

State Board of Land Commissioners Open Meeting Checklist

Meeting Date: February 17, 2026

Regular Meetings

Date	Action
2/3/2026	Meeting Notice posted in Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Boise Director's office five (5) or more calendar days before meeting.
2/3/2026	Meeting Notice posted in IDL Coeur d'Alene staff office five (5) or more calendar days before meeting.
2/3/2026	Meeting Notice posted at meeting location five (5) or more calendar days before meeting.
2/3/2026	Meeting Notice posted electronically on IDL website (https://www.idl.idaho.gov) five (5) or more calendar days before meeting.
2/3/2026	Meeting Notice published on Townhall Idaho website (https://townhall.idaho.gov) five (5) or more calendar days before meeting.
2/13/2026	Agenda posted in IDL Boise Director's office forty-eight (48) hours before meeting.
2/13/2026	Agenda posted in IDL Coeur d'Alene staff office forty-eight (48) hours before meeting.
2/13/2026	Agenda posted at meeting location forty-eight (48) hours before meeting.
2/13/2026	Agenda posted electronically on IDL website (https://www.idl.idaho.gov) forty-eight (48) hours before meeting.
2/13/2026	Agenda published on Townhall Idaho website (https://townhall.idaho.gov) forty-eight (48) hours before meeting.
1/9/2026	Land Board annual meeting schedule posted—Boise Director's office, Coeur d'Alene staff office, and IDL website (https://www.idl.idaho.gov).

Certification

/s/ Amber Mitchell

Recording Secretary

February 13, 2026

Date



Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners

Brad Little, Governor and President of the Board

Phil McGrane, Secretary of State

Raúl R. Labrador, Attorney General

Brandon D Woolf, State Controller

Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dustin T. Miller, Secretary to the Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FEBRUARY 2026

The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners will hold a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 in the **Boise City Council Chambers, Boise City Hall, 3rd Floor, 150 N. Capitol Blvd.**, Boise. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM (MT).

Please note meeting location.

Directions: Enter City Hall from Capitol Blvd.; take the Capitol Boulevard elevators to the 3rd floor; Council Chambers are directly across from the elevators.

The State Board of Land Commissioners will conduct this meeting in person and by virtual means. This meeting is open to the public. No public comment will be taken.

[View live streaming via YouTube:](#)

<https://youtube.com/live/nccS8H7pF-k>

[Register to attend the Zoom webinar:](#)

https://idl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7qBA7mMZRXynK04g28CTuA

This notice is published pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204. For additional information regarding Idaho's Open Meeting Law, please see Idaho Code §§ 74-201 through 74-208.

Idaho Department of Lands, 300 N 6th Street, Suite 103, Boise ID 83702, 208.334.0200



Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners

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Final Agenda

State Board of Land Commissioners Regular Meeting

February 17, 2026–9:00 AM (MT)

Boise City Council Chambers, Boise City Hall, 3rd Floor, 150 N. Capitol Blvd., Boise

Please note meeting location.

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[Live streaming via YouTube](https://youtube.com/live/nccS8H7pF-k): <https://youtube.com/live/nccS8H7pF-k>

[Register to attend the Zoom webinar](https://idl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7qBA7mMZRXynK04g28CTuA):
https://idl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7qBA7mMZRXynK04g28CTuA

Reports

1. Department Reports—presented by Dustin Miller, Director
 - A. Timber Sales Revenue—January 2026
 - B. Leases/Permits Transactions and Revenue—January 2026
 - C. Land Bank Aging
 - D. Legislative Update
 - E. Resource Protection & Assistance Report
2. Endowment Fund Investment Board—presented by Chris Anton, EFIB Manager of Investments
 - A. Manager's Report
 - B. Investment Report

Consent—Action Item(s)

3. Spirit of Mount Spokane—presented by Jennifer Barker, Program Manager-Forest Legacy
4. Approval of Draft Minutes—December 16, 2025 Regular Meeting

Regular—Action Item(s)

5. Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Advisory Committee Introduction—presented by Shannon Chollett, Division Administrator-Minerals, Navigable Waters, and Oil & Gas

Information

None

Executive Session

None

This agenda is published pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204. The agenda is subject to change by the Land Board. To arrange auxiliary aides or services for persons with disabilities, please contact Idaho Department of Lands at (208) 334-0200. Accommodation requests for auxiliary aides or services must be made no less than five working days in advance of the meeting. Agenda materials are available on [IDL's website](https://www.idl.idaho.gov) at <https://www.idl.idaho.gov/land-board/>.



Idaho Statutes

Idaho Statutes are updated to the website July 1 following the legislative session.

TITLE 74
TRANSPARENT AND ETHICAL GOVERNMENT
CHAPTER 2
OPEN MEETINGS LAW

74-206. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS – WHEN AUTHORIZED. (1) An executive session at which members of the public are excluded may be held, but only for the purposes and only in the manner set forth in this section. The motion to go into executive session shall identify the specific subsections of this section that authorize the executive session. There shall be a roll call vote on the motion and the vote shall be recorded in the minutes. An executive session shall be authorized by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the governing body. An executive session may be held:

(a) To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. This paragraph does not apply to filling a vacancy in an elective office or deliberations about staffing needs in general;

(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student;

(c) To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency;

(d) To consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code;

(e) To consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations;

(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement;

(g) By the commission of pardons and parole, as provided by law;

(h) By the custody review board of the Idaho department of juvenile corrections, as provided by law;

(i) To engage in communications with a representative of the public agency's risk manager or insurance provider to discuss the adjustment of a pending claim or prevention of a claim imminently likely to be filed. The mere presence of a representative of the public agency's risk manager or insurance provider at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement; or

(j) To consider labor contract matters authorized under section 74-206A (1)(a) and (b), Idaho Code.

(2) The exceptions to the general policy in favor of open meetings stated in this section shall be narrowly construed. It shall be a violation of this chapter to change the subject within the executive session to one not identified within the motion to enter the executive session or to any topic for which an executive session is not provided.

(3) No executive session may be held for the purpose of taking any final action or making any final decision.

(4) If the governing board of a public school district, charter district, or public charter school has vacancies such that fewer than two-thirds (2/3) of board members have been seated, then the board may enter into executive session on a simple roll call majority vote.

History:

[74-206, added 2015, ch. 140, sec. 5, p. 371; am. 2015, ch. 271, sec. 1, p. 1125; am. 2018, ch. 169, sec. 25, p. 377; am. 2019, ch. 114, sec. 1, p. 439.]

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026
Trust Land Revenue

Timber Sales

During January 2026, the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) sold two endowment timber sales at auction. Both sales had competitive bidding. The net sale value represents a 29% increase over the appraised value. IDL also sold one Idaho Parks and Recreation (IDPR) timber sale. This sale had competitive bidding increasing the sale value 7% above the appraised value.

TIMBER SALE AUCTIONS								
Sale Name	Area	Sawlog MBF	Cedar Prod MBF	Pulp MBF	Appraised Net Value	Sale Net Value	Net \$/MBF	Purchaser
Pizza Delivered Products	SJ	2,265	5		\$ 1,777,375.00	\$ 1,778,030.00	\$783.27	Various
Cherry Return	PON	7,785			\$ 1,714,936.00	\$ 2,716,164.70	\$348.90	Bennett Lumber
Endowment		10,050	5	0	\$ 3,492,311.00	\$ 4,494,194.70	\$446.96	
Farragut HM (IDPR)	MICA	1,470			\$ 264,472.00	\$ 283,652.00	\$192.96	Vaagen Brothers
Non-Endowment		1,470	0	0	\$ 264,472.00	\$ 283,652.00	\$192.96	

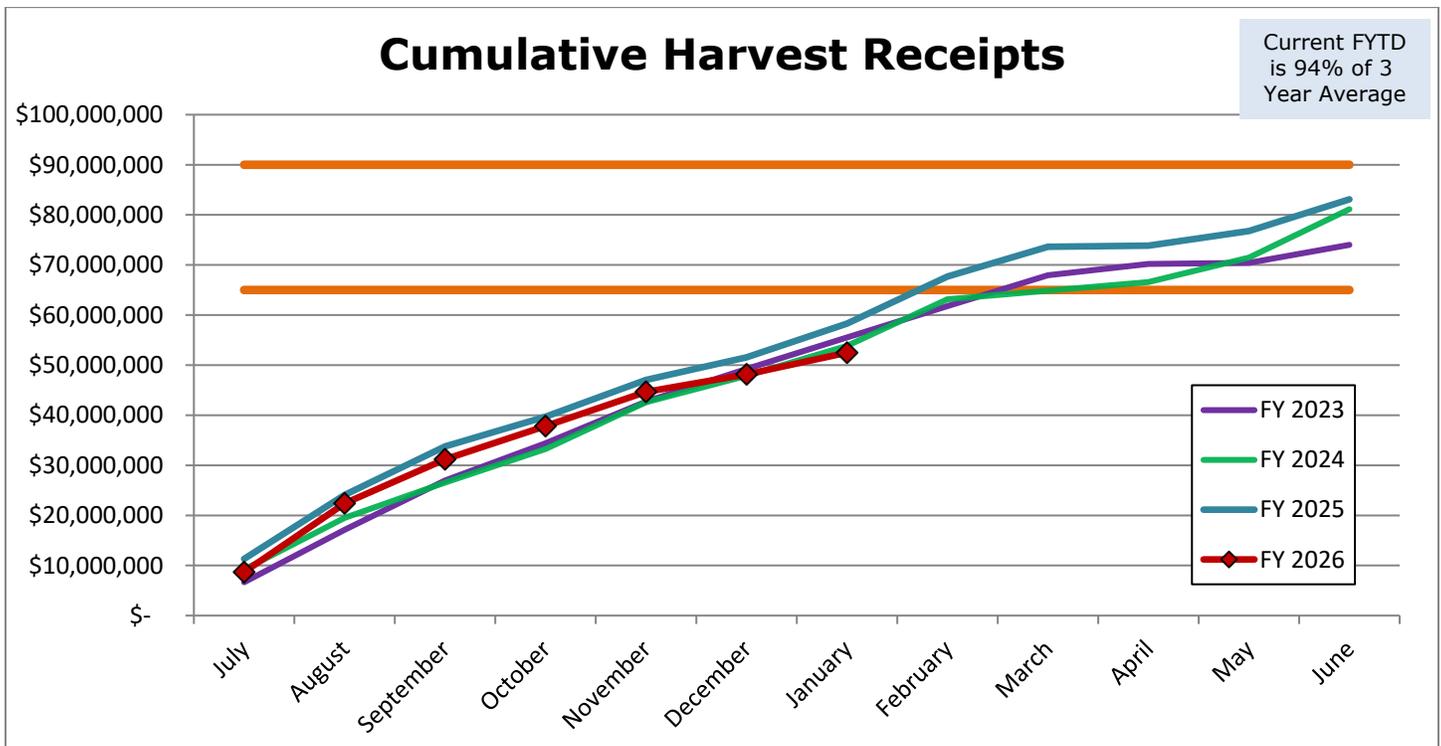
PROPOSED TIMBER SALES FOR AUCTION				
Sale Name	Volume MBF	Advertised Net Value	Area	Scheduled Auction Date
North Operations				
Hortons Cabin	4,270	\$ 785,471.50	PL	2/10/2026
Cedar Tree House	6,440	\$ 2,274,557.50	SJ	2/17/2026
Boehls Bottom	3,690	\$ 432,192.00	SJ	2/17/2026
Smith West OSR	365	\$ 94,893.00	POL	2/24/2026
	14,765	\$ 3,587,114.00		
South Operations				
Cedar Canyon Pulp Salvage	3,115	\$ 415,219.00	CLW	2/11/2026
Johnson Salvage	3,060	\$ 545,346.00	CLW	2/11/2026
Camp Y Salvage	2,700	\$ 462,527.50	CLW	2/11/2026
Stover Ton	1,310	\$ 123,608.05	PAY	2/18/2026
	10,185	\$ 1,546,700.55		

