



BC Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources

Geological Survey Branch
OPEN FILE 1993-19
SURFICIAL GEOLOGY OF THE TOIL MOUNTAIN AREA
NTS 93C/16
Geology by D.N. Proudfoot and R.F. Allison
1:50 000

Scale: 1:50,000
1 cm = 500 m

For an overview of the surficial geology of the Toil Mountain map area please refer to the report entitled "Drift Exploration and Surficial Geology of the Clusko River (93C/9) and Toil Mountain (93C/16) Map Sheets" by D.N. Proudfoot in Geological Fieldwork 1992, & C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Paper 1993-1. Geology based on air photo interpretation followed by ground verification. Fieldwork completed in 1992.

MAP UNIT LETTER NOTATION

COMPOSITE UNITS

SURFICIAL MATERIALS

SURFACE EXPRESSION

TEXTURES

GEOLOGICAL BOUNDARIES

ON-SITE SYMBOLS

BASE MAP PRODUCED BY THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES, OTTAWA

QUATERNARY GEOLOGY NOTES

GLACIAL HISTORY

At the peak of glaciation, ice covered the entire Toil Mountain map sheet. Evidence for ice-flow direction survives for only the most recent glaciation in the area (Fraser glaciation of Wisconsinian age, Tipper, 1971). In the southeastern corner of the map sheet south of the Clusko River, flutings indicate a north-northeastward ice flow. Farther to the west, south of North Hill, flutings have a similar orientation. North of the Bazzako River and northwest of North Hill, the trend of flutings changes from about 040° in the south to 065° in the north. This gradual change in trend is probably due to deflection of ice around the hills to the east. This northeastward flow is interpreted for the entire map sheet with local deviations due to topographic control.

SURFICIAL GEOLOGY

Till occurs mainly out of valleys and is thinnest and most discontinuous in higher areas (Mv) and where subglacial and proglacial meltwater has removed much of it. It reaches thicknesses of up to 8 metres in some places (Mb) but averages much less. Till typically has a silty sand matrix, surrounded by subangular clasts, which are 5 to 25 percent by volume of the sediment, ranging in size from pebbles, which are most common, to cobbles and boulders. Where till is interpreted to overly its bedrock source, it contains much less matrix (25 to 50 percent of total volume) and clasts are angular and of one main rock type. The absence of recessional moraines throughout the area indicates that during deglaciation, the ice stagnated and melted in place. This created an abundance of hummocky terrain (Mh), with hummocks 1 to 6 metres high, in large relatively flat areas. These are areas of mainly meltout till, which contain relatively far travelled material. Large areas were affected by escaping meltwater as it flowed generally north-northeastward, parallel to the general direction of ice flow. Numerous channels cut into bedrock and eskers that cross modern drainage were created by the meltwater. They left sand and gravel deposits up to 10 metres thick in valleys and eskers. Most of the modern drainage is now occupied by streams and rivers too small to have carved their valleys. After local ice had melted, meltwater flow from the south and southwest left extensive deposits up to 10 metres thick of sand and gravel (F²). Regional drainage beyond the ice margin was to the northeast and east, as it is today. Where small bodies of ice remained to block this drainage away from the glacier, small lakes formed such as along a tributary of the Bazzako River that drains southeast from Narcosis Lake leaving behind a discontinuous deposit, which is tens of centimetres to 8 metres thick, of moderately cohesive, massive to laminated silts, sands and minor amounts of clay (L²). These deposits have been significantly eroded since deposition by proglacial and postglacial drainage. Modern rivers have reworked deposits of till, sand and gravel, and silt, leaving new deposits (F). Where modern drainage is poor, in local depressions, bogs have produced a significant cover of organic sediment (O), which is a mixture of decayed organic detritus, sand, silt and clay. On gentle slopes, mass movements (debris flows, slope wash) have produced discontinuous deposits of pebbly sand and silt and stratified diamicton (Cv) derived from till, sand, gravel and silt. At the base of steeper slopes, rock falls have produced a mixture of talus where there is rock exposed above.

Tipper, H.W. (1971). Glacial Geomorphology and Pleistocene History of Central British Columbia; Geological Survey of Canada, Bulletin 196, 89 pages.

