



- GEOLOGY, GEOLOGIC DESCRIPTIONS, AND GEOLOGIC STRUCTURE MODIFIED FROM:**
- Raynolds (1988), underlying surface geology for entire map. Additional sources below are unshaded where used for both geology and structure; shaded where used for structure only.
 - Billingsley, Feiger, and Priest (2005)
 - Billingsley, Wenrich, and Hinton (2000)
 - Goff, Eddy, and Arney (1983)
 - Ulrich, Billingsley, Hereford, Wolfe, Nealey, and Sutton (1984)
 - Ulrich, and Nealey (1989)
 - Newhall, Ulrich, and Wolfe (1987)
- Subsurface geology in cross-sections reconstructed from well data, surface geology, and outcrops exposed in canyon walls.

EXPLANATION

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
0	UNCONSOLIDATED SEDIMENTS (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Alluvium, colluvium, eolian, and glacial and glaciofluvial (on San Francisco Mountain) deposits, consisting of gravel, cobbles, silt, and mud. Glacial and glaciofluvial deposits range from small boulders to silt. About 3 to 300 feet thick.
Qat	YOUNGER ALLUVIUM AND TERRACE GRAVELS (HOLOCENE)—Gravel, cobbles, and sand. About 3 to 300 feet thick.
Qy	YOUNGER ALLUVIUM AND EOLIAN DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE)—Fine-grained sand, silt, and clay. About 1 to 25 feet thick.
Qol	FLOODPLAIN, FLUVIAL, VALLEY ALLUVIUM, AND RIVER GRAVEL DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE)—Gray, brown, and light red, clay, silt, sand, and gravel, poorly sorted. Stream channels subject to flash floods with little or no vegetation. Floodplains and fluvial deposits intertongue and overlap stream channel alluvium. About 3 to 25 feet thick.
OL	OLDER ALLUVIUM (PLEISTOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—
OLa	OLDER ALLUVIUM, EOLIAN, AND GRAVEL DEPOSITS (PLEISTOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Sand, silt, clay, mud, and gravels (lithologically similar to younger alluvium (Qy, Qat, and Qol)) with cobbles and boulders and capped by thin, poorly developed, calcareous soil. Forms flat mesa and terrace benches about 30 to 120 feet above modern drainage erosion. About 10 to 40 feet thick.
OLb	LANDSLIDE, TALLS, AND ROCKFALL DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Unsorted rock debris from house-sized boulders to cobbles, locally, and sand, mostly angular to subangular. Sandstone masses are commonly found around the edges of the Mount Fort Volcanic Field, Red Butte, and the San Francisco Volcanic Field. Talus deposits and rockfalls form debris slopes in steep canyons through the area. About 1 to 200 feet thick.
OLc	TRAVERTINE (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Gray, white, and tan, massive, rounded or layered, chemical precipitate of calcium carbonate. Locally includes talus debris and gravel. Typically forms at the base of limestone cliffs and near active and inactive springs. Thickest deposits are in the lower Little Colorado River, Havasu Creek, and the south rim of the Grand Canyon at the base of the Redwall and Muav Limestones. Older abandoned travertines occur several hundred feet above the current level of spring discharge. About 30 to more than 100 feet thick.
OLd	DUNE SAND, SAND SHEETS, SILT DUNES AND SHEETS, AND FLUVIAL SILT DEPOSITS (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—White to gray, fine to coarse wind blown sand, silt, and clay. Sand is mainly quartz and feldspar; silt and clay are mainly decomposed and weathered volcanic rocks. Dune sand and sand sheets occur as lumpy, poorly defined masses from 2 to 20 feet thick, some stabilized by sparse to moderate vegetation. Silt dunes, sheets, and fluvial deposits are more uniform and flat, occurring at the edges of dry lakes and ponds, and support little or no vegetation. About 6 to 80 feet thick.
