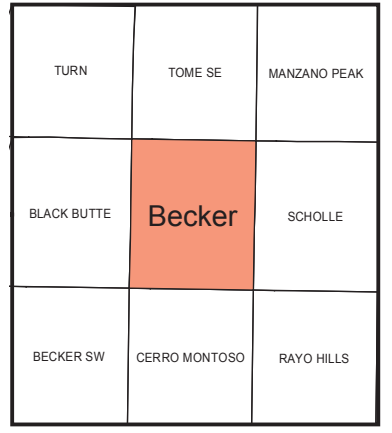
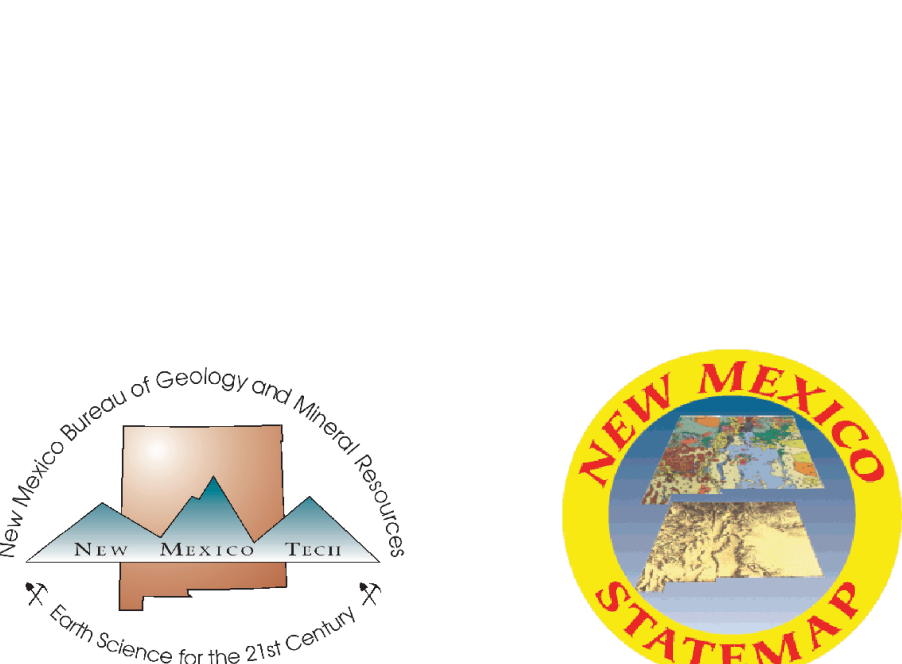


Geologic map of the Becker 7.5- minute quadrangle, Valencia and Socorro Counties, New Mexico



QUADRANGLE LOCATION



New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources Open-file Geologic Map 100

Mapping of this quadrangle was funded by a matching-funds grant from the STATEMAP program of the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Act, administered by the U. S. Geological Survey, and by the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Dr. Philip A. Scharle, Director and State Geologist, Dr. J. Michael Timmons, Geologic Mapping Program Manager.

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This and other STATEMAP quadrangles are (or soon will be) available for free download in both PDF and ArcGIS formats at:

<http://geoinfo.nmt.edu>

¹ Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, 87131
New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, Socorro, NM, 87801

