Welcome to the USGS Library!

Federal Depository Library Conference
23 October 2018

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Overview of the US Geological Survey & USGS Library

Topics:
• US Geological Survey organizational structure
• Library organizational structure
• Library Collections
• Publications Warehouse and Digitization
• Library Services
• Library Statistics
• Stakeholder Input
• Challenges
• Questions
USGS Library Organizational Structure

Director: USGS Library

Supervisory Librarian: Public Services (Reston)
Holly Nickle

Supervisory Librarian: Technical Services (Reston)
Sally Roberts

Supervisory Librarian: Digital Services (Reston)
(Vacant)

Supervisory Librarian: Denver/Menlo/Flagstaff
Keith Van Cleave

Keegan Johnson - Librarian
Helen Keremedjiev - Library Tech
Devon Galena - Library Tech
Steve Viands - Clerk

Jez Gaddoura - Librarian
Tami Morse - Librarian
Kelly Haberstroh - Librarian
Pam Callais - Library Tech
Erin Donnelly - Technical Information Specialist

Librarian (Vacant)
Library Tech (Vacant)
Library Tech (Vacant)

Technical Information Specialist (Vacant)
Technical Information Assistant (Vacant)

April Kobayashi - Librarian
Jenny Stevens - Librarian
Lily Sheng - Librarian
Rebecca Bolger - Librarian
M. Moore - Library Tech (MP)
R. Rodriguez - Librarian (MP)
Donita Polly - Library Tech (F)

Librarian (Vacant)
USGS Library Vision and Mission

**Vision:** Recognized as the national leader in geoscience research, the USGS Library provides and promotes access to world class geoscience print and online resources that inspire scientific exploration and discovery.

**Mission:** The USGS Library fosters the success of the worldwide geosciences community by providing foundational resources and services to support critical and timely scientific investigations. Through stewardship of assets for future generations, the USGS Library advances discovery, use, management, and preservation of the geosciences record.
Library Collections

USGS Library has one of the world’s largest Earth and natural sciences collection

Library was established in 1879 and contains materials dating back to the 16th century

- 1,500,000 volumes
- 750,000 maps
- 500,000 historical photos
- 30,000 archival notebooks
- 775 e-journals, 10,000 e-books
- Publications Warehouse
Library Collections

- USGS Reports, Maps, and Publications
- Worldwide topographic and thematic map coverage
- State and Foreign Geological Survey research output
- Subject Literature
- Earth and General Science Journals
- Government Documents and Grey Literature
- Special Collections

28,266 titles (7% of collection) are unique to OCLC
40-60% of titles held in less than 20 libraries

Specialized classification system
Special Collections

- Rare Books and Maps
- Kunz Collection
- Topographic Map Archive
- Scientific Field Records
- Historical Photography
- Aerial Photos
Special Collections - Scientific Field Records

- Archive of unpublished materials and data
- 135 years of geologic investigations
- Records contributed from 1400 scientists
- 400 collections are fully inventoried
- Collection is not digitized - scanning pilot project in progress
Special Collections - Historical Photographic Collection

Collect, preserve, and make available the images taken during USGS scientific research, dating back as far as the 1860’s

500,000 images in collection with 42,000 images available online
Swiftcurrent Valley, Glacier National Park, Montana. 1911.

Glacier National Park, Montana, Swiftcurrent Valley, from just below Swiftcurrent Pass, looking east or down the valley. Part of Grinnell Mountain on the right and Apgar Peak on the left. 1911.

(see No. 179) U.S.G.S. sign plates on county post, at junction of Cave Springs-Barstow and Silver Lake-Leach Spring road, 23 miles northwest of Silver Lake, California, sec.

(see No. 179) U.S.G.S. sign plates on county post, at junction of Cave Springs-Barstow and Silver Lake-Leach Spring road, 23 miles northwest of Silver Lake, California, sec. 8, T. 16 N., R. 5 E. Enlargement of No. 147 retouched to bring out lettering on sign plates.


Items: 40/42,408
Categories:
- photographers (20001)
- national parks (7106)
- professional papers (2655)
- pioneer photographs (2576)
- glaciers (2074)
- formations (2006)
- rocks (1832)
Aerial Photography Collection contains 300,000 historic aerial photo prints, covering California and selected regions in the West.

Decade interval coverage beginning in the late 1930’s and early 1940’s through the present for the entire San Francisco Bay Area.
Special Collections - Maps

- Historical Topographic Map Archive
- USGS Thematic Maps
- Historical Maps
- Worldwide Coverage (and Beyond)
Historical Topographic Map Collection
Online resources and subscriptions

- ~ 775 online journal subscriptions, bureau wide access to nearly all
- Over 10,000 ebooks available, most are subject packages
- Subscriptions to Scopus, Web of Science, and GeoRef
- Licenses are through Contracting Office, any change in titles or access requires contract modification
Online resources - Subscription Use on the Landscape
Digitization

- **Priorities**
  - Patron requests
  - USGS series donated for destructive scanning
  - Gap-filling USGS series from Library collection

- **Special Collections/Projects**
  - Biodiversity Heritage Library
  - USGS Denver Library Photos
  - USGS Field Records
  - USGS Historical Topographic Maps

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Digitization Equipment and Storage

