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Alluvial fan morphology, chronology, and faulting along the southern Beaverhead Range, Idaho:
a record of late Pleistocene faulting and climate variation

by

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Alluvial fan morphology, chronology, and faulting along the southern Beaverhead Range, Idaho:
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Thesis Abstract – Idaho State University (2021)

The Beaverhead fault cuts Late Pleistocene alluvial fans on the western flank of the Beaverhead Mountains. The two southernmost fault segments, Blue Dome and Nicholia, are the focus of this study. Geomorphic mapping used 0.5 m resolution LiDAR and field investigation to delineate five fan units (Qaf1-Qaf5). Twenty-five optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) ages on fan gravels are 16 –113 ka. Regional alluvial fan surfaces formed under cooler and/or wetter late Pleistocene climates, and the fan ages suggest multiple periods of cooler and/or wetter climate during the last glaciation. Fault scarps cut Qaf2 – Qaf5 alluvial fans in the Nicholia segment, but fault scarps are absent along the Blue Dome segment. OxCal modeling using fan ages and rupture patterns constrains the most recent fault ruptures on the Nicholia segment to 32 +/- 7.3 ka and 77 +/- 6.8 ka, and the most recent Blue Dome rupture appears to pre-date 110 ka.

Key Words: Alluvial fans, rupture, earthquake, Beaverhead Mountains, fault, optically stimulated luminescence

Chapter I: Introduction

1.0 Introduction

Alluvial fans are range-front landforms that are common in semi-arid climates in the Basin and Range province. Formed by the accumulation of sediments derived from the adjacent mountains, alluvial fans potentially contain a detailed record of climate variations over time scales of >10,000 years. In addition, alluvial fans can potentially record past faulting events that created fault scarps across their surfaces. By dating the deposition of the alluvial fans, we can therefore constrain climatic factors in their growth and reconstruct the faulting history reflected in the fault scarps.

Techniques for measuring the ages of alluvial fan deposits have advanced within the past decade. Previous attempts to estimate the ages of alluvial fans have used soil development (Pierce and Scott, 1982), radiocarbon ages when applicable, and U-series ages from pedogenic carbonates (Sharp et al., 2003). Due to advances in optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating in coarse-grained alluvial fans, reconstructing alluvial fan chronology has become more accurate and widespread (Kenworthy et al., 2014). Using OSL ages to date alluvial fans has advantages over other methods. Radiocarbon dating works well when there is organic material to date but is generally lacking in semi-arid alluvial fan settings. Alluvial fans tend to lack boulders for cosmogenic radio nuclide (CRN) dating. The other benefit of OSL dating on alluvial fans is that it dates the deposition of alluvial fan gravel rather than giving a minimum age that CRN ages, U-series ages on pedogenic carbonate, and soil-based methods would provide, or the maximum age implied by radiocarbon dating of detrital organic material incorporated into fan gravels.

The Basin and Range north of the eastern Snake River plain (ESRP) includes three ranges, the Lost River, Lemhi, and Beaverhead ranges (Figure 1.1), and their intervening valleys. Along the western edge of each range, a west-dipping normal fault is present and appears to be active since fault scarps generally cut alluvial fans. This thesis will focus on alluvial fans at the southern end of the Beaverhead Range, in particular fans in the Birch Creek valley mantling the Nicholia and Blue Dome fault segments (red on Figure 1.1). Studying the morphology and distribution of these fans, coupled with fault scarp mapping and OSL geochronology, will provide a broader context to alluvial fan processes in east-central Idaho. We will correlate these OSL ages to previous paleoclimate records and show the main drivers of alluvial fan aggradation. By mapping and dating alluvial fans and fault scarps cutting them, we can also constrain the most recent and penultimate faulting events.

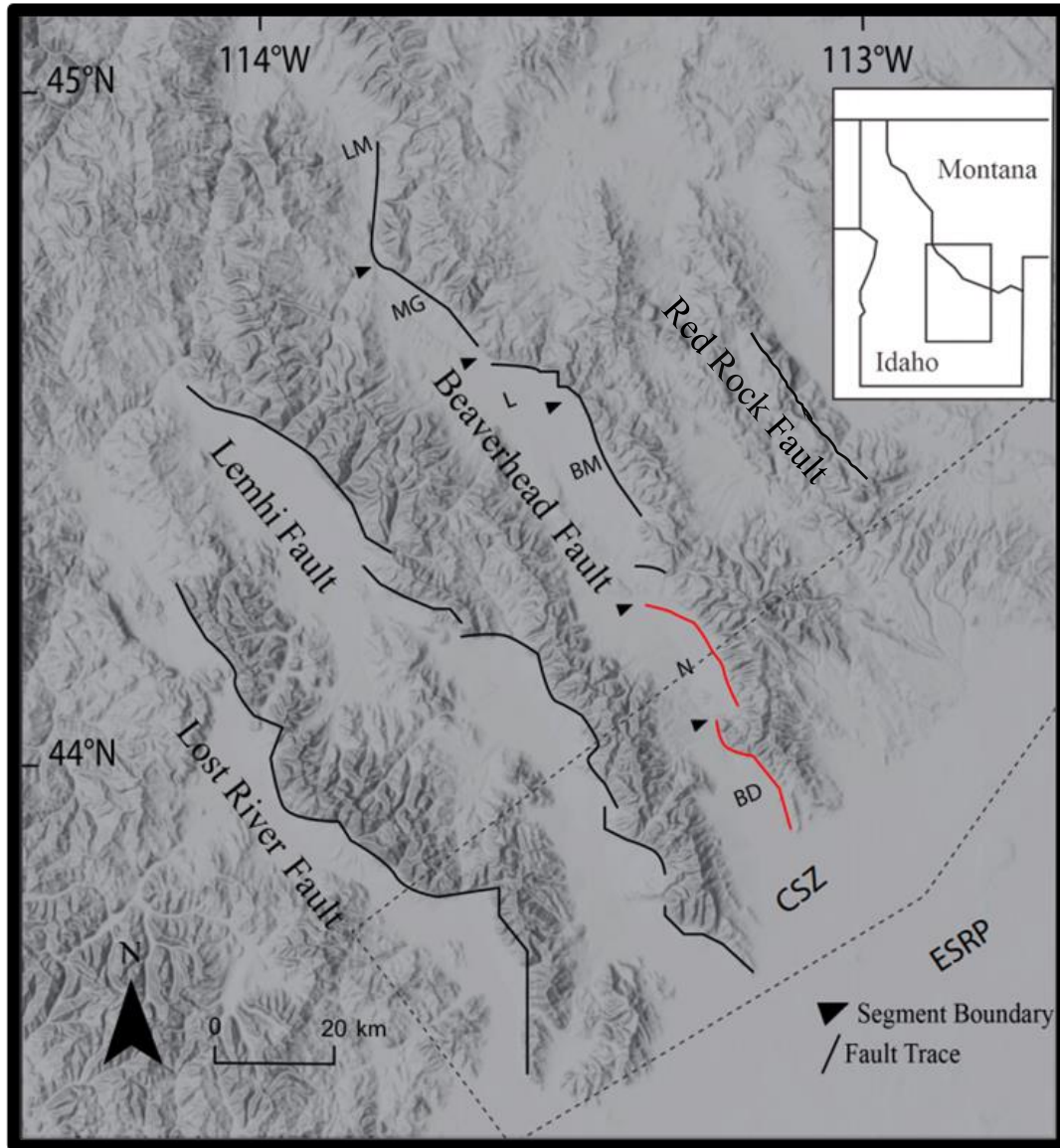


Figure 1.1: General area of study in eastern Idaho. Beaverhead, Lemhi, and Lost River ranges are shown perpendicular to the Snake River Plain. Red line shows the trace of the Beaverhead fault. Segments on the Beaverhead fault are: BD, Blue Dome; N, Nicholia; BM, Baldy Mountain; L, Leadore; MG, Mollie Gulch; LM, Lemhi. Modified from Haller, 1988.

1.1 Regional Stratigraphy and Tectonics

1.1.1 Bedrock Stratigraphic sequence

The southern Beaverhead Range exposes Precambrian and Paleozoic sedimentary units (Figure 1.2) (Garnezy, 1981; Skipp, 1985; Lewis et al., 2012). The western, normal-faulted flank of the southern Beaverhead Range exposes rocks from the Wilbert Formation (Neoproterozoic, Ediacaran) as well as Ordovician, Devonian, and Mississippian formations (Garnezy, 1981; Skipp and Link, 1992; Pearson and Link, 2017). For this project, we will focus on the bedrock that is located in the footwalls of the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments. This bedrock is composed of the Paleozoic units shown in Figure 1.2.

The bedrock on the western flank of the Beaverhead Mountains along the Blue Dome segment is composed primarily of Mississippian limestone (Garnezy, 1981; Skipp, 1985). One of these limestone units is the Middle Canyon Formation. This formation strikes approximately north-south on the western flank of the Beaverhead Mountains. Another Mississippian limestone unit is the Scott Peak Formation, which overlies the Middle Canyon Formation.

The footwall of the Nicholia segment includes the same formations as the Blue Dome segment, as well as the underlying Kinnikinic, Jefferson, and McGowan Creek formations. The Kinnikinic Formation (Middle Ordovician) is exposed in the southern footwall portion of the Nicholia fault segment and is composed of fine to medium grained orthoquartzite (Garnezy, 1981). This unit is overlain by the Jefferson Formation (mid-Devonian) above an unconformity. The Jefferson Formation is comprised of dolomite and sandstones. The McGowan Creek Formation (early Mississippian) overlies the Jefferson Formation with a gradational contact. These units as well as the Middle Canyon and Scott Peak formations are located in the footwall of the northern portion of the segment.

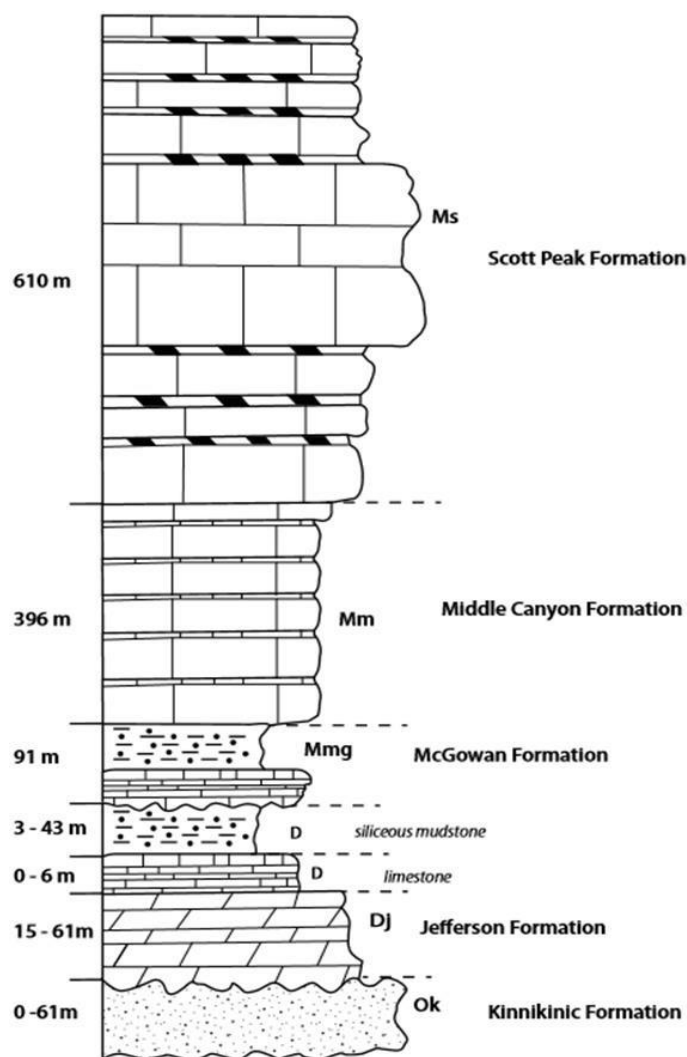


Figure 1.2: General stratigraphic column of the bedrock on the western flank of the southern Beaverhead range. Modified from Garnezy, 1981.

1.1.2 Neogene- Recent Hot Spot Migration

Crustal extension in east-central Idaho coincided roughly with age-progressing volcanism of the Snake River Plain-Yellowstone volcanic system, often called the “Yellowstone hotspot” (Figure 1.3; Armstrong et al., 1975; Suppe et al., 1975; Anders et al., 1989; Pierce and Morgan, 1992 and 2009). The origin of the “Yellowstone hotspot” is still debated, whether it originated from a deep mantle plume or as a result of processes related to plate subduction and/or extension (Pierce and Morgan, 1992, 2009; Zhou, 2018; Zhou et al., 2017). For the purpose of this thesis the term “Yellowstone hotspot” will be used to describe volcanic patterns and does not reflect the origin of the volcanic activity. The Yellowstone hotspot initiated ~17 Ma near the Nevada-Oregon-Idaho border and has affected the greater Yellowstone region since around 2 Ma (Pierce and Morgan, 1992 and 2009). Volcanism towards the southern portion of Lemhi and Beaverhead ranges are around 6 Ma (Hackett and Morgan, 1988; Pierce and Morgan, 1992 and 2009).

The crystallization of magmatic reservoirs from the Yellowstone volcanism created a residual, higher density load, with a thickness of 17 - 25 km in the upper crust. The densification of the crust caused the eastern Snake River Plain to subside and to flex the crust on the margins (McQuarrie and Rodgers, 1998; Peng and Humphreys, 1998; Zentner, 1989). Thermal decay following NE migration of the Yellowstone volcanism also played a role in the subsidence (Brott et al., 1981; Pierce and Morgan, 1992).

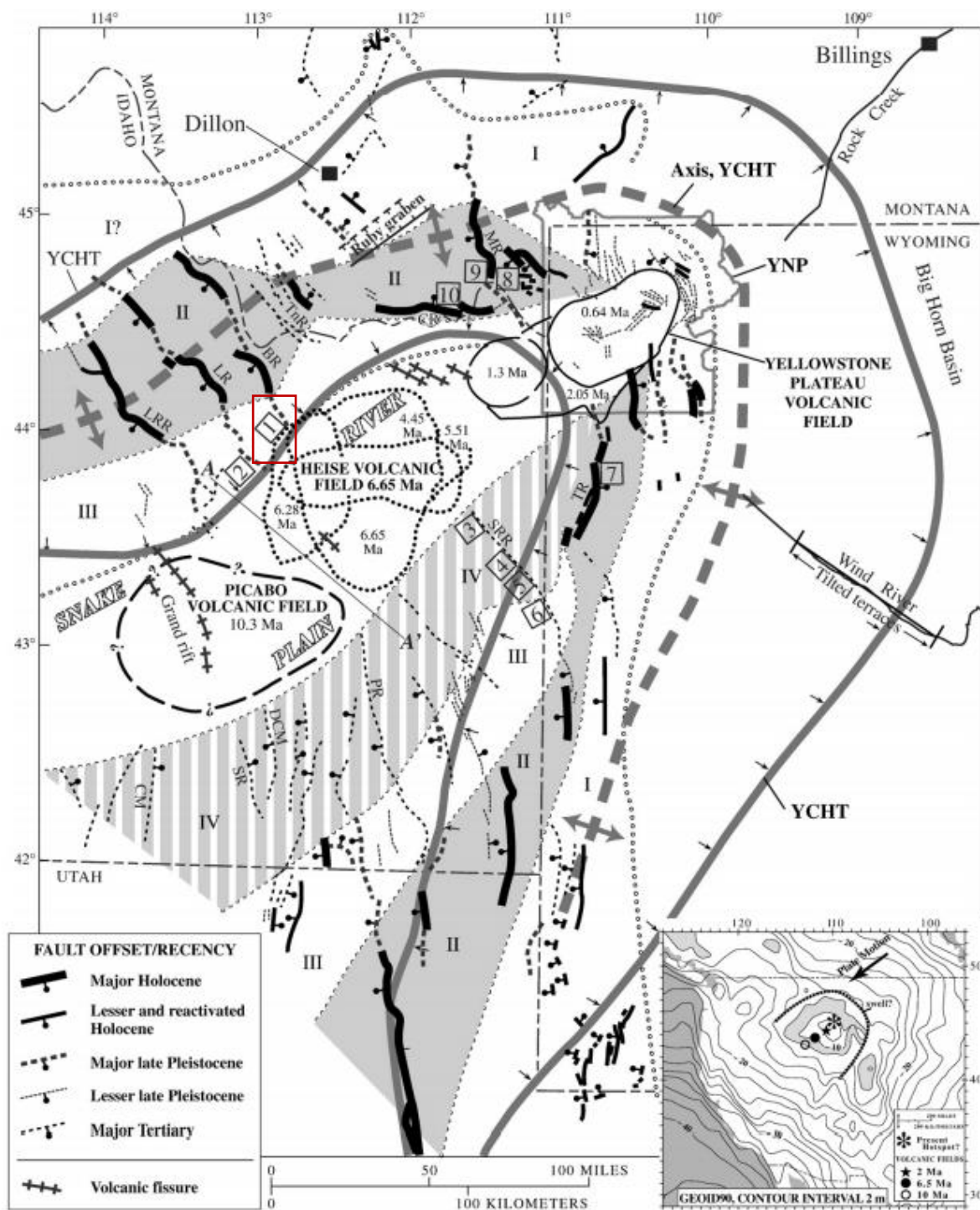


Figure 1.3: The location and timing of the hotspot track is defined by a progression of three volcanic fields with inception ages. The volcanic fields are Picabo 10.21 Ma; Heise 6.62 Ma; and Yellowstone Plateau (2.05 Ma). Red box is the location of the field study. From Pierce and Morgan, 2009.

1.1.3 Neogene – Recent Basin and Range

Extension across the Yellowstone hotspot region influenced the current Basin and Range topography, defined as a series of uplifted blocks with alternating half-graben basins. The estimated initiation age of uplift of the Beaverhead Range is around 10.3 Ma with onset of uplift in the Birch Creek area between 5.4 – 1.6 Ma (Anders and Schlische, 1994; Rodgers et al., 1990).

Located north of the eastern Snake River Plain and described by Payne et al. (2013), the Centennial Shear Zone is defined as the accommodation zone between the volcanic eastern Snake River Plain and the Basin and Range and Centennial tectonic block. Payne et al. (2008; 2012) relied on GPS monitoring and analysis to show the differing surface velocities along the northwestern edge of the ESRP and thereby infer the CSZ. As part of this thesis research, evidence of ESRP-parallel faulting in the southern portion of the Blue Dome segment has been investigated in reconnaissance fashion via LiDAR analysis.

1.1.4 Present day alluvial fans and fault scarps along the Beaverhead Range

The west-dipping Beaverhead fault is located along the western edge of the Beaverhead Range. The maximum cumulative throw of the Beaverhead fault is estimated to be 4 – 6 km (Densmore et al., 2005). Shown in Figure 1.1, the middle fault segments (Leadore and Mollie Gulch) have been active in the Holocene, as evidenced by the presence of fault scarps cutting late Pleistocene alluvial fans (Haller, 1988; Crone and Haller, 1991). The northern and southern segments of the Beaverhead fault (Blue Dome and Lemhi segments) have notably lower frequency seismic activity. This seismic pattern is reflected in the segments on the Lemhi and Lost River faults as well (Haller, 1988; Crone and Haller, 1991; Pierce and Morgan, 1992).

1.2 Alluvial Fan processes and chronology in east central Idaho

Alluvial fans are landforms that form at the mouths of canyons along mountain ranges, notably in semi-arid landscapes in western North America. These geomorphic features are fan shaped and formed from locally derived sediments from their respective catchments. The size of alluvial fans varies from kilometers to tens of kilometers in width. Alluvial fans can be formed by sheet flow, where shallow water is not confined to a channel but rather spread out over the surface, or by migrating, focused channels. Debris flows can also form fans as well. These sediments are normally coarse grained and poorly sorted.

A 1:250,000 scale geological surficial map by Scott (1982) shows three distinct alluvial fan units along the Beaverhead fault, designated as afc, af2, and af3. Unit afc is described from soil evidence as a Holocene to Upper-Middle Pleistocene deposit, af2 is an Upper Pleistocene deposit, and af3 is a Middle to Lower Pleistocene deposit. He inferred that Holocene deposits are finer grained while Pleistocene gravel deposits are coarser. He used soil profiles to estimate landform ages.

Along the Blue Dome segment, af2 is the fan unit that extends directly from the canyon mouths, and af3 is the fan lying topographically above af2. Along the Blue Dome segment, Scott (1982) mapped Holocene to Upper – middle Pleistocene alluvium along the range front in small areas in between alluvial fans.

The Nicholia segment shows a similar pattern. The same three map units—afc, af2, and af3—are mapped in the same pattern where af2 units are the alluvial fans lying directly at the canyon mouth and af3 is topographically higher. Mapped afc units are the range-front alluvium and colluvium deposits as well and are notably of less extent than af2 and af3 deposits. The biggest difference between the mapped Blue Dome and Nicholia range front geomorphology is

that in the northern Nicholia segment, there is a mapped glacial outwash fan of inferred Pinedale age (gpo).

Pierce and Scott (1982) used soil profile data to infer that the youngest alluvial fan deposits in east central Idaho are 70-11 k.y. old. Pierce and Scott (1982) correlated these alluvial fans with other landforms such as terraces and moraines. They hypothesized that alluvial fans grew during glacial intervals, because the cooler Pleistocene temperatures would allow for an increase of annual discharge and increased sediment supply from hillslopes and in glacial systems. Due to decreased evaporation and increased snowfall, water flow persists later in the season and increases the transport capacity. This runoff wouldn't infiltrate into the ground due to effective permafrost in higher altitudes. A more rapid discharge of snowmelt would occur due to snow melting later in each year. This provides a short and intense discharge that would erode and transport sediment within the basin.

In the Pierce and Scott (1982) model, late-Pleistocene alluvial fans would contain coarser gravels than Holocene fans. Glaciers would enhance sediment production due to glacial erosion and in unglaciated valleys, snowpack would melt later and increase erosion along hillslopes. However, They noted that the presence of a glacier is not the primary control of sediment production. Pierce and Scott (1982) thought that the frost erosion of bedrock that would have occurred under cooler climates created more colluvial deposits that would then be transported downstream. They also hypothesized that cooler climates would also increase the effective moisture within the soil and therefore would reduce soil erosion. This would decrease the rate that fine grained sediment was eroded. The increased discharge and supply of more coarse-grained gravel would build the late-Pleistocene alluvial fans observed in central and southeastern Idaho.

Haller (1988) used soil development, alluvial fan morphology, and surface morphology to estimate alluvial fan ages. She estimated that, along the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments, the youngest alluvial fans, extending directly from the canyon mouths, are most likely early Holocene in age. Older fan ages were estimated to be late Pleistocene.

Kenworthy et al. (2014) refined the work of Pierce and Scott (1982) by using optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) to date the range-front alluvial fans in the central Lost River Range. They found fan age groupings of 10 - 20 ka, 20 - 35 ka, 35 - 60 ka, and 90 - 120 ka for their fan units Qa1 - Qa4. There are moraines present on a portion of the range front, inferred to correlate with the 20 -35 ka and 90 - 120 ka alluvial fans. This suggests that alluvial fans aggrade during late Pleistocene cold intervals, regardless of the presence of glaciers, supporting the hypothesis of Pierce and Scott (1982). Finally, Kenworthy (2010) also noted that alluvial fan ages did not differ between fault segments that have differing slip rates and that the slip-rate is not a major control of alluvial fan aggradation.

Despite all of this work in east central Idaho, no OSL, radiocarbon, or CRN ages have previously been obtained along the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments to determine the ages of alluvial fans.

1.3 Fault Mapping

1.3.1 Normal Fault Mapping

Normal fault mapping in east central Idaho was done previously by Haller (1988), Crone and Haller (1991), Skipp (1985), and others. Haller (1988) identified segment boundaries along the Lost River, Lemhi, Beaverhead faults. She used four criteria to define segment boundaries: a major en échelon step in the continuity of fault scarps; changes in fault scarp morphology; bedrock morphology along the range front; and change in topographic relief between the range and associated basin indicating that the fault throw differs along each area. Haller (1988) divided each of the faults into six segments and determined a consistent slip pattern: the middle segments of the faults show higher slip rates than the segments towards the ends of the faults.

1.3.2 Nicholia and Blue Dome Segments

Previous fault mapping on the Nicholia and the Blue Dome segments was done by Haller (1988). The boundary between the two segments is defined by the change in bedrock topography (Figure 1.1) creating a right-stepping en-echelon pattern. The Blue Dome segment is 25 km long (Haller, 1988). The segment has a maximum topographic relief of 1,300 m. Haller (1988) inferred that the Blue Dome segment has not been active in the past 100 ka, based on the range front morphology and application of criteria from Bull (1987), so the existence and age of faulting along the Blue Dome segment is unclear.

The Nicholia fault segment is 42 km long according to Haller (1988) (Figure 1.1). The maximum topographic relief is around 1,485 m from the highest point to the adjacent valley (Haller, 1988). In contrast to the Blue Dome segment, the Nicholia segment does have a documented Late Pleistocene faulting history. Most alluvial fans on the Nicholia segment are carbonate-rich with basal-carbonate coatings (<1mm) on clasts which are indicative of pedogenic

calclac horizon development. The time it takes for these calclac-coatings to develop suggest that alluvial fans are Pinedale in age (<30 ka) (Haller, 1988). Nicholia fault scarps are mostly continuous across these alluvial fans, except they don't appear across the youngest alluvial fan sequence. These relations, as well as the age of soil development, suggest the last rupture on the Nicholia segment was around 15 ka (Haller, 1988).

1.4 Methods

1.4.1 Mapping

1.4.1.1 LiDAR

Geomorphic mapping was done using 0.5 m LiDAR in ArcGIS Pro at the scale of 1:15,000. Alluvial fan relative age relationships were determined through geomorphic relationships on LiDAR-derived images. The lowest fan is designated Qaf1 and progressively higher fans are classified as Qaf2 – Qaf5. The alluvial fan mapping was done using ArcGIS Pro 10.4 software and ArcMap 10.4.

1.4.1.2 Field observations

Field work was conducted to evaluate the LiDAR based mapping. This was done by walking and driving alluvial fans and checking to make sure surfaces correlate based on elevation and slope. Field work was done along the Beaverhead range front near the Blue Dome and Nicholia fault segments as well as digging a total of 25 sampling trenches (12 for the Nicholia and 13 for the Blue Dome). The trenches were used to study the soil development and sediment stratigraphy as well as collect OSL samples (Section 2.2). Alluvial fans south of Bare Canyon in the Blue Dome segment were the focus of the field observations, given their complex relationships and relevance to paleo-seismologic evaluations. Field observations also refined LiDAR mapping done in the Cliff and Scott canyons in the Nicholia segment.

1.4.1.3 Correlations via Pedogenic Carbonate Thickness Variations

The thickness of pedogenic carbonate coatings on gravel clasts can help determine the estimated age of soil. The gravel clasts in older soils generally have thicker accumulation of pedogenic carbonate (Kenworthy, 2004; Vincent et al., 1994; Birkeland; 1998). Carbonate clast thickness was measured in the soil horizon with the greatest accumulated carbonate. These soil horizons averaged 30 cm depth below the land surface underlying the A – ABk horizons. The carbonate horizons are typically Bk1-3 horizons, the zone of maximum carbonate accumulation (ZMA). Over time, it is thought that the thickness of the ZMA and the thickness of pedogenic carbonate rinds increases (Birkeland; 1998). At each site, 50 gravel clasts were collected randomly from the ZMA. Clast dimensions were not recorded, on the basis of findings by Vincent et al. (1994), who concluded that clast size does not correlate to pedogenic thickness. Most of the clasts were limestone or dolomite. The measurements of the pedogenic carbonate clasts were done on the thickest portion of the rind. The mean rind thickness of each sample site was then calculated and means were calculated for each site. The mean pedogenic rind thicknesses for the associated fan units allowed me to distinguish map units done and estimate alluvial fan age from LiDAR and field observations.

1.4.1.4 Structure from Motion Topographic Analysis

To further evaluate the presence or absence of degraded fault scarps along the Blue Dome segment; two drones were flown over the northern portion of the segment: a Phantom Pro 4 quadcopter and Trinity F90 fixed-wing. The images were used to create an orthomosaic and DEM outputs of the area. This allows finer topographic detail of the area where a fault scarp might mark the landscape. We collected data over Long and Bare canyons because there is a visible sequence of alluvial fans of distinct ages.

Phantom Pro 4 V2

A Phantom Pro 4 was flown over alluvial fans at the mouth of Long Canyon with a still camera attached to the base. Our total flight path is shown in Figure 1.4 in which the drone was around 80 m above the ground surface and the photos had around 75% overlap. The photos were uploaded into AgiSoft Metashape. A dense cloud was created with an aggressive measure and a high-quality output. The orthomosaic and DEM exports were then used in ArcMap 10.4 to look for evidence of a fault scarp.

Trinity F90

The fixed wing Trinity F90 was flown over portions of the mouth of Bare Canyon shown in Figure 1.5. Ground control points were not placed in this area and thus there are errors for imagealignment. The Trinity F90 has attached an RGB sensor that takes higher resolution photos than the Phantom Pro 4. The flight plan included an approximately 10% overlap with the Phantom Pro 4 image acquisition.

Image Processing

The DEM and orthomosaic images were created in Agisoft and then exported to ArcMap 10.7 to do a fault scarp analysis. The orthomosaic image was analyzed for evidence sagebrush clustering that might indicate a fault trace, since it is common for sagebrush and other foliage to cluster in depressions where water is more likely to pool. Topographic profiles were created along the alluvial fans to see if there was evidence of a subtle fault scarp. At least two profiles were drawn along each fan surface and their profiles were analyzed for evidence of a degraded fault scarp

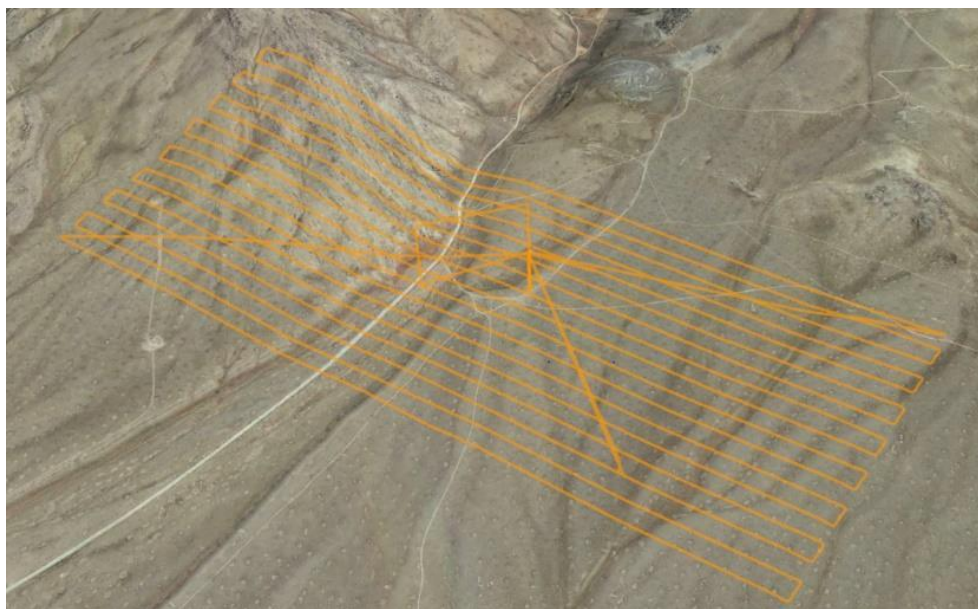


Figure 1.4: Flight path of the Phantom Pro 4. Four separate flights occurred to complete the path of the image.

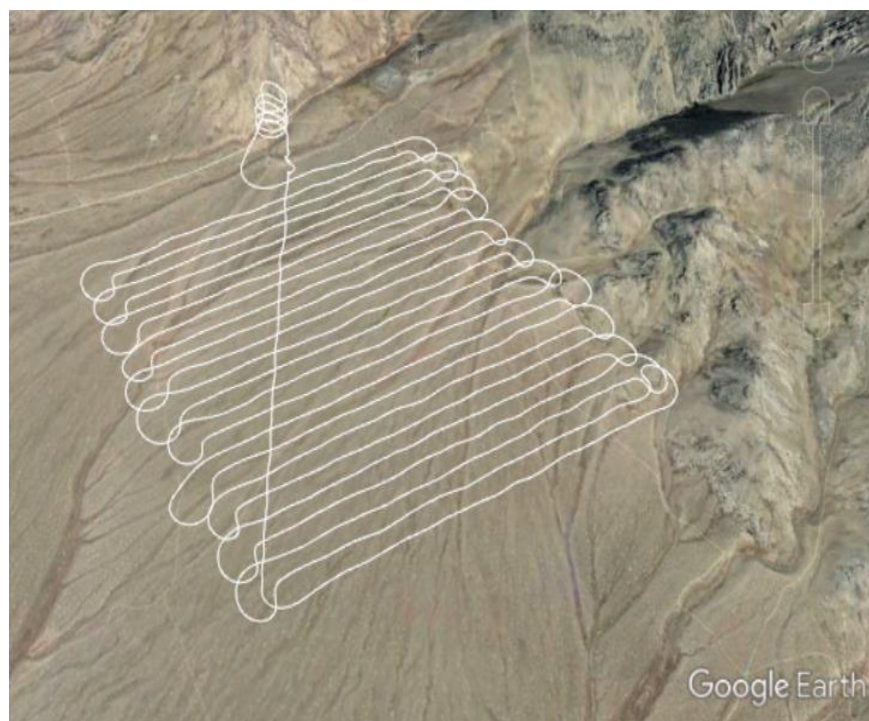


Figure 1.5: Flight path of the Trinity F90 showing the collected imagery for Bare Canyon and a little of the alluvial fans near Long Canyon.

1.4.2 Hypsometry Analysis

Hypsometry is the graphical representation of elevation changes in percentage over a given area. By studying the elevation of the drainage basins incised into the rugged mountains, we can compare them to glacial equal-line altitude (ELA's) and see whether snowpack or glaciers were the main influence for the driving force of aggradation. Two sets of 1 arc second (30 m) public GeoTIFF sets were obtained from the USGS National Map Viewer for this study, because the INL LiDAR did not reach up towards the bedrock ridges in the Nicholia segment. Figures 1.6 and 1.7 show the locations of the selected canyons and their respective alluvial fans for the Nicholia and Blue Dome segment respectively. By comparing the area of the basin to the area of the respective alluvial fans we can also see if there is a correlation that an increase of basin area would also increase the size of the alluvial fans.

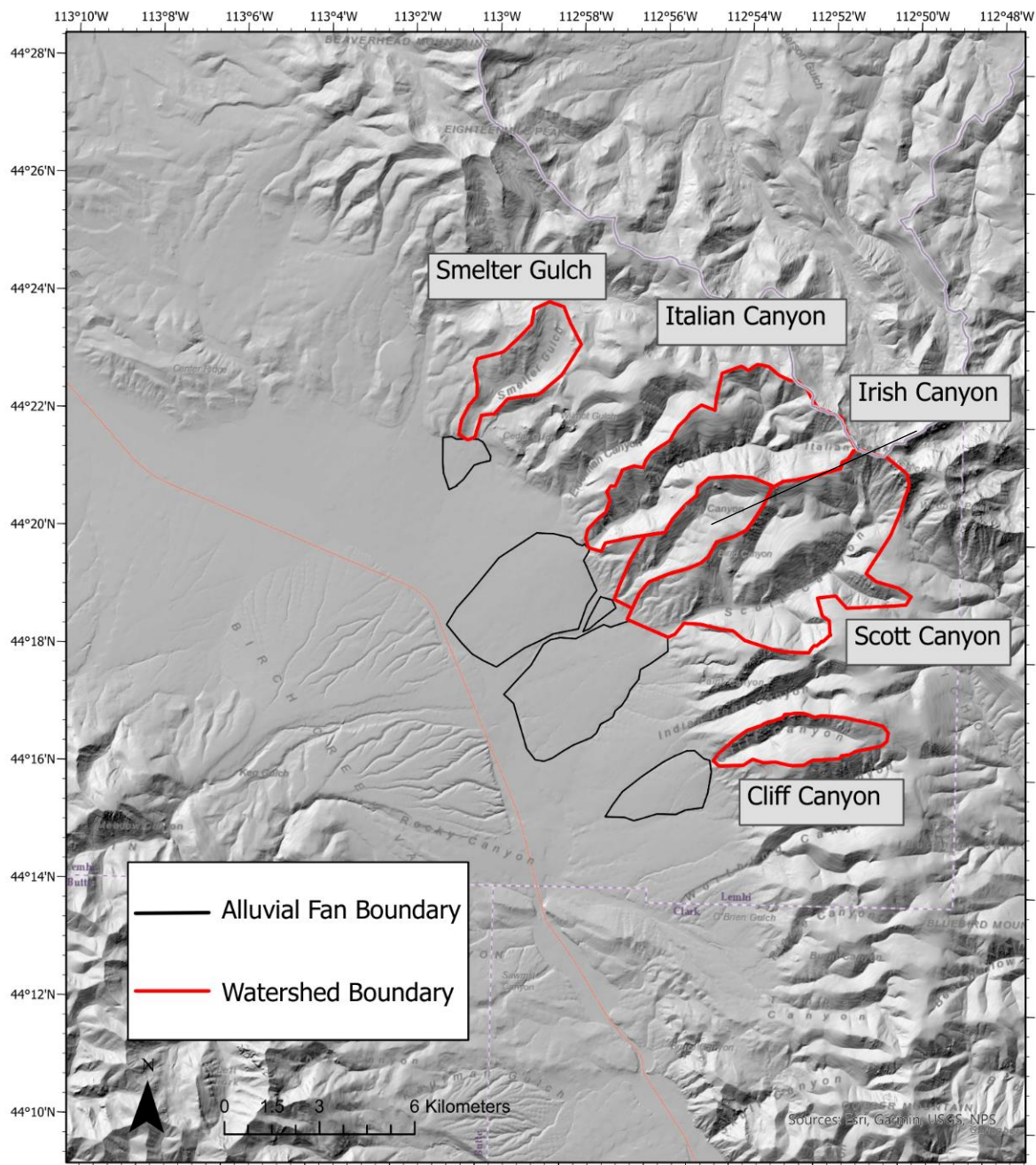


Figure 1.6: Map of the Nicholia segment showing the drainage basins (in red) and the alluvial fan area (in black). Five canyons were selected: Cliff, Scott, Irish, Italian, and Smelter canyons

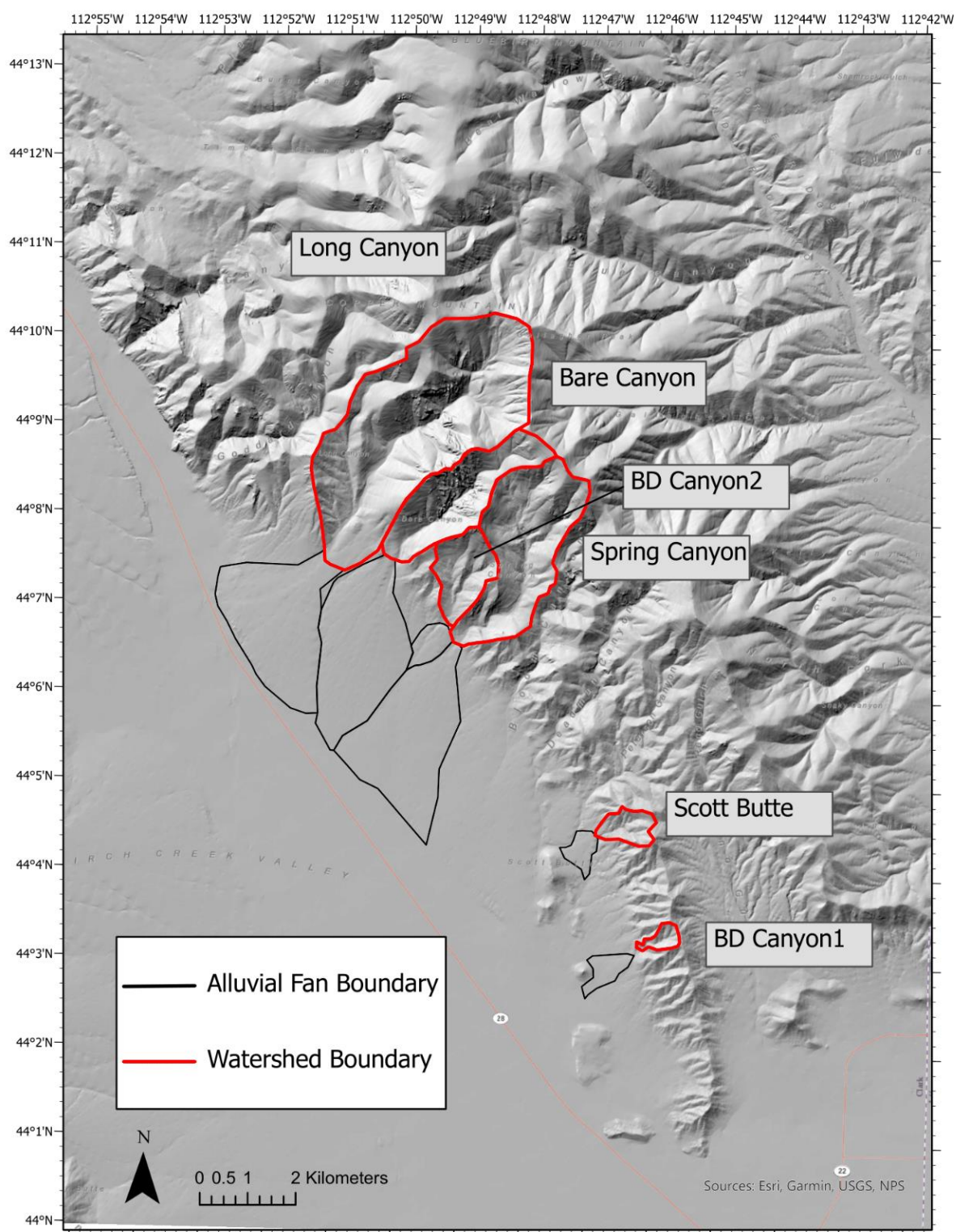


Figure 1.7: Map of the Blue Dome segment showing where the canyons and alluvial fans were selected. . Six canyons were selected for this analysis, Long, Bare, Spring, and Scott Butte. Two additional canyons, BD Canyon 1 and BD Canyon 2 were also included.

1.4.3 Fault scarp analysis

Topographic profiles were extracted from lidar data along lines perpendicular to the strike of the fault scarps. Fault scarp vertical separation was determined by taking the slope of the hanging wall and footwall and then subtracting the elevations of the slope of the hanging wall and footwall to get the height of the scarp that is vertical to the slope. The equation below describes how to measure the vertical separation between the two slopes.