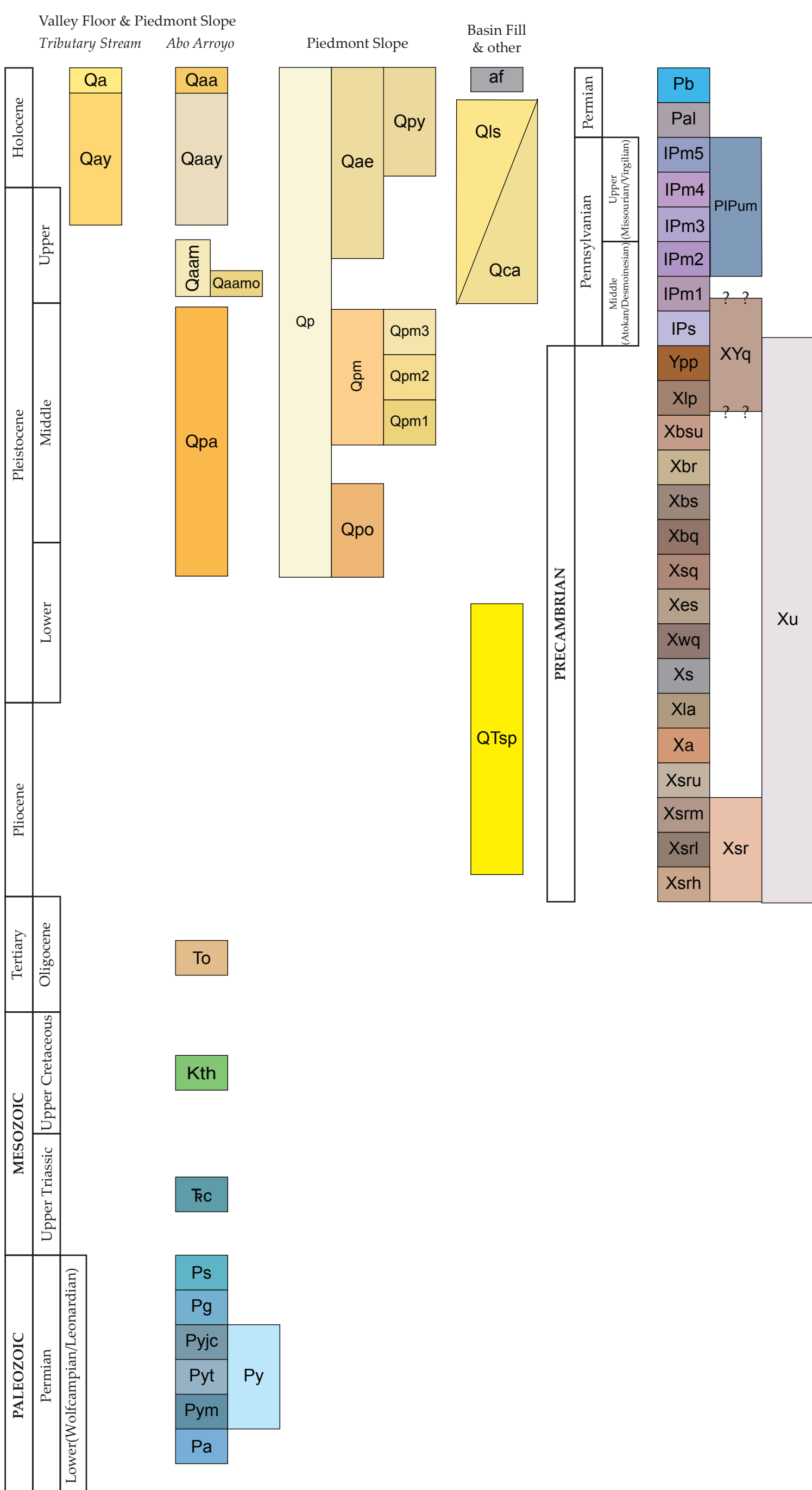
COMMENTS TO MAP USERS

A geologic map displays information on the distribution, nature, 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map may be based on any of the following: reconnaissance field geologic mapping, compilation of published and unpublished work, and photogeologic interpretation.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 not surveyed, but are plotted by interpretation of the position of a given contact on a topographic base map; therefore, the accuracy of contact locations depends on the scale of mapping and the interpretation of the geologists). 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.

