

# 2013 Geohazards and ITGUAM Technical Forum

July 30-August 1, 2013

## PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77



Ryan Tinsley, PG

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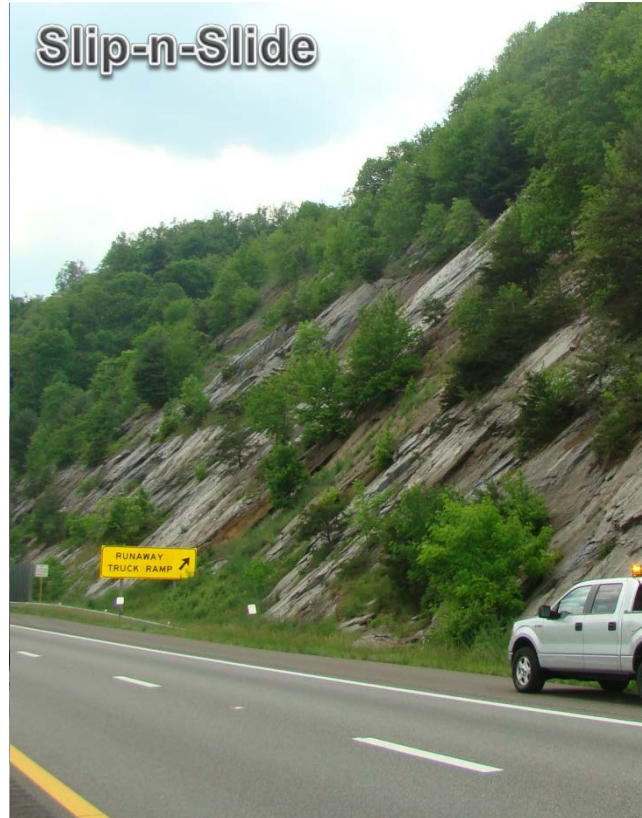
David Lee, PE



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### Slip-n-Slide



### Rock-n-Roll



# PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77

Corridor Challenges

I-77 Rock Slope  
Management Program

RHRS

Geologic Evaluations

Preliminary Design

Slope Remediation

Conclusions and a Look Ahead

PRESENTATION OUTLINE







I-77 Rock Slope Evaluations| Carroll County, VA



# CORRIDOR CHALLENGES

- ▶ High AADT
- ▶ Steep Grades
- ▶ Foggy Conditions
- ▶ Unfavorable Geology



06.08.2012 07.23

# I-77 CORRIDOR CHALLENGES: FOGGY CONDITIONS







# TYPICAL SECTION – SOUTHBOUND/NORTHBOUND



Interstate 77

© 2013 Google  
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36° 36' 51.31" N 80° 44' 24.17" W elev 2246 ft

# VDOT CHALLENGE: PRIORITIZATION OF AGING SLOPES

- ▶ Where are the problematic slopes along 32 Lane Miles
  - ▶ What are the primary causes of the rockfall activity?
  - ▶ What are feasible options?
  - ▶ What are the probable construction cost estimates?
- ▶ Study Challenges
    - Significant slope height and length variability
    - No Existing Slope Inventory
    - No Survey
    - Limited Budget



