

## ANALYSIS

### Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Geologic Mapping

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**Analyst:** April McDonald

**Request:** Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Geological Survey, National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program in the amount of \$499,995 to continue geologic mapping throughout the state.

**Analysis:** The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) seeks retroactive approval to apply for a federal grant from the U.S. Geological Survey, under the STATEMAP component of the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program. This is an annual grant which DOGAMI has applied for and has been awarded annually since the program's inception in 1992. To date, the Department has received nearly \$5 million in federal funds to conduct and publish the geologic mapping of areas throughout Oregon. This funding opportunity would cover two mapping projects; the first in the Walla Walla Basin in northeast Oregon and the second in the Harney Basin, just east of central Oregon.

The completion of the geologic maps will characterize and assess the state's mineral, energy, and water resources, as well as serve as the foundation for derivative geologic and other natural hazard studies.

The grant deadline was on January 13, 2023, and the Department provided notification of their intent to apply on December 30, 2022, more than 10 days prior to the deadline. The grant requires a 1:1 funding match, which will be met through DOGAMI staff time. No additional funds or staffing resources are needed.

**Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation:** The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

## Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Filimoehala

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**Request:** Retroactive authorization to apply for a grant of \$500,000 from the U.S. Geological Survey for the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Discussion:** The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries has applied for a grant from the U.S. Geological Survey, under the National Cooperative Geological Mapping Program, to fund two mapping projects, one in the Walla Walla Basin and one in the Harney Basin. The department has received similar annual grants from the U.S. Geological Survey since 1992 and has been awarded \$4,879,921 to date. The department is required to provide a 50 percent match, which would be met through in-kind contributions from department staff. If awarded, work would begin in June 2023.



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Administrative Offices  
800 NE Oregon St., Suite 965  
Portland, OR 97232-2162  
(971) 673-1555  
Fax: (971) 673-1562  
[www.oregon.gov/dogami](http://www.oregon.gov/dogami)

January 18, 2023

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-Chair  
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

RE: Retroactive Legislative approval regarding a federal grant application

### **Nature of the Request**

The purpose of this letter is to request retroactive approval to apply for a federal grant from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) submitted notification of intent to apply for the USGS grant on December 30, 2022, more than 10 days prior to the application deadline.

DOGAMI has submitted to the STATEMAP component of the USGS National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program in the amount of \$499,995 for a total project up to \$1,000,000.

This is an annual grant application which DOGAMI has applied for and been awarded annually since the program's inception in 1992. To date Oregon has received \$4,879,921 in federal funds, partially supporting the geologic mapping program. The grant application was submitted to USGS on January 12th, 2023. If awarded, DOGAMI will begin this project in June 2023.

This grant proposes to fund two projects to conduct and publish geologic mapping in the areas outlined below:

- Project 1 – Geologic mapping in the Waterman 7.5' Quadrangle in the Walla Walla Basin, northeast Oregon
- Project 2 – Geologic mapping in the Burns NW, Crane, Capehart Lake, Lake on The Trail, Moon Reservoir, and Iron Mountain 7.5' Quadrangles in the Harney Basin, Oregon

The primary goals that will be achieved by these projects include completion of geologic maps for the specified areas that are essential to characterize and assess the state's mineral, energy, and water resources and serve as the foundation for derivative geologic and other natural hazard studies.

The proposed grant requires a 1:1 funding match, which will be met through DOGAMI staff time working on the project and supported by General Fund and GF-funded geophysical data collections in the map areas obtained during 2022. No additional funds are needed for the match.

This grant opportunity supports DOGAMI's mission and goals to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous and also supports Key Performance Measure #2 (KPM) – Detailed Geologic Map Completion.

The indirect is limited to 18% by the original federal legislation.

**Agency Action**

Under DOGAMI's funding model it is essential that the Agency pursue relevant federal grant funding opportunities as they become available to satisfy biennial budget projections. DOGAMI has developed improved grant management tools including identification of available staff with appropriate expertise and required financial resources

**Action Requested**

The Agency is requesting retroactive approval to apply to USGS for the above STATEMAP grant. DOGAMI will not require an increase in our federal fund expenditure limitation or position authority.

**Legislation Affected**

Legislation affected by this grant proposal is HB 5010-A-Engrossed (2021) if additional federal limitation is necessary.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me at 971-610-8968.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ruarri J. Day-Stirrat".

Ruarri J. Day-Stirrat  
Executive Director

cc: George Naughton, Chief Financial Officer  
Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office  
Geoff Huntington, Governor's Office  
April McDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office  
Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Officer