

**INTRODUCTION**

The Montreat 75-minute Quadrangle lies in central western North Carolina, northeast of the city of Asheville, and within parts of Buncombe, McDowell, and Yancey counties. The central part of the quadrangle is occupied by the town of Black Mountain and Montreat. Major transportation corridors include the Blue Ridge Parkway, Interstate 405, and the North Carolina Turnpike. The southern part of the quadrangle is the Blue Ridge Parkway National Forest. The western part of the quadrangle is the Blue Ridge Parkway National Forest. The eastern part of the quadrangle is the Blue Ridge Parkway National Forest. The southern part of the quadrangle is the Blue Ridge Parkway National Forest. The eastern part of the quadrangle is the Blue Ridge Parkway National Forest.

**GEOLOGIC OVERVIEW**

The Montreat quadrangle comprises the Neoproterozoic to early Cambrian Ashe Metamorphic Suite (AMS) and the Alligator Back Metamorphic Suite (ABMS). The AMS is a sequence of mafic and felsic rocks, including gabbro, diorite, and granite, with associated metasediments. The ABMS is a sequence of mafic and felsic rocks, including gabbro, diorite, and granite, with associated metasediments. The AMS is a sequence of mafic and felsic rocks, including gabbro, diorite, and granite, with associated metasediments. The ABMS is a sequence of mafic and felsic rocks, including gabbro, diorite, and granite, with associated metasediments.

**DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS**

- Pzmg** Migmatite — White to very-light-gray; non-foliated to weakly foliated; medium- to coarse-grained; equigranular; granoblastic; occurs commonly as thin layers and lenses (thickness of layering ranges from centimeters to meters) within other rock types and mappable bodies; locally gradational with pegmatite; consists of plagioclase feldspar, quartz, potassium feldspar, muscovite, sericite, biotite, minor opaques, and trace amounts of zircon. Migmatite (neosome) was most likely derived from local melting during regional high-grade metamorphism.
- Alligator Back Metamorphic Suite**
- Undivided** — Heterogeneous unit consisting of interlayered layers and lenses of laterally and vertically grading sedimentary and mafic volcanic rocks metamorphosed to kyanite grade. Rock types include metagraywacke schist, schistose metagraywacke, and schist with minor amounts of metasilicite, quartzite, and calc-silicate. Thickness of layering ranges from centimeters to meters.
- Metagraywacke** — medium-light-gray to medium-dark-gray; fine- to medium-grained; foliated; granoblastic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, biotite > muscovite, with minor amounts of garnet, potassium feldspar, chlorite, titanite, epidote group minerals, tourmaline, rare staurolite, and other accessory minerals, and trace amounts of zircon and apatite.
- Metawacke** — light-tan to light-gray; fine- to medium-grained; foliated to mylonitic; granoblastic to lepidoblastic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, muscovite > biotite, sericite, chlorite with minor amounts of garnet, potassium feldspar, titanite, apatite, and other accessory minerals; locally has millimeter scale "pin-striped" fabric.
- Schistose Metagraywacke** — medium-gray to dark-gray; fine- to medium-grained; well foliated to mylonitic; equigranular to inequigranular; granoblastic to lepidoblastic; locally mylonitic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, 40-50% muscovite and/or biotite with minor amounts of garnet, kyanite, and accessory minerals.
- Metasandstone** — Tan to light-gray to medium-gray to light-green; fine- to medium-grained; foliated to locally mylonitic; equigranular to inequigranular; consists of quartz, feldspar, muscovite, locally biotite, and accessory minerals; interlayered with lesser amounts of quartzite, metasilicite, metagraywacke, metawacke, and schistose metagraywacke; locally has a thin "pin-striped" fabric.
- Schist** — Garnet-mica schist, muscovite schist, muscovite-biotite schist; very light-gray to greenish-gray to medium-gray; medium- to coarse-grained; well foliated and locally mylonitic; inequigranular; lepidoblastic; consists of muscovite, biotite, garnet, quartz, plagioclase feldspar, potassium feldspar, and minor accessory minerals; locally contains chlorite, chloritoid, staurolite, tourmaline, kyanite, graphite, and trace zircon. Interlayered with lesser amounts of schistose metagraywacke, metasandstone, and phyllonite.
- Amphibolite** — Dark-green to black; fine- to medium-grained; foliated to mylonitic; equigranular; granoblastic to nematoblastic; locally porphyroblastic; consists of hornblende, plagioclase feldspar, actinolite, chlorite, epidote, quartz, and accessory minerals; trace amounts of garnet, titanite, magnetite, and other opaque minerals.
- Graphitic schist** — Dark-gray to greenish-gray to medium-gray; fine- to medium-grained; well foliated to mylonitic; inequigranular to lepidoblastic to porphyroblastic; locally mylonitic; consists of muscovite, biotite, garnet, sericite, quartz, graphite, feldspar, chlorite, and accessory minerals; interlayered with lesser amounts of metasandstone, metawacke, metasilicite, schistose metagraywacke, and phyllite.
- Ashe Metamorphic Suite**
- Undivided** — Heterogeneous unit consisting of interlayered layers and lenses of laterally and vertically grading sedimentary and mafic volcanic rocks metamorphosed to kyanite and sillimanite grade. Rock types include metagraywacke schist, schistose metagraywacke, conglomeratic metagraywacke, metaconglomerate, metasandstone, amphibolite, and minor calc-silicate. Thickness of layering ranges from centimeters to meters.