## Rock Slope Management Program

# PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77

Corridor Challenges

I-77 Rock Slope  
Management Program

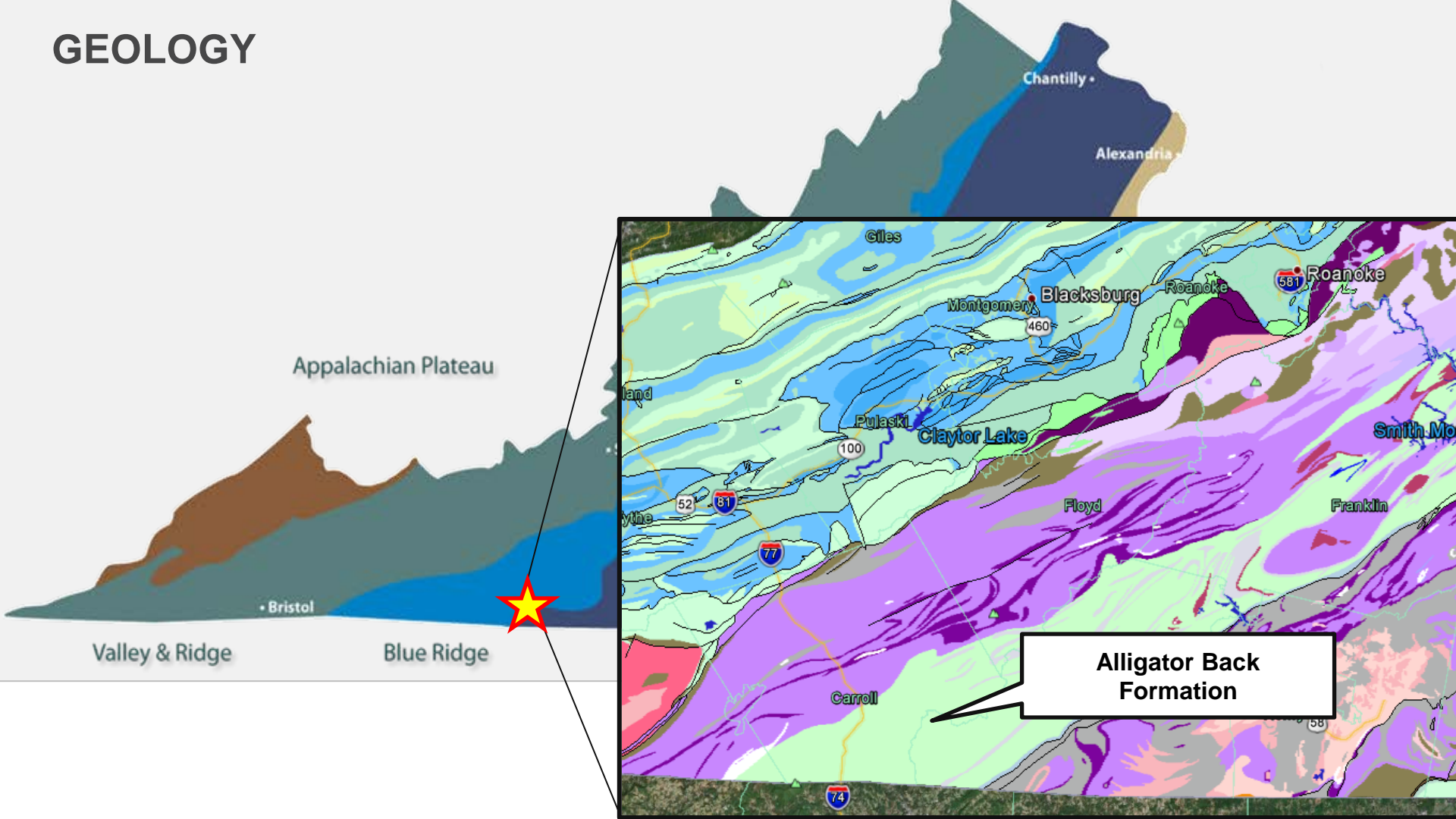
RHRS

Rockfall Hazard Rating System





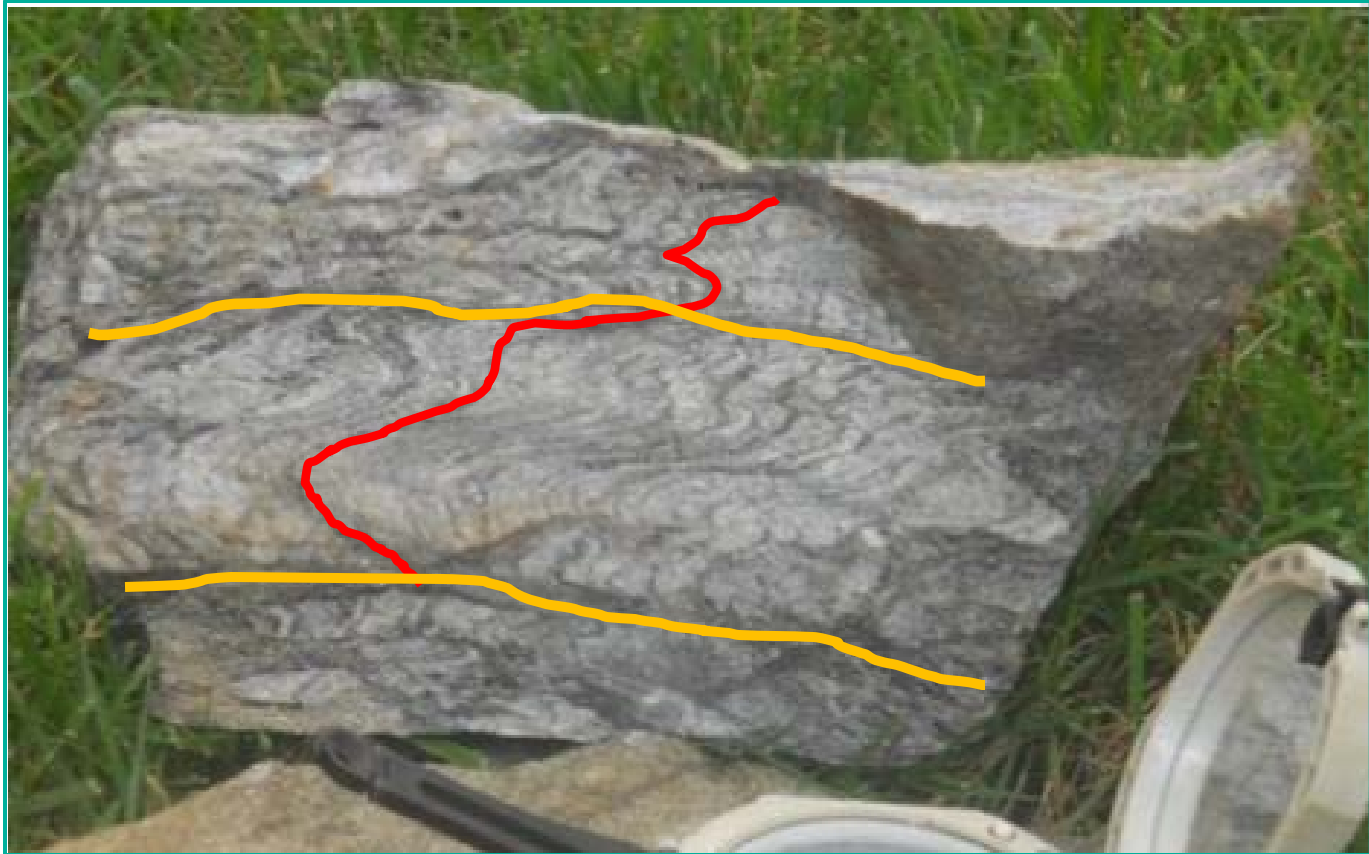
# GEOLOGY



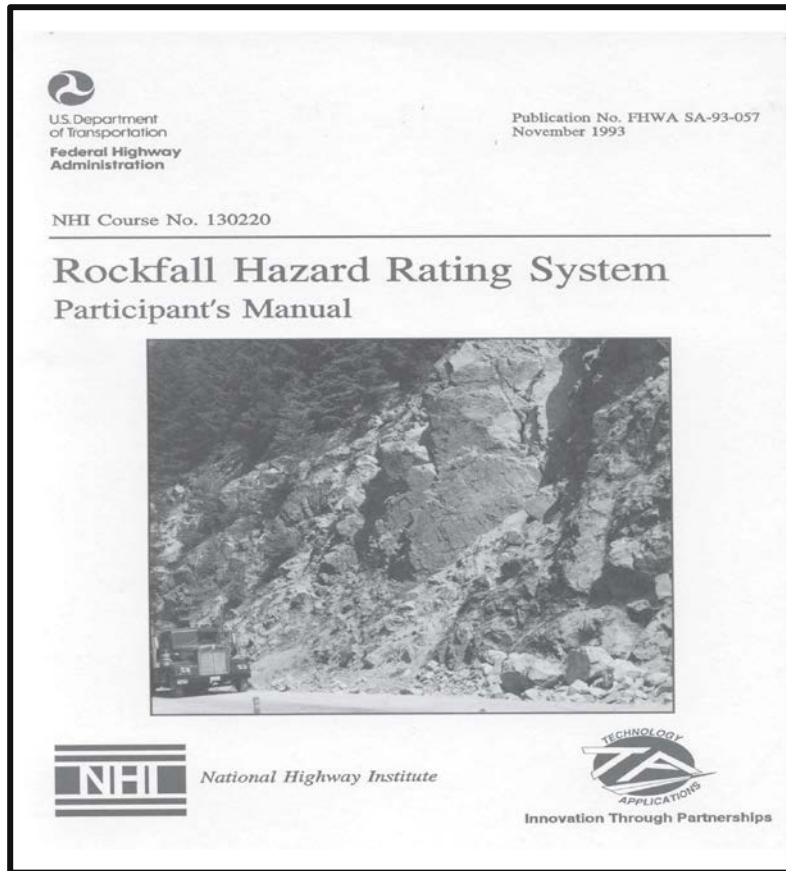
# GEOLOGY

- ▶ Alligator Back Formation – Proterozoic Z – Cambrian
- ▶ Complexly Deformed With at Least 2 Periods of Ductile Deformation with Isoclinal Folding
- ▶ Well-Developed Cleavage Dominates
- ▶ Rock Types:
  - Biotite Gneiss (Metagraywacke)
  - Mica-Biotite Schist and Amphibolite

# GEOLOGY







# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR – CUT SLOPE INVENTORY

- ▶ Initial Slope Inventory Using Plans and Aerial Photography
  - ▶ Develop Sequential List of Cut Slopes in Each Lane Direction from South to North
  - ▶ Field Verification of Cut Slopes Based on Preliminary RHRS Classes A, B, and C
    - Some Slopes Eliminated from Further Consideration and Rating
  - ▶ Field Location of Class A, B, and C Slopes Using Hand-held Garmin and MP Designations
- ▶ What is a Class A, B, or C Slope?
- **Class A** – High Potential for Rockfall on Roadway
  - **Class B** – Moderate Potential for Rockfall on Roadway
  - **Class C** – Low Potential for Rockfall on Roadway (Class C Slopes Not Rated)
- Ultimately, Preliminary Class Designations are Subjective Based on Experience of Rater, But Provide a Means for Prioritizing Slopes!

# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR

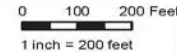
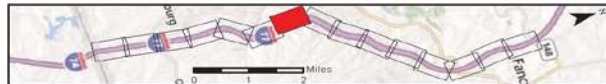


Cut 10-NB(M)



Note: 1. Slope Limits and Mile Posts are Approximate Only

Created by R. Roa  
Checked by R. Tinsley



Virginia Department of Transportation - Salem District  
Interstate 77, MP 0.0 to MP 8.0 (Fancy Gap)  
Slope Inventory and RHRS Slope Rating

Prepared by HDR

June 2012

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# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



- ▶ RHRS Key Rating Criteria:
  - Slope Height
  - Ditch Effectiveness
  - AVR – Average Vehicle Risk
  - % Site Distance
  - Roadway Width
  - Geologic Characteristics
  - Block Size or Volume of Rockfall
  - Rockfall History (Historical and Observed)

TABLE 4.1: SUMMARY SHEET OF THE ROCKFALL HAZARD RATING SYSTEM

CATEGORY		RATING CRITERIA AND SCORE				
		POINTS 3	POINTS 9	POINTS 27	POINTS 81	
SLOPE HEIGHT		25 FEET	50 FEET	75 FEET	100 FEET	
DITCH EFFECTIVENESS		Good catchment	Moderate catchment	Limited catchment	No catchment	
AVERAGE VEHICLE RISK		25% of the time	50% of the time	75% of the time	100% of the time	
PERCENT OF DECISION SIGHT DISTANCE		Adequate sight distance, 100% of low design value	Moderate sight distance, 80% of low design value	Limited sight distance, 60% of low design value	Very limited sight distance 40% of low design value	
ROADWAY WIDTH INCLUDING PAVED SHOULDER		44 feet	36 feet	28 feet	20 feet	
G E O L O G I C	C A S E 1	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	Discontinuous joints, favorable orientation	Discontinuous joints, random orientation	Discontinuous joints, adverse orientation	Continuous joints, adverse orientation
		ROCK FRICTION	Rough, Irregular	Undulating	Planar	Clay infilling, or slickensided
C H A R A C T E R	C A S E 2	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	Few differential erosion features	Occasional differential erosion features	Many differential erosion features	Major differential erosion features
		DIFFERENCE IN EROSION RATES	Small difference	Moderate difference	Large difference	Extreme difference
BLOCK SIZE — VOLUME OF ROCKFALL/EVENT		1 Foot — 3 cubic yards	2 Feet — 6 cubic yards	3 Feet — 9 cubic yards	4 Feet — 12 cubic yards	
CLIMATE AND PRESENCE OF WATER ON SLOPE		Low to moderate precipitation; no freezing periods; no water on slope	Moderate precipitation or short freezing periods or intermittent water on slope	High precipitation or long freezing periods or continual water on slope	High precipitation and long freezing periods or continual water on slope and long freezing periods	
ROCKFALL HISTORY		Few falls	Occasional falls	Many falls	Constant falls	

# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



CUT B-SB  
PMS 70, 71, 72, 73, 74,  
75

Date: S-18-12 Rating: (A) B Rater: L. ARMSTRONG, PG.

