

NGGDPP Final Technical Report

Name of State Geologic Survey: Idaho Geological Survey

Award number: 08HQGR0104

Project Title: Data Preservation

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ABSTRACT

The Idaho Geological Survey successfully completed the National Geologic and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDPP) award number 08HQGR0104 administered by the U.S. Geological Survey. For FY 2008 the Idaho survey used our NGGDPP inventory of “at risk” geologic and geochemical data to develop a Long-range Data Preservation Plan (see attached). In addition, we obtained metadata for two large collections of “at risk” data: (1) unpublished mines and prospects data (Mineral Property files) and (2) whole-rock geochemical data. Work began August 1, 2008 and took one year to complete. In addition to generating metadata for the National Catalog of Geological and Geophysical Data, three digital Idaho Geological Survey publications (two in our Digital Analytical Data series and one in the Digital Data series) resulted from this work. The URL for these publications is included in the metadata provided to the U.S.G.S. The overall management of the project was under the direction of Reed Lewis. Virginia Gillerman assisted as co-PI, and Victoria Mitchell obtained the location information for the Mineral Property files and updated the IGS Mines and Prospects database. Rich Gaschnig assisted with proofing the geochemical data sets.

PRODUCTS/REPORTS

IGS DATA PRESERVATION PLAN

The project resulted in completion of a Long-range Data Preservation Plan for the Idaho Geological Survey. The framework for this plan was Attachment A in the FY 2008 Announcement.

IGS MINERAL PROPERTY FILES

Our original estimate of the number of IGS Mineral Property files was 2,250. The actual number was over 2600. Much of our effort was directed at obtaining precise latitude and longitude information for each property. This required comparing location information in the files to topographic maps (National Geographic’s TOPO! program) in order to derive the latitude and longitude. For these 2600 Mineral Property Files, the National Catalog Metadata Products delivered are:

1. The collection identification number.

2. The mine location number, which is a unique number for each site in the Mines and Prospects Database. This number does not change, and if a site is for some reason deleted, the number is not reassigned.
3. The latitude and longitude of the mine, corrected to 1:24,000 by comparison to the best available reference.
4. The name of the mine.
5. An explanation of what the site locations are and the information related to each site number.
6. The web address of the Mines and Prospects Database.
7. The date for this revision of the database.

The above metadata were provided to the National Catalog in a flat file (*.csv file). A revised IGS Mines and Prospects Database (an updated version of our Digital Data Series 1 publication) with precise location information for more than 2,600 of the total 8,800 mines and prospects in the state will be posted on our website.

WHOLE-ROCK GEOCHEMICAL DATA

As with the Mineral Property files, much of our effort with the Miller/Kiilsgaard whole-rock geochemical data was directed at obtaining precise latitude and longitude information for each sample. In addition, the spreadsheet geochemical data needed to be proofed against the original laboratory sheets and rock names needed be checked against modal and geochemical data. The National Catalog Metadata Products delivered are:

1. The collection identification number.
2. The unique site number indicating where the rock sample was obtained.
3. The latitude and the longitude of the site.
4. The rock unit from which the sample was taken.
5. The rock name and the type of chemical data available for the sample.
6. The web address of the data set.
7. The date the sample was collected.

These metadata were also delivered in a flat file. Whole-rock geochemical data for 299 rock samples from northern Idaho and northeastern Washington were released as a downloadable Excel file in our Digital Analytical Data series (publication DAD-5) and whole-rock geochemical data for 350 rock samples from south-central Idaho were released in a similar format as publication DAD-6. Samples for which location information was poor were not included in the releases.