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MX SITING INVESTIGATION GEOTECHNICAL EVALUATION

AD A113323

VOLUME IB NEVADA-UTAH VERIFICATION STUDIES, FY 79

PREPARED FOR SPACE AND MISSILE SYSTEMS ORGANIZATION (SAMSO) NORTON AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA



MX SITING INVESTIGATION GEOTECHNICAL EVALUATION VOLUME IB, NEVADA-UTAH VERIFICATION STUDIES, FY 79

Prepared for:

U.S. Department of the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Organization (SAMSO) Norton Air Force Base, California 92409

Prepared by:

Fugro National, Inc. 3777 Long Beach Boulevard Long Beach, California 90807

24 August 1979

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FOREWORD

This report was prepared for the Department of the Air Force, Space and Missile Systems Organization (SAMSO), in compliance with Contract No. F04704-78-C-0027, CDRL Item 005A2. It presents geological, geophysical, and geotechnical data and evaluates the suitability of portions of Nevada and Utah for siting the MX Land Mobile Advanced ICBM System.

This report is the first of several Verification reports which will be prepared. The objectives are to verify sufficient suitable area for deployment of the MX System and to provide preliminary physical and engineering characteristics of the soils. The Verification studies are the final phase of a siteselection process which was begun in 1977. Previous studies have been termed Screening, Characterization, and Ranking. In preparing this report, it has been assumed that the reader is familiar with these previous studies.

In this report, discussions are limited to the hybrid trench and vertical shelter basing modes. In most cases, the discussions and data for hybrid trench also apply to the horizontal shelter since the depth of excavation is about the same. In particular, suitable area for the hybrid trench will also be suitable for the horizontal shelter.

Results of the FY 79 Verification Studies are contained in 11 volumes as follows:

Geotechnical Results

Volume 1A - Sections 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 contain Introduction, Results and Conclusions, and Recommendations for Future Studies. Sections 4.0 through 6.0 contain summary geotechnical discussions for Whirlwind, Snake East, and Hamlin CDPs.

*Volume 1B - Sections 7.0 through 10.0 contain summary geotechnical discussions for White River North, Garden-Coal, Reveille-Railroad and Big Smoky CDPs. Section 11.0 briefly explains previous work performed in Dry Lake and Ralston sites. A bibliography and appendix follow Section 11.0.

Geotechnical Data Volumes

Volume	II	-	Whirlwind CDP	
Volume	III	-	Snake East CDP	
Volume	IV	-	Hamlin CDP	
Volume	V	-	White River North CD	P
Volume	VI	-	Garden-Coal CDP	
Volume	VII	-	Reveille-Railroad CD	P
Volume	VIII	-	Big Smoky CDP	
Volume	IX	-	Dry Lake CDP	
Volume	Х	-	Ralston CDP	

* This volume is presented herein.

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7.0 WHITE RIVER NORTH CDP

7.1 GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

White River North CDP lies primarily in northeast Nye County and portions of Lincoln and White Pine counties in east-central Nevada (Figure 7-1). The CDP is bounded on the east by the Egan Range and on the west by the Grant and Horse ranges. The small farming and ranching community of Lund lies along the northern margin of the CDP and the south is partially bounded by the Golden Gate and Seaman ranges. The White River North Site comprises the more northerly portion of the CDP, extending from the town of Lund in the north to Hot Creek Butte in the south. The northern end of the CDP is approximately 35 miles south of Ely, Nevada. State Highway 38 traverses the east side of the CDP and is the only paved road in the CDP. Access to the site is fair, provided by a moderate system of unmaintained and unsurfaced roads.

7.2 SCOPE

The scope of geologic, geophysical, and soils engineering field activities performed at the site and laboratory tests performed on soil samples from the site are presented in Table 7-1. Locations of the geophysical and engineering activities are shown in Drawing 7-1 (end of Section 7.0).

7.3 GEOLOGIC SETTING

The mountain ranges along the east and west sides of the CDP are predominantly composed of thick, complex sequences of Paleozoic limestones and dolomites with interbedded shales. A local



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GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

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TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Geologic mapping stations	63
Shallow refraction	°. 19
Electrical resistivity	23
Gravity profiles	5

ENGINEERING-LABORATORY TESTS

TYPE OF TEST	NUMBER OF Tests
Noisture/density	106
Specific gravity	3
Sieve analysis	81
Hyd rome te r	6
Atterberg limits	36
Consolidation	· 2
Unconfined compression	3
Triaxial compression	3
Direct shear	7
Compaction	6
CBR	~ 6
Chemical analysis	- 10

ENGINEERING

•

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NUMBER OF BORINGS	NOWINAL DEPTH Feet (Neters)
5	160 (49)
2	50 (15)
NUMBER OF TRENCHES	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Neters)
5	14 (4)
3	5-10 (2-3)
NUMBER OF TEST PITS	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (meters)
18	5 (2)
4	3 (1)
NUMBER OF CPTs	RANGE OF DEPTH FEET (METERS)
54	1-115 (0.3-45)
TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Surficial soil samples	23
Field CBR tests	0

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES Verification site White river north CDP, Nevada	
WX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAWSO	TABLE 7-1
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occurrence of Cambrian quartzites is located in the northern portion of the Egan Range near Lund, contributing particularly coarse sediments to that area. Tertiary welded ash-flow tuffs and rhyolitic and andesitic flows primarily occur in the southeastern and southern portions of the CDP in the Grant, Golden Gate, and Seaman ranges, and a few volcanic outliers occur locally in the northeastern and northwestern portions of the CDP.

The mountain ranges exhibit a general north-south structural trend. The Paleozoic rocks bounding the site generally dip eastward from 20 to 40 degrees (Kleinhampl and Ziony, 1967), primarily the result of Laramide deformation. Basin and Range faults cut most of the mid-Tertiary volcanic sequences. Evidence of continued Basin and Range faulting exists along the eastern side of the CDP where the sinuous Egan fault roughly parallels the base of the Egan Range and forms a discontinuous escarpment in Quaternary alluvial deposits.

Thick sequences of basin-fill deposits, composed of lacustrine, alluvial, and fluvial sediments, generally overlie the mid-Tertiary volcanic bedrock (Eakin, 1966). Within the CDP, the County Line oil test penetrated 1475 feet (454 m) of valley fill without encountering rock (McJannett and Clark, 1960). The basin-fill stratigraphy within the construction zone (0 to 160 feet, 49 m) generally consists of a sedimentary sequence, from oldest to youngest.

- Older lacustrine deposits Lacustrine deposits comprise approximately one-half of the surficial geology, primarily concentrated in a band along the valley axis. The units are possibly mid- to late Tertiary age (Maxey and Eakin, 1949) predominantly composed of sand with some fines which interfinger with coarser-grained alluvial deposits.
- Intermediate alluvial fan deposits The deposits form a relatively narrow strip along the valley flanks constituting about one-sixth of the site. The fans are composed predominantly of sandy gravel and gravelly sands of Pleistocene age.
- Older fluvial deposits The ancestral White River and its tributaries left small isolated terrace deposits of sand and gravel along the present drainage.
- Younger alluvial fans Younger fans cover approximately one-third of the site, actively forming basinward of the intermediate alluvial fans. Deposits are predominantly silty sand in composition with some gravel.
- Stream channel deposits These deposits are actively forming in White River and its tributaries. Materials are generally limited in extent and composed of fines and sands.

The surficial geology in the White River North Site is presented in Drawing 7-2.

7.4 SURFACE SOILS

The White River North Site is characterized by a general northsouth banding of surficial soils. Coarse-grained soils occupy both valley flanks, while fine-grained soils are predominant in the central portion of the site. This soil zoning is illustrated by the distribution of surficial geologic units shown in Drawing 7-2. Soils from the several predominant surficial geologic units can be combined into three categories based on their physical and engineering characteristics.

 Silty sands and clayey sands (A4os, A5ys, and A5is geologic units);

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- Sandy gravels and gravelly sands (A5ys, A5is, and A5ig geologic units); and
- 3. Sandy silts and sandy clays (A4of geologic unit).

7.4.1 Characteristics

The characteristics of site surficial soils are summarized in Table 7-2, which contains physical properties and laboratory compaction and CBR test results, and provides preliminary road design evaluations. Gradation ranges for the three categories of surficial soils are shown in Figure 7-2.

Silty sands and clayey sands are the most common surficial soil with an approximate areal distribution ranging from 35 to 55 percent of the site. Sands occur primarily in the alluvial fans of the east and west valley flanks. Sands are present to a lesser degree in the lacustrine and stream channel deposits near the valley center. Sands are usually graded coarse to fine and have appreciable fines that are mostly nonplastic to slightly plastic. Weak to moderate calcium carbonate cementation is often present within 2 feet (0.6 m) of the ground surface.

Sandy gravels and gravelly sands have an approximate areal distribution of 15 to 25 percent in the site. These soils are primarily located in alluvial fans of the east and west valley flanks, and gravel content usually increases with approach to the mountain fronts. Gravelly soils are more widely distributed throughout the steeply sloping fans along the eastern side of the site than in the more gently sloping fans along the western

SOIL DESCRIPTION			Siity Sands and Clayey Sands		Sandy Gravel
USCS SYMBOLS			SN, SC A4os, A5ys, A5is		CH, SH A5ys, I
PREDOWINANT SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC UNITS					
ESTIMATED AREAL EXTENT \$			35-55		15-25
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES					
COBBLES 3 - 12 inches	(8 – 30 cm) 1	;	0-5		0-10
GRAVEL	1	•	0-18	[18]	27 - 38
SAND	1	;]	35-80	[18]	30-53
SILT AND CLAY	1	;	19-49	[18]	13-35
LIQUID LIMIT	/		35-87	[2]	NDA
PLASTICITY INDEX			NP-35	[5]	NP
ROAD DESIGN DATA					
MAXIMUN DRY DENSITY	pcf (kg/	/#3)	104.7-120.0 (1877-1922)	[3]	128.0 (2010)
OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTENT	1	;	13.3-20.7	[3]	9.0
CBR AT 90% RELATIVE CON	PACTION 9	;	6-18	[3]	19
SUITABILITY AS ROAD SUB	GRADE (1)		fair to good		good
SUITABILITY AS ROAD SUB	DASE OR BASE (1)		1000	-	falr
THICKNESS OF	RANGE ft	(m)	0.7-14.1 (0.2-4.3)	[20]	0.7-1 (0.2-
SURFICIAL SOIL (2)	AVERAGE It	(m)	2.9 (0.9)	[28]	0.0

(2) Low strength surficial soil is defined as soll which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency; see Table 7-3 for details.

2 JUL 78

Sandy Gravels and Gravelly Sands		Sandy Silts and 🖕 Sandy Clays			
GN, SN A5ys, A5is, A5ig		NL. CL. CH A4of		1	1
15-25		30-50			
0 - 10		8			-
27-38	[8]	0 - 20	[•]		
30-53	[8]	13-37 .	[9]		
13-35	[8]	54-85	[•]		
NDA		24-90	[0]		
NP	[1]	NP-88	[12]		
126.0 (2018)	[1]	110.0-122.8 (1762-1967)	[2]	+	
9.0	[1]	11.3-19.0	[2]		
19	[1]	3-15	[2]		
good		p 001			
fair		not suitable			
0.7-1.0 (0.2-0.3)	[2]	0.7-10.5 (0.2-3.2)	[21]		
0.0	[1]	2.8 (b.9)	[21]		
: • [] - Nu • NDA - No da	mber of tests per ita available (in Performed)	formed sufficient data or tests		, CHARACTERISTICS OF SURFICIAL SO Verification site White River Worth CDP, Nevadi	ILS
				MX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAMSO	та) 7-
				FUGRO NATIONAL	





side of the site. Gravelly soils are generally poorly graded and contain appreciable nonplastic fines. Moderate to heavy calcium carbonate cementation often occurs within 2 feet (0.6 m) of the ground surface in gravelly soils of intermediate fans.

Sandy silts and sandy clays have an approximate areal distribution of 30 to 50 percent in the site. A majority of silt or clay soils are lacustrine or channel deposits in the central portion of the site. However, random fine-grained soil deposits also occur in alluvial fans in the east and west valley flanks. These soils contain appreciable amounts of sand and often some gravel. Their plasticity range is from none to high. Moderate or heavy calcium carbonate cementation often occurs at depths between 1 and 2 feet (0.3 and 0.6 m).

7.4.2 Low Strength Surficial Soil

Strengths of in situ surficial soils within the site were evaluated by cone penetrometer tests (CPT). Based on CPT results and soil classification, the thickness of low strength surficial soil at each CPT location was estimated and is presented in Table 7-3. The range and mean thickness values of the low strength interval are summarized in Table 7-2 for each surficial soil category. Coarse-grained soils exhibit low strength to depths ranging from 0.7 to 14.1 feet (0.2 to 4.3 m) with an average of 2.8 feet (0.9 m). Fine-grained soils exhibit low strength to depths ranging from 0.7 to 10.5 feet (0.2 to 3.2 m) with an average of 2.8 feet (0.8 m).

CONE PENETROMETER TEST NUNBER(1)	TWICKNESS OF LOW STRENGTH Surficial Soil (2) Feet Meters		SOIL TYPE (3)
C-1	0.0	1 1 7	<u> </u>
C-7	1.0	0.3	SM 2
6-3	1.2	0.4	SW
G-4	1.1	0.3	ML.
C-5	0.7	0.2	CL
C-8	4.1	1.2	СН
C-7	1.3	0.4	SM
C-8	0.8	0.2	СН
· C-9	1.7	0.5	SN
C-10	NDA	NDA	UL
C-11	NDA	NDA	CL
C-12	NDA	NDA	SM
C-13	1.2	0.4	SM
C-14	0.7	0.2	SM
C-15	2.3	0.7	ML
C-18	1.0	0.3	CL/HL
C-17	1.1	0.3	SM
C-18	0.0	0.3	SC
C-19	5.7	1.7	SM
C-20	4.9	1.5	CL
C-21	1.8	0.5	CH
C-22	1.0	0.3	SC/GP
C-23	1.8	0.5	SM
C-24	0.1	2.4	CH
C - 25	1.8	0.8	SM
C-20	1.3	0.4	CL
C-27	10.5	3.2	CH
C-28	1.0	0.3	SM

CONE Penetrometer Test Number(1)	THIC
C-29	
Č-30	7
C-31	12
C-32	2.
C-33	2.
C-34	١,
C-35	16
C-38	1.
C-37	1.
C-38	I.
C-39	3.
C-40	1.
C-41	1.1
C-42	1.
C-43	1.
C-44	1.
C-45	
C-48	4.1
C-47	1.
C-48	
C-49	0.2
C-50	1.7
<u>C-51</u>	1.
<u>C-37</u>	1.
}	
	L

 For Cone Penetrometer Test locations see Drawing 7-1, Activity Location Map.

(2) Thickness corresponds to depth below ground surface. Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency. Low strength is based on Cone Penetrometer Test results using the following criteria:

> Coarse-grained soils: $q_c = 120 \text{ tsf (117 kg/cm^2)}$ Fine-grained soils: $q_c = 80 \text{ tsf (78 kg/cm^2)}$

where q_C is cone resistance.

(3) Soll type is based on Unified Soil Classification System; see Section A5.0 in the Appendix for explanation

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ROTES

ER (1)	TNICKNESS OF SURFICI	SOIL TYPE (3)	
	FEET	WETERS	
\Box	1.4	0.4	SM
	1.1	2.3	SN/NL
	1.3	0.4	SM
Т	2. 0	0.8	NL SP-SN
П	2.2	0.7	SM
Τ	1.0	0.3	SH
	14.1	4.2	SC
Т	1.2	0.4	CL
	1.3	0.4	SII .
	8.7	0.2	511
	J.0	1.1	SC
	1. 8	0.5	SN
	1.3	0.4	CL/GP
Т	7.1	2.1	HL
	1.2	0.4	CL
	1.3	0.4	CL
	0.8	0.2	CL
	4.0	1.2	511
	1.0	0.3	CL
	11.6	3.5	SII
T	6.2	1.9	ŇĹ.
T	1.7	0.5	SC
1	1.0	0.5	SH/CL
1	1.8	0.5	SN
1		<u> </u>	
1			
1		<u>†</u>	
7		t	

CONE Penetrometer Test Number(1	THICKNESS OF Surficia	SOIL TYPE (3)	
	FEET	METERS	
	·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		·····	·
			L

THICKNESS OF LOW STRENGTH SURFICIAL SOIL Verification site White River North CDP, Nevaba

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAMSO

TABLE

7-3

AFV

- NOTES: For fine-grained soils (ML, CL, MM and CM), thickness of lew strength surficial self will vary depending on moisture centent of the soil at time of testing.
 - SM/GM indicates SM underlain by GM
 - NDA No data available

FN-TR-27-18.

Cone penetrometer tests were performed in the White River North Site after surficial soils were softened by moisture from several early winter storms, thus probably somewhat increasing the estimated thickness of low strength soil in comparison to thicknesses for similar but dry soil. A highly variable degree of calcium carbonate cementation was observed in surficial soils and is confirmed by the variable thickness of low strength surficial soils.

7.5 SUBSURFACE SOILS

Coarse-grained soils, consisting of sandy gravels and gravelly sands with minor silt and clay interbeds, are predominant at the east and west flanks of the site. These coarse-grained deposits apparently correlate with intermediate and young alluvial fans. Subsurface soils within the central portion of the site are predominantly fine-grained and are associated with the lacustrine deposits. These fine-grained soils consist of stratified sandy silts and sandy clays of slight to high plasticity with occasional sand interbeds. The composition of subsurface soils with depth, as determined from borings, trenches, and test pits, is illustrated in the soil profiles presented in Figures 7-3 through 7-6.

Results of seismic refraction and electrical resistivity survyes are summarized in Table 7-4. The characteristics of subsurface soils, determined from field and laboratory tests, are presented in Table 7-5. Ranges of gradation of the subsurface soils are shown in Figure 7-7.

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DEPTH RANGE	2° - 20' (0.8 - 8.0m)								
	Coarse-grained soils		Fle						
SOIL DESCRIPTION	Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands	Sandy Sit Sandy Cla							
USCS SYMBOLS	GP, GN, GC, SP, SM, SC		WL, CL, Q						
ESTIMATED EXTENT IN SUBSURFACE %	85-75		25-35						
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES									
DRY DENSITY pcf (kg m ³)	88.5-127.8 (1386-2047)	[20]	78.5-94 . (1225-15 2						
NOISTURE CONTENT \$	2.9-30.3	[20]	15.3-40.0						
DEGREE OF CEMENTATION	none to high		none to h						
COBBLES 3-12 inches (8-30 cm) \$	0 - 10		0 - 10						
GRAVEL S	0-84	[18]	0-1						
SAND S	14-89	[18]	13-40						
SILT AND CLAY S	2-40	[16]	60 - 86						
LIQUID LIMIT	NDA		37-54						
PLASTICITY INDEX	NDA		17-25						
COMPRESSIONAL WAVE VELOCITY fps (mps)	1570-6000 (479-1828)	[15]	1390-560 0 (424-1707						
SHEAR STRENGTH DATA									
UNCONFINED COMPRESSION $S_u = ksf (kN/m^2)$	NDA		1.3-4.7 (82-225)						
TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION c - ksf (kN 'm²), ø°	NDA		c = 1.7, 9 (81)						
DIRECT SHEAR c - ksf (kN m²), ø°	$c = 0.25, \phi = 34^{\circ}$ (12)	[]	NDA						

NOTES:

Characteristics of soils between 2 and 20 feet (0.8 and 8.0 meters) are
based on results of tests on samples from 7 borings. 8 trenches, and
22 test pits, and results of 18 seismic refraction survey.
Characteristics of soils below 20 feet (8 0 meters) are based on results

of tests on samples from 7 borings and results of 11 seismic refraction surveys.

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(8.8 - 8.0m)		20° - 160° (6.0 - 49.0m)							
	Fine-grained s	oils	Coarse-grained	soils	Fine-grained soils				
	Sandy Silts, Clayey Sandy Clays, and Cl	silts. ays	Sandy Gravels, Grav Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands	velly Sands.	Sandy Silts, Clayey Silts, Sandy Clays, and Silty Clays				
	WL, CL, CH		GW, GP, GN, GC, SW, SW, SC	ML. MH. CL. CH	., MH, CL, CH				
	25-35		85-75		25-35				
	78.5-94.9 (1225-1520)	[9]	78.4-138.3 (1256-2219)	[38]	71.8-110.8 (1147-1775)	[28]			
	15.3-48.0	[9]	7.2-36.2	[38]	15.7-44.7	[28]			
	none to high		none to moderate		none to high				
	0 - 10		0-10		0				
	0 - 1	[2]	0-87	[20]	0 - 1	[4]			
	13-40	[2]	21-81	[20]	29-47	[4]			
	60 - 86	[2]	4-42	[20]	52-71	[5]			
	37-54	[1]	NDA		35-82	[8]			
	17 - 25	[1]	NP	[1]	7-47	[8]			
	1390-5600 (424-1707)	[3]	3450-8350 (1052-1935)	[8]	1390-5600 (424-1707)	[3]			
	1.3-4.7 (82-225)	[3]	NDA		NDA				
	$c = 1.7, \phi = 38^{\circ}$ (81)	[3]	NDA		NDA				
	NDA		$c = 4.4, \phi = 29^{\circ}$ (210)	[4]	NDA				

•[] CHARACTERISTICS OF SUBSURFACE SOILS Verification Site - Number of tests performed. • NDA - No data available (insufficient data or tests not performed.) WHITE RIVER NORTH CDP. NEVADA * Results for cemented coarse-grained soils TABLE MX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAWSO 7.5 VARO NATIONAL INC. AFY-20 2



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Coarse-grained subsurface soils are dense to very dense below 5 feet (1.5 m). Variable cementation occurs intermittently, but well-developed, continuous cementation was not encountered. These soils exhibit very low compressibilities and moderate to high shear strengths. The first layer electrical resistivities measured in the coarse-grained soils are all greater than 100 ohm-meters and average 280 ohm-meters. Fine-grained soils (silts and clays) range in consistency from stiff to hard and display well developed, but not continuous, cementation. These soils possess moderate to high shear strength and very low to moderate compressibilities. The first layer electrical resistivities measured in the fine-gained soils are all less than 50 ohm-meters and average 27 ohm-meters.

Electrical conductivity of the soils in the upper 50 feet (15 m) ranges from 0.0003 to 0.0449 mhos per meter (average 0.0106 mhos per meter). At 11 of the 23 activity locations, the measured conductivities were less than the minimum value of 0.004 mhos per meter specified in the Fine Screening criteria. The fine-grained soils are more conductive than the coarse-grained soils, having an average conductivity of 0.0278. The average value for coarse-grained soils is 0.0047 mhos per meter. Chemical test results indicate a potential for "negligible to severe" sulfate attack on concrete in the upper 20 feet (6 m) and negligible sulfate attack below 20 feet.

7.6 TERRAIN

White River North is a topographically open alluvial basin with a wide central flood plain of low gradient. Surface elevations

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along the valley axis range from approximately 5100 feet (1569 m) in the south to about 5500 feet (1676 m) in the north. Alluvial fans show the greatest diversity of terrain features but are restricted to a relatively narrow band along the mountain flanks. Categories of these terrain conditions are differentiated in Drawing 7-3.

Intermediate alluvial fans along the eastern and western margins of the site are areas of nondeposition and active erosion. Incision depths range from 1.5 feet (0.5 m) to 30 feet (9 m) with an average depth of 7 feet (2 m; category II). Drainage densities vary from three to nine per mile (1.6 km). Surface slopes generally average about 4 percent with steeper slopes occurring near the mountain fronts. Faulting along the east side of the site has created shorter, steeper alluvial fans in contrast to the unfaulted west side of the site.

Younger alluvial fans which generally lie basinward of the intermediate fans are incised to depths up to 8 feet (2.5 m) but generally average less than 1 foot (0.3 m; category I). Drainage density ranges from 3 to 9 per mile (1.6 km) and surface slopes are generally about 3 percent. Coarser-grained, younger fans are generally more deeply eroded than the finer-grained facies.

The central portion of the site is occupied by older lacustrine deposits which have been dissected by small drainages to form low, north-south trending ridges with intervening broad troughs. Incision averages about 6 feet (1.8 m; category II) in

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depth with densities ranging from 2 to 5 per mile. In contrast, the northeast portion of the site is relatively featureless and flat.

7.7 DEPTH TO ROCK

Drawing 7-4 shows the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to rock contours for the White River North Site. The contours were based on limited data from shallow seismic refraction surveys, drillhole logs, geologic mapping, and published water well logs. The interpretation of the data was tempered with considerations for structural trends and rock types. Less than 8 percent of the site is estimated to have rock at less than 50 feet below the ground surface. Approximately 2 percent of the site is estimated to contain rock at depths between 50 and 150 feet.

The limestone mountains surrounding the site commonly form steep mountain fronts, especially the Guilmette Limestone which crops out in the northwestern portion of the site. Depth to rock contours are particularly close to the mountain fronts in the northwestern and northeastern portions of the site reflecting these conditions.

Low-lying welded ash flow tuffs and other volcanic rocks form outliers in the southwestern portion of the site. These are areas of expected shallow rock which are reflected in the broadly spaced contours encompassing the area.

7.8 DEPTH TO WATER

Drawing 7-5 shows the 50-foot (15 m) and 150-foot (46 m) depth to water contours for the White River North Site. This interpretation is based on water level measurements in existing wells, boring logs, seismic refraction and resistivity data, and published water-well information. Approximately 45 percent of the site has water at less than 50 feet and aproximately 25 percent has water between 50 and 150 feet.

The White River North Site is an open ground-water system which flows from north to south with an approximate gradient of 10 feet per mile (2 m per km). Depths to ground water in the site range from 7 feet (2 m) in the northeastern portion to greater than 500 feet (154 m) near the western margin. The ground water is generally shallowest along the White River drainage channel where it commonly occurs at less than 10 feet (3 m) below the ground surface (Maxey and Eakin, 1949). The 50-foot depth to water contour is coincident in several cases with the limits of the older lacustrine deposits and defines an area of shallow ground water that encompasses the entire central portion of the site.

Ground water is primarily used for farming in the Preston and Lund area north of the site and to a lesser extent for livestock within the site. Measurements of water levels made during Verification studies indicate that a water level decline of 3 to 14 feet (0.9 to 4.3 m) has occurred during the period from 1947 to 1978.

