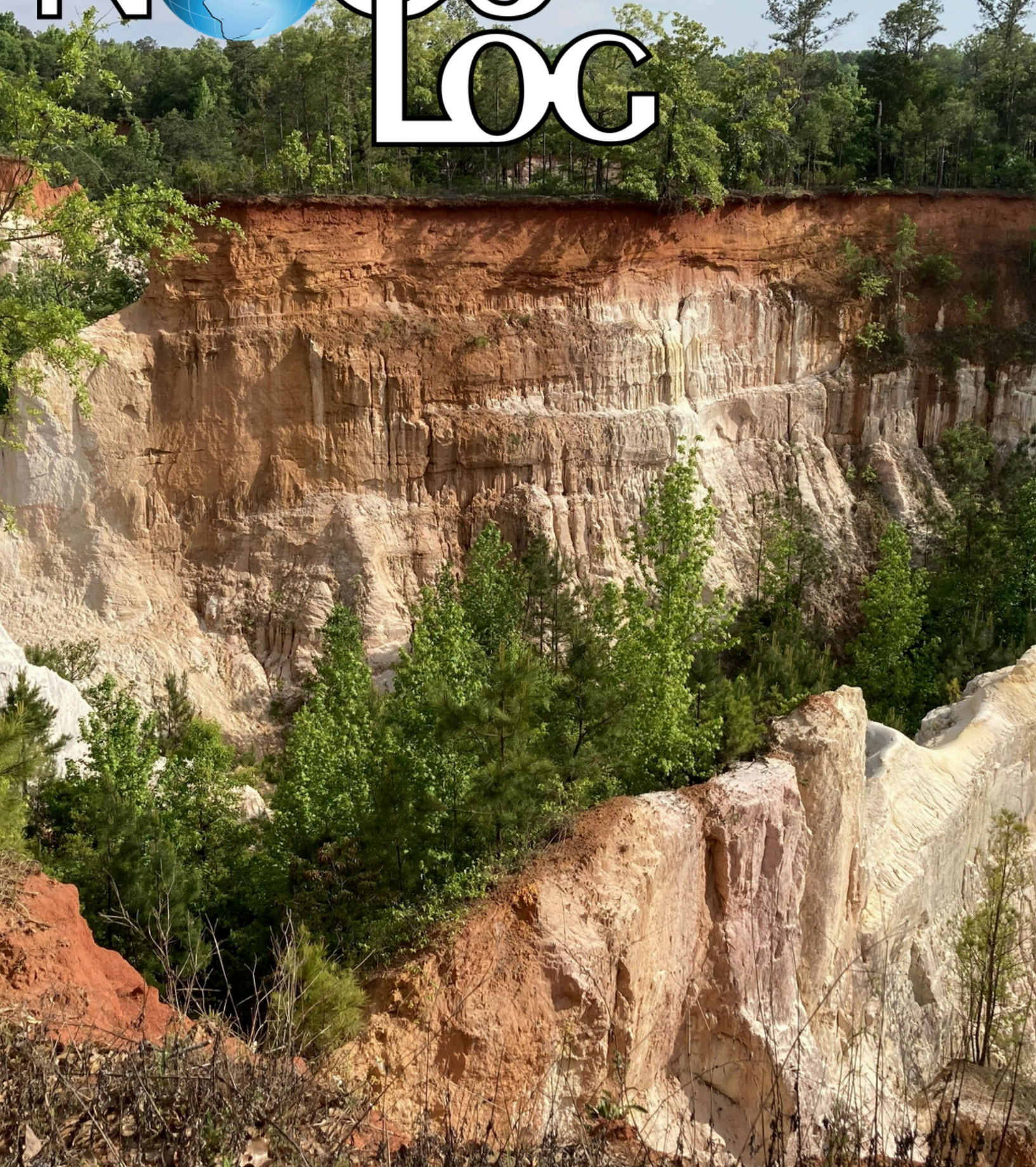


NCGS LOG



June 2026
Volume 67 No.12



On the Cover

Providence Canyon, Georgia USA



Photo: Bill Haworth 05 2026

Providence Canyon in Stewart County, southwest Georgia exposes multicolor sediments from the Upper Cretaceous to the Paleogene. The canyon is the result of poor farming practices dating back to the early 1800's. At that time, forested areas were cleared to plant cotton - and soil management practices had not yet been developed.

Runoff from the barren landscape flowed unchecked to form gullies. When the gullies cut through the more resistant Clayton Formation to the unconsolidated Providence sands, erosion progressed rapidly, ultimately forming what is often called "Georgia's Little Grand Canyon".