- Metagraywacke** — medium-light-gray to medium-dark-gray; medium- to coarse-grained; weakly foliated to foliated; equigranular to inequigranular; granoblastic to lepidoblastic; locally mylonitic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, biotite, muscovite, garnet, epidote, staurolite, chlorite, titanite, and accessory minerals; interlayered with other Za lithologies.
- Schistose Metagraywacke** — medium-gray to dark-gray; fine- to medium-grained; well foliated; equigranular to inequigranular; granoblastic to lepidoblastic to porphyroblastic; locally mylonitic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, muscovite, biotite, garnet, minor sillimanite or kyanite, and accessory minerals; interlayered with other Za lithologies.
- Calc-silicate** — light-gray; medium- to coarse-grained; weakly foliated; consists of quartz, feldspar, epidote group minerals, garnet, biotite, pyroxene, and trace chlorite.
- Conglomeratic metagraywacke** — Medium-light-gray to medium-dark-gray; coarse-grained (mainly granule size, but locally pebble size clasts); non-foliated to foliated; inequigranular; granoblastic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, biotite, muscovite, potassium feldspar, and trace opaque minerals; thickness of layering ranges from meters to tens of meters; granule and pebble composition is dominantly quartz with lesser amounts of feldspar; interlayered with metaconglomerate, metasandstone, metagraywacke and lesser amounts of other Za lithologies.
- Metaconglomerate** — medium-light-gray to medium-dark-gray; coarse-grained (mainly pebble size, but with some granule size clasts); non-foliated to foliated; locally contains deformed quartz clasts up to 75 cm in length; inequigranular; granoblastic; consists of quartz, plagioclase feldspar, potassium feldspar, biotite, muscovite, chlorite, minor titanite, apatite, epidote group minerals with trace opaque minerals and zircon; thickness of layering ranges from meters to tens of meters; pebble and granule composition is dominantly quartz with lesser amounts of feldspar; clasts contain inclusions of quartz, muscovite, biotite, and plagioclase feldspar; interlayered with other Za lithologies.
- Metasandstone** — tan to medium-light-gray to gray; fine- to coarse-grained; weakly foliated to mylonitic; equigranular; locally mylonitic; consists of quartz, feldspar, muscovite, biotite, minor opaques, and trace zircon and other accessory minerals; interlayered with other Za lithologies.
- Garnet-Mica Schist** — Very light-gray to greenish-gray to medium-gray; fine- to coarse-grained; strongly foliated; inequigranular; lepidoblastic to porphyroblastic; locally mylonitic; consists of muscovite, sericite, quartz, biotite, garnet, plagioclase feldspar, sillimanite or kyanite, chlorite, and trace opaques; interlayered with other Za lithologies.
- Amphibolite** — Where mappable it occurs as a metamorphic alteration of an ultramafic or mafic rock. Dark-green to black; fine- to coarse-grained; weakly to strongly foliated; equigranular; granoblastic to nematoblastic; consists of hornblende, plagioclase feldspar, epidote group minerals, quartz, garnet, chlorite, relic pyroxene, orthopyroxene, orthopyroxene, hornblende, chlorite, talc, serpentine, relic olivine, opaques, plagioclase feldspar, magnetite, and other accessory minerals. These mineralogical variations could not be mapped at a 1:24,000 scale. Amphibolite within and adjacent to this unit occurs as a metamorphic alteration of the ultramafic or mafic rock. Thickness of amphibolite alteration is variable. Contains inclusions of other variations of altered mafic and ultramafic rock.
- Altered Ultramafics** — Dark-green to silvery-gray-green; fine- to medium-grained; non-foliated to strongly foliated; equigranular; granoblastic to nematoblastic to lepidoblastic; consists of tremolite/actinolite, pyroxene, hornblende, chlorite, talc, serpentine, relic olivine, opaques, plagioclase feldspar, magnetite, and other accessory minerals. These mineralogical variations could not be mapped at a 1:24,000 scale. Amphibolite within and adjacent to this unit occurs as a metamorphic alteration of the ultramafic or mafic rock. Thickness of amphibolite alteration is variable. Contains inclusions of other variations of altered mafic and ultramafic rock.

