

Inland Geological Society

December 2025

Next Meeting:

**Tuesday,
December 9th**

Time:

Social: 6:00pm

Dinner 6:15pm

Presentation:
7:00pm

Location:

3 Iron
Brewing Company
898 South Via Lata,
Suite A
Colton, CA 92324

Coming to Dinner?

Students \$10
IGS Members \$12
Non-Members \$15
Please RSVP by
December 5th to:

rsvp.igs@gmail.com

Newsletter of the Inland Geological Society Volume 37 No. 10

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October Speaker: Daniel Luna

"The Logistical Considerations for Safe and Effective Search and Rescue Operations in Abandoned Mines"

Abstract:

Abandoned mines present a complex combination of physical, atmospheric, environmental, and operational hazards for both trespassers and rescue personnel. This discussion includes field experience of the primary risks encountered during break-and-enter incidents and the logistical considerations for safe and effective Search and Rescue (SAR) operations.

Key hazards include unstable ground, structural deterioration of timbers and supports, shifting soils, chemical exposure, and collapse potential intensified by water intrusion, erosion, and seismic activity, among others. Mines may also contain abandoned explosives, hidden shafts, submerged voids, and wildlife ranging from bats to large predators. Rarely, hostile property owners or improvised hazards may be encountered. Effective response requires a minimum SAR team capable of managing command, safety, and technical functions. Through case examples, the presentation underscores the importance of time-sensitive decision-making, scene assessment, and adapting to highly constrained underground environments. Collectively, these lessons highlight the need for specialized training, proper equipment, and multi-agency coordination to safely navigate the diverse hazards inherent to abandoned mine incidents.

Speaker Biography:

Daniel Luna is a Fire Captain at the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). He has an Associates of Science in Fire Science; Paramedicine; and Rescue Science, and an Associates of Arts in Business Management. He has 22 years of experience as a firefighter with CAL FIRE and graduated from the CAL FIRE Fire Academy in 2016 and CAL FIRE Company Officer Academy in 2017, is a California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) Hazmat Specialist, and is a volunteer for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team - Barstow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Inland Geological Society will meet the second Tuesday of each month at:

3 Iron Brewing Company

898 South Via Lata , Suite A
Colton, California 92324

(<https://www.3ironbrewingco.com>)

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

Visit our:

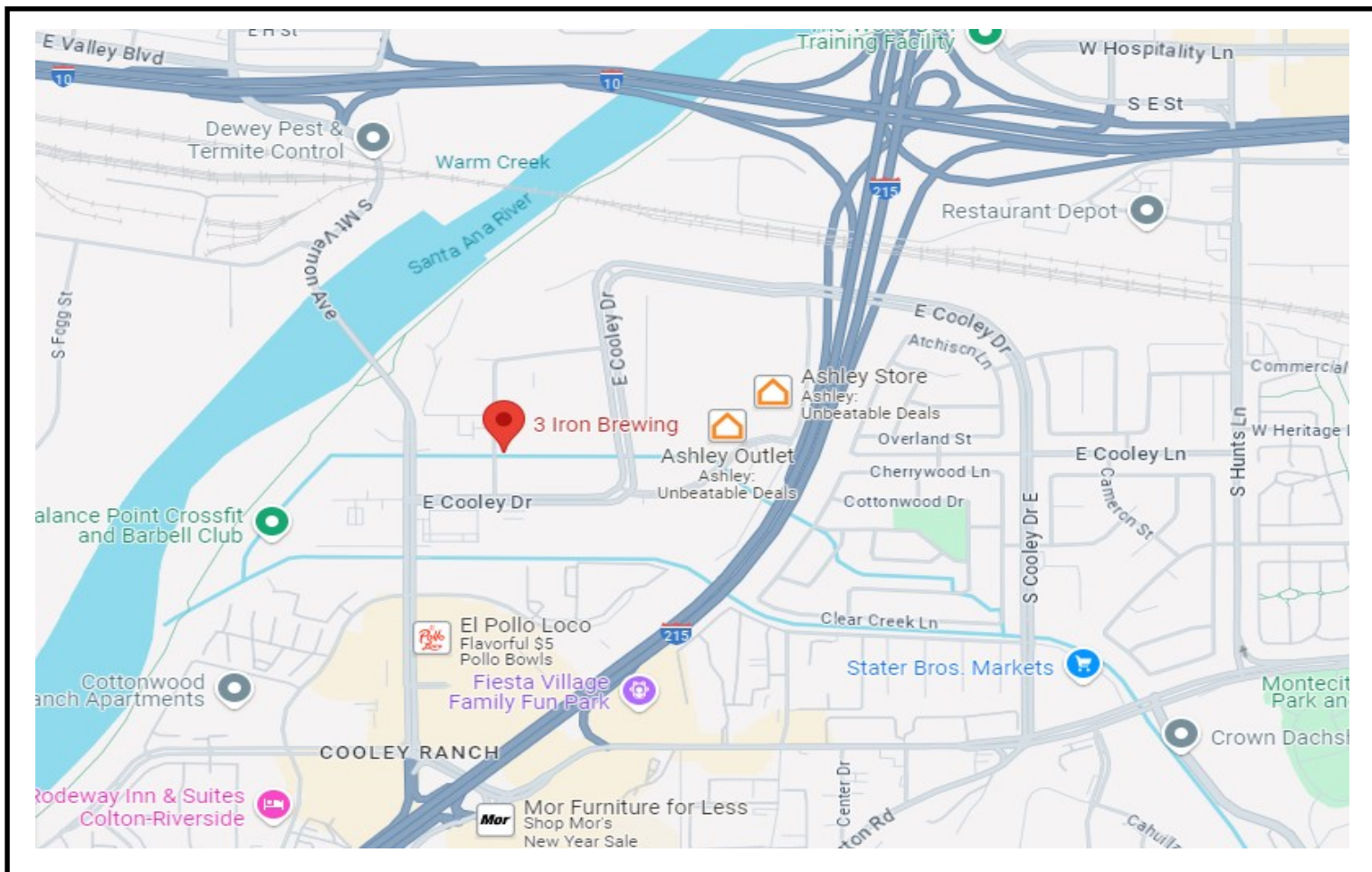
- Webpage at <https://www.inlandgeo.org>.
- Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/InlandGeo/>.

IGS coffee mugs are available at the monthly meetings for \$10. Get yours at the upcoming meeting!



3 Iron Brewing Company

898 South Via Lata , Suite A
Colton, California 92324



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