Minidoka County

Minidoka County is entirely on the Snake River Plain, on the north side of the Snake River west of Minidoka Dam and Lake Walcott. Extensive irrigated farming of the North Side Tract occurs on alluvial soils between Minidoka, Rupert and Heyburn. To the north, across the Union Pacific mainline are Quaternary basalt lava flows, heading toward Craters of the Moon to the northeast. This country is empty sagebrush desert.

See discussion of Snake River Plain geology from Rocks, Rails and Trails.

P.K. Link, 10/02

Description of Units for Minidoka County, Idaho

Qa Quaternary alluvial deposits

Qg Quaternary gravels; forming terraces above modern stream levels, mainly mapped on western Snake River Plain. Unit generally represents detrital glacio-fluvial systems.

Qs Quaternary surficial cover, including colluvium, fluvial, alluvial fan, lake, and windblown deposits. Included fluvo-aeolian cover on Snake River Plain, (Snake River Group).

Qrb Recent basalt lava, less than 12,000 years old, lava flows are fresh, poorly vegetated, and show original flow geometry.

Qb Pleistocene basalt lava, 2 million to 12,000 years old, flows have some vegetation and surface weathering.

QTb Pleistocene and Pliocene basalt lava and associated basaltic tuff (deposited close to basaltic vent).

Symbols

Geologic unit contacts with unit designation.

Normal fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.

Thrust fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.

Detachment fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.

Anticline: trace of axial plane; large arrow indicates direction of plunge.

Syncline: trace of axial plane; large arrow indicates direction of plunge.

Overturned anticline: trace of axial plane.

Overturned syncline: trace of axial plane.

Location of ISU Rockwalk rock from each county.

Cities

Feature location

Roads

Interstate Route

U.S. Route

State route