STRUCTURAL MATERIAL INVESTIGATION

SAND AND GRAVEL INVENTORY

By N. M. Hunter and Z. D. Hora

During the past year the Resource Data and Analysis Section has been making an inventory of sand and gravel deposits in the interior of British Columbia. The purpose of the study is two-fold: first, to locate areas with potential reserves of construction aggregate where demand exists or is expected, and second, to identify all factors influencing the continuous supply of granular material to local markets. The survey covered corridors along established major and important secondary transportation routes and areas surrounding larger population centres.

Prior to the field season, available relevant information was obtained from surficial geology and soils/landform maps and transferred to 1:50 000-scale base maps. Major sources of this information were the Resource Analysis Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Environment and the Terrain Sciences Division, Geological Survey of Canada. Interpretation of aerial photographs was done to fill gaps in the available mapping as well as to plot locations of sand and gravel pits.

In the field, natural and man-made exposures of granular deposits were visited to describe mode of deposition and general texture, to estimate the reserves, and to assess obstacles to development. In addition, the pits were identified as active or inactive and their status of ownership was determined. In this regard, the information supplied by the district offices of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways was very helpful.

Fieldwork was carried out by Marilynn Hunter (party chief) and Katrine Foellmer (assistant) under supervision of Z. D. Hora.

Analysis of data and information collected during the summer is in progress.

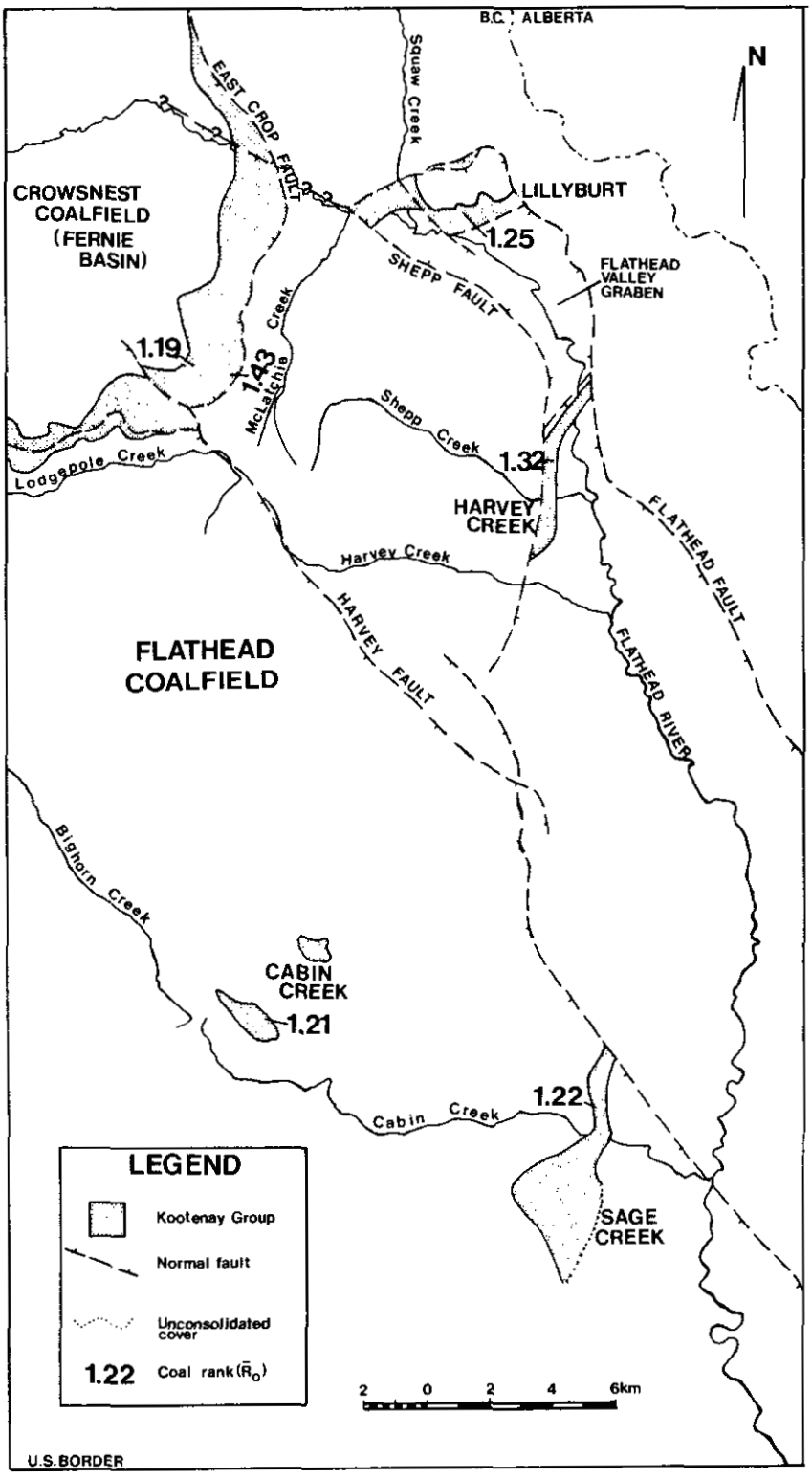

Figure 20. The Flathead region showing Kootenay Group outcrops in Flathead Coalfield and the southeast corner of Crowsnest Coalfield, major normal faults, and coal rank ($\bar{R}_o$) on representative coal seams. Modified after Price (1961, 1965) and Pearson and Grieve (1979).