

KLASTLINE RIVER (104G/16E), EALUE LAKE (104H/13W),
CAKE HILL (104I/4W) AND STIKINE CANYON (104J/1E)

O.F. 1080
Geological Survey of Canada

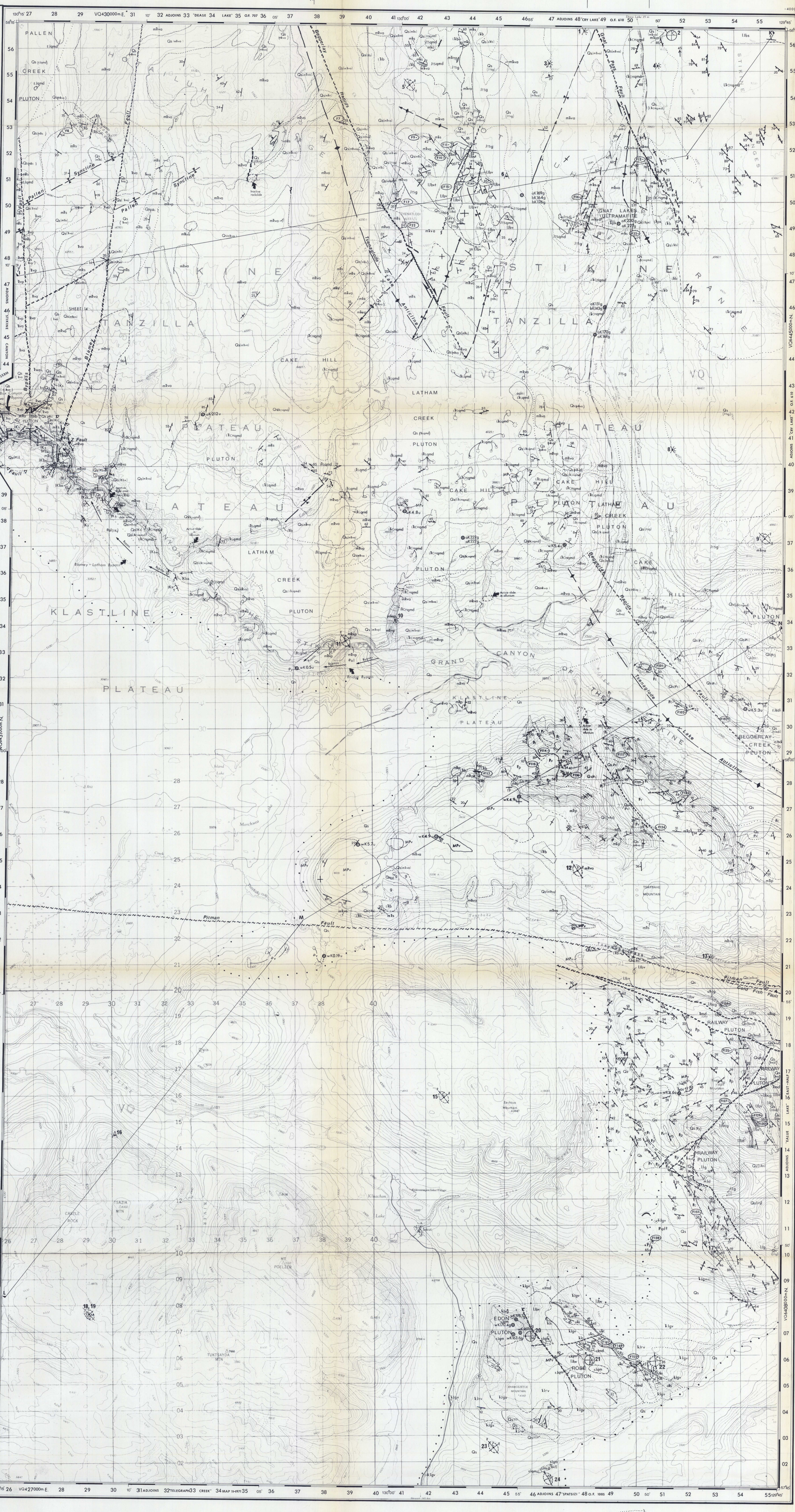
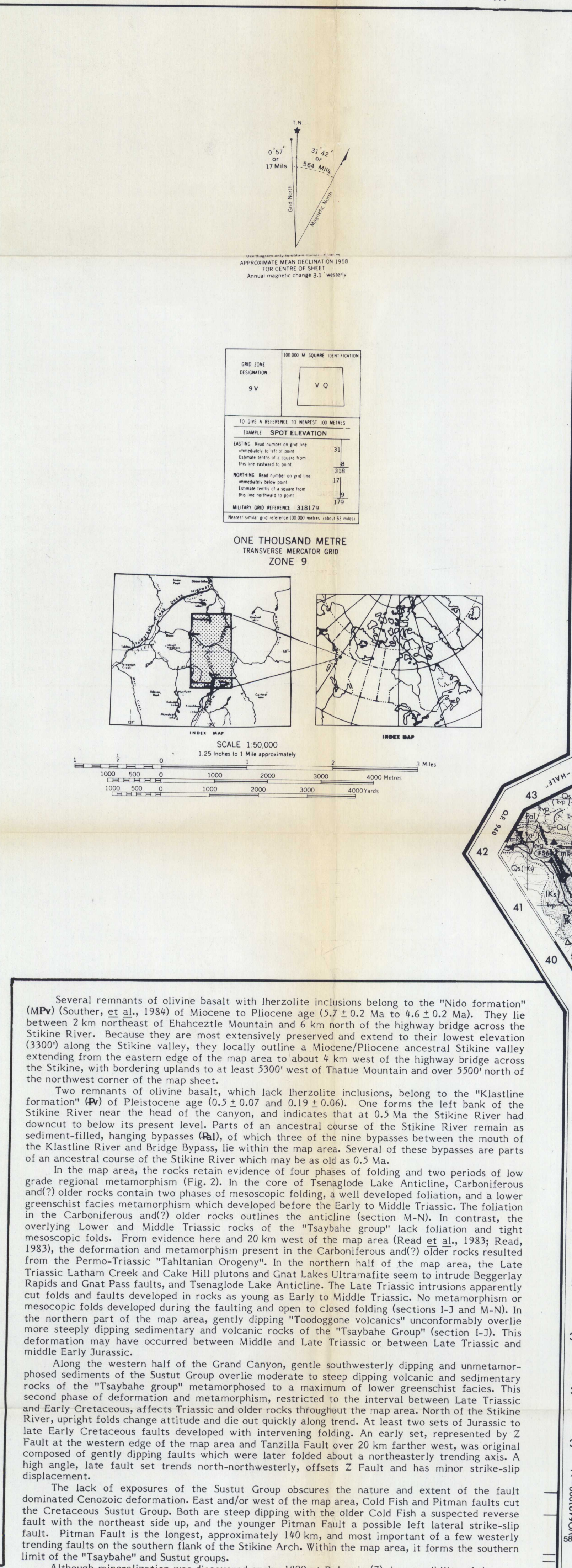
BRITISH COLUMBIA