The canyon now covers approximately 1000 acres and is up to 150' deep. Several trails in Providence Canyon State Park enable hikers to explore the canyon.

From the Editor

Hello again,

Early bird registration is now open for The 29th Annual Deepwater Technical Symposium to be held August 25th and 26th, 2026 at the Hilton Riverside, New Orleans LA. NOGS will again offer pre-symposium training courses and a registration fee discount to members. Now is the time to take advantage of early bird registration. When course offerings are confirmed, descriptions and registration information will be posted on the NOGS website. Call for abstracts is open until July 14, 2026. Please visit the [Deepwater Technical Symposium](#) website for additional information

Thank you, Bill Haworth!! Bill contributed this month's cover photo and geologic description. Eric Fischer will assume the role of NOGS Log Editor in July 2026. Thank you, Christy Himel, for your help and support over the past two years. Your immense contribution to the Log and the entire NOGS Organization cannot be overstated! Editing the NOGS Log has been an enriching experience and I plan to take my own advice and continue to contribute to NOGS Log content.

I encourage professionals, academics, and graduate students to grow your network and share your research. Become an active NOGS Member, consider writing a short article in the NOGS Log or, better yet, provide a short lunchtime presentation at a monthly meeting. Volunteer to work NOGS events. Please consider offering your services as a Board Member.

Sincerely,

Brian Bothner



Brian Bothner
2025/2026 NOGS Log
Editor



A MESSAGE FROM THE 2025/2026 NOGS PRESIDENT

BRIAN DAVID



Dear NOGS Members and Friends,

Summer is sneaking in like it owns the place—turning up the thermostat, stretching out the days, and convincing everyone that this is finally the year we become “outdoorsy.” Flip-flops reappear, iced drinks become a personality trait, and the sun starts clocking overtime. It’s the season of ambitious plans—beach bodies, road trips, and early mornings—that somehow melt into naps, snacks, and saying, “It’s too hot and humid,” at least five times a day.

I hope everyone has a safe, enjoyable, and relaxing summer!

NOGS will be taking a break from our monthly luncheons during the summer months. We will resume in August, when Chris McLindon will join us as our featured speaker. Stay tuned for details!!

The next lease sale, scheduled for August 12, 2026, is known as The Big Beautiful Gulf 3 (BBG3). It will be the third of thirty Gulf lease sales required under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The sale is expected to offer approximately 15,066 unleased blocks, covering roughly 80.4 million acres on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf.

NOGS’s Summer Social will be held on June 17, 2026, from 5:00–7:00 PM at Loft’s in Mandeville. Please save the date and join us for an evening of networking, drinks, games, and plenty of fun. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Deepwater Technical Symposium will be held August 25–26, 2026, at the Hilton Riverside in New Orleans. Early registration is now open. This year’s conference is shaping up to be an outstanding event, featuring valuable training opportunities and a strong lineup of technical presentations. Vendor and sponsorship opportunities are still available.

I would like to personally thank our members for your continued support of NOGS. Speaking of support, NOGS has potentially filled all board positions for the 2026–2027 year. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to run for these important roles. I will share additional details in my final message next month once the voting process has been completed.

NOGS continues to thrive because of members who step up, get involved, and support this outstanding organization. Thank you for your commitment, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Summer Social and upcoming events.

Respectfully,



Summer SOCIAL



Sponsored by:

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Wednesday
June 17, 2026
5-7 PM

NOGS MEMBERS - \$30

NEW MEMBERS \$35 (INCLUDES MEMBERSHIP FOR 2026/2027)

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Loft 78

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NOGS is taking a
Summer Break in July
We will be back with our
regular meetings in
August

Mark
YOUR
Calendar



Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Northshore Lunch Meeting

Speaker - Chris McLindon

*Geological Underpinnings of the Modern
Mississippi Delta*

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Northshore Lunch Meeting

Speaker - Dr. Vann Smith

*Applications of palynology in the oil industry
and beyond*



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SPEAKERS AND TOPICS NEEDED

NOGS is seeking speaker and topic ideas for upcoming meetings. Know someone with valuable industry insights or have a topic you'd like to see covered? Send us your recommendations—we're building a strong lineup and welcome your input.

