This guide is intended to provide information regarding key agency contacts and environmental permits needed to develop a mining operation.

This guide is not intended to be a total listing of required permits. Laws and regulations may change and other requirements which are not addressed may be applicable. If you do not understand exactly what is required, contact the specific agency or agencies involved with your project.

To use this guide effectively, determine whether you will be operating on land administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Lands or on private land. After determining land ownership, review the major headings at the top of each page. You must also review the section titled MISCELLANEOUS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.

Based on land ownership, determine which activity description applies to your operation, then review that section to obtain specific information regarding permits, agency contact, and general information. Agency contacts, telephone numbers, and locations are provided at the end of this guide.

For questions of land ownership, contact the local county courthouse, State Office of the Bureau of Land Management and the Idaho Department of Lands.

Within this document, the following abbreviations will be used:

BLM — Bureau of Land Management

COE — U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DEQ — Dept. of Health and Welfare, Division of Environmental Quality

EPA — U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

IDL — Idaho Department of Lands

IDWR — Idaho Department of Water Resources

USFS — U.S. Forest Service

USFWS — U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NMFS — National Marine Fisheries Service
MINING OR EXPLORATION ON LANDS ADMINISTERED BY THE
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION OPERATIONS AFFECTING LESS THAN FIVE ACRES

Type of Permit: BLM Notice of Intent
IDL Notice of Exploration or Placer Permit

Agency Contact: Minerals specialist at the appropriate BLM district office (Map No. 5).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: A complete notice must be submitted to the appropriate BLM District Office 15 days prior to commencing operations (see 43 CFR 3809.1-6), and;

IDL requires a notice be submitted to the state or appropriate area office within 7 days of beginning exploration. Placer exploration exceeding 1/2 acre requires a permit; 60-90 day review, $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.

ACTIVITY: MINING OPERATIONS AFFECTING LESS THAN 5 ACRES

Type of Permit: BLM Notice of Intent
IDL Reclamation Plan or Placer Permit

Agency Contact: Mineral specialist at the appropriate BLM district office (Map No. 5). Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: A complete notice must be submitted to the appropriate BLM district office 15 days prior to commencing operations (see 43 CFR 3809.1-6), and IDL requires a reclamation plan or placer permit. Allow 60 days for IDL reclamation plan approval; no fees, bond required. Allow 60 to 90 days for placer permitting; $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.

ACTIVITY: MINING OR EXPLORATION AFFECTING MORE THAN 5 ACRES

Type of Permit: BLM Plan of Operation
IDL Reclamation Plan or Placer Permit.

Agency Contact: Mineral specialist at the appropriate BLM district office (Map No. 5). Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: Plan of operation must be submitted to BLM district office; 30 day review period. Operations may not begin without an approved plan (see 43 CFR 3809.1-6) and IDL requires a reclamation plan or placer permit. Allow 60 days for IDL reclamation plan approval; no fees, bond required. Allow 60 to 90 days for placer permitting; $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.
MINING OR EXPLORATION ON NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS

ACTIVITY: NON-MECHANIZED EXPLORATION

Type of Permit: No notice required
                No notices or permits required by IDL

Agency Contact: Minerals specialist at appropriate National Forest (Table No. 1).

Gen. Information: A complete notice must be submitted to the appropriate Ranger District prior to commencing operations. Operator will be notified within 15 days if a plan of operation is required (see 36 CFR 228.4).

ACTIVITY: MECHANIZED EXPLORATION

Type of Permit: Plan of Operation with USFS
                IDL Notice of Exploration

Agency Contact: Minerals specialist at appropriate National Forest (Table No. 1).
                Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: For the Forest Service, a plan of operation must be filed with appropriate Ranger District before operations begin; 30 day review period with extensions if necessary (see 36 CFR 228.4).

IDL requires an operator to submit to them a copy of the Forest Service plan of operation. Surface exploration exceeding 5 acres, or 10 non-contiguous acres, requires a reclamation plan; 60 day review, bond required. Placer exploration exceeding 1/2 acre requires a permit; 60-90 day review, $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.

