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55. Dykes, RED-CHRIS

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DYKES

Feldspar-Hornblende-Biotite Porphyry Dyke (DPHF):

These dykes are very similar in composition and appearance to the Main and Late Phase units. They are commonly 10 to 15 meters wide and range in colour from buff to pale green, green, orange-brown, and most commonly dark orange, depending on the groundmass mineralogy and alteration. The unit is strongly potassic. Most often the unit is strongly porphyric. Plagioclase phenocrysts are generally euhedral to subhedral grains, 1 to 2 mm, representing 20 to 25 percent of the rock. These phenocrysts are generally indistinct, occurring as blurred grains that blend into the groundmass. Hornblende phenocrysts are subhedral to euhedral, averaging 2 to 3 mm in length. Hornblende and secondary biotite usually comprise 10 to 12 percent of the rock. Prominent mafic phenocrysts in a blurred aphanitic groundmass with no indistinct to observable trachytic texture which is the diagnostic characteristic of this unit.



Quartz - Carbonate Amygdaloidal Dyke (DQCA):

These dykes have been referred to as 'Bird's Eye Porphyry' dykes by previous geologists. Varieties range from those characterized by spherical amygdaloids in a fine to aphanitic grey groundmass, to those with no amygdaloids and variable contents of plagioclase, hornblende or biotite phenocrysts. These dykes are usually 2 to 3 meters wide. They characteristically contain white spherical quartz-carbonate amygdaloids, up to 5 mm in diameter, in a fine to aphanitic buff, tan or grey groundmass comprised of plagioclase minerals.



Mafic Dykes (DMAF):

Mafic dykes are composed of euhedral pyroxene and biotite phenocrysts, ranging from 2 to 4 mm in length in an aphanitic groundmass ranging in colour from purple grey to grey and buff, depending on the groundmass composition and alteration. The pyroxene and biotite phenocrysts and the groundmass are often extensively replaced by sericite, granular carbonates and chlorite with minor quartz. Plagioclase phenocrysts are sericitized to a pale green colour.

