Geologic Map of the Henderson Ridge Quadrangle, Lemhi County, Idaho, and Ravalli County, Montana

2021



CORRELATION OF MAP UNITS

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cross laminations, are visible locally. Less abundant are siltite and argillite couplets, and sparse mud chips. Varied magnetite content. Magnetite visible as octahedra or small anhedral blebs in some samples, too fine to see in others. Magnetic susceptibility highest in quartzite beds with mm-scale parallel heavy mineral laminations. Magnetic susceptibility ranged from 0.05 to 24 with average and standard deviation of 4.6 and 6.1 and median of 1.1 (all x10⁻³ SI) on measurements from 62 exposures. Low susceptibility in some exposures due to oxidation of magnetite to hematite. Thickness uncertain because of folding and possible repetition by unmapped faults, and the fact that the top is not exposed. Thickness likely 3,000 m (10,000 ft) with a minimum of 1,500 m (5,000 ft). Continuous from the southeast (Figure 1). Lawson Creek Formation (Mesoproterozoic)—Siltite, argillite, and quartzite.

Mapped as lowermost part of quartzite of type II lithology by Berg (1977) but separated by Stewart and others (2014) in the adjoining quadrangle to the east. Upper contact placement poorly constrained, as is the lower contact north of Hughes Creek. Thickness uncertain, but likely a minimum of 250 m (820 ft). Swauger Formation (Mesoproterozoic)—Poorly sorted variously feldspathic thin- to thick-bedded quartzite. Well-rounded quartz grains are common, and Berg (1977) reported festoon trough cross beds in the easternmost exposures. Typically contains subequal amounts of potassium feldspar and plagioclase feldspar, but some exposures contain little feldspar (Berg,

1977). Gradational up into Y/c through interval of quartzite beds that grade up into argillitic tops. Unit is equivalent to quartzites type I and III of Berg (1977), which we interpret to be on opposite limbs of a large, faulted syncline (Figure 1). Uniformly low magnetic susceptibility of 0.05 to 0.61 with mean of 0.22 and median of 0.14 (all $x10^{-3}$ SI) from 6 exposures. wauger Formation, foliated (Mesoproterozoic)—Poorly sorted variously eldspathic quartzite that is characteristically foliated. Foliation likely due to deformation in the footwall of the North Fork thrust and additional thrusting to the northeast of that structure. Low magnetic susceptibility 0.03 to 0.26 with mean and median of 0.14 (all $x10^{-3}$ SI) from 4 exposures. mhi Group (Mesoproterozoic)—Fine-grained, thick- to thin-bedded eldspathic quartzite, and minor siltite and argillite. Quartzite beds commonly dm scale, flat laminated, or trough cross bedded. Intruded by

granite, likely of Mesoproterozoic or Cretaceous age; grades into Ygn with increase of schist and deformation. Includes unmapped amphibolite in vicinity of McConn prospect. Thickness uncertain because of deformation and lack of exposure of the upper and lower contacts. Similar strata to the southeast were mapped as Gunsight Formation (Burmester and others, 2016a; Lewis and others, 2019) but assigned here more conservatively to the Lemhi Group, which contains more than one quartzite-dominated formation and has not been mapped in detail. **Gneiss** (Mesoproterozoic)—Gneiss and biotite quartzite, typically with both a leucocratic igneous component and biotite-rich metasedimentary component. Igneous component lacks mafic selvages and is more likely

from Ygr, or Cretaceous magmas, than partial melt. Tightly folded and locally garnet-rich near the west edge of the map (Figures 5 and 6). Eastern contact with Ylg may be faulted where tourmaline breccia is present at one place on the contact along the state line. Most of metasedimentary component likely is *Ylg* based on proximity and quartzite-rich lithology, but the westernmost garnet-rich area contains exposures that are finer grained than typical of the Ylg unit.

FAULTS

Several faults traverse the quadrangle. It is likely that more faults exist within the Mesoproterozoic units, but are unrecognized due to the lack of laterally extensive lithologic markers. Named faults within the quadrangle are described below. Most deformation probably occurred during Cretaceous Sevier contraction and Eocene to Oligocene extension. However, it is also likely that some deformation occurred in the Ordovician, Neoproerozoic, during the 1,380-1,370 Ma magmatic event, and as growth faults

TRAIL GULCH THRUST

NORTH FORK THRUST

The North Fork thrust crosses the quadrangle from southeast to northwest. It places thinly bedded siltite and thicker bedded very fine grained feldspathic quartzite (Ylg), its contact metamorphosed equivalent (Ygn), and Mesoproterozoic intrusions (Ygr, Ymc), over garnet-bearing siltite (Yacb). To the south in the Ulysses quadrangle (unpublished mapping) it dips southwest and has horizontal lineations and top-to-the-east kinematics.

