

# South Falklands Basin Assessment Unit 60600201



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-  Falklands Plateau Geologic Province 6060

**USGS PROVINCE:** Falklands Plateau (6060)

**GEOLOGIST:** C.J. Schenk

**TOTAL PETROLEUM SYSTEM:** Lower Cretaceous (606002)

**ASSESSMENT UNIT:** South Falklands Basin (60600201)

**DESCRIPTION:** This assessment unit encompasses extensional structures south of the Falkland Islands on the Falkland Plateau.

**SOURCE ROCKS:** Source rocks are organic-bearing mudstones thought to be equivalent to the Neocomian D-129 source rocks of the San Jorge Basin, or the source may be marine mudstones similar to the "Lower Inoceramus" mudstones of the Magallanes Basin.

**MATURATION:** Modeling suggests that Lower Cretaceous source rocks reached generation in the Late Cretaceous with peak generation in the Eocene.

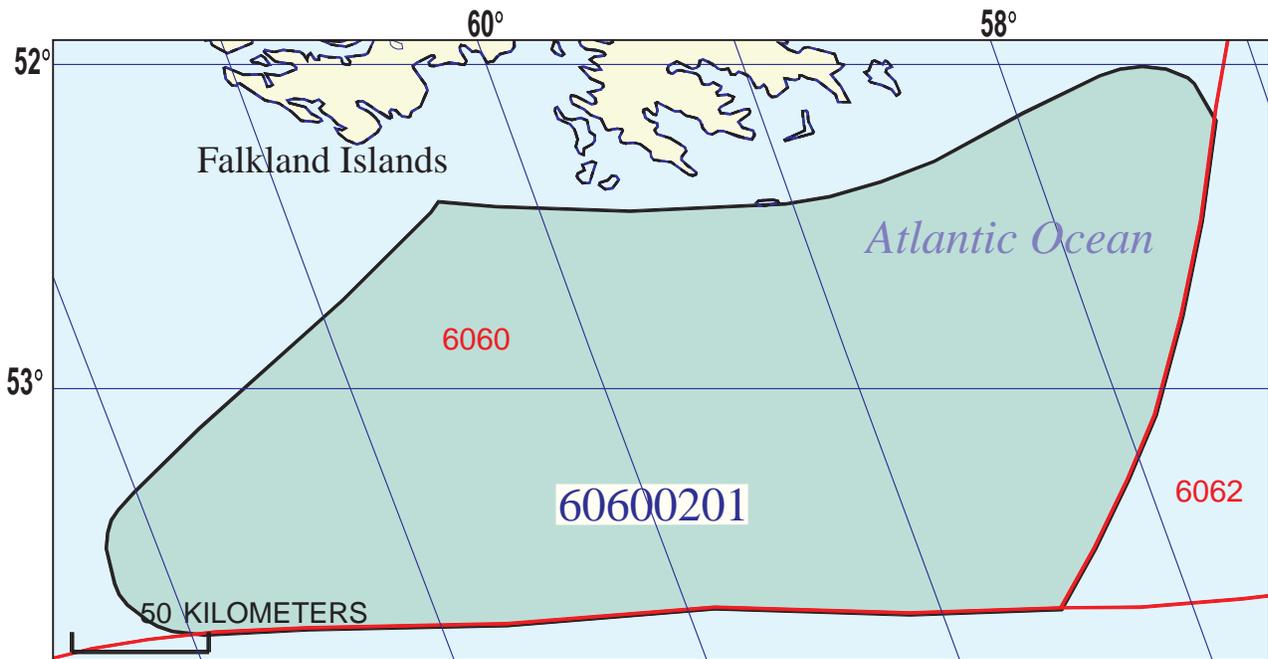
**MIGRATION:** Migration is believed to have been mainly vertical along the numerous normal faults formed during the extensional tectonic event in the Upper Jurassic and Early Cretaceous.

**RESERVOIR ROCKS:** Reservoirs are sandstones deposited as fluvial, alluvial fan, deltaic, and shallow marine facies during synrift and post rift stages of fill. Possible low-stand wedges may occur in the basin. Sandstones equivalent to the Lower Cretaceous Springhill Formation of the Magallanes Basin may be the best reservoirs.

**TRAPS AND SEALS:** Traps are related to extensional structures, and to possible stratigraphic traps in the deeper part of the basin. Folds may have formed along west-oriented strike-slip faults and associated flower structures. Seals are mainly intraformational mudstones in the Late Cretaceous and Tertiary marine sedimentary section.

**REFERENCES:**

- Durham, M.J., Burges, P.C., and Bottinga, R., 1999, Geology of the North Falklands Graben and implications for future hydrocarbon exploration: American Association of Petroleum Geologists, International Conference and Exhibition Extended Abstracts Volume, Birmingham, England, p. 159-162.
- Marshall, J.E.A., 1994, The Falkland Islands—a key element in Gondwana paleogeography: Tectonics, v. 13, p. 499-514.
- Richards, P.C., 1997, An introduction to the Falkland Islands for the oil industry: British Geological Survey for the Falkland Islands Government, 26 p.
- Thomson, K., 1998, When did the Falklands rotate?: Marine and Petroleum Geology, v. 15, no. 8, p. 723-736.



