

Geologic Map of the Capilla Peak 7.5 - minute Quadrangle

by
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1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL: 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1985

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This draft geologic map was produced from scans of hand-drafted originals from the authors. It is being distributed in this form because of the demand for current geologic mapping in this important area. The final release of this map will be made following peer review and redrafting in color using NMBGMR cartographic standards. The final product will be made available on the internet as a PDF file and in a GIS format.

Capilla Peak Quad Rock Units (5/23/00)

The following lithologies (oldest-to-youngest) are proposed:

- Xsr Sevilleta metarhyolite
- Xa Amphibolite
- Xps Pelitic schist
- Xla Lithic arenite
- Xwr White Ridge quartzite
- Xq Sais quartzite
- Xbs Blue Springs schist
- Xr Metarhyolite
- Xmc Metachert
- Xog Ojito granite
- Xml Monte Largo granite
- Ps Sandia Formation
- Pml Madera Group, lower cherty fossiliferous limestone unit
- Pmu Madera Group, upper arkosic unit

Xsr - Sevilleta Metarhyolite

Mainly felsic metaigneous rocks (metarhyolite) with abundant, but volumetrically minor, amphibole dikes and sills (a) and scattered quartzite and schist. Metarhyolites are generally red, pink or gray blocky-fracturing porphyritic aphanites with quartz and feldspar clasts typically about 1 mm across. In some rocks, quartz clasts macroscopically evidence east-side-up shearing. Texture ranges from thin, well-developed compositional banding to massive. Planar features, which may be flow bands or shear bands, are common and range considerably in thickness. Quartz veins, quartz lenses and pegmatite are present locally and generally parallel foliation.

Xa - Amphibolite

Mainly black to dark green, fine- to coarse-grained amphibolites with varying amounts of macroscopic white plagioclase which range in texture from salt-and-pepper to smeared-out shear banding. Coarse-grained metadiorites are present locally. Mafic units have apparent widths up to 150+ m and may thicken, thin, fork and pinch out along strike. Equivalent to the pCb "basic schist" unit of Myers and McKay (1972).

Xps - Pelitic Schist

Mainly schistose metasediments intruded by, or interlayered with, mafic metaigneous dikes and flows. The metasediments are mostly quartz-muscovite schists that are often strikingly colored in shiny reds, silvers and golds. Staurolite and amphibolite porphyroblasts are sometimes present in the schists. Protoliths were probably siltstones. Equivalent to the pCmf "mixed flow" unit of Myers and McKay (1972).

Xla - Lithic Arenite

This unit consists of a variety of metasedimentary rocks including metawacke, metaarkose and impure metaquartzite. For the most part, this unit consists of equal volumes of brown weathered arkosic phyllites and impure arkosic quartzite with light green to gray fresh surfaces. The phyllites and some quartzites are thinly bedded, more massive, quartzite facies are dominant locally. Schistosity is variably developed

throughout the unit. The phyllites show excellent cleavage and a silvery sericitic sheen on smooth cleavage surfaces. Chloritoid and andalusite porphyroblasts are common on phyllitic cleavage surfaces in the northwest corner of the quadrangle, probably due to its proximity to the Ojito pluton to the north. Compositional layering (So) is commonly preserved and is generally at low angle to the dominant schistosity (S1). Includes the Bozque and Moyas metasedimentary units of Edwards (1978), the lower metaclastic series of Reiche (1949) and the foggy schist zone of Myers and McKay (1972).

Xwr - White Ridge Quartzite

Mainly brownish-white, massive to well-bedded quartzite. Gray, pink, red and purple facies occur locally. Bedding planes commonly show sericitic reflecting surfaces. Grain sizes range from very fine to coarse sand; larger grains often evidence shearing. Thinner beds of sericitic-quartz schist are found within the quartzite; quartz dikes (q) intrude it; and an arkosic, conglomeratic facies containing mm-sized blue quartz and plagioclase crystals lies along the west margin of the unit. The unit grades into lithic arenite on both its east and west margins.