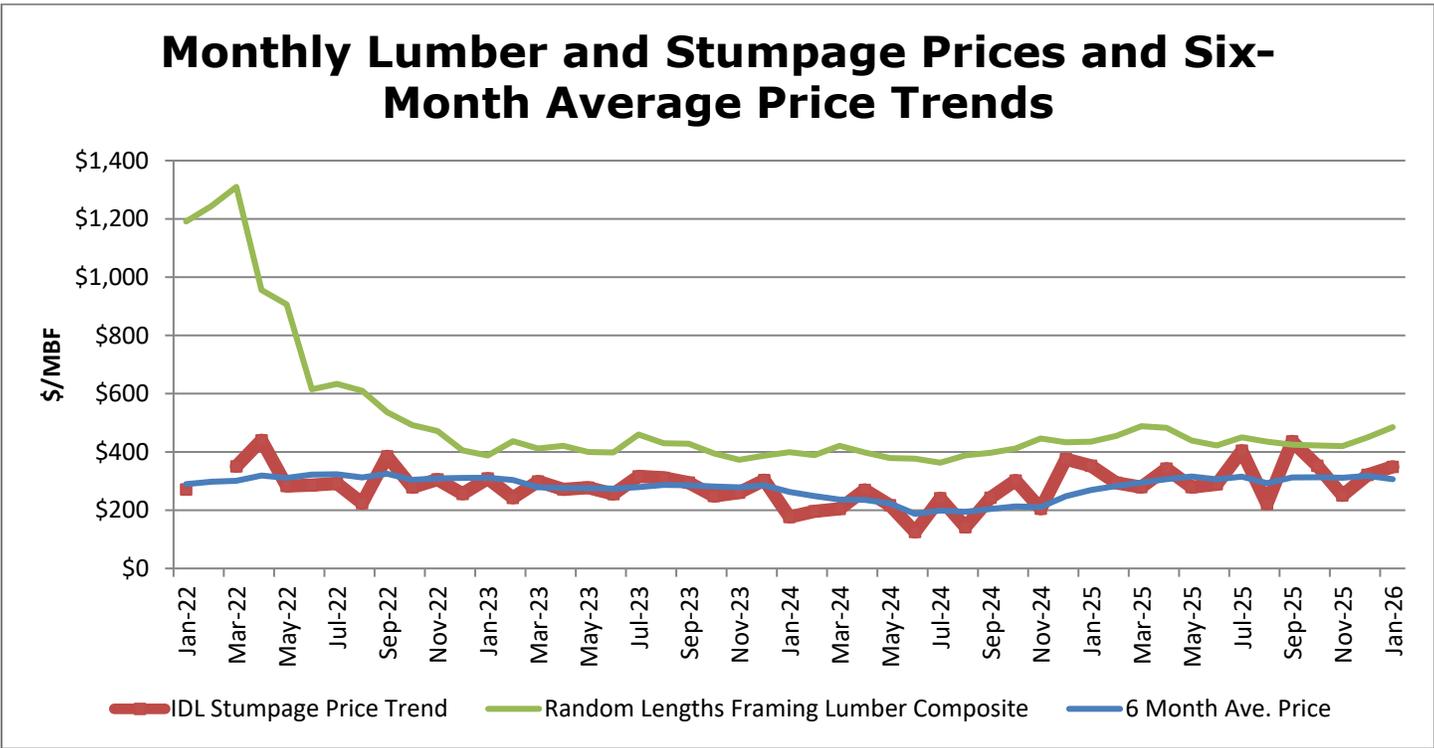
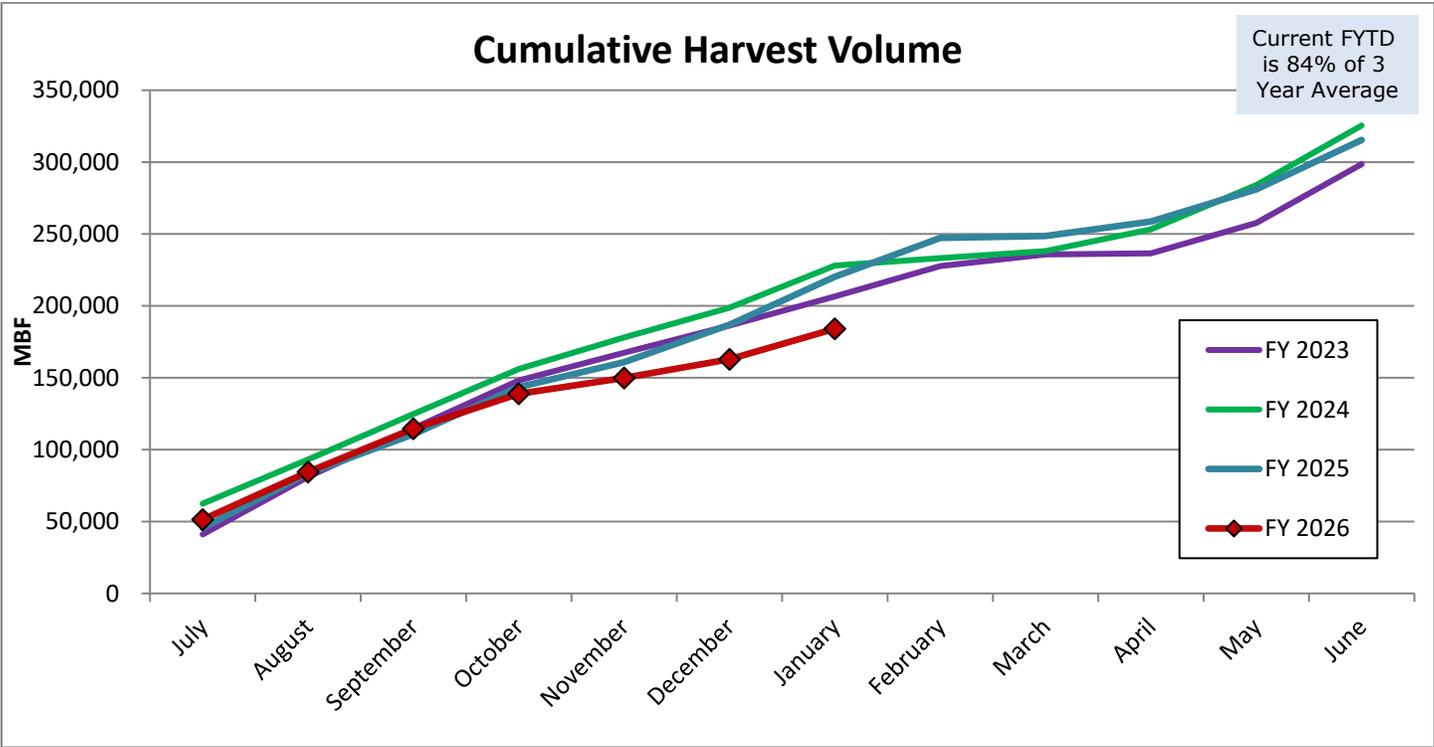
VOLUME UNDER CONTRACT as of January 31, 2026				
	Public School	Pooled	Total	3 Year Avg.
Active Contracts			136	155
Total Residual MBF Equivalent	272,847	174,443	447,290	477,632
Estimated residual value	\$91,548,383	\$56,110,299	\$147,658,682	\$140,454,158
Residual Value (\$/MBF)	\$335.53	\$321.65	\$330.12	\$294.06

TIMBER HARVEST RECEIPTS					
	January		FY to date	February Projected	
	Stumpage	Interest	Harvest Receipts	Stumpage	Interest
Public School	\$ 1,862,308.23	\$ 161,955.52	\$ 32,168,856.91	\$ 3,621,961.16	\$ 248,879.21
Pooled	\$ 2,201,019.63	\$ 100,147.47	\$ 22,796,581.13	\$ 3,717,795.05	\$ 206,179.04
General Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 4,063,327.86	\$ 262,102.99	\$ 54,965,438.04	\$ 7,339,756.21	\$ 455,058.25

Status of FY 2026 Timber Sale Program						
	MBF Sawlog			Number Poles		
	Public School	Pooled	All Endowments	Public School	Pooled	All Endowments
Sold as of January 31, 2026	97,862	53,998	151,860	13,446	3,955	17,401
Currently Advertised	12,877	10,798	23,675	1,285	0	1,285
In Review	20,577	9,073	29,650	263	37	300
Did Not Sell*	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	131,316	73,869	205,185	14,994	3,992	18,986
FY-2026 Sales Plan			333,000			20,000
Percent to Date			62%			95%

* After three attempts at auction.





January 2026 6-month average price is \$306.49.
 January 2025 6-month average price was \$269.39.

December Wind Damage

The December 17, 2025, windstorm resulted in significant timber blowdown across the Inland Northwest, initiating salvage sale recovery efforts for endowment foresters. The storm system brought high winds to endowment stands from the Clearwater to the Panhandle, with peak gusts reaching 84 mph in Lewiston and 91 mph at higher elevations. Further north, the front maintained its momentum with recorded speeds of 81 mph in Pullman and 69 mph in Coeur d'Alene, uprooting and breaking off trees across North Idaho.

IDL foresters started prioritizing salvage logging operations to recover the economic value of downed timber. The estimated salvage sale efforts for the damage are approximately 21 MMBF of endowment timber. The affected supervisory areas are from Maggie Creek north to Priest Lake. The exact numbers are expected to change as cruise information is collected and salvage sales are finalized. Foresters are utilizing active timber sale contract terms, direct sales, and timber (salvage) sales to manage the affected stands.

Windthrown and blowdown salvage sales have a longer shelf-life than wildfires and insect epidemics. However, planning and data collection has been expedited to get ahead of other potential issues caused by downed timber.

The financial impact of wind damaged timber is less than the impact from wildfire. Other than additional breakage causing defect, the trees are still green, and the value of the timber is unchanged from our traditional stumpage sales. Additional logging costs in harvesting and manufacturing (handling) have a minor impact on the stumpage value of this timber. Below is a table quantifying the estimated value lost and the salvage value to the endowments:

	Estimated Volume (MBF)	Estimated Value / MBF	Estimated Value	Percent Loss
Green Sales	21,000	\$ 195.00	\$ 4,095,000.00	
Wind Damage	21,000	\$ 160.00	\$ 3,360,000.00	17.95%

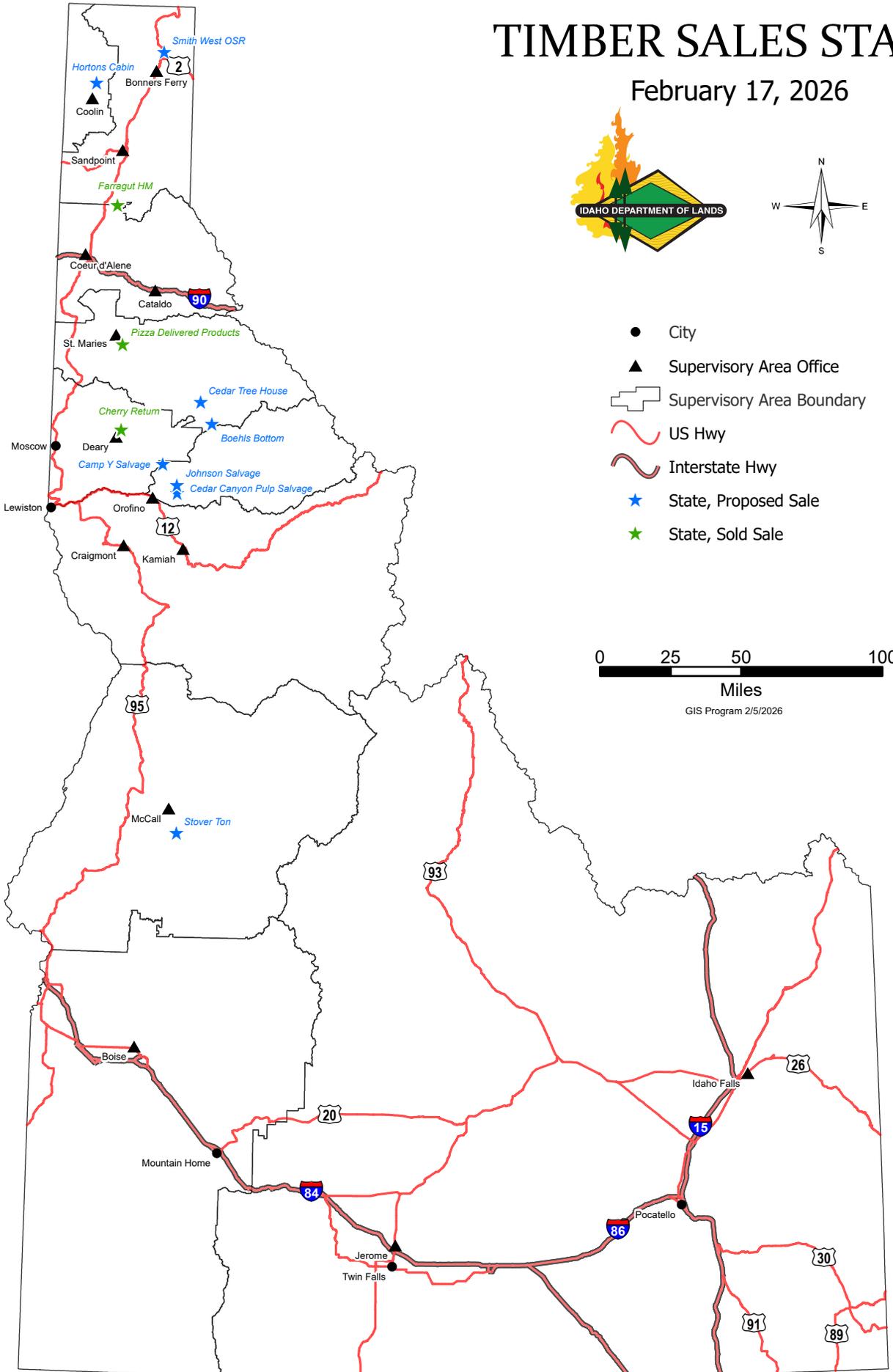
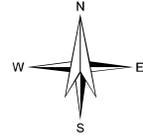
Table 1 - Damage analysis when comparing similar "green" sales with wind damaged salvage sales.

