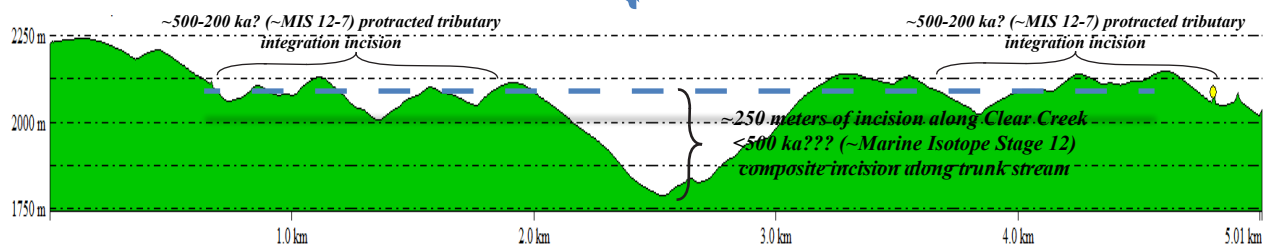


Front Range Pleistocene Geomorphology and Mysterious Gravel Deposits

April 15th, 8:00am meeting, Woolly Mammoth Parking Lot

Leaders: Cal Ruleman (USGS), Ned Stern, Bob Raynolds (Denver Museum of Nature History),
Beth Simmons (retired)

Eastward Aerial View of the I-70 Corridor Across Lookout Mountain and the Front Range foothills structural bench



Please join us for an eventful day visiting several sites along the I-70 corridor and up along Highway 103 on the northeast shoulder of the Mount Evans massif. We will begin with an overview of the previous work within the area and relationships that have been previously established, from the Eocene Rocky Mountain erosional surface to Pleistocene incision rates and the timing for onset of major Pleistocene glacial epochs. After our meeting spot overview, our first stop will be at the Genessee Park-I-70 junction with discussions pertaining to geomorphology east and west of the Floyd Hill Divide. We will then venture to the Casino Parkway and the large exposure of the the Central City Gravel. Here we will have time for personal observation of the deposit and geomorphic relationships. We will discuss probable mechanisms for deposition and relationships to distal fan surfaces and chronologic relationships to the east on the Great Plains. We will continue up Chicago Creek at Idaho Springs with stops at Last Glacial Maximum (Pinedale) moraines and till deposits for comparison with the Central City Gravel. Proceeding up Highway 103 to Echo Lake and Juniper Pass we will observe geomorphic similarities between Bear and Clear Creeks with probable coeval glacial-induced landscape incision. We plan to provide an analog and new perspective for future investigations involving Pleistocene geomorphic development of the Rocky Mountain-Great Plains region.

Please email Cal Ruleman at cruleman@usgs.gov, or call (303)236-7804, for questions and to sign up for the field trip. Attendees should provide their own sack lunches and refreshments. We will assist with those wishing to carpool and please let us know if you have room for others available in your personal vehicle.