Xq - Sais Quartzite

Mainly bluish-gray to milky-white, massive to bedded to highly mylonitic quartzite. Greenish-gray, pink, lavender and purple facies occur locally. In hand sample, it generally appears to be a purer quartzite than that found in the Xla and Xwr units. Cross bedding is locally preserved. Correlates with the Cerro Polon and Coyote quartzites of Carvin (1985) and the Sais and pCmq quartzite units of Myers and McKay (1972).

Xbs - Blue Springs Schist

Mainly muscovite-chlorite schists and phyllites ranging in color from bluish-green to reddish-gray. They range in composition from sericitic schist to chlorite-quartz schist. Compositional layering (So) has been transposed into S1 that is sometimes preserved within, and is occasionally at high angle to, an S2 crenulation cleavage, the dominant foliation. Outcrops of schist are characterized by numerous lenticular and fish-hook shaped quartz veins, lenses, and pods that are oriented subparallel to S2, range from mm to cm in width and tens of cm in length, and make up as much as 50% of the rock. Quartzose pegmatites containing pink feldspar are common locally. Relatively small, isolated outcrops of brown quartzite and laminated metachert are found throughout the unit. The protolith may have been an iron-rich impure shale which accumulated in a fairly deep-water, low-energy basin and was thereafter intruded by silica-rich fluids and indurated in an accretionary wedge environment.

Xmc - Metachert

Dominantly a distinctive fine-grained, siliceous, well-laminated micaceous quartzite that is often colorfully striped (pink, green, gray) and complexly folded. Laminae range from 1 mm to 10 cm thick and probably represent S0 or S1 layering. Folds (F2) are generally small, open to tight, and distasteful. The protolith may have been an impure chert.

Xr - Metarhyolite

Pink, blocky-fracturing, aphanitic metarhyolite. Quartz veins and lenses are present locally. Textures range from massive to crudely laminated. Macroscopic quartz and

