OCS Statistical Report MMS 98-0027

Resource Evaluation Program Report

# Geological & Geophysical Data Acquisition

Outer Continental Shelf Through 1997

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# Acronyms and Abbreviations

CDP	Common depth point seismic data
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
COST	Continental Offshore Stratigraphic Test
DOI	Department of the Interior
DST	Deep stratigraphic test (well)
FY	Fiscal Year
G&G	Geological and geophysical
GOM	Gulf of Mexico
GRAV	Gravity data
HRD	High-resolution seismic data
MAG	Magnetics data
MMS	Minerals Management Service
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
OCSLA	Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
RE	Resource Evaluation
REP	Resource Evaluation Program
SEG	Society of Exploration Geophysicists
3-D	Three-dimensional seismic data
4-D	Four-dimensional seismic data

This report addresses the general role of the MMS Resource Evaluation Program (REP) in geological and geophysical (G&G) data acquisition and permitting activities.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) administers the provisions of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) through regulations found at Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The regulations govern permitting, data acquisitions and release, leasing, and postlease operations on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The OCS is divided into planning areas for administrative purposes as shown in figure 1.

With regard to the REP, authority has been vested in the Secretary of the Interior under 30 CFR Part 251 to regulate prelease G&G exploration for oil, gas, and sulphur resources on the OCS. Part 251 applies not only to G&G exploration but to scientific research as well. The purpose of these regulations is to prescribe (1) when a permit or the filing of a notice is required to conduct G&G activities on the OCS and (2) operating procedures for conducting exploration, as well as requirements for disclosing data and information, conditions for reimbursing permittees for certain costs, and other conditions under which exploration shall be conducted. Similar regulations addressing prelease prospecting activities can be found in 30 CFR Part 280.

In this report, the totals for permits issued, mileage acquired, and expenditures reflect the overall trends of oil and gas pricing, limitations of areas due to offshore moratoria, and the shift of industry emphasis to foreign theatres.

The permits, issued by the Resource Evaluation (RE) Regional Supervisors, set forth the specific details for each data-gathering activity, which include the area where the data are collected, the timing of the data-gathering activity, approved equipment and methods, and other similar detailed information relevant to each specific permit. The primary source of the G&G data used by the REP is the oil and gas industry, which conducts exploration, development, and production activities on OCS lands. While the MMS does not perform any direct datacollection activities, it does issue permits to industry for collecting prelease G&G data. Lessees and operators are also required by regulations to provide data from their leases to MMS. The MMS has access to the permitted data and information as a condition set forth in the permit. The MMS selectively obtains copies from these activities. Data from prelease permits constitute approximately 90 percent of the MMS database. Reimbursement for data collected by permittees and lessees in their normal conduct of business are for only the cost of data reproduction. However, if industry has collected data in areas not under MMS jurisdiction, e.g., State waters or adjacent foreign waters, and MMS selects such data, MMS pays the significantly higher "market price" for obtaining such data.

### **Geophysical Data Surveys**

#### Common Depth Point, Gravity, Magnetic, 3-D, and 4-D Surveys

A large percentage of the geophysical data in the MMS inventory is twodimensional (2-D) common depth point (CDP) seismic information. Also known as common midpoint or common reflection point data, it is derived from a common location in the ocean subbottom where sound waves originating from various positions of the seismic (sound) source near the ocean surface are reflected back toward the surface. Estimates of the amount of these data in the MMS inventory by planning area are shown in table 1.

Magnetic surveys measure the magnetic field or its component (such as the vertical component) at a series of different locations over an area of interest usually to locate concentrations of magnetic anomalies or to determine depth to basement.

Gravity surveys produce measurements of the gravitational field at a series of different locations over an area of interest. The objective in exploration work is to map density differences that may indicate different rock types. Gravity data usually are displayed as anomaly maps.

While the main use of three-dimensional (3-D) seismic data and information may still be in reservoir development, the evolution of 3-D seismic data and information,

in conjunction with interactive computer workstations, has made it possible to more closely define and assess the potential for oil and gas occurrence on the OCS, especially with regard to subsalt prospects. The 3-D information is used to delineate, in greater detail than that of traditional 2-D information, subsurface geologic conditions associated with the occurrence of natural gas and oil.

As 3-D seismic technology evolved, the use of 3-D reflection techniques not only portrayed subsurface structure and stratigraphy but revealed information about fluids within the subsurface. Three dimensional seismic surveys that are shot over the same area at different times can detect, where present, changes from one fluid to another, e.g., oil to water, fluid flows, and pressure changes.

Thus timelapse 3-D seismic surveys, known more commonly as 4-D seismic surveys, have been used to monitor fluid movement in producing reservoirs where changes in fluid content are imaged with seismic techniques over a period of time. Its chief use to date has been reservoir management, e.g., determining where and how long to drain hydrocarbon-bearing areas and to monitor gas injection or steam or water flooding during enhanced recovery operations.

The proprietary terms for geophysical information (i.e., seismic sections, etc.) purchased by MMS is 25 years; for raw geophysical data it is 50 years.

