Agency Summary & Statutory Authority

The Division of Special Programs is a distinctly budgeted division under the State Board of Education, and includes six distinct programs housed within the Office of the State Board of Education and universities. The six programs include the Idaho Geological Survey and Forest Utilization Research based at the University of Idaho, the Idaho Museum of Natural History based at Idaho State University, Small Business Development Centers and TechHelp based at Boise State University, and the Scholarships and Grants Program housed within the Office of the State Board of Education.

NOTES

- In FY 2021 and FY 2022, TechHelp and SBDC received federal appropriations related to federal COVID-relief. All such funds have been removed in the FY 2023 request.
- Nonappropriated funds for special programs may be derived from institutions funds, fundraising, non-governmental contracts, grants/research, or otherwise earned income.
The Idaho Geological Survey (IGS) is a non-regulatory state agency that leads in the collection, interpretation, and dissemination of geologic and mineral data for Idaho. IGS was created under Idaho Statutes 47-201 to be administered as a special program at the University of Idaho.

WHO WE ARE:

The Idaho Geological Survey (IGS) is a non-regulatory state agency that leads in the collection, interpretation, and dissemination of geologic and mineral data for Idaho.

IGS was created under Idaho Statutes 47-201 to be administered as a special program at the University of Idaho.

OUR MISSION:

The Survey’s mission is to provide the state with timely and relevant geologic information.

Members of the IGS fulfill this mission through applied geologic research and strong collaborations with federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector.

IGS research focuses on geologic mapping, geologic hazards, hydrogeology, geothermal energy, oil and gas, and metallic and industrial minerals.

The IGS is also engaged in the dissemination of historic mining records, community service, and earth science education.
FY 2021 BY THE NUMBERS:

Sources of Funding

WHAT “THEY” SAY ABOUT IGS

ECONOMIC BENEFITS AND IMPACT

“We selected Idaho based on the vast amount of information available through the IGS website. [...] The IGS [...] is a significant asset for the state of Idaho.”

“Geological information through the work of IGS is a large factor in where new project ideas are generated. States that lack such a resource, don’t get my attention, and thus they don’t see any exploration.”

“First Cobalt has been actively exploring for cobalt and copper in the Salmon-Challis area since 2016 spending over 10 million USD. Our decision to persevere is facilitated by the availability of high-quality geological information and data provided by the IGS.”
“We support the railroad industry in Idaho. [...] Geologic maps produced by IGS are invaluable. [...] we assisted BNSF Railway with rock slope stabilization along the Kootenai river east of Bonners Ferry, Idaho. [IGS data] informed design decisions and supported implementation of rock slope failure mitigation measures.”

“IGS is generally equal to, and in some cases better than, the US Geological Survey in providing quality data sets and information BLM Idaho needs to complete our mission. The information provided by IGS is crucial [...] in administrative designations, i.e. mineral withdrawals, Wilderness Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, etc.”

“Our work includes subsurface investigations associated with groundwater and soil contamination, [...] groundwater supplies, and water rights projects. We have found IGS data to be extremely helpful in predicting [...] hydrogeologic conditions and likely contaminant behavior in the subsurface.”

“IGS data provide information to landowners and the public on how to live [...] safely.”
WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 2021
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION AND LANDSLIDE INVENTORY

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE IDAHO COBALT BELT

IDAHO IS SITTING ON ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS ON EARTH

The Atlantic
WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 2021
SEISMIC HAZARD IN IDAHO – CY 2021 EVENTS (PART.)

WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 2021
SEISMIC HAZARD IN IDAHO – MORE THAN JUST STANLEY
STRENGTHS

• Recognized expertise and contribution to Idaho’s economy, resiliency, development and prosperity

• Strong return on investment from appropriated funding for IGS

• Reliable and unbiased science available to state, stakeholders and the general public

• Relevant and fundamental expertise on timely critical topics of state and national interest

OPPORTUNITIES

• Economic and mining geologist

• Earthquake monitoring network and earthquake seismologist

• Data delivery and database manager