

John Boyle  
Commissioner

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Department of  
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 19, 2025

## **DNR Welcomes New State Geologist**

**(Fairbanks, AK)** Today, Dr. Erin Campbell joined the Department of Natural Resources as the State Geologist and Director of the Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGs). She brings a strong background in geologic field work, more than a decade teaching at the college level and a long-time commitment to public service.

"Dr. Campbell is superbly qualified for this technical role and brings an established record of state-level leadership," said DNR Commissioner John Boyle. "I'm delighted to have such an impressive scientist serving as State Geologist, leading the division and guiding natural resource policy in Alaska."

With a background in petroleum studies and structural geology, she holds a Bachelor's of Science with a major in Geology and a Minor in Mathematics from Occidental College. Dr. Campbell attended the University of Wyoming to obtain her PhD in Geology, specializing in Structural Geology with a secondary emphasis in Geophysics. She then worked as a geologist for Chevron for four years in Louisiana and California before returning to Wyoming. During 15 years at the University of Wyoming, she taught undergraduate and graduate courses and directed the Geology Field Camp. Her study included research in structural geology, geomechanics, and CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration, and she established the Cretaceous Tight Oil Consortium in the Powder River Basin.

Later in her career, Dr. Campbell focused on public service. She spent a year as the manager of the Energy & Mineral Resources division at the Wyoming State Geological Survey before being appointed as Wyoming State Geologist and Director of the survey in 2017, where she served until moving to Alaska this summer. She has worked extensively at the national level with the Association of American State Geologists.

Dr. Campbell will lead 70 employees within the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys who generate, analyze and interpret data on geologic resources and natural conditions; as well as map and inventory mineral and energy resources on state land for use by government, private industry, scientists, educators and the public. DGGs also manages programs for hydrology & surficial geology, natural hazards and geophysics, plus runs the [Geologic Materials Center](#) in Anchorage.

The division was previously led by Dr. Melanie Werdon, who retired earlier this year.

*The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.*

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Dr. Campbell is the State Geologist and Director of the Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys.

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