
Renewed interest in precious metals these past few years has stimulated a modern mining bonanza in the western U.S. With the lure of a productive mining past, Idaho has enjoyed a big share of the attention. This GeoNote shows the locations of mineral exploration and development projects underway in the state for 1986 and 1990. These two years bracket the beginning and end of the mining boom of the 1980s.

This includes the biggest gold rush in Idaho since the 1930s. Activity rose from 37 projects underway in 1986 to nearly 100 in 1990.

Further information about exploration in Idaho for this period is available in the annual May issues of the magazine, Mining Engineering. Most exploration in the state during these five years was undertaken for precious metals and industrial minerals. On average, about $250,000 was spent on each mining project. For more information, contact the Idaho Geological Survey.

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**Exploration and Development 1986**

**Exploration and Development 1990**

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