There is an estimated 10 - 15% defect from the damaged timber due to splitting causing merchantability issues. The remaining loss of value is due to timing and changes to operations to salvage the affected timber efficiently. This analysis compares similar Overstory Removal (OSR) sales as the baseline (Green Sales). The OSR sales have similar species composition and trees per acre to create the baseline when comparing percent loss.

Overall, IDL has and is currently being proactive in the salvage efforts and reducing the impact to the endowment timber asset. To date, 8,875 MBF (~40%) of the estimated 21,000 MBF salvage effort is approved and set for auction in February. Endowment foresters have communicated effectively and worked extremely hard to ensure the best interests of the endowment beneficiaries and our fiduciary responsibilities are met.

TIMBER SALES STATUS

February 17, 2026



- City
- ▲ Supervisory Area Office
- ▭ Supervisory Area Boundary
- ~ US Hwy
- ~ Interstate Hwy
- ★ State, Proposed Sale
- ★ State, Sold Sale



GIS Program 2/5/2026

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026
Endowment Transactions

Leases and Permits

FISCAL YEAR 2026–LEASING & PERMITTING TRANSACTIONS BY MONTH													
through December 31, 2025													
ACTIVITY	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	FYTD
SURFACE													
Agriculture	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Assignments</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Communication Sites	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Assignments</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Grazing	6	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
<i>Assignments</i>	1	4	10	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Residential	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
<i>Assignments</i>	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
COMMERCIAL													
Alternative Energy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Industrial	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Military	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Office/Retail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Recreation	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<i>Assignments</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
OTHER													
Conservation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Geothermal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Minerals	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<i>Assignments</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Non-Comm Recreation	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Oil & Gas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
PERMITS													
Land Use Permits	3	6	9	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	26
TOTAL INSTRUMENTS	16	11	22	3	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	66

Real Estate

FISCAL YEAR 2026–REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS BY MONTH													
through December 31, 2025													
ACTIVITY	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	FYTD
Deeds Acquired	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Deeds Granted	-	-	2	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	8
Deeds Granted - Surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Easements Granted	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Easements Acquired	1	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Easements Assigned	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Notes :													
<i>Surplus Deed: Payette Readiness Center is a Surplus Disposition for the Military; Property sold on January 13, 2026 for \$810,000</i>													

TRUST LAND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FY2026 GROSS REVENUE (non-timber) - ACTUAL AND FORECASTED
through January 31, 2026

	REVENUE YTD AS OF 01.31.2026	REVENUE EXPECTED BY 01.31.2026*	REVENUE EXPECTED BY 06.30.2026
SURFACE			
AGRICULTURE	\$ 703,056	\$ 468,709	\$ 498,309
COMMUNICATION SITES	\$ 781,766	\$ 890,000	\$ 1,150,000
GRAZING	\$ 176,196	\$ 53,726	\$ 2,344,734
RESIDENTIAL LEASES	\$ 1,057,003	\$ 825,000	\$ 1,293,052
COMMERCIAL			
COMMERCIAL ENERGY RESOURCES	\$ 353,195	\$ 260,000	\$ 421,000
COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL	\$ 107,500	\$ 100,000	\$ 160,000
COMMERCIAL MILITARY	\$ 114,761	\$ 70,000	\$ 125,000
COMMERCIAL OFFICE/RETAIL LEASES	\$ 813,935	\$ 725,000	\$ 1,050,000
COMMERCIAL RECREATION	\$ 1,253,076	\$ 1,025,000	\$ 1,250,000
OTHER			
CONSERVATION LEASES	\$ 128,976	\$ 101,741	\$ 105,741
GEOHERMAL	\$ 53,203	\$ 50,000	\$ 55,072
MINERAL LEASES	\$ 7,875	\$ 10,425	\$ 295,573
OIL AND GAS LEASES	\$ 1,628	\$ 2,239	\$ 4,148
Sub Total	\$ 5,552,171	\$ 4,581,840	\$ 8,752,628
REAL ESTATE SERVICES (ER)	\$ -	**	
Grand Total - Earnings Reserve	\$ 5,552,171		

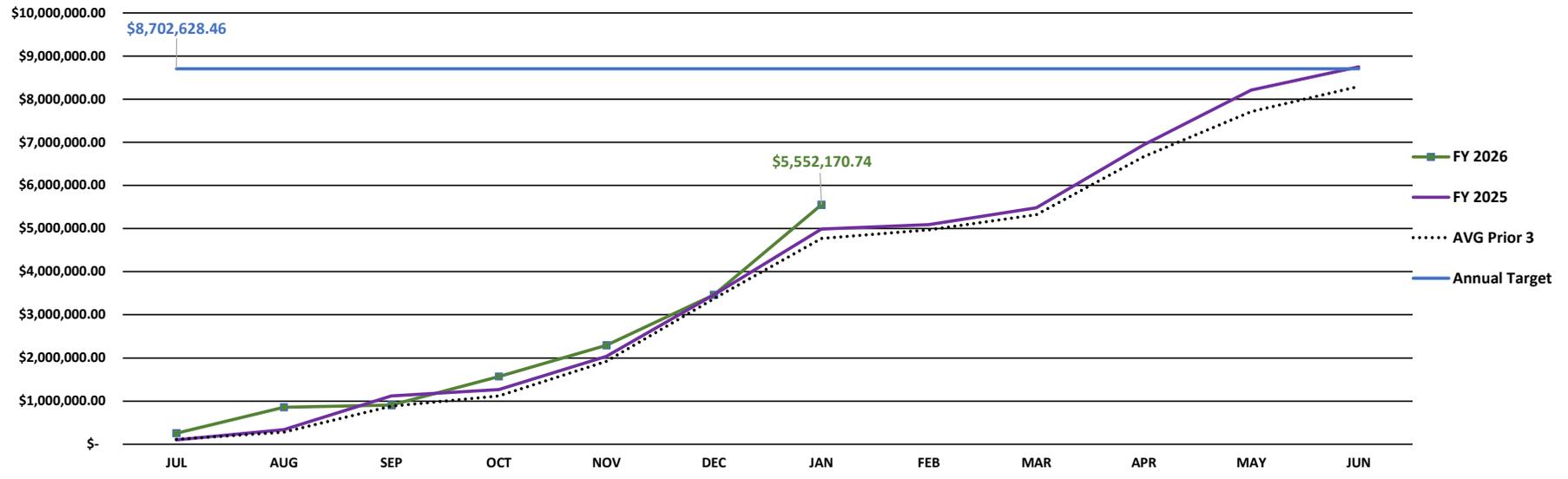
PERMANENT FUND REVENUE	
MINERALS (PF)	\$ 2,041,714 ***

*These figures are based on historic timing of revenue/billing as well as estimates of upcoming lease and permit revenue.

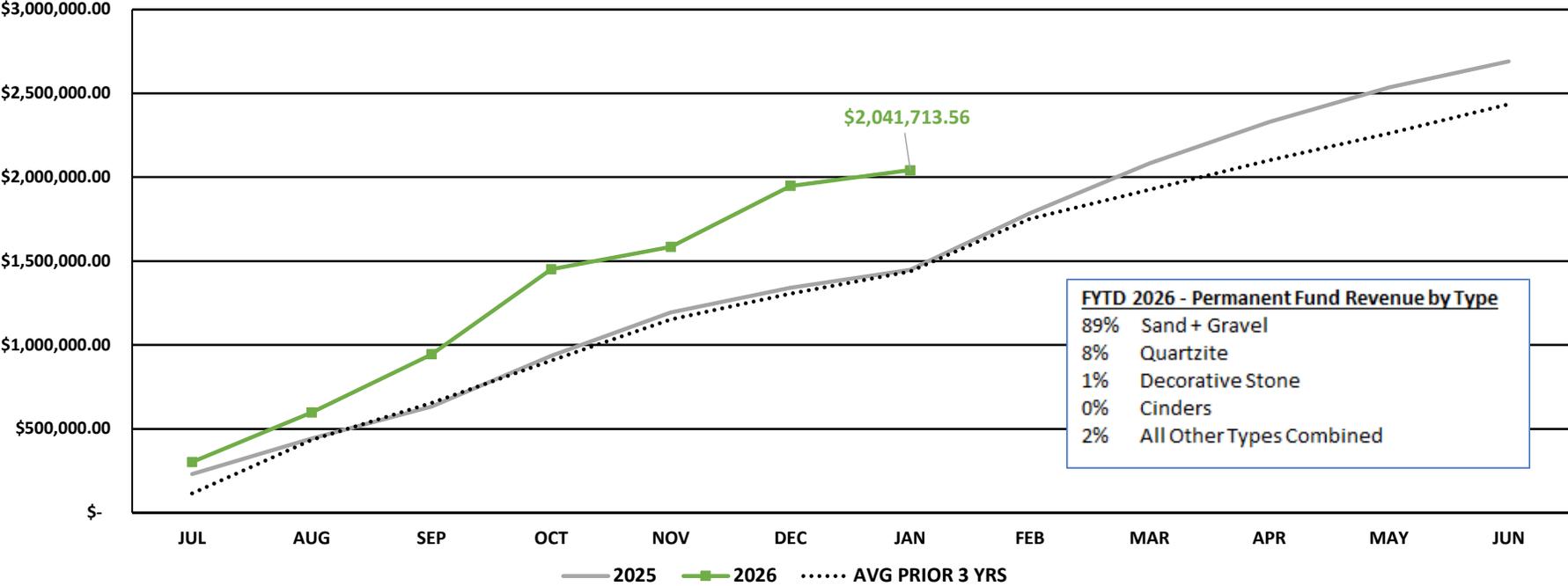
** This category is not included in the annual forecast.

***This category is not included in the annual forecast and represents minerals revenue to the permanent fund.

**Cumulative Trust Land Program Receipts
Earnings Reserve - All Programs Excluding Timber
FYTD 2026**



**Trust Land Permanent Fund Revenue & Royalties
(Excluding Land Bank and Timber Program)
FYTD 2026**



LAND BANK AGING REPORT

Current Remaining Principal Balance By Quarter Received - As of December 31, 2025

FY Quarter IN	Public School	Agriculture College	Normal Schools	State Hospital South	University of Idaho	All Endowments	FY Quarter EXPIRES
2022-01	\$ 772,753	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 772,753	2027-01
2022-02	\$ 10,140,720	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,140,720	2027-02
2022-03	\$ 9,890,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,890,500	2027-03
2022-04	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2027-04
2023-01	\$ 6,125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,125,000	2028-01
2023-02	\$ 9,848,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 432,187	\$ -	\$ 10,280,187	2028-02
2023-03	\$ 9,800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,800,000	2028-03
2023-04	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2028-04
2024-01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2029-01
2024-02	\$ 6,006,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,006,000	2029-02
2024-03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2029-03
2024-04	\$ 2,099,820	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,099,820	2029-04
2025-01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2030-01
2025-02	\$ 10,249,720	\$ -	\$ 449,160	\$ 5,563,000	\$ -	\$ 16,261,880	2030-02
2025-03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2030-03
2025-04	\$ 1,155,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,155,000	2030-04
2026-01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2031-01
2026-02	\$ 6,296,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,296,000	2031-02
TOTAL PRINCIPAL REMAINING	\$ 72,383,513	\$ -	\$ 449,160	\$ 5,995,187	\$ -	\$ 78,827,860	

LAND BANK CASH BALANCE (with Interest)	\$ 77,103,076	\$ 5	\$ 482,236	\$ 6,292,329	\$ -	\$ 83,877,647
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STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026
2026 Legislative Summary

Status of legislation monitored by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL).

[Legislative Rules Review Books](https://adminrules.idaho.gov/legislative-rules-review-books/)

<https://adminrules.idaho.gov/legislative-rules-review-books/>

[Legislation by Bill Number](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2026/legislation/minidata/)

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2026/legislation/minidata/>

Rules and legislation may also be accessed directly through links provided below.