### **Geological Data Collection**

#### **Bottom Sampling and Shallow Coring**

Bottom samples are obtained by dropping a weighted tube to the ocean floor and recovering it with an attached wire line; they can also be obtained from dredging. Shallow coring is performed by conventional rotary drilling equipment to obtain a near-surface sample of the rocks of the seabed. The proprietary term for these kinds of geological information is 10 years.

#### **Deep Stratigraphic Tests**

A deep stratigraphic test, as defined in 30 CFR 251, "means drilling which involves the penetration into the sea bottom of more than 50 feet (15.2 meters) of consolidated rock or a total of more than 300 feet (91.4 meters)." These wells are also known as Continental Offshore Stratigraphic Test (COST) wells and are drilled primarily to gather geological information. Conversely, shallow test drilling, as defined in the same regulations, "means drilling into the sea bottom to depths less than those specified in the definition of a deep stratigraphic test." Three COST wells have encountered hydrocarbons: the COST B-3 (Atlantic), Point Conception No.1 (California), and the Norton COST No. 2 (Alaska). The proprietary term for a COST well is 25 years or, if a lease sale is held in the area, 60 days after the issuance of a lease within 50 geographic miles of the test. A discussion of the cost well program is described by Dellagiarino (1991).

Planning Area	Estimated Mileage		
	Alaska		
Gulf of Alaska Cook Inlet Kodiak Shumagin North Aleutian Basin St. George Basin Aleutian Arc Bowers Basin Aleutian Basin St. Matthew-Hall Basin Norton Basin Norton Basin Hope Basin Chukchi Sea Beaufort Sea Total	$\begin{array}{c} 36,000\\ 21,000\\ 23,000\\ 10,000\\ 43,000\\ 50,000\\ < 500\\ <1,000\\ <1,000\\ 10,000\\ 25,000\\ 55,000\\ 9,000\\ 96,000\\ \underline{60,000}\\ 439,000\\ \end{array}$		
	Atlantic		
North Atlantic Mid-Atlantic South Atlantic Straits of Florida Total	69,000 60,000 54,000 <u>7,000</u> 190,000		
	Gulf of Mexico		
Eastern Gulf of Mexico Central Gulf of Mexico Western Gulf of Mexico Total	121,000 382,000 <u>281,000</u> 784,000		
Pacific			
Southern California Central California Northern California Washington-Oregon Total	85,000 21,000 19,000 <u>8,000</u> 133,000		

**Table 1.** Summary of Estimates of CDP Seismic Miles in MMS InventoryThrough FY 1997 by Planning Area (Rounded off to Nearest 1,000 Miles)

FY	Total Miles
1968-1975	269,814
1976	108,922
1977	42,808
1978	54,426
1979	31,489
1980	19,400
1981	69,904
1982	79,961
1983	120,743
1984	89,853
1985	71,521
1986	47,287
1987	113,680
1988	78,920
1989	53,494
1990	85,280
1991	40,513
1992	49,191
1993	25,482
1994	7,138
1995	8,930
1996	33,296
1997	39,682
Total	1,541,734

**Table 2.** Summary of CDP Seismic DataAcquisition for FY 1968-1997

Figures may vary by 1-2%.

Table 3.	Summary of 3-D Seismic Data Acquisition
for FY 196	8-1997

FY	Total Blocks	
1968-1992	0	
1993	1,563	
1994	1,420	
1995	1,826	
1996	1,470	
1997	<u>3,129</u>	
Total	9,408	

Data Type	Region	Mileage *
CDP	Alaska	439,906
	Atlantic	189,858
	Gulf of Mexico	779,129
	Pacific	132,841
	Total	1,541,734
High Resolution	Alaska	9,855
C	Atlantic	49,509
	Gulf of Mexico	145,768
	Pacific	30,582
	Total	285,714
<b>CDP Interpretations</b>	Alaska	84,683
-	Atlantic	44,801
	Gulf of Mexico	139,418
	Pacific	42,365
	Total	311,267
Gravity and Magnetics	Alaska	370,849
•	Atlantic	15,783
	Gulf of Mexico	75,942
	Pacific	<u>110,150</u>
	Total	572,724
3-D Seismic	Alaska	3
	Atlantic	0
	Gulf of Mexico	9,372
	Pacific	33_
	Total	9,408
Deep Stratigraphic Tests	Alaska	14
	Atlantic	5
	Gulf of Mexico	3
	Pacific	_2
	Total	24

**Table 4.** Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Data Type and Region, FY 1968-1997

\* 3-D seismic is measured in blocks and Deep Stratigraphic Test units are wells drilled. bl = Blocks

