



DISCUSSION

The marine geology and geomorphology was mapped in the Offshore of Carpinteria map area from approximate Mean High Water (MHW) to the 100-metre-mile limit of California's State Waters. MHW is defined as an elevation of 1.33 m above the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) (Webster and others, 2005). Offshore geology was delineated on the basis of integrated analyses of adjacent onshore geology with multibeam bathymetry and backscatter imagery (sheets 1, 2, 3), seafloor-sediment and rock samples (Reid and others, 2006), digital camera and video imagery (sheet 6), and high-resolution seismic-reflection profiles (sheet 8).

The onshore geology was compiled from Dibblee (1986), Tan and others (2003a,b), Tan and Cihang (2004), and Minor and others (2009). Unit ages, which are from these sources, reflect local stratigraphic relations.

The offshore part of the map area largely consists of a relatively shallow (less than about 45 m deep), gently offshore-dipping (less than 2°) shelf, formed by sediments derived primarily from the adjacent coastal watershed (Fig. 1). The Yencu Mountains, the shelf deposits are composed of (unit Qms) at depths less than about 25 m and, at depths greater than about 25 m, are the more fine-grained sediments (very fine sand, silt, and clay) of unit Qm5. The boundary between units Qms and Qm5 is based on observations and extrapolation from sediment sampling (see, for example, Reid and others, 2006) and camera ground-truth surveying (see sheet 6). It is important to note that the boundary between units Qms and Qm5 should be considered transitional and approximate and is expected to shift as a result of seasonal-to annual-to decadal-scale cycles in wave climate, sediment supply, and sediment transport.

responsible to animals-to decalcify species in water climate, sediment supply, and sediment transport. The latter may have been important for the development of their modernized armor (e.g., shark dermal denticles) and the evolution of their armor type (e.g., shark dermal denticles and ray scutes), as well as camera obscuras (sheet 6) and sampling (Reid and others, 2006; Barnard and others, 2009). They found mainly in water depths less than about 15 m, except offcoasts of Rincon Point where they extend to depths of about 21 m. The largest *Gmst*-deposits are present at the mouths of Rincon Creek and Rincon River (sheet 7) and along the coast from Rincon River mouth to Rincon Point (sheet 8). These deposits are associated with the presence of armor plates (sheet 9) and bags that armor the seafloor and are relatively resistant to erosion. The sediments may, in part, be rhyolite, having been deposited in shallower marine (or even alluvial?) environments at lower sea levels in the latest Pleistocene and Holocene; these seem especially likely for the arcuate lobe of unit *Gmst* that extends ~1,700 m offshore from Rincon Point. The deposits there were formed by debris flows or turbidity currents that took place during storms (Minner et al., 2009, and thus, may have formed as distal-alluvial or fan-delta facies of that system).

others (2009), and thus, may have formed distal-alluvial or fan-delta facies of that system.

Differences in the sedimentary facies between the Rindin and the Ploocene and Pleistocene Po Formation (unit QTp), primarily on the basis of extrapolation from the onshore mapping of Tan and others (2003a), Tan and Chahabian (2004), and Miner and others (2009) as well as the cross sections of Rindin and others (1998, 2004) are constrained by industry seismic-reflection data and petroleum well logs. Where uncertainty exists, bedrock is mapped as an undivided unit (QTp). These rocks are exposed in structural highs that include the Rincon Anticline (Fig. 1), and the Rincon Creek, the Rincon Valley, and the Rincon Valley Fault.

Bedrock is, in some places, overlain by a thin (less than 1 m?) veneer of sediment, recognized on the basis of high backscatter, flat relief, continuity with moderate-to-high-relief bedrock outcrops, and in some cases high-resolution seismic-reflection data; these areas, which are mapped as composite units Qmgs1Tm, or Qmgs2Tm, or Qmgs3Tm, are considered to be the sedimentary facies of the Rindin and Ploocene, respectively, whereas the absence of a clear function of the recovery and intensity of storm events, or seasonal (or even annual) patterns of sediment movement, or longer term climatic cycles.

Two offshore anthropogenic units also are present in the map area, each related to offshore hydrocarbon production. The first (unit af) consists of coarse artificial fill associated with construction of the Rincon Island petroleum-production facility near the east edge of the map area. The second (unit pd) consists of coarse artificial fill mixed with sediment and shell debris, mapped in outcrops surrounding Rincon Island and at the locations of former oil platforms "Heidi," "Hope," "Hazel," and "Hilda" from the Summerland and Carpinteria oil fields (Barnum, 1998). The Monterey Formation is the primary petroleum-source rock in the Santa Barbara Channel, and the Pico Formation is one of the primary petroleum

The Offshore of Carpinteria map area is in the Ventura Basin, in the southern part of the Western Transverse Ranges geologic province, which is north of the California Continental Borderland (Fisher and others, 2009). This province has undergone significant north-south compression since the Miocene, and recent GPS data suggest north-south shortening of about 6 to 10 mm/yr (Larson and Webb, 1992; Donnellan and others, 1993). The active, east-west, strike-slip, north-dipping San Andreas Fault, which is the primary tectonic structure in the province, extends for about 1,200 km from the San Geronimo Fault are some of the structures on which this shortening occurs (see, for example, Jackson and Yeats, 1982; Sorefen and others, 2000). This fault system, in aggregate, extends for about 100 km through the Ventura and Santa Barbara Basins and represents an important potential catastrophic hazard (see, for example, Fisher and others, 2009).