Mineral abundances are listed in decreasing order of abundance based upon visual estimates of hand samples and thin-sections.

**Stream Sediment Heavy Mineral Analysis**  
Stream sediment heavy mineral analysis was conducted from March 2016 through May 2016 to aid geologic mapping, better define conditions of metamorphism, and inventory minerals of potential economic significance. Procedure: In the field, approximately 13.6 kg of stream sediment material is planned to approximately 100 g of heavy mineral concentrate at each sample locality. In the laboratory, concentrate is washed and passed through heavy liquid separation using tetrahydrofuran, and scanned with short- and long-wave ultraviolet illumination using an Ultra-Violet Products Inc. Model UVGL-48 Mineralogical Lamp. Magnetite is removed with a hand magnet. A sample weight of grain mounted on a standard 27x45 mm glass slide and approximately 200 grains are identified and counted with the aid of a petrographic microscope and 1.67 index of refraction oil. Results of stream sediment heavy mineral analysis are tabulated below.

SAMPLE# (State Plane NAD 83 m)	COORDINATES (State Plane NAD 83 m)	MAP UNITS (Drainage)	TOTAL MM IN SAMPLE#	PERCENT HEAVY MINERALS IN SAMPLE#															
				Mg	Co	Fe	Cr	Zr	Ti	Hf	Ni	Sr	Zn	Y	Nb	Sc	La	Ud	
BC 655 MD	226 850N, 305 838E	Zabg	1.52	13.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43

Mineral abbreviations used in table: Mg-magnetite; Co-cornudine; Fe-feldspar; Cr-chlorite; Zr-zircon; Ti-titanite; Hf-hornblende; Ni-nickel; Sr-sericite; Zn-zircon; Y-yanite; Nb-niobite; Sc-sillimanite; La-lanthanite; Ud-undivided.

Sample numbers correspond to heavy mineral sample localities shown on geologic map.

\*Up to three most dominant map units contributing to the drainage basin, listed in descending order of map area.

Percentage of heavy minerals in 13.6 kg stream sediment sample.

Point count percentages of heavy minerals from processed samples.

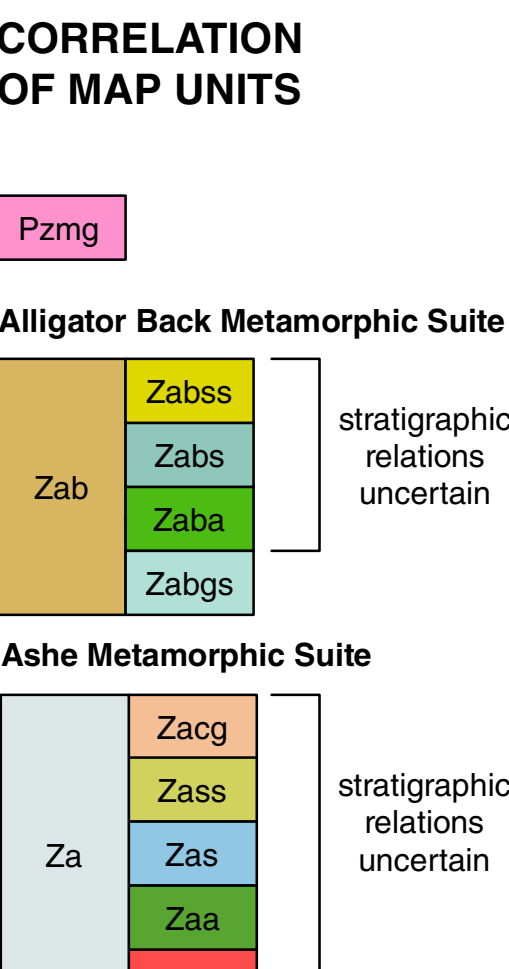
SAMPLE# (State Plane NAD 83 m)	COORDINATES (State Plane NAD 83 m)	ROCK TYPE	MAP UNIT	OXIDES IN PERCENT														ELEMENTS IN PPM*													
				SiO2	Al2O3	Fe2O3	MgO	CaO	Na2O	K2O	TiO2	P2O5	MnO	Cr2O3	Cu	Ba	Zn	Ni	Co	Sr	Zr	Ce	Y	Nb	Sc	La	SUM*				
BC 655 MD	226 850N, 305 838E	metagabbro	Za	50.42	23.84	6.23	2.73	9.67	4.42	0.29	1.46	<0.01	0.06	0.002	20.5	40	25	145	286	178	2	64.7	21.9	23	3	99.71					

