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California Continental Margin Map Series

A newly published map series depicting geologic data in the offshore regions of California will help evaluate marine energy and mineral resources. This series represents the first standardized marine geologic maps to be produced for the West Coast of North America. It is compiled and published cooperatively by the California Division of Mines and Geology and the U.S. Geological Survey with assistance from the California Coastal Zone Commission. The series consists of 28 sheets at a scale of 1:250,000, covering seven offshore areas along the entire coast from the Mexican border to Oregon. It includes a bulletin illustrating symbols used, idealized stratigraphic columns, a master legend, and a comprehensive bibliography.

For each of the seven areas mapped, four separate sheets printed in color depict: (1) sea-floor geology and geohazards, (2) gravity and magnetic contours overlaid on geology, (3) earthquake epicenters and fault-plane solutions, and (4) data sources including tracklines of geophysical data used in the map compilation and the location of offshore well holes and actively producing petroleum rigs. These sheets include most of the up-to-date data published for the offshore region of California as well as newly interpreted geophysical data evaluated by the U.S. Geological Survey.