

# Inventory of Landslide Deposits from Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) Imagery of the Portland Metropolitan Region, Oregon and Washington

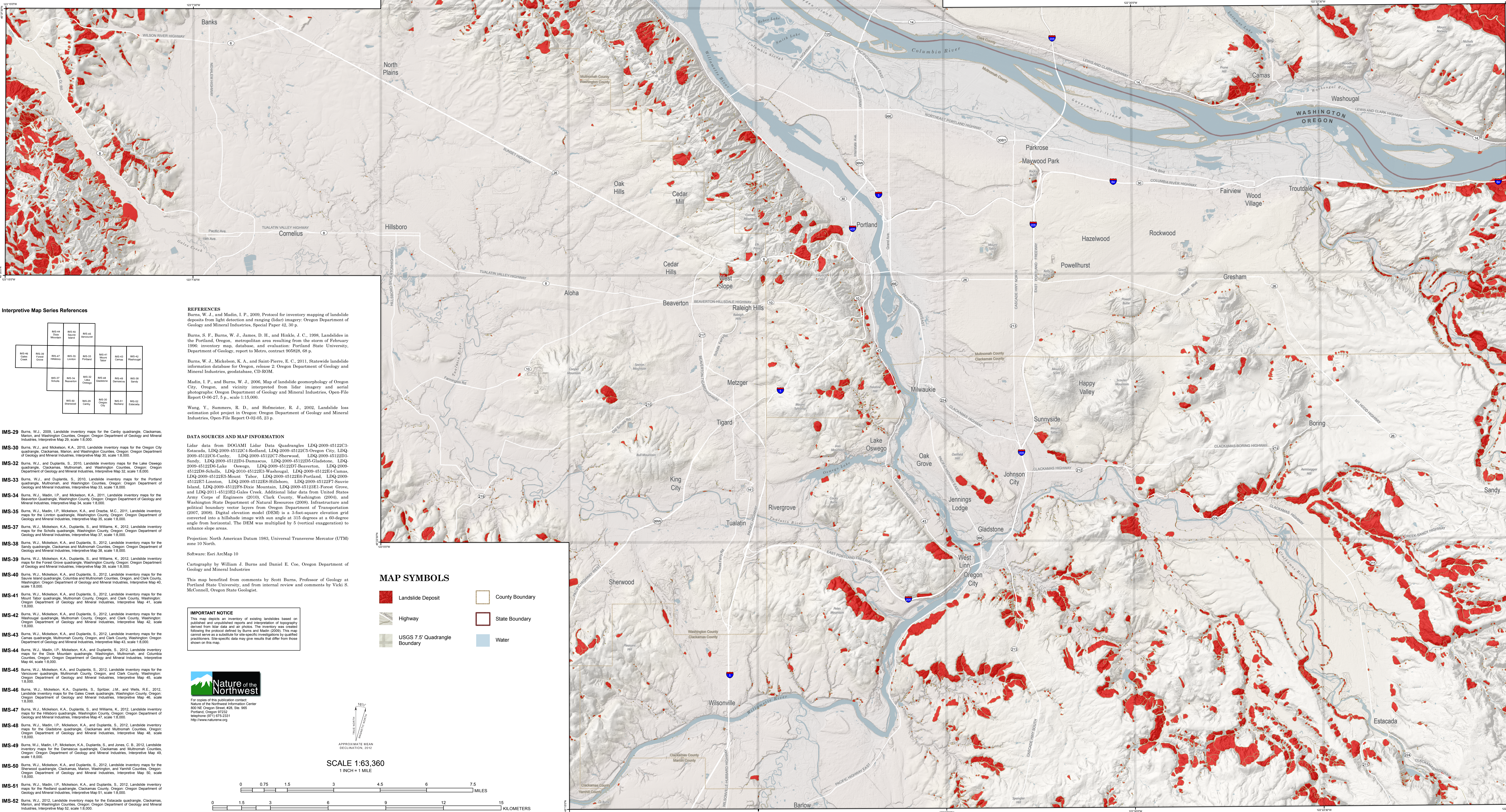
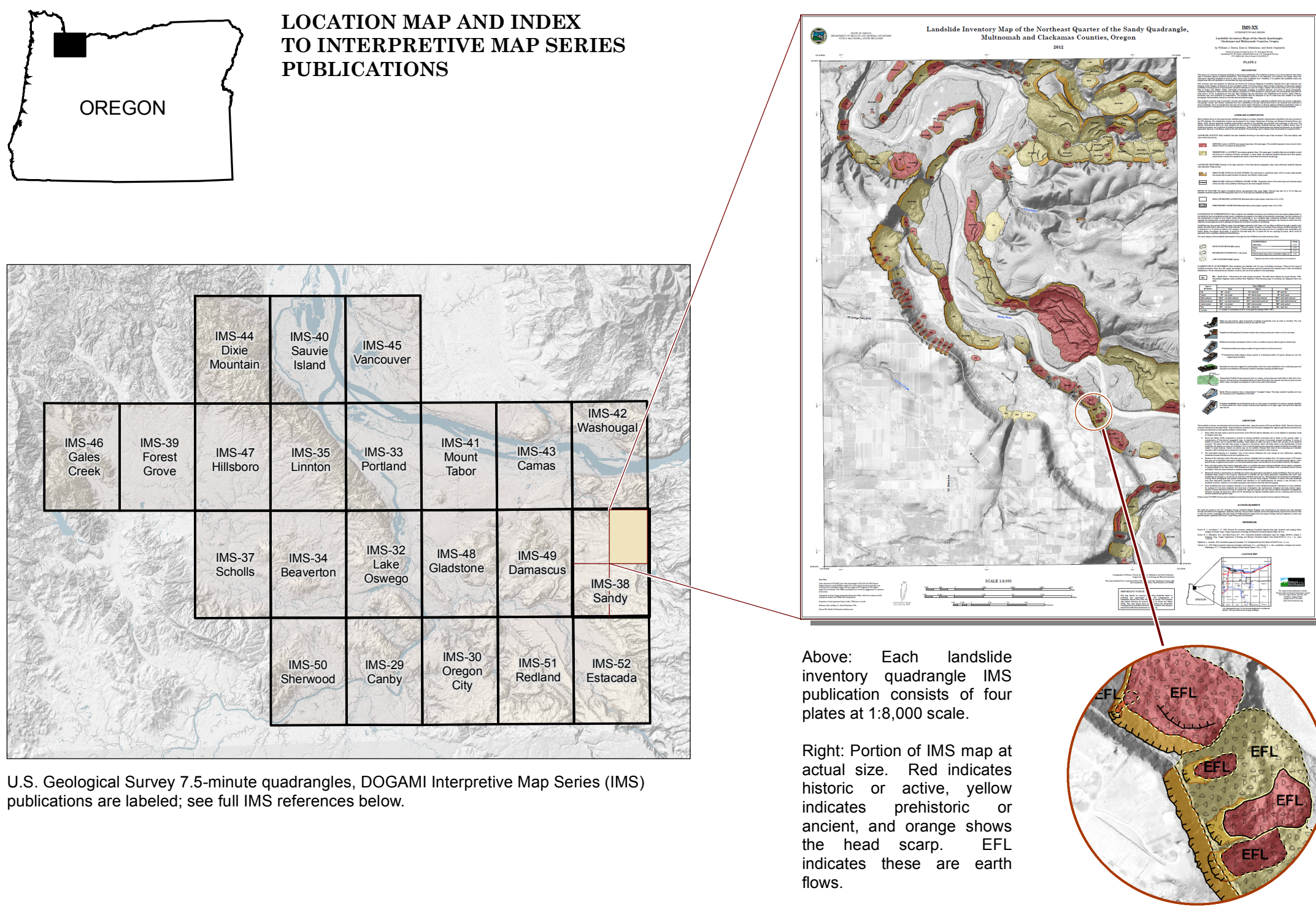
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Inventory of Landslide Deposits from Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) Imagery of the Portland Metropolitan Region, Oregon and Washington

