

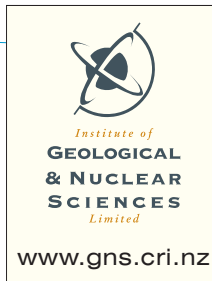
NEW ZEALAND'S GEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

Strip away New Zealand's towns, farms, trees and soil. Peel back the blanket of the last 100 million years of volcanic deposits and soft rocks.

What is left are hard and crystalline rocks, the country's geological foundations on which everything else has been constructed. But even these basement rocks are just a thin, cold crust floating on the Earth's hot mantle.

New Zealand's geological origins go back nearly 600 million years. Since then, movements between the Gondwanaland supercontinent and Pacific Ocean crust have led to drastic changes in the region's size, shape and position.

Investigations of this ancient, four-dimensional, still-moving jigsaw puzzle reveal how New Zealand's geological foundations have influenced the development of today's natural resources, hazards and environment.



SEDIMENTARY AND VOLCANIC ROCKS

- Northland and East Coast Allochthons
- Morrinsville-Manaia Hill-Waioeka assemblage (Waipa Supergroup)
- Hunua-Bay of Islands Terrane
- Caples Terrane
- Maitai Terrane
- Murihiku Terrane
- Brook Street Terrane
- Torlesse Composite Terrane (eastern NZ)
- Pahau
- Rakaia

PLUTONIC ROCKS

- Median Batholith
- Karamea, Paparua and Hohouu Batholiths

METAMORPHIC ROCKS AND TECTONIC OVERPRINTS

- Esk Head and Whakatane Mélanges
- Haast Schist
- Gneiss

Eastern Province

Western Province

