

CANADIAN GEOSCIENCE MAP 444

BEDROCK GEOLOGY

RAMPARTS RIVER SOUTHEAST

Northwest Territories NTS 106-G/SE



Map Information Document

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2022





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1:100 000

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ABSTRACT

The southeast Ramparts River map area (NTS 106-G/SE) covers part of the northern Mackenzie Mountains and Peel Plateau, Northwest Territories. Bedrock exposures in

the area include carbonate and siliciclastic strata ranging from Neoproterozoic (Tonian) to Cretaceous age. These strata were deformed in Cretaceous to Eocene time by folding and contractional faulting associated with Cordilleran deformation. Major structures include the Deadend fault, Tawu anticline, Stony anticline, and Shattered Range anticline. A set of minor pre-Cordilleran extensional faults is preserved within Neoproterozoic strata of the Mackenzie Mountains Supergroup, and are locally associated with diabase or gabbro dykes assigned to the Gunbarrel magmatic event (~780 Ma). Truncation of Neoproterozoic units beneath the sub-Cambrian unconformity indicates tilting or folding of strata before Cambrian time. A second major unconformity between Devonian and Cretaceous strata is marked by low-angle truncation of Paleozoic strata beneath Cretaceous units.

RÉSUMÉ

La région cartographique de Ramparts River Sud-Est (SNRC 106-G/SE) couvre une partie du nord des monts Mackenzie et du plateau Peel, dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest. Les affleurements du substratum rocheux dans la région comprennent des strates carbonatées et des strates silicoclastiques s'échelonnant en âge du Néoprotérozoïque (Tonien) au Crétacé. Ces strates ont été déformées du Crétacé à l'Éocène par plissement et par le jeu de failles de compression associés à la déformation de la Cordillère. Les structures d'importance comprennent la faille de Deadend, l'anticlinal de Tawu, l'anticlinal de Stony et l'anticlinal de Shattered Range. Un ensemble mineur de failles d'extension antérieur à la déformation de la Cordillère a été conservé dans les strates néoprotérozoïques du Supergroupe de Mackenzie Mountains et est localement associé à des dykes de diabase ou de gabbro attribués à l'événement magmatique de Gunbarrel (~ 780 Ma). La troncature des unités néoprotérozoïques sous la discordance subcambrienne indique un basculement ou un plissement des strates avant le Cambrien. Une deuxième discordance majeure entre les strates du Dévonien et du Crétacé est signalée par la troncature suivant un angle peu prononcé des strates paléozoïques sous les unités du Crétacé.

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SHEET 1 OF 1, BEDROCK GEOLOGY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Authors: K.M. Fallas and R.B. MacNaughton

Geological compilation by K.M. Fallas and R.B. MacNaughton, 2016 to 2019

Geological data conforms to Bedrock Data Model v.4.0

Geological field observations by K.M. Fallas, R.B. MacNaughton, and G.S. Stockmal, Geological Survey of Canada, 2016; Y. Lemieux, Geological Survey of Canada, 2006 and 2007; T. Hadlari, Northwest Territories Geological Survey, 2006 and 2007; Rio Tinto geologists, 1975; J.D. Aitken, H.R. Balkwill, D.G. Cook, C.W. Thayer, and C.J. Yorath, Geological Survey of Canada, 1968 to 1970

Stratigraphic sections measured by E.C. Turner, Laurentian University, 2008; L.P. Gal, T. Hadlari, D. Thomson, and W. Zantvoort, Northwest Territories Geological Survey, 2006 and 2007; L.J. Pyle, contractor, 2006 and 2007; J.D. Aitken, D.G.F. Long, and A.W. Norris, Geological Survey of Canada, 1977 and 1978; C.W. Thayer, J.L. Usher, and C.J. Yorath, Geological Survey of Canada, 1968 and 1969; Chevron geologists, 1961

Reflection-seismic data interpreted by B.C. MacLean and K.M. Fallas, 2015 to 2019

Geomatics by K.M. Fallas and M. Le

Cartography by M. Le and K. Rentmeister

Scientific editing by L. Ewert

Initiative of the Geological Survey of Canada, conducted under the auspices of the Mackenzie Project as part of Natural Resources Canada's Geo-mapping for Energy and Minerals (GEM) program

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Map projection Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 9 North American Datum 1983

Base map at the scale of 1:50 000 from Natural Resources Canada, with modifications Elevations in metres above mean sea level

Mean magnetic declination 2022, 20°09'E, decreasing 17.2' annually Readings vary from 20°05'E in the SW corner to 20°12'E in the NE corner of the map.

This map is not to be used for navigational purposes.

Title photograph: View looking southeast at a mafic dyke of the Gunbarrel intrusions (dark brown) cutting through grey dolostone of the Neoproterozoic Tabasco Formation. Photograph by K.M. Fallas. NRCan photo 2019-678

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MAP VIEWING FILES

The published map is distributed as a Portable Document File (PDF), and may contain a subset of the overall geological data for legibility reasons at the publication scale.

DEFINITION QUERIES USED ON MAP

This map utilizes definition queries in order to customize the display for visualization on the PDF of the map only and does not affect the digital data. The following features have a definition query applied:

- Linear
- Fossils
- Planar
- Stations
- MeasuredSections
- Folds

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

Initial bedrock mapping and stratigraphic studies by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) in the Ramparts River map area (NTS 106-G) were conducted in 1968 to 1970 as part of Operation Norman. This operation and subsequent stratigraphic work up to 1977 led to the release of a GSC Memoir and 1:250 000 scale map of the area (Aitken et al., 1982). In the present compilation, observations collected from 2016 to 2018 as part of the Geo-mapping for Energy and Minerals (GEM) Program were combined with observations from Operation Norman, along with observations from the Peel Project of the Northwest Territories Geological Survey collected in 2006 to 2007 (Pyle and Gal, 2007; Pyle and Jones, 2009; Pierce and Jones, 2009). Petroleum exploration wells and reflection-seismic data drilled or collected since 1970 also helped constrain the map interpretation. Bedrock units are interpreted beneath local Quaternary cover to provide a seamless bedrock interpretation.