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7.9 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

7.9.1 Suitable Area

Suitable area, as determined by FY 79 Verification Studies at the White River North Site, is shown in Drawing 7-6. The site contains approximately 255 mi² (660 km²) of usable area for a hybrid trench and 125 mi² (325 km²) for a vertical shelter concept. These figures vary considerably from previous Screening studies for the following reasons:

- Shallow ground water was found to be much more widespread than indicated from regional published sources;
- 2. A large area of previously undetected unsuitable terrain was identified in the southwest portion of the site; and
- 3. A detailed analysis of depth to rock conditions, based on newly gathered data, resulted in a significant suitable area loss along the margins of the site.

7.9.2 Construction Considerations

Geotechnical factors and conditions pertaining to construction of the MX system in the suitable area are discussed in this section. Both the hybrid trench and vertical shelter basing modes are considered.

7.9.2.1 Grading

Mean surficial slopes in the suitable area are approximately 3 to 4 percent (range of 1 to 9), thus generally requiring minimal preconstruction grading for roads and trenches. More extensive grading will be necessary near the mountain fronts where surface slopes range from 5 to 9 percent.

7.9.2.2 <u>Roads</u>

Surficial soils exhibit low strength to an average depth of 2.8 feet (0.8 m) with maximum depth of 14.1 feet (4.3 m). The subgrade supporting properties of low strength coarse-grained soils is inadequate but can be improved by mechanical compaction. Compaction to a depth of 2 to 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m) appears necessary in an majority of the suitable area, with compaction to greater depth required in approximately 10 percent of the site. Based on results of laboratory CBR tests, compacted granular soils will provide fair to good subgrade support for roads.

Due to the exclusion of the central portion of the site as suitable area, roads will be sited in very few areas underlain by fine-grained surficial soils. Supporting qualities of these soils are inadequate for direct support of the base or subbase course of the road system. Results of the CBR tests indicate that mechanical compaction will not adequately strengthen these fine-grained soils. Therefore, required support can be attained by using a select granular subbase layer over a compacted finegrained soil subgrade. The relatively high fines content renders the coarse-grained soils only marginally suitable as subbase material and unsuitable without processing for use as a base course.

Drainage incisions are generally less than 6 feet (1.8 m) deep within 75 percent of the suitable area. In the remainder of the site, the depth of drainage incision ranges from 6 to 15 feet

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(1.8 to 4.6 m). Therefore, the cost of drainage structures for roads and trenches will be moderate.

7.9.2.3 Excavatability and Stability

Subsurface soils in the suitable site area are predominantly coarse-grained with fine-grained soils estimated in less than 10 percent of the construction zone. These soils are generally dense to very dense and have variable calcium carbonate cementation.

Hybrid Trench: Within the upper 20 feet (6 m), compressional wave velocities indicate that difficult excavation conditions for MX trenchers are expected only in localized areas. These trenchers would be suitable for excavating continuous trenches (for cast-in-place construction) with vertical walls. Due to the fines content and partial cementation of granular site soils, temporary stability is expected for vertical trench walls in most of the site. Because of low strength surficial soil, the top 2 to 5 feet (0.6 to 1.5 m) in all trench excavations will generally have to be sloped back for stability. Requirements for shoring or sloping to full depth of trenches are expected in less than 10 percent of the site.

Vertical Shelter: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 120 feet (36 m) indicate that large diameter auger drills could be used for vertical shelter excavation, with difficult excavation likely in approximately 15 percent of the suitable area. Nearly all excavation will be in granular soils with only intermittent cemented or cohesive soil intervals. Therefore,

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the vertical walls of these shelters will probably require the use of slurry or other stabilizing techniques.

7.10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

The following geotechnical conditions have been identified as requiring additional investigation.

- The basinward extent of shallow volcanic rocks in the southwestern part of the site is not accurately known. An array of seismic refraction lines and limited confirmatory borings are recommended to detail the subsurface configuration of these rocks.
- 2. Ground-water contours are highly approximate in the southern portion of the site. Ground-water observation wells are recommended to provide better contour control.















EXPLANATION

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TRENCH

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SEISMIC REFRACTION LINE

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- COME PENETROMETER TEST (CPT)
- **ČS-1 SURFACE SAMPLE AT CPT LOCATION**

















A5ys Younger Alluvial Fam Deposite-Active, younger alluvial fam deposits of: A5yf, sendy slit (ML) A5ys, silty send and graveity send (201); and A5yg, sendy gravel (001.6P). A5ig	A515 Intermediate Alluvial Fan Depesits - Inactive, Intermediate-age alluvial fan deposits ef: A5 A516 cemented silty sand and gravelly sand (201); A516, weakly cemented sendy gravel (6P.C01); A51c, A51c cemented gravelly sand with greater than 30 percent cobbles	ROCK UNITS	lgneous (I) [12] Rhyolite, quartz latite, rhyodacite, and andesite flews and plugs	IA Weided ash-fiow tuff	Sedimentary (3) [3] Drthequartzite	S2 Dolomite and limestone. Locally cherty, with interbedded shale	ASig/ASis Combination of geologic unit symbols indicatos a mixture of either surficial basin-fill or rock units inseparable at map scale.	A51 (I2) Parenthetic unit underlies surface unit at shallow depth	SYMBOL S	Contact between rock and basin-fill.	Contact between surficial basin-fill or rock units. Fault, trace of surface rupture of faults offsetting surficial basin-fill deposits.	ball en doanthroan side.	1. Buriletal basis-fill units partais and to the manage factor for the second factor of an is an indication of	deposite and sould of map presentation, will descriptions refor to the predeminant coil types. Verping securits of other soil types can be expected within and geologic with. 2. The distribution of geologic date stations to presented in Velues X. Browing 1. A tabelation of all pitting date and generalized description of all geologic write is included in Velues X.	Beelegy in ground of expered rech from Meas and Blate (1970). Kleinhempi and Zieny (1981). Techeng and Pressent (1970)	
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3----- Drainage spacing, i.e. the maximum number of drainages of the corresponding category occurring in a random traverse of one statute mile (1.8km)

DRAINAGE DEPTH DESCRIPTION

Less than 3 foot (1m)

3-8 feet (1-2m)

8-10 feet (2-3m)

10-15 feet (3-5m)

Greater than 15 foot (5m) Complex, highly variable terrain not defined by drainage incision (e.g. dunal or hummacky terrains). Basuitable terrain (see Appendix A2.0, Exclusion Criteria)

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8.0 GARDEN-COAL CDP

8.1 GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

The Garden-Coal CDP is located in central Nevada and covers parts of Nye and Lincoln counties (Figure 8-1). It is bounded on the west by the Grant and Quinn Canyon ranges, on the southwest by the Worthington Mountains, and in the east and northeast by the Seaman Range. Garden and Coal valleys, constituting this CDP, are remote and very sparsely populated. The valleys are accessible only by improved and unimproved dirt roads and are principally used as a livestock range.

The Verification site encompasses nearly all of the suitable area in Garden Valley and approximately the southern-one-third of Coal Valley. The closest town is Ash Springs, located approximately 20 miles (32 km) from the southeast corner of the site. The nearest town large enough to be used for a support facility is Caliente, Nevada, located 55 miles (89 km) east of the site on U.S. Highway 93.

8.2 SCOPE

The scope of geologic, geophysical, and soils engineering field activities performed at the site and laboratory tests performed on soil samples from the site are presented in Table 3-1. Locations of the geophysical and engineering activities are shown in Drawing 8-1 (end of Section 8.0).

8.3 GEOLOGIC SETTING

Two basic lithologies occur in the ranges surrounding the site and are the primary sources of detritus being shed into the

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TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF Activities
Geologic mapping stations	82
Shallow refraction	19
Electrical resistivity	18
Gravity profiles	5

ENGINEERING-LABORATORY TESTS

TYPE OF TEST	NUMBER OF Tests
Noisture/density	82
Specific gravity	4
Sieve analysis	61
Hydrometer	1
Atterberg limits	19
Consolidation	2
Unconfined compression	5
Triaxial compression	5
Direct shear	3
Compaction	.4
CBR ·	- 4
Chemical analysis	13

ENGINEERING

NUMBER OF BORINGS	NOMINAL DEPTH FEET (METERS)
3	160" (49)
2	120' (37)
1	110" (34)
NUMBER OF TRENCHES	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Neters)
8	14' (4)
2	10" (3)
NUMBER OF TEST PITS	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Meters)
24	5" (2)
5	2' (1)
NUMBER OF CPTs	RANGE OF DEPTH FEET (METERS)
54	0-30' (0-9)
TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF Activities
Surficial soil samples	21
Field CBR tests	0

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES Verification site. Garden-coal CDP	, NEVADA
MX SITING INVESTIGATION Department of the AIR Force - Samso	TABLE 8-1
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basin. The Worthington Mountains and the Golden Gate Range are composed primarily of a Paleozoic carbonate sequence and the Quinn Canyon Range is composed almost entirely of Tertiary volcanic rocks. The Seaman and Grant ranges embody both of these lithologies.

There is evidence to suggest that fault activity has continued or has been renewed along early Cenozoic Basin and Range structures. The Seaman Pass fault (Tschany and Pampeyan; 1970) in Coal Valley and several smaller faults offset Quaternary alluvium in the valleys, but the Seaman Pass fault is probably the only fault with sufficient mapped length to be capable of producing significant surface rupture. Generally, most evidence indicates that tectonically the area is relatively quiescent.

Deposition of sediments in these valleys has been by alluvial processes that have continued throughout the Quaternary. Eakins (1963) has estimated that the total thickness of basin-fill sediments is at least several hundred feet and may exceed 1000 feet (305 m). Surface geologic units mapped in the site (Drawing 8-2) generally consist of several units, from oldest to youngest.

- Older alluvial fan deposits This unit consists of large, deeply incised, fan-shaped mounds of well-indurated gravels and gravelly sands. Outcrops occur only along the fronts of the Quinn Canyon and Seaman ranges and represent a very small percentage of the site.
- o Intermediate alluvial fan deposits These fans cover approximately one-third of the site, generally occurring as moderately incised high fans along mountain fronts, grading into younger alluvial fan deposits. The deposits are predominantly composed of silty to clayey sands but locally may be gravel.

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- Older lacustrine deposits These older playa deposits cover the south-central portion of Coal Valley. The central playa is composed of sandy and clayey silts and elevated relic shoreline features to the south of the playa are composed of well-sorted sands.
- o Younger alluvial fan deposits and stream channel deposits -Combined, these units form the most areally extensive deposits in the site, generally occurring in the central portions of Garden Valley and around the periphery of the Coal Valley playa. They are composed of silts, sands, and gravels adn can have a major percentage of any size fraction, but are primarily silty sand.
- Younger lacustrine deposits This deposit covers only small areas within the older lake deposits of Coal Valley and receives deposition only during times of peak runoff. It is very similar in compositon to the older lacustrine deposits but is slightly siltier.

8.4 SURFACE SOILS

Although Garden and Coal valleys are adjacent to each other, the surficial soils are quite different. Garden Valley surficial soils are predominantly sandy gravels and gravelly sands with silty sands in the northern portion. Coal Valley has predominantly sandy silt and sandy clay soils with gravelly soils along the valley perimeter. The soils from predominant geologic units (see Drawing 8-2) in both the valleys can be combined into the following categories based on similar physical and engineering properties:

- Silty sands and clayey sands (from geologic units A5ys and A5is);
- Gravelly sands and sandy gravels (from geologic units A5ys and A5is); and
- 3. Sandy silts and sandy clays (from geologic unit A4of).

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8.4.1 Characteristics

A summary of the characteristics of surficial soils, based on field and laboratory test results, is presented in Table 8-2. In addition to the physical properties, some road design data are also presented. This includes laboratory compaction and California Bearing Ratio (CBR) test results, ranges and average depths of low-strength surficial soils, and suitability of soils for road use. The range of gradation of surficial soils is presented in Figure 8-2.

Silty sands and clayey sands have an areal extent ranging from 30 to 50 percent of the site. These soils are found in the northern, central, and southern portions of Garden Valley and between the lacustrine deposits and mountain fronts in Coal Valley. They contain appreciable amounts of fine gravels. Soil plasticity ranges from none to slight in Garden Valley and slight to high in Coal Valley.

Sandy gravels and gravelly sands are the dominant surficial soil type with an areal extent ranging from 40 to 60 percent. These soils are found in alluvial fans of both valleys and in shoreline deposits around the dry lake in Coal Valley. They are generally in a loose state near the surface and contain fine to coarse sands and gravels. Soil fines are nonplastic to slightly plastic.

Sandy silts and sandy clays have an areal extent ranging from 10 to 20 percent. These soils are associated with lacustrine deposits and are found predominantly in the dry lakebed of Coal

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SOIL DESCRIPTION USCS SYMBOLS PREDOMINANT SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC UNITS			Silty Sands and Cla	Sandy Cro Bravollý	
			SH, SC		SH, SC, S
			A5ys, A5is		A5ys, A5is
ESTIMATED AREAL EXTENT	1	5	30 - 50		48-50
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES					
COBBLES 3 - 12 inches	(8 - 30 cm) %	;]	0-5	*	0-10
GRAVEL	5	;	0-25	[12]	18-51
SAND	1	;	38-77	[12]	43-80
SILT AND CLAY	5	;	12-40	[17]	2-27
LIQUID LIMIT			39 - 48	[2]	31
PLASTICITY INDEX			· NP - 21	[4]	13
ROAD DESIGN DATA					
MAXIMUN ORY DENSITY	pci (kg/	/m3)	121.9-127.8 (1953-2044)	[3]	120.4 (1928)
OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTEN	r s	•	9.5-10.5	[1]	12.0
CBR AT BO% RELATIVE COMPACTION % SUITABILITY AS ROAD SUBGRADE (1) SUITABILITY AS ROAD SUBBASE OR BASE (1)			15-19	[3]	28
			fair to good		good to ver
			fait		Eood
THICKNESS OF	RANGE It	(m)	0.0-10.4 (0.3-3.2)	[27]	0.7-10.0 (0.2-3.0)
SURFICIAL SOIL (2)	AVERAGE ft	(m)	3.5 (1.0)	[27]	2.8

(1) Suitability is a subjective rating explained in Section A5.0 of the Appendix.

NOTES: • []

• NDA -

(2) Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency; see Table 3-3 for details.

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Sandy Bravels and Bravelly Sands		Sandy Silts and Sar	dy Clays		
SH, SC, SP, 6P, SH		CL, ML			
A5ys, A51s		A4o f			
40-80 10-20					
0-10		8			
18-51	[5]	0-1	[1]		
43-80	[5]	22-33	[1]		
2-27	[5]	51-78	[5]]
31	[1]	31-41	[3]		
13	[1]	4-8	[3]		
120.4	[1]	NDA			
12.0	[ı]	NDA]
28	[1]	NDA			
good to very good		poor			
Eooq		not suitable			
8,7-10.0 (0.2-3.0)	[18]	0.8-9.8 (0.2-3.0)	[1]		
2.8 (8.9)	[18]	4.8 (1.5)	[1]		
1: • [] - Nu • NDA - No da	nber of tests pe ta available (in prformed)	rformed. Sufficient døte or tests	1	CHARACTERISTICS OF SURFICIAL SOI Verification site, garen-coal CDP,	L8 NEVADA
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Valley. They contain an appreciable amount of fine sand, and soil plasticity ranges from slight to high.

8.4.2 Low Strength Surficial Soil

Cone Penetrometer Test (CPT) results were used in conjunction with soil classifications to estimate the thickness of low strength surficial soils. Table 8-3 presents a summary of these results. The low strength soils in Garden Valley show a thickness range of 0.7 to 10.4 feet (0.2 to 3.2 m) with an average of 2.8 feet (0.9 m). These soils are predominantly coarse-grained. The low strength soils in Coal Valley, which are predominantly fine-grained, show a thickness range of 0.6 to 9.8 feet (0.2 to 3.0) with an average of 4.7 feet (1.4 m).

8.5 SUBSURFACE SOILS

The subsurface soils of the Garden-Coal Site are predominantly coarse-grained. Sandy gravels and gravelly sands are found in the central and southern portions of Garden Valley, along the mountain fronts, and in shoreline deposits near the dry lake in Coal Valley. Silty sands are found in the northern portion of Garden Valley. Fine-grained subsurface soils (sandy silts, silts, sandy clays, clays) are found in the dry lakebed of Coal Valley and in the northern portion of Garden Valley. The composition of soils with depth, as determined from borings, trenches, and test pits, is illustrated in soil profiles presented in Figures 8-3 through 8-6.

Results of seismic refraction and electrical resistivity surveys are summarized in Table 8-4. The characteristics of

·			·····
CONE Penetroneter Test number(*)	THICKNESS OF Surfici Feet	SOIL TYPE ⁽³⁾	
C-1	1.1	0.4	SM
C-2	0.9	0.3	SM
C-3	1.0	0.3	GM
C-4	1.8	0.5	SM
C-5	0.9	0.3	SC
C-8	0.9	0.3	SM
C-7	1.2	0.4	SM
B-3	1.8	0.6	SM
C-9	1.1	0.3	SM
C-10	10.4	3.1	SM
C-11	0.9	0.1	GP-GN
C-12	1.3	0.4	GP - GM
C-13	5.8	1.7	SM/GM
C-14	1.1	0.3	SM/ROCK
C-15	0.8	0.2	ROCK
C-18	6.8	2.0	SC
C-17	2.5	0.8	SC
C-18	2.5	0.8	SM
C-19	3.0	0.9	SM/SP-SM
C-20	0.7	0.2	GP
C-21	10.0	3.0	GP/ML
C-22	1.2	0.4	CL
C-23	1.3	0.4	SC
C-24	1.3	0.4	SM
C-25	2.2	0.7	SC
C-28	1.4	0.4	SC
C-27	0,9	0.3	GP-GN
C - 28	3.0	0.9	SM/SP-SM

CONE PENETROMETER TEST NUMBER(1)	T
C-20	
C-30	
<u>C-31</u>	
C-32	
C-33	
C-34	
C-35	
C-38	
<u>C-3/</u>	
<u> </u>	
L-JV	
C 41	
C-41	
C-42	
C-44	
C-45	
C-48	
C-47	
C-48	
C-48	
C-50	
C-51	
C-52	
C-53	
C-54	

 For Cone Penetrometer Test locations see Drawing 8-1, Activity Location Map.

(2) Thickness corresponds to depth below ground surface. Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency. Low strength is based on Cone Penetrometer Test results using the following criteria:

> Coarse-grained soils: $q_c = 120 \text{ tsf (117 kg/cm}^2)$ Fine-grained soils: $q_c = 80 \text{ tsf (78 kg/cm}^2)$

where q_c is cone resistance.

(3) Soil type is based on Unified Soil Classification System; see Section A5 0 in the Appendix for explanation

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CONE Hetrometer Bt Number(†)	TNICKNESS OF Surfici	SOIL TYPE (3)		
		MCIEK3		
C-28	4.0	1.5	SH	
C-30	5.8	1.7	HL/SH	
C-31	1.8	0.5	<u>GN</u>	
C-32	4.5	1.4	SM/GM	
C-33	1.3	0.4	SX	
C-34	1.2	0.4	GN	
C-35	4.8	1.4	SM-SC	
C-38	7.0	2.1	SN	
C-37	2.7	0.8	SN/SP-SN	
C-38	5.9	1.8	SN/SP-SN	
C-38	5.3	1.6	SM	
C-40	2.1	0.6	SC/SP-SM	
C-41	3.0	0.9	SM	
C-42	9.3	2.8	SC	
C-43	5.3	1.0	SIL/GP-GN	
C-44	4.9	1.5	CL/SP	
C-45	0.5	2.9	SP	
C-48	2.1	0.8	SP-SH	
C-47	1.8	0.5	SP-SH	
C-48	1.7	0.5	CL	
C-48	4.6	1.4	58	
C-50	1.0	3.0	CL	
C-51	0.6	0.2	CL	
C-52	1.1	2.3	NI	
C-53	2.5	0.8		
C-54	0.6	0.2	80	
		····		

CONE Penetrometer Test Number ⁽¹⁾	THICKNESS OF Surfici FEET	SOIL TYPE (3)	
		t	
	·····		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
			

NOTES: • For fine-grained soils (ML, CL, MH and CH), thickness of low strength surficial soil will vary depending on moisture content of the soil at time of testing.

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- SM/GM Indicates SM underlain by GM
- NDA No data available

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THICKNESS OF LOW STRENGTH SURFICE VERIFICATION SITE, GARBEN-COAL COF MX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAUSO

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0F 1 C 1 /	LOW STRENGTH	SOIL TYPE (3)	CONE PENETROMETER TEST NUMBER ⁽¹⁾	THICKNESS OF Surficii	LOW STRENGTH	SOIL TYPE (3
	METERS			FEET	NETERS	ļ
	1.5	SH				1
	1.7	II L/SH				[
	0.5	GN				
	1.4	SM/GM			•	
	0.4	SM				
	0.4	GN				
	1.4	SM-SC				
	2.1	SM				1
	0.8	SH/SP-SH				1
	1.8	SII/SP-SII				1
	1.8	SH				
	0.6	SC/SP-SM				
	0.9	SM				
	2.0	SC				1
	1.8	SIL/GP-GI				1
	1.5	CL/SP				1
	2.8	SP				1
	0.6	SP-SM				1
	0.5	SP-SM				1
	0.5	CL				1
	1.4	SP			·	1
	3.0	CL				1
	0.2	CL				1
	2.3	ML.				1
	0.8					†
	0.2	EC				1
-1		1				1

S: • For fine-grained soils (ML, CL, MH and CH), thickness of low strength surficial soil will vary depending on moisture content of the soil at time of testing.

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• SM/GM - indicates SM underlain by GM

• NDA - No data evallable

THICKNESS OF LOW STRENGTH SURFICIAL SOIL Verification site, Barden-Coal CDP, Weyaba

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	DEPARTMENT	QF	THE	AIR	FORCE	-	SANSO	8-3

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	5		S-8 R-8 / 90 (ase) ehe-e 1030 309 (363) 3498 03 (1030)	5-10 R-10 190 (000) ohe-e 1000 130 (312) 240 100	S-11 R-11 190 oho-a 1810 10 (352) 10 1700 1 1000 1	S-12 R-12 1po oha-a (apo) oha-a (300) oha-a (521) 320 (321) 140 2088 140 2088 10	8-13 8-13 10 (000) 0h0-0 1730 (327) 100 2780 (1143)	S-14 R-14 <u>rpa</u> (apa) aha-a <u>1920</u> (497) <u>28000</u> (853)	S-15(8-15) 1 pa (api) ata-a (api) ata-a (ap	
		00 0000 (2) 40		(848) 78 78 (2027)	10	130 	030 	4100 (1250)		
40	1300 1300	19	40 00		0300 (1020)					\$ \$ 1 { 1 1
	· · ·		128	<u>70</u> (20)		<u>1</u>			154	70 21)



subsurface soils, as determined from field and laboratory test results, are presented in Table 8-5. Figure 8-7 illustrates the range of gradation of these soils.

The coarse-grained subsurface soils are poorly to well graded and contain coarse to fine sands and gravels. These soils are chiefly associated with alluvial fan deposits of varying age. Granular soils with less than 10 to 15 percent fines are generally loose to dense between depths of 5 and 15 feet (1.5 to 4.6 m). Other granular soils below 5 feet (1.5 m) are generally dense to very dense and have moderate to high shear strengths. Calcium carbonate cementation varies from none to moderate depending on age of the deposit.

The fine-grained subsurface soils are chiefly associated with lacustrine deposits. Soil plasticity varies from slight to high depending in part on the amount of fine sand present. Below 5 feet (1.5 m), these soils are stiff to hard and exhibit low to high shear strengths, depending on the extent of microfracturing in the soil. Calcium carbonate cementation varies from none to weak. Seismic wave velocities of the fine-grained soils are substantially lower than those of the coarse-grained soils (see Table 8-5).

Electrical conductivity of the soils in the upper 50 feet (15 m) ranges from 0.0005 to 0.0226 mhos per meter and averages 0.0065 mhos per meter. At seven of the 13 sites tested, conductivities measured were less than the minimum of 0.004 mhos per meter specified in the Fine Screening criteria. Results of chemical

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DEPTH RANGE	2' - 20' (0.6 - 6.0				
	Coarse-grained soils	Fis			
SOIL DESCRIPTION	Sandy Gravels and Gravelly Sands	Sandy Sil Clayay Si			
USCS SYMBOLS	CP, GW, GM, SM	ML, MW, C			
ESTIMATED EXTENT IN SUBSURFACE \$	80 -90	10-20			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES					
DRY DENSITY pcf (kg/m ³)	108.1-140.8 (1732-2257)	[13] 70.7-117. (1133-1 66			
MOISTURE CONTENT \$	2. 2-13, 8	[13] 4.4-28.1			
DEGREE OF CEMENTATION	none to moderate	none te w			
COBBLES 3-12 inches (8-30 cm) \$	0-10	C			
GRAVEL S	39-83	[5] 1-3			
SAND S	27 - 50	[5] 12-33			
SILT AND CLAY S	4-12	[5] 88-85			
LIQUID LIWIT	NDA	53-54			
PLASTICITY INDEX	NDA	21-28			
COMPRESSIONAL WAVE VELOCITY fps (mps)	1410-5550 (430-1892)	[17] 1500-2250 (457-600)			
SHEAR STRENGTH DATA					
UNCONFINED COMPRESSION $S_u = ksf (kN m^2)$	NDA	2.3 (110)			
TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION $c - ksf (kW'm^2), \phi^{\circ}$	NDA	NDA			
DIRECT SHEAR $c = kst (kN/m^2), \varphi \circ$	NDA	c=0.9, ¢			

NOTES:

Characteristics of soils between 2 and 20 feet (0.6 and 6.0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 8 borings, 6 trenches, and 20 test pits, and results of 10 seismic refraction surveys.

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 Characteristics of solis below 20 feet (6.0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 8 borings and results of 10 seismic refrection surveys.

