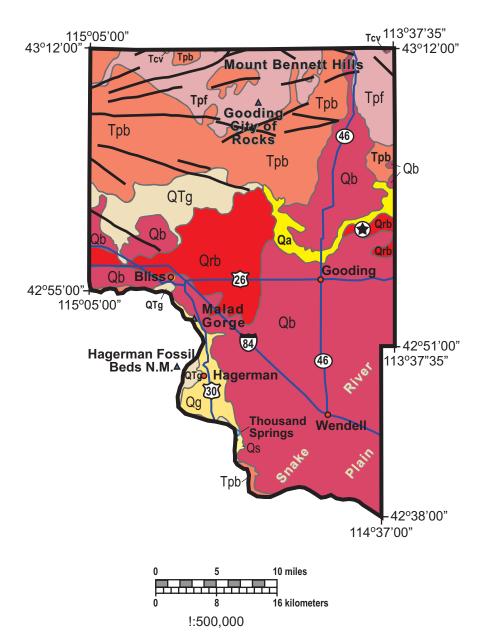
## Gooding County, Idaho









## **Gooding County**

Gooding County is entirely on the Snake River Plain, north of the Snake River. Thus all the rocks are Miocene and younger, with Quaternary basalt covering most of the county.

In the north the Gooding City of Rocks, carved from Miocene rhyolite ignimbrites of the Twin Falls Volcanic Field, forms the south flank of the Mount Bennett Hills. A series of east-west normal faults cuts the Mount Bennett Hills, reflecting the rift-valley structure of the western Snake River Plain.

On the south, in the Snake River Canyon, are exposures of Miocene and Pliocene Glenns Ferry Formation below the Quaternary basalt flows. Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, itself located on the west side of the Snake River in Twin Falls County, has its headquarters in Hagerman.

Malad Gorge, a narrow canyon cut by the Wood River in the last few hundred thousand years, is a unique feature of southern Gooding County.

P.K. Link, 9/02

## **Descripton of Units for Gooding County, Idaho**

- Qa Quaternary alluvial deposits
- Quaternary gravels; forming terraces above modern stream levels, mainly mapped on western Snake River Plain. Unit generally represents detrital glacio-fluvial systems.
- Recent basalt lava, less than 12,000 years old, lava flows are fresh, poorly vegetated, and show original flow geometry.
- Pleistocene basalt lava, 2 million to 12,000 years old, flows have some vegetation and surface weathering.
- QTg Pleistocene and Pliocene gravels on western Snake River Plain (gradational with Qg unit; includes Tuana and Tenmile Gravels).
- Pliocene and Upper Miocene felsic volcanic rocks, rhyolite flows, tuffs, ignimbrites. (in Owyhee County and Mt. Bennett Hills, this should be Tmf).
- Pliocene and Upper Miocene basalt (includes parts of Starlight Formation and Salt Lake Formation) (in Owyhee County and Mt. Bennett Hills, this should be Tmb).