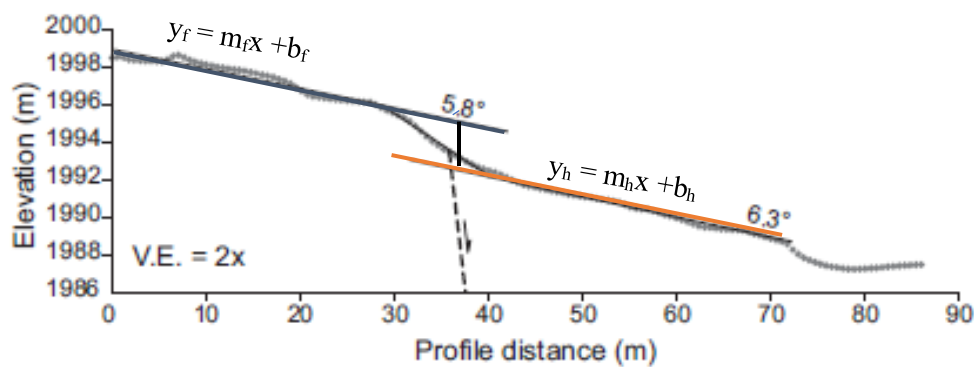


Figure 1.8: Topographic profile along with linear regressions of a normal fault scarp. Vertical separation (black) is measured halfway up on the fault scarp. The slopes of the hanging wall (orange) and footwall (blue) were used. Modified from Amos et al. (2010).

$$v(x) = x(m_h - m_f) + b_h - b_f$$

where m_h and m_f are the slopes of the hanging wall and footwall respectively (Figure 1.8). The variables b_h and b_f are the y intercepts of the calculated slopes while x is the distance along the profile. The variable x in this equation will always be the midpoint of the scarp. The method is described in Thompson et al. (2002). Fault profiles were drawn in ArcMap 10.4 using the 3D analyst tool and then exported into Excel for analysis. This was done for a series of alluvial fans to determine the relationship between fault scarp height and the age of the fan and to determine fault rupture timing.

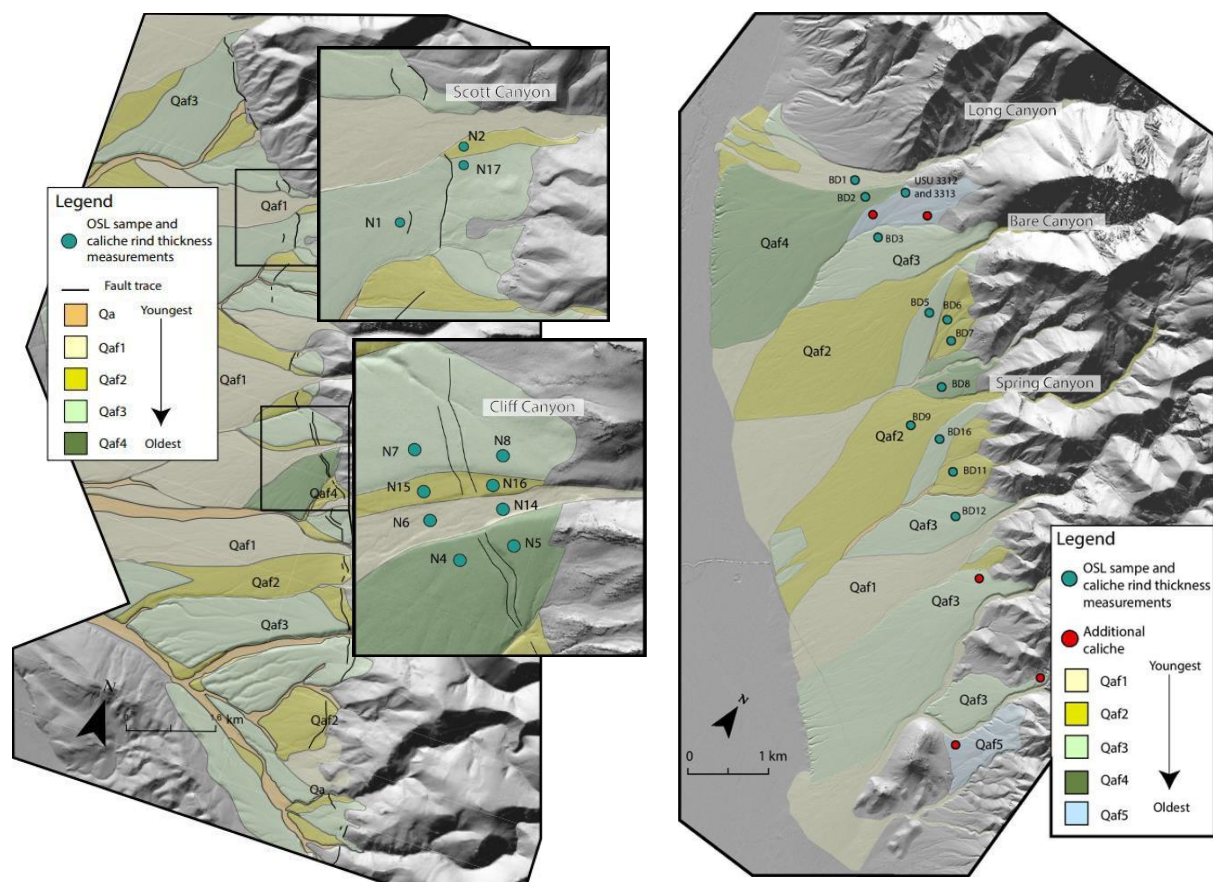


Figure 1.9: Landform and fault scarp map of the Nicholia segment. Optical stimulated luminescence sample sites shown in the teal dots in the Scott and Cliff canyons. Qa is the current alluvial deposit while ages increase from Qaf1 to Qaf4. b. Landform and fault scarp map of the Blue Dome segment, showing shows the alluvial fan and optical stimulated luminescence sampling in the Blue Dome segment.

1.4.4 Optically Stimulated Luminescence dating

Optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating is a dating technique that dates the last time sediment has been exposed to sunlight. OSL dating uses quartz and feldspar grains that are exposed to ionizing radiation following burial and trap electrons into the upper orbitals in the atoms. When exposed to sunlight, the accumulated signal is reset. For this project we used quartz grains to calculate the OSL age. The ages are calculated by measuring the equivalent dose and dose rate. Equivalent dose is the accumulated natural irradiation of the sample once the quartz is buried, and the dose rate is the rate at which the sample is irradiated. By dividing the equivalent dose (D_e) by the dose rate we can calculate the OSL age.

1.4.4.1 Optically Stimulated sample strategy

The OSL sample locations are shown in Figure 1.9a and b for the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments respectively. Twelve OSL samples were collected from the Nicholia segment and thirteen from the Blue Dome segment. Because the Blue Dome segment lacks documented fault scarps cutting alluvial fans, OSL samples and soil data were collected from a variety of fans across the range front. OSL samples were collected primarily from Long, Bare, and Spring canyons because of ease of access to the area and because there are multiple alluvial fans to date at each of the canyons. Sampling across the range front in the Blue Dome segment allowed the alluvial fan chronology to be constrained in better detail. In contrast, the Nicholia segment does have a fault scarp present along the range front. The youngest alluvial fan surface in the Nicholia segment is unfaulted while all four older fan units are cut by fault scarps. Two canyons were chosen to sample the alluvial fans: Scott and Cliff canyons. Cliff Canyon has the best sequence of faulted and unfaulted fans. Four fans were mapped at Cliff Canyon and OSL samples were collected on both the footwall and hanging wall of the fault. This ensures stronger age constraint

on the fans. By dating the unfaulted and faulted fans, the last rupture of the Nicholia segment can be constrained.

1.4.4.2 Optically Stimulated Luminescence sample processing

The OSL samples were collected from trenches created by a back hoe with the exception of USU 3312 and 3313, which were collected in a hand-dug trench. The trenches were dug perpendicular to the slope direction of alluvial fans in order to observe the sediments in the downgradient direction. Samples were extracted from underneath a light-proof tarp while using low-red lighting. Approximately 0.01 – 0.03 m³ of sandy gravel alluvium was collected into a double-bagged garbage bag to ensure that no light interfered with the sample. Water concentration and dose-rate samples were collected adjacent to the sample.

Samples were processed under amber light within the Utah State University Luminescence Lab. The lab uses single-aliquot regenerative-dose (SAR) procedures (Murray and Wintle, 2000) to calculate the equivalent dose (De) of the sample. Dose rates were calculated by irradiating the sample at five doses: below, at, and above the De. A zero and repeated dose were also measured to check for recuperation of the signal. The De is then calculated using either the Central Age Model or the Minimum Age Model by Galbraith and Roberts (2012). Dose rate calculations are dependent on water content, cosmic radiation contribution and sediment chemistry (U, Th, K and Rb). Dose-rate calculations were determined by measuring the amounts of U, Th, K and Rb by using an ICP-MS and ICP-AES and conversion factors from Guérin et al. (2011). Cosmic radiation was calculated by incorporating sample depth, elevation and latitude and longitude of the sample location.

1.4.5 Cosmogenic radionuclide dating

Cosmogenic nuclides are radioactive isotopes produced when cosmic radiation interacts within an *in-situ* atom, causing creation of rare isotopes via spallation. These nuclides accumulate in exposed rock surfaces. The abundance of these nuclides will give an estimate of the exposure age of the mineral when a widely accepted isotopic production rate is applied (Gosse and Phillips, 2001; Cockburn and Summerfield, 2004). For this project, beryllium-10 isotopes were measured on samples of Kinnikinic Formation quartzite boulders exposed in the fault scarp and on a corresponding alluvial fan surface at Pierce Canyon, in the southern end of the Nicholia segment. CRN dating has primarily been used to date boulders along moraines to constrain glacial sequences. It has also been used to date boulders along alluvial fans (Owen et al., 2014). Using CRN to date alluvial fans should produce a younger age than OSL, as boulders are likely to be exposed at the end of an alluvial fan deposition.

1.4.5.1 Cosmogenic sample strategy

Boulders >1 m diameter were sampled on the Pierce Canyon alluvial fan surface shown in Figure 1.10. Eight boulders were sampled, four on the alluvial fan surface, BHPC-01 through -04, and four exposed in a fault scarp. Samples BHPC-05 through BH-08 were collected on a transect up the fault scarp, with the hypothesis that the fault scarp would progressively expose boulders higher on the degraded scarp. These boulders had percussion marks and scratches on the surface indicating that they have been re-worked and conceivably had their ^{10}Be signal reset. Approximately 2.5 cm of rock were removed from the tops of boulders by using an angle grinder and chisels. Shielding, elevation and latitude and longitude calculations were done at each boulder site.

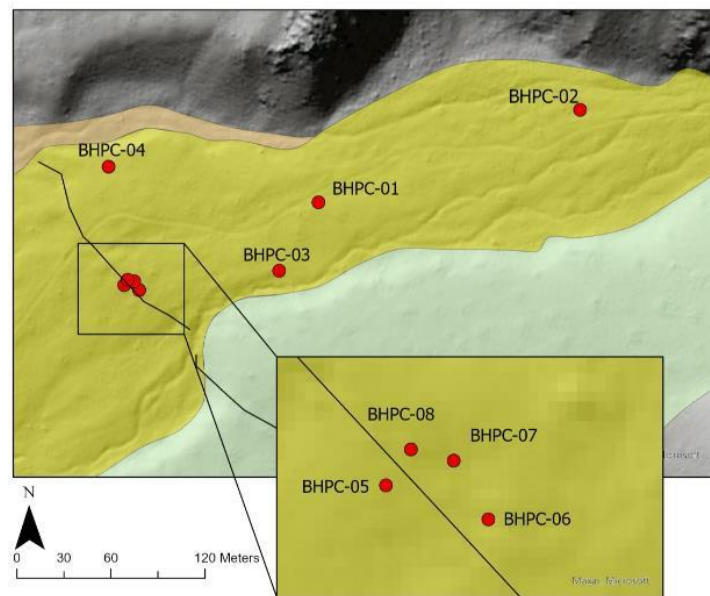


Figure 1.10: Locations of the boulders sampled along Pierce Canyon. Four boulders (BHPC-01 – 04) are located along the alluvial fan surface while BHPC 05 – 08 are located along the fault scarp

1.4.5.2 Cosmogenic sample processing

Samples were reduced to 2.5 cm and ground to 410 -710 μm at the Idaho State University rock grinding lab. The ground-samples were then sent to the University of Vermont Community Cosmogenic Facility for quartz purification and beryllium extraction. The quartz was purified using HCL, HF, and HNO_3 . Samples produced about 20 grams of purified quartz. For more details in UVM CCF procedures, see Corbett et al., (2016). The samples were then analyzed for ^{10}Be content at the Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The ages were then calculated using the online calculators formerly known as CRONUS (version 3, Balco et al., 2008).

1.4.5.3 OxCal

OxCal is a modeling software program that determines the chronology of a fault rupture event based on minimum and maximum limiting ages. For the Nicholia segment, OxCal was used to constrain timing of the most recent two events. The model used the 1σ error on the OSL ages. OSL ages. By studying the cross-cutting relationships between the fault scarps and the OSL dated alluvial fan ages, we can create phases in the model where the boundaries selected are the inputted OSL ages. Program parameters and outputs were done by Susan Olig (personal communication, 2021).

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Chapter II: Alluvial Fan Morphology, Chronology, and Inferences of Climatic History

2.1 Fan units in the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments

This chapter describes alluvial fan morphology and chronology adjacent to the southern Beaverhead range. Dating the deposition of alluvial fans and comparing them to reconstructed regional paleoclimates will show how climate can influence the process of alluvial fan deposition. This is important for the reconstruction of alluvial fan deposition within the northern Basin and Range.

In addition, characterizing these alluvial fans may provide insight on seismic hazards assessment for the Idaho National Laboratory, located to the south of the study area. Haller (1988) showed that the youngest fans in the Nicholia segment are not cut by a fault scarp while older alluvial fans are. By dating the unfaulted fan and the faulted fans, we can constrain the last rupture timing along the Nicholia segment. Chapter 3 of this thesis documents patterns of faulting along the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments.

2.1.1 Spatial distribution of fan units

Five fan units (Qaf1 – Qaf5) were mapped along both the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments. Mapping was done using lidar imagery, and incorporated the relative geomorphic position of the alluvial fans, the caliche carbonate rind thickness, and the OSL ages from the fan units. The following sections describe the spatial distribution of fans along the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments, their soil characteristics, and OSL ages.

2.1.2 Nicholia segment

The alluvial fan map for the Nicholia segment is shown in Figure 2.1. The alluvial fans along the Nicholia segment form a bajada along the range front. These alluvial fans are broad

and spread into Birch Creek basin with the exception of alluvial fans in Pierce Canyon where the bedrock of the Blue Dome segment restricts their spread. The distal 'toes' of the alluvial fans have been eroded away by Birch Creek. Qaf1 fans are mapped at the mouths of most canyons. Qaf1 fans are the lowest fan surface and other alluvial fan surfaces are topographically higher. There are two types of Qaf1 fans mapped in the Nicholia segment, Qaf1o being older and Qaf1y being younger. Qaf1o fans are inset by Qaf1y fans. Qaf1o are slightly lower topographically than Qaf1y fans. The Qaf3 and Qaf4 alluvial fans are found predominantly within the central to southern portion of the Nicholia segment. One Qaf5 fan was mapped in central portion of the Nicholia segment. Most of the Qaf3-Qaf5 fans are clear remnants of the older fans eroded prior to construction of the younger fans, so only the lateral portions of those fans remain. The Qaf1 and Qaf2 alluvial fans are larger and spread toward the center of the Birch Creek basin, only having been incised by Birch Creek and truncated by Birch Creek terraces. There are also small alluvial landforms mapped as Qaf1 between Scott and Willow Creek canyons. The Qaf1 fans are the only fans in the Nicholia segment not cut by a fault scarp. In the middle portion of the segment, near Scott Canyon, there are remnants of Qaf2 fans inset by Qaf1 fans towards the basin.

In the southern portion of the segment near and including Pierce Canyon, there are no large Qaf1 fans like those found elsewhere, but rather there is a large Qa unit that experiences ephemeral water flow and sediment transport. Generally, the alluvial fans at Pierce Canyon are elongate landforms rather than normal fan-shaped alluvial units. This is because the bedrock of the Blue Dome spur blocks the expansion of the alluvial fans to the south, confining them into a narrow space and restricting their growth. This is in contrast to those in the northern section that freely spread out into Birch Creek basin.

2.1.3 Blue Dome segment

The alluvial fans, much like in the Nicholia segment, form a bajada and spread laterally into the Birch Creek basin (Figure 2.2). The Blue Dome segment range front is dominated by Qaf1 and Qaf3 fans. Just as in the Nicholia segment, Qaf1 fans extend directly from the canyon mouths. Qaf3 fans are generally adjacent to the Qaf1 fans. In the southern portion of the range near the mouth of the Birch Creek basin with the Snake River Plain, there is a section Qaf1y and Qaf1o fans along the narrow, low spur of bedrock along the range front. These fans have preserved braided stream patterns on their surfaces. These fans wrap around ~6 Ma basalt buttes and cinder cones (Skipp, 1985). The canyons that fed the fans have smaller drainage areas and would naturally have smaller fan areas. Only two Qaf2 units were mapped in the Blue Dome segment, one in the southern portion of Spring Canyon and another remnant near the end of Long Canyon. Qaf3 fans are the most common fan in the Blue Dome segment. They typically flank a Qaf1 fan. Qaf3 deposits are also present alongside the range front from Long Canyon to Scott Butte. These were mapped as late Holocene deposits by Scott (1982) but our OSL ages confirm that they are late Pleistocene Qaf3 deposits. Qaf4 fan units appear at Long Canyon, Spring Canyon and Peterson Canyon. These fans are small in area compared to Qaf1 and Qaf3 fans.

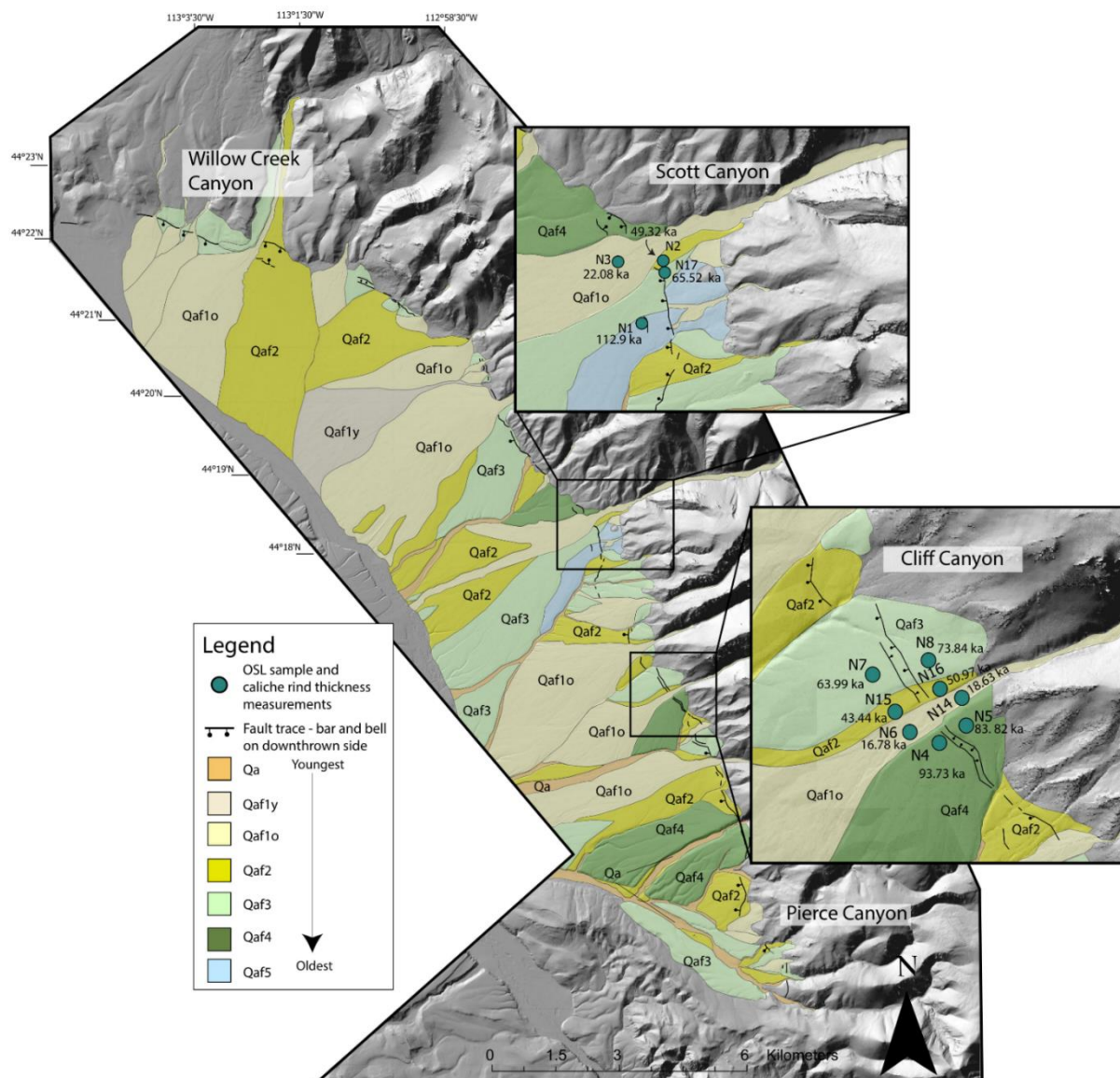


Figure 2.1: Alluvial fan mapping of the Nicholia segment showing the OSL sample locations in Scott and Cliff canyons. Fivefan units were identified in the Nicholia segment.

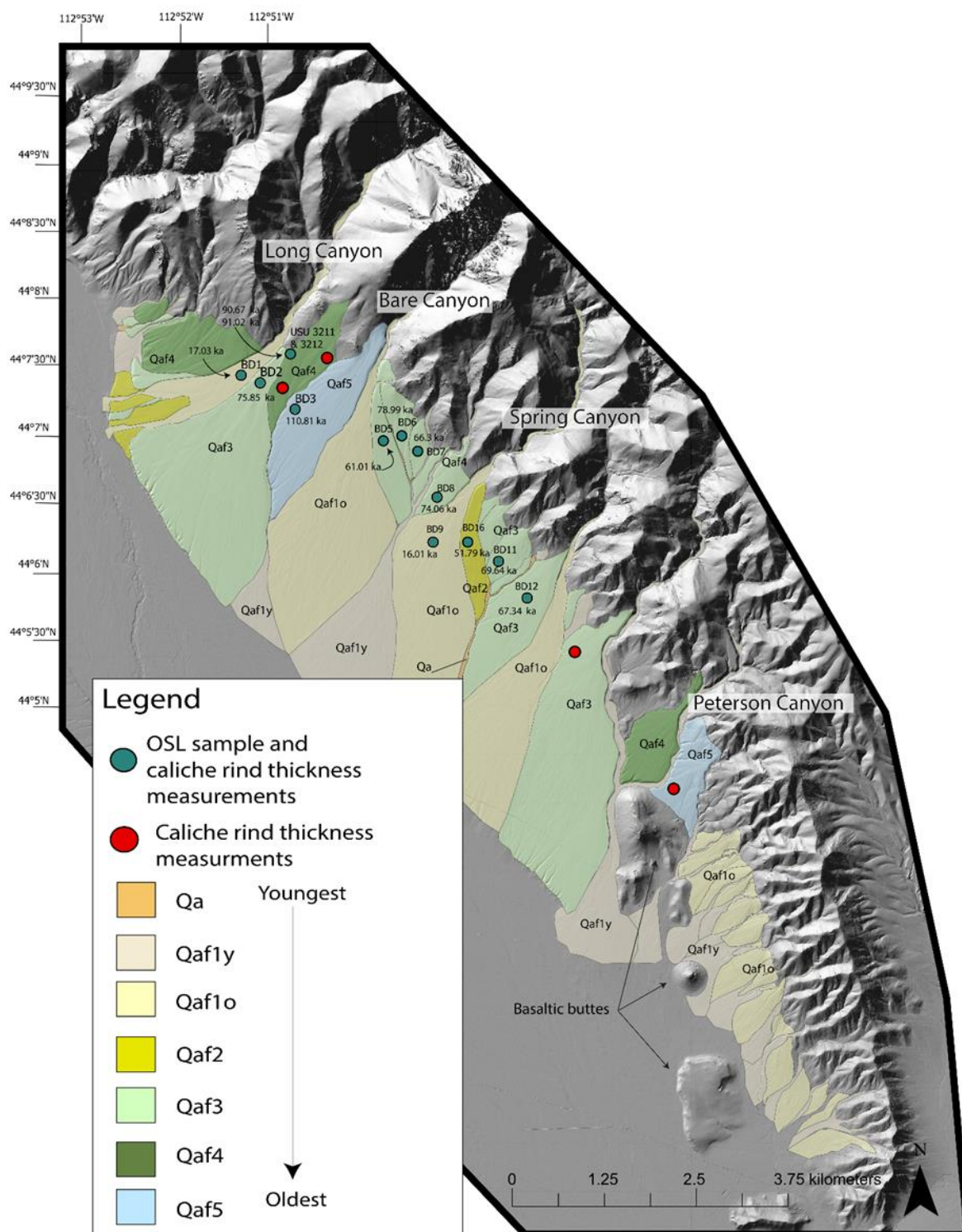


Figure 2.2: Alluvial fan mapping of the Blue Dome segment showing the locations of the OSL samples and their respective ages. Shown are also the additional sites where additional caliche rinds were measured. There are 5 alluvial fan units shown in Blue Dome section.

2.1.4 Fan unit description

General: In the southern portion of the Beaverhead Mountains, near the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments, the alluvial fans form bajadas filling the eastern third of the Birch Creek basin and terminate where cut by Birch Creek. Broad alluvial fans are missing from the range front of the Blue Dome spur, probably having been eroded by Birch Creek.

Alluvial fan deposits were observed in shallow (1.5-2 m) sampling trenches excavated by backhoe. The alluvial fans consist of coarse-cobble to pebble gravel in the upper 1.5 m below the ground surface, fining upward to pebbly gravel and silt interpreted as loess. The matrix ranges from coarse sand fining to sandy silt. Soil development in the gravels has disturbed the clasts and cause them to ‘float’ in the loessic cap. Gravels show imbrication, poorly expressed stratigraphy and poor sorting, indicating a high-energy fluvial setting. Most trench exposures also contained finely bedded pea gravel which is interpreted to be sheet flood deposits (see Figure 2.3, Appendix A). There were some deposits that were interpreted have been deposited by debris flows, but this was uncommon (Appendix A). The deposits that were matrixed supported and contained boulder clasts were classified as debris flows. One site, BD16, uniquely displayed a thick sand lens (30 cm), 1.5 m below the surface.

The soil profiles along the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments have similar soil horizons with varying thicknesses. The A soil horizon is typically a silt loam with granular texture with isolated pebbles. The A horizon reacts weakly to HCl. This horizon is about 15 cm, overlying ABk1 or Bk1 horizons. The ABk horizons were described as the transition zones between the A horizon and the Bk horizon. These layers still retained soil structures but had more pebble clasts as well as an increase of HCl reaction. The ABk horizons are 10 – 15 cm thick. The Bk horizon has a stronger HCl reaction, and more pebble clasts. Bk horizons were sub-divided based on

carbonate accumulation and clast size and range in thickness from 10 – 20 cm. Most sites have at least 3 Bk horizons (Bk1-Bk3). Clast size increases and gravels are more clast supported with depth.

Carbonate rinds were collected from average 30 cm depth in the Bk2 or Bk3 horizons. At 1.0 -1.5 m depth lies the upper portion of the CBk horizon, although this was not commonly observed because it lies below typical excavation depth. All of the soil horizons reacted to HCl, to varying degrees. The AB horizons reacted to the HCl weakly while the Bk horizons had a more moderate to violent reaction and the CBk horizons reacted weakly to moderately. The older alluvial fans had thicker carbonate rinds but the Bk soil horizon is consistent in thickness (Figure 2.3). The soil development on the fan deposits of small drainages limited to the range-front in the Blue Dome section was minimal, as defined by the lack of carbonate accumulation. Only one carbonate stage IV was identified, on an undated Qaf5 fan in Peterson Canyon in the southern Blue Dome segment. Detailed descriptions of the soil profiles and sedimentary units of each trench are in Appendix A.

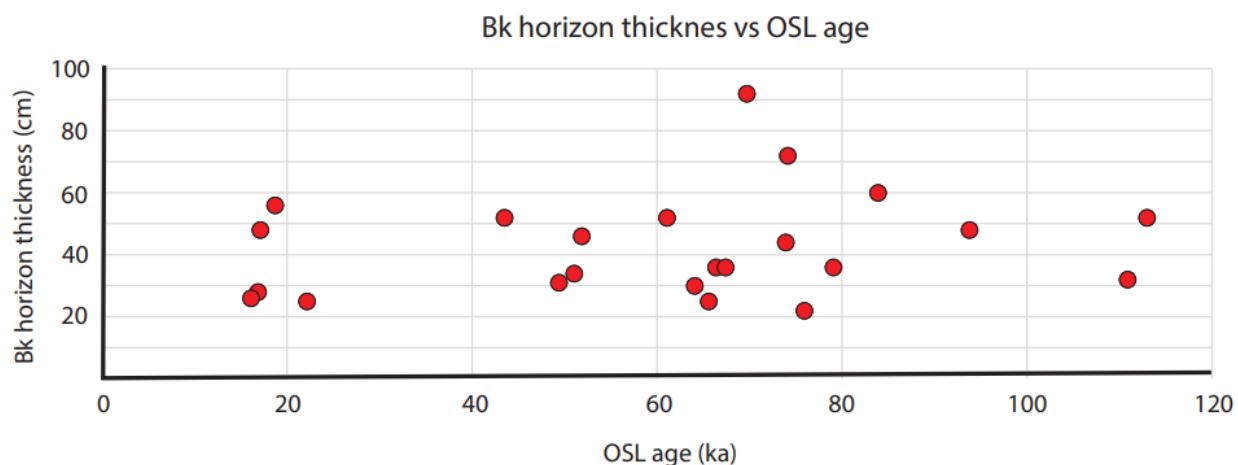


Figure 2.3: The thickness of the Bk horizon where the caliche samples were taken from plotted against the associated OSL age.

Qa: This is the youngest, most recently active, ephemeral stream deposit. These current ephemeral stream deposits are in channels cut into alluvial fans. The unit is most extensive in the southern portion of the Nicholia segment in Pierce Canyon.

Qaf1: This is the youngest alluvial fan unit in both the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments. OSL ages are 16 – 22 ka (see section 2.1). Both of the Nicholia and Blue Dome areas have *Qaf1y* (younger) and *Qaf1o* (older) fans. The *Qaf1o* fans are inset slightly lower than the *Qaf1y* fans, but there is otherwise not sufficient distinction to divide them into distinct units. These fans typically have braided stream channel patterns and deposits preserved on the landform surface. Soils in these fans are predominantly Stage I carbonate (see Birkeland, 1999) and are otherwise weakly developed. There is a thinner loessic cap on the soils and fewer large cobbles in the gravel as compared to *Qaf2* - *Qaf5* units. Figure 2.4 shows the stratigraphic profile of site N3 in the *Qaf1* fan in Scott Canyon in the Nicholia segment.

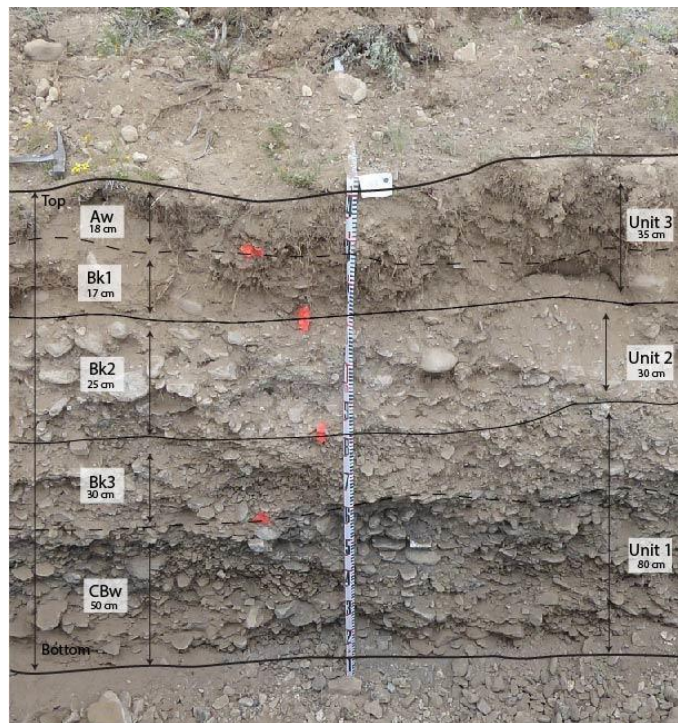


Figure 2.4: N3 trench wall on the *Qaf1* fan at Scott Canyon in the central portion of the Nicholia section shown in Figure 2.1. Units on the left are the soil horizons while those on the right describe the sedimentary units.

Qaf2: Qaf2 fans are topographically higher than Qaf1 fans. These are normally narrow (1 – 1.5 km) remnants of the fans, adjacent to the canyon mouths. A few of these fans have braided stream patterns preserved, but generally do not. Qaf2 fans are more prominent in the Nicholia segment than in the Blue Dome segment. Qaf2 fans range in OSL ages from 35 – 55 ka (section 2.2.2). Stage I+ and Stage II carbonate development characterize the soils.

Qaf3: These fans are topographically higher than Qaf2 fans. These are broad range-front fans and show a smooth surface texture in LiDAR imagery, lacking braided stream channel patterns. The major distinction between Qaf2 and Qaf3 fans is geomorphic position with Qaf3 fans being slightly smoother than the Qaf2 counterparts. The soil carbonate stage for these fans is typically Stage II to Stage II +, with the exception of the mapped Qaf3 alluvial deposits at the mouths of small range front drainages (samples BD7, BD6, and BD11), which have Stage I carbonate. The base of the trenches in the Qaf3 fans have more cobbles than those in the Qaf2 or Qaf1 fans.

Figure 2.5 shows the trench site at N17, a mapped Qaf3 alluvial fan in Scott Canyon.

Qaf4: These alluvial fans are mostly mapped in the southern portion of the Nicholia segment and only locally in the Blue Dome segment. These fans have deeper drainage incisions along their edges as compared to Qaf3. These alluvial fans do not have braided stream channel patterns preserved on their surface. This is particularly the case in the southern portion of the Nicholia segment where the fans are smooth. These fans have abundant cobbles and Stage II to II+ pedogenic carbonate development.

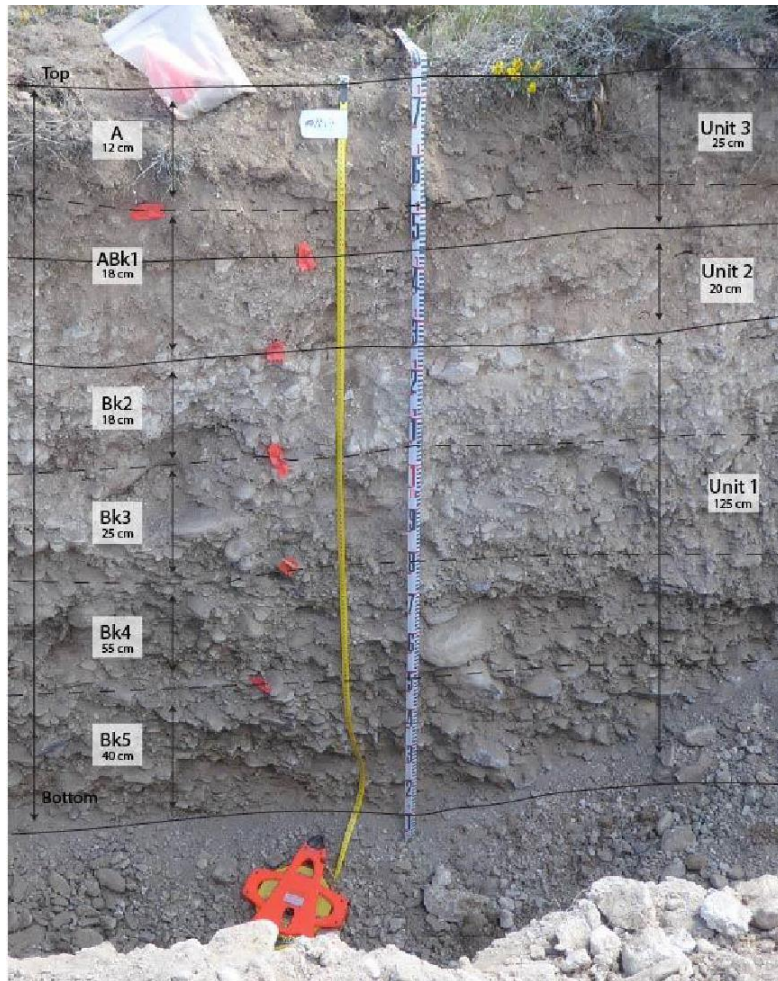


Figure 2.5: Trench site N17, mapped as a Qaf3 fan in Scott Canyon.

Qaf5: This is the oldest fan unit identified. Morphologically they are similar to Qaf4 fans but produced older OSL ages and displayed slightly stronger soil carbonate development than did Qaf4 fans. The Qaf5 fan in the Scott Butte area was mapped on the basis of the carbonate accumulation in the soil profile. One Qaf5 fan was identified in the Nicholia segment outside of Scott Canyon and the other in Bare Canyon within the Blue Dome segment. These fans have Stage II + to Stage III carbonate development and are incised deeply along their edges.

2.2 Optically stimulated luminescence age sequence and correlations to geomorphic position

2.2.1 Summary of OSL ages

We dated 25 OSL samples from 24 locations. Table 2.1 compiles the OSL ages from the Nicholia and Blue Dome segment alluvial fans. Locations and ages are shown in Figures 2.1 and 2.2. We dated two samples (USU-3211 and USU-3212) from one trench at Long Canyon in order to assess repeatability, and those two analyses produced very similar results. Five fan units and ages were identified and dated in both the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments. OSL ages range from 16 – 113 ka. Qaf1 has ages from 16 – 22 ka; Qaf2 43– 61ka; Qaf3 66– 74 ka; and Qaf4 84 – 94 ka. The oldest identified fan unit, Qaf5, had two ages 111 – 113 ka. The mean OSL ages are Qaf1 18.1 +/- 2.4 ka; Qaf2 48.88 +/- 3.6 ka; Qaf3 69.65 +/- 5.5 ka; Qaf4 89.81 +/- 3.6 ka and Qaf5 111.85 +/- 1.0 ka (Table 2.2). Dose-rate information is found in Appendix B.

2.2.2 OSL ages and correlation to geomorphic position

OSL ages correlate to geomorphic position and in general to our initial, purely geomorphic mapping. Examples of this geomorphic position-age correlation are shown in Cliff Canyon (Figure 2.6) and Long Canyon (Figure 2.7). There are four alluvial fan units mapped at the mouth of Cliff Canyon, where Qaf1 is topographically the lowest fan unit and Qaf4 is the highest fan unit. Eight OSL samples were collected on this fan sequence, from each geomorphic unit on either side of the fault scarp. The OSL ages increase with geomorphic position. This supports the accuracy of the geomorphic mapping and indicates that the surface of each alluvial fan consists of 1.5 m or more of gravel that was freshly deposited, as opposed to simple erosion and re-grading of an older alluvial fill. Kenworthy et al. (2014) found similar relationships in the Lost River Range.

Table 2.1: Results of the OSL ages.

Segment	Sample num.	Fan Unit	USU num.	Depth (m)	Num. of aliquots ¹	Dose rate (Gy/ka)	Equivalent Dose ² ± 2σ (Gy)	OSL age ± 1σ (ka)
Nicholia	N3	Qaf1	USU-3400	1.3	18 (26)	1.19 ± 0.06	26.26 ± 1.64	22.08 ± 1.98
	N6	Qaf1	USU-3406	1.55	19 (27)	0.82 ± 0.05	13.82 ± 2.40	16.78 ± 2.09
	N14	Qaf1	USU-3407	1.5	21 (26)	0.84 ± 0.05	15.70 ± 2.42	18.63 ± 2.20
	N15	Qaf2	USU-3404	1.2	21 (28)	1.10 ± 0.05	47.87 ± 8.65	43.44 ± 5.39
	N2	Qaf2	USU-3401	1.3	21 (33)	1.22 ± 0.06	60.05 ± 8.36 ³	49.32 ± 5.86
	N16	Qaf2	USU-3411	1.4	18 (27)	0.96 ± 0.05	49.04 ± 5.82	50.97 ± 5.43
	N7	Qaf3	USU-3405	1.3	18 (25)	0.89 ± 0.05	57.25 ± 7.25	63.99 ± 6.99
	N8	Qaf3	USU-3410	1.2	21 (33)	0.95 ± 0.05	70.07 ± 7.94	73.84 ± 7.79
	N17	Qaf3	USU-3402	1.5	21 (31)	1.02 ± 0.05	66.82 ± 8.17	65.52 ± 6.92
	N5	Qaf4	USU-3409	1.4	19 (26)	0.84 ± 0.05	70.51 ± 7.66	83.82 ± 8.73
	N4	Qaf4	USU-3408	1.5	18 (26)	0.68 ± 0.04	64.18 ± 10.66	93.7 ± 11.8
	N1	Qaf5	USU-3403	1.7	20 (35)	0.87 ± 0.05	98.28 ± 11.95	112.9 ± 12.1
Blue Dome	BD1	Qaf1	USU-3412	1.3	21 (31)	0.99 ± 0.05	16.90 ± 3.15 ³	17.03 ± 2.28
	BD9	Qaf1	USU-3419	1.35	26 (32)	1.77 ± 0.08	28.33 ± 4.03 ³	16.01 ± 1.77
	BD16	Qaf2	USU-3420	1.45	20 (26)	2.22 ± 0.09	114.9 ± 15.0	51.79 ± 5.39
	BD2	Qaf3	USU-3413	1.3	19 (26)	1.04 ± 0.05	79.10 ± 7.98	75.85 ± 7.52
	BD5	Qaf3	USU-3415	1.5	20 (28)	1.23 ± 0.06	75.08 ± 11.59	61.01 ± 6.96
	BD6	Qaf3	USU-3416	1.5	18 (24)	1.07 ± 0.05	84.56 ± 7.64	78.99 ± 7.59
	BD7	Qaf3	USU-3417	1.6	24 (47)	1.29 ± 0.06	85.55 ± 8.18	66.30 ± 6.39
	BD8	Qaf3	USU-3418	1.45	19 (36)	1.45 ± 0.06	107.6 ± 12.3	74.06 ± 7.45
	BD11	Qaf3	USU-3421	1.6	18 (26)	1.39 ± 0.06	97.06 ± 5.30	69.64 ± 6.04
	BD12	Qaf3	USU-3422	1.45	23 (41)	0.96 ± 0.05	64.86 ± 9.32	67.34 ± 7.52
	USU-3211	Qaf4	USU-3211	0.96	18 (43)	1.95 ± 0.08	176.4 ± 33.2	90.7 ± 11.3
	USU-3212	Qaf4	USU-3212	1.32	18 (32)	2.01 ± 0.09	183.3 ± 33.2	91.0 ± 11.1
	BD3	Qaf5	USU-3414	1.5	23 (29)	1.15 ± 0.05	127.8 ± 15.0	110.8 ± 11.3

Processed by Tammy Rittenour at the Utah State University's luminescence lab. For the Dose rate information see Appendix B.