Year	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G
1960-1968	2,353						
1969	258	249	9	0	0	0	0
1970	213	203	10	0	0	0	0
1971	210	205	5	0	0	0	0
1972	220	210	10	0	0	0	0
1973	339	321	18	0	0	0	0
1974	357	345	12	2	0	0	0
1975	510	487	23	3	0	0	0
1976	420	400	20	7	0	0	0
1977	452	436	16	4	0	0	0
1978	342	329	13	2	0	0	0
1979	276	265	11	0	0	0	0
1980	318	302	16	1	0	0	0
1981	394	383	11	0	0	0	0
1982	502	490	12	3	0	0	0
1983	574	542	32	1	16	0	0
1984	543	518	25	0	18	0	0
1985	398	382	16	0	38	0	0
1986	211	207	4	0	32	0	0
1987	298	282	16	0	42	0	0
1988	313	289	24	0	45	0	0
1989	249	237	12	1	47	0	0
1990	251	241	9	0	57	1	0
1991	170	156	12	0	45	2	0
1992	141	137	3	0	53	1	0
1993	147	135	11	0	70	1	0
1994	133	117	16	0	53	0	0
1995	104	92	11	0	50	1	0
1996	136	120	16	0	59	0	0
1997	157	138	19	_0	<u>69</u>	0	<u> </u>
Total	10,989	8,218	412	24	694	<u>0</u> 6	1

**Table 5.** Total Number of Permits Issued for Geological and Geophysical Exploration

A=Total Number of Geological and Geophysical Permits

B=Number of Geophysical Permits

C=Number of Geological Permits

D=Number of Geological Permits Issued for Deep Stratigraphic Tests

E=Number of Geophysical Permits Issued for 3-D Seismic Data

F=Number of Permits Issued for Strategic (Nonenergy) Minerals

G=Number of Permits Issued for 4-D Seismic Data

Dashed lines = Individual breakouts not established

FY	Alaska	Atlantic	Gulf of Mexico	Pacific	Total
1968-1975	3,162,548	361,686	9,414,042	1,443,987	14,891,780*
1976	3,496,607	2,504,710	3,281,698	581,670	9,914,882*
1977	450,161	2,287,390	3,764,678	1,147,968	7,719,974*
1978	3,421,269	906,989	1,842,701	416,463	6,587,422
1979	6,240,687	232,085	1,573,094	2,272,407	11,020,298*
1980	6,972,885	4,469,762	4,388,508	1,412,062	17,243,217
1981	6,842,045	1,530,898	1,168,618	866,656	10,408,217
1982	1,864,661	1,945,270	2,943,602	1,996,271	8,749,804
1983	5,673,514	1,738,427	3,802,409	1,312,596	12,526,946
1984	4,751,354	1,580,008	4,246,742	1,286,598	11,864,702
1985	3,676,375	318,261	2,959,989	861,687	7,816,312
1986	2,904,246	87,307	1,834,553	363,564	5,189,670
1987	2,579,190	438,792	1,840,609	939,558	5,798,149
1988	1,382,560	71,510	1,078,713	114,168	2,646,951
1989	389,960	259,629	913,481	96,354	1,659,424
1990	886,402	150	865,083	0	1,751,635
1991	539,986	2,790	1,003,066	31,000	1,576,842
1992	99,797	1,932	794,104	0	1,490,798**
1993	322,410	0	1,014,853	26,700	1,363,963
1994	582,132	0	760,245	11,806	1,454,183**
1995	379,395	0	628,752	21,125	1,142,817**
1996	283,764	0	1,697,494	40,867	2,022,125
1997	204,655	0	1,180,893	19,594	1,471,967
Total	57,106,603	18,737,596	52,997,927	15,263,101	146,312,078

**Table 6.** Summary of Total Annual Expenditures by MMS for Geological andGeophysical Data Acquisition by Region, FY 1968-1997 (in dollars)

\* Included in the budget for these years were General Account funds that were transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey, Branch of Marine Geology, for G&G data acquisition. These accounts included \$509,517 in the interval between FY 1968-1975, \$50,197 in FY 1976, \$69,777 in FY 1977, and \$702,025 in FY 1979.

\*\*Included in the budget for these years were funds that were used for special projects related to G&G activities. In FY 1992, \$494,965 was obligated toward the purchase of geologic interpretive workstations and \$100,000 was obligated toward the initiation of the Offshore Northern Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Atlas Series. In FY 1994, \$100,000 was again obligated toward the preparation of the Offshore Northern Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Atlas and in FY 1995, \$100,000 was obligated toward the completion of the Atlas, and \$13,545 was obligated toward finalization of a well log data conversion contract in the Gulf of Mexico. In FY 1997, \$5,000 was obligated towards the curation of Atlantic well samples. All figures have been rounded.

