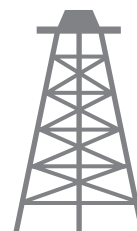




Pacific Petroleum Geology



NEWSLETTER

Pacific Section • American Association of Petroleum Geologists

September-October 2022

In Response to Current Challenges, Pacific Section Priorities for 2022-2023

Accelerate

the delivery of science &
development of new skills

Boost

the Section's active membership

Challenge

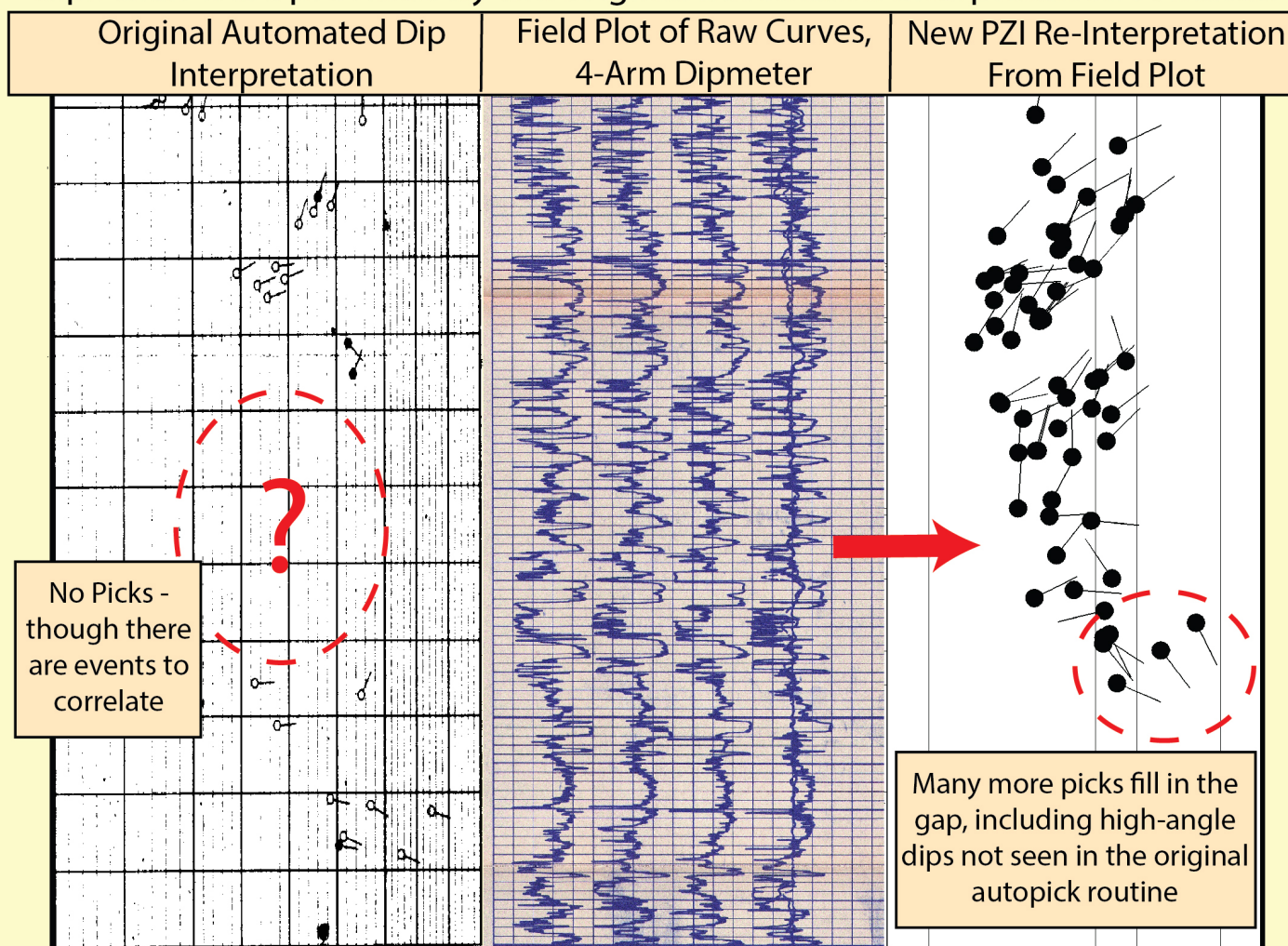
the Section's status quo

See discussion in the President's Message, Page 4

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Fellow Pacific Section Members -

It is my privilege and honor to start my term as the next PSAAPG President for the year 2022-2023. Together with all of you, I look forward to taking another decisive step towards shaping the successful future of this great organization.

The Pacific Section has been in existence for almost 100 years (founded in 1924), and the main reason why it still exists today is because members find value in it. As a professional, non-profit organization, everything we do is organized by volunteers who truly believe in something bigger than ourselves, and who typically do not receive much recognition for all the efforts they put in. Therefore, my deepest and most sincere gratitude goes towards all those volunteers, among which are: our past (and some ongoing) Executive Committee members Vaughn Thompson, Wanjiru Wilder, Lisa Alpert, Simmie Chehal, Becca Schempp, and Tony Reid. Sincere



“thank you” also goes to the ongoing support from honorary members Cynthia Huggins, Dan Schwartz, Larry Knauer, Mike Clark, and all the officers of our affiliated societies. We are excited to welcome our new President-Elect Kristy Whitaker, and Treasurer-Elect Megan Mortimer-Lamb. And last but certainly not least, thank you to all of you, our active members, who continue to support the organization through your participation in and contribution to all the events and activities we organize.