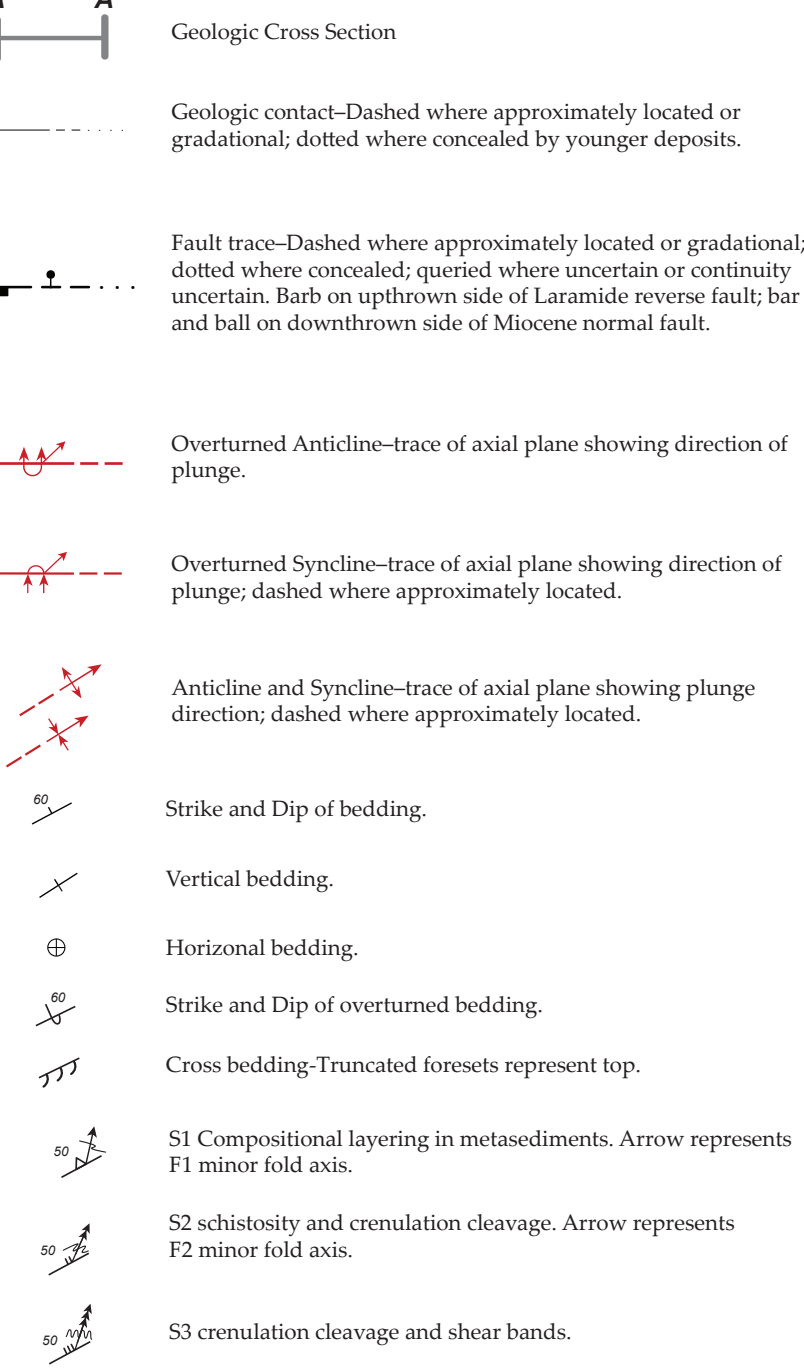
Cross sections are constructed based upon the interpretations of the author made from geologic mapping, and available geophysical, and subsurface (drillhole) data. Cross-sections should be used as an aid to understanding the general geologic framework of the map area, and not be the sole source of information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

The map has not been reviewed according to New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources standards. The contents of the report and map should not be considered final and complete until reviewed and published by the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. 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 State of New Mexico, or the U.S. Government.

Correlation Chart of Map Units



Explanation of Map Symbols



Quaternary

Alluvium of Abo Arroyo

Abo Arroyo alluvium, active (upper Holocene to historical)—Brown to reddish-brown (5-7.5YR 5/4), moderately-sorted, clast-supported, pebbles to cobble-gravel. Contains cobbles and boulder bars that are approximately 20 m wide and 40-50 m long. Deposit contains scattered boulders up to about 1 m maximum diameter. Gravel is predominantly subrounded quartzite and limestone with subordinate reddish-brown sandstone and minor schist. Underlies active drainage of Abo Arroyo. No soil development, but deposit contains disseminated calcareous carbonate. Base not observed.

Abo Arroyo alluvium, younger terrace deposit (Holocene to latest Pleistocene?)—Reddish-brown (5YR 5/4-6/4), medium-bedded, fine- to medium-grained silty sand and clay with scattered lenses of pebble gravel. Lower part of unit is slightly better cemented and locally forms weak buried soil with Stage I carbonate morphology. Unit forms broad, low-lying terrace about 2 to 3 m above local base level. Very weakly developed soil with weak filamentous Stage I pedogenic carbonate morphology. Deposit base is locally exposed at mouth of Abo Canyon, where it is up to 3 m in thickness.