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## BACKGROUND

Landslides in Oregon cause ten to hundreds of millions of dollars in direct losses annually and have caused a number of fatalities (Wang and others, 2002). The Statewide Landslide Information Database for Oregon, release 2 (SLID02; Burns and others, 2011) contains records of approximately 1,200 historic landslides in the greater Portland metropolitan region, of which 705 occurred during severe storms in the winter of 1996-1997 (Burns and others, 1998). Over 100 homes were moderately to completely damaged by landslides in just those two years. As the population of the region grows, greater losses are likely to result.

To reduce the risk from future landslides, a variety of mitigation measures are required, all of which must start with an accurate and complete assessment of existing landslide hazards. Locating existing landslides is a crucial first step in understanding the hazard. To meet this need, the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) developed a method to create landslide inventories using detailed topographic information derived from lidar (Burns and Madin, 2009). DOGAMI maps using lidar because these data, collected with an airborne laser scanner, provide very detailed and accurate images of the ground surface, even under dense vegetation.

This map provides an overview of the results of a multi-year landslide inventory mapping project carried out by DOGAMI in the Portland metropolitan area and serves as an index map for associated quadrangle-based landslide inventory maps. The purpose of the mapping project was to create the best currently possible maps of existing landslides in order to provide base data for comprehensive landslide hazard assessments. The project resulted in a detailed geographic information system (GIS) geodatabase of existing landslide deposits and features mapped on high-resolution bare-earth lidar imagery that became available for the Portland urban area in 2006 and 2007. From the geodatabase 22 individual landslide inventory maps at a scale of 1:63,360 were created. Each inventory map publication includes a digital database of landslide shape, location, and attributes. Each inventory map consists of four plates;

each plate covers one quarter of a USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle. See the index map in the upper left of this plate and IMS references list in the lower left for specific inventory maps.

This project was carried out between 2006 and 2012 as part of a collaborative DOGAMI-U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) regional urban geologic mapping project. The project was funded by DOGAMI and through USGS Cooperative Agreements G10AC00133 (Portland Landslide Compilation, FY10-12), G11AC20012 (Portland Surface Geology, FY11-12), and OYCR00000 (Landslide Hazard Program, FY07-09) from the United States Geological Survey. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the USGS.

## LANDSLIDE INVENTORY MAPPING

A landslide inventory is one of the essential data layers used to delineate regional landslide hazard. The 22 individual maps were each prepared by following the procedures described in DOGAMI Special Paper 42, Protocol for Inventory Mapping of Landslide Deposits from Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) Imagery (Burns and Madin, 2009). The three primary tasks in the procedure included compilation of previously mapped landslides (including review of DOGAMI SLID02 (Burns and others, 2011)), lidar-based morphologic mapping of landslide features, and review of aerial photographs. Landslides identified by these methods were digitally compiled into a GIS geodatabase at varying scales. The geodatabase contains multiple GIS datasets including deposit polygon, head scarp polygon, and flank polygon, as well as other scarp lines. Each landslide is also attributed with 29 fields including type of movement, confidence of interpretation, age, slope, estimated depth, area, volume, and others as described in DOGAMI Special Paper 42 (Burns and Madin, 2009). The landslide data are displayed on top of a base map that consists of a lidar-derived hillshade image. The recommended map scale for these data is 1:63,360, as is used for display of the data on the quarter-quadrangle plates in each map publication.

## RESULTS

Landslide deposits cover approximately 83 square miles, or about 7% of the study area. This map shows 7,081 landslides, 3,321 of which are large, deep landslides with failure surface estimated to have a mean depth of approximately 40 feet below the surface. Of the other landslides, 2,376 are shallow, with mean estimated failure surface of approximately 10 feet deep, 1,311 are debris flow fans, and the remaining are other types or of unknown depth. The referenced IMS maps provide detailed information on deposit type. Individual quadrangle landslide inventory maps (see IMS references, lower left) and associated GIS data are available as CD-ROM publications from DOGAMI.

## LIMITATIONS

The geologic, terrain, and climate conditions that led to landslides in the past are good predictors of future landslides; thus the inventory maps provide critical information to develop regional landslide susceptibility maps, to guide site-specific investigations for future developments, and to assist in regional planning and mitigation of existing landslides.

The landslide inventory data shown on this map were developed by using the protocol of Burns and Madin (2009) and the best available data. Limitations of the protocol are detailed in Burns and Madin (2009). This map is designed for regional applications and should not be used as an alternative to site-specific studies in critical areas. This map shows only landslides newly mapped for the quadrangle-based inventories (see IMS maps, lower left); it does not show historic landslide data points from SLID02 (Burns and others, 2011), including those that occurred during the 1996-1997 winter. These data are easily accessible on the DOGAMI SLID02 viewer at <http://www.oregon.gov/ogdi/slid02/index.htm>. Please contact DOGAMI if errors and/or omissions are found so that they can be corrected in future versions of this map. It is possible that small landslides within the mapped area were not identified. This landslide inventory has no regulatory standing.