As we plan for the successful future of PSAAPG, I have had the opportunity to reflect on everything that has changed over the last 365 days. While we would only be able to objectively reflect on these times in hindsight, it is apparent that we are living through some truly transformational times! Here are only some of the events that have taken place and shaped our personal and professional lives:

- AAPG and SPE discontinued talks to form one joint association to collectively represent technical professionals of the petroleum industry
- The global pandemic is still on, although COVID booster shots were approved for Emergency Use Authorization; thus, we have seen glimpses of the “new normal”
- After a year of increased demand for goods, supply chain challenges, and import barge backlogs, customers focused their spending on services and increased local, regional, and global travel
- Major shifts in how we work, what we work, and where we work has led to the establishment of such terms as “the great resignation”, while commute and rush-hour patterns have been redefined
- Henry Hub monthly gas prices reached almost \$9 per mmbtu, levels not seen since 2008
- WTI monthly oil prices reached almost \$115 per barrel, levels again not seen since 2008
- Russia invaded Ukraine, causing the largest mass migration of people in Europe since World War 2, and triggering an unforeseen energy crisis
- Sacramento set a new temperature record for the most days over 100°F
- Bill passed to establish a 3200-foot setback around oil and gas wells
- Inflation rates reached levels not seen for decades

This is a lot in one single year!

While some of these events may seem unrelated at first glance, they all have something to do with energy sources, access, distribution, and consumption. Since the Pacific Section represents petroleum geologists, these events are important signals for all of us as we look forward and plan for the successful future of the organization.

To continue to remain relevant and in service of our members in 2022-2023, the Pacific Section's leadership has established three main pillars (A-B-C) that will ensure that we continue to deliver significant value to our members:

A. Accelerate the delivery of science and development of new skillsets

How are we going to deliver science?

- We will aim to do it **wider, deeper, and faster**

- **Wider:** Increase the topics that we cover in our science areas - it is no longer only about petroleum systems and subsurface geology. We will continue to integrate and support the science behind water resources, carbon emissions, hydrogen, methane, and others.

- **Deeper:** Disseminate current, relevant, and objective science deeper into the membership, from early professionals to highly experienced senior geologists and beyond.

- **Faster:** Increase the frequency of science dissemination. We will be identifying new, more nimble ways of holding convention-type events that are shorter in duration, events that are virtual, and pop-up events that will require relatively low-level of planning but have a significant impact and deliver value to members. We will also be looking at new ways of disseminating information through our website and social media channels- less of a long newsletter once every few months, and more live feeds with news updates and interesting articles and points of view.

How are we going to develop new skills?

- As the landscape continues to change, our membership needs to remain relevant in this new world where the Energy Transition is not a debate, but a fact. Consequently, the workplace is evolving and PS-AAPG will focus on the following:

- **Augment current science skills:** This is what PSAAPG does, and we will continue to do more of it, from convention sessions and fieldtrips to educational courses and social gatherings.

- **Develop new skills:** This is what I believe the PSAAPG should do more of. There are two types of new skills PS-AAPG should enable members to develop: 1) new technology, regulatory, and legislative skills that work in tandem and augment our members' "hard" science skills. These are skills that help members become more valuable in their roles where they need to work in very multidisciplinary areas such as water and aquifer assessments. 2) The other type of new skills is related to opportunities driven by the Energy Transition, such as subsurface assessments for carbon capture, hydrogen generation, lithium extraction, etc.

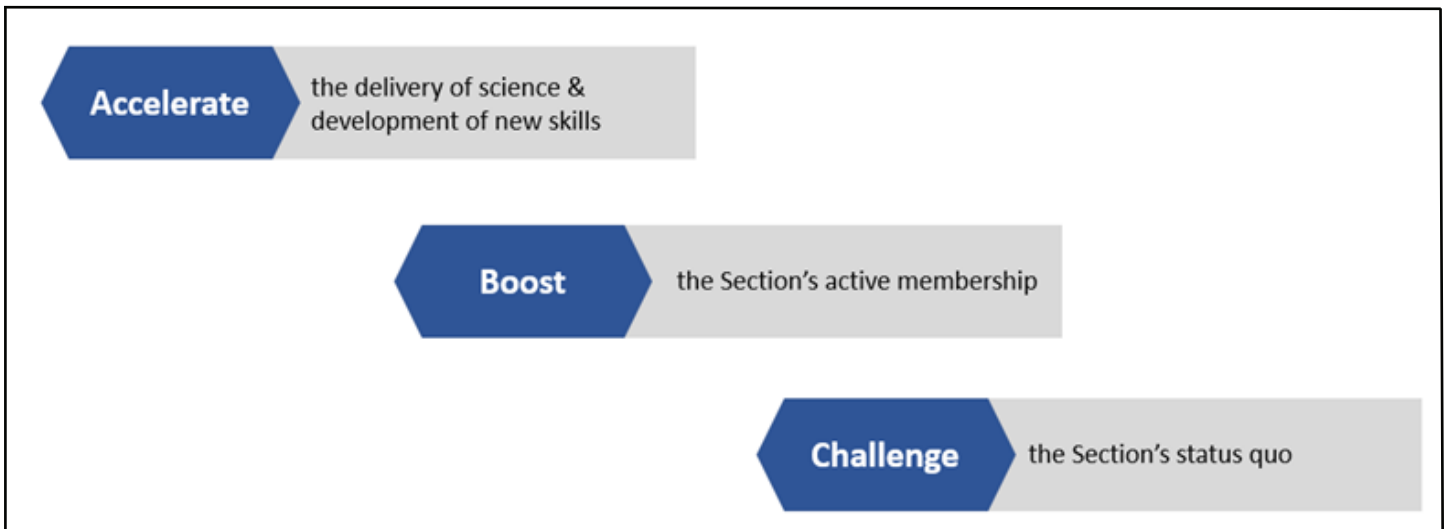
B. Boost the Section's active membership

While this priority may seem like an outcome of the previous pillar, we will become more intentional and proactive with getting inactive members to reactive their status and get new members to join. We will look into new ways to engage with inactive and new members through the local societies' monthly meetings and gatherings. In addition, we will look for ways to attract new members through some of the new offerings mentioned under the **Accelerate** pillar.