- 9 scanners in Reston
  - 2 maps scanners
  - 2 overhead camera book scanners
  - 2 sheet feeder
  - 1 microfiche, 1 microfilm, 1 slide
- 5 scanners in Denver
  - 3 flatbed photo scanners
  - 1 overhead camera book scanner
  - 1 topo-sized map scanner
- 400 ppi standard, 600 ppi for some maps
- Each page saved as uncompressed TIFF
- Storage
  - Access PDF files stored/served on NatWeb
  - Preservation master TIFFs onsite in external hard drive and local network storage devices, offsite in BlackPearl tape storage system
USGS Publications Warehouse

- Focused on digitizing USGS-published materials
- Over 80% of USGS series publications available full-text in Publications Warehouse
- Supports the [USGS Public Access Plan](#)
- USGS’s federally-funded research outputs are accessible to a wide audience
Upcoming improvements

Working on incorporating Publications Warehouse content into USGS Library Catalog, including Altmetric badges, for seamless searching across platforms.
Reference and Outreach

- Reference services for Public
  - locating/ use of USGS products
  - FOIA and litigation
  - Special Collections
  - Current Events / Natural Hazards
- Tours and sessions reaching over 1800+ per year
- InterLibrary Loan - library of last resort
  - about 3,000 loans/scans this year
Top BORROWING institutions of USGS materials (# of loans)

- US Department of Energy: 61
- Dept of the Interior Library: 48
- Naval Research Lab: 46
- US EPA Library: 41
- Boise State University: 34
- University of Maine at Orono: 32
- Colorado State University: 30
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 30
- Fish & Wildlife Service Library: 30
- Smithsonian Institution Libraries: 30

FY2017 Statistics
The USGS Libraries Advisory Board represents the internal USGS user communities to the Libraries Program management and/or to the Associate Director for Core Science Systems.

15 members nominated by Mission Areas/Regions:
- includes 13 scientists, the Library Director, and a representative from the Director’s Office.

The Library Advisory Board:
- provides advice in strategic visioning and planning of library operations
- serves as an advocate for the Libraries Program with user communities and higher level management
- Considers broad national issues pertinent to scholarly communication and open access, and communicate its perspectives, as appropriate, within the Bureau.
- Facilitates communication with and obtain feedback from the USGS community on library collections, programs, services, infrastructure, and communication mechanisms.
- Assists in identifying information needs of the USGS user communities.
Stakeholder Input: USGS Library Questionnaire

The USGS Library conducted an internal questionnaire for USGS staff only, open from March 28–April 13, 2018 to assess library usage, impacts on reduced services, and most revered services.

Access to library holdings, whether in the form of electronic journals or physical documents, is critical for USGS work. We cannot maintain our reputation as a highly regarded research agency without these resources. We can’t do our job without these resources. There is much concern that holdings might be reduced, especially electronic subscriptions to journals. Also, it is critical that the library maintain reasonable hours because there are numerous other documents that are still not available electronically.

In summary, one can’t over-emphasize the importance of our library resources.

If you get rid of online access to journals, ILL, and online citation databases, you may as well stop conducting research. You cannot be a competent scientist without access to the published literature. I also think our Librarians should be responsible for IPDS.

I understand that a very low percentage of the USGS field records have been scanned and made available online. These are potentially very valuable sources of data, but are locked up to most researchers because they have to be used in person, which is not terribly convenient or financially feasible. With the renewed federal focus on mineral resources, there is possibly very valuable information locked up in those records. It would be so helpful to have them scanned and indexed online so that they could be more accessible and more used. It’s been great to see so many of the USGS maps made available online in the last decade. Please consider applying this same philosophy to the field records.

I would like to see increased online access to journal articles, especially older content.

I like the USGS libraries, but don’t think you’re doing a good job promoting yourself. I’m at a center without a physical “USGS library” (we have our own library, but it’s not an official USGS library.) Your survey would be better if your emphasized the online library as well. I also checked that I did not use the library, but I actually use the online library every day to access journals. Also, Google Scholar syncs well with the USGS library and I suspect many people do not realize they are using the USGS library to access articles through Google Scholar.

You might want to do a better job of promoting how you help scientists get articles.
Stakeholder Input: External Panel Review

- Federal and academic librarians, representatives from stakeholder organizations to get a look across the landscape
- Charged with examining challenges and future directions
- Variety of presentations, group discussions with staff
- Recommendations- defining value, communication, setting priorities, team building
- Outcomes- Vision and Mission, Strategic Plan, six focus plans
USGS Library Key Challenges

The Library faces several key challenges for the future:

- **Collections**
  - largest geosciences library
  - donations/consolidations; space at a premium; cataloging & collection management needed
  - digitization

- **Outreach & Demonstrating Value**
  - messaging on library value/services

- **Budget**
  - operating in a flat budget environment
  - potential for budget reductions
  - strategy for evolving service model/timeframe

- **Subscriptions**
  - large portion of budget, yet most valued in USGS
  - continued rising costs

- **Resources**
  - Shrinking staff: 19 Federal employees; 7 Federal vacancies (this past fiscal year)

- **Facilities**
  - expenses continue to rise for space
  - consideration of off-site archive/limited access facility
  - need for improved space utilization
Questions?

Sally J. Roberts
Chief, Technical Services
USGS Library
sroberts@usgs.gov