



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources

I am writing you today to share the Washington Geological Survey's (WGS) appreciation of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). I would like to stress the importance of adequately funding hazard-related science for the benefit of the people of Oregon and our region.

Oregon and Washington are both vulnerable to landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic unrest. Washington and Oregon are second and third in the nation, respectively, in terms of seismic risk, and most hazards do not stop at state borders. For this reason, WGS has frequently collaborated with DOGAMI scientists to assess risk for these hazards along our common border.

Further, DOGAMI is recognized as a leader in applied geologic hazards research and public outreach. They are an example to the nation in landslide and tsunami hazard assessments and their communication to the public. In addition to other states following their lead, WGS has largely adopted DOGAMI's methods for landslide inventories and susceptibility modeling to ensure that local decision makers appropriately incorporate this data.

As a state with similar responsibilities in the collection, storage, and distribution of lidar data to that of DOGAMI, we recognize that lidar is critical to many scientific disciplines and industries throughout the public and private sectors. Adequate funding ensures that the data DOGAMI produces, including lidar, remains publicly available.

WGS values the relationships and scientific collaboration with DOGAMI's scientists. Our partnerships are critical to protect life and safety, and to increase resilience, across the region.

Thank you for supporting adequate funding for geologic hazards related science now and into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Casey R. Hanell".

Casey R. Hanell, State Geologist and Director
Washington Geological Survey
Washington Department of Natural Resources