

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE FAIRBANK 7½' QUADRANGLE, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA

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Arizona Geological Survey Digital Geologic Map 50 (DGM-50), version 2.0

April 2009

1:24,000 scale

Citation for this map:
Ferguson, C.A., Shipman, T.C., Pearthree, P.A., Moore, E.M., Richard, S.M., Spencer, J.E., Youberg, A., Cook, J.P., and Haddad, D.E., 2009, Geologic Map of the Fairbank 7½' Quadrangle, Cochise County, Arizona: Arizona Geological Survey Digital Geologic Map 50 (DGM-50), version 2.0, 1 sheet, layout scale 1:24,000, with text.

(also available in Adobe pdf format on CD-ROM)

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Research supported by the U.S. Geological Survey, National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program, under USGS award #04HQAG0072. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S. government. The Arizona Department of Water Resources provided funding for map revisions depicted in DGM-50, version 2.0.

Acknowledgments:
Genevieve Pearthree was the cartographer for DGM-50, version 2.0.

Map Unit Descriptions

Other Units

d Disturbed ground - disturbed due to agriculture, extensive excavation, and blockage of drainages for cattle tanks.

Qtc Quaternary hillslope talus and colluvium - unconsolidated to moderately-consolidated talus and colluvium deposits mantling the lower slopes of bedrock outcrops.

San Pedro and Babocomari River Alluvium

Qyr1 Active river channel deposits - Deposits are dominantly unconsolidated, very poorly sorted sandy to cobble beds exhibiting bar and swale microtopography that can range from the silty beds to coarse gravels. In meandering reaches beyond position within the channel. Clasts are typically well-sorted but may be angular to subangular. Qyr deposits are typically unvegetated to lightly vegetated and are subject to erosion. Qyr deposits are entrenched from 30 cm to 5 meters or more below adjacent early historical floodplain deposits depending on location, geomorphic relationship, and local channel conditions. Although much of the San Pedro and Babocomari rivers were perennial streams historically, some sections are dry or only at the surface during much of the year. These deposits are the first to become submerged during flow events and can be subject to deep, high velocity flow and lateral bank erosion. In some areas of the Babocomari River channel deposits are very thin, discontinuous exposing underlying bedrock. Extent of channel deposit and exposed bedrock varies and shifts with significant flooding.

Qyv1 Flood channel and low terrace deposits - Deposits are found adjacent to active channels in the form of lightly vegetated channel bars, small alluvial fans, and terrace deposits. These deposits are generally planar but exhibit bar and swale microtopography. Although soil development is present, dense grasses and small mesquite trees are abundant. Sediments composing these deposits are poorly sorted silt, sand, pebbles and cobbles. Pebbles and cobbles are well-sorted to sub-sorted. Through crossbedding, ripple marks, and stacked channel deposits visible in cross-section indicate erosion in a low to moderate energy braided stream environment. These deposits are prone to flooding during extreme flow events, and undercutting and rapid erosion of Qyv1 surfaces is possible during lower flow events.

Qyr2 Historical river terrace deposits - Terrace deposits that occupy elevations from 1 to 2 meters above Qyr or Qyv1 deposits and are inset below the pre-inchon historical floodplain. These surfaces are generally planar but exhibit bar and swale microtopography. Although soil development is present, dense grasses and small mesquite trees are abundant. Sediments composing these deposits are poorly sorted silt, sand, pebbles and cobbles. Pebbles and cobbles are well-sorted to sub-sorted. Through crossbedding, ripple marks, and stacked channel deposits visible in cross-section indicate erosion in a low to moderate energy braided stream environment. These deposits are prone to flooding during extreme flow events, and undercutting and rapid erosion of Qyr2 surfaces is possible during lower flow events.

