

Project Title: Analytical Chemistry Services

Objectives

The CRMRT Analytical Chemistry project combines and coordinates the chemistry functions that are necessary for research and assessment projects within the Geologic Division. Recurring efforts include: maintaining equipment and methods of analysis for in-house analytical chemistry work; offering a mechanism to prepare samples; contracting routine chemical requests to an outside laboratory; providing data quality control for both in-house and contract generated data; providing INAA, delayed neutron, XRF, and single element analysis. Long term efforts include continued support to the Geologic Division by providing these services and the modification of these analytical methods or administrative procedures to better meet the needs of the users in the Geologic Division.

Relevance and Impact

The Geologic Division in all 3 regions require several functions for chemistry be conducted across theme boundaries. Most of these single efforts are not large enough to support the instrumentation or the expertise needed to work on these tasks. However, when the entire Division is considered, then a chemistry support function that combines these efforts results in a cost efficient and necessary endeavor. This project provides chemical analysis services that support the efforts of the entire Geologic Division.

Strategy and Approach

Basic program elements that are critical to the chemistry effort have been identified along with the individuals needed to work in these areas. They are organized as specific tasks. The core of the project contains the following tasks: Sample and Data management which includes quality assurance/quality control, contracting routine analytical work, data management, and sample control and archive; in-house chemistry support, which includes single element analyses and support of the laboratory infrastructure; Instrumental neutron activation analysis, X-ray fluorescence analysis; and analytical contract monitoring. This project expects to recover most of its analytical costs (including salary and OE) via reimbursement from the submitters' topical projects on a fee for service basis.