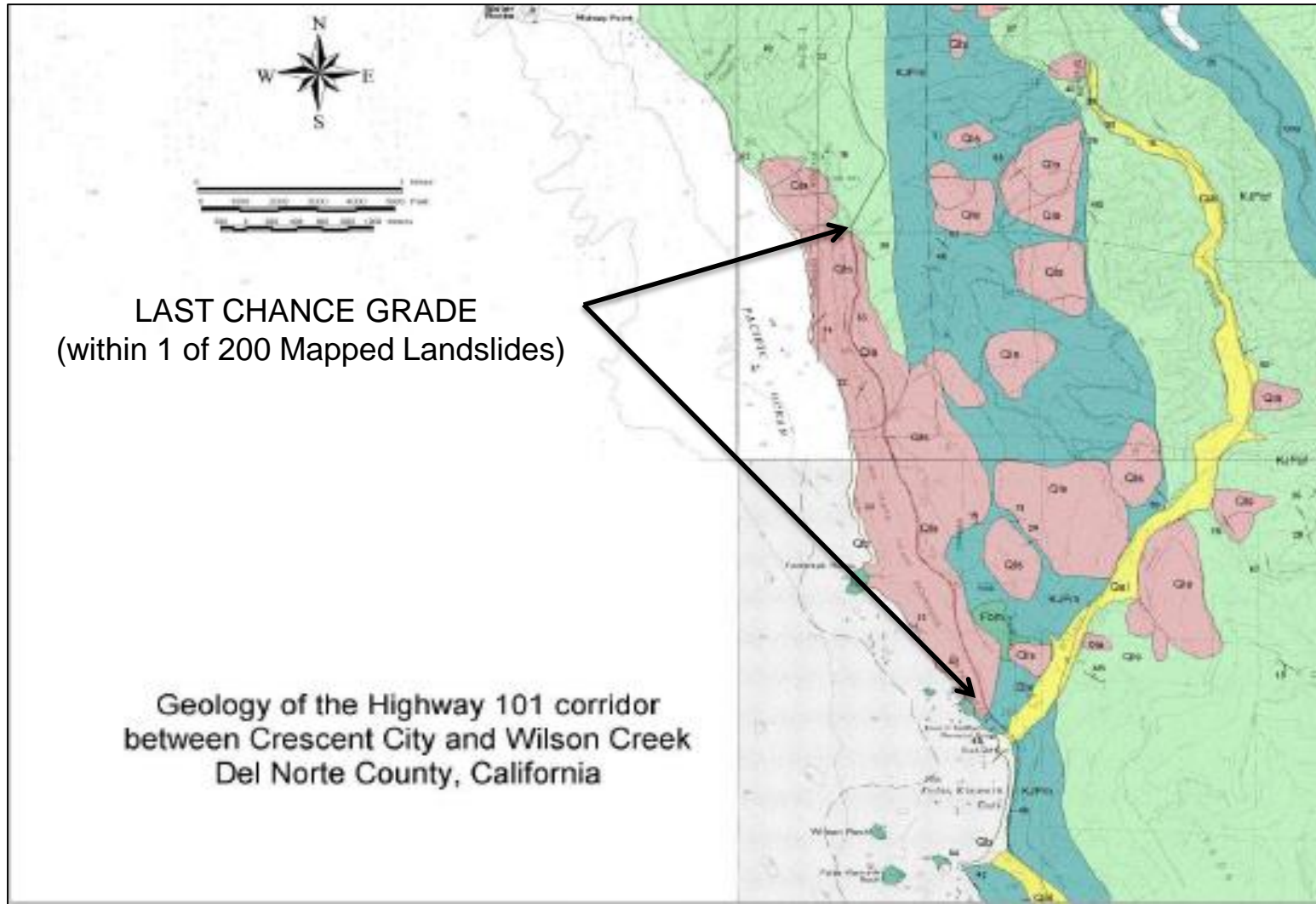
FRANCISCAN  
COMPLEX



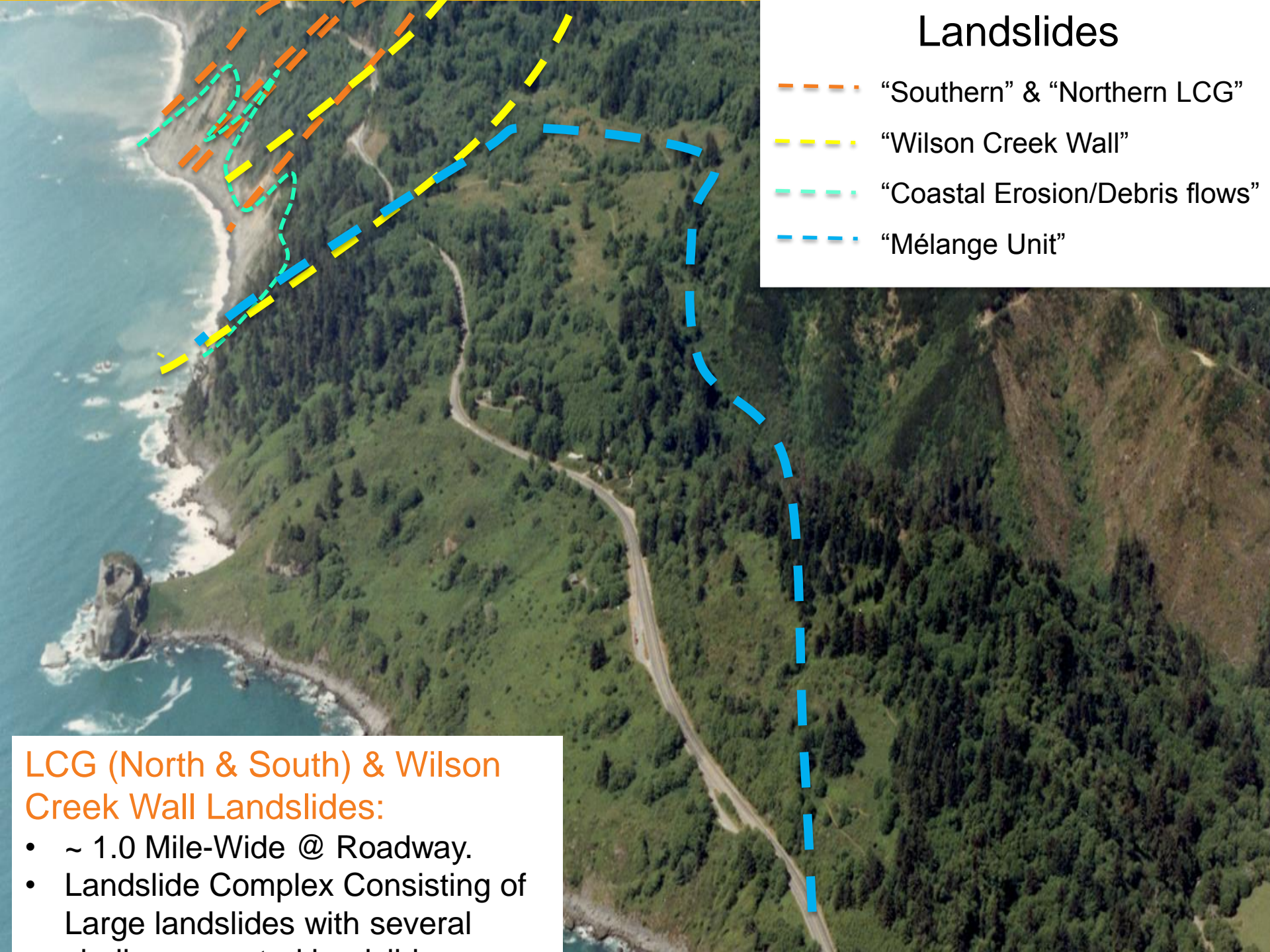
# GEOLOGY



# LANDSLIDE OVERVIEW MAP







