

ALLIANCE

Congressional Hazards Caucus



**The Congressional Hazards Caucus Alliance
Invites You to a Public Briefing**

Landslide Hazards: A Stealth Threat to the Nation

June 21, 2011

**2:00 - 3:00 pm in 1334 Longworth House Office Building
Refreshments Served**

Speakers:

Scott Burns, Portland State University

Susan Cannon, U.S. Geological Survey

Jeffrey R. Keaton, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure

Sponsors:

Geological Society of America

Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists

American Society of Civil Engineers

In Cooperation with the Congressional Hazards Caucus:
Senators Mary Landrieu, Lisa Murkowski, and Ben Nelson, and
Representative Zoe Lofgren, Co-Chairs of the Caucus

Overview: Landslides are among the most widespread geologic hazards on Earth and cause billions of dollars in damages and thousands of deaths and injuries each year around the world. In the United States, landslides threaten lives and property in every state, and 36 states have moderate to highly severe landslide hazards, yet landslide insurance is largely unavailable. In May 2011, damaging landslides were reported in California, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Landslide losses are often underreported because the damage is frequently attributed to triggering events—heavy storms, floods, earthquakes, or volcanic eruptions—even though landslide losses may exceed all other disaster losses. Landslide risks may increase due to development in landslide-prone areas, expansion of transportation infrastructure, and climate change. However, landslide losses can be reduced through better understanding, mapping, assessment, monitoring, forecasting, mitigation, and emergency preparedness and response.

More Information: Dr. Craig Schiffries, Geological Society of America, 202-669-0466 or cschiffries@geosociety.org.