C. Challenge the Section's status quo

I believe it is time that we revisit the Section's fundamental purpose and assess whether we need to update the organization's vision and values. To do this, we will be conducting working sessions with active PSAAPG and AAPG members to brainstorm what PSAAPG's go-forward focus should be. This doesn't mean that we will move away from what PSAAPG has done for a long time, but we will consider the shifts that are happening in the energy space, and we will further align the PSAAPG's objectives with those changes and inherent opportunities. More to come on this in terms of scheduling working sessions.

The three pillars of PS-AAPG's strategy to reinvent and successfully position the organization for the next 100 years.



I recognize that change is hard, but this organization is built for these times. It is no surprise that the Pacific Section has been in existence for almost a century! It is now up to all of us to redefine how the Section will continue to add value to all of our personal and professional lives, and therefore, I ask that any and all of you who are interested in becoming more involved to please reach out to me or any other member of the Executive Committee. It will be my privilege to work together and build the Section that will last another 100 years!

Sincerely,
Plamen Ganev, PhD
2022-2023 PS-AAPG President

Fault Along L.A., O.C. Coast Could Unleash Huge Earthquake on Scale of San Andreas, Study Shows

SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SEPT. 23, 2022

A fault system running nearly 70 miles along the coast of Los Angeles and Orange counties has the potential to trigger a magnitude 7.8 earthquake, according to a new study that is the latest to highlight the seismic threats facing Southern California.

Known as the Palos Verdes fault zone, the system runs deep beneath the Palos Verdes Peninsula. It previously was thought to be a segmented network of smaller faults, but a closer look by scientists at Harvard University suggests it's a system of interconnected, closely spaced planar fractures stretching from the Santa Monica Bay to the waters off Dana Point.

The analysis determined the fault system, which runs beneath numerous neighborhoods as well as the ports of Long Beach and L.A., has a much larger surface area that could rupture in the same seismic event, making it capable of a far more powerful quake than was previously known.

Scientists found the fault could produce a quake of a magnitude comparable to one from the San Andreas fault. Earlier estimates said the fault zone could generate up to a magnitude 7.4 earthquake, but the new study shows it could produce a quake as strong as 7.8.

The difference may be only a few decimal points, but an earthquake's energy is measured exponentially. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, a magnitude 7.8 quake produces quadruple the energy of a magnitude 7.4.

In a worst-case scenario, the Palos Verdes fault system could unleash a quake that combines the most destructive qualities of the 1994 Northridge earthquake, a magnitude 6.7 temblor, and the 7.1 Ridgecrest quake that struck in 2019, said John H. Shaw, a professor of structural and economic geology at Harvard University and one of three authors of the new study.

The Northridge quake, which killed 57 people, had a devastating combined side-to-side and up-and-down motion that proved especially destructive to structures. That same combined lateral and vertical movement of faults is possible along the Palos Verdes network.

The Ridgecrest quake was a prolonged series along multiple interconnected fault lines, similar to those of the Palos Verdes system.

"Rather than one line in the map, we could see a rupture [series] that could occur in a wide area," Shaw said of a major quake along the Palos Verdes fault zone. Aftershocks would be like falling dominoes, he said.

James Dolan, an Earth sciences professor at USC who reviewed the Harvard report, said the study is

“by far the most detailed look we’ve had of the internal structure and connectivity of the Palos Verdes fault system.”

Scientists had previously been able to study only portions of the Palos Verdes fault system, which runs mostly underwater. But Shaw and coauthors Franklin D. Wolfe and Andreas Plesch pieced together previous studies as well as information from petroleum companies’ drilling and ground sensors, which Shaw and his colleagues used to create a new model of the fault zone.

Oil studies can be helpful to earthquake scientists because they offer insights into how the Earth looks below the surface, where earthquake faults lie.

“Historically, this fault has been seen as a segmented fault — lots of little pieces,” Shaw said. “This seemed like a structure that wasn’t going to rupture in one big earthquake.”

The new study, however, suggests the system is connected, stretching 68 miles and running under southwestern Los Angeles County and the ports of L.A. and Long Beach and along the Los Angeles and Orange county coasts.

The study, published by the Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, also found the Palos Verdes fault slips at a much faster rate than most active fracture zones in Los Angeles County, moving 1 to 6 millimeters a year. More than 50 active faults run under L.A. County, and the majority move 1 millimeter or less annually, Shaw said.

As faults slip, that energy is stored over time, Shaw said, adding that the accumulating strain is waiting to rupture and eventually is unleashed in the form of earthquakes.

The effects of a magnitude 7.8 earthquake — which would be 45 times stronger than the Northridge quake — depend on the fault’s location.

A quake of that magnitude on the southern San Andreas fault, rupturing between the Salton Sea near the Mexico border and passing through Palm Springs and into Lake Hughes, north of Santa Clarita in L.A. County, could cause 1,800 deaths, with hundreds killed in building collapses, according to a simulation of such a temblor released by the USGS in 2008.

Under the simulation’s scenario, freeways linking the region to Las Vegas and Phoenix could be destroyed, as could the aqueducts that bring in most of L.A. County’s water. Vulnerable pipelines carrying fuel and natural gas and overhead electricity lines through the Cajon Pass in San Bernardino County could explode, threatening the power grid.