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8 - 6.0m) 20" - 160" (6.0 - 49.0m)						
Fine-grained so	11:	Coarse-grained	soils	Fine-grained soils Sandy Silts, Silts, Sandy Clays, and Clays		
Sandy Silts, Silts, Claysy Silts, and Cl	8 y	Sandy Eravels, Gra Silty Sands, and C	velly Sands, Isyey Sands			
ML, MH, CH GP, GM, GC, SP, SN, SC				WL, WH, CL		
10-20		80-90		10-20		
70.7-117.7	[8]	100.9-134.8 (1818-2159)	[34]	76.2-116.7 (1221-1869)	[17]	
4.4-28.1	[8]	7.2-21.5	[34]	8.1-32.7	[17]	
none to weak		none to moderate		none to weak		
0		0-10		0		
1-3	[3]	1-85	[14]	0-2	[4]	
12-33	[1]	30 - 70	[14]	7-43	[4]	
88 - 85	[3]	5-38	[14]	55-93	[4]	
53-54	[2]	66	[1]	23-63	[8]	
21-28	[2]	NP-39	[2]	5-31	[8]	
1500-2250 (457-888)	[2]	2100-8800 (840-2073)	[17]	2250-8000 (888-1829)	[2]	
2.3 (110)	[1]	1.7	[1]	1.5-8.2 (72-383)	[3]	
NDA		NDA		$c = 0.5.8, \phi = 12.36^{\circ}$ (0-271)	[5]	
c=0,9, ø=31° (43)	[3]	NDA		NDA		
• [] - Number • NDA - No data a	of tests perfor vailable (insu	rmed. Ificient data or tests n	ot performed.)	CHARACTERISTICS OF S Verification site, gard	UBSURFACE SOIL ÊN-CÔAL COP, NE	
				WE SITING INVESTIGE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FOR	TION T CE - SAMSO	
		<u> </u>		TUBRO MATI	ONAL, II	

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tests indicate that potential for sulfate attack of soils on concrete will be "mild" in Coal Valley but may be "considerable" in Garden Valley.

8.6 TERRAIN

The distribution of terrain categories in the site is shown in Drawing 8-3. These terrain categories bear a very close relationship to geologic units. This is because no suitable scale topographic base maps existed for most of the site and terrain categories were compiled primarily from orthophotoquads.

Depths of incision are greatest in the older and intermediate alluvial fans that flank the mountain fronts. All of the older fans were excluded from suitable area during the field investigation because of adverse terrain (category VII). Drainage depths and surface gradients in the intermediate fans average 6 feet (2 m) and 3 percent, respectively (category II).

The flatter central part of the site is dominated by younger alluvial fans and stream channel or flood-plain deposits. These geologic units generally have drainage depths ranging from 1 foot (0.3 m) to 6 feet (2 m; category II). However, drainage incision depth can exceed 13 feet (4 m) where younger alluvial fans occur on steeper slopes near the mountains (category III). In addition, several long, relatively narrow stream channels are mapped as category VI. This approach was used to distinguish deeply incised major drainages from the surrounding areas of much less incision.

8.7 DEPTH TO ROCK

Drawing 8-4 shows the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to rock contours for the Garden-Coal Site. The contours were based on limited data from shallow seismic refraction surveys, drillhole logs, geologic mapping, and published water-well logs. The interpretation of the data was tempered with considations for structural trends and rock types. Greater than 20 percent of the site was determined to have rock at less than 50 feet below the ground surface. Approximately 10 percent of the site contained rock at depths between 50 and 150 feet.

The depth to rock interpretation is supported only by limited data from well W-ll in southwest Coal Valley and seismic lines S4 and S8 in east-central Garden Valley. A pedimented reentrant located in the central gap of the Golden Gate Range, was identified by seismic line S-7. Two possibly pedimented areas are the Seaman Wash in southwestern Coal Valley and the gap between the Quinn Canyon Range and the Worthington Mountains in westcentral Garden Valley.

8.8 DEPTH TO WATER

Garden and Coal valleys are both hydrologically drained valleys (Eakin, Price, and Harrill, 1976). The depth to the regional ground-water table is generally much greater than 200 feet (61 m) over most of the site (Rush, 1974). Shallow water is known to occur in the southern part of the site where water levels rise to approximately 100 feet (30 m) on both sides of a narrow pedimented gap in the Golden Gate Range. A larger shallow water area is located in northern Garden Valley where water

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levels in wells W-1 and W-2 were measured at 14 feet and 24 feet (4 m and 7 m), respectively. This anomalous condition is probably caused by a fault barrier in the alluvium at the southern extent.

These data and the approximate configuration of the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to water contours are presented in Drawing 8-6. The area interpreted to have ground water within 50 feet of the surface comprises approximately 2 percent of the site, and an additional 2 percent is interpreted to have ground water between 50 and 150 feet in depth.

8.9 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

8.9.1 Suitable Area

Resulting suitable area as defined by FY 79 Verification Studies in Garden-Coal Site, is shown in Drawing 8-6. The site contains approximately 295 mi² (765 km²) of usable area for a hybrid trench and 250 mi² (650 km²) for a vertical shelter concept. These results are somewhat different than those reported in previous Intermediate/Fine Screening studies due chiefly to:

- Identification of pedimented areas in southeastern Coal Valley and between the Quinn Canyon Range and the Worthington Mountains in west-central Garden Valley; and
- 2. Larger shallow water exclusions in northern Garden Valley.

8.9.2 Construction Considerations

In this section, geotechnical factors and conditions as applicable to the construction of the MX system in the suitable area

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are discussed. Both the hybrid trench and vertical shelter basing modes are considered in the discussion.

8.9.2.1 Grading

Surficial slopes of the Garden-Coal Site range from 0 to 7 percent with an average of 2 percent. About 5 to 10 percent of the suitable area had measured surface gradients exceeding 5 percent. Therefore, preconstruction grading will be minimal for most of the site.

8.9.2.2 Roads

In general, mechanical compaction of the gravelly and sandy low strength surficial soils in the upper 3 feet (1 m) will be required to improve their subgrade supporting properties. More extensive compaction may be required in about 25 percent of the area having granular surficial soils. Laboratory California Bearing Ratio (CBR) test results indicate that these soils (coarse-grained) will provide good to very good subgrade support for roads when compacted. The fine-grained surficial soils, which have an areal extent of 10 to 20 percent, may not provide suitable subgrade support even when compacted. Therefore, a select granular subbase layer will be required over the compacted fine-grained surficial soils to obtain the required support.

Well-graded gravelly sands and sandy gravels with less than 25 percent fines (passing a No. 200 sieve) can be used for road subbase and base courses. These soils are present at the surface and in the subsurface; however, their extent is not known.

The average drainage incision depth in the suitable site area is 4 feet (1.2 m). Cherry Creek Wash in the northwestern portion of Garden Valley has an incision depth of 66 feet (20 m); however, all other drainages in the site have incision depths ranging from 1 to 46 feet (14 m). Depths exceeding 12 feet (3.6 m) are evident in only 5 to 10 percent of the area. This indicates that the average cost of drainage structures will be moderate.

8.9.2.3 Excavatability and Stability

The soils in the construction zone become dense to very dense below 15 feet (4.6 m). Calcium carbonate cementation is variable but is most developed in the coarse-grained soils.

Hybrid Trench: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 20 feet (6 m) indicate easy to moderately difficult excavation in the suitable area. Continuous trenches could be excavated by an MX trencher for cast-in-place construction. Because of low strength surficial soil, the top 2 to 5 feet (0.6 to 1.5 m) in all trench excavations will generally have to be sloped back for stability. Below this zone, vertical trench walls will be stable in approximately 80 percent of Garden Valley and 60 percent of Coal Valley. Sloping or trench shoring will be required in remaining areas to assure adequate stability.

Vertical Shelter: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 120 feet (36 m) indicate that large diameter auger drills could be used for vertical shelter excavations. Slurry or other

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stabilizing techniques will probably be required to ensure adequate stability of vertical excavation walls.

8.10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

The following geotechnical conditions have been identified as requiring additional investigation in order to meet confidence levels attained over most of the Verification site.

- The basinward extent and definition of pedimented areas in southeastern Coal Valley and west-central Garden Valley are highly approximate. A limited program of seismic refraction surveys and borings is required to define depth to rock contours.
- 2. The extent of shallow water and the presence and location of the inferred faults which act as a ground-water barrier in northern Garden Valley are unknown. Detailed geologic mapping, limited geophysical surveys, and ground-water observation wells are recommended to define ground-water conditions and the length and attitude of the fault.
- 3. A limited Verification program is recommended to define suitable area and basin-fill characteristics for the reconnaissance area north of the present site in Coal Valley.







AMATION PLANATION
















SURFICIAL BASIN-FILL UNITS

4.4.5

be - Modern streem chennel and floodplain deposits of: Alf, clay (CL) and sandy by send (SE). . Cider stream channel and fleadplain deposits in terraces composed of sility sand (SN).

Active plays depesits of sandy silt (ML)

/

Hee Beposits - Inactive plays, sider lake bed, and abandoned shoreline deposits of: Ades, sand and gravelly sand (SP); and Adog, sandy gravel (GP)

pesits - Active, yeargef alluvial fan deposits of: A5yf, sandy sift (ML); Seilty samd and gravelly sand (SM); and A5yg, weakly comented sandy gravel (GM).

ion Bepesits - Inactive, intermediate-age miluvial fan deposits ef: Med sifty sand and gravelly sand (SM); and A51g, sandy gravel (SM) bits - Older, highly ereded alluvial fan deposits of moderately comented meter than 30 percent boulders and cobbies

ROCK UNITS

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decite, and andesite

at, and ignimbrite

fecally cherty. with interbedded shale and sendstone

fimestene and sandstane

والامتر بامعرر وبر الإلالدمان مللالم إم فتطفلو فالمفلقة 2

<mark>b</mark>its - Older, highly ereded alluvial fan depesits af mederately comanted Ner than 30 percent bouiders and cobbies

and the second se

ROCK UNITS

decite. and andesite

e < 10

R. and ignimbrite

locally cherty. with interbedded shale and sandstone

Ilmestene and sandstone

junit symbols indicates a mixture of either surficial basim-fill or rack units be

es surface unit at shailer depth.

SYMBOL S

serficial basin-fill unifs

of besin-fill or rock units

repture of faults offsetting surficial basin-fill deposits, ball on downthroom side.

sertain only to the upper several foot of golf. Bus is variability of jourfielal deposits Doe, unit descriptions refer to the predesinant soil types. Yarying assumts of other soil is seek geologic unit

ple data stations is procented in Yolumo XX. Braving 1. A tabulation of all station data In of all geologic units is included in Yolumo XX. Section 1.D.

f roch from: Aleinhoop! and Zieny (1987), feehanz and Poopeyan (1870).



5







SURFICIAL BASIN-FILL UNITS

22 Linestone and delomite, locally cherty, with interbedded shale and sond	
L4 Turt, turtueues sectaons, and ignimultie fodimentary (3) S1 Orthoquartzite	
IJ Basait Id Tuff, tuffaceous sodiment, and ignimbrite	
I2 Rhyelite, quartz latite, decite, and andesite	
Igneus (I) ROCK UNITS	
ASoc Older Alluvial Fan Deposits - Older, highly ereded alluvial fan deposits Ecavelly sand with greater than 30 percent boulders and cobbles	9
ASIS Intermediate Alluvial Fon Deposits - Inactive, intermediate-age all uvia ASIS, moderately common silty sand and gravelly sand (SM); and ASIS, A	
A5yr A5ya Younger Alluvial Fan Deposits - Active, youngef alluvial fan deposits ef A5ya A5ys, meakly cemented silty sand and graveily sand (2M); and A5yg, eeek A5yg	
Adof Ados Older Plays and Lacustrine Bepesits - Inscrive plays, elder lake bod, and Ados Adof, sandy silt (BL); Ados, sand and gravelly sand (SP); and Adog, and Adog	
Add Tounger Playa Bepesits - Active plays deposits of sandy silt (ML)	
A23 Gider Fiuvial Deposits - Sider stream channel and floodplain deposits in	
Aif Younger Alluvial Depasits - Nedera stream channel and floodplain depesity Ais slit (ML) and Ais, silty sand (MD).	
- SURFICIAL BASIN-FILL UNITS	
EXPLANATION	

ASIG Dider Alluvial Fan Depesits - Dider, highly ereded alluvial fan depesits ASec gravelly sand with greater than 30 percent boulders and cobbies	ROCK UNITS Ignous (1) Isnuto	If Rhyolito, quartz latite, decite, and andesite	I3 Basait I4 Tuff, tuffaceous sodiment, and ignimbrite	Sedimentery (S) SI Orthoquertzite	22 Limestone and delemite, locally cherty, with interbedded shale and sanda	23 Shale, with Interbedded limestene and sendstane	A5ys/A5is Combination of goologic unit symbols indicates a mixture of either surfit inseparable at map scale	A51s(I2) Parenthetic unit underlies surface unit at shailes depth.		Contact between rock and surficial basin-fill unify Contact between surficial basin-fill ar rack units	Fault, trace of surface rupture of faults offsotting surficial basis-figure	MOTES: 1. Barticlei basin-fill wite pertain only to the upper several fact of goll. Due to and scale of map procentation, unit descriptions refer to the productment sold to types son be expected within such goologis wold.	and generalized description of all gestegis units is included in Yolwee <u>YC</u> . See 1 3. Gestegy in areas of expected rest from: Kistshoop) and Zieny (1967). Tanhary and		
9	7					•	- -	F	VERIO DEPAR	SI FIÇATIO UX SIT TUENT O	ING INT THE I D DO	L GEOLDEIC U , GARDEN-CDA /ESTIGATION LIR FORCE - SM (ATTIGOR)		. WEYADA 	

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EXPLANATION

---- Drainage spacing, 1.e. the maximum number of drainages of the corresponding category eccurring in a random traverse of one statute mile (1.6km)

1

DRAINAGE DEPTN/DESCRIPTION

Less than 3 feet (im)

3-5 feet (1-2m)

6-10 feet (2-3m)

10-15 feet (3-5m)

Reater than 15 feet (5m) Complex, highly variable terrain net defined by drainage incision (e.g. dunal er hummocky terrains). Unsuitable terrain (see Appendix A2.6, Exclusion Criterie)

in catagories

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as of isolated exposed rock.

resting this map are from: (1) field observations. Fopographic maps.and (3) 1:00,000 and 1:20.000 - Due to seale of presentation and variability of . this map is generalized.













					EXPLANATION
				Terrain Category (see table below)	III 3 Drainage spacing, 1.e. the maximum number of drainages of the corresponding catego occurring in a random traverse of one statute mille (1.6km)
	8			TERRAIN CATEGORY	DRAINAGE DEPTH/DESCRIPTION
	•			I	Less than 3 feet (1m)
				п	3-6 feet (1-2m)
				Ħ	6-10 feet (2-3m)
				н	10-15 fest (3-5m)
				I	. Breater than 15 feet (5m)
<u> </u>				п	Complex, highly variable terrain not defined by drainage incision
				ш	(e.g. dunel of hummocky terrains). Unsuitable terrain (see Appendix A2.6, Exclusion Criteria)
				Contact	between terrain catagories
-	067	VE		Contact	between rock and basin-fill
	UX SIT ARTWENT O	RIFICATIO		Shading	indicates areas of Isolated exposed rock.
	ING INVESTIGATION	TERRAIN IN SITE, GARDEN-CBAL	r	NOTE: Det (2) 9471	a used in constructing this map are from: (1) field observations. 1:02.600 USOB topographic maps.and (3) 1:00,000 and 1:25.000 lai photographs. Bus to scale of presentation and variability of rain conditions. this map is generalized.
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EXPLANATION	50 feet (15m) - queried water at a depth of approximately 50 feet (15m) - queried where data are extremely sparse. Shading indicates fess than 50 feet (15m) to ground water.	Lontour indicatus ground water at a depth of approximately 150 feet (45m) - queried where data are extremely sparse. Machuring indicates less than 150 feet (45m) to ground water.	Contact between rock and basin-fill	Shading indicates areas of isolated exposed rock.	W2 1973 Data Source - Fugre boring (B), seismic W2 1973 refraction line (3), electrical.resistivity 75/700 sounding (R), or water well (T); set Volume II Section 2.0.	Depth to water (feet) Depth of well (feet)	NOTE: The contours are based entirely on the fate points shown on the map. Extensive interpretation has been used and it can be expected that penteur femalions will abange as additional date are obtained.	
					VER I DEPA	IFICATION UX SITH RTUENT OF	DEPTH TO WATER SITE, SARDEN-COAL LOP Ing investigation The Air force - Sauso D DO ATT & CODE AL.	ETADA Posting 8-5 BANKE



















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9.0 REVEILLE-RAILROAD CDP

9.1 GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

The Reveille-Railroad CDP lies entirely in eastern Nye County, Nevada (Figure 9-1). It is bounded on the west by the Kawich Range, on the east by the Quinn Canyon Range, and on the south and southwest by the Nellis Bombing and Gunnery Range. The northern boundary is arbitrarily located at approximately latitude 30°15'. The site is situated entirely in Railroad Valley, east and south of the Reveille Range. Nevada Highway 25 traverses the site from northwest to southeast and provides the main paved access in the area. The town of Tonopah is located 65 miles to the west. Other roads within the area are unpaved but generally well maintained and pose no problem to travel. The site is utilized principally for grazing and rangeland.

9.2 SCOPE

The scope of geologic, geophysical, and soils engineering field activities performed at the site and laboratory tests performed on soil samples from the site are presented in Table 9-1. Locations of the geophysical and engineering activities are shown in Drawing 9-1 (end of Section 9.0).

9.3 GEOLOGIC SETTING

Rock types in the ranges surrounding the Reveille-Railroad Site consist primarily of Tertiary and Quaternary age volcanic rocks. The Reveille Range, flanking the west side of Railroad Valley, is generally composed of Quaternary basalt in the north and tuff of the White Blotch Spring Formation in the south. Ash fall

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TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF
Geologic mapping stations	132
Shallow refraction	16
Electrical resistivity	16
Gravity profiles	10

ENGINEERING-LABORATORY TESTS

TYPE OF TEST	NUMBER OF TESTS
Moisture/density	151
Specific gravity	5
Sieve analysis	130
Hydrometer	2
Atterberg limits	44
Consolidation	1
Unconfined compression	5
Triaxial compression	6
Direct shear	6
Compaction	12
CBR	12
Chemical analysis	12

ENGINEERING

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	NOMINAL DEPTH
NUMBER OF BORINGS	FEET (METERS)
5	160 (49)
i	130 (40)
NUMBER OF TRENCHES	NOMINAL DEPTH FEET (METERS)
5	14 (4)
3	10 (3)
NUMBER OF TEST PITS	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Neters)
36	5 (2)
NUMBER OF CPTs	RANGE OF DEPTH FEET (WETERS)
82	2-26 (1-8)
TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Surficial soil samples	40
Field CBR tests	13

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES Verification site Reveille-Railroad CDP. Nevada	
WX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAMSO	TABLE 9-1
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tuffs, nonwelded ash-flow tuffs, and rhyolitic flows and intrusions also outcrop in the Reveille Range. The southern tip of the range is composed of flows and intrusive masses of intermediate to acidic composition (Cornwall, 1972). The east bounding Quinn Canyon Range is composed chiefly of quartz latite and welded tuffs in the south and younger rhyolitic plugs and dikes in the north.

Faults mapped within the site are restricted to the west and northeast and are primarily range bounding. The most prominent faults trend north-south along the west side of the Railroad Valley and show 1 to 2 meters of normal separation; eastside down. Alluvial faults in the northeast are limited to a single north-northeast trending fault displacing intermediate fan deposits.

Basin-fill deposits within the site are primarily the product of alluvial and lacustrine processes with minor eolian influence. Due to a lack of deep subsurface data, the thickness of the basin-fill deposits within the site is not known. Logs from oil exploration wells in northern Railroad Valley, out of the site area, indicate alluvium at depths as great as 9200 feet (2804 m) (Van Denburgh and Rush, 1974). Alluvial thicknesses may not be as great in southern Railroad.

The distribution of the surficial geologic units at the site is shown in Drawing 9-2. A brief description of the main units is given below.

FN-TR-27-1B

- o Intermediate and younger alluvial fan deposits Intermediate fans occur adjacent to the mountain fronts and generally grade basinward into broad, low lying young fans. Young fans may be underlain by older lacustrine deposits in areas north of the main playa. Deposits consist predominantly of sand with varying percentages of gravel and fines. Several areas of gravel fans exist along the valley margins; however, they make up only a small percent of the total site area.
- Lacustrine and playa deposits Older lacustrine deposits are mapped in association with young alluvial fan, sheet sand, and dune deposits. They predominantly border the active playa in the central portion of the site and may also underlie much of the basin north of the main playa. Topographic and photographic evidence suggest that the ancient lake may have been 100 feet (30 m) deep and covered 55 mi² (142 km²) before overflowing into the larger lake in northern Railroad Valley (Van Denburgh and Rush, 1974). Deposits consist predominantly of silts and clays with some localized areas of silty and clayey sands.
- Stream channel and terrace deposits These units cover a broad area in the southern portion of the site and are flanked on either side by young fans. Deposits consist predominantly of sands and silty sands.
- Sheet sand and dunes These deposits are mapped in association with lacustrire and young fan materials. These intermixed units are located in the central basin, directly north of the active playa. Deposits consist chiefly of uncemented sands and silty sands.

9.4 SURFACE SOILS

Surficial soils of the Reveille-Railroad Site are predominantly coarse grained. These soils range in gradation from well-graded sandy gravels with little fines to uniform medium to fine sands with appreciable fines. Fine-grained soils, silts and clays, are limited in distribution. The distribution of surficial geologic units is shown in Drawing 9-2. Soils from the predominant surficial geologic units can be combined into three categories based on their physical and engineering characteristics.

FN-TR-27-1B

- Silty sands and clayey sands (geologic units A2s, A3s, A5ys, and A5is);
- Gravelly sands and sandy gravels (geologic units A5ys and A5is); and
- 3. Silts and clays (geologic unit A4of).

9.4.1 Characteristics

The characteristics of surficial soils are summarized in Table 9-2, which contains physical properties and laboratory compaction and CBR test results and provides preliminary road design evaluations. Gradation ranges for the three categories of surficial soils are shown in Figure 9-2.

Silty sands and clayey sands are the predominant surficial soil. They cover approximately 50 to 70 percent of the site. Sands are widely distributed, being the major component in all areas except near mountain fronts and in the old lacustrine and active playa deposits in the north-central area of the site. Sands have gravel traces and little to appreciable fines which are nonplastic to moderately plastic. Weak calcium carbonate cementation occurs sporadically within 2 feet (0.6 m) of the ground surface.

Sandy gravels and gravelly sands cover approximately 20 to 40 percent of the site. Gravelly soils are most common in the young and intermediate age fans on the valley sides. In general, gravel content of fan deposits increases near mountain fronts, but concentrations of gravelly soils were observed at depths of less than 2 feet (0.6 m) near the valley center in

PH-TR-27-18

SOIL DESCRIPTION			Silty Sands and Clayey Sands		Sandy Bravela Bravelly San	
USCS SYMBOLS	USCS SYMBOLS			. SW, SC		
PREDOMINANT SURFICIAL	GEOLOGIC UNITS		A2s, A3s, A5ys, A5is 50-70		A5ys, A5is 20-40	
ESTIMATED AREAL EXTER	et s					
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES						
COBBLES 3 - 12 inches	: (8 - 30 cm) \$		0-5		8-10	
GRAVEL	\$		0-10	[25]	11-61	
SAND	\$		51-84	[25]	22-83	
SILT AND CLAY	\$		14-46	[25]	1-22	
LIQUID LIMIT			37-30	[1]	NDA	
PLASTICITY INDEX			NP - 20	[\$]	NDA	
ROAD DESIGN DATA						
MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY	pcf (kg/i	(m 3)	112.2-131.1 (1797-2100)	[5]	127, 1-129, 0 (2936-2066)	
OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTI	ENT S		8.5-15.5	[5]	0.6-9.0	
CBR AT 90% RELATIVE COMPACTION \$			5-20	[5]	NDA	
SUITABILITY AS ROAD SUBGRADE (1)			fair to good		good to very	
SUITABILITY AS ROAD ST	IBBASE OR BASE (1)		poor to fair		fair te geod	
THICKNESS OF Low Strength	RANGE It ((m)	0.6-8.0 (0.2-2.7)	[0]	8, 8-3, 8 (8, 2-8, 8)	
SURFICIAL SOIL ⁽²⁾ AVERAGE ft (m		m) ·	2.0	[81]	1.0	

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(1) Suitability is a subjective rating explained in Section A5.0 of the Appendix.

NOTES: • []

• NDA -

(2) Low strength surficial soll is defined as soll which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency; see Table 9-3 for details.

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P. CO. C. ST. SP. SI Sys. 45Hs 1-40	1	NL, NH, CL A4o1			
2ys. 45is 1-40 - 18		A4o1			
1 -40 - 10					
-) R		5-15			-
			······································		-
1-81	[13]	0-5	[•]		
2-83	[13]	3-50	[•]		
-22	[13]	50 - 97	[1]		
14		25-53	[•]		
)A		5-21	[•]		-
17. 1-120.0 2030-2000)	[3]	84.6-113.5 (1355-1818)	[4]		
, 8 - 9 . 0	[3]	15.0-33.0	[4]		
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od to very good		peor			
ir to good	<u></u>	not suitable			
0-3.0], 2-0. 8)	[18]	1.0-7.2 (0.3-2.2)	[5]		
¢ 1.5)	[18]	2.9 (0.9)	[5]		
 [] - Number of tests per NDA - No data available (inspectormed) 		rformed Isufficient data or test	8	CHARACTERISTICS OF SURFICIAL S Verification Site Reveille-Railroad CDP, Aeva	IDILS
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the northwest portion of the site. Gravelly sands and sandy gravels have a wide distribution of particle size, are frequently well graded, and contain traces to appreciable amounts of fines which are nonplastic. Weak calcium carbonate cementation also occurs sporadically within 2 feet of the ground surface in gravelly soils.

Silts and clays are least common, covering approximately 5 to 15 percent of the site. They consist of sandy silts and sandy clays and occur predominantly as older lacustrine and active playa deposits in the north-central portion of the site. Finegrained soil deposits are also sporadically encountered in both young and intermediate alluvial fans. These soils contain traces to appreciable amounts of sand and often traces of gravel. Their plasticity range is from slight to medium.