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Xa - Amphibolite

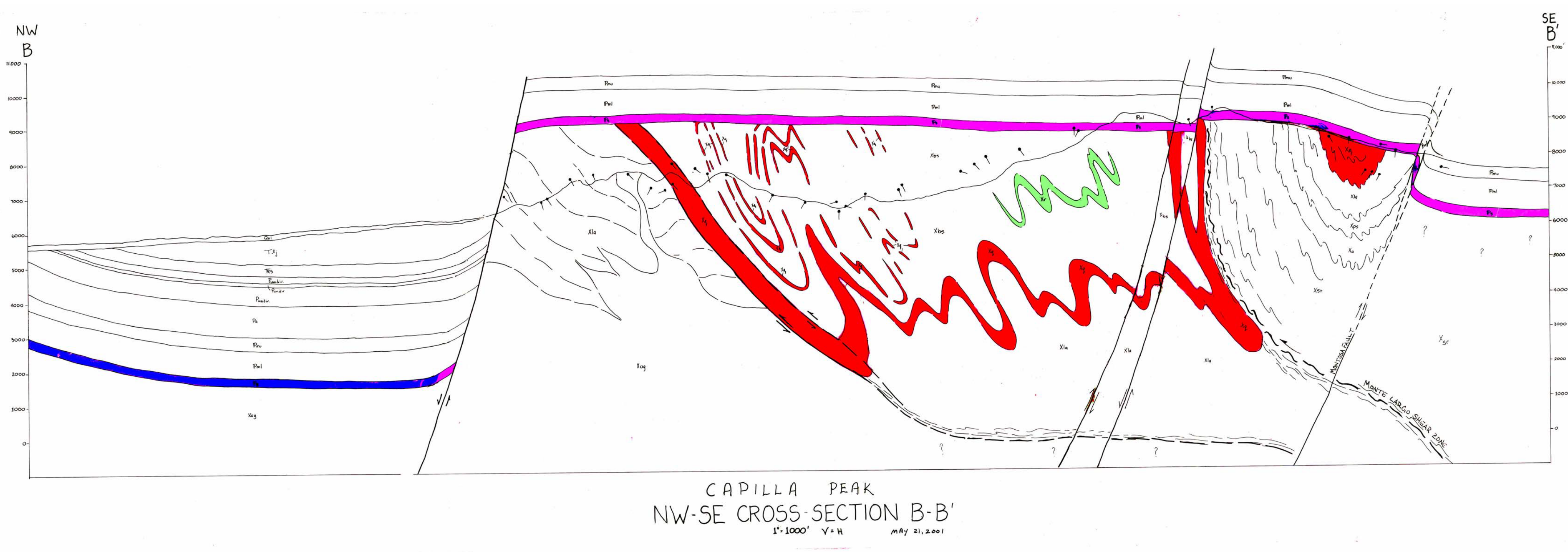
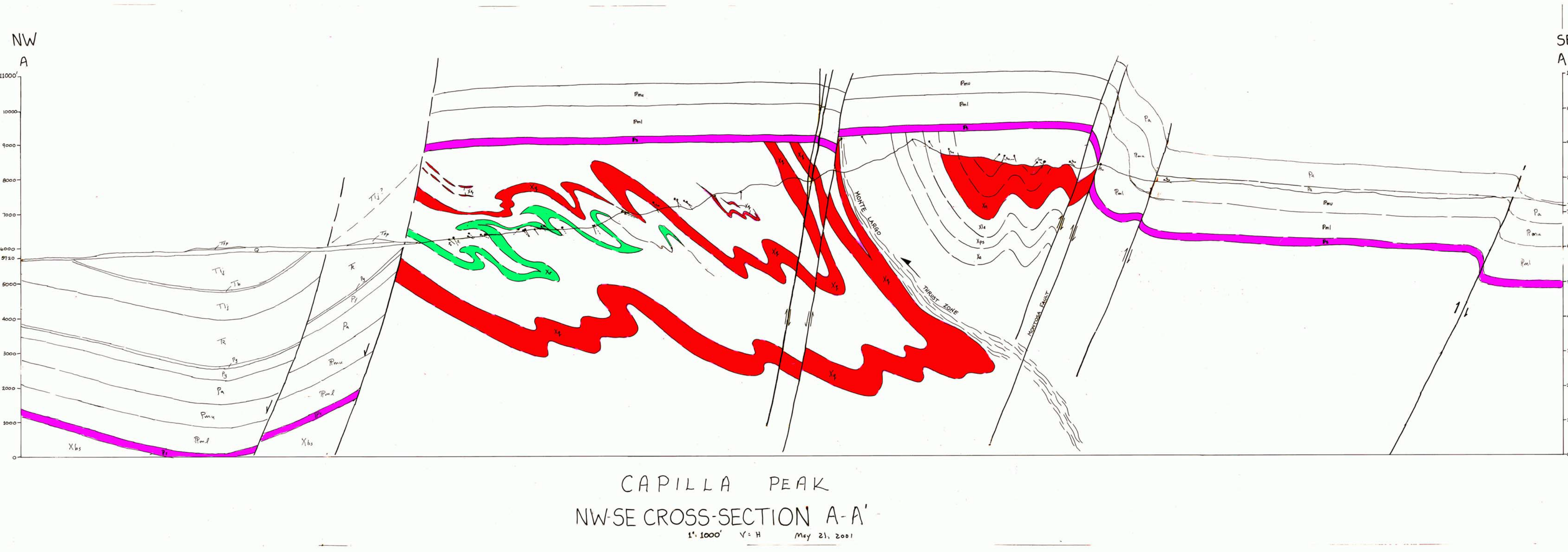
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COMMENTS TO MAP USERS: orientation, and age relationships of rock and deposits and the occurrence of structural features. Geologic and fault contacts are irregular surfaces that form boundaries between different types or ages of units. Data depicted on this geologic quadrangle map may be based on any of the following: reconnaissance field geologic mapping, compilation of published and unpublished work, and photogeologic interpretation. Locations of contacts are not surveyed, but are plotted by interpretation of the position of a given contact onto a topographic base map; therefore, the accuracy of contact locations depends on the scale of mapping and the interpretation of the geologist(s). Any enlargement of this map could cause misunderstanding in the detail of mapping and may result in erroneous interpretations. Site-specific conditions should be verified by detailed surface mapping or subsurface exploration. Topographic and cultural changes associated with recent development may not be shown.

Cross sections are constructed based upon the interpretations of the author made from geologic mapping, and available geophysical, and subsurface (drifted) data. Cross-sections should be used as an aid to understanding the general geologic framework of the map area, and not be the sole source of information for use in locating or designing wells, buildings, roads, or other man-made structures.

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