

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE CAMAS VALLEY QUADRANGLE, DOUGLAS AND COOS COUNTIES, OREGON

1993

GMS-76

ISSN 0270-952X

Geologic Map of the Camas Valley Quadrangle, Douglas and Coos Counties, Oregon

By G.L. Black and G.R. Priest

Funded in part by contributions from the CCD Business Development Corporation, GCO Minerals Company, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, State of Oregon Lottery Funds, Menasha Corporation, Oregon Natural Gas Development Corporation, Seneca Timber Company, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, and Weyerhaeuser Corporation.

Lookingglass Formation (lower Eocene; Penitencia to lower Utlaitian)

Tennille Member of Baldwin (1974) (lower Eocene; Penitencia to lower Utlaitian)—Rhythmically interbedded, dark-gray lithic sandstone and mudstone forming incomplete (base-missing) Bouma sequences (T_{ba}). The upper part of the member consists of massive, spherulitic weathering, gray-green mudstone. Sandstone is thin bedded, fine grained, moderately sorted, and moderately strong. Bed thicknesses range from <1 to 7 m (0.4-3 m.). The beds have sharp bases and gradational tops. Thicker beds tend to be graded. The Tennille Member is 730-975 m (2,400-3,200 ft) thick in the type section east of the map area (Baldwin, 1974; Molenar, 1985). Within the map area, the maximum thickness is about 700 m (2,300 ft).

The lower part of the Tennille Member consists mostly of Mutti-Rici Lucchi Facies D. The uppermost part of the member, which is apparently not present everywhere, consists of Facies C. The mudstone-dominated upper part of the unit is best exposed east of the quadrangle along Highway 42. The turbidite-dominated part of the member is interpreted as a slope facies, and the mudstone-dominated upper part is interpreted as an outer-shelf facies.

The relationship of the Tennille Member to the overlying White Tail Ridge Member depends on which facies of the Tennille Member is in contact. There is a discordance (locally an angular unconformity?) between the two members where the White Tail Ridge Member overlies the Tennille Member. A good example occurs east of Berry Creek along a ridge 1 km (0.6 mi) east of the quadrangle boundary, where shallow-marine shelfward facies sandstone and siltstone of the White Tail Ridge Member overlies a deep-water turbidite channel facies in the Tennille Member. The White Tail Ridge Member is conformable with, and perhaps interfingers with, the mudstone-dominated upper part of the Tennille Member (see cross section B-B'). The contact with the underlying Bushnell Rock Member of the Lookingglass Formation is conformable.

The Tennille Member was interpreted by Ryberg (1983) and Heller and Ryberg (1983) as low-slope deposits and as an outer shelf to upper-slope facies by Molenar (1985).

Bushnell Rock Member of Baldwin (1974) (lower Eocene; Penitencia to lower Utlaitian)—Very thick, to thin bedded pebbly and cobble conglomerate with minor bedded coarse-grained lithic sandstone, pebbly sandstone, and siltstone. Bedding thicknesses range from 0.5 to 6 m (1.6-19.7 ft). Conglomerate is poorly sorted, clast supported, and moderately strong. Porosity is generally poor. Clasts tend to be discoidal and subrounded to rounded. Compositions are dominantly graywacke (>50 percent), metamorphic (<25 percent), and basaltic (<10 percent) with minor quartz and grey chert. Matrix is greenish-gray, fine- to coarse-grained clayey lithic sandstone, and the porosity is moderate. Clasts in the conglomerate typically range from 2 mm to 2 cm (0.08-0.8 in.) in diameter, are rounded to well rounded, and commonly have a reddish brown oxidized coating. The clasts consist of approximately 65 percent chert and quartzite, 25 percent metamorphic rock fragments, and 10 percent graywacke. Mudstone rippled clasts are common. Bed thicknesses range from 2 to 3 m (7 to 11 ft) in the NW, and 2 to 3 m (7 to 11 ft) in the SE. The beds are massive, but normal grading and clast imbrication are common. Bases of sandstone and conglomerate beds are often deeply scoured. Both trough and tabular cross-beds are common. Lateral accretion surfaces are present. Beds form thinning- and fining-upward sequences. Siltstone and mudstone intervals are typically poorly exposed slope facies. They are poorly bedded to massive and range in thickness from a few centimeters to 2 m (0.4 ft). Thicker intervals contain thin to 10 cm (4 in.), wedge-shaped, fine-grained sandstone beds. The poorly developed bedding in the fine-grained deposits may be due to bioturbation by plant roots. Carbonized plant debris is common, and small rootlets in growth positions occur. Conglomerate and sandstone are interpreted as distal channel facies. Massive interbedded siltstone and mudstone are interpreted as overbank deposits. The best exposure of these facies occur along a logging road in NW 1/4 sec. 34 and SW 1/4 sec. 27, T. 29 S., R. 8 W.