9.4.2 Low Strength Surficial Soil

Based on CPT results and soil classification, the thickness of low strength surficial soil at each CPT location was estimated and is presented in Table 9-3. The range and mean thickness of the low strength interval are summarized in Table 9-2 for each surficial soil category. Silty and clayey sands exhibit low strengths to depths ranging from 0.6 to 8.8 feet (0.2 to 2.7 m) with an average of 2.9 feet (0.9 m). Sandy gravels and gravelly sands exhibit low strength to depths ranging from 0.6 to 3.0 feet (0.2 to 0.9 m) with an average of 1.8 feet (0.5 m). Silts and clays exhibit low strength to depths ranging from 1.0 to 7.2 feet (0.3 to 2.2 m) with an average of 2.9 feet.

FH-TR-27-18

CONE Penetroneter Test Number (*)	THICKNESS OF Surfici	SOIL TYPE (3)	
itor Homben	FEET	METERS	
C-1	0.6	0.2	211
C-2	1.2	0.4	SM
C-3	3.3	1.0	511/517
C-4	2.8	0.8	SH/CP
C-5	2.2	9.7	SH./ 67
C-8	2.5	0.8	CL/SP
C-7	4.8	1.8	511
C-8	2.9	0.9	SH/GP
C-9	2.0	0.6	SW/SC/GP
C-10	1.1	0.3	CL-NL
C-11	1.4	0.4	SI
C-12	3.2	1.0	SM/SW-SM
C-13	2.3	0.7	SM
C-14	2.8	0.8	SM
C-15	2.3	0.7	SC/SM
C-18	1.9	0.6	SC
C-17	1.1	0.3	SW-SM
C-18	1.7	0.5	SM
C-10	1.1	0.3	SC
C-20	1.0	0.3	CL
C-21	1.0	0.3	SC
C-22	0.8	0.3	SC
C-23	4.0	1.2	SM
C-24	2.2	0.7	SP-SM
C-25	1.5	0.4	SN
C-26	3.0	0.9	SM/GP
C-27	2.3	0.7	SW/SP
C-28	5.0	1.5	SP-SN

CONE PENETROMETER TEST NUMBER(1)	THIC
<u>C-29</u>	
C-30	
C-31	
C-32	
C-33	
C-34	
C-35	
<u>C-30</u>	
C-37	
C-38	
C-38	
C-40	
C-41	
C-42	
C-43	
C-44	
C-45	
C-40	
C-47	
C-40	
<u>C-49</u>	
C-50	
<u>C-51</u>	
C-52	
<u>C-53</u>	
C-54	
C-55	
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(1) For Cone Penetrometer Test locations see Drawing 9-1, Activity Location Map.

(2) Thickness corresponds to depth below ground surface. Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency. Low strength is based on Cone Penetrometer Test results using the following criteria:

> Coarse-grained soils: $q_c = 120 \text{ tsf (117 kg/cm^2)}$ Fine-grained soils: $q_c = 60 \text{ tsf (78 kg/cm^2)}$

where q_c is cone resistance.

(3) Soil type is based on Unified Soil Classification System; see Section A5.0 in the Appendix for explanation

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	TNICKNESS OF Surfici	SDIL TYPE (3)	
	FEET	METERS	
	8.6	2.0	511
	2.8	0.0	CL/SP-SH
	2.7	0.0	SU
	3.5	1.0	SW
	2.0	0.6	SW-SN
	3.1	0.0	SW-SN
	1.1	0.3	SW-5H
	2.6	1.8	SW
	3.8	1.1	SM/GP
	2.0	1.1	SM/SP-SM
	3.0	0.1	SI
	3.3	1.0	SM/SP-SM
	I.I	2.8	SW
	1.8	8.5	SP-SH
Τ	7.2	2.2	MN/3C
Т	2.8	0.0	SC/SP-SM
T	1.8	8.3	SC-5M
T	3.1	0.0	SM
	2.1	0.0	SW/GP
T	4.2	1.3	SH/SP
	4.0	1.2	SM/SC
	4.8	1.5	SP-SII
	5.7	1.7	SP-51
T	2.7	0.8	SP-SH
Ĩ	2.7	0.0	22
1	0.0	0.2	92
T	3.1	0.0	12
	2.3	0.7	SW/SC/SP

CONE Penetrometer Test Number ⁽¹⁾	THICKNESS OF Surfici Feet	SOIL TYPE (3)	
C-57	3.2	1.0	50/69
C-58	5.9	1.0	SH/SP
C-58	1.6	0.5	511
C-80	2.1	0.6	SH/SP-SH
C-81	3.3	1.0	SM/SC
C-82	9.2	0.1	SP-SM
C-83	3.8	1.2	SC
C-84	1.6	0.5	SP
C-65	2.0	0.6	SM
C-86	4.3	1.3	SP-SII
C-87	1.0	0.3	SI
C-88	1.0	0.3	CII
C-69	1.3	0.4	SP-58
C-70	5.4	1.8	SM/GP
C-71	2.4	0.7	SP
C-72	5.1	1.5	SH/SC/SH
C-73	4.0	1.2	SC
C-74	1.8	0.5	SII
C-75	4.1	1. 2	SC/SP
C-78	1.3	0.4	SM
¢-77	2.8	0.0	SC/SP-SC
C-78	3.1	0.9	SIL/SP-SIL
C-79	2.1	0.6	SC
C-80	1.8	0.3	511
C-81	1.9	0.6	SC
C-82	0.8	0.2	511
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	l	L	1

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NOTES: • For fine-grained soils (ML, CL, MH and CH), thickness of low strength surficial soil will vary depending on moisture content of the soil at time of testing.

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- SM/GM indicates SM underlain by GM
- NDA No data available

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Cone penetrometer tests were performed in the Reveille-Railroad Site when surficial soils were still moist from winter precipitation, thus somewhat increasing the estimated thickness of low strength soil in comparison to thickness for similar but desiccated soils. The variable and often weak degree of calcium carbonate cementation observed in the surficial soils is confirmed by the variable thickness of low strength surficial soils.

9.5 SUBSURFACE SOILS

Subsurface soils are predominantly coarse-grained consisting of sandy gravels, gravelly sands, sands, silty sands, and clayey sands. Fine-grained soils consisting of sandy silts, clayey silts, and sandy clays are significant in the subsurface only in the older lacustrine deposits of the north-central portion of the site. The composition of subsurface soils with depth, as determined from borings, trenches, and test pits, is illustrated in soil profiles presented in Figures 9-3 through 9-6.

Results of seismic refraction and electrical resistivity surveys are summarized in Table 9-4. The physical and engineering characteristics of subsurface soils, determined from field and laboratory tests, are presented in Table 9-5. Ranges of gradation of fine- and coarse-grained subsurface soils are shown in Figure 9-7.

Coarse-grained subsurface soils are dense to very dense below approximate depths of 10 to 15 feet (3.0 to 4.6 m). Calcium carbonate cementation occurs intermittently with the highest degree of caliche development in the gravelly fans near mountain













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meter Test location.

BOTES:

- 1. Ground surface elevations shown at activity locations are approximate.
- 2. T.D. = Total Bepth.
- 3. Soil types shown adjacent to soil column are based on Unified Soil Classification System (USCS) and are explained in the Appendix.

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DEPTH RANGE		2' - 20' (0.6 - 6		
	Coarse-grained solls Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands GW, GP, GW, SW, SP, SW, SC		84 Cl 81 UL	
SOIL DESCRIPTION				
USCS SYMBOLS				
ESTIMATED EXTENT IN SUBSURFACE %	85-90		18	
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES				
DRY DENSITY pcf (kg 'm ³)	89, 8-122, 0 (1435-1954)	[23]	88 (1	
MOISTURE CONTENT \$	2.5-18.8	[23]	20	
DEGREE OF CEMENTATION	none to moderate		ne	
COBBLES 3-12 inches (8-30 cm) \$	0 - 10		1	
GRAVEL \$	1-80	[25]	0	
SAND z	32-98	[25]	1.	
SILT AND CLAY \$	1-29	[25]	11	
LIQUID LINIT	22-33	[1]	50	
PLASTICITY INDEX	NP-11	[2]	18	
COMPRESSIONAL WAVE VELOCITY fps (mps)	1470-5900 (448-1780)	[15]	11 (J	
SHEAR STRENGTH DATA				
UNCONFINED COMPRESSION $S_u = kst (kN/m^2)$	0.9 (43)	[1]	1. (3	
TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION $c = kst (kN m^2), \phi^{\circ}$	NDA		N	
DIRECT SHEAR c - ksl (kN/m²), ø°	NDA		N	

NOTES:

 Characteristics of solis between 2 and 20 feet (0.8 and 8.0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 8 borings, 8 trenches, and 36 test pits, and results of 18 seismic refraction surveys.

 Characteristics of soils below 2D feet (6.0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 6 borings and results of 16 seismic refraction surveys.

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(0.6 - 6 .0m)		20	' - 160' (6	.0 - 49 .0m)	
Fine-grained	Fine-grained solls		Coarse-grained soils		soils
Sandy Silts, Silts, Clayey Silts, and Silty Clays ML, MH, CL		Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Sands, and Silty Sands GW, GP, GM, SW, SP, SM		Sandy Silts, Silts and Clayey Silts ML, MH	
80.1-80.1 (1091-1283)	[2]	90.3-124.4 (1448-1993)	[59]	78, 2-89, 4 (1253-1432)	[10]
28.1-39.4	[2]	4.3-28.4	[59] .	8.3-37.5	[10]
none to moderate		none to moderate		none to moderate	
0		0 - 10		0	
0	[3]	0-63	[30]	2	[י]
1-23	[3]	32-98	[30]	3	[1]
77-99	[1]	2-49	[30]	95	[1]
50 - 50	[4]	36	[1]	38 - 79	(i)
16-20	[4]	NP-8	[2]	7-43	[5]
1180 (354)	[1]	2000-5900 (610-1798)	[15]	1980 (804)	[1]
1. 1 (53)	[י]	NDA		0.8-3.5 (38-168)	[3]
NDA		c = 0, \$\phi = 39 - 45^{\circ}	[8]	NDA	
NDA		$c = 1.1 - 2.4, \phi = 29 - 37^{\circ}$ (53 - 115)	[2]	NDA	

- [] Number of tests performed.
- NDA No data available (insufficient data or tests not performed.)

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CHARACTERISTICS OF SUBSURFACE SDILS VERIFICATION SITE REVEILLE-RAILROAD COP, NEVADA TABLE WE SETING ENVESTIGATION 9.5 DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAWSO VORD NATIONAL, INC. AFV-2

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fronts. These soils are only slightly compressible and exhibit moderate to high shear strengths. Fine-grained silt and clay soils, near the southern margin of the lacustrine deposits, are desiccated and are stiff to hard. These soils exhibit extensive shrinkage cracking and a resulting blocky texture. Cementation is intermittent but not well enough developed to fill the fractures. These fine-grained soils possess moderate to high shear strength where unfractured, but fracturing will greatly reduce the shear strength. Soil compressibilities range from low to moderate for fine-grained subsurface soils.

Electrical conductivity of the soils in the upper 50 feet (15 m) ranges from 0.0046 to 0.0238 mhos per meter (average 0.0102 mhos per meter). All conductivities exceeded the minimum of 0.004 mhos per meter specified in the Fine Screening criteria. Chemical test results indicate a severe potential for sulfate attack of soils on concrete.

9.6 TERRAIN

Railroad Valley is narrow and elongate in a general north-south direction and is contiguous with Reveille Valley at its southern end. It is one of the longest topographically closed drainage basins in Nevada with washes culminating in two main playas (Van Denburgh and Rush, 1974). The largest playa lies to the north outside of the CDP. The southern playa is higher in elevation and centrally located within the Verification site. Surface gradients within the site are generally low; about 40 feet (12 m) per mile in the south and 16 feet (5 m) per mile north of

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the playa. The main drainage at the site originates in Reveille Valley, curves eastward around the southern tip of the Reveille Range, and flows northward toward the central playa.

The distribution of terrain features in the Reveille-Railroad Site is shown in Drawing 9-3. The main factors affecting terrain are the topographically closed valley morphology and the presence of a centrally located, active playa which allows sediments eroding from the mountains and adjacent slopes to accumulate in broad young fans, terrace, and other associated deposits along the playa edge. Slopes on these low-lying deposits are gentle (less than 1 percent) and drainages are normally less than 3 feet (1 m) deep (category I). Densities range from 2 to 4 per mile north of the playa and 4 to 6 south of the playa.

Intermediate fans grade upslope from the younger fans and have slopes ranging from 4 to 7 percent. Steeper slopes occur along the Reveille Range where topography is influenced by the rangebounding fault. Drainages in intermediate fans generally range from 7 to 16 feet (2 to 5 m; category IV) deep along the Reveille Range and 3 to 10 feet (1 to 3 m; category III) deep along the Quinn Canyon Range. Steep fans with deeper drainages (7 to 16 ft; 2 to 5 m) also occur in the south-east corner of the site and in the northwest where they are affected by a range-bounding fault. Complex, highly variable terrain (category VI) occurs in the area of dunes directly north of the playa.

9.7 DEPTH TO ROCK

The approximate configuration of the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to rock contours is shown in Drawing 9-4. This interpretation is based on the extrapolation of topographic rock slope, geologic structure, data from borings and seismic refraction lines, geologic mapping, and pertinent published information. An estimated 15 percent of the site is interpreted to be underlain by rock at depths less than 50 feet. An additional 7 percent is estimated to be underlain by rock at depths between 50 and 150 feet.

Depth to rock contours are interpreted as closely paralleling the rock/alluvium contact in the west and northeast portions of the site, where the rock boundary is controlled by rangebounding faults. This fault is assumed to be normal, and depth to rock on the downthrown fault block is expected to be greater than 150 feet.

Near-surface rock is suspected at several locations along the valley margins. In the southeast, seismic lines S-11 and S-14 supported evidence of a shallow rock zone extending a minimum of 1 mile (1.6 km) from the mountains. Numerous large outcrops of tuff in the northeast indicate probable areas of shallow rock.

9.8 DEPTH TO WATER

The approximate configuration of the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to water contours for the Reveille-Railroad Site is shown in Drawing 9-5. The interpretation is based on available

published well data and other pertinent references summarized in Section 2.0, Volume VII. Less than 5 percent of the total site area is suspected to be affected by shallow water less than 50 feet deep. Approximately 25 percent of suitable area is interpreted to be underlain by water at depths between 50 and 150 feet.

Ground water is interpreted to be less than 150 feet deep over a large portion of the site north of the playa. Recharge flows southward through Twin Spring Slough and northward out of the site area into lower elevations of Railroad Valley. Ground water occurring at less than 50-foot depths is interpreted within the playa near the center of the site and in the area of Twin Springs Slough. Perched water may occur in the northeast; however, the sparseness of data is somewhat inconclusive.

9.9 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

9.9.1 Suitable Area

Suitable area resulting from FY 79 Verification Studies in the Reveille-Railroad Site is shown in Drawing 9-6. The site contains approximately 290 mi² (750 km²) of usable area for a hybrid trench and 155 mi² (400 km²) for a vertical shelter concept. These results are significantly different than those reported in previous Intermediate/Fine Screening_studies due chiefly to:

 New depth to water exclusions interpreted during Verification studies affecting a large area in the central and northern portions of the site;

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- Additional terrain exclusions, primarily in the southwest portion of the site, that had not been discernible at previous screening levels of study; and
- Reduction in area around the valley margins due to additional shallow rock exclusions.

9.9.2 Construction Considerations

Geotechnical factors and conditions pertaining to construction of the MX system in suitable area are discussed in this section. Both the hybrid trench and vertical shelter basing modes are considered.

9.9.2.1 Grading

Mean surficial slopes in the suitable area are approximately 3 percent (range of 0 to 7 percent). The more steeply sloping areas occur primarily along the west and northeast margins of the valley where fans are influenced by range-bounding faults. Minimal preconstruction grading will be required for roads and trenches, but more extensive grading may be necessary for vertical shelters sited on the steeper, fault-influenced fans.

9.9.2.2 Roads

Surficial soils exhibit low strength to an average depth of 2.6 feet (0.8 m) with maximum depth approaching 9 feet (2.7 m). The subgrade supporting properties of low strength coarsegrained site soils are inadequate but can be sufficiently improved by mechanical compaction. Compaction to a depth of 2 to 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m) appears necessary, with compaction to greater depth required in approximately 15 percent of the site.

Based on results of laboratory CBR tests, compacted coarsegrained soils will provide good to very good subgrade support for roads. Supporting qualities of the fine-grained soils are inadequate for direct support of roads. Results of CBR tests indicate that generally mechanical compaction will not adequately strengthen these fine-grained soils. Required support can be attained either by using a select granular subbase layer over the compacted fine-grained soil subgrade or as an alternative, these soils could be partially or totally removed, depending upon their thickness, and replaced by a sufficient thickness of coarse-grained soil to obtain the required subgrade support.

Well-graded gravelly sands and sandy gravels with less than 25 percent fines (passing a No. 200 sieve) could be used for road subbase and base courses. These soils are present at the surface and in the subsurface; however, their extent is unknown.

Drainage incisions are generally less than 6 feet (1.8 m) deep within approximately 90 percent of the suitable area. In the remaining area, depths of drainage incisions range from 6 to 15 feet (1.8 to 4.6 m). Therefore, the cost of drainage structures for roads and trenches will be low.

9.9.2.3 Excavatability and Stability

Subsurface soils in the suitable site area are predominantly coarse-grained with fine-grained soils estimated in less than 15 percent of the construction zone. Subsurface soils are generally dense to very dense below 10 feet (3 m) with infreguent calcium carbonate cementation.

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Hybrid Trench: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 20 feet (6 m) indicate easy to difficult excavation in the suitable area. Continuous trenches for cast-in-place construction could be excavated by an MX trencher. Because of low strength surficial soil, the top 2 to 5 feet (0.6 to 1.5 m) in all trench excavations will generally have to be sloped back for stability. Below this depth, vertical trench walls will remain temporarily stable in approximately 75 percent of the suitable area. In the remaining areas, the fines content or degree of cementation in subsurface soils is inadequate to provide temporary stability for vertical cuts without caving or excessive overbreak. Therefore, trench walls in these areas may have to be shored or sloped for stability.

Vertical Shelter: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 120 feet (36 m) indicate that large diameter auger drills could be used for vertical shelter excavation. Nearly all excavation will be in granular soils with only intermittent cemented or cohesive soil intervals. Therefore, the vertical walls of these shelters will probably require the use of slurry or other stabilizing techniques.

9.10 RECOMMENDATONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

The following geotechnical conditions have been identified as requiring additional information.

1. The basinward extent of water-lain tuffs is unknown in the northeast corner of the site. Additional borings and seismic refraction surveys are recommended to define the extent within the construction zone.

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2. Large areas of shallow water are suspected in the northern and central portions of the site. Ground-water observation wells in selected localities are required to more clearly define depth contours.

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ASys Younger Allevial Fam Boposite - Active, young allevial fam deposits of: ASys. Ality and ASys. and gravelly same (30) and ASyg. sandy gravel (00, 69). ASis intermediate Allevial Fam Boposite - Inactive, Intermediate-age allevial fam deposits of ASis, workly commented silty same and gravelly same (30) and ASig. workly commented sandy gravel (00).	Ignous (1) Iz Abyolite. decite. rhyodacite. and quartz latite. I basalt I Tuff and weided ash-fail tuff. predominantly rhyolitic Sedimentary (5) Bolomite and linestene	A5ys/A4os Combination of geologic unit symbols indicates a mixture of aither surficial basin-fift or rock units inseparable at map scale. A3s/A4of Perenthetic unit underfies surface unit at shallow depth. SYNBOLS Contact between rock basin-fill	Contact between surficial basin-fill or rock units. Fault, trace of surface rupture of faults offsetting surficial basin-fill depesite, ball on domithraun side. Mics: 1. Burlieid basin-fill units pertain only to the upper several fact of acit. Bue to veriability a surficial basin-fill units pertain only to the upper several fact of acit. Bue to veriability a surficial domestic and used of any to the upper several fact of acit. Bue to veriability a surficial domestic and used of any to the upper several fact of acit. Bue to veriability a surficial domestic and used of a severation. With domestic active of a several fact of acit. Bue to veriability a surficial domestic and used of a severation. The description of a severation of a severation of a severation. 2. The discribution of generation does related to promind in Volues III. Does to active a severation. 3. The discribution of and generation of a stated of a Volues III. 3. The discribution of and generation of a state	
			SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC UNITS VERIFICATION SITE, REVEILLE-RAILROAD COP, NEVADA MX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAUSO IN COMPACT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAUSO	-2 -2






EXPLANATION

III 3 - ---- Brainage spacing. i.e. the maximum number of drainages of the corresponding category occurring in a random traverse of one statute mile (1.5km)

GRAIMAGE DEPTH/DESCRIPTION

Loss than 3 feet (1m)

3-6 feet (1-2m)

8-16 feet (2-3m)

10-15 feet (3-5m)

Greater than 15 feet (5a) Compley, highly variable, terrain not defined by drainage incision (c.g. dunal or humocky terrains).

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Unswitable terrain (see Appendix A2.0. Exclusion Criteria)

terrain catagories

i reck and basin-fill

tes areas of isolated exposed rock.

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36 constructing this map are from: (1) field observations. 360 USS topographic most, and (3) 1:00.000 and 1:25.000 begraphs. Bos to some of presentation and variability of beditions. This and is generalized.









EXPLANATION	Terrain Catagory III 3 Brainage spacing. I.e. the maximum number (see table below) of drainages of the corresponding category eccurring in a random traverse of one statute mile (1.8km)	TERRAIN CATEGORY DRAINAGE DEPTH/DESCRIPTION	I Less than 3 feet (1a)	II 3-6 feet (1-2m)	TII 0-10 feet (2-3a)	II 19-15 feet (3-5a)	I Breater than '15 foot (5m)	The second secon	TIC Unsultable terrain (see Appendix A2.0, Exclusion Criteria)	contact betreen terrain catagories	Contact botwom rack and basis-fill	Shading Indicates areas of Isolated appased rock.		
							(TERRAIN VERIFICATION SITE, VEILLE-RAILROAD COP, NEVADA SITINE HIVESTIGATION T OF THE AIR FORCE - DANSO CO MANTERDE AL. MORE.	















EXPLANATION

Contour indicates rack at a depth of approximately 50 feet (15m) - shading indicates rock less than 50 feet (15m). Conteur indicates reck at a depth of approximately 150 feet (46m) - hachuring indicates rock less. than 150 feet (46m). Contact between reck and basin-fill. 77799 777 ~ 加

Shading indicates areas of issiated expessed reck.

Bata Source - Fugre boring (8), soisnic refraction

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	EXPLANATION	CLL 50-LLL Contour indicates rack at a depth of approximately CLL 50-LLL 50 foot (15m) - shading indicates rock less than 50 foot (15m).	Centeur indicates reck at a depth of approximately - 150 150 feet (48m) - hachuring indicates rock less. than 150 feet (48m).	Contact between rack and basin-fill.	Shading indicates areas of isolated exposed reck.	 34 Data Source - Fugro bering (B), seismic refraction 75 line (S), electrical resistivity sounding (R), ar water soil (W); Depth to rock (feet) ar, when in parantheses, depth above which rock does net accur (feet). 	MTE: The earliert are boost on geologic intropreteitien and the limited date points should an the me. Res should be answered as a substrate on the second of additional date are obtained.	
7						REVE UX SIT DEPARTMENT FAD ON MR (T	BEPTE TO BOCK VEBJEJCATION SITE, EILLE-CAILANNA COP, NEVA THUS HAVESTIBATION OF THE AIR POICE - SAMO DE DOJALTE CO DE CAR.	DA Destring D-4 Rector















EXPLANATION after indicates ground mater at a depth of appreximation after (15m) - queried where data arguartreenely spar indicates ground where data arguartreenely spar indicates bering (B), selented argood reck. it Source - Fugre bering (B), selente affaction 2.0. it is content indicates are been deta for data for points with to water (feet) T: The senteur are been deta been well and it can be arguarted and antiroly on the data points are arguarted indicates are selected and it can be arguarted and antiroly on the data points are arguarted and arguarted arguar	EXPLANATION The second second second second second second second advecting indicates from data represent advecting indicates from the data represent advecting indicates areas of indicates rest advecting (0), of material represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (100), advection from the data represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), and represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from the data represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from the data represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from the data represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from the data represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from the data represent advection from a represent represent to a data represent advection from represent represent represent represent represent advection 2.0. Both to mater (1001), advection from represent represent represent advection 2.0. Both to mater interpretion from a represent represent represent represent represent represent advection 2.0. Both to mater interpretion from the data represent represent advection from a represent represent represent represent represent represent represent advection from a represent rep
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10.0 BIG SMOKY CDP

10.1 GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

Big Smoky CDP is situated in northeastern Esmeralda and northwestern Nye counties, Nevada (Figure 10-1). The CDP lies east of roughly longitude 117°30' and west of the San Antonio Mountains and Toquima Range. Goldfield, Nevada, forms the southern limits of the CDP and the northernmost boundary is marked at about latitude 38°40'. The verification site includes all area in the CDP north of latitude 38°00'. The town of Tonopah is situated in the southeastern corner of the site off Nevada highways 6 and 95. Access throughout the site is good due to an extensive network of well maintained unpaved roads. The site area is principally used for rangeland, but effects of extensive mining operations are apparent around the valley edge.

10.2 SCOPE

The scope of geologic, geophysical, and soils engineering field activities performed at the site and laboratory tests performed on soil samples from the site are presented in Table 10-1. Locations of the geophysical and engineering activities are shown in Drawing 10-1 (end of Section 10.0).

10.3 GEOLOGIC SETTING

Rock types in the mountains surrounding the Big Smoky Verification Site are extremely diverse. The San Antonio Mountains on the east are composed of Tertiary flows and tuffs with some sediments, predominantly of the Esmeralda Formation along the west flank (Kleinhampl and Ziony, 1967). In northeastern Big Smoky,

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TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF
Geologic mapping stations	118
Shallow refraction	18
Electrical resistivity	18
Gravity profiles	9

ENGINEERING-LABORATORY TESTS

TYPE OF TEST	NUMBER OF Tests
Noisture/density	121
Specific gravity	4
Sieve analysis	95
Hydrometer	4
Atterberg limits	27
Consolidation	1
Unconfined compression	3
Triaxial compression	5
Direct shear	14
Compaction	13
CBR	13
Chemical analysis	12

ENGINEERING

NUMBER OF BORINGS	NOMINAL DEPTH FEET (METERS)
6	160 (49)
NUMBER OF TRENCHES	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Meters)
4	14 (4)
2	10 (3)
NUMBER OF TEST PITS	NOMINAL DEPTH Feet (Meters)
32	5 (2)
NUMBER OF CPTS	RANGE OF DEPTH Feet (meters)
80	2-20 (1-6)
TYPE OF ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Surficial soil samples	31
Field CBR tests	19

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES VERIFICATION SITE, BIG SMOKY CDP, NEVADA WX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SANSO 10-1

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southwest dipping Paleozoic shale and limestone and Tertiary air-fall tuffs constitute the Toquima Range (Kleinhampl and Ziony, 1967). The Toiyabe Range at the north end of the site is chiefly Tertiary air-fall and ash-flow tuffs with Permian andesite and Paleozoic shale and limestone along the east flank. Rocks along the west side of Big Smoky (Royston Hills) are chiefly Quaternary-Tertiary basalt and welded tuff.

