

## **End-Cretaceous super-plume explosive events in North America caused by an expanding Earth**

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Chicxulub, Mexico is interpreted to be a huge end-Cretaceous volcanic vent rather than a meteorite impact crater. The multi-ringed faulting was caused by subsequent slumping into the magmatic source area. Carbonate breccia above the vent was created by geothermal activity accompanied by explosive violence related to the volcanism.

The 74Ma and 65Ma dates from different parts of the central peak of the Manson, Iowa structure are interpreted to represent two separate periods of explosive-hydrothermal intrusion of basement breccia rather than meteorite impact. The overturned ejecta flap is hydrothermal breccia redeposited in reverse order.

The Beaverhead, Montana shatter cones are inferred to be caused by explosive gases moving along end-Cretaceous thrust planes. Kentland, Indiana shatter cones and explosive volcanism in Montana, Colorado and New Mexico also occurred during end-Cretaceous time.

All of these explosive events appear to be related to the same end-Cretaceous mantle super-plume activity that created the uplift that caused the North American epicontinental seaway to regress to the Gulf of Mexico. This catastrophic period may ultimately be linked to an expanding Earth. For many years the geologic community did not accept Wegener's continental drift concept. It is *deja vu*! We are underestimating the power of our constantly changing Earth again.