County/City	<u>CARROLL</u>	Start Latitude	<u>36.602539</u>	Start Longitude	<u>80.736919</u>
Route No.	<u>I-77</u>	End Latitude	<u>36.605746</u>	End Longitude	<u>80.736360</u>
Nearest Inter.	<u>Exit 1 (SB)</u>	Start MP (est)	<u>3.95</u>	End MP (est)	<u>3.15</u>
ADT	<u>18,000 (SB)</u>	Speed Limit	<u>65</u>	Left / (Right) Heading	<u>N S E W (S-SW)</u>

Category	Remarks	Category Score
<b>Slope Geometry</b>		
Slope Height	Slope Angle $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{14:1}{H.L.}$	Slope Height <u>81</u>
Ditch Effectiveness	G M (L) N	Ditch Effect. <u>27</u>
Average Vehicle Risk	<u>105</u> %	Section Length <u>1200.0</u>
Sight Distance	<u>120</u> ft.	AVR <u>100</u>
% Decision S.D.	<u>80</u> %	Sign Present Yes / (No)
Roadway Width	<u>39</u> ft.	Sight Distance <u>81</u>
<b>Geologic Characteristics</b>		
Case 1		Case 1
Structural Condition	D (C) / F R (A)	Struct. Cond. <u>81</u>
Rock Friction	R I (U) D C-S	Rock Friction <u>27</u>
Case 2		Case 2
Differential Erosion Features	F O N M	Erosion Feat. <u>0</u>
Difference in Erosion Rates	S M L E	Erosion Rates <u>0</u>
<b>Rockfall Characteristics</b>		
Block Size/Volume	<u>&gt; 4</u> (B) or yd <sup>3</sup>	Block Size <u>81</u>
Rockfall History	F O M (C)	Rockfall History <u>81</u>
Comments:		Total Score <u>865</u>

*Comments:*

- \* MOST ROCKFALL OBSERVED ON SB SIDE,
- \* FREQUENT MINOR PLANAR DISJUNCTIONS, JOINTS SEPARATED
- \* POISED BLOCKS HIGH ON SLOPE. MAY LAUNCH FURTHER.
- \* SPALLING MATERIAL
- \* STANDING VEGETATION
- \* GNEISS STRIKE-SLIP DIFFERENTIAL ANGLE ON DRAINAGE AND WEATHERING.

RATING = A  
Near angle / Far angle / Distance between (see back of sheet)

G = Good M = Moderate L = Limited N = None  
D = Discontinuous C = Continuous F = Favorable R = Random A = Adverse  
R = Rough I = Irregular U = Undulating P = Planar C-S = Clay-Slickensided  
F = Few O = Occasional N = Numerous M = Major  
S = Small M = Moderate L = Large E = Extreme  
F = Few O = Occasional M = Many C = Constant



**Slope Heights:  
25 to > 250 ft**

Slope Height (ft)	25	50	75	100
Category Score	3	9	27	81

# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



CUT 8-36  
Paved 79, 74, 72, 73, 74,  
76, 1

Date: 5-18-12 Rating: (A) B Rater: L. Adams, PG.

County/City CARROLL Start Latitude 36.602539 Start Longitude 80.736713  
 Route No. I-77 End Latitude 36.605746 End Longitude 80.736760  
 Nearest Inter. Exit 1 (SB) Start MP (est) 2.95 End MP (est) 3.15  
 ADT 18,000 (SB) Speed Limit 65 Left / (Right) Heading N S E W  
 (S-W)

Category	Remarks	Category Score
<b>Slope Geometry</b>		
Slope Height	Slope Angle <u>1/2.1</u> H.L. <u>100</u> ft.	Slope Height <u>81</u>
Ditch Effectiveness	Ditch Width	Ditch Effectiveness
<b>Average Vehicle Risk</b>	Section Length <u>1280</u>	AVR <u>100</u>
Sight Distance	Sign Present Yes / (No)	Sight Distance <u>81</u>
% Decision S.D.		
Roadway Width		Roadway Width <u>6</u>
<b>Geologic Characteristics</b>		
Case 1		Case 1
Structural Condition	D <u>(C)</u> F R <u>(A)</u>	Struct. Cond. <u>81</u>
Rock Friction	R I <u>(D)</u> C-S	Rock Friction <u>27</u>
Case 2		Case 2
Differential Erosion Features	F O N M <u>N/A</u>	Erosion Feat. <u>0</u>
Difference in Erosion Rates	S M L E <u>N/A</u>	Erosion Rates <u>0</u>
<b>Rockfall Characteristics</b>		
Block Size/Volume	<u>&gt; 4</u> <u>(B)</u> ar yd <sup>3</sup>	Block Size <u>81</u>
Rockfall History	F O M <u>(C)</u>	Rockfall History <u>81</u>
Comments:		Total Score <u>565</u>

# = MOST RADICAL OBSERVED ON SB SIDE,  
 \* FREQUENT WOODS PLUMBER FAILURE, JOINTS SEPARATED  
 \* POISED BLOCKS HIGH ON SLOPE. MANY LOGS IN PLUMBERS.  
 \* SPILLAGE MATERIAL  
 ! STOPPING VEGE-TATION  
 = CHECK FOR SLOPE DIFFERENTIAL, ANGLE OBSERVATION AND WEATHERING.

P Rating = A

G = Good M = Moderate L = Limited N = None  
 D = Discontinuous C = Continuous F = Favorable R = Random A = Adverse  
 B = Rough I = Irregular U = Undulating P = Pave C-S = Clay-Silt/clay  
 F = Few O = Occasional N = Numerous M = Major  
 S = Small M = Moderate L = Large E = Extreme  
 F = Few O = Occasional M = Many C = Constant

Near angle / Far angle / Distance between  
(see back of sheet)



**Average Vehicle Risk:**  
**AADT = 18,000**  
**Slope Length = 1280 feet**  
**Typical AVR Score :81-100**



# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



## RHRS Detailed Rating Field Data Sheet

CUT 8-56  
PMTS 70, 71, 72, 73, 74,  
76!

Date: 5-18-12

Rating: (A) / B

Rater: L. ALTMAN, PG.