Prominent north to northeast trending range-bounding faults occur on the steep east side of the Toiyabe Range and on the west side of the San Antonio Mountains. Evidence of active faulting displacing basin-fill deposits is prevalent in Big Smoky. Alluvial fault scarps occur in the southwest near Miller's Pond and along the entire east side of the valley. The faults exhibiting greatest apparent displacement occur east of the Crescent Dunes where scarps are 75 feet (23 m) or more in height. Many faults previously mapped along the east side (Rush and Schroer, 1970) do not show offset in the alluvium and appear principally as tonal lineaments, vegetation changes, or alignment of dunes.

Surficial basin-fill deposits in the site are predominantly sandy younger alluvial fans in association with modern stream, playa, and eolian sheet sand deposits. Basin-fill deposits within the site reach combined thicknesses of about 3000 feet (915 m; Rush and Schroer, 1970). Distribution of these units in the site is shown in Drawing 10-8. A brief description of the principal surficial deposits is given below.

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- Younger and intermediate alluvial fan deposits Intermediate alluvial fans are restricted to mountain front areas and rarely exposed along the valley axis. Younger alluvial fans, commonly in association with fluvial, eolian and playa deposits, occur throughout the central valley, locally extending to the mountain fronts. Deposits consist predominantly of sand with increasing gravel content near steep mountain fronts.
- o Stream channel and playa deposits Stream channel and playa deposits occur in northern and central Big Smoky along major south flowing drainages. Stream gradients are extremely low and isolated playas commonly occur in stream courses and along drainages ponded by dunes. Deposits consist predominantly of silty sand and silt.
- o Eolian deposits Sheet sands are most extensive in eastern Big Smoky surrounding the Crescent Dunes. These dunes are the only active dunes in the site, although dunes stabilized by vegetation occur in the southwest near Miller's Pond and in the northeast near San Antonio Ranch. Deposits consist predominantly of sands occurring as thin sheets or dunes.

10.4 SURFACE SOILS

Surficial soils of the Big Smoky site are predominantly coarsegrained. These range from well-graded sandy gravels to fine to coarse sands with appreciable fines. Soils from the predominant . surficial geologic units can be combined into three categories based upon their physical and engineering characteristics. 1. Sands, silty sands, and clayey sands (geologic units Als,

A3s, A5ys, and A5is);

- Sandy gravels and gravelly sands (geologic units A5ys, and A5is; and
- 3. Sandy silts and sandy clays (geologic unit A5ys).

10.4.1 Characteristics

The characteristics of surficial soils are summarized in Table 10-2, which contains physical properties and laboratory

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SOIL DESCRIPTION		Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands	,	Sandy Gravols Gravelly Sando
USCS SYMBOLS		SW, SP, SN, SC		6P, 60, 5W, 5P
PREDOMINANT SURFICIAL	PREDOMINANT SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC UNITS			A5ys, A5is
ESTIMATED AREAL EXTER	ESTIMATED AREAL EXTENT *			10-30
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES				
COBBLES 3 - 12 inches	s (8 - 30 cm) \$	0-5		0-10
GRAVEL	\$	<i>-</i> О-23	[12]	13-83
SAND \$		45-87	[25]	32-83
SILT AND CLAY	SILT AND CLAY \$		[25]	4-17
LIQUID LIMIT		21-40	[1]	23
PLASTICITY INDEX		WP-18	[1]	NP-2
ROAD DESIGN DATA		<u></u>		
MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY	pcf (kg/m³)	114.0-128.0 (1828-2050)	[0]	118.5-133.4 (1914-2137)
OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTR	ent s	8.5-14.1	[•]	0.0-13.2
CBR AT 90% RELATIVE C	OMPACTION %	5-20	[0]	10-33
SUITABILITY AS ROAD SI	JBGRADE (1)	fair to good		very good
SUITABILITY AS ROAD SI	JBBASE OR BASE (1)	poor to fair		good
THICKNESS OF	RANGE ft (m)	0.3-5.2 (0.1-1.6)	[81]	0,7-10.0 (0.2-3,0)
SURFICIAL SOIL (2)	AVERAGE ft (m)	2.5 (0.8)	[01]	2.2

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NOTES:

(1) Suitability is a subjective rating explained in Section A5.0 of the Appendix.

(2) Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency; see Table 10-3 for details.

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Sandy Bravels and Bravelly Sands		Sandy Slits			
6P, 6N, 5T, 5P, 5N		K L			
A5ys, A5is		A5ys			İ
10-30		0-10			
0 - 10		Ð			
13-83	[25]	2	[']		
32-83	[12]	25	[1]]
4-17	[12]	73	[1]		
23	[5]	22	[י]		
NP-2	[4]	1	[1]		
110.5-133.4 (1914-2137)	[8]	114.5 (1834)	[1]		
8.0-13.2	, [B]	14.7	[1]		
18-33	[•]	3	[1]		
vera Eooq		poor			
good		not suitable			
0.7-10.0 (0.2-3.0)	[18]	NDA	- <u></u>		
2.2 (0.7);	[18]	NDA.	······································		J
: • [] - Mun • NDA - No da	uber of tests pe ta available (in erformed)	rformed nsufficient data or test	5	CHARACTERISTICS OF SURFICIAL SOI Verification site, big smoky CDP. I	LS IEVAD
not þ				WX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAMSO	TAN 10-
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compaction and CBR test results and provides preliminary road design evaluations. Gradation ranges for the three categories of surficial soils are shown in Figure 10-2.

Sands, silty sands, and clayey sands are the predominant surficial soils with an approximate areal distribution ranging from 70 to 90 percent of the site. Sands are widely distributed over all site areas. These sands are graded coarse to fine with traces to little gravel and traces to appreciable fines which are nonplastic to moderately plastic. Uniform fine to medium sands or silty sands have a limited distribution as sheet and dune sands (A3s and A3d) in the east-central and northeast portions of the site. Except for eolian deposits that are uncemented, weak to moderate calcium carbonate cementation often occurs at depths below 1 foot (0.3 m).

Sandy gravel and gravelly sands cover approximately 10 to 30 percent of the site and are distributed throughout young and intermediate fans. The major concentrations of gravelly soils are located in A5yg and A5ig geologic units in steeply sloping areas near mountain fronts. Weak to moderate cementation often occurs in gravelly soils at depths below 1 foot (0.3 m) especially in intermediate fan deposits.

Sandy silts and sandy clays constitute a minor surficial soil component covering less than 10 percent of the site. These fine-grained soils, primarily limited in distribution to modern channel and playa deposits, are also found as isolated pockets in alluvial fans.





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10.4.2 Low Strength Surficial Soil

Based on CPT results and soil classification, the thickness of low strength surficial soil at each CPT location was estimated and is presented in Table 10-3. Sands, silty sands, and clayey sands exhibit low strengths to depths ranging from 0.7 to 10.0 feet (0.2 to 3.0 m) with an average of 2.5 feet (0.8 m). Sandy gravels and gravelly sands exhibit low strength to depths ranging from 0.3 to 5.2 feet (0.1 to 1.6 m) with an average of 2.2 feet (0.7 m). Fine-grained soils were not evaluated by CPT. The strength of surficial soils is significantly influenced by the degree of calcium carbonate cementation. A highly variable degree of cementation was observed in surficial soils and is confirmed by the variable thickness of low strength-surficial soils.

10.5 SUBSURFACE SOILS

Subsurface soils within the site are predominantly coarsegrained consisting of sandy gravels, sands, silty sands and clayey sands. Fine-grained soils consisting of silts and clays (buried lacustrine deposits) are found in the southern portion of the site. The composition of subsurface soils with depth, as determined from borings, trenches, and test pits, is illustrated in soil profiles presented in Figures 10-3 through 10.6.

Results of seismic refraction and electrical resistivity surveys are summarized in Table 10-4. The characteristics of subsurface soils, determined from field and laboratory tests, are presented in Table 10-5. Ranges of gradation of fine- and coarse-grained subsurface soils are shown in Figure 10-7.

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CONE Penetrometer Test Number(1)	THICKNESS OF Surfici Feet	LOW STRENGTH AL SOIL (2) NETERS	SOIL TYPE (3)
C-1	2.2	0.7	SP - 511
C-2	3.0	0.1	SW-SM/SP-SM
C-3	2.2	0.7	SP-SW
C-4	0.9	0.3	SH
C-5	0.6	0.2	SP
C-8	0.7	D. 2	SP-SN
C-7	J. 8	1,1	SW
C-8	1.9	0.8	SP-51
C-9	2.0	0.8	SP-51
C-10	2.0	0.6	SP-51
C-11	2.9	0.1	SP-GN
C-12	0.7	0.2	SP-58
C-13	1.0	0.3	SN GP
C-14	2.7	0.8	SP-SH GP
C-15	5.8	1.8	SP
C-18	3. P	1.2	SP-SN
C-17	1.3	0.4	SN
C-18	3.7).1	SP-51
C-19	5. 9	1.8	SP-SN
C-20	1.5	0.5	SM
C-21	1.2	0.4	SM
C-22	2.9	0.9	SP-SN
C-23	1.5	0.5	SP-SM
C-24	0.8	0.2	SC/SM
C-25	2.8	0.8	SP-SM
C-26	10.0	3.0	SP
C-27	1.0	0.3	SP
C-28	1.8	0.8	SM

	-
CONE PENETROMETER TEST NUMBER ⁽¹⁾	
C-28	
C-30	
C-31	
C-32	_
C-33	_
C-34	_
C-35	
C-38	_
C-37	_
C-38	
C-39	
<u> </u>	
6-41	
6-42	
6-43	
C 48	
C-43	
C-40	
C-48	
C-49	~
C-50	
C-51	
C-52	
C-53	
C-54	
C-55	
C-58	

 For Cone Penetrometer Test locations see Drawing 10-1, Activity Location Map.

(2) Thickness corresponds to depth below ground surface. Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade at its present consistency. Low strength is based on Cone Penetrometer Test results using the following criteria:

> Coarse-grained soils: $q_c < 120$ tsi (117 kg/cm²) Fine-grained soils: $q_c < 80$ tsi (78 kg/cm²)

where q_c is cone resistance.

(3) Soil type is based on Unified Soil Classification System; see Section A5 D in the Appendix for explanation

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ER 1(1)	THIC KNESS OF Surfici	SOIL TYPE (3)	
	FEET	METERS	
	1.1	0.3	SP-SH
	2.2	9.8	SP-SM
	2.1	0.8	SP
	0.7	0.2	SM/GP
	2.1	0.0	SM
	1.7	0.5	SW
	2.3	0.7	SP-SM
	0.7	0.2	SN
	2.5	9.7	SM
	4.8	1.5	SM
	3.6	1.1	SP-SM/GP
	1.1	0.3	SM/SP-SM
	1.9	0.6	SM
	0.8	0.2	GP-GN
	0.3	0.1	GP
	0.9	0.3	511
	1.2	0.3	SP-SM
	3. 3	1.0	SC
Π	3.7	1.1	SC/WL
	3.1	0.9	SM/GW
	0.7	0.2	SII
Π	2.4	0.7	SH
	1.6	0.5	SW/ SP-SW
Π	2.2	0.7	511
Π	2. 8	0.6	SP-SIL/GP
Π	0.7	0.2	SP
E	0.5	0.2	Cill
	2.9	0.9	81

CONE Penetrometer Test number(†)	THICKNESS OF Surfici Feet	LOW STRENGTH AL SOIL (2) Meters	SOIL TYPE (3)
C-57	1.7	0.5	
C-58	0.7	0.2	511
C-59	1.6	0.5	51
C-80	1.3	0.4	SC
C-81	2.1	0.8	SW
C-82	3. 3	1.0	SP-511
C-83	0.9	0.3	SP
C-84	0.5	0.2	SC/SM
C-85	8.9	2.1	SM
C-88	4.3	1.3	SP-SN/SN
C-87	5.8	1.8	SP-SN
C-88	3.4	1.0	SP-SM
C-89	0.7	0.2	SIL
C-70	3.1	0.1	SP
C-71	5.1	1.5	SP-50
C-72	3.9	1.2	SP
C-73	2.7	8.0	SP-58
C-74	5.2	1.6	SW-SM
C-75	3.5	1.1	SC/GP
C-78	1.8	0.6	SIL
C-77	2.3	0.7	SP-SM
C-78	5.8	2.0	SM
C-79	1.0	0.3	SC/GP
C-80	0.4	0.1	GP
		I	
		<u> </u>	I

NOTES: • For fine-grained soils (WL, CL, WH and CH), thickness of low strength sufficial soil will vary depending on moisture content of the soil at time of testing.

- SW/GM indicates SM underlain by GM
- NDA No data available

THICKNESS OF LOW STRENGTH SURFICIAL SOIL VERIFICATION SITE, DIG SMORY CDP, NEVADA WX SITING INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAWSO 10-3 IDED FRCD PRATTICD MAL, DRG, AFV-1









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DEPTH RANGE	2' -	20' (8.6	
	Coarse-grained soils Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands GW, GP, GW, SW, SP, SM, SC		
SOIL DESCRIPTION			
USCS SYMBOLS			
ESTIMATED EXTENT IN SUBSURFACE \$	85-100		
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES			
DRY DENSITY pcf (kg/m ³)	103, 4-124, 1 (1656-1988)	20]	
MOISTURE CONTENT \$	2.8-10.8	20]	
DEGREE OF CEMENTATION	none to high		
COBBLES 3-12 inches (8-30 cm) \$	0 - 10		
GRAVEL S	2-59 [17]	
SAND \$	38-94]	
SILT AND CLAY \$	2-33 [17]	
LIQUID LINIT	NDA		
PLASTICITY INDEX	NP [ןי	
COMPRESSIONAL WAVE VELOCITY fps (mps)	1250-3150 (381-960)	le]	
SHEAR STRENGTH DATA			
UNCONFINED COMPRESSION $S_u - ksf (kN/m^2)$	NDA		
TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION $c = ksf(kN/m^2), \phi^{\circ}$	NDA		
DIRECT SHEAR $c = ksf (kN/m^2), g^{\circ}$	NDA		

NOTES:

- Characteristics of soils between 2 and 20 feet (0.6 and 6.0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 6 borings, 6 trenches, and 32 test pits, and results of 18 seismic refraction surveys.
- Characteristics of soils below 2D feet (6 0 meters) are based on results of tests on samples from 8 borings and results of 16 seismic refraction surveys.

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- 20' (0	.6 - 6.0m)	20'	- 160" (6	.0 - 49.0m)	
	Fine-grained soils	Coarse-grained soils	Fine-grained soils		
ands,	Sandy Silts	Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands	Sandy Silts, Silts Clayey Silts, and Clays		
6	NL	QC, SW, SP, SM, SC		ML, MH, CH	
	0-5	85-90	•	. 10 - 15	
[20]	NDA	84.9-134.0 (1380-2146)	[61]	52.4-97.3 (839-1559)	[13]
[20]	NDA	4.8-32.8	[61]	8.8-75.4	[13]
	none to moderate	none to low		none to high	
	0	0-10		0	
[17]	NDA	0-51	[23]	.0	[2]
[17]	NDA	38-96	[23]	38-44	[1]
[17]	WD A	1-46	[23]	56-84	[2]
	NDA	29 - 49	[4]	50 - 1 10	[4]
[1]	NDA	7-29	[4]	NP-83	[5]
[18]	NDA	2150-8550 (855-1998)	[10]	NDA	
	NDA	NDA		5.8-5.8 (268-278)	[2]
	NDA	$c=0, \phi=37^{\circ}$	[2]	$c = 1.3, \phi = 35^{\circ}$ (82)	[3]
	NDA	c = 1.0-1.8, φ = 38-41° (48-77)	[12]	NDA	

NDA - No data available (insufficient data or tests not performed.)

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• 6. (m)	20	* - 180* (8.	0 - 49.0m)		
Fine-grained soils	Coarse-grained sol	8	Fine-grained soils		
Sandy Silts	Sandy Gravels, Gravelly Sands, Sands, Silty Sands, and Clayey Sands		Sandy Silts, Silts Clayey Silts, and Clays		
WL	CC. SW. SP. SM. SC		NL, NH, CH		
0-5	85-90	•	. 10-15		ł
NDA	84.8-134.0 (1380-2148)	[8 1]	52, 4-97, 3 (839-1559)	[13]	
NDA	4.9-32.8	[81]	6.0-75.4	[13]]
none to moderate	none to low		none to high		
•	0-10		0]
NDA	0-51	[23]		[2]]
NDA	38 - 96	[23]	38-44	[1]]
NDA	1-48	[23]	58-84	[2]]
NDA	29 - 49	[4]	50 - 1 10	[4]	1
NDA	7-29	[4]	NP-83	[5]]
NDA	2150-8550 (855-1996)	[18]	NOA		
NDA	NOA		5.8-5.8 (268-278)	[2]	-
NDA	$c=0, \phi=37^{\circ}$	[2]	$c = 1.3, \phi = 35^{\circ}$ (B2)	[3]	1
NDA	c = 1.0-1.8, Ø = 38-41° (48-77)	[12]	NDA]
• [] - Number of tests per • NDA - No data available (in	rformed. nsufficient data or tests not r	performed.)	CHARACTERISTICS OF Verification site, b	SUBSURFACE SO IG SMOKY CDP.	IILS NEVADA
			WX SITING INVESTIO DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FI	GATION DRCE - SAWSO	TAOL 1
	<i>A</i>		LUBRO NAT	IONAL,	AF
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Granular subsurface soils are dense to very dense below approximate depths of 7 to 15 feet (2.1 to 4.5 m). Calcium carbonate cementation occurs intermittently, but well-developed, continuous cementation was not encountered. The coarse-grained soils exhibit very low compressibilities and moderate to high shear strengths. Fine-grained soils consist of silt and clay deposits below 28 feet (8.5 m) in the southern portion of the site. These apparently buried lacustrine deposits were not encountered in activities in other site areas but may have subsurface distribution throughout the southern and west-central portions of the site. These soils are stiff to hard and display both intermittent calcium carbonate cementation and gypsiferous intervals. These soils possess relatively high shear strength, low compressibilities where uncemented.

Electrical conductivity of the soils in the upper 50 feet (15 m) ranges from 0.0025 to 0.0195 mhos per meter (average 0.0085 mhos per meter). At about 20 percent of the sites tested, the conductivity was less than the minimum of 0.004 mhos per meter specified in the Fine Screening criteria.

Chemical test results indicate negligible potential for sulfate attack of soils on concrete. However, the gypsiferous soils in the buried lacustrine deposits could cause considerable sulfate attack.

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10.6 TERRAIN

The distribution of terrain features in the Big Smoky Site is shown in Drawing 10-3. The main factors affecting terrain are the north-south trending drainage, the low surface gradient, and the general valley morphology. Surface gradients in the central basin generally decrease southward at approximately 20 feet (6 m) per mile. Gradients south of Highways 6 and 95 are steeper (50 feet per mile; 15 m) and slope to the northeast.

The broad slope of the valley allows sediments eroding from the mountains and adjacent slopes to be deposited in extensive, lowlying younger fans with gentle slopes (generally between 1 and 3 percent). Drainages in most of the central basin are less than 3 feet (1 m) deep (category I). At the southern end of the site, incision is somewhat greater, averaging about 5 to 7 feet (1.5 to 2 m) in depth (category II). Drainage density averages 5 or more per mile along the main wash to 3 or less in the surrounding young fans and sheet sands.

Intermediate fans along the valley margins are somewhat steeper and more deeply incised. Drainages from 5 to 10 feet (1.5 to 3 m) deep are common in these upper fans (categories II and III). Drainage density generally ranges from 3 to 7 per mile.

The Crescent Dunes in the east-central portion of the site are unstabilized seif dunes up to 200 feet (60 m) high that are excluded due to their excessive relief. Other dunes, located near San Antonio Ranch in the north and Miller's Pond in the south, are 10 to 16 feet (3 to 5 m) high and moderately well

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vegetated. They are mapped as category VI (complex and highly variable terrain) but are not considered terrain exclusions due to the ease of preconstruction grading.

10.7 DEPTH TO ROCK

Generalized contours depicting depth to rock are shown in Drawing 10-4. All point data used in interpreting the depth to rock are shown on the map. Only three of the 23 data points encountered rock at less than 150 feet (46 m) and only one encountered rock at less than 50 feet (15 m); therefore, much of the interpretation is based primarily on geologic inference from surface data. Less than 15 percent of the site is underlain by rock less than 50 feet deep. An additional 13 percent is estimated to contain shallow rock between depths of 50 and 150 feet.

Depth to rock contours parallel the basin margin closely except along the east side of the valley, particularly in the Tonopah area and in the area north of the San Antonio Mountains, where abundant shallow rock occurs. These areas of suspected rock at less than 50 feet are based on the occurrence of isolated outcrops or on the presence of irregular topography near rock outcrops attributable to shallow rock. Elsewhere, interpretations are generally derived from surface slope projections calibrated with available point data. Where steep range front faults occur along the east flank of the Toiyabe Range and the west flank of the San Antonio Mountains, rock at depths exceeding 150 feet are interpreted very near the mountain front.

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10.8 DEPTH TO WATER

The estimated configuration of the 50-foot (15-m) and 150-foot (46-m) depth to water contours for the Big Smoky Site is shown in Drawing 10-5. The interpretation is based on available published well data and other pertinent references summarized in Section 2.0, Volume VIII.

Big Smoky Valley is composed of two hydrographic areas: a northern part outside of the suitable area boundary and a southern part called Tonopah Flat. A low alluvial divide separates the two and topographically closes off northern Big Smoky. Tonopah Flat, which encompasses the site area, receives surface drainage from Ione Valley to the west, but has no surface water outlet (Rush and Schroer, 1970).

Water-table elevations in Tonopah Flat generally decrease toward the playas in the south and southwest. Numerous wells are clustered in the site providing good data control in some areas and none in others. Additional well-point data would be helpful in the northeast and northwest corners and along the eastern edge of the site.

Water exclusions are extensive within the site. Most of the suitable area (75 to 80 percent) is expected to be underlain by water at depths less than 150 feet. Places where water is interpreted to be less than 50 feet deep (approximately 15 percent) are found in broad areas of the southeast and southwest. Most ground water is unconfined; however, localized shallow

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water occurring around San Antonio Ranch and at the northeast edge of the site are attributed to perched conditions.

10.9 RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

10.9.1 Suitable Area

Suitable area resulting from FY 79 Verification Studies in Big Smoky is shown in Drawing 10-6. The site contains approximately 410 mi² (1060 km²) of usable area for a hybrid trench and 155 mi² (400 km²) for a vertical shelter concept. A significant reduction in area from previously reported Intermediate/Fine Screening studies has occurred due primarily to:

- Expansion of areas underlain by shallow water, particularly at depths of 150 feet throughout the center of the valley; and
- Expansion of exclusions due to shallow rock, chiefly in the eastern part of the site.

10.9.2 Construction Considerations

Geotechnical factors and conditions pertaining to construction of the MX system in suitable area are discussed in this section. Both the hybrid trench and vertical shelter basing modes are considered in this discussion.

10.9.2.1 Grading

Mean surficial slopes in the suitable area are approximately 2 percent (range of 0 to 7 percent). Thus, minimal preconstruction grading will be required for roads and trenches. Steeper slopes, ranging between 4 to 7 percent, will be encountered in intermediate and old fans and in fans influenced by

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range-bounding faults in the northeast and east-central portions of the site. More extensive grading will be necessary for vertical shelters sited in these steeper areas.

10.9.2.2 Roads

Surficial soils exhibit low strength to an average depth of 2.4 feet (0.7 m) with a maximum depth approaching 10 feet (3.0 m). The subgrade supporting properties of low strength, coarse-grained soils are inadequate but can be sufficiently improved by mechanical compaction. Compaction to a depth of 2 to 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m) appears necessary, with compaction to greater depth required in less than 10 percent of the site. Based on results of laboratory CBR tests, compacted coarsegrained soils will provide good to very good subgrade support for roads. Due to the low incidence of fine-grained soils in the surficial zone, few roadway sections will be underlain by these soils. Where existent, fine-grained soils will be inadequate for direct support of roadways. Required support can be attained by using a select granular subbase layer over the compacted fine-grained soil subgrade. As an alternative, these soils could be partially or totally removed, depending upon their thickness, and replaced by a sufficient thickness of coarse-grained soil to obtain the required subgrade support. Well-graded gravelly sands and sandy gravels with less than 25 percent fines (passing a No. 200 sieve) will be suitable as road subbase and base course material. Soils of this type are widely distributed over the site with occurrence in some active drainage channels and in fans from the valley center to

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mountain fronts. Mine waste piles (dredgings) near Manhattan, in the northeast portion of the site, may also provide a source for processed base course.

Drainage incisions are generally less than 6 feet (1.8 m) deep within 80 percent of the suitable area. In the remaining area, depths of drainage incisions range from 6 to 15 feet (1.8 to 4.6 m). Therefore, the cost of drainage structures for roads and trenches will be low to moderate.

10.9.2.3 Excavatability and Stability

Subsurface soils in the suitable site area are predominantly coarse-grained with fine-grained soils estimated in less than 15 percent of the construction zone. Subsurface-soils are generally dense to very dense below 10 feet (3 m) with intermittent calcium carbonate cementation.

Hybrid Trench: Compressional wave velocities in the upper 20 feet (6 m) indicate easy to moderately difficult excavation in the suitable area. MX trenchers could be used to excavate continuous trenches suitable for cast-in-place construction. Because of low strength surficial soil, the top 2 to 5 feet (0.6 to 1.5 m) in all trench excavations will generally have to be sloped back for stability. Below this zone, vertical trench walls will remain temporarily stable in approximately 85 percent of the suitable area. In the remaining areas, the fines content or degree of cementation is inadequate to provide temporary stability for vertical cuts without caving or excessive

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overbreak. Therefore, trench walls in these areas will have to be shored or sloped for stability.