GEOLOGY

Geological Survey of Canada
COMMISSION GÉOLOGIQUE DU CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND TECHNICAL SURVEYS
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TECHNIQUES

CHRONOLOGICAL STRATIGRAPHY

Unit	Age	Approx. Thickness (m)	Approx. Lithology
1	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
2	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
3	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
4	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
5	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
6	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
7	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
8	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
9	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
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94	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
95	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
96	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
97	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
98	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
99	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium
100	Recent	0-10	Recent alluvium



Several remnants of olivine basalt with peridotite inclusions belong to the "Nido formation" (MVP) (Souther et al., 1988) of Miocene to Pliocene age (5.2 to 0.2 Ma and 0.2 to 0.1 Ma). They lie between 2 km northeast of Ealue Lake and 6 km north of the highway bridge across the Stikine River. Because they are most extensively preserved and extend to their lowest elevation (3300 m) along the Stikine valley, they locally outline a Miocene/Pliocene ancestral Stikine valley extending from the eastern edge of the map area to about 3 km west of the highway bridge across the Stikine, with bounding uplands to at least 3300 m west of Thane Mountain and over 2000 north of the northwest corner of the map sheet.

Two remnants of olivine basalt, which lack peridotite inclusions, belong to the "Klastline formation" (KV) of Pleistocene age (0.2 to 0.07 and 0.19 to 0.06). One forms the left bank of the Stikine River near the head of the canyon, and indicates that at 0.2 Ma the Stikine River had downcut to its present level. Parts of an ancestral course of the Stikine River remain as sediment-filled hanging bypasses (BA), of which three of the nine bypasses between the mouth of the Klastline River and Bridge Bypass, lie within the map area. Several of these bypasses are part of an ancestral course of the Stikine River which may be as old as 0.5 Ma.