Data Type	Expenditures (\$)*
	Alaska
CDP Seismic High Resolution CDP Interpretations Gravity and Magnetics 3-D Seismic Total	$\begin{array}{r} 40,751,311\\ 11,125,798\\ 439,793\\ 1,026,956\\ \underline{}\\ 53,343,858\end{array}$
	Atlantic
CDP Seismic High Resolution CDP Interpretations Gravity and Magnetics 3-D Seismic Total	7,791,438 9,751,232 55,274 2,902 0 17,600,846
	Gulf of Mexico
CDP Seismic High Resolution CDP Interpretations Gravity and Magnetics 3-D Seismic Total	31,059,472 12,729,139 856,526 514,734 <u>3,454,244</u> 48,614,115
	Pacific
CDP Seismic High Resolution CDP Interpretations Gravity and Magnetics 3-D Seismic Total	9,553,194 3,696,394 72,175 534,363 <u>23,931</u> 13,880,057

**Table 7.** Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data AcquisitionExpenditures by Data Type and Region, FY 1968-1997

\*MMS has had additional expenditures through its G&G data acquisition budget for other general purchases such as field tapes, special processing, navigation tapes, interpretive hardware and software for evaluation purposes, geological studies.

FY	Average Cost (\$/Mile)
1968-1975	33.60
1976	34.90
1977	30.00
1978	73.60
1979	99.70
1980	91.50
1981	100.70
1982	107.00
1983	102.50
1984	121.10
1985	105.90
1986	102.00
1987	48.30
1988	32.70
1989	26.10
1990	18.00
1991	19.86
1992	7.49
1993	13.33
1994	75.84
1995	22.02
1996	39.04
1997	5.45

**Table 8.** Summary of Average Cost Per Mile byMMS for CDP Seismic Data, FY 1968-1997

Note: Totals reflect average cost per mile for all CDP information acquired, both State and Federal. Average costs reflect only those dollars assigned to the bureauwide G&G budget and do not reflect monies allocated from Regional funds.

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# Appendix

	Alaska
A-1	Summary of geological and geophysical data acquisition by fiscal year for Alaska
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### **Alaska Tables**

Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	70,306	5,500	32,819	55,710	0	1
1976	37,785	19,163	30,164	0	0	4
1977	11,952	5,606	21,700	23,470	0	4
1978	28,524	0	0	36,625	0	0
1979	8,538	5,412	0	25,465	0	0
1980	10,109	7,703	0	0	0	1
1981	35,430	4,590	0	14,969	0	0
1082	16,624	0	0	0	0	2
1983	51,903	0	0	0	0	2
1984	30,961	7,904	0	5,850	0	0
1985	30,270	0	0	0	0	0
1986	21,603	1,600	0	0	0	0
1987	49,532	470	0	80,826	0	0
1988	14,963	1,741	0	0	0	0
1989	3,136	166	0	9,543	0	0
1990	8,557	0	0	11,046	0	0
1991	3,964	0	0	1,500	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	1,893	0	0	0	0	0
1994	2,422	0	0	102,845	0	0
1995	737	0	0	3,000	0	0
1996	315	0	0	0	0	0
1997	382	0	0	0	* 3	_0
Total	439,906	59,855	84,683	370,849	3	14

**Table A-1.** Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal Year

 for Alaska

Note: \* Acquisition for 3-D seismic data are measured in blocks; all other acquisitions in this table are measured in miles. DST dates are assigned based upon completion dates and are measured in terms of wells completed. All other data are measured in terms of miles.

Year	Α	В	С	D	E	F
1960-1968	75					
1969	31	28	3	0	0	0
1970	40	36	4	0	0	0
1971	27	26	1	0	0	0
1972	17	17	0	0	0	0
1973	33	32	1	0	0	0
1974	47	44	3	0	0	0
1975	82	74	8	1	0	0
1976	69	61	8	4	0	0
1977	33	29	4	4	0	0
1978	9	8	1	0	0	0
1979	32	30	2	0	0	0
1980	41	36	5	1	0	0
1981	54	49	5	0	0	0
1082	85	79	6	3	0	0
1983	103	80	23	1	0	0
1984	70	62	8	0	0	0
1985	63	56	7	0	0	0
1986	18	17	1	0	0	0
1987	18	14	4	0	0	0
1988	13	9	4	0	0	0
1989	17	14	3	0	0	0
1990	19	15	3	0	0	1
1991	7	4	1	0	0	2
1992	7	6	0	0	0	1
1993	11	10	0	0	2	1
1994	3	3	0	0	1	0
1995	1	1	0	0	1	0
1996	6	6	0	0	5	0
1997	5	4	1	0	0	0
Total	1,036	850	106	14	9	5