Email us with your suggestions: admin@nogs.org

2026/2027 Slate Board of Directors

Members - Please check your emails to cast your vote



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President



David Culpepper, PG
President Elect



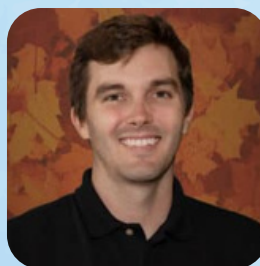
Eric Fischer
Editor



Kaare Egedahl
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TJ Hebert
Secretary



Chase Cromwell
Director A



Akinbobola Akintomide
Director B



Anna Strimas
Director C

2026/2027 Slate Board of Directors

Members - Please check your emails to cast your vote

Charlie has worked as a Landman and Chief Technology Director for the OCS BBS website and Lexco's OWL for the past 26 years, which both are industry tools used to track oil & gas activity in the Gulf of America.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Tulane University in Information Technology and an MBA from Troy State University. Charlie has also dedicated the past 26 years to volunteering with numerous local industry organizations, including NOGS, API-Delta, PLANO, SPE-Delta, Westbank Desk & Derrick and AAPL.

Charlie and his wife, Cheryl, have two daughters, Victoria and Madelyn, and currently reside in Madisonville, Louisiana.



Charles Miller, III
President



David Culpepper, PG
President Elect

David Culpepper is a Licensed Professional Geoscientist and environmental executive with more than 40 years of experience in hydrogeology, groundwater and soil remediation, environmental due diligence, regulatory compliance, and strategic business leadership. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Geography (Geoscience Track) from Louisiana State University. Throughout his career, he has led multidisciplinary teams, directed complex environmental projects, and advised private-sector, governmental, and nonprofit organizations on technical and regulatory challenges.

Mr. Culpepper currently serves part-time as Senior Geoscience Advisor with Leaf Environmental, LLC. He also served as a Board Member of NOGS and the NOGS Foundation and serves as a Subject Matter Expert for the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG), supporting the development of professional licensure examinations used throughout the United States.

His public service includes appointment to the Louisiana State Board of Professional Geoscientists and service as a Commissioner on the Louisiana Water Resources Commission, where he contributed to groundwater resource policy and long-range water management initiatives.

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His public service includes appointment to the Louisiana State Board of Professional Geoscientists and service as a Commissioner on the Louisiana Water Resources Commission, where he contributed to groundwater resource policy and long-range water management initiatives.



Eric Fischer **Editor**

Eric is a Principal Geoscientist and Co-Founder of Marine Geoscience Consulting, bringing nearly two decades of expertise in marine geoscience across global projects in diverse water depths. With a robust background in managing over 300 offshore survey projects in regions including the U.S. (Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf of Mexico), Mexico, Nigeria, and beyond, spanning from shoreline to over 6,000 meters deep. His work encompasses the oil and gas and offshore renewables sectors, telecoms, government, and academic clients.

Eric specializes in overseeing geophysical, geotechnical, and environmental surveys from design to reporting. His expertise includes 2D UHR seismic interpretation, AUV and towed geophysical systems, and geospatial analysis.

His leadership in building geophysical survey programs, mentoring young professionals, and fostering stakeholder engagement underscores his commitment to advancing marine geoscience. Eric holds a B.S. in Geology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Kaare Egedahl is a petroleum geologist with more than a decade of experience in Gulf of Mexico exploration and development. Born in Montana, Kaare was raised and began his career in Lafayette, Louisiana with major operators including Plains Exploration & Production, Marathon Oil, and Freeport-McMoRan Oil & Gas. Since 2019, he has served as a geologist with Cantium, where he identifies and executes drilling and workover opportunities in mature offshore fields, helping add more than 2 million barrels of booked reserves.

His expertise includes seismic interpretation, well log analysis, reservoir characterization, field development planning, and offshore drilling operations. Kaare holds both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Petroleum Geology from University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where he published research on seismic facies analysis of the Wilcox Formation. Throughout his career, he has worked closely with multidisciplinary teams to develop on and offshore resources, maximize recovery from mature fields, and mentor the next generation of geoscientists.



Kaare Egedahl **Treasurer**



TJ Hebert Secretary

Thaddeus (TJ) Hebert is a professional geologist and project manager with over 19 years of experience delivering environmental assessment, remediation, and regulatory compliance services for industrial, commercial, and government projects.

Thaddeus has extensive expertise in Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, Brownfields redevelopment projects, underground storage tank (UST) programs, and complex remediation processes. Thaddeus is highly skilled at managing multidisciplinary teams and applying regulations such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program (RECAP). He is experienced in coordinating with regulatory agencies such as LDEQ and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and has supported the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) emergency response team with Superfund sites.

