Geoscience in Your State: Idaho
By the numbers: Idaho

- 2,749 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)
- 5.35 billion gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal
$191 million: value of nonfuel mineral production in 2017
40 total disaster declarations, including 16 fire, 12 flood, and 7 severe storm disasters (1953-2017)?
$2.35 million: NSF GEO grants awarded in 2017

Read more in this Geoscience in Your State Factsheet...

Agencies Working on Geoscience Issues in Idaho

Idaho Bureau of Laboratories
https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Health/Labs/AboutIBL/tabid/187/default.aspx
The role of IBL is to provide laboratory services to support the programs within the Department of Health and Welfare, Idaho's seven public health districts, other state agencies, and citizens.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
http://www.deq.idaho.gov/
The mission of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality is to protect human health and the quality of Idaho's air, land, and water. DEQ manages a broad range of activities, including assessment of environmental problems; oversight of facilities that generate air, water, and hazardous waste pollution; monitoring of air and water quality; cleanup of contaminated sites; and education, outreach, and technical assistance to businesses, local government agencies, and interested citizens.

Idaho Department of Lands
https://www.idl.idaho.gov/
The mission of the Idaho Department of Lands is to professionally and prudently manage Idaho's endowment assets to maximize long-term financial returns to public schools and other trust beneficiaries and to provide professional assistance to the citizens of Idaho to use, protect and sustain their natural resources. Among other responsibilities, the IDL manages the land beneath Idaho's navigable waterways, provides some regulation of Idaho's mining industry, provides regulatory oversight of forestry practices, provides fire protection and prevention on more than 6 million acres of land, and houses the Oil and Gas Division (the administrative arm of the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission).

Idaho Department of Water Resources
https://idwr.idaho.gov/
The mission of the Idaho Department of Water Resources is to serve the citizens of Idaho by ensuring that water is conserved and available for the sustainability of Idaho’s economy, ecosystems, and resulting quality of life.

Idaho Geological Survey
https://www.idahogeology.org/
The Idaho Geological Survey is a public service and research agency at the University of Idaho. Idaho statute directs the Survey to collect, interpret, and disseminate geologic and mineral data for the state.

Idaho Office of Emergency Management
https://ioem.idaho.gov/
The mission of the Idaho Office of Emergency Management is to guide the State of Idaho in effectively preparing for, protecting against, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all hazards.

Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
https://ogcc.idaho.gov/
The Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission regulates the exploration, drilling and production of oil and gas resources to ensure the conservation of oil and gas and the protection of correlative rights and surface and groundwater.

Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
https://swc.idaho.gov/
The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission provides support to conservation districts; provides conservation incentive programs; and offers comprehensive conservation services and programs.

Maps & Visualizations
Interactive database for geologic maps of the United States
U.S. Geological Survey

The U.S. Geological Survey hosts the National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB). This interactive tool serves as a national archive for high-quality, standardized geologic maps created by the U.S. Geological Survey and state geological surveys. The MapView section of the NGMDB displays geologic maps...

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Case Studies & Factsheets

Groundwater use in the United States

Fresh water from underground Groundwater is any water found underground in the cracks and pores in soil, sand, or rock. Groundwater provides 25% of the fresh water used in the United States. It is particularly important for irrigation and domestic uses in arid or remote areas, where surface water...

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Webinars & Forums

2014 Critical Issues Forum: America's Increasing Reliance on Natural Gas: Benefits and Risks of a Methane Economy

The 2014 Critical Issues Forum, entitled "America’s Increasing Reliance on Natural Gas: Benefits and Risks of a Methane Economy", examined the 5- to 30-year outlook for the development of a natural gas-dominant energy sector in North America and discussed the associated benefits and risks.

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