

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

August 18, 2026
Director's Update

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 second 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	374
Active Submerged Land Leases	192	180	172	179	176	153	196	194	181	206
New Submerged Land Leases	8	36	48	24	17	6	39	14	5	49
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	16
New Disclaimers of Interest	1	3	0	1	2	2	5	10	10	5

PAST 6-MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

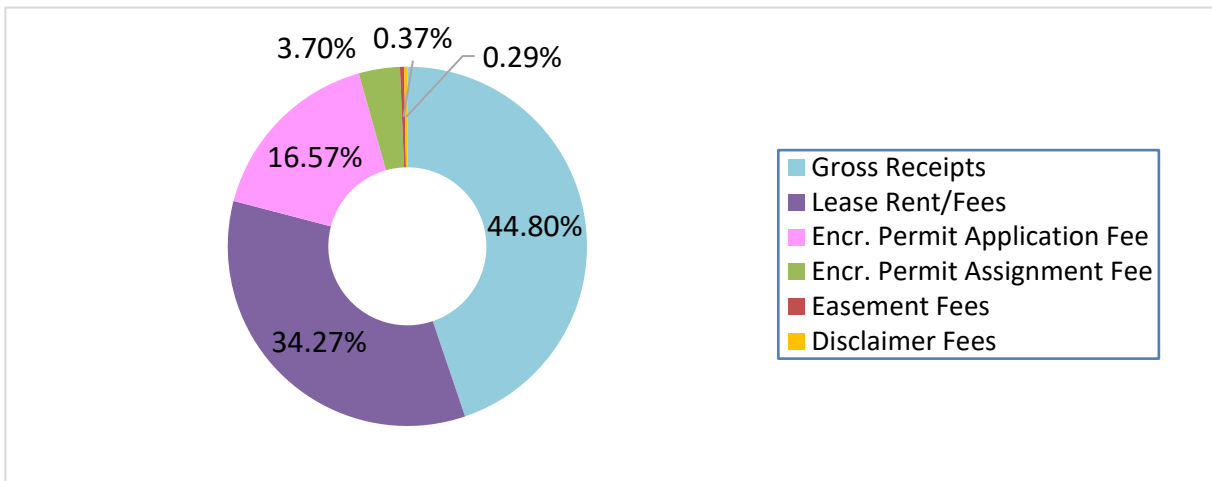
- **Administrative Hearings.** Between January 1, 2026, and June 30, 2026, in response to objections filed by the public, IDL ordered five public hearings, one contested case hearing, and one reconsideration hearing on encroachment permit applications. Two public hearing applications were withdrawn, two applications were approved, and one was denied. The contested case objection was withdrawn, and the denial of the application in the reconsideration hearing was affirmed by the assigned hearing officer.
- **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 went live in May of 2026. The Submerged land lease module is in development and is expected to go live by December 2026.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

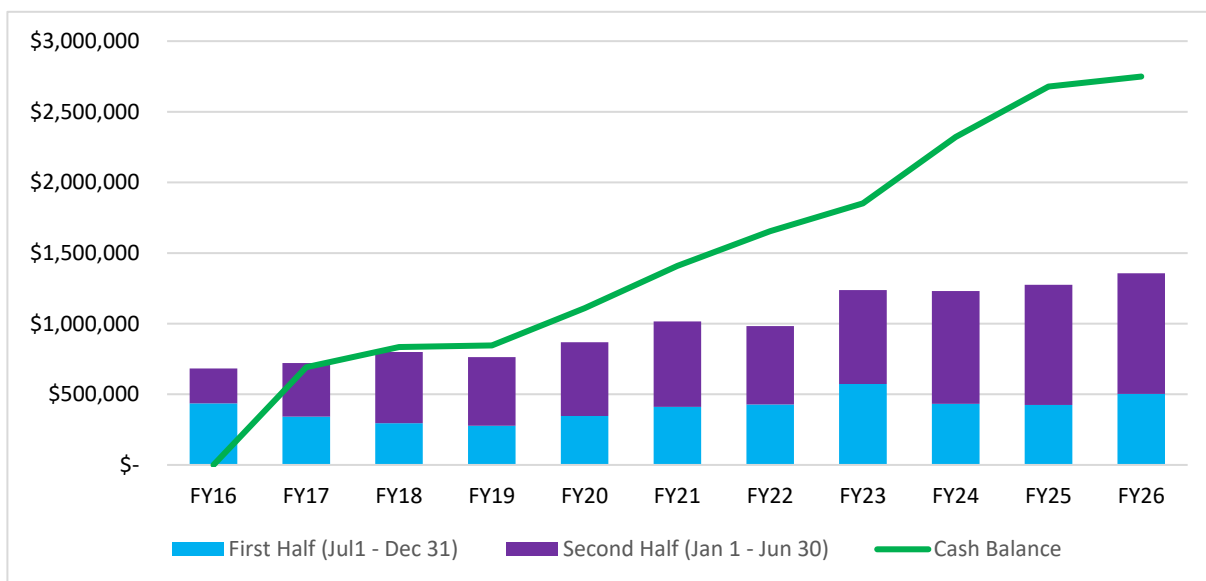
- The primary source of revenue for the navigable waterways fund is leasing revenue, where in FY26, leasing revenue and gross receipts made up nearly 80% of the revenue collected, as shown on the graph in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Navigable Waterways FY26 Revenue Sources