OLe	PONDED SEDIMENTS (HOLOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE)—Gray to brown clay, silt, and sand. Locally includes limestone fragments, pebbles, and gravel. Occurs in internal drainage depressions and ashbeds ponds mainly in the northwest quarter of the area. Supports little or no vegetation. About 5 to 30 feet thick.
TM	SEDIMENTARY ROCKS (MIOCENE TO OLIGOCENE)—Light colored gray, orange, and pink, semi-consolidated to consolidated, bedded to interbedded, sandstone, siltstone, mudstone with interfingering limestone, gypsum, and volcanic debris. The Verde Formation southwest of the Mogollon Rim dominating the Verde Valley is the largest of these deposits. Also occurs to the north of the Verde Valley in Chino Valley. Maximum thickness more than 3,100 feet (Nations and others, 1981).
Tm	YOUNGER SEDIMENTARY ROCKS (PLIOCENE TO MIOCENE)—Light colored gray, orange, and pink, semi-consolidated to consolidated, bedded to interbedded, sandstone, siltstone, mudstone with interfingering limestone, gypsum, and volcanic debris. The Verde Formation southwest of the Mogollon Rim dominating the Verde Valley is the largest of these deposits. Also occurs to the north of the Verde Valley in Chino Valley. Maximum thickness more than 3,100 feet (Nations and others, 1981).
Ty	OLDER SEDIMENTARY ROCKS (OLIGOCENE TO PALEOCENE)—Rim gravels and associated finer grained sediments of the Mogollon Rim region. Weakly consolidated, interbedded sand, gravel, and silt containing clasts of Paleozoic rocks. Typically underlies Miocene basins in drainages flowing south from the Mogollon Rim. A few feet over 100 feet thick.
Ts	TERTIARY SEDIMENTS (Eocene to LATE PALEOCENE)—Light red, gray, and white interbedded siltstone, sandstone, gravel, conglomerate, and thin bedded freshwater limestone. Occurs mostly in the central and western parts of the area. About 60 to 100 feet thick.
VR	VOLCANIC ROCKS
VRa	VOLCANIC AND INTRUSIVE ROCKS (PLEISTOCENE)—Dark gray basaltic dikes and necks. Dikes typically 1 to 3 feet thick.
VRb	BASALTIC AND ANDESITIC FLOWS, DIKES, AND NECKS, AND PYROCLASTIC FLOWS (PLEISTOCENE TO PLEISTOCENE)—Dark gray basalt, basaltic andesite, and pyroclastic flows and deposits, with abundant clinopyroxene and plagioclase. About 20 to 300 feet thick.
VRc	BASALTIC ROCKS (PLEISTOCENE TO PLEISTOCENE)—
VRd	BASALT AND PYROCLASTIC FLOWS (PLEISTOCENE TO PLEISTOCENE)—Dark gray to brown basalt with interbedded thin to thick pyroclastic deposits. Pyroclastic deposits are dark gray to red cinders, splinter, bombs and ribbon fragments that weather to brown and red brown. Overall thickness from 30 to 400 feet.
VRe	YOUNGER BASALTS (PLEISTOCENE TO MIOCENE)—
VRf	BASALT AND ANDESITIC FLOWS (PLEISTOCENE TO EARLY MIOCENE)—Dark gray to gray-black basalts and andesite flows. Basalt flows merge in several locations. Andesite flows in lobes from Howard Mesa. Thickness from 25 to more than 300 feet.
VRg	YOUNGER VOLCANIC ROCKS (PLEISTOCENE TO EARLY MIOCENE)—
VRh	BASALTS (LATE TO MIDDLE MIOCENE)—
VRi	BASALT, PYROCLASTIC DEPOSITS, AND INTRUSIVE ROCKS (PLEISTOCENE TO MIOCENE)—Medium to dark-gray basalts and dark-gray to red pyroclastic rocks. Basalts are olivine to plagioclase rich occurring in massive flows, dikes, and vents. Dikes and vents from 4 to 20 feet thick. Pyroclastic deposits are cinders and splinter fragments that weather to brown and red brown. Thicknesses from 30 to 200 feet.