The White Tail Ridge Member of the Flournoy Formation has a thickness of approximately 365 m (1,200 ft) at the type section, 11 km (6.8 mi) northwest of the study area (Black, 1980). Within the Camas Valley quadrangle the thickness is highly variable. In the extreme northern part of the area in sec. 21, T. 29 S., R. 8 W., where the member overlies the Reston fault, it is only 10-20 m (33-66 ft) thick. The unit thickens slightly to the south but is still only 90-120 m (300-400 ft) thick over the Camas Mountain anticline. It thickens rapidly south of the Camas Mountain anticline. In the extreme southeast part of the map (sec. 34, T. 29 S., R. 8 W.) it is 880 m (2,900 ft) thick. Whether these variations in thickness represent true unit thicknesses or are in part due to erosion is uncertain. Upper-shelf sandstone caps the member throughout the study area, but several facies are present within the member. Also, the conglomerate and pebbly sandstone fluvial facies appears to be less rapidly northward and to occupy the Camas Mountain anticline. If erosion is not responsible for the thickness variations, then topographic high existed during deposition of the White Tail Ridge Member.

Baldwin (1974) and Baldwin and Pertus (1989) map the extreme southeast portion of the map (from Berry Creek eastward) as the Olla Creek Member of the Lookingglass Formation. A detailed examination of these rocks and of rocks mapped as Olla Creek Member immediately east of the quadrangle shows that (1) they are lithologically identical to the rocks of the White Tail Ridge Member; (2) the same depositional facies are present in both units (i.e., both units contain abundant shallow-marine and nonmarine fluvial facies); and (3) apparent differences in attitude between the two units (i.e., 10°-14° westward dips in the White Tail Ridge Member on Camas Mountain and much steeper (up to 54° west) dips measured on a ridge 1.1 km (0.7 mi) east of the quadrangle boundary) are the result of drag folding on the Wildlife Safari fault. The Wildlife Safari fault is a major northeast-trending right-lateral strike-slip fault. The surface trace of the fault is 2.1 km (1.3 mi) east of the quadrangle boundary. As there is no reliable means of differentiating between the two members, all rocks previously mapped as the Olla Creek Member were included in the White Tail Ridge Member. This interpretation is identical to that of Molenar (1985). Harms (1987) mapped these rocks as a single unit (his Barret Ranch Member of the Umpqua Formation) and in his cross sections interpreted the variations in attitude as the result of drag folding on the Tennille fault, this name for what is now known as the Wildlife Safari fault.

The White Tail Ridge Member appears to be conformable with the overlying Camas Valley Member, though there is a local angular unconformity between the two members at Reston, about 1.6 km (1 mi) northeast of the study area (Black, 1980). This same local unconformity occurs in the study area along an unnamed northeast-trending ridge in the NW 1/4 sec. 21, T. 29 S., R. 8 W. The relationship between the White Tail Ridge Member and the Tennille Member of the Lookingglass Formation is discussed below.

