

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview:

Recognizing the importance of our natural heritage to the citizens of the State, the Idaho Museum of Natural History (IMNH) is charged with preserving and interpreting cultural and natural history for the citizens of Idaho. It is the mission of the Idaho Museum of Natural History to actively nurture an understanding of and delight in Idaho’s natural and cultural heritage. As the official state museum of natural history, it acquires, preserves, studies, interprets, and displays natural and cultural objects for Idaho residents, visitors, and the world’s community of students and scholars. The Museum also supports and encourages Idaho’s other natural history museums through mentoring and training in sound museological practices and is building educational and research collaborations across the state.

The Idaho Museum of Natural History is home to collections in anthropology, archaeology, paleontology, earth science, and the life sciences. It holds an archive of collection related documentation, and field notes, historic and research documents, ethnographic photographs, and audio recordings. It also houses the eastern branch of the Archaeological Survey of Idaho. Researchers pursue scholarly study of the collections and publish their findings in peer reviewed and Museum-sponsored publications. Exhibitions emphasize the collections and mission of the Museum, and include permanent and special offerings. Educational classes for children, families, and adults provide more in-depth exploration of the natural history of Idaho.

Core Functions/Idaho Code:

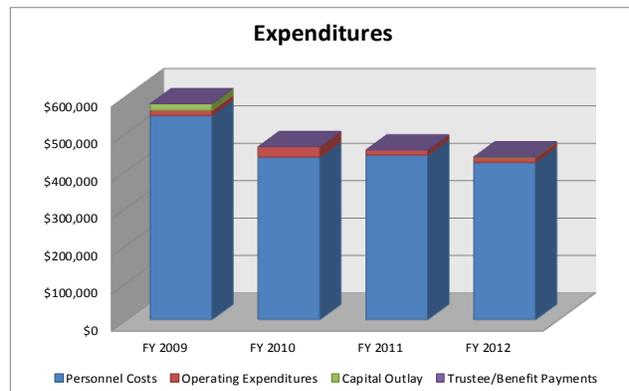
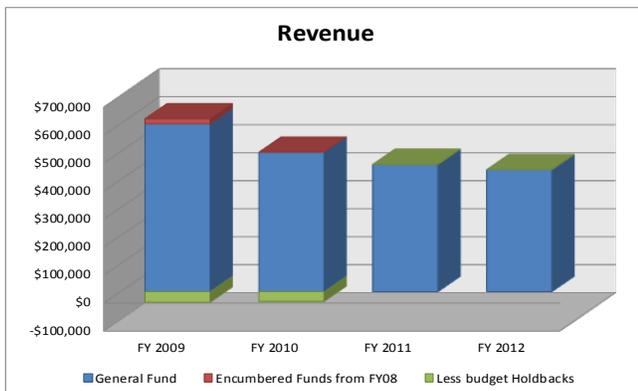
The Idaho Museum of Natural History has two core functions:

- 1) To collect, care for, preserve, research, interpret and present — through educational programs and exhibitions — Idaho’s cultural and natural heritage.
- 2) To support and encourage local and municipal natural history museums throughout the state of Idaho.

Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
General Fund	\$599,300	\$497,500	\$454,100	\$435,200
Encumbered Funds from FY08	\$17,512	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less budget Holdbacks	\$(37,838)	\$(34,800)	\$0	\$0
Total	\$578,974	\$462,700	\$454,100	\$435,200

Expenditure	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Personnel Costs	\$546,100	\$434,877	\$440,300	\$420,945
Operating Expenditures	\$13,805	\$27,847	\$13,800	\$12,855
Capital Outlay	\$17,812	\$0	\$0	\$1,400
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$577,717	\$462,724	\$454,100	\$435,200



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided:

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
Number of General Public Visitors	4,378	2,052	4,212	7,469
Number of Educational Programs for Public Audiences	64	18	27	45
Number of K12 Students on Class Tours	2,481	2,197	3,660	2,836
Outreach Visits to Idaho Schools (42 Trips)	2,611	1,523	1,949	3,060
Number of K12 Tours	104	82	75	97
Exhibitions Mounted	5	0	20	9
Loans from Collections	273	174	37	28
Visiting Scientists	41	3	56	34
Volunteer Hours	1,210	869.5	1850.5	2045.75

