

## Part I – 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 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
General Fund	\$497,500	\$454,100	\$435,200	\$452,500
Encumbered Funds from FY08	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less budget Holdbacks	\$(34,800)	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$462,700</b>	<b>\$454,100</b>	<b>\$435,200</b>	<b>\$452,500</b>
Expenditure	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personnel Costs	\$434,877	\$440,300	\$420,945	\$438,700
Operating Expenditures	\$27,847	\$13,800	\$12,855	\$13,800
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$1,400	\$0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$462,724</b>	<b>\$454,100</b>	<b>\$435,200</b>	<b>\$452,500</b>

### Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided:

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013*
Number of General Public Visitors	2,052	4,212	7,469	6,030
Number of Educational Programs for Public Audiences	18	27	45	64
Number of K12 Students on Class Tours	2,197	3,660	2,836	581
Outreach Visits to Idaho Schools (42 Trips)	1,523	1,949	3,060	3,523
Number of K12 Tours	82	75	97	19
Exhibitions Mounted	0	20	9	16
Loans from Collections	174	37	28	32
Visiting Scientists	3	56	34	16
Volunteer Hours	869.5	1850.5	2045.75	1,926

**\*Some Performance Measures were impacted by the Museum gallery closing for major remodeling April – June 2013 and by the long-term emergency medical leave of the museum education coordinator.**

- 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.

Three major on-going National Science Foundation awards totaling over 1.6 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.
- The Development of Virtual Repositories for museum education is a funded project to develop prototypes for putting entire archaeological collections online in 3D images.

We hosted 16 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 40 student interns 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.

\$600,000 grant from the Hitz Foundation. Critically important to our service mission as The Idaho Museum of Natural History, the Museum continued 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 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.

### Three spectacular exhibits

- “Whorl Tooth Sharks of Idaho”
- Wrensted exhibit of early Ft. Hall photography
- BLM Sponsored “Lifeways of the Snake River Plain”

### Accomplishments

- Complete Gallery Remodel with new carpet, paint, lighting, and new security systems.
- Complete reorganization and remodel of the Science Discovery Center for K-12 STEM education.
- Expansion of the Idaho Virtualization Laboratory for 3D modeling and visualization.

### Awards and Honors

- IMNH had the lead article in *Museum* magazine in April highlighting 3D technologies in museums.
- Two IMNH Interns and ISU students awarded prestigious summer internships at the Smithsonian.
- Director Maschner elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).
- Director Maschner elected Idaho State Journal Business Person of the Year.
- Director Maschner gave keynote presentation at the Smithsonian Affiliates Conference.

### Education

- IMNH staff taught courses in Museum Studies.
- IMNH staff mentored 30 interns and 22 volunteers.
- IMNH staff taught Natural History to over 8,000 K-8 students.
- Director Maschner gave a keynote presentation at the Smithsonian Affiliates Conference.

### K12 Programs offered throughout the year included:

**Science Trek**, a program offered to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade children from throughout southeastern Idaho, celebrated its 25th anniversary in April 2013. This program, a partnership with Idaho Public Television, has over the course of 25 years introduced many STEM/scientific disciplines to 3,300 of Idaho’s youth by placing them with practicing scientists at Idaho State University.

**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 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 2014 with another professional development workshop and Women’s Research Experience for teen-aged young women.

**Part II – Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	*FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Benchmark
Number of People Served by the General Public Museum Programs	8,937	9,821	13,365	10,134* 24% decrease	Equal 2012
Grant/Contract and Donation Revenue Received	\$208,736	\$675,128	\$619,348	\$939,627 34% increase	Equal 2012
Number of Exhibitions Developed	0	20	7	14 100% increase	5**
Museum Store Revenue Received	\$12,707	\$5,315	\$10,179	\$11,297 10% increase	Increase by 5%
Number of Educational Programs	100	103	184	215 14% increase	Increase by 5%

**\*Some Performance Measures were impacted by the Museum gallery and store closing for major remodeling April – June 2013 and by the long-term emergency medical leave of the museum education coordinator.**

**\*\* Transition to fewer but larger and more spectacular 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 in all years since that time.

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 21<sup>st</sup> 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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