Qyr3 Latest Holocene to historical river terrace deposits - Deposits associated with the floodplain that existed prior to the early historical settlement of the San Pedro and Babocomari Rivers (Haddad, 1993; Haddad, 1995; Wood, 1997). Qyr3 deposits are associated with broadly planar surfaces that locally retain the shape of historical river meanders. Qyr3 surfaces are up to 7 meters above modern Qyr deposits and are the least extensive river terraces in the valley. Qyr3 sediments were deposited within the San Pedro and Babocomari River meanders, shallowly-flowing river systems and are dominated by fine-grained floodplain deposits. Dense mesquite bosque and grass is typically present on these surfaces where historic plowing or grazing has not taken place. These surfaces appear predominantly fine-grained at the surface due in part to the input of organic matter and windblown dust deposition but are composed of intertonguing coarse sandy to pebbly braided channel and the sand and silt river floodplain deposits. Where Qyr3 deposits are moderately to deeply incised they are not inundated by river floods, but they may be flood-prone in areas with less channel incision. Qyr3 deposits are subject to catastrophic bank failure due to undercutting and lateral erosion during flow events. Distal piedmont fan deposits (Qy2, Qy1, and Qy0) may on top of Qyr3 deposits although an interfingering relationship likely exists in the subsurface.

Qyr4 Late to early Holocene river terrace deposits - Deposits associated with slightly higher terraces that represent higher elements of the early historical floodplain or remnants of older Holocene aggradation periods. These fine-grained terrace deposits commonly have a well-sorted, well-sorted matrix of silt, sand, pebbles and cobbles. Qyr4 deposits are densely vegetated by mature mesquite trees (mesquite bosque) and tall grasses. Soil development is moderate and surface clasts range from 1 to 2.5 m. These surfaces are less than 1.5 m higher than adjacent Qyr3 surfaces. Along the Babocomari River Qyr4 terraces are found along the valley margins. These terraces typically are covered with the fine-grained floodplain deposits, but remnant gravel bars and terraces are common.

Qyr5 Late Pleistocene river terrace deposits - Unit Qyr5 consists of remnant gravel terraces. These terraces are typically 5 to 10 m in elevation above the floodplain and are composed of well-sorted sand, gravel, pebbles, and cobbles in the upper portion. Qyr5 deposits consist of cobbles, gravel, and fine-grained sediment. Qyr5 surfaces commonly have local grass and pebbles. Qyr5 surfaces are typically well-sorted to moderately well-sorted. Qyr5 surfaces appear light orange color aerial photos, reflecting slight reddening of surface clasts and the surface soil horizon. Qyr5 soils are moderately developed, with orange to reddish brown sandy loam to clay loam argillic horizons and stage I calcium carbonate accumulation.

Qyr6 Middle to late Pleistocene river terrace deposits - Unit Qyr6 consist of isolated paleoterraces found outside of the floodplain. Qyr6 consist of pebble to cobble class supported conglomerate, with subrounded to round clasts composed of granite, limestone, and quartzite. This surface is approximately 2 m thick and is degraded with beveled edges. Due to the degradation and parent material, soil is not preserved on some of these surfaces.

Qyr7 Early middle Pleistocene river terrace deposits - Unit Qyr7 consists of the highest paleoterrace deposits. Qyr7 is composed of cobbles to pebble class supported conglomerate, with subrounded to round clasts composed of granite, limestone, and quartzite. Clasts exhibit moderate rockiness and soils are typically reddish, clay argillic horizon, stage III secondary carbonate and blocky pebbles. Qyr7 surfaces are flat and are believed to be rounded near their edges. Qyr7 surfaces appear orangish brown in air photos.

Qyr8 Early Pleistocene river terrace deposits - Unit Qyr8 consists of very high remnant river terrace deposits emanating from Babocomari Wash. The tops of these terraces are 30 to 40 m above the active channel of Babocomari Wash and San Pedro River. Qyr8 consists of cobbles, pebbles, and a few small boulders with sand and fine-grained sediment. Qyr8 surfaces commonly have a loose cobble and pebble lag. Qyr8 clasts exhibit moderate to strong rockiness. Qyr8 surfaces appear dark reddish brown in color aerial photos, reflecting reddening of surface clasts and relatively clay-rich surface soil horizons with some dark organic material. Soils typically have brown to reddish brown clay argillic horizons over intertongued stage IV carbonate horizons where surfaces are well preserved.