**Table A-2.** Number of Permits Issued for Geological and Geophysical Exploration in

 Alaska

A=Total Number of Geological and Geophysical Permits

B=Number of Geophysical Permits

C=Number of Geological Permits

D=Number of Geological Permits Issued for Deep Stratigraphic Tests

E=Number of Geophysical Permits Issued for 3-D Seismic Data

F=Number of Permits Issued for Strategic (Nonenergy) Minerals

Dashed lines = Individual breakouts not established

Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretations	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	2,803,939	119,700	160,832	7,515	0	NA
1976	1,628,153	1,598,789	268,961	0	0	NA
1977	271,035	36,473	10,000	49,450	0	NA
1978	2,956,280	0	0	408,679	0	0
1979	2,180,700	2,019,512	0	125,148	0	0
1980	1,086,423	5,789,936	0	0	0	NA
1981	5,231,130	1,531,458	0	69,286	0	0
1082	1,817,736	0	0	0	0	NA
1983	5,673,514	0	0	0	0	NA
1984	4,118,626	19,238	0	27,072	0	0
1985	3,669,129	0	0	0	0	0
1986	2,780,556	950	0	0	0	0
1987	2,301,780	400	0	249,951	0	0
1988	1,339,007	3,425	0	0	0	0
1989	347,872	5,917	0	21,851	0	0
1990	832,476	0	0	51,681	0	0
1991	518,613	0	0	15,573	0	0
1992	0*	0	0	0	0	0
1993	139,117	0	0	0	0	0
1994	579,129	0	0	0	0	0
1995	167,170	0	0	750	0	0
1996	113,071	0	0	0	0	0
1997	195,855	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40,751,311	11,125,798	439,793	1,026,956	0	

**Table A-3.** Summary of Expenditures by MMS for Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal Year for Alaska (in dollars)

\*In FY 1992, the Alaska Region spent funds from the G&G budget and Regional funds to acquire digital copies of data already in their inventory and did not acquire any new or additional data.

Note: NA represents "not applicable" as no G&G funds are used to acquire information from a DST. Where no DST was completed, a zero is entered into the expenditure column.

Year	Average Cost (\$/Mile)
1968-1975	39.88
1976	43.09
1977	22.68
1978	103.64
1979	255.41
1980	107.47
1981	147.65
1982	109.34
1983	109.31
1984	133.03
1985	121.21
1986	128.71
1987	46.47
1988	89.49
1989	110.93
1990	97.29
1991	130.85
1992	0
1993	73.48
1994	239.18
1995	475.85
1996	358.96
1997	512.71

**Table A-4.** Summary of Average Cost Per Mile byMMS for CDP Seismic Data by Fiscal Year for Alaska(in dollars)

Note: Totals reflect average cost per mile for all CDP information acquired, both State and Federal. Average costs reflect only those dollars assigned to the bureauwide G&G budget and do not reflect monies allocated from Regional funds.

Zero indicates G&G dollars were not spent on CDP information.

# **Atlantic Tables**

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Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	41,958	1,740	11,802	14,267	0	0
1976	25,211	23,867	29,822	1,076	0	2
1977	21,032	6,100	3,177	440	0	2
1978	14,281	0	0	0	0	0
1979	6,877	0	0	0	0	1
1980	585	10,660	0	0	0	0
1981	9,950	7,142	0	0	0	0
1082	19,074	0	0	0	0	0
1983	30,077	0	0	0	0	0
1984	9,386	0	0	0	0	0
1985	1,640	0	0	0	0	0
1986	424	0	0	0	0	0
1987	2,356	0	0	0	0	0
1988	827	0	0	0	0	0
1989	2,730	0	0	0	0	0
1990	31	0	0	0	0	0
1991	1,042	0	0	0	0	0
1992	2,377	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	189,858	49,509	44,801	15,783	0	5

Table A-5. Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal Year for the Atlantic

Note: DST dates are assigned based upon completion dates and are measured in terms of wells completed. All other data are measured in terms of miles.

Year	Α	В	С	D	Е	F
1960-1968	45					
1969	7	7	0	0	0	0
1970	4	3	1	0	0	0
1971	4	4	0	0	0	0
1972	4	4	0	0	0	0
1973	4	4	0	0	0	0
1974	2	2	0	0	0	0
1975	29	23	6	1	0	0
1976	35	28	7	3	0	0
1977	20	20	0	0	0	0
1978	17	13	4	1	0	0
1979	9	9	0	0	0	0
1980	15	15	0	0	0	0
1981	17	16	1	0	0	0
1082	11	11	0	0	0	0
1983	10	10	0	0	0	0
1984	6	6	0	0	0	0
1985	2	1	1	0	0	0
1986	3	2	1	0	0	0
1987	2	0	2	0	0	0
1988	4	4	0	0	0	0
1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
1990	1	1	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	1	0	0	0	0	1
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	252	183	23	5	0	1

**Table A-6.** Number of Permits Issued for Geological and Geophysical Exploration in the Atlantic

A=Total Number of Geological and Geophysical Permits

B=Number of Geophysical Permits

C=Number of Geological Permits

D=Number of Geological Permits Issued for Deep Stratigraphic Tests

E=Number of Geophysical Permits Issued for 3-D Seismic Data

F=Number of Permits Issued for Strategic (Nonenergy) Minerals

Dashed lines = Individual breakouts not established

Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	309,029	4,900			0	0
1976	196,687	2,256,167	45,282	2,902	0	NA
1977	242,868	1,968,513	9,992	0	0	NA
1978	581,562	0	0	0	0	0
1979	119,250	0	0	0	0	NA
1980	51,096	4,278,448	0	0	0	0
1981	179,682	1,243,204	0	0	0	0
1082	1,882,723	0	0	0	0	0
1983	1,718,584	0	0	0	0	0
1984	1,500,298	0	0	0	0	0
1985	287,135	0	0	0	0	0
1986	87,307	0	0	0	0	0
1987	438,792	0	0	0	0	0
1988	71,510	0	0	0	0	0
1989	120,042	0	0	0	0	0
1990	150	0	0	0	0	0
1991	2,790	0	0	0	0	0
1992	1,933	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7,791,438	9,751,232	55,274	2,902	0	

**Table A-7.** Summary of Expenditures by MMS for Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal Year for the Atlantic (in dollars)

Note: NA represents "not applicable" as no G&G funds are used to acquire information from a DST. Where no DST was completed, a zero is entered into the expenditure column.

