



FROST QUADRANGLE LOUISIANA - 7.5-MINUTE TOPO

Description of Map Units

QUATERNARY SYSTEM

На

Hcs

Pph



- Alluvium, undifferentiated—Deposits of gray, brown-gray, and brown mud and pale yellow-brown sand along perennial streams and their tributaries; the former flowing southward, incising the uplands plain and emptying into coastal swamps. The coarse fraction is dominated by fine to coarse sand size quartz with trace amounts of iron oxides, dark silicates, and chert; feldspar is present in minute mounts. The presence of coarse sand and granule size lithic and quartz fragments in Tickfaw River sand deposits suggests contribution from the (Pliocene) Citronelle formation exposed north of the quadrangle.
- Along incised reaches, active muddy deposits blanketing older erosional terraces are re-mobilized and deposited during high stage stream flow. Sand deposits also occur in terraces, but are largely restricted to shifting and migrating point- and mid-stream bars. Alluvium along coastal swamp reaches forms levees and fan-like deposits over the Hammond platform, blending laterally with coastal swamp sediment (Hcs). Alluvial mud and sandy mud within ephemeral tributaries is primarily of local origin.
- **Coastal Swamp**—Active deposits of brown-gray, brown, and dark brown mud and sandy mud in (near) sea-level swamp, south-central and southeastern portion of the quadrangle. Coarse fraction consists of fine to medium sand size quartz with trace amounts of very fine iron oxides, dark silicates, and scarce chert. Components are derived in-situ from underlying Hammond, re-worked from local alluvial deposits, and imported and redistributed by stream and tidal currents, with incorporation of organic material from local and regional biomes.

PLEISTOCENE

Small Stream Levee Deposits—Sandy mud and muddy sand deposits in positive relief, sinuous branching fluvial landforms generally bearing southward atop the Hammond surface and truncated and denuded by modern streams and drainages. Mud dominant deposits occur in shades of gray and brownish gray with speckles, streaks, and mottling of pedogenic rust. Sand-rich deposits display shades of dark red to brown-red. Coarse fraction consists of fine to coarse quartz with trace amounts iron oxides, dark silicates, and fragments of chert and sedimentary and metamorphic lithics: kaolinite is the dominant clay with lesser vermiculite and illite. Montmorillonite is lacking or absent. The presence of fine gravel (granule) size component of sedimentary and metamorphic lithics and red-stained quartz in individual deposits suggests contribution from the Citronelle formation exposed north of the quadrangle.

PRAIRIE ALLOGROUP

Hammond (allo-) formation—Sequence of sandy clay-mud to silt-mud intervals decimeters to meters thick with lateral pinch-outs form the principal lithosome platform of the entire quadrangle. Clay component is dominated by kaolinite with lesser vermiculite and montmorillonite, and minor illite; silt - sand fraction is mainly guartz with trace amounts of coarse silt size crystals of iron oxides and dark silicates and sparse silt sized chert.



Fresh (damp) color varies from medium to light gray and light brown gray with speckle, streaks, and mottling of orange-yellow to dark orange-red pedogenic rust. Secondary goethite occurs as soft sub-centimeter nodules that harden upon exposure to the atmosphere. Dry exposure surfaces typically display bright, pale shades of brownish-yellow to yellow-orange and reddish gray. Large area exposures of scrapes and borrow pits erode in groove-and-fin relief; crude vertical piping appears in weathered bluff exposures.



Open Water, Inundated Area, Wetland

Correlation diagram

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