



## Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors

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### BRIEFING PAPER

Topic: Updated Definition of Land Surveying  
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#### Background

The Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors together with the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors is undertaking an effort to change the definition in Idaho Code. The primary reason is to ensure law aligns with actual practice and to better provide protections for public health, safety and property.

#### Issue

The current law is focused only on property boundary surveying and flood elevation certification. The law is outdated and needs to be upgraded for the following reasons:

1. Land Surveyors are called upon by Idaho statute to safeguard the life, health, and property of the general public. Under the current law, Land Surveyors are only licensed to work on property boundaries yet are asked by their clients to sign and seal work that they perform which is not authorized by code.
2. The current law is a barrier to entry for new professionals. Very few young surveyors are entering the workforce and becoming a licensed professional land surveyor since they can only credit boundary surveying experience toward the 4-year experience requirement.
3. The States surrounding Idaho have recognized the need to protect their public by revising the definition of land surveying to better reflect what surveyors are called upon to do in their states and to recognize the experience and judgment of a licensed professional land surveyor.

New legislation is planned for the 2015 legislature. Your interest and support for this effort is greatly appreciated.