- IDL generated \$1,356,671 from navigable waterways in FY26. The dedicated fund for this program exceeded \$2.7 million as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Navigable Waterways Program Revenue and Cash Balance



Regulatory Minerals Program

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Rulemaking.** The 2026 Legislature approved the pending rule IDAPA 20.03.02 which came into effect on July 1, 2026.
- **Integra Resources - DeLamar Mine, Owyhee County:** This project is undergoing accelerated NEPA permitting review part of the FAST-41. The project is currently in the Mine Plan of Operations review stage. Submission of their closure plan and reclamation plan to IDL is anticipated in 2027 Q2.
- **Liberty Gold - Black Pine Mine, Cassia County:** This project is undergoing accelerated NEPA permitting review part of the FAST-41. The project is currently in the draft Environmental Impact Statement review stage. IDL anticipates receiving a Cyanidation Facility Permanent Closure Plan application in March 2027, and a Reclamation Plan application in September 2027.
- **Perpetua Resources – Stibnite Mine:** In March 2025, IDL approved the cyanidation facility permanent closure plan and the initial three-year construction phase reclamation plan. Mine construction began in October 2025.

TOTAL PERMITS AND BONDING

IDL currently administers 1,611 mine sites covered by reclamation plans and 12 covered by dredge and placer permits as categorized in Table 2.

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)
1583	28	1	12

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	22
Retirements	15	22	9	13	7	14	20	43	35	15
Total Reclamation Plans	1,542	1,540	1,561	1,580	1,574	1,545	1,571	1,571	1,579	1,611
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	16
Total Permits	26	27	28	28	29	31	28	27	28	12

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. In FY26, \$270,061 was deposited into the fund which ended with \$2,965,942 balance. Table 6 has details from the FY26 BAF billing. Figure 2 illustrates the revenue, expenditure, and balance for this fund.