REFERENCES CITED

Barnum, H.P., 1998, Redevelopment of the western portion of the Rincon offshore oil field, Ventura, California, in Kunitomi, D.S., Hopps, T.E., and Galloway, J.M., eds., *Structure and petroleum geology*, Santa Barbara Channel, California: American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Pacific Section, and Coast Geological Society.

Dibblee, T.W., Jr., 1986, Geologic map of the Carpinteria quadrangle, Santa Barbara County, California: Santa Barbara, Calif., Dibblee Geological Foundation Map DF-04, scale 1:24,000.

Fisher, M.A., Sorlien, C.C., and Sliter, R.W., 2009. Potential earthquake faults offshore southern California from the eastern Santa Barbara channel to Dana Point, in Lee, H.J., and Normark, W.R., eds., *Earth science in the urban ocean—The Southern California Continental Borderland*: Geological Society of America Special Paper 454, p. 333–336.

Jackson, P.A., and Yeats, R.S., 1982, Structural evolution of Carpinteria basin, western Transverse Ranges, California: American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletin, v. 66, p. 805–829.

Larson, K.M., and Webb, F.H., 1992, Deformation in the Santa Barbara Channel from GPS measurements 1987–1991: Geophysical News Letters, v. 19, p. 1,491–1,494.

Morgan, S.L., Kellum, M.G., Smith, J.R., Gaudin, D.J., Kellum, D., and Brooks, T.R., 2000, Geologic map of California, 1:500,000 scale, U.S. Geological Survey, Open-File Map 500-1.

Minor, S.A., Kellogg, K.S., Stanley, R.G., Guirrola, L.D., Keller, E.A., and Brandt, T.R., 2009, Geologic map of the Santa Barbara coastal plain area, Santa Barbara County, California: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Map 3001, scale 1:25,000, 1 sheet, pamphlet 38 p., available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sim/3001/>.

Redin, T., Forman, J., and Kamerling, M.J., 1998, Regional structure section across the eastern Santa Barbara Channel, from eastern Santa Cruz Island to the Carpinteria area, Santa Ynez Mountains, in Kunitomi, D.S., Hops, T.E., and Galloway, L.M. eds. *Structure and petroleum geology, Santa Barbara Channel, California*: American Association of Petroleum Geologists, AAPG Bulletin 82, 107-127.

J.M., eds., *Structure and petroleum geology*, Santa Barbara Channel, California: American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Pacific Section, and Coast Geological Society, Miscellaneous Publication 46, p. 195–200, 1 sheet.

Redin, T., Kamberling, M.J., and Forman, J., 2004, *Santa Barbara Channel structure and correlation sections—Correlation section no. 34R, N-S structure and correlation section, south side central Santa Ynez Mountains across the Santa Barbara channel to the east end of Santa Cruz Island*: American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Pacific Section, Publication CS 32, 1 sheet.

Reid, J.A., Reid, J.M., Jenkins, C.J., Zimmerman, M., Williams, S.J., and Field, M.E., 2006, usSEABED—Pacific Coast (California, Oregon, Washington) offshore surficial-sediment data release: U.S. Geological Survey Data Series 182, available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/2006/182/>.

Sorlien, C.C., Gratier, J.P., Luyendyk, B.P., Hornafius, J.S., and Hopps, T.E., 2000, Map restoration of folded and faulted late Cenozoic strata across the Oak Ridge fault, onshore and offshore Ventura basin, California: Geological Society of

Tan, S.S., and Clahan, K.B., 2004, Geologic map of the White Ledge Peak 7.5' quadrangle, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, California—A digital database: California Geological Survey Preliminary Geologic Map, scale 1:24,000, available at http://www.cgsriverside.ca.gov/cgs/rihgm/rigm/preliminary_geologic_maps.htm.

Tan, S.S., Jones, T.A., and Clahan, K.B., 2003a, Geologic map of the Pitas Point 7.5' quadrangle, Ventura County,

Tan, S.S., Jones, T.A., and Clahan, K.B., 2003a, Geologic map of the Pitas Point 7.5 quadrangle, Ventura County, California—A digital database: California Geological Survey Preliminary Geologic Map, scale 1:24,000, available at http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/rghm/rgm/preliminary_geologic_maps.htm.

Weber, K.M., List, J.H., and Morgan, K.L., 2005, An operational Mean High Water datum for determination of shoreline position from topographic lidar data: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2005-1027, accessed April 5, 2011, at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2005/1027/>.



This map was printed on an electronic plotter directly from digital files. Dimensional calibration may vary between electronic plotters and between X and Y directions on the same plotter, and paper may change size due to atmospheric conditions; therefore, scale and proportions may not be true on plots of this map.

For sale by U.S. Geological Survey, Information Services, Box 25288, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225, 1-888-ASK-USGS
 Digital files available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ofm/051/>

Suggested Citation: Johnson, S.Y., Ritchie, A.C., Seitz, G.G., Phillips, E.L., and Gueisener, C.I., 2010. Offshore and onshore geology and geomorphology of Offshore of Carpenteria map area, sheet 19 in Johnson, S.Y., Darvall, P., Cochrane, G.R., Golder, N.E., Phillips, E.L., Ritchie, A.C., Kevick, R.D., Greene, H.D., Endis, C.A., Seitz, G.G., Stör, R.W., Erley, M.D., Wong, F.L., Gueisener, C.I., Krissman, L.M., Drou, A.E., and Hart, P.E. *U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Map 3281*, pamphlet 42 p., 10 sheets, scale 1:24,000. <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/>.

By
Samuel Y. Johnson,¹ Andrew C. Ritchie,¹ Gordon G. Seitz,² Eleyne L. Phillips,¹ and Carlos I. Gutierrez²