Thaddeus holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Louisiana State University. He is a Licensed Professional Geoscientist in Louisiana, a Registered Professional Geologist in Mississippi, and serves as a Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Certified UST Worker.

Outside of work, Thaddeus enjoys spending time with his wife and four children and playing golf with friends.

Chase Cromwell joined Leaf in 2016 as a geologist in support of Leaf's LDEQ site investigation contract. Since then, Chase has grown to support Leaf's UST / Remediation team and plans to apply for the Professional Geologist certification in the coming years. Originally from Tennessee, Chase has received Bachelor's degrees in both Business Administration and Geology and worked in a variety of positions, from pest control specialist to cementing engineer. Chase is particularly adept in the preparation of work plans and utilizing mapping software such as ArcGIS and AutoCAD.

In his free time, Chase enjoys golf and watching Ole Miss winning National Championships!



Chase Cromwell Director A



Akinbobola Akintomide Director B

Akinbobola Akintomide, widely known as Bobola, is an accomplished geologist with a strong and proven track record in geoscience and the oil industry. His technical expertise spans structural geology, salt tectonics, and reservoir characterization. Currently working as a geologist at the Louisiana Geological Survey, Bobola is spearheading the construction of a comprehensive 3D subsurface geologic model for the state of Louisiana, a project vital for energy, CCUS, and environmental initiatives. His prior industry experience includes roles as a wellsite geologist with Columbine Corporation on unconventional drilling projects in Midland, Texas, and as a geologist with BGI Resources and Canyon Creek Energy, where he contributed to oilfield development, reservoir characterization, and new opportunity identification in Texas and Oklahoma.

Bobola holds a Ph.D. in Geology from Tulane University, where his research advanced the understanding of fault activity and its contribution to coastal wetland loss and subsidence in south Louisiana. His academic work also produced significant models explaining salt-fault interactions in the Gulf of America (Gulf of Mexico). He earned his Master of Science in Geoscience from the University of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and his Bachelor's degree in Applied Geology from the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria. Outside of his professional and academic pursuits, Bobola is an avid tennis player and enjoys hiking, combining his passion for the outdoors with his appreciation for geological landscapes.

Anna Strimas is a professional geologist based in New Orleans, with a passion for environmental stewardship and community engagement. Her work focuses on applied geology and environmental assessments, with an emphasis on site characterization, subsurface conditions and responsible land use.

Anna is particularly interested in expanding student outreach and engagement in the geosciences, from elementary through college levels, and in helping to inspire the next generation of geologists through hands-on learning and mentorship. She enjoys using interactive and field-based concepts to make geology more accessible and engaging. As a New Orleans resident, she is especially interested in local environmental issues, including coastal geomorphology and geochemistry, especially as they relate to the Mississippi River. Anna is honored to be considered for a Director role with NOGS and is committed to supporting the organization's mission through outreach, education, and community involvement.



Anna Strimas Director C



**NOGS Membership
Renewal Invoices
have been emailed.**



Proposed By-Laws Changes to NOGS

Introduction

The proposed revisions include eliminating the Vice-President (VP) position and redistributing those responsibilities to the President-Elect under Article IV, Section B of the Constitution. Additional changes would allow Associate members to have voting rights and the ability to hold office, as outlined in Article I, Section B of the Bylaws. The revisions also update student membership provisions, student fees, and eligibility requirements for a NOGS Scholarship under Article IV, Sections A and D of the Bylaws. Ballots will be sent by email to all eligible voting members of NOGS. Once the ballots are distributed, the voting period will remain open for two weeks.

Eliminating VP Position - *Constitutional Change*

This proposed constitutional revision would eliminate the Vice-President (VP) position and formally redistribute the VP duties to the President-Elect. The VP position has gone unfilled for several consecutive years, and in practice, current and past President-Elects and Presidents have already performed these responsibilities. This change would address the Society's ongoing difficulty in recruiting members to fill board roles while also giving the President-Elect clearly defined duties and responsibilities.



Proposed By-Laws Changes to NOGS

Allow Associate Members to have voting rights and hold office - *Bylaw Change*

This proposed bylaws revision would allow Associate members to have voting rights and the ability to hold office under Article I, Section B. Granting these rights would promote wider participation within NOGS and help address the Society's ongoing difficulty in recruiting members to fill board roles. This change also reflects current and past practice, as Associate members have previously served, and are currently serving, in board positions.