ACTIVITY: MINING OPERATIONS

Type of Permit: Plan of Operation with USFS
                IDL Reclamation Plan or Placer Permit

Agency Contact: Minerals specialist at the appropriate National Forest (Table No. 1).
                Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: For the Forest Service, a plan of operation must be filed with appropriate Ranger District before operations begin; 30 day review period with extensions if necessary (see 36 CFR 228.4), and a reclamation plan or placer permit is required by IDL.

IDL reclamation plan approval allows 60 days; no fees, bond required. Allow 60 to 90 days for placer permitting; $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.
### MINING OR EXPLORATION ON PRIVATE LANDS

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Type of Permit:</td>
<td>IDL Notice of Exploration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency Contact:</td>
<td>Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gen. Information:</td>
<td>IDL requires an exploration notice be filed with the appropriate office within 7 days of commencing motorized operations. Placer exploration that exceeds 1/2 acre, including access roads, must obtain a placer permit; 60-90 day review, $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required. Surface exploration that exceeds 5 contiguous, or 10 non-contiguous, acres must obtain a reclamation plan. See MINING CONDUCTED ON PRIVATE LANDS</td>
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### MINING

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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| Type of Permit: | IDL Placer Permit  
IDL Reclamation Plan |
| Agency Contact: | Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3). |
| Gen. Information: | IDL approves surface mine reclamation plans within 60 days, weather permitting; no fee required, bonding required not to exceed $1800.00 per affected acre.  
IDL approves placer mine permits within 60-90 days, weather permitting; $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bonding required for actual cost of reclamation. |
MINING OR EXPLORATION ON IDAHO STATE LANDS OR RIVERBEDS

ACTIVITY: CASUAL EXPLORATION ON IDAHO STATE LANDS

Type of Permit: No permitting necessary; optional lease or location

Agency Contact: Mineral leasing specialist at IDL state office (Map No. 3).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: All state-owned lands not withdrawn, leased, or located are open for casual exploration without a permit from IDL. IDL does not require a permit for casual exploration on state-owned lands not withdrawn, leased or located.

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ACTIVITY: CASUAL/RECREATIONAL EXPLORATION ON NAVIGABLE RIVERS

Type of Permit: No permitting necessary; optional lease or location.
See MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS -- IDWR.

Agency Contact: Mineral leasing specialist at IDL state office (Map No. 3).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: All navigable rivers not withdrawn, leased, or located are open for casual/recreational exploration without a permit from IDL. IDL does not require a permit for casual exploration/recreational mining on navigable rivers not withdrawn, leased or located.

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ACTIVITY: MOTORIZED EXPLORATION/MINING ON IDAHO STATE LANDS

Type of Permit: Mineral Location or Mineral Lease and written approval of exploration or operating/reclamation plan.

Agency Contact: Mineral leasing specialist at IDL state office (Map No. 3).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: IDL requires an approved mineral location or lease application with fees, rents, and bonds, prior to conducting motorized exploration or mining Idaho state lands. Exploration/operation activity requires 60 days advance notice, no fees, bond may be required.

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ACTIVITY: MOTORIZED EXPLORATION/MINING ON NAVIGABLE RIVERS

Type of Permit: Mineral Lease and written approval of exploration or operation plan and IDL Placer Permit, if using a suction dredge with an intake larger than eight (8) inches, or motorized equipment.
See MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS -- IDWR

Agency Contact: Mineral leasing specialist at IDL state office (Map. No. 3).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: Approved lease document required with appropriate fees, rents, and bonds. Exploration/mining activity requires 60 days advance notice, no fees, bonds required.
**MISCELLANEOUS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

**ACTIVITY:** OPERATION OF A SUCCION DREDGE WITH NOZZLE INTAKE DIAMETER OF EIGHT (8) INCHES OR SMALLER.

Type of Permit: IDWR Stream Channel Alteration Permit.