IDL Pending Rules

Docket No. 20-0302-2401—Rules Governing Mined Land Reclamation

[House Rules Review Book](#) (p. 79); [Senate Rules Review Book](#) (p. 80)

Status House Resources and Conservation—February 17. Senate Resources and Environment—February 18.

Docket No. 20-0304-2401—Rules for the Regulation of Beds, Water, and Airspace Over Navigable Lakes in Idaho

[House Rules Review Book](#) (p. 119); [Senate Rules Review Book](#) (p. 120)

Status House Resources and Conservation—February 17. Senate Resources and Environment—18.

Docket No. 20-0308-2501—Easements on State-Owned Lands

[House Rules Review Book](#) (p. 143); [Senate Rules Review Book](#) (p. 144)

Status House Resources and Conservation—February 17. Senate Resources and Environment—February 18.

IDL Legislation

Natural Resources Maintenance Budget

Idaho Department of Lands and Endowment Fund Investment Board—
February 16.

[H0511 PRIVATE FOREST LAND](#)—Amends existing law to revise the surcharge associated with improved forest land.

Status House—passed 46-22-2. Referred to the Senate Resources & Environment

[H568 IDAHO CODE CLEANUP](#)--This bill repeals 30 sections of Idaho Code in Title 38 and Title 58 pertaining to the Idaho Department of Lands and floating timber and Town Site Claims.

Status Referred to Resources & Conservation

Other Legislation Being Monitored

Constitutional Amendments

[SJR102 LANDS](#)—Proposes an amendment to the state constitution to establish provisions for the management of certain lands granted or acquired from the federal government.

Status Referred to Senate State Affairs.

[SJR103 LANDS](#)—Proposes an amendment to the state constitution to establish provisions for the management of certain lands granted or acquired from the federal government.

Status Referred to Senate State Affairs.

[HJR008 - Public lands](#)

Proposes an amendment to the state constitution regarding state-owned lands.

Status Referred to House State Affairs

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026

Resource Protection and Assistance Bureau Biannual Report

The Resource Protection and Assistance (RPA) Bureau houses the non-endowment regulatory functions within the Division of Minerals, Navigable Waterways, and Oil and Gas.

Navigable Waterways Program

The Navigable Waterways Program administers encroachment permits, submerged lands leases, easements, and disclaimers of interest. The Navigable Waterways Program is self-supported through a dedicated account.

INSTRUMENT ACTIVITY - Instruments issued FY17 through the first half of FY26:

Table 1: Navigable Waterways Historical Instrument Numbers										
Instrument Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Encroachment Permits Issued	289	338	412	383	542	425	384	297	430	172
Active Submerged Land Leases	192	180	172	179	176	153	196	194	181	176
New Submerged Land Leases	8	36	48	24	17	6	39	14	5	13
Active Riverbed Mineral Leases	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Riverbed Mineral Leases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Active Exploration Locations	3	4	2	3	5	2	2	0	0	0
New Exploration Locations	1	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
New Submerged Land Easements	6	2	3	2	3	6	4	12	4	4
New Disclaimers of Interest	1	3	0	1	2	2	5	10	10	2

PAST 6-MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

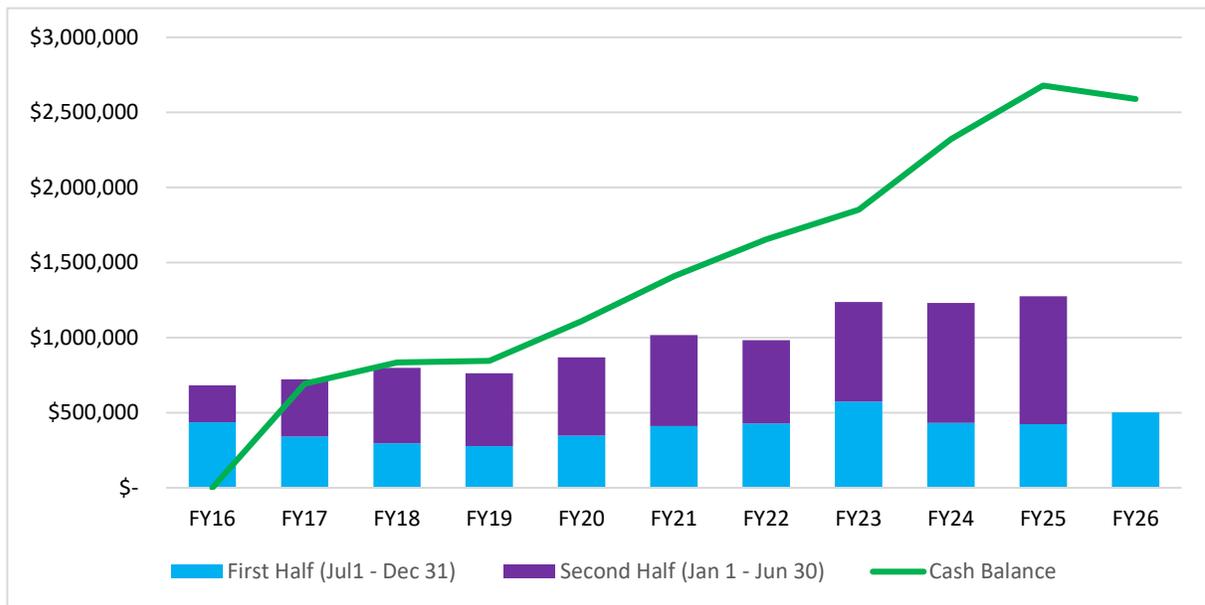
- **Pending Rulemaking.** In November 2025, the Land Board approved the pending rule for IDAPA 20.03.04. The rule will be presented to the 2026 legislature.
- **Administrative Hearings.** Between July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, in response to objections filed by the public, IDL ordered three public hearings and four contested case hearings on encroachment permit applications. The public hearing applications all resulted in approval by IDL. For the contested case applications, two objections were withdrawn, and all four applications were approved by IDL.

NEXT 6 MONTHS

- **Legislative Session.** The Pending Rule for IDAPA 20.03.04 is before the 2026 legislature. If approved, the rule will go into effect on July 1, 2026.

- **Fulcrum.** IDL is working closely with the Idaho Office of Information Technology Services to develop a more streamlined and secure data platform to manage permits, leases, easements, disclaimers, and other future records. Encroachment permits have been the first advancement within the system, and will go live by spring of 2026. Submerged land leases is in development and is expected to go live by December 2026. Financial Update
- IDL generated \$502,845 from navigable waterways in the first half of FY26. The dedicated fund for this program exceeded \$2.5 million as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Navigable Waterways Program Revenue and Cash Balance



Regulatory Minerals Program

The Regulatory Minerals Program administers mining reclamation plans, dredge and placer permits and abandoned mine land projects. Funding for the Regulatory Minerals Program comes from both general and dedicated funds.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Pending Rulemaking.** In November 2025, the Land Board adopted pending rule IDAPA 20.03.02. The rule will be presented to the 2026 legislature.
- **Large Metallic Mine Review**
 - Perpetua Resources - Stibnite Mine: IDL approved their cyanidation facility permanent closure plan and the initial three-year construction phase of the reclamation plan. Mine construction began in October 2025.

- Centerra Gold - Thompson Creek Molybdenum Mine, Custer County: IDL approved the revised Phase 8 Reclamation Plan in December 2024. Mining operations is expected to recommence in the second half of 2027.
- Integra Resources - DeLamar Mine, Owyhee County: This project is undergoing accelerated NEPA permitting review part of the FAST-41. IDL is coordinating with federal and state cooperators to review the project.
- Liberty Gold - Black Pine Mine, Cassia County: This project is undergoing accelerated NEPA permitting review part of the FAST-41. IDL signed a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with cooperators USFS, BLM, IDEQ, and OEMR.
- **Phosphate Mine Review**
 - Caldwell Canyon Mine, P4/Bayer Corp. Caribou County: Ore production from the Caldwell Canyon Mine is on hold while Bayer prepares a revised FEIS reflecting additional sage grouse habitat analysis. The preliminary final EIS was released in August of 2025. The BLM released the final EIS and ROD in October of 2025. Bayer anticipates startup in 2028.
 - Ballard Mine, P4/Bayer Corp. Caribou County: Bayer continues to work with the agencies on their Ballard Mine Remedial Design for reclamation and incidental ore recovery. Operations are underway to remove high seleniferous waste, and place it as backfill in the existing pit, and cover it with an appropriate cap and cover.
 - Lanes Creek Mine, Itafos Conda LLC, Caribou County: Mining was completed and reclamation continues. The North and South Overburden Piles are being hauled into phase 10 of the Rasmussen Valley Mine, where it will be placed as backfill and covered with an appropriate cap and cover. Once these two piles are removed, final reclamation of the Lanes Creek Mine will commence.
 - Rasmussen Valley Mine, Itafos Conda LLC, Caribou County: Mining of phase 10 was completed last quarter of 2025. Itafos began the movement of the Lanes Creek overburden piles to phase 10 of the Rasmussen Valley Mine as part of backfill and reclamation.
 - Husky 1 North Dry Ridge Mine, Itafos Conda LLC, Caribou County: Itafos has completed their haul road and has moved ore from the mine to their tippie. Itafos is working with the agencies to amend the plan to open phase 3 of their operations. They plan to have that approved third quarter of 2026.
 - Simplot Smoky Canyon Mine, JR Simplot Company, Caribou County: Simplot continues to work on B and G panels, and ore is being hauled to their tippie. Simplot's East Smoky continues with the agencies. Tailings pond water land application has been successful.

- Blackfoot Bridge Mine, P4, Bayer Corp, Caribou County: Bayer continues to mine the south portion of the pit and ore hauled to their tippel. GCLL placement is on the North Pit and mine overburden will take place in 2026.
- North Rasmussen Mine, Itafos, Caribou County: Mining on Endowment land is complete and follow-on reclamation is in the monitoring phase on the mine panel that was mined and reclaimed. IDL has completed negotiation with Itafos for subsequent reclamation efforts.

TOTAL PERMITS AND BONDING

IDL currently administers 1,576 mine sites covered by reclamation plans and 28 covered by dredge and placer permits. The mines are presented in Table 2 by category, and Table 3 illustrates historical plan numbers.

Table 2: Current Mine Permit Categories			
Sand and Gravel Mines (IDAPA 20.03.02.069)	Hardrock, Phosphate & Complex Industrial (IDAPA 20.03.02.070)	Cyanidation Mines (IDAPA 20.03.02.071)	Dredge and Placer Permits (IDAPA 20.03.01)
1538	31	1	28

INSTRUMENT ACTIVITY - Instruments issued FY17 through the first half of FY26:

Table 3: Regulatory Minerals Historical Instrument Numbers										
Instrument Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Mined Land Reclamation										
New Reclamation Plans	24	18	28	17	10	10	29	33	31	14
Retirements	15	22	9	13	7	14	20	43	35	10
Total Reclamation Plans	1,542	1,540	1,561	1,580	1,574	1,545	1,571	1,571	1579	1576
Dredge and Placer										
New/Amended Permits	3	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Retirements	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0
Total Permits	26	27	28	28	29	31	28	27	28	28

Mine operators are eligible to provide bonding through traditional methods or the Bond Assurance Fund (BAF). Tables 4 and 5 list the acres and bond amounts currently in place for

different types of mining operations. Created in 2006, the BAF provides a reclamation bonding option for small operators on private and state lands. Table 6 has details from the FY25 BAF billing. Figure 2 illustrates the revenue, expenditure, and balance for this fund.

