

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE UPPER NORTH FORK OF THE CLEARWATER RIVER AREA, NORTHERN IDAHO

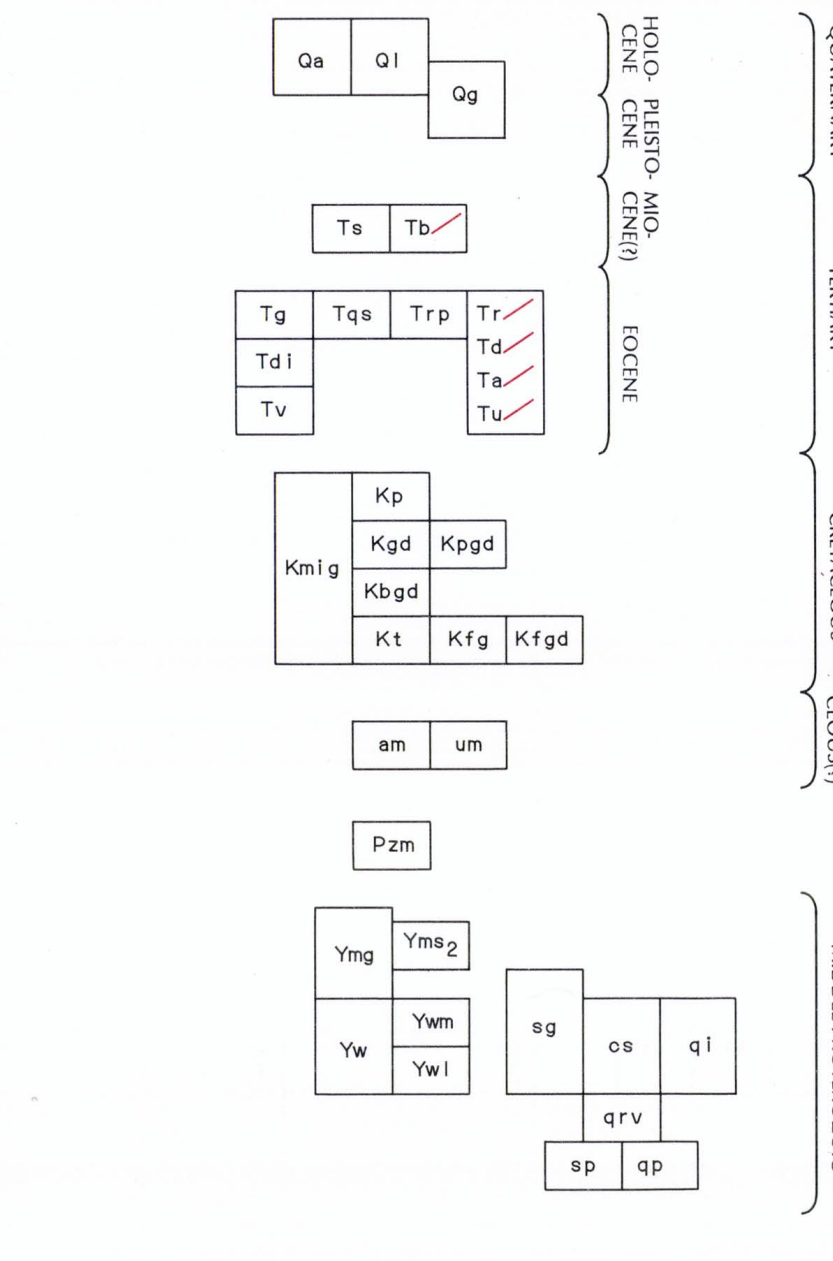
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1992

DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS

- Qa** ALLUVIAL DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE)—Stream deposits in modern drainages.
- Ql** LANDSLIDE DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE)—Unconsolidated deposits of landslide origin.
- Qs** GLACIAL DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Poorly sorted and poorly stratified, unconsolidated deposits principally of glacial origin. Includes till in lateral and ground moraines as well as outwash and stream alluvium.
- Ts** SEDIMENT (MIOCENE?)—Unconsolidated, poorly sorted, fluvial sediment. Includes beds of boulder and cobble gravel, sand, and clay. Typically deeply weathered and contains decomposed quartzite, calc-silicates, silite, argillite, and granite boulders in a red or yellow, sandy and clayey matrix.
- Tb** BASALT DIKES (MIOCENE?)—Black, aphanitic, tabular dikes that consist principally of plagioclase, augite, glass, and opaque oxides. Dikes are typically 1 m thick and intrude along inclined fractures or foliations; some show columnar joints. Most likely related to Columbia River Basalt Group.
- Tr** RHYOLITE DIKES (EOCENE)—Tan-weathering aphanitic to very fine-grained phenocrystic rock that contains variable amounts of biopyroxene and subhedral feldspar phenocrysts.
- Trb** RHYOLITE PORPHYRY PLUGS AND DIKE SWARMS (EOCENE)—Similar to Tr, but occurs as larger masses that are typically porphyritic. Phenocrysts of quartz, alkali feldspar, and plagioclase compose about 40% of the rock; includes poorly exposed thiolite dike swarms in the southeastern part of the area.
- Td** DACITE DIKES (EOCENE)—Dark to medium gray, aphanitic dikes that contain plagioclase and hornblende phenocrysts up to 1 cm long.
- Ta** ANDSITE DIKES (EOCENE?)—Dark gray, fine-grained dikes characterized by acicular hornblende and lath-shaped plagioclase where phenocrystic. Some dikes have chilled margins, and more rarely internal chilled contacts.
- Tu** UNDIFFERENTIATED DIKES (EOCENE)—May include any of the types of dikes described above, but most are either rhyolite (Tr) or dacite (Td). Mapped primarily from aerial photographs.
- Tg** GRANITE (EOCENE)—Fine to coarse-grained, equigranular to slightly porphyritic granite that contains quartz, white to pinkish feldspar, biotite, and sparse amphibole. Contains microcline cavities, which are most common in associated aplite dikes. Pegmatites are rare. Contacts sharp and discordant. Weathers to form rounded outcrops and spires. Includes the Bungalow pluton (Hietanen, 1968; Reynolds, 1971), the Horseshoe Lake stock (Hietanen, 1968), and the Lolo Hot Springs batholith (Nold, 1974).
- Tqs** QUARTZ SYENITE (EOCENE)—Medium- to fine-grained, porphyritic quartz syenite, syenite, and quartz monzonite. Similar to Tg, but quartz poor. Contains hornblende, clinozoisite cores in hornblende, and biotite. Commonly occurs as resistant, iron-stained stocks and dikes. Locally contains microcline cavities. Includes unit mapped as the monzonite of Junction Lake by Childs (1982).
- Tdl** DIORITE (EOCENE)—Medium- to fine-grained, equigranular pyroxene-hornblende diorite along Rocky Ridge Creek in the southwestern part of the area.
- Tv** VOLCANIC ROCKS (EOCENE)—Primarily dacite tuff(?) breccia, but also includes andesite flows, rhyolite tuff, and volcanoclastic rocks. Subdivided locally by Simpson (1985), but grouped on this map. All rock types are phenocrystic. Clasts are angular to subangular dacite and quartzite, mostly 0.5 to 1.0 cm across.
- Kp** PEGMATITE AND APPLITE (CRETACEOUS)—Irregular bodies of intermediate, very coarse-grained biotite or biotite-muscovite-bearing pegmatite and fine-grained applit. Generally lacks fabric, but locally occurs as small pyroclastic dikes in schist and gneiss.
- Kgd** BIOTITE GRANODIORITE (CRETACEOUS)—Hornblende to fine-grained, equigranular to slightly porphyritic biotite granodiorite. Hornblende and tonalite near some contacts with metasedimentary rocks. Associated pegmatite and aplite dikes and sills are common. Similar rocks along the Lochsa River south of the area have yielded U-Pb dates on zircon of 71.5 Ma and 75.5 Ma (Toth and Stacey, 1992). Mass along the lower part of Cayuse Creek is typical in that it contains perthite, alkali feldspar and has chemical compositions intermediate between Tg and Kgd.
- Kpgd** PORPHYRYC BIOTITE GRANODIORITE (CRETACEOUS)—Medium-grained biotite granodiorite and granite that contains subhedral phenocrysts of alkali feldspar 1-3 cm long. Contains foliated mafic inclusions at Bald Mountain.
- Kbgd** BIOTITE-RICH GRANODIORITE (CRETACEOUS)—Medium- to coarse-grained, equigranular to slightly porphyritic hornblende-biotite granodiorite. Contains conspicuous bodies of euhedral biotite as thick as 4 mm and subhedral hornblende up to 6 mm long. Resembles a coarse-grained gneiss. Mafic inclusions are common north of Blackfoot Mountain.
- Kt** TONALITE (CRETACEOUS)—Medium-grained, equigranular, massive to well-foliated hornblende-biotite tonalite and quartz diorite. Disaggregated by subhedral hornblende crystals that locally define a foliation in the host rocks. Locally contains inclusions of fine-grained hornblende diorite. Includes unit mapped as the quartz diorite of Junction Mountain by Childs (1982).
- Kfg** FOLIATED GRANITE (CRETACEOUS)—Small bodies of foliated and lineated, fine- to medium-grained muscovite-biotite granite, quartz monzonite, and leucocratic biotite quartz diorite. Present only in the central part of the map area. Characteristically iron-stained and pegmatite-rich. May be anatectic in origin (R.E. Kell, pers. commun., 1990).