## Landslides

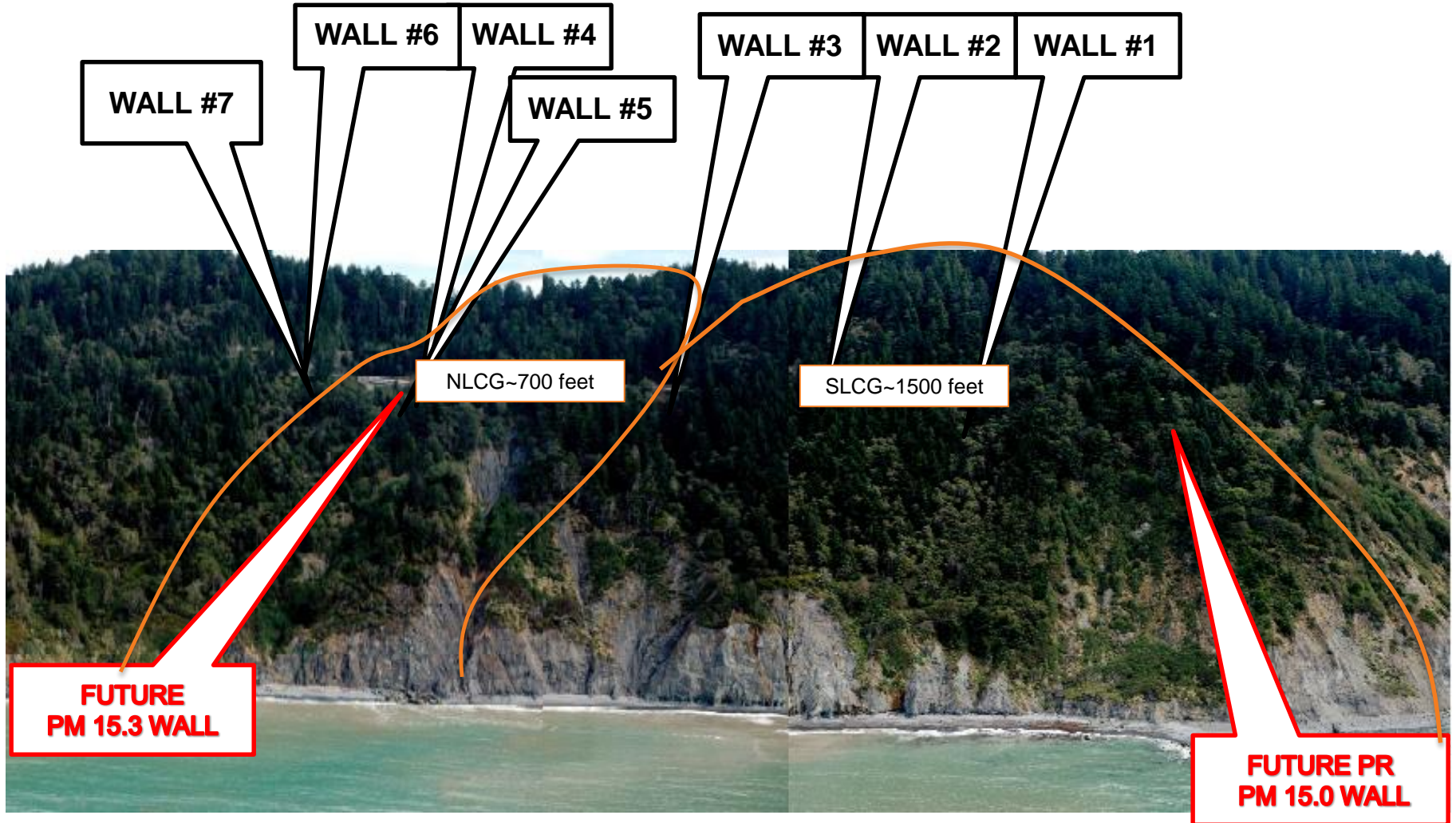
- "Southern" & "Northern LCG"
- "Wilson Creek Wall"
- "Coastal Erosion/Debris flows"
- "Mélange Unit"