Such a massive earthquake occurring in our lifetime is especially plausible because the San Andreas is the fastest-moving fault in the state, slipping at a rate of 15 to 35 millimeters a year. Scientists have likened it to someone driving at unsafe speeds — those are the ones most likely to get into a collision.

The last time Southern California was struck by a quake as powerful as a magnitude 7.8 was in 1857, when the San Andreas fault ruptured from Monterey County through the San Gabriel Mountains north

of Los Angeles and into the Cajon Pass. Seismologists estimate the southern San Andreas fault is capable of a magnitude 8.2 earthquake.

On one section of the San Andreas fault along the Grapevine, scientists have found evidence that major earthquakes happen there on average every 100 years. But the gap between quakes can vary: Over a 1,000-year period, there was once a gap of 20 years between major quakes and once a gap of 200 years.

In contrast, the Palos Verdes fault zone has not produced a big earthquake during the same time period. The area most recently has generated quakes of magnitude 2 to 3, barely enough to be felt by most people.

Scientists haven't fully explored the ramifications of a magnitude 7.8 quake on the Palos Verdes fault zone. But the USGS has studied the implications of a less powerful, magnitude 7.3 quake there, and it could still be destructive. Such a quake could kill more than 200 people and destroy more than 2,000 buildings. It could liquefy the artificial land beneath the nation's largest port complex and cause extensive damage to infrastructure.

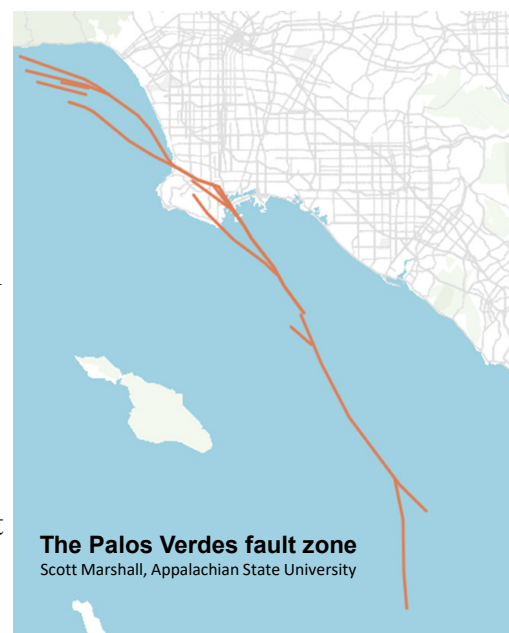
Caltech seismologist Egill Hauksson said a 7.8 quake on the Palos Verdes fault would devastate Southern California. But Hauksson, one of the region's most respected experts in this field, said it also would be unlikely to occur in our lifetime.

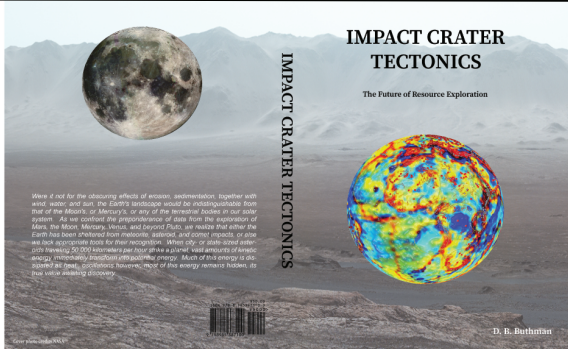
"It would be pretty devastating, but it's pretty unlikely," Hauksson said. "It's not a very active fault."

Likewise, Shaw said the new information is not a major cause for alarm, especially in earthquake-prone California.

"California is already a center for earthquakes, and the danger for a large earthquake exists constantly," he said. "This helps us ... understand this particular fault system location, where large earthquakes might occur. It helps us understand the hazards these earthquakes might create so we can prepare for them better."

"Location matters. And while future earthquakes of the San Andreas fault are concerning and we should be prepared, smaller earthquakes that are in an urban environment have shown to make as much — if not more — hazards."





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by **David B. Buthman**

Walter C. "Rusty" Riese

06/08/1951 - 10/06/2022

W.C. "Rusty" Riese passed peacefully from this earth on October 6, 2022, at CHI Baylor St. Luke's hospital following a protracted battle with pulmonary fibrosis. A prominent geologist, loving father, and consummate storyteller, he will be missed by countless friends, family, and colleagues.

Rusty was the elder son of Katherine E. and Walter H. Riese of Baldwin, New York. He spent his childhood on Long Island with his Navy veteran parents and younger brother Sandy, and he attended Archbishop Molloy High School, where he excelled academically and lettered in track and field, principally as a shotput and javelin thrower. After his graduation in 1969, he departed for the greater Southwest, specifically New Mexico, to study earth sciences.



Rusty earned his bachelor of science degree in geology in 1973 from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. He earned his master's and doctoral degrees in geology in 1977 and 1980, respectively, from the University of New Mexico.

The Southwest suited him. During his years as an undergraduate at New Mexico Tech and graduate student at UNM, Rusty realized and nurtured two of his most valued endeavors: his passion for cacti, and his relationships with fellow students and advisors that would endure through his life. At the time of his passing, he was in a loving relationship with Jamie Boling, a college friend turned partner in 2019.

