



Authorized by Congress in 1879, the [USGS Library](#) is recognized as one of the world's largest Earth and natural science libraries, providing services, collections, and expertise that are essential to the USGS mission and the global geoscience community. The USGS Library is a multisite, centralized library, providing bureau-wide access to scholarly journals and research support services to USGS employees around the nation. An important role of the USGS Library is the preservation of its unique physical collections, ensuring continued access for future generations.

With materials dating back to the 16th century, the estimated 1,500,000 volumes, 750,000 maps, 500,000 historical photos, and 30,000 field records provides comprehensive and essential support to USGS employees and the broader community and is accessed by thousands of researchers each year. The USGS Library collections and expert staff provide timely, evidence-based, peer-reviewed, and foundational information on critical topics impacting national safety and prosperity. The USGS Library fills requests from USGS employees whether they are teleworking, in the field, or working from over 300 office locations. As the primary access point to the scientific record of the geosciences, the USGS Library ensures that citizens can find and use scientific print and online information.

Over the last several years, the USGS Library has strived to create efficiencies and maximize value to help manage increasing operational costs within a flat budget, while continuing to modernize the services and collections offered to researchers and the public. These ongoing efforts focus on making collections available virtually and expanding access to online resources and services, as well as consolidating print collections and updating service infrastructure to deliver consistent results to researchers across the country. Supporting the preservation and modernization of the USGS Library's unique physical collections remains a priority to continue to support current science and ensure access for future generations.



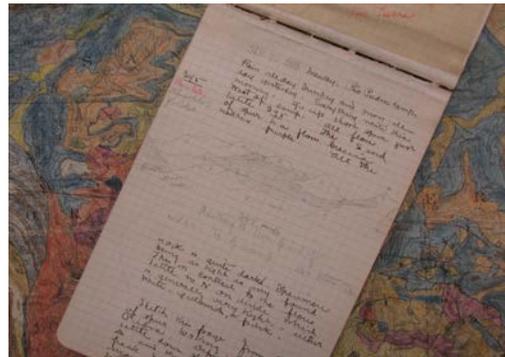
Since the reshaping of the physical libraries began in 2012, there have been several collection moves and an overall footprint reduction of more than 40% or 60,000 square feet. A state-of-the-art library facility was constructed in Denver and much of the Menlo Park Library collection has been integrated into the new Denver facility, with specialized and rare materials moving to Reston. The consolidation of the Menlo Park and Flagstaff Libraries is crucial to a broader USGS effort to reduce overall facilities costs. The savings from the consolidation in Menlo, Flagstaff, Reston, and Denver libraries significantly reduces USGS facilities funding requirements. The

USGS Library is also working with smaller science center libraries that are downsizing to move critical collections



to the libraries in Denver and Reston. The USGS Library is dedicated to continuing our careful stewardship of these valuable assets and increasing accessibility through digitizing collections, including new USGS publications, as well as creating new catalog records for older materials, especially cartographic items.

The USGS Library has been working diligently to streamline and modernize access to resources and services to better serve the needs of USGS researchers and scientists working from the field. Online journal articles and ebook chapter downloads average 1,500 / day, and contribute an \$8 / \$1 return on investment, and estimated annual value of over \$45 million based on the retail market value, a significant savings for the bureau. The Library offers numerous online collections, including more than 10,000 ebook titles, digitized journal archives, and over 750 active online ejournals. This allows the Library to provide researchers with online resources and services from any location.



The USGS Library also manages the [USGS Publications Warehouse](#), the official index to USGS-authored publications and related data. Critical updates to the USGS Publications Warehouse were completed in support of the [USGS Public Access Plan](#) to increase access to federally funded scientific research. These updates provide links and identifiers to permanently connect authors, publications, and data sets. The Library also added tools to help researchers identify and track news and social media mentions of cited USGS publications.

Current efforts to expand, promote, and increase awareness of the physical and electronic collections, and open access resources include the migration to a new modern integrated library system. This innovative system will encourage researchers to search simultaneously across all library collections, both physical and digital. With the potential for increased discovery of the Library's collections, access to physical materials through rapid document delivery and digitization is being expanded. The USGS Library is a valuable conduit for science support and access to scientific literature from around the world. USGS will continue to provide one of the largest collections of Earth and natural science information available anywhere – and everywhere – in the world.

For additional information, contact the USGS Library at 703-648-4301 or email library@usgs.gov.