

Photos of the East Fork Landslide

Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

May, 2008

(Photos by Becca Smith, Pagosa RD Hydrologist)



The lower road bench on the left is the old East Fork Road that has slid downhill from its previous location. The black pipe in the center is the old 8" gas pipeline that was buried in the shoulder of the road. Xcel has cleared and graded the bench on the right to lay temporary pipe. This cleared area is the approximate location of where the East Fork Road used to be. The red pipeline is the temporary 4" gas pipeline that Xcel has laid on the surface of the ground.



An actively sliding area below the old road.



Same area as previous photo, showing actively sliding area below the old road and leaning trees that have been tilted as a result of slide movement.



Cracking and shifting of the ground above the old road.



The slide is moving down the slope from the left of the photo and encroaching on the East Fork of the San Juan River.



Cracking and shifting of the ground above the old road. The photo is looking downhill at the eastern edge of the active slide.



Upslope of previous picture. Coal Creek trail is shown coming in from the right. The trail is also visible on the left. Prior to the recent movement, the trail went straight across what is now the cracked area. The offset between the ends of the trail on either side of the fissure, was 50 feet on the date this photo was taken. This is an indication of total movement in this area.



Same area as previous two photos. The area on the left of the crack where the person is standing is moving downhill and vertically up. The area on the right of the crack has not moved.



Large block of material that has been pushed upward and rotated by the movement of the slide. The exposed roots were at ground level prior to the recent movement.



View of the East Fork of the San Juan River showing erosion of the stream bank across the river from the active slide. Photo also shows woody debris (trees) that have slid into the river and been washed downstream.



Cracking and shifting of the ground on the western edge of the active slide. Photo is looking upslope. The area on the left has been vertically raised and tilted. This area is also moving downhill. The area on the right has not moved.



Cracking and slumping of the East Fork Road. This photo was taken early during the recent movement, and current conditions have changed dramatically, because this portion of the road has slid downhill since the photo was taken.

For information on how the landslide is affecting the San Juan National Forest, contact the Pagosa Public Lands Office at 970 264-2268. For Archuleta County information, contact Karen Kohake at 970 264-8564.