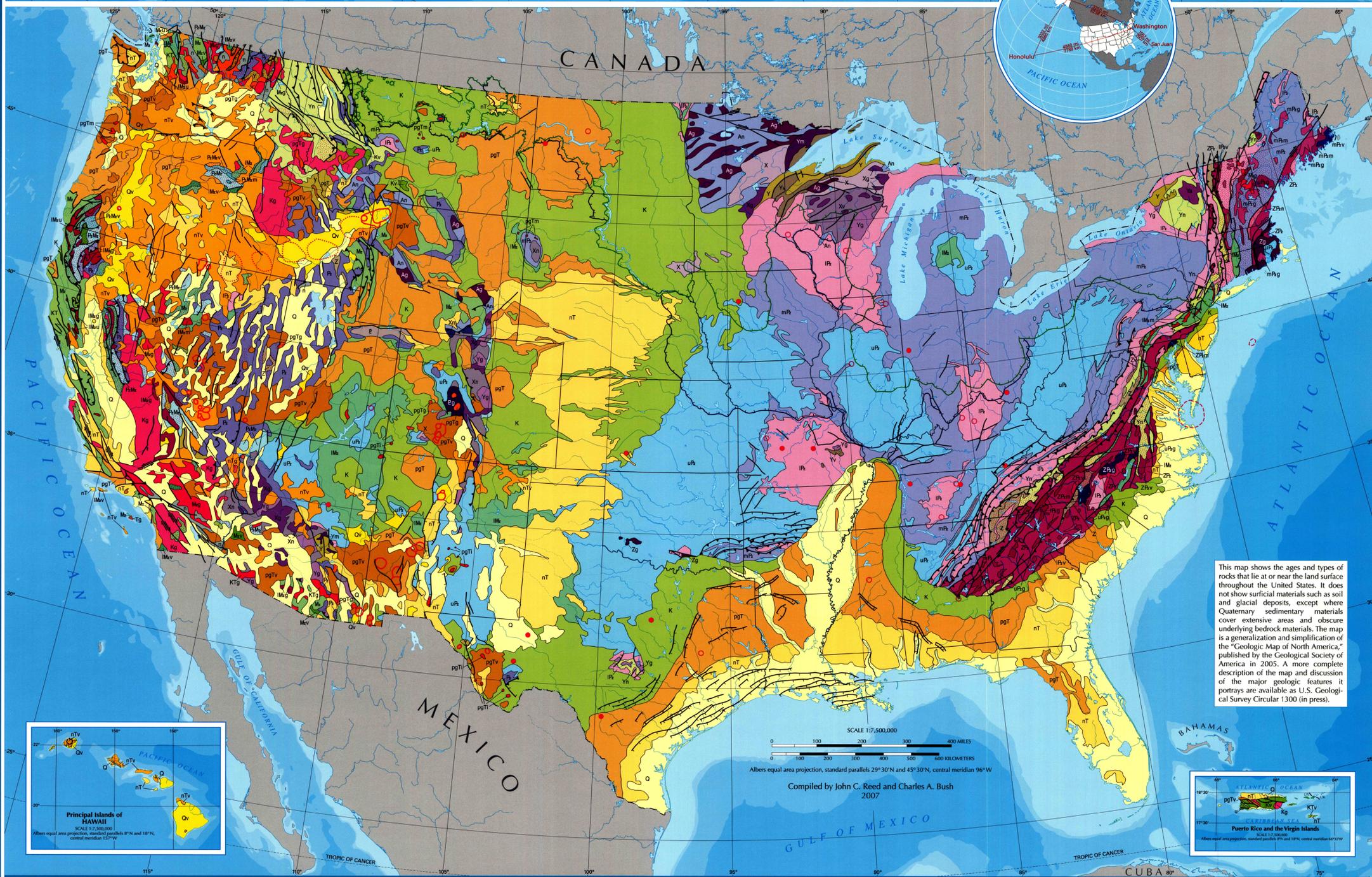


EON	ERA	PERIOD	MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	Quaternary	1.8
		Tertiary	23.8
		Neogene	65
	Mesozoic	Cretaceous	144
		Jurassic	206
		Triassic	248
	Paleozoic	Permian	290
		Pennsylvanian	323
		Mississippian	354
		Devonian	417
Proterozoic	Ordovician	443	
	Silurian	490	
	Cambrian	543	
Archean	Late Proterozoic	2,500	
	Middle Proterozoic	2,500	
	Early Proterozoic	2,500	
	pre-Archean	3,800	

Asterisk (*) denotes informal unit

GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE



This map shows the ages and types of rocks that lie at or near the land surface throughout the United States. It does not show surficial materials such as soil and glacial deposits, except where Quaternary sedimentary materials cover extensive areas and obscure underlying bedrock materials. The map is a generalization and simplification of the "Geologic Map of North America," published by the Geological Society of America in 2005. A more complete description of the map and discussion of the major geologic features it portrays are available as U.S. Geological Survey Circular 1300 (in press).