No expenditures are available for CDP interpretations or gravity and magnetic data for 1968-1975.

Year	Average Cost (\$/Mile)
1968-1975	7.37
1976	7.80
1977	11.55
1978	40.72
1979	17.34
1980	87.34
1981	18.06
1982	98.70
1983	57.14
1984	159.85
1985	175.08
1986	205.91
1987	186.24
1988	86.47
1989	43.97
1990	4.84
1991	2.68
1992	.81
1993	
1994	
1995	
1996	
1997	

**Table A-8.** Summary of Average Cost Per Mile byMMS for CDP Seismic Data by Fiscal Year for theAtlantic (in dollars)

Note: Totals reflect average cost per mile for all CDP information acquired, both State and Federal. Average costs reflect only those dollars assigned to the bureauwide G&G budget and do not reflect monies allocated from Regional funds.

Dashed lines indicate no funding for that year.

# **Gulf of Mexico Tables**

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Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	143,458	88,549	120,038	19,670	0	2
1976	31,474	9,367	19,380	56,272	0	0
1977	4,485	18,119	0	0	0	0
1978	7,188	8,275	0	0	0	0
1979	11,681	5,018	0	0	0	0
1980	4,758	15,940	0	0	0	0
1981	16,454	500	0	0	0	0
1082	28,700	0	0	0	0	0
1983	26,290	0	0	0	0	0
1984	40,828	0	0	0	0	0
1985	31,430	0	0	0	0	0
1986	22,616	0	0	0	0	0
1987	43,073	0	0	0	0	0
1988	56,265	0	0	0	0	0
1989	43,121	0	0	0	0	1
1990	76,692	0	0	0	0	0
1991	35,507	0	0	0	0	0
1992	46,814	0	0	0	0	0
1993	23,589	0	0	0	1,563*	0
1994	4,416	0	0	0	1,420*	0
1995	8,193	0	0	0	1,826*	0
1996	32,797	0	0	0	1,458*	0
1997	39,300	0	0	0	<u>3,105</u> *	<u>0</u> 3
Total	779,129	145,768	139,418	75,942	9,372*	3

**Table A-9.** Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal Year

 for the Gulf of Mexico

Note: \*Acquisitions for 3-D seismic data are measured in blocks; all other acquisitions in this table are measured in miles.

DST dates are assigned based upon completion dates and are measured in terms of wells completed.

Year	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G
1960-1968	2,071						
1969	207	204	3	0	0	0	0
1970	166	162	4	0	0	0	0
1971	179	175	4	0	0	0	0
1972	198	188	10	0	0	0	0
1973	272	264	8	0	0	0	0
1974	284	275	9	2	0	0	0
1975	353	348	5	0	0	0	0
1976	292	289	3	0	0	0	0
1977	368	361	7	0	0	0	0
1978	278	278	0	0	0	0	0
1979	211	204	7	0	0	0	0
1980	231	225	6	0	0	0	0
1981	283	280	3	0	0	0	0
1082	344	341	3	0	0	0	0
1983	416	416	0	0	16	0	0
1984	411	408	3	0	18	0	0
1985	300	295	5	0	38	0	0
1986	170	169	1	0	32	0	0
1987	258	252	6	0	42	0	0
1988	263	251	12	0	45	0	0
1989	232	223	9	1	47	0	0
1990	227	222	5	0	57	0	0
1991	163	152	11	0	45	0	0
1992	134	131	3	0	53	0	0
1993	136	125	11	0	68	0	0
1994	130	114	16	0	52	0	0
1995	102	91	11	0	49	0	0
1996	130	114	16	0	54	0	0
1997	152	134	18	0	69	0	_1
Total	8,961	6,691	199	$\frac{0}{3}$	685	0	1

