

PRELIMINARY GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF THE TANANA QUADRANGLE, ALASKA

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DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS UNCONSOLIDATED DEPOSITS

- Till, cirque glaciation .-- Boulder- to clay-size particles, unsorted, coarse clasts subangular. Moraine forms present. Restricted to cirques in Ray Mountains.
- Till.--Boulder- to clay-size particles, unsorted, coarse clasts subangular. Exists in one locality as a long, low lateral moraine along lower part of Halu Creek. $\frac{\text{Till.}\text{--Boulder-}}{\text{lateral moraine.}}$ to clay-size particles, unsorted, coarse clasts subangular. Present on lower Halu Creek as low
- Till. --Boulder- to clay-size particles, unsorted, coarse clasts subangular. Present on lower Halu Creek as the
- Till, undifferentiated.--Boulder- to clay-size fragments, unsorted, coarse clasts subangular. No good morainic forms. ALLUVIAL
- Recent alluvium. -- Sandy gravel and sandy silt, coarse clasts subrounded to well rounded. Represents floodplain of modern rivers and streams.
- Recent fan deposits. -- Gravel, silt, and sand, coarse clasts subangular to subrounded; commonly occurs at the mouths of small side canyons.
- Low-level bench gravel of Minook Creek.--Gravel and sand occurring on a topographic bench in lower parts of Minook Creek, generally less than 200 feet above modern stream bed.
- Qtr_{1,2,3} Terrace deposits of Fleshlanana Creek.—Gravel, silt, and sand occurring at three levels near mouth of Fleshlanana Creek; highest (oldest) surface (Qtr₁) about 400 feet above modern river bed.
- Sand and gravel. -- Coarse sand and fine gravel, clasts well rounded, moderately well sorted; characterized by abundance of grayish-white quartz and white feldspar clasts derived from granitic bedrock. Commonly mantled with 1 foot to 10 feet of silt. Present in the broad depression, south and west of the Ray River, in
- High-level white gravel. -- Cobble gravel, river-deposited, clasts well rounded to subrounded; characterized by abundance of white quartz pebbles and cobbles. Occurs in one locality in northeast corner of map.
- River gravel. --Gravel is well packed, chiefly pebble to small-cobble size with some sand and silt, clasts subrounded to well rounded. Caps hills in the vicinity of Rampart. North of the Yukon River, the rock types are predominantly fine- to very fine grained mafic rocks, with some red chert, argillite, and medium- to dark-gray chert; south of the Yukon River, the gravel includes many rock types and is in part auriferous; the gravels are apparently of local origin. Thickness unknown but probably ranges from several tens of feet to

COLLUVIAL AND ALLUVIAL

BEDROCK SEDIMENTARY AND METAMORPHIC ROCKS Sandstone, conglomerate, and shale. -- Interbedded sandstone and pebble-cobble-boulder conglomerate with some shale, siltstone, and lignite; light yellowish gray to medium yellowish brown, weather to various shades of yellowish to reddish brown, both poorly and well consolidated; non-marine, contain plant fossils in the river bluff near Rampart (Mertie, 1937; p. 172-180; MacNeil and others, 1961). Thickness probably several thousand

COLLUVIAL

Generally occur on steep slopes, particularly along Yukon River.

Talus .-- Angular boulder rubble in cirque at head of Kanuti Kilolitna River.

the topography; thickest near Yukon River.

Solifluction mantle. —Silt, some sand, and a small amount of angular fragments of bedrock. Ubiquitous at higher elevations mantling all but the steepest slopes. Moves slowly downslope in summer when thawed, producing streamline (ice cream-molasses) topography. Overlies parts of units sq, hsq, % Pv, Kg, and Ts.

landslide deposit along north bank of Yukon River on extreme east edge of map; movement occurred about 1940.

Older landslide deposits .-- Slumps and earth and rock slides showing irregular, hummocky topography and slide

Fan deposits. -- Fan-shaped accumulation of unsorted detritus; predominantly gravel and silt. Mapped in single locality in northeast corner of map.

Colluvium, undifferentiated. -- Predominantly silt, with some sand and gravel, often poorly sorted. Occurs along valley sides and valley flats, bordering the recent alluvium (unit Qal). Derived mainly from valley sides by slow downslope soil creep.

Loess .-- Silt, well-sorted, pale-brown, weathering to dark yellowish brown; at lower elevations mantles much of

Altiplanation terrace. -- Flat, even surface, cut on bedrock in high areas; commonly possesses thin mantle of coarse, angular rock rubble. Individual terraces are generally less than 5 acres in area.

Rock-defended terraces on Minook Creek. -- Erosional benches along east side of Minook Creek, 400 to 500 feet above the creek. May possess thin mantle of silt.