UNNAMED THRUST FAULTS

Two southeast-striking thrust faults are postulated to parallel the North Fork fault on the north side of the state line in the western part of the map. The southern of these faults is marked by black tourmaline, quartz, and breccia. Swauger Formation (Ys) is mapped on both sides, but the hanging wall quartzite is more strongly foliated and contains little obvious feldspar in hand sample, possibly due to silicification. The northern fault is thought to form the contact between the Swauger Formation (Ys) and the Jahnke Lake member of the Apple Creek Formation (Yajl). Because of poor exposure the exact trace of these two structures is not well known.

MINERALIZATION

HUGHES CREEK PLACERS As noted by Berg (1977) patented placer mining claims cover much of the Hughes Creek valley. Gold was recovered starting about 1870 and placer operations were ongoing upstream from the confluence of Burrell Creek in 1974. Google Earth images show that the portion of Hughes Creek in the northeast part of the map has been extensively dredged. Deposits there are shown as placers (*p*) on the map.

HIGH PLACER DEPOSITS

Berg (1977) noted that two of the high gravel deposits were worked for placer gold. One is south of Hughes Creek in the western part of the map and the other is north of Hughes Creek in the eastern part of the map. Both are designated as placers (p) on the map. The gold in the high-elevation gravels is reportedly rougher than that in Hughes Creek itself.

TAYLOR CREEK (LARRIGON) MINE

The Taylor Creek mine is located on the north side of Hughes Creek in the north-central part of the map. Berg (1977) referred to this property as the Larrigon mine and reported that gold was produced from quartz veins in extensively fractured quartzite.

McCONN CREEK PROSPECT The McConn Creek prospect, located in the south-central part of the map,

is a magnetite-rich zone within Yacb. Maps from early 1980s by Noranda Incorporated show the magnetite as metamorphosed banded iron formation. Alternatively, the magnetite may have been remobilized along the North Fork thrust. Details of the Noranda mapping can be found on the Idaho Geological Survey website by examining "Property Details" in the "Mines" web app (https://www.idahogeology.org/webmap?show=mines) for the McConn Creek deposit (IGS ID = EC1068).

COPPER KING PROSPECT

The Copper King prospect near the mouth of McConn Creek in the southeast part of the map consists of an adit, prospect pits, and trenches. Quartz-siderite vein material that contains chalcopyrite and malachite stain is also present. Wall rock of green siltite, argillite, and quartzite shows minimal hydrothermal alteration.

STATE LINE COPPER OCCURRENCE The State Line copper occurrence, located near the eastern edge of the

map, was described by Berg (1977). He noted a sulfide-bearing lens 0.5 m (2 ft) thick that is traceable for about 3 m (10 ft) along strike. The host rock is magnetite-rich quartzite (Yajl) and small amounts of chalcopyrite, sphalerite(?), and rare covellite are present in finely intergrown grains.





