

Alabama discovery finalized by Fairways E&P flowing oil from Smackover

Houston independent Fairways Exploration & Production has completed a Smackover oil discovery in a lightly drilled part of eastern Escambia County, Alabama.

Thirty-five-degree oil flowed at the daily rate of 333 bbls, with 130,000 cu ft of gas and 15 bbls of water, from the 1 Cedar Creek Land & Timber "17-14" (API 01-053-20634) in the ne se sw 17-2n-12e. On a 16/64-inch choke, shut-in casing pressure was measured at 380 psi. The vertical discovery was drilled to a total depth of 13,466 ft, with 5 1/2-inch casing set one ft off bottom.

Few previous tests have been drilled in the immediate vicinity of Fairways' wildcat. The nearest of these is one mile to the northwest, where Royal Oil & Gas' 1 T.R. Miller Mill Co "17-4" was abandoned in 1986 at a depth of 13,450 ft in the Smackover.

Just over three and a half miles south of the 1 Cedar Creek Land & Timber "17-14," Fairways recently drilled a 14,000-ft Escambia County wildcat. The 1 Nalty "5-11" (API 01-053-20638) is reportedly being plugged and abandoned in the ne ne sw 5-1n-12e. It had also been designed to target the Smackover.

Ten miles north of the new Fairways discovery are numerous Smackover oil wells recently completed by Sklar Exploration and Pruet Production along the far southern edge of Conecuh County in the rapidly expanding Cedar Creek field. Several Smackover wells have tested at rates of up to 400 bbls of crude per day.

Smackover drilling is spilling into northeastern Escambia County, with Sklar recently permitting and/or drilling several tests just south of the county line.