Abo Arroyo alluvium, intermediate terrace deposit (late Pleistocene)—Light-brown (7.5YR 6/4), pebble gravel and pebbly sand. Sand is poorly-sorted, fine- to very coarse-grained sand. Unit forms discontinuous, intermediate terrace about 10 m above the floor of Abo Arroyo. Weakly developed soil exhibit Stage I and II pedogenic carbonate morphology. Unit is locally subdivided into a slightly older deposit based on inset relationships. Base not exposed, but deposit is at least 1 m thick.

Abo Arroyo alluvium, older subunit of intermediate terrace deposit (middle Pleistocene)—Pink to pinkish-white and reddish-brown (7.5YR 7/4-8/2 & 7.5YR 5/4), pebble and cobble gravel. Unit forms highest terrace in Abo Arroyo and is recognized as low-lying gravels that sit about 2 m above the top of the intermediate terrace deposit (Qaam). Soils are well developed and exhibit at least Stage III pedogenic carbonate morphology. Gravel commonly contains remnants of 1-3 mm thick carbonate coatings.

Abo Arroyo alluvium, oldest piedmont-slope alluvium (middle or lower ? Pleistocene)—Low relief, fan-shaped deposit discontinuously exposed along northern and southern margins of the Abo Arroyo valley. Reddish-brown to light-brown (5YR 4/4 to 7.5YR 6/4) pebble to cobble gravel (< 25 cm diam.) containing subrounded to subangular orthoquartzite, reddish-brown sandstone, schist, and sparse granite, rounded (but deeply pitted) limestone, and yellowish-brown quartzose sandstone. Gravels commonly coated with 1-4 mm thick carbonaceous arids, suggesting the presence of at least Stage III-pedogenic carbonate morphology. Deposit surface is about 15 m above the floor of Abo Arroyo and mantled by thin (< 50 cm) veneer of brown (7.5YR 5/4) fine- to medium-grained silty to clayey sand with scattered gravels. Unit is inset by terrace deposits of Abo Arroyo and tributary stream deposits derived from the southern Manzana and northern Los Pinos Mountains. Base exposed along flanks of Abo Arroyo at western margin of map area, where it is 4.5 m thick.

Piedmont alluvium, undivided (Holocene to Pleistocene)—Undivided piedmont alluvium. Surface contains weakly developed soils with Stage I carbonate morphology and bury older deposits. Commonly recognized as low rounded hills. North of Abo Arroyo, deposits contain variable proportions of quartzite and granite with minor schist. To the south, they contain quartzite and metamorphic clasts. Base not exposed.

Piedmont alluvium, younger deposits (upper Pleistocene to Holocene)—Light-brown to brown (7.5YR 5/4-6/4), weakly consolidated, poorly sorted, pebbly to cobbly sand and gravel. Deposits commonly contain matrix-supported gravely sand with clast-supported gravel lenses. Beds are commonly 30-50 cm in thickness and form a stack of sand and gravel that commonly have scoured basal contacts and buried, weakly developed soils exhibiting Stage I pedogenic carbonate morphology. Deposits are at least 2 m thick and typically overlie older, pale colored, alluvium containing, not developed calcic soils. Forms slightly to moderately dissected surfaces. Deposits are inset against intermediate piedmont alluvium of unit Qpm. Deposits are commonly overlain by a thin, discontinuous veneer of brown colluvial sand.

Piedmont alluvium, intermediate deposits (middle Pleistocene)—Pink (7.5YR 7/4), poorly sorted, moderately consolidated pebble to cobble conglomerate and pebbly sand. Unit forms broad alluvial fans that are inset against older piedmont deposits of units Qpm1 and Qpm2. Soils exhibit moderately to weakly developed Stage II to III carbonate morphology. Deposit is at least 1.5 m thick.

Piedmont alluvium, intermediate subunit (middle Pleistocene)—Strong-brown to very pale-brown (7.5YR 5/6, 10YR 8/2), poorly sorted cobble to boulder gravel. Soils exhibit moderately developed Stage II to III carbonate morphology and deposits commonly overlie older, pale-colored alluvial deposits. Deposit is at least 2-3 m thick towards the Los Pinos Mountains.