### LCG (North & South) & Wilson Creek Wall Landslides:

- ~ 1.0 Mile-Wide @ Roadway.
- Landslide Complex Consisting of Large landslides with several



# CURRENTLY MOVING





# Undulating Vertical Alignment





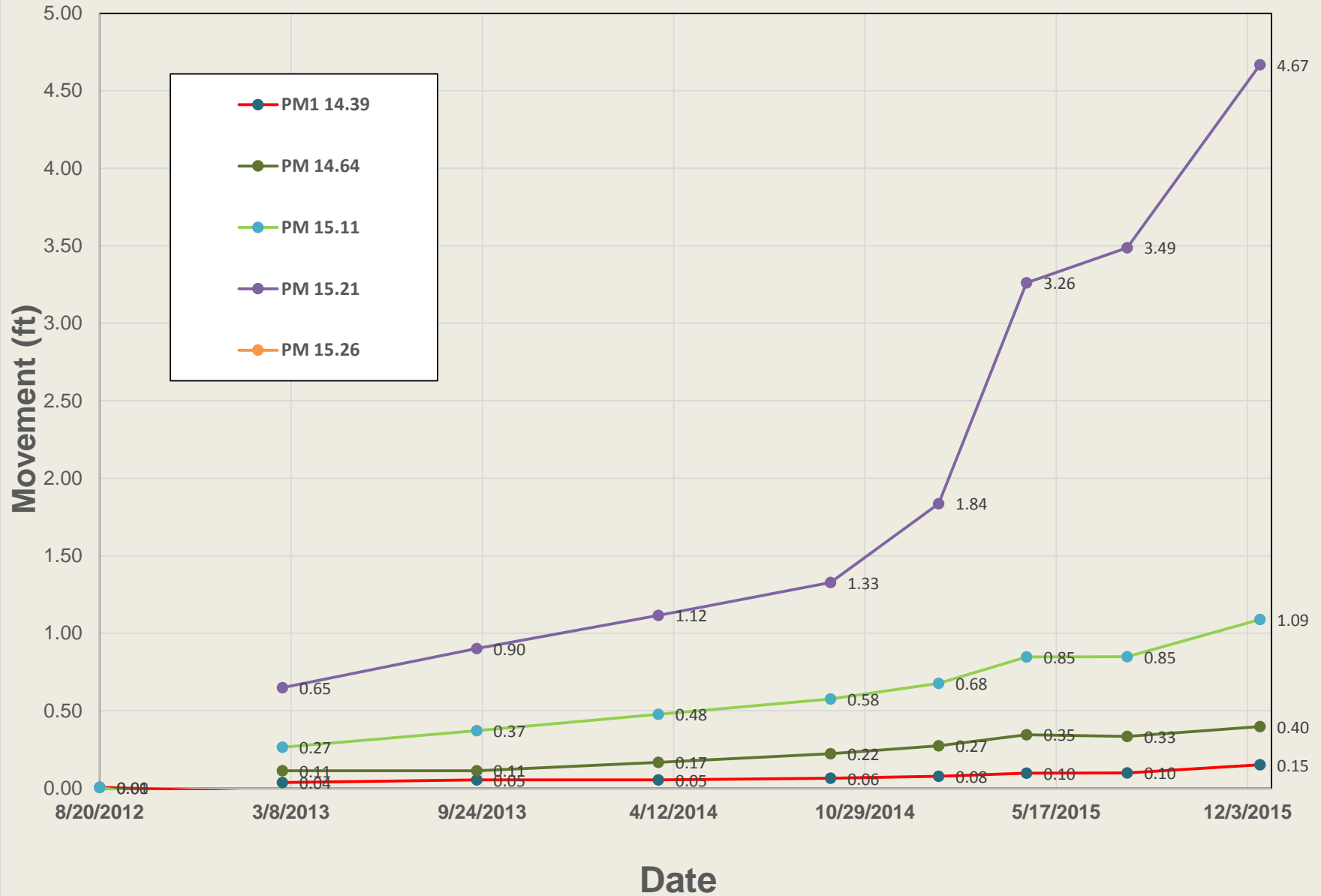


Work To Be Done This Summer

