



Lassen Peak and the Devastated Area

View of Lassen Peak and the Devastated Area looking south from Emigrant Pass a few hundred meters north of the Devastated Area Parking Lot on Calif. Hwy 89 (West Prospect Peak quadrangle). Area with sparse trees marks the paths of the avalanche and debris-flow deposits of May 19–20, 1915 (unit sw9) and the pyroclastic-flow and fluid debris-flow deposits of May 22, 1915 (unit pw2; Clynne and others 1999; Christiansen and others, 2002). 3-m block in the foreground is derived from the May 14–19 dacite dome (unit d4) at the summit of Lassen Peak and transported by the May 19–20 avalanche. Small dark crags just to right of the summit are remnants of the May 19–20, 1915 lava flow (unit d9). The composite dacite dome of Lassen Peak (unit dl, 27 ± 1 ka) dominates the upper part of the view. Lithic pyroclastic-flow deposits (unit pfl) from partial collapse of the dome of Lassen Peak are exposed in the canyon of the headwaters of Lost Creek in center of view. Ridges flanking central area are glacial moraines (unit Qta), thinly covered by deposits of the 1915 eruption of Lassen Peak (Turrin and others, 1997; Christiansen and others, 2002). Cliffs on the left skyline are the rhyodacite lava flow of Kings Creek (unit rk, 35 ± 1 ka), which erupted from a vent just south of Lassen Peak. The dacite dome of Crescent Crater (unit dc, 236 ± 1 ka) dominates the right skyline, and the dacite dome of hill 8283 (unit d82, 261 ± 5 ka) is barely visible at the extreme right skyline.

Photograph by Michael A. Clynne.