Revision of student membership, student fees & eligibility requirements for a NOGS Scholarship - *Bylaw Change*

These proposed bylaw revisions would update student membership, student fees, and eligibility requirements for NOGS Scholarships under Article IV, Sections A and D. The revisions would expand eligibility beyond full-time students to include part-time students, broaden qualifying earth science degrees to better reflect current university curricula, and make student membership free, provided the required annual documentation is submitted. To qualify for free membership, a student must submit, on an annual basis, a current class schedule or registration confirmation showing the student's major and enrolled courses. Beginning in 2027, students must be active members of NOGS to be eligible for a scholarship. These changes are intended to create a more inclusive environment for students, expand student involvement, and encourage greater participation in NOGS.



Proposed By-Laws Changes to NOGS

Conclusion

On behalf of the NOGS Board, we thank you for your consideration of this matter. These proposed changes will help ensure the continued success and long-term sustainability of NOGS by better reflecting the evolving needs and current changes within the geological community in the greater New Orleans area.

Once again, ballots will be sent by email to all eligible voting members of NOGS. Once the ballots are distributed, the voting period will remain open for two weeks.

Respectfully,

Brian T. David
President NOGS

**Calling All
Authors!!**

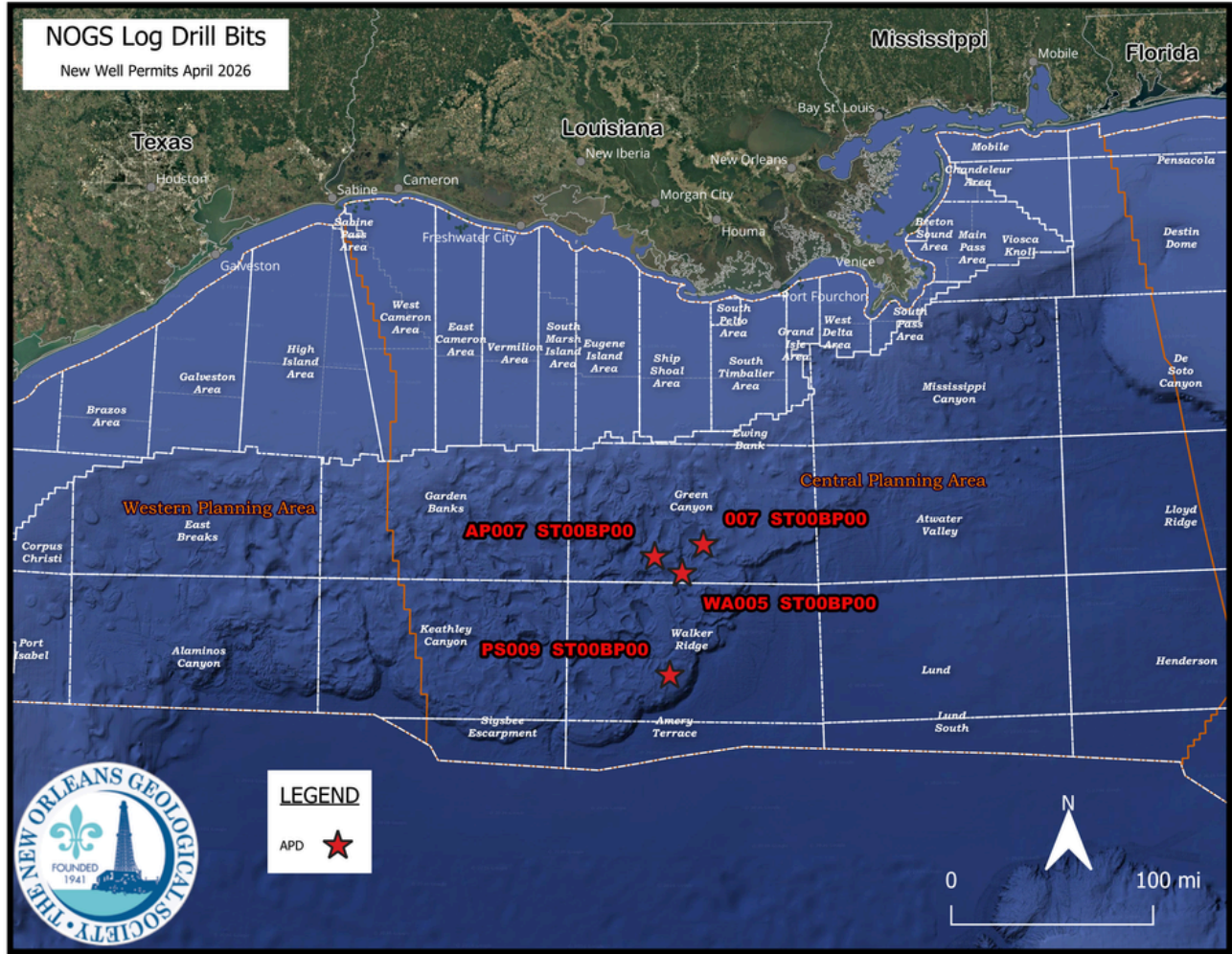
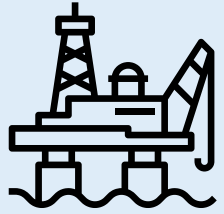