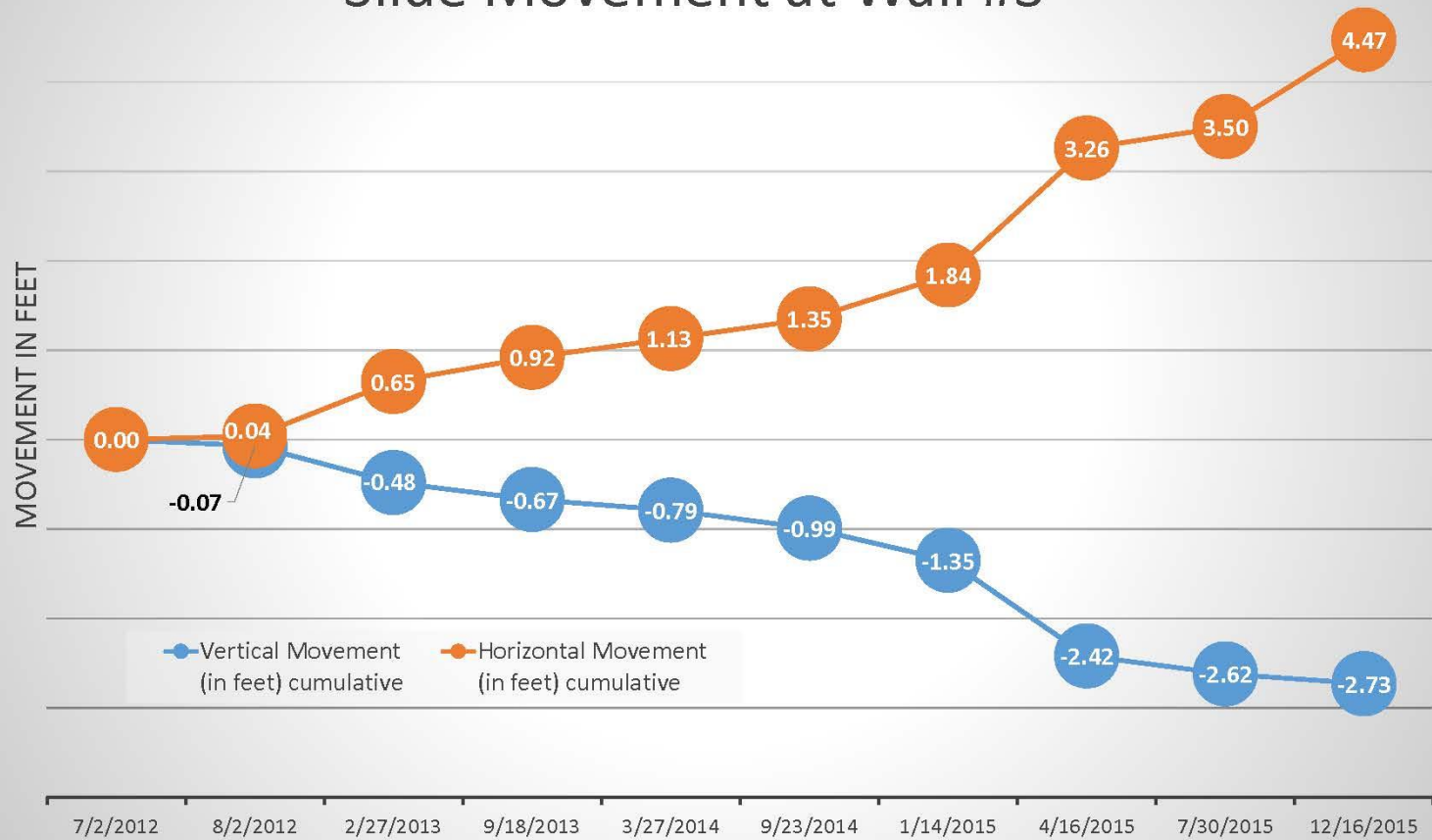




# Horizontal Movement at Select Post Miles Along Slide Complex



## Slide Movement at Wall #3





# ROADWAY LATERAL MOVEMENT



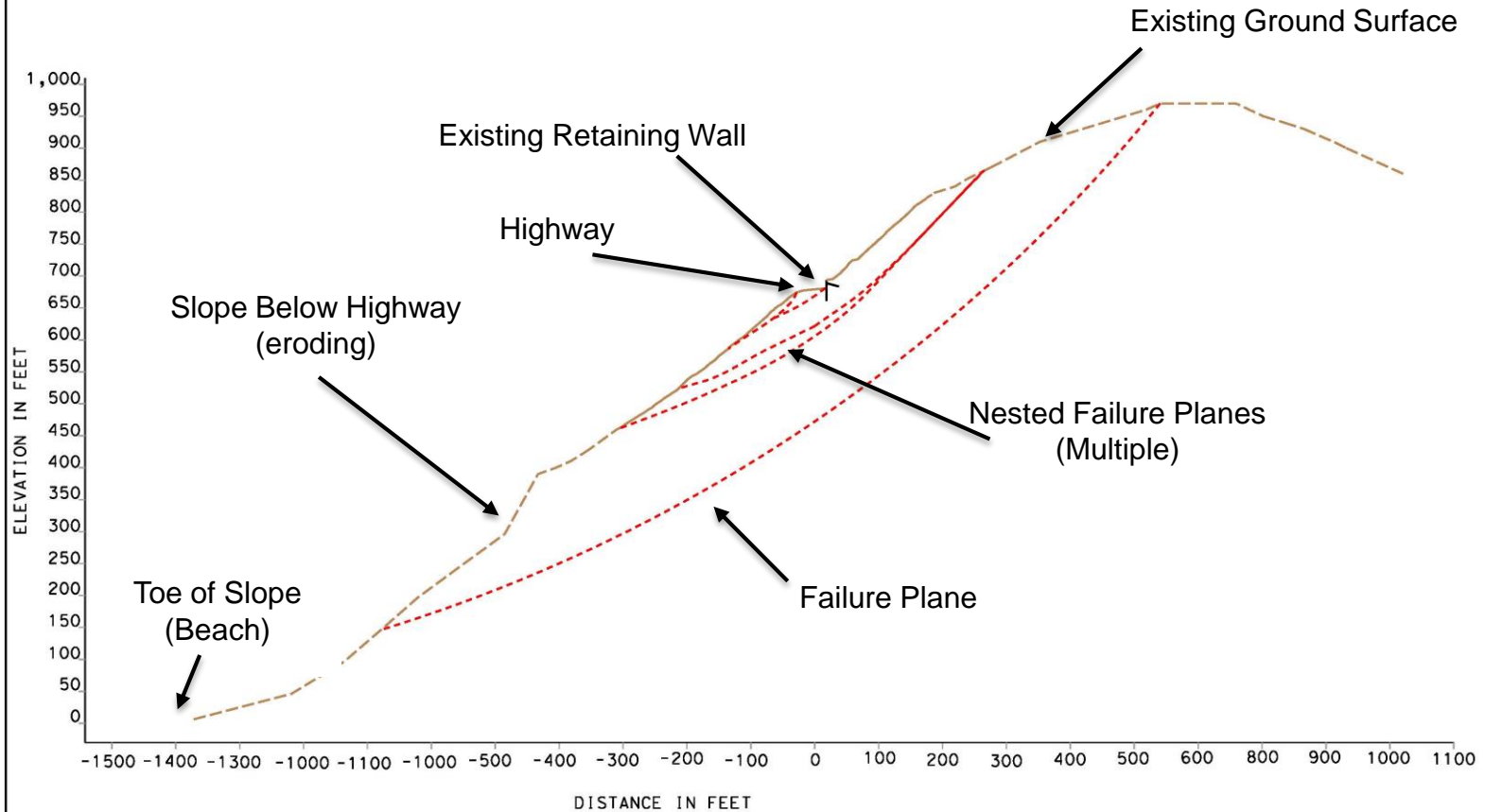
Surface Monitoring Data (Land Surveys) July 2012 – December 2015

