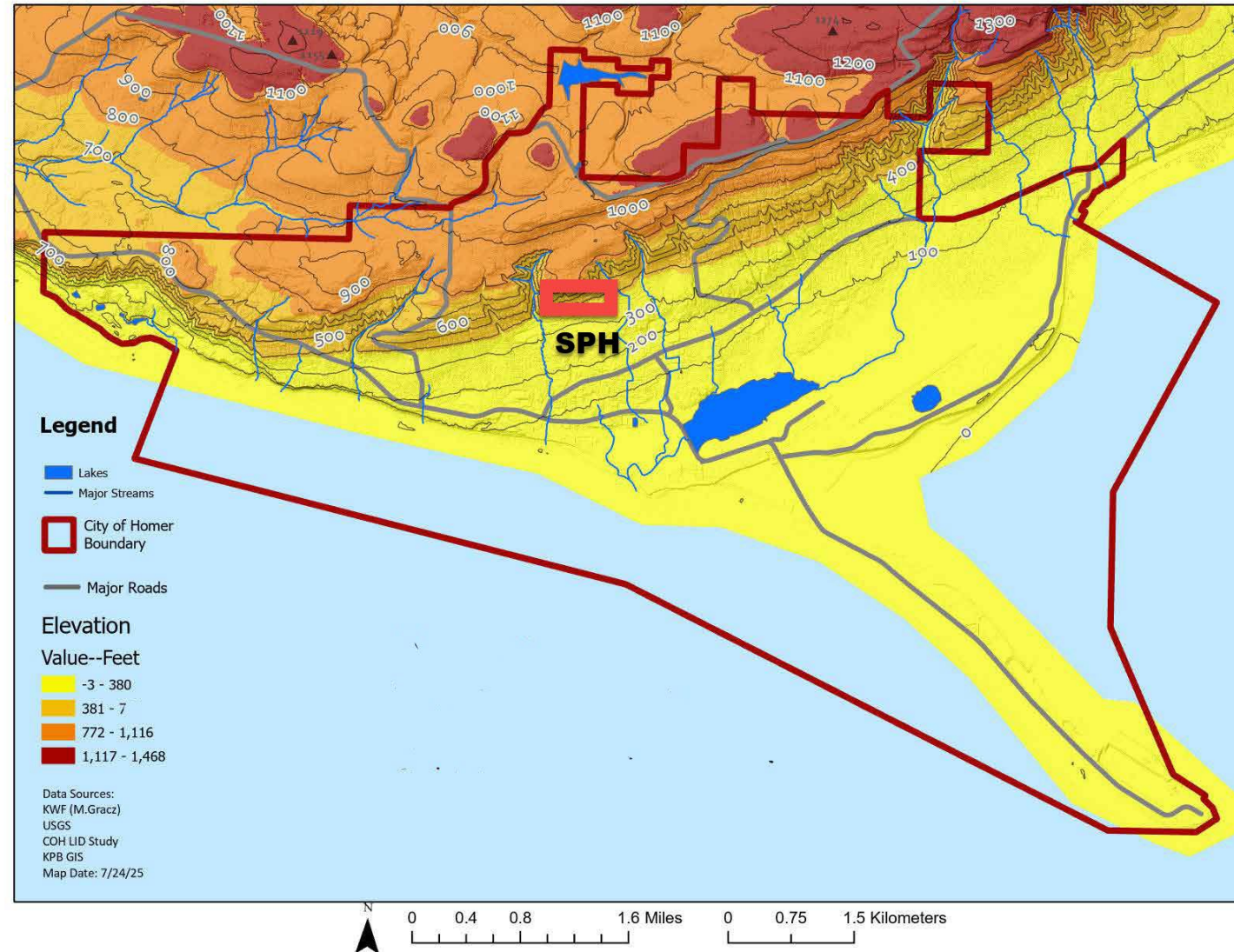
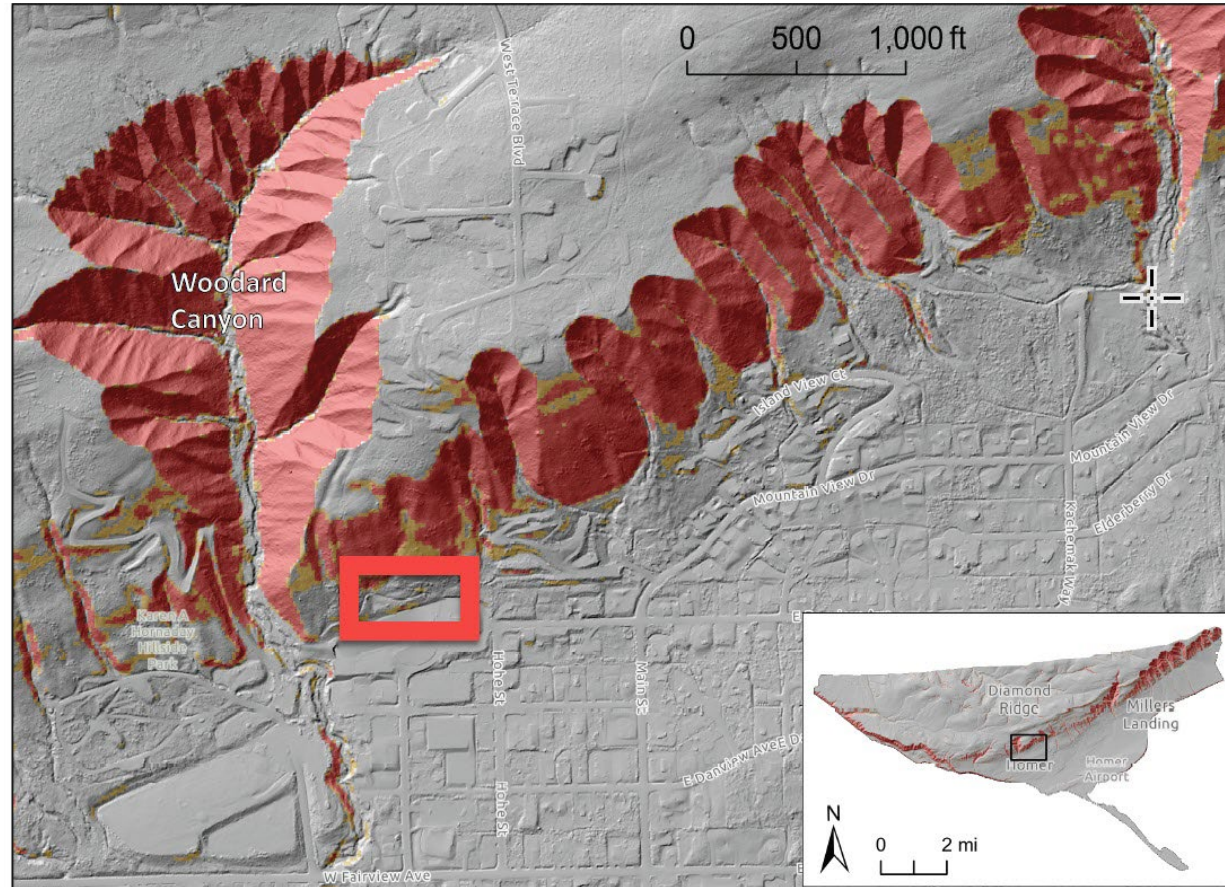