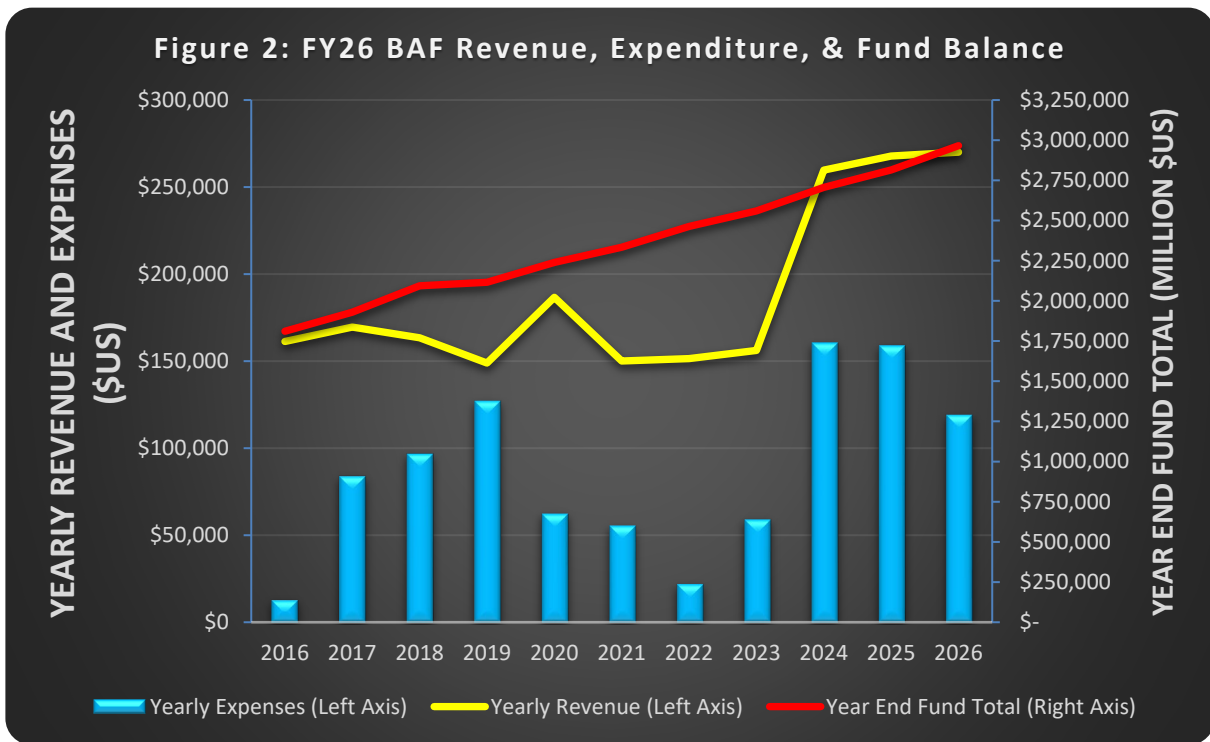
Table 4: Bonding for Sand and Gravel, Simple Industrial Minerals, and Placer Permits								
	Reclamation Plans (IDAPA 20.03.02.069)				Dredge and Placer Permits (IDAPA 20.03.01)			
	Plans	Permitted Acres	Total Bond	Bond/Acre	Permits	Total Acres	Total Bond	Bond/Acre
Traditional Bond ¹	294	22,263	\$21,110,016	\$948	4	31	\$37,910	\$1,222
Bond Assurance Fund	629	29,035	n/a	n/a	6	266	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	28	21,669	\$309,889,853	\$14,301

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

Table 6: Bond Assurance Fund Billing (FY26)			
Disturbance (ACRES)	Annual Fee (\$)	Total Permits Distribution	Total Annual Fees (\$)
2 acres or less	\$100	151	\$15,100
> 2 acres ≤ 5 acres	\$200	155	\$31,000
> 5 acres ≤ 10 acres	\$250	151	\$37,750
> 10 acres ≤ 15 acres	\$300	59	\$17,700
> 15 acres ≤ 20 acres	\$350	40	\$14,000
> 20 acres ≤ 25 acres	\$400	25	\$10,000
> 25 acres ≤ 30 acres	\$450	24	\$10,800
> 30 acres ≤ 35 acres	\$500	7	\$3,500
> 35 acres ≤ 40 acres	\$550	22	\$12,100
40 Acres	\$600	1	\$600
TOTAL		635	\$152,550



ABANDONED MINE LANDS

Half of the one percent (1%) Idaho Mine License Tax (MLT) is deposited into the AML fund and used to reclaim lands impacted by mining operations (excluding sand and gravel as described in Idaho Code § 47-1205). In FY26, \$541,165 was deposited into the AML Fund, including a \$20,000 voluntary contribution, ending the year with a balance just over \$2.1M. The AML Fund ended FY26 with a cash balance. In May 2026, IDL held its first meeting with the newly established advisory committee. The committee has agreed to meet quarterly to discuss funding and methods for AML projects. IDL is currently testing a ranking rubric for statutory compliance with prioritization of projects and will discuss its tentative schedule of projects with the committee at the next meeting in September 2026. Figure 3 illustrates the revenue, expenditure, and balance for this fund. Note, FY26 Expenses show the underlying accounting records are currently being reconciled. Updated figures will be provided once the review is complete.