In the map area, the rocks retain evidence of four phases of folding and two periods of low grade regional metamorphism (Fig. 2). In the core of Tenagode Lake Anticline, Carboniferous and(?) older rocks contain two phases of mesozoic folding, a well developed foliation, and a lower greenschist facies metamorphism which developed between the Early to Middle Triassic. The foliation in the Carboniferous and(?) older rocks outlines the anticline (section M-N). In contrast, the mesozoic folds, from evidence here and 20 km west of the map area (Read et al., 1983; Read from the Perno-Triassic "Tahabian Orogeny"), in the northern half of the map area are apparently cut folds and faults developed during the faulting and open to closed folding (sections L2 and M-1) in the northern part of the map area, gently dipping "Tadogone volcanics" unconformably overlie more steeply dipping sedimentary and volcanic rocks of the "Tahabian Group" (section L3). This deformation may have occurred between Middle and Late Triassic or between Late Triassic and middle Early Jurassic.

Along the western half of the Grand Canyon, gentle southwesterly dipping and unmetamorphosed sediments of the Sastut Group overlie moderate to steeply dipping volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the "Tahabian group" metamorphosed to a maximum of lower greenschist facies. This and Early Cretaceous, affects Triassic and older rocks through the map area, north of the Stikine River, and change attitude and dip out quickly along trend. At least two sets of Jurassic to Early Cretaceous faults developed with intervening folding. An early set, represented by Z Fault at the western edge of the map area and Tanizilla Fault over 20 km farther west, was originally composed of gently dipping faults which were later folded about a northeasterly trending axis of high angle, late fault set trends north-northeasterly, offsets Z Fault and has minor strike-slip displacement.

The lack of exposures of the Sastut Group obscures the nature and extent of the fault dominated Cenozoic deformation. East and west of the map area, Pitman faults cut the Cretaceous Sastut Group. Both are steep dipping with the older Cold Fish a suspected reverse fault with the younger Pitman a normal fault, and a possible lateral strike-slip fault. Pitman Fault is the longest, approximately 140 km, and most important of a few westerly trending faults on the southern flank of the Stikine Arch. Within the map area, it forms the southern limit of the "Tahabian" and Sastut groups.

Although mineralization was discovered early, 1899 at Thaneville (?), accessibility of the area has been extensively prospected since the mid-1960's. Copper is the main commodity, and chalcocyanide veins are widely scattered in the "Tahabian" and Sastut groups, and "Tadogone volcanics". Those developed as a stockwork that is spatially associated with small, hydrothermally altered, calc-alkalic intrusions such as those in the June 25, Western 500 and Rose (21), have received attention (Cooper, 1978; Pantleyev, 1978), but none has produced. Many of the veins, especially those in the "Tahabian" group, are apparently unrelated to either intrusions, or fresh unaltered plutons spatially associated. Of these, the Thaneville (?) has been most thoroughly explored.

TABLE 1. PALYNOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY, KLASTLINE RIVER EAST-HALF (104G/16E), EALUE LAKE WEST-HALF (104H/13W), CAKE HILL WEST-HALF (104I/4W) AND STIKINE CANYON EAST-HALF (104J/1E)

Map No.	GSC Loc. No.	UTM Coordinates	Elev. in Rock	Age
F116	C-02772	VQ042370 VQ042370	4123	Probably late Palaeozoic or early Mesozoic
F122	C-08132	VQ043700 VQ042370	4825	Carboniferous or Permian
F7	C-08749	VQ043900 VQ043290	6740	Mid Ladinian, late Middle Triassic to mid Carnian, early Late Triassic
F8	C-10290	VQ042300 VQ043290	6500	Probably Middle Triassic
F17	C-08740	VQ044180 VQ043010	5100	Late Triassic - Cenozoic
F22	C-08136	VQ044180 VQ043010	5225	Middle Triassic, late Anisian - early Ladinian
F20	C-10278	VQ042370 VQ042267	2243	Middle Triassic, probably Late Anisian to Early Ladinian
F33	C-10277	VQ042370 VQ042267	2165	Probably Middle Triassic
F31	C-10272	VQ042370 VQ042267	1871	Probably Middle Triassic
F59	C-10276	VQ042370 VQ041950	1553	Middle to late Triassic, probably Middle
F58	C-10275	VQ042370 VQ041950	1502	Probably Early Triassic
F63	C-10273	VQ042370 VQ041839	1615	Probably Early Triassic
F62	C-10271	VQ042370 VQ041839	1620	Probably Middle or Late Triassic
F81	C-10276	VQ042370 VQ041839	1705	Triassic, probably Middle
F80	C-10275	VQ042370 VQ041839	1705	Triassic, probably Middle
F82	C-09925	VQ042370 VQ041839	2817	Mid Triassic, probably Anisian
F17*	C-08610	VQ043700 VQ046500	3200	Part of the Artinskian/Leonardian, Early Permian
F17*	C-08130	VQ043700 VQ046500	3200	Part of the Artinskian/Leonardian, Early Permian
F17*	C-08611	VQ043700 VQ046500	3200	Probably Carboniferous to basal Triassic
F17*	C-08131	VQ043700 VQ046500	3200	Probably Permian