# SPH and City Slopes



# Slope Failure Potential



**Figure 7.** Excerpt from the Factor of Safety map (map sheet 2) highlighting areas of moderate (FOS 1.25–1.5, orange) and high (FOS 1–1.25, red) shallow landslide susceptibility at saturated conditions for the area near Woodard Canyon.



1999

Source: Homer  
News

## ... Work continues, in spite of setback

FROM PAGE ONE

He pointed out large cracks in the soil remaining above the job site that he said show there is still a substantial risk of sliding.

The original plan called for backfilling the gap between the completed concrete wall and the bank with gravel after the foundation wall was complete, then grading the surface to match the contour of the existing slope above the cut, Craig said.

Craig said that plans had been considered to build a terraced retaining wall to prevent such a mishap, but the estimated cost was deemed too high.

"It's sort of pay me now or pay me later," Craig said. "We gambled this sort of thing wouldn't happen."

He did not offer an estimate of repairing the damage caused by the slide.

According to the National Weather Service, 1.28 inches of rain fell between 4 a.m. Saturday and 4 a.m. Monday. Homer's rainfall is measured at the airport, and weather service officials said it is possible more rain fell on the hillside where the hospital is located.

It was still raining on Tuesday as Blazy Construction field supervisor Carl Brinkerhof, general manager Kelly Keating and others surveyed the damage. Keating disagreed that the slide would stop the project, adding that work is continuing in other areas.

They later met with Rob Robson, who is Director of Major Projects for the Kenai Peninsula Borough Public Works Department, Homer Mayor Jack Cushing, who performed the geotechnical report on the project as a private contractor, and Sam A. McLane of McLane Consulting, which did the civil engineering for the project.

On Wednesday, McLane said the group had decided to add an intermediate terrace to the cutbank, and use fill from the slide and the terrace project for fill in a swale adjacent to the west side of the addition. The topsoil will be removed from the swale later and replaced over the fill to promote revegetation, McLane said.

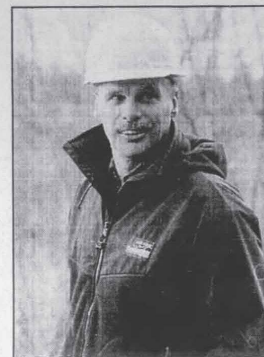
He said the slide could have been prevented, but the \$300,000 to \$400,000 cost of a steel retaining wall would have been considerable. The north side of the foundation, which faces the cutbank, will eventually form a retaining wall. It will be back-filled with non-frost susceptible gravel.

Robson said there is still enough of a cushion to complete the project by the planned October 2000 deadline.

"Blazy is still assessing the damage," Keating said. "It's going to take some time just to assess."