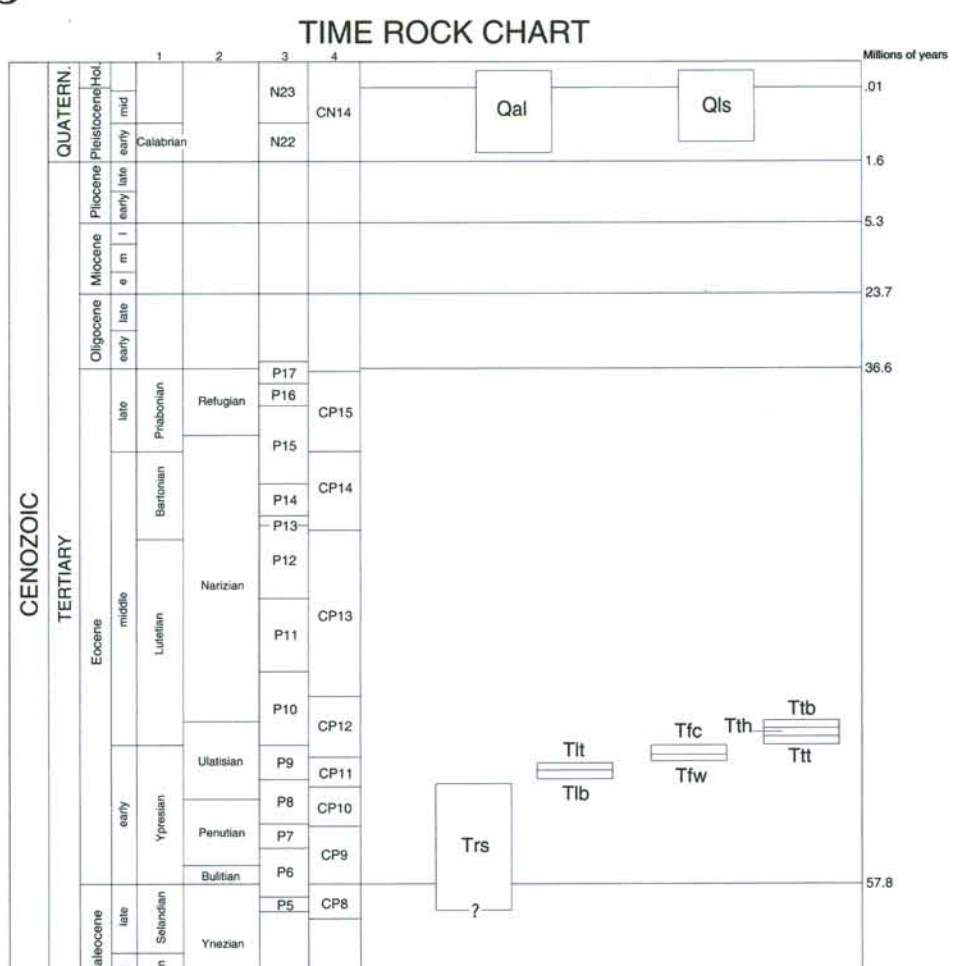