- Recent LCG slide movement near RW #3: Vertical ~ **2.5'** Horizontal ~ **3.5'**
- Max horizontal movement near PM 15.21 ~ **4.67'**



# CROSS-SECTION

## TYPICAL



DESIGN-CROSS-SECTB-B'.DGN 3/21/2016 12:56:49 PM



# HISTORIC TIMELINE

- 1894- Initial “Roadway” built across the site
  - Landslide Noted- “Last Chance Slide”
- 1930’s- Minor realignment performed
  - Landslide Noted-Expensive Maintenance Noted
- 1970’s -\$ and frequency of movement increasing
- 1980’s -Initiated studies for major realignment
  - Realignment Costly & Infeasible
- 1990’s –Reanalyzed major realignment
  - Realignment Costly & Infeasible
  - Maintain Existing Alignment
- 2009 -Safety Project
  - 6 Retaining Walls Constructed

# HISTORIC TIMELINE

- 2010 & 2011 -Federally Declared Storm Event
  - Received Federal Emergency Relief Program Funding
  - Additional Retaining Walls Necessary to Maintain Alignment
- 2012 –Increased Landslide Movement
  - Community Interest Rapidly Increased
  - Congressmen & Assemblymen Involvement
- 2014/15- Feasibility Study & Economic Impact Study
  - Congressman Huffman Working Group
  - Official Partnering with Parks & Tribes
  - Monitoring Systems Installed
  - Project Initiation Document Started
- Currently
  - Emergency Project (RW#3 / Undulating Alignment))
  - Funding Being Sought



# SUMMARY of HISTORY

- **Longstanding History of Road Failures**
- **No Full Closures**
- **Average Repair Cost**
  - **\$1.2 mil / yr (1981-2012)**
  - **\$1.5 mil / yr (2012-2016)**
  - **Over \$40 mil (1981-present)**

# **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

## **(To-Date)**

- **Feasibility Study Completed**
  - **Included Economic Analysis**
- **Project Initiation Document: On track to be completed this summer**
  - **Funding identification is next critical step**
- **Public Engagement Plan – Proactive Engagement w/ Stakeholders**
  - **Initiated early**
  - **Will continue through out project**
- **Several Working Groups**
  - **Caltrans Staff/Specialists**
  - **Congressman Huffman’s Working Group**
  - **Biological Resources Working Group (Agencies)**
  - **Partnering with Tribes & Parks (not Gov. to Gov)**
  - **Cultural Resources Working Group**