County/City CARROLL Start Latitude 36.602539 Start Longitude 80.736713  
 Route No. I-77 End Latitude 36.605796 End Longitude 80.736360  
 Nearest Inter. Exit 1 (56) Start MP (est) 3.95 End MP (est) 3.15  
 ADT 18,000 (56) Speed Limit 65 Left / (Right) Heading N S E W  
 (S-SW)

Category	Remarks	Category Score
<b>Slope Geometry</b>		
Slope Height <u>100</u> ft. <u>0</u> / <u>0</u> / <u>0</u>	Slope Angle <u>1/2</u> <sup>14.1</sup> m H.L. _____	Slope Height <u>81</u>
Ditch Effectiveness G M (L) N	Ditch Width <u>10-15'</u>	Ditch Effect. <u>27</u>
Average Vehicle Risk <u>105</u> %	Section Length <u>1700.0</u>	AVR <u>100</u>
Sight Distance <u>120</u> ft. <u>40</u> %	Sign Present <u>Yes / (No)</u>	Sight Distance <u>81</u>
Roadway Width <u>39</u> ft.		Roadway Width <u>6</u>
<b>Geologic Characteristics</b>		
Case 1		
Structural Condition D (C) / F R (A)		Struct. Cond. <u>81</u>
Rock Friction R I (P) C-S		Rock Friction <u>27</u>
Case 2		
Differential Erosion Features F O N M	<u>N/A</u>	Erosion Feat. <u>0</u>
Difference in Erosion Rates S M L E	<u>N/A</u>	Erosion Rates <u>0</u>
<b>Rockfall Characteristics</b>		
Block Size/Volume <u>&gt; 4</u> (P) ar yd <sup>3</sup>		Block Size <u>81</u>
Rockfall History F O M (C)		Rockfall History <u>81</u>
		Total Score <u>565</u>

Comments:  
 \* MOST ROCKFALL OBSERVED ON SB SIDE,  
 \* FREQUENT SLOPE PLANAR FAILURES. JOINTS SEPARATED.  
 \* POINTED BLOCKS HIGH ON SLOPE. MANY LONG-CL. FEATURES.  
 \* SPHERICAL BARS.  
 \* STRONG VIBRO-TATION.  
 \* GEOTECH SEEMING DIFFERENT, MORE EQUATION AND WEATHERING.

RATING: A  
 Near angle / Far angle / Distance between  
 (see back of sheet)

G = Good M = Moderate L = Limited N = None  
 D = Discontinuous C = Continuous F = Favorable R = Random A = Adverse  
 B = Rough I = Irregular U = Undulating P = Planar C-S = Clay-Stratified  
 F = Few O = Occasional N = Numerous M = Major  
 S = Small M = Moderate L = Large E = Extreme  
 P = Few Q = Occasional M = Many C = Constant



**% Decision Sight Distance:  
 Worst Case: 420 ft  
 % Decision S. D. Score = 81**



# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



CUT 8-5B  
PAGES 73, 74, 75, 79, 79A

**RHRS Detailed Rating Field Data Sheet**

Date: S-18-12 Rating: (A) / B Rater: L. ALTMAN, P.G.

County/City <u>CARROLL</u>	Start Latitude <u>36.602539</u>	Start Longitude <u>80.736719</u>
Route No. <u>I-77</u>	End Latitude <u>36.605746</u>	End Longitude <u>80.736760</u>
Nearest Inter. <u>Exit 1 (SB)</u>	Start MP (est) <u>2.95</u>	End MP (est) <u>3.15</u>
ADT <u>18,000 (SB)</u>	Speed Limit <u>65</u>	Left / (Right) Heading <u>N S E W</u> (S-SW)

Category	Remarks	Category Score
<b>Slope Geometry</b>		
Slope Height <u>100</u> ft. <u>0</u> / <u>0</u>	Slope Angle <u>74.1</u> ° H.L. <u>1</u>	Slope Height <u>81</u>
Ditch Effectiveness <u>G M (L) N</u>	Ditch Width <u>10'-15'</u>	Ditch Effect. <u>27</u>
Average Vehicle Risk <u>105</u> %	Section Length <u>1200'</u>	AVR <u>100</u>
Sight Distance <u>120</u> ft.	Sign Present <u>Yes (No)</u>	Sight Distance <u>81</u>
% Decision S.D. <u>80</u> %		
Roadway Width <u>39</u> ft.		Roadway Width <u>6</u>
<b>Geologic Characteristics</b>		
Case 1		
Structural Condition <u>D (C) / F R (A)</u>		Struct. Cond. <u>81</u>
Rock Friction <u>R I (D) C-S</u>		Rock Friction <u>27</u>
Case 2		
Differential Erosion Features <u>F O N M</u>	<u>N/A</u>	Erosion Feat. <u>0</u>
Difference in Erosion Rates <u>S M L E</u>	<u>N/A</u>	Erosion Rates <u>0</u>
<b>Rockfall Characteristics</b>		
Block Size/Volume <u>&gt; 4</u> (B) or yd <sup>3</sup>		Block Size <u>81</u>
Rockfall History <u>F O M (C)</u>		Rockfall History <u>81</u>
Comments:		Total Score <u>565</u>

Comments:  
 \* MUST ROCKFALL OBSERVED ON SB SIDE,  
 \* FREQUENT HORIZONTAL PLUNGE JOINTS SEPARATED  
 \* POISED BLOCKS 100' ON SLOPE. MANY LAMAR FEATURES.  
 \* SPHERICAL NATURE  
 \* STONIC VEGGATION +  
 \* CHECKOUT SIGHTLY DIFFERENT, ANGLE ORIENTATION AND WEATHERING.

Rating = A



Continuous and Adverse Orientation



Slopes Showing Their Age



G=Good M=Moderate L=Limited N=None  
 D=Discontinuous C=Continuous F=Favorable R=Random A=Adverse  
 R=Rough I=Irregular U=Unshifting P=Plaster CS=Clay-Stickmud  
 F=Few O=Occasional N=Numerous M=Major  
 S=Small M=Moderate L=Large E=Extreme  
 P=Few O=Occasional M=Many C=Constant

Near angle / Far angle / Distance between  
 (see back of sheet)

# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR



- ▶ 64 Slopes Inventoried
- ▶ 28 Slopes – High Hazard (RHRS Score >300)
- ▶ MP: 2.9 to 6.3
- ▶ RHRS Scores: 319 to 565
- ▶ How to prioritize beyond the RHRS Ratings?



# 2012 RHRS STUDY FOR - CUT SLOPE PRIORITIZATION LIST

Cut Slope Priority for Detail Evaluation	Cut Slope Designation	Begin MP	End MP	RHRS Detail Rating [2012]	Relevant Comments /Notes
1	8-SB	2.95	3.15	565	
2	14-SB	3.75	3.9	565	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial evaluation completed during I-77 Phase 1 Work (12/11/2011)</li> </ul>
3	19b-SB	4.9	5	565	
9	23-SB	5.45	5.65	565	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (Early 1990s)</li> <li><b>Existing Rockfall Barrier Fence</b></li> </ul>
	10-NB(M)	3.6	3.9	560	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (3/7/2011)</li> <li>Initial evaluation completed during I-77 Phase 1 Work (12/11/2011)</li> <li><b>Slope Remediation Completed (8/29/2012)</b></li> </ul>
	13-SB	3.6	3.75	511	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sister slope to 14-SB</li> <li>Initial evaluation completed during I-77 Phase 1 Work (12/11/2011)</li> </ul>
2a	9-NB	3.7	3.85	506	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial evaluation completed during I-77 Phase 1 Work (12/11/2011)</li> </ul>
4a	15d-NB(M)	5.05	5.15	506	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (4/29/2008)</li> </ul>
5	21-NB(M)	5.4	5.65	506	
6	16-SB	4.45	4.65	487	
10	33-SB	6.3	6.45	487	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (12/25/1998)</li> <li><b>Existing Rockfall Barrier Fence</b></li> </ul>
7	13-NB(M)	4.45	4.65	482	
8	14-NB	4.45	4.65	482	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (7/13/2011)</li> </ul>
4b	15b-NB(M)	4.85	5	452	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented Rockfall History (4/29/2008)</li> </ul>
4c	15a-NB(M)	4.75	4.85	362	

- ▶ RHRS Rating >500
- ▶ Actively Producing Rockfall
- ▶ Maintenance Records/Rockfall Clean-up

# PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77

Corridor Challenges

I-77 Rock Slope  
Management Program

RHRS

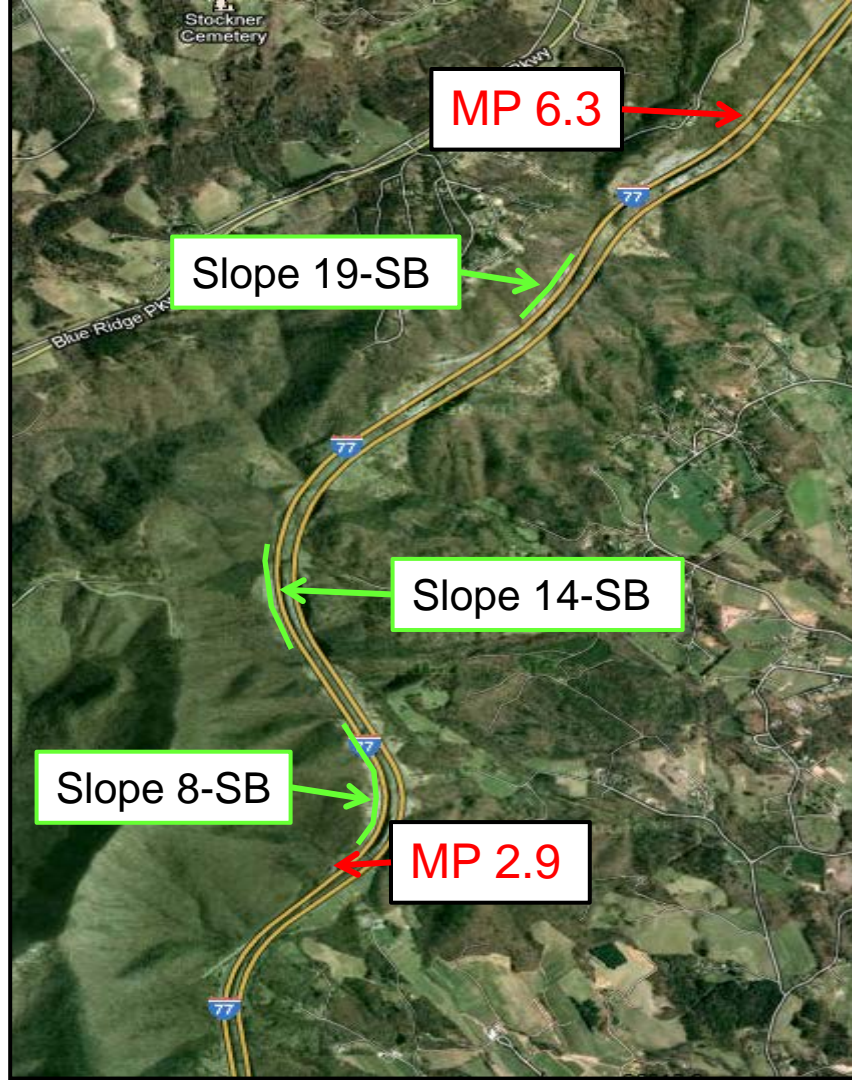
Geologic Evaluations

Geologic Evaluations



# GEOLOGIC EVALUATIONS

- ▶ 3 Priority Slopes
- ▶ 4,500 LF of Slope
- ▶ MP: 2.9 to 5.7
- ▶ Goal:
  - Feasible Options
  - Probable Construction Cost Estimates





# TEAM APPROACH

## Key Factors:

- Client Input (Throughout Project)
- Understanding of Geologic Conditions
- Site Constraints
- Slope Access/ Construction Feasibility
- Product Applicability

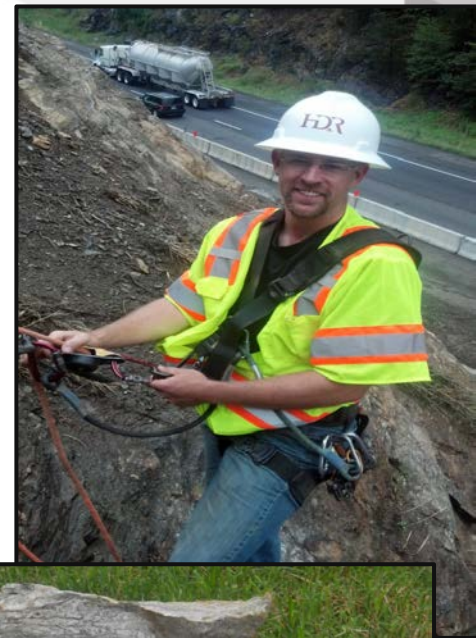
## PROJECT TEAM



# GEOLOGIC EVALUATIONS: STAGE 1 - ROAD LEVEL

## Priority Slope Approach

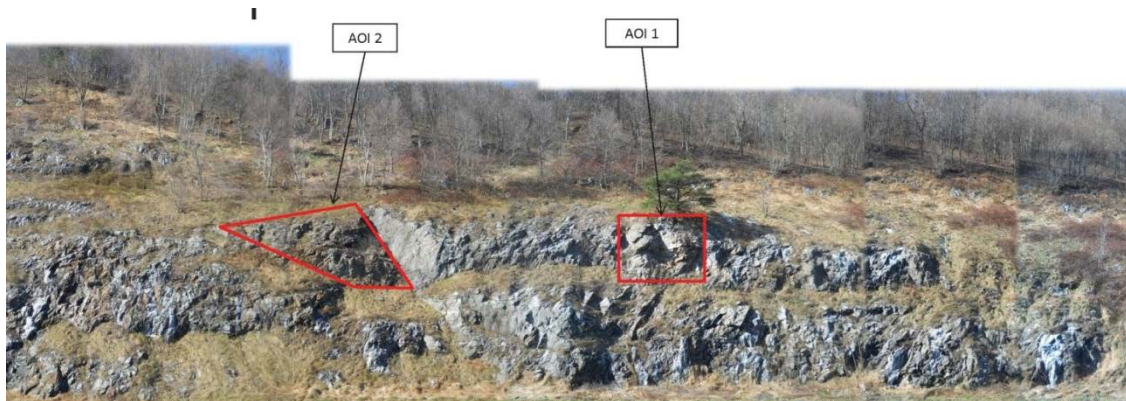
- Establish Baseline
- Document Cut Slope Conditions
- Discontinuity Measurements
- Develop Slope Profiles for CRSP
- Identify Priority Slope Sections (AOI)
- Preliminary Kinematic Analysis



