

NGGDPP Final Technical Report

Name of State Geologic Survey: Idaho Geological Survey

Award number: G14AP200142

Project Title: USGS Data Preservation 7

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Final Technical Report
Idaho Geological Survey

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ABSTRACT

The Idaho Geological Survey successfully completed the National Geologic and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDPP) award number G14AP200142 administered by the U.S. Geological Survey. For FY 2014, the Idaho Geological Survey cataloged two collections of “at risk” data and generated metadata for the National Catalog of Geological and Geophysical Data. These collections are: (1) donated mineral exploration files and maps from miscellaneous collections that were added to our Mineral Property Files; and (2) whole-rock geochemical records from four 1:100,000-scale quadrangles. In addition, geochemical data presently in spreadsheet form were migrated to a newly developed statewide geochemical database. We also migrated more data to the digital realm by scanning a portion of our Mineral Property Files. In addition to generating metadata for the NGGDPP National Catalog, an updated version of the Idaho Geological Survey Mines and Prospects Database was created. This updated database drives a new Mines web application that went live in FY 2014. The Mines web application greatly facilitates dissemination of Mineral Property Files to the public.

PRODUCTS/REPORTS

The overall management of the project was under the direction of Reed Lewis. Work began September 8, 2014 and took 12 months to complete.

Mineral Property Files

The Mineral Property Files consist of consultants’ reports, maps, drill logs, and geophysical and geochemical results from over 2,600 mines or prospects in the state and are indexed in our searchable statewide Mines and Prospects database. The effort for FY2014 added 3528 donated files from 131 mines and prospects to the collection and appropriate metadata was derived. Christopher Tate, Susan Jones, Jesse Hinshaw, Loudon Stanford, and Reed Lewis completed this part of the project. A scanning project of 10 percent of the collection was successfully completed by Christopher Tate, Susan Jones, and Jesse Hinshaw. Including in this scanning effort was our collection of flat mine maps. Over 1800 maps have been scanned thus far, with funding for that effort coming from both the NGGDP and Idaho Department of Lands. A new mine map collection was created last year for the NGGDP catalog and this year we reported the following metadata:

1. The collection identification number.

2. The mine location number, which is a unique number for each site in the Mines and Prospects Database, and the name of the mine.
3. The latitude and longitude of the mine.
4. The description of the type of mine map.
5. The date of the map (if known).
6. The web address of the IGS webmap with the “mines” tab.
7. The date for this submission.

Roughly 15 percent of the donated mine files were found to be related to personnel or other historical aspects that are not part of the IGS mission. These files were transferred to the Special Collections division of the University of Idaho Library. Another 55 percent were found to be publications that are available in libraries and (or) on line. These were pulled and the remaining files were integrated into the IGS Mineral Property Files. Miscellaneous donated files were also indexed and added to the Mineral Property Files. Given previous discussions with Natalie Latysh and Tamar Norkin at the USGS, it was decided that the most appropriate action was to replace (not update) the existing NGDDP metadata for the entire Mines and Prospects database for which we have records. The following metadata were derived:

1. The collection identification number.
2. The mine location number, which is a unique number for each site in the Mines and Prospects Database.
3. The latitude and longitude of the mine.
4. The name of the mine.
5. The description of the type of data.
6. The web address of the IGS webmap with the “mines” tab.
7. The date for this revision of the database.

Whole-rock Geochemical Data

The first effort was to index in-house collections of geochemical data from four 1:100,000-scale quadrangles and derive appropriate metadata. A total of 676 rock samples for which major-element XRF analysis had been completed were included in this effort. Reed Lewis and Dennis Feeney completed this part of the project. The following metadata were derived:

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 name and type of chemical data available for the sample.
5. The approximate year of sample collection.
6. Contact information for additional information regarding this sample.

The second effort was to populate a geochemical database constructed in part with FY2013 NGGDPP funding that can be accessed via the Idaho Geological Survey website (www.idahogeology.org). Dennis Feeney and Loudon Stanford headed this part of the

project and they were assisted by Christopher Tate and Reed Lewis. The database brings an assortment of excel files in variable formats together and allows queries and downloads from an on-line map application on the IGS website. The resulting Access database now consists of over 2900 published and unpublished major and trace elements analyses. The following metadata were derived:

1. The collection identification number.
2. The sample number
3. The sample rock name, age, and analysis type.
4. The latitude and the longitude of the site.
5. The year of the sample collection.
6. The web address of the data set.

All of the above metadata were provided to the National Catalog in flat files (*.csv file).

Success Stories

The biggest success story from the 2014 NGGDP effort was going on-line with a statewide geochemical database (see figure below). The database behind the on-line web application was constructed the previous year, in part with NGGDP funding. Over a recent 15 week period, over 1,200 unique visits have been made to this web page.

