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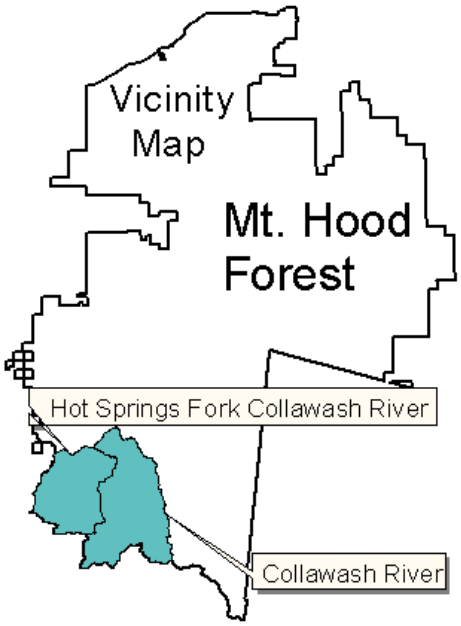
Collawash/Hot Springs Watershed Analysis Revision – September 2003

The original Watershed Analysis for the Collawash River and the Hot Springs Fork of the Collawash River was completed in 1995. It can be found on the Forest's web site at http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/documents/Watershed_Analyses/Collawash_Hot_Springs_WA.pdf.

Watershed Analysis is a component of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy of the Northwest Forest Plan (Standards and Guidelines, p. B-20). Watershed Analysis is an iterative process where revisions are made as new knowledge is gained about resources.



This revision specifically addresses earthflow mapping. Earthflows are large naturally occurring slow-moving landforms that occur on gentle to moderate slopes and can be over 100 feet deep and cover hundreds of acres. They are like glaciers of soil that are moved by gravity very slowly down hill carrying standing trees with them. The topography can be hummocky with ponds and sometimes trees grow crooked and cracks form in roads.

The movement of earthflows may be affected by climatic cycles; particularly during wet periods. Earthflow movement may be accelerated by management activities such as road construction and timber harvest. Since each earthflow has different characteristics and different rates of movement, they are broken into high, medium and low risk categories. Earthflow management is described in the Mt. Hood Forest Plan (p. Four-261) and in the Northwest Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines (p. B-24). The Watershed Analysis process used existing geographic information system (GIS) data that was developed in the late 1980's. Since then, earthflows have been remapped, using aerial photographs and field investigation. This report officially presents the new earthflow information. The following table summarizes the acreage changes.

	Old Earthflow Acreage	New Earthflow Acreage
High Risk Earthflows	6429	6619
Moderate Risk Earthflows	9612	7589
Low Risk Earthflows	5115	2799

The GIS shape files for each can be downloaded from the Forest's web site.

☐ Click here to view the New Earthflow Map

☐ Click here to view the Old Earthflow Map