Agency Contact: Stream protection specialist at appropriate IDWR regional office (Map No. 2).

Gen. Information: Nozzle diameter of five (5) inches or less -- one stop recreational permit, good for year issued.
Nozzle diameter of more than five (5) inches -- joint state-federal stream channel alteration permit; review time based on complexity of the project.

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**ACTIVITY:** OPERATION OF A SUCCION DREDGE WITH NOZZLE INTAKE DIAMETER LARGER THAN EIGHT (8) INCHES

Type of Permit: Joint State-Federal Stream Channel Alteration Permit.
IDL Placer Mine Permit.

Agency Contact: Stream protection specialist at appropriate IDWR office (Map No. 2).
Mineral resource technician at appropriate IDL area office (Map No. 3).

Gen. Information: Stream channel alteration permit application review time based on complexity of permit. IDL requires 60 - 90 days for issuance of placer permit; $50.00 application fee/10 acres, bond required.

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**ACTIVITY:** USE OF SURFACE OR GROUND WATER IN MINING OR EXPLORATION OPERATION

Type of Permit: IDWR Water Right

Agency Contact: Water rights resource agent at appropriate IDWR regional office (Map No. 2).

Gen. Information: IDWR appropriation application review activity requires 6-8 weeks providing the application is not protested; fee based on rate of diversion. A groundwater construction permit is required to drill a well.

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**ACTIVITY:** MINING, EXPLORATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED WITHIN THE HIGHWATER MARK OF A STREAM CHANNEL OR OPERATIONS AFFECTING SURFACE WATERS

Type of Permit: IDWR Stream Channel Alteration Permit

Agency Contact: Stream protection specialist at appropriate IDWR office (Map No. 2).

Gen. Information: Joint state/federal stream channel alteration permit required; review time based on complexity of project.
MISCELLANEOUS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY: STORM-WATER WHICH CONTACTS RAW, INTERMEDIATE, OR FINAL PRODUCTS; OR WASTE MATERIAL/PROCESS WASTE; OR PROCESS WATER WHICH DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS

Type of Permit: EPA 402 Permit (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)

Agency Contact: Environmental Protection Agency, Attention: Appropriate Agent, 422 West Washington, Boise, Idaho 83702, telephone (208) 334-9505 (Map No. 6). Also contact the stream channel protection specialist at appropriate IDWR regional office (Map No. 2).

Gen. Information: Application must be made 180 days prior to discharge; no fees.

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ACTIVITY: LAND APPLICATION OF MINE OR MILL WASTEWATER

Type of Permit: No permit; approval from the Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Environmental Quality

Agency Contact: Appropriate area office of DEQ (Map No. 1).

Gen. Information: Groundwater monitoring for water quality required. DEQ will review plans to ensure compliance with water quality standards.

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ACTIVITY: DISCHARGE OF DREDGED OR FILL MATERIAL INTO WETLANDS OR BELOW THE ORDINARY HIGHWATER MARK OF ANY SURFACE WATER.

Type of Permit: Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit

Agency Contact: Appropriate COE office (Map No. 6).

Gen. Information: Permit review times vary depending on complexity of project. Unavoidable impacts to wetlands must be mitigated.

ACTIVITY: USE OF CYANIDE IN MINERAL RECOVERY, MINING, OR EXPLORATION OPERATIONS

Type of Permit: DEQ Cyanidation Permit

Agency Contact: Appropriate DEQ area office (Map No. 1).

Gen. Information: Application fee of $100.00; 4-6 month permit review process, minimum $25,000.00 bond required. On public lands it is advisable to submit an application after an environmental assessment or draft environmental impact statement has been completed.
AGENCIES REQUIRING REVIEW, COMMENT OR CONSULTATION

ACTIVITY: CONSTRUCTION OF SEWAGE OR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Type of Permit: No permit; review of design plans and specifications is authorized under Idaho Code title 39, chapter 118.

