

DATA SUMMARY

This map shows the spatial distribution of selected iron-bearing minerals and other materials derived from analysis of airborne HyMap™ imaging spectrometer (hyperspectral) data of Afghanistan collected in late 2007 (Kokaly and others, 2008). This map is one in a series of U.S. Geological Survey/Afghanistan Geological Survey quadrangle maps covering Afghanistan and is a subset of the version 2 map of the entire country showing iron-bearing minerals and other materials (Kokaly and others, 2013). This version 2 map improved mineral mapping from the previously published version (King and others, 2011) by refining the classification procedures, especially in areas having wet soils. The version 2 map more accurately represents the mineral distributions and contains an additional mineral classification (Fe²⁺Fe³⁺ type 3).

Flown at an altitude of 50,000 feet (15,240 meters (m)), the HyMap™ imaging spectrometer measured reflected sunlight in 128 channels, covering wavelengths between 0.4 and 2.5 μ m. The data were georeferenced, atmospherically corrected and converted to apparent surface reflectance, empirically adjusted using ground-based reflectance measurements, and combined into a mosaic with 23-m pixel spacing. Variations in water vapor and dust content of the atmosphere, in solar angle, and in surface elevation complicated correction; therefore, some classification differences may be present between adjacent flight lines.

The reflectance spectrum of each pixel of HyMap™ imaging spectrometer data was compared to the reference materials in a spectral library of minerals, vegetation, water, and other materials (Clark and others, 2007). Minerals occurring abundantly at the surface and those having unique spectral features were easily detected and discriminated. Minerals having slightly different compositions but similar spectral features were less easily discriminated; thus, some map classes consist of several minerals having similar spectra, such as “Goethite and jarosite.” A designation of “Not classified” was assigned to the pixel when there was no match with reference spectra. Further information regarding the processing procedures is presented in King and others (2011) and Kokaly and others (2013).

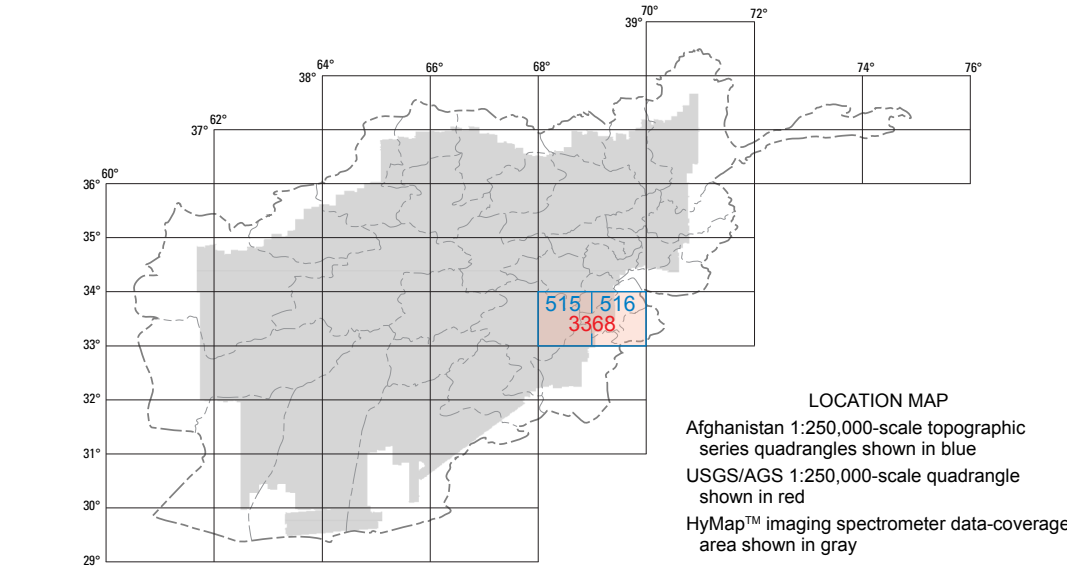
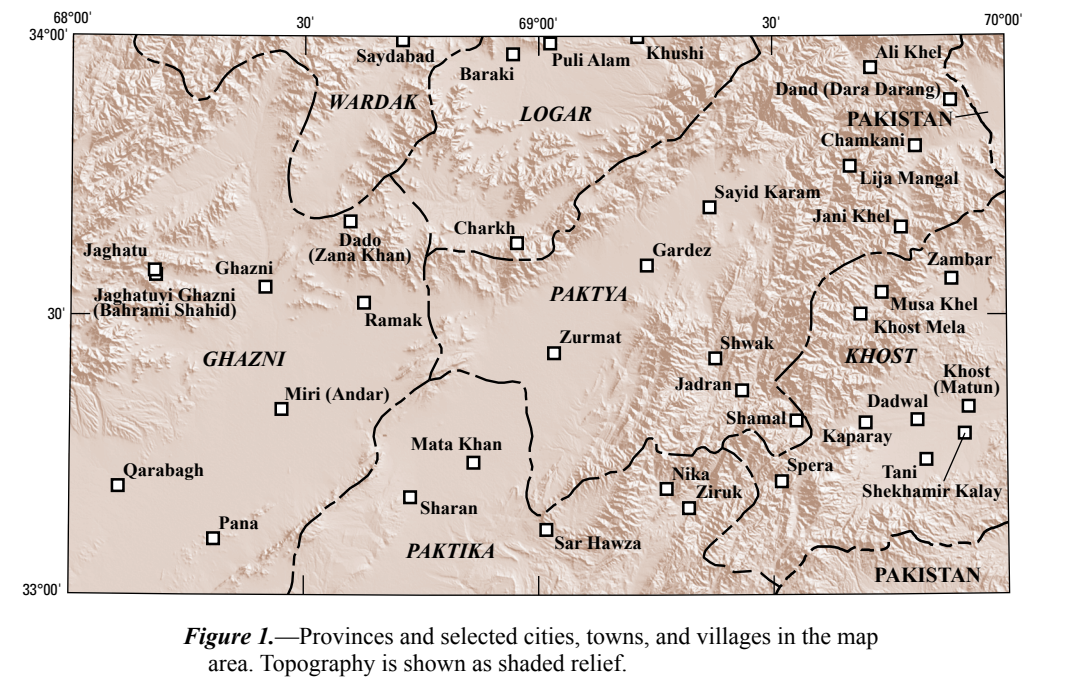
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HYPERSPECTRAL SURFACE MATERIALS MAP OF QUADRANGLE 3368, GHAZNI (515) AND GARDEZ (516) QUADRANGLES, AFGHANISTAN, SHOWING IRON-BEARING MINERALS AND OTHER MATERIALS