**Table A-10.** Number of Permits Issued for Geological and Geophysical

 Exploration in the Gulf of Mexico

A=Total Number of Geological and Geophysical Permits

B=Number of Geophysical Permits

C=Number of Geological Permits

D=Number of Geological Permits Issued for Deep Stratigraphic Tests

E=Number of Geophysical Permits Issued for 3-D Seismic Data

F=Number of Permits Issued for Strategic (Nonenergy) Minerals

G=Number of Permits Issued for 4-D Seismic Data

Dashed lines = Individual breakouts not established

Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretations	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	5,255,068	2,795,562	722,442	129,500	0	NA
1976	1,489,665	514,141	134,084	385,234	0	0
1977	579,583	3,072,088	0	0	0	0
1978	330,183	1,438,856	0	0	0	0
1979	492,299	949,697	0	0	0	0
1980	388,329	3,926,990	0	0	0	0
1981	939,506	31,805	0	0	0	0
1082	2,936,727	0	0	0	0	0
1983	3,678,684	0	0	0	0	0
1984	3,999,326	0	0	0	0	0
1985	2,768,574	0	0	0	0	0
1986	1,600,031	0	0	0	0	0
1987	1,824,927	0	0	0	0	0
1988	1,075,515	0	0	0	0	0
1989	885,748	0	0	0	0	NA
1990	704,670	0	0	0	0	0
1991	289,266	0	0	0	0	0
1992	376,893	0	0	0	0	0
1993	200,407	0	0	0	537,908	0
1994	26,946	0	0	0	647,592	0
1995	21,535	0	0	0	592,223	0
1996	1,151,587	0	0	0	526,471	0
1997	44,103	0	0	0	1,150,050	0
Total	31,059,572	12,729,139	856,526	514,734	3,454,244	

**Table A-11.** Summary of Expenditures by MMS for Geological and Geophysical Data

 Acquisition by Fiscal Year for the Gulf of Mexico (in dollars)

Note: NA represents "not applicable" as no G&G funds are used to acquire information from a DST. Where no DST was completed, a zero is entered into the expenditure column.

Year	Average Cost (\$/Mile)
1968-1975	36.63
1976	47.33
1977	129.23
1978	45.94
1979	42.15
1980	81.62
1981	57.10
1982	102.33
1983	139.93
1984	97.96
1985	88.09
1986	70.75
1987	42.37
1988	19.12
1989	20.54
1990	9.19
1991	8.14
1992	8.05
1993	8.49
1994	6.10
1995	2.63
1996	35.11
1997	1.01

**Table A-12.**Summary of Average Cost Per Mile byMMS for CDP Seismic Data by Fiscal Year for theGulf of Mexico (in dollars)

Note: Totals reflect average cost per mile for all CDP information acquired, both State and Federal. Average costs reflect only those dollars assigned to the bureauwide G&G budget and do not reflect monies allocated from Regional funds.

### **Pacific Tables**

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Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	14,092	9,971	15,552	87,637	0	1
1976	14,452	2,429	2,288	1,851	0	0
1977	5,339	5,979	24,525	3,950	0	0
1978	4,433	1,155	0	0	0	1
1979	4,393	6,578	0	0	0	0
1980	3,948	4,470	0	0	0	0
1981	8,070	0	0	3,662	0	0
1082	15,563	0	0	13,050	0	0
1983	12,473	0	0	0	0	0
1984	8,678	0	0	0	0	0
1985	8,181	0	0	0	0	0
1986	2,644	0	0	0	0	0
1987	18,719	0	0	0	0	0
1988	6,865	0	0	0	0	0
1989	4,507	0	0	0	0	0
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	300	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	184	0	0	0	12*	0
1997	0	0	0	0	<u>21</u> *	0
Total	132,841	30,582	42,365	110,150	33*	2

**Table A-13.** Summary of Geological and Geophysical Data Acquisition by Fiscal

 Year for the Pacific

Note: \*Acquisitions for 3-D seismic data are measured in blocks; all other acquisitions in this table are measured in miles.

DST dates are assigned based upon completion dates and are measured in terms of wells completed.

Year	Α	В	С	D	Е	F
1960-1968	162					
1969	13	10	3	0	0	0
1970	3	2	1	0	0	0
1971	0	0	0	0	0	0
1972	1	1	0	0	0	0
1973	30	21	9	0	0	0
1974	24	24	0	0	0	0
1975	46	42	4	1	0	0
1976	24	22	2	0	0	0
1977	31	26	5	0	0	0
1978	38	30	8	1	0	0
1979	24	22	2	0	0	0
1980	31	26	5	0	0	0
1981	40	38	2	0	0	0
1082	62	59	3	0	0	0
1983	45	36	9	0	0	0
1984	56	42	14	0	0	0
1985	33	30	3	0	0	0
1986	20	19	1	0	0	0
1987	20	16	4	0	0	0
1988	33	25	8	0	0	0
1989	0	0	0	0	0	0
1990	4	3	1	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	740	494	84	2	0	0