EOLIAN

Recent slide and slump doposits .-- Very fresh, unmodified slumps and earthflows at one locality in older

Hornfels; altered achist, quartzite, phyllite, and slate.—These are the same rocks as in unit sq but have been altered and intruded near the borders of the granitic rocks (unit Kg). The rocks are varied in appearance and degree of alteration, but generally are medium to dark gray and blackish red, weather brown to brownish red, hard, banded, laminated, and gneissic in part, include some granitic dikes and stringers, and have in parts a blocky jointing similar in appearance to that in the granitic rocks.

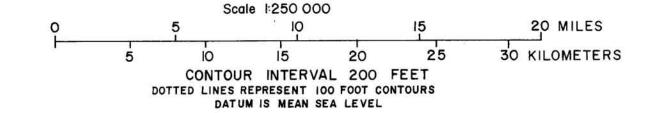
- Schist, quartzite, phyllite, and slate. -- Quartz-mica schist is commonly light to medium gray and silvery gray, and white quartz pods and irregular veinlets are abundant; quartzite is mostly light to medium gray, very fine grained, micaceous, schistose or chert-like in parts; white quartz pods, lenses, and veinlets are common; beds range from thin to thick; slate and phyllite are light to dark gray, silvery, greenish gray, red, green, and rarely mottled red and green, interbedded in part with quartzite; minor amounts of gray chirt, thin shaly medium- to dark-gray limestone, tuffaceous siltstone, and fine-grained and conglomeratic graywa:ke with some stretched or sheared pebbles and shale fragments are included. This unit is at least in part equivalent to unit sg of Patton and Miller (1970). Thickness unknown.
- Chert and limestone. -- Chert and some chert-granule conglomerate, are light to medium dark gray and olive gray and weather white to very light gray and less commonly to various shades of tan, yellow, green, and reddish orange; white quartz stringers are common. Limestone is light gray and weathers light tan to white with tufa-like coating, shaly to platy, conglomeratic with thin light gray phyllite fragments and white quartz pebbles. A minor amount of diabase, light to medium grayish green, medium grained, is included. Description is based on observations at only four stations. Thickness unknown.

SEDIMENTARY, METAMORPHIC, AND IGNEOUS ROCKS

Volcanic and intrusive mafic rocks, argillite, slate, and chert.—This unit includes the Permian(?) Rampart Group and the mafic rocks that intrude it. Lava flows, tuffs, and breccias, basaltic, diabasic, and in part andesitic, are dark green and grayish green to almost black, weather yellowish and reddish brown, generally aphanitic to very fine-grained; in part slightly metamorphosed; tuffaceous rocks are gradational into sedimentary tuffs and chert. The origins (volcanic or sedimentary, and extrusive or intrusive) of many of these rocks are difficult to determine; clearly extrusive features have not been identified possibly because they have been obliterated by structural deformation. Intrusive rocks include diorite, diabase, and some gabbro that are medium to dark green, grayish green, and greenish black and weather to various shades of yellow, brown, and reddish brown, fine to very coarse grained, hard, blocky and irregular fractures; commonly form prominent ridges, knobs, and bluffs. A hornblende K⁴⁰/Ar⁴⁰ age date of 205 ± 6 m.y. (Triassic) has been obtained from a gabbro on the Yukon River near Point-No-Point (Brosgé and others, 1969, p. B16-B17). The sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks are chiefly argillite, chert, and slate, with some tuff, tuffaceous clastic rocks, and clastic limestone. The argillite and slate are commonly grayish red, maroon, and dark reddish brown, but include various shades of gray and green, the chert is generally light medium to dark gray but in part is greenish gray or reddish. Limestone is rare, medium gray, gritty to conglomeratic, locally contains pelecypod prisms and bryozoan fragments of probable Permian age. A more detailed description of one section is given by Brosge and others (1969, p. B8-B10). Thickness unknown but probably is at least several

IGNEOUS ROCKS

- Vesicular lava. -- Andesitic(?) lava is light to very light gray, weathers a medium yellowish brown to dark reddish brown, highly vesicular, scoriaceous appearance in part. Found at one locality near Ray River in suboutcrops as large rubble blocks and is tentatively correlated with similar rocks that crop out in bluffs several miles north along the Ray River in the Bettles quadrangle. Thickness unknown.
- Granitic rocks .-- Granite, quartz monzonite, and possibly some granodiorite are light to very light gray, chiefly coarse to very coarse grained and porphyritic, but with some fine- to medium-grained phases, blocky jointed; in parts sheeted jointing gives a layered appearance. Age uncertain, but the entire unit is tentatively correlated with unit Kg (granitic rocks) of Patton and Miller (1970).



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