The NOGS LOG invites short articles from industry professionals, academics, and graduate students on topics related to Gulf Coast geology, energy resources, and related disciplines. Submissions may include technical summaries, case studies, research highlights, or industry perspectives.

If you are interested in contributing or have a topic idea, please contact the Editor or email admin@nogs.org.

DRILL BITS

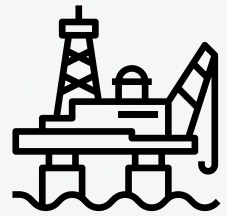
NEW WELL PERMITS OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES
MAP BY ERIC FISCHER



API Well Number	Company Name	Block Area	Surface Lease Number	Well Type	Well Name	Water Depth (feet)	Surface Lat	Surface Long	Rig Name
608114080000	Anadarko Petroleum Corporation	GC 727	G16783	Explorato	007 ST00BP00	4703	27.238	-90.819	DIAMOND OCEAN BLACKHAWK
608114080100	Beacon Growthco Operating Company, L.L.C.	GC 943	G36060	Develop	WA005 ST00BP00	5386	27.031	-90.99	DIAMOND OCEAN BLACKRHINO
608114080200	Chevron U.S.A. Inc.	GC 807	G31752	Explorato	AP007 ST00BP00	4953	27.151	-91.211	Deepwater Titan
608124016200	Union Oil Company of California	WR 678	G21245	Explorato	PS009 ST00BP00	7039	26.297	-91.092	T.O. DEEPWATER CONQUEROR

DRILL BITS

OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA SHELF AND
DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES
BY BRIAN BOTHNER



North America Rig Count Report April 2026

North America: 549

State/Province	Protraction Area	Rig Count Value	Change from Previous Month		
LOUISIANA	East Cameron	1	1		
LOUISIANA	Eugene Island	1	-2		
LOUISIANA	Green Canyon	5	0		
LOUISIANA	Mississippi Canyon	6	5		
Gulf of America Total:		13	3		
State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month	State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month
ALASKA	11	-1	NEW MEXICO	101	-1
ARKANSAS	0	0	NORTH DAKOTA	26	-1
CALIFORNIA	7	0	OHIO	11	-1
COLORADO	11	-3	OKLAHOMA	42	-4
LOUISIANA	31	0	PENNSYLVANIA	18	-2
MICHIGAN	1	0	TEXAS	234	-3
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	UTAH	14	-2
MONTANA	2	0	WEST VIRGINIA	8	1
NEVADA	2	0	WYOMING	17	0

Recent Energy Headlines

May 2026 Recap

5/27/2026 - Noble Appoints Halliburton CEO as Director - Noble Corporation plc announced, in a statement posted on its site, that its board of directors has appointed Jeff Miller, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Halliburton, to serve as a director of Noble. "I am delighted to welcome Jeff to Noble's Board of Directors," Noble Chairman Charles M. Sledge said in the statement, on behalf of Noble's board of directors. [Read Full Article](#)

5/26/2026 - Shell's Mars platform reaches historic 1B barrel milestone in Gulf of America - Shell's Mars platform in the Gulf of America has reached a historic milestone, becoming the first offshore asset in the United States to produce one billion barrels of oil over its lifetime. Mars revolutionized the deep-water industry when it came online three decades ago and continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening energy security for both Louisiana and the nation. Brought online 30 years ago after one of the most significant oil discoveries in American history, Mars unleashed a new era of deep-water potential. Built in Louisiana and located 130 miles south of New Orleans, the platform has long stood as a marvel of engineering and innovation. Over its lifetime, thousands of Shell employees and contractors have contributed their expertise to the success of the asset. [Read Full Article](#)

