

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES**  
**Dr. Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist**

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July 13, 2006

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**Learn more about Oregon on  
a new interactive geology website**  
<http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/ogdc/>.

Ever wonder what the rocks are in the hills that you walk through on your favorite hike? The Oregon Department Of Geology & Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) now brings you closer to that information with the rollout of the first version of its new interactive statewide digital geologic map website. A cooperative effort with the Geology Department of Portland State University, the new website is designed to make the geology of Oregon more accessible and understandable to its citizens.

“Three years ago we began the Oregon Geologic Data Compilation (OGDC) Project to make a new statewide digital geologic map with a pilot program in northeast Oregon,” said Dr. Vicki S. McConnell, Director of DOGAMI. “It will take over six years to bring together the best available geologic mapping of Oregon into a single integrated layer. For the past two years the most recently completed digital files and accompanying database have been available on a CD (OGDC-2). Now, a simplified version of the digital map is available to anyone with an internet connection.”

The interactive map at <http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/ogdc/> allows the user to look at and then download for printing 3 different geologic map themes.

The theme most like the usual geologic map is the stratigraphy theme. It shows the integrated time relations of the different rock layers. The second theme, rock properties, provides a fairly detailed look at the different types of rocks, as well as some of their engineering properties. The seven most basic rock units, which include volcanic, sedimentary, metamorphic, etc., are portrayed in the final theme. Users can overlay these themes onto a shaded relief map and/or a topographic map. With the zoom and other tools, the user can look around for the area of their favorite hiking trail, or other areas of interest. The new website will give engineers, teachers, rock hounds, and the general public a much simpler and faster way to access geologic information for the state of Oregon. Visitors to the website will gain a basic understanding of the many rock types that underlie Oregon's beautiful scenery.

"Presently, the eastern third of the state is available for viewing on the website. As the other areas are finished, they will be added to the website. Eventually, the department plans to add layers for mine sites and prospects, geothermal potential, and even geologic hazards. As this is our first version of the website, we encourage feedback about what we should add to the website to make it more user friendly and informative," said McConnell.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State. It has a broad responsibility for developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. The Department then makes this information available to individuals, businesses and communities to help reduce the risks from 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 are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead State regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production, conservation and reclamation.

For more information, contact James Roddey at 800 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR 97232, (971) 673-1543 or on cell phone at (503) 807-8343. DOGAMI field offices can be contacted at: 1510 Campbell St., Baker City, (541) 523-3133; 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496; and the Mined Land Regulation and Reclamation Program, 229 Broadalbin St. SW, Albany, (541) 967-2039.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:

<http://www.oregongeology.com>

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