Vertical Shelter: Within the depth of excavation for vertical shelters, compressional wave velocities indicate that large diameter auger drills are feasible for vertical shelter excavation, with difficult excavation in only limited zones. Most excavation will be in uncemented, cohesionless granular soils. Therefore, the vertical walls of these shelters may not remain stable to depths of 120 feet (36.6 m) and will probably require the use of slurry or other stabilizing techniques.

10.10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

The following geotechnical conditions have been identified as requiring additional information.

- In eastern Big Smoky, the limits of extensive shallow rock area are unknown. Additional borings and seismic refraction surveys would help define these limits.
- 2. Additional ground-water data could be used in the far northern and eastern portions of the site where depth to water data is absent and definition of the 150-foot contour is obscure. Ground-water observation wells at selected localities are recommended to provide better contour control.

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) - Imactive, intermediate-age alluvial fan deposits af: and gravelly sand (SM) and A5ig, weskly comented sandy

ROCK UNITS

and andesite plugs and flows

ash-flow tuff, and lithic air-fall tuff

te marbie

Tx see

bois indicates a mixture of othior surficial basin-fill or bois.

be unit at shallow depth.

SYMBOL S

<u>.</u>....

-fill or rock units.

) of faults offsetting surficial basin-fill deposits, ball on

) will be the upper several fact of well. But to variability of the procentation, and descriptions roler to the production table types are be appeared within each geologic unit. But types the properties in Volume \overline{XUU} . Franking 1. A tabulation of description of description of an individual in Volume \overline{XUU} .

free: Albers and Starerd (1972). Fisinheep! and Zieny (1967).



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- - Orainage spacing. i.e. the maximum number of drainages of the corresponding category occurring in a random traverse of one statute mile (J.6km)

DRAINAGE DEPTH/DESCRIPTION

Less than 3 feet (im)

3-8 feet (1-2m)

8-10 feet (2-3m)

10-15 feet (2))

Greater than 15 feet (5m) when bishin variable tar

Complex, highly variable terrain net defined by drainage incision (e.g. dunal or hummocky terrains). Unsuitable terrain (see Appendix A2.6, Exclusion Criteria)

terrain catagories

reck and basin-fill

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s areas of isolated exposed rock.

D sensitueting this mep are from: (1) field observations. D USBS topographic most, and (3) 1:00.000 and 1:25.000 Drophs. But to posis of presentation and variability of Ditions. This mep is generalized.











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specing. ¹ neges of th ng in a ran mile (J. 0k	DEPTH/DESC	than 3 feet	6 feet (1-2	10 feet (2-3	15 feet (3-	than 15 fe ighly varial d by draina f or hummocl	utable ter . A2.6, Excl			ed rock.	res: (1) fie 3) 1:80.000 a exterion and 204.	
- Orainage of drai occurri statute	DRAIMAGE	1 2201	- C	9-1	-01	Greater Complex, h net define (e.g. duna	Unsi Appendix	ri es	==-	lated expos	is 200 ard (6 2000.ard (10 201 ard 1 210 10 201 ard 10	
							Ĵ	rain catago	it and basin	ress of 150	astrating () 18 topograph 18. Buo to 19. this so	
								betreen' ter	betreen reg	indicates a		
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				EXPLANATION		
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11.0 DRY LAKE AND RALSTON CDPs

In 1977, field investigations were performed in portions of Dry Lake and Ralston CDPs during the Characterization program. The number and type of activities differed from those performed for the FY 79 Verification Studies as shown in Figure 11-1. Eighteen borings, varying in depth from 30 to 300 feet (9 to 92 m), were drilled in Dry Lake Valley and 15 borings, varying in depth from 25 to 450 feet (8 to 137 m), were drilled in Ralston Valley. At both sites, deep seismic refraction lines, downhole velocity surveys, and gravity and ground magnetic surveys were also performed. The results of these previous studies are summarized in a report titled "MX Siting Investigation, Geotechnical Summary, Prime Characterization Sites, Great Basin Candidate Siting Province," dated 15 February 1979 (FN-TR-26e).

The portions of Dry Lake and Ralston CDPs which have been investigated are now considered Verification sites; the locations are shown in Figures 11-2 and 11-3, respectively. However, additional field studies will be required to obtain information about the shallow soil conditions. It is planned to perform cone penetration tests, excavate test pits, and obtain surficial soil samples during the FY 80 program. When these field studies are completed, Geotechnical Data Volumes will be prepared. Information about the Dry Lake and Ralston Verification sites will be in Volumes IX and X, respectively.

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A1.0 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- ACTIVE FAULT A fault which has had surface displacement within Holocene time (about the last 11,000 years).
- ACTIVITY NUMBER A designation composed of the valley abbreviation followed by the activity type and a unique number; may also be used to designate a particular location in a valley.
- ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS Alluvium deposited by a stream or other body of running water as a sorted or semisorted sediment in the form of a cone or fan at the base of a mountain slope.
- ALLUVIUM A general term for unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, gravel, and boulders deposited during relatively recent geologic time by a stream or other body of running water as a sorted or semisorted sediment in the bed of a stream or on its flood plain or delta, or as a cone or fan at the base of a mountain slope.
- ANOMALY 1) A deviation from uniformity in physical properties; especially a deviation from uniformity in physical properties of exploration interest. 2) A portion of a geophysical survey which is different in appearance from the survey in general.
- APPARENT RESISTIVITY (See Resistivity) The ground resistivity calculated from measurements and a geometric factor (based on homogeneous and isotropic ground). This value includes the effect of all material influenced by the current induced into the ground and does not necessarily represent the true resistivity of any particular material or zone.
- AQUIFER A permeable saturated zone below the earth's surface capable of conducting and yielding water as to a well.
- ARRIVAL An event; the appearance of seismic energy on a seismic record; a lineup of coherent energy signifying the arrival of a new wave train.
- ATTERBERG LIMITS A general term applied to the various tests used to determine the various states of consistency of fine-grained soils. The four states of consistency are solid, semisolid, plastic, and liquid.

Liquid limit (LL) - The water content corresponding to the arbitrary limit between the liquid and plastic states of consistency of a soil (ASTM D423-66).

Plastic limit (PL) - The water content corresponding to an arbitrary limit between the plastic and the semisolid states of consistency of a soil (ASTM D424-59).

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

Plasticity index (PI) - Numerical difference between the liquid limit and the plastic limit indicating the range of moisture content through which a soil-water mixture is plastic.

- BASIN-FILL MATERIAL/BASIN-FILL DEPOSITS Heterogenous detrital material deposited in a sedimentary basin.
- BASE LEVEL The theoretical limit or lowest level toward which erosion constantly progresses; the level at which neither erosion or deposition takes place.
- BEDROCK A general term for the rock, usually solid, that underlies soil or other unconsolidated, surficial material.
- BORING A method of subsurface exploration whereby an open hole is formed in the ground through which soil-sampling or rock-drilling may be conducted.
- BOUGUER ANOMALY The residual value obtained after latitude, elevation, and terrain corrections have been applied to gravity data.
- BOULDER A rock fragment, usually rounded by weathering and abrasion with an average diameter of 12 inches (305 mm) or more.
- BULK SAMPLE A disturbed soil sample (bag sample) obtained from cuttings brought to the ground surface by a drill rig auger or obtained from the walls of a trench excavation.
- c Cohesion (Shear strength of a soil not related to interparticle friction).
- CALCAREOUS Containing calcium carbonate; presence of calcium carbonate is commonly identified on the basis of reaction with dilute hydrochloric acid.
- CALICHE Gravel, sand, or other material cemented principally by calcium carbonate.
- CALIFORNIA BEARING RATIO (CBR) Is the ratio (in percent) of the resistance to penetration developed by a subgrade soil to that developed by a specimen of standard crushed rock base material (ASTM D1883-73). During the CBR test, the load is applied on the circular penetration piston (3 inches² base area; 19 cm²) which is penetrated into the the soil sample at a constant penetration rate of 0.05 inch/ minute (1.2 mm/min). The bearing ratio reported for the soil is normally the one at 0.1 inch (2.5 mm) penetration.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

- CANDIDATE DEPLOYMENT PARCEL (CDP) An area of 150 (200) to 500 square nautical miles (660 square statute miles) potentially suitable for MX siting. Each parcel should have a specific geographic description. (In the Basin and Range Physiographic province a parcel may correspond to a geographic valley and in Texas to some agri-economic unit.)
- CLAY Fine-grained soil (passes No. 200 sieve; 0.074 mm) that can be made to exhibit plasticity within a range of water contents and that exhibits considerable strength when air dry.
- CLAY SIZE That portion of the soil finer than 0.002 mm.
- CLOSED BASIN A catchment area draining to some depression or lake within its area, from which water escapes only by evaporation.
- COARSE-GRAINED (or granular) A term which applies to a soil of which more than one-half of the soil particles, by weight, are larger than 0.074 mm in diameter.(No. 200 U.S. sieve size).
- COARSER-GRAINED A term applied to alluvial fan deposits which are predominantly composed of material (gravel) larger than 3 inches (76 mm) in diameter.
- COBBLE A rock fragment, usually rounded or subrounded with an average diameter between 3 and 12 inches (76 and 305 mm).
- COMPACTION TEST A type of test to determine the relationship between the moisture content and density of a soil sample which is prepared in compacted layers at various water contents (ASTM D1557-70).
- COMPRESSIBILITY-Property of a soil pertaining to its susceptibility to decrease in volume when subjected to load.
- COMPRESSIONAL WAVE -An elastic body wave in which particle motion is in the direction of propagation; the type of seismic wave assumed in conventional seismic exploration. Also called <u>P-wave</u>, <u>dilatational wave</u>, and <u>longitudinal</u> wave.
- CONDUCTIVITY The ability of a material to conduct electrical current. In isotropic material, conductivity is the reciprocal of resistivity. Units are mhos per meter.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

CONE PENETROMETER TEST - A method of evaluating the in-situ engineering properties of soil by measuring the penetration resistance developed during the steady slow penetration of a cone (60° apex angle, $10-cm^2$ projected area) into soil.

Cone resistance or end bearing resistance, q_c - The resistance to penetration developed by the cone, equal to the vertical force applied to the cone divided by its horizon-tally projected area.

Friction resistance, f_s - The resistance to penetraton developed by the friction sleeve, equal to the vertical force applied to the sleeve divided by its surface area. This resistance consists of the sum of friction and adhesion.

Friction ratio, f_R - The ratio of friction resistance to cone resistance, f_S/q_c , expressed in percent.

- CONSISTENCY The relative ease with which a soil can be deformed.
- CONSOLIDATION TEST A type of test to determine the compressibility of a soil sample. The sample is enclosed in the consolidometer which is then placed in the loading device. The load is applied in increments at certain time intervals and the change in thickness is recorded.
- CORE SAMPLE A cylindrical sample obtained with a rotating core barrel with a cutting bit at its lower end. Core samples are obtained from indurated deposits and in rock.
- DEGREE OF SATURATION Ratio of volume of water in soil to total volume of voids.

DETECTOR - See GEOPHONE.

- DIRECT SHEAR TEST A type of test to measure the shear strength of a soil sample where the sample is forced to fail on a predetermined plane.
- DISSECTION/DISSECTED (alluvial fans) The cutting of stream channels into the surface of an alluvial fan by the movement (or flow) of water.
- DRY UNIT WEIGHT/DRY DENSITY Weight per unit volume of the solid particles in a soil mass.

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY - Ability of a material to conduct electrical current.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

ELECTRICAL RESISTIVITY - Property of a material which resists flow of electrical current.

EOLIAN - A term applied to materials which are deposited by wind.

EPHEMERAL (stream) - A stream in which water flow is discontinuous and of short duration.

EXTERNAL DRAINAGE - Stream drainage system whose downgradient flow is unrestricted by any topographic impediments.

- EXTRUSIVE (rock) Igneous rock that has been ejected onto the earth's surface (e.g., lava, basalt, rhyolite, andesite; detrital material, volcanic tuff, pumice).
- FAULT A plane or zone of rock fracture along which there has been displacement.
- FAULT BLOCK MOUNTAINS Mountains that are formed by normal faulting in which the surface crust is divided into structural, partially to entirely fault-bounded blocks of different elevations.
- FINE-GRAINED A term which applies to a soil of which more than one-half of the soil particles, by weight, are smaller than 0.074 mm in diameter (passing the No. 200 U.S. size sieve).
- FINER-GRAINED A term applied to alluvial fan deposits, which are composed predominantly of material less than 3 inches (76 mm).
- FLUVIAL DEPOSITS Material produced by river action; generally loose, moderately well-graded sands and gravel.
- FORMATION A mappable assemblage of rocks characterized by some degree of homogeneity or distinctiveness.
- FREE AIR ANOMALY Gravity data which have been corrected for latitude and elevation (free air correction) but not for the density of rock between the datum and the plane of measurement (Bouguer correction).
- FUGRO DRIVE SAMPLE A 2.50-inch-(6.4-cm) diameter soil sample obtained from a drill hole with a Fugro drive sampler. The Fugro drive sampler is a ring-lined barrel sampler containing 12 one-inch-(2.54-cm) long brass sample rings. The sampler is advanced into the soil using a drop hammer.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

GEOMORPHOLOGY - The study, classification, description, nature, origin, and development of present landforms and their relationships to underlying structures, and of the history of geologic changes as recorded by these surface features.

GEOPHONE - The instrument used to transform seismic energy into electrical voltage; a <u>seismometer</u>, jug, or <u>pickup</u>.

GRABEN - An elongated crustal block that has been downthrown along faults relative to the rocks on either side.

GRAIN-SIZE ANALYSIS (GRADATION) - A type of test to determine the distribution of soil particle sizes in a given soil sample. The distribution of particle sizes larger than 0.074 mm (retained on the No. 200 sieve) is determined by sieving, while the distribution of particle sizes smaller than 0.074 mm is determined by a sedimentation process, using a hydrometer.

GRANULAR - See Coarse-Grained.

- GRAVEL Particles of rock that pass a 3-in. (76.2-mm) sieve and are retained on a No. 4 (4.75 mm sieve).
- GRAVITY The force of attraction between bodies because of their mass. Usually measured as the acceleration of gravity.
- GYPSIFEROUS Containing gypsum, a mineral consisting mostly of sulfate of lime.
- HORST An elongated crustal block that has been uplifted along faults relative to the rocks on either side.
- INTERIOR DRAINAGE Stream drainage system that flows into a closed topographic low (basin).
- INTRUSIVE (rock) A rock formed by the process of emplacement of magma (liquid rock) in preexisting rock, (e.g., granite, granodiorite, guartz monzonite).
- LACUSTRINE DEPOSITS Materials deposited in a lake environment.
- LARAMIDE OROGENY A time of deformation extending from late Cretaceous (about 100 million years ago) to the end of the Paleocene (about 50 million years ago) which accounted for much present Basin and Range structure.
- LINE A linear array of observation points, such as a seismic line.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

LIQUID LIMIT - See ATTERBERG LIMITS.

- LOW STRENGTH SURFICIAL SOIL Soil which will perform poorly as a road subgrade, at its present consistency, when used dirctly beneath a road section.
- MILLIGAL A unit of acceleration used with gravity measurements; 1 milligal = 10^{-5} m/s². Abbreviated mgal.
- MOISTURE CONTENT The ratio, expressed as a percentage, of the weight of water contained in a soil sample to the ovendry weight of the sample.
- NEOTECTONICS The study of the recent structural history of the earth's crust, usually during the late Tertiary and the Quaternary periods.
- N VALUE Penetration resistance, described as the number of blows required to drive the standard split-spoon sampler for the second and third 6 inches (0.15 m) with a 140pound (63.5-kg) hammer falling 30 inches (0.76 m) (ASTM D1586-67).
- OPTIMUM MOISTURE CONTENT Moisture content at which a soil can be compacted to a maximum dry unit weight by a given compactive effort.

P-WAVE - See Compressional Wave.

- PATINA A dark coating or thin outer layer produced on the surface of a rock or other material by weathering after long exposure (e.g., desert varnish).
- PAVEMENT/DESERT PAVEMENT When loose material containing pebble-sized or larger rocks is exposed to rainfall and wind action, the finer dust and sand are blown or washed away and the pebbles gradually accumulate on the surface, forming a mosaic which protects the underlying finer material from wind attack. Pavement can also develop in finer-grained materials. In this case, the armored surface is formed by dissolution and cementation of the grains involved.
- PERMEABLE The ability of liquid to pass through soil and/or rock material.
- pH An index of the acidity or alkalinity of a soil in terms of the logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentration.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

PHI (\emptyset) - Angle of internal friction.

- PIEZOMETRIC SURFACE An imaginary surface representing the static head of ground water and defined by the level to which water will rise in a well.
- PITCHER TUBE SAMPLE An undisturbed, 2.87-inch-(73-mm) diameter soil sample obtained from a drill hole with a Pitcher tube sampler. The primary components of this sampler are an outer rotating core barrel with a bit and an inner stationary, spring-loaded, thin-wall sampling tube which leads or trails the outer barrel drilling bit, depending upon the hardness of the material being penetrated.

PLASTIC LIMIT - See ATTERBERG LIMITS.

PLASTICITY INDEX - See ATTERBERG LIMITS.

- PLAYA/PLAYA DEPOSITS A term used in the southwest U.S. for a dried-up, flat-floored area composed of thin, evenly stratified sheets of fine clay, silt, or sand, and representing the lowest part of a shallow, completely closed or undrained, desert lake basin in which water accumulates and is quickly evaporated, usually leaving deposits of soluble salts.
- POORLY GRADED A descriptive term applied to a coarse-grained soil if it consists predominantly of one particle size (uniformly graded) or has a wide range of sizes with some intermediate sizes obviously missing (gap-graded).
- RANGE-BOUNDED FAULT Usually a normal fault in which one side has moved up relative to the other and which separates the mountain front from the valley.
- RELATIVE AGE The relationship in age (oldest to youngest) between geologic units without specific regard to number of years.
- RESISTIVITY (True, Intrinsic) The property of a material which resists the flow of electric current. The ratio of electric-field intensity to current density.
- RESISTIVITY SOUNDING Observation of electric fields caused by current introduced into the ground as a means of studying earth resistivity. Normally includes only those methods in which a very low frequency or direct current is used to measure apparent resistivity. "Sounding" implies that successive measurements are made with increased electrode spacing.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

ROCK UNITS - Distinct rock masses with different characteristics (e.g., igneous, metamorphic, sedimentary).

ROTARY WASH DRILLING - A boring technique in which advancement of the hole through overburden is accomplished by rotation of a heavy string of rods while continuous downward pressure is maintained through the rods on a bit at the bottom of the hole. Water or drilling mud is forced down the rods to the bit, and the return flow brings the cuttings to the surface.

S-WAVE - See Shear Wave.

- SAND Soil passing through No. 4 (4.75 mm) sieve and retained on No. 200 (0.075 mm) sieve.
- SAND DUNE A low ridge or hill consisting of loose sand deposited by the wind, found in various desert and coastal regions and generally where there is abundant surface sand.
- SEISMIC Having to do with elastic waves. Energy may-be transmitted through the body of an elastic solid as P-waves (compressional waves) or S-waves (shear waves).
- SEISMIC LINE A linear array of travel time observation points (geophones). In this study, each line contains 24 geophone positions.
- SEISMIC REFRACTION DATA: deep/shallow Data derived from a type of seismic shooting based on the measurement of seismic energy as a function of time after the shot and of distance from the shot, by determining the arrival times of seismic waves which have traveled nearly parallel to the bedding in high-velocity layers, in order to map the depth to such layers.

SEISMOGRAM - A seismic record.

SEISMOMETER - See Geophone.

- SHEAR STRENGTH The maximum resistance of a soil to shearing (tangential) stresses.
- SHEAR WAVE A body wave in which the particle motion is perpendicular to the direction of propagation. Also called S-Wave or transverse wave.
- SHEET FLOW A process in which stormborne water spreads as a thin, continuous veneer (sheet) over a large area.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

- SHEET SAND A blanket deposit of sand which accumulates in shallow depressions or against rock outcrops, but does not have characteristic dune form.
- SHOT Any source of seismic energy; e.g., the detonation of an explosive.
- SHOT POINT The location of any source of seismic energy; e.g., the location where an explosive charge is detonated in one hole or in a pattern of holes to generate seismic energy. Abbreviated SP.
- SILT Fine-grained soil passing the No. 200 sieve (0.074 mm) that is nonplastic or very slightly plastic and that exhibits little or no strength when air-dried.
- SILT SIZE That portion of the soil finer than 0.02 mm and coarser than 0.002 mm.
- SITE Location of some specific activity or reference point. The term should always be modified to a precise meaning or be clearly understood from the context of the discussion.
- SPECIFIC GRAVITY The ratio of the weight in air of a given volume of soil solids at a stated temperature to the weight in air of an equal volume of distilled water at a stated temperature.
- SPLIT-SPOON SAMPLE A disturbed sample obtained with a splitspoon sampler with an outside diameter of 2.0 inches (5.1 cm). The sample consists of a split barrel which is driven into the soil using a drop hammer.
- SPREAD The layout of geophone groups from which data from a single shot are recorded simultaneously. Spreads containing 24 geophones have been used in Fugro's seismic refraction surveys.

STREAM CHANNEL DEPOSITS - See Fluvial Deposits.

- STREAM TERRACE DEPOSITS Stream channel deposits no longer part of an active stream system, generally loose, moderately well graded sand and gravel.
- SULFATE ATTACK The process during which sulfates, salts of sulfuric acid, contained in ground water cause dissolution and damage to concrete.
- SURFICIAL DEPOSIT Unconsolidated residual and alluvial deposits occurring on or near the earth's surface.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

- TEST PIT An excavation made to depths of about 5 feet (1.5 m) by a backhoe. A test pit permits visual examination of undisturbed material in place.
- TRENCH An excavation by a backhoe to depths of about 15 feet (4.5 m). A trench permits visual examination of soil in place and evaluaton of excavation wall stability.
- TRIAXIAL COMPRESSION TEST A type of test to measure the shear strength of an undisturbed soil sample (ASTM D2850-70). To conduct the test, a cylindrical specimen of soil is surrounded by a fluid in a pressure chamber and subjected to an isotropic pressure. An additional compressive load is then applied, directed along the axis of the specimen called the axial load.

Consolidated-drained (CD) Test - A triaxial compression test in which the soil was first consolidated under an all-around confining stress (test chamber pressure) and was then compressed (and hence sheared) by increasing the vertical stress. Drained indicates that excess pore water pressures generated by strains are permitted to dissipate by the free movement of pore water during consolidation and compression.

Consolidated-undrained (CU) Test - A triaxial compression test in which essentially complete consolidation under the confining (chamber) pressure is followed by a shear at constant water content.

- UNCONFINED COMPRESSION A type of test to measure the compressive strength of an undisturbed sample (ASTM D2166-66). Unconfined compressive strength is defined as the load per unit area at which an unconfined prismatic or cylindrical specimen of soil will fail in a simple compression test.
- UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (USCS) A system which determines soil classification for engineering purposes on the basis of grain-size distribution and Atterberg limits.

VALLEY FILL - See Basin-Fill Material/Basin-Fill Deposits.

- VELOCITY Refers to the propagation rate of a seismic wave without implying any direction. Velocity is a property of the medium and not a vector quantity when used in this sense.
- VELOCITY LAYER A layer of rock or soil with a homogenous seismic velocity.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Cont.)

- VELOCITY PROFILE A cross section showing the distribution of material seismic velocities as a function of depth and its configuration.
- VERIFICATION SITE A study area of approximately 200 to 400 mi² in which Verification Program activities are performed. The site is situated wholly within a larger Candidate Deployment Parcel (CDP).
- WASH SAMPLE A sample obtained by screening the returned drilling fluid during rotary wash drilling to obtain lithologic information between samples.
- WATER TABLE The upper surface of an unconfined body of water at which the pressure is equal to the atmospheric pressure.
- WELL GRADED A soil is identified as well graded if it has a wide range in grain size and substantial amounts of most intermediate sizes.

Definitions were derived from the following references:

- American Society for Testing and Materials, 1976, Annual book of ASTM standards, Part 19: Philadelphia, American Soc. for Testing and Materials, 484 p.
- Gary, M., McAfee, R., Jr., Wolf, C. L., eds., 1972, Glossary of geology: Washington, D.C., American Geol. Institute, 805 p.
- Merriam, G., and Merriam, C., 1977, Webster's new collegiate dictionary: Springfield, Mass., G. and C. Merriam Co., 1536 p.
- Sheriff, R. E., 1973, Encyclopedic dictionary of exploration geophysics: Tulsa, Oklahoma, Soc. of Exploration Geophysicists, 266 p.

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A2.0 EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Table A2-1 lists the exclusion criteria applied during FY 79 Verification Studies. Many of the criteria have not significantly changed since Coarse Screening Studies. Most geotechnical criteria have been modified to accommodate the basing mode requirements of the hybrid trench and vertical shelter concepts as well as increasing levels of study detail.

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CRI	TERIA	DEFINITION AND COMMENTS Rock is defined as any earth meterial which is net rippable by conventional excavation methods. Where available, seismic P-wave velocities were evaluated in the determination of rock cenditions.				
SURFACE ROCK AND ITHIN 50 FEET (46m) OF THE GRO) ROCK OCCURRING (15m) And 150 Feet Und Surface					
URFACE WATER AL GCURRING WITHI ND 150 FEET (46 Round Surface	ND GROUND WATER 4 50 FEET (15m) m) OF THE	Surface water includes all significant lakes, reservoirs, swamps, and major perennial streams. Water which would be encountered in a 50-foot and 150-foot excavation was considered in the application of this criterion. Depths to ground water resulting from deeper confined aquifers were not considered.				
OPOGRA PH I C	Percent Grade and Terrain	Areas having surface gredients exceeding 10 percent or a prependerance of slopes exceeding 10 percent as determined from maps at scales of 1:125 000, 1:62 500, and 1:24.000 and by field observation.				
		Areas having drainage densities averaging at least twe 10-foot deep drainages per 1900 feet (measured parallel to contours, at determined from maps at scales of 1:24,000 or in the field).				
CULTURAL	Quanti ty/Distance:	Eighteen nautical mile exclusion arcs from cities having populations (1970) of 25,000 or more.				
		Three nautical mile exclusion arcs from cities having populations (1970) of between 5,000 and 25,000.				
	Land Use:	All significant federal and state forests, parks, monuments, and recreation areas.				
		All significant federal and wildlife refuges, grasslands, ranges, preserves and management areas.				
		Indian resorvations.				
Economic :		High potential economic resource areas including oil and ges fields, strippable coal, oil shale, uranium deposits, and known geothermal resource areas (KGRA) of sufficient density so as to prohibit use as a viable siting area. Industrial complexes such as active mining areas, tank farms and pipeline complexes of sufficient density so as to prohibit use as a viable siting area.				
						EXCLUSION CRITERIA Verification studies, nevada-utah
				MX SITING INVESTIGATION TABLE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - SAMSO A2-1		
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A3.0 ENGINEERING GEOLOGIC PROCEDURES

The principal objectives of the field geology investigation were to:

- 1. Delineate surficial extent of soil types and geologic units;
- 2. Assess terrain conditions; and
- Make observations helpful in defining depth to rock and water.

