

Geologists and meteorologists work to develop landslide warning system

Doug Ingram, Monday 14 February 2011 - 10:09:49

Appalachian State University hosted meteorologists from the National Weather Service's (NWS) regional offices in Blacksburg, Va., and Greer, S.C., geologists from the U.S. Geological Survey, Kentucky Geological Survey, Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources, and N.C. Geological Survey (NCGS) in the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR), and N.C. Division of Emergency Management representatives to discuss the best ways to use data to predict the potential of landslides along steep slopes and how to alert residents in a timely manner about the dangers of landslides following significant rainfall. "Among the tools for anticipating landslides are landslide hazard maps being created by the N.C. Geological Survey in NCDENR. ... Nineteen counties were identified for mapping, the first of which were Macon, Watauga, Buncombe and Henderson counties. The maps are online at www.geology.enr.state.nc.us/Landslide_Info/Landslides_main.htm.