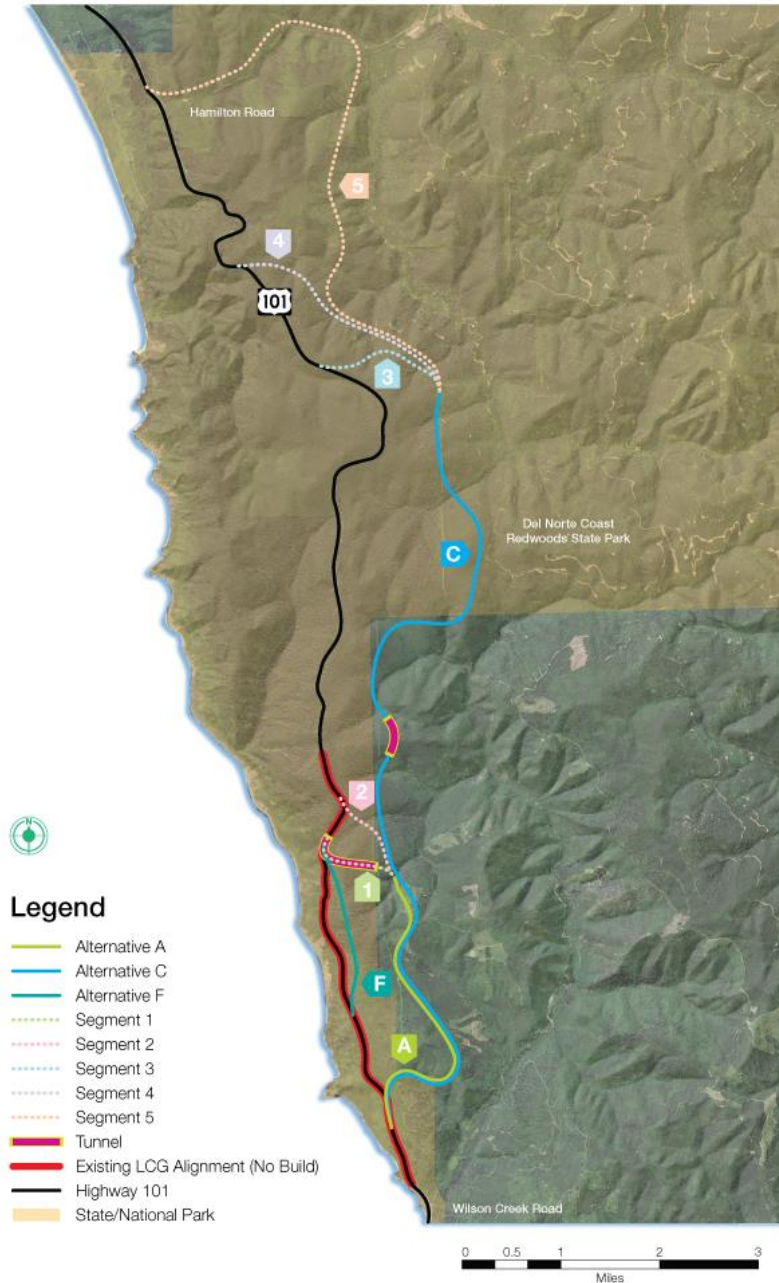


# SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT FOR A PERMANENT SOLUTION

- Congressman Huffman's Stakeholder Group
- Last Chance Grade Partners
- Biological Resources Working Group
- Caltrans Multi-Disciplinary Project Development Team
- Cultural Resources Sub-Working Group
- Del Norte County LCG Citizens Advisory Committee
- Many Others.....(local and regional)

## MAP OF ALTERNATIVES

A1, A2, C3, C4, C5, F



# PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES FOR STUDY

**Note: All ALTERNATIVES  
STILL REQUIRE  
GEOTECHNICAL &  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES  
(CEQA / NEPA )**



# PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES COMPARISON\*

ALTERNATIVE	TRAVEL TIME ADDED (MINUTES)	NEW CONSTRUCTION							WATERSHED CROSSINGS			EXISTING HABITAT TYPE	
		CONSTRUCTION LENGTH (MILES)	STRUCTURES			LENGTH WITHIN PARKS (MILES)	CONSTRUCTION FOOTPRINT (ACRES)	CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE (YEARS)	WILSON CREEK	MILL CREEK	CONSTRUCTION COST IN 2016 \$ (MILLIONS)	TYPE	ACRES
			CULVERTS > 36"	TUNNEL	BRIDGES								
<b>A1</b> Rudisill Road to LCG Tunnel (Includes 2,425 ft. tunnel)	1.0 min.	3.2 miles	9	Yes	1	0.8 miles	80 acres	3 years	1	0	\$680	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	7 1 13 57 0 1.5
<b>A2</b> Rudisill Road to Damnation Trailhead	0.8 min.	3.2 miles	10	No	2	0.6 miles	85 acres	2 years	2	0	\$275	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	7 1 13 61 0 3
<b>C3</b> Rudisill Road to South of Mill Creek Access (Includes 1,680 ft. tunnel)	1.7 min.	7.8 miles	19	Yes	4	3.2 miles	245 acres	3 years	6	3	\$950	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	7 1 13 200 23 0
<b>C4</b> Rudisill Road to North of Mill Creek Access (Includes 1,680 ft. tunnel)	1.5 min.	8.6 miles	14	Yes	5	4.0 miles	265 acres	4 years	6	4	\$1,000	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	7 1 13 200 43 0
<b>C5</b> Rudisill Road to Hamilton Road (Includes 1,680 ft. tunnel)	2.6 min.	11.7 miles	21	Yes	11	7.0 miles	330 acres	4 years	6	10	\$1,250	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	7 1 13 216 93 0
<b>F</b> Full Tunnel Parallel to Existing Alignment (5,600 ft.)	1.0 min.	1.3 miles	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	4.5 acres	6.5 years	N/A	N/A	\$1,050	Coastal scrub/grassland/spruce Riparian Clear cut Young Redwood Forest Mature Redwood Forest Old Growth Redwood Forest	2 0 0 0 1 1.5
<b>Maintain Existing Alignment</b>	Unknown and unquantifiable												

\*All figures are estimates



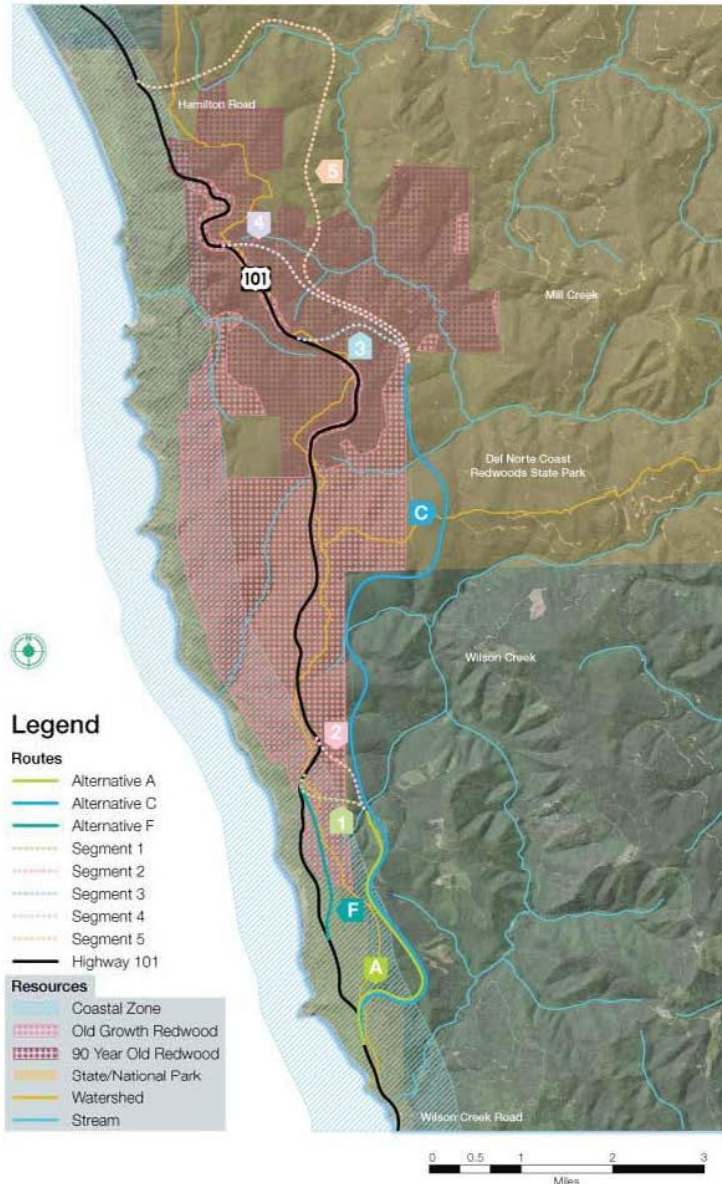


# ENVIRONMENTAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Extensive Environmental & Cultural resources located in the vicinity of all proposed alternative alignments for Last Chance Grade.
- Stakeholders are working together early & committed to avoiding and minimizing potential impacts to these resources.