\*NPPM = parts per million

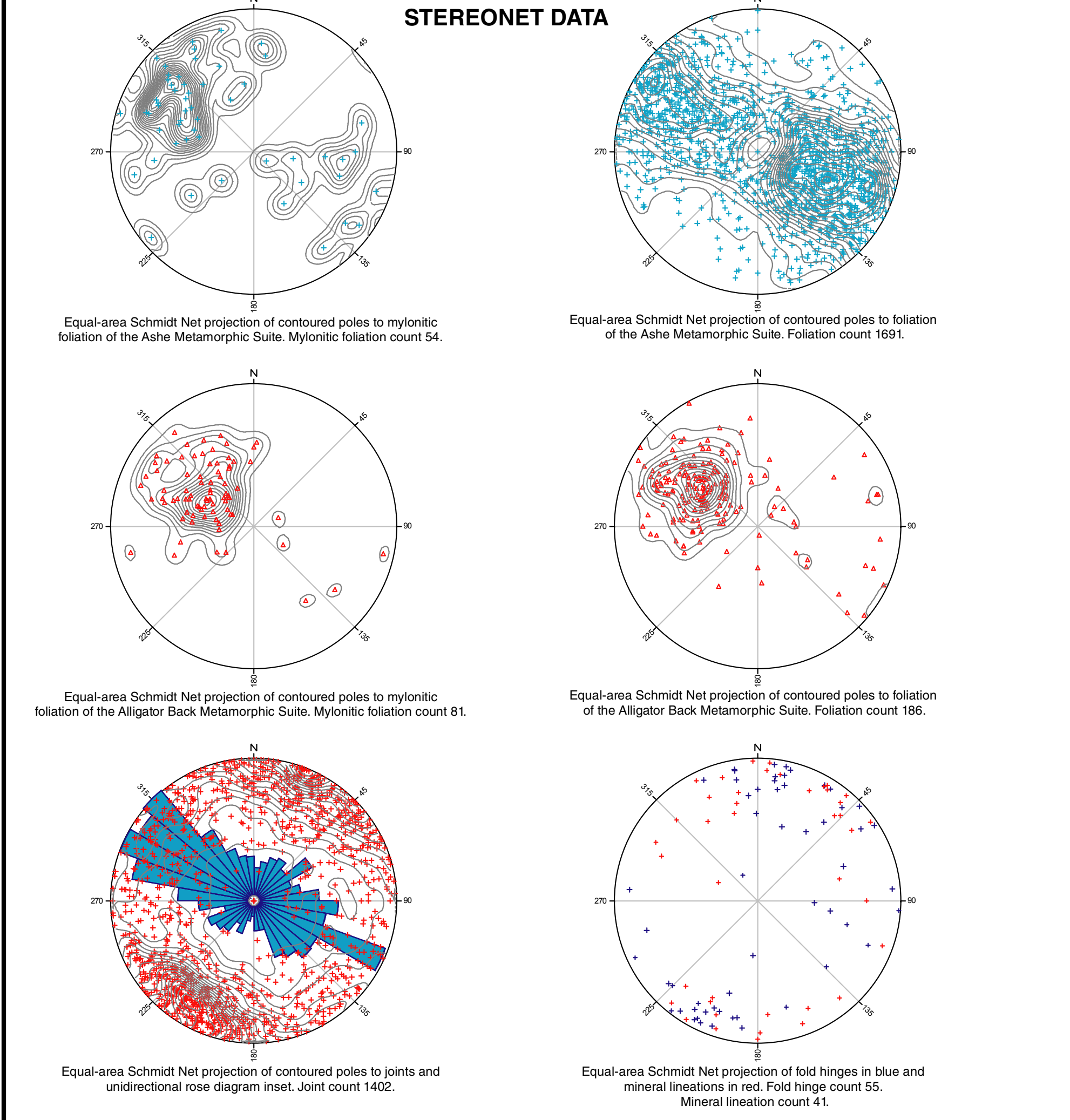
\*LOI = loss on ignition in percent

\*SUM = sum total in percent