Agency Contact: Appropriate DEQ area office (Map No. 1).

Gen. Information: No fee; environmental review and approval of plans and specifications are coordinated, when applicable, with dam safety reviews by the IDWR. Plans and specifications are reviewed by a DEQ engineer before construction. With some exceptions, the plans must be certified by an engineer licensed to practice in Idaho.

For placer mining, information provided under Rule 021 of the Rules Governing Placer and Dredge Mining Operations in Idaho will provide adequate information for DEQ review.

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ACTIVITY: REGIONS WHERE THREATENED OR ENDANGERED SPECIES MAY BE IMPACTED BY ANY ACTIVITY MINING RELATED.

Type of Permit: No permit; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has a mandate to conserve and restore populations and critical habitat for Snake River salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and to conserve and enhance populations of other anadromous fishes such as steelhead. NMFS's primary authorities for related actions in Idaho include the ESA, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) also has authorizations and mandates specified under the ESA, FWCA, CWA, and NEPA as well as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Generally, anadromous fish and their supporting habitat responsibilities rest with NMFS, and the USFWS is responsible for ensuring that federal activities include appropriate consideration of resident fish and wildlife and their habitats.

Agency Contact: National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service both maintain field offices in Boise, Idaho.

Gen. Information: No fee; the agencies' authorities and responsibilities are met through participation in the NEPA analysis of proposed plans and the FWCA review and conditioning of Corps of Engineers and EPA permits. All federal agencies are required to consult with NMFS or USFWS to ensure that actions undertaken or permitted by their agency will be consistent with the provisions of the ESA. Private sector actions that require a federal permit must be coordinated through the permitting (action) agency to ensure that the act of enabling the action through a federal permit complies with ESA requirements. Most project proposals can be modified or the enabling permits conditioned to meet the mandated resource concerns of NMFS and USFWS.
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WATER QUALITY FIELD OFFICES

1. North Idaho (769-1422)
   2110 Ironwood Parkway
   Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

2. North Central Idaho (799-4370)
   1118 F Street
   Lewiston, ID 83501

3. Lewiston Sub-Reg. Fld. Office (983-0808)
   Federal Building, Room 203
   Grangeville, ID 83530

4. Treasure Valley Area Office (334-0502)
   1410 North Hilton
   Boise, ID 83706-1290

5. South Central Idaho (736-2190)
   601 Poleline Road Suite 2
   Twin Falls, ID 83301

6. Southeast Idaho (236-6160)
   224 South Arthur
   Pocatello, ID 83204

7. Eastern Idaho (528-2650)
   900 North Skyline Drive
   Idaho Falls, ID 83402
1. **Northern Region** (769-1459)
   1910 Northwest Boulevard, #210
   Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

2. **Western Region** (334-2190)
   2735 Airport Way
   Boise, Idaho 83705

3. **Southern Region** (736-3033)
   222 Shoshone Street East
   Twin Falls, ID 83301

4. **Eastern Region** (525-7161)
   900 North Skyline Drive
   Idaho Falls, ID 83402
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS
Mineral Regulatory Areas

1. PRIEST LAKE (443-2516)
   Route 1, Box 284
   Coeur d'Alene, ID 83821

2. PEND ORIELLE LAKE (263-5104)
   P.O. Box 909
   Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

3. ST. JOE (245-4551)
   1806 Main Avenue
   St. Maries, Idaho 83861

PLACER MINING IN AREAS 1, 2 AND 3 (765-5235)
MINERAL RESOURCES TECH, AREAS 1, 2, 3
1910 Northwest Blvd., Suite 101
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

4. CLEARWATER (476-4587)
   MINERAL RESOURCES TECH.
   10230 Highway 12
   Orofino, Idaho 83544

5. PAYETTE LAKES (634-7125)
   MINERAL RESOURCES TECH
   P.O. Box AS
   McCall, Idaho 83638

6. SOUTHWESTERN (334-3488)
   MINERAL RESOURCES TECH, AREAS 6, 7
   8355 West State Street
   Boise, ID 83703

7. SOUTH CENTRAL (934-5606)
   P.O. Box 149
   Gooding, Idaho 83330

8. EASTERN (523-5398)
   MINERAL RESOURCE TECHNICIAN
   Route 1, Box 400
   Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401
1. PANHANDLE REGION (769-1414)
   2750 Kathleen Avenue
   Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

