

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Earth MRI – Mine Waste

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Owens

On May 6th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries for approval to submit a federal grant application.

The U.S. Geological Survey Mineral Resources Program is accepting proposals for the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative for geological surveys for activities focusing on mine waste inventory and characterization data compilation and acquisition, sampling and mapping efforts.

The Department will request funding in three priorities: 1) Mine waste inventory mapping in the Cornucopia Mining District in Baker County; 2) Mine waste assessment field studies to characterize and develop an assessment of mineral deposits and waste piles in southwest Oregon; and 3) Staff travel to the annual Earth MRI Workshop to share research and collaborate with other state geological surveys and USGS.

This is a competitive announcement with applications due by May 14, 2025. If awarded, projects are expected to begin before September 2025 and the maximum period of performance is 24 months and requires no state match.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval of the submission of a federal grant application by the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to the U.S. Geological Survey, in the amount of \$306,000, for the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative.