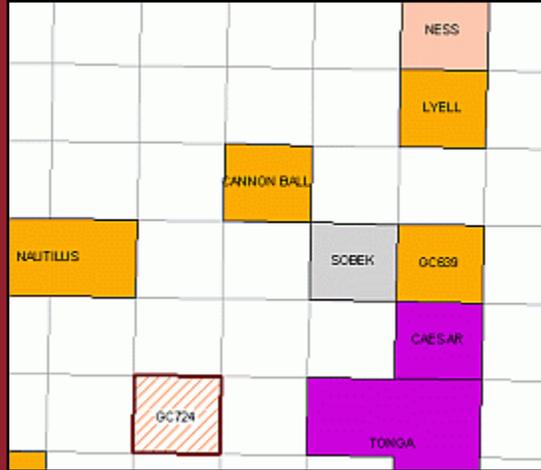




October 2009 Monthly Newsletter
Discoveries and Prospects in GOM³

Earth Science Associates has made great strides in updating data at an increasingly rapid pace. Automated processes now generate data within an hour of its release by the MMS to update GOMsmart and web-based reports and charts. MMS data on discoveries and prospects, however, is limited. To overcome these limitations, ESA has for many years reviewed industry publications, company documents (e.g., press releases, quarterly reports), presentations (e.g., to investor analysts), web sites and direct filings from operators to expand our discoveries and prospects database.



In both cases, we include all of the technical and operational data we can find, such as nickname, target depths, expected size, drilling schedule, operators, well costs, and lease holders. Because we collect these data from disparate sources, in each ESA Report on a discovery or prospect, we provide a hyperlink back to a page on an ESA server on which the

source of every element of data is given. If it is a web-based source, a hyperlink is provided. These source pages are also available when clicking on a discovery or prospect name in the top section of GOMsmart.

Prospects based on specific information are divided into new field and extension objectives, based on proximity to existing fields or discoveries. Abandoned prospects represent relinquished and expired leases on which applications had been filed to drill wildcats. Dry prospects are noted where there has been an announcement of an unsuccessful test or are inferred when a lease is relinquished or allowed to expire after a well is drilled, presumably to test a prospect. A second layer, possible prospects, represents blocks where plans have been filed to drill, but no other reference to these prospects has been found in publications.

We also classify discoveries by new field or extension (to the best of our ability). Typically discoveries have more data than prospects.

Discoveries and prospects are updated with all other data at the end of each month and distributed in our monthly updates (CDs or direct downloads). However, because of the demand for discovery and prospect news, we have included it in our What's New services. By clicking on the red exclamation point on the GOM³ tool bar in ArcMap, you can choose to add the discoveries and prospects uncovered since the beginning of the month (updated weekly). These features load directly from our web server to your ArcMap session. At the end of the month, the weekly changes are added to the monthly update and the What's New process begins again in the first week of the new month. Discoveries and prospects appear in the main GOMsmart interface and GOMsmart interactive map immediately after we finish processing them.

Earth Science Associates (562) 428-3181

GOM³ Calendar

Central Lease Sale 213
Spring 2010

User and Support Conference
October 2009

4300 Long Beach Boulevard Suite 310 Long Beach, CA 90807

www.earthsci.com