- 1) **Collections and Associated Research:** a) Secure space, care and storage of collections; b) access to collections records and other archived information; c) research and presentation of new knowledge. These services are provided to those depositing collections, scholars, other natural history organizations, and Idaho's and others' museums.
- 2) **Education and Training:** on-site and web-based training via workshops, classes, outreach materials, internships, facilitated tours and exhibitions. These are provided to K-12 students, higher education students, instructors and teachers, residents and visitors.
- 3) **Resources, Expertise, and Consultation:** a) natural history object identification; b) specialty equipment for natural history object study; c) technical services supporting collections and research; d) expertise for compliance with Federal and State collections regulations; e) as a venue / space for exhibitions; f) as a source for natural history traveling exhibitions; g) expertise on natural history topics and museology. These are provided to residents, visitors, scholars, organizations and agencies required to repository collections in an accredited 36 CFR Part 79 compliant repository, other natural history organization, Idaho's and others' museums.

Performance Highlights:

Two major agreements with the Smithsonian Institution were completed. The IMNH is now an Affiliate of the Smithsonian. We signed a two year agreement to provide scanning services to the Smithsonian through the IMNH Virtualization Laboratory.

Two major on-going National Science Foundation awards totaling over 1.25 million were continued.

- The Virtual Zooarchaeology of the Arctic Project is a 3D virtual museum of animal bones. This year we added the complete scans of two orca skeletons, the world's first complete scan of an orca.
- The Alamo Impact Project focuses on describing the crater geometry and ecosystem response to a Devonian bolide impact in southeast Nevada. This year, two MS Geology students completed field mapping and paleontological collecting efforts, and another coauthored the first article submission for the Project, describing size and volume estimates of the Alamo impact. Our two-week educational outreach in June trained K-12 educators and high school female students with field- and classroom-based research activities.

We hosted 28 researchers from outside the museum throughout the Divisions. In addition, Workshops and training seminars were regularly held throughout the museum units. We gave over 50 tours of the collections and facilities to the public and professional communities. We mentored over 30 student employees and volunteers. We participated in a number of K-12 educational programs both in the museum and through visiting local schools. Annual visits from all Federal agencies identified the IMNH as the premier collections facility for federal collections in the region.

Critically important to our service mission as The Idaho Museum of Natural History, the Museum has now begun an effort to put all of our collections on-line in a format readily accessible to the peoples of Idaho. The IMNH Virtual Museum of Idaho will be the foundation for presenting our Natural History to the World. The first stages of this project are now funded by a Technology Incentive Grant from the State of Idaho, and proposals have been submitted to the National Science Foundation.

The Idaho Virtualization Laboratory, funded by the National Science Foundation, is a key part of the museum. We now house one of the INL / CAES 3D Virtual Environment units for 3D visualization and simulation as a long-term loan.

Exhibits featured at the Idaho Museum of Natural History July 1, 2011 to June 30th, 2012 included the following. These exhibits are representative of the high quality programming that the Museum staff and constituencies are consistently offering the citizens of the State of Idaho

New Exhibits

Camas: A Biogeographical and Socio-economic Sketch. 1800 ft², Explores the biodiversity and importance of camas prairies to Native Peoples through an interpretive display of specimens and objects from Life Sciences, the Herbarium, and Anthropology Collections.

Don Crabtree: A Retrospective. 250 ft², Documents the work of renowned flintknapper that paved the way for scientific analyses of archaeological stone tools. Over 100 replica points, drills, and bifaces displayed with archival film footage of Crabtree demonstrating various techniques.

Arctodus simus - Short-faced Bear Skeleton. 62 ft², Addition to Idaho Ice-Age Mammal Display. Reproduction skeleton constructed in gallery to provide visitors with a "behind-the-scenes" experience.

