



Table 1.—Analyses of iron-rich rock samples

Sample No.	Al	Fe	P	Co	Cu	Ni	Mn	Pb	Zn	U	Sample description
				(5)	(5)	(5)	(10)	(10)			
	Percent			Parts per million							

LIMONIC STATION (Oriskany) run 0.3											
YSA 032	0.67	58.7	1.80	100	15	150	700	2	1300	8	0.3-n chip sample, limonite.
YSA 047	0.24	57.1	0.58	10	10	150	500	7	4700	2	Composite sample, sandy limonite, and limonite.
YSA 048	0.46	57.4	0.75	10	70	30	500	8	1300	1	2-n chip sample, limonite-centred sandstone.
YSA 052	1.10	33.5	1.30	100	100	100	100	1200	9	2	limonite-centred sandstone, sp gr 2.93.
YSA 053	1.65	15.0	1.60	30	50	150	300	100	1200	22	2-n chip sample, sandy limonite sp gr 2.82.
YSA 055	0.14	57.1	0.46	10	7	150	500	2	1300	1	chip sample, sandy limonite, sp gr 2.82.
YSA 059	0.31	10.50	0.96	10	10	70	200	20	2500	1	2-n chip sample, limonite-centred sandstone.
YSA 256	- 2	20	-	50	7	100	20	30	510	CL	Composite sample, limonite, sp gr 3.0.
YSA 257	- 2	15	-	10	7	150	500	10	190	10	Composite sample, limonite and limonite-centred sandstone.

- ¹ Zinc in limonite determined by ICP methods.

TABLE 2. — Analysis of miscellaneous weak samples containing high concentrations of one or more elements.

Sample No.	Al	Fe	P	Ag (0.5)	Cu (5)	Co (5)	Mn (10)	Mo (5)	Ni (5)	Pb (10)	Zn	U	Sample description
	Percent			Parts per million									

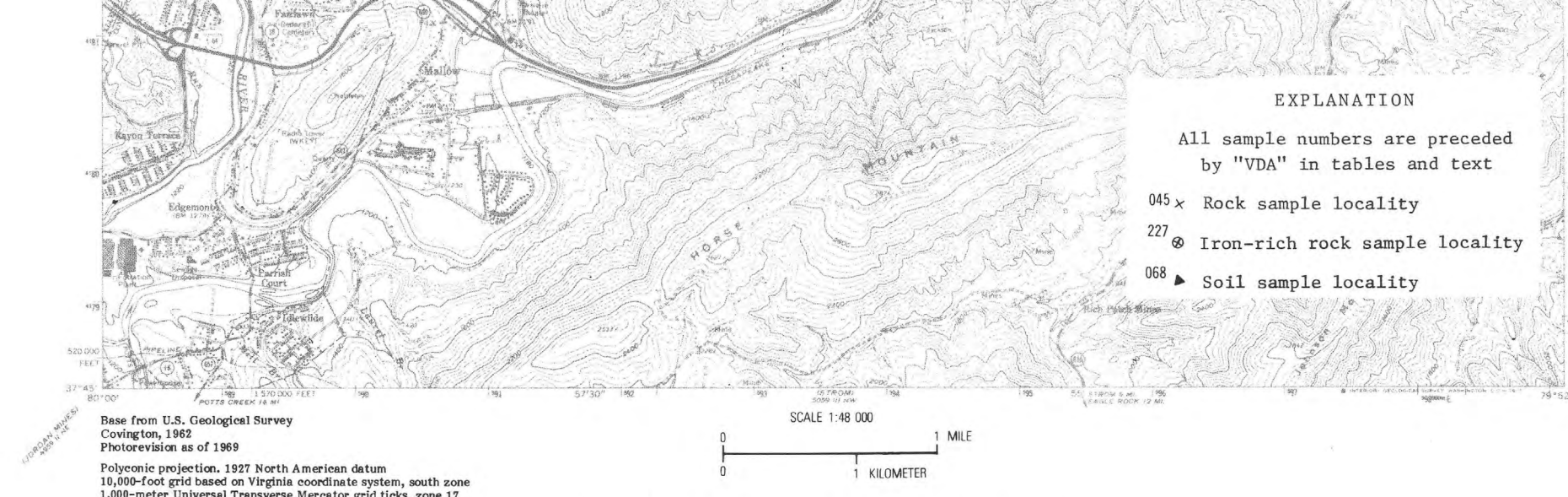
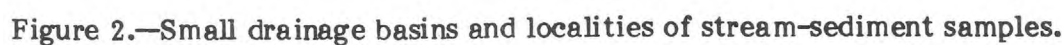
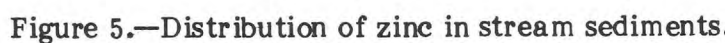


Figure 3.—Localities of rock and soil samples.