Piedmont alluvium and surficial deposits

Qy0 Modern stream channel deposits - Unit Qy0 includes only active, open channels of tributary washes on the piedmonts that could be delineated at a scale of 1:24,000. This unit is composed of moderately-sorted sand, gravel, and pebbles with some cobbles in the lower piedmont areas in poorly-sorted sand, gravel, pebbles, and cobbles in the upper piedmont areas. Channels are generally incised less than 0.5 m below adjacent Holocene terraces. Channel morphologies generally consist of a single thread deep high flow channel or multi-threaded anastomosing shallow low flow channels. The channels are flood-prone and are subject to deep, high velocity flow during moderate to large flood events. Channels are subject to scouring and bar deposition. Banks are subject to lateral erosion. There is no soil development in this active fluvial unit, and little or no vegetation within the channels.

Qy1 Latest Holocene alluvium - Recently active piedmont alluvium located primarily along active drainages including floodplain, low terrace, and overflow channels. Qy1 deposits are composed of unconsolidated to very weakly consolidated silt to cobble deposits and exhibit greater vegetation than Qy0 deposits. These deposits generally exhibit bar and swale microtopography and are subject to inundation during moderate to extreme flow conditions when channel flow exceeds capacity. Soil development is generally absent or incipient on Qy1 deposits which exhibit pale but to light brown (10 YR) surface coloration.

Qy2 Late Holocene alluvium, undifferentiated - Unit Qy2 consists of recent alluvium on floodplain and low terraces that shows evidence of intermittent inundation during large flood events. Qy2 deposits are composed of alluvium with pockets of conglomerate lag. Qy2 deposits are located along active channels less than 2 m above the active channels. Surfaces are commonly planar. Qy2 soils are weakly developed, 10 YR 8/3 brown to light brown, with no ped development, no secondary carbonate. Qy2 is primarily vegetated by opportunistic grasses.

Qy3 Older Holocene alluvium - Qy3 deposits consist of terraces along tributary drainages and broad, low-relief, undulating valley bottoms, that exhibit shallow widespread braided channels, and are higher in the landscape than younger Holocene alluvium. Portions of these deposits are mantled by coarse to very coarse angular quartz sand and exhibit diverse vegetation patterns. Qy3 surfaces are typically quite coarse, including boulders, cobbles, pebbles, sand, and minor silt and clay. Farther downslope, Qy3 deposits are quite fine, consisting mainly of sand and silt, with minor fine gravel and clay. Small channels are present and are incised less than 1 m below adjacent Qy2 terraces and fans. Channel morphologies generally consist of a single-thread channel or multi-threaded channels, with local distributary channel systems. Local relief on Qy3 deposits varies from flat to low relief. Qy3 surfaces are characterized by a characteristic of coarse deposits. Terrace surfaces typically are planar, but small channels are also common on terraces. Soil development associated with Qy3 deposits is weak to moderate. Soil clay accumulation is minimal. Qy3 surfaces are vegetated by a mixture of mesquite and acacia trees with interspersed grasses and shrubs. These surfaces appear light orange in the air photos. Qy3 represent the last phase of fan development before the first stage of entrenchment of the San Pedro River.

Qy4 Middle to late Pleistocene alluvial fan and terrace deposits - Qy4 consists of deposits that fill the valleys incised into the Saint David Formation. Qy4 consists of mudstone with some flooding cobbles within the mud matrix. These surfaces are flat with punctuated silt incised channels. Qy4 has portions of the surfaces that are relatively unincised with up to 3 m of incision down tributary toward the San Pedro River. Close to the river isolate remnants of Qy4 outcrop along the tributary valleys. Soils are weak to moderately developed with clay loam, small blocky pebbles, 7.5 YR 8/4, and flammant carbonate. Qy4 surface appear as buff in air photos. Qy4 is dominated by sandstone and medium size mesquite trees. Qy4 represents a surface that is subsequently incised due to down cutting in the San Pedro River.

