

Petroleum Potential of the Middle-Upper Devonian Canol Formation in North Yukon: Report on Field Investigations in 2013

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Abstract

The Yukon Geological Survey is conducting research to evaluate the petroleum potential of Devonian-Carboniferous shale units in north Yukon. The Middle-Upper Devonian Canol Formation was the focus of field studies in summer 2013. Stratigraphic sections in the southern Richardson and northern Ogilvie mountains were systematically measured and sampled in an effort to characterize and correlate the Canol Formation within the Yukon, and to assess the formation's regional hydrocarbon potential, as both a source rock and a shale reservoir. This study presents preliminary results for three Canol Formation stratigraphic sections. The information acquired from these outcrops will be instrumental in understanding the Canol Formation in the subsurface of Eagle Plain Basin and Peel Plateau and Plain oil and gas regions. The study is timely as the Canol Formation is currently being explored as an unconventional hydrocarbon resource in the Northwest Territories' central Mackenzie Valley.

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