

## NAPE: PRE-EXPLORATION SEASON ACTIVITY UPDATE, JANUARY 2020

### Winter 2019-20 Activity updates

<http://www.petroleumnews.com/pnads/745703113.shtml>

The Alaska North Slope off-road exploration season looks to be another big one, with as many as 12 wells plus some sidetracks being drilled by four companies - 88 Energy, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Eni US Operating and Oil Search Alaska.

### 88 Energy/Premier Oil JV-1 well

88 Energy Ltd. through its subsidiary Accumulate Energy Alaska is drilling the Charlie No. 1 well in its Icewine project. The well, on state oil and gas lease ADL 393380, is approximately 29 miles west of the Franklin Bluffs pad, near the Malguk #1 well. Nordic Rig 3 will be used.

### ConocoPhillips — up to 7 wells

Using the Doyon 141 and 142 drill rigs, ConocoPhillips is planning to drill and test up to seven exploration wells this winter on its Willow (and West Willow) and Harpoon acreage in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, although it is permitting 10 sites to maintain operational flexibility.

#### **Willow/W.Willow – ice pads 4 wells**

Tinmiaq 14 exploration/appraisal well AA090710

Tinmiaq 18 exploration/appraisal well

Tinmiaq 19 exploration/appraisal well

Tinmiaq 20 exploration/appraisal well

Tinmiaq 22 exploration/appraisal well

Tinmiaq 24 exploration/appraisal well

#### **Harpoon – ice pads 3 wells**

Harpoon 1 exploration well

Harpoon 2 exploration well

Harpoon 3 exploration well

Harpoon 4 exploration well

### Eni US — 1 or 2 wells?

11th POD for the Nikaitchuq unit filed with the division and ran from Oct. 1, 2018, through Sept. 30, 2019, the company said it would continue drilling the Nikaitchuq North exploration well, NN-01, which was spud in late 2017 from the Spy Island drill site, or SID. Eni suspended drilling on NN-01 in April at a measured depth of 30,010 feet, shy of its 35,000-foot target, because of “operational limitations.”

The company also plans to do surface facility upgrades in anticipation of spudding another Nikaitchuq North exploratory well, NN-02, in first quarter 2020.

The NN-01 and NN-02 wells are part of an initiative to find new oil resources in the Nikaitchuq North prospect in the federal outer continental shelf north of the existing Nikaitchuq producing unit in state waters, using ultra-extended reach drilling to target Harrison Bay Block 6423. Eni has not identified the drilling target at Nikaitchuq North. The Schrader Bluff formation that hosts the reservoir for the Nikaitchuq unit is known to extend a long way north.

### **Oil Search — 2 wells Exploration (OCS)**

Oil Search's lease plans of operations for the two wells it wants to drill and test this winter, **Mitquq 1** (plus sidetrack) and Stirrup 1, were approved in early December by the Division of Oil and Gas. Mitquq was spud 24DEC2020. The wells will test Nanushuk analogues east of the Pikka unit with Mitquq 1, and west of the Horseshoe Block with Stirrup 1. Both the wells will be drilled from ice by Doyon's Arctic Fox rig from ice pads on state land east of the Colville River. Success at **the Stirrup prospect**, which is close to the Horseshoe Block southwest of the Pikka unit "could de-risk additional fairways to underpin a possible standalone" Horseshoe development, the company had said, noting Stirrup is a direct analogue to the Horseshoe 1 Nanushuk discovery.

Oil Search plans to conduct a walkaway vertical seismic profile (**VSP**). The well will be plugged and abandoned upon completion, since its purpose is to better understand subsurface reservoir characteristics.