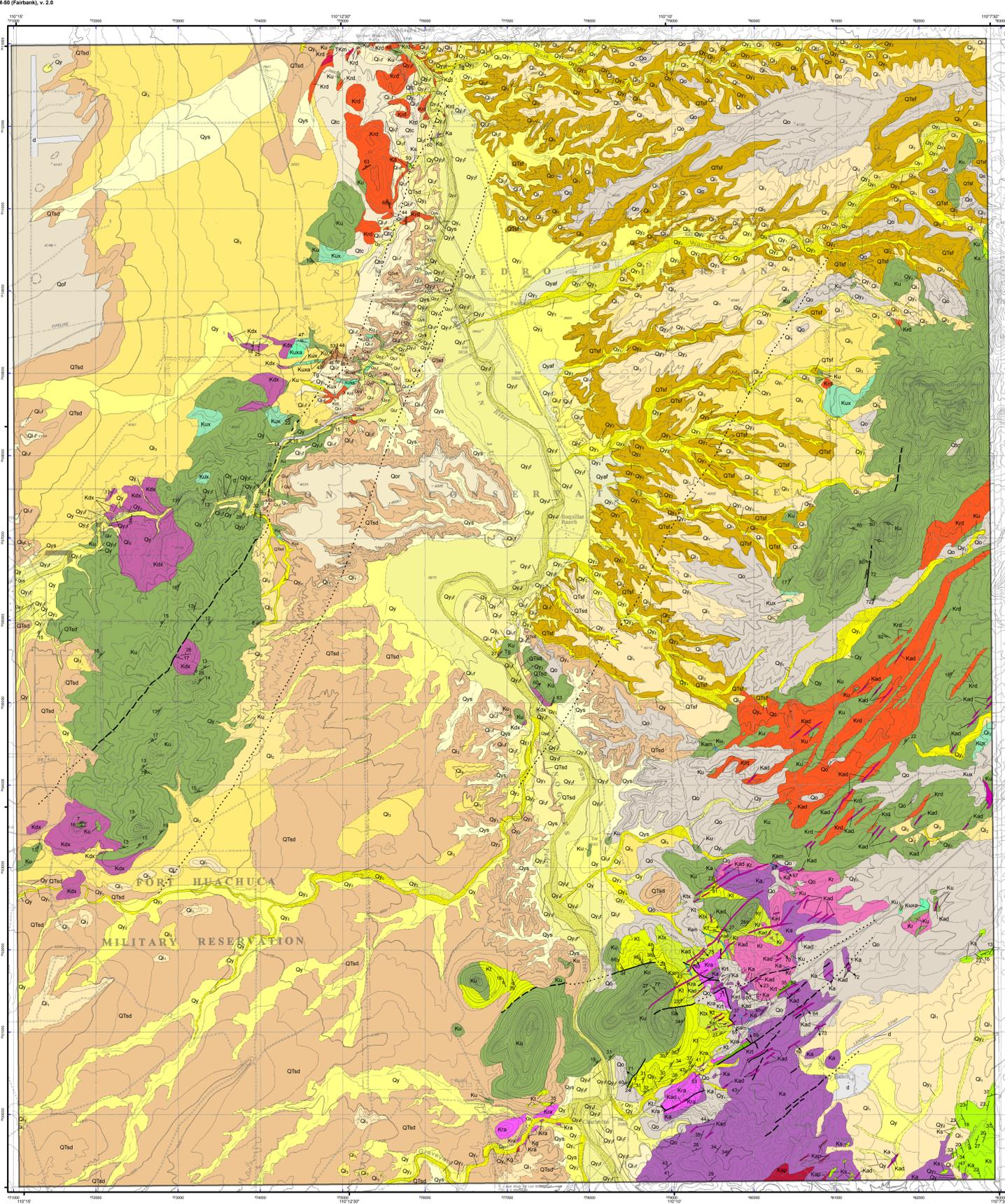
Qy5 Fine-grained Holocene alluvium derived from the Saint David Formation - Thin, fine-grained Holocene alluvial deposits mantling valley bottoms. Sediment is mainly clay, silt and sand, with occasional drainage patterns, and is higher in the landscape than younger Holocene alluvium. Portions of these deposits are mantled by coarse to very coarse angular quartz sand and exhibit diverse vegetation patterns. Qy5 surfaces are typically quite coarse, including boulders, cobbles, pebbles, sand, and minor silt and clay. Farther downslope, Qy5 deposits are quite fine, consisting mainly of sand and silt, with minor fine gravel and clay. Small channels are present and are incised less than 1 m below adjacent Qy2 terraces and fans. Channel morphologies generally consist of a single-thread channel or multi-threaded channels, with local distributary channel systems. Local relief on Qy5 deposits varies from flat to low relief. Qy5 surfaces are characterized by a characteristic of coarse deposits. Terrace surfaces typically are planar, but small channels are also common on terraces. Soil development associated with Qy5 deposits is weak to moderate. Soil clay accumulation is minimal. Qy5 surfaces are vegetated by a mixture of mesquite and acacia trees with interspersed grasses and shrubs. These surfaces appear light orange in the air photos. Qy5 represent the last phase of fan development before the first stage of entrenchment of the San Pedro River.

