



British  
Geological Survey

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Gateway to the Earth

# The Falkland Islands: An Exploration Update

AAPG Denver  
May / June 2015



**The Falkland Islands Government**  
[www.falklands-oil.com](http://www.falklands-oil.com)

# Outline of Talk

- Introduction to the Falkland Islands
- Geo-Politics
- Regional Geology
- Petroleum Systems
  - **North Falkland Basin**
  - **Falkland Plateau Basin**
  - **South Falkland Basin**
- Summary

# An Introduction



# Geo-Politics

## UK Overseas Territory:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Makes its own laws

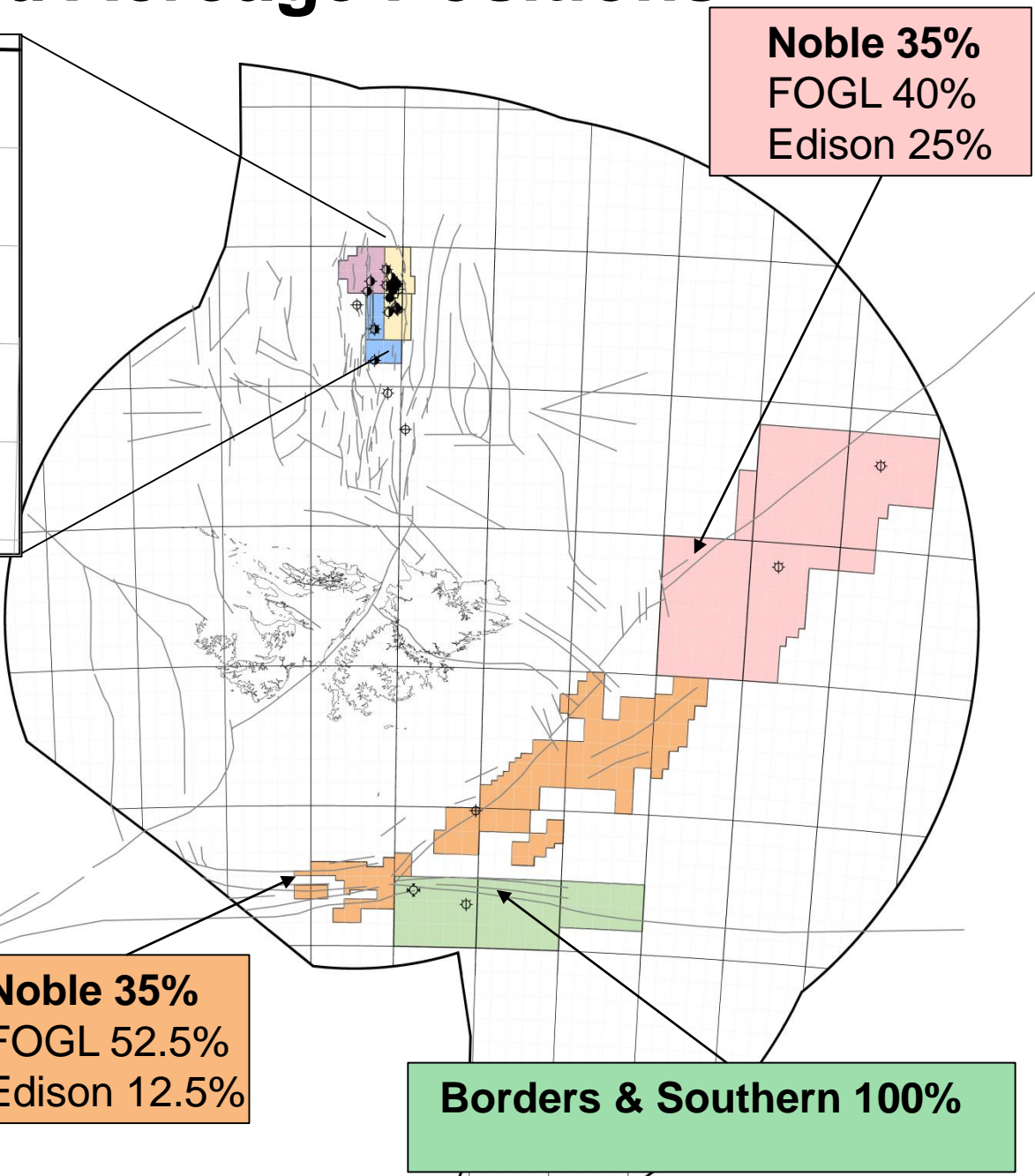
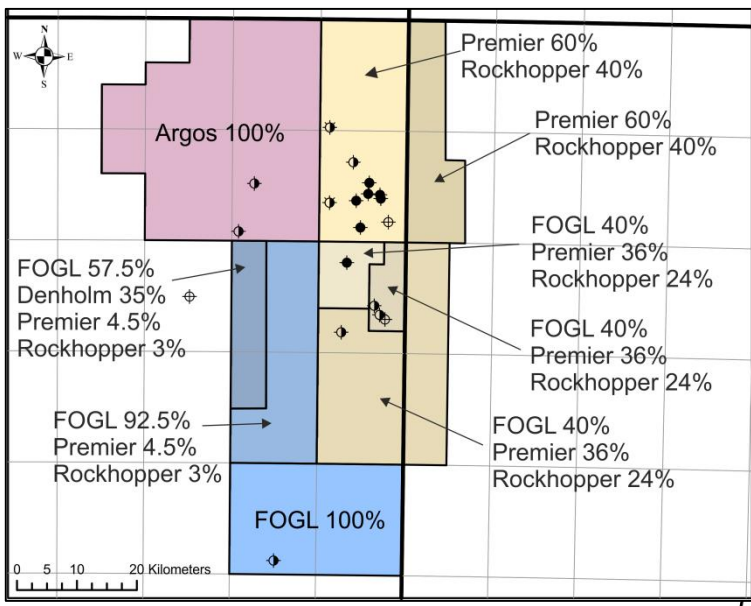
## UK Responsibilities:

- Defence
- Foreign Affairs
- Good Governance



