

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

Celebrate Earth Science Week in Oregon, October 11-18

NEWS RELEASE: October 14, 2007

The Oregon Sesquicentennial Geologic Map 150 Years of Statehood, 150 Million Years in the Making!

Portland, Oregon: The spectacular landscape of today's Oregon was shaped over millions of years by fire and flood, earthquakes and eruptions, and the movement of oceans and continents on a huge scale. Where most people see an unchanging landscape, geologists look to the rocks that make up the land to unlock a past that tells an amazing, ever-changing and ongoing geologic story.

What we know of as Oregon today began forming about 150 million years ago - just a blink in geologic time equal to about the last 4% of Earth's 4.5 billion year history - but what a history! Imagine an oceanic and continental plate colliding, pushing hundreds of miles of ocean floor deep into the body of the continent. Imagine some of the largest lava flows in the history of the world blanketing the state. Imagine thousands upon thousands of volcanic eruptions, and ancient floods that carried enough water to equal the combined flow of all the rivers in the world. This is the Oregon that geologists see.

This is the Oregon you can learn about with the release of ***Oregon: A Geologic History (Interpretive Map 28)***. Produced by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, ***Oregon: A Geologic History*** was created for anyone who is curious about our State's remarkable geology. On this huge 4 foot by 5 foot full color map, a timeline outlines important events in Oregon's (and the earth's) geologic history. Each rock layer has its own story and you can find out where to go to see the rocks for yourself. World class geologic events are highlighted and there are plenty of factoids to keep you intrigued to learn more.

You can preview the new map online at:

<http://www.oregongeology.org/sub/publications/IMS/ims-028/index.htm>

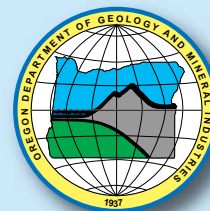
Middle schools and high schools across the state will be receiving their free copies in the mail in the next few weeks. You can order your copy of ***Oregon: A Geologic History (Interpretive Map 28)*** online from Nature of the Northwest at

800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.org
(971) 673-1555

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)



***Oregon: A Geologic History* can show you where huge boulders were rafted into the Willamette Valley from massive floods that began in Montana 17,000 years ago.**



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

<http://www.naturenw.org> or call 971-673-1555. The cost of the map is \$15. There is a \$5.50 shipping and handling charge for each mailed destination.

Earth Science Week in Oregon October 11-18

Read the complete proclamation in the attached PDF or go online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>

Governor Ted Kulongoski has proclaimed October 11 - 18 Earth Science Week in Oregon, saying in the proclamation, "Geology and other earth sciences are fundamental to the health, safety and welfare of Oregonians and to the economy of Oregon. The earth sciences are integral to locating, developing, and conserving mineral, energy and water resources needed for Oregon's continuing prosperity."

"Earth Science Week promotes understanding and appreciation of the value of earth science research and its applications and their relevance to our daily lives", notes Dr. Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist. "Whether it's using cutting edge technology to understand how landslides can impact local communities or exploring the use of geothermal energy in Oregon, earth science is all around us."

At the end of Earth Science Week in Oregon, more than 6,000 geoscientists, students, and teachers from around the world will gather at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland to participate in "Volcanoes to Vineyards: Living with Dynamic Landscapes," the 121st Annual Meeting & Exposition of the Geological Society of America. The Meeting & Exposition runs October 18 - 21.

Earth Science Week in Oregon is sponsored by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) and the American Geological Institute (AGI) and will promote public and professional awareness of the status of earth science in education and society. To learn more about Earth Science Week and AGI, go to: <http://www.earthsciweek.org/whatisesw/index.html>

And don't forget, you can order your copy of *Oregon: A Geologic History (Interpretive Map 28)* online from Nature of the Northwest at <http://www.naturenw.org> or call 971-673-1555. The cost of the map is \$15. There is a \$5.50 shipping and handling charge for each mailed destination.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.

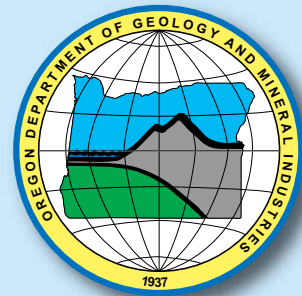
800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.org
(971) 673-1555

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

Mineral Land Regulation
and Reclamation Program
229 Broadalbin Street, SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 967-2039,
Gary W. Lynch, Assistant Director

Coastal Field Office
313 SW 2nd Street, Suite D
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-6642,
Jonathan C. Allan, Coastal
Team Leader

The Nature of the Northwest
Information Center
Donald J. Haines, Manager
Internet: <http://www.NatureNW.org>



Learn more about Oregon's geology at:
<http://www.oregongeology.org>