



INDIANA
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Strategic Plan

WHO WE ARE

The Indiana Geological Survey (IGS) has served the people of Indiana since 1837. Established in Indiana Statute in 1993 as an institution of Indiana University, the IGS is committed to providing unbiased and reliable earth science information through directed research, service, and education.

Through its numerous activities, the IGS assists the public and private sectors by providing technical information for locating and evaluating mineral and energy resources throughout the State, reducing environmental risks to the land, water, and air of the state, assisting in the reclamation land that has been mined, and identifying areas susceptible to natural geologic hazards. Staff of the IGS provide information essential to the natural resource industries, which contribute more than \$2.3 billion annually to Indiana's economy.

In performing these activities, the IGS employs professional scientists along with technical and support staff. The activities of the institution are primarily funded by an annual state appropriation, and numerous contracts and grants, from state and federal agencies, as well as private organizations.

The IGS staff actively participates in numerous education and public outreach activities. As an entity of Indiana University, it plays an active role in preparing the next generation of earth scientists by advising and by providing practical work experience.

In recent years, the IGS has relied increasingly on information technology to develop and maintain publically accessible databases, geographic information systems, and digital publications. Additionally, it maintains a robust Website, which it utilizes as the major means of outreach.

OUR MISSION:

The mission of the Indiana Geological Survey is to provide geologic information and counsel that contribute to the health, safety, and welfare of Indiana's citizenry. Since 1837, the Indiana Geological Survey has provided information for the wise stewardship and sustainable use of the energy, mineral, and water resources of the state while enhancing the natural environment.

To accomplish this mission, the Indiana Geological Survey engages in:

- Focused research initiatives and cooperative investigations with governmental agencies, businesses and industries, and educational organizations;
- Geologic sample and data collection and archiving; and
- Dissemination of information in many forms, including published or digital maps, reports, databases, and educational outreach programs.

These activities fulfill an important part of the public service mission of Indiana University by addressing Indiana's need for the timely evaluation of its geological resources and hazards in light of complex and evolving economic and societal needs.

OUR VISION AND VALUES

The Indiana Geological Survey will continue to serve as a leading earth sciences research institution of Indiana through reliable, timely, and objective research and outreach. As a comprehensive and non-regulatory research institute of Indiana University, which values service and high quality focused research, the Indiana Geological Survey builds public and private partnerships, provides essential earth science information, and integrates innovative technologies to accomplish these ends.

PURSUING EXCELLENCE IN GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH

Goal: Conduct research beneficial to Indiana

1. Strengthen research capacity.
 - Identify evolving earth science issues.
 - Conduct focused basic and applied research.
 - Publicize capabilities and findings.
2. Engage in in-state, national, and global research collaborations.
 - Build and strengthen cooperative relationships.
 - Pursue new opportunities for interaction.
3. Collect and interpret new data relative to the geologic framework of Indiana.
 - Provide geologic information to the public.
 - Facilitate the understanding and use of geologic information.

ACQUIRING AND PRESERVING GEOSCIENCE MATERIALS AND INFORMATION

Goal: Collect, archive, and provide access to geologic samples, data, and new information representative of the geology of Indiana.

1. Collect geoscience information.
 - Acquire physical samples, paper records, and digital data.
 - Pursue the acquisition of similar materials from external sources.
2. Serve as the state's geoscience repository.
 - Provide adequate space and resources for the long term preservation.
 - Catalog geoscience materials using the latest technology.
3. Ensure access and discoverability.
 - Provide space, staffing, and technology necessary for public access to archived materials.
 - Facilitate access to meet statutory mandate and support internal research.
 - Enhance access using modern technology.

SERVING THE PUBLIC AND GEOSCIENCE COMMUNITY

Goal: Convey accurate and timely geoscience information.

1. Enhance educational outreach and opportunities.
 - Determine needs of current and potential clientele.
 - Develop and market research products and programs.
 - Strengthen cooperative educational and outreach opportunities.
2. Enhance service.
 - Respond to inquiries in a timely manner.
 - Measure and evaluate current service efforts.
3. Mentor students.
 - Provide practical training and experience opportunities.
 - Teach and advise students.
 - Assist students in professional placement.

ENHANCING FACILITIES AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Goal: Foster an environment for employees that will promote productivity and enhance professional development.

1. Sustain, upgrade, and modernize facilities.
 - Evaluate and support employee needs.
 - Ensure a safe working environment.
 - Invest in advanced technology and/or specialized equipment.
2. Support career-long learning for employees.
 - Promote professional growth.
 - Ensure adequate training and other educational opportunities.
3. Enhance and develop means to assist employees to attain their full potential.
 - Utilize planning and performance procedures to assure optimum productivity.
 - Encourage staff to engage in innovative projects by providing them with appropriate resources.

ENHANCING FISCAL RESOURCES

Goal: Ensure adequate resources to address the changing needs of Indiana

1. Pursue funds to support research.
 - Maintain high level of expertise and technical capabilities to enhance programs.
 - Prioritize funding for equipment and other resources.
 - Seek new opportunities for internal and external funding.
2. Secure funding to support positions necessary to fulfill the mission.
 - Ensure adequate level of state appropriations.
 - Pursue additional sources of funding by cultivating a broader range of sponsors, contributors, and product sales.
3. Employ innovative approaches to augment funding sources.
 - Develop new collaborations.
 - Build endowments.
 - Expand specialty services and products.

ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY

Goal: Assess the effectiveness toward fulfilling the mission and goals

1. Evaluate the applicability and efficacy of programs and products.
 - Measure and ensure the usefulness of research products.
 - Assess the needs and interests of current and potential clients.
 - Meet evolving state and federal standards.
 - Track service and outreach programs to determine their effectiveness.
2. Assess research directions to ensure benefit to Indiana.
 - Meet regularly with the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, the IGS Advisory Council, and the IGS Mapping Advisory Committee.
 - Confer with grant sponsors to assure adequacy of research products.
3. Meet annually with staff to evaluate their performance, set goals, and determine training needs.
4. Collect and analyze statistics related to public service, outreach, interactions with students, publications, and the Internet.