Qy6 Late Pleistocene alluvial fan and terrace deposits - Unit Qy6 consists of deposits that fill the valleys incised into the Saint David Formation. Qy6 consists of mudstone with some flooding cobbles within the mud matrix. These surfaces are flat with punctuated silt incised channels. Qy6 has portions of the surfaces that are relatively unincised with up to 3 m of incision down tributary toward the San Pedro River. Close to the river isolate remnants of Qy6 outcrop along the tributary valleys. Soils are weak to moderately developed with clay loam, small blocky pebbles, 7.5 YR 8/4, and flammant carbonate. Qy6 surface appear as buff in air photos. Qy6 is dominated by sandstone and medium size mesquite trees. Qy6 represents a surface that is subsequently incised due to down cutting in the San Pedro River.

Qy7 Middle to late Pleistocene alluvial fan and terrace deposits - Qy7 consists of planar fan surfaces perched higher than the surrounding canyons and composed of cobble conglomerate with granite and Paleozoic limestone clasts. Qy7 surfaces are relatively well-sorted to moderately well-sorted. Qy7 surfaces are vegetated by a mixture of mesquite and acacia trees with interspersed grasses and shrubs. These surfaces appear light orange in the air photos. Qy7 represent the last phase of fan development before the first stage of entrenchment of the San Pedro River.

Qy8 Middle to late Pleistocene alluvial fan and terrace deposits - Qy8 consists of planar fan surfaces perched higher than the surrounding canyons and composed of cobble conglomerate with granite and Paleozoic limestone clasts. Qy8 surfaces are relatively well-sorted to moderately well-sorted. Qy8 surfaces are vegetated by a mixture of mesquite and acacia trees with interspersed grasses and shrubs. These surfaces appear light orange in the air photos. Qy8 represent the last phase of fan development before the first stage of entrenchment of the San Pedro River.

Qy9 Middle to late Pleistocene alluvial fan and terrace deposits - Qy9 consists of planar fan surfaces perched higher than the surrounding canyons and composed of cobble conglomerate with granite and Paleozoic limestone clasts. Qy9 surfaces are relatively well-sorted to moderately well-sorted. Qy9 surfaces are vegetated by a mixture of mesquite and acacia trees with interspersed grasses and shrubs. These surfaces appear light orange in the air photos. Qy9 represent the last phase of fan development before the first stage of entrenchment of the San Pedro River.

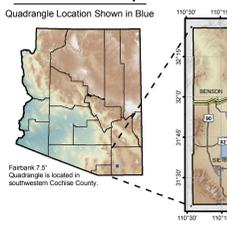


Topographic base from USGS 1:24,000 scale quadrangle series. North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83). Projection is a UTM metric grid. Universal Transverse Mercator, and 12.



2000 MAGNETIC DECLINATION

Location Index Map



Map Symbols

- Faults**
 - fault, accurate
 - - - fault, approximate
 - fault, concealed
- Contacts**
 - accurate contact
 - - - approximate contact
 - queried dashed contact
- Structure Symbols**
 - ↗ bedding, inclined 1
 - ↗ fault attitude
 - ↗ inclined eutaxitic foliation
 - ↗ inclined flow foliation
 - ↗ inclined joint
 - ↗ vertical joint

Unit Correlation

