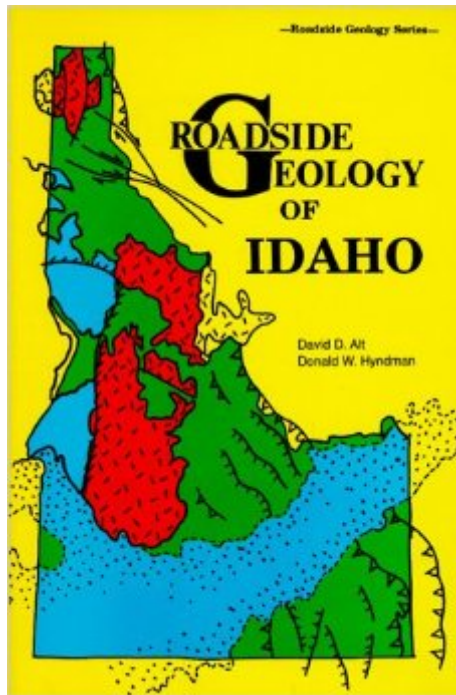


The book was found

Roadside Geology Of Idaho (Roadside Geology Series)



Synopsis

From the ancient sedimentary formations in the north through the overthrust belt in the southeast, Idaho's rocks are as interesting as rocks come. The authors know these rocks well through their years of research in Idaho, which led to their theory explaining the flood basalts of the Columbia Plateau and the hotspot track of the Snake River Plain as the results of a giant meteorite impact that happened about 17 million years ago.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The entire Roadside Geology series is excellent; this book is no exception. I particularly enjoy their maps, which do a good job showing the different geological formations you can expect to pass through as you drive on a particular highway. The authors explain geological processes with extreme patience, as though they are teachers as much as writers. I have one general quibble with the series, and that is the seeming disdain the authors show for old-time prospectors. It shouldn't be hard to understand why hordes of miners flocked from one gold rush to the next; getting their first could mean striking a fortune. Idaho's mountains are full of ghost towns and deserted mining camps that came and went, and I find those old locations--especially the tailings piles--to be a great source of rocks and minerals. The men who prospected hidden valleys and remote locations were smart and able, and save for those few who trespassed on reservations and misbehaved, my hat is off to them. The authors don't seem to share my feelings, but that doesn't take away from these great books. Anyone intent on exploring Idaho would do well to add this book to their research stack.

As always, David Alt and Donald Hyndman team up to provide a very readable expert presentation of the current and past geology of a state with a very dynamic geological past and present. As a non-geologist who doesn't plan to visit Idaho anytime soon, I still learned plenty about how geology works from the discussion, drawings and photos of many specific sites and regions. 100 million years ago, Idaho was part of the western shore of North America. You'll learn where to find evidence of the collision that ended this era. You will learn about the many Ice Age lake megafloods that left their marks on the major river valleys. Nearly all the surface of the state is dominated by a diverse collection of igneous rocks from at least 5 major events over the past 100 million years, one or two of which are still active. You will have to read the book to discover all the other interesting details.

The state of Idaho is full of interesting geology; from the Craters of the Moon, to the Snake River Canyon, to the lakes of the Idaho Panhandle. Every tourist and sightseer should have a copy of this informative book to guide them along an adventure that includes geological orientation interwoven with on-site observation. A "must-read" for the traveler!

I am a big fan of the Roadside series, where each volume combines detailed descriptions of what happened, together with even more detail on where it happened. As we travel, I drive, while my wife reads the description of our current section of road. Works really well and we've learned a lot of general geology over the years, along with many fascinating local details. This book surprised me, however, by claiming the end of the dinosaurs was the result of a large meteor/asteroid that hit off the Indian coast, causing the flood basalts known as the Deccan Traps. Best current thinking is that an asteroid did in fact cause the mass extinction, but the impact was in the Yucatan rather than offshore India, and no flood basalts resulted, at least in the Yucatan. I don't know what the current thinking is on the relationship between asteroid impacts and flood basalts; there may well be a link sometimes -- just not at the end of the Cretaceous. But this flaw should not cause you to dismiss the book. [We certainly haven't.] It remains an excellent travel companion for a geologically complex and fascinating state.

Very dated book. I suspect the data was assembled mid-80's and the book published in 1989. There's been huge advancements in geology tech and theory since then. A good recent book for the non-expert (myself) is *Rough-Hewn-Land* by Keith Heyer Meldahl. This roadside book is interesting but really needs to be redone in color and brought up to speed. This author is big on a

meteor hit theory in southeast Oregon that initiated the Snake River hot spot but the recent published Roadside Oregon book author never cited a meteor hit.

This book is very detailed. Perhaps too much for me, but I enjoy reading it. I just do not understand all the terminology. I would like to find a more simplified book, but this one would not disappoint someone who understands geology.

This is an exciting way to drive. Read the book, follow your route and then see the sights on the road side and know what those rocks are all about. Very good information and fun as well. Every family trip should have this book handy even if it is just an hour drive.

With little or no background in geology, I wanted to know more about the basalt columns, lava flows, glacial boulders and striped cliffsides that we pass as we travel around our home state. This is about the only book that deals with geology from a car window, so we got it. The level will satisfy a scientist, an interested and somewhat informed adult, but it's a bit above what a Cub Scout leader would want.

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