

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

NEWS RELEASE: May 27, 2008

Three Open File Reports Released

Portland, Oregon: Three Geologic Maps of the Klamath Falls area are being released by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI):

Open-File Report O-08-01

PRELIMINARY GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE SPENCER CREEK 7.5' QUADRANGLE, KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON by Stanley A. Mertzman, Franklin and Marshall College.

The Spencer Creek quadrangle, Klamath County, Oregon, has as its centerpiece Spencer Creek, one of the few perennial streams in this segment of the southern Cascade Mountains. Also unusual is the north-south orientation of the Spencer Creek drainage basin, specifically the John C. Boyle Reservoir, which extends from Buck Lake in the north to the Klamath River in the south. This quadrangle occupies predominantly low terrain between Surveyor Mountain and Buck Mountain to the west and the Aspen Butte-Little Aspen Butte-Clover Butte ridge to the east.

Open-File Report O-08-03

PRELIMINARY GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE SURVEYOR MOUNTAIN 7.5' QUADRANGLE, KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON, by Stanley A. Mertzman, Matthew Reuer Benjamin Schiffer.

The Surveyor Mountain 7.5 minute quadrangle has as its focal point two large composite volcanoes, both Pliocene in age, that have been transected by a series of northwest-southeast trending normal faults. Buck Mountain and Surveyor Mountain were built over tens of thousands of years by eruptions of pyroclastic material, ash, cinders, and bombs, and extrusions of relatively fluid lava of a basaltic andesite composition. Anyone who has driven the Rim Road at Crater Lake National Park and has viewed Wizard Island or Llao Rock has viewed first-hand what the cross-section of a composite volcano looks like. This quadrangle occupies predominantly high terrain between the Johnson Prairie to the west and Spencer Creek to the east.

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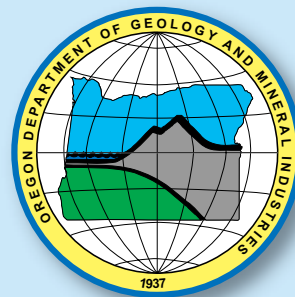
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Open-File Report O-08-04

PRELIMINARY GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE LITTLE CHINQUAPIN MOUNTAIN 7.5' QUADRANGLE, JACKSON AND KLAMATH COUNTIES, OREGON, by Stanley A. Mertzman, Stephen Crabtree, Amy Lunt, and Isaac Weaver.

The Little Chinquapin Mountain quadrangle (LCMQ) has as its focal point Johnson Prairie, a broad, relatively flat, sediment-filled basin that is cut diagonally from the northeast to the southwest by Johnson Creek. It is a savannah with some scattered trees but is mostly unfenced pastureland for range cattle and a sizable herd of elk in the summer months. To the southwest, Jenny Creek, formed by the confluence of Grizzly Creek and Soda Creek in the west-central part of the LCMQ, acts as a crude boundary between regions with different geomorphology. To the east and north of the Soda Creek–Jenny Creek stream valley, all the outcropping rocks are less than 5 million years old. To the west and south, the surficial rocks range in age from approximately 23 to 1 million years old.

These 3 maps are available on CD-ROM for \$10 each. Printed copies of the maps are \$15. They can be purchased from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (503) 872-2750 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items. For additional information, please contact the Nature of the Northwest Information Center. Additionally, these items as well as all department maps and publications can be purchased at DOGAMI Field Offices including 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496 and 1510 Campbell Street, Baker City, (541) 523-3133.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State, and has a broad responsibility in developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:
<http://www.OregonGeology.org>

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