- Kfgd** FOLIATED GRANODIORITE (CRETACEOUS)—Foliated, medium- to coarse-grained granodiorite and tonalite in the lower part of Black Canyon and the upper part of Collins Creek. Includes units mapped as quartz diorite orthogneiss by Childs (1982) and tonalite orthogneiss by R.E. Kell (pers. commun., 1990).
- Kmga** MCGMATITE (CRETACEOUS)—Areas of nearly equal amounts of metapelite and granitic rocks; contorted and intermixed. Migmatitic rock in the drainages of Herdick Creek, Middle Creek, and Beaver Dam Creek in the southwestern part of the area was not delineated. Despite an abundance of injected granitic material in that area, preserving metasedimentary units could still be distinguished.
- um** ULTRAMAFIC ROCK (CRETACEOUS)—Small dike- and sill-like bodies of medium- to coarse-grained pyroxenite that are in places altered to amphibole. Present on Little Moses Ridge and in the central part of the map area, and on Green Point in the west-central part of the area.
- am** AMPHIBOLITE (CRETACEOUS OR PROTEROZOIC?)—Fines to medium-grained plagioclase-hornblende rock. Contains garnet on Flat Mountain. Typically lineated, but interiors of some larger masses (e.g., on Indian Henry Ridge) are equigranular. Interpreted to have an igneous protolith on the basis of uniform composition and texture and apparent cross-cutting relations at many places. May include some Proterozoic mafic bodies, but a Cretaceous age is probable for most. One dike crosses the Kp pluton along Kelly Creek, but no dikes cross-cut presumed younger (less deformed) Cretaceous plutons. Includes biotite-rich rock that occurs both as dikes and as thin borders on amphibolite dikes near pegmatite intrusions. Biotite may result from replacement of hornblende.
- Pzm** MARBLE (PALEOZOIC)—Small rock pendant of marble in southeast corner of map north of Blackfoot Mountain. Ranges from magnetite-epidote skarn near its base to interbedded gray limestone and pure white dolomite marble in core. Marble is too pure to be part of the Wallace Formation. Probable correlative units are the Henshaw Formation (nearest exposure near Aberdeen) or the Jefferson Formation (exposed in western Montana; Wells, 1974; Wallace and others, 1986).
- Ymg** MISSOULA GROUP, UNDIVIDED (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Dominantly silite and argillite over much of the area, but contains quartzite portions as well. Correlates with rocks to the north assigned to the upper member of the Wallace Formation (Rold and others, 1981) and with schist of the Wallace Formation to the west (Hietanen, 1968). Unit is likely correlative with the Snowplow Formation and part of the Shepard Formation in the western part of the area and may include part of the overlying Mount Shields Formation in the eastern part of the area along the Idaho-Montana border. Assignment to the Missoula Group is based on similarity with parts of the Snowplow, Shepard, and Mount Shields Formations of the Missoula Group as mapped southwest of Ninemile Creek in western Montana by Harrison and others (1986).
- In the northeastern part of the map area, from Pole Mountain to Five Lakes Butte, this unit typically consists of parallel microlaminated and laminated black to dark gray argillite and of grayish white silite and black argillite couplets. Some sections expose 10- to 30-cm-thick tabular silite layers and dark gray silite and argillite as pinch-and-swell couplets with rare cross-lamination and rippled surfaces. Small, slightly deformed cracks are polygonally folded; larger ones are straight sided. Scapolite is present in some black argillite, and rare diopside grains (calc-silicate hornblende) occur as beds as much as 3 m thick. Grain size and metamorphic grade increase to the west, as indicated by chloritoid, garnet, and staurolite porphyroblasts and by the formation of uniform, fine-grained muscovite-biotite schist. Foliation is parallel to bedding in the lower-grade rocks; a muscovite cleavage is axial parallel to upright folds at intermediate grade, and schistosity is generally at some small angle to compositional layering in the highest grade rocks. Previously mapped as schist within the Wallace Formation by Hietanen (1968) in the Pole Mountain area.
- In the north, in the Chumbelean Mountain-Gospel Hill area, the uppermost part of the unit is sparsely calcareous, cross-laminated white quartzite with vertical extension fractures and interbedded subordinate silite and argillite. Beds are a few centimeters to decimeters thick, commonly with ripple surfaces, and have abundant subhorizontal deformational structures, including folded tubes and ball-and-pillow structures. Grades downward into lenticular couplets and microlaminated dark green silite and light green argillite but contains iron-sprayed planar laminated quartzite and silite beds 1-20 cm thick. Straight-sided deformed cracks in argillite filled with the dark silite are common. Appears to grade downward into an interval of chloritoid-bearing, parallel laminated, black argillite near the base of the exposed section. Metamorphic grade increases to the south west where garnet-schist is assigned to the unit.
- In the eastern part of the area along the Idaho-Montana border, the uppermost exposures consist of unevenly laminated and microlaminated, some red and green color, silite is preserved locally. Silite and quartzite beds are normally graded and usually capped by argillaceous layers. Intervals containing ripple cross-lamination, mud chips, and water-expulsion structures commonly alternate with intervals containing more uniform lamination and microlamination. Argillaceous beds commonly contain grayish white, oval-shaped scapolite(?) crystals. In this part of the area the unit is interpreted as member 3 of the Mount Shields Formation by CA.

