

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

NEWS RELEASE: May 28, 2009

Digital Geologic Map of Oregon Completed

*6 year project compiles 345 separate
maps/datasets and covers 96,000 square miles*

Portland, Oregon: The Oregon Department of Geology & Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has finished a six year project to develop a digital geologic map of Oregon and to compile this geologic information into a database for the entire state. This completed map and data, the **Oregon Geologic Data Compilation (OGDC-5)**, is the most accurate, complete and up to date geologic map in Oregon's history.

By integrating the work of many individual geologic mappers into a digital data set, the compilation becomes a "living map" that can be accessed on many different levels and can change as new information is added. The data are stored in a geographic information system (GIS) format with links to a relational database. Knowledge of and access to GIS and database software applications are essential to the use of the DVD version of the compilation.

Also being released is **Open-File Report O-09-03, Preliminary Digital Geologic Compilation Map of Part of Northwestern Oregon**, by Lina Ma, Ray E. Wells, Alan R. Niem, Clark A. Niewendorp, and Ian P. Madin. This map displays simplified OGDC-5 data in a map format for this portion of the state.

While OGDC-5 is primarily for users of GIS, the data from the compilation is being used for the new **Oregon Sesquicentennial Geologic Map**, which is being created for a general audience interested in learning more about the amazing geologic history of Oregon. This map will be available later this summer.

Earlier versions of OGDC-5 are already being used throughout the state for projects and programs ranging from the identification of groundwater resources and the locations of naturally occurring hazardous materials to mapping landslides and earthquake faults.

"By using digital mapping technology we are able to present much more detail

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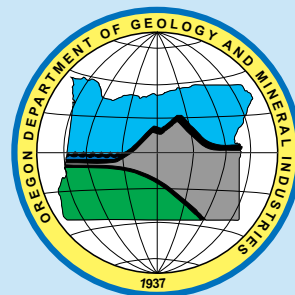
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than conventional paper maps. We will be able to better assist in the understanding of a variety of environmental, resource-availability, geologic-hazard, and land-use planning questions," said Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist and Director of DOGAMI.

Oregon Geologic Data Compilation - on the internet

A visual web interface to OGDC data for the northeast, southeast and central portions of the state is available online at: <http://www.oregongeology.org>. Users can view colored geologic units overlaid on topographic and other images. Zoom and pan controls along with an info-click function will allow users to view stratigraphy, lithology, and rock property map types as different layers.

Creating geologic maps is commonly confused with surveying, and making road maps or topographic maps, which show hills, valleys, roads, and other natural and man-made features on the Earth's surface. Geologic maps, however, use a combination of colors, lines, and symbols to depict the composition, distribution and relationships of rocks and sediments at and near the Earth's surface. Geologic maps also reveal the structure of the rocks below the surface by depicting earthquake faults and the orientation of the rocks. Understanding this third dimension is particularly important for the discovery and assessment of mineral and energy resources; the locations of geologic hazards such as landslides and faults; and the locations and types of resources such as sand and gravel, ore deposits, and ground water.

The Oregon Geologic Data Compilation team at DOGAMI who worked on OGDC-5 includes Lina Ma, Ian P. Madin, Keith V. Olson and Rudie J. Watzig, with technical assistance by Ray E. Wells, U.S. Geological Survey, Alan R. Niem, Oregon State University and George R. Priest, DOGAMI; additional help was provided by Darrick E. Boschmann, Marie W. Brophy, Christina L. Furnari, Olivia L. Miller, Luke M. Raymond and Josh I. Thuele.

For further information about OGDC-5, please contact Rudie Watzig at (971) 673-1556 for spatial data questions. Contact Lina Ma at (971) 673-1545 for questions regarding the tabular database.

Oregon Geologic Data Compilation - Version 5 (OGDC-5) is available on DVD for \$30. **Open-File Report O-09-03, Preliminary Digital Geologic Compilation Map of Part of Northwestern Oregon** is available on CD-ROM for \$15. Printed copies of the map are available for \$25.

Both publications can be purchased from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (503) 872-2750 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items. For additional information, please contact the Nature of the Northwest Information Center. Additionally, this item as well as all department maps can be purchased at DOGAMI Field Offices including 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496 and 1510 Campbell Street, Baker City, (541) 523-3133.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:
<http://www.oregongeology.org>

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