# GEOLOGIC EVALUATIONS: STAGE 2 – ROPES ON THE SLOPE

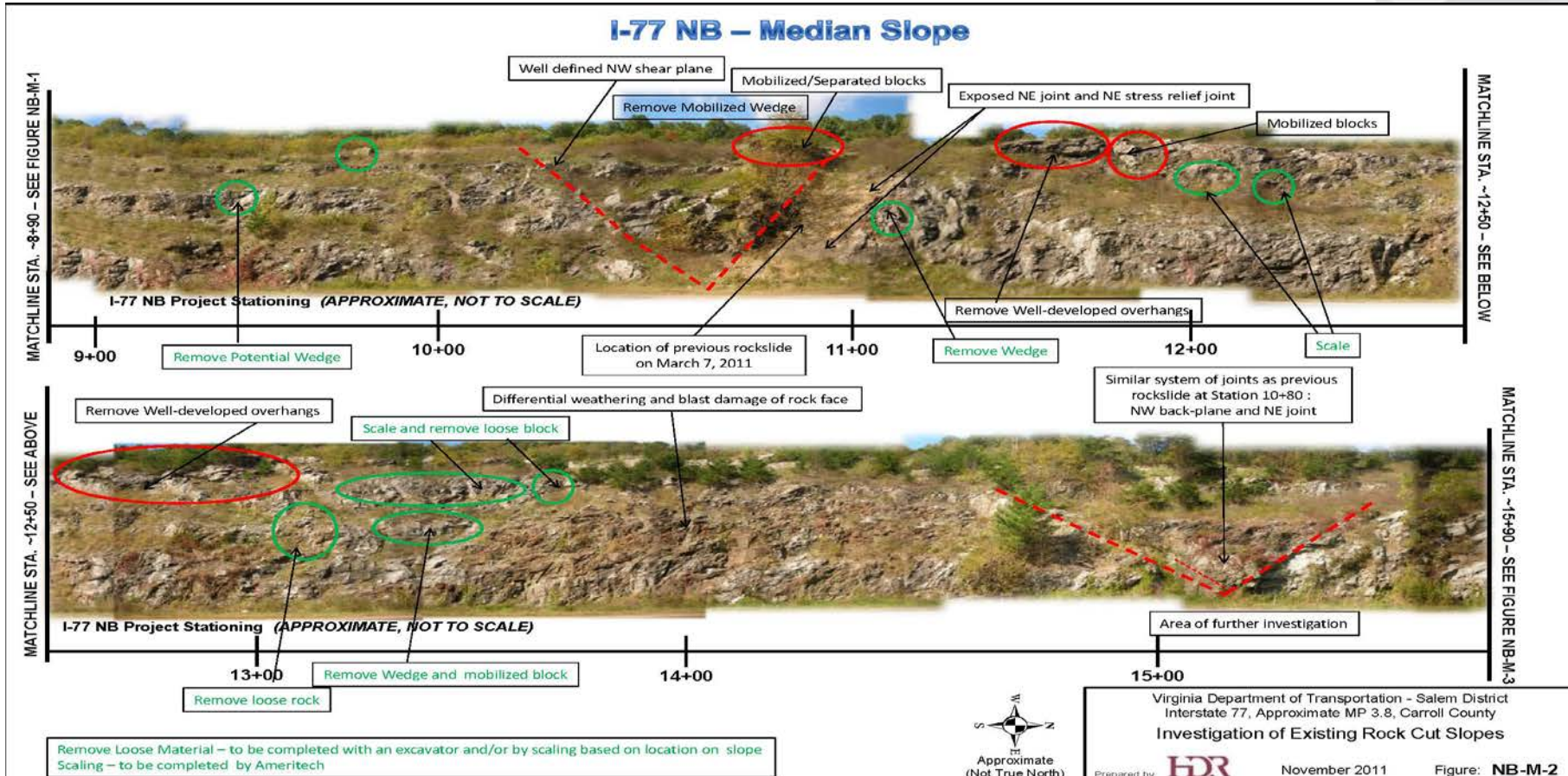
## ► AOI Investigation

- Geologic Investigation – potential failure mode(s)
- Obscured slope sections
- Stabilization requirements and option feasibility
- Slope access





# GEOLOGIC EVALUATIONS:



# TECHNOLOGIES VS. SLOPE CONDITION

## ► Applicability

- Maintain Existing Ditch
- Scaling
- Excavation
- Rock Slope Drape
- Attenuator Drape
- Concrete Barrier
- Flexible Rockfall Barrier
- High Energy Barrier
- Pinned Mesh
- Rock Bolting





# PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77

Corridor Challenges

I-77 Rock Slope  
Management Program

RHRS

Geologic Evaluations

Preliminary Design

Preliminary Design





## PRELIMINARY DESIGN: CONSIDERATIONS FOR FEASIBLE OPTIONS

**Subglobal Condition  
(Rockfall)**

**Height of Rockfall Generator**

**Maximum Bounce Height**

**Maximum Energy (kJ)**

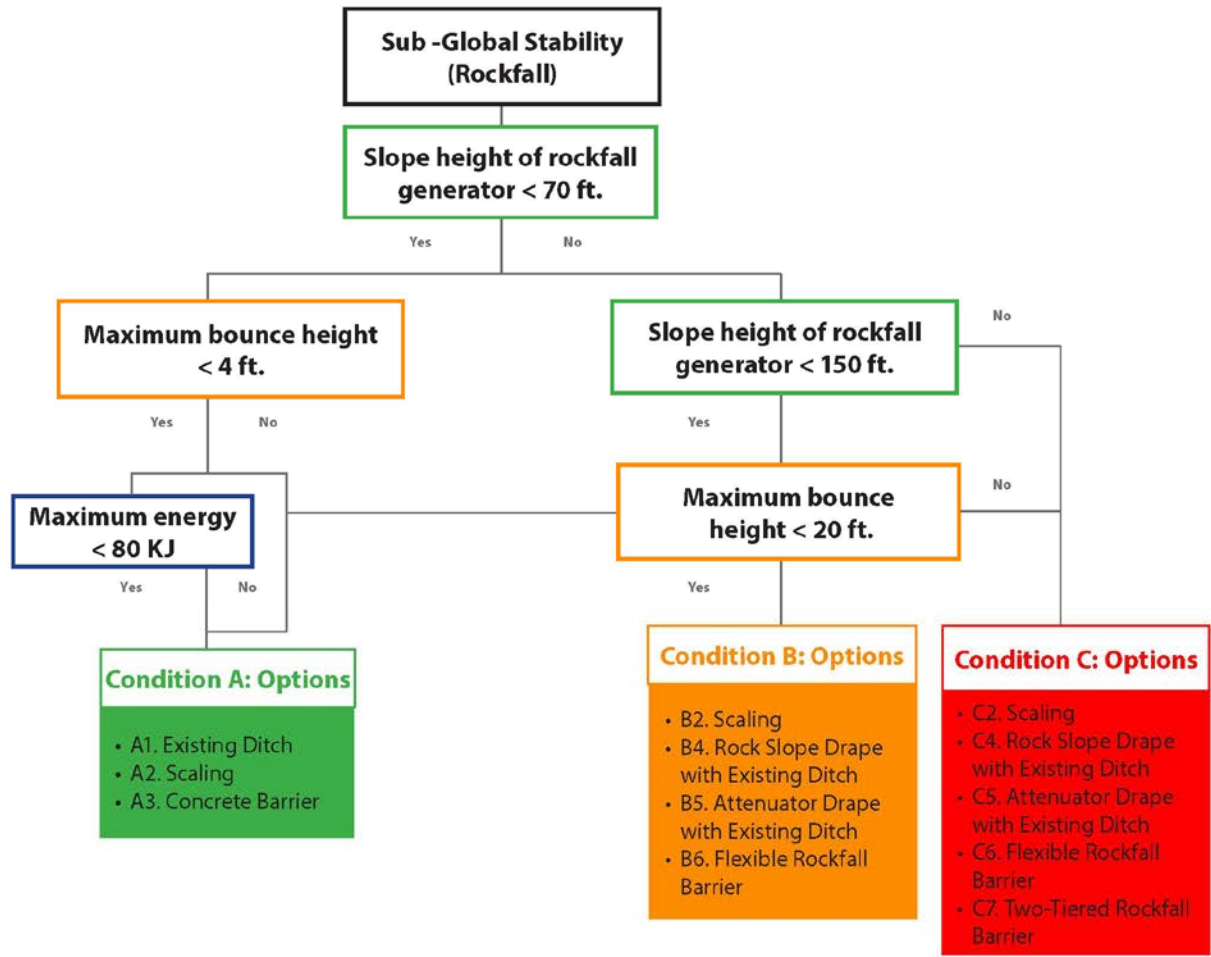
**Slope Access/Site Constraints**

**Global Conditions  
(Planar, Wedge, Rock Mass)**

**Height of Block Generator**

**Slope Access/Site Constraints**

# FEASIBLE SUBGLOBAL OPTIONS FOR SLOPE CONDITIONS



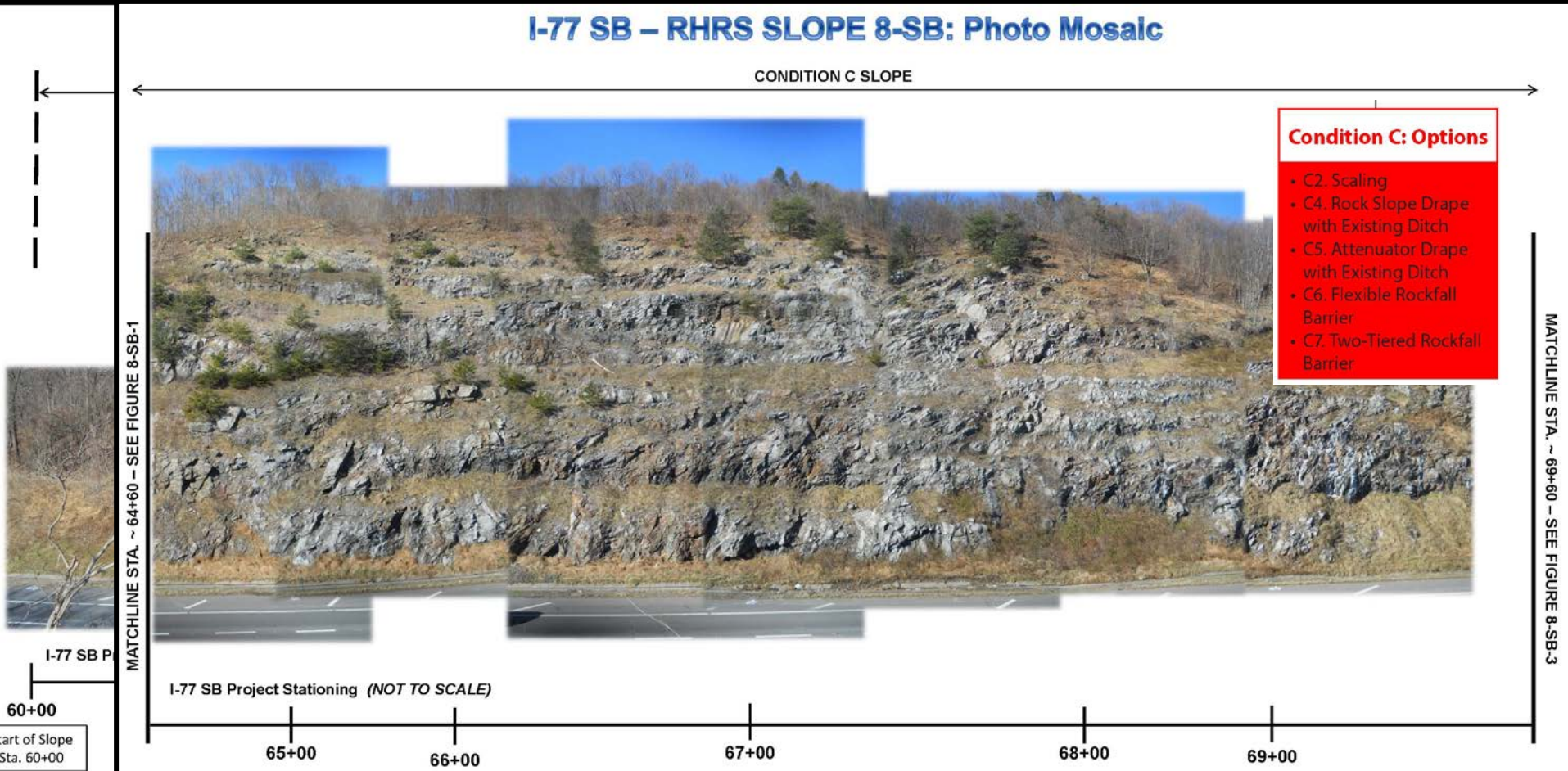
# SLOPE CONDITIONS: A, B AND C

## I-77 SB – RHRS SLOPE 8-SB: Photo Mosaic

CONDITION C SLOPE

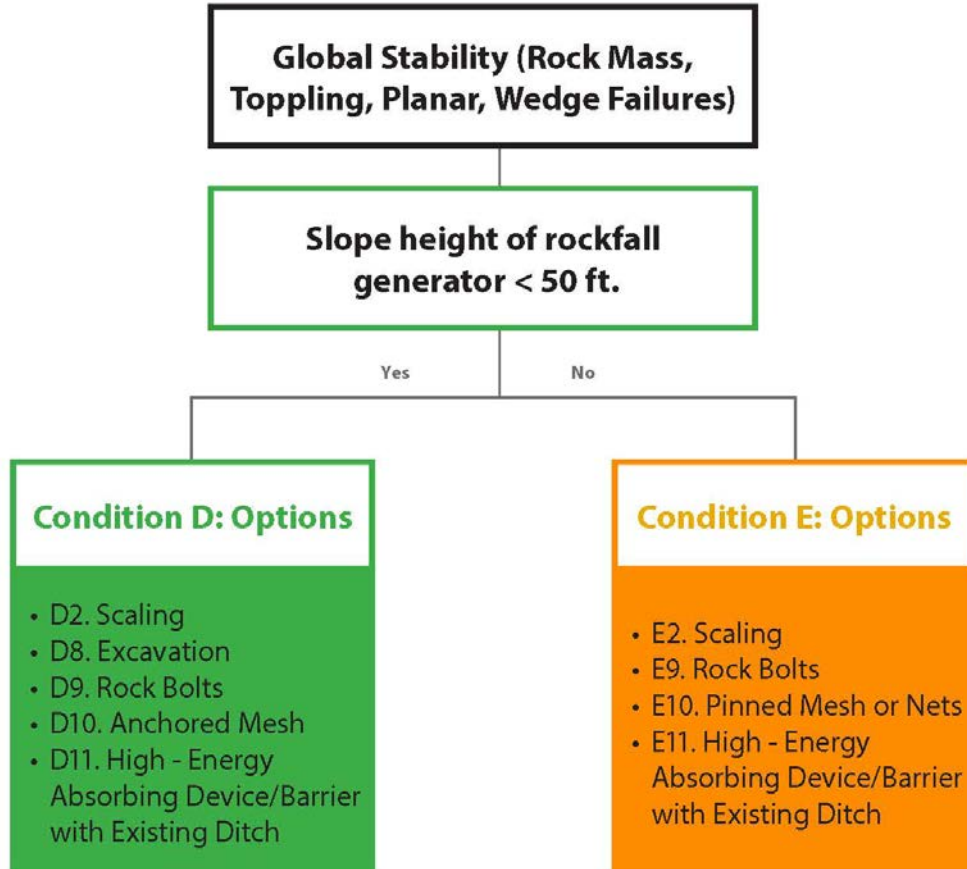
### Condition C: Options

- C2. Scaling
- C4. Rock Slope Drape with Existing Ditch
- C5. Attenuator Drape with Existing Ditch
- C6. Flexible Rockfall Barrier
- C7. Two-Tiered Rockfall Barrier





# FEASIBLE GLOBAL OPTIONS FOR SLOPE CONDITIONS



# CLIENT INPUT: DRIVERS, IMPORTANCE FACTORS, & DRIVER RATING

1. Driver = Aspect or consideration of a feasible slope mitigation option during the selection process

2. **Importance Factor** = a weight assigned to each driver to determine relative importance amongst the drivers.

3. **Driver Rating** = relative assessment of each driver on a 1 to 5 scale

Driver	Importance Factor
Construction Cost	7
Effectiveness	10
Construction Complexity	6
Traffic Impacts	9
Aesthetics	3
Rockfall Maintenance	5
System Maintenance	8
Fog Impacts	7
Maintenance Experience	7
Environmental	3

# SCORED RELATIVE ASSESSMENT AND OPTION SHORTLIST

**Total Option Score =  $\Sigma$  (Importance Factor X Driver Rating)**

**Driver Rating = 1 to 5 scale**

Driver	VDOT Importance Factor (Weight)	Subglobal Condition C Options							
		C2: Scaling	Total Scaling Score	C4: Rock Slope Drape with Ditch	Total Rock Slope Drape with Ditch Score	C5: Attenuator Drape with Ditch	Total Attenuator Drape with Ditch Score	C6: Flexible Rockfall Barrier	Total Flexible Rockfall Barrier Score
Effectiveness	10	3	30	5	50	5	50	5	50
Traffic Impacts	9	1	9	2	18	2	18	4	36
System Maintenance	8	5	40	1	8	1	8	3	24
Construction Cost	7	2	14	1	7	1	7	2	14
Fog Impacts	7	5	35	5	35	5	35	1	7
Maintenance Perception	7	1	7	5	35	5	35	4	28
Construction Complexity	6	2	12	2	12	1	6	3	18
Rockfall Maintenance	5	1	5	3	15	3	15	3	15
Aesthetics	3	5	15	1	3	1	3	1	3
Environmental Impacts	3	4	12	2	6	2	6	5	15
<b>Total</b>			<b>179</b>		<b>189</b>		<b>183</b>		<b>210</b>



# PRELIMINARY DESIGN

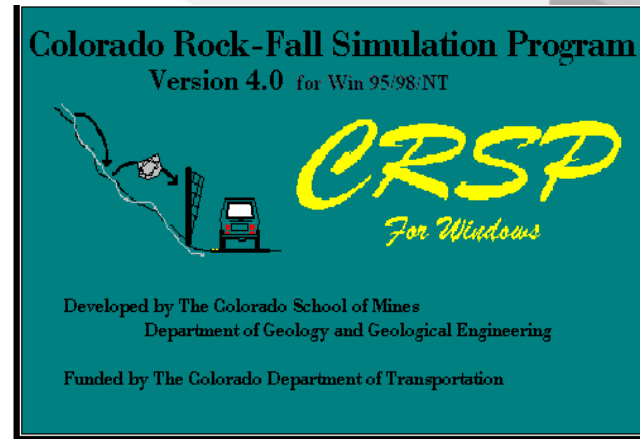
- ▶ VDOT Design Requirements (MOI, 2012)
  - Rockfall Simulation:

