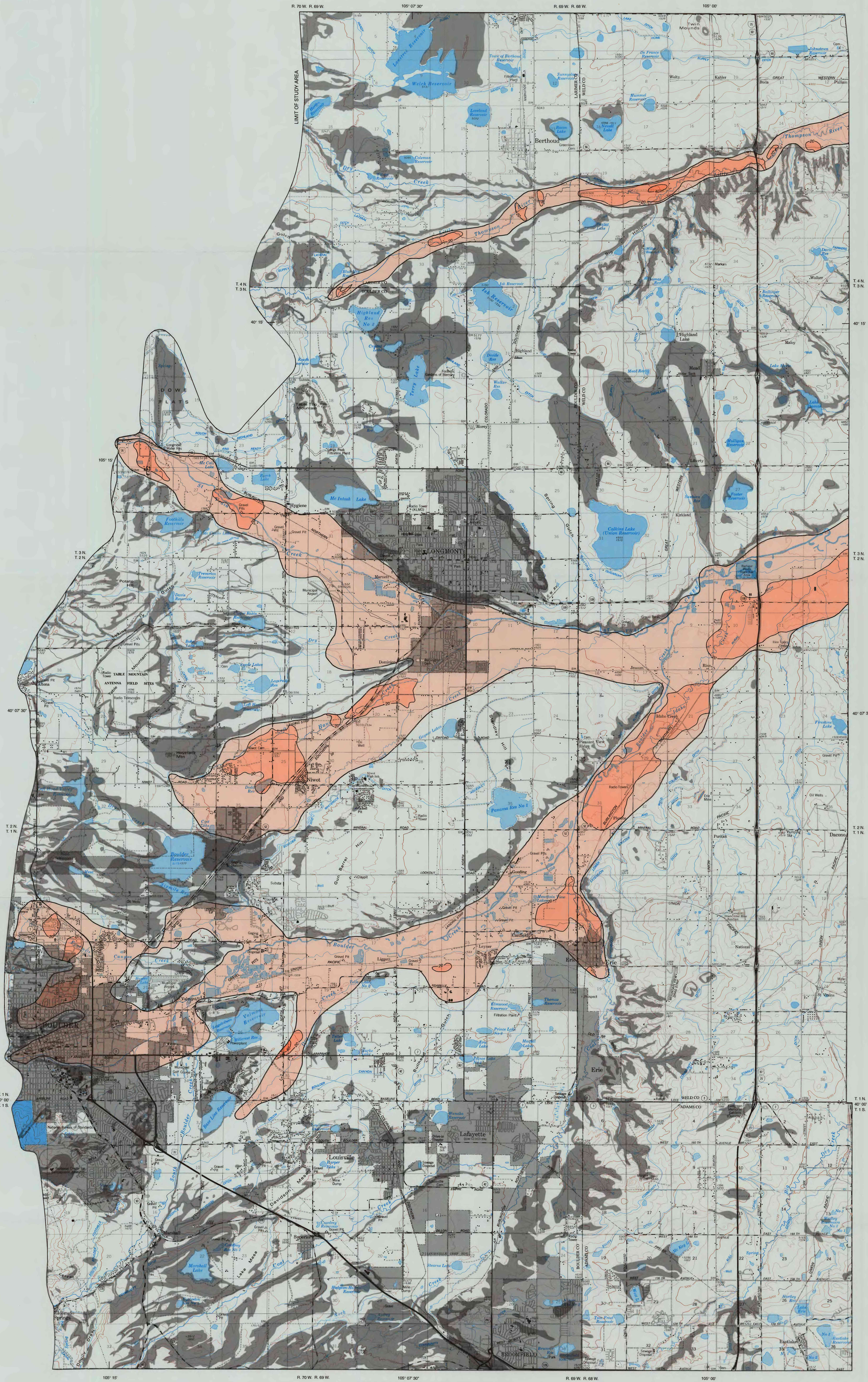




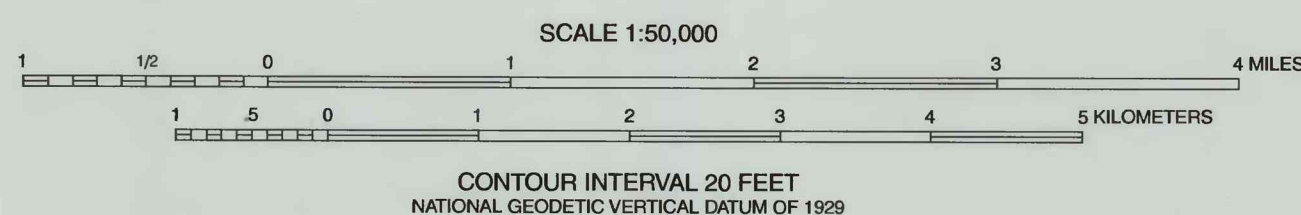
- EXPLANATION
- Bedrock outcrop
 - Saturated thickness, in feet
 - Less than 20
 - 20 to 40
 - 40 to 60
 - Limit of well-defined, 20-foot-interval water-table contours

Saturated Thickness of the Aquifers

The map of the saturated thickness of the aquifers (fig. 8) was computed by the geographic information system as the difference between the maps of the altitude of the water table (a first-order map) and the altitude of the bedrock surface (a second-order map). Because the saturated thickness map is a third-order map and was calculated as the difference between two interpretive maps, it is generalized and shows the trends in saturated thickness but not local variations in thickness. Saturated thickness is not shown in the upland areas beyond the area of well-defined 20-foot-interval water-table contours in figure 7 because the shallow aquifers in these areas tend to be thin, discontinuous, and transient. Saturated thickness is taken to be zero where the water table is in bedrock.

Saturated thickness is about 20 feet in the principal valleys of the Little Thompson River, Saint Vrain Creek, Boulder Creek, Coal Creek, and Left Hand Creek. Outside principal valleys, saturated thickness generally is less than 20 feet and may be zero in some areas or at some times of the year.

FIGURE 8—Saturated thickness of the shallow aquifers.



GEOHYDROLOGY OF THE SHALLOW AQUIFERS IN THE BOULDER-LONGMONT AREA, COLORADO

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