**Table A-14.** Number of Permits Issued for Geological and Geophysical Exploration

 in the Pacific

A=Total Number of Geological and Geophysical Permits

B=Number of Geophysical Permits

C=Number of

**Geological Permits** 

D=Number of Geological Permits Issued for Deep Stratigraphic Tests

E=Number of Geophysical Permits Issued for 3-D Seismic Data

F=Number of Permits Issued for Strategic (Nonenergy) Minerals

Dashed lines = Individual breakouts not established

Year	CDP	HRD	Interpretation s	Grav/Mag	3-D	DST
1968-1975	697,733	175,000	49,617	415,913	0	NA
1976	486,139	57,660	20,596	17,275	0	0
1977	188,930	752,400	1,962	11,796	0	0
1978	137,754	23,685	0	0	0	NA
1979	346,612	1,588,695	0	0	0	0
1980	249,048	1,098,954	0	0	0	0
1981	689,372	0	0	20,029	0	0
1082	1,918,891	0	0	69,350	0	0
1983	1,309,608	0	0	0	0	0
1984	1,262,030	0	0	0	0	0
1985	848,777	0	0	0	0	0
1986	356,700	0	0	0	0	0
1987	921,422	0	0	00	0	0
1988	93,748	0	0	0	0	0
1989	44,273	0	0	0	0	0
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	443	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	1,714	0	0	0	10,452	0
1997	0	0	0	0	13,479	0
Total	9,553,194	3,696,394	72,175	534,363	23,931	

Table A-15.	Summary of Expenditures by MMS for Geological and Geophysical Data
Acquisition by	<sup>7</sup> Fiscal Year for the Pacific (in dollars)

Note: NA represents "not applicable" as no G&G funds are used to acquire information from a DST. Where no DST was completed, a zero is entered into the expenditure column.

Year	Average Cost (\$/Mile)
1968-1975	49.51
1976	33.64
1977	35.39
1978	31.08
1979	78.90
1980	63.08
1981	85.42
1982	123.30
1983	105.00
1984	145.43
1985	103.75
1986	134.91
1987	49.22
1988	13.66
1989	9.82
1990	0
1991	0
1992	
1993	0
1994	1.48
1995	0
1996	9.32
1997	0

**Table A-16.** Summary of Average Cost Per Mile byMMS for CDP Seismic Data by Fiscal Year for thePacific (in dollars)

Note: Totals reflect average cost per mile for all CDP information acquired, both State and Federal. Average costs reflect only those dollars assigned to the bureauwide G&G budget and do not reflect monies allocated from Regional funds.

Dashed line indicates no funding for that year. Zero indicates G&G dollars were not spent on CDP information.

### Glossary

**Area of Hydrocarbon Potential** - that part of a planning area that has the primary geologic characteristics favorable for the generation and the accumulation of hydrocarbons.

**Block** - a geographically defined section of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) designated by a number on an Official Protraction Diagram or Leasing Map prepared by the Minerals Management Service (MMS). A block normally is a 9-square-mile area (3 miles x 3 miles) consisting of 5,760 acres. A single block is the smallest unit that can be leased for oil and gas exploration on the OCS.

**Common Depth Point** - a common location in the ocean subbottom where sound waves originating from various positions of the seismic (sound) source near the ocean surface are reflected back toward the surface. The traces from different seismic profiles corresponding to the same reflection point are mathematically summed (stacked) for reflection points beneath the survey line. Also known as common midpoint or common reflection point.

**COST Wells** - Continental Offshore Stratigraphic Test Wells - deep stratigraphic wells drilled to determine the geological character or stratigraphy of rock strata. These wells, which may be more than 20,000 feet deep, provide information that can be used by Government and industry to evaluate tracts to be offered in a lease sale.

**Fair Market Value** - the amount in cash, or on terms reasonably equivalent to cash, for which in all probability the property would be sold by a knowledgeable purchaser who desired, but is not obligated, to buy. This market value that is sought is not merely theoretical or hypothetical but represents, insofar as it is possible to estimate, the actual selling price.

**High-Resolution** - a range of seismic frequencies above the normal range of frequencies used in exploration, with an improvement in resolution in the shallow portions of the subbottom but with less total penetration into the subbottom.

**Lease** - any form of authorization that is used under section 8 or maintained under section 6 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and that authorizes exploration for and development and production of minerals or the area covered by that authorization, whichever is required of the context.

**Lease Sale** - an MMS proceeding by which leases for certain OCS tracts are offered for sale by competitive bidding and during which bids are received, publicly announced, and recorded.

**Outer Continental Shelf** - all submerged lands lying seaward and outside of the area of lands beneath navigable waters as defined in section 2 of the Submerged Lands Act and of which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the United States and are subject to its jurisdiction and control.

**Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act** - law passed by Congress on August 7, 1953, and amended in 1975, 1978, and 1985.

**Permit** - the contract or agreement, other than a lease, approved for a specified period of not more than 1 year under which a person acquires the right to conduct (1) geological exploration for mineral resources, (2) geophysical exploration for mineral resources, (3) geological scientific research, or (4) geophysical scientific research.

**Planning Area** - a subdivision of an offshore area used as the initial basis for considering blocks to be offered for lease in the DOI's offshore oil and gas leasing program.

**Shallow Hazards** - potential geological and manmade hazards to exploration on the OCS that are in the shallow portion of the subbottom. Examples include seismicity, active faults, shallow gas deposits, steep slopes, unstable soil conditions, pipelines, anchors, and sunken ships. Shallow hazards may occur in shallow or deep waters.