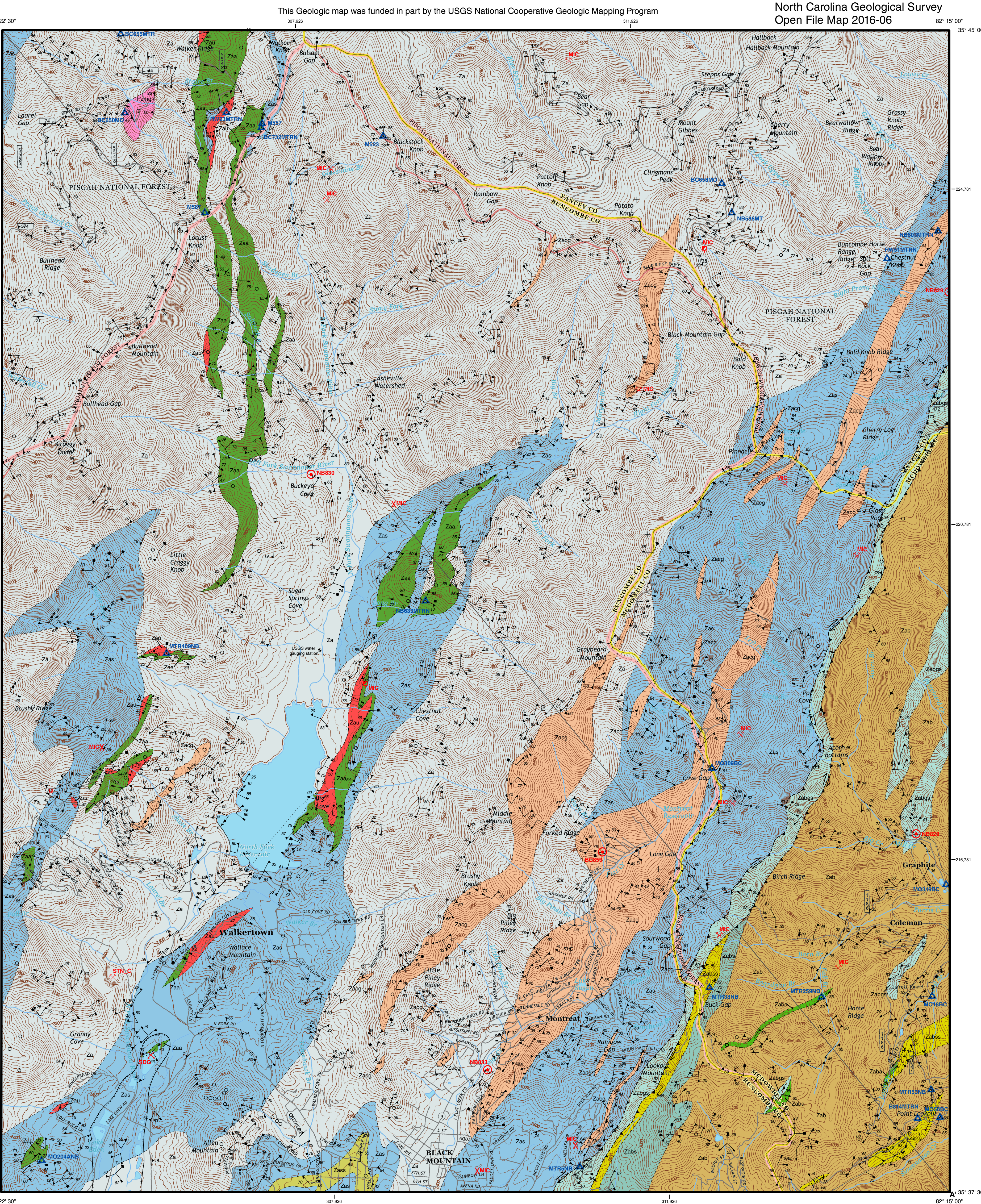
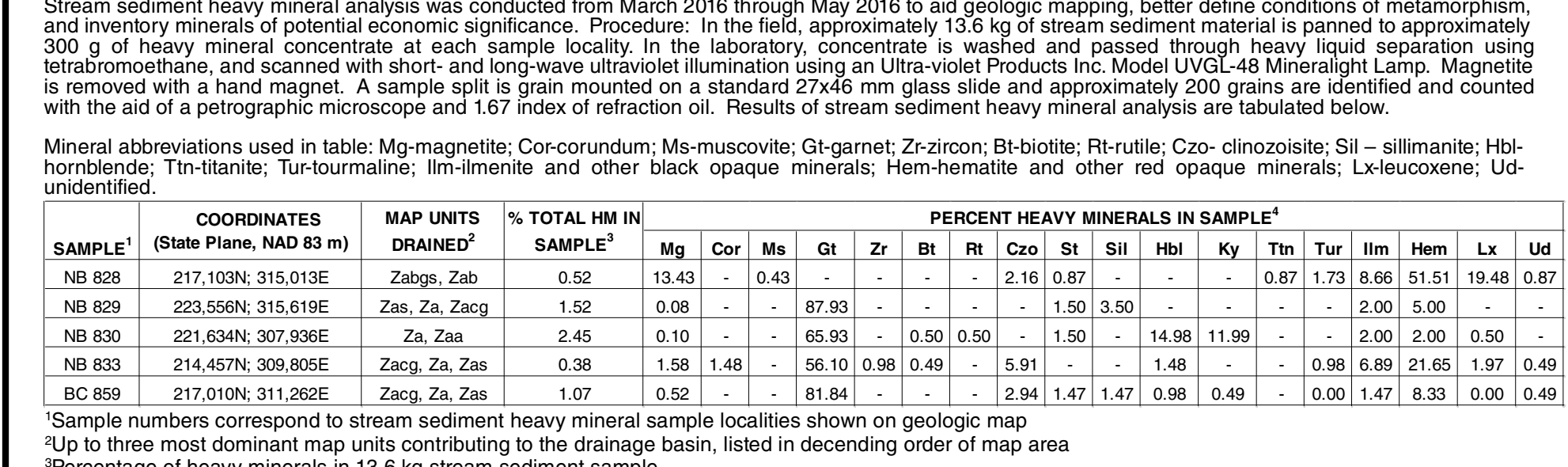
PALEOZOIC  
NEOPROTEROZOIC