5/18/2026 - LSU Invention Could Double Oil Production - Oil wells initially produce only a fraction of the oil in the reservoir. Even the most advanced recovery techniques, which are costly, leave behind 50% of the resource. LSU researchers have patented a practical solution that boosts recovery rates to up to 95%, an advance that could disrupt the energy industry. The technology can be applied to mature oilfields, offshore production, new wells, and orphan wells. [Read Full Article](#)

5/17/2026 - \$3.2 billion move on LLOG opens doors to Gulf of America oil & gas scene for Harbour - Harbour claims that this acquisition marks its strategic entry into the U.S. Gulf of America (Gulf of Mexico), strengthening its global portfolio and establishing another core business unit alongside Norway, the UK, Argentina, and Mexico. This move is said to add conventional offshore oil assets with significant operational control, increasing production, extending reserves life, and improving margins, while delivering differentiated growth profile with significant exploration opportunity, as material and increasing free cash flow supports competitive shareholder returns and investment grade profile. [Read Full Article](#)

5/16/2026 - Chevron confirms oil discovery at Bandit prospect in Gulf of America - Chevron Corporation (NYSE:CVX) said it has confirmed an oil discovery at the Bandit prospect in the Gulf of America, according to a company statement. The exploration well is located in Green Canyon Block 680, roughly 125 miles south of the Louisiana coastline. The well encountered oil-bearing Miocene sand formations. Occidental Petroleum operates the project with a 45.375% working interest, while Chevron U.S.A. Inc. holds 37.125% and Woodside Energy (Deepwater) Inc. owns the remaining 17.5%. The project partners are currently reviewing the drilling results to determine potential next steps. The discovery could potentially be tied back through subsea connections to a nearby facility operated by Occidental as well as other surrounding infrastructure. [Read Full Article](#)



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2025/2026

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Thank you!



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Vice President/Editor Elect



Brittany George
Treasurer



Carol Avery
Director A



Chase Cromwell
Director B



Akinbobola Akintomide
Director C



Brian Bothner
Editor

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The New Orleans Geological Society was organized on October 3, 1941, as a non-profit organization for the purpose of facilitating the development of the profession and science of Geology, with specific emphasis to exploration and production of petroleum and natural gas. Secondary related objectives include the dissemination of pertinent geological and environmental technological data, and the maintenance of a high standard of professional conduct of its members. The full history of the Society can be found at nogs.org.