VRj	RHYOLITE, RHYODACITE, OBSIDIAN FLOWS, DIKES, NECKS, AND PLUSS, VENT AREAS, AND PYROCLASTIC DEPOSITS (EARLY MIOCENE)—Red, gray, and black rhyolite, rhyodacite, and obsidian. Rhyolite and rhyodacite are in twisted thin flows, dikes, and vents. Obsidian flows are mostly black to gray doming and red-black banded. Flows typically have one or more dikes (D) that branch flows. Pyroclastic deposits are red and reddish-gray cinders, scoria, ash, and glassy fragments of basalt, partly consolidated. Thicknesses from 30 to 200 feet.
VRk	RED BUTTE BASALT (EARLY MIOCENE)—Dark gray olivine basalt in massive flow. Weathers brown. Thickness 185 feet.
TR	SEDIMENTARY ROCKS
TRa	CHINLE FORMATION (UNDIFFERENTIATED UPPER TRIASSIC)—Multi-colored interbedded siltstone, limestone, calcareous siltstone, medium to coarse-grained fluvial sandstone, and coarse-grained conglomerate, cross-bedded sandstone. Occurs as continuous redbed beds along the Little Colorado River Valley. Less common in the rest of the area as pale-yellow siltstone with fluvial deposits and protected by overlying volcanic rocks. Thicknesses from 200 feet.
TRb	SHINARUMP MEMBER OF THE CHINLE FORMATION (UPPER AND LOWER TRIASSIC)—White to pale-red, coarse-grained, cross-bedded sandstone and pebble conglomerate. Forms small cliffs and ledges along the Little Colorado River Valley and weathers to a pavement of orange to red pebbles. In the central part of the area, the unit has been buried to a thick red to brick red to overlying basalt flows. Thickness from 5 to 85 feet.
TRc	MOENKOPF FORMATION (UPPER AND LOWER TRIASSIC)—Reddish-brown mudstone, siltstone, silty sandstone, and sandstone with veins and stringers of gypsum. Typically thin bedded. Crops out as a continuous layer along the Little Colorado River Valley. Occurs as a discontinuous erosional remnant in the central northern and western part of the area, now covered by the volcanic rocks. Thickness from 1 to 1,000 feet.
TRd	KARBAB FORMATION, TOROWEAP FORMATION, AND COCONINO SANDSTONE (UNDIFFERENTIATED PERMIAN)—Gray limestone, gray, light-red, light-purple, and yellowish-red siltstone (Kabab Formation); silty sandstone, fossiliferous limestone; thin-bedded dolomite, sandstone, and gypsum (Torowep Formation); and white, fine-grained, well-sorted, cross-bedded quartz sandstone (Coconino Sandstone).
TRe	KARBAB SANDSTONE (UPPER PERMIAN)—Thinly bedded, reddish-gray to brownish-gray, reddish-orange to white sandy to silty limestone, calcareous to silty sandstone, thin bedded limestone, and gypsum (Harrisburg Member, PKA). Yellowish-gray to light gray, fine- to medium-grained, thin- to medium-bedded, fossiliferous, sandy cherty limestone, chert lenses, dolomite, dolomite limestone, and minor sandstone and dolomite sandstone. Collapse structures are common due to dissolution of gypsum. The formation thins to the west and thins to extinction east of a northeast-southwest line through the middle of the area. In the western part of the area the lower part of the formation interfingers with the underlying Coconino Sandstone. Outcrops occur in steep canyons to the north on the south rim of Grand Canyon, in Havasu Canyon, at the base of the Aubrey Cliffs, and along the northeastern Mogollon Rim. Thickness varies from 100 to 300 feet.
TRf	TOROWEAP FORMATION (UPPER PERMIAN)—Gray to light-red, fine-grained, well-sorted, cross-bedded quartz sandstone. Cross-bed sets can range up to 35 feet thick. Thickness decreases from east to west. To the north and northwest a sharp, unconformable, planar contact exists with the underlying Hermit Formation. To the south and southwest the Coconino Sandstone is interbedded and interfingers with the underlying Schiebel Hill Formation. Forms dramatic cliffs in outcrop areas. Outcrops occur in steep canyons to the north on the south rim of Grand Canyon, in Havasu Canyon, along the Aubrey Cliffs, and along the Mogollon Rim. Thickness varies from about 1,200 feet to about 150 feet in the western edge of the area.
TRg	SCHIEBEL HILL FORMATION (MIDDLE PERMIAN)—Orange to light gray, fine-grained sandstone and shale, coarse to medium grained, and interbedded with gray limestone and dolomite. The upper units of the Schiebel Hill Formation alternate and interfinger with the lower Coconino Sandstone in the central and southern parts of the area. The unit thins to extinction to the northwest. The only outcrop of the Schiebel Hill Formation in the area occur in Sycamore and Oak Creek Canyons along the southeastern edge of the Mogollon Rim. The unit varies from 0 to more than 1,500 feet.
TRh	HERMIT FORMATION AND SUPAI GROUP (UNDIFFERENTIATED LOWER PERMIAN, PENNSYLVANIAN, AND MISSISSIPPIAN)—Red, fine-grained, thin-bedded siltstone and sandstone (Hermit Formation); and light-red to pink sandstone, dark red bedded siltstone, light-red to light-gray, fine-grained siltstone and mudstone interbedded with light-red coarse-grained, calcareous sandstone, light gray shale, and gray and brown, coarse-grained siltstone with sandy limestone, and gray and purple-red limestone, siltstone, mudstone, and conglomerate (Supai Group).
TRi	HERMIT FORMATION (LOWER PERMIAN)—Red, fine-grained, thin-bedded siltstone and sandstone. Upper part is mostly red and white massive, cross-bedded calcareous sandstone and shale. Shale beds are shallow erosional channels and sandstone. Shale beds are thin and thin to extinction to the south. Outcrops occur in steep canyons in the north and central parts of the area along the south rim of Grand Canyon in Havasu Canyon. Thickness varies from 200 to 850 feet.
TRj	SUPAI GROUP (UNDIFFERENTIATED LOWER PERMIAN, PENNSYLVANIAN, AND MISSISSIPPIAN)—Composed of upper, middle, and lower formations. The Upper Supai Formation is a reddish-brown, planar to cross-bedded, fine-grained sandstone with subordinate siltstone and mudstone. The dominant sandstone member at the top of the formation is named the Esplanade Sandstone and forms a prominent bench and erosional surface in the western Grand Canyon. The Middle Supai Formation is a sequence of interbedded reddish-orange to reddish-brown, silty sandstone, calcareous and cherty sandstone, mudstone, and siltstone. The Lower Supai Formation is mainly bluish-gray to reddish-brown, mottled mudstone to claystone with an occasional basal conglomerate or breccia of chert clasts, cherty limestone, and reworked material from the underlying Redwall Limestone. The Supai Group is exposed in steep canyons to the north and south of the base of the Aubrey Cliffs, and in a small area east of Bridle Mountain and north of San Francisco Mountain where the formation is brought to the surface by intruding volcanic rocks. The combined thickness of the unit varies from 1,200 to 2,300 feet.
TRk	ESPLANADE SANDSTONE (LOWER PERMIAN)—Light-red to pinkish-gray, fine to medium-grained, well-sorted calcareous sandstone with thin, interbedded, dark-red siltstone. Exposed in steep canyons along the south rim of Grand Canyon and as a broad erosional platform in the western Grand Canyon. Cataract Canyon in the central part of the area has not eroded through the Esplanade. Along the Mogollon Rim, the Esplanade Sandstone is undifferentiated from other upper Supai units. The Esplanade Sandstone is thickest in the western part of the area, thinning to the east. Thickness varies from less than 300 to 550 feet.
