

# **Deepwater Plays, Process, Success and Failure**

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Is the academic and petroleum community at a crossroads with deepwater plays? It is partly the realization that we are still trying to understand the processes of erosion and transportation gleaned from flume tank experiments, oceanography, outcrops and 3D seismic after close to 70 years of research into the subject. It is partly that this play is invariably in present day deepwater that means big reserves need to be found .... and large costs are involved for those wishing to pursue this play.

This paper summarises the current deepwater knowledge of process and sequence stratigraphy, attempts to highlight outcrops we can use for reservoir modelling for field development, points to current and future exploration locations/plays in the world and concludes with the recent success case of the Upper Jurassic turbidite discovery in the North Sea called Buzzard announced by PanCanadianEnergy in June 2001.