Piedmont alluvium, older subunit (middle Pleistocene)—White to pinkish-white (10YR 8/1-7.5YR 8/2), poorly-sorted cobble gravel. Soils are well developed and exhibit Stage III carbonate morphology. Schist and granite clasts are commonly weathered and split. Schist clasts are commonly tabular. Bar-and-socket topography is subparallel to the present. Gravels are commonly 5-10 cm in diameter and range up to about 50 cm in diameter. Base not exposed, but exposures near the Los Pinos Mountains indicate deposit thickness is greater than 1 m.

Piedmont alluvium, older (lower ? to middle Pleistocene)—Poorly-sorted, poorly-to moderately-consolidated and calcareous carbonate-cemented sand. Contains strongly developed soils with Stage III carbonate morphology and deposit surface is 15-20 m above Abo Arroyo. Deposit surfaces are highly dissected and are locally preserved in the Blue Springs and Abo Arroyo drainages. Unit may be correlative to uppermost Sierra Ladrones Fm. Deposits are at least 3 m thick.

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Abo Formation, lower unit (Lower Permian or Leonardian and Wolfcampian)—Base of unit at top of uppermost laterally extensive marine limestone of the Bursum Fm. Basal contact is poorly exposed and disconformably overlies Bursum Formation. Unit is coarser grained and darker in color than the upper portion of the overlying Abo Formation, weathers dark purple to dark reddish brown and is coated by abundant desert varnish. Contains poorly sorted medium- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded, thick-bedded sandstone (arkosic wacke to wacke) to granule conglomerates. May contain calcitic cement. Sandstone beds are more laterally continuous than beds of underlying Bursum Formation. Basal sandstone may contain 10 m limestone clasts. Rare thin lenses of thin (< 20 cm thick) nodular bedded, poorly exposed, unfossiliferous (non-marine) limestone beds at base. Unit is thin (< 50 feet) and only present in the southeastern portion of the quadrangle, but is thicker and more pervasive in the Scholle quadrangle. Unit is not regionally extensive and is not present in the Luero uplift region (Lucas and Ziegler, 2004), about 10 km to the west.

Bursum Formation of the Madera Group (Lower Permian)—Base of unit defined at uppermost well-exposed bed of cherty limestone from Pm5, which is typically overlain by < 5 m of cover followed by 1-2 m thick coarse-grained reddish arkosic sandstone with irregular bottom contact. In northern quarter of quadrangle, basal sandstone thin and is eventually replaced by gray-white crinoid packstone. Limestone beds overlying this basal sandstone (skeletal wackestone-limney mudstone) are thin (< 2m) and contain fusulinids, Trilobites, crinoids, Thompson and Leprotrochites sp. (Myers, 1977), finely abraded or large, intact gastropods, ramose bryozoa, crinoids, and trilobites, and rare small chert nodules (< 2 cm). Middle portion of unit composed of interbedded fine- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded sandstone (clitic to arkosic wacke and arkose) that may contain calcitic cement, occasional granite-pebble conglomerate, red mud-shale, and micaceous siltstone. Thickness of sandstone beds varies laterally. Top of unit composed of well- to poorly-sorted < 16 feet (5 m) thick light gray, thin bedded, nodular, fossiliferous limestone (skeletal wackestone) that contains small (1 mm thick) strings of red sandstone, bryozoa, crinoids, fenestrate, and fusulinids (Sowergia pinnospora) Thompson sp. (Myers, 1977). Sandstone weathers reddish-brown to purplish-brown; limestone weathers olive-gray shale and siltstone weather red. About 130-250 feet (46-76 m) thick.

Abo Formation, lower unit (Lower Permian or Leonardian and Wolfcampian)—Base of unit at top of uppermost laterally extensive marine limestone of the Bursum Fm. Basal contact is poorly exposed and disconformably overlies Bursum Formation. Unit is coarser grained and darker in color than the upper portion of the overlying Abo Formation, weathers dark purple to dark reddish brown and is coated by abundant desert varnish. Contains poorly sorted medium- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded, thick-bedded sandstone (arkosic wacke to wacke) to granule conglomerates. May contain calcitic cement. Sandstone beds are more laterally continuous than beds of underlying Bursum Formation. Basal sandstone may contain 10 m limestone clasts. Rare thin lenses of thin (< 20 cm thick) nodular bedded, poorly exposed, unfossiliferous (non-marine) limestone beds at base. Unit is thin (< 50 feet) and only present in the southeastern portion of the quadrangle, but is thicker and more pervasive in the Scholle quadrangle. Unit is not regionally extensive and is not present in the Luero uplift region (Lucas and Ziegler, 2004), about 10 km to the west.