**SCHMIDT EQUAL-AREA STEREO NET DATA**



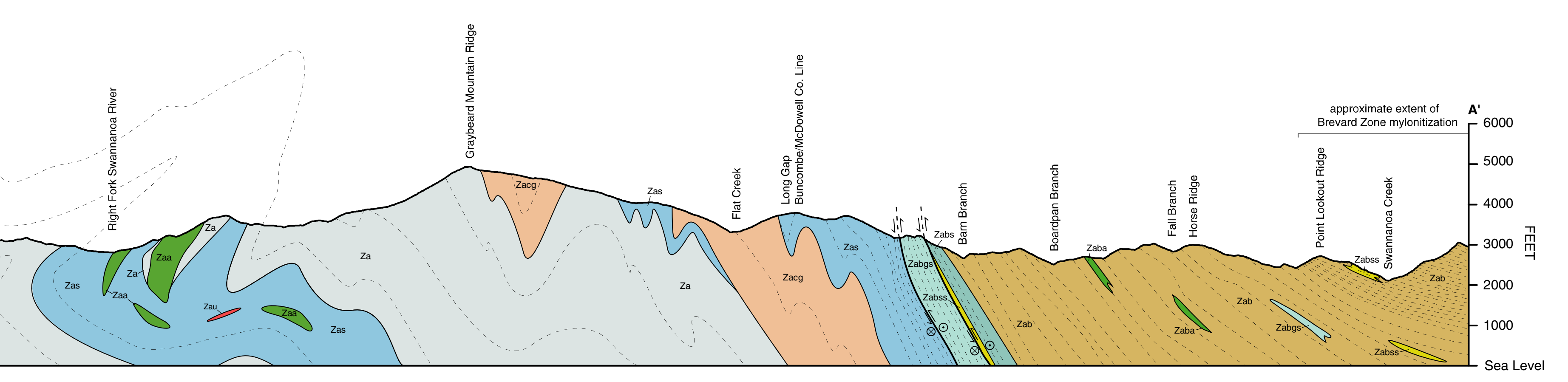
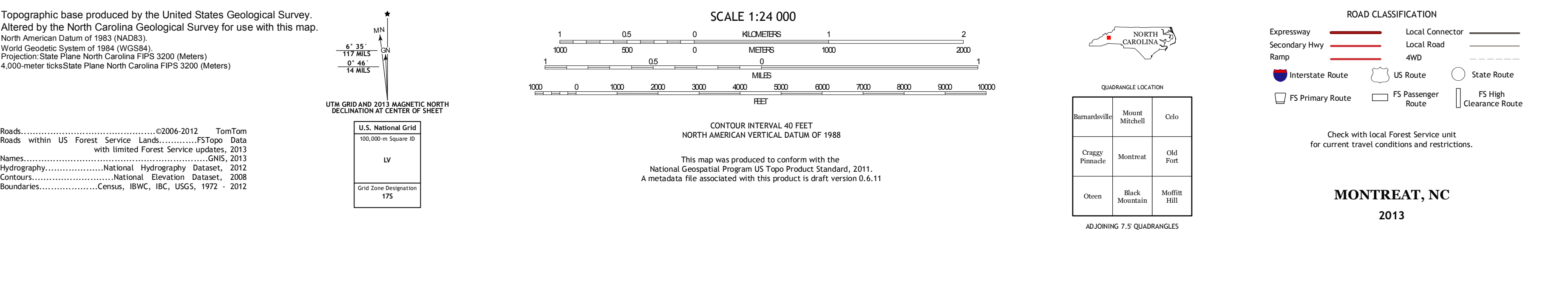
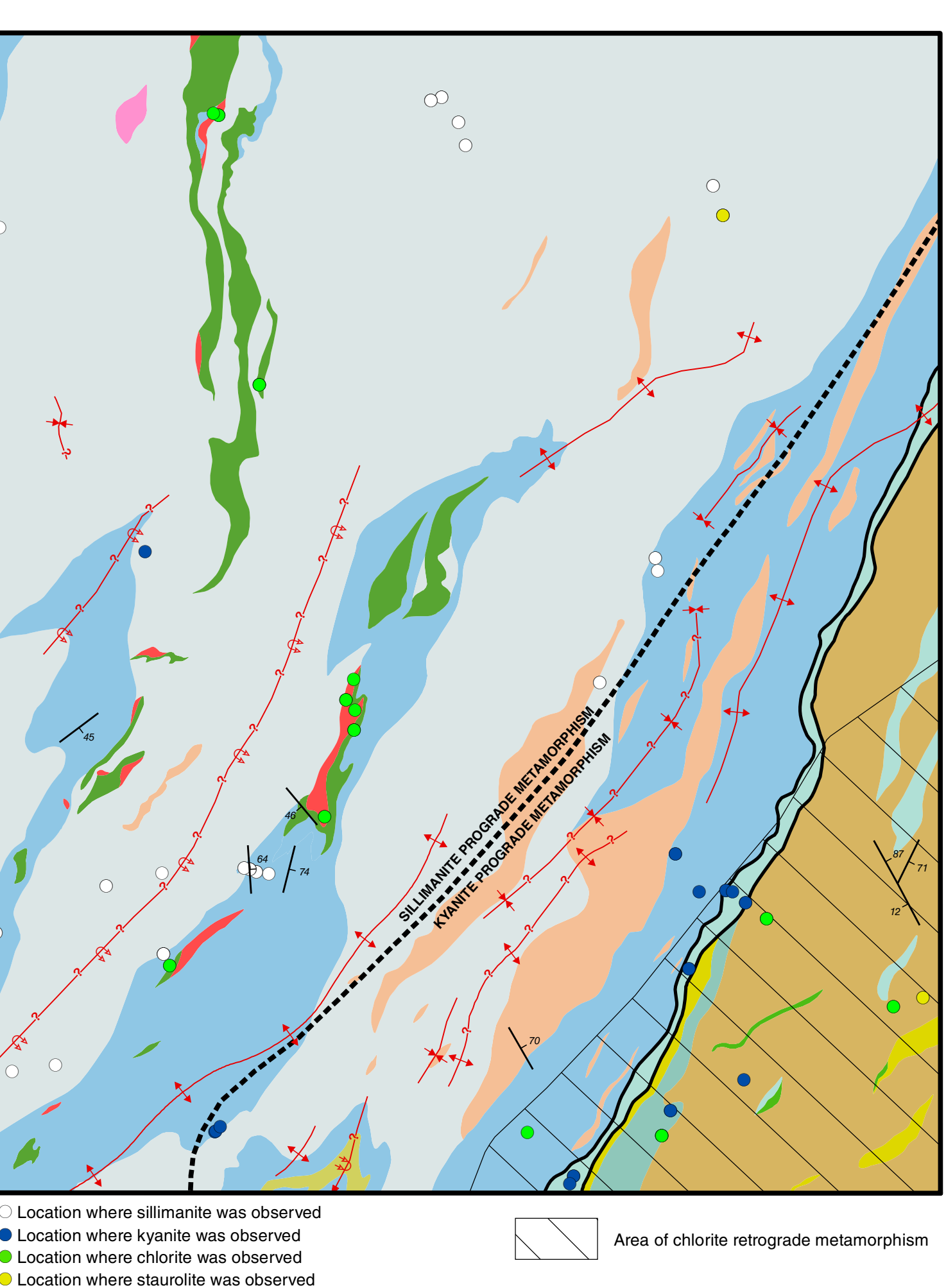
**STREAM SEDIMENT HEAVY MINERAL ANALYSIS**