¹analysis using the single-aliquot regenerative-dose procedure of Murray and Wintle (2000) on 1-2 mm small-aliquots of quartz sand (USU-3211:3212 = 150-250 μm; USU-3400:3422 = 75-150 μm). Number of aliquots used in age calculation and number of aliquots analyzed in parentheses.

²Equivalent dose (D_E) calculated using the Central Age Model (CAM) of Galbraith and Roberts (2012), unless otherwise noted.

Alluvial fan unit	OSL age range	Mean age $\pm 1\sigma$ (ka)
Qaf1	16 - 22 ka	18.1 ± 2.4
Qaf2	43 - 61 ka	48.88 ± 3.6
Qaf3	66 - 79 ka	69.65 ± 5.5
Qaf4	84 - 94 ka	89.81 ± 3.6
Qaf5	111 - 113 ka	111.85 ± 1.1

Table 2.2: Summary of alluvial fan units and associated OSL ages for both the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments.

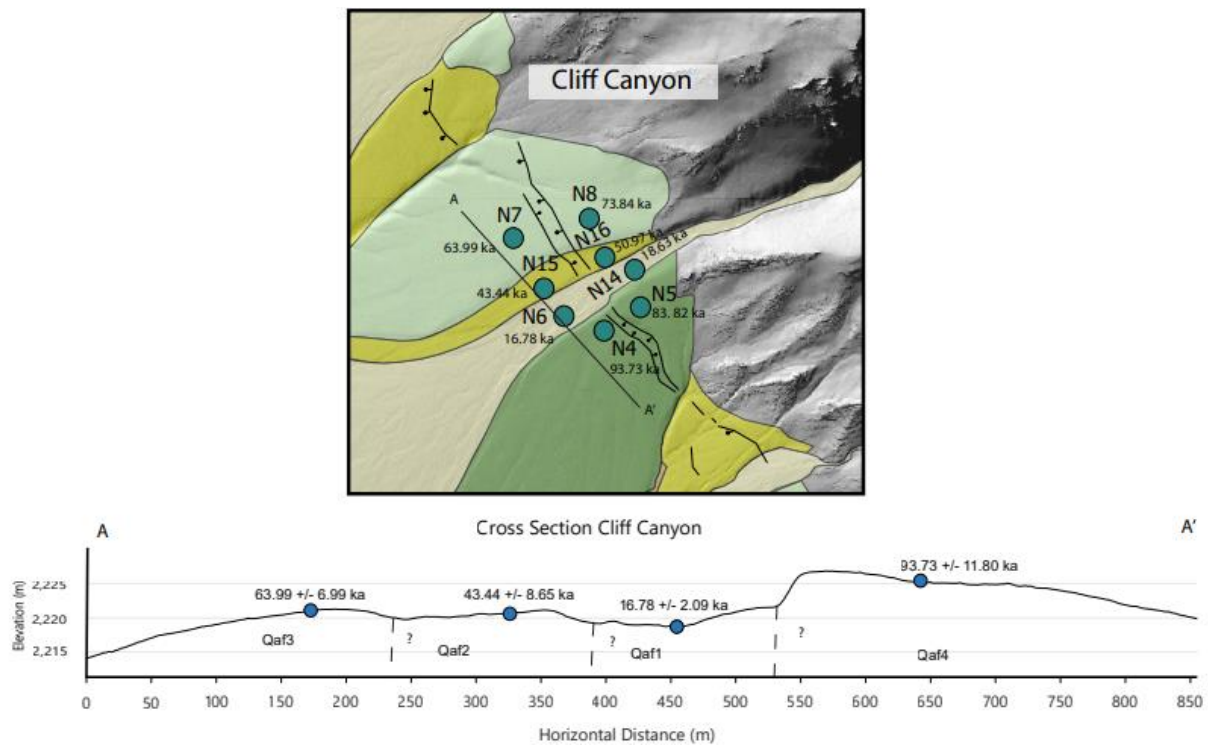


Figure 2.6: Geomorphic map of Cliff Canyon and showing the elevation profile drawn on A – A'. Cliff Canyon has 4 alluvial fan ages mapped out (Qaf1 – Qaf4). This shows the topographical relationship between OSL age and elevation on the mapped alluvial fans. Vertical exaggeration is 10x.

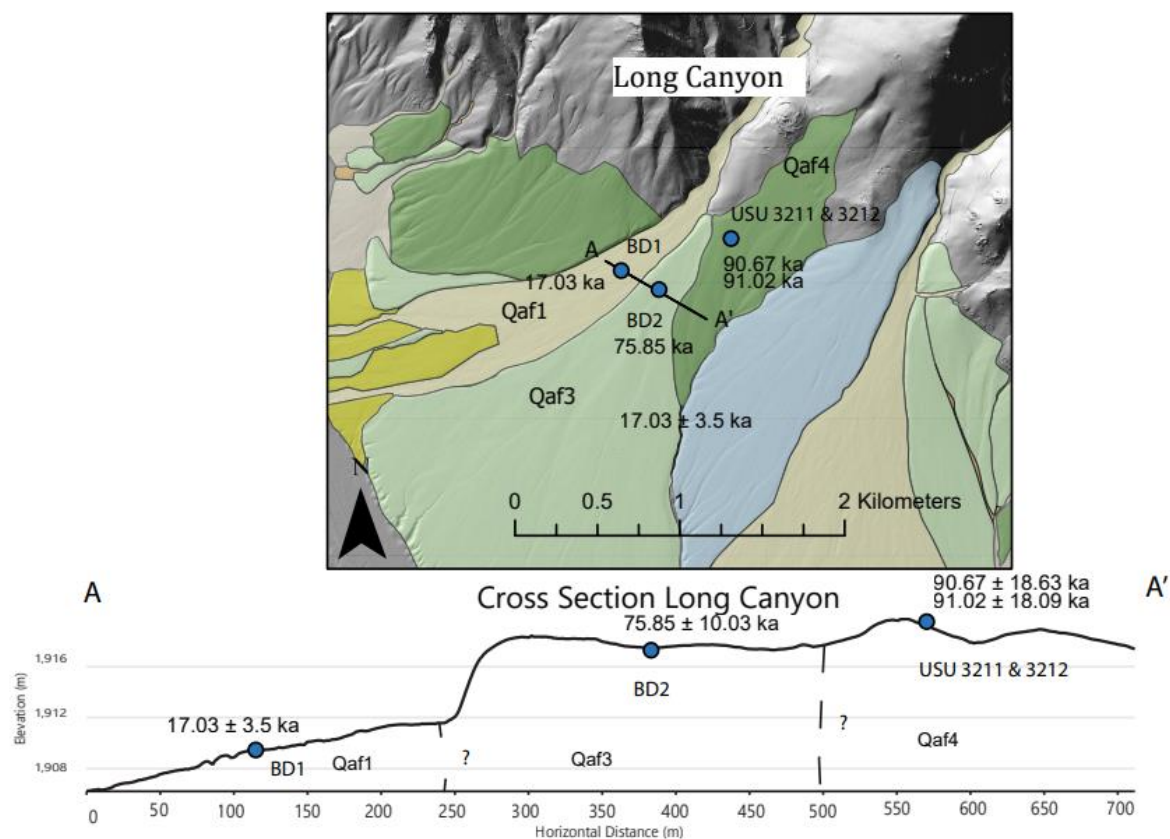


Figure 2.7: Geomorphic map of Long Canyon showing the elevation profile drawn on A – A'. The elevation profile showing the OSL ages show OSL ages increase due to topographic relief. Vertical exaggeration is 12x.

2.3 Pedogenic carbonate rind data-fan age correlations

2.3.1 OSL age vs pedogenic rind thickness

Carbonate rinds were measured on clasts in the zone of maximum accumulation (ZMA), roughly 30 cm below the surface, at each OSL sample site and at several additional sites. The samples from the Nicholia segment were concentrated at the mouths of two canyons while the samples in the Blue Dome segment were from locations distributed along the range front. The mean thickness of pedogenic rinds (50 clasts) were calculated for each sampling site and plotted against the associated OSL age (Figure 2.7 and Table 2.3). While mean carbonate rind thicknesses in both segments increased with age, the Nicholia sample suite has a higher rate of accumulation (0.8 mm per 10 ka) than the Blue Dome sample suite (0.3 mm per 10 ka). The combined average pedogenic carbonate accumulation rate is 0.5 mm per 10 ka. The r^2 values for the Nicholia and for the Blue Dome segments are 0.47 and 0.24, respectively, which shows a weak correlation of the data. The r^2 value for all samples combined is 0.20. Soils generally would be expected to have a high variability, resulting in low r^2 values. The contrasting carbonate accumulation rates between the two areas may result from contrasting climatic conditions that can influence the rate of carbonate accumulation. In the field, it was observed that the Nicholia segment has larger sagebrush and generally denser vegetation than does the BlueDome segment. This suggests that the Nicholia segment has a higher rate of precipitation than the Blue Dome segment. Because the Blue Dome segment borders the ESRP, it most likely has a similar arid and windy climate, which could result in slower carbonate rind accumulation.

The carbonate rind data shows that relying solely on caliche thickness to determine landform age is possible, but that those ages should be considered to have substantial uncertainty, especially in older landforms. The soil carbonate accumulation is very dependent on

the climate where the landform is located.

Outliers in the carbonate rind dataset include BD11, BD7, and BD6 for the Blue Dome segment. These samples have thin rinds (~1.0mm) with older OSL ages of 70 – 75 ka. These samples were collected from the alluvial deposits mantling small alluvial fans of small drainage basins limited to the range front. The soil here has thin carbonate rinds and there are few cobbles, and the contrast in rind thickness may arise from those differences. Another outlier is N4 in the Nicholia segment which has a mean of 2.1mm with a respective OSL age of 93.73 ka and is mapped as a Qaf4 alluvial fan. The mean caliche thickness in N5, in contrast, is 5.5 mm with an OSL age of 83 ka. The low r^2 values and the outliers present within the dataset suggest that caliche rind thickness should be used with caution to estimate ages of individual alluvial fans. The strongly contrasting caliche accumulation rates (Figure 2.7) further indicates that calibration of caliche rind accumulation needs to be done locally rather than regionally, and that a larger calibration dataset may be needed.

Previous studies within the Lost River Range show that the carbonate accumulation rates vary from 0.6 mm per 10 ka (Pierce, 1985) to about 0.4 mm per 10 ka (Kenworthy, 2011). Our combined results (0.5 mm per 10 ka) do fit within that range, but our corresponding r^2 values show that there is a very weak positive correlation between OSL age and carbonate thickness. The r^2 values for Kenworthy (2011) was reported to be 0.66. Due to the alluvial fans selected having the same carbonate clast lithologies, we do not expect variation with clast lithology to influence the carbonate accumulation rates. Our results do suggest that there are local climatic influences on carbonate accumulation rates.

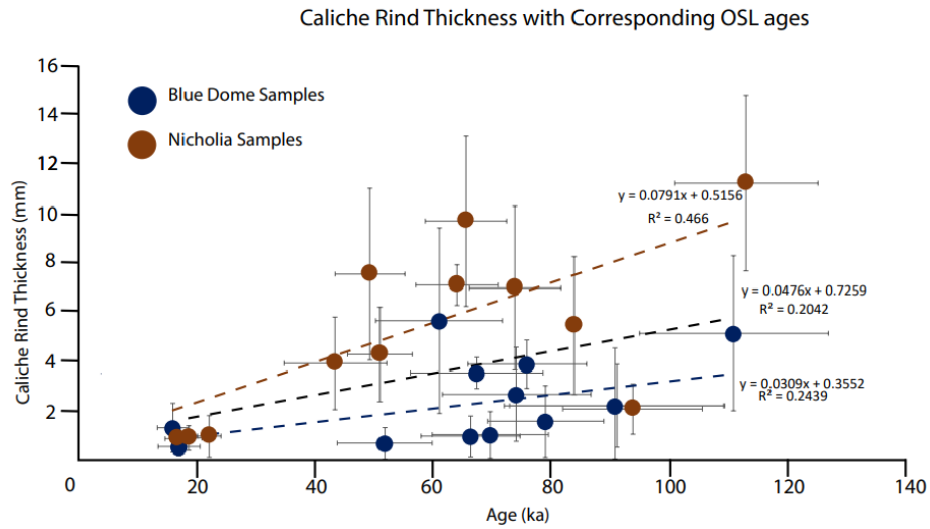


Figure 2.8: Mean pedogenic carbonate thicknesses plotted against the respective OSL age. Table 2 shows the respective graph. See Appendix C for the mean caliche calculated.

Sample Location	OSL age $\pm 1\sigma$	Caliche Thickness $\pm 1\sigma$
BD1	17.03 $\pm$ 3.5	0.55 $\pm$ 0.35
BD2	75.85 $\pm$ 10.03	3.90 $\pm$ 0.98
USU 3211	90.67 $\pm$ 18.63	2.21 $\pm$ 2.36
USU 3212	91.02 $\pm$ 18.09	2.21 $\pm$ 1.69
BD3	110.8 $\pm$ 15.95	5.16 $\pm$ 3.15
BD5	61.01 $\pm$ 10.72	5.67 $\pm$ 3.77
BD6	78.99 $\pm$ 9.79	1.59 $\pm$ 1.45
BD7	66.3 $\pm$ 8.42	0.98 $\pm$ 0.82
BD8	74.06 $\pm$ 12.54	2.68 $\pm$ 1.92
BD9	16.01 $\pm$ 2.63	1.32 $\pm$ 1.00
BD16	51.79 $\pm$ 7.97	0.69 $\pm$ 0.64
BD11	69.64 $\pm$ 9.88	1.04 $\pm$ 0.94
BD12	67.34 $\pm$ 11.26	3.55 $\pm$ 0.64
N1	112.9 $\pm$ 12.1	11.25 $\pm$ 3.56
N2	49.32 $\pm$ 5.86	7.56 $\pm$ 3.49
N3	22.08 $\pm$ 1.98	0.98 $\pm$ 0.84
N17	65.52 $\pm$ 6.92	9.72 $\pm$ 3.47
N7	63.99 $\pm$ 6.99	7.12 $\pm$ 0.82
N15	43.44 $\pm$ 8.65	3.94 $\pm$ 1.89
N6	16.78 $\pm$ 2.09	0.87 $\pm$ 0.44
N4	93.73 $\pm$ 11.8	2.08 $\pm$ 1.03
N8	73.84 $\pm$ 7.79	7.00 $\pm$ 3.33
N16	50.97 $\pm$ 5.43	4.30 $\pm$ 1.92
N14	18.63 $\pm$ 2.2	0.90 $\pm$ 0.50
N5	83.82 $\pm$ 8.73	5.47 $\pm$ 2.80

Table 2.3: Shows the OSL age and caliche rind thickness with 1σ standard deviation for each sam

2.4 Hypsometry of drainage basins and alluvial fan sequences

2.4.1 Hypsometry curves

Fan sequences and morphologies may be related to drainage basin characteristics. In order to investigate these relationships, we created hypsometry curves of selected canyons and compared them to fan sequences at the range front as well as to regional analyses of glacial snowline elevations. Figures 2.9 and 2.10 show selected source canyons and outlines of the alluvial fan areas for the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments respectively. These drainage basins were used for the hypsometry analysis. We primarily focused on selecting a variety of canyons and those that have alluvial fan OSL ages. Figure 2.11 shows the hypsometry plots for those canyons, in both the Blue Dome segment (in blue) and for the Nicholia segment (in orange). The tops of the Nicholia canyons start at a higher elevation (3200 m) than do the canyons in the Blue Dome segment (Figure 2.8 and 2.9 respectively). The canyon with the lowest elevation in the Nicholia segment is Smelter Gulch (2800 m). Reconstruction of glacier equilibrium-line altitudes (ELA) during the last glaciation has been done by Locke (1990) in western Montana and was expanded into Oregon and Idaho by Meyer et al. (2004). The compiled late-Pleistocene ELA's are 2700 – 2800 m in the southern Beaverhead Mountains.

Comparing these values to those in the hypsometry curves in Figure 2.10, it is clear that the Nicholia drainages originate at higher elevations than do the Blue Dome ones. Comparing those elevations to the ELA's, it appears likely that during the last glaciation there was substantial summer snow pack in the mountains adjacent to the Nicholia segment while snowpack was likely less in the lower elevation mountains adjacent to the Blue Dome segment. This is because the canyons adjacent to the Nicholia segment extend further up into the calculated ELA zone of Locke (1990), while those adjacent to the Blue Dome segment likely did

not to those high elevations where substantial snowpack was likely. It is noteworthy that Scott (1982) mapped a glacial outwash fan in the northern portion of the Nicholia segment near Smelter and Willow Creek canyons, but no glacial outwash elsewhere in the study area. There is a possibility that glaciers were present in the canyons of the Nicholia segment, but unlikely that they were adjacent to the Blue Dome segment. Whether glaciers were present or not, these results suggest that substantial snowpack was present and would generate sufficient discharge to transport gravel as suggested by Pierce and Scott (1982) and supported by Kenworthy et al. (2014).

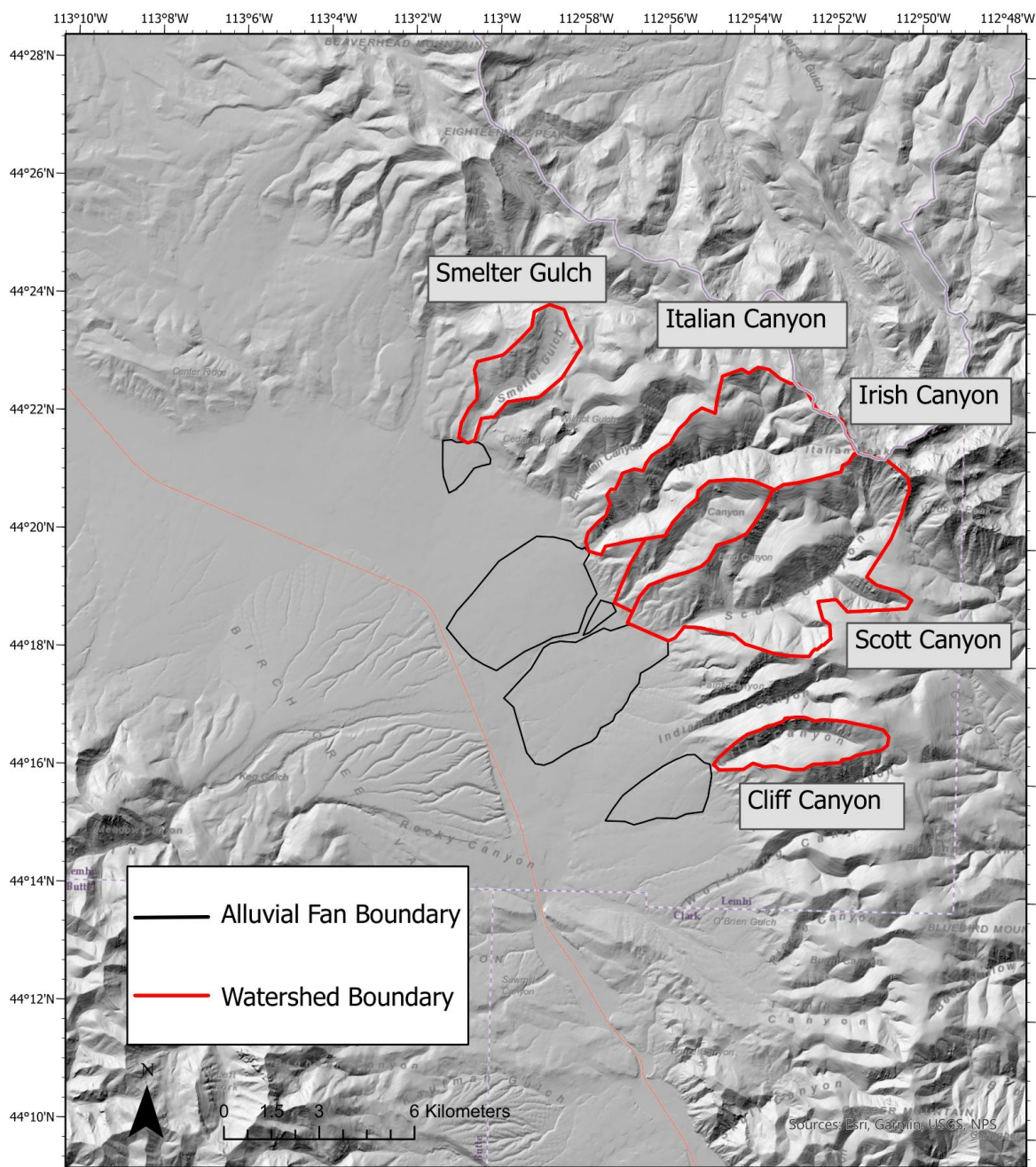


Figure 2.9: Map of the Nicholia segment showing the drainage basin (in red) for the hypsometry analysis shown in Figure 2.11. Five canyons were selected: Cliff, Scott, Irish, Italian, and Smelter canyons.

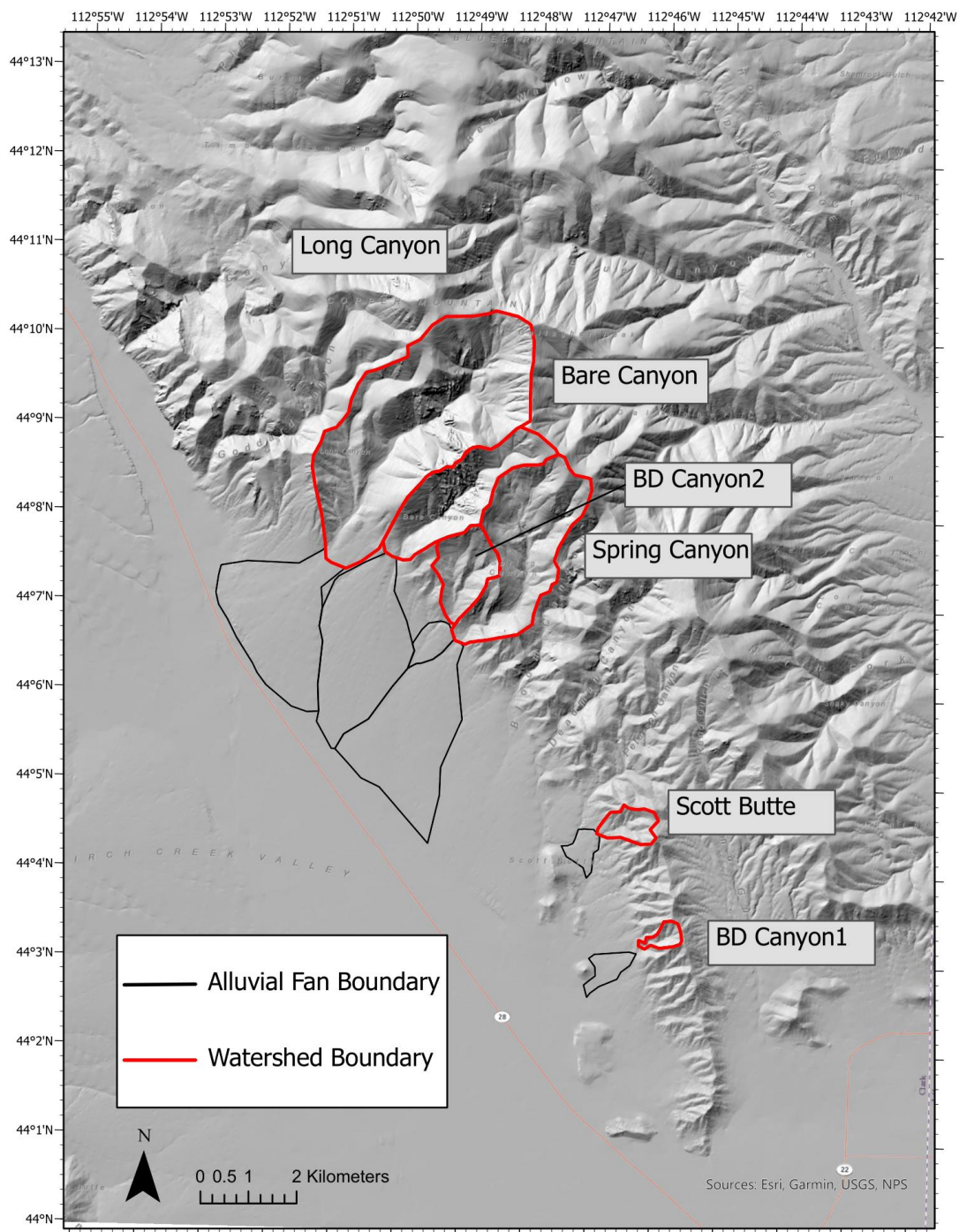


Figure 2.10: Map of the Blue Dome section highlighting the drainage basins for the hypsometry analysis shown in Figure 2.11. Six canyons were selected for this analysis, Long, Bare, Spring, and Scott Butte. Two additional canyons, BD Canyon 1 and BD Canyon 2 were also included.

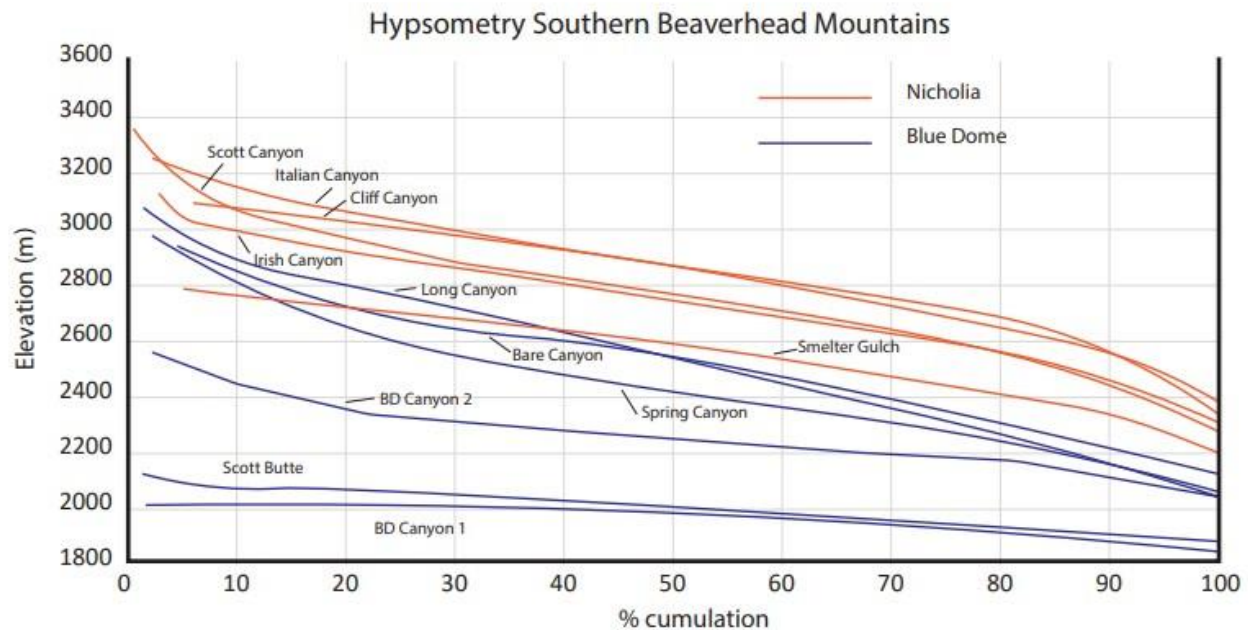


Figure 2.11: The hypsometry curves for the selected canyons shown in Figure 2 and 3. The blue curves show the selected canyons for the Blue Dome segment while the orange lines indicate the hypsometry curves for the Nicholia segment.

2.4.2 Drainage basin area vs fan area

Table 2.4 shows the alluvial fan area and the drainage basin area for each drainage and fan area adjacent to the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments (Figures 2.9, 2.10). Figure 2.12 shows the relationship between these two variables. Blue Dome canyons form two clusters: one includes BD Canyon 1, BD Canyon 2, (range front drainages) and Scott Butte Canyon while the other includes Long, Bare, and Spring canyons. The selected canyons show a slight positive correlation between drainage basin area and alluvial fan area. This would make sense that as a larger canyon would produce more sediment that would create a larger alluvial fan area.

Canyon Name	Alluvial Fan Area (km ²)	Drainage Basin Area (km ²)
Long Canyon (BD)	5.26	3.81
Bare Canyon (BD)	5.39	3.81
Spring Canyon (BD)	5.49	5.76
BD Canyon 1 (BD)	0.49	0.30
Scott Butte (BD)	0.42	0.69
BD Canyon 2 (N)	0.53	1.77
Scott Canyon (N)	12.59	29.77
Cliff Canyon (N)	4.39	6.04
Irish Canyon (N)	12.06	20.87
Italian Canyon (N)	0.44	6.83
Smelter Gulch (N)	1.59	7.90

Table 2.4: Alluvial fan area and drainage basin area for selected canyons. The annotations BD and N stand for the canyons located in the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments respectively.

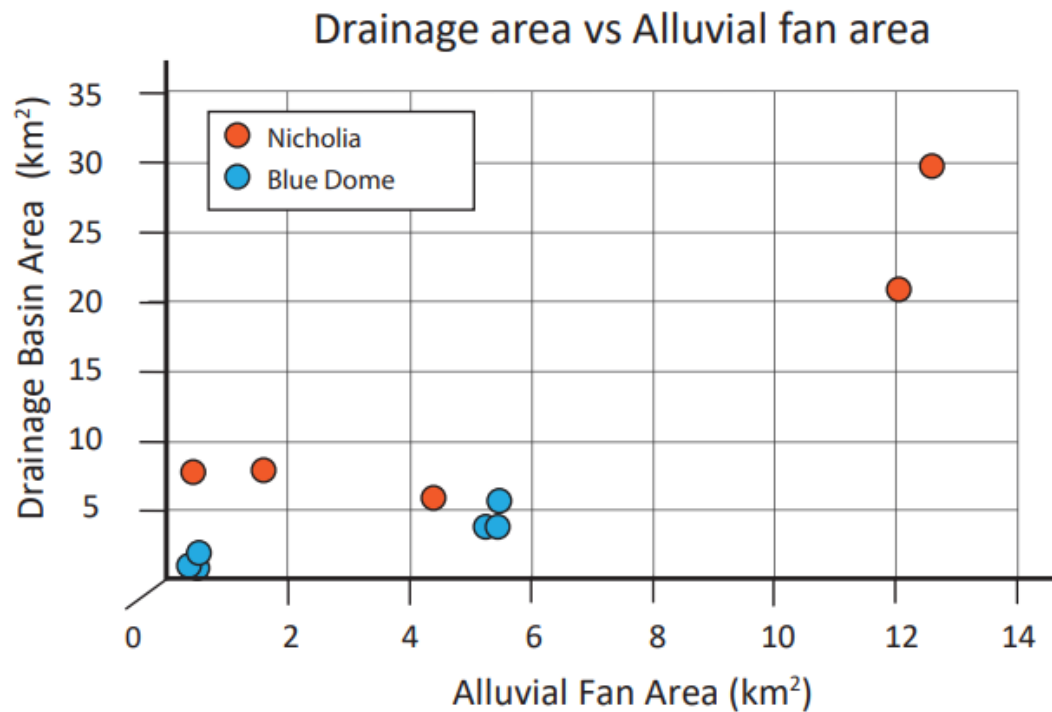


Figure 2.12: Alluvial fan areas and their respective drainages. (Data in Table 2.4)

2.5 Discussion: Alluvial fan processes and growth

2.5.1 Climatic linkages to alluvial fan growth

The main climatic drivers for alluvial fan aggradation are subject to debate. In the southwestern United States for example, there are two hypotheses for alluvial fan growth. The hypothesis supported by Bull (1991, 1977) is that alluvial fans grow during glacial cycles, particularly in transitional periods when the climate starts to warm. The glacial intervals would be characterized by higher rates of effective moisture which would increase erosion rates. An alternative hypothesis, the humid model, proposes that alluvial fans in the southern US would grow during interglacial cycles as this is when there is less vegetation density, and drier conditions would lead to increased erosion despite less precipitation (Harvey et al., 1999). Other studies have concluded that alluvial fans grow during a period of increasing precipitation. Miller et al., (2010) found that alluvial incision and deposition would increase during monsoonal seasons in the Mojave Desert and Owen et al, (2014) dated their alluvial fans to the Holocene and to marine isotope stage (MIS) 4.

In the northern Basin and Range province, where glaciers could influence alluvial fan growth, Pierce and Scott (1982) concluded that there are general climatic linkages to alluvial fan growth. They inferred from soil data that the most extensive alluvial fans are from the latest Pleistocene and coincide with the final glacial event of the last glaciation. Past studies have shown that the presence of a glacier in the drainage basin had little influence on the alluvial fan morphology (Pierce and Scott, 1982; Kenworthy et al., 2014), but that generally cooler climatic conditions during a glaciation can lead to fan growth.

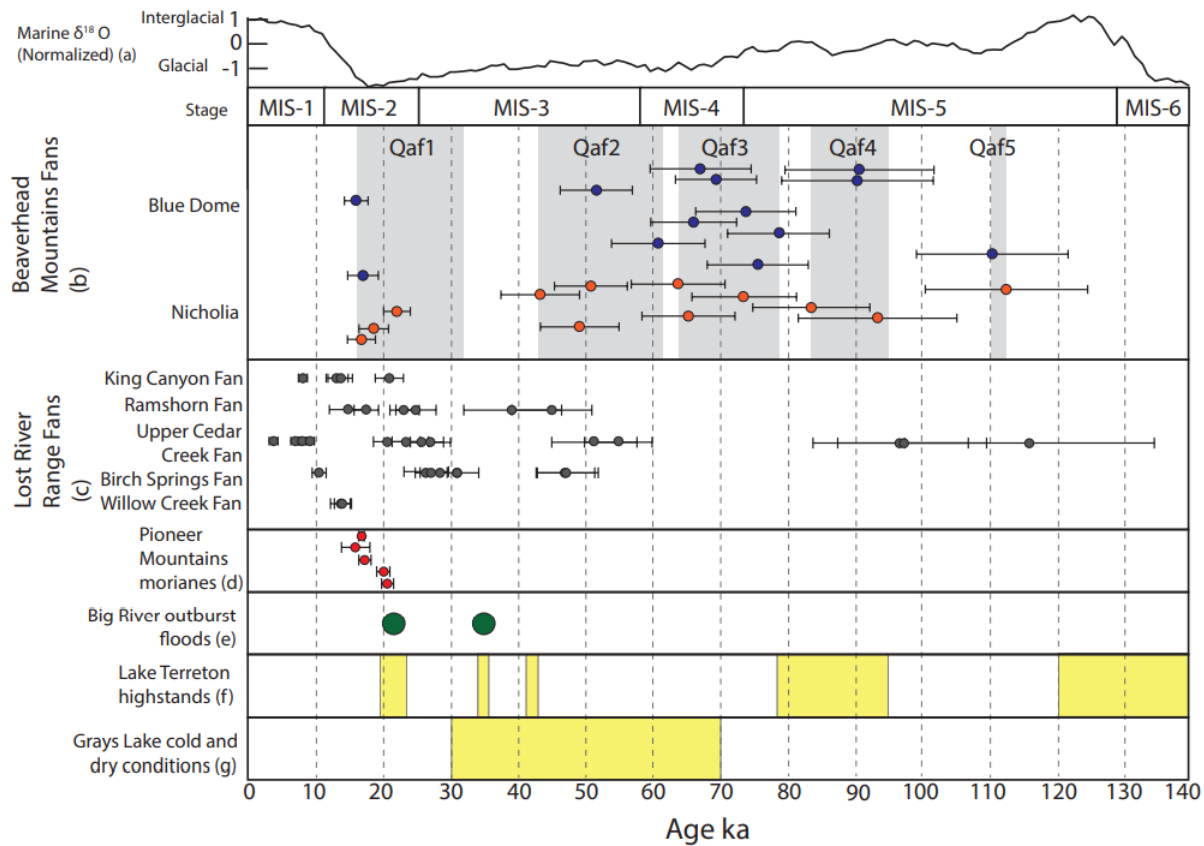


Figure 2.13: Comparison of regional climate records and other geochronological ages for the past 140 ka. A) Global normalized marine $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ from Lisiecki and Raymo (2015). B) OSL ages from this study. C) OSL samples from the central Lost River Range from Kenworthy et al. (2014). D) CRN ages from moraines from the Pioneer Mountains located in central Idaho (Warner, 2020). E) Outburst flood events estimated by Warner (2020). Two events were modeled, one at 22 ka and the other 35 ka. F) Highstands of Lake Terreton, a basin located along the SRP (Amidon et al., 2016 and Gianniny et al., 2002). G) Dry and cold conditions along Grays Lake, located along the ESRP, were estimated using pollen data shown from Grays Lake (Bieswenger, 1991).

Our OSL results and alluvial fan mapping show that fan aggradation occurred in five periods during MIS 5-2 (Figure 2.13). The Qaf1 fans were deposited in the late Pleistocene (16 – 23 ka) which correlates to MIS 2. During this time there have been apparent maximum glacial extents along the Wind River Range and elsewhere (Licciardi et al., 2004; Laabs et al., 2020), and presumably colder conditions than current Holocene conditions. A summary of OSL ages and other regional paleoclimatic proxies are shown in Figure 2.13.

Ages for Qaf2 (ca. 35 - 55 ka) and Qaf3 fans (60 – 80 ka) fall within MIS-3 and MIS-4 (Table 2.2: Figure 2.13). Qaf4 fan ages range from 80 – 90 while the Qaf5 fan ages ranged from 90 - 110 ka (MIS-5). None of the alluvial fan ages that were sampled dated to Bull Lake glaciation as typically interpreted (MIS-6, ca. 130- 180 ka). This does not mean that there were no alluvial fans formed during that period but rather that any evidence would have been buried by fan aggradation during MIS 5-2. The Qaf2-Qaf5 aggradation periods were not discerned by Pierce and Scott (1982), but are suggestive of cool and/or wet conditions as well. Kenworthy et al. (2014) found similar results regarding the development of alluvial fans in the Lost River Range. Most of their ages are late Pleistocene in age while there are a few in Holocene. The Holocene alluvial fans are much smaller and have finer sediment than their late Pleistocene counterparts. One difference in their results versus this study is that ours is that more of their fan ages are clustered to 15 – 30 ka while ours are from 15-22 ka and 45 – 80 ka. Kenworthy et al. (2014) lack OSL ages from 60 – 90 ka while our OSL samples contain several ages within that time period. This could indicate that even though the Lost River Range and the Beaverhead Mountains would be subjected to broadly similar climatic changes, there may be climatic differences between the two so that they would result in differences of alluvial fan ages.

Overall, Kenworthy et al. (2014) concluded that their alluvial fans are the result of cooler late-Pleistocene climates during apparent glacial intervals (Figure 2.13). This also supports the

hypothesis of Pierce and Scott (1982) which says that the lower temperatures during the Pleistocene would lead to a lower evaporation rate and greater snowfall rate, thus leaving a larger snowpack. An increase of effective moisture during cold times would also increase stream input during the late summer. This increased stream flow during the late summer would then drive alluvial fan aggradation. Most of the canyons in our study area were unglaciated (Scott, 1982) or possibly glaciated (see hypsometry-snowline analysis above) and in either case would have generated greater summer snowmelt.

Regional alluvial fan, lake, and glacial studies support a cooler and/or wetter environment in the region during the late (and middle) Pleistocene. For example, Gianniny et al. (2002) dated high stands of Pleistocene Lake Terreton, immediately south of this study area, at 78 – 95 and 120 – 160 ka. The latter highstand correlates broadly with our alluvial fan ages for Qaf4 and Qaf5 and Amidon et al. (2016) estimated major high stands of the Terreton Basin at 42, 35, and 22 ka where the 22 ka highstand correlates to Qaf1 and 42 ka could correlate to the Qaf2 fans (Figure 2.13). Cool, dry conditions 70 – 30 ka were suggested from pollen data at Grays Lake, south of the ESRP, by Beiswenger (1991). Beiswenger (1991) also suggests that between 30 – 11 ka there were wet and warmer conditions for the region. Along the eastern central Lemhi Range, a 44 ka CRN age on moraine boulders could indicate the existence of glaciers and associated cool/wet climatic conditions (Colandrea, 2014; G. Thackray personal communication, 2021). Along the central Lost River Range, OSL and CRN ages on terraces and moraines range from 35 – 60 ka. In the Pioneer Mountains in central Idaho, Warner (2020) estimated that the Big Lost River outburst flood occurred at around 36 ka along with moraines dated between 16 – 22 ka (Figure 2.13). In conclusion, our OSL ages for the alluvial fans support Scott and Pierce (1982) model that alluvial fans in the northern Basin and Range record late

Pleistocene climate variation, such that fan formation occurred in association with cooler climates during glacial intervals. The cooler temperatures would allow for a snow pack to reside longer throughout the year and increase discharge from snowmelt in the late summer. Coarse-grained alluvial fans in particular were deposited during the late Pleistocene because frost wedging would create coarse sediments along the hillslopes that would then be transported by snowmelt streams and deposited in alluvial fans (Pierce and Scott, 1982).

2.5.2 Distribution of Fan Units between Nicholia and Blue Dome segments

All mapped alluvial fan units are present in the two segments, but Qaf2 fan units are more common along the Nicholia segment than in the Blue Dome segment. There are two plausible factors as to why that could be the case. Tectonically, the Nicholia segment has experienced faulting within the past 80 ka as this study (Chapter 3) and previous studies have shown (Haller, 1988). Our Qaf2 fan ages range from 43 – 61 ka, with the most recent surface fault scarp postdating those fans. Because normal fault rupture separates uplifted and down-dropped blocks, it may affect incision and aggradation and thus the presence or absence of fan surfaces of particular ages. If the primary driver of fan growth is climatic, then it is likely that Qaf2 fans were constructed at the canyon mouths in both segments. However, the lack of faulting in the Blue Dome segment may have allowed Qaf1 aggradation to bury Qaf2 surfaces in most areas, while in the Nicholia segment, fault offset could influence incision into the Qaf2 fan and isolate those surfaces more consistently above the Qaf1 aggradation level. Past studies such as Kenworthy (2011) and Owen et al. (2014) have suggested that tectonic influences aren't the driving factors of alluvial fan growth in their study areas, but it is plausible that the timing of fault rupture events has affected the distribution of alluvial fans in space and time in east-central Idaho.

Another possibility is that relief contrasts, coupled with climatic conditions 41 – 61 ka produced Qaf2 alluvial fans in the Nicholia segment more readily than in the Blue Dome segment. As discussed in a previous section, the estimated glacial ELA's of the southern Beaverhead Mountains are 2700 – 2800 m (Locke, 1990). Our hypsometry curves indicate that the Nicholia segment has canyons with the ridge elevations ca. 3200 m to 2800 m. The Blue Dome segment has canyons ridge elevations 3000 m to 2000 m. While both of the segments have canyons that include the ELA's for the area, the canyons in the Blue Dome segment generally have lower elevations than those in the Nicholia segment. The lower elevation in the Blue Dome segment could contribute to lesser snowpack during the accumulation period of Qaf2 fans, but because the Nicholia elevations are higher, they would a snowpack to accumulate which would allow for the deposition of the Qaf2 fans. As proposed by Pierce and Scott (1982), persistent snowpack is likely an important influence on gravel transport and fan aggradation.