TRl	LOWER SUPAI FORMATION (LOWER PERMIAN TO UPPER MISSISSIPPIAN)—Gray and purple-red limestone, siltstone, mudstone, shale, and conglomerate. Watahomg Formation of McKee (1982) in the Grand Canyon. Limestone contains gray and red, thin-bedded chert and chert lenses. Unconformable contact with underlying Redwall Limestone marked by small erosion channels filled with conglomerate of chert pebbles and limestone rubble. For most of the area, the lower purple shale and mudstone units directly overlie the Redwall Limestone and provide a sharp contrast. The unit thins from west to east. Thickness varies from 100 to 200 feet.
TRm	REDWALL LIMESTONE, TEMPLE BUTTE FORMATION, AND TOWNE GROUP (MID-VALE LIMESTONE, BRIGHT ANGEL SHALE, AND TAPETS SANDSTONE) (UNDIFFERENTIATED MISSISSIPPIAN TO CAMBRIAN)—Gray limestone to light gray limestone (Redwall Limestone); purple, reddish-purple, and dark to light-gray dolomite, sandy dolomite, sandstone, mudstone, and limestone (Temple Butte Formation); dark to light-gray, brown, and orange-red limestone, dolomite, and calcareous mudstone (Maav Limestone); green and purple-red siltstone and shale (Bright Angel Shale); and brown and red-brown, coarse sandstone and conglomerate (Tapets Sandstone).
TRn	REDWALL LIMESTONE (MISSISSIPPIAN)—Massive light-gray limestone and dolomite. Limestone is fossiliferous and oolitic in places. Chert lenses and beds are common. Dolomite is dark-gray to brown and finely crystalline. The unit is exposed in steep canyons at the south rim of Grand Canyon, in Havasu Canyon, on Little Black Mesa, and in parts of the Verde Valley. A small area of the Redwall Limestone is exposed in the area east of Elden Mountain where the formation is brought to the surface by intruding volcanic rocks. The limestone thickens from east to west. Thickness varies from 450 to about 750 feet.
TRo	TEMPLE BUTTE (MARTIN) FORMATION (UPPER AND MIDDLE DEVONIAN)—Purple, reddish-purple, dark-gray and light-gray dolomite, sandy dolomite, sandstone, mudstone, and limestone. Unconformable contact with channels eroded up to 100 feet into lower Cambrian units. Purple, reddish-purple, and light gray, fine- to medium-grained sandstone, mudstone, dolomite, limestone, and conglomerate fill the channels. Unit thins from east to west in the central and southern part of the area and along the Mogollon Rim, equivalent Devonian rocks are recognized as the Martin Formation (Fischert, 1963). Exposures of the Temple Butte Formation occur in steep canyons on the south rim of the Grand Canyon. Exposures of the Martin Formation occur along the upper Verde River and at the north end of Little Black Mesa. Thickness of the Temple Butte varies from 50 to 250 feet excluding channel thickness. Martin Formation thickness varies from about 350 feet to more than 500 feet.
TRp	MUAV LIMESTONE (MIDDLE CAMBRIAN)—Dark gray, brown, and orange-red, fine- to medium-grained, thin- to thick-bedded, fossiliferous limestone, silty limestone, dolomite, and calcareous mudstone. Unnamed green and purple-red micaceous siltstone, mudstone, shale, and thin brown sandstone intertongue between limestones. Exposures of the unit occur in steep canyons of the south rim of Grand Canyon. Contact with the underlying Bright Angel Shale is gradational and lithology dependent. The Muav Limestone thickens from east to west and thins southward. Thickness varies from about 100 to about 400 feet.