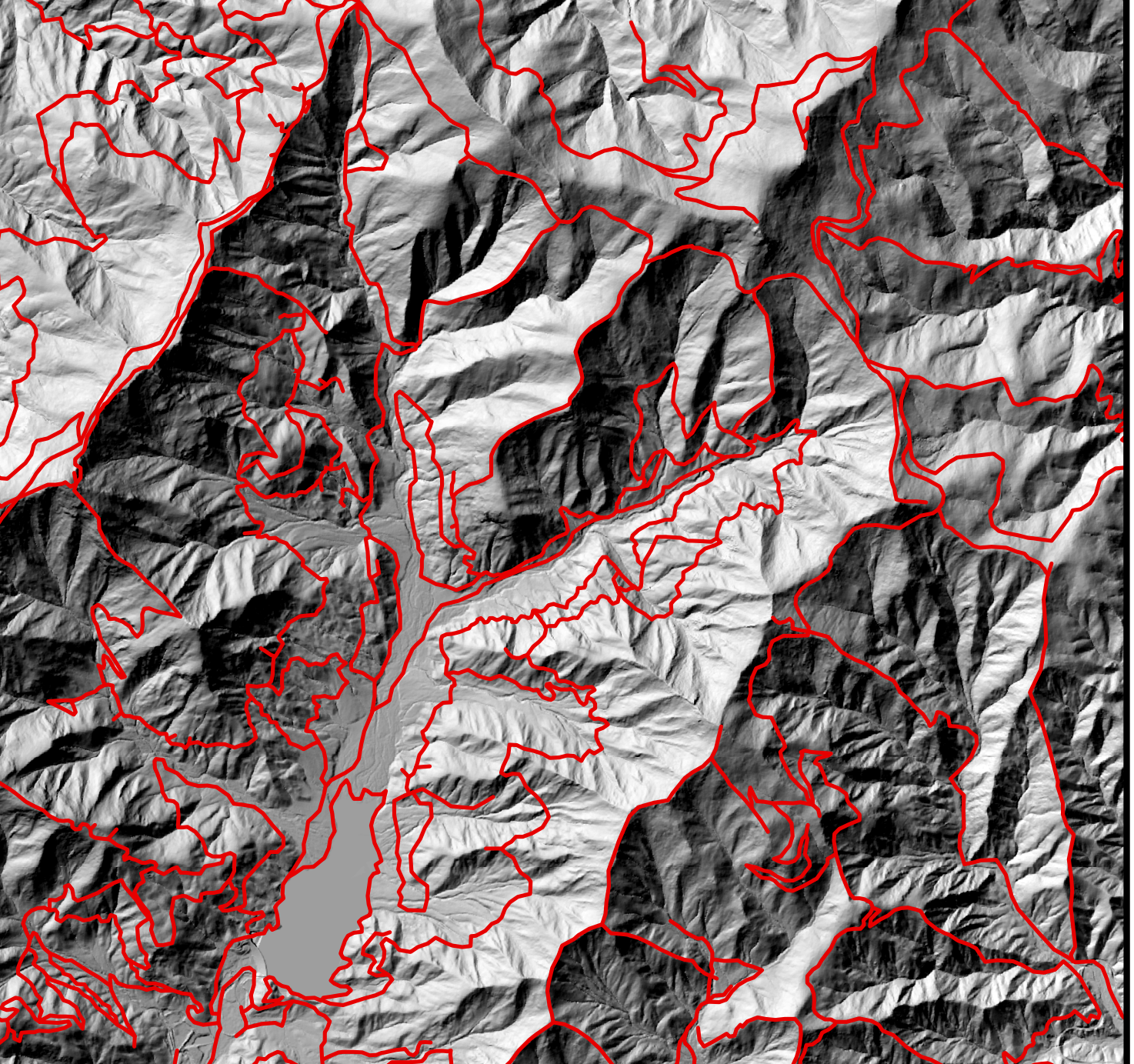
**EXPLANATION OF MAP SYMBOLS**

- CONTACTS**
  - Contact—Identify and existence certain, location inferred
  - Contact—Identify and existence certain, location concealed
  - Thrust fault—Identify and existence certain, location inferred. Same as on upper (tectonically higher) plate; arrows indicate relative motion.
- PLANAR FEATURES**
  - Indicated metamorphic or tectonic foliation—Showing strike and dip
  - Indicated metamorphic or tectonic foliation—Multiple observations at one locality—Showing strike and dip
  - Vertical metamorphic or tectonic foliation—Showing strike
  - Vertical metamorphic or tectonic foliation—Showing strike for multiple observations at one locality—Showing strike
  - Indicated mylonitic foliation—Showing strike and dip
  - Indicated mylonitic foliation—Showing strike and dip for multiple observations at one locality—Showing strike and dip
- LINEAR FEATURES**
  - Indicated crenulation lineation—Showing bearing and plunge
  - Indicated aligned-mineral lineation—Showing bearing and plunge
  - Indicated slickensite, groove, or striation on fault surface—Showing bearing and plunge
  - Indicated fold hinge of generic type or orientation unspecified; small, minor fold—Showing bearing and plunge
- OTHER FEATURES**
  - Float station
  - This section and whole rock analysis sample location
  - Heavy mineral
  - Prospect (pit or small open cut)
  - Sand, gravel, clay, or placer pit
  - Abandoned sand, gravel, clay, or placer pit
  - Open pit, quarry, or glory hole
  - Abandoned open pit, quarry, or glory hole
  - Inclined mine shaft
  - Area of abandoned sand and gravel pits
- NATURAL RESOURCES**
  - SDG - Sand and gravel
  - MDC - Mica
  - STH - Stone, Crushed/Broken

**METAMORPHIC AND TECTONIC CONDITIONS**



**TRAVERSE MAP**



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**Bedrock Geologic Map of the Montreat 75-minute Quadrangle, Buncombe, McDowell, and Yancey Counties, North Carolina**

By  
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Geology mapped from August 2014 to May 2016.  
Map preparation, digital cartography and editing by G. Nicholas Bozdog, Bart L. Cattanch, and Sierra J. Isard  
2016

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