Winter Story. 9 ft², Small mammal adaptations to survive winter conditions

Shoshone Pottery on the Snake River Plain. 9 ft², Early Shoshone pottery and method of manufacture

Ghost Towns of Idaho. 10 linear feet, Student-curated display looking at historic preservation, settlement patterns, economics, and legends surrounding three Idaho ghost towns.

3D Virtual Bones. 20 linear feet, Examples of work created by Museum staff in the IVL

On-Going Exhibits

- 12,000 years of human activity at the Wasden Site
- What Can Owl Pellets Tell Us About Climate Change?
- Idaho Trackways and Dinosaurs from the Cretaceous
- Gemstones of Idaho
- Live exhibit - Paleo Lab
- Raising the Tolo Lake Mammoth
- Ice Age Mammals of Idaho – featured full mount replicas

K12 Programs offered throughout the year included:

Science Trek, a program offered to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade children from throughout southeastern Idaho, celebrated its 24th anniversary in April 2012. This program, a partnership with Idaho Public Television, has over the course of 24 years introduced many STEM/scientific disciplines to 3,300 of Idaho's youth by placing them with practicing scientists at Idaho State University.

The Idaho Geology Outreach Grant (IGO) project has applied its energies during 2011 – 2012 to concluding the project by finishing the IGO Online web site and submitting the final report. Due to the IGO Project capacity has been built for the delivery of programs and products. The Alamo Impact Project has developed from the IGO project and continues the process of designing and developing the information and products pertinent to the diverse geology of participants' local areas. The Alamo Impact Project worked in June 2012 with nine educators in Nevada and three teen-aged young women to deliver information and experience in the geosciences. The Alamo Impact Project incorporates customizing the format of a professional development component and online learning modules to the localities of rural educators as well as a point-to-point internet lecture aspect to deliver information on the geosciences directly into rural classrooms. The Alamo Project continues into June 2013 with another professional development workshop and Women's Research Experience for teen-aged young women.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY 2008	FY 2009	*FY 2010	FY 2011	2012 Benchmark	2012 Actual	2013 Benchmark
Number of People Served by the General Public Museum Programs	11,022	11,054	8,937	9,821	10,312	13,365 27% increase	Equal 2012
Grant/Contract Revenue Received	\$14,823	\$10,098	\$208,736	\$675,128	\$708,884	\$619,348	Increase by 5%
Number of Exhibitions Developed	1	5	0	20	20	7**	20
Museum Store Revenue Received	\$22,912	\$24,588	\$12,707	\$5,315	\$5,846	\$10,179 48% increase	Increase by 5%
Number of Educational Programs	84	168	100	103	108	184	Increase by 5%

***All of the Performance Measures were impacted by the Museum gallery and store closing in December 2009 for ADA required construction. We created new exhibits and displays for Fall 2010. Benchmarks related to the Museum gallery and store were based on a return to FY 2009 levels.**

****Transition from small exhibits to major exhibits.**

Performance Measure Explanatory Notes:

The Idaho Museum of Natural History went through significant changes during 2009 – 2010. These changes included the loss of staff due to retirement, reduction in force driven by deep cuts in funding, restructuring of core museum programs, and finding other employment. Staff numbers were decreased from 13 to 9 (six with full time appointments, three ranging from .15 to .6 appointments). These reductions in an already small staff impacted the number of programs offered.

The challenging economic climate and gallery remodeling affected the numbers of K12 school groups visiting the museum and numbers of children registered in K12 programs offered through the museum. One continuing program will be offering Museum learning experiences; both outreach and in gallery, to the 21st Century Afterschool program children through School District #25. This project works with 250 children at six different schools every month throughout the school year

Museum activity for the next one - two years will be focused on the development of strong collections areas, the development of rigorous research performed by IMNH curators, and the delivery of knowledge to Idaho's learning communities in the form of new exhibits, although because of budget reductions, we no longer have any staff dedicated to exhibits. Critical to our future is the creation of the Virtual Museum of Idaho, so that students, public, and researchers may use our collections from anywhere in the world.

For More Information Contact

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