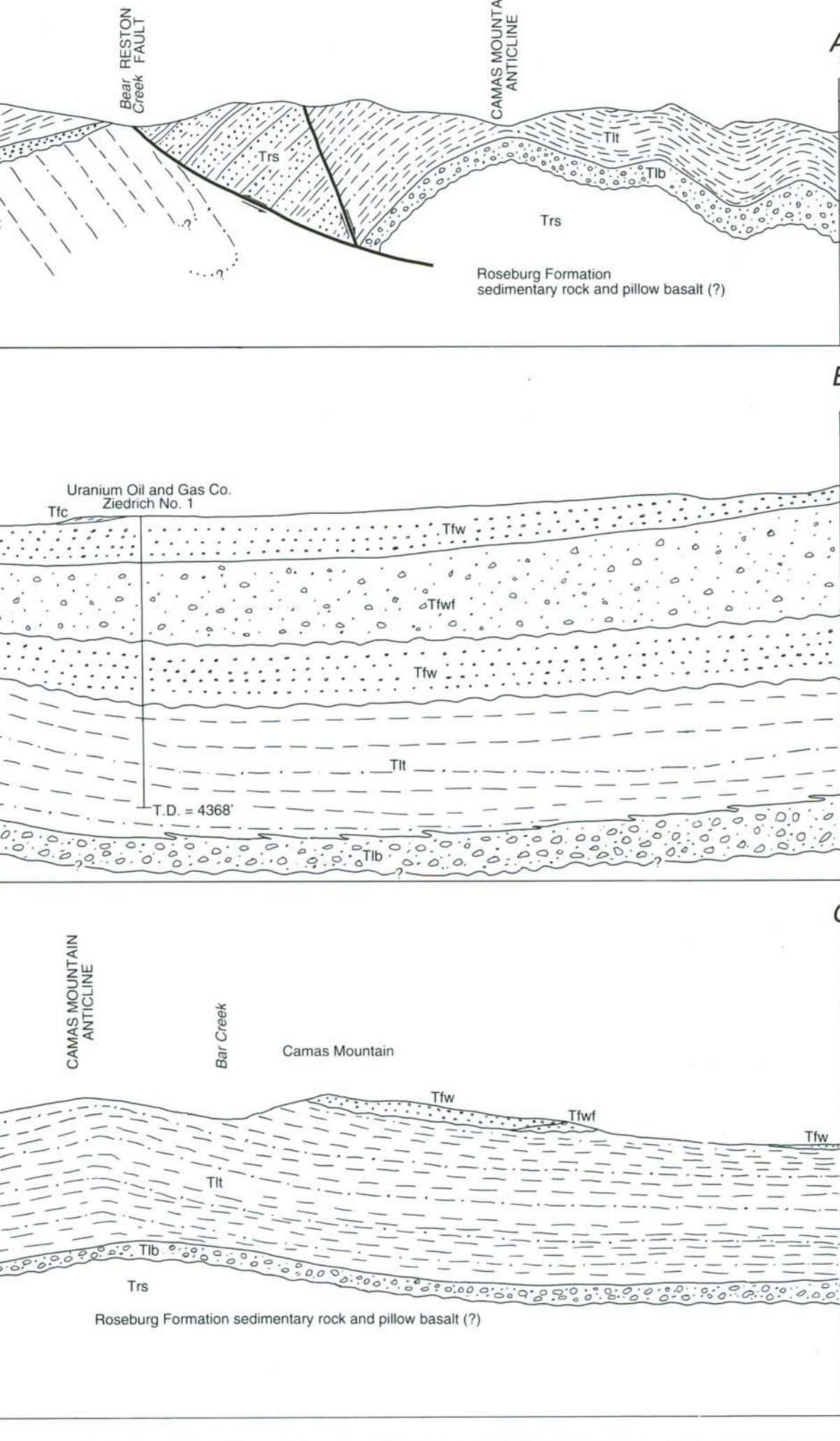
LITHOLOGIC SYMBOLS

