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Chouteau County

MONTANA BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

May 28, 1976

Ms. Ann H. Pasha
Planning Director
Box 84
Fort Benton, Montana 59442

Dear Ms. Pasha:

The only geologic map that shows all of Chouteau County is the state geologic map, which was printed at a scale of 1:500,000 (about 8 mi./in.). Most parts of the county have been mapped in more detail at larger scales, as indicated on the Geologic Map Index of Montana. The index and the state geologic map are described on the first page of the List of Montana Maps, a copy of which is enclosed.

Similarly, complete topographic coverage of the county is provided only by the 1° by 2° sheets (lower left corner of the Index to Topographic Maps of Montana). You would need the Shelby, Havre, Lewistown, and Great Falls sheets in this series. The scale is 1:250,000 (about 4 mi./in.). Much but not all of the county has also been mapped at scales of 1:24,000 (7½-minute quadrangles) or 1:62,500 (15-minute quadrangles).

For information on soil maps, we suggest that you write to the Cooperative Extension Service, M.S.U., Bozeman. Saline seeps have been developing in the northern plains in the United States and Canada. They have ruined much agricultural land and they may affect water supplies. Our Hydrology Division has been working with soils scientists from Bozeman and with other state and federal agencies. One of the first areas studied was the Highwood Bench. I mention this problem because it could affect county planning.

The Water Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, 32 South Ewing, Helena, should be able to provide a report on irrigation and surface water in Chouteau County. Their reports include some information on climate, mineral resources, and other topics.

Please let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,

Ralph H. King
Associate Director
Information Service

RHK:cjm

Enclosures *List of Maps - List of Publications - Topographic Index*