2.5.3 Conclusions

In conclusion, this research demonstrates that OSL ages in the study area correlate to geomorphic position, i.e., higher relative fan position correlates with older OSL age. The caliche data suggests that pedogenic rind thickness weakly correlates to OSL age. The overall calculated accumulation rate for our data is 0.48 mm per 10 ka while fans adjacent to the Nicholia segment had a higher accumulation (0.79 mm per 10 ka) than fans adjacent to the Blue Dome segment (0.31 mm per 10 ka). The differences in accumulation rates may be attributed to climatic differences between the them. Hypsometry curves show that most of the Nicholia canyons most likely had strong snowpack influences in the canyons, but canyons adjacent to the Blue Dome segment had weaker snowpack influences. Comparing basin vs alluvial fan areas, there is a weak positive correlation adjacent to the Nicholia segment. OSL ages correlate to periods during

which regional late Pleistocene climate was probably cooler and included glacial intervals (Pierce and Scott, 1982). Cooler late Pleistocene climates would correlate to a prolonged snowpack and increased discharge during the late summer. Frost wedging and erosion would help generate sediment supply for these alluvial fans.

2.5.4 Future work

This chapter presents OSL ages from the southern Beaverhead Mountains that are generally consistent with Kenworthy's (2011) findings in the Lost River Range. Future work could include collecting OSL ages from the southern portion of the Lemhi Range and central portions of the Beaverhead Mountains. The central portion of the Beaverhead Mountains have glaciated valleys (Scott, 1982) and we could compare those OSL ages to those along the southern portion of the Beaverhead Mountains. We can hope to find an elusive 30 - 45 ka age on an alluvial fan that was not present with this thesis but was found in Kenworthy's (2011) study. Along the northern Lemhi fault, the Warm Creek segment, alluvial ages have been estimated to be 30 – 80 ka using soils and geomorphic position (Baltzer, 1990). We could test this age estimate with OSL dating on the geomorphic deposits. Having OSL ages along the northern portions of the faults would determine whether alluvial fan growth differs from wetter northern portions of the fault segment versus those in the southern segments where it is more arid.

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Chapter III: Patterns and Chronology of Faulting along the Southern Beaverhead Fault

3.0 Fault scarp mapping and analysis

This chapter will discuss the faulting patterns of the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments. The observations from Chapter 2 allow us to describe the morphology of the fault scarps and bracket rupture event timing by comparing them with the OSL depositional ages. The main previous study by Haller (1988) documented fault scarps along the Nicholia segment, but found none within the Blue Dome segment.

3.1 Fault segment analysis: Nicholia segment

3.1.1 LiDAR Mapping and analysis, Nicholia segment

The Nicholia segment of the Beaverhead fault is well expressed by surface scarps which are present along most of the segment, from Pierce Canyon north to Willow Creek canyon (Figure 3.1). Overall, the Nicholia segment strikes ca. N 40° W. Fault scarps overall are discontinuous along the range front and typically appear to reflect a single-strand fault. Antithetic scarps were observed along portions of the fault cutting fans at the mouths of Cliff Canyon, Scott Canyon, and Willow Creek Canyon. Scarps vary in length but are typically 2 – 5 km. Scarp height varies from 1-5 m.

Fault scarps were observed in lidar imagery along 28 km of the Nicholia segment, from Pierce Canyon NW to Willow Creek. Haller (1988) also included a 13 km northern extension of the Nicholia segment from Willow Creek NNW to near Gilmore Summit (shown as dashed line in Figure 3.2). Lidar data coverage extended NW only to Willow Creek, and we examined that extended section only in field reconnaissance and on 10 m DEMs, and did not observe fault

scarps. The fault may be buried in that area. If that extension to Gilmore Summit were included, the Nicholia segment would be 41 km in length, but we lack clear evidence to confirm that extended length.

The fault scarp pattern displays two prominent steps or bends. The fault at Willow Creek steps 2 km to the left and at Scott Canyon steps 1 km to the right. Synthetic and antithetic fault scarps cut Qaf2 – Qaf5 fans at Cliff Canyon, Willow Creek Canyon, and Scott Canyon. Nowhere do scarps cut Qaf1 fan units, an observation that Haller (1989) also made. This is in contrast to the mapped fault in the USGS Fold and Fault Database (Haller et al. 2010), which is depicted as continuous (Figure 3.2).

The 28 km confirmed length of the Nicholia segment in this fault scarp analysis lies between Haller's (1988) proposed length of 42 km and USGS Fold and Fault Database's (Haller et al. 2010) mapped length of 25 km. The USGS depiction of the fault includes the main portion of the fault trace with visible fault scarps, but omits the northern portion of the segment extended by Haller (1988), shown by the dashed line in Figure 3.2, as we do here.. By doing the fault mapping in 0.5 m resolution LiDAR we can observe the fault only in the 28 km fault length northwest to its termination near Willow Creek.

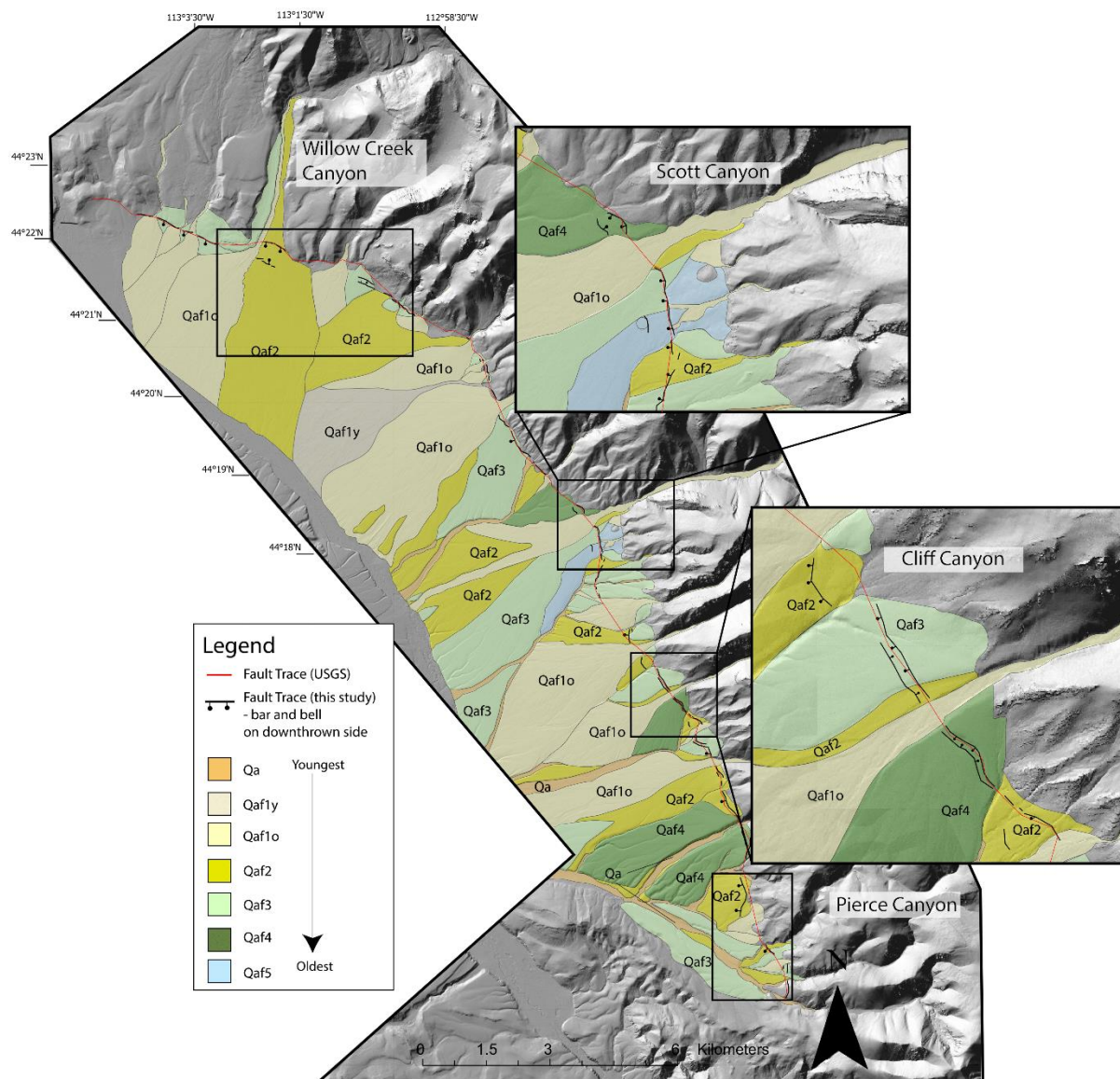


Figure 3.1: Fault trace of the Nicholia segment. Black lines show the fault scarp trace determined in this project while the red line is from the current Nicholia segment mapped by the U.S Geological Survey (2019). Boxed areas show where the fault does not cut through Qaf1 fans.

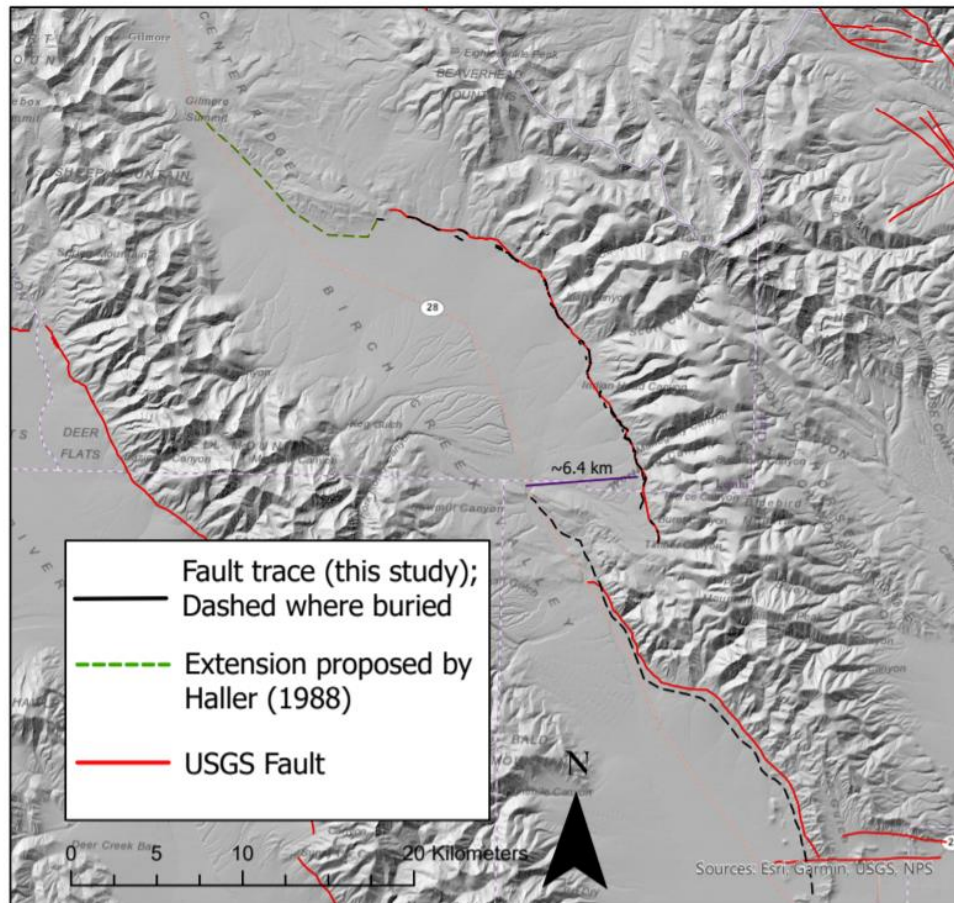


Figure 3.2: Red line shows the USGS Quaternary fault shape file and black is the proposed fault segment. Dashed line is where the fault is buried. Green line is the extension of the northern Nicholia segment boundary proposed by Haller (1988). Black boxes show the location of ‘kink’ along the fault segments for the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments

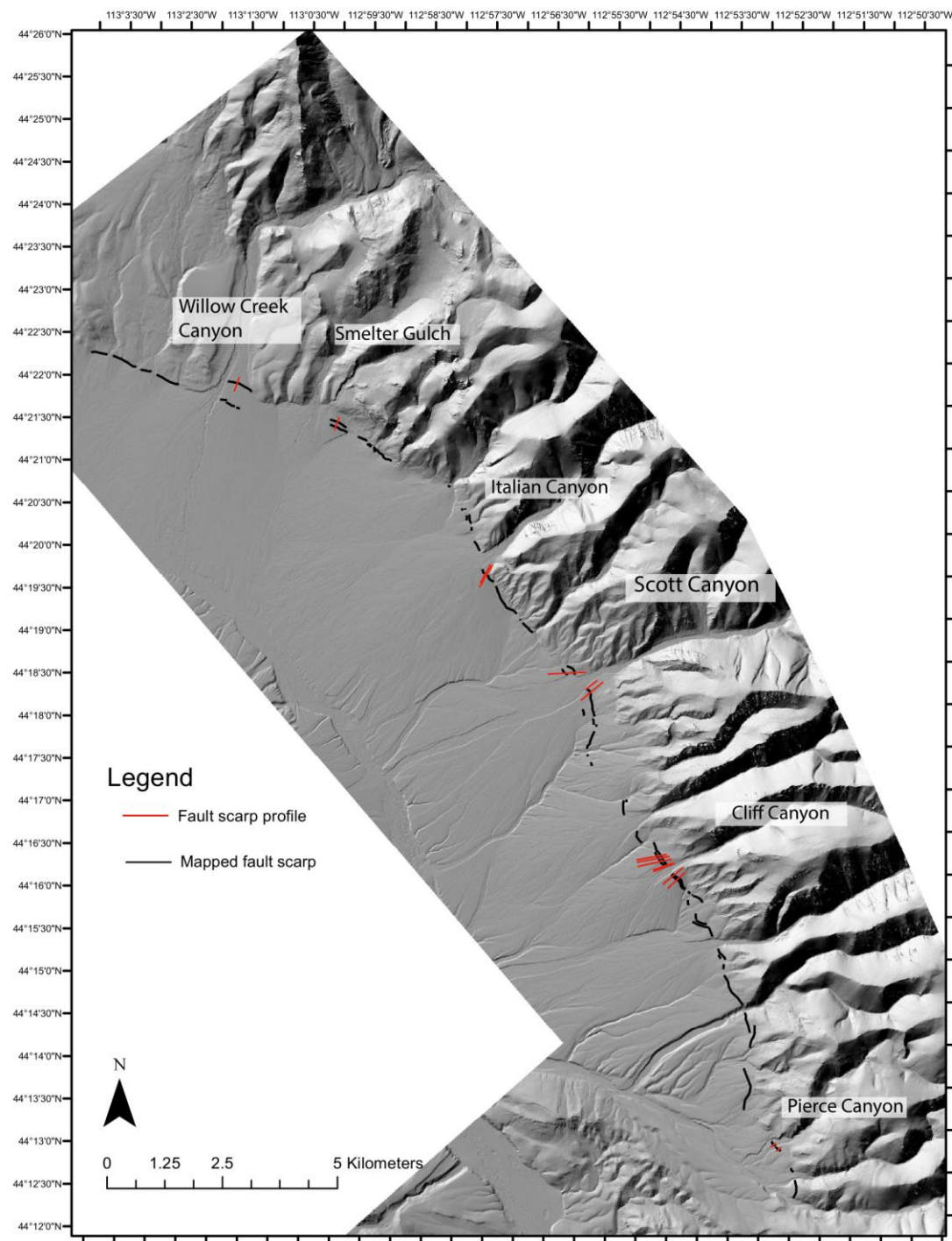


Figure 3.3: Red lines indicate fault scarp profiles taken along the Nicholia segment.

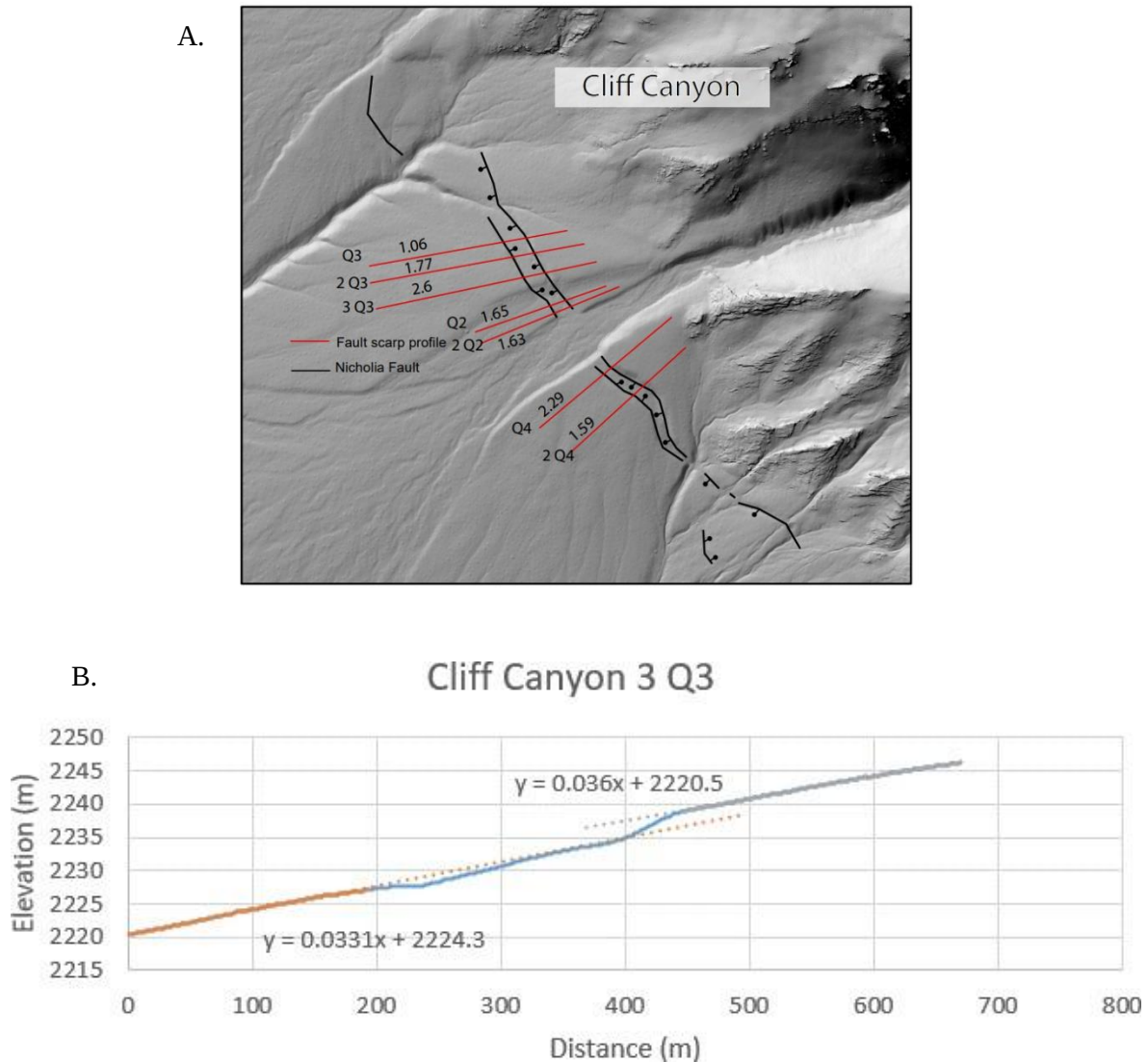


Figure 3.4: A: Location of the fault scarp profiles along Cliff Canyon in the Nicholia segment. B: Fault scarp profile of Cliff Canyon 3 Q3 showing vertical separation determination of the fault scarp cutting a Qaf3 alluvial fan. The slope of the hanging wall and footwall were calculated, then the VS was found by measuring the vertical distance between the profiles at a point halfway up the main, synthetic scarp (i.e., at ca. 415 m distance).

3.1.2 Fault scarp offset vs alluvial fan age

Figure 3.3 shows the location of the 16 topographic profiles drawn across fault scarps in the Nicholia segment. These profiles were used to calculate the vertical separation of the fault scarp for each alluvial fan cut by a fault scarp (Qaf2 – Qaf5). Fault scarp profiles and offsets were calculated using the methods describe in Chapter I under Methods 2.0 (as described by Amos et al., 2016; Thompson et al., 2002). Fan unit designations for alluvial fans in the northern

section of the Nicholia segment, such as at Willow Creek and Smelter Gulch, were based on geomorphic correlation to the OSL-dated fans at Cliff and Scott canyons.

As shown in Table 3.1, vertical separation measured along Nicholia segment fault scarps ranges from 1.3 to 4.1 m. There is a general relationship between alluvial fan unit age and fault scarp vertical separation (VS). In particular, the majority of the VS measurements on Qaf3 fans are greater than those on Qaf2 fans, but there is some overlap. Additionally, VS measurements of scarps cutting Qaf4 fans are well within the range of VS measurements from Qaf3 fans. These relationships suggest that the penultimate rupture event happened between construction of the Qaf2 and Qaf3 fans. At Cliff Canyon, average VS increases slightly with alluvial fan age (Figure 3.4; Table 3.1).

The variation in VS could be attributed to two factors. First, the generally greater VS of scarps cutting older fans suggests that multiple slip events have occurred along the same scarps, such that scarps cutting older fans (Qaf3 and Qaf4) record two or more events while the scarps cutting younger fans (especially Qaf2) may record just a single event. Second, the observation that VS is greater in the center of the segment (Italian Canyon where $V_s = 4.1$ and 3.3 m for Qaf3 fans) than closer to the south end at Cliff Canyon ($V_s = 2.2$, 1.8 , and 2.6 m for Qaf3 fans) may indicate higher displacement in the middle portion of the segment rather than the ends, for the same number of slip events. This characteristic of fault segments has been documented elsewhere by Haller (1998) and Crone and Haller (1991).

Canyon	Fan Unit	VS (m)	Hanging Wall Surface Slope	Footwall Surface Slope	Slope contrast
Cliff	Q2	1.7	0.039	0.046	-0.007
Cliff	2 Q2	1.0	0.037	0.036	0.001
Scott	Q2	1.3	0.529	0.036	0.493
Pierce	Q2	1.6	0.102	0.081	0.021
Willow Creek	Q2	1.8	0.019	0.025	-0.006
Italian	Q3	4.1	0.024	0.026	-0.002
Italian	2 Q3	3.3	0.015	0.014	0.001
Scott	Q3	1.5	0.019	0.018	0.001
Scott	2 Q3	3.2	0.018	0.025	-0.007
Pierce	Q3	2.4	0.103	0.126	-0.023
Smelter Gulch	Q3	1.2	0.046	0.047	-0.001
Cliff	Q3	2.2	0.070	0.073	-0.003
Cliff	2Q3	1.8	0.075	0.071	0.004
Cliff	3 Q3	2.6	0.036	0.033	0.003
Cliff	Q4	2.6	0.080	0.099	-0.019
Cliff	2 Q4	1.6	0.086	0.094	-0.008

Table 3.1: The associated VS measurements and their respective canyons and fan units.

3.2 Fault segment analysis: Blue Dome segment

3.2.1 Blue Dome segment analysis

In contrast to the Nicholia fault segment, the Blue Dome segment is not defined by scarps cutting alluvial fan surfaces. Our LiDAR analysis confirms the lack of a fault scarp on the surface. Instead, the fault is inferred to exist at depth based on range front morphology (Haller, 1988), buried beneath alluvial fans, and following the range front over a length of ca. 30 km from the Blue Dome bedrock spur in the north to the Snake River Plain, where the bedrock tapers to merge with the land surface.

At the northern end of the Blue Dome segment, the Blue Dome spur projects northwestward into Birch Creek Valley, creating a major right step between the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments. The spur consists of late Miocene bedrock cut by three NW-striking fault splays (Rodgers and Anders; 1990). Slip on these splays occurred at some time after 6.5 Ma, the

minimum age of bedrock in the spur.

At the south end of the Blue Dome segment near the ESRP, two south-dipping normal faults were mapped by Witkind (1975). These faults are depicted cutting through the bedrock along the low ridge of the southernmost portion of the Beaverhead Mountains. However, Breckenridge et al. (2003) did not include these faults in their compilation, and LiDAR analysis for this study revealed no surface evidence of faulting.

3.2.2 Blue Dome segment fault scarp analysis

In contrast to the Nicholia segment, no fault scarp has been observed to define the Blue Dome segment (Haller, 1988). To further investigate the presence or absence of fault scarps in the Blue Dome segment, we carefully analyzed alluvial fanslopes using high resolution LiDAR data, augmented with field observations. We also flew two drones (Trinity F90 and Phantom Pro V4) (Figure 3.5) in the northern section of the Blue Dome segment and created orthomosaic imagery and digital elevation models (DEM) using structure from motion (SfM) analysis. More details on the specific flight paths are found in Chapter 1. Detailed processing and errors of the SfM DEM are in Appendix D.

3.2.3 Structure from motion analysis and field observations: Blue Dome segment

Figure 5 shows the drone images (Figure 3.5a) and the hillshade (Figure 3.5b) created for Long Canyon and Bare Canyon in the Blue Dome segment, using structure from motion (SfM) analysis through Agisoft Metashape v 1.7 software and ArcGIS Pro v 2.8. The SfM images show that sagebrush is spaced evenly in the region with no linear clustering on any of the alluvial fans in the area, as would be expected if water collected in scarp-related depressions or if water were emitted from the fault zone. This was also confirmed by field study: there was no linear slope break observed along the alluvial fans. Because of these observations, we conclude that there is no discernible fault scarp associated with the Blue Dome segment.

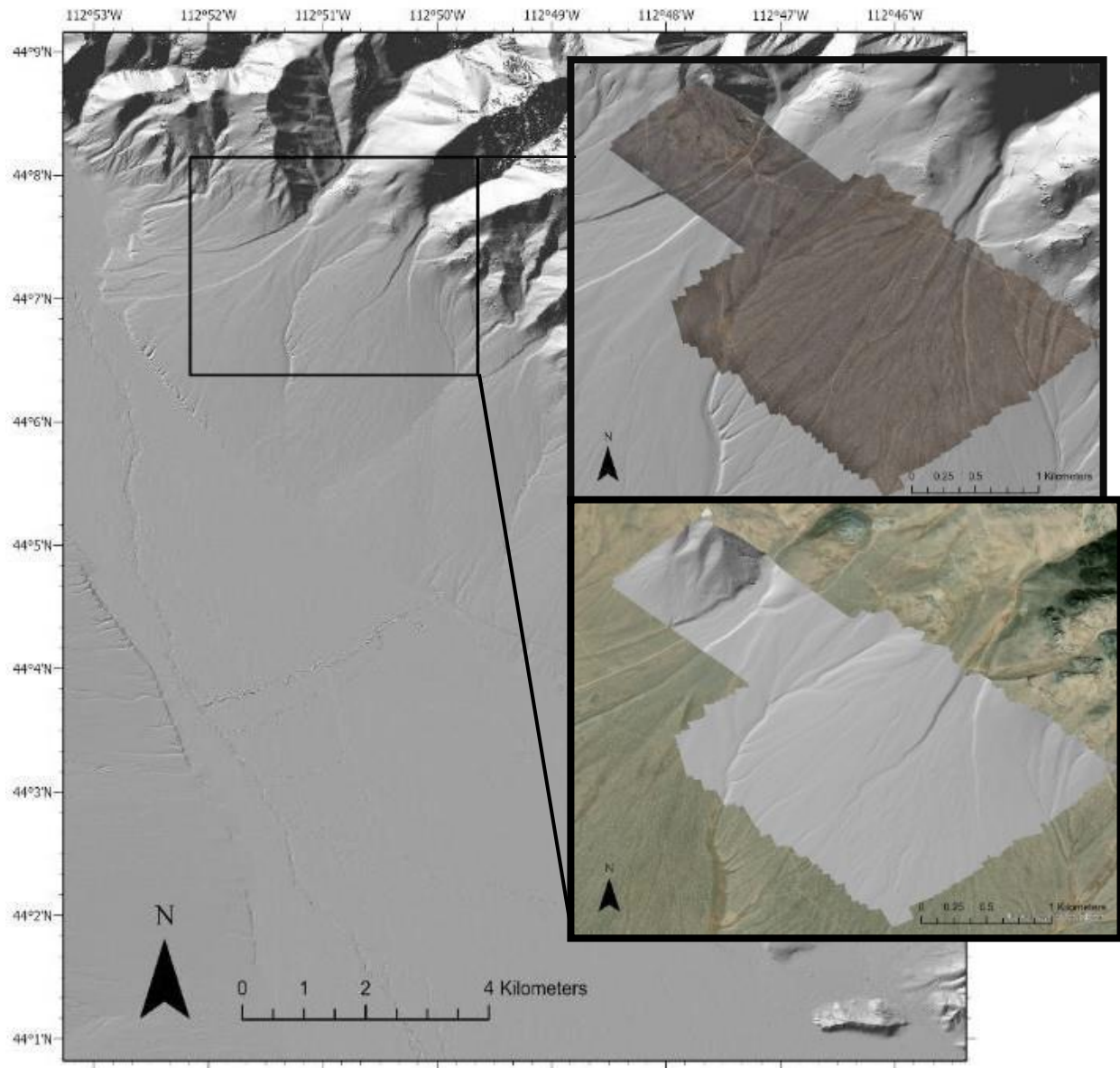
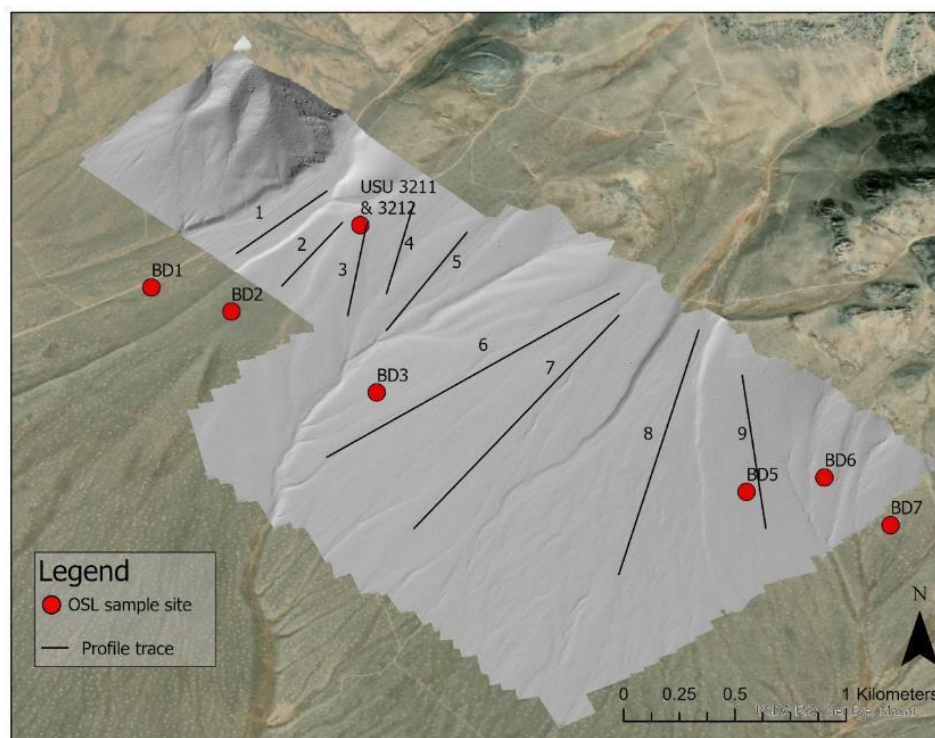
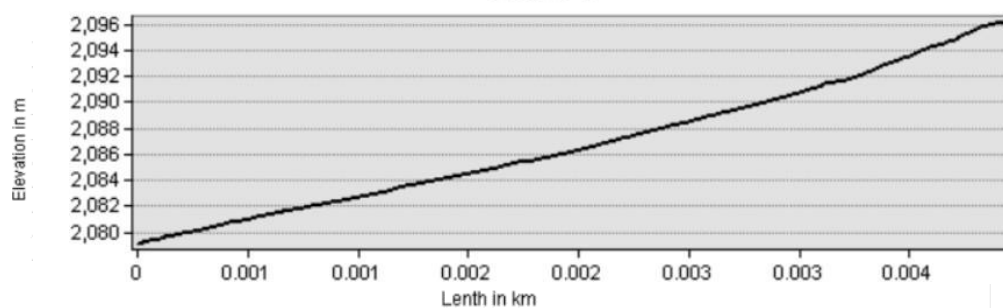


Figure 3.5: Black box shows the location for the Blue Dome study area where drones (Trinity F90 and Phantom V4) were flown. The orthomosaic is shown in A, and the hillshade model from the DEM derived by the SfM is shown in B.



Profile 4



Profile 6

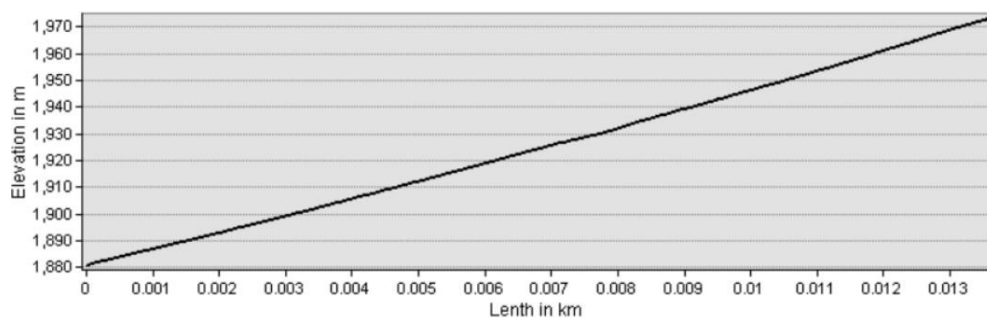


Figure 3.6: Topographic profiles drawn on the from the combined Hillshade model from the DEM derived from the SfM imagery in AgiSoft Pro 4. Topographic profiles 4 and 6 show an unbroken slope.

3.2.4 DEM and profiles along Blue Dome segment

Topographic profiles of the potential fault zone from Long and Bare canyons are shown in Figure 3.6. These profiles were extracted from the SfM DEMs using the hillshade images, along each alluvial fan that has an OSL age. Each of these profiles produced a smooth, unbroken surface slope, confirming field and lidar observations. Profile 4 (Figure 3.6) spans the Qaf4 fan, on which there is no clear break of the topography. Profile 6 is drawn across the oldest alluvial fan surface, Qaf5, and also does not show a change in surface slope suggestive of a normal fault scarp.

Neither the DEM nor SfM visual images reveals a possible fault scarp cutting the surface of the fans. This suggests that the last rupture along the Blue Dome segment occurred prior to ca. 110 ka years ago, which is the OSL age of the oldest fan (Qaf5, USU-3414) at Bare Canyon. Another alternative is that a fault scarp cut that surface but has diffused so much that it is not apparent on the surface in the field nor in the highly detailed imagery and DEMs. A step in the landscape would nonetheless be expected, and is not apparent.

3.3 Faulting History: Cosmogenic radionuclide ages on the faultscarp and OxCal model results of OSL ages

3.3.1 CRN ages on Faulted surface

Cosmogenic radionuclide (CRN) ages were obtained along the fault scarp and alluvial fan in the southern Nicholia segment. By determining the exposure age of the boulders along the fault scarp, we hoped to determine 1) the age of the alluvial fan and 2) the exposure age of boulders exposed in the degrading fault scarp. Figure 7 shows the location of sampled boulders along the Qaf2 alluvial fan surface and fault scarp at Pierce Canyon, in the southernmost Nicholia segment. Table 2 shows the calculated cosmogenic ages for the boulders. The ages range from

33 ka to 500 ka and the average age of all boulders is 144 ± 119 ka (Figure 8a). If the 33 ka and the 500 ka ages are removed as outliers (Figure 8b), then the weighted mean is 188 ± 54 ka. When other outliers are removed, samples BHPC04, BHPC01, BHPC06, and BHPC07 remain, with a weighted mean of 193 ± 16 ka. The boulders on the fault scarp itself have a wide range of ages between 130 – 500 ka (BHPC05 – BHPC08).

Sample name	Located on fault scarp?	Nuclide	Age (yr)	Interr (yr)	Exterr (yr)
BHPC01	No	Be-10 (qtz)	205707	4566	19321
BHPC02	No	Be-10 (qtz)	321870	4079	33244
BHPC03	No	Be-10 (qtz)	33372	645	2661
BHPC04	No	Be-10 (qtz)	185683	2041	16742
BHPC05	Yes	Be-10 (qtz)	131562	1388	11257
BHPC06	Yes	Be-10 (qtz)	175905	2189	15745
BHPC07	Yes	Be-10 (qtz)	216589	2829	20179
BHPC08	Yes	Be-10 (qtz)	583516	6829	79068

Table 3.2: Sample names and location and their respective calculated ages. Ages were calculated using CRONUS vs and used the Lm data set. Interr (yr) is the internal uncertainty which measures uncertainties on the nuclide concentration. Exterr (yr) is the external uncertainties which includes uncertainties of both measurement and production rate.

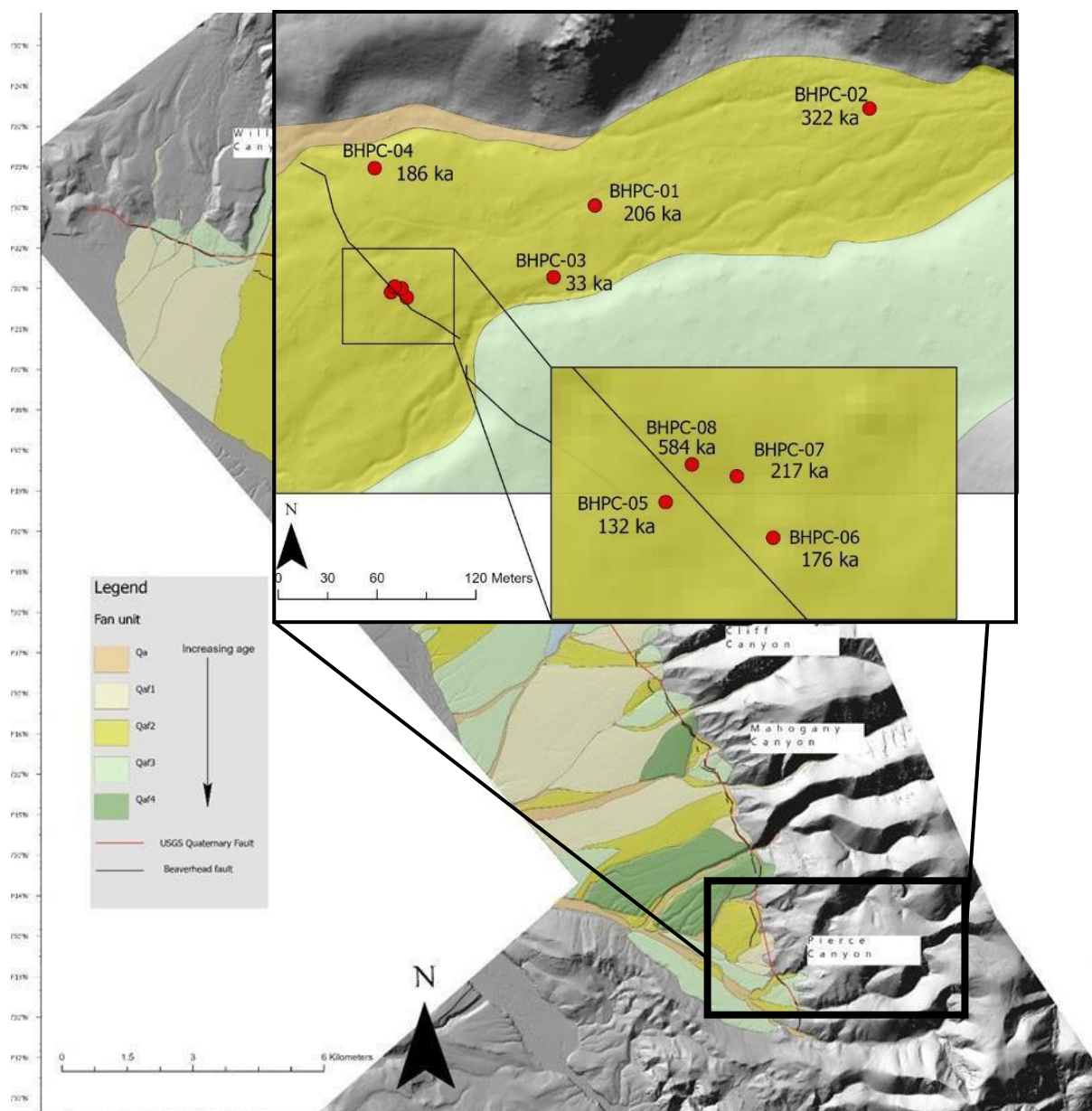


Figure 3.7: Map showing the location of Pierce Canyon, which is located in the southern portion of the Nicholia segment. Four samples, BHPC-01, BHPC-04, BHPC-03, and BHPC-02 are located on a mapped Qaf2 fan surface. The other four samples, BHPC-05, BHPC-06, BHPC-07, and BHPC-8 were collected in a vertical transect on the fault scarp.

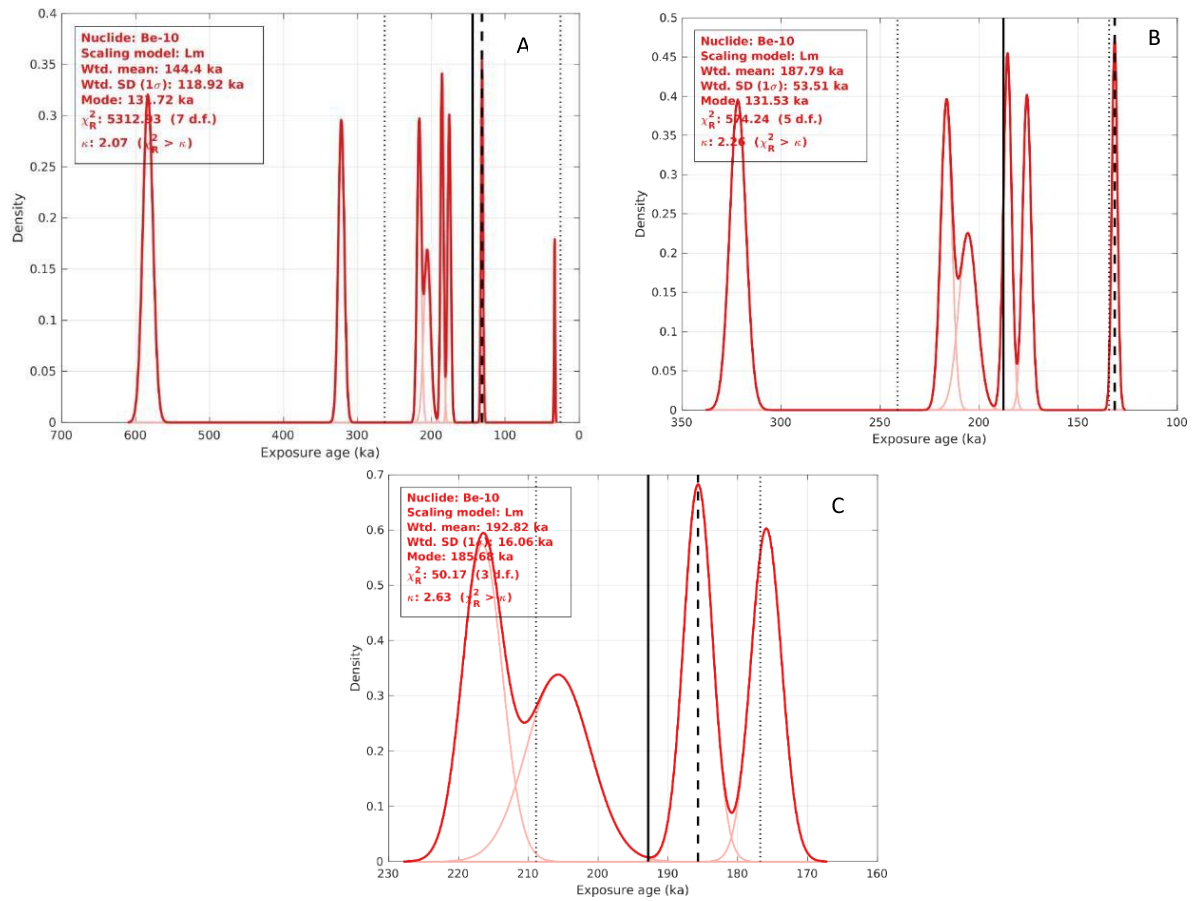


Figure 3.8: Weighted mean CRN boulder ages for a variety of outlier assumptions. A) is the calculated weighted mean for all of the ages (144.4 $\pm$ 118.9 ka). B) Removing BHPC03 and BHPC08, the weighted mean is 187.8 $\pm$ 52.5 ka. C) is the weighted mean calculated when BHPC01, BHPC04, BHPC06, and BHPC07 192.8 $\pm$ 16.1 ka.