SISTUT GROUP

TANGO CREEK FORMATION

Map No.	GSC Loc. No.	UTM Coordinates	Elev. in Rock	Age
F64	C-09928	VQ042370 VQ044180	2243	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F64	C-09928	VQ042370 VQ044180	2167	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F64	C-09928	VQ042370 VQ044180	2627	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F64	C-09928	VQ042370 VQ044180	2817	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F64	C-09928	VQ042370 VQ044180	2817	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F70	C-09942	VQ042148 VQ044157	2772	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F71	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2772	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F72	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F73	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F74	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F75	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F76	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F77	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F78	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F79	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F80	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F81	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian
F82	C-09944	VQ042148 VQ044157	2589	Late Albian to/or possibly Early Cenomanian

Map Numbers are assigned to fossil collections in order of increasing number and letter for decreasing UTM northing.

*Fossil collections obtained from drill core.

Quitted from map due to lack of space.

*Age of limestone in list of UTM.

*A-A' follows barren or indeterminate fossil collection numbers.

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The Stewart-Cassiar Highway 37 descends northward through the area, and where combined with a few short side roads, it provides access to a five to fifteen kilometre width of country on either side of the highway. The well-developed Stikine River is navigable from a point four kilometres downstream of the Highway 37 bridge to beyond the eastern edge of the map area, but for the navigation, the Stikine River through a walled canyon incised from 300 to 1000 feet deep in the rolling uplands of the Stikine Plateau. South of the canyon, the swamy eastern end of the Klastline Plateau terminates abruptly against mountains rising to 4000 feet above the plateau surface over 700 feet in elevation. North of the canyon, sparsely exposed bedrock characterizes the surface of Tanizilla Plateau which climbs to 3000 feet. From this level the peaks of the Hotahli Range rise to nearly 4500 feet.

The map area lies within the Lower Triassic to Middle Jurassic Whitehorse Trough of the Intermontane Belt which consists of volcanic and sedimentary rocks (Fig. 1). The trough lies between plutonic and metamorphic rocks of the Coast Plutonic Complex on the west and those of the Onychia Crystalline Belt on the east. The northern end of the sediment-filled Bowser Basin of Middle Jurassic to Early Cretaceous age lies south of the map area. The northern end of the Lower to Upper Cretaceous Sastut Basin contains continental clastic rocks which underlie the swamy uplands of the Klastline Plateau. The easterly trending Stikine Arch crosses the area, contains large intrusions such as the Kaketa and Hotahli batholiths and related plutons, and forms the northern margin of the Bowser Basin.

In the map area, the oldest rocks, assigned to an unnamed Carboniferous and(?) older sequence, lie on both sides of the westerly striking Pitman Fault in the eastern half of the map area. North of the fault, massive light grey limestone (L1) is the most extensive rock type and intervenes between the structurally overlying basic metavolcanic rocks (V) and green phyllite (P). Underlying grey phyllite (P2). These rocks outcrop along the Stikine river in the core of Tenagode Lake Anticline. South of Pitman Fault, green phyllite (P3) and gneiss (G), less limestone (L2), and minor grey phyllite (P4) form a northwesterly trending sequence. On both sides of Pitman Fault, the about 2 km wide of the map area, the Carboniferous and(?) older rocks, preliminary age data based on zircons indicate that Paleozoic plutonic rocks, probably older than Permian, intrude the Carboniferous and(?) older sequence. Because the Carboniferous and(?) older rocks are so intensely deformed, their stratigraphic order and facies are unknown.