Rusty worked as a geologist and geoscience adviser for Gulf Mineral Resources, Anaconda Minerals, ARCO Oil and Gas Company, Vastar Resources, and finally BP, having successfully navigated a series of acquisitions and mergers. He was known for his work ethic and spirited partnerships with colleagues. He traveled extensively for his work, eventually visiting every continent but Antarctica, and residing in Colorado, California, and finally Texas for the rest of his life. He authored dozens of papers and held numerous U.S. and international patents for his work. Even in retirement, he continued to give lectures on economic geology, coalbed methane sequestration, and climate change.

Editor's Note: Rusty worked in Bakersfield with ARCO from the late 1980's until the early 1990's. He is a Past President of the SJGS and served as Secretary of the Pacific Section.

Though he wore many hats and held many titles—from adjunct professor at Rice University and UNM to United States Powerlifting Federation judge to board member for the American Association of Petroleum Geologists—he was most proud of being dad and "Boris" to his two kids, Clay and Monica, who are gutted by this loss. They will treasure their memories of family camping trips, road trips through the Southwest and up the East Coast, and steaks so good they both refuse to order them from restaurants anymore.

Rusty was preceded in death by his parents, Katherine and Walter. He is survived by his son Clay; daughter Monica and son-in-law Matt "Ozz" Oztalay; his brother and sister-in-law, Sandy and Laura Riese; his partner Jamie Boling; and her sons, Colin and Blake.

Everyone who knew him doubtless has a story of their own of a wonderful dinner together from the World Famous Riese Driveway Steakhouse,

a neighborly chat, or conversations over glasses of wine or Blanton's. They'll recall a bit of advice he gave them or their children, a project he helped them complete, a road trip or camping adventure they experienced together (perhaps in the company of a few dozen Molloy students in a national park), and maybe even a fortuitous run-in with Santa Claus when Rusty was mysteriously absent.

He will spend his eternity becoming one with the Sangre de Cristo mountains in northern New Mexico, where he longed to spend his retirement years. Though the world is decidedly darker without him in it, his light shines on in every story you tell of him to another friend or family member.

In lieu of flowers, please direct donations to the Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, New York, or the American Association of Petroleum Geologists Foundation.

Published by Houston Chronicle on Oct. 23, 2022

New Pacific Section AAPG Publication

Advances in the Geology of the Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Basins since PSAAPG Miscellaneous Publications 41 and 43

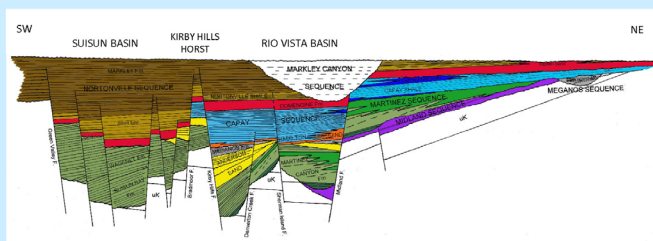
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Advances in the Geology of the Sacramento and Northern San Joaquin Basins

since PSAAPG Miscellaneous Publications 41 and 43

Volume 1



Pacific Section AAPG•Digital Publication CD 7

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December 2020

Two Oil Piers Set to be Removed at Haskell's Beach

Jade Martinez-Pogue

Published August 24, 2022

KEYT, Santa Barbara

GOLETA, Calif. – A six-month process to remove the final two oil piers at Haskell's Beach in Goleta will begin on Monday, marking the end of the Ellwood Oil Field that began production in the late 1920s and continued operation into the 1990s.

“This is a truly momentous occasion,” said Goleta Mayor Paula Perotte. “This project, the culmination of a multi-year partnership between Goleta and the state, will remove two blighted and derelict structures marring our beautiful coastline. Their removal is a major step in ending a legacy of fossil fuel development in Santa Barbara County.”

At one point, the area of Haskell's Beach was home to 13 large piers and significant oil storage and processing facilities immediately onshore.

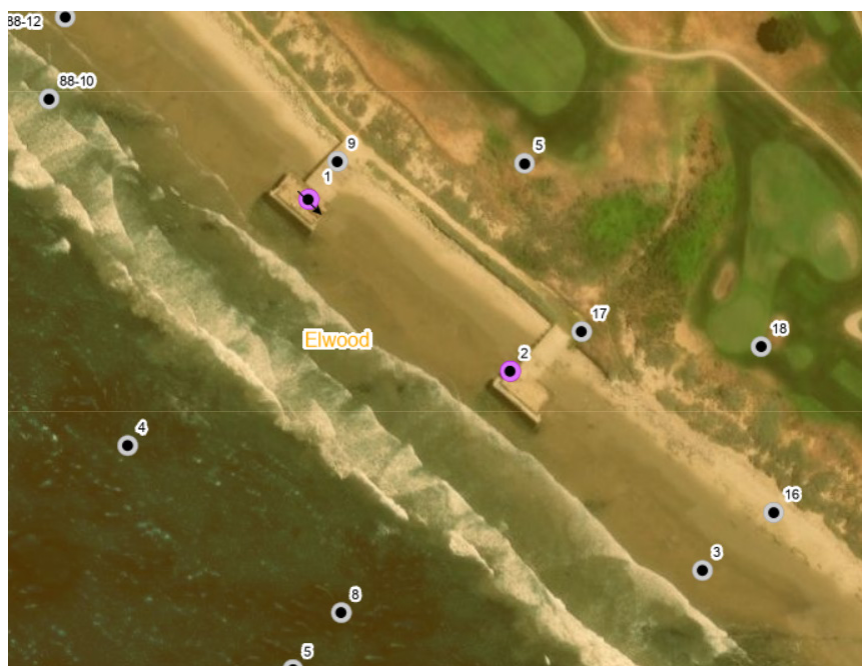
“These two derelict structures represent the last vestiges of pier-based oil and gas production in California and their removal is a major milestone for the region and the state,” said State Controller and State Lands Commission chair Betty T. Yee.

