Columbia River Basalt Group (Miocene)—The Columbia River basalt is a series of lava flows or flood basalts ranging in thickness from 5 to 45 meters, with a total thickness of about 300 meters (Schlicker and Finlayson, 1979; Tolan and Beeson, 1984). Thin, baked soil zones often separate the individual flows. Prior to the deposition of younger formations on top of the Columbia River basalt, the Columbia River Basalt Group was gently folded and faulted resulting in topographic highs and lows (Schlicker and Finlayson, 1979). In some of these topographic lows, such as Newell Creek Canyon, thick sedimentary units have been deposited on top of the Columbia River basalt, filling in the depression (Marvin Beeson, PSU Geology Department, Personal Communication, 1998).