



## 2012 Recap: Our 2012 annual report is now available

Highlights of fiscal year 2012 and the calendar year are now available in the 2012 Idaho Department of Lands Annual Report released today.

[The annual report is available here.](#)

The following are among the topics we covered in this annual report. These many highlights only scrape the surface of what we accomplished last year!

The report also includes many incredible photos taken by our own staff. Our foresters, rangeland specialists, and other land asset managers sure know how to take beautiful photos.



### Our Revamped Vision

We want to become the premier organization for trust management, service, and regulatory oversight in the western United States.

### Forest Management

A record timber harvest followed by aggressive tree replanting efforts in FY12 means Idahoans were working even more because of our active management of endowment trust forests.

### Oil and Gas

Last year the Idaho Legislature supported significant changes to Idaho's statutes and rules related to the exploration, drilling and production of oil and gas resources in Idaho.

### Fire

The year 2012 was one of the biggest fire seasons in Idaho since the Panhandle's deadly "Big Burn" of 1910, but on lands protected by the State (IDL), the 2012 fire season was below the 20-year average for fire occurrence and acres burned.

### Forest Protection

The IDL participated in a quadrennial audit led by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to inspect 43 harvested sites statewide across all types of ownerships to assess compliance with Idaho forest protection laws and effects to water quality.

### Commercial Leasing

Leasing for commercial uses such as commercial energy resources, communication sites, and commercial office/retail produce some of the highest financial returns for our beneficiaries.

### Major Transactions

We made significant progress on the plan to dispose of endowment-owned lakefront properties at Payette and Priest Lakes. We also completed two land exchanges last year.

### Cottage Sites

The endowment trusts own thousands of acres of lakefront property at Priest and Payette Lakes. The lots are known as cottage sites. The families own the cabins and the State owns the dirt and all corresponding rights of a surface land owner. Last year, the Idaho Supreme Court ruled cottage site leases are subject to the public auction requirement if more than one party is interested in leasing the same land, so all cottage site leases will be available for anyone to lease beginning in 2014.

### Managing the Land Assets Long-Term

Idaho's public schools and other public institutions are the beneficiaries of the money made from management of state endowment trust lands. Right now, distributions to beneficiaries depend on land revenues derived mostly from timber harvesting. We plan to meet our Constitutional mandate to maximize the money we make for public schools and other public institutions in Idaho long-term by bringing a more diverse mix of revenue sources to the overall trust land portfolio through land exchanges, sales, and other acquisitions.

### Threatened and Endangered Species

As land managers for one of Idaho's largest landowners-the state endowment trusts-the IDL carefully tracks and weighs in on any proposed federal listings of threatened and endangered species in Idaho that will affect management of endowment trust lands.