The generally very old and highly variable cosmogenic ages most likely reflect inheritance of preexisting ^{10}Be isotopes from a previous exposure history of the boulders. This makes the calculated ages much older than the OSL age of the alluvial fan gravels. Inheritance is common in unglaciated watersheds because there is less erosion of the boulders to remove the preexisting ^{10}Be prior to deposition in and on the alluvial fan. Because these ages are much older than all 25 OSL ages, these ages cannot be used to draw further conclusions on faulting history nor be used to estimate the alluvial fan age.

3.4 OxCal model results of OSL ages

3.4.1 OxCal modeling results of OSL fan ages and fault scarps

As described in Chapter 2, we obtained 12 OSL ages from fans at Scott Canyon and Cliff Canyon in the Nicholia segment (Table 3.3). S. Olig (personal communication, 2021) used a two- event model for the Nicholia segment based on the OSL ages and inferences from vertical separation measurements at Cliff Canyon. For the model, samples from Cliff Canyon (Figure 3.9) were used to bracket the most recent rupture along the Nicholia segment (Figure 3.10). Qaf4 samples N14 and N5 along with Qaf3 samples N7 and N8 were used to estimate the age of the penultimate event. The last rupture was modeled by using the Qaf2 samples N15 and N16 with the Qaf1 samples N6 and N14. With the ages and assumptions, the model results show, that the last faulting occurred ca. 32 +/- 7.3 ka (95.4% confidence interval; Figure 3.10, model CFC1). For the penultimate event (CFC2 in the model), ages N4, N5 and N7, N8 were used to bracket the event (Figure 3.10). The modeling shows that the penultimate event occurred ca. 77.4 +/- 6.7 ka (95.4% confidence interval).

Table 3.3: Results of the OSL ages.

Segment	Sample num.	Fan Unit	USU num.	Depth (m)	Num. of aliquots ¹	Dose rate (Gy/ka)	Equivalent Dose ² ± 2σ (Gy)	OSL age ± 1σ (ka)
Nicholia	N3	Qaf1	USU-3400	1.3	18 (26)	1.19 ± 0.06	26.26 ± 1.64	22.08 ± 1.98
	N6	Qaf1	USU-3406	1.55	19 (27)	0.82 ± 0.05	13.82 ± 2.40	16.78 ± 2.09
	N14	Qaf1	USU-3407	1.5	21 (26)	0.84 ± 0.05	15.70 ± 2.42	18.63 ± 2.20
	N15	Qaf2	USU-3404	1.2	21 (28)	1.10 ± 0.05	47.87 ± 8.65	43.44 ± 5.39
	N2	Qaf2	USU-3401	1.3	21 (33)	1.22 ± 0.06	60.05 ± 8.36 ³	49.32 ± 5.86
	N16	Qaf2	USU-3411	1.4	18 (27)	0.96 ± 0.05	49.04 ± 5.82	50.97 ± 5.43
	N7	Qaf3	USU-3405	1.3	18 (25)	0.89 ± 0.05	57.25 ± 7.25	63.99 ± 6.99
	N8	Qaf3	USU-3410	1.2	21 (33)	0.95 ± 0.05	70.07 ± 7.94	73.84 ± 7.79
	N17	Qaf3	USU-3402	1.5	21 (31)	1.02 ± 0.05	66.82 ± 8.17	65.52 ± 6.92
	N5	Qaf4	USU-3409	1.4	19 (26)	0.84 ± 0.05	70.51 ± 7.66	83.82 ± 8.73
	N4	Qaf4	USU-3408	1.5	18 (26)	0.68 ± 0.04	64.18 ± 10.66	93.7 ± 11.8
	N1	Qaf5	USU-3403	1.7	20 (35)	0.87 ± 0.05	98.28 ± 11.95	112.9 ± 12.1
	BD1	Qaf1	USU-3412	1.3	21 (31)	0.99 ± 0.05	16.90 ± 3.15 ³	17.03 ± 2.28
Blue Dome	BD9	Qaf1	USU-3419	1.35	26 (32)	1.77 ± 0.08	28.33 ± 4.03 ³	16.01 ± 1.77
	BD16	Qaf2	USU-3420	1.45	20 (26)	2.22 ± 0.09	114.9 ± 15.0	51.79 ± 5.39
	BD2	Qaf3	USU-3413	1.3	19 (26)	1.04 ± 0.05	79.10 ± 7.98	75.85 ± 7.52
	BD5	Qaf3	USU-3415	1.5	20 (28)	1.23 ± 0.06	75.08 ± 11.59	61.01 ± 6.96
	BD6	Qaf3	USU-3416	1.5	18 (24)	1.07 ± 0.05	84.56 ± 7.64	78.99 ± 7.59
	BD7	Qaf3	USU-3417	1.6	24 (47)	1.29 ± 0.06	85.55 ± 8.18	66.30 ± 6.39
	BD8	Qaf3	USU-3418	1.45	19 (36)	1.45 ± 0.06	107.6 ± 12.3	74.06 ± 7.45
	BD11	Qaf3	USU-3421	1.6	18 (26)	1.39 ± 0.06	97.06 ± 5.30	69.64 ± 6.04
	BD12	Qaf3	USU-3422	1.45	23 (41)	0.96 ± 0.05	64.86 ± 9.32	67.34 ± 7.52
	USU-3211	Qaf4	USU-3211	0.96	18 (43)	1.95 ± 0.08	176.4 ± 33.2	90.7 ± 11.3
	USU-3212	Qaf4	USU-3212	1.32	18 (32)	2.01 ± 0.09	183.3 ± 33.2	91.0 ± 11.1
	BD3	Qaf5	USU-3414	1.5	23 (29)	1.15 ± 0.05	127.8 ± 15.0	110.8 ± 11.3

Processed by Tammy Rittenour at the Utah State University's luminescence lab. For the Dose rate information see Appendix B.

¹analysis using the single-aliquot regenerative-dose procedure of Murray and Wintle (2000) on 1-2 mm small-aliquots of quartz sand (USU-3211:3212 = 150-250 μm; USU-3400:3422 = 75-150μm). Number of aliquots used in age calculation and number of aliquots analyzed in parentheses.

²Equivalent dose (D_E) calculated using the Central Age Model (CAM) of Galbraith and Roberts (2012), unless otherwise noted.

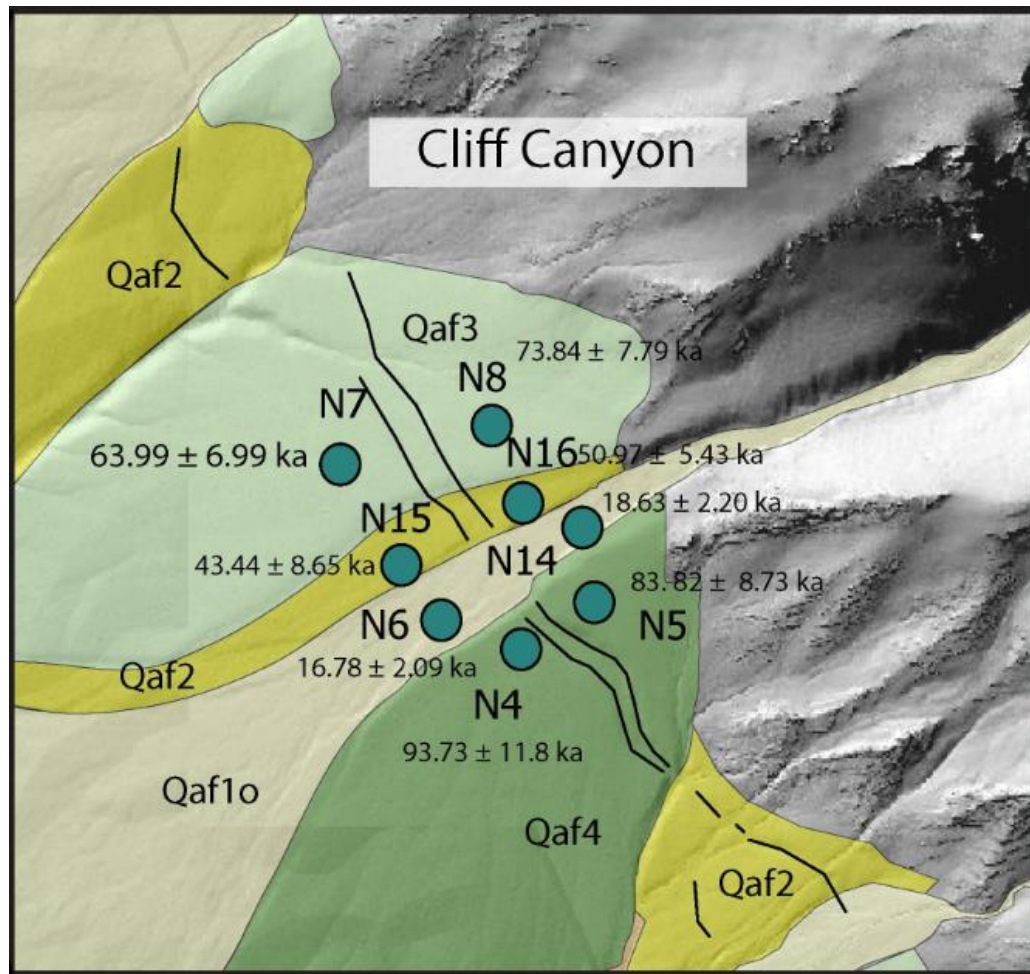


Figure 3.9: Sample locations for the OxCal model (Figure 3.10) shown here. N6 and N14 are on the unfaulted Qaf1 fan and N15 and N16 are on the faulted Qaf2 surface.

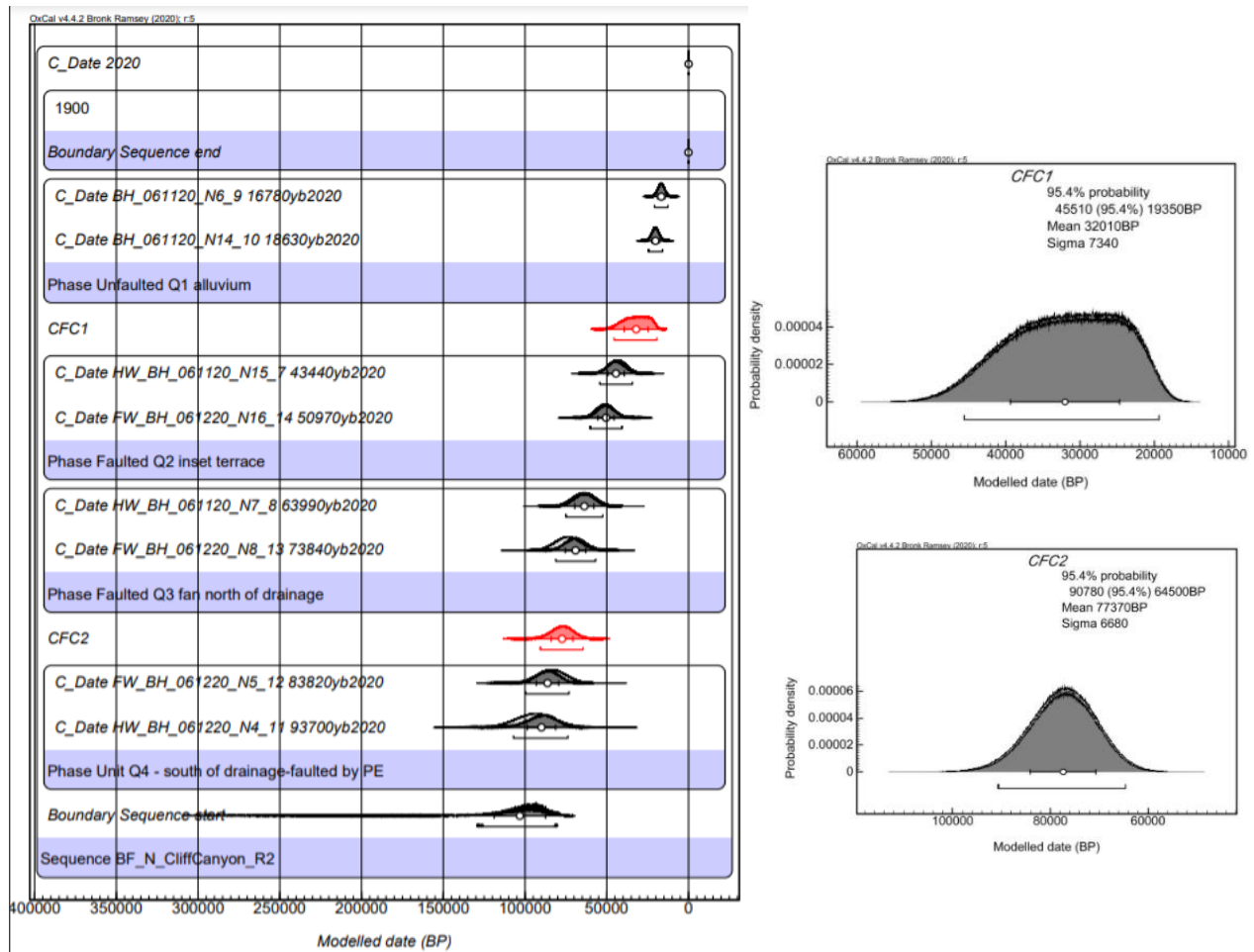


Figure 3.10: OxCal v4 results provided by S. Olig personal communication (2021). They calculated the ages of two seismic events by using the OSL ages from Cliff Canyon (See Chapter 2). For the first event, OSL ages N6 and N14 from the Qaf1 fan and OSL ages N15 and N16 were used from the Qaf2 fan to bracket the last event (32.0 ± 7.3 ka). OSL ages from the Qaf3 fan N7 and N8 as well as Qaf4 fan ages N5 and N4 were used to estimate that the penultimate event occurred ca. 77.3 ± 6.7 ka. Both models have a 95.4% probability estimation.

3.5. Discussion: Faulting History and segmentation

Previous studies have shown that the Nicholia and Blue Dome segments are separated by a right en-échelon step (Haller, 1988; Skipp and Hait, 1977). The spacing of the step between these two segments is 6.4 km. The results of our study confirm the segment boundary described by Haller (1988) and others.

3.5.1 Nicholia segment: OxCal age modeling results discussion

OxCal modeling by S. Olig (personal communication, 2021), using mapped scarps, VS measurement comparisons, and OSL ages of faulted alluvial fans, indicates that the last two ruptures along the Nicholia segment occurred 32 ± 7.3 ka and 77 ± 6.8 ka. These results are an improvement on estimates by Haller (1988), who used soil profiles and fault scarp morphology to infer two faulting events from 10 – 15 ka and 15 – 30 ka. The lack of scarps cutting Qaf1 fans indicates that Nicholia segment clearly has not ruptured since 16-22 ka.

3.5.2 Blue Dome segment: Why has it not ruptured?

There is no fault scarp on the Blue Dome segment that is discernible in the field, in lidar imagery, or in drone imagery, with oldest fan dated at ca. 110 ka (sample USU-3414, BD3, Table 3.1, Figure 3.6). From these detailed observations, we infer that the Blue Dome segment has not ruptured during the past 110 ka. The Blue Dome segment is different from the southernmost segments of the Lemhi fault and the Lost River fault (Howe and Arco, respectively) in terms of late Pleistocene faulting history. Scarp mapping and sediment dating from the Arco and Howe segments suggest that the most recent faulting occurred 15 – 30 ka (Haller, 1988). More recent analysis indicates that the most recent fault occurred 20-21 ka (Olig et al., 1995) for the Arco segment and 15 – 18 ka for the Howe segment (Gorton, 1995; Hemphill-Haley, 1992).

Here we hypothesize why the Blue Dome segment has not ruptured in a similar time frame to the

Howe and Arco segments. The transition from Basin and Range normal faulting to the Centennial region north of the Beaverhead Mountains could be a factor. The Centennial block could be an extra ‘weight’ for the footwall of the Beaverhead fault causing greater rigidity and would require more strain for an earthquake to occur. This area also contains the Red Rock fault, which in contrast to the other faults in east central Idaho, is thought to have either two (Haller, 1988; Greenwell, 1997) or three segments (Harkins et al., 2005). The Red Rock fault could show that normal fault growth ceases southward toward the interior Centennial block.

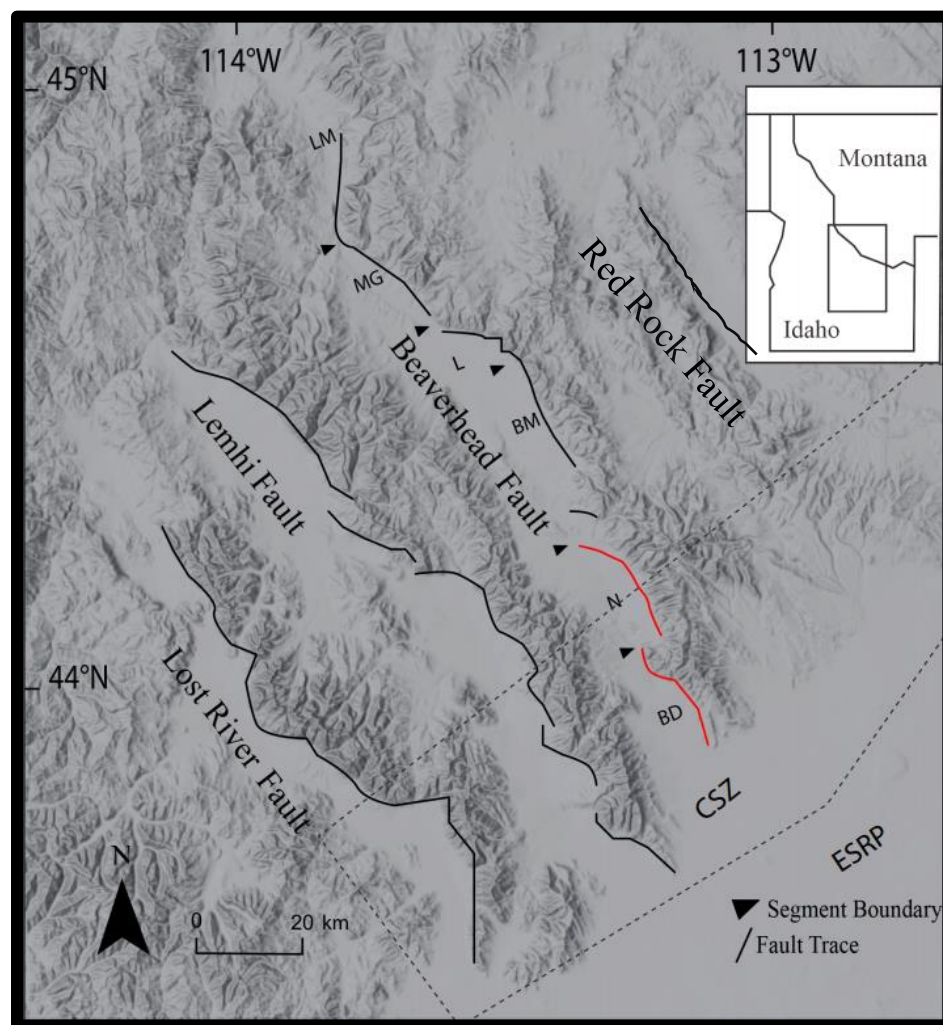


Figure 3.11: Map showing possible tectonic relationships. Beaverhead, Lemhi, and Lost River ranges are shown perpendicular to the eastern Snake River Plain (ESRP). The Centennial shear zone (CSZ) is outlined with a dashed line (Payne et al. 2008). Red line shows the trace of the Beaverhead fault in the study area. Segments on the Beaverhead fault are: BD, Blue Dome; N, Nicholia; BM, Balding Mountain; L, Leadore; MG, Mollie Gulch; LM, Lemhi. Modified from Haller, 1988.

3.5.3 The Centennial Shear Zone

The Centennial shear zone (Figure 3.11) separates two domains that move southwestward at contrasting rates relative to the Stable North American Reference Frame. Using GPS data over a time span of 1994 to 2010, Payne et al. (2008, 2012) showed that the velocity of the Eastern Snake River Plain was $-0.1 \pm 0.4 \times 10^{-9}$ mm/yr while the Centennial Tectonic Belt moved at $3.5 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{-9}$ mm/yr. Located between these two domains, rocks in the Centennial Shear Zone should experience northeast-oriented right-lateral shear, with the shear rate diminishing from northeast to southwest.

In the Beaverhead fault area, Payne et al. (2012) located the Centennial zone in the area between the northern Nicholia segment and the south end of the Blue Dome segment. However, my high-resolution LiDAR analysis of alluvial fans did not yield any indication of NE-striking faults. In fact, two NE-striking faults previously mapped by Witkind (1975) at the south end of the Blue Dome segment are interpreted to be false, since they have no topographic manifestation in the LiDAR data. Ultimately, I found no faults that might be associated with the Centennial Shear Zone.

Given the absence of shear structures as well as the absence of surface rupture along the Blue Dome segment during the past 110 ka, it is possible that the southern end of the Beaverhead Range, despite its Basin & Range morphology, is currently experiencing such low internal strain that it should be considered tectonically as part of the rigid Eastern Snake River Plain tectonic block. In support of this hypothesis, I note that several basaltic cinder cones and other eruptive centers occur west of the Blue Dome segment, which may reflect the outward expansion of volcanism from the ESRP to "off-axis" areas.

The southern fault segments of adjacent ranges, including the Howe segment (Lemhi

Range) and Arco segment (Lost River Range), have experienced late Pleistocene faulting (Haller, 1988; Crone and Haller, 1991), unlike the Blue Dome segment. Notably, the basins associated with these segments do not expose off-axis volcanic rocks, so in these locations the current boundary between Basin & Range and ESRP tectonic blocks may coincide with its morphologic boundary.

3.5.4 Further Research

Further research could be done in areas along the Lost River, Lemhi, and Beaverhead faults that have yet to have faulting constrained by OSL ages. For example, the Baldy Mountain segment of the Beaverhead fault, north of Nicholia segment, has an apparent fault scarp cutting the surface of terraces and fans, but no geomorphic feature has been dated (Haller, 1988). Dating those faulted surfaces would determine if our estimations for the timing of Nicholia segment ruptures contrast with the timing of other segments (Haller, 1988). As noted above, rupture event ages proposed here are earlier than those inferred by Haller (1988), and that may be the case in other segments as well. This would refine Crone and Haller's (1991) model indicating that faults in the northern Basin and Range experience similar faulting patterns overall. There should also be more research into the Blue Dome segment and why it has not ruptured in the past 110 ka, in contrast to the Howe and Arco segments. Geophysical studies could determine depth of the basin and indicate if there is a fault beneath the surface. Liberty et al. (1997) found that the southern portion of Birch Creek Valley contains a shallow basin that is a few hundred meters below depth. This study did not include the portion of Birch Creek Valley in the northern portion of the Blue Dome segment.

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Chapter IV: Summary of findings

4.0 Alluvial fan morphology and chronology of the southern Beaverhead

Mountains

Chapter 2 contains results and discussion for the alluvial fan morphology and chronology along the southern Beaverhead Range. The mapping results are shown in Figure 4.1 for Nicholia segment and Figure 4.2 for the Blue Dome segment. The teal dots on both maps are the locations of optically stimulated luminescence ages and additional caliche measurement sites . Both of these maps have 5 distinct units (Qaf1 – Qaf5). Qaf1 fans are mapped as the lowest topographic unit and normally extends directly from the canyon mouths. Qaf2 – Qaf5 fans were mapped based on the soil and alluvial fan morphology and have successive topographically higher positions. A summary of the OSL ages are shown in Table 4.1.

Alluvial fan unit	OSL age range	Mean age $\pm 1\sigma$ (ka)
Qaf1	16 - 22 ka	18.1 ± 2.4
Qaf2	43 - 61 ka	48.88 ± 3.6
Qaf3	66 - 79 ka	69.65 ± 5.5
Qaf4	84 - 94 ka	89.81 ± 3.6
Qaf5	111 - 113 ka	111.85 ± 1.1

Table 4.1: Summary of alluvial fan units and associated OSL ages for both the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments.

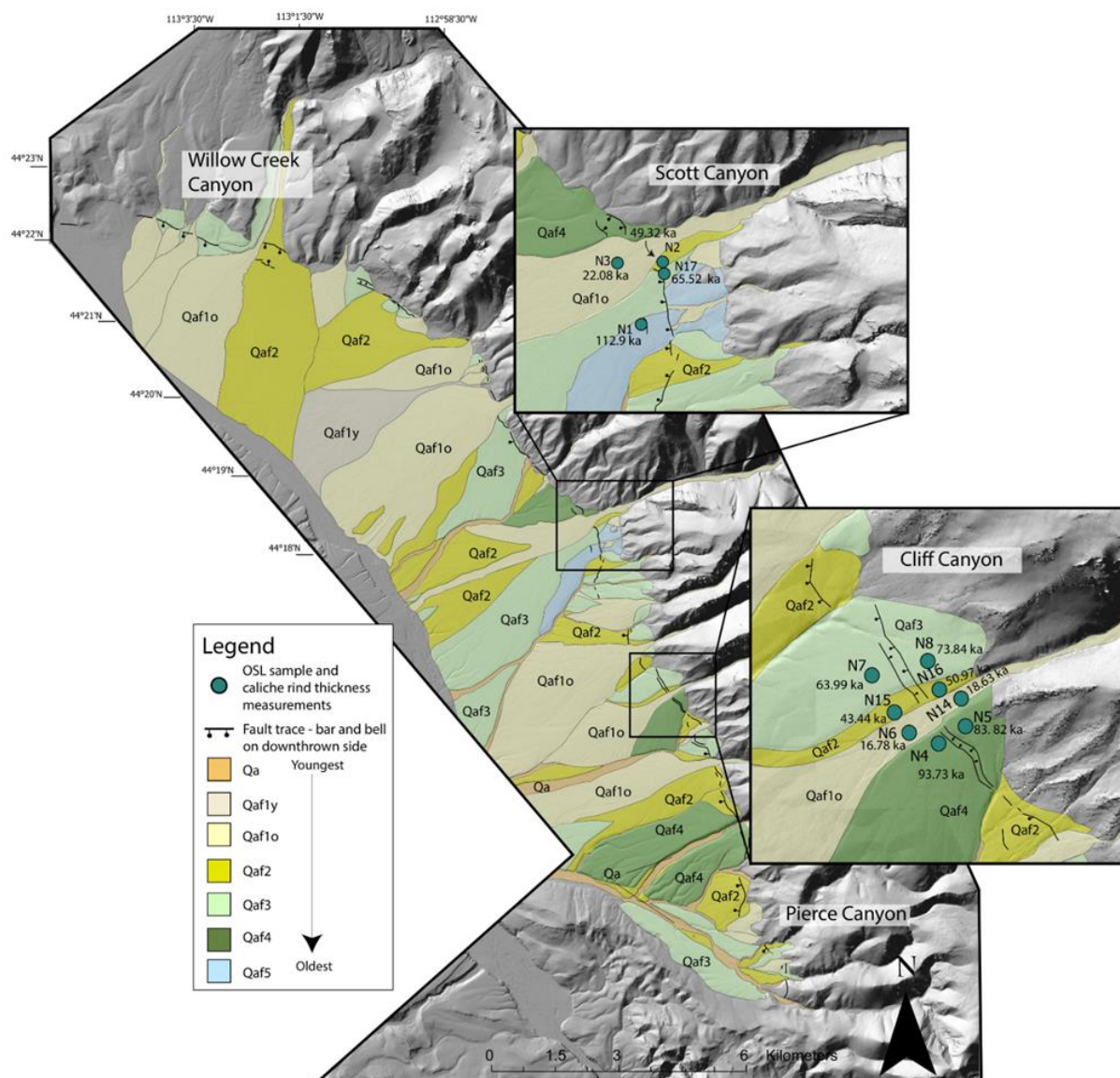


Figure 4.1: Alluvial fan mapping of the Nicholia segment showing the OSL sample locations in Scott and Cliff canyons. Five fan units were identified in the Nicholia segment, Qaf1 – Qaf5.

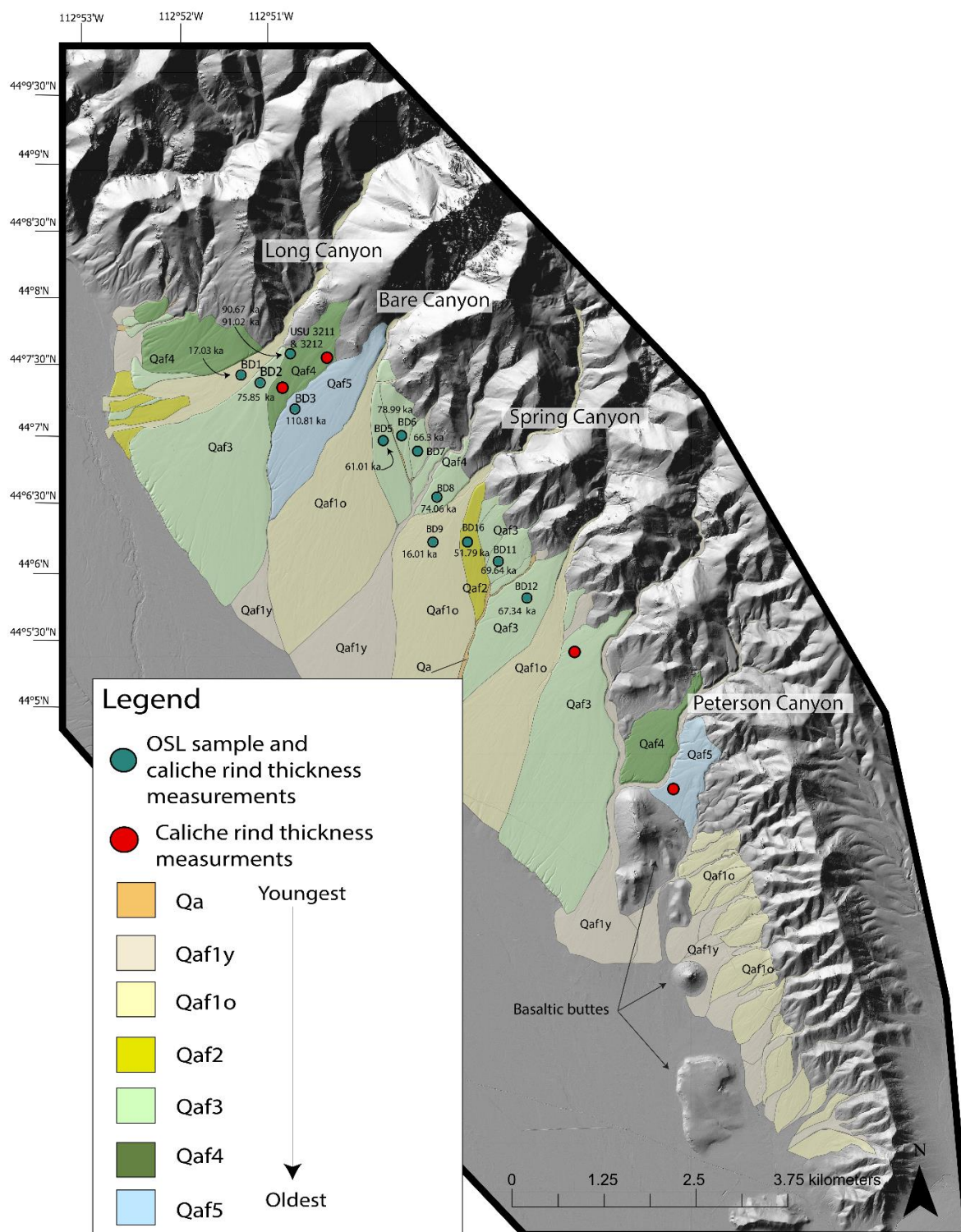


Figure 4.2: Alluvial fan mapping of the Blue Dome segment showing the locations of the OSL samples and their respective ages. Shown are also the additional sites where additional caliche rinds were measured. There are 5 alluvial fan units shown in Blue Dome section.

Qaf1 alluvial fans have an age range of 16 – 22 ka; Qaf2 43 – 61 ka; Qaf3 66 – 74 ka; Qaf4 84 – 94 ka; and Qaf5 from 111 – 113 ka. The means of all ages are Qaf1 18.1 +/- 2.4 ka; Qaf2 48.88 +/- 3.6 ka; Qaf3 69.65 +/- 5.5 ka; Qaf4 89.81 +/- 3.6 ka and Qaf5 111.85 +/- 1.0 ka (Table 4.2). We infer that the timing of fan aggradation correlates to cooler and/or wetter late Pleistocene climatic episodes. According to Pierce and Scott (1982) cooler climates would have prolonged a snowpack at higher elevations and would create intense discharge during the late summer snowmelt to ensure gravel transport into alluvial fans. These cooler conditions would have created more effective moisture within the soil; reducing the erosion of finer sediment. Frost wedging would have also occurred and created coarse-grained colluvium deposits along hillslopes that would have been transferred downstream.

Our hypsometry curves show that the elevation from the tops of the selected Nicholia canyons range from 3200 – 2800 m while the Blue Dome canyons have a range of 3000 – 2000 m. These elevations exceed the estimated regional glacial equilibrium-line altitude (ELA) of 2700 – 2800 m (Locke 1990; Meyer et al., 2004). The ELA's suggest that there would have been snowpack in the Nicholia segment drainages and in portions of the Blue Dome segment drainages. With this analysis we can infer that melting snowpack was the primary driver of alluvial fan aggradation for the Nicholia segment and likely for portions of the Blue Dome segment.

In conclusion, as with Kenworthy (2011), we infer that alluvial fans within the northern Basin and Range form during cool late Pleistocene conditions. This inference is partially supported by data from other regional paleoclimatic proxy records, such as the Lake Terreton highstands dated by Amidon et al. (2016) and isolated CRN moraine boulder ages.

4.1 Faulting histories along the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments

Chapter 3 describes the faulting history of the Blue Dome and Nicholia segments.

The two segments are separated by a 6.5 km right en echelon step. As previous studies have shown (Haller, 1988) and the findings in the Chapter 3, the Blue Dome segment does not appear to have a fault scarp cutting its alluvial fans. Our oldest OSL age along the Blue Dome segment is around 110 ka and therefore we infer that no faulting has occurred along the Blue Dome segment in the past 110 ka.

The Nicholia segment in contrast has fault scarps cutting alluvial fan surfaces. The fault scarps are present along Qaf2 – Qaf5 alluvial fans but are lacking along the youngest alluvial fan unit, Qaf1. Fault scarp vertical separation (VS) generally increases with alluvial fan age, as shown at Cliff Canyon. The OxCal modeling provided by S. Olig (personal communications 2021) modeled a two-event rupture history along the Nicholia segment. The model infers fault ruptures occurred 32 ± 7.3 ka and 72 ± 6.7 ka based on the OSL ages from Cliff Canyon. These estimations are older than what Haller (1988) suggested.

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APPENDIX A:

Soil descriptions were made from the top-downward

Sedimentary descriptions were made from bottom up

Site: N3

Coordinates: N 44.30449 W 112.94054

GPS Elevation: 2165 m

USU-3400

Fan unit: Qaf1

OSL age: 22.08 ± 1.98 ka

Depth collected: 1.3 m

Soil Horizons

Aw: 0 – 18cm

Pebbly silt loam

Weakly Granular Structure

Bk1 : 18 – 35cm

Pebbly silt loam

Platy, weak structure

10YR 5/4 – Yellowish Brown

Diffuse upper contact

Bk2: 35 – 60cm

Silty Gravel

Platy texture

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Abrupt upper contact

Stage II carbonate soil – clasts collected from this horizon

Abrupt upper contact

Bk3: 60 – 90cm

Pebble-gravel

weak platy structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

C/Bw 90 – 140 cm

Pebble-gravel

no soil structures

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 80cm

3-4 cycles of coarsening and fining upward sequences (couplets)

Couplets are 25 – 30 cm each

Matrix supported

Subrounded – rounded clasts (5 – 7cm)

Smaller pea shaped clasts present

Interpretation : Sheet wash deposit

Unit 2: 80 – 110cm

Matrix supported

Heterogenous composition of grains

Matrix is fine to medium sand (carbonate)

Weakly bedded and stratified

Interpretation: Sheet wash deposit but has been disturbed; soil disturbed alluvial gravel

Unit 3: 110 – 145cm

Massive; no bedding

Matrix supported

Clasts (2cm) loaded in silt

Pebbly silt to fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Loessic cap with soil mixing

Site: N2

Coordinates: N 44. 30453 W 112.93542

GPS Elevation: 2177 m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 16cm

Pebbly silt loam

weakly granular

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Bk1: 16 – 28cm

Silty pebbly gravel

weakly Platy

10 YR 6/4- Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 28 – 45cm

Silty pebble gravel

Platy

10 YR 6/4 -Light yellowish brown

Bk3: 45 – 63cm

Silty pebble gravel

more massive, less platy than Bk3

10 YR 6/4 -Light yellowish brown

Bk4: 63 – 94cm

Pebble-gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Stage II + carbonate stage

Clasts collected from this horizon

Bk5 94 – 145cm

Pebble-gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3401

Fan unit: Qaf2

OSL Age: 49.32 ± 5.86 ka

Sample Depth: 1.3 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 83cm

Pebble gravel with occasional

cobbles

Stratified

Largely clast supported

Sub-angular to sub-rounded

Interpretation: Alluvial gravel deposit

Unit 2: 83 – 118cm

Massive Pebbly silt

Matrix supported; Tabular

Interpretation: Loessic, wind blown

deposits with pebbles, bioturbated

Unit 3: 118 – 145cm

Massive, Pebbly fine sand

Roots throughout

Darker than Unit 2

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap

Site: N17

Coordinates: N44.30357 W112.93526

GPS Elevation 2176 m

Soil Descriptions

A: 0 – 20cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

weak HCl reaction

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

ABk1: 20 – 32cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

10 YR 6/4 – light yellowish brown

Bk2: 32 – 50cm

Silty pebbly gravel

Platy

10 YR 7/3 – very pale brown

Bk3: 50 – 75cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/2 – light brownish gray

carbonate pendants present

Stage II + stage carbonate

Clasts collected here

Bk4: 75 – 130cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

Carbonate pendants

Bk5: 130 – 170cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Carbonate pendants

USU-3402

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 65.52 ± 6.92 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1.25 m

Pebble gravel, occasional cobbles

Subrounded to rounded

Interbedded coarser and finer gravel

Stratified; broadly tabular

Clast supported

Interpretation: Alluvial fan gravel

Unit 2: 1.25 – 1.45 m

Silty pebble gravel

Massive

Matrix supported

Diffuse contact with Unit 1

Randomly oriented clasts

Subangular clasts

Interpretation: Bioturbated gravels in soil

Unit 3: 1.45 – 1.70 m

Pebbly sandy silt

Massive

Matrix supported

Smaller clasts than Unit 2

Subangular

Interpretation: Soil development in loessic cap. Bioturbation of lower gravel

Site: N1

Coordinates: N44.29946 W112.93794

GPS elevation: 2162

Soil Horizons

A: 0- 18cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

ABk1: 18 – 28cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

10 YR 5/4 – Yellowish brown

Bk2: 28 -52cm

Pebbly silt loam (more pebbles than
previous horizon)

Weak granular

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Bk3: 52 – 74 cm

Silty pebble

No soil structure

10 YR 7/4 – Very pale brown

White appearance on outcrop

Bk4: 74 – 128cm

Silty pebble

No soil structure

small carbonate pendants

Bk5: 128 – 180cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Stage II + carbonate

Rind measurements were collected
from here

USU-3403

Fan unit: Qaf5

OSL age: 112.9 ± 12.1 ka

Sample depth: 1.7 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 60cm

Cobbly Pebble gravel

Clast supported

Heterogeneous mixture

Subangular – subrounded clasts

Stratified

Imbrication

Interpretation: Alluvial fan gravel

Unit 2: 60 – 120cm

Base of Unit 2 has gypsum

Massive

Matrix supported

Angular – subangular pebble gravel

Vertical clasts (%50)

Uniform sized clasts (1 – 5cm)

Interpretation: Some kind of massive
movement (debris?) channel fill deposit

Unit 3: 120 – 135cm

Massive matrix supported pebbly silt

Subangular clasts

no orientation of clasts

Similar to Unit 2 in size and

character

Interpretation: Soil and bioturbated unit with
loess

Unit 4: 155 – 178cm

Pebbly sandy silt

Massive

Smaller clasts than Unit 2

Interpretation: Loessic cap with bioturbation
of gravels from below

Site: N15

Coordinates: N44.26833 W112.91721

GPS elevation: 2218

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 18cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

Roots present

Weak HCl reaction

20 YR 6/2 – light brownish gray

ABk1: 18 – 28cm

Pebbly silt loam

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

Diffuse upper boundary

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Bk2: 28 – 68cm

Loamy pebbly gravel

Boundary based on color

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Diffuse lower boundary based on color

