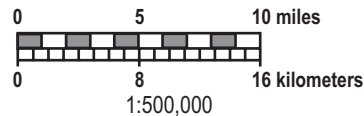
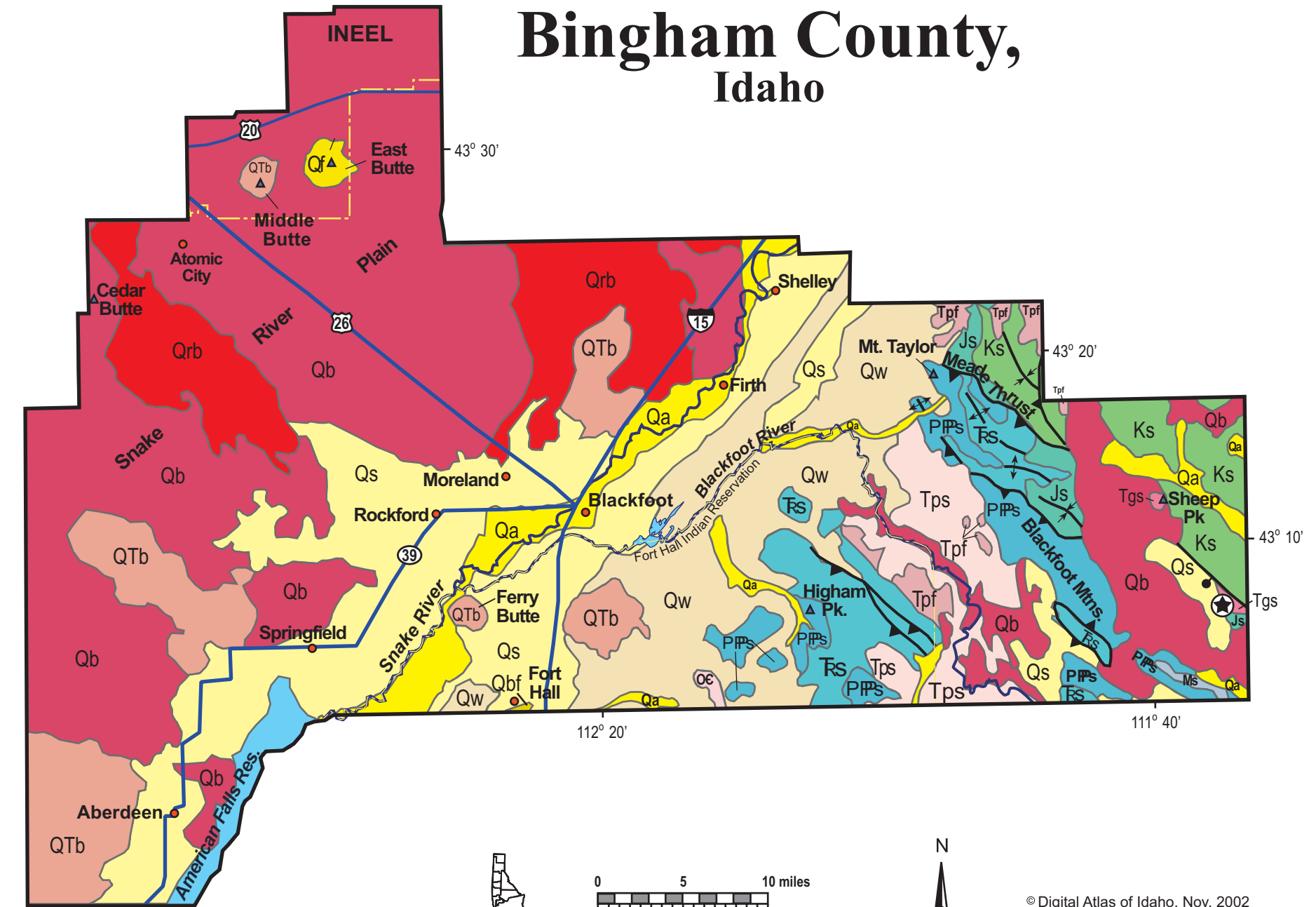


Bingham County, Idaho



© Digital Atlas of Idaho, Nov. 2002
<http://imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas>
 Compiled by Paul K. Link,
 Idaho State University, Geosciences Dept.
<http://www.isu.edu/departments/geology/>

Bingham County

Bingham County covers a vast area, much of it on the Snake River Plain and the foothills of the Blackfoot Mountains on the east.

Irrigated farms on both sides of the Snake River make Bingham County and Blackfoot the center of Idaho potato production. Beyond the irrigated farms to the northwest is the sagebrush desert of the Snake River Plain and the area around Atomic City, where dryland wheat farming was attempted in the 1920s.

In the northwestern panhandle of the county is a portion of the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, and two of the three buttes, landmarks on the Snake River Plain. Both Middle Butte and East Butte are rhyolite domes, but Middle Butte has not breached its Pleistocene basalt cap.

In the southeast of the county, in the hanging wall of the Meade thrust fault, near Mt. Taylor, is phosphate mining country, including the now-closed Gay Mine, on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.















See Root Hog, Blackfoot, and regional geology text from Rocks Rails and Trails. Also see Hughes et al. and McCurry et al. field trip in Guidebook to the Geology of Eastern Idaho.

P.K. Link, 10/02

Description of Map Units for Bingham County, Idaho

Qa	Quaternary alluvial deposits
Qs	Quaternary surficial cover, including colluvium, fluvial, alluvial fan, lake, and windblown deposits. Included fluveolian cover on Snake River Plain, (Snake River Group).
Qw	Quaternary windblown deposits; sand dunes and loess.
Qf	Pleistocene silicic volcanic rocks; rhyolite lava and ash-flow tuff (includes Yellowstone Group).
Qb	Pleistocene basalt lava, 2 million to 12,000 years old, flows have some vegetation and surface weathering.
QTb	Pleistocene and Pliocene basalt lava and associated basaltic tuff (deposited close to basaltic vent).
Tps	Pliocene and Upper Miocene stream and lake deposits (Salt Lake Formation, Starlight Formation, Idaho Group).
Tpf	Pliocene and Upper Miocene felsic volcanic rocks, rhyolite flows, tuffs, ignimbrites. (in Owyhee County and Mt. Bennett Hills, this should be Tmf).
Tgs	Eocene granite, pink granite, syenite, rhyolite dikes, and rhyolitic shallow intrusive; last phase of the Challis magmatic event (46 to 44 Ma). Forms craggy scenic mountain landscape in central and northern Idaho.
Ks	Cretaceous sedimentary rocks.
Js	Jurassic sedimentary rocks.
Rs	Triassic sedimentary rocks.
PPs	Permian and Pennsylvanian sedimentary rocks.
Ms	Mississippian sedimentary rocks.

Symbols

 <p>Geologic unit contacts with unit designation.</p>  <p>Normal fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.</p>  <p>Thrust fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.</p>  <p>Detachment fault: certain; dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed.</p>  <p>Anticline: trace of axial plane: large arrow indicates direction of plunge.</p>  <p>Syncline: trace of axial plane: large arrow indicates direction of plunge.</p>	 <p>Overtured anticline: trace of axial plane.</p>  <p>Overtured syncline: trace of axial plane.</p>  <p>Location of ISU Rockwalk rock from each county.</p>  <p>Cities</p>  <p>Feature location</p> <p>Roads</p>  <p>Interstate Route</p>  <p>U.S. Route</p>  <p>State route</p>
---	--