

Near Field and Infill Exploration: Onshore Colombia

Andrés Fuensalida¹

¹Ecopetrol

ABSTRACT

Because oil prices are currently very low, many onshore exploratory opportunities and several oil fields are no longer economically beneficial, so the company decided to examine its legacy assets closely. The main idea was to find additional reserves close to the biggest Ecopetrol producing fields and infrastructure so that they rapidly contribute new production. Ecopetrol assembled team of geoscientists in the Exploration Vicepresidency to focus on that task, and they have been doing so more than a year, along with a regional analysis of different Colombian Onshore basins. Published creaming curves suggest that most of the onshore basins are mature basins. However, our regional analysis suggests the existence of different new plays that may break that tendency. These are new ideas that will lead to new prospects in a few months. The Middle Magdalena Valley is especially promising. In the meantime, the more mature opportunities are located in Arauca, the Llanos foothills and the Upper Magdalena Valley. We expect to drill the first near field opportunities in 2018.