Aerial photographs (1:60,000 black and white; 1:25,000 color) served as the base on which all mapping was done. Field activities were directed toward checking the photogeologic mapping.

Field checking consisted chiefly of collecting data about surficial soils at selected locations in order to refine contacts and defining engineering characteristics of photogeologic units. At each location, observations of grain size, color, clast lithology, surface soil development, and a variety of engineer-

ing parameters were recorded (see Section 1.0, Geotechnical Data). Observations were made in existing excavations (borrow pits, road cuts, stream cuts) or in hand-dug test pits. Extrapolation of this data to determine surficial extent was accomplished by geologic reconnaissance over existing roads.

Of the parameters listed, grain size is the most important for engineering purposes and for this reason is included in the geologic unit designation. However, grain size is not readily mapped on aerial photos, and much of the field work involved

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determination of the extent of surficial deposits of a particular grain-size category (gravel, sand, or fine-grained).

Terrain data were also taken at all geologic field stations. Drainage width and depth were estimated and predominant surface slope was measured. Slopes were measured over a distance of 100 to 150 feet (31 to 46 m) with an Abney hand level. For additional data, depths of major drainages encountered during geologic reconnaissance between stations were recorded on aerial photos.

In order to help refine depth to rock interpretations, observations were concentrated along the basin margin to identify shallow rock. Rock samples were taken at the end-points of DMA gravity profile lines to aid in gravity interpretations. Observations regarding depth to water were restricted to measurements in existing wells and borings.

A4.0 GEOPHYSICAL PROCEDURES

A4.1 SEISMIC REFRACTION SURVEYS

A4.1.1 Instruments

Field explorations were performed with a 24-channel SIE Model RS-44 seismic refraction system which consisted of 24 amplifiers coupled with a dry-write, galvanometer-type recording oscillograph. Seismic energy was detected by Mark Products Model L-10 geophones with natural frequency of 4.5 Hz. Geophones were fitted with short spikes to provide good coupling with the ground. Cables with two takeout intervals were used to transmit the detected seismic signal from the geophones to the amplifiers. Time of shot was transmitted from shotpoint to recording system via an FM radio link.

The degree of gain was set on the amplifiers by the instrument operators and was limited by the background noise at the time of the shot. The amplifiers are capable of maximum gain of 1.1 million. The oscillograph placed timing lines on the seismograms at 0.01-second intervals. The timing lines form the basis for measuring the time required for the energy to travel from the shot to each geophone.

A4.1.2 Field Procedures

Each seismic refraction line consisted of a single spread of 24 geophones with a distance of 410 feet (125 m) between end points. Geophone spacing provided six intervals of 25 feet (7.6 m) at both ends of the line and 11 central intervals of 10 feet (3 m). Six shots were made per spread at locations

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65 feet (20 m), either 190 or 215 feet (58 or 66 m) and 305 feet 93 m) left and right of the spread center. The recording system was located between geophones 12 and 13.

The explosive used was "Kinestik" which was transported to the site as two nonexplosive components, a powder and a liquid. The components were mixed in the field to make an explosive compound. Charges ranged in size from one-third to five pounds and were buried from 1 to 5 feet (0.3 to 1.5 m) deep. Charges were detonated using Reynold's exploding bridge wire (EBW) detonators instead of conventional electric blasting caps. Use of EBWs provides maximum safety against accidental detonation and extremely accurate "time breaks" (instant of detonation). Relative elevations of geophones and shotpoints were obtained by level or transit where lines had more than 2 or 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m) of relief.

A4.1.3 Data Reduction

The travel times for compressional waves from the shots to the geophones were obtained from the seismograms by visual inspection. These times were plotted at their respective horizontal distances and best fit lines were drawn through the points to obtain apparent velocities for materials below the seismic line.

A combination of delay time and ray tracing methods was used in a computer program to obtain depth to refracting horizons from the time-distance information.

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A4.2 ELECTRICAL RESISTIVITY SURVEYS

A4.2.1 Instruments

Electrical resistivity measurements were made with a Bison Instrument model 2350 B resistivity meter which provides current to the earth through two electrodes and measures the potential (voltage) drop across two other electrodes.

A4.2.2 Field Procedures

Electrical resistivity soundings were made using the Schlumberger electrode arrangement. Soundings are made by successive resistivity measurements which obtain information from deeper and deeper materials. The depth of penetration of the electrical current is increased by increasing the distance between the current electrodes. The arrangement of electrodes in the Schlumberger method is shown in Figure A4-1. The four electrodes are in a line with the two current electrodes on the ends. The distance between the current electrodes (AB) is always five or more times greater than the distance between the potential electrodes (MN).

The initial readings are made with MN equal to 5 feet (1.5 m) and AB equal to 30 feet (9 m). Successive readings were made with AB at 40, 50, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 240, 300, 360, 400, 500, and 600 feet (12, 15, 18, 24, 30, 37, 43, 49, 55, 61, 73, 91, 110, 122, 152, and 183 m). MN spacing is sometimes increased one or two times as AB is expanded. This increase is required when the signal drops to a level below the meter's sensitivity. The potential drop is greater between



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more widely spaced electrodes (MN), so increasing MN increases the signal. When it becomes necessary to increase MN, the spacir, of AB is reduced to the spacing of the previous reading. MN is then increased and a measurement is made. This provides two resistivity measurements at the same AB spacing but with different MN spacings.

A4.2.3 Data Reduction

Each apparent resistivity value is plotted versus one-half the current electrode spacing (AB/2) used to obtain it. Log-log graph paper is used to form the coordinates for the graph. A smooth curve is drawn through the points. This sounding curve forms the basis for interpreting the resistivity layering at the sounding location.

A computer program that does iterative "curve-matching" is used to develop a layer model that has a theoretical resistivity curve that is similar to the field curve. A Science Accessories Corporation "grafpen" digitizer is used to digitize the field curve for computer program input.

A4.3 GRAVITY

A4.3.1 General

A gravity survey involves determination of changes in the gravitational field between contiguous points. The gravitational field being detected is the same as that influencing all objects on the surface of the earth. It is generally associated with the force which causes a one-gm mass to be accelerated at 980 cm/s². This force is normally referred to as a 1-g force

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In a gravity survey, the variations are measured in terms of milligals. A gal is equal to 1 cm/s^2 or 0.00102 g.

Small and distinguishable changes in gravity occur from point to point. These changes are caused by geometrical effects, such as differences in elevation and latitude, and by variations in density of the materials beneath the points. For measurements at the surface of the earth, the largest factor influencing the pull of gravity is the density of all materials between the center of the earth and the point of measurement. To detect the changes produced by differing geological conditions, it is necessary to detect changes in the gravitational field as small as a few milligals.

The basic concept of the gravitational exploration method is the "anomaly." If the earth were made up of uniform, concentric shells, each of uniform density, the gravitational field would be the same at all points on the surface of ene earth. The fact that the pull of gravity is not the same from place to place gives rise to "anomalies." A difference in gravity between two points which is not caused by the effects of known geometrical differences, such as in elevation, latitude, and surrounding terrain, is referred to as an anomaly.

An anomaly reflects differences in material densities beneath the two points. The relationship is straightforward. The gravitational attraction is smaller at a place underlain by low-density material than it is at a place underlain by a high-density material. The term "negative gravity anomaly"

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describes a situation in which the pull of gravity within a prescribed area is small compared to the area surrounding it. Low-density alluvial deposits in basins such as those in the Nevada-Utah region produce negative gravity anomalies in relation to the gravity values in the surrounding mountains which are formed by more dense rocks.

The objective of gravity exploration is to deduce the variations in geologic conditions that produce the gravity anomalies identified during a gravity survey.

A4.3.2 Instruments

Lacoste and Romberg Model G gravimeters were used to measure the gravitational field. The sensing element is a mass suspended by a zero-length spring. Deflections of the mass from a null position are proportional to changes in gravitational attraction. The instrument is sealed and compensated for atmospheric pressure changes. It is maintained at a constant temperature by a heater element and thermostat. Gravitational changes as small as 0.01 milligal can be measured.

A4.3.3 Field Procedures

Gravimeter readings were taken at points on bedrock outcrops as well as points within the suitable area portions of the CDPs. In a few of the CDPs, data were obtained in a quasi-grid pattern (approximately 1 mile [1.6 km] between readings) throughout the CDP. In others, data were taken only along lines extending across the CDPs. These lines or profiles were usually separated by 5 to 10 miles (8 to 16 km).

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The gravimeter readings were calibrated in terms of absolute gravity by taking readings twice daily at nearby USGS gravity base stations. Gravimeter readings fluctuate because of small time-related deviations due to the effect of earth tides and instrument drift. Field readings were corrected to account for these deviations. The magnitude of the tidal correction was calculated using an equation suggested by Goguel (1954):

 $C = P + N\cos \phi \ (\cos \phi + \sin \phi \) + S\cos \phi \ (\cos \phi - \sin \phi)$ where C is the tidal correction factor, P, N, and S are timerelated variables, and ϕ is the latitude of the observation point. Tables giving the values of P, N, and S are published annually by the European Association of Exploration Geophysicists.

The meter drift correction was based on readings taken at a designated base station at the start and end of each day. Any difference between these two readings after they were corrected for tidal effects was considered to have been the result of instrumental drift. It was assumed that this drift occurred at a uniform rate between the two readings. Corrections for drift were typically only a few hundredths of a milligal. Readings corrected for tidal effects and instrumental drift represented the observed gravity at each station. The observed gravity represents the total gravitational pull of the entire earth at the measurement station.

A4.3.4 Data Reduction

Several corrections or reductions were made to the observed gravity to isolate the portion of the gravitational pull which

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is due to the crustal and near-surface materials located beneath the station. The gravity remaining after these reductions is called the "Bouguer Anomaly." Bouguer Anomaly values are the basis for geologic interpretation. To obtain the Bouguer Anomaly, the observed gravity was adjusted to the value it would have had if it had been measured at the geoid, a theoretically defined surface which approximates the surface of mean sea level. The difference between the "adjusted" observed gravity and the gravity at the geoid calculated for a theoretically homogeneous earth is the Bouguer Anomaly. Because the real earth, except for the upper mantle and crust, is thought to be similar to the homogeneous model, the Bouguer Anomaly is taken to indicate the way crustal materials differ from the model.

Four separate reductions, to account for four geometrical effects, were made to the observed gravity at each station to arrive at its Bouguer Anomaly value.

a. <u>Free-Air Effect</u>: Gravitational attraction varies inversely as the square of the distance from the center of the earth. Gravity measured at a greater distance from the center of the earth than the geoid is necessarily smaller than gravity on the geoid. Since the Nevada-Utah study area is above sea level, observed gravity levels were corrected for this difference using the normal vertical gradient of:

FA = -0.09406 mg/ft (-0.3086 mg/meter)where FA is the free-air effect. The free-air correction was positive in sign since the correction is opposite the effect.

b. <u>Bouquer Effect</u>: Like the free-air effect, the Bouquer effect is a function of the elevation of the station, but it considers the influence of a slab of earth materials between the observation point on the surface of the earth and the corresponding point on the geoid. Normal practice was followed in this study which is to assume that the density of the slab is 2.67 grams per cubic centimeter. The Bouquer correction (B_c) , which is opposite in sign to the free-air correction, was defined according to the following formula.

 $B_{c} = 0.01276$ (2.67) h_{f} (mg per foot) where h_{f} and h_{m} is the height above sea level in feet or meters, respectively.

c. <u>Latitude Effect</u>: Points at different latitudes will have different "gravities" for two reasons. The earth (and the geoid) is spheroidal, or flattened at the poles. Since points at higher latitudes are closer to the center of the earth than points near the equator, the gravity at the higher latitudes is larger. As the earth spins, the centrifugal acceleration causes a slight decrease in gravity. At the higher latitudes where the earth's radii are smaller, the centrifugal acceleration diminishes. The gravity formula for the Geodetic reference system, 1967, gives the theoretical value of gravity at the geoid as a function of latitude. It is:

 $g = 978.0381 (1 - 0.0053204 \sin^2 \phi - 0.0000058 \sin^2 \phi)$ gals where g is the theoretical acceleration of gravity and ϕ is the latitude in degrees. The positive term accounts for the

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spheroidal shape of the earth. The negative term adjusts for the centrifugal acceleration.

The previous two corrections (free air and Bouguer) have adjusted the observed gravity to the value it would have had at the geoid. The theoretical value at the geoid for the latitude of the station is then subtracted from the adjusted observed gravity. The remainder is called the Simple Bouguer Anomaly (SBA). Most of this gravity represents the effect of material beneath the station, but part of it may be due to irregularities in terrain (upper part of the Bouguer slab) away from the station.

d. <u>Terrain Effect</u>: Topographic relief around the station has an effect on the gravitational force at the station. A nearby hill has upward gravitational pull and a nearby valley contributes no pull into a place where the Bouguer correction assumed there was mass to create a downward attraction. Therefore, relative to the SBA, the corrections are always positive. Corrections were made to the SBA when the terrain effects were 0.1 milligal or larger. Terrain corrected Bouguer values are called the Complete Bouguer Anomaly (CBA). When the CBA was obtained, the reduction of gravity at individual measurement points (stations) was complete.

A4.3.5 Interpretation

The first step in the interpretation was to separate the portion of the CBA that might be caused by the lightweight, basinfill material overlying the heavier bedrock material which

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forms the surrounding mountains and presumably the basin floor. In order to make this separation, the gravity field's appearance was postulated, assuming the valley-fill sediments were replaced with bedrock material. The imaginary field is called a "regional" and is characterized by a gently undulating (long period) surface. Since the valley-fill sediments were, in fact, absent at the stations read in the mountains, the CBA values at these bedrock stations were used as the basis for constructing a regional field over the valley. The "regional" was derived by fitting a second order polynomial surface to the Bouguer Anomaly values of the bedrock stations.

The difference between the CBA and the regional field was taken to represent the effect of the lightweight alluvial materials. This difference is called the residual field or residual anomaly. The zero value of the residual anomaly is not exactly at the rock outcrop line but at some distance on the "rock" side of the contact. The reason for this is found in the explanation of the terrain effect. There is a component of gravitational attraction from material which is not directly beneath a point.

If the "regional" is well chosen, the magnitude of the residual anomaly is a function of the thickness of the anomalous (fill) material and the density contrast. The density contrast is the difference in density between the alluvial and bedrock material. If this contrast were known, a very accurate calculation of the thickness could be made. In most cases, the densities are not well known and they also vary within the study area. In these

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cases, it is necessary to use typical densities for materials similar to those in the study area. An iterative computer program was used to calculate a subsurface model which would yield a gravitational field to match (approximately) the residual gravity anomaly.

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A5.0 ENGINEERING PROCEDURES

Soil engineering activities consisted of the following: 1. Field activities: 0 Borings 0 Trenches Test Pits 0 Surficial Samples 0 Cone Penetrometer Tests 0 Field CBR Tests 0 2. Office activities: o Laboratory Tests o Data Analyses and Interpretations

In this section the procedures used in the various activities are described.

A5.1 BORINGS

A5.1.1 Drilling Equipment

The borings were drilled at designated locations using a truckmounted Failing 1500 drilling rig with hydraulic pulldown and rotary wash techniques. Borings were nominally 4-7/8 inches (124 mm) in diameter and drilling fluid (typically a bentonitewater slurry) was used to stabilize the hole. A tricone drill bit was used for coarse-grained soils and a drag bit for drilling in fine-grained soils. Nominal maximum depth drilled was 160 feet (49 m). When rock was encountered in a boring, a minimum of 15 feet (4.6 m) of rock was cored before terminating the boring.

A5.1.2 Method of Sampling Soil and Rock

A5.1.2.1 Sampling Intervals

Soil samples were obtained at the following nominal depths as well as at depths of change in soil type.

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0'- 2'	(0-0.6 m)	- 1	Drive sampl	le	
2.5'- 5'	(0.8-1.5 m)	-	Pitcher or	drive	
6'- 8'	(1.8-2.4 m)	-	Pitcher or	drive	
10'- 30'	(3.0-9.1 m)	-	Pitcher or intervals, of 10'	drive - samples at 5' starting at a depth	
30'-130'	(9.1-39.0 m)	-	Pitcher or intervals	drive - samples at 10'	r
130'-160'	(39.0-48.0 m)	-	Pitcher or intervals	drive - samples at 15'	I

A5.1.2.2 Sampling Techniques

a. <u>Fugro Drive Samples</u>: Fugro drive samplers were used to obtain relatively undisturbed soil samples. The Fugro drive sampler is a ring-lined barrel sampler with an outside diameter of 3.0 inches (76.2 mm) and inside ciameter of 2.50 inches (63.5 mm). It contains 12 individual 1-inch- (25.4-mm) long rings and is attached to a 12-inch- (30-cm) long waste barrel. The sampler was advanced using a downhole hammer weighing 335 pounds (76 kg) with a drop of 18 inches (46 cm).

The number of blows required to advance the sampler for a 6-inch (15-cm) interval were recorded. Samples obtained were retained in the rings, placed in plastic bags with manually twisted top ends and sealed in plastic sample containers. Each sample was identified with a label indicating job number, boring number, sample number, depth range, Unified Soil Classification System (USCS), and date. Ring samples were placed in foam-lined steel boxes.

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b. <u>Pitcher Samples</u>: The Pitcher sampler was used to obtain undisturbed soil samples. The primary components of this sampler are an outer rotating core barrel with a bit and an inner, stationary, spring-loaded, thin-wall sampling tube which leads or trails the outer barrel drilling bit, depending on the hardness of the material penetrated. The average inside diameter of the sampling tubes used was 2.87 inches (73 mm). Before placing the Pitcher tube in the outer barrel, the tube was inspected for sharpness or protrusions.

The Pitcher sampler was then lowered to the bottom of the boring and the thin-walled sampling tube advanced into the soil ahead of the rotating cutting bit by the weight of the drill rods and hydraulic pulldown. The thin-walled sampling tube was retracted into the core barrel and the sampler was brought to the surface. After removal of the sampling tube from the core barrel, the length of the recovered soil sample was measured and recorded. Before preparing and sealing the tube, the drilling fluid in the Pitcher tube was removed. Cap plugs were taped in place on the top and bottom of the Pitcher tube and sealed with wax. When Pitcher samples could not be retrieved without disturbance, they were clearly marked as "disturbed." Each sealed Pitcher tube was labeled as explained under "Fugro Drive Samples" and then placed vertically in foam-lined wooden boxes.

c. <u>Wash Samples</u>: Wash samples (cuttings) were obtained by screening the returning drilling fluid during the drilling operations to obtain lithologic information between samples.

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Recovered wash samples were placed in plastic bags and labeled as explained previously.

d. <u>Split-Spoon Samples</u>: Split-spoon samplers were used to obtain disturbed, but representative soil samples. The splitspoon sampler consists of a barrel shoe, a split barrel or tube, a solid sleeve, and a sampler head. The inside diameter of the sampler shoe is 1.375 inches (35 mm) and the length is about 18 inches (45.7 cm). Sampling with the split barrel sampler is accomplished by driving the sampler into the ground with a 140-pound (63.6-kg) hammer dropped 30 inches (76 cm). The number of blows required to drive the sampler a distance of 12 inches (30.4 cm) was recorded as the Standard Penetration Resistance (N value). The disturbed samples obtained from the split-spoon sampler were placed in plastic bags and labeled as explained previously.

e. <u>Rock Samples</u>: A core barrel was used to obtain rock cores (samples). Rock coring is the process in which a sampler, consisting of a core barrel with a diamond cutting bit at its lower end, cuts an annular hole in a rock mass, thereby creating a cylinder or core of rock which is recovered in the core barrel. Rock cores were obtained by the use of rotary drilling methods utilizing NX double-tube core barrels (core size 2.125 inches; 54 mm). When rock was encountered in a boring, it was nominally cored into for a distance of 15 feet (4.5 m). The rock cores were removed from the core barrel (slid out or forced out with water), examined by a geologist, and placed in core boxes. The core boxes were labeled as explained in "Fugro Drive Samples."

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A5.1.3 Logging

All soils were classified in the field by the procedures outlined in Section A5.5, "Field Visual Soil Classification," of this Appendix. Rock encountered in the borings was described according to classifications given in Travis (1955) and Folk (1974). The following general information was entered on the boring logs at the time of drilling: boring number; project name, number, and location; name of drilling company and driller; name of logger and date logged; and method of drilling and sampling, drill bit type and size, driving weight and average drop as applicable. As drilling progressed, the soil samples recovered were visually classified as outlined in Section A5.5, "Field Visual Soil Classification," and the description was entered on the logs. Section A5.5 also discusses other pertinent data and observations made which were entered on the boring logs during drilling.

A5.1.4 Sample Storage and Transportation

Samples were handled with care, drive sample containers being placed in foam-lined steel boxes, while Pitcher samples were transported in foam-lined wooden boxes. Core samples were placed in specially constructed wooden or cardboard boxes. Particular care was exercised by drivers while traversing rough terrain so as not to cause any disturbance to the undisturbed samples. Whenever ambient air temperatures fell below 32°F, all samples were stored in heated rooms during the field work and transported to Fugro National's Long Beach laboratory in heated cabins in back of pickup trucks.

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A5.1.5 Ground-Water Observation Wells

When ground water was encountered during drilling of a boring or where the boring was located in an area estimated to have ground water within 150 feet (46 m) of the ground surface, the completed boring was cased with a 2-inch-diameter (51-mm) polyvinyl-chloride (PVC) pipe to 160 feet (49 m). This PVC pipe was slotted in the bottom 20 feet (6 m). After installation of the pipe, it was flushed until clear water came out. After equilibrium was reached, the water level was measured periodically in the observation wells and recorded.

A5.2 TRENCHES, TEST PITS, AND SURFICIAL SAMPLES

A5.2.1 Excavation Equipment

The trenches, tests pits, and surficial samples were excavated using a rubber tire-mounted Case 580 B or C backhoe with a maximum depth capability of 15 feet (5 m).

A5.2.2 Method of Excavation

Unless caving occurred during the process of excavation, the trench width was nominally 2 feet (0.6 m). Trench depths were typically 14 feet (4.2 m) and lengths ranged from 12 to 20 feet (3.6 to 6.0 m). Test pits were nominally 2 feet (0.6 m) wide, 5 feet (1.5 m) deep, and ranged from 5 to 10 feet (1.5 to 3.0 m) in length. Surficial sample excavations were typically 2 feet (0.6 m) wide, 2 feet (0.6 m) deep, and about 3 to 5 feet (0.9 to 1.5 m) long. The trench and test pit walls were vertical. However, where surface materials were unstable, the trench walls were sloped back to a safe angle to prevent sloughing during the

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completion of excavation and logging. The excavated material was deposited on one side at least 4 feet (1.2 m) from the edge of the trenches in order to minimize stress loads at the edges. The excavations were backfilled with the excavated material and the ground surface was restored to a condition as conformable with the surrounding terrain as practical.

A5.2.3 Sampling

The following sampling procedures were generally followed for all trenches, test pits, and surficial samples.

- o Representative bulk soil samples (large or small) were obtained in the top 2 feet (0.6 m). If the soil type changed in the top 2 feet, bulk samples of both the soil types were obtained. In addition, bulk samples of all soil types encountered at different depths in the excavation were obtained. For each soil type in the top 2 to 3 feet (0.6 to 0.9 m), two large bulk samples (weighing about 50 pounds each; 11.4 kg) were taken. Bulk samples from other depths were limited to one bag. When soils from two locations were similar, only a small bag sample weighing about 2 pounds (l kg) was taken from the second location.
- o All large bulk samples were placed first in plastic bags and then in cloth bags. The small bulk samples were placed in small plastic bags. All sample bags of soil were tied tightly at the top to prevent spillage and tagged with the following information: project number; trench, test pit, or surficial sample number; bulk sample number; depth

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range in feet; Unified Soil Classification symbol; and date. The samples were transported to the field office for storage and then to Fugro National's Long Beach office in pickup trucks.

A5.2.4 Logging

The procedures for field visual classification of soil and rock encountered from the trenches, test pits, and surficial samples were basically the same as the procedures for logging of borings (Section A5.1.3). For excavations shallower than 4 feet (1.2 m) technicians entered the excavations and logged them. Logging of the excavations deeper than 4 feet (1.2 m) was accomplished from the surface and by observing the backhoe bucket contents. All trench walls were photographed prior to backfilling.

Each field trench, test pit, and surficial sample log included trench, test pit, or surficial sample number; project name, number and location; name of excavator; type of excavation equipment; name of logger; and date logged. As excavations proceeded, the soil types encountered were visually classified and described as outlined in Section A5.5, "Field Visual Soil Classification." Section A5.5 also discusses other pertinent data and observations made which were entered on the logs during excavation.

A5.3 CONE PENETROMETER TESTS

A5.3.1 Equipment

The equipment consisted of a truck-mounted (15 tons gross weight) electronic cone penetrometer equipped with a 10-ton

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cone (cone end resistance capacity of 10 tons) and 5-ton friction cone (1-1/2-ton limit on the friction sleeve and 5-ton limit on the cone end resistance). All operating controls, recorder, cables, and ancillary equipment were housed in the specially designed vehicle which was completely self-contained. The penetrometer, the key element of the system, contained the necessary load cells and cable connections. One end of the unit was threaded to receive the first sounding rod. When carrying out the tests, hollow rods with an outside diameter of 3.6 cm and a length of 1.0 meter were used to push down the cone. The hydraulic thrust system was mounted over the center of gravity of the truck, permitting use of the full 15-ton truck weight as load reaction.