Bk3: 68 – 120cm

Cobble pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage II carbonate

Lower boundary picked on reduced carbonate pendants

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

carbonate clasts collected here

C: 120 – 140cm

Cobble pebble gravel

No soil structure

No carbonate present

10 YR 5/4 – yellowish brown

USU-3404

Fan unit: Qaf2

OSL age: 43.44 ± 5.39 ka

Sample depth: 1.2 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 70cm

Cobble pebble gravel

Imbrication on larger clasts

Clast supported

Subrounded clasts

Weakly stratified

Pods of pebbles

Uniformly distributed

Interpretation: Channel deposit of alluvial fan

Unit 2: 70 – 115cm

Matrix supported

Cobbly pebbly gravel

Clasts randomly oriented

Subrounded clasts

Heterogenous distribution

Interpretation: Soil disturbed gravel with loessic addition

Unit 3: 115- 140cm

Matrix supported gravely silt

clasts much finer than Unit 2

More massive than Unit 2

Interpretation: Loessic cap with bioturbated clasts

Site: N7

Coordinates: N44.27021 W112.91881

GPS elevation: 2224m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 20cm

Fine pebble silt loam

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown
roots present

ABk1 20 – 34cm

Pebbly silt loam

Platy textures; little granular

weak – moderate HCL reaction

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Gradual contact between A – ABk1;
boundary defined by roots

Bk2 34 – 66cm

Pebbly silt loam

Weakly granular

Strong HCl reaction

abrupt lower contact

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Bk3: 66 -96cm

Pebble cobble gravel

No soil structure

Carbonate pendants present

Stage II

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

Gradual lower contact based on
carbonate pendants

Bk4: 96 – 150cm

Pebble gravel

Thinner carbonate pendants than Bk3

No soil structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

USU-3405

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 63.99 ± 6.99 ka

Sample depth: 1.3 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 55cm

Pebble gravel with occasional
cobbles

Stratified and roughly layered

Larger clasts are imbricated

Subrounded clasts

Moderately well sorted

Interpretation: Sheet flow; washed

Unit 2: 55-90cm

Pebble cobble gravel

Bottom of Unit 2; subdivided into
two bedsbed 1: Mostly large pebble to small
cobble clasts in a fine matrix

Matrix supported; Poorly sorted

Debris flow (20cm thick)

bed 2: Coarse gravel

clasts supported

Moderately sorted

Interpretation: Bed 1 is a debris flow and
bed 2 is a coarse fluvial deposit

Unit 3: 90 -130cm

Matrix supported

Silty pebbly gravel

randomly oriented clasts

Poorly sorted

Interpretation: soil modified gravel with
loess

Unit 4: 130 – 150cm

Silt with small pebbles

Matrix supported

Very poorly sorted

Interpretation: Soil with loessic cap

Site: N6

Coordinates: N44.26730 W112.91616

GPS elevation: 2228m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 22cm

Silt loam with some pebbles

Mild HCl reaction

Granular

Roots throughout

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

Basal clear because of roots

Bk1: 22-46cm

Silty pebble gravel

Moderate HCl reaction

No structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Diffuse basal boundary

Bk2: 46 – 74cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage I carbonate

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Basal contact seen as carbonate
sits between clasts

CBk3: 74 – 155cm

Pebble gravel with minor carbonate

No soil structure

10YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3406

Fan unit: Qaf1

OSL age: 16.78 ± 2.09 ka

Sample depth: 1.55 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1.15 m

Pebble cobble gravel

Imbrication of clasts

Clasts supported

Subrounded clasts

Couplets of coarsening and fining
upwardsThe coarsening sequences are thicker
than the finer sequencesInterpretation: Sheet floods, fluvial
influence

Unit 2: 1.20 – 1.40 m

Massive matrix supported pebble
gravel

Silty fine sand matrix

No orientation of clasts

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Soil developed from gravels
with loess addition; Bioturbation present

Unit 3: 1.40 – 1.55 m

Pebbly silt

Massive

Finer clasts than Unit 2

More angular clasts than Unit 2

Interpretation: Loessic cap and soil

Site: N14

Coordinates: N44.26898 W112.91235

GPS elevation: 2255m

Soil Horizons

A: 0-14cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Roots throughout

Mild HCl reaction

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

ABk1: 14 – 32cm

Silt loam with more pebbles than

A

Granular; weakly plated

Mild – moderate HCl reaction

Boundary contact with A is defined
by roots and texture

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 32 – 50cm

Pebbly silt loam

Weakly granular

Moderate – strong HCl

Gradual boundary with ABk1

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Bk3: 50 – 78cm

Silty pebble gravel

No soils structure

Basal boundary defined by less silt;
no carbonate pendants

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Bk4: 78 – 134cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage I + carbonate

Basal boundary defined by reduction
of carbonate

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

CBk5: 134 – 165cm

Pebble cobble gravel

No soil structure

Lack of pedogenic rinds

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3407

Fan unit: Qaf1

OSL age: 18.63 ± 2.20 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 85cm

Pebble cobble gravel

Couplets of fining and coarsening
upwards

Clast supported

Subrounded clasts

imbricated clasts

Interpretation: Sheet flood cooping alluvial
fan gravel

Unit 2: 85 – 135cm

Matrix supported pebble gravel with
some cobbleClasts have different orientations
subrounded to subangular clastsInterpretation: Soil influenced bioturbated
with loess addition

Unit 3: 135 – 165cm

Massive matrix pebbly silt

No orientation of clasts

Smaller pebbles than Unit 2

Sandy silty matrix

Subrounded clasts

Interpretation: Soil developed in loess cap
over alluvial gravel with bioturbation

Site: N4

Coordinates: N44.26674 W112.91403

GPS elevation: 2238m

Soil Horizon

A: 0 – 20cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Abundance of roots

Mild reaction to HCl

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

ABk1: 20 – 38cm

Silt loam with more pebbles than the

A horizon

Granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Some roots

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 34- 62cm

Silty pebble gravel with loam

Subangular blocky texture

Carbonate coats on clasts

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Basal contact based on color
and matrix

Bk3: 62 – 110cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage II carbonate

10 YR 7/1 – Light gray

Basal contact diffuse of carbonate

CBk4: 110 – 160cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Some carbonate pendants

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3408

Fan unit: Qaf4

OSL age: 93.7 ± 11.8 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1m

Clast supported

Pebble gravel with cobbles

Clasts are imbricated

Subrounded clasts

Coarsening and fining sequences and
equal in thickness

Incision on unit where it is consistent

Interpretation: Sheet flood deposit alluvial
gravel with the occasional debris flow
incision

Unit 2: 1 – 1.25m

Matrix, massive pebble, gravel

Weak imbrication

Matrix is fine silty sand

Weakly stratified

Same pebble size as Unit 1 but larger
clasts are less presentInterpretation: Soil influence bioturbated
with loess addition

Unit 3: 1.25 – 1.60 m

Matrix supported

Pebbly silt

Fine sand to silty

Smaller pebbles than Unit 2

Randomly oriented

Poorly sorted

Interpretation: Soil developed in loess cap

Site: N5

Coordinates: N44.26759 W112.91206

GPS elevation: 2262 m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 20cm

Silty loam with small pebbles
 Granular
 Ample roots
 Mild HCl reaction
 Basal contact defined by lack of roots
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

ABk1: 20 – 44cm

Silty loam with pebbles clasts larger than A horizon
 Granular
 Less roots than A horizon
 Moderate HCl reaction
 Basal contact defined by silt loam
 10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 44 – 66cm

Pebble gravel with silt loam
 No soil structure
 Carbonate coating present
 Strong HCl reaction
 10 YR 8/2 – Very pale brown
 Basal contact defined by increase of carbonate

Bk3: 66 -126cm

Pebble gravel with some cobble
 No soil structure
 Strong HCl reaction
 Prominent mammillary on rinds
 Stage II carbonate
 Basal contact defined by diffusion of carbonate
 10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

CBk4: 126 – 150cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3409

Fan unit: Qaf4

OSL age: 83.82 ± 8.73 ka

Sample depth: 1.4 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1.05m

Pebble gravel with some cobbles
 Clast supported
 Imbricated clasts
 Couplets of fine and coarse grained
 Subrounded clasts
 Well – moderately sorted

Interpretation: Sheet flood deposit with alluvial gravel

Unit 2: 1.05 – 1.32m

Matrix supported pebbly silt
 Massive
 Poorly sorted
 Subrounded clasts
 Randomly oriented clasts
 Coarse to fine sand silt matrix

Interpretation: Bioturbated soil developed with loess from Unit 1

Unit 3: 1.32 – 1.50m

Pebbly silt, clasts are smaller than Unit 2
 Massive, poorly sorted

Interpretation: Loessic cap with soil development

Site: N8

Coordinates: N44.27089 W112.91474

GPS elevation: 2258m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 16cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Roots throughout

Mild HCl reaction

10 YR 5/4 – Yellowish brown

ABk1: 16 – 32cm

Silt loam with more pebbles than the

A horizon

Granular

Less roots than the A horizon

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 32 – 60cm

Pebble gravel with silt loam matrix

No soil structure

some roots present

Strong reaction to HCl

Basalt contact due to increase of
carbonate present

10 YR 8/2 – Very pale brown

Bk3: 60 – 104cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage II + carbonate

No roots

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

CBk4: 104 – 145cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

USU-3410

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 73.84 ± 7.79 ka

Sample depth: 1.2 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.85 m

Pebble gravel with some cobbles

Mostly clast supported

Imbricated clasts

Couplets of coarsening and fining

Subrounded clasts

Moderately sorted

Interpretation: Alluvial fan gravel with
fluvial influence

Unit 2: 0.85 -1.15 m

Matrix supported

Massive gravel

Large pebbles with very few cobbles

Undulating basal contact

Silty sand matrix

Poorly sorted

Random oriented clasts

Coarser clasts than Unit 1

Interpretation: Bioturbated soil influenced
loess addition

Unit 3: 1.15 – 1.45m

Silt with small pebbles large at basal
contact

Massive

Pebbles are smaller than Unit 2

Interpretation: Soil in loess cap

Site: N16

Coordinates: N44.26945 W112.91393

GPS elevation: 2254

USU-3411

Fan unit: Qaf2

OSL age: 50.97 ± 5.43 ka

Sample depth: 1.4 m

Soil Description

A: 0 – 22cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Roots present

Mild reaction to HCl

Basal contact defined by roots
and HCl

10 YR 5/4 – yellowish brown

Bk1: 22 – 36cm

Silt loam with more pebbles than the

A horizon

Granular

Strong reaction to HCl

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Bk2: 36 – 66cm

Pebble gravel with silt loam matrix

Carbonate rinds present

No soil structure

Few roots

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Bk3: 66 – 100cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage II carbonate

Basal contact defined by lack of
rinds

10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

CBk4: 100 – 160cm

Pebble cobble gravel

No soil structure

Some boulders present

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.85m

Pebble cobble gravel with boulders

Clast supported

Subrounded clasts

Slightly stratified

Some imbrication

Moderately sorted

Interpretation: Fluvial influenced gravel

Unit 2: 0.85 – 1.25m

Weakly stratified

Matrix supported

Pebble gravel with some cobble

Fine silt and fine sand matrix

Poorly to moderately sorted

Subrounded clasts

Gradual basal contact

Interpretation: Soil disturbed with loess
addition

Unit 3: 1.30 – 1.60m

Pebbly silt

Massive

Poorly sorted

Gradual contact

Interpretation: Soil with loess cap and
bioturbated

Site: BD1

Coordinates: N44.12293 W112.85955

GPS elevation: 1916

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 20cm

Silty loam with pebbles

Granular

Mild HCl

Roots

10 YR 6/2 – Light yellowish brown

Basal contract change in color; roots

Bk1: 20 – 60cm

Silty pebble gravel

Weakly granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Diffuse basal contact

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Bk2: 60 – 112cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Loss of roots

Basal defined as beginning of carbonate

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

Bk3: 112 – 160cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage I carbonate

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

USU-3412

Fan unit: Qaf1

OSL age: 17.03 ± 2.28 ka

Sample depth: 1.3 m

Sedimentary Units

Units 1: 0 – 90cm

Clast supported pebbled gravel with occasional cobble

Coarsening and fining upwards

Subrounded – rounded larger clasts

Moderate to poorly sorted

Weakly stratified

Imbrication

Interpretation: Fluvial influenced alluvial fan deposit

Unit 2: 90 – 130cm

Pebbly gravel with silty matrix

Matrix supported

Weakly stratified

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Soil influenced bioturbated gravel with loess addition

Unit 3: 130 – 150cm

Silty pebbly gravel

Massive

Pebbles are suspended in matrix

Random orientation

Subrounded clasts

Fewer clasts than Unit 2

Interpretation: Soil developed on loessic cap and bioturbated

Site: BD2

Coordinates: N44.12196 W112.85632

GPS elevation: 1924m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 14cm

Silty loam with pebbles
 Granular
 Abundance of roots
 Mild reaction to HCl
 Basal contact defined by lack of roots and HCl reaction
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

ABk1: 14 – 36cm

Silty loam with more pebbles than the A horizon
 Weakly granular
 Moderate reaction to HCl
 10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 36 – 58cm

Pebble gravel with some loam
 No soil structure
 Very strong reaction to HCl
 Stage II carbonate
 10 YR 7/2 – Light gray

Bk3: 60 – 90 cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 less carbonate rinds than Bk2
 10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray
 Basal contact defined by color

CBk4 90 – 160cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 Less carbonate
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

USU-3413

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 75.85 ± 7.52 ka

Sample depth: 1.3 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1.05 m

Pebble gravel with cobbles
 Moderately sorted
 Clast supported
 Fining and coarsening upward sequences
 Subrounded clasts

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit with fluvial deposits

Unit 2: 1.05 – 1.45m

Pebble gravel with fine silty sand matrix with cobbles
 Matrix supported
 Some clasts have random orientation
 Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Soil developed in gravel pedogenic disturbance; bioturbated by roots with loess addition

Unit 3: 1.45 – 1.60 m

Silty pebble gravel
 Fine silty matrix
 Random orientation of clasts
 Pebble clasts smaller than Unit 2
 Poorly sorted

Interpretation: Soil developed in loess cap and bioturbation

Site: BD3

Coordination: N44.11869 W112.85045

GPS elevation: 1921 m

Soil Horizons**A 0 – 16cm**

Mild HCl reaction
 Silty loam with pebbles
 Granular
 Abundance of roots
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown
 Basal contact defined
 by HCl; less roots; different texture

ABk1 16 – 28cm

Silty loam with pebbles, more
 than A
 Granular
 Less roots, moderate HCl reaction
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown
 Basal contact carbonate increase and
 change in color

Bk2 28 – 58cm

Pebble gravel with silty loam
 Weakly granular
 Less roots than ABk1
 10 YR 7/3 – very pale brown
 Basal contact defined by carbonate
 increase

Bk3 58 – 90 cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 Stage II +
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown
 Basal contact diffuse and
 less carbonate and color
 change

CBk4 90 – 160cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 Some carbonate present
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown
 (could also be 6/4)

USU-3414

Fan unit: Qaf5

OSL age: 110.8 ± 11.3 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Sediment Units**Unit 1: 0 – 0.75m**

Pebble cobble gravel with some
 boulders
 Clasts supported
 Subrounded clasts
 Overall fining upwards
 Moderately sorted
 Imbricated clasts

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit with fluvial
 deposit

Unit 2: 0.75 – 1.35 m

Overall matrix supported pebble
 gravel with cobbles
 Some stratification towards the base
 of unit
 Subrounded clasts
 Weak imbrication
 Silty to fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed from gravel
 bioturbated with loess addition

Unit 3: 1.35 – 1.60 m

Silty with pebbles
 Massive
 Matrix supported
 Random orientation of clasts
 Silty to fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed in loess cap
 and bioturbated with roots

Site: BD5

Coordinates: N44.11468 W112.83551

GPS elevation: 1937m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 18 cm

Silty loam with pebble

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

Abundance of roots

7.5 YR 5/4 – Brown

Basal contact defined by lack of loam, HCl, and less roots

ABk1: 18 – 30cm

Silty loam with more pebbles than A

Weakly granular

Less bioturbated than A

Moderate HCL reaction

7.5 YR 6/3 – light brown

Basal contact defined by loss of loam and carbonate

Bk2: 30 – 68cm

Silty pebble gravel with loam

No soil structure

Beginning of carbonate accumulation

Strong HCl reaction

7.5 YR 8/1 – White

Basal contact defined by color and more carbonate

Bk3: 68 – 118cm

Pebble gravel with loam

No soil structure

Carbonate present

7.5 YR 7/2 – Pinkish gray

Bk4: 118 – 170cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Carbonate rind accumulation

Stage II

7.5 YR 7/3 – Pink

USU-3415

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 61.01 ± 6.96 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.75m

Pebble gravel with some cobble

Clast supported

Subrounded clasts

Imbrication

Sequences fining upwards

2 – 3 pea gravel lenses

Interpretation: Alluvial deposits with fluvial influence

Unit 2: 0.75 – 1.5m

Matrix supported pebble gravel with cobbles

Clasts are more randomly oriented

Fining upwards sequences

Silty fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil development in gravel; bioturbated with loess addition

Unit 3: 1.5 – 1.7 m

Silt with pebbles

Pebbles are smaller than Unit 2

Subrounded clasts

Fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap with bioturbation

Site: BD6

Coordinates: N44.11529 W112.83236

GPS elevation: 1993m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 8cm

Silty loam with pebble

Granular structure

Mild HCl;

Roots

7.5 YR 5/3 – Brown

Basal contact defined by HCl
and less roots and loam

ABk1: 8 – 22cm

Silty loam with more pebbles than A
Granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Root bioturbation

7.5 YR 6/3 – Light brown

Basal defined by carbonate and color
change

Bk2: 22 – 58cm

Pebble gravel with traces of loam

No structure

Strong HCl reaction

Carbonate present

10 YR 8/1 – White

Basal contact defined color change
and texture change

Bk3: 58 – 78cm

Silty gravel loam with small pebbles

No soil texture

Carbonate is less present

7.5 YR 6/3 – light brown

Basal contact was defined by
carbonate rinds

Bk4: 78 – 114cm

Pebble gravel with some cobbles

No soil structure

Stage I carbonate development

7.5 YR 7/2 – Pinkish gray

Basal contact defined by less
carbonate

CBk5: 114 – 136cm

Pebble gravel (small pebbles)

No soil structure

USU-3416

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 78.99 ± 7.59 ka

Sample depth: 1.5 m

Lack of carbonate

10 YR 7/3 – very pale brown

Basal contact defined by color

CBk6: 136 – 160cm

pebble gravel with loam

No soil structure

Paleo soil?

Less carbonate

10 YR 8/2 – very pale brown

(looks pink by the human eye)

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.25m

Clast supported

Pebble gravel

Fine to silty matrix

Imbricated clasts

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit could be a
weak paleosol

Unit 2: 0.25 – 0.45m

Pea pebble gravel

Rounded clasts

Clast supported

Well sorted

Fine sand matrix

Interpretation: Localized channel fill or
sheet flood deposit

Unit 3: 0.45 – 0.85m

Clast supported pebble gravel with
cobbles

Random orientation of clasts

Undulating contact from below

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Fine silty sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed from below
with alluvial deposit

Site BD6 continued

Unit 4: 0.85 – 1.35 m

Matrix supported

Pebble gravel

Coarsening upwards sequence

Random orientation of clasts

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Soil development in gravel;
in a channel flow

Unit 5: 1.35 – 1.60m

Matrix silt with pebbles

Slight fining upwards

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Fine silty sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap
with bioturbation

Site: BD7

Coordinates: N44.11334 W112.82969

GPS elevation: 1924 m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 26cm

Silty loam with pebbles

Granular structure

Mild HCl reaction

Abundance of roots

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

Basal contact by less roots

stronger HCl reaction and

lighter color change

ABk1: 26 – 46cm

Silty loam with pebble with some

larger clasts

Weakly granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Less roots

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

This horizon could just be a Bk1

Basal contact defined by color

increase carbonate less loam and

less roots

Bk2: 46 – 80cm

Pebble gravel with loam

No soil structure

Carbonate appears

10 YR 8/2 – Very pale brown

Basal contact defined by color and

increase of carbonate coatings

Bk3: 80 – 118cm

Pebble gravel with loam

No soil structure

10 YR 8/2 – Very pale brown

looks white

Bk4: 118 – 154 cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

Stage I

10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Basal contact defined by diffused

carbonate

CBk5: 154 – 180cm

Pebble gravel

USU-3417

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 66.30 ± 6.39 ka

Sample depth: 1.6 m

No soil structure

Diffuse of carbonate

10 YR 7/3 – very pale brown

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 80cm

Pebble gravel with few cobbles

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Fine sand matrix

Clast supported

Imbrication

Stratified

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit with channel fill deposits

Unit 2: 0.80 – 1.55m

Matrix supported

Pebble gravel with some cobbles

Lower portion of the unit is weakly

stratified

Subrounded clasts

Fine silty sand matrix

Basal contact gradual and slightly

undulates

Interpretation: Soil developed on gravel with some root bioturbation with loess

Unit 3: 1.55 – 1.80m

Massive

Matrix supported silt with pebbles

Smaller pebbles than Unit 2

Fine sand silty matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed on loess cap with bioturbation

Site: BD8

Coordinates: N44.10770 W112.82651

GPS elevation: 1892 m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 16cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

Abundance of roots

10 YR 6/5 – Light brown

Basal contact defined by HCl,
diffuse of roots

ABk1: 16 – 36cm

Silt loam with pebbles and some
cobbles

Weakly granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Cobbles have rinds

Stage I +

Will not sample here due for
constancy

10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown

Basal contact diffuse of loam and
increase carbonate

Bk2: 36 – 108cm

Pebble gravel with loam and cobbles

No soil structure

Stage I + carbonate

Variable carbonate

7.5 YR 7/3 – Pink

Bk3: 108 – 165cm

Pebble gravel

No soil structure

10 YR 7/4 – very pale brown

USU-3418

Fan unit: Qaf4

OSL age: 74.06 ± 7.45 ka

Sample depth: 1.45 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.65m

Pebble gravel with cobble

Clast supported

Imbricated clasts

Coarsening and fining upwards
sequences

Fine silty sand matrix

Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Alluvial fan deposits with
some fluvial influence

Unit 2: 0.65 – 1.35m

Matrix supported

Pebble gravel with some cobble

Clasts are slightly imbricated

Fine silt matrix

Subrounded clasts

Overall massive

Pea gravel pod (10cm thick)

Basal contact is gradual

Interpretation: Soil developed in gravel with
loess with bioturbation

Unit 3: 1.35 – 1.65m

Matrix supported silt with pebbles

Some cobbles on the lower portion
of the unit

Clasts are suspended

Fine silty sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap
with heavy root bioturbation and cobble lag

Site: BD09

Coordinates: N44.10220 W112.82678

GPS elevation: 1862m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 26cm

Silt loam with pebbles

Granular

Mild HCl reaction

Abundance of roots

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Basal contact defined by decrease
loam, increase of class, decrease of
roots

ABk1: 26 – 52cm

Silt loam with increase of pebbles
and some cobbles

Granular

Moderate HCl reaction

Roots are present

Suspended large clasts have
carbonate rinds

10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown

Basal contact defined by carbonate
rind increase and color change

Bk2: 52 – 78cm

Pebble gravel with cobbles, few
boulders

No soil structure

Stage I +

10 YR 6/2 – Light brownish gray

Basal diffuse of carbonate and color
change

Bk3: 78 – 110cm

Pebble cobble gravel with some
boulders

No soil structure

Rinds are present

10 YR 4/3 – Brown

C: 110 – 155cm

Pebble cobble gravel with
boulders

No soil structure

10 YR 5/3 – Brown

USU-3419

Fan unit: Qaf1

OSL age: 16.01 ± 1.77 ka

Sample depth: 1.35 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 1.10m

Bouldery pebble cobble gravel

Subrounded clasts

Very variable clasts sizes

Imbricated clasts

Stratified in portions

Interpretation: High flow (debris?) alluvial
deposit or channel flow

Unit 2: 1.10 – 1.35m

Matrix supported pebble gravel with
cobbles

Fine silty sand matrix

Random orientation of clasts

Some stratification

Interpretation: Soil developed in pebble
gravel with root bioturbation

Unit 3: 1.35 – 1.55 m

Matrix supported, massive, silt with
pebbles

Pebbles are smaller than Unit 2

Fine silty sand matrix

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap
with bioturbation

Site: BD16

Coordinates: N44.10216 W112.82141

GPS elevation: 1871m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 12cm

Silt loam with pebbles
 Granular structure
 Mild HCl reaction
 Bioturbated with roots
 10 YR 6/5 - Brown

ABk1: 12 – 30cm

Silt loam with increase of pebbles
 Weakly granular
 Moderate HCl reaction
 Less rocks
 10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown

Bk2: 30 – 76cm

Pebble gravel with loam and some
 cobbles
 No soil structure
 Stage I
 Basal contact defined by lack of
 carbonate and color

CBk3: 76 – 116cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 Slight carbonate coatings
 10 YR 5/4 – Yellowish brown
 from 116 – 160cm no soil just sand
 lenses

USU-3420

Fan unit: Qaf2

OSL age: 51.79 ± 5.39 ka

Sample depth: 1.45 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 50cm

Clast supported pebble gravel
 Silty sand lenese
 Lenticular beds of sand
 Pea gravel to fine silty sand
 Imbricated clasts
 Alternating stacks of fine gravel and
 sand

Interpretation: Quiet small; flow alluvial fan

Unit 2: 0.5- 0.9m

Pebble gravel with cobbles
 Clast supported
 Lenses of pea gravel
 Fine silty sand matrix
 Imbricated clasts
 Fining upwards sequence overall

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit with fluvial influence

Unit 3: 0.90 – 1.50m

Pebble gravel with cobbles clasts
 Matrix supported
 Very fine silty matrix
 Some stratigraphy but messy

Interpretation: Soil developed in gravel; bioturbated with roots and loess addition

Unit 4: 1.50 – 1.60m

Matrix supported massive, silty with
 pebbles
 Clasts smaller than Unit 3
 Random orientation of clasts
 Subrounded

Interpretation: Soil development in loess cap and bioturbated

Site: BD11

Coordinates: N44.09975 W112.81622

GPS elevation: 1871 m

Soil Horizons

A: 0 – 16cm

Silt loam with pebbles
 Granular texture
 Mild HCl reaction
 Bioturbated roots
 10 YR 5/3 – Brown
 Basal contact defined loss of loam
 Stronger HCl reaction
 Less bioturbation from roots

ABk1: 16 – 32cm

Silt loam with increase of pebbles
 from horizon A
 Granular texture
 Mild to moderate HCl reaction
 Less bioturbated than horizon A
 10 YR 6/3 – Pale brown
 Basal contact with lower horizon
 defined by increase of HCl reaction,
 increase in carbonate, and decrease
 in roots

Bk2: 36 – 78cm

Pebble gravel with loam
 Moderate HCl
 Very weak granular texture
 Carbonate coatings appear
 Very localized roots
 10 YR 7/3 – very pale brown
 Basal contact defined

Bk3: 78 – 170cm

Pebble gravel
 No soil structure
 Stage I carbonate
 Despite being a meter thick; no
 CBk boundary

USU-3421

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 69.64 ± 6.04 ka

Sample depth: 1.6 m

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.95m

Pebble gravel with cobbles
 Pea gravel lenticular lenses
 Subangular clasts
 Some stratification
 Coarsening and fining upwards
 packages that interfinger each other

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit; channel
 flow into each other or flood sheet packages.

Unit 2: 0.95 – 1.40m

Matrix supported with pockets of
 clast supported pebble gravel
 Weakly stratified
 Subrounded – subangular clasts

Interpretation: Soil developed in pebble
 gravel; bioturbation by roots with channel
 bed deposits

Unit 3: 1.40 – 1.70m

Massive matrix supported silt with
 pebbles
 Pebbles are suspended
 Clasts smaller than Unit 2
 Fine silty sand matrix
 Random orientation of clasts

Interpretation: Soil developed in loessic cap;
 Bioturbated by roots

Site: BD12

Coordinates: N44.09523 W112.81144

GPS elevation: 1861

Soil Horizons

A: 0 -14cm

Silt loam with pebbles
Granular texture
Larger clasts have carbonate rinds
Mild HCl reaction
roots present
10 YR 5/4 – Yellowish brown
Basal contact defined by increase of
clasts, increase of HCl, and decrease
of roots

ABk1: 14 – 38cm

Silt loam with increase of pebbles
Weakly granular
Less bioturbated
Moderate HCl reaction
10 YR 6/4 – Light yellowish brown
Basal contact defined by increase
HCl decrease of roots, and color
change

ABk2: 38 – 74cm

Pebble gravel with very few traces of
loam
No soil structure
Very localized roots
Carbonate rinds
Stage II carbonate
10 YR 8/1 – white
Basal contact defined by decrease in
carbonate rinds and color change

Bk3: 74 – 114cm

Pebble gravel with cobbles
No soil structure
Carbonate rinds present but less
10 YR 7/3 – Very pale brown
Basal contact defined by increase
carbonate

USU-3422

Fan unit: Qaf3

OSL age: 67.34 ± 7.52 ka

Sample depth: 1.45 m

Bk4: 114 – 160cm

Pebble gravel
No soil structure
Increase of rinds from Bk3 but not to
Bk2
Groundwater influence?
10 YR 5/3 – Brown

Sedimentary Units

Unit 1: 0 – 0.90 m

Pebble gravel with large cobbles
Clast supported
Moderately sorted
Imbricated clasts
Coarsening and fining upwards
sequences
Pea gravel then coarser into cobbles

Interpretation: Alluvial deposit; lower
channel fill

Unit 2: 0.9 – 1.45m

Pebble gravel with some cobbles
Overall clast supported but matrix
supported towards the top
Moderately sorted
Weakly stratified
Imbrication of clasts
Subrounded clasts
Coarsening and fining upwards
sequence

Interpretation: Soil development with pebble
gravel with some loess. Weak bioturbation

Unit 3: 1.45 – 1.60m

Massive matrix silt with some
pebbles
Larger pebbles and small cobbles
Fine silty sand matrix
Poorly sorted

Interpretation: Soil development in loessic
cap with bioturbation

APPENDIX B:

Table 2. Dose Rate Information

Sample num.	USU num.	In-situ H ₂ O (%) ¹	D _R sub- sample ²	K (%) ³	Rb (ppm) ³	Th (ppm) ³	U (ppm) ³	Cosmic (Gy/ka)
BEA_LC_ 101819_01	USU-3211	6.0	F (40%)	1.09±0.03	46.7±1.9	4.7±0.4	4.1±0.3	0.27±0.03
			M (45%)	0.70±0.02	25.7±1.0	2.7±0.2	3.4±0.2	
			C (15%)	0.26±0.01	7.2±0.3	0.7±0.1	1.9±0.1	
BEA_LC_ 101819_02	USU-3212	7.8	F (40%)	1.08±0.03	48.6±1.9	4.5±0.4	4.8±0.3	0.26±0.03
			M (45%)	0.74±0.02	30.1±1.2	2.5±0.2	4.2±0.3	
			C (15%)	0.09±0.01	3.5±0.1	0.4±0.01	0.8±0.1	
N3	USU-3400	-	F (20%)	0.66±0.02	22.4±0.9	1.9±0.2	2.7±0.2	0.27±0.03
			M (40%)	0.31±0.01	11.7±0.5	1.7±0.2	1.9±0.1	
			C (40%)	0.35±0.01	10.3±0.4	1.3±0.2	1.7±0.1	
N2	USU-3401	3.1	F (40%)	0.62±0.02	22.0±0.9	2.3±0.3	2.7±0.2	0.27±0.03
			M (25%)	0.17±0.01	5.4±0.2	0.5±0.1	0.7±0.1	
			C (35%)	0.37±0.01	14.8±0.6	2.0±0.2	2.0±0.1	
N17	USU-3402	-	F (20%)	0.59±0.02	22.6±0.9	2.2±0.4	2.6±0.2	0.26±0.03
			M (25%)	0.19±0.01	6.3±0.3	0.7±0.1	1.9±0.1	
			C (55%)	0.25±0.01	7.3±0.3	0.7±0.1	1.5±0.1	
N1	USU-3403	-	F (25%)	0.48±0.03	20.2±0.8	2.2±0.5	2.2±0.2	0.26±0.03
			M (50%)	0.07±0.01	2.5±0.1	0.2±0.1	1.4±0.1	
			C (25%)	0.19±0.01	6.7±0.3	0.7±0.2	1.6±0.1	
N15	USU-3404	-	F (35%)	0.63±0.02	31.0±1.2	3.0±0.4	2.0±0.1	0.28±0.03
			M (45%)	0.20±0.01	6.4±0.3	0.8±0.1	1.6±0.1	
			C (20%)	0.18±0.01	6.3±0.3	0.6±0.1	1.8±0.1	
N7	USU-3405	-	F (20%)	0.46±0.03	22.8±0.9	2.2±0.5	1.8±0.1	0.27±0.03
			M (40%)	0.06±0.001	2.3±0.1	0.3±0.1	1.1±0.1	
			C (40%)	0.15±0.01	5.7±0.2	0.7±0.2	2.5±0.2	
N6	USU-3406	-	F (25%)	0.44±0.03	19.3±0.8	2.2±0.4	2.0±0.1	0.27±0.03
			M (50%)	0.07±0.001	2.8±0.1	0.3±0.1	1.0±0.1	
			C (25%)	0.24±0.01	11.4±0.5	1.2±0.2	1.4±0.1	
N14	USU-3407	-	F (20%)	0.42±0.03	18.0±0.7	2.0±0.5	1.7±0.1	0.27±0.03
			M (30%)	0.05±0.01	1.6±0.1	0.2±0.1	0.7±0.0	
			C (50%)	0.15±0.01	5.9±0.2	0.7±0.2	2.1±0.1	
N4	USU-3408	-	F (20%)	0.22±0.02	9.7±0.4	1.2±0.4	1.6±0.1	0.27±0.03
			M (45%)	0.05±0.01	1.5±0.1	0.2±0.1	0.7±0.1	
			C (35%)	0.15±0.02	5.7±0.2	0.7±0.2	1.6±0.1	

Sample num.	USU num.	In-situ H ₂ O (%) ¹	D _R sub- sample ²	K (%) ³	Rb (ppm) ³	Th (ppm) ³	U (ppm) ³	Cosmic (Gy/ka)
N5	USU-3409	-	F (20%) M (45%) C (35%)	0.33±0.02 0.23±0.01 0.09±0.01	14.7±0.6 6.8±0.3 3.1±0.1	1.8±0.4 0.9±0.2 0.3±0.1	1.8±0.1 1.0±0.1 1.8±0.1	0.27±0.03
N8	USU-3410	-	F (20%) M (50%) C (30%)	0.39±0.03 0.10±0.01 0.16±0.01	17.5±0.7 3.2±0.1 5.2±0.2	1.9±0.5 0.4±0.1 0.6±0.2	1.8±0.1 2.1±0.1 2.1±0.1	0.28±0.03
N16	USU-3411	4.3	F (25%) M (35%) C (40%)	0.40±0.03 0.11±0.01 0.11±0.01	18.9±0.8 4.1±0.2 3.9±0.2	2.1±0.5 0.5±0.1 0.5±0.1	1.8±0.1 2.0±0.1 2.3±0.2	0.27±0.03
BD1	USU-3412	3.1	F (20%) M (40%) C (40%)	0.95±0.04 0.05±0.001 0.17±0.01	42.4±1.7 1.9±0.1 6.2±0.2	4.3±0.7 0.2±0.03 0.7±0.1	3.6±0.3 1.0±0.1 1.6±0.1	0.26±0.03
BD2	USU-3413	5.4	F (20%) M (60%) C (20%)	1.09±0.04 0.10±0.01 0.16±0.01	49.6±2.0 4.0±0.2 5.9±0.2	4.9±0.7 0.5±0.1 0.7±0.1	3.1±0.2 1.4±0.1 1.7±0.1	0.26±0.03
BD3	USU-3414	2.3	F (20%) M (45%) C (35%)	0.59±0.02 0.10±0.01 0.68±0.02	26.7±1.1 3.9±0.2 21.1±0.8	2.9±0.3 0.4±0.1 2.9±0.3	2.3±0.2 1.1±0.1 2.5±0.2	0.25±0.03
BD5	USU-3415	14.4	F (45%) M (40%) C (15%)	0.64±0.02 0.07±0.01 0.34±0.01	30.5±1.2 2.5±0.1 13.2±0.5	3.8±0.4 0.4±0.1 1.4±0.1	2.6±0.2 1.7±0.1 2.5±0.2	0.25±0.03
BD6	USU-3416	6.3	F (30%) M (70%)	0.63±0.02 0.19±0.01	32.3±1.3 7.0±0.3	3.6±0.4 0.9±0.1	2.3±0.2 1.6±0.1	0.25±0.03
BD7	USU-3417	4.1	F (30%) M (60%) C (10%)	0.85±0.03 0.21±0.01 0.08±0.01	39.4±1.6 9.3±0.4 3.4±0.1	4.5±0.4 1.4±0.1 0.5±0.1	3.1±0.2 2.1±0.1 1.9±0.1	0.25±0.02
BD8	USU-3418	6.9	F (40%) M (40%) C (20%)	0.82±0.02 0.30±0.01 0.25±0.01	37.6±1.5 12.4±0.5 11.1±0.4	4.5±0.4 1.6±0.1 1.5±0.1	2.9±0.2 2.2±0.2 2.2±0.2	0.25±0.03
BD9	USU-3419	2.7	F (35%) M (40%) C (25%)	1.24±0.03 0.47±0.01 0.30±0.01	52.7±2.1 17.2±0.7 8.9±0.4	6.5±0.6 2.7±0.2 2.7±0.2	3.3±0.2 2.5±0.2 2.1±0.1	0.25±0.03
BD16	USU-3420 ⁴	-	F (40%) M (60%) F (70%) M (20%) C (10%)	1.00±0.03 0.25±0.01 1.24±0.03 0.14±0.01 0.23±0.01	46.5±1.9 9.1±0.4 56.7±2.3 6.0±0.2 8.6±0.3	5.4±0.5 1.4±0.1 6.4±0.6 0.9±0.1 1.1±0.1	2.8±0.2 1.9±0.1 3.0±0.2 2.1±0.1 1.7±0.1	0.25±0.02

Sample num.	USU num.	In-situ H ₂ O (%) ¹	D _R sub-sample ²	K (%) ³	Rb (ppm) ³	Th (ppm) ³	U (ppm) ³	Cosmic (Gy/ka)
			F (25%)	1.14±0.03	51.8±2.1	6.2±0.6	3.2±0.2	
			M (45%)	0.12±0.01	4.3±0.2	0.6±0.1	1.2±0.1	
			C (30%)	0.40±0.01	14.9±0.6	2.2±0.2	2.5±0.2	
BD11	USU-3421	-	F (40%)	1.10±0.03	54.8±2.2	5.4±0.5	1.8±0.1	0.25±0.02
			M (40%)	0.23±0.01	11.2±0.4	1.5±0.1	2.0±0.1	
			C (20%)	0.10±0.01	4.3±0.2	0.7±0.1	2.2±0.2	
BD12_	USU-3422	2.8	F (20%)	0.78±0.03	35.0±1.4	4.0±0.5	2.8±0.2	0.25±0.02
			M (45%)	0.16±0.01	6.4±0.3	0.7±0.1	1.1±0.1	
			C (35%)	0.19±0.01	8.6±0.3	1.1±0.1	1.3±0.1	

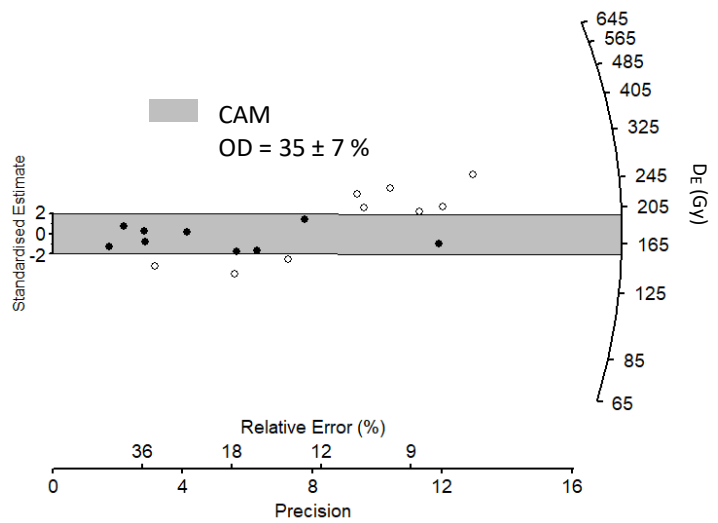
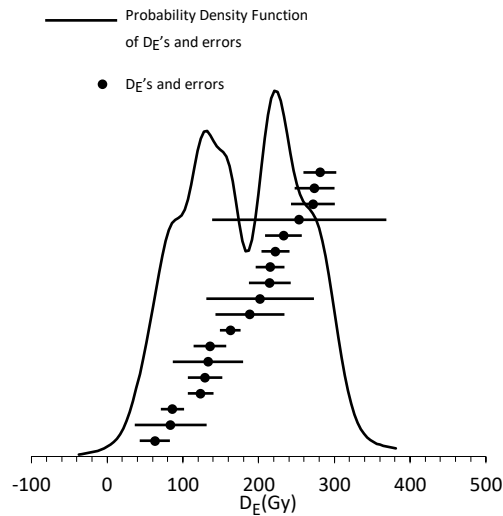
¹ Assumed 7.0±2.1% as moisture content over burial history. No field moisture sample was collected where no value is reported.

² Dose rate subsamples based on weighted proportions (%) of grain size subsamples: fine-F (<1.7 mm), medium-M (1.7-16 mm), coarse-C (>16 mm), and used with chemistry in beta and gamma dose rate calculation.

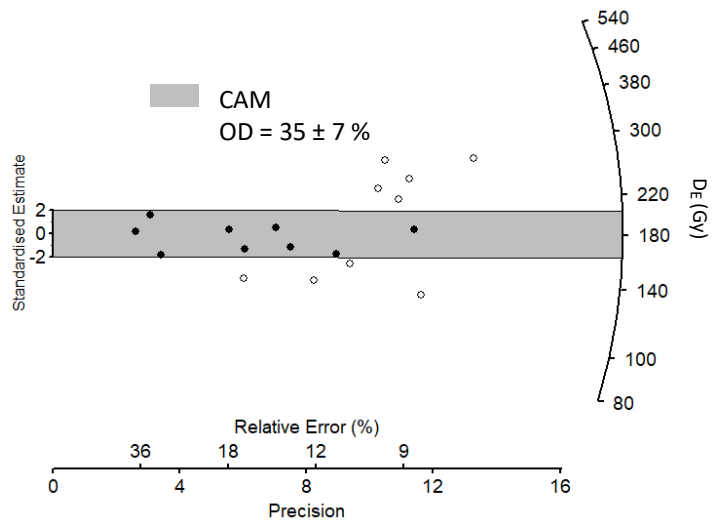
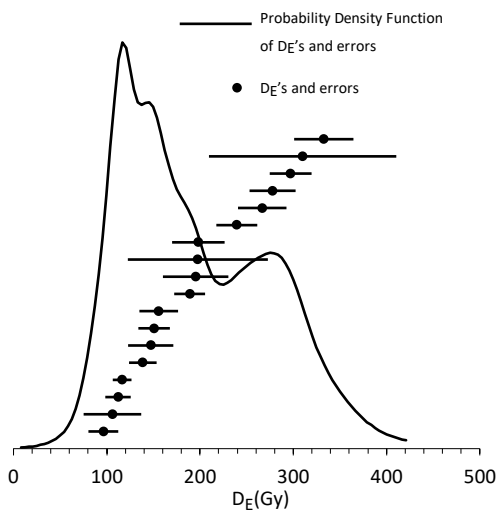
³ Radioelemental concentrations determined using ICP-MS and ICP-AES techniques; dose rate is derived from concentrations by conversion factors from Guérin et al. (2011).