CORRELATION OF MAP UNITS



The section of Ymg along the Idaho-Montana border is truncated across bedding at its base along a fault that is nearly horizontal. Bleached and clotted rocks of the upper plateau overlie sedimentary rocks of the middle Wallace Formation (Yw) in the lower plate. This fault is mapped as a thrust, an alternate explanation is that it is a low-angle normal fault (D. Winston, pers. commun., 1991).

The fault at the base of Yw is best exposed along the upper part of the North Fork of the Clearwater River, 5 km west of Hoodoo Pass. Bedding of both plates is truncated there, and topographic expression clearly indicates strong dark green silite that contains dark gray limestone pods both parallel and perpendicular to bedding. (7) wavy-bedded, tan-weathering dolomitic silite and rhythmically interbedded black argillite ('black' and 'tar' rock) that forms most of the middle member of the Wallace Formation; and (8) white quartzite beds, 2 to 3 cm thick, interbedded with dark green dolomitic silite, green argillite, or silty dolomite that weathers brownish orange. The Hoodoo Pass area contains most of these rock types; many areas are dominated by relatively few rock types.

To the south and west where metamorphic grade is high, argillaceous tonalite and muscovite-biotite schist, and dolomitic and calcareous silite and calc-silicate horizons and actinolite (or hornblende)-diopside gneiss. Diopside gneiss locally contains relics of pod and ribbon structures.