## Federally Recognized Tribes:

- Elk Valley Rancheria
- Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation
- Yurok Tribe



Preliminary Alternatives:  
A1, A2, C3, C4, C5, F

# SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

- **Many Studies Will Be Required:**
  - **Old Growth Redwoods**
  - **Marbled Murrelet**
  - **Cumulative Watershed Impacts**
  - **Specific Fisheries Impacts**
  - **Habitat Connectivity Issues**
  - **Bats, Pollinators, etc...**
- **Significant Mitigation Expected**



# Project Timeline



**Actual Project Delivery Determined by Acquisition of Funding.**

**Different Funding Programs Have Different Delivery Requirements**

**Usually Seek Funding After PSR Seeking It Now**

**Potential Project Delivery Milestone Durations:**

- **Enviro Studies: ~5-8 yrs**
- **Design, Permits, ROW: ~3-5 yrs**
- **Construction: ~5-8 yrs**

**Last Chance Grade Project**





# EMERGENCY PROJECTS

- **CALTRANS' EMERGENCY PROJECT REQ.**
- **FEDERAL EMERGENCY FUNDING**
  - **PROCESS**
  - **FUNDING REQ.**
- **CALTRANS' RESPONSE SCENARIOS**

# CALTRANS' EMERGENCY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Per PCC 10122 – State can suspend State Contract Act, and initiate an Emergency Contract under specific conditions-

Requirements / Constraints:

- Beyond Caltrans' Maintenance Forces Abilities (Schedule / Equipment / Materials / Technical)
- Project must prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential services.
- State funds must exist before contract can be initiated

# Damage That Caltrans Responds To



Failing Wall Lagging / Failing Barrier



One day after Paving





Failing Wall Lagging / Failing Barrier / Failing Shoulder & DI



# Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) Program

Congressionally appropriated program, not a standard Fed-Aid Program. Only applicable under unique conditions. Program has many constraints & specific requirements.

## Program Initiation:

- Significant damage occurs & coordination with FHWA begins
- Through Office of Emergency Services (OES), a Gubernatorial or Presidential Proclamation declares a State of Emergency, which initiates the ER Program - allowing project applications.
- FHWA approves, denies or requires adjustments to project applications

# Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) Program

## Some of the Requirements:

- State ROW Only.
  - Betterments (improvements) not allowed.
  - CEQA/NEPA\*, Permits, Right of Way (ROW) all required.
  - Funded \$100 million per year- All US States and Territories.
  - \$100 million max project cost, per proclamation, per state, per year.
    - Projects above \$100 million requires unique congressional appropriation.
- ❖ LCG Realignment Project would require several Variances