Table 4: Bonding for Sand and Gravel, Simple Industrial Minerals, and Placer Permits								
	Reclamation Plans (IDAPA 20.03.02.069)				Dredge and Placer Permits (IDAPA 20.03.01)			
	Plans	Permitted Acres	Total Bond	Bond/Acre	Permits	Affected Acres	Total Bond	Bond/Acre
Traditional Bond ¹	335	45,698	\$20,840,900	\$456	28	1213	\$232K	\$191
Bond Assurance Fund	609	26,672	n/a	n/a	5	166	n/a	n/a

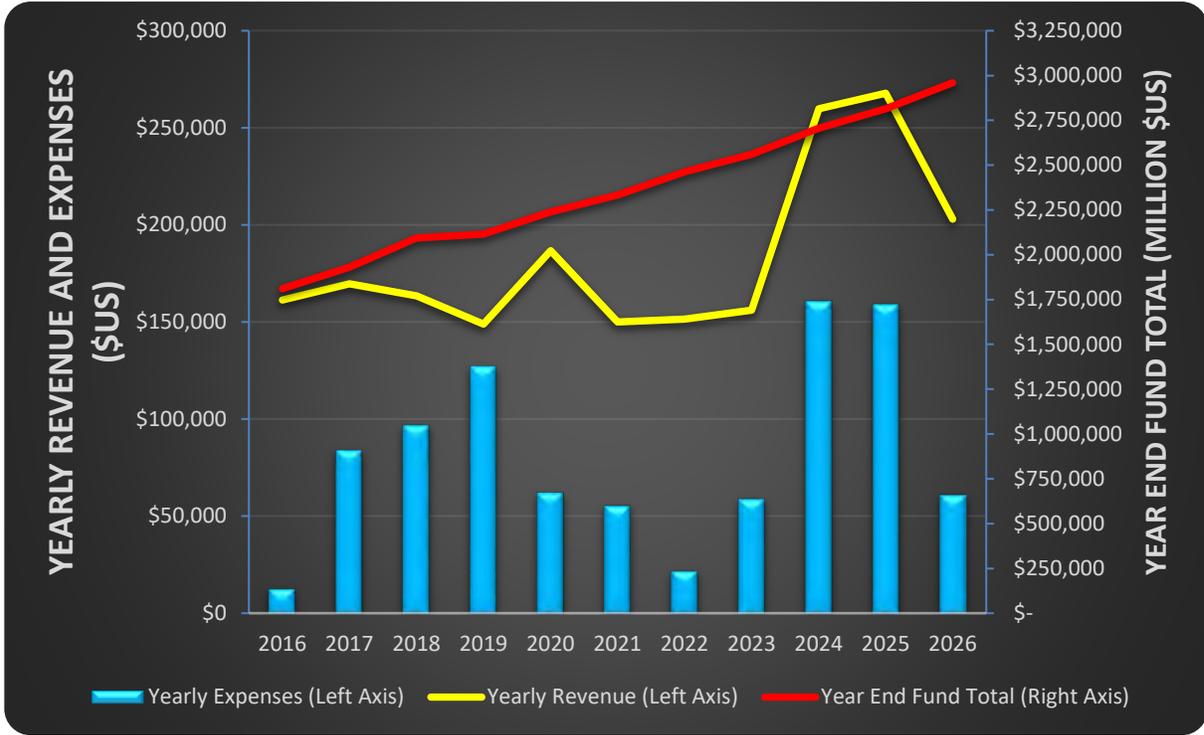
¹ Surety Bond, Letter of Credit, Certificate of Deposit, or Cash

Table 5: Bonding for Hardrock, Phosphate & Complex Industrial Minerals				
	Reclamation Plans (IDAPA 20.03.02.070)			
	Permits	Permitted Acres	Total Bond	Bond/Acre
Traditional Bond ¹	31	20,704	\$221,957,459	\$10,721

¹ Surety Bond, Letter of Credit, Certificate of Deposit, or Cash

Table 6: Bond Assurance Fund Billing (FY25)			
Disturbance (ACRES)	Annual Fee Schedule (\$)	Total Permits Distribution	Total Annual Fees Due (\$)
2 acres or less	\$100	147	\$14,700
> 2 acres ≤ 5 acres	\$200	149	\$29,800
> 5 acres ≤ 10 acres	\$250	140	\$35,000
> 10 acres ≤ 15 acres	\$300	56	\$16,800
> 15 acres ≤ 20 acres	\$350	41	\$14,350
> 20 acres ≤ 25 acres	\$400	26	\$10,400
> 25 acres ≤ 30 acres	\$450	23	\$10,350
> 30 acres ≤ 35 acres	\$500	6	\$3,000
> 35 acres ≤ 40 acres	\$550	18	\$9,900
40 Acres	\$600	1	\$600
TOTAL		607	\$144,900

Figure 2: Bond Assurance Fund - Revenue, Expenditure, and Fund Balance

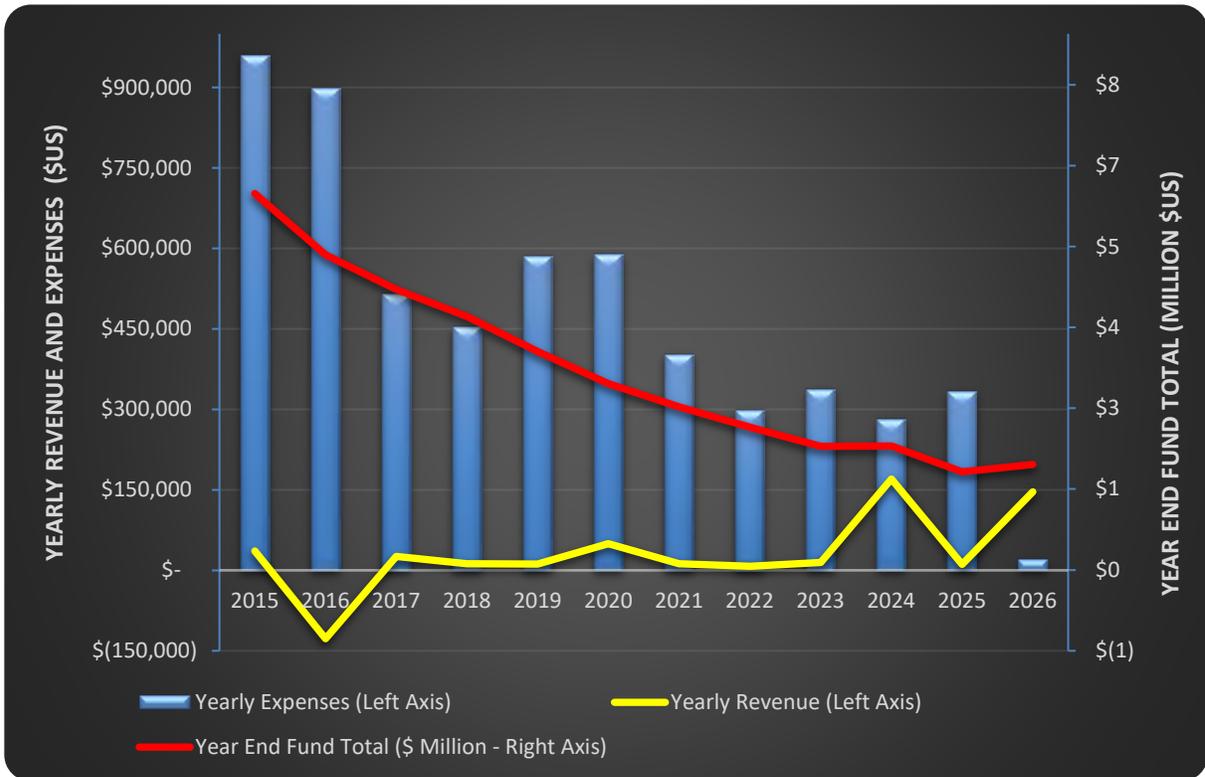


ABANDONED MINE LANDS

The abandoned mine lands (AML) program is funded from 50% of Idaho's Mine License Tax, a 1% net tax of Idaho's mining industry (excluding sand and gravel as described in Idaho Code § 47-1205). During the first half of FY26, \$147,100.41 was deposited into the AML Fund. Table 7 lists the projects worked on during the first half of FY26. Figure 3 illustrates the revenue, expenditure, and balance for this fund.

Project Name	Project Description
Upper Frenchy's	Inspected an adit and put temporary closure in place
Triumph Mine	Ground- and surface water sampling, ground water modeling, mine water infiltration bed design

Figure 3: AML Fund - Revenue, Expenditure, and Fund Balance





Thomas J. Wilford :: Chairman
Jerry F. Aldape Irving Littman
David Dean James Petzke
Robert M. Donaldson Mary Pat Thompson
Joseph Forney Jim Woodward
Chris J. Anton :: Manager of Investments

Monthly Report to the Board of Land Commissioners

Investment performance through January 31, 2026

Month: 2.6% Fiscal year: 9.4%

Financial markets reached record highs during January as inflation cooled, corporations reported strong earnings and market leadership continued to broaden beyond the “Magnificent 7” tech stocks. President Trump announced plans to nominate Kevin Warsh to become the next Chair of the Federal Reserve to replace Jerome Powell whose term ends on May 15th. Mr. Warsh served as a Fed Governor from 2006-2011. He appears to be well qualified, credible and an advocate for the independent conduct of monetary policy. It is anticipated that he will focus on reducing the size of the Fed’s balance sheet.

Status of endowment fund reserves

Distributions for FY2026 and FY2027 are well secured.

Significant actions of the Endowment Fund Investment Board

None.

Compliance/legal issues, areas of concern

Material deviations from Investment Policy: None.

Material legal issues: None.

Changes in board membership or agency staffing:

Renee Jacobsen joined EFIB on February 2, 2026.

Upcoming issues/events

Board Meeting – February 19, 2026

Preliminary Report (Land Grant Fund)

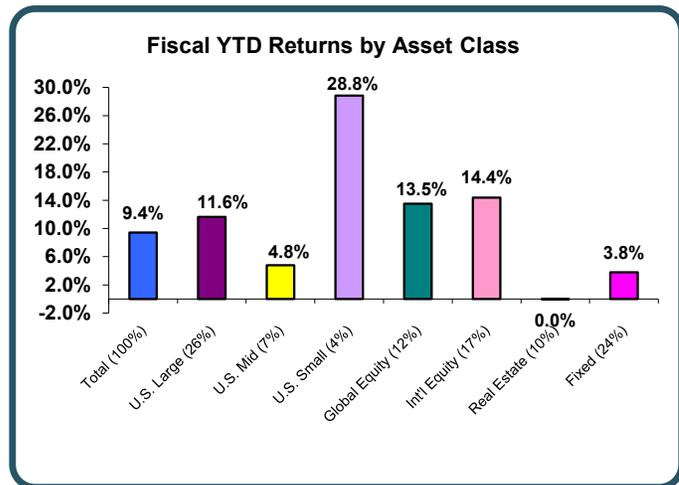
January 31, 2026

	<u>Month</u>	<u>FYTD</u>
Beginning Value of Fund	3,803,737,306	\$ 3,588,670,608
Distributions to Beneficiaries	9,197,600	64,633,200
Land Revenue net of IDL Expenses	8,844,316	44,183,946
Change in Market Value net of Investment Mgt. Expenses	<u>79,333,759</u>	<u>203,625,227</u>
Current Value of Fund	<u>\$ 3,901,112,981</u>	<u>\$ 3,901,112,981</u>

<u>Gross Returns</u>	<u>One Month</u>	<u>Calendar Y-T-D</u>	<u>Fiscal Y-T-D</u>	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Year</u>	<u>Five Year</u>	<u>Ten Year</u>
Total Fund <i>66% ACWI IMI, 24% BB Agg, 10% ODCE*</i>	2.6% 2.2%	2.6% 2.2%	9.4% 10.7%	15.0% 16.3%	12.0% 12.7%	7.8% 8.2%	10.0% 9.7%
Total Fixed <i>BB U.S. Agg.</i>	0.2% 0.1%	0.2% 0.1%	3.8% 3.3%	7.5% 6.8%	4.2% 3.6%	0.3% 0.1%	2.2% 2.1%
Total Equity <i>MSCI All Country World IMI**</i>	3.7% 3.3%	3.7% 3.3%	13.0% 15.0%	20.2% 21.9%	17.4% 19.2%	11.6% 12.3%	13.7% 13.4%
Domestic Equity <i>70.3% R1, 18.9% R Mid, 10.8% R2***</i>	2.4% 2.1%	2.4% 2.1%	12.1% 13.0%	13.7% 15.9%	17.1% 20.4%	11.9% 13.7%	14.5% 15.2%
Global Equity <i>MSCI ACWI</i>	3.2% 3.0%	3.2% 3.0%	13.5% 14.5%	19.6% 21.9%	16.5% 19.1%	11.2% 11.9%	12.8% 12.8%
Int'l. Equity <i>MSCI ACWI ex-US</i>	6.8% 6.0%	6.8% 6.0%	14.4% 19.0%	35.4% 34.9%	18.7% 16.6%	11.2% 9.1%	12.2% 9.8%
Real Estate <i>NCRIEF ODCE Index</i>		0.7% 1.3%	0.0% 3.2%	0.7% 3.2%	-4.0% -6.2%	1.8% 2.6%	

Benchmark to Dec. 2025: *37% R 3000, 17% ACWI ex-US, 12% AC, 24% BB Agg., 10% ODCE **56% R3, 25.8% ACWI x-US, 18.2% ACWI *** Russell 3000