Bursum Formation of the Madera Group (Lower Permian)—Base of unit defined at uppermost well-exposed bed of cherty limestone from Pm5, which is typically overlain by < 5 m of cover followed by 1-2 m thick coarse-grained reddish arkosic sandstone with irregular bottom contact. In northern quarter of quadrangle, basal sandstone thin and is eventually replaced by gray-white crinoid packstone. Limestone beds overlying this basal sandstone (skeletal wackestone-limney mudstone) are thin (< 2m) and contain fusulinids, Trilobites, crinoids, Thompson and Leprotrochites sp. (Myers, 1977), finely abraded or large, intact gastropods, ramose bryozoa, crinoids, and trilobites, and rare small chert nodules (< 2 cm). Middle portion of unit composed of interbedded fine- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded sandstone (clitic to arkosic wacke and arkose) that may contain calcitic cement, occasional granite-pebble conglomerate, red mud-shale, and micaceous siltstone. Thickness of sandstone beds varies laterally. Top of unit composed of well- to poorly-sorted < 16 feet (5 m) thick light gray, thin bedded, nodular, fossiliferous limestone (skeletal wackestone) that contains small (1 mm thick) strings of red sandstone, bryozoa, crinoids, fenestrate, and fusulinids (Sowergia pinnospora) Thompson sp. (Myers, 1977). Sandstone weathers reddish-brown to purplish-brown; limestone weathers olive-gray shale and siltstone weather red. About 130-250 feet (46-76 m) thick.

Abo Formation, lower unit (Lower Permian or Leonardian and Wolfcampian)—Base of unit at top of uppermost laterally extensive marine limestone of the Bursum Fm. Basal contact is poorly exposed and disconformably overlies Bursum Formation. Unit is coarser grained and darker in color than the upper portion of the overlying Abo Formation, weathers dark purple to dark reddish brown and is coated by abundant desert varnish. Contains poorly sorted medium- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded, thick-bedded sandstone (arkosic wacke to wacke) to granule conglomerates. May contain calcitic cement. Sandstone beds are more laterally continuous than beds of underlying Bursum Formation. Basal sandstone may contain 10 m limestone clasts. Rare thin lenses of thin (< 20 cm thick) nodular bedded, poorly exposed, unfossiliferous (non-marine) limestone beds at base. Unit is thin (< 50 feet) and only present in the southeastern portion of the quadrangle, but is thicker and more pervasive in the Scholle quadrangle. Unit is not regionally extensive and is not present in the Luero uplift region (Lucas and Ziegler, 2004), about 10 km to the west.

Bursum Formation of the Madera Group (Lower Permian)—Base of unit defined at uppermost well-exposed bed of cherty limestone from Pm5, which is typically overlain by < 5 m of cover followed by 1-2 m thick coarse-grained reddish arkosic sandstone with irregular bottom contact. In northern quarter of quadrangle, basal sandstone thin and is eventually replaced by gray-white crinoid packstone. Limestone beds overlying this basal sandstone (skeletal wackestone-limney mudstone) are thin (< 2m) and contain fusulinids, Trilobites, crinoids, Thompson and Leprotrochites sp. (Myers, 1977), finely abraded or large, intact gastropods, ramose bryozoa, crinoids, and trilobites, and rare small chert nodules (< 2 cm). Middle portion of unit composed of interbedded fine- to coarse-grained, cross-bedded sandstone (clitic to arkosic wacke and arkose) that may contain calcitic cement, occasional granite-pebble conglomerate, red mud-shale, and micaceous siltstone. Thickness of sandstone beds varies laterally. Top of unit composed of well- to poorly-sorted < 16 feet (5 m) thick light gray, thin bedded, nodular, fossiliferous limestone (skeletal wackestone) that contains small (1