

Quaternary Fault and Fold Database of the United States

As of January 12, 2017, the USGS maintains a limited number of metadata fields that characterize the Quaternary faults and folds of the United States. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the [interactive fault map](#).

Metolius fault zone, Green Ridge section (Class A) No. 853a

Last Review Date: 2016-04-12

citation for this record: Personius, S.F., compiler, 2002, Fault number 853a, Metolius fault zone, Green Ridge section, in Quaternary fault and fold database of the United States: U.S. Geological Survey website, <https://earthquakes.usgs.gov/hazards/qfaults>, accessed 12/14/2020 03:16 PM.

Synopsis	<p>General: The Metolius fault zone is comprised of several mostly southwest-dipp northwest-trending normal faults that offset volcanic rocks and sediments along the eastern margin of the Cascade Range in central Oregon. The structural setting of the Metolius fault zone is open to interpretation, but the fault zone probably forms part of the eastern boundary of the Cascades graben in a structural transition zone at the northern end of the right-lateral (?) Brothers fault zone.</p> <p>Sections: This fault has 3 sections. Following Hawkins and others (1988 #2946, #2947), the Metolius fault zone is divided into the Green Ridge, the Rimrock-Tumalo, and the Northwest Rift zone sections.</p>
Name comments	<p>General: The Metolius fault zone of Hawkins and others (1988 #2946, 1989 #2947) is a zone of primarily down to the west and southwest normal faults that extend from the Green Ridge on the north to Newberry Volcano on the south. Named faults in this zone are, from north to south, the Green Ridge, Rimrock, and Tumalo faults and the</p>

Northwest Rift zone near Newberry volcano (Peterson and others, 1976 #3735; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1983 #3484; 1983 #3485; Hawkins and others, 1988 #3485; Goles and Lambert, 1990 #3763; Mimura, 1992 #3590; Taylor and Ferns, 1994 #3557; MacLeod and others, 1995 #3557; Sherrod and others, 2004 #5172; Wellik, 2008 #7383). This fault zone should not be confused with the Metolius fault located along the Metolius River northeast of Green Ridge (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1983 #3485), which has not been included in recent Quaternary fault compilations (Hawkins and others, 1988 #2946; Pezzopane, 1993 #3544; Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1995 #3593). Fault strands in the Metolius fault zone are parallel to and have been included by various authors in the nearby Sisters and Brothers fault zones [852 and 819, respectively], but we include these faults in the Metolius fault zone of Hawkins and others (1988 #2946) because of their consistent slip direction.

Section: This section consists of the Green Ridge fault and several other small faults near Green Ridge and Black Butte.

Fault ID: This fault zone is comprised of fault numbers 24, 25, and 26 of Pezzopane (1993 #3544), fault numbers 44, 46, and 47 of Geomatrix Consultants, Inc. (1995 #3593), and NWR1–NWR9 of Wellik (2008 #7383).

County(s) and State(s)	JEFFERSON COUNTY, OREGON DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON
Physiographic province(s)	CASCADE-SIERRA MOUNTAINS COLUMBIA PLATEAU
Reliability of location	Good Compiled at 1:100,000 scale. <i>Comments:</i> Location of fault from ORActiveFaults (http://www.oregongeology.org/arcgis/rest/services/Public/ORActiveFaults/MapServer downloaded 06/02/2016). Fault traces are from 1:100,000-scale mapping of Sherrod and others (2004 #5172) 1:100,000-scale compilation of Weldon and others (2004 #5648), based on 1:500,000-scale compilation of Pezzopane (1993 #3544).
Geologic setting	The Metolius fault zone of Hawkins and others (1988 #2946) is comprised of several mostly southwest-dipping, northwest-trending normal faults (Peterson and others #3735; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1983 #3484; Hawkins and others, 1988 #3485; Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1990 #3550; Walker and MacLeod, 1991 #3646, 1995 #3593; Sherrod and others, 2004 #5172; Wellik, 2008 #7383) that offset volcanic and sediments along the eastern margin of the Cascade Range in central Oregon. Individual faults are closely associated with cinder cones (Wellik, 2008 #7383) and cumulative vertical displacement across the entire zone is likely 20 m (Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1990 #3550). The structural setting of the Metolius fault zone is to interpretation, but the fault zone probably forms part of the eastern boundary of

	Cascades graben (Taylor, 1981 #4306; 1981 #4307; Sherrod and Smith, 2000 #5165) in a structural transition zone at the northern end of the right lateral (?) Brothers fault zone (Lawrence, 1976 #3506; Hawkins and others, 1988 #2946).
Length (km)	This section is 29 km of a total fault length of 94 km.
Average strike	N11°W (for section) versus N22°W (for whole fault)
Sense of movement	Normal <i>Comments:</i> Faults in the Green Ridge section are mapped as high angle or normal faults by most workers (Williams, 1957 #3740; Peterson and others, 1976 #3735; Taylor, 1981 #4306; 1981 #4307; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1983 #3485; Weldon and MacLeod, 1991 #3646; Hill, 1992 #3736; Pezzopane, 1993 #3544; Sherrod and Smith, 2000 #5165; Sherrod and others, in press #5172), but if these faults are part of the Sisters fault zone [852], then some oblique slip may also be present (Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1995 #3593; Sherrod and others, 2004 #5172).
Dip Direction	SW
Paleoseismology studies	
Geomorphic expression	The most prominent fault in this section, the Green Ridge fault, parallels a 750-m linear escarpment in Miocene volcanic rocks on the western margin of Green Ridge. Despite its height and linearity, little geomorphic evidence of Quaternary faulting has been found along this escarpment (Hawkins and others, 1988 #2946; Geomatrix Consultants Inc., 1995 #3593). Pezzopane (1993 #3544) used air photo analysis to infer Quaternary activity on several faults in the Green Ridge section, and Weldon and others (2002 #5648) observed lineaments across Quaternary deposits on 1:100,000 scale DEMs of the area.
Age of faulted surficial deposits	The Green Ridge fault offsets upper Miocene (5.27±0.04 Ma) volcanic rocks of the Deschutes Formation (Smith and others, 1987 #3780) >1000 m (Taylor, 1981; Sherrod and others, 2004 #5172). Some faults in the Green Ridge section may be buried by early or middle Pleistocene basalts of Black Butte near the southern end of the section (Taylor, 1981 #4306; 1981 #4307; Hill, 1992 #3736), but U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1983 #3484), Pezzopane (1993 #3544), Sherrod and Smith (2000 #5165), Sherrod and others (2004 #5172), and Weldon and others (2002 #5648) show Quaternary faults in this area.
Historic earthquake	
Most recent prehistoric deformation	middle and late Quaternary (<750 ka) <i>Comments:</i> Pezzopane (1993 #3544) used airphoto analysis to infer Quaternary

	displacement on the Green Ridge fault, despite the conclusions of other studies that this structure has not been active in the Quaternary (Hawkins and others, 1988 #2 Pezzopane (1993 #3544) and subsequent compilations (Geomatrix Consultants Inc. 1995 #3593; Madin and Mabey, 1996 #3575; Weldon and others, 2002 #5648) in middle and late Quaternary (<700–780 ka) displacement on the rest of the faults in the Green Ridge section.
Recurrence interval	
Slip-rate category	Less than 0.2 mm/yr <i>Comments:</i> No detailed fault slip data have been documented, but the lack of significant geomorphic evidence of Quaternary displacement on most faults in the Green Ridge section suggest low rates of slip.
Date and Compiler(s)	2002 Stephen F. Personius, U.S. Geological Survey
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