

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**ALLUVIUM** - a general term for all fragment deposits resulting from the operations of modern rivers, thus including the sediments laid down in river beds, flood plains, lakes, stands at the foot of mountain slopes, and estuaries.

**CHANNEL** - a groove or gully eroded into the surface of the slope of a hill or mountain.

**COHESION** - the ability of individual soil particles to stick or adhere together through the action of temporary tension, cementation or weak electrical bonding of clay minerals and organic colloids.

**COLLUVIUM** - a general term applied to loose and incoherent deposits, usually at the foot of a slope or cliff and brought there chiefly by gravity. Talus and cliff debris are included in such deposits.

**DEBRIS** - the material resulting from the decay and disintegration of rocks. It may occur in the place where it was produced or it may be transported by streams of water or ice and deposited in other localities.

**DIP** - the angle at which a stratum or any other planar feature is inclined from the horizontal. The dip is at a right angle to the strike (see definition).

**GULLY** - a small ravine. Any erosion channel so deep that it cannot be crossed by a wheeled vehicle or eliminated by plowing.

**JOINT** - fracture in rock, generally more or less vertical or transversed bedding, along which no appreciable movement has occurred.

**METAMORPHISM** - the process by which consolidated rocks are altered in composition, texture, or internal structure or conditions and forces not resulting simply from burial and the weight of subsequently accumulated overburden. Pressure, heat and the introduction of new chemical substances are the principal causes, and the resulting changes, which generally include the development of new minerals or a thermodynamic response to a greatly altered environment.

**PORE WATER PRESSURE** - pressure produced by the head of water (its vertical height above an impermeable base) in a saturated soil and transferred to the base of the soil through the pore water.

STRIKE - the course or compass bearing of the outcrop of an inclined bed or structure on a level surface; the direction or bearing of a horizontal line in the plane of an inclined stratum, joint, fault, cleavage plane, or other structural plane.

TALUS - a collection of fallen, weak, non-firm material which has formed a slope at the foot of a steeper declivity.

TECTONIC - of, pertaining to, or designating the rock structure and external forms resulting from the deformation of the earth's crust. As applied to earthquakes it is used to describe shocks not due to volcanic action or to collapse of caverns or landslides.

F0957

Mt. Jureau  
el. 3576'

Breakaway Zone



---

Daniel, Mann, Johnson, and Mendenhall

