During the 2018 Idaho legislative session, the Idaho trespass law (I.C 6-202) was revised. The revised law redefines trespass and excludes certain people from criminal trespass; customers entering a business, meter readers, postal workers, utility company personnel, and owner or operator of any right-of-way or easement. Land surveyors were not included in the exclusions. This was a major cause of concern for surveyors in Idaho. ISPLS and the Idaho State licensing board worked to include an exclusion for surveyors during the 2018 session. Since a revision was not passed in 2018 excluding surveyors, ISPLS and the Idaho State Licensing Board worked to revise the existing Surveyor Right of Entry law (I.C. 54-1230) to include private surveyors and their subordinates (previously this only applied to Federal and State government surveyors).

ISPLS and the state licensing board worked hard to get this revision introduced and passed during the 2019 legislative session. The revision was introduced on January 30 and signed into law by Governor Little on March 21, after some minor edits. Idaho surveyors now have right-of-entry to perform their work without worry of criminal trespass.

Idaho is had a successful 2019 ISPLS Convention. The convention was held February 19-22, 2019 at the Shoshone-Bannock Event Center in Fort Hall, ID. The key speakers were Charlie Tucker, “Railroad Surveying 101” on Friday, February 22, and Herbert Stoughton, who spoke on ethics, legal descriptions, map projections, title research for surveyors, and the SPCS 2022 and Wednesday, February 20 and Thursday, February 21. Idaho surveyors raised over $10,000 during our annual scholarship auction. This money goes towards scholarships for students attending a surveying or geomatics program in Idaho.