By the Numbers
Idaho National Laboratory

Updated May 2021

The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) site, an 890-square-mile DOE site located in the high desert of eastern Idaho, was established in 1949 on land once used as a Naval gunnery range. The Idaho Cleanup Project is addressing contamination from legacy wastes generated from World War II-era conventional weapons testing, government-owned research and defense reactors, spent nuclear fuel reprocessing, laboratory research, and defense missions at other DOE sites. The project is focused on safely remediating the INL site, including dispositioning transuranic (TRU) waste, managing spent nuclear fuel, and treating high-level radioactive waste to protect the underlying aquifer and comply with federal and state agreements.

79%

(11 of 14) underground tanks that contained liquid waste have been emptied and grouted.

>263,000

barrels of TRU waste were compressed using a supercompactor, eliminating the need for thousands of additional shipments to a permanent, off-site repository and freeing up storage space. With the primary mission for the supercompactor completed, it will undergo demolition and dismantlement after other waste processing operations in the building are finished.

>60,000

cubic meters of managed TRU and mixed low level waste shipped offsite for disposal.

4,400

cubic meters of high-level waste stored in stainless-steel vessels located within six concrete silos called bin sets. The material, originally 9 million gallons of liquid radioactive and hazardous waste from the spent nuclear fuel reprocessing mission, was dried and reduced by an 8.1 ratio through a process called calcining.

By 2028

the subsurface disposal area will be capped and returned to native vegetation.

40-acre

lined disposal facility designated for CERCLA waste with lined evaporation ponds and treatment, storage and administrative facilities designed to safely contain contaminated soil and cleanup debris.

900,000

gallons of sodium-bearing liquid radioactive waste currently stored in underground stainless-steel tanks will be treated at the newly constructed, first-of-a-kind Integrated Waste Treatment Unit.

>10,000

cubic meters of buried transuranic waste exhumed.

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