**South Falklands Basin**  
**Assessment Unit - 60600201**

EXPLANATION

-  Hydrography
-  Shoreline
- 6060**  Geologic province code and boundary
-  Country boundary
-  Gas field centerpoint
-  Oil field centerpoint
- 60600201**  Assessment unit code and boundary

Projection: Robinson. Central meridian: 0

**SEVENTH APPROXIMATION  
NEW MILLENNIUM WORLD PETROLEUM ASSESSMENT  
DATA FORM FOR CONVENTIONAL ASSESSMENT UNITS**

Date:..... 10/6/99  
 Assessment Geologist:..... C.J. Schenk  
 Region:..... Central and South America Number: 6  
 Province:..... Falklands Plateau Number: 6060  
 Priority or Boutique..... Boutique  
 Total Petroleum System:..... Lower Cretaceous Number: 606002  
 Assessment Unit:..... South Falklands Basin Number: 60600201  
 \* Notes from Assessor Hypothetical; San Jorge Extensional Structures (60580101) is partial analog.  
 Magallanes Extensional Structures (60590101) is also partial analog.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF ASSESSMENT UNIT**

Oil (<20,000 cfg/bo overall) or Gas (≥20,000 cfg/bo overall):... Oil

What is the minimum field size?..... 10 mmmboe grown (≥1mmboe)  
 (the smallest field that has potential to be added to reserves in the next 30 years)

Number of discovered fields exceeding minimum size:..... Oil: 0 Gas: 0  
 Established (>13 fields) \_\_\_\_\_ Frontier (1-13 fields) \_\_\_\_\_ Hypothetical (no fields) X

Median size (grown) of discovered oil fields (mmboe):  
 1st 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd 3rd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Median size (grown) of discovered gas fields (bcfg):  
 1st 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd 3rd \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd 3rd \_\_\_\_\_

**Assessment-Unit Probabilities:**

<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Probability of occurrence (0-1.0)</u>
1. <b>CHARGE:</b> Adequate petroleum charge for an undiscovered field ≥ minimum size.....	<u>0.8</u>
2. <b>ROCKS:</b> Adequate reservoirs, traps, and seals for an undiscovered field ≥ minimum size.....	<u>0.7</u>
3. <b>TIMING OF GEOLOGIC EVENTS:</b> Favorable timing for an undiscovered field ≥ minimum size	<u>1.0</u>

**Assessment-Unit GEOLOGIC Probability** (Product of 1, 2, and 3):..... 0.6

4. **ACCESSIBILITY:** Adequate location to allow exploration for an undiscovered field  
 ≥ minimum size..... 1.0

**UNDISCOVERED FIELDS**

**Number of Undiscovered Fields:** How many undiscovered fields exist that are ≥ minimum size?:  
 (uncertainty of fixed but unknown values)

Oil fields:.....min. no. (>0)	<u>1</u>	median no.	<u>40</u>	max no.	<u>120</u>
Gas fields:.....min. no. (>0)	<u>1</u>	median no.	<u>20</u>	max no.	<u>60</u>

**Size of Undiscovered Fields:** What are the anticipated sizes (**grown**) of the above fields?:  
 (variations in the sizes of undiscovered fields)

Oil in oil fields (mmbo).....min. size	<u>10</u>	median size	<u>30</u>	max. size	<u>4000</u>
Gas in gas fields (bcfg):.....min. size	<u>60</u>	median size	<u>130</u>	max. size	<u>7000</u>

**AVERAGE RATIOS FOR UNDISCOVERED FIELDS, TO ASSESS COPRODUCTS**

(uncertainty of fixed but unknown values)

<u>Oil Fields:</u>	minimum	median	maximum
Gas/oil ratio (cfg/bo).....	1000	2000	3000
NGL/gas ratio (bnl/mmcf).....	15	25	35
<u>Gas fields:</u>	minimum	median	maximum
Liquids/gas ratio (bnl/mmcf).....	15	25	35
Oil/gas ratio (bo/mmcf).....			

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**SELECTED ANCILLARY DATA FOR UNDISCOVERED FIELDS**

(variations in the properties of undiscovered fields)

<u>Oil Fields:</u>	minimum	median	maximum
API gravity (degrees).....	20	30	40
Sulfur content of oil (%).....			
Drilling Depth (m) .....	500	2000	4500
Depth (m) of water (if applicable).....	100	400	1000
<u>Gas Fields:</u>	minimum	median	maximum
Inert gas content (%).....			
CO <sub>2</sub> content (%).....			
Hydrogen-sulfide content (%).....			
Drilling Depth (m).....	500	2500	5000
Depth (m) of water (if applicable).....	100	400	1000

**ALLOCATION OF UNDISCOVERED RESOURCES IN THE ASSESSMENT UNIT  
 TO COUNTRIES OR OTHER LAND PARCELS** (uncertainty of fixed but unknown values)

1. Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) represents 100 areal % of the total assessment unit

<u>Oil in Oil Fields:</u>	minimum	median	maximum
Richness factor (unitless multiplier):.....	_____	_____	_____
Volume % in parcel (areal % x richness factor):...	_____	<u>100</u>	_____
Portion of volume % that is offshore (0-100%).....	_____	<u>100</u>	_____
 <u>Gas in Gas Fields:</u>	 minimum	 median	 maximum
Richness factor (unitless multiplier):.....	_____	_____	_____
Volume % in parcel (areal % x richness factor):...	_____	<u>100</u>	_____
Portion of volume % that is offshore (0-100%).....	_____	<u>100</u>	_____



# South Falklands Basin, AU 60600201 Undiscovered Field-Size Distribution

