

Venture stakes Smackover wildcat in Clarke County, Alabama

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Venture Oil & Gas plans to drill a Smackover exploratory test in Alabama's Clarke County, east of a pair of tests abandoned by the company more than a year ago.

Venture's new location – the 1 Harrigan "19-11" (API 01-025-20269) – is scheduled to be directionally drilled to a total depth of 11,700 ft from a site in the nw ne sw of section 19-10n-1e.

Within a mile of Venture's proposed Smackover wildcat are a pair of shallow Eutaw wildcats drilled in the 1960s.

A little more than two miles southwest of the planned 1 Harrigan "19-11" is Venture's 1 Harrigan Family Trust in section 26-10n-1w. That wildcat was abandoned in November 2012 at a depth of 5030 ft in the Eutaw.

A deeper wildcat was drilled by Venture in early 2013. The 1 McCorquodale "15-5" in section 15-10n-1w was abandoned at 11,500 ft.

Offsetting the 1 McCorquodale "15-5" to the west is the 1 Mrs. Pelham "16-2," which was drilled in 1986 to a total depth of 11,400 ft. Online through May 2003, the Kelley Industries-operated discovery yielded 201,881 bbls of crude, 13.4 million cu ft of gas and 491,445 bbls of water through perforations in the Smackover at 11,190-11,198 ft. It was the lone producer in Pace Creek field.

Current Smackover oil production is another three miles to the west in far western Clarke County's Womack Hill field, which came online in 1970.

Sklar Exploration was active in the area last summer, 10 miles east-northeast of Venture's new location. Sklar's 1 Dwight Harrigan "2-6" in section 2-10n-2e was abandoned at a depth of 10,983 ft in the Smackover.