⁴ Chemistry incorporated from units above, within, and below D_E sample unit, respectively.

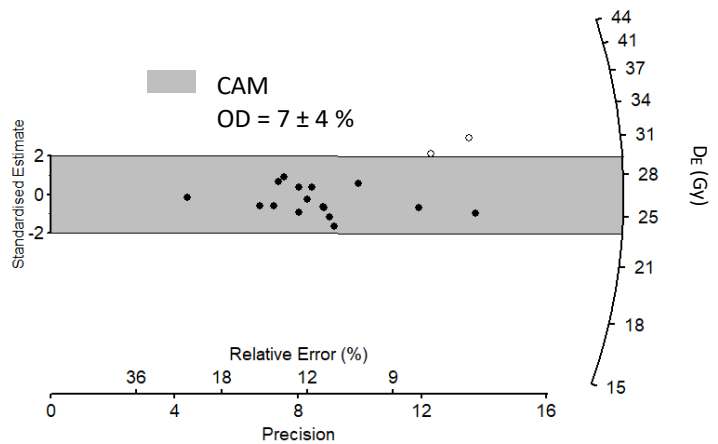
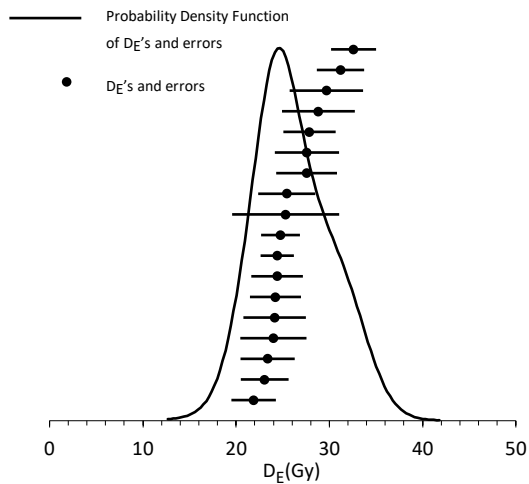
Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
USU-3211

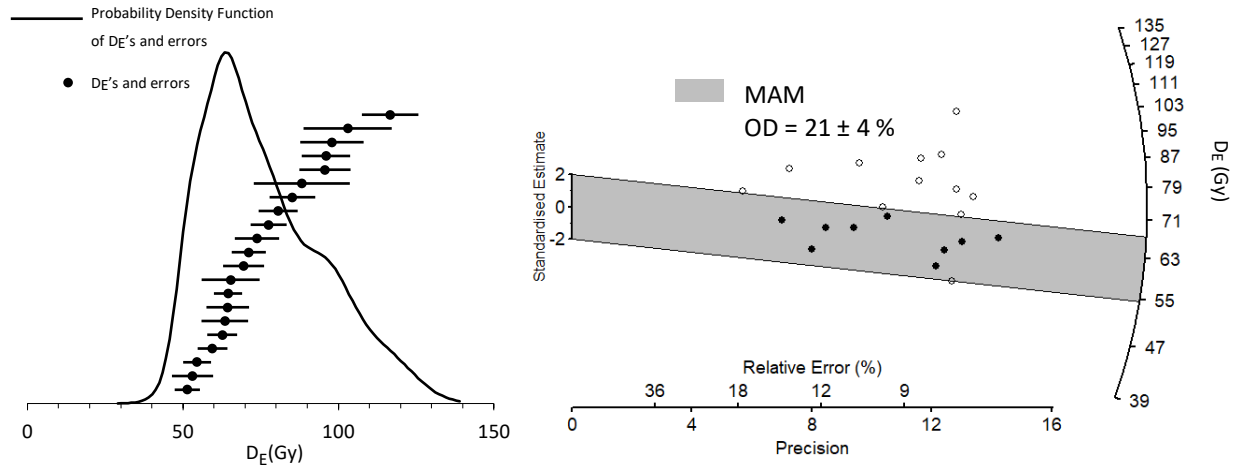
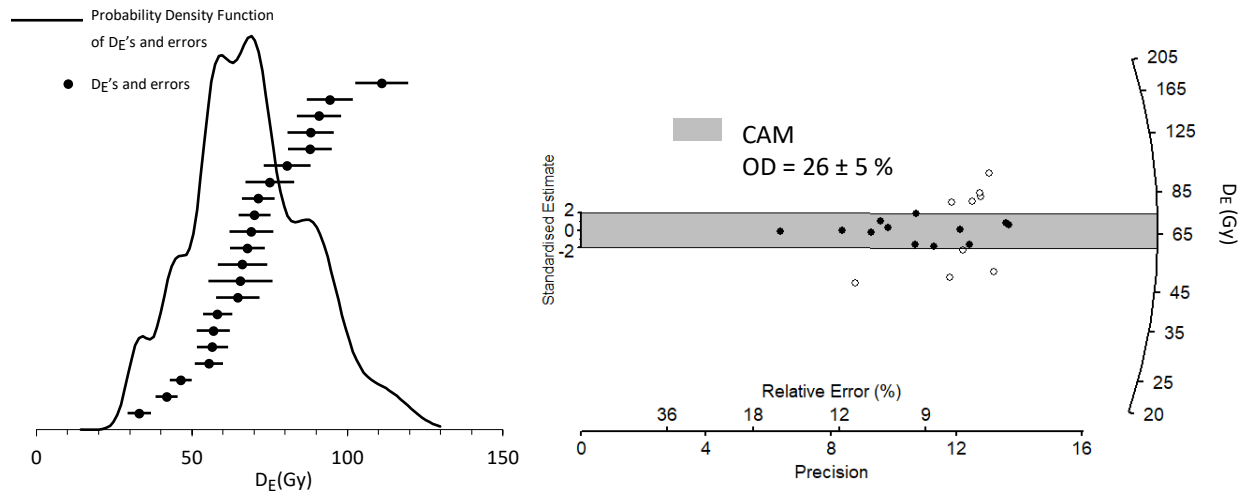
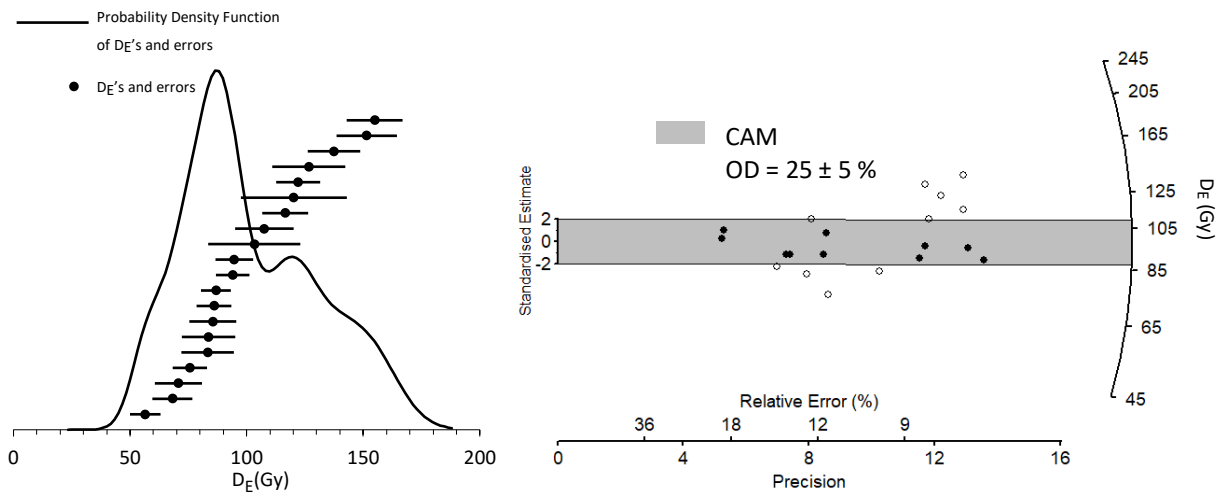


USU-3212

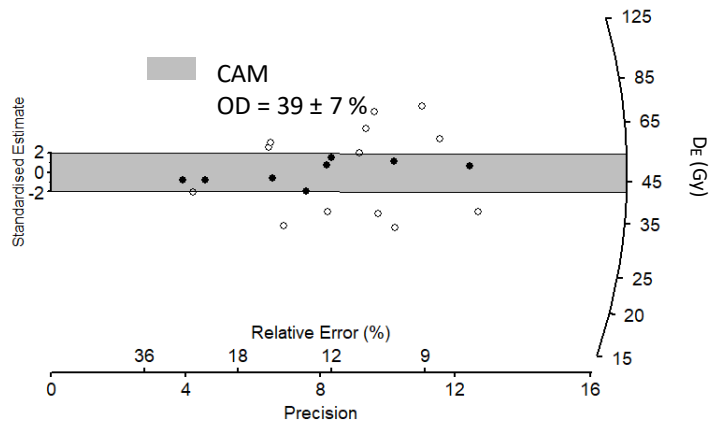
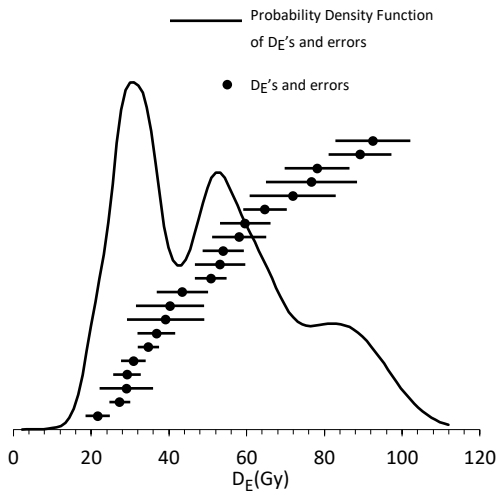


N3, USU-3400

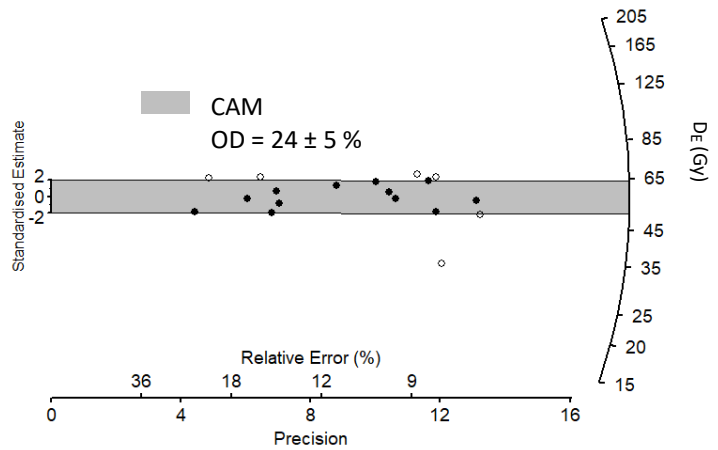
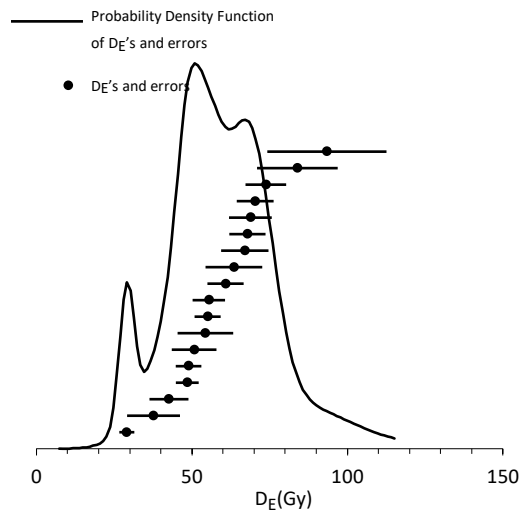


N2, USU-3401**N17, USU-3402****N1, USU-3403**

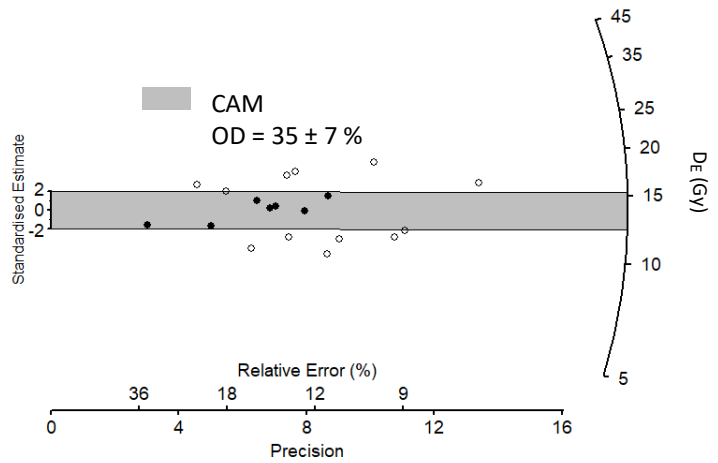
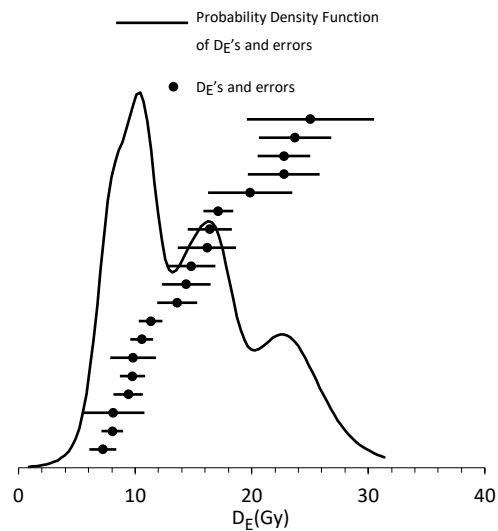
Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
N15, USU-3404



N7, USU-3405

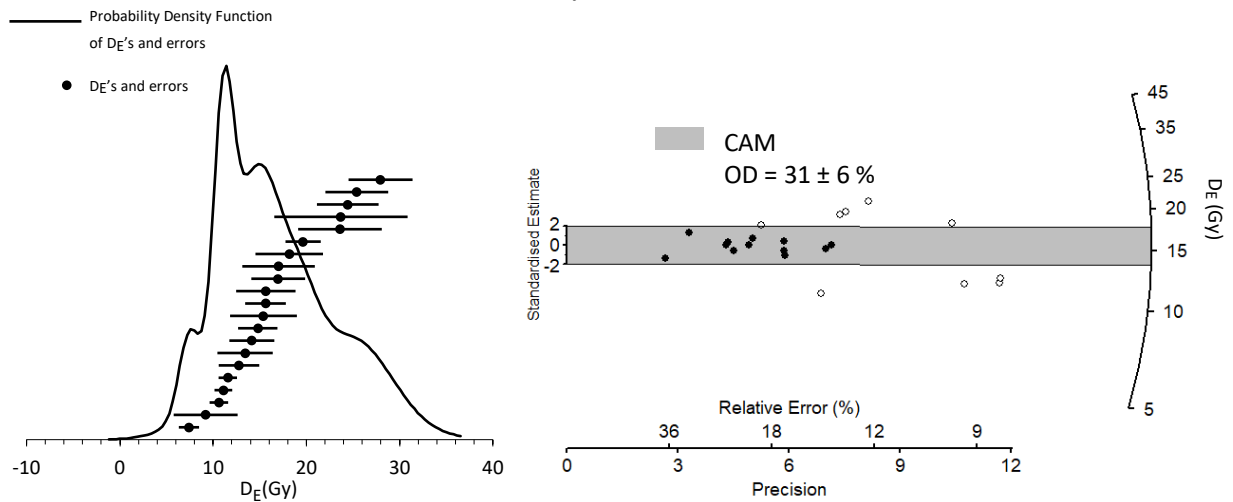


N6, USU-3406

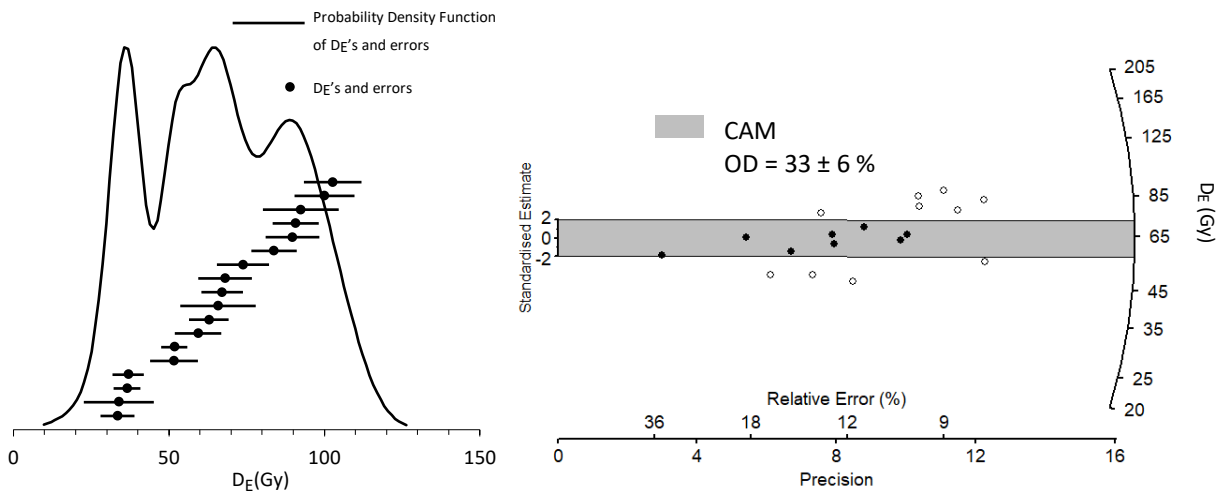


Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)

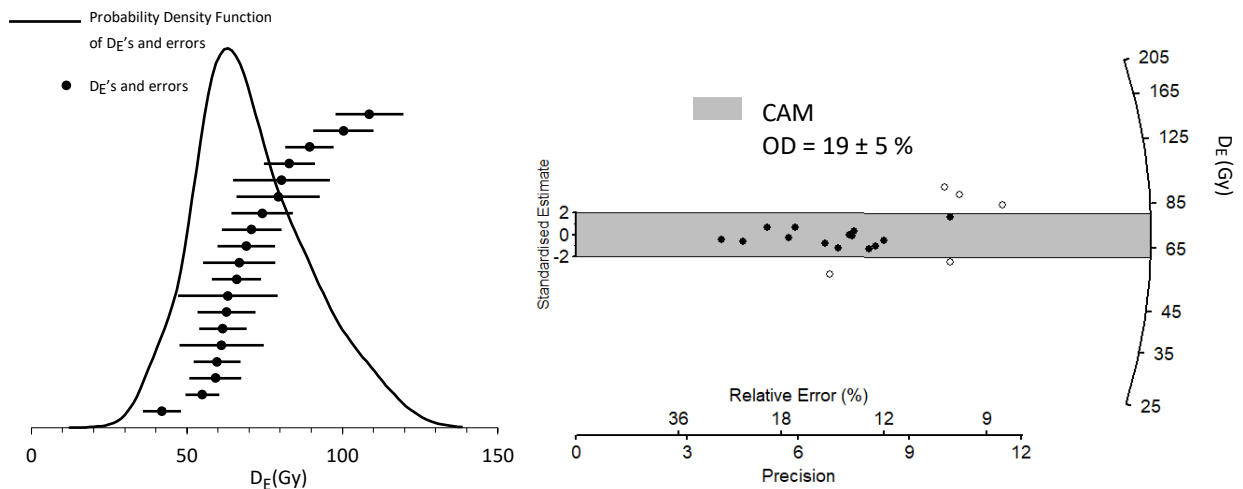
N14, USU-3407



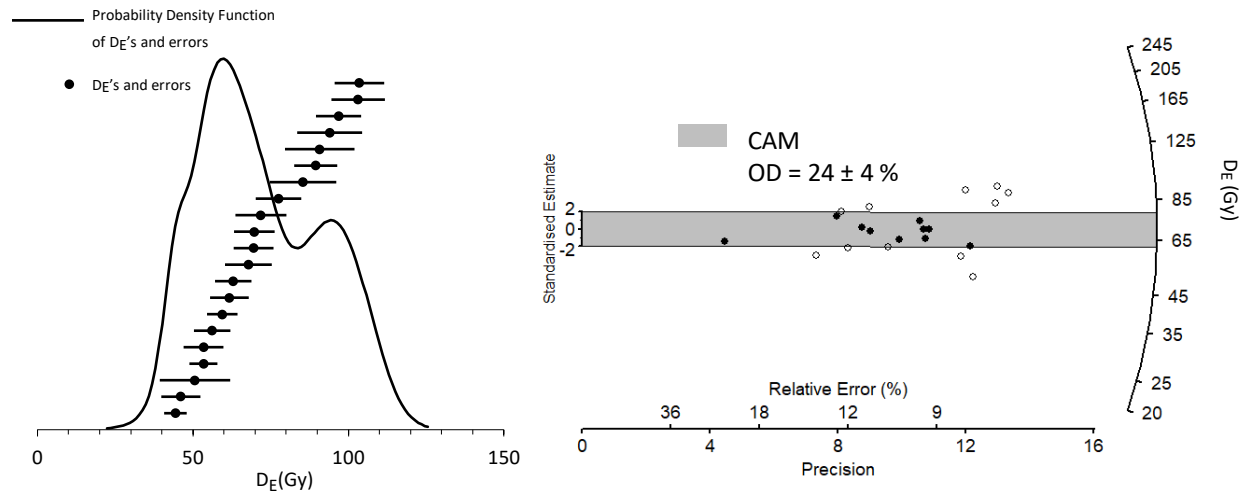
N4, USU-3408



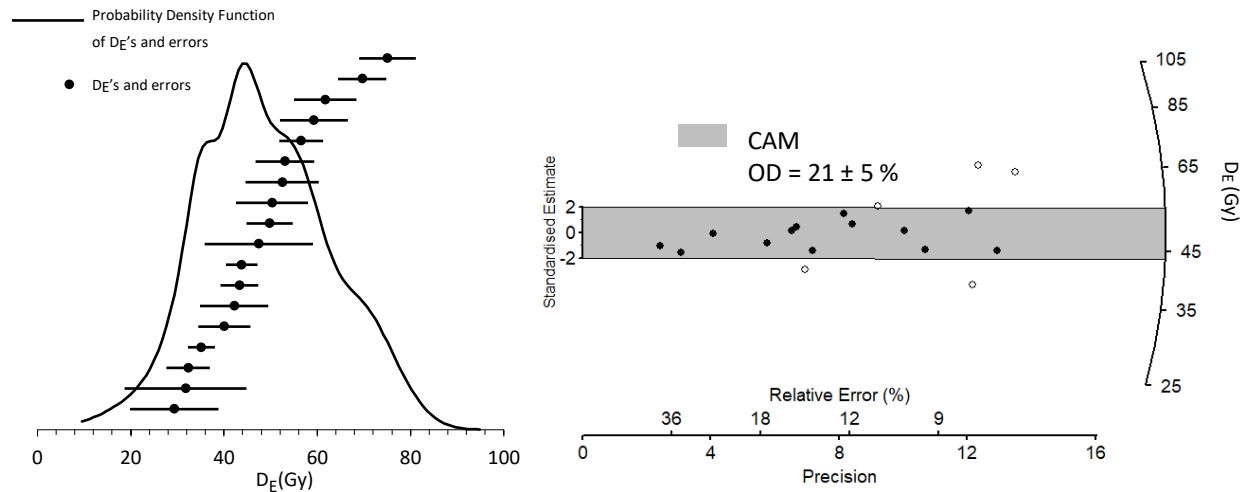
N5, USU-3409



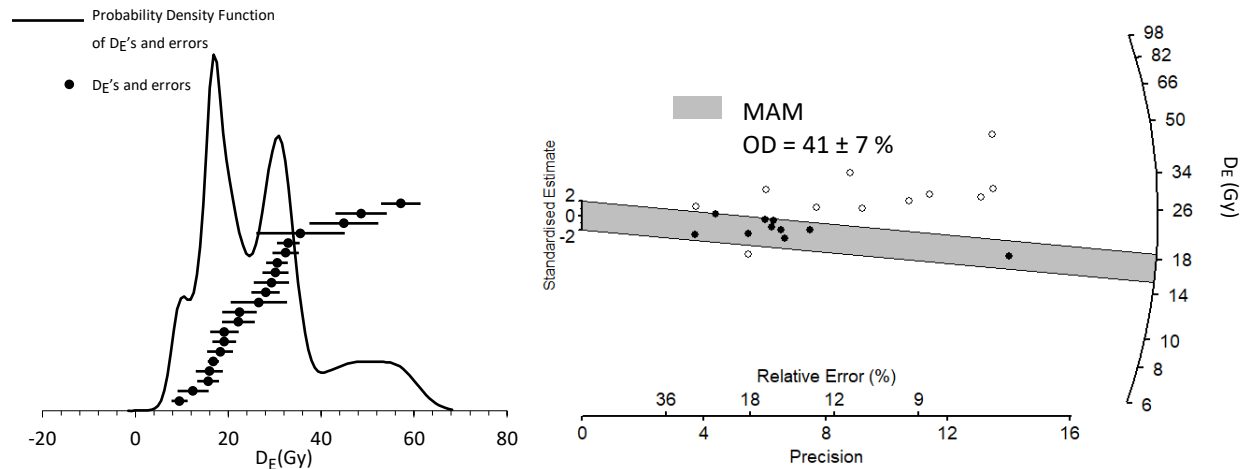
Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
N8, USU-3410



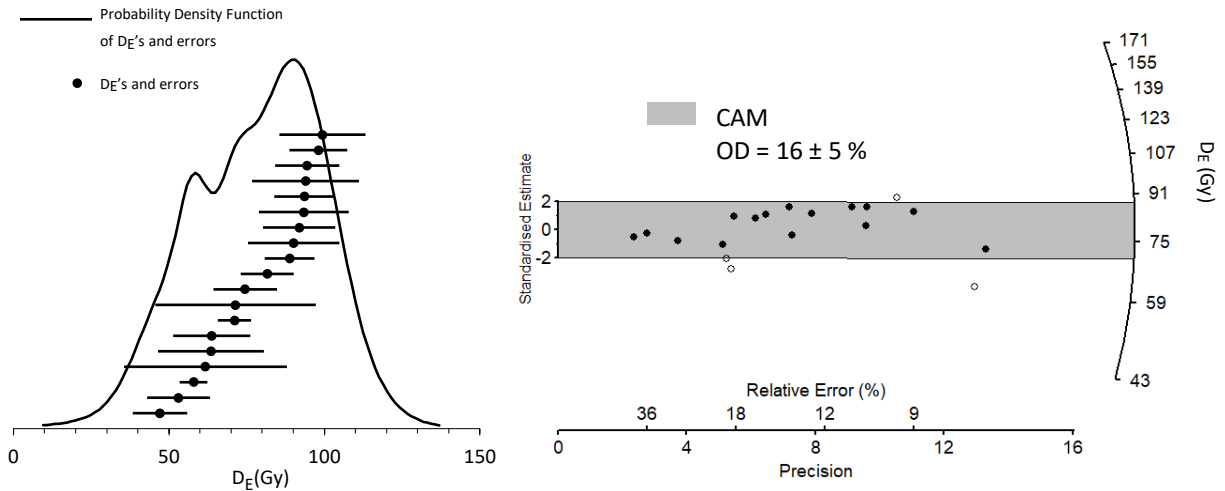
N16, USU-3411



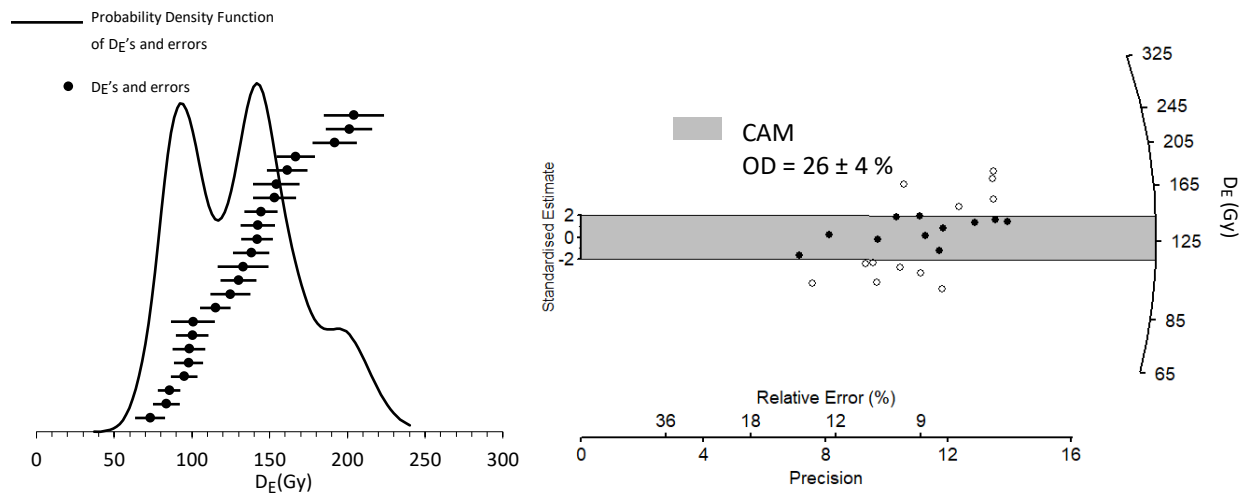
BD1, USU-3412



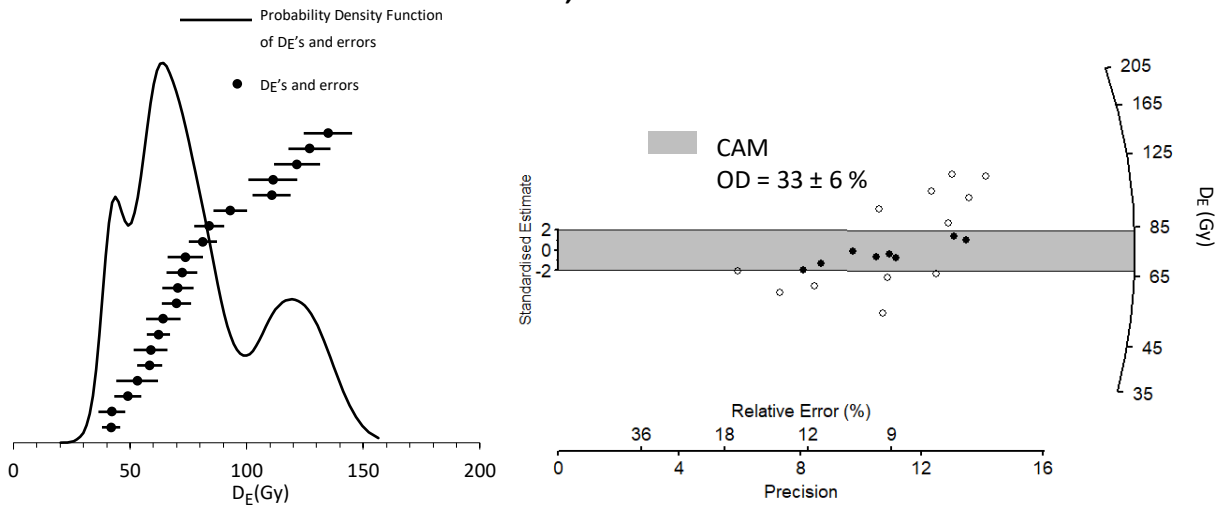
Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
BD2, USU-3413



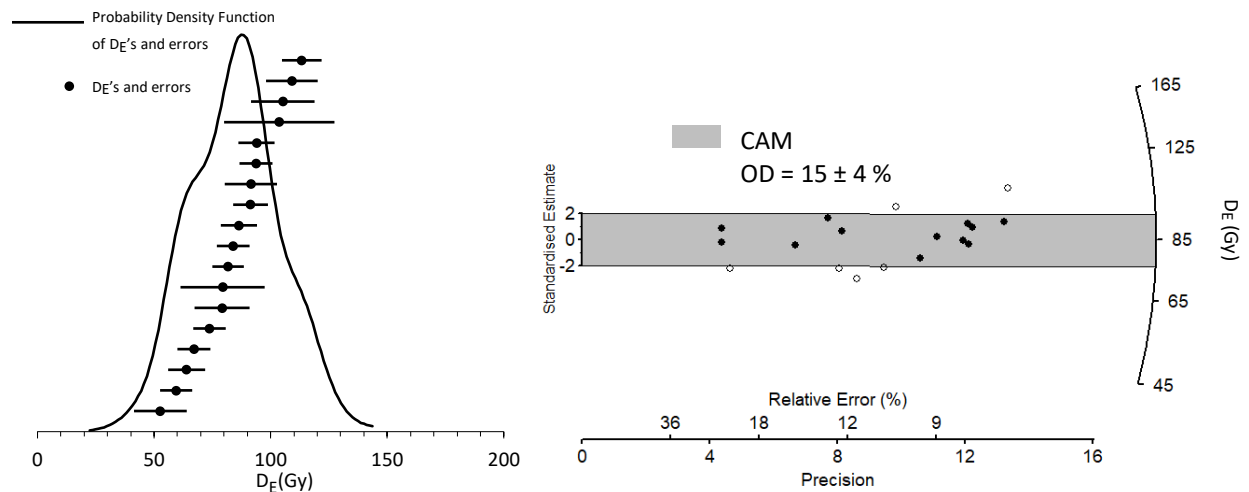
BD3, USU-3414



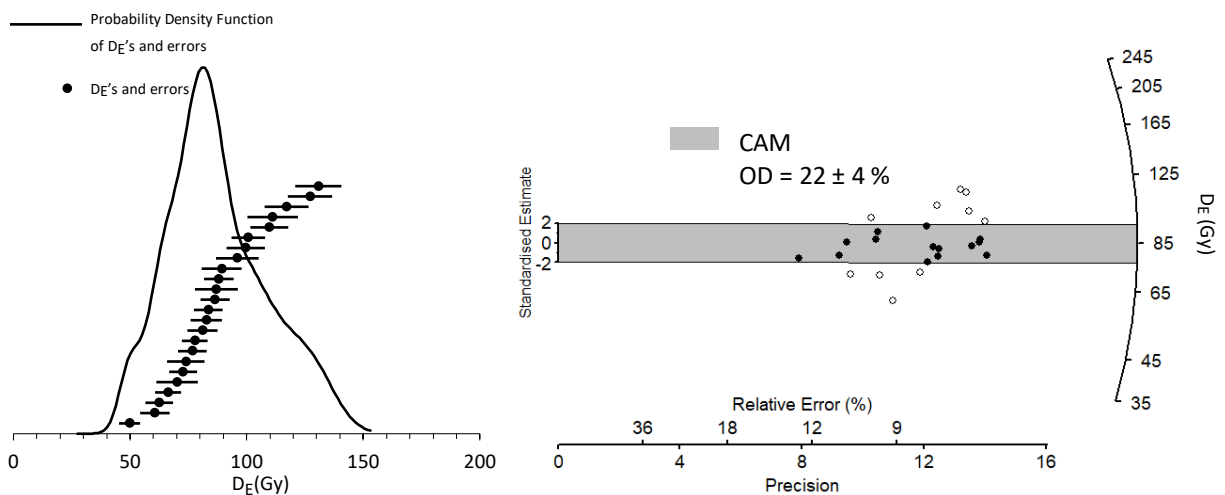
BD5, USU-3415



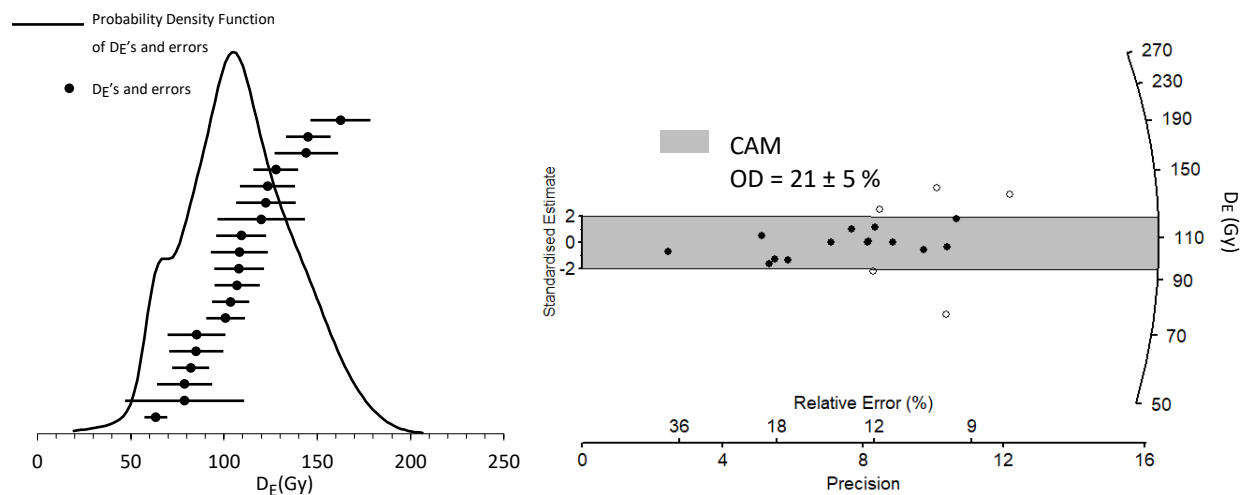
Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
BD6, USU-3416



BD7, USU-3417

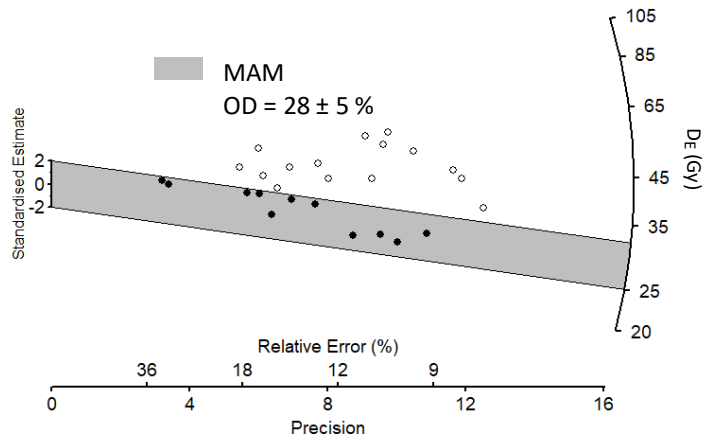
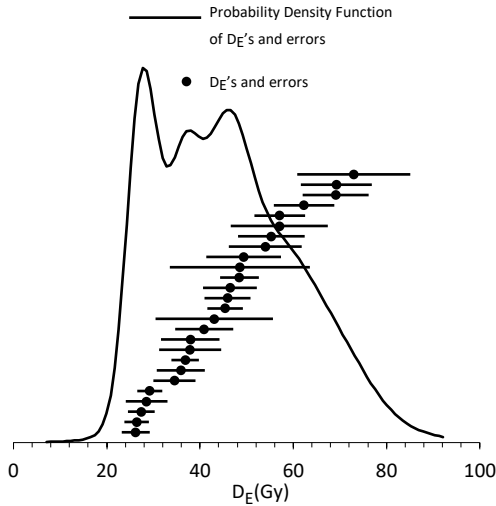


BD8, USU-3418

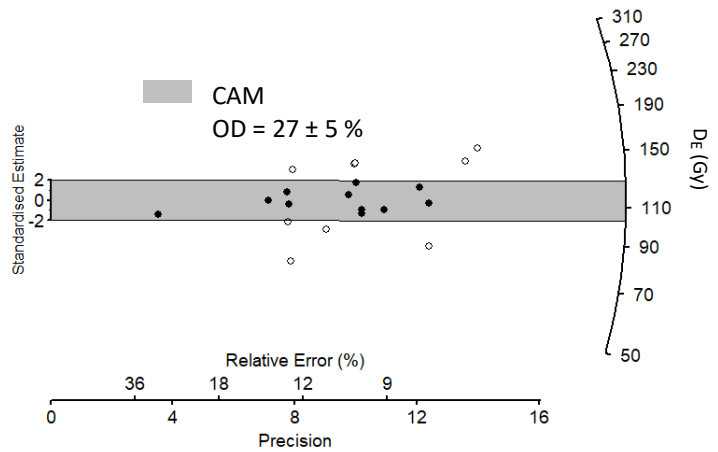
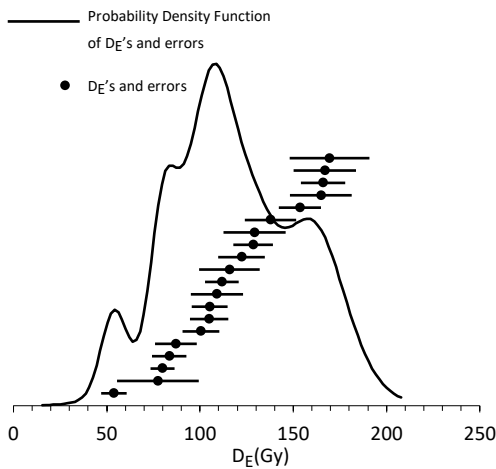


Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)

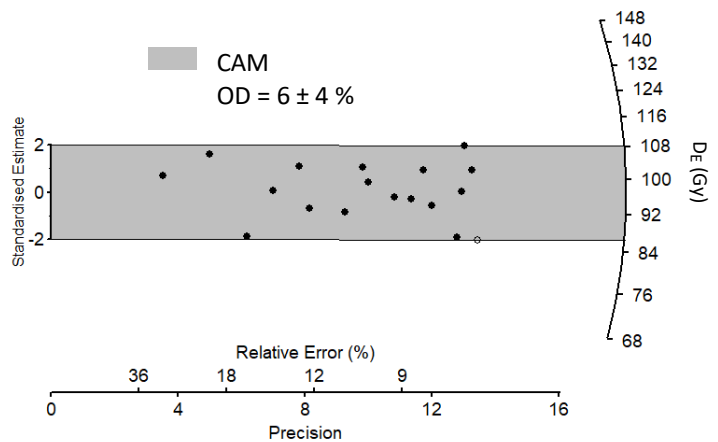
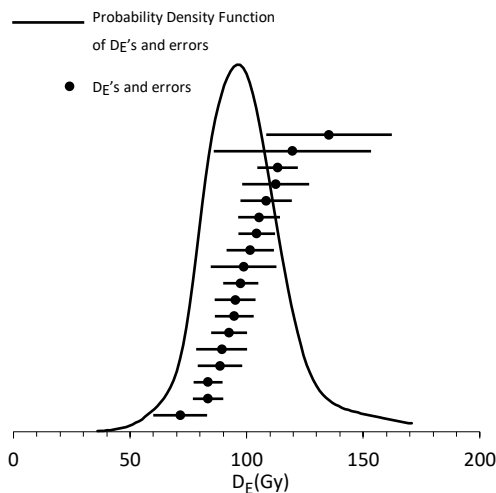
BD9, USU-3419



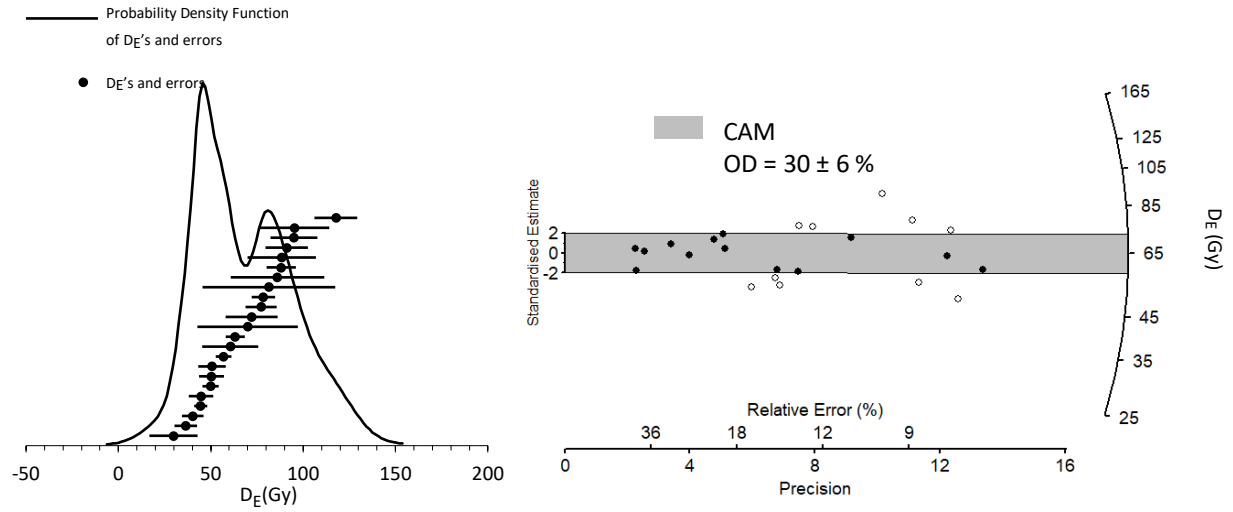
BD16, USU-3420



BD11, USU-3421



Equivalent dose (D_E) Distributions: Probability density function, radial plot, overdispersion (OD)
BD12, USU-3422



APPENDIX C:

Caliche rind data. Rind thickness was tallied. Raw data shown here.