“Removal of these piers is one of several decommissioning projects the Commission is spearheading as part of California’s transition to a fossil fuel-free future.”

Beginning Monday, Aug. 29, crews will work Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. to decommission the pier and caisson structures, known as PRC 42101 and 421-2. Some work may be scheduled outside of those hours due to the surf zone location of the facilities, according to Goleta officials.

Around 500 truckloads of material from the decommissioning will be transported to an approved recycling and disposal facility.

Sections of Haskell's Beach may be temporarily closed to keep the public safe during the six-month process, but the beach will otherwise remain open. Removal of the piers and caissons will require equipment access along the beach during low tides, according to city officials.



Oil piers adjacent to Sandpiper Golf Club, Elwood Oil Field. From CalGEM’s mapping application WellFinder. Distance between peers is about 300 feet.

Oil Setbacks Bill Jolts Local Conflict

John Cox

The Bakersfield Californian

August 27, 2022

A central conflict between Kern County's oil industry and local environmental justice advocates has taken a sudden twist with Gov. Gavin Newsom's 11th-hour legislative push to set new rules on oil and gas operations within 3,200 feet of sensitive sites like homes and schools.

By banning new drilling and well reworks within the buffer zone, among other changes, Senate Bill 1137 would bypass a stalled rule-making process with new legal codes the administration hopes will shield the legislation from expected lawsuits by the industry and royalty owners.

The industry considers SB 1137 a disingenuous and legally risky "taking" of private property. To environmental justice groups active in the county's disadvantaged areas, it represents overdue protection from clear health risks.

Two other legislative attempts to set a statewide buffer zone have failed in as many years. The idea this time is that lawmakers will join in Newsom's enthusiasm for a five-point climate package he unveiled Aug. 12 that includes a call for new oil and gas setbacks.

"It's really promising this time around," Newsom spokesman Alex Stack said.

Besides banning various oil field procedures within the buffer, the bill by state Sens. Lena Gonzalez, D-Long Beach, and Monique Limon, D-Santa Barbara, would impose pollution controls on existing wells 3,200 feet from sensitive sites. It would also bring restrictions on noise, light and dust, and require new testing and reporting.

Proponents of the bill point to a body of scientific research establishing a correlation between proximity to oil and gas wells and health problems including adverse birth outcomes, heart disease and respiratory diseases including asthma. The proposed buffer distance of 3,200 feet came from a 15-member public health panel selected by UC Berkeley with the nonprofit research institute Physicians, Scientists and Engineers for Healthy Energy.

Gonzalez estimates that within the proposed buffer zones statewide, there are 2.7 million Californians living and 28,367 oil and gas wells operating.

The industry pegs the well inventory much lower, at 15,338 active and idle wells accounting for 16 percent of the state's tally and 18 percent of its production. It says those wells support about 2,500 high-paying oil and gas jobs, and that they combine for \$340 million per year in state and local tax revenues.

Restricting domestic production won't reduce greenhouse gas emissions because the state consumes 1.8 million barrels per day regardless, said CEO Rock Zierman of the California Independent Petroleum Association trade group. Instead, he said the bill would lead directly to greater imports of foreign oil.

He criticized the introduction of key amendments Wednesday, saying last-minute timing denies lawmakers time for careful consideration.

"We do think it's disingenuous to dump this on the Legislature in the last week of session," he said, adding the administration should carry on the rule-making process.

Another oil trade group, the Western States Petroleum Association, said the initiative continues the administration's pattern of governing through bans and mandates.

Staff attorney Daniel Ress with The Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment said oil and gas production hurts communities and in Kern should be done only where people don't live.

"Where we do extraction matters," Ress said.

There's hope, Ress said, of support for SB 1137 among labor groups whose opposition doomed at least one of the earlier buffer-zone bills. Unions have generally backed Newsom's latest climate initiative, he added, but it's less clear whether they'll agree to setbacks.

Newsom launched a rule-making process in 2019. Its initial draft was less strict than SB 1137, most notably in its lack of restrictions on reworking wells within the proposed buffer.

The state Department of Conservation, whose Geologic Energy Management Division is California's top oil-regulating agency, has declined to provide updates on the rule-making process and would not comment for this story.

Stack at the governor's office addressed delays in the rule-making simply by saying the process has proved "nuanced and complex." He said the main idea is that codifying the regulations into law will make them stronger than administrative rules can alone.

"That extra step (will) make the setbacks that much stronger, really," he said.

State Sen. Melissa Hurtado, D-Sanger, said Friday she had not reviewed the bill but, as she understood it, it does not necessarily address climate change because "the demand is still going to be there."

**Editor's Update: SB-1137 was passed by
the California State Assembly and Senate.
Governor Newsom signed the bill on
September 16, 2022.**

Editor's note: Less than a week after the Governor signed SB-1137, the following appeared on a Bakersfield television station.

Oil Company Trying to Buy Out McKittrick, Some Residents Blame Newsom's Policy

Miabelle Salzano and Luis Garcia
KGET Bakersfield
Sep 22, 2022

McKITTRICK, Calif. (KGET) — Residents of a close-knit California community are on borrowed time after energy company Berry Petroleum sent out offer letters to buy up properties including residences.

McKittrick is located 14 miles northwest of Taft with a population of 102 residents, according to the census bureau. The town is in the center of a large oil-producing region that Berry Petroleum is trying to buy out.

McKittrick resident Mary Reeves said only a handful of the people who live in town are homeowners. Most residents rent property and feel like their backs are against the wall when it comes to the potential buyout, Reeves said.