(Used in cross sections)

- Conglomerate
- Massive amalgamated sandstone with discontinuous shale partings
- Cross-bedded sandstone
- Bedded sandstone
- Interbedded sandstone, siltstone, and shale (turbidite sequences)
- Siltstone
- Mudstone
- Unconformity
- Gradational contact

GEOLOGIC CROSS SECTIONS

Quaternary units not shown



EXPLANATION

Quaternary alluvium (Holocene and Pleistocene)—Unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, and gravel deposited in channels and on the flood plains of modern streams. Attitudes depicted in alluvium are from exposures of underlying bedrock units that are too small to be shown at the map scale.

Landslide deposits (Holocene and Pleistocene)—Clay, silt, sand, and gravel chaotically mixed with angular blocks of weathered bedrock.

ANGULAR UNCONFORMITY

Tyre Formation (middle Eocene; Utlaitian)

Baughman Member of Baldwin (1974) (middle Eocene; Utlaitian)—Sandstone interbedded with lesser amounts of siltstone and mudstone. Sandstone is bluish-gray, micaceous, lithic-arkose wacke that is medium to coarse grained, locally pebbly, moderately sorted, and well indurated. Mottled color due to oxidation is common. Porosity is low owing to the degree of induration and amount of clay and zeolite matrix cement (typically 20-40 percent). Amalgamated sandstone beds are very thick to massive and channelized to lens shaped. Typically parallel bedded with minor basal scour. Large-scale trough and planar cross-beds are common. Carbonized wood and plant debris is abundant along bedding planes. Sandstone units are cliff formers. Thin-bedded sequences consist of fine-grained sandstone, siltstone, and mudstone. Maximum thickness of the Baughman Member in the map area (top eroded) is approximately 800 m (2,600 ft). Total thickness of the member is approximately 700 m (2,300 ft) at the type section 17 km (10.6 mi) to the north. Interpreted as a sand-rich prograding deltaic system by Chan and Dott (1983, 1986), Heller and Dickinson (1985), and Molenar (1985).

LOCAL DISCONFORMITY

Hubbard Creek Member of Baldwin (1974) (middle Eocene; Utlaitian)—Dark to medium-gray mudstone interbedded with micaceous siltstone and lesser amounts of very fine-grained, thin-bedded micaceous sandstone. Beds range in thickness from 0.5 mm to 8.9 cm (0.02-3.5 in.). Horizontal lamination is the dominant sedimentary structure, but ripples and small-scale cross-lamination are common in sandstone and siltstone beds. Sandstone beds are composed of base-missing Bouma turbidite sequences (T_{ba}). Small pebbled molds and casts occur in the mudstone. The strata are generally thin-bedded and contain abundant siltstone and shale. The upper part of the strata are commonly thin-bedded and contain abundant siltstone and shale. The lower part of the strata are commonly thin-bedded and contain abundant siltstone and shale. The upper part of the strata are commonly thin-bedded and contain abundant siltstone and shale. The lower part of the strata are commonly thin-bedded and contain abundant siltstone and shale.

Tyre Mountain Member of Baldwin (1974) (middle Eocene; Utlaitian)—Light-gray to bluish-gray, brown-weathered, micaceous, lithic-arkose wacke in amalgamated sandstone beds up to 20 m (66 ft) thick. Sandstone is fine to medium grained, poorly sorted, and well indurated with ubiquitous coarse sand-sized flakes of biotite and muscovite. Porosity is low owing to the degree of induration and amount of clay matrix (typically 20-40 percent). Beds are locally graded. Flute, groove, and load casts are present, and mudstone rippled clasts are abundant in the upper parts of sandstone beds. Carbonized wood and plant debris is common. The Tyre Mountain Member is 365 m (1,200 ft) thick in the northern part of the map area at Bennett Rock, where it forms near-vertical cliffs. It thins rapidly to the south, and, where present in the southern part of the map area, it is less than 100 m (300 ft) thick. Locally, it may pinch out entirely. At the type section, 35 km (21.75 mi) to the north, the Tyre Mountain Member is 760 m (2,500 ft) thick (Baldwin and Pertus, 1989). In the map area, the contact with the underlying Camas Valley Member of the Flournoy Formation appears to be gradational. Baldwin (1974) and Baldwin and Pertus (1989) suggested that an unconformity separates the Tyre Mountain and Camas Valley Members, while Molenar (1985) interpreted the relationship as conformable. Unit T_{ba} consists of Mutti-Rici Lucchi Facies B. At the type section, the Tyre Mountain Member is interpreted by Chan and Dott (1983) as an inner sandy submarine-fan facies. They noted, however, that there appeared to be a line source for the deposits rather than a single large submarine canyon. Heller and Dickinson (1985) called this facies a submarine ramp turbidite complex.

