

Appendix D. *Geographic and Geological Terms*

The list below shows the treatment of geographic and geological terms that are encountered frequently in AFS publications. For the treatment of other terms, see *Webster's New Geographical Dictionary* or contact the Journals Department.

Alaska Peninsula	
the Arctic	Inner Coastal Plain
Atlantic coast	
Atlantic Continental Shelf (Slope)	Laurentian Shield
Atlantic Shelf	Lock 19 (Mississippi River)
	lower Colorado River
basin (e.g., Appalachian basin)	
	massif (e.g., Adirondack massif)
California Current	mid-Atlantic region
Canadian government	Mid-Atlantic Ridge
Canadian Shield	Middle Atlantic Bight
a coastal plain	the Midwest
a continental shelf (slope)	midwestern
	Mississippi Delta
Deep South	Mississippi River delta
the Delta (Mississippi)	
driftless area	The Netherlands
	North Atlantic
East Coast	north-central
eastern	the Northeast
Eastern Shore (Maryland)	northeastern
eastern United States (<i>not</i> the East)	northern
Equatorial Current	northern United States (<i>not</i> the North)
	North Shore (Gulf of St. Lawrence)
Fall Line	north shore (Lake Superior)
fault (e.g., San Andreas fault)	the Northwest
	northwestern
Glacier (e.g., Columbia Glacier)	
Grand Bank(s)	Oregon Coast Range
Great Basin	Outer Coastal Plain
Great Plains	
Gulf Coast (as region)	Pacific coast
Gulf Stream	the Pacific Northwest
	Philippines (<i>not</i> the Philippines)
The Hague	the Piedmont
Hawaiian Islands	Pool 12 (Mississippi River)

Province of Ontario	state of Washington
	syncline (e.g., Murphy syncline)
Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta	upper Mississippi River
Sacramento–San Joaquin Estuary	Upper Midwest
San Francisco Estuary	Upper Peninsula (Michigan)
the South	U.S. Government
South Atlantic Bight	
south-central	Washington State
the Southeast	West Coast
southeast Alaska	western
southeastern	western United States (<i>not</i> the West)
southern	Windward Islands
Southern California Bight	
the Southwest	
southwestern	

NOTE ON GEOLOGICAL TERMS

Formal geological terms are capitalized except for words that are purely descriptive:

Morrison Formation Laurentian Shield

but Ozark uplift Merrimack River basin

The modifiers accompanying the following terms, which refer to periods, systems, epochs, or series, are capitalized (e.g., Upper Cambrian, Late Eocene):

Cambrian Cretaceous Devonian Jurassic Mississippian Ordovician
 Pennsylvanian Permian Silurian Triassic Eocene Miocene Oligocene
 Paleocene Pliocene Precambrian

The names of major divisions, provinces, and sections are also capitalized:

Interior Plains Great Plains Missouri Plateau