# EMERGENCY RESPONSE -1

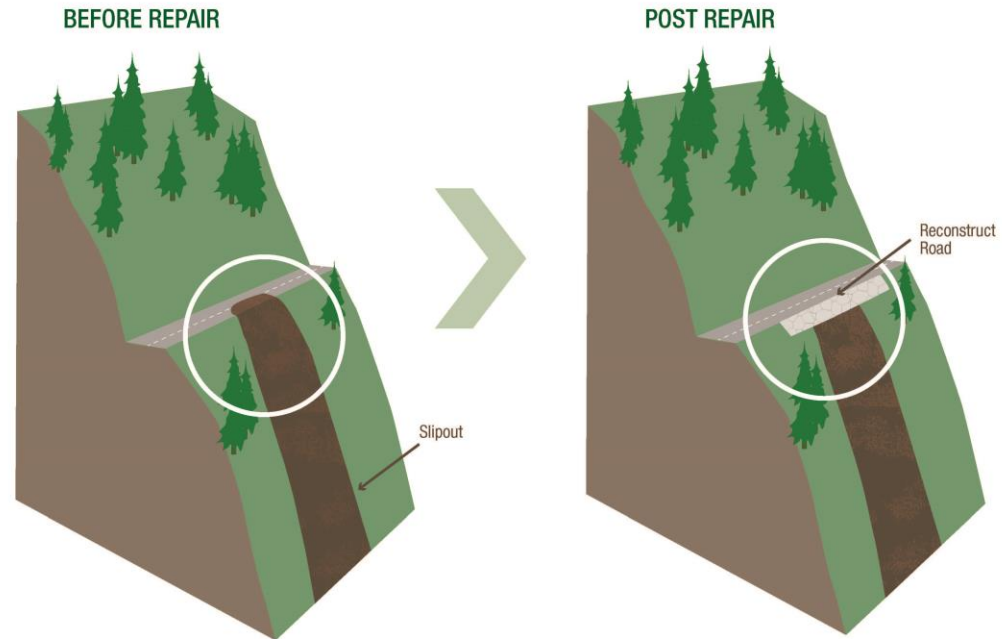
SCENARIO 1

## Small Scale Slipout

**Caltrans Response**  
Reconstruct Roadway  
in Place

**Construction Duration**  
Days to Weeks

**Traffic Access**  
Yes. Likely One-Way  
Reversible



**HAS BEEN OCCURRING AT LCG**

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE -2

SCENARIO 2

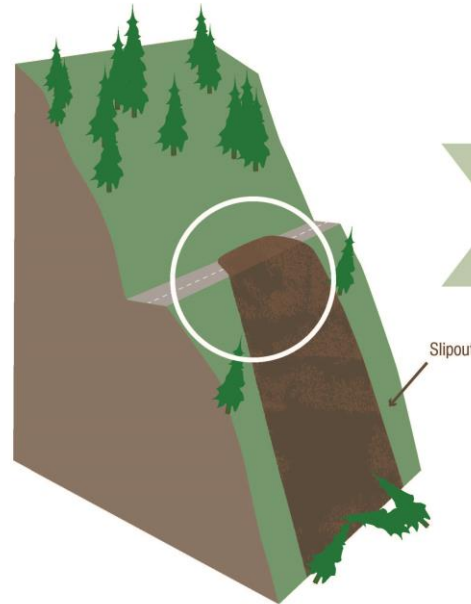
## Moderate Scale Slipout

**Caltrans Response**  
Roadway Retreat Away  
from Ocean

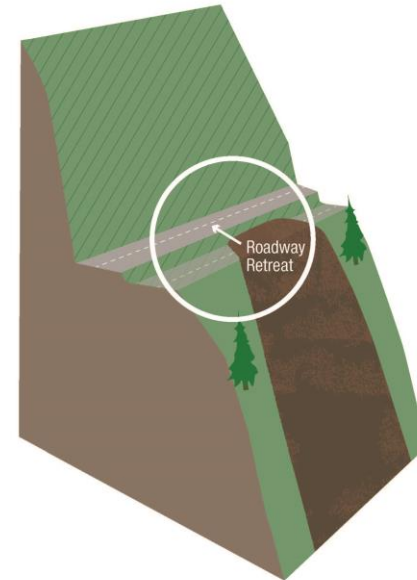
**Construction Duration**  
Weeks to Years

**Traffic Access**  
Short-Term Full Closure.  
Then, One-Way  
Reversible Traffic

BEFORE REPAIR



POST ROADWAY RETREAT



**NOT OCCURRING AT LCG  
(will be next step)**

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE-3

SCENARIO 3

## Large Scale Slipout

### **Caltrans Response**

Construct Temporary Access Road (1 or 2 lanes)  
+ Accelerate LCG Realignment Project

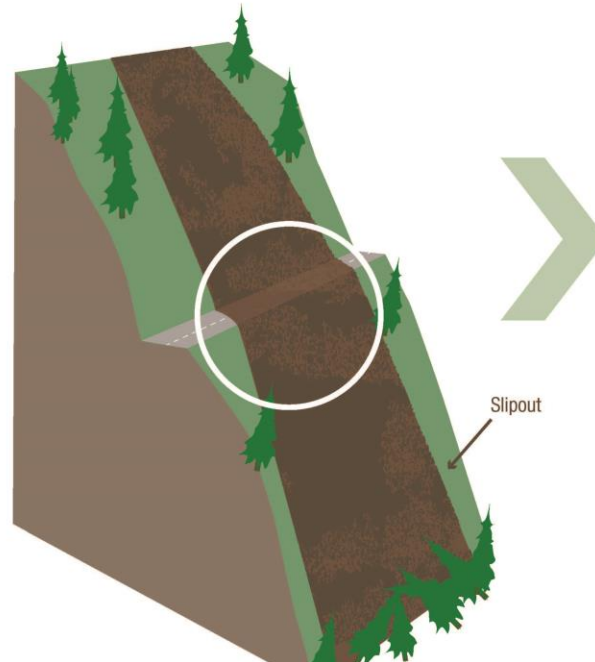
### **Construction Duration**

Years

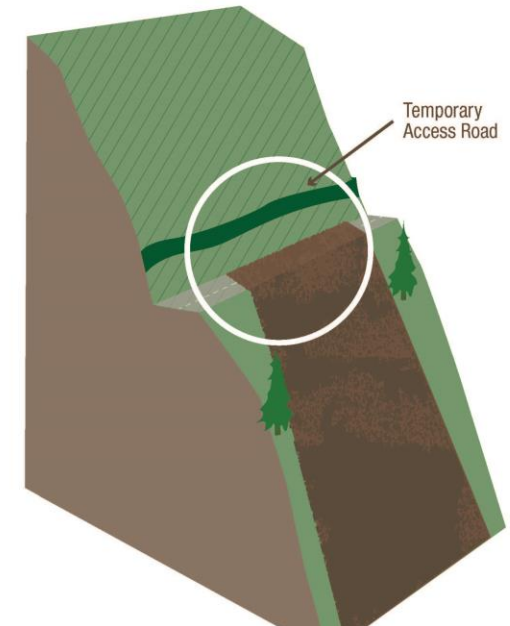
### **Traffic Access**

Full Closure. Then,  
One-Way Reversible  
Traffic on Temporary  
Road Until Realignment  
is Complete

BEFORE REPAIR



POST INSTALLATION  
LIMITED ACCESS



**NOT OCCURRING AT LCG  
(if necessary)**



# EXTENSIVE SITE MONITORING

- **Near-Real Time Monitoring System**
- **Field Topographic Surveys**
- **Aerial Surveys**  
**Slope & Toe Erosion**
- **Daily Field Inspections**

# WHATS OCCURRING NOW

- Project Initiation Document will be completed June, 2016.
- Federal Funding (ER & Other Potential Sources) Being Sought
- Monitoring & Maintaining Existing Road is Priority
  - Repair Retaining Walls
  - Adjust Vertical Alignment
  - Power Supply; Signs w/ Lights; Changeable Message Signs
  - Additional Monitoring Systems Planned
  - Web Cameras for Public's Use
  - Slope Lighting

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Website:

[www. Lastchancegrade.com](http://www.Lastchancegrade.com)

## Contact:

[lastchancegrade@dot.ca.gov](mailto:lastchancegrade@dot.ca.gov)

(707) 445-6464, TTY 711