	<u>Mkt Value</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Domestic Equity	\$1,424.5	36.5%
Large Cap	995.4	25.5%
Mid Cap	257.3	6.6%
Small Cap	171.8	4.4%
Global Equity	486.6	12.5%
Int'l Equity	700.2	17.9%
Fixed Income	878.7	22.5%
Real Estate	391.9	10.0%
Cash	19.2	0.5%
Total Fund	<u>\$3,901.1</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

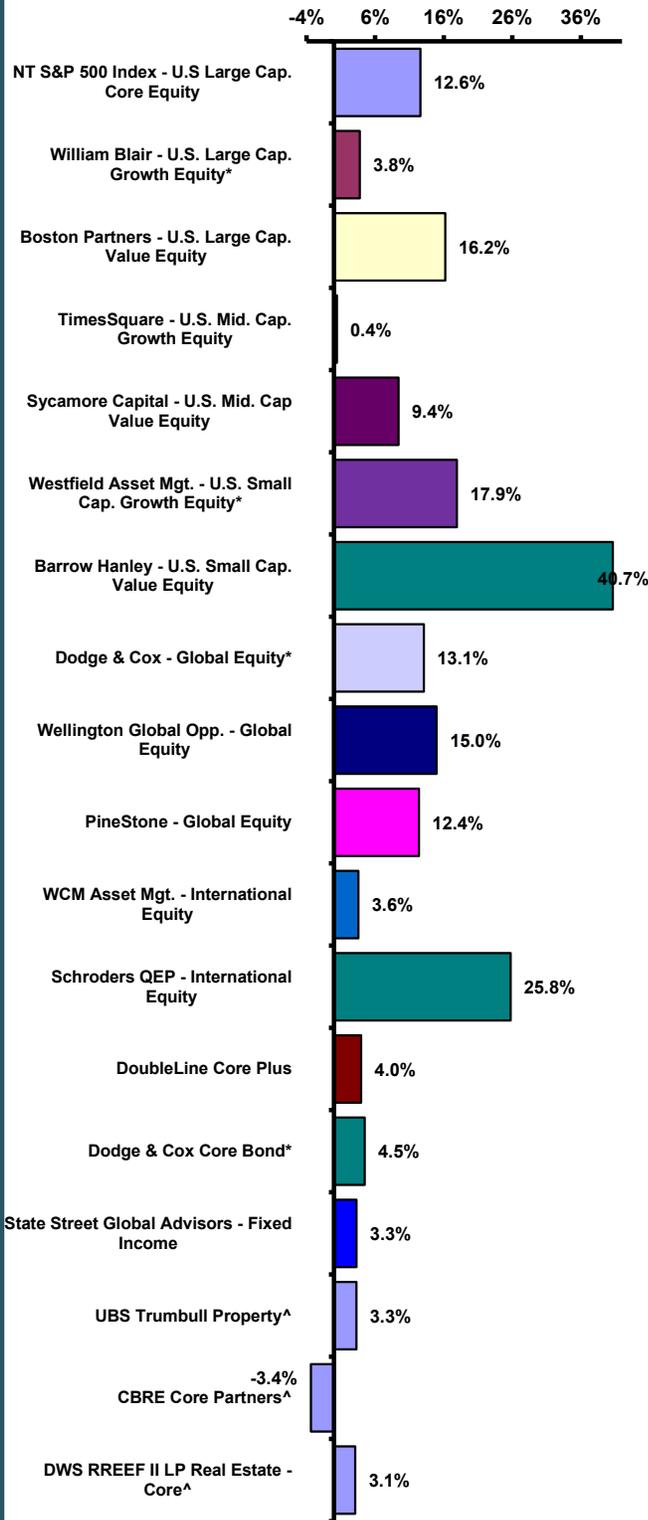


Endowment Fund Staff Comments:

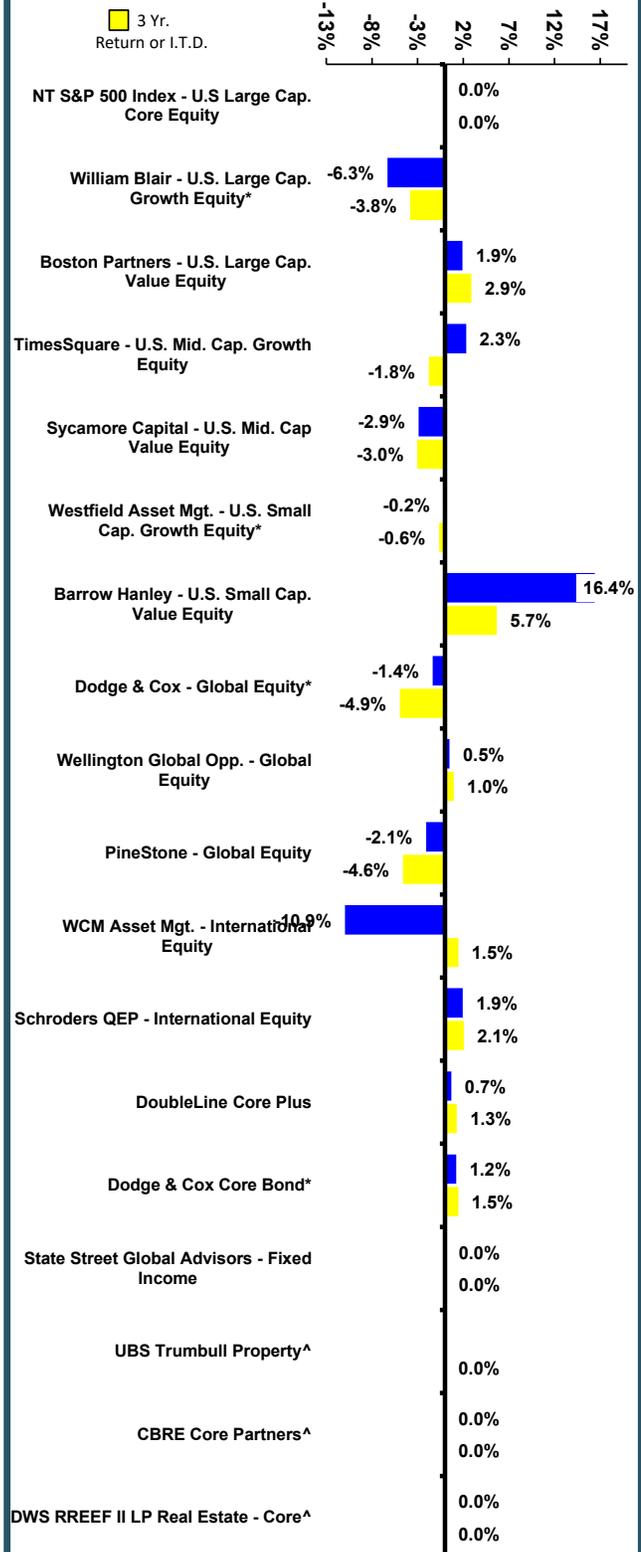
Financial markets reached record highs during January as inflation cooled, corporations reported strong earnings and market leadership continued to broaden beyond the “Magnificent 7” tech stocks. President Trump announced plans to nominate Kevin Warsh to become the next Chair of the Federal Reserve to replace Jerome Powell whose term ends on May 15th. Mr. Warsh served as a Fed Governor from 2006-2011. He appears to be well qualified, credible and an advocate for the independent conduct of monetary policy. It is anticipated that he will focus on reducing the size of the Fed’s balance sheet.

INVESTMENT REPORT

FYTD Manager Returns*



Manager Relative Returns Fiscal YTD and 3-Yr Ave*



^ Most recent valuation. * I-T-D if no FYTD or 3-yr. history

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026

Consent Agenda

Subject

Authorization to purchase the Forest Legacy Program easement, known as the Spirit of Mount Spokane Project Phase 1, comprising 22,352.05 acres of privately-owned forestland in Kootenai and Bonner Counties

Question Presented

Shall the Land Board authorize the Department to accept the first phase of the Spirit of Mount Spokane Project into Idaho's Forest Legacy Program?

Background

- The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners (Land Board) authorizes the Idaho Department of Lands (Department) to acquire such interests by voluntary, cooperative means and to create a Forest Legacy easement pursuant to Idaho Code Title 55, Chapter 21.
- The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (the "Act") of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et. seq.), as amended by Section 1217 and Title XII of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation Trade Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 2103c), established the federal Forest Legacy Program to protect environmentally important forestlands threatened with conversion to non-forest use.
- The Forest Legacy Program (FLP) is funded through congressional authorizations and offshore oil drilling royalties. This project has been awarded three different grants, and FLP has applied for a final grant to address the funding shortfall due to increasing land values in Idaho.

The Forest Legacy Program (FLP) is a voluntary initiative. It empowers private landowners to safeguard their forestland for perpetual timber production. Under the program, they voluntarily sell their development rights at market value, but retain land ownership, management, and revenue from their land while continuing to pay property taxes. Federal grants allow Idaho's FLP to purchase the development rights, preventing the land being converted to non-forest uses. (Attachment 1–FLP Fact Sheet).

With a growing Idaho, many large tracts of forestland are threatened by subdivision and development. Forest Legacy helps prevent sprawl into the Wildland Urban Interface or WUI, while ensuring a steady, reliable sawlog and fiber supply for industry and future mill infrastructure investments.

All properties participating in the Forest Legacy Program have a Forest Stewardship Plan, keeping the forests healthy and managed, which helps mitigate wildfire risk.

Discussion

The full Spirit of Mount Spokane Project in Idaho consists of 33,977.11 acres under the ownership of the Inland Empire Paper Company (Attachment 2–Map). Inland Empire wishes to convey the development rights by way of a conservation easement to the Department to conserve this working forestland in perpetuity, thereby protecting the economic and environmental values while keeping the property in private ownership.

This project was awarded three grants in total from the Forest Legacy Program, totaling \$26,000,000. Inland Empire Paper Company has agreed to the 25% non-federal match requirement for this acquisition, in the form of donated easement value. Even with the funds available, the project will need to be phased due to the rising land values in Idaho. The total needed to complete the full project is \$64,970,000. There is an application for an additional grant in review, hoping to secure the additional grant funding needed to complete the project. The first phase, which we are requesting approval to complete, will conserve 22,352.05 acres.

The Forest Legacy projects are not funded through Idaho's General Fund. Funding stems from the Forest Legacy Program through congressional authorizations and offshore oil drilling royalties. Idaho competes for the money in the form of grants that are passed through the US Forest Service. Participating landowners contribute a 25% match, typically via tax-deductible donations.

Landowner	Appraised CE Value Phase 1	Landowner Donation	FLP Contribution
Inland Empire Paper Company	\$34,641,163.72	\$8,660,290.93	\$25,980,872.79

The Spirit of Mount Spokane acquisition is consistent with the goals and objectives of Idaho's FLP and will protect the following significant conservation values:

- **Timber:** Idaho's Forest Action Plan identifies the area where the project lands are located as one of the highest priority areas for forestland protection in the state. According to Bonner County's Comprehensive Plan; for the last two decades, over 50% of the timber harvested in Bonner County has come from private forestlands, while only 26% of the timberlands in the county are privately owned.

- **Wildlife Habitat:** Project lands contain and connect some of the most valuable wildlife habitat in Idaho, supporting an abundant assortment of game and non-game species including federally-listed threatened species such as Canada lynx.
- **Public Recreation:** The conservation easement terms ensure that these lands will remain accessible to the general public for recreational uses including hunting, trapping, fishing, biking, hiking, cross-country skiing and wildlife viewing. The conservation easement will relinquish the fee associated with recreation of these IEP lands for non-motorized users accessing the property. Standard motorized access will continue to require a fee, when allowed.
- **Landscape Scale Conservation Impact:** The Spirit of Mount Spokane Project is located in a high priority area. This project is a multi-state project, conserving working forest land on both the Idaho and Washington sides of Mount Spokane State Park.

The project has garnered broad public support by various public and private entities (Attachment 3). These forestlands have substantial and significant conservation and economic values that are of great importance to the people of Idaho. The protection of these values will yield a significant public benefit.

Recommendation

Authorize the Department to accept the initial phase of the Spirit of Mount Spokane–Phase 1 Project into the FLP by way of conservation easement.

Board Action

Attachments

1. Forest Legacy Program Fact Sheet
2. Map
3. Public Support

FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM (FLP)

Helping private landowners keep their working forests working.

FLP, a voluntary initiative, enables landowners to safeguard their forestland for perpetual timber production, offering financial incentives similar to selling for development. Owners retain their land, pay property taxes, and manage timber harvesting.

What land qualifies for the Forest Legacy Program?

Eligible properties must be privately owned, over 5 acres, 75% forested, and within Idaho's priority landscape areas, as per the Idaho Forest Action Plan. Funding is awarded through a competitive, nationwide process.

