

Geology of Alameda Creek Watershed John Niles and Janet Sowers, Fugro USA Land, Inc.

Introduction



- Geology of the Alameda County Watersheds
 - Geologic history of the Diablo Range
 - Dominant geologic units
 - Structural geology
 - Evidence for active tectonics and affect on hydrology



Late Cretaceous ~75 MA

Late Cretaceous - Farallon Plate Subduction (100 to 65 MA)



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Initiation and Northward Migration of the San Andreas Fault



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Geologic Terranes of California





















Geology of Alameda County Watersheds – Franciscan Complex



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Geology of Alameda County Watersheds – Great Valley Sequnce



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Alameda Creek Watershed Geology - Geology





Alameda Creek Watershed Geology







Active Deformation in Livermore-Amador Valley





Active Deformation in Livermore-Amador Valley





Geologic Cross Section Oakland Hills





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Geologic Cross Section Oakland Hills





~9,000 year old shutter ridge on Alameda Creek Fan



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Alluvial Fan Sedimentology and morphology

Distributary system: Multiple unstable channels; sediment deposited as lobes.



Levee system: Single stable channel; sediment deposited as

levees.



UGRO

Surficial Geologic Map of the Alameda Creek Fan





Conclusions

Diablo Range:

1. Dominantly Mesozoic Franciscan complex and Great Valley Sequence related to subduction of the Farallon Plate

Oakland Hills:

1. Transpressional deformation creating linear drainage patters

Livermore Valley:

- 1. Active faulting and folding creating basin geometry.
- 2. Alluvial fan processes controls features such as the valley floor topography, and distribution of soils and groundwater.

Alameda Creek alluvial fan:

- 1. This massive fan is a thick complex of deposits of different ages and facies.
- 2. The rise of a Hayward fault shutter-ridge blocked alluviation on the southern part of the alluvial fan about 9,000 years ago.
- 3. The fan geomorphology includes prominent natural levees or "channel ridges."
- 4. The youngest deposits lie on the northwest flank of the fan.





Thank You!