2. CLEARWATER REGION (799-5011)
   1540 Warner Avenue
   Lewiston, ID 83501-5699

3. *McCALL SUB-REGION (634-8137)
   555 Deinhard Lane
   McCall, Idaho 83638-0905

4. SOUTHWEST REGION (465-8465)
   3101 S. Powerline Road
   Nampa, Idaho 83686

5. MAGIC VALLEY REGION (324-4359)
   888 East Main, P.O. Box 428
   Jerome, ID 83338-0428

6. SOUTHEAST REGION (232-4703)
   1345 Barton Road
   Pocatello, ID 83204

7. UPPER SNAKE REGION (525-7290)
   1515 Lincoln Road
   Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

8. SALMON REGION (756-2271)
   P.O. Box 1336
   Salmon, ID 83467
1. Coeur d'Alene District Office
   1808 North Third Street
   Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 (769-5000)

2. Boise District Office
   3948 Development Avenue
   Boise, Idaho 83705 (384-3300)

3. Salmon District Office
   P.O. Box 430
   Salmon, Idaho 83467 (756-5400)

4. Shoshone District Office
   P.O. Box 2B
   Shoshone, Idaho 83352 (886-2206)

5. Burley District Office
   Route 3, Box 1
   Burley, Idaho 83318 (678-5514)

6. Idaho Falls District Office
   940 Lincoln Road
   Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401 (524-7500)

7. Cottonwood Resource Area
   Route 3, Box 181
   Cottonwood, ID 83522 (962-3245)
1. Coeur d'Alene Field Office
   (765-7237) or (765-7256)
   1201 Ironwood Drive
   Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

2. Boise Field Office (343-0671)
   Lucky Peak Project, COE
   HC 33 Box 1020
   Boise, Idaho 83706

3. Eastern Idaho Field Office (522-1645)
   1820 East 17th Street
   Suite 350 Exchange Plaza
   Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401
The personnel at the following national forest offices will direct you to the appropriate geologist:

**BOISE NATIONAL FOREST**
1750 Front Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
(208) 364-4100

**CARIBOU NATIONAL FOREST**
Federal Building, Suite 187  
250 South 4th Avenue  
Pocatello, Idaho 83201  
(208) 236-7500

**CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST**
Highway 93 North  
HC 63 BOX 1671  
Challis, Idaho 83226-9304  
(208) 879-2285

**PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST**
106 East Park Street  
P.O. Box 1026  
McCall, Idaho 83638  
(208) 634-0700

**SALMON NATIONAL FOREST**
Forest Service Building  
Highway 93 North  
P.O. Box 729  
Salmon, Idaho 83467  
(208) 756-2215

**SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST**
2647 Kimberly Road East  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-3200  
(208) 737-3200

**TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST**
420 North Bridge Street  
P.O. Box 208  
St. Anthony, Idaho 83445  
(208) 624-3151

**CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST**
12730 Highway 12  
Orofino, Idaho 83544  
(208) 476-4541

**NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST**
Route 2, Box 475  
Grangeville, Idaho 83530  
(208) 983-1950

**IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FOREST**
3815 Schreiber Way  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814-8363  
(208) 765-7223
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY</td>
<td>422 West Washington</td>
<td>(208) 334-1450</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boise, Idaho 83702</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE</td>
<td>4696 Overland Road, Room 576</td>
<td>(208) 334-1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boise, Idaho 83705</td>
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<tr>
<td>NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE</td>
<td>525 N.E. Oregon Street, Suite 500</td>
<td>(503) 230-5400</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Portland, Oregon 97232</td>
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