Formal stratigraphic nomenclature used for the Operation Norman maps in the area (Aitken et al., 1982) is largely still in use, although more recent stratigraphic work has added new formal terms for previously informal units found in southeast Ramparts River map area. An outline of updated stratigraphic relationships in the northern Mackenzie Mountains was provided by Fallas et al. (2016), and schematic relationships within southeast Ramparts River map area are illustrated in Figure 1. Within the Mackenzie Mountains Supergroup, the Katherine Group is subdivided into seven formations (Long and Turner, 2014), replacing the "lower" and "upper" subdivisions of Aitken et al. (1982). Although typically not well exposed, these seven formations have been mapped within this area as outlined by Fallas (2019). Two geochronological analyses on gabbro intrusions within Mackenzie Mountains Supergroup strata of southeast Ramparts River map area record dates of 770 ± 23 Ma and 778 ± 10 Ma (S.

Kamo and K. Fallas, unpublished data), confirming these are part of the Gunbarrel mafic magmatic event of Harlan et al. (2003).

Within the Cambrian succession, the Nainlin Formation of MacNaughton and Fallas (2014) is introduced in place of the "basal red beds" of the Franklin Mountain Formation, and is considered to be a lateral equivalent of the Saline River Formation found to the east. Nainlin Formation is a clastic-dominated unit beneath dolostone of the Franklin Mountain Formation, and lacks the evaporite deposits of the Saline River Formation. It lies unconformably on Neoproterozoic (Tonian) strata of the Katherine and Little Dal groups. Aside from the exclusion of the basal red beds, Franklin Mountain Formation follows the usage of Aitken et al. (1982), as does Mount Kindle Formation. The unnamed SD unit of Aitken et al. (1982) has more recently been identified as Tsetso Formation within the Mackenzie Mountains (Morrow, 1991) and Peel and Tatsieta formations along the mountain front (Pyle and Gal, 2007). Devonian units in the southeast Ramparts River map area follow the usage of Aitken et al. (1982).

Unconformably overlying the Devonian succession, the Cretaceous succession was treated as an undivided package of Arctic Red River and Trevor formations by Aitken et al. (1982), largely following the work of Yorath and Cook (1981). Subsequent work by Dixon (1999) and Thomson et al. (2011) provided a basis for subdividing the Cretaceous into four units: the Lower Cretaceous Martin House and Arctic Red formations, and Upper Cretaceous Slater River and Trevor formations. Subsurface data from petroleum exploration wells and reflection-seismic surveys helped constrain the distribution of these Cretaceous units.

The names of major structures identified by Aitken et al. (1982) for the southeast Ramparts River area have been retained as revisions to the structural interpretation of these features is minor. Subsurface data have aided with the delineation of previously known and newly identified structures along the mountain front and within Cretaceous strata of Peel Plateau. In particular the Beeline Fault, north of the Ovis anticline, was added on the basis of relationships identified in seismic-reflection data. The Upper Hume Fault is introduced as a transverse fault dissecting the west end of the Stony anticline and links two previously mapped fault segments of Aitken et al. (1982). The linkage is recognizable in high-resolution satellite imagery used during compilation. Some adjustments have been made to the distribution of normal faults in the core of Tawu anticline based on offsets of Katherine Group strata and sills, and the association with Gunbarrel suite dykes.

NOTE: The name Tawu anticline was introduced by Aitken et al. (1982) to indicate the broad culmination cored by Tabasco and Tsezotene formations without differentiating individual anticlinal hinges. As refined mapping has revealed that this structure comprises multiple en échelon anticlinal hinges along its full strike length, these are differentiated on this map as segments, each of which is named for a nearby geographic feature.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Additional Information folder of this product's digital download contains figures and tables that appear in the map surround as well as additional geological information not depicted on the map, nor this document, nor the geodatabase.

- -PDF of each figure/table that appears in the CGM surround.
- -Excel file of the Master Legend Table (legend symbols, descriptions, headings, etc.).

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COORDINATE SYSTEM

Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator

Units: metres Zone: 9

Horizontal Datum: NAD83 Vertical Datum: mean sea level

BOUNDING COORDINATES

Western longitude: 131°00'00"W Eastern longitude: 130°00'00"W Northern latitude: 65°30'00"N Southern latitude: 65°00'00"N

SOFTWARE VERSION

Data has been originally compiled and formatted for use with ArcGIS[™] desktop version 10.7.1 developed by ESRI[®].

DATA MODEL INFORMATION

Bedrock (Calgary)

Surface bedrock data are organized into feature classes and themes consistent with logical groupings of geological features. All field observation point data are related through the Station_ID property of the Station theme. These feature attribute names and definitions are identical in the shapefiles and the XML files.

Consult PDFs in Data folder for complete description of the feature classes, feature attributes, and attribute domains.

The Bedrock Data Model and the Bedrock Domains documents are intended to describe all bedrock features which may be compiled at the 1:50 000 scale. Therefore, some of the feature classes and feature attributes described in these documents may not be present.