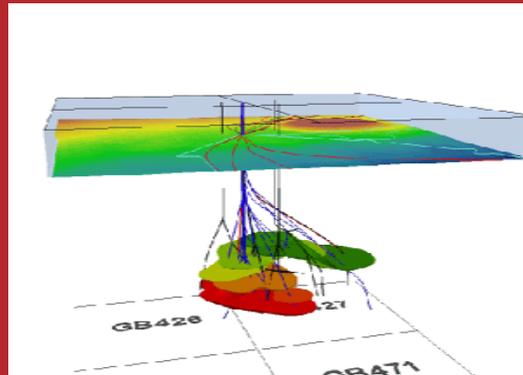


January 2006 Monthly Newsletter**MMS Atlas Data**

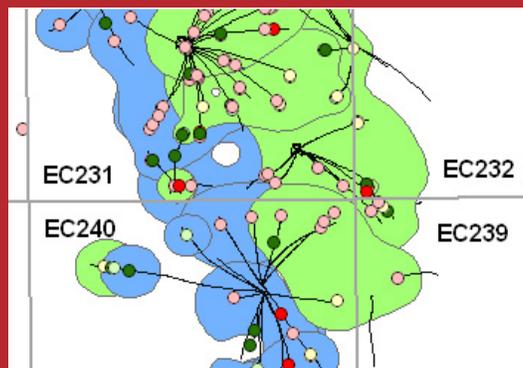
A decade ago, MMS began a project that resulted in its first release of the *Atlas of Northern Gulf of Mexico Reservoirs*, known generally as the *Atlas*. The first edition was issued as two large format paper volumes and accompanying electronic form data. The original *Atlas* divided the GOM by series and plays, providing basic engineering and geologic data on all the reservoirs in each and in the paper volumes, type logs, structural maps of the reservoirs, cross-sections and fence diagrams.

Roughly every two years, MMS has updated the *Atlas*, releasing new data on the fields and reservoirs included in the previous volume, and adding both new reservoirs discovered at producing fields and new fields. Releases of the *Atlas* updates allow us to make major revisions in *GOM³*, not only refreshing tables with the latest information, but revising our 2-D and 3-D representation of sand, pool and field outlines and all of the Gulf's 60,000+ completions.

The new data released at the reservoir level is also re-aggregated for a new look at distributions at the play, series and Gulf-wide levels. So, an *Atlas* update will provide new values for porosity data in newly discovered Upper Miocene 2 fan reservoirs at the individual fields where they were found.



Above: 3-D GIS model of the GB426 field.



Above: Sands of the EC231 field.

However, the new observations allow us to update the statistical distribution we provide for porosity among all Upper Miocene 2 fan reservoirs as a play.

Sand-level reserve analysis is released with the *Atlas* data. So, now after 4 *Atlases*, we have unique time series of MMS-estimated proved and unproved reserves (and cumulative production) for every sand in the GOM as of 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001 and 2003. This supports examination of what fields are growing in estimated ultimate recovery because of greater drilling, increasing recovery factors or the discoveries of new sands in established fields.

For us, it also allows re-correlation of all completions with their respective sands for all of the fields in the GOM. This corrects old errors, adds new information on the 2-D and 3-D geometries of sands and allows us to extend our coverage into deeper water.

MMS released its update in December (delayed because of Katrina). ESA will refresh all of the tables and 2-D sand, pool and field polygons as of our next (end-February) update. We will have new 3-D field models for all 1,000+ producing fields, with new 3-D models for 12,000+ sands, 45,000+ wells and 60,000+ completions in the release at the end of March.

Earth Science Associates (562) 437-7373