Are Forest Legacy projects funded by Idaho's General Fund?

No. Funding stems from congressional authorizations and offshore oil drilling royalties. Participating landowners contribute a 25% match, typically via tax-deductible donations.

Will there be more working forestlands enrolled in Forest Legacy in the future?

Yes. Idaho's industrial forestland owners are eager to expand private land enrollment in FLP. Idaho is ready to compete for a share of the \$700 million national fund allocated for FLP projects.

How would a property owner start the process?

Reach out to your local land trust, a non-profit specializing in land acquisition for public benefit, as all FLP applications need a land trust sponsor.

Why is Forest Legacy important?

FLP ensures a steady supply of industry sawlogs and fiber, mitigates wildfire risks, and prevents sprawl in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). It bolsters local economies by safeguarding rural jobs and enhancing recreational access, while preserving wildlife habitat, water quality, and scenic landscapes.

How does FLP safeguard the supply of fiber for industry?

FLP keeps working forests working, helping to ensure a reliable fiber supply for industry and future mill infrastructure investments. Together with endowment forestland, FLP helps sustain long-term fiber availability for mill operations, as well as sustaining jobs within our communities.

How does Forest Legacy work?

Under FLP, forestland owners sell their development rights but retain ownership, management, and profits from their land, while reducing development in the WUI. Idaho holds these rights in trust and counties still receive tax revenues from these lands.

What does FLP do to help sustain wildlife habitat?

Priority areas in FLP often overlap with crucial habitats for threatened species. Maintaining forested land supports wildlife habitats and creates corridors for movement, aiding in the recovery of species like the Bull Trout. Fewer residential structures in these areas also minimize wildlife-human conflicts.

What does FLP have to do with mitigating fire risk?

FLP requires a Forest Stewardship Plan and sustainable management per Idaho's Forest Practices Act, which reduces vulnerability to catastrophic fires. By limiting WUI expansion, it helps ensure fire protection can be provided with fewer resources.

How does FLP improve recreational access?

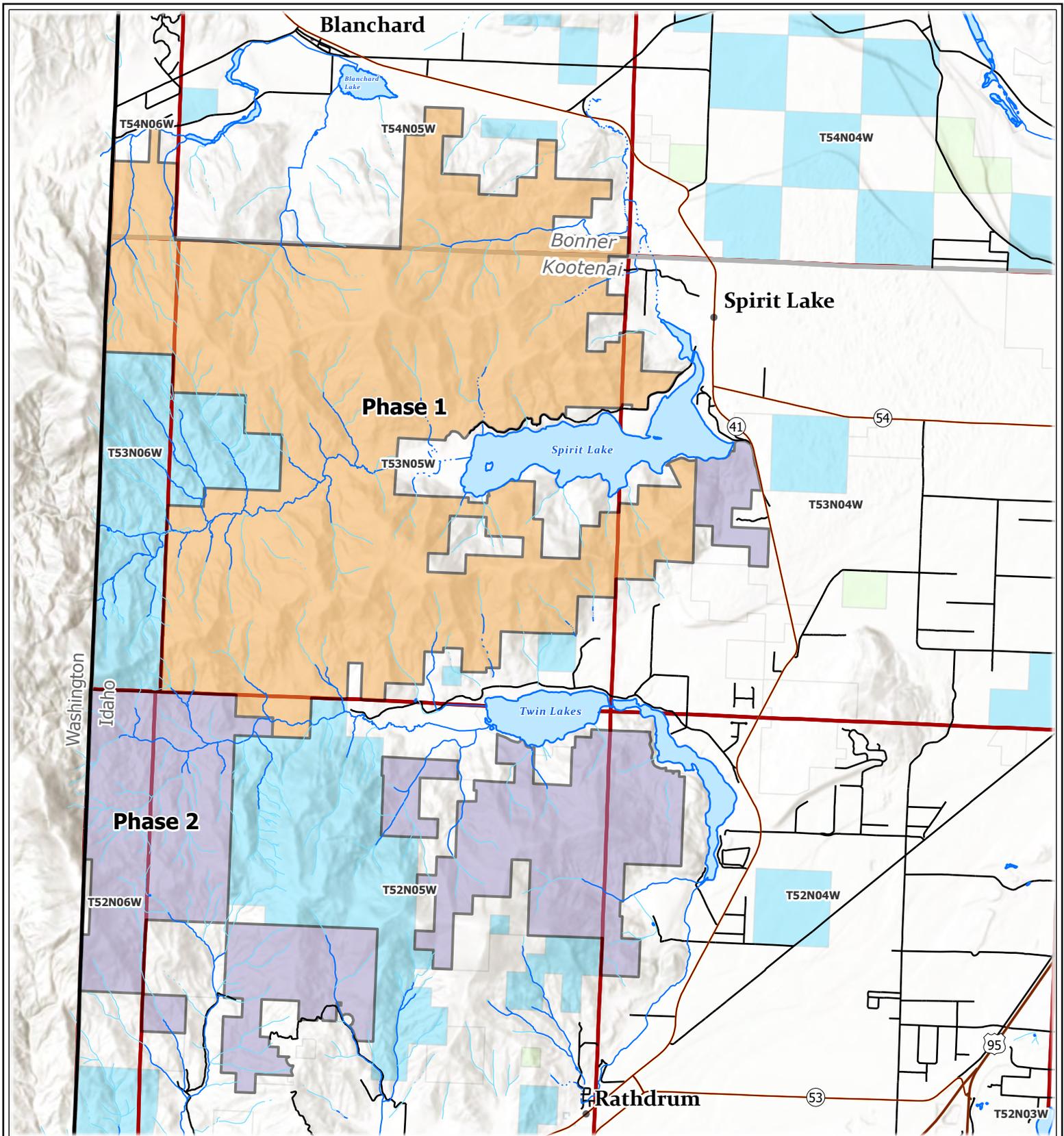
Since 2003, FLP has made 93,339 of its 103,252 timberland acres (90%) available for public recreation. As Idaho grows and demand for recreation access increases, FLP incentivizes private landowners to offer public access in line with their forest management goals.



For more info scan the code or visit

<https://www.idl.idaho.gov/about-forestry/forest-legacy-program/>





Legend

- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Lakes
- Private
- State
- USFS
- County Boundary
- United States
- Idaho
- County
- Class I - Perennial
- Class I - Intermittent
- Class II - Perennial
- Class II - Intermittent

Spirit of Mt. Spokane

T53N - R05W, T52N - R05W
 T53N - R04W, T52N - R04W
 T52N - R06W, T53N - R06W
 Kootenai and Bonner County

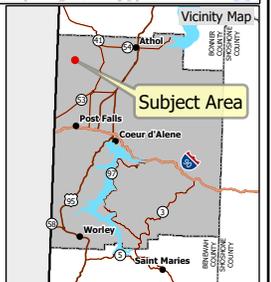
1/27/2026



Map Notes

Projection: Idaho Transverse Mercator, NAD 83
 Map Notes and Data Sources

Disclaimer:
 This map has been compiled using the best information available to the Idaho Department of Lands at the time and may be updated and/or revised without notice. In situations where known accuracy and completeness is required, the user has the responsibility to verify the accuracy of the map and the underlying data sources.



Public Support of the Spirit of Mount Spokane Project in Bonner and Kootenai Counties

The following local, state, and federal governmental agencies, conservation organizations, and recreation organizations have provided written letters in support of the purchase of the development rights, by way of conservation easement, on the Spirit of Mount Spokane Project:

American Rivers
Headwaters Economics
Idaho Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Idaho Coalition of Land Trusts
Idaho Conservation League
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Idaho Forest Group
Idaho Forest Owners Association
Idaho Panhandle National Forest
Idaho Sportsman Access and Opportunity
Idaho Wildlife Federation
Inland Northwest Land Conservancy
Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Kaniksu Land Trust
Kootenai County Commissioners
Panhandle Forest Collaborative
Spirit Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Trout Unlimited
Washington State Park and Recreation Commission
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative



Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners

Brad Little, Governor and President of the Board

Phil McGrane, Secretary of State

Raúl R. Labrador, Attorney General

Brandon D Woolf, State Controller

Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dustin T. Miller, Secretary to the Board

Be it remembered that the following proceedings were had and done by the State Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Idaho, created by Section Seven (7) of Article Nine (IX) of the Constitution.

Draft Minutes

State Board of Land Commissioners Regular Meeting
December 16, 2025

The regular meeting of the Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at the State Capitol, Lincoln Auditorium (WW02), Lower Level, West Wing, 700 W. Jefferson St., Boise, Idaho, and via webinar. The meeting began at 8:59 a.m. The Honorable Governor Brad Little presided. The following members were in attendance:

Honorable Governor Brad Little

Honorable Secretary of State Phil McGrane

Honorable Attorney General Raúl Labrador

Honorable State Controller Brandon Woolf

Honorable Superintendent of Public Instruction Debbie Critchfield

All Land Board members were present at the physical location.

Reports

1. Department Reports—presented by Dustin Miller, Director
 - A. Timber Sales Revenue—November 2025
 - B. Leases/Permits Transactions and Revenue—November 2025

Discussion: Secretary of State McGrane thanked staff for including the fire salvage timber sales information this year and observed that, compared to the prior year, the figures appeared to have roughly doubled. He acknowledged that acreage levels are outside the Department's control and agreed with staff's overall assessment that the impact was minimal.

Governor Little asked about the reported sawlog volume, noting that it was approximately 53% of sawlog volume year-to-date and below expected harvest levels. He wondered if the lower volume reflected timber sold that had not yet been

harvested due to market conditions and whether the 53% figure was typical for this time of year. Director Miller responded that market conditions were influencing harvest activity. He explained that while the Department had sold more than 175 million board feet of volume for FY2026, purchasers typically have a two-to-five-year window to harvest timber. As a result, a significant portion of sold volume remains "on the stump," with interest accruing annually, and current harvest figures lag expectations due to market factors rather than a lack of sales.

Controller Woolf thanked staff for responding to the Secretary of State's earlier request and suggested that, as more data becomes available, a year-over-year comparison could be helpful. He inquired about the reported losses by size class, specifically if the dollar values associated with pole, sapling, and seedling losses reflected current value or projected future value if the timber had matured. Director Miller replied that the figures reflected current value, which was confirmed by staff present.

2. Endowment Fund Investment Board—presented by Chris Anton, EFIB Manager of Investments
 - A. Manager's Report
 - B. Investment Report

Discussion: Mr. Anton reported that the portfolio increased by 0.3% for the month and was up 6.2% fiscal year-to-date. He remarked that the month included significant market volatility, particularly early in the period, driven by concerns over the scale of investment in artificial intelligence infrastructure and uncertainty regarding how those investments will be monetized.

Mr. Anton communicated that technology stocks experienced a sell-off amid valuation concerns, but markets rebounded following strong earnings results from NVIDIA. He cautioned that valuations remain at historic highs, exceeding levels seen during the late-1990s technology boom, and advised continued monitoring. He also noted positive market reaction to the reopening of the federal government following a prolonged shutdown and the Federal Reserve's decision to reduce interest rates by 0.25%, bringing the target range to 3.5%–3.75%.

Mr. Anton reported that the Investment Board approved the hiring of a third international equity manager to reduce concentration risk. He said that international equities currently represent 17% of the portfolio and are split evenly between two managers, and that the Investment Board determined additional diversification was warranted. An international equity manager search is underway.

Consent—Action Item(s)

3. Approval of Draft Minutes—November 18, 2025 Regular Meeting

Consent Agenda Board Action: A motion was made by Controller Woolf that the Land Board approve and adopt the Consent Agenda. Secretary of State McGrane seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Regular—Action Item(s)

4. Rulemaking Petition: Idaho Code § 38-1304(1)(f)—presented by Archie Gray, Bureau Chief-Forestry Assistance

Recommendation: The first recommendation is that the Land Board should encourage the state to continue to address forest health risks on federal and adjoining lands through the collaborative approach of Shared Stewardship and Good Neighbor Authority programs. The second recommendation is for the Department to not enter into rule promulgation related to 38-1304(1)(f) because there are already sufficient rules in place to allow for the timely application of salvage harvests by willing and able landowners. Also, the statute directs federal forest land managers to undertake salvage where feasible, making a rule redundant and subservient.

Discussion: Attorney General Labrador asked if representatives from the Farm Bureau were present; none were. He then expressed concern that choosing not to enter rulemaking could potentially violate statutory requirements. While acknowledging limits on state authority over federal actions, he stated that rulemaking could encourage participation in existing programs and more assertive engagement, without being overly prescriptive or conflicting with federal preemption. Mr. Gray agreed with the Attorney General's assessment.