"I'm concerned for all of us out here. The current housing market right now, how it is, it's really hard to find some place. If we do find a place its gonna be way more than what we are paying here and that goes for everybody," Reeves said.

The Reeves family moved into their McKittrick home in May after living in hotels for 7 months. She said the Berry deal would put her family in a very hard position and is worried her family will have to go back to living in hotels.

"We couldn't find anything in the city limits so we had to go live in hotels in SLO [San Luis Obispo] County," Reeves said.

Sarah Bates, another McKittrick renter, said some of her neighbors that do own their homes have lived in the small community for over 30 years and have no mortgage. Senior residents who might need to buy a new house will have to begin making monthly payments, Bates said.

Bates said McKittrick Elementary School might also be on the chopping block and would close as a result. Parents fear where their children will continue their educations.

"What about the kids that are already in the school? There's more to this community that meets the eye," said Bates.

McKittrick Elementary School is placed in the top 10 percent of schools in the state based on test scores for the 2018-19 school year, according to the Public School Review. Parents are worried their children won't have the same advantages at larger schools in Kern County if they're forced to move.

McKittrick resident Alejandra Arroyo, originally from Los Angeles County, moved to McKittrick for the one-on-one teaching style McKittrick Elementary is well known for.

"We made a home out here," Arroyo said. "And the education for the kids is really badass."

"My daughter has learned so much," Arroyo said. "I feel like removing the education for the kids, It's not fair."

Residents Christian Oclaray and Steven Phan moved to McKittrick from Washington State and said their son, who has a mental disability, has really benefited from going to McKittrick Elementary School.

"Our son came over here not knowing how to read. When he came over here he's already progressing a lot more than we expected," Phan said. "He has a learning disability. With the hand on-ness, it doesn't seem like he does."

McKittrick Elementary School District Interim Superintendent Heather Richter said the future of the school is still uncertain.

"We are currently researching many of these aspects. What we can say is that the District recently met with representatives from Barry Petroleum, at their request. However, there has been no official offer made and no specific details are yet available. When things become clearer, we are eager to socialize the facts with our campus community during a town-hall type meeting we are planning for the near future. The District will be in a better position to answer your questions at that time. Thank you for your understanding."

- HEATHER RICHTER

MCKITTRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Bates added that she works in Taft and would have to move to Bakersfield if any of the deals went through. This would be an hour-and-a-half commute, compared to her current 16-minute drive, she said.

Some of the residents put partial blame on Governor Gavin Newsom's policy that created buffers for communities who live close to oil fields.

Several McKittrick residents said that they would not mind the oil fields being so close because the economic and educational impacts for their children would outweigh the health benefits stated by the policy.

“I get that, make it a green state,” Bates said. “But we’re still going to need oil inside those electric machines,” Bates said.

Governor Newsom’s office responded to these complaints saying that the policy in question is meant to hold oil companies accountable for their “greed.”

“At a time when oil companies are making more money than ever before, California’s new setback law finally holds these companies responsible for ensuring pollution from their operations does not negatively impact the health of nearby communities. The law’s ban on new drilling within a science-backed setback distance of 3,200 feet from homes, schools, and businesses open to the public will keep new activity away from California communities, and the pollution controls required for existing wells within 3,200 feet of these facilities will protect the health of Californians nearby. These protections are backed by a broad coalition of community leaders, environmental advocates and legislative leaders who are focused on ensuring that the health of our communities is prioritized over Big Oil’s greed.”

- SPOKESPERSON FOR GOVERNOR NEWSOM

Many residents also blame Berry Petroleum, which cited the aforementioned policy in a property purchase offer letter of intent to a homeowner obtained by KGET. The letter reads:

“Under the Bill, your property would be within setback distance. Berry is therefore prepared to purchase your property at a market value plus premium. We believe this would allow you to find a replacement home outside the setback distance and help preserve Berry’s operations and benefits to the local community.”

The letter also says Berry will assist with homeowners with relocation by making the purchase and transfer of fund swift. This, however, does not apply to renters.

A Berry Petroleum spokesperson said:

“In the ordinary course of its business, Berry will occasionally make offers to buy certain properties. Berry has recently made some confidential fair market offers to some property owners who are free to either accept or decline those offers.”

- BERRY PETROLEUM SPOKESPERSON

Bates added that Chevron drills nearby and have never tried to buy people out of their homes.

“I think the oil fields big plan is to buy everyone out,” Phan said. “Nobody that lives here has any say.”

Editor’s note: I wonder what Berry will do with the Penny Bar?



