



MEMO

To: Chair Bedey and Members of the Education Budget Subcommittee
From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian
Subject: Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Data Preservation Program Coordination
Date: January 21, 2025

The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) and the Montana State Library (MSL) coordinate in the following ways:

- MBMG is the steward of the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Geology Framework data theme. <https://msl.mt.gov/geoinfo/msdi/geology/>
- MSL's Water Information System Manager sits on the MBMG Groundwater Steering Committee.
https://archive.legmt.gov/bills/mca/title_0850/chapter_0020/part_0050/section_0250/0850-0020-0050-0250.html
- Both MBMG and MSL recognize opportunities for collaboration to manage aerial imagery. MBMG has attended the MSL imagery working group. Their staff attended an imagery summit hosted by MSL in late 2023. MBMG has expressed interest in contributing to a central imagery repository.

MBMG Mining Archives Preservation Program

- The MBMG data preservation program manages a mining archive. Like archives at the University of Montana and Montana State University, the MBMG preservation program collects, digitizes and provides access to a unique collection that meets the research interests of their faculty, students, researchers and the public. Their collection consists of mining-related data about Montana's mineable resources. The information ranges from engineering, geologic, and historical reports to photographs, correspondence, and some production information.
- The mining archive is an important information resource that MSL refers users to when their collection focus meets our users' information needs.