The cone had an apex angle of 60° and a base area of 10 cm^2 . The resistance to penetration was measured by a built-in load cell in the tip and was relayed to the surface recorder via cables in the sounding rods. On the 5-ton friction cone, a friction sleeve, having an area of 150 cm², was fitted above the cone base. The local friction was measured by load cells mounted in the friction sleeve and recorded in the same manner as the end resistance. The end resistance and friction resistance were recorded on a strip chart.

A5.3.2 Test Method

Tests were performed in accordance with ASTM D3441-75T, "Tentative Method for Deep, Quasi-Static, Cone and Friction-Cone Penetration Tests of Soil." Basically, the test was conducted

by positioning the electronic cone penetrometer truck over the designated area for testing, setting the outriggers on the ground surface, checking the level of the rig, then pushing the cone into the ground at a rate of 2 cm/s until refusal (defined as the capacity of the cone, friction sleeve, or hydraulics system) or the desired depth of penetration was reached.

As a general rule, the depth of penetration did not exceed 10 meters. If refusal was reached within the top 2 or 3 feet (0.6 or 1 m), the test was performed again a few feet away from the first location. If refusal was reached again within 3 feet (1 m), the soil was excavated at the CPT location to investigate the presence of gravel, cobbles, boulders, or cemented layers. Details of the test such as refusal reached, depth, cone used, etc., were entered on a log sheet.

Generally, the 10-ton cone was used for most of the tests. If the measured cone resistance was less than 100 tons per square foot (98 kg/cm²) in the upper 5 to 6 feet (1.5 to 1.8 m), then another test using the 5-ton cone was performed at a location a few feet away from the first location.

A minimum of three cone penetrometer tests were performed at all field California Bearing Ratio (CBR) test locations in Reveille-Railroad and Big Smoky sites and also at certain locations in Garden-Coal site.

A5.4 FIELD CALIFORNIA BEARING RATIO (CBR) TESTS

A5.4.1 Equipment

The equipment used to conduct the field CBR tests was as described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Technical Manual 5-30. Other equipment for conducting a field density test by the sand cone method (ASTM D 1556-64, Test for Density of Soil in Place by the Sand-Cone Method) and the "Speedy Moisture Meter" for field determination of soil moisture content were also included. Picks, spades, and shovels were used to excavate the CBR test pits.

A5.4.2 Test Method

Field CBR tests were generally performed at two depths at each designated location. The procedures for conducting the CBR tests were as described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Technical Manual (TM) 5-30, pp. 2-86 to 2-96. Tests were performed in small hand-excavated test pits at depths ranging from 6 to 30 in. (15 to 76 cm) below ground surface. Testing was not attempted where numerous cobbles or heavily cemented soils were encountered. Three CBR tests were performed at each depth and the results recorded. Generally, a field density test (ASTM D1556-64, Test for Density of Soil in Place by the Sand-Cone Method) and moisture content determination (by Speedy Moisture Meter Method) were performed at the CBR test depths.

A5.4.3 Sampling

At each CBR test location, large bulk samples of soils at test depths were obtained. See Section A5.2.3, "Sampling," for trenches, test pits, and surficial samples for details.

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A5.4.4 Logging

Field CBR test results, field density test results, and moisture content determinations were recorded at the time of each test. All soil samples were classified and logged in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section A5.5, "Field Visual Soil Classification."

A5.5 FIELD VISUAL SOIL CLASSIFICATION

A5.5.1 General

All field logging of soils encountered during drilling, excavation of trenches and test pits, obtaining surficial samples, and the sampling at CBR test locations were performed in accordance with the procedures outlined in this section. Soil samples were visually classified in the field in general accordance with the procedures of ASTM D 2488-69, Description of Soils (Visual-Manual Procedure). The ASTM procedure is based on the Unified Soil Classification System (see Table A5-1) and details several visual and/or manual methods which can be used in the field to estimate the USCS soil group or symbol for each sample. Rock cores were described in the field according to classifications given in Travis (1955) and Folk (1974). The following section details several of the guidelines used in the field for describing soils, drilling and excavating conditions, and unusual conditions encountered.

A5.5.2 Soil Description

Soil descriptions entered on the logs of borings, trenches, test pits, and surficial samples generally included those listed on page A-43.

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Leboratory Classification Crateria	The former and from start than a start that the start than a start that the star				Disk Printin State Alling in Additional and a desired by the additional and a desired by the additional and addite additional and additional				0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Liquid limit Pasticity chart for laboratory classification of time gramed soils			4 cl-sead multure with clay bonde. cl-sead multure with clay bonde. bury femore by hand the coater parisks that indicates a speciment of the consistency start plasts innul. No. 40 stere star, a speciment of out bound on the visit was the a moundar to the construct of any float on the visit mast is a local and if it start on the bound it special count in the light and if it should not prevent on the speciment is a local and if it should not instant. The start is plasts and allowed to local speciment bound it special count in the light and it is a moundar prevent of the speciment is a local and if it should not instant. The should be instant and the should be instant plasts from a nither, the plast should be instant of the should be the lifet instant of the mound be instant of the should be been instant. Instant event is an about the instant of the should be initial housed a counded and in a should be instant be- dent in the start is a start in and the subst the should be initial housed a counded and in a should be instant be- dent in the start is a start in and the subst the should be initial housed and in the should be instant be- dent in the start is a start in and the subst the should be initial housed and in the should be instant be- dent in the start is a start in and the subst the should be initial housed and in the should be instant be.					e iougher the thread near the plantic limit and the nuffer the lump when I finally crumbles, the more potent is the collowdal clay fraction in the	out. Weakness of the thread at the plastic firms and quick how of observed the lump below the plastic jumit indicate estimate incorpanic	ley of low plastwiry, or materials luch as kaotin-type clays and organic lays which occur below the A-line.	thly organic clays have a very wells and spongy feel at the plastic tradit.											
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a Typical Names	Well graded gracels, gravel- band misturce, little or no fines	Poorly graded gravels, gravel- sand mustures, little or wo frees	Siliy gravels, pourly graded gravel-sand-sill mistures	Clayey gravels, poorly graded gravel-and-clay mixtures	Well graded wands, gravelly sands, hitte or no ânes	Poorly graded sands, gravelly sands, luttle or no Bacs	Suty aanda, goorly graded sand- suit miniures	Clayey tanda, poorly graded tand-clay mixtures			laciganc ult and very the lacids rock flow, sily or clayer fine sands with slight	Increanic clays of low to medium plassicity, gravelly clays, andy clays, suly clays, kean clays	Organic sells and organic arts- clays of low plasticity	Jaurganic silts, micaccous or distumaccous fine sandy or s.ity souls, clastic silts	Inorganic clays of high plas-	Organic clays of medium to high plasticity	Pest and other highly organic soils	by combinations of group symbols. F	id Identification Procedure for Fine Gra nately 1.4. in . For Acid classification pr	with (Crushing characteristics):	a consistency of putty, adding water if	comparies of over, such of all urying, ting and coumbling between the fingers	e character and quantity of the colloss The dry strength increases with increa	ry strength is characteristic for clays of the still possesses only very shight dr	uits have about the same slight dry street to feel when powdering the dried speci	cas a typical side has the smooth feel o					
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Coarse-Grained Soils

USCS Name and Symbol Color Range in Particle Size Gradation (well, poorly) Density Moisture Content Particle Shape Reaction to HCl

Fine-Grained Soils

USCS Name and Symbol Color Consistency Moisture Content Plasticity Reaction to HCl

Some additional descriptions or information recorded for both coarse- and fine-grained soils included: degree of cementation, secondary material, cobbles and boulders, and depth of change in soil type.

Definitions of some of the terms and criteria used to describe soils and conditions encountered during the investigations follow.

a. <u>USCS Name and Symbol</u>: Derived from Table A5-1, the Unified Soil Classification System. The soils were first designated as coarse- or fine-grained.

Coarse-grained soils are those in which more than half (by weight) of the particles are visible to the naked eye. In making this estimate, particles coarser than 3 in. (76 mm) in diameter were excluded. Fine-grained soils are those in which more than half (by weight) of the particles are so fine that they cannot be seen by the naked eye. The distinction between coarse- and fine-grained can also be made by sieve analysis with the number 200 sieve (.074 mm) size particle considered to be the smallest size visible to the naked eye. In some instances, the field technicians describing the soils used a

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number 200 sieve to estimate the amount of fine-grained particles. The coarse-grained soils are further divided into sands and gravels by estimating the percentage of the coarse fraction larger than the number 4 sieve (about 1/4 inch or 5 mm). Each coarse-grained soil is then qualified as silty, clayey, poorly graded, or well graded as discussed under plasticity and gradation.

Fine-grained soils were identified in the field as clays or silts with appropriate adjectives (clayey silt, silty clay, etc.) based on the results of dry strength, dilatancy, and plastic thread tests (see ASTM D 2488-69 for details of these tests).

Dual USCS symbols and adjectives were used to describe soils exhibiting characteristics of more than one USCS group.

b. <u>Color</u>: Color descriptions were recorded using the following terms with abbreviations in parentheses:

White (w)	Green (gn)
Yellow (y)	Blue (bĺ)
Orange (o)	Gray (gr)
Red (r)	Black (blk)
Brown (br)	

Color combinations as well as modifiers such as light (lt) and dark (dk) were used.

c. <u>Range in Particle Size</u>: For coarse-grained soils (sands and gravels), the size range of the particles visible to the naked eye was estimated as fine, medium, coarse, or a combined range (fine to medium).

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d. <u>Gradation</u>: Well graded indicates a coarse-grained soil which has a wide range in grain size and substantial amounts of most intermediate particle sizes. A coarse-grained soil was identified as poorly graded if it consisted predominantly of one size (uniformly graded) or had a wide range of sizes with some intermediate sizes obviously missing (gap-graded).

e. <u>Density or Consistency</u>: The density or consistency of the in-place soil was estimated based on the number of blows required to advance the Fugro drive or split-spoon sampler, the drilling rate (difficulty) and/or hydraulic pulldown needed to drill, visual observations of the soil in the trench or test pit walls, ease (or difficulty) of excavation of trench or test pit, or trench or test pit wall stability. For fine-grained soils, the field guides to shear strength presented below were also used to estimate consistency.

 Coarse-grained soils - GW, GP, GM, GC, SW, SP, SM, SC (gravels and sands)

Consistency	N-Value	(ASTM D	1586-67),	Blows/Foot
Very Loose Loose Medium Dense Dense Very Dense		0 4 10 30	- 4 - 10 - 30 - 50	

o Fine-grained Soils - ML, MH, CL, CH (Silts and Clays)

Consistency	Shear Strength (ksf)	Field Guide
Very Soft	<0.25	Sample with height equal to twice the diameter, sags under own weight
Soft	0.25-0.50	Can be squeezed between thumb and forefinger

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	Consistency	Shear Strength (ksf)	Field_Guide				
	Firm	0.50-1.00	Can be molded easily with fingers				
	Stiff	1.00-2.00	Can be imprinted with slight pressure from fingers				
	Very Stiff	2.00-4.00	Can be imprinted with con- siderable pressure from fingers				
	Hard	Over 4.00	Cannot be imprinted by fingers				
f.	Moisture Conte	nt: The follow	ing guidelines were used in				
the	field for des	scribing the mo.	isture in the soil samples:				

: No feel of moisture Dry Slightly Moist: Much less than normal moisture : Normal moisture for soil Moist Very Moist : Much greater than normal moisture Wet : At or near saturation

g. Particle Shape: Coarse-grained soils

Angular : Particles have sharp edges and relatively plane sides with unpolished surfaces

Subangular: Particles are similar to angular but have somewhat rounded edges

Subrounded: Particles exhibit nearly plane sides but have well-rounded corners and edges

Rounded : Particles have smoothly curved sides and no edges

Reaction to HCl: As an aid for identifying cementation, some h. soil samples were tested in the field for their reaction to dilute hydrochloric acid. The intensity of the HCl reaction was described as none, weak, or strong.

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i. <u>Degree of Cementation</u>: Based on the intensity of the HCl reaction and observation, the degree of cementation of a soil layer was described as weak to strong. Also, the following stages of development of caliche (cemented) profile were indicated where applicable.

Stage Gravelly Soils

Nongravelly Soils

- I Thin, discontinuous pebble coatings
 II Continuous pebble coatings, some interpebble fillings
 III Many interpebble fillings
 III Many interpebble fillings
 Few filaments or faint coatings
 Few to abundant nodules, flakes, filaments
 Many nodules and internodular fillings
- IV Laminar horizon over- Increasing carbonate impregnalying plugged horizon tion --
- j. Secondary Material: Example Sand with trace to some silt

Trace5-12% (by dry weight)Little13-20% (by dry weight)Some>20% (by dry weight)

k. <u>Cobbles and Boulders</u>: A cobble is a rock fragment, usually rounded or subrounded, with an average diameter between 3 and 12 inches (76 and 305 mm). A boulder is a rock fragment, usually rounded by weathering or abrasion, with an average diameter of 12 inches (305 mm) or more. The presence of cobbles and/or boulders was identified by noting the sudden change in drilling difficulty or cuttings in borings or by visual observation

in excavations. An estimate of the size, range, and percentage of cobbles and/or boulders in the strata was recorded on the logs.

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1. <u>Depth of Change in Soil Type</u>: During drilling of borings, the depth of changes in soil type was determined by observing samples, drilling rates, changes in color or consistency of drilling fluid, and relating these to depth marks on the drilling rods. In excavations, strata thicknesses were measured with a tape. All soil type interfaces were recorded on the logs by a horizontal line at the approximate depth mark.

In addition to the observations recorded relating to soil descriptions, remarks concerning drilling difficulty, loss of drilling fluid in the boring, water levels encountered, trench wall stability, ease of excavation, and other unusual conditions were recorded on the logs.

A5.6 LABORATORY TESTS

Laboratory tests were performed on selected representative undisturbed and bulk samples. All laboratory tests (except chemical tests) were performed in Fugro National's Long Beach laboratory. The chemical tests were conducted by Pomeroy, Johnson, and Bailey Laboratories of Pasadena, California. All tests were performed in general accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) procedures. The types of tests performed and their ASTM designations are summarized as follows.

Type of Test

ASTM Designation

Unit Weight	D	2937-71
Moisture Content	D	2216-71
Particle-Size Analysis	D	422-63
Liquid Limit	D	423-66
Plastic Limit	D	424-59

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ASTM
Designation
 D 2850-70
D 2166-66

Triaxial compression		2850-70
Unconfined Compression	D	2166-66
Direct Shear	D	3080-72
Consolidation	D	2435-70
Compaction	D	1557-70
California Bearing Ratio (CBR)	D	1883-73
Specific Gravity	D	854-58
Water Soluble Sodium	D	1428-64
Water Soluble Chloride	D	512-67
Water Soluble Sulfate	D	516-68
Water Soluble Calcium	D	511-72
Calcium Carbonate	D	1126-67
Test for Alkalinity (pH)	D	1067-70

A5.7 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Type of Test

A5.7.1 Preparation of Final Logs and Laboratory and Field Test Summary Sheets

The field logs of all borings, trenches, test pits, and surficial sample excavations were prepared by systematically combining the information given on the field logs with the laboratory test results. The resultant logs include generally the following information: description of soil types encountered; sample types of intervals, lithology (graphic soil column); estimates of soil density or consistency; depth locations of changes in soil types; remarks concerning trench wall stability; drilling difficulty, cementation, and cobbles and boulders encountered; and the total depth of exploration. Laboratory test results presented in the logs include dry density and moisture content; percent of gravel, sand, and fines; and liquid limit and plasticity index. Also, miscellaneous information such as surface elevation, surficial geologic unit, date of activity, equipment used, and dimensions of the activity are shown on the log.

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Field CBR test summary sheets were prepared and include the following information for each test site: depth of test; USCS soil type; grain-size distribution and plasticity (from lab testing); in-situ dry unit weight and moisture content; average field CBR values; and remarks concerning cementation and induration.

Laboratory data were summarized in tables. All samples which were tested in the laboratory were listed. Results of sieve analyses, hydrometer, Atterberg limits, in-situ dry strength and moisture content tests, and calculated degree of saturation and void ratio were entered on the tables. Test summary sheets for triaxial compression, unconfined compression, direct shear, consolidation, chemical, CBR, and compaction tests were prepared separately.

The Cone Penetrometer Test results consist of continuous plots of cone resistance and friction sleeve resistance (where friction cone was used), versus depth from ground surface. Beside the plot is shown a soil column with USCS soil types encountered at the test location. Other information presented on the log includes surface elevation and surficial geologic unit.

Separate volumes titled "Geotechnical Data" present the following finalized basic engineering data for each site.

Boring Logs	Section 6.0
Trench and Test Pit Logs	Section 7.0
Surficial Sample Logs	Section 8.0
Laboratory Test Results	Section 9.0
Field CBR Test Results	Section 10.0
Cone Penetrometer Test Results	Drawing 2

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A5.7.2 Soil Characteristics

A5.7.2.1 General

The soil characteristics are discussed in two parts, surface soils and subsurface soils. The following three tables were prepared for each site and are presented in Sections 4.0 through 10.0 of the report.

- 1. Characteristics of Surficial Soils;
- 2. Thickness of Low Strength Surficial Soils; and
- 3. Characteristics of Subsurface Soils.

The following sections, A5.7.2.2 and A5.7.2.3, explain the data analyses and interpretation used in preparing the above tables.

A5.7.2.2 Surface Soils

In order to define the characteristics of the surficial soils, data from trenches, test pits, borings, surficial soil samples, cone penetrometer tests, field CBR tests, and surficial geologic maps were reviewed in conjunction with the laboratory test results. The soils were then grouped into three or four categories of soils with similar general characteristics. These categories, their descriptions, and associated characteristics were tabulated for each site. These tables (Characteristics of Surficial Soils, Table X-2) include soil descriptions by the Unified Soil Classification System, predominant surficial geologic units, the estimated areal extent (percent) of each category, important physical properties summarized from laboratory test results, and certain road design related data.

The important physical properties summarized include the estimated cobbles content, grain-size analyses, and Atterberg limits. Ranges for these properties were determined from the field logs and laboratory test results. These ranges are useful for categorizing soils, evaluating construction techniques, and providing data for preliminary emgineering evaluations and for use by other MX participants.

Road design data presented in Table X-2 were developed from field and laboratory tests and consist of three distinct groups: 1. Laboratory test results;

- 2. Suitability of soils for road use; and
- 3. Low strength surficial soil.

These road design related data were considered important because roads (interconnecting and secondary) constitute a major portion of the geotechically related costs for the vertical shelter basing mode. The following paragraphs briefly discuss the development of road design data.

a. <u>Laboratory Test Results</u>: These include ranges of maximum dry density optimum moisture content (ASTM D 1557-70) and CBR (ASTM D 1883-73) at 90 percent relative compaction for each soil category. The maximum dry density and optimum moisture content are important quality control parameters during roadway construction. California Bearing Ratio is the ratio of the resistance to penetration developed by a subgrade soil to that developed by a specimen of standard crushed-rock base material and is the basis for many empirical road design methods used in this country.

b. <u>Suitability of Soils for Road Use</u>: Included in this group is suitability of soils for use as road subgrade, subbase, or base. Parameters used to make these qualitative assessments were characteristics related to CBR, frost susceptibility, drainage, and volume change potential. The following guidelines were used in estimating the suitability of soils for road use: 1. Suitability as a road subgrade.

- Very Good soils which can be compacted with little effort to high CBR values (CBR >30), exhibit low frost susceptibility, fair to good drainage, and low volume change potential.
- Good soils which can be compacted with some effort to moderate CBR values (CBR 15-30), exhibit moderate frost susceptibility, fair drainage, and medium volume change potential.
- Fair soils which can be compacted with considerable effort to moderate CBR values (CBR 15-30), exhibit moderate to high frost susceptibility, fair to poor drainage, and medium volume change potential.
- Poor soils which require considerable effort for compaction to even low CBR values (CBR <15), exhibit high frost susceptibility, poor drainage, or high volume change potential. These soils should generally be removed and replaced with better quality material.
- 2. Suitability as road subbase or base.
 - Good soils which exhibit negligible frost susceptibility, good drainage, and negligible volume change potential.
 - Fair soils which require some treatment or processing to upgrade for use.
 - Poor soils which would require relatively extensive processing or soil stabilization to upgrade for use.

Not

Suitable - soils which cannot be modified to give adequate roadway support.

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The parameters used in the aforementioned suitability ratings are discussed in the following paragraphs.

- i. <u>CBR Characteristics</u>: California Bearing Ratio, which is commonly used for road design, is dependent on soil type. A limited number of CBR tests were performed on several soil types which were representative of the surficial soils in the various Verification Sites. Based on these test results, a relationship between CBR and percent fines (percent passing through No. 200 sieve) was established and is shown in Figure A5-1. Envelopes for clays and granular soils with plastic fines and silts and granular soils with nonplastic fines are shown in the figure. This plot was used to estimate the range of laboratory CBR values for the various surficial soil categories.
- ii. <u>Other Characteristics</u>: These characteristics pertain to frost susceptibility, drainage, and volume change potential. They were estimated based on the physical properties of the soils, results of consolidation tests (for volume change potential), published literature, and our experience. Following are the definitions of these characteristics.
- Frost susceptibility is defined as potential for detrimental ice segregation upon freezing or loss of strength upon thawing.

Low	 negligible to little potent 	ial
Moderate	- some potential	
High	 considerable potential 	

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- 2. Drainage characteristics pertain to internal movement of water through soil.
 - Good materials which drain rapidly and do not tend to plug with fines
 - Fair natural internal drainage is fairly rapid but there is some tendency for plugging of voids with fines
 - Poor internal drainage is somewhat slow and plugging with fines can often occur

Practically Impervious - materials which exhibit almost no natural internal drainage

3. Volume change potential corresponds to soil swelling or shrinkage due to change in moisture content.

Low	-	0	to	2	percent	volume	change	
Medium		2	to	4	percent	volume	change	•
High	-	>	4	per	cent vol	lume cha	ange	

c. Low Strength Surficial Soil: Included in this group is extent of low strength surficial soil. The roads for the MX system will be built on existing ground surface with minimum cut and fill. Therefore, the costs of roads depend on the consistency (or strength) of the surficial soil. In order to evaluate the strength of the surficial soils, cone penetrometer test results were used.

Low strength surficial soil is defined as soil which will perform poorly (failure of subgrade) as a road subgrade at its present consistency when used directly beneath a road section. In order to define "low strength" using CPT results, the following four approaches were pursued. These approaches are subjective and qualitative and are based on our experience as well as published literature.

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- i. <u>Field visual observations</u>: During logging of the borings, the excavation of trenches, test pits, and obtaining surficial soil samples, consistency or compactness of the surficial soils was described qualitatively. A detailed comparison of the CPT results (cone end resistance) and the consistency of the soils was done for different soil types. Using engineering judgement, an upper limit cone resistance was established which encompassed a majority of the soils likely to perform poorly as road subgrades.
- ii. Standard Penetration Test (SPT): SPT is very widely used and accepted in geotechnical engineering practice in this country. A study of available literature revealed that the ratio of cone resistance (q_c , tsf) to Standard Penetration Resistance (N, blows per foot) has a certain range for different soil types. Limited field SPTs were performed in Reveille-Railroad and Big Smoky sites. Ratios of q_c/N were computed for these tests and were found to be comparable to those reported in literature for similar soil types. Using the relationships applicable to the soils present in the Verification sites, an upper limit of cone resistance, equivalent to midrange of "medium dense" category, was established for defining the "low strength" of surficial soils.
- iii. <u>In-Situ Dry Density</u>: A comparison was made between in-situ dry densities determined from Fugro Drive and Pitcher samples obtained from soil borings and CPT results at the same locations and depths. From this comparison,

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it was observed that identifiable trends do exist between cone resistance values and soil densities. An upper limit of cone resistance equivalent to midrange of "medium dense" category was established for defining the "low strength" of surficial soils.

iv. <u>Field CBR Tests</u>: Field CBR tests were performed only in Reveille-Railroad and Big Smoky sites. The tests were conducted at depths ranging between 6 and 30 inches (15 and 60 cm) below ground surface. At each CBR test location, three Cone Penetrometer Tests were done. A plot of average field CBR and average cone resistance was prepared and is presented in Figure A5-2. The plot shows the results of the tests in sands only, since tests in gravel and fine-grained soils were very few. Although there is considerable scatter, majority of the data points fall in a band which is shown in Figure A5-2. From this plot, a range of CPT resistance corresponding to low field CBR values (indicating low strength surficial soils) was established.

As a result of the preceding four approaches, the following criteria for defining low strength surficial soil were established:

 $q_c < 120 \text{ tsf (117 kg/cm}^2)$ for coarse-grained soils $q_c < 80 \text{ tsf (78 kg/cm}^2)$ for fine-grained soils

These criteria are preliminary at this stage and may be revised as more data become available from future verification studies.

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The criteria were used to determine the extent of low strength surficial soil at each CPT location. The results are tabulated in tables titled "Thickness of Low Strength Surficial Soil."

A5.7.2.3 Subsurface Soils

Characteristics of the subsurface soils were developed using data from seismic refraction surveys, borings, trenches, test pits, and laboratory tests. It should be emphasized that the data base for characteristics of subsurface soils is very limited since the total number of activities extending below 5 feet (1.5 m) was generally about 14 (6 borings and 8 trenches) in an area greater than 300 mi² (768 km²).

The soils were divided into coarse-grained and fine-grained soils in two ranges of depth, 0 to 20 feet and 20 to 160 feet (0 to 6 m and 6 to 49 m). Physical and engineering properties of the soils were then tabulated as "Characteristics of Subsurface Soils" based on laboratory test results on representative samples. The tables include soil descriptions, Unified Soil Classification System symbols, the estimated subsurface extent of each soil group, comments on the degree of cementation, estimated cobbles content, and ranges of values from the following laboratory tests: dry density, moisture content, grain-size distribution, liquid limit, plasticity index, unconfined compression, triaxial compression, and direct shear.

The excavatability and stability of vertical excavation walls of a trench or a vertical shelter were evaluated from the subsurface data using seismic velocities, soil types, shear

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strength, presence of cobbles and boulders, and cementation. Problems encountered during trench and test pit excavations and drilling of borings were also considered in the evaluation.

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