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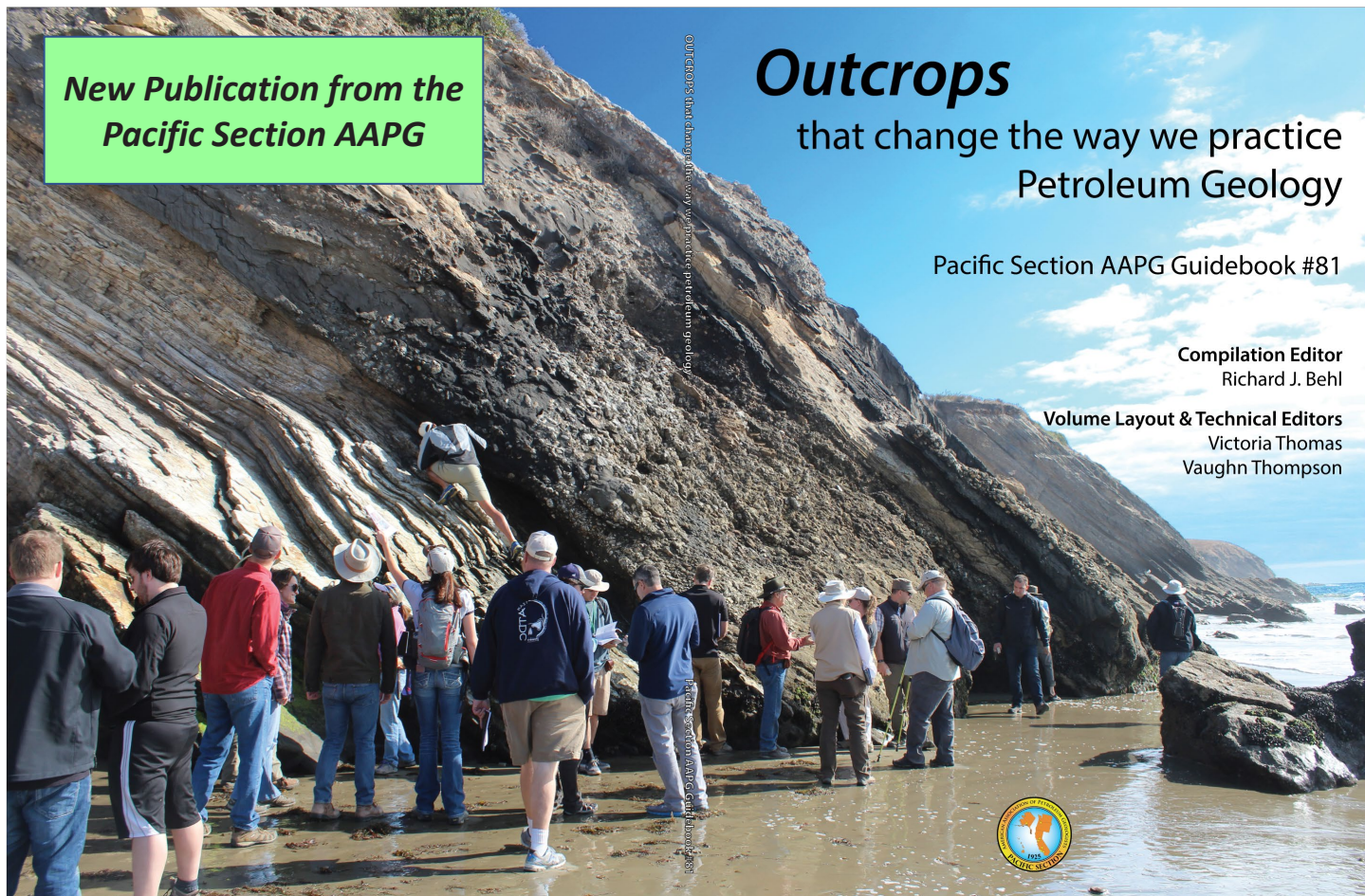
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Member Society News

Alaska Geological Society www.alaskageology.org

P. O. Box 101288
Anchorage, AK 99510

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month. Most meetings are hybrids, using Google Meet, and in person at the BP Energy Center. Meeting time is 11:45.

November 17, 2022: Check the website for topic updates

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Coast Geological Society http://www.psaapg.info/cgs/index.html

P. O. Box 3055
Ventura, CA 93006

In-person meetings are the third Tuesday of the month at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura, CA 93003

November 15: Josh Schwartz, CSUN, "Late Cretaceous Arc Flare-up in the Southern California Batholith and the Beginning of the Laramide Orogeny"

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Los Angeles Basin Geological Society www.labgs.org

Luncheon meetings have a new venue: Signal Hill Petroleum located at 2633 Cherry Ave, Signal Hill, CA (562-595-6440, Brady Barto, ext. 5233). Meetings are on the fourth Thursday of the month, from 11:30 am to 1 pm.

Check the website for information on the next talk.

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(Continued on next page)

Northern California Geological Society
www.ncgeolsoc.org

803 Orion #2
Hercules, CA 94547-1938

Meetings are at the Orinda Masonic Hall and online using Zoom on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Talks are 7 pm to 8:30 pm (social half-hour at 6:30 pm)

November 16, 2022: Dr. Marty Grove, Stanford University, Use of detrital zircons in determining sediment provenance

January 25, 2023: Dr. Erik Sperling, Stanford University, Paleo-oceanography using mud-rock chemistry

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Contact:
Jim Jackson or John Armentrout

No activities are planned at this time. Check the website for the latest information.

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Sacramento Petroleum Association

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Folsom, CA 95630

Contact: Pam Ceccarelli
916-439-0400

As of October 2021, in-person meeting have resumed at the Club Pheasant in West Sacramento. Meetings are held at noon on the third Wednesday of the month.

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(Continued on next page)

San Joaquin Geological Society
www.sanjoaquingeologicalsociety.org

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Bakersfield, CA 93302

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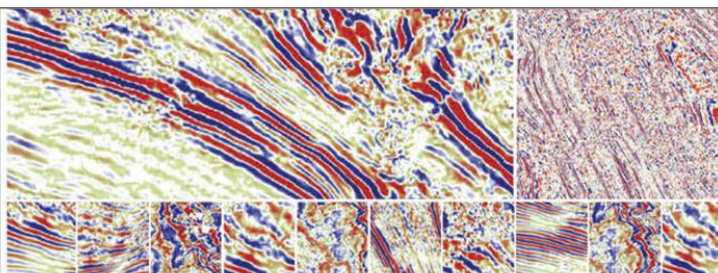
SJGS meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at the American Legion Hall, 2020 H St Bakersfield, CA

November 8th, 2022: Emily Fisher, Aera Energy, "Reinterpretation of the Depositional Environment and Structural Framework of McKittrick Oil Field, California"

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