There was no damage to the existing hospital building nor to a recent concrete pour which connects at a right angle to the damaged form, he said, adding the company has been "in a footrace with the weather."

Keating said that crews are preparing to divert a small drainage ditch which leads almost to the center of the slide. On Tuesday morning, the ditch was sending a



Tom Craig

steady trickle of water onto the jumble of broken soil at the bottom of the slope.

Crews will take three backhoes to the top of the slope above the slide and remove material in a relay to stabilize the bank, Keating said. Cushing and others surveyed a neighboring parcel of city-owned land as a possible site for the material that crews must remove from the slide area.

By Tuesday, officials were still studying the situation and there was no estimate of the cost of repairing the damage.

"Everybody's safe," Keating said. "My main concern now is I have crews sitting at home that need to feed their families."



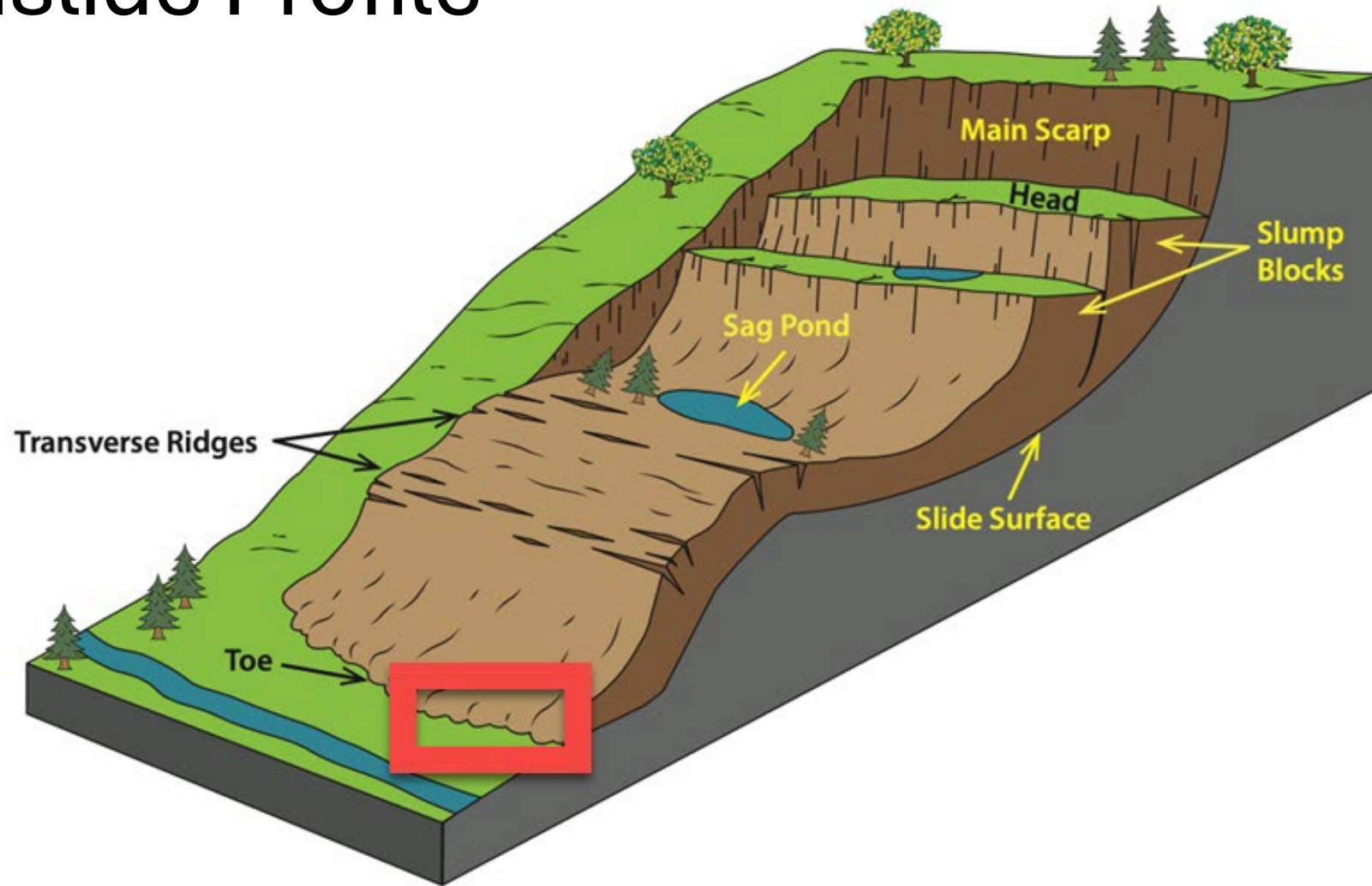
Photos by Tim Moffatt, Homer News

More than an inch of rain fell in several days leading up to Monday's slide, which appeared to be triggered by the saturation.



An estimated 100 cubic yards of wet clay and sand slid into the formwork, buckling the steel and breaking the wood.

# Landslide Profile



Source: USGS