Nicholia Data

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N7	0.5	0
	1	0
	1.5	1
	2	1
	2.5	1
	3	2
	3.5	0
	4	5
	4.5	2
	5	5
	5.5	1
	6	4
	6.5	0
	7	3
	7.5	4
	8	1
	8.5	4
	9	4
	9.5	5
	10	2
	10.5	1
	11	1
	11.5	0
	12	2
	12.5	1
	13	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N15	0.5	1
	1	2
	1.5	1
	2	6
	2.5	3
	3	6
	3.5	5
	4	7
	4.5	4
	5	2
	5.5	3
	6	2
	6.5	1
	7	0
	7.5	2
	8	3
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N6	0.25	9
	0.5	6
	0.75	9
	1	14
	1.25	7
	1.5	2
	1.75	1
	2	2
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N4	0.5	0
	1	11
	1.5	15
	2	8
	2.5	2
	3	6
	3.5	3
	4	4
	4.5	0
	5	1
	5.5	0

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N8	0.5	0
	1	1
	1.5	1
	2	3
	2.5	4
	3	2
	3.5	0
	4	1
	4.5	0
	5	3
	5.5	1
	6	5
	6.5	0
	7	6
	7.5	0
	8	5
	8.5	1
	9	4
	9.5	2
	10	4
	10.5	0
	11	3
	11.5	0
	12	0
	12.5	1
	13	2
	13.5	0
	14	1
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N16	0.5	0
	1	2
	1.5	2
	2	7
	2.5	2
	3	4
	3.5	2
	4	6
	4.5	2
	5	6
	5.5	6
	6	5
	6.5	0
	7	2
	7.5	0
	8	4

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N14	0.25	9
	0.5	8
	0.75	6
	1	13
	1.25	8
	1.5	2
	1.75	0
	2	3
	2.25	1
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N5	0.5	0
	1	2
	1.5	0
	2	4
	2.5	1
	3	4
	3.5	1
	4	7
	4.5	1
	5	9
	5.5	1
	6	5
	6.5	1
	7	3
	7.5	1
	8	2
	8.5	0
	9	1
	9.5	1
	10	1
	10.5	0
	11	1
	11.5	1
	12	1
	12.5	0
	13	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N3	0.25	15
	0.5	5
	0.75	6
	1	9
	1.25	7
	1.5	1
	1.75	2
	2	2
	2.25	1
	2.5	2
	5	1
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N2	0.5	0
	1	1
	1.5	0
	2	0
	2.5	1
	3	5
	3.5	0
	4	5
	4.5	1
	5	2
	5.5	1
	6	4
	6.5	0
	7	6
	7.5	1
	8	6
	8.5	0
	9	2
	9.5	0
	10	2
	10.5	0
	11	5
		0
	12	3
	12.5	0
	13	2
	13.5	0
	14	2
	14.5	0
	15	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency (f)
N17	0.5	0
	1	0
	1.5	0
	2	0
	2.5	0
	3	0
	3.5	0
	4	1
	4.5	0
	5	1
	5.5	1
	6	2
	6.5	1
	7	4
	7.5	1
	8	9
	8.5	1
	9	7
	9.5	1
	10	4
	10.5	0
	11	2
	11.5	1
	12	4
	12.5	0
	13	1
	13.5	1
	14	3
	14.5	0
	15	2
	15.5	0
	16	0
	16.5	0
	17	1
	17.5	0
	18	1
	21.5	1

Blue Dome Caliche

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD5	0.5	5
	1	3
	1.5	1
	2	2
	2.5	2
	3	2
	3.5	0
	4	1
	4.5	0
	5	4
	5.5	1
	6	6
	6.5	0
	7	7
	7.5	0
	8	5
	8.5	0
	9	3
	9.5	1
	10	2
	10.5	0
	11	3
	11.5	0
	12	1
	19	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD6	0.25	6
	0.5	6
	0.75	2
	1	13
	1.25	5
	1.5	2
	1.75	0
	2	5
	2.25	0
	2.5	1
	2.75	0
	3	4
	3.25	0
	3.5	1
	3.75	0
	4	2
	4.25	0
	4.5	0
	4.75	0
	5	3
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD7	0.25	12
	0.5	11
	0.75	4
	1	10
	1.25	3
	1.5	2
	1.75	0
	2	4
	2.25	0
	2.5	1
	2.75	0
	3	2
	3.25	0
	3.5	0
	3.75	0
	4	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD8	0.25	6
	0.5	2
	0.75	0
	1	7
	1.25	0
	1.5	3
	1.75	0
	2	10
	2.25	0
	2.5	1
	2.75	0
	3	3
	3.25	0
	3.5	3
	3.75	0
	4	3
	4.25	0
	4.5	2
	4.75	0
	5	4
	5.25	0
	5.5	1
	5.75	0
	6	3
	6.25	0
	6.5	1
	6.75	0
	7	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD2	0.5	4
	1	5
	1.5	1
	2	5
	2.5	3
	3	4
	3.5	0
	4	7
	4.5	0
	5	6
	5.5	0
	6	5
	6.5	0
	7	4
	7.5	0
	8	2
	8.5	1
	9	1
	9.5	0

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD3	0.5	0
	1	4
	1.5	2
	2	6
	2.5	0
	3	7
	3.5	2
	4	2
	4.5	0
	5	5
	5.5	0
	6	5
	6.5	1
	7	7
	7.5	0
	8	3
	8.5	0
	9	0
	9.5	1
	10	1
	10.5	0
	11	1
	11.5	0
	12	1
	12.5	0
	13	2
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD9	0.25	6
	0.5	11
	0.75	3
	1	8
	1.25	5
	1.5	2
	1.75	0
	2	7
	2.25	0
	2.5	2
	2.75	0
	3	3
	3.25	0
	3.5	1
	3.75	0
	4	2

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD16	0.25	19
	0.5	9
	0.75	6
	1	7
	1.25	5
	1.5	3
	1.75	0
	2	0
	2.25	0
	2.5	0
	2.75	0
	3	1
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD11	0.25	9
	0.5	9
	0.75	8
	1	8
	1.25	6
	1.5	5
	1.75	0
	2	2
	2.25	0
	2.5	0
	2.75	0
	3	2
	6	1

Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD12	0.5	8
	1	5
	1.5	5
	2	1
	2.5	5
	3	2
	3.5	1
	4	3
	4.5	1
	5	5
	5.5	1
	6	6
	6.5	2
	7	3
	7.5	1
	8	2
Site	Rind Thickness(x)	Frequency(f)
BD1	0.25	21
	0.5	11
	0.75	9
	1	7
	1.25	1
	1.5	0
	1.75	0
	2	1
	2.25	0
	2.5	0
	2.75	0
	3	0

APPENDIX D:
Long Canyon Trinity F90: Processing Report



Survey Data

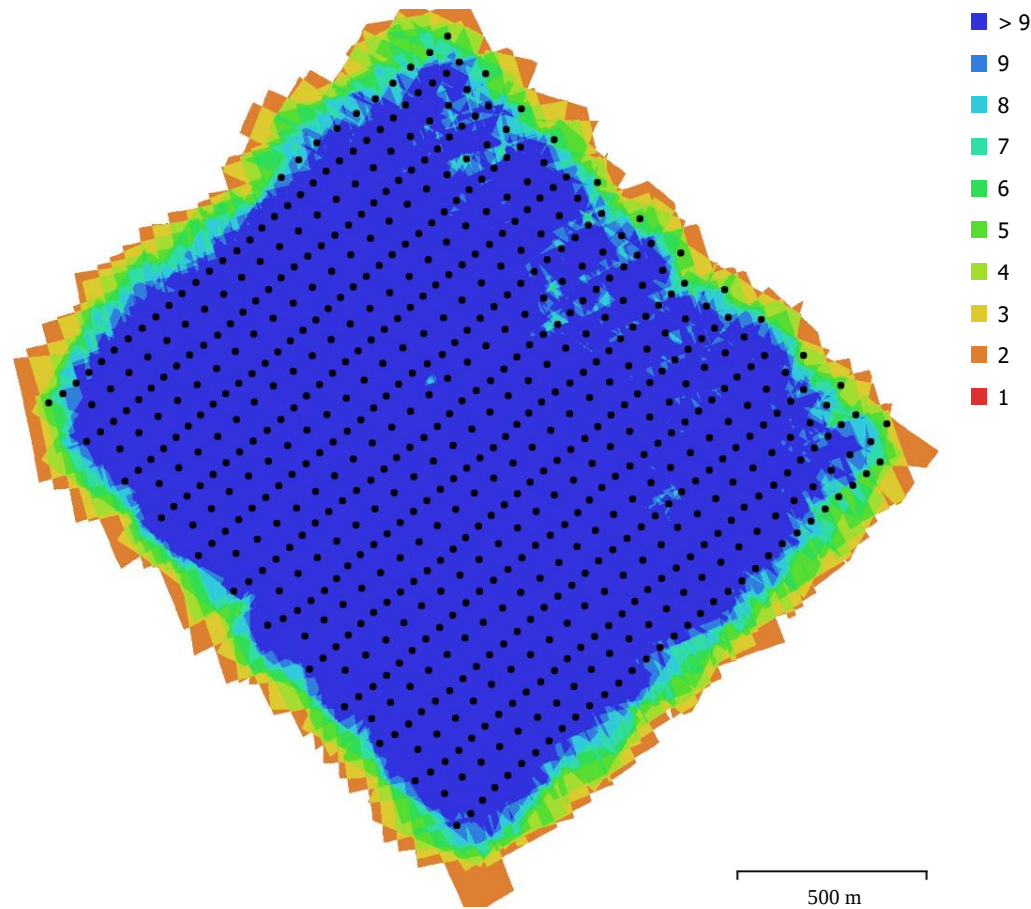


Fig. 1. Camera locations and image overlap.

Number of images:	647	Camera stations:	647
Flying altitude:	284 m	Tie points:	4,753,128
Ground resolution:	3.59 cm/pix	Projections:	20,626,778
Coverage area:	3.06 km ²	Reprojection error:	0.273 pix

Camera Model	Resolution	Focal Length	Pixel Size	Precalibrated
DSC-RX1RM2 (35mm)	7952 x 5304	35 mm	4.53 x 4.53 μm	No

Table 1. Cameras.

Camera Calibration

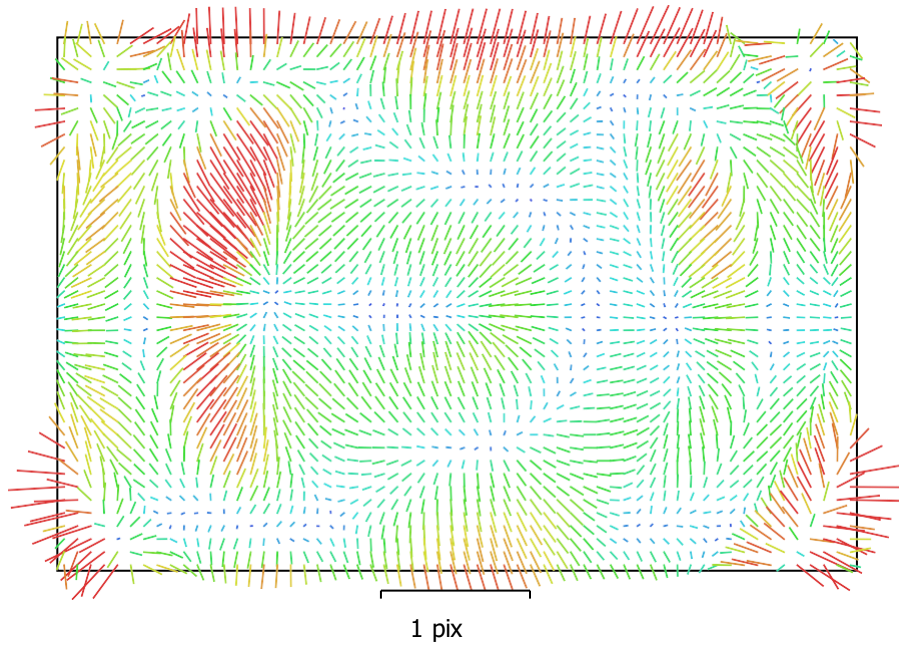


Fig. 2. Image residuals for DSC-RX1RM2 (35mm).

DSC-RX1RM2 (35mm)

647 images

Type	Resolution	Focal Length	Pixel Size
Frame	7952 x 5304	35 mm	4.53 x 4.53 μm

	Value	Error	F	Cx	Cy	B1	B2	K1	K2	K3	K4	P1	P2
F	7535.69	0.026	1.00	0.04	0.04	-0.04	0.01	-0.12	0.18	-0.25	0.32	-0.13	0.01
Cx	-4.88834	0.0053		1.00	-0.02	-0.46	0.18	-0.02	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.08	-0.01
Cy	-3.49205	0.005			1.00	-0.21	-0.50	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.20
B1	0.751236	0.00082				1.00	0.00	0.03	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.09
B2	0.442452	0.00083					1.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.00	0.00	-0.07	0.28
K1	-0.126596	7.6e-06						1.00	-0.96	0.91	-0.85	0.00	0.02
K2	0.673143	8.1e-05							1.00	-0.98	0.95	-0.01	-0.01
K3	-3.21394	0.00034								1.00	-0.99	0.03	0.01
K4	4.67845	0.00049									1.00	-0.04	-0.00
P1	1.45126e-05	1.2e-07										1.00	-0.01
P2	0.000198647	9.6e-08											1.00

Table 2. Calibration coefficients and correlation matrix.

Camera Locations

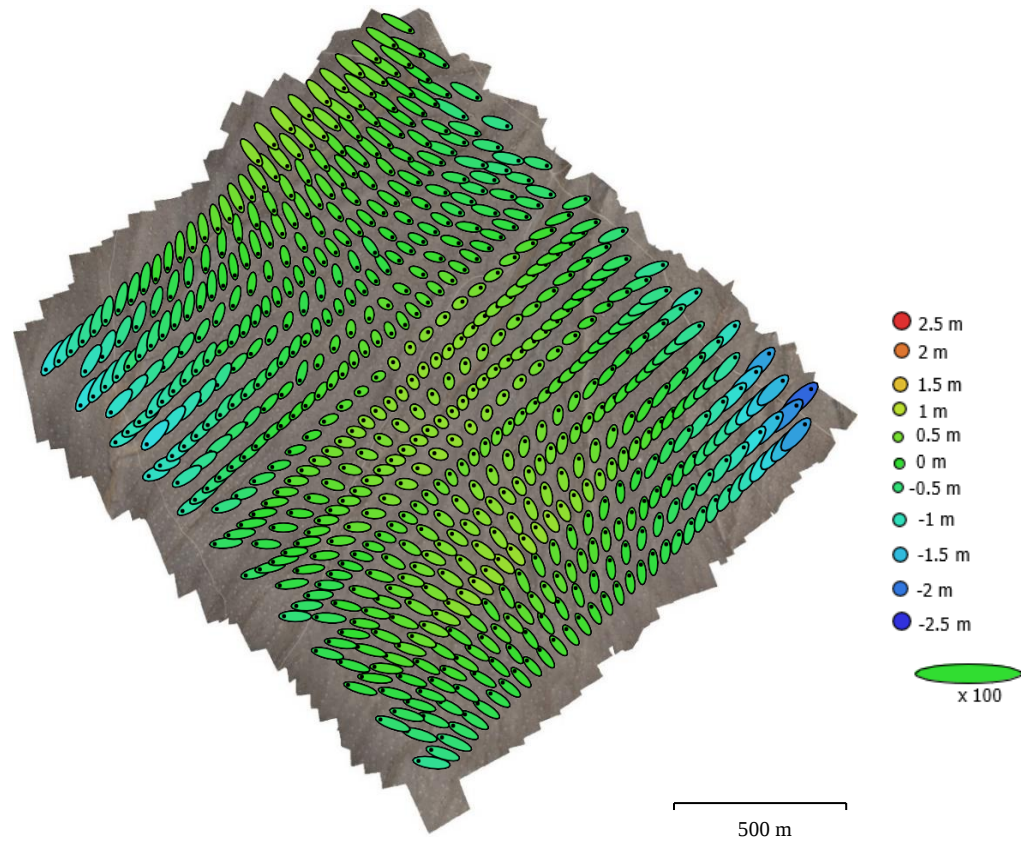


Fig. 3. Camera locations and error estimates.

Z error is represented by ellipse color. X,Y errors are represented by ellipse shape.

Estimated camera locations are marked with a black dot.

X error (cm)	Y error (cm)	Z error (cm)	XY error (cm)	Total error (cm)
38.1259	34.027	48.4639	51.1021	70.4285

Table 3. Average camera location error.X - Longitude, Y - Latitude, Z - Altitude.

Digital Elevation Model

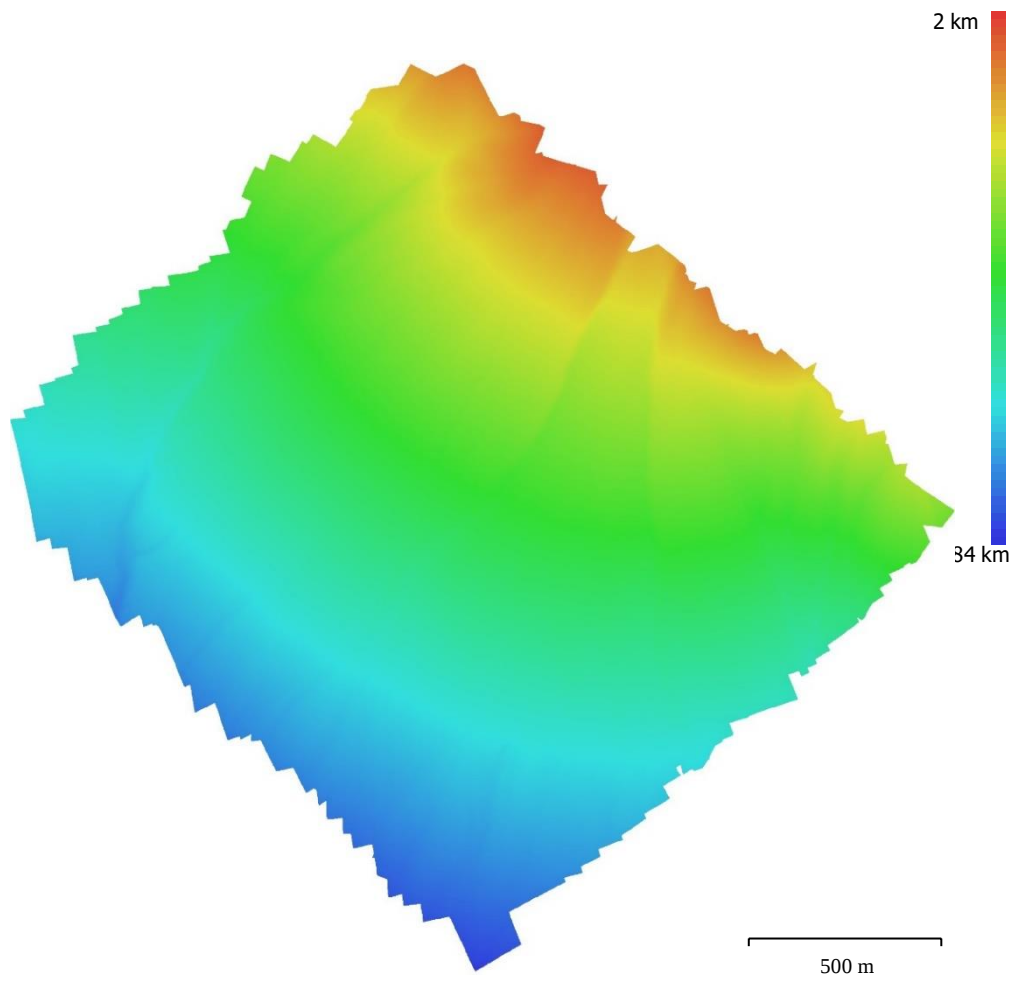


Fig. 4. Reconstructed digital elevation model.

Resolution:	7.18 cm/pix
Point density:	194 points/m ²

Processing Parameters

General

Cameras	647
Aligned cameras	647
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Rotation angles	Yaw, Pitch, Roll

Point Cloud

Points	4,753,128 of 5,176,740
RMS reprojection error	0.125299 (0.272856 pix)
Max reprojection error	1.29739 (7.18953 pix)
Mean key point size	2.2067 pix
Point colors	3 bands, uint8
Key points	No
Average tie point multiplicity	4.63914

Alignment parameters

Accuracy	Highest
Generic preselection	Yes
Reference preselection	No
Key point limit	75,000
Tie point limit	0
Guided image matching	No
Adaptive camera model fitting	No
Matching time	25 minutes 31 seconds
Matching memory usage	9.05 GB
Alignment time	25 minutes 36 seconds
Alignment memory usage	2.30 GB

Optimization parameters

Parameters	f, b1, b2, cx, cy, k1-k4, p1, p2
Adaptive camera model fitting	No
Optimization time	1 minutes 30 seconds
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	490.14 MB

Depth Maps

Count	647
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Depth maps generation parameters

Quality	High
Filtering mode	Aggressive
Processing time	4 hours 53 minutes
Memory usage	6.64 GB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	5.42 GB

Dense Point Cloud

Points	595,523,940
Point colors	3 bands, uint8

Depth maps generation parameters

Quality	High
Filtering mode	Aggressive
Processing time	4 hours 53 minutes

Memory usage	6.64 GB
Dense cloud generation parameters	
Processing time	3 hours 4 minutes
Memory usage	18.56 GB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	7.62 GB
DEM	
Size	45,778 x 44,561
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Reconstruction parameters	
Source data	Dense cloud
Interpolation	Enabled
Processing time	7 minutes 19 seconds
Memory usage	198.95 MB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	1.79 GB
Orthomosaic	
Size	68,222 x 65,610
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Colors	3 bands, uint8
Reconstruction parameters	
Blending mode	Mosaic
Surface	DEM
Enable hole filling	Yes
Processing time	40 minutes 23 seconds
Memory usage	7.58 GB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	41.88 GB
System	
Software name	Agisoft Metashape Professional
Software version	1 7.0 build 11736
OS	Windows 64 bit
RAM	31.85 GB
CPU	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-6700 CPU @ 3.40GHz
GPU(s)	GeForce GTX 950

Bare Canyon Phantom Pro V4: Processing Report



Survey Data

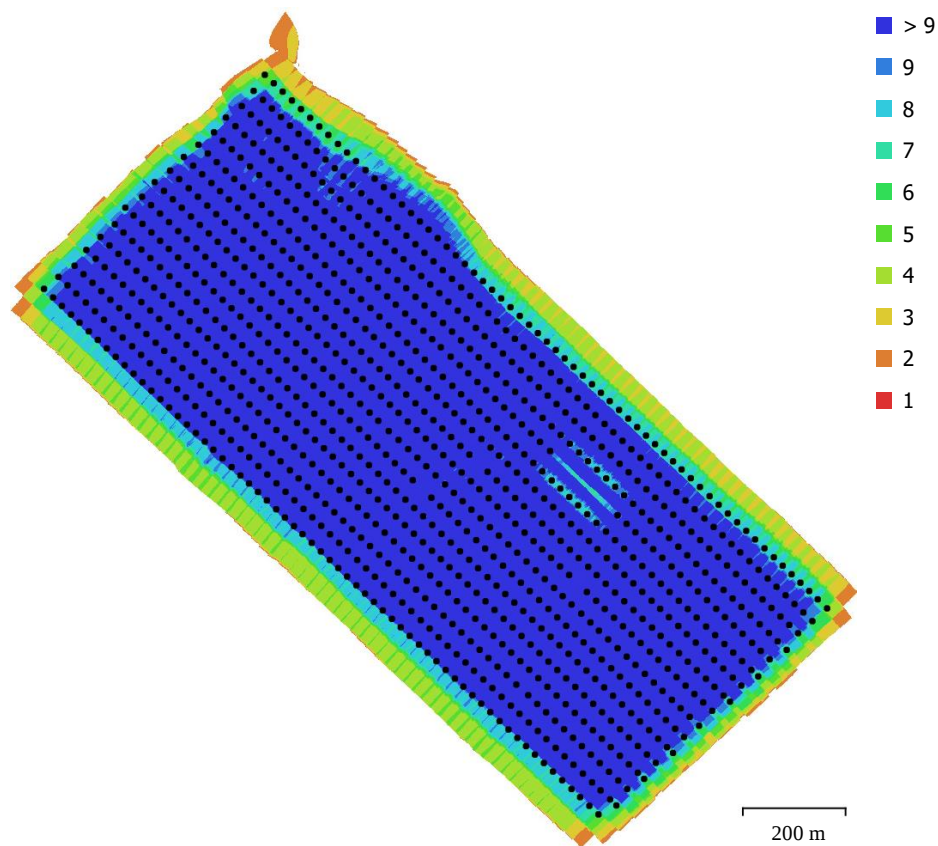


Fig. 1. Camera locations and image overlap.

Number of images:	1,059	Camera stations:	1,059
Flying altitude:	102 m	Tie points:	1,225,553
Ground resolution:	2.53 cm/pix	Projections:	6,536,855
Coverage area:	1.17 km ²	Reprojection error:	0.425 pix

Camera Model	Resolution	Focal Length	Pixel Size	Precalibrated
FC6310 (8.8mm)	5472 x 3648	8.8 mm	2.41 x 2.41 μ m	No

Table 1. Cameras.

Camera Calibration

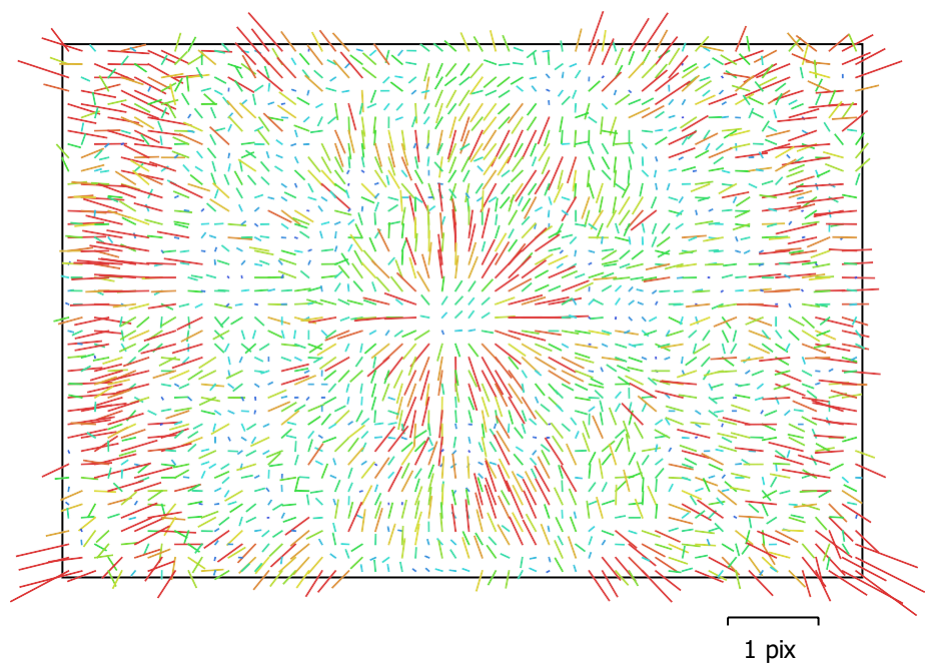


Fig. 2. Image residuals for FC6310 (8.8mm).

**FC6310
(8.8mm)**

1059 images

Type	Resolution	Focal Length	Pixel Size
Frame	5472 x 3648	8.8 mm	2.41 x 2.41 μm
F:	3686.92		
Cx:	2.48273	B1:	0
Cy:	6.15131	B2:	0
K1:	0.00923047	P1:	-0.0003011
K2:	-0.01491	P2:	-0.00125589
K3:	0.0140457	P3:	0
K4:	0	P4:	0

Camera Locations

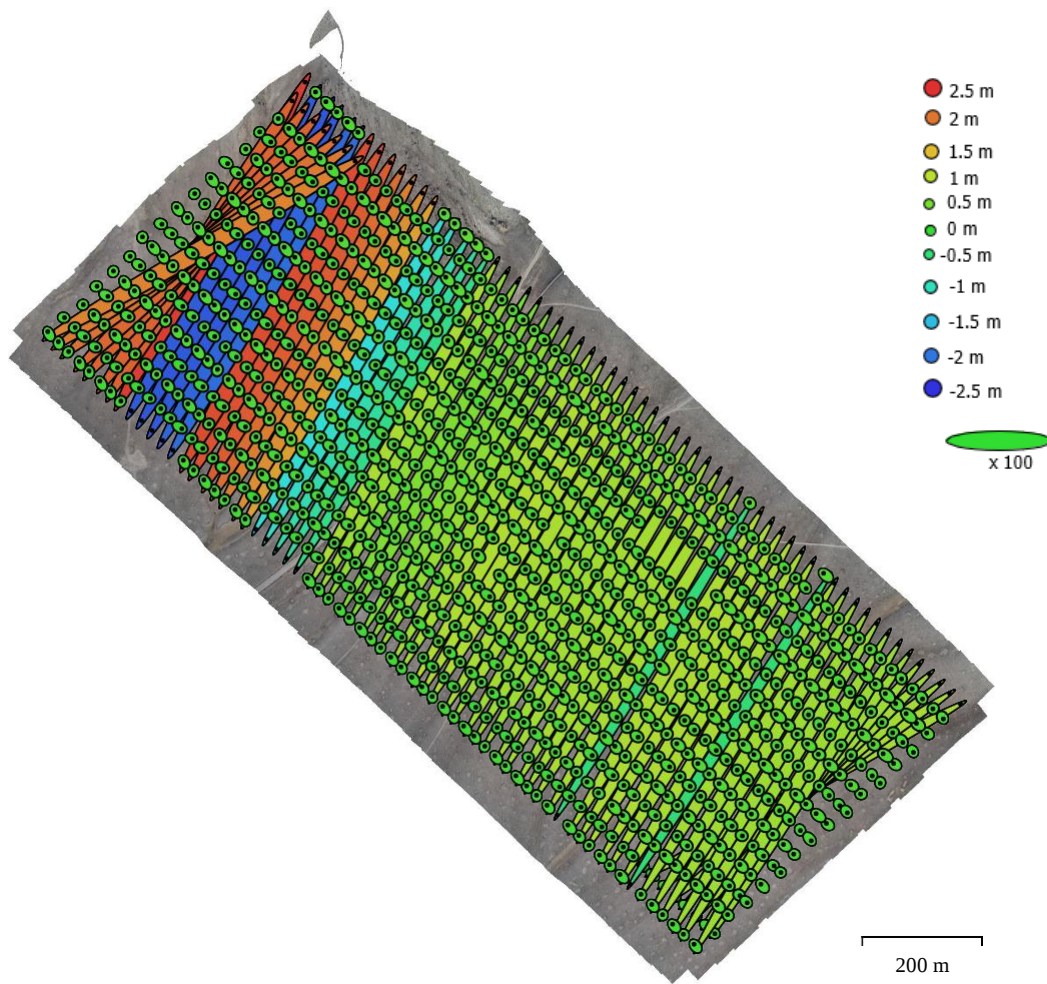


Fig. 3. Camera locations and error estimates.

Z error is represented by ellipse color. X,Y errors are represented by ellipse shape.

Estimated camera locations are marked with a black dot.

X error (m)	Y error (m)	Z error (m)	XY error (m)	Total error (m)
86.8981	129.534	22.192	155.982	157.552

Table 2. Average camera location error.X - Longitude, Y - Latitude, Z - Altitude.

Ground Control Points

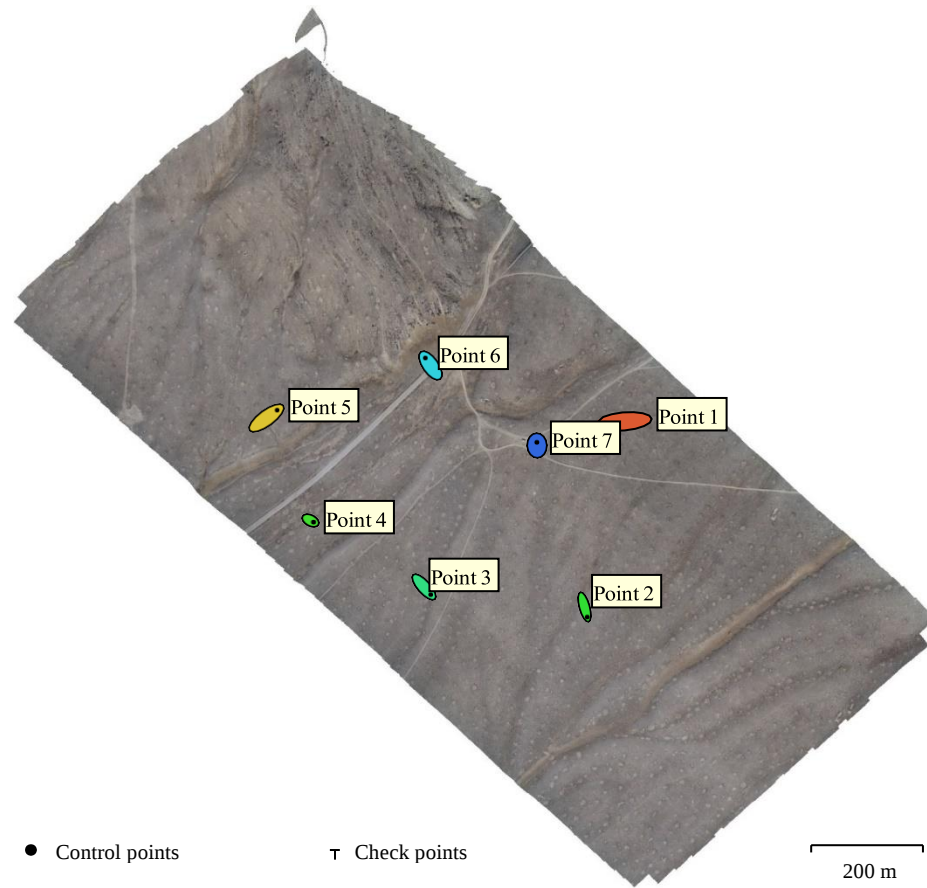


Fig. 4. Control points.

Z error is represented by ellipse color. X,Y errors are represented by ellipse shape.

Estimated GCP locations are marked with a dot or crossing.

Count	X error (cm)	Y error (cm)	Z error (cm)	XY error (cm)	Total (cm)
7	2.09806	1.51195	1.38639	2.58609	2.93427

Table 3. Control points RMSE. X - Longitude, Y - Latitude, Z - Altitude.

Label	X error (cm)	Y error (cm)	Z error (cm)	Total (cm)	Image (pix)
Point 1	-4.48405	-0.426133	2.20272	5.014	1.410 (11)
Point 2	0.628843	-2.33915	-0.0076813	2.42221	0.855 (9)
Point 3	1.51591	-1.78712	-0.583723	2.41506	1.203 (6)
Point 4	0.661013	-0.372899	0.126666	0.769439	0.487 (5)
Point 5	2.49142	1.84066	1.42177	3.40832	1.203 (9)
Point 6	-1.1697	1.75665	-1.33796	2.49883	1.048 (14)
Point 7	-0.0265728	0.736253	-2.10573	2.23089	2.366 (8)
Total	2.09806	1.51195	1.38639	2.93427	1.341

Table 4. Control points. X - Longitude, Y - Latitude, Z - Altitude.

Digital Elevation Model

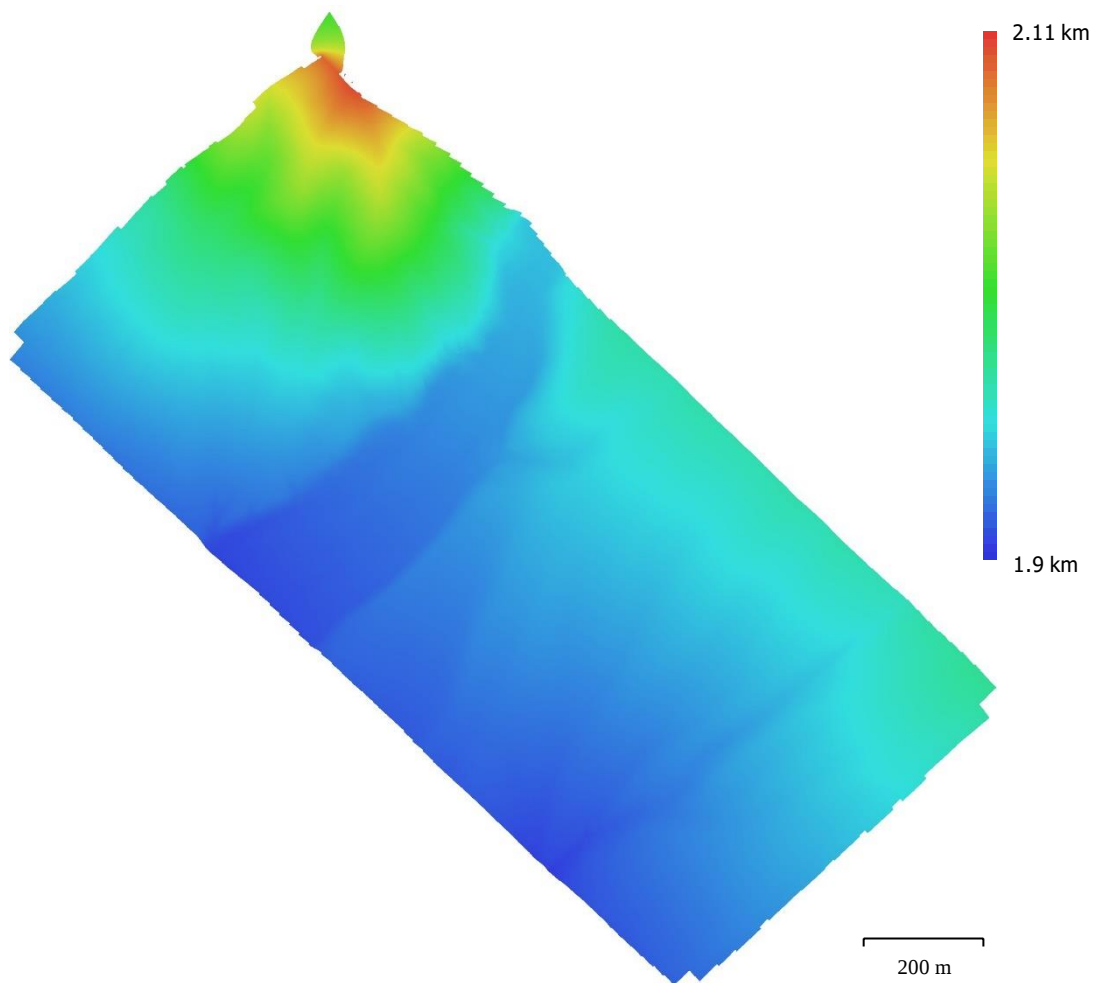


Fig. 5. Reconstructed digital elevation model.

Resolution: 5.07 cm/pix
Point density: 390 points/m²

Processing Parameters

General

Cameras	1059
Aligned cameras	1059
Markers	7
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Rotation angles	Yaw, Pitch, Roll

Point Cloud

Points	1,225,553 of 1,261,361
RMS reprojection error	0.206441 (0.425264 pix)
Max reprojection error	0.619041 (18.0468 pix)
Mean key point size	2.11556 pix
Point colors	3 bands, uint8
Key points	No
Average tie point multiplicity	5.40338

Alignment parameters

Accuracy	Highest
Generic preselection	Yes
Reference preselection	Source
Key point limit	40,000
Tie point limit	6,000
Guided image matching	No
Adaptive camera model fitting	No
Matching time	20 minutes 25 seconds
Matching memory usage	888.41 MB
Alignment time	13 minutes 41 seconds
Alignment memory usage	657.91 MB Software
version	1.6.4.10928
File size	135.80 MB

Depth Maps

Count	1059
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Depth maps generation parameters

Quality	High
Filtering mode	Aggressive
Processing time	8 hours 9 minutes
Memory usage	2.13 GB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	5.30 GB

Dense Point Cloud

Points	470,800,313
Point colors	3 bands, uint8

Depth maps generation parameters

Quality	High
Filtering mode	Aggressive
Processing time	8 hours 9 minutes
Memory usage	2.13 GB

Dense cloud generation parameters

Processing time	3 hours 25 minutes
Memory usage	7.96 GB
Software version	1.6.4.10928
File size	6.66 GB
DEM	
Size	46,453 x 46,277
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Reconstruction parameters	
Source data	Dense cloud
Interpolation	Enabled
Processing time	12 minutes 28 seconds
Memory usage	372.03 MB
Software version	1.7.0.11736
File size	1.42 GB
Orthomosaic	
Size	65,095 x 64,302
Coordinate system	WGS 84 (EPSG::4326)
Colors	3 bands, uint8
Reconstruction parameters	
Blending mode	Mosaic
Surface	DEM
Enable hole filling	Yes
Enable ghosting filter	No
Processing time	55 minutes 6 seconds
Memory usage	2.82 GB
Software version	1.7.0.11736
File size	28.84 GB
System	
Software name	Agisoft Metashape Professional
Software version	1 7.0 build 11736
OS	Windows 64 bit
RAM	31.85 GB
CPU	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-6700 CPU @ 3.40GHz
GPU(s)	GeForce GTX 950