Phosphate

Minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium minerals, and oil and gas. Geothermal resources are also leasable under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970. The Idaho Falls District’s phosphate program is managed as leasable minerals.

Money Generation

Average wages in Caribou County are among the highest in the State of Idaho due to phosphate industry jobs.

In 2018, direct contribution to labor income from non-metallic mining in Idaho totaled $282 million.

Taxes and Royalties

of federal mineral leases, including royalties, are returned to the state.

million generated in federal government royalty payments in 2017

Products

Phosphate is an essential ingredient in toothpaste, dishwasher soap, biscuits, carbonated colas and a host of other products. It is also one of the main products used to make fertilizers and weed inhibitors.