Governor Little enquired about the timing of required negotiated rulemaking under zero-based regulation requirements, noting that all rules must undergo negotiated rulemaking on an eight-year cycle. He asked where this rule fell within that cycle and whether addressing one section independently would affect future comprehensive rulemaking. Mr. Gray replied that the Department completed its prior zero-based review in 2022 and estimated that the next cycle would likely begin in 2028. He was uncertain how addressing a single subsection would interact with broader future rulemaking, though he referenced prior instances where the Department focused on a specific section of rules due to scope and complexity.

Controller Woolf commented that if the motion involved expanding or adding a rule, the Land Board should aim to keep it concise, consistent with efforts to reduce regulatory burden. Governor Little clarified that his understanding was that the proposal would accelerate review of an existing rule rather than create a new one. Director Miller confirmed that interpretation.

Director Miller underscored the Department's current commitments under Shared Stewardship and Good Neighbor Authority initiatives, noting the importance of ensuring that rulemaking efforts do not divert excessive staff time from ongoing restoration and partnership work.

Governor Little asked if the motion specified negotiated rulemaking. Superintendent Critchfield said that the motion referenced scheduling rulemaking but did not explicitly state negotiated rulemaking. Legal counsel indicated that negotiated rulemaking would be inferred as appropriate and determined by the Department.

Secretary of State McGrane inquired whether a recently announced Shared Stewardship agreement affected the proposal. Governor Little explained that the agreement was largely an extension of an earlier Shared Stewardship effort and noted the expanded scale of current initiatives.

Director Miller reiterated the Department's commitment to strengthening partnerships and increasing the pace and scale of restoration work, underscoring the need to balance those efforts with any rulemaking obligations.

Board Action: A motion was made by Superintendent Critchfield that the Land Board request the Department to work with the Division of Financial Management (DFM) to appropriately schedule rulemaking to address the statutory requirements found in Idaho Code § 38-1304(1)(f). The rulemaking should be limited specifically to Idaho Code § 38-1304(1)(f) and recognize and include the Shared Stewardship agreements the State of Idaho has established with the federal government. Secretary of State McGrane seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

5. Fire Strategic Plan—presented by Dustin Miller, Director

Recommendation: Approve the Strategic Plan for Managing Wildland Fire for the Department's use in guiding the future of the wildland fire program.

Discussion: Controller Woolf suggested including a formal review schedule in the plan, similar to other Department policies, to clarify how often the plan would be revisited and updated. Controller Woolf also solicited clarification regarding references to future financial needs in the plan, noting that the document included projections of funding needs in future fiscal years. He requested that the record reflect that the Land Board was not approving future funding requests through adoption of the plan.

Director Miller clarified that the financial figures included in the appendix represent future needs and potential budget requests, which would be brought to the Land Board through the normal budget process for approval. He emphasized that adoption of the plan did not authorize funding increases. He also referenced recent legislation supported by the Land Board related to fire preparedness and revisions to Idaho Code § 38-111, which would be addressed during the upcoming legislative session.

Controller Woolf thought the clarification was helpful and provided important context for both Land Board oversight and future budget discussions.

Board Action: A motion was made by Controller Woolf that the Land Board approve the Strategic Plan for Managing Wildland Fire for the Department's use in guiding the future of the wildland fire program. Superintendent Critchfield seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Information

6. Endowment Ownership History—presented by Jim Elbin, Division Administrator-Trust Lands

Discussion: Governor Little asked why Utah received significantly more endowment land than Idaho. Mr. Elbin answered that allocations were based in part on land productivity, with states receiving additional sections where lands were more arid or less productive.

Attorney General Labrador enquired how many acres the endowment currently holds. Mr. Elbin answered that the Department manages approximately 2.5 million acres and offered to provide an exact figure.

Governor Little discussed the importance of evaluating land based on value rather than acreage alone, noting that inaccessible or non-productive acres do not generate income. He cited historical land exchanges and sales, including Capitol Endowment lands sold to finance construction of the State Capitol, and pointed out that simple acreage comparisons do not reflect economic reality. Mr. Elbin agreed and noted that consolidation efforts, exchanges, and acquisitions have improved management efficiency and economic returns. He stated he would research historical figures regarding lands exchanged versus sold.

Attorney General Labrador requested follow-up information on how many acres were conveyed to the federal government compared to those sold. Mr. Elbin agreed to provide that information.

Controller Woolf asked for context regarding railroad lands and their relationship to endowment lands. Mr. Elbin provided background on early timber sales and railroad rights-of-way, noting historical practices that later prompted statutory reforms.

Controller Woolf commented that the historical discussion was helpful in framing future policy conversations regarding land value, consolidation, access, and constitutional and statutory limits on land disposition.

7. Remote Sensing (LiDAR)—presented by Geoff Klein, Program Manager-Remote Sensing

Discussion: Superintendent Critchfield highlighted the broader implications of the presentation for workforce development and education. The presentation illustrated how technology is increasingly infused across industries, including natural resource management, and she underscored the importance of digital literacy for students. Superintendent Critchfield remarked that technology-enabled forestry careers demonstrate how technical skills can be applied in outdoor and resource-based professions. Mr. Klein acknowledged the Superintendent's comments and noted the Department's positive experience working with the University of Idaho, including collaboration with analysts who have contributed significantly to the program. He mentioned that the education partnership has been especially rewarding.

Controller Woolf questioned whether the Department coordinates with private industrial landowners—such as Hancock, Molpus, and others—that conduct their own LiDAR work, and if there are opportunities for partnership or shared learning given that some data may be proprietary. Mr. Klein explained that collaboration with both government entities and private timber companies is a core component of the program. He described the importance of calibration plots, noting that while these plots are expensive and have fixed costs, they provide a valuable opportunity for collaboration. He communicated that data collected across ownership boundaries can be incorporated into shared models, improving accuracy as additional plots are added. He further noted that the Department has partnered with companies such as Stimson and Potlatch-Deltic and continues to engage with industry partners on standards, modeling techniques, and habitat-specific methodologies. Mr. Klein emphasized that Idaho's varied forest conditions require different analytical approaches, particularly when modeling complex canopy structures.

Controller Woolf asked about opportunities to apply artificial intelligence (AI) to the Department's LiDAR and large spatial datasets. Mr. Klein responded that AI holds significant promise but also presents challenges, particularly when processing extremely large datasets measured in terabytes. He commented that AI capabilities are advancing rapidly and have already demonstrated improved performance in spatial statistical modeling. He stated that the Department is closely monitoring AI developments, particularly those that could improve efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance decision-making related to forest management.

Secretary of State McGrane thanked Mr. Klein for the presentation and said that he appreciated the emphasis on how data is actually used, rather than simply collected. He followed up on the discussion of AI and large datasets, stating his view that AI's strength lies in analyzing large volumes of information. He then wondered about the lifecycle of the LiDAR data, including how often it would be updated to reflect changes from wildfire, disease, harvesting, or natural growth.

Mr. Klein explained that the Department anticipates conducting refresh flights on approximately a five-year cycle. He mentioned that the refresh cycle is informed by forest growth patterns and allows the Department to observe how stands develop over time, particularly in highly productive endowment forests. He stated that the first round of refresh flights has already increased interest in future updates.

Secretary of State McGrane asked if the refresh cycle was largely driven by cost considerations. Mr. Klein confirmed that cost is a primary factor and noted that LiDAR technology continues to evolve. He referenced emerging technologies, including alternative LiDAR sensors, which may reduce costs in the future and expand data collection capabilities.

Governor Little inquired if the Department coordinates with emergency services or the Department of Water Resources to use LiDAR data for wildfire risk assessment, particularly in the wildland-urban interface and for Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) projects. Mr. Klein replied that he had not yet coordinated with those entities but agreed that such coordination would be beneficial.

Governor Little stressed the importance of sharing LiDAR data with other agencies to maximize its value, particularly for wildfire risk mitigation. He asserted that leveraging the data across agencies could significantly increase the return on investment and encouraged staff to pursue those opportunities. Governor Little inquired where the LiDAR data is currently stored. Mr. Klein stated that the data is stored on Department servers located in Coeur d'Alene and Boise, with ongoing coordination with Information Technology Services (ITS) to further develop infrastructure.

Secretary of State McGrane queried whether the data is stored locally or in the cloud. Mr. Klein replied that the data is currently stored locally on servers and not in cloud-based systems, noting that cloud storage has been used in the past. Governor Little asked about data security. Mr. Klein said that he was not qualified to provide detailed information on security protocols and offered to follow up, noting that the data resides within the Department's network and follows standard ITS security practices.

Governor Little provided extended comments on the value of LiDAR for wildfire risk assessment, forest health, and fiduciary responsibility. He cited past examples where proactive forest management prevented catastrophic fires and contended that LiDAR allows the Department to be more responsive to biological conditions without relying solely on field crews. He stated that the technology represents a cost-effective investment given the value of the timber resource and noted that private industry has long used similar tools. Governor Little maintained that having accurate data strengthens the State's position in timber valuation and sales and requested future reporting on coordination with emergency services and other agencies.

Mr. Klein clarified cost estimates, noting that the cited per-acre costs reflected participation in federal programs and that typical acquisition costs are higher when scaled independently. He reiterated that even at higher costs, the investment remains cost-effective. He also discussed the broader potential for risk modeling and coordination with statewide LiDAR efforts, including work supported by the Idaho LiDAR Consortium. Governor Little concluded by reiterating his strong support for the program and its continued expansion.

8. Logging Day with Constitutional Officers

Discussion: Superintendent Critchfield introduced a video highlighting a visit by several Land Board members to a logging operation near Council, Idaho. She explained that the purpose of the video was to showcase modern logging practices and technology.

Following the video, Governor Little commented on improvements in safety and efficiency in the logging industry, noting that technological advances have significantly reduced labor demands while increasing safety. He emphasized the importance of Idaho's timber industry and the partnerships between the Department, logging contractors, and timber families, contrasting Idaho's capacity with states that are lacking sawmill infrastructure. Director Miller thanked Superintendent Critchfield for the unique firsthand opportunity to take part in a modern logging operation.

Executive Session

None

There being no further business before the Land Board, at 10:25 a.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Controller Woolf. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

DRAFT

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2026
Regular Meeting Agenda

Subject

AML Advisory Committee Approval

Question Presented

Shall the Land Board approve the AML Advisory Committee?

Background

House Bill 226 (2025) amended Chapter 17, Title 47, Idaho Code, to revise funding provisions for abandoned mine reclamation, expand the use of voluntary contributions, and establish an advisory committee to assist the Idaho Department of Lands and the State Board of Land Commissioners in setting priorities and planning reclamation work. Specifically, Section 47-1706, Idaho Code, authorizes the Board to establish an Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Advisory Committee, with members nominated by the Governor and approved by the Board, representing state agencies, local government, conservation interests, and the active mining industry. The committee is intended to provide technical and stakeholder input to support transparent, efficient, and statutorily aligned use of Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund resources. Approval of the AML Advisory Committee by the Land Board is therefore required to implement the advisory structure authorized by statute and to assist the Department in carrying out its responsibilities under amended Sections 47-1706 and 47-1707, Idaho Code.

Discussion

The establishment of the Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Advisory Committee will support implementation of House Bill 226 (2025) by providing a structured forum for technical expertise and stakeholder perspectives as the Department of Lands prioritizes and plans reclamation projects. The committee's composition, as defined in Section 47-1706, Idaho Code, ensures representation from relevant state agencies, local government, conservation interests, and the active mining industry, promoting informed and balanced recommendations. While the committee serves in an advisory capacity only, its input will assist the Department and the Board in aligning reclamation priorities with statutory objectives, available funding, and public health, safety, and environmental protection goals. Land Board approval of the committee will enable timely consultation as required under Section 47-1707, Idaho Code, and support transparent and effective administration of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program.

Recommendation

Direct the Department to approve the AML Advisory Committee pursuant to Section 47-1706(6), Idaho Code. IDL staff recommends approval of the following nominees to serve on the Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Advisory Committee:

- **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):**
 - Dana Swift
- **Governor’s Office of Energy and Mineral Resources (OEMR):**
 - Cally Younger
- **County Commissioner from a County with Active Mines:**
 - Commissioner Bryce Somsen, Caribou County
- **Conservation Interests:**
 - Michael Gibson, Idaho Policy Advisor, Trout Unlimited
- **Mining Organizations or Companies Actively Mining in Idaho:**
 - Jon Goode, Special Projects Manager, Itafos
 - Dale Kerner, VP Permitting, Integra Resources
 - Tyson Clyne, Environmental Manager, Hecla Mining Company

Approval of these appointments will allow the AML Advisory Committee to be constituted in accordance with statute and to begin advising the Department of Lands on reclamation priorities and planning.

Board Action

Attachments

NA