TRq	BRIGHT ANGEL SHALE (MIDDLE CAMBRIAN)—Green and purple-red siltstone and shale with interbeds of red-brown to brown sandstone. Siltstones can be micaceous and fossiliferous, and sandstones occasionally dark-green to purple-red and medium to coarse-grained. The upper part of the unit contains some gray thin-bedded micaceous, silty dolomite in the western part of the area. Red-brown sandstones are prominent ledge formers. Interfingering with the underlying Tapets Sandstone produces a variable thickness and a gradational contact. Contact usually assigned to the most dominantly brown, medium-grained sandstone. Exposures of the Bright Angel Shale occur in steep canyons of the south rim of Grand Canyon. The unit thins from west to east and thins to extinction southward. Thickness varies from about 450 feet in the west part of the study area to about 250 feet in the east part. Veins that penetrate Proterozoic granites in the southern parts of the area typically encounter no Bright Angel Shale between the Muav Limestone of Martin Formation and the Tapets Sandstone.
TRr	TAPETS SANDSTONE (MIDDLE AND LOWER CAMBRIAN)—Brown and red-brown, thin-bedded, medium- to coarse-grained sandstone and conglomerate. Sandstones are planar to low-angle cross-bedded. Conglomerate sandstone and conglomerate are typically found at the lower part of the unit. Unconformable contact with underlying Proterozoic rocks forms the Great Unconformity. The Tapets Sandstone fills in lowlands on the Proterozoic surface and pinches out against Proterozoic highlands that can have several hundred feet of relief. Exposures of the Tapets Sandstone occur in steep canyons of the south rim of Grand Canyon and as small outcrops on the western edge of Big Black Mesa. Thickness varies from 0 to about 400 feet.
TRs	SEDIMENTARY ROCKS (UNDIFFERENTIATED MIDDLE PROTEROZOIC)—Grand Canyon Super Group, Apache Group, basalt flows and diabase.
TRt	GRAND CANYON SUPER GROUP (MIDDLE TO UPPER PROTEROZOIC)—In descending order: unnamed diabase sills and dikes, Dix Formation, Shimo Quartzite, Hahatai Shale, Bass Formation, and Hotsata Conglomerate. The Grand Canyon Super Group is only exposed near the bottom of Grand Canyon and not all of the units are present. Borehole logs throughout the area that penetrate Proterozoic granites have not encountered the Grand Canyon Super Group south of the south rim. Thickness is about 4,500 feet where exposed in the Grand Canyon only.
TRu	IGNEOUS ROCKS
TRv	GRANITOID ROCKS (LOWER PROTEROZOIC)—Typically gray to green-gray granite, gneiss, stocks, dikes, pegmatites, and granite rubble. Granitoid rocks are exposed in the bottom of Grand Canyon and in the northern end of Chino Valley. Granite rubble is typically encountered at the top of the unit in boreholes in thickness of a few 10s of feet. Pink granites are encountered occasionally in boreholes in the central and southern parts of the area. Overall thickness unknown.
TRw	GRANITOID ROCKS (LOWER PROTEROZOIC)—Granite, granodiorite, quartz diorite, diorite, and gabbro, commonly foliated.
TRx	METAMORPHIC ROCKS
TRy	SCHIST AND GNEISS (LOWER PROTEROZOIC)—Undifferentiated metasedimentary and metavolcanic rocks, quartz-mica schist (Vahnu Schist), amphibolite, hornblende-biotite, plagioclase schist, biotite-plagioclase schist, and metamorphosed sulfide deposits (Drahtna Schist), massive fine-grained quartz-feldspathic schist and gneiss (Bass Schist), and orthoamphibole-bearing gneiss. Exposed only in Grand Canyon. As yet to be encountered in boreholes south of Grand Canyon. Thickness unknown.
TRz	TRACE OF SECTION
---	FAULT—Dashed where uncertain, dotted where concealed. On the map bar and ball on the downthrown side. On the sections arrows indicate direction of movement.
- - -	ANTICLINE—Dotted where concealed.
- - -	SYNCLINE—Dotted where concealed.
- - -	MONOCLINE—Dotted where concealed.
+	WELL

SURFACE GEOLOGY, GEOLOGIC STRUCTURE AND SECTIONS OF THE COCONINO PLATEAU AND ADJACENT AREAS, COCONINO AND YAVAPAI COUNTIES, ARIZONA
By Donald J. Bills, Marilyn E. Flynn, and Stephen A. Monroe 2007