SCHIST AND GNEISS (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Muscovite-biotite schist that grades into schistose biotite gneiss. Commonly contains sillimanite and as much as 60% quartz and feldspar. Unit is spatially associated with calc-silicate gneiss (in the Wallace Formation) south of the map area. Mapped as Wallace Formation by Hietanen (1963). Because of folding and metamorphism, the stratigraphic relationship with C is uncertain. All or part of the unit may be equivalent to the lower part of the Ymg unit that is equivalent to the argillite upper Wallace Formation.

CALC-SILICATE GNEISS (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Includes centimeter-scale layered, hornblende-diopside-quartz-plagioclase gneiss, diopside quartzite, amphibolite, quartzite with more than 2% garnet, and minor amounts of garnet-biotite schist and gneiss. Compositional layering or range in grain size of amphibolite distinguishes it from the more homogeneous rock of the metagabbro amphibolite (am). Unit probably was derived from carbonate-bearing lower and middle members of the Wallace Formation, but is too recrystallized to assign a formation name.

MIDDLE QUARTZITE (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Coarsely medium- to coarse-grained, impure, thin-bedded quartzite that contains abundant feldspar and biotite. Grades into quartzite-biotite gneiss where migmatite contains as much as 2% staurolite and biotite. Unit includes calc-silicate grades into calc-silicate gneiss. Quartzite with sparse flattened quartz pebbles as much as 6 cm long occurs along the Lolo 'motorway' in the west end of Rocky Ridge in the southeast corner of the map area. Smaller quartz pebbles (1 cm long) are present along Cayuse Creek 1 km east of the mouth of Grassy Creek. Unit probably represents quartzite-rich portions of the Wallace Formation. Hietanen (1963) mapped the Qs and Qs units as gneiss of the Wallace Formation, and Childs (1982) mapped the Qs unit as quartz gneiss of the Wallace Formation.

QUARTZITE OF RAVALLI GROUP (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Consists of light gray quartzite in beds several cm to 1 m thick and interbedded subordinate phyllite or schist. Unit is too highly metamorphosed to be unambiguously assigned to a single group or formation.

In the upper part of Black Canyon the unit consists of decimeter- to rare meter-thick beds of light gray quartzite and thin interbeds of phyllite or schist. The quartzite is typically fine grained and friable and forms tabular beds with internal planar and cross lamination. Plagioclase feldspar predominates over potassium feldspar. As metamorphic grade increases toward the batholith, feldspar content and grain size increase, and quartz-muscovite-biotite schist is interbedded with the quartzite. These relations correlated with Ravalli Group (Day, 1975; R.E. Kell, pers. commun., 1990). Alternatively, unit may correlate with member 2 of the Mount Shields Formation (CA. Wallace, pers. commun., 1990).

In the middle part of Black Canyon the unit consists of medium-grained quartzite in decimeter- to meter-thick beds with lesser amounts of biotite schist. Sedimentary structures include large channels, mud deformations, and much more prominent lenticular bedding than the flat, aggradational bedding of the quartzite of upper Black Canyon but similar to exposures along Ravalli Creek. Plagioclase is the predominant feldspar. This portion of unit has been correlated with the Ravalli Group (Childs, 1982; R.E. Kell, pers. commun., 1990).

To the west, in the Snow Creek area, the unit consists of quartzite beds 1 m thick that occur at the base of upward-fingering and thinning cycles. Apparent cross-bedding of the quartzite may be an artifact of increased recrystallization southward. Plagioclase is the predominant feldspar. The section west of Snow Creek is about 2,300 m thick.

SCHIST OF THE PRICHARD(?) FORMATION (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Quartz-muscovite-biotite schist, quartz-biotite-muscovite schist, muscovite-biotite-gneiss, and coarsely recrystallized micaceous quartzite. Schist grades into biotite gneiss and locally contains sillimanite. Generally coarse-grained and has crenulated or multiply crenulated foliation. Some coarse schist has compositional layering of argillite to foliation; more commonly centimeter-scale compositional layering is preserved by fine-grained biotite quartzite and schist. Most layers are parallel to foliation but are probably transposed bedding as indicated by rare local fold hinges to which foliation is axial plane. Schist is variably gneissiferous; garnets in the northwest part of map are 1 to 2 cm in diameter, but elsewhere are less than 1 cm in diameter. Unit includes some bodies of coarse-grained quartzite and rare calc-silicate quartzite that were not mapped separately. Contains small, discontinuous sulfide-bearing quartz veins. Present tentative correlation with the Prichard Formation is based on an apparently gradational contact with qpr and on previous correlations (Childs, 1982; R.E. Kell, pers. commun., 1990). Some or all of the unit may also correlate with schist in the Booths Butte formation, exposed to the west of the map area, which is assumed by some workers to be pre-dike in age (Hietanen, 1984).

