

MESSAGE SCAN FOR JOHN YOUNG

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To katzman@fimad.lanl.gov:smtp
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CC pratt allyn r@lanl.gov:smtp
CC sreneau@lanl.gov:smtp

From: (Steven Reneau) sreneau@lanl.gov:smtp
Postmark: Oct 02,97 3:53 PM Delivered: Oct 02,97 3:53 PM
Status: Previously read
Subject: Los Alamos & Pueblo Canyon Sediment Investigations: Update

Comments:
See document for message.

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After a hectic summer, we have just reached a milestone by completing the last of the 1st sediment sampling events in the Los Alamos and Pueblo Canyon reaches. Reaches P-2 and P-3 were sampled September 29 to October 1, and we hope to have analytical data received in time for a 2nd sampling round in November, before snows and frozen ground prevent continued field work.

Sampling activities in the 4 pilot study reaches from 1996, LA-2, LA-5, P-1, and P-4, are largely or entirely complete, although we will likely be conducting some supplemental geomorphic field work and may be collecting a limited number of additional samples in the future if data analysis and interpretation indicates some significant data gaps.

For the 5 new study reaches, we have completed one round of sampling in each and are expecting a 2nd round in October or November, weather permitting. Examination of LA-3 data indicates it may be relatively simple and well characterized, requiring relatively little additional data. Initial examination of LA-4 data is in progress, and it appears significantly more complex, in part resulting from non-uniform mixing of sediment from Pueblo and upper Los Alamos Canyons with their differing input of contaminants; I hope to have an initial summary of these data distributed next week, and to be collecting a 2nd round of samples before Halloween. LA-1 samples were collected on September 11-12, and data should be received in late October, allowing a 2nd sampling round in early November. Work in P-2 and P-3 largely involves defining the distribution, concentration, and inventory of Pu between P-1 and P-4, including resulting insight into sediment transport processes and contaminant dilution; significant additional field work will be conducted here during the next month, particularly in P-3.

An attached spreadsheet summarizes the status of investigation in each of the 9 reaches, including the FIMAD plot # of the latest geomorphic map with sample locations, which can be obtained through FIMAD. Note: most of these maps are in various stages of revision, so if you would like the most recent version please contact me to make sure this spreadsheet is not outdated.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my great appreciation to key members of the sediment team who have been especially valuable in keeping the process moving through this field season: Randy Ryti for timely analysis and interpretation of data; the ERM team under Deba Daymon for field support, particularly Danny Katzman for various geomorphic activities, Jenny Harris for sediment sampling, and Linnea Wahl (now with SAIC) for field radiation measurements; Eric McDonald (now at the Desert Research Institute in Reno) for his expertise in soils and geomorphology; Matt Rice for critical GIS support; and Rose Gallaway (now attending Cornell College) for general field and computer assistance. Thanks!!

I would also like to welcome Paul Drakos with Glorietta Geosciences in

