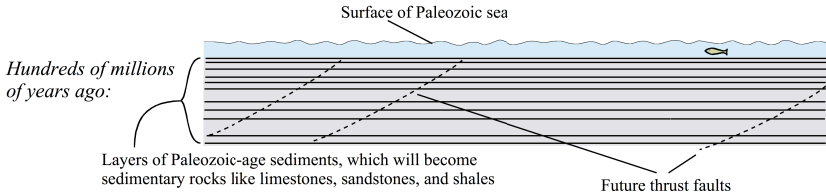
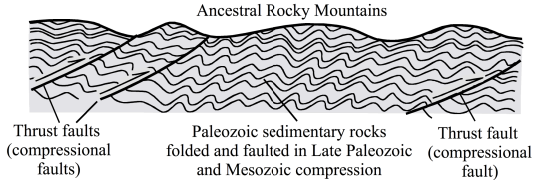


# A very simplified geologic history of the Basin and Range region of east-central Idaho

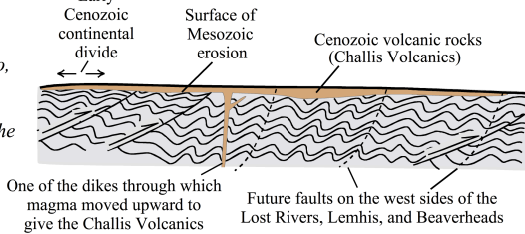


Hundreds of millions of years ago:

One hundred to three hundred million years ago, a collision of tectonic plates to the west compresses the rocks deposited above:

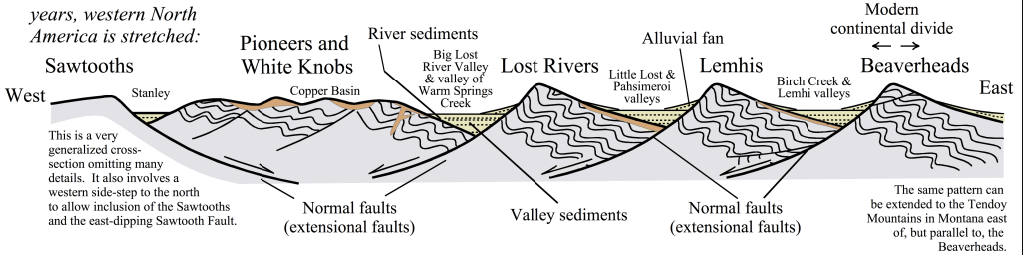


Tens of millions of years ago, after the rocks above are partly eroded, lava erupts (north of, and long before, the lavas of the modern Snake River Plain):

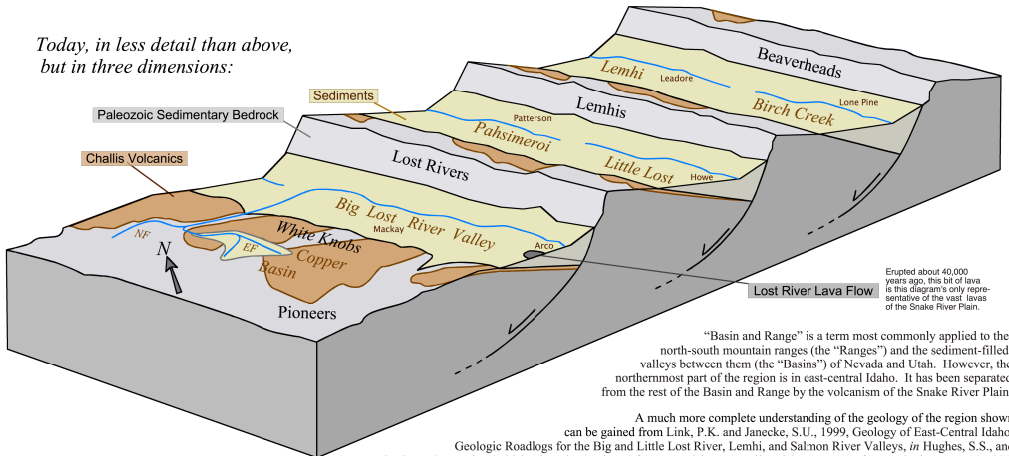


Paleozoic: 540 to 251 million years ago  
"the age of invertebrates"  
Mesozoic: 251 to 66 million years ago  
"the age of reptiles"  
Cenozoic: 66 million years ago to present  
"the age of mammals"

In the last ten million years, western North America is stretched:



Today, in less detail than above, but in three dimensions:



A much more complete understanding of the geology of the region shown can be gained from Link, P.K. and Janecek, S.U., 1999, Geology of East-Central Idaho: Geologic Roadlogs for the Big and Little Lost River, Lemhi, and Salmon River Valleys, in Hughes, S.S., and Thackray, G.D., eds., Guidebook to the Geology of Eastern Idaho: Pocatello, Idaho Museum of Natural History, p. 295-334.