Flournoy Formation (upper lower Eocene; Utlaitian)

Camas Valley Member of Baldwin (1974) (upper lower Eocene; Utlaitian)—Largely slope- and low hill-forming, unit T_{ba} consists of massive dark-gray to gray-green mudstone with minor siltstone and very fine-grained sandstone. Increasing amounts of thin-bedded, fine-grained, micaceous, arkose sandstone occur toward the top of the member. These sandstone beds represent the lower parts of incomplete (base-missing) Bouma sequences (i.e., T_{ba}, T_{ab}). Horizontal lamination is the dominant sedimentary structure. Mudstone is commonly massive, with a tendency to spherulitic weathering. Small calcareous concretions are abundant. Locally bioturbated and slump folded. Contains sparse molluscan fossils. Total thickness is approximately 500 m (1,650 ft). Unit T_{ba} is a lenticular body of interbedded pebbly sandstone, sandstone, and siltstone. Sandstone is nonmicaceous, medium-grained to granular lithic arkose wacke and arenite. Bed thicknesses range from a few centimeters to 1.5 m (4.9 ft). Parallel bedding dominates, but hummocky cross-stratification is relatively common. Coarser beds are burrowed. Siltstones have undergone extensive disruptive bioturbation. Carbonized plant debris is abundant. The transition to overlying mudstone is abrupt. The entire sequence is less than 30 m (100 ft) thick and thickens and coarsens upward.

The contact of the Camas Valley Member with the overlying Tyre Formation appears to be gradational, as explained in the section on the Tyre Mountain Member unit T_{ba}. The contact with the underlying White Tail Ridge Member of the Flournoy Formation appears conformable throughout most of the area, but there seems to be a local unconformity between the two members in the vicinity of the Reston fault (Black, 1980).

Most of the Camas Valley Member consists of Mutti-Rici Lucchi Facies G with minor Facies F. Unit T_{ba} was deposited in storm-dominated, relatively shallow water and is interpreted as transition to lower-shelf facies. The encasing mudstones are interpreted as outer-shelf to upper-slope deposits. The upper part of the member, where base-missing Bouma sequences are more common, is interpreted as an upper-slope facies.