1 Turakian and Wedepohl (1963).
2 Leamer and others (in press, table 3).
3 Only 1 sample analysed for caesium.
4 USF reviews on 11 April 1978, see table 1.



DISCUSSION

A summary of the analytical data for samples from the Dolly Ar Roadless Area is compared with the median values for analyses in the

samples collected in Mill Creek, Mountain Lake, and Peters Mountain

samples collected in Mill Creek, Mountain Lakes and Dolly Ann areas. The Wilderness Study Areas, Craig and Giles Counties, Va., and Monroe County, W. Va. (table 3). These three study areas, which are about 40-55 mi (64-88 km) southwest of Covington, have the same rock formations exposed as the Dolly Ann. The median concentrations of many elements for all sample types in Dolly Ann are as similar to those from Mill Creek, Mountain Lakes, and the Wilderness Study Areas as they are to those from the other three quantitative areas, and that the results are comparable to those obtained by different machines and techniques. The analytical data indicate areas with low iron; they do not indicate any other well-defined anomalous areas obviously related to mineralized rock.

INTRODUCTION

The sandy monomite deposits in the Licking Creek Limestone and Ridgeley Sandstone, the so-called Oriskany iron ores (Leasure, 1957, p. 80 and 105), also contain zinc in amounts ranging from 180 to 6,700 parts per million (ppm) (table 1). The zinc content is typical for this type of iron ore. In Virginia, zinc may have accumulated with the iron during weathering and formation of the monomorphous iron ore. Zinc is a constituent of these ores (Brenton, 1886, p. 283) and was considered a nuisance in the early smelting operations (Firmstone, 1879; Menes, 1889). Samples of unweathered Licking Creek Limestone and weathered Ridgeley Sandstone from the same area contain 100 to 1,000 ppm zinc. The sandstone of the Lower Devonian rock that crops out about 3 mi (5 km) northeast of White Sulphur Springs, Greener County, W. Va., and about 1 mi (2 km) west of Covington, locally contains as much as several percent zinc (Brenton, 1886, and others, in press). The zinc is not considered to be a resource value.

PROCEDURES

A few of the stream-sediment samples contain high concentrations of zinc (figs. 4 and 5). The areas from which these samples were collected seem to be related to areas containing limonite deposits or the Upper Silurian and Lower Devonian limestones that contain traces of zinc.

The limonite deposits also contain trace amounts of cobalt, nickel, manganese, and uranium (table 1). The type of strong, tough cast iron containing 0.84 percent combined nickel and cobalt, reported by Firmston (1909, p. 548) to have been produced from typical Oriskany iron or probably is responsible for iron from this area being a favorite of the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond for use in naval ordnance (Bruce, 1931, p. 119, 190).

All but one sample of limonitic sandstone contain traces of uranium (U) ranging from 1 to 22 ppm (table 1). A few other rock samples also have traces of uranium (table 2). All the soil samples have less than 1 ppm U and only 5 stream-sediment samples contain traces of it. Sample nos. VD, 035, VDA 234, and VDA 250 contain 1 ppm U; sample no. VDA 260 has 2 ppm U; and sample no. VDA 264 has 3 ppm U. Both samples 260 and 264 are from small drainage basins containing limonite iron mines. None of these uranium concentrations appears to have any economic significance.

and only 3 stream sediment samples contain traces of it. Sample nos. VDA 035, VDA 234, and VDA 250 contain 1 ppm U; sample no. VDA 260 has 0.3 ppm U; and sample no. VDA 264 has 3 ppm U. Both samples 260 and 264 are from small drainage basins containing limonite iron mines. None of these uranium concentrations appears to have any economic significance.

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