The "Tahabian group" underlies much of the area north of Pitman Fault. On the uplands north of Tahabie Mountain, the "Tahabian group" of Middle Triassic age, unconformably overlies the Carboniferous and(?) older rocks along the southern flank of Tenagode Lake Anticline. A "basal sedimentary unit" (L3) up to 20 m thick, lies on top of units of the Carboniferous and(?) older sequence. Thick, coarse augite porphyry meta-basalt and meta-andesite of the "Lower" and "Upper" volcanic units (V1 and V2) form the overlying volcanic sequence. Along the western edge of the map area, plagioclase porphyry meta-andesite pillow lava (V3) and (V4) form two thin units in thickness. Carbonate concretions from limestone and chert of the "Basal" and "Middle" sedimentary units indicate that both units and the intervening "Lower Volcanic unit" are of Middle and Early Triassic age (Table 1). In the northern half of the map area, Great Lakes Ultramafite, radiometrically dated at 227 ± 1 Ma and 235 ± 10 Ma (Anderson in Stevens et al., 1982), and Cake Hill Pluton, dated at 212 ± 7 Ma, within the map area, and as old as 227 ± 1 Ma east of the map area (L2), are the oldest plutonic rocks intruding the "Tahabian group", and support its pre-Late Triassic age. The green augite porphyry dominated stratigraphy of the Lower and Middle "Tahabian group" contrasts with the green and mafic, plagioclase and plagioclase-augite porphyry volcanic rocks of the sediment-rich stratigraphy of the Sastut Group of Late Triassic age.

North of Pitman Fault, all Triassic phases in the Hotahli batholith intrude the "Tahabian group". Both Cake Hill (K) and Latham Creek (L) plutons have a marginal foliation which is most prominent in the core of Great Lakes Ultramafite. The southwesterly trending "Railway pluton" which forms faults along the eastern edge of the map area, the southwest margin of Cake Hill pluton where it clearly intrudes the "Tahabian group". South of Pitman Fault, preliminary radiometric data from plutons east of the map area, dated at 212 ± 7 Ma, support a "Railway pluton" which forms faults along the eastern edge of the map area. The pluton, 4 km east of the map area, Upper Triassic volcanic rocks (V5) unconformably overlie nonconformably over the pluton.

South of Pitman Fault, and northwest of Ealue Lake is a siltstone (S1), 200 m thick, with minor limestone (L4), conglomerate and greywacke layers and lenses (Cooper, 1978). The northwestern limestone layer yields conflicting paleontological data (Cooper (1978), p. 12) reports a Late Triassic macrofauna, but conodonts from the limestone yield an Early Permian age (Table 1). A possible interpretation is that the limestone represents an Upper Triassic siltstone composed of Early Permian limestone blocks ranging from tens to hundreds of metres in length. Early Permian limestone blocks up to tens of metres in length, lie within Upper Triassic breccia that outcrops 23 km east of the map area. The sedimentary succession in part of the Sastut Group, Green andesite, with plagioclase and some augite phenocrysts and tuff (S2) sequences above and below (S3), and hosts "Edom" and "Rose" plutons. On Ealue Lake Mountain, andesite (S4), Northwest of Ealue Lake, units (S5) and (S6) are interbedded with the green andesite (S2). Northwest of Ealue Lake, units (S7) and (S8) are well part of the Stikine and are intruded by an unaltered Upper Triassic and/or Lower Jurassic rock units.

South of Cold Fish Fault, lies the fault-veiled western end of a belt of Lower Jurassic "Tadogone volcanics" which extends over 45 km eastward from the map area. The southwesterly dipping and facing sequence of green and mafic sedimentary and volcanic rocks (V6 to V10) is similar to, and correlated with a paleontological dated sequence 10 km east of the map area (Smith et al., 1983). North of Pitman fault and east of Tenagode Lake, a remnant of mafic and grey-green plagioclase phyllite (P5), tuff and breccia (B1) topped by a few hundred metres of rhyolite breccia (B2) lies unconformably on the "Tahabian group". Although the rock lack diagnostic fossils, they are lithologically similar to and contain a thick rhyolite sequence which is typical of Lower Jurassic volcanic rocks.

Early and/or Middle Jurassic plutons intrude the "Tahabian group". The plutons include the part of Palen Creek pluton (G1) in the northwest corner of the map area, and "Rose" and "Edom" plutons (L5 and L6) in the southeast corner. The small, hydrothermal altered and mineralized "Edom" and "Rose" plutons clearly intrude the green andesite (S4), but may be nonconformably overlain by some of the andesite (S2) which locally contains a few clasts of the plutons (Cooper 1978, p. 20). In the northeast corner of the map area, the tectonic marginal zone of the Sastut Basin intrudes the "Tahabian group", Cake Hill Pluton, and "T