MAP SYMBOLS

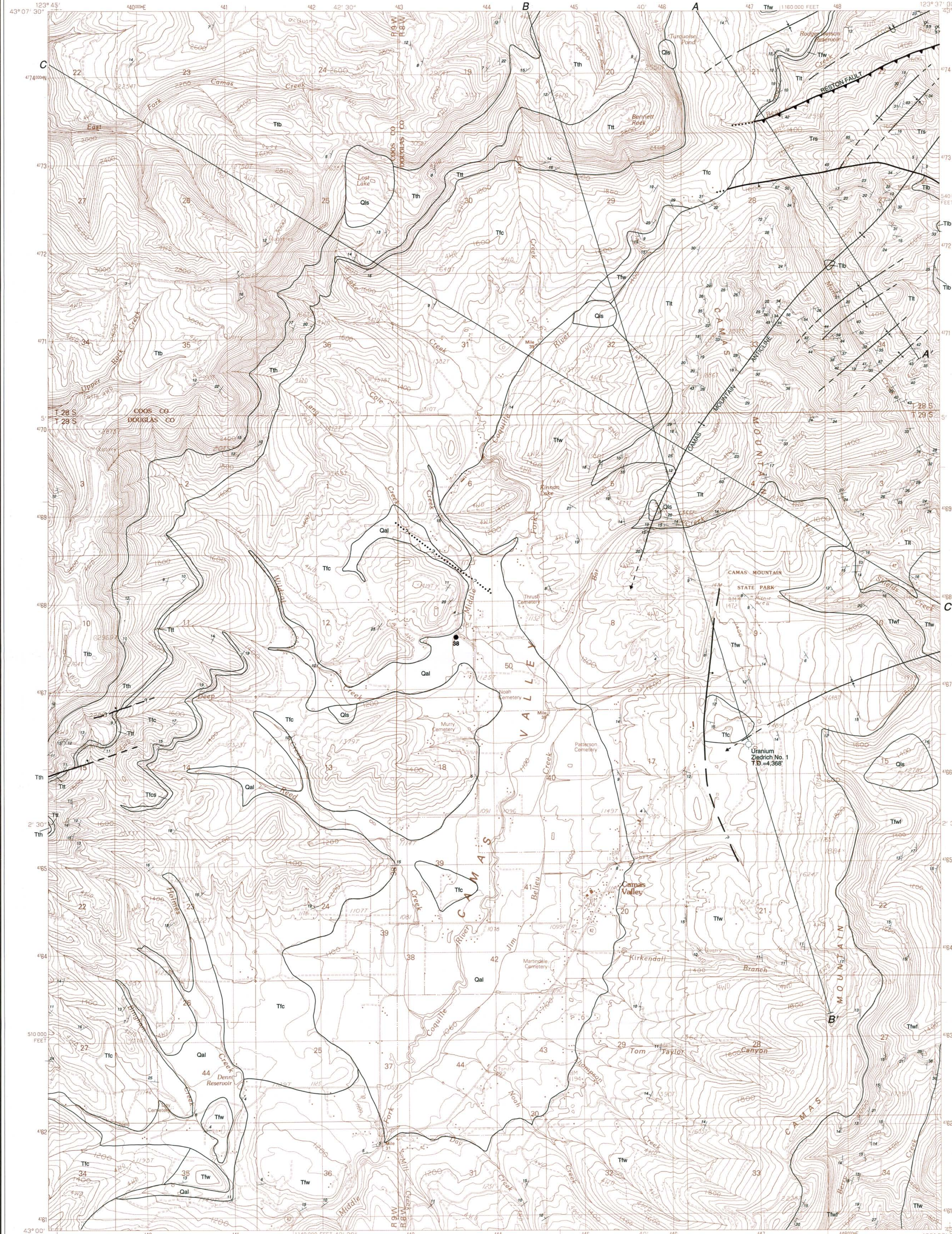
- Contact—Approximately located
- Strike and dip of bedding
- Strike and dip of overturned bedding
- Normal fault—arrow showing dip; bar and ball on downthrown side; dotted where approximate; dotted where concealed
- Thrust fault—teeth on upper plate; dashed where approximate; dotted where concealed
- Anticline axis—dashed where approximate; dotted where concealed
- Syncline axis—dashed where approximate; dotted where concealed
- Overturned syncline—dashed where approximate; dotted where concealed
- Dry hydrocarbon exploration hole—Total depth shown in feet
- Geochronological sample location—Number corresponds to that used in Niem and Niem (1990), Plate 2 and Table 1a
- Discussion of geology and hydrocarbon potential in accompanying text

Geology by Gerald L. Black and George R. Priest,
Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

Field work conducted July-November, 1990

Reviewed by E.M. Baldwin, University of Oregon; Peter Hales, Weyerhaeuser Corporation; Alan R. Niem and Wendy A. Niem, Oregon State University; and C.M. Molenar, U.S. Geological Survey

Cartography by Paul E. Staub



Base map by U.S. Geological Survey
COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IN 1984
FIELD CHECKED IN 1988
PROJECTION—LAMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC
GRID—100-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR
ZONE 10
MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION—1987 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM
VERTICAL DATUM—NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1985
HORIZONTAL DATUM—NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1985
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,
move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks
(21 meters north and 97 meters east).

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any
Federal and State Reservations shown on this map.
No distinction made between houses, barns, and other buildings.

SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET

SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.305

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.281

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

OREGON