



NEWS RELEASE: September 18, 2013

Geologic Map Day: Celebrate October 18!

Alexandria, VA - Celebrate the second annual Geologic Map Day! On October 18, as a part of the Earth Science Week 2013 activities, join leading geoscience organizations in promoting awareness of the importance of geologic mapping to society. Earth Science Week 2013 will be celebrated October 13-19.

Be sure to check out the Geologic Map Day poster included in this year's Earth Science Week Toolkit at <http://www.earthsciweek.org/materials/index.html>. Showing how geologic maps can be used to understand natural hazards, the poster also provides step-by-step instructions for a related classroom activity and links to state geologic maps and maps of national parks. Additional resources for learning about geologic maps can be found on the Geologic Map Day web page <http://www.earthsciweek.org/geologicmap/>.

"As the saying goes, 'Civilization exists by geological consent – subject to change without notice.' Outside of Alaska, California is the most seismically active state in the country, with more than 70 percent of the Nation's earthquake damage occurring in this state every year. Mapping earthquake faults and their surrounding geology is a key element in making California safer for its communities," says Dr. John Parrish, President of AASG and State Geologist of California.

Geologic Map Day partners include the American Geosciences Institute (AGI), the Association of American State Geologists (AASG), the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, the Geological Society of America, and Esri.

To find your state's geologic survey and additional geologic mapping information go to <http://www.stategeologists.org/> and click on the state of interest.

Contact: Vicki S. McConnell, AASG (vicki.mcconnell@dogami.state.or.us)

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The Association of American State Geologists (AASG) is an organization of the chief executives of the state geological surveys in 50 states and Puerto Rico. The first state survey was established in 1823 in North Carolina. By 1840, there were at least 15 state surveys, most of which were charged with the discovery of mineral, energy, land, and water resources in their state or territory. Since 1908, the Association has met regularly to discuss issues of common interest and to initiate united actions when warranted.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State and has a broad responsibility in developing an understanding of the state's geologic resources and natural hazards. The Department then makes this information available to communities and individuals to help inform and reduce the risks from natural hazards, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. The Department assists in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards is key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's Map Day and Earth Science Week activities: <http://www.OregonGeology.org>

DOGAMI's mission is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.

Media contact:

Carol DuVernois

carol.duvernois@state.or.us

800 NE Oregon St., #28,
Ste. 965

Portland, OR 97232

Phone: (971) 673-1555

Fax: (971) 673-1562

www.OregonGeology.org

Mineral Land Regulation and
Reclamation Program

229 Broadalbin St. SW

Albany, OR 97321

Phone: (541) 967-2039

Fax: (541) 967-2075

info@mlrr.oregongeology.com

Gary W. Lynch,

Assistant Director

Coastal Field Office

313 SW 2nd, Ste. D

Newport, OR 97365

Phone: (541) 574-6642

Fax: (541) 265-5241

Jonathan C. Allan,

Coastal Team Leader

Eastern Oregon Field Office

Baker County Courthouse

1995 3rd St., Ste. 130

Baker City, OR 978149

Phone: (541) 523-3133

Fax: (541) 523-5992

Jason D. McCloughry,

Regional Geologist

Nature of the Northwest
Information Center

800 NE Oregon St., Ste. 965

Portland, Oregon 97232

(971) 673-2331

Email: info@naturenw.org

Web: www.NatureNW.org

Donald J. Haines, Manager