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Measurement ID	Latitude NAD27	Longitude NAD27	Unit	Magnetic susceptil (SI units x10 ⁻³)
20RBms011	45.5414	-114.1880	Tbpd	16
20RBms024	45.5422	-114.1835	Tbpd	16
20RBms135	45.5800	-114.2114	Tcv	6.7
20RBms136	45.5811	-114.2109	Tcv	4.0
20RBms025	45.5424	-114.1870	tourmaline breccia	0.075
20RBms143	45.5348	-114.1856	Yacb	0.098
20ACms256	45.5190	-114.1364	Yajl	6.7
20ACms257	45.5175	-114.1293	Yajl	12
20ACms258	45.5132	-114.1313	Yajl	0.20
20ACms259	45.5121	-114.1327	Yajl	7.5
20ACms260	45.5094	-114.1319	Yajl	3.2
20ACms261	45.5104	-114.1420	Yajl	8.6
20ACms262	45.5104	-114.1420	Yajl	0.90
20ACms263	45.5104	-114.1420	Yajl	3.4
20RBms005	45.6092	-114.2414	Yaji	0.10
20RBms006	45.6099	-114.2232	Yaji	0.079
20RBms007	45.6119	-114.2182	Yaji	12
20RBms008	45.6136	-114.2051	Yaji	3.1
20RBms009	45.6061	-114.1775	Yaji	5.7
20RBms015	45.5508	-114.1755	Yaji	11
20RBms016	45.5502	-114.1/01	Yaji	20
20RBIIISU17	45.5509	-114.10/8	r aji Voji	25
20RBms018	45.5518	-114.1060	Yaji	13
20RDIIISU19	40.000 AE EEE7	-114.1580	i aji Voji	5.8
20RBms020	45.5557	-114.1508	Taji Vail	0.0
20RBmc022	45.3373	-114.1490	i aji Vail	11
20RBmc022	45 5572	-114 1245	Vail	2.5
20RBms028	45 5581	-114 1815	Vail	18
20RBms029	45 5580	-114 1819	Vail	0.053
20RBms030	45 5642	-114.1776	Vail	21
20RBms030	45 5608	-114.1818	Vail	12
20RBms032	45 5604	-114 1830	Vail	0.35
20RBms032	45 5704	-114 1951	Yail	0.14
20RBms034	45 5789	-114 2166	Yail	0.12
20RBms035	45.5871	-114.2246	Yail	0.12
20RBms036	45.5911	-114.2244	Yail	0.32
20RBms037	45.5962	-114.2083	Yail	0.16
20RBms038	45.5986	-114.1931	Yail	0.12
20RBms039	45.5948	-114.1820	Yail	1.1
20RBms040	45.5873	-114.1856	Yail	0.23
20RBms041	45.5859	-114.1884	Yajl	0.12
20RBms042	45.5830	-114.1810	Yajl	12
20RBms043	45.5752	-114.1811	Yajl	7.1
20RBms044	45.5763	-114.1850	Yajl	3.9
20RBms045	45.5755	-114.1990	Yajl	0.13
20RBms046	45.5768	-114.1931	Yajl	0.11
20RBms047	45.5723	-114.1889	Yajl	0.093
20RBms048	45.5696	-114.1861	Yajl	6.2
20RBms049	45.5693	-114.1917	Yajl	0.099
20RBms050	45.5653	-114.1889	Yajl	0.15
20RBms051	45.6171	-114.1872	Yajl	2.8
20RBms052	45.6175	-114.1952	Yajl	0.65
20RBms053	45.6175	-114.2029	Yajl	4.0
20RBms054	45.6184	-114.2074	Yajl	0.30
20RBms055	45.6175	-114.2115	Yajl	15
20RBms056	45.6178	-114.2195	Yajl	2.1
20RBms057	45.6157	-114.2305	Yajl	0.34
20RBms058	45.6130	-114.2406	Yajl	0.12
20RBms137	45.5816	-114.2103	Yajl	0.19
20RBms139	45.5366	-114.1779	Yajl	1.1
20RBms140	45.5361	-114.1752	Yajl	9.7
20RBms141	45.5342	-114.1746	Yajl	1.1
20RBms145	45.5668	-114.1929	Yajl	0.084
20RBms146	45.5855	-114.2062	Yajl	0.17
20RBms147	45.5855	-114.2062	Yajl	0.17
20RBms148	45.5824	-114.2086	Yaji	0.27
ZUKBms149	45.5930	-114.1709	Yaji	0.15
ZUKBms004	45.6062	-114.2492	YS	0.14
ZUKBms010	45.5593	-114.1914	YS	0.052
20RBms013	45.5483	-114.1822	YS	0.077
20RBms014	45.5500	-114.1799	Ys	0.32
20RBms027	45.5523	-114.1865	Ys	0.14
20KBms144	45.5504	-114.1887	YS V-C	0.61
20KBms012	45.5465	-114.1846	Y ST	0.033
ZUKBMSU26	45.5498	-114.1904	Y ST	0.13
20RBms138	45.5396	-114.1805	YST	0.26



Group (in blue) from higher Lawson Creek and Apple Creek formations (greens and yellows). Units are combined where scale or previous mapping makes separating them impractical. Geographic locations are in italics; those for type or reference sections have units in parentheses: AM—Allan Mountain; BC—Big Creek (Ybc); CL-Cowbone Lake; GM-Goat Mountain; GP—Gunsight Peak); HC—Hayden Creek (Ya); JL—Jahnke Lake (Yajl); LC-Lawson Creek (Ylc); LM-Lake Mountain (Yalm); LP-Lem Peak (Yalp); MC-Moose Creek; MM-Mogg Mountain (Ys); RM—Ramsey Mountain (Yarm); TG—Trapper Gulch (Yatg); WFB—West Fork Bitterroot River; YC—Yearian Creek (Yayc); YL—Yellow Lake (Yyl).

After Burmester and others (2020) and modified in the north, south, and west to include insights from field work in 2020. Green dashed rectangle

is the Henderson Ridge quadrangle, pink dashed rectangle is the Cobalt quadrangle, and orange rectangle is the Salmon 30' x 60' quadrangle.



Figure 5. Folded gneiss in Ygn along state line near western edge





Figure 6. Garnet-rich gneiss in Ygn along state line near western edge of map.



Formation (Ys) on state line.

Figure 7. Fabric developed in the Trail Gulch thrust. Mylonite here, and to the north, as well as breccias typically contain tourmaline. Looking west about 1 km (0.6 mi) southeast of state