QUARTZITE OF THE PRICHARD(?) FORMATION (MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Coarsely recrystallized quartzite that occurs as small bodies in the qpr unit and as larger bodies to the west. Ranges from laminated dark and light gray to uniform white to dark gray. Includes muscovite, or biotite, or both, and rarely magnetite. Parting typically 5 to 30 cm thick, rarely over 1 m. Some quartzite in the northwestern part of the area has garnet on parting surfaces, apparently associated with thin argillaceous interlayers. Internal lamination and schist interbeds commonly highly folded and discontinuous due to inhomogeneous strain. Unit includes rocks previously correlated with Revett, Burke, and Prichard Formations (Hietanen, 1968; Childs, 1982), but intense deformational lack of preservation of sedimentary features in most places make correlations uncertain. Present tentative correlation with Prichard Formation is based on spatial association with qpr unit.

Faults in the map area can be divided into two groups based on attitude: those that are inferred to have been originally at a low angle and those that are at a high angle and have straight traces. Most of the low-angle faults are folded and therefore are older than the steep faults that cut the folds.

Low-angle faults: Several low- to moderate-angle faults are present in the northern part of the map area. All are mapped as thrust faults, but some show older or younger relationships characteristic of thrust faults. Notable exceptions are the fault at the base of the Wallace Formation (Yw) in the north-central part of the area and the fault at the base of the Missoula Group (Ymg) in the eastern part of the area along the Idaho-Montana border. Both of these faults show younger over older relationships.

High-angle faults: The section of Ymg along the Idaho-Montana border is truncated across bedding at its base along a fault that is nearly horizontal. Bleached and clotted rocks of the upper plateau overlie sedimentary rocks of the middle Wallace Formation (Yw) in the lower plate. This fault is mapped as a thrust, an alternate explanation is that it is a low-angle normal fault (D. Winston, pers. commun., 1991).

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MAP SYMBOLS

- Contact: approximately located; queried where uncertain
- High-angle fault: approximately located; dotted where concealed; queried where uncertain; ball and bar on downthrown side
- Thrust fault: approximately located; dotted where concealed; queried where uncertain; teeth on upper plate
- Overturned thrust fault: approximately located; teeth in direction of dip; bar on side of technically higher plate
- Fold axis: approximately located; dotted where concealed; queried where uncertain; arrow indicates plunge direction
- Syncline
- Anticline
- Overturned anticline
- Dikes
- Areas of mylonitized rock
- Strike and dip of compositional layering interpreted as bedding: ball indicates top; direction was determined
- Vertical bedding
- Overturned bedding
- Strike and dip of foliation: includes compositional layering of gneiss
- Vertical foliation
- Strike and dip of foliation variable
- Bearing and plunge of mineral lineation
- Bearing and plunge of small fold axis
- Bearing and plunge of compositional layering
- Bearing and plunge of asymmetrical small fold showing counter-clockwise rotation viewed down plunge
- Bearing and plunge of asymmetrical small fold showing clockwise rotation viewed down plunge
- Strike and dip of fracture cleavage
- Sedimentary breccia
- Breccia of uncertain origin



INDIVIDUAL MAP AREAS

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4. Chester A. Wallace and David J. Liddle
5. Bruce A. Eversmeyer and Earl H. Bennett, assisted by Elizabeth A. Hill, Robert W. Reynolds, Christine K. Nomer, and Sinaid F. Dobiasch
6. Reed S. Lewis, assisted by Stephen A. Leslie, Diane Diaz-Martinez, Louis J. Caputo, and David E. Stewart

Cartography by Louisa R. Stanford on a computer-aided cartographic system at the Idaho Geological Survey.
Map Reviewed by Don Winston, Jim Whipple, and John Bush.

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