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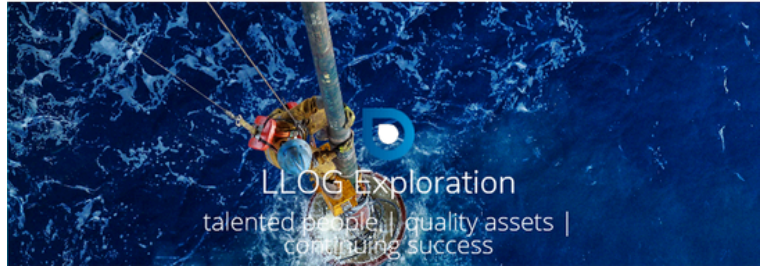
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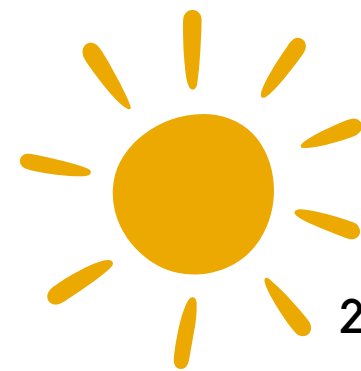
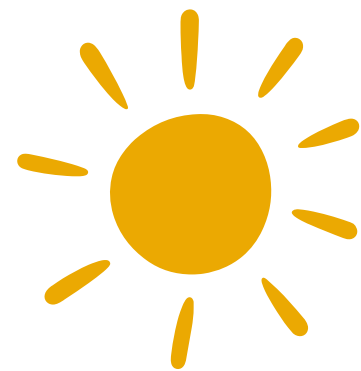
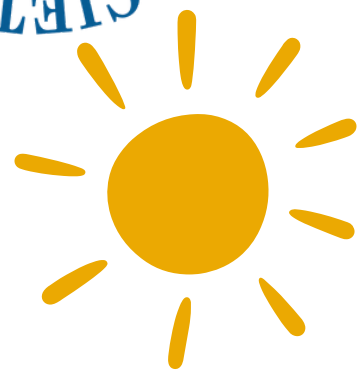
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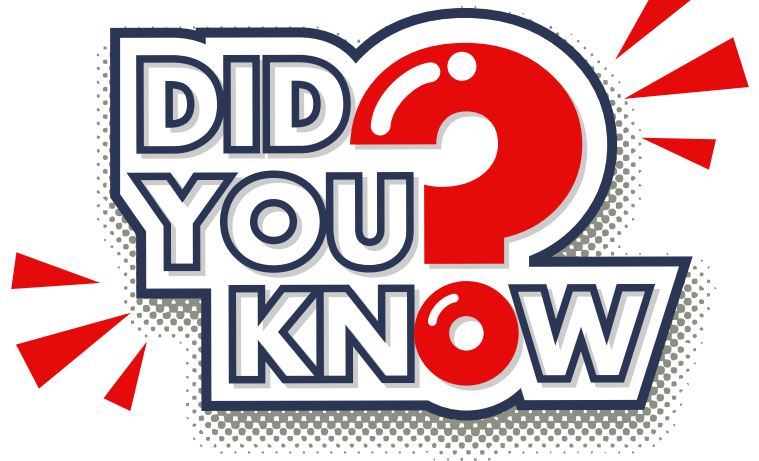
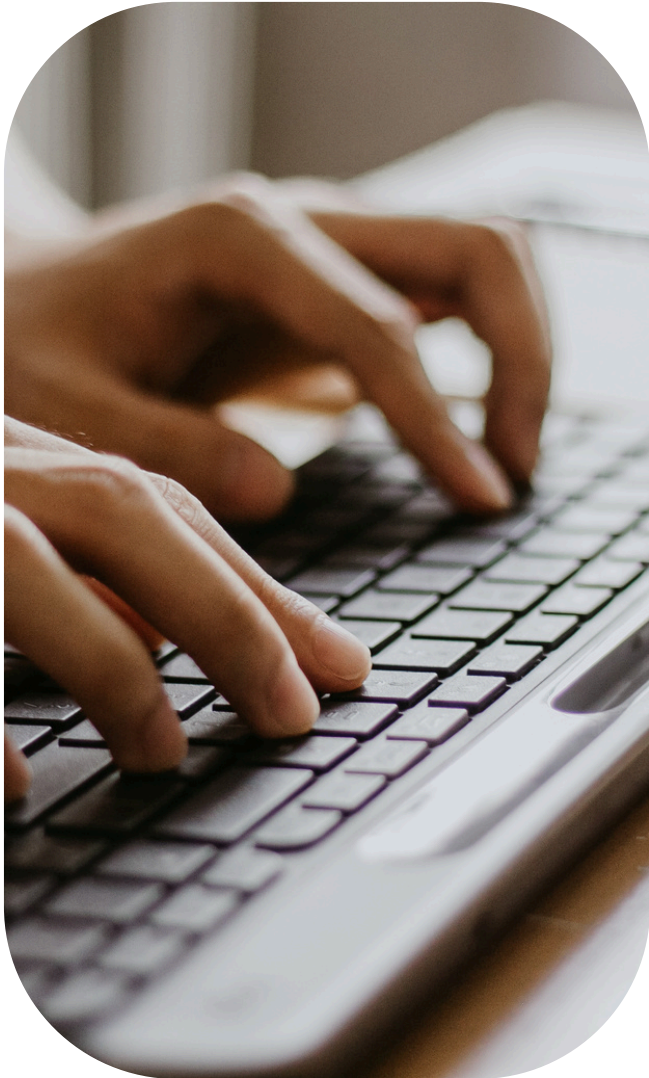


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Website

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NEW ORLEANS
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MEMORIAL
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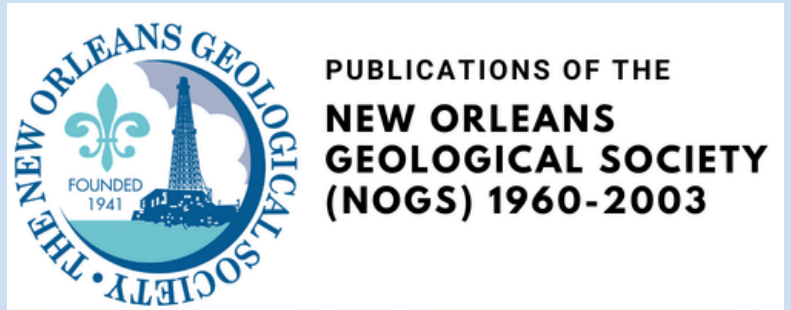
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