**TABLE 3-12 -ALLOWABLE PERCENTAGE OF CLASTS ENTERING THE TRAVEL LANE**

Alignment Type	Critical Rock Slope	Non-critical Rock Slope
Interstate	0%	N/A
Primary	0%	N/A
High-Volume Secondary	<1%	5%
Low-Volume Secondary	1%	5%

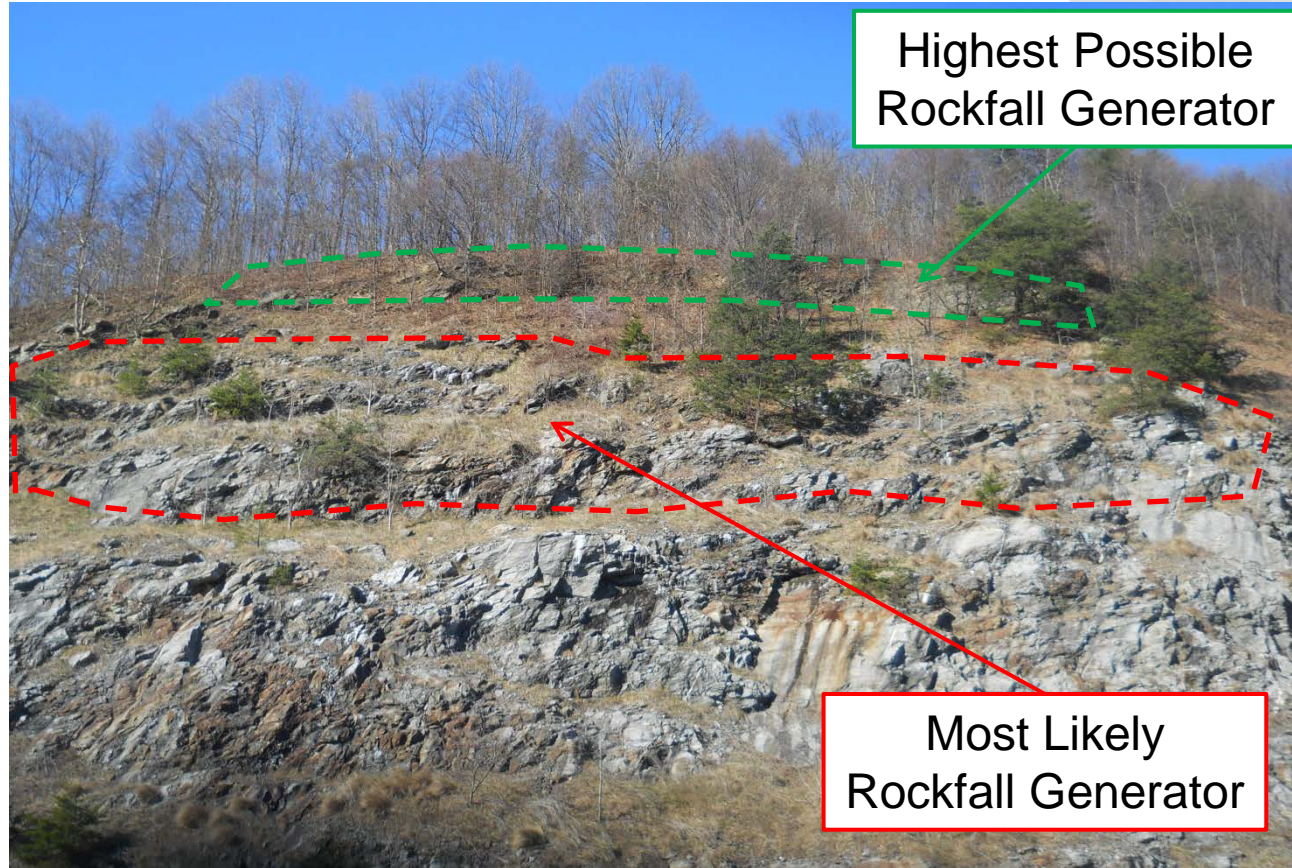
I-77 Priority Rock Slopes = Critical Rock Slope

0% Design = Low Risk, but Higher \$



# PRELIMINARY DESIGN: ROCKFALL PROBABILITY

- ▶ Significant Variation in Slope Height/Angle
- ▶ Varying Degrees of Vegetation
- ▶ Changes in Geology/Weathering Susceptibility
- ▶ Multiple Rockfall Generators
- ▶ Multiple Launch Features



# PRELIMINARY DESIGN APPROACH

## ► Design Criteria

- Help Bracket Cost vs Rockfall Risk based on Probability of Occurrence:



Design Criteria	Percentage of Rockfall Entering the Travel Lane (%)	Probability of Rockfall Being Retained (%)	Rockfall Generator Location	Probable Construction Cost
1 (per MOI)	0	99.9	Highest Possible	Higher
2	5	95	Most Likely	Lower



# PRIORITIZATION OF AGING ROCK SLOPES ON I-77

Corridor Challenges

I-77 Rock Slope  
Management Program

RHRS

Geologic Evaluations

Preliminary Design

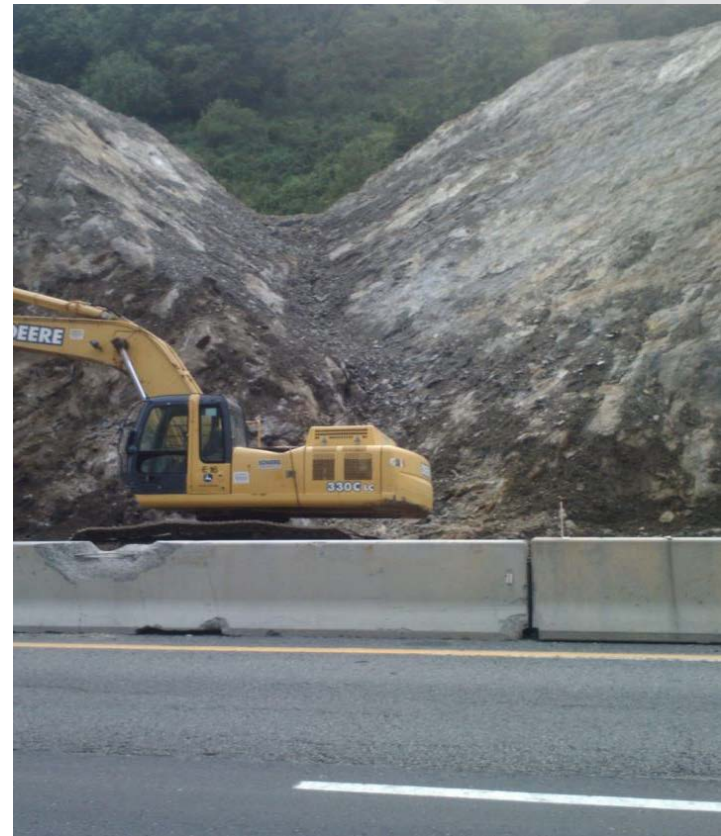
Conclusions and a Look Ahead

Conclusions and A Look Ahead



# CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Establishes Baseline (RHRS), Risk Assessment
- ▶ Geologic Evaluation
  - Aids in Further Prioritization of High Hazard Slopes
  - Involves all key players for reasonable construction cost estimates
  - Supports emergency response remediation of slopes sections
- ▶ Design Approach
  - Client input is very important
  - Design criteria allows for a relative Cost vs Risk assessment



# A LOOK AHEAD

- ▶ Currently Conducting Preliminary Design and Developing Probable Construction Costs for each slope
- ▶ VDOT plans to utilize these costs for budgeting purposes for future final design and slope remediation
- ▶ Development of Contract Bid Documents
- ▶ Contract Advertisements for slope remediation as funding becomes available





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- Matt Schuster, PhD, PE – Geotechnical Engineer



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- Bob Forbes – Vice President of Ameritech Slope Constructors
- Roger Moore, PG, PE – Partner/Geotechnical Engineer



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# QUESTIONS.....SLIP - SLIDE & ROCK-N-ROLL?



AC/DC