CATALOG OF FORMATION NAMES FOR OVERTHRUST BELT AND VICINITY, WESTERN WYOMING

by

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The following groups, formations, members, tongues, etc. are considered to be important to the stratigraphic nomenclature of the Overthrust Belt and vicinity. They are listed together with the following information about each: (a) distribution, (b) bibliographic reference and type locality (no attempt has been made to give a comprehensive bibliography, but rather to list references which have established nomenclature; however, in some instances the thickness at the type locality was absent, so another section was substituted), (c) gross lithology, and (d) general remarks. For stratigraphic charts and correlations see contributions by DeLong et al., McGrew-Roehler, and Lyle Hale elsewhere in this guidebook.

ADAVILLE FORMATION (4000± feet) Upper Cretaceous
c. Yellow, black, and gray carbonaceous shale interbedded with brown and buff sandstone, with many seams of coal.
d. Unconformably underlies the Evanston formation and overlies Hillard shale. Contains plants and invertebrates.

ALCOVA LIMESTONE MEMBER (0-20 feet) Triassic
(of Chugwater formation)
a. Central Wyoming.
c. Limestone, purplish and gray to cream, hard and dense.
d. Forms a conspicuous ridge on outcrop. Thins eastward to zero. Not present in the eastern part of the Powder River Basin.

ALMOND FORMATION (643-950 feet) Upper Cretaceous
(of Mesaverde group)
a. Rock Springs uplift area, southwestern Wyoming.
c. Carbonaceous shale, siltstone, mudstone, and sandstone alternating with coal beds; buff to light gray thick-bedded to massive sandstones predominate in upper part.
d. Equivalent to Williams Fork formation: conformably overlies the Ericson formation: uppermost formation of Mesaverde group.

ALMY FORMATION (2100-2200 feet) Paleocene
a. Western flank of Green River Basin, southwestern Wyoming.
c. Yellowish and reddish-yellow sandy claystone with irregularly bedded sandstone and conglomerates near base.

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AMSDEN FORMATION (150-350 feet) Pennsylvanian
a. Wyoming and Montana.
c. Red shale, white limestone, cherty and sandy limestone, and dolomitic sandstone.
d. Equivalent to the Morgan.

ANKAREH FORMATION (450-1400 feet) Triassic
c. Red to maroon shale, siltstone, and very-fine grained sandstone.
d. Originally included Nugget, but has been restricted by various writers.

ASPEN FORMATION (335-2000 feet) Lower Cretaceous
c. Hard, dark, fissile, grayish shale; contains fish scales, silty streaks, and siliceous beds; bentonite beds present locally.
d. Weathers silver-gray color on outcrop: identified in samples by hard, white siliceous inclusions.

AYCROSS FORMATION (100-1000 feet) Middle Eocene
a. Southern margin of Absaroka Range, northwestern Wyoming.
c. Variegated clay, shale, sandstone, conglomerate, and volcanic rock.
d. Vertebrate fossils are common.

BACON RIDGE SANDSTONE (318-955 feet) Upper Cretaceous
c. Gray fossiliferous sandstone with fossiliferous shale partings; bentonite marker zone 100 feet from the base.

BAXTER SHALE (3350-3600 feet) Upper Cretaceous
c. A 1-3 foot thick sandy limestone “marker” is 785 feet below top.

BEAR RIVER FORMATION (500-5000 feet) Cretaceous
c. Tan, red, gray, and variegated sandstone, black shale, mudstone, coal, and fresh water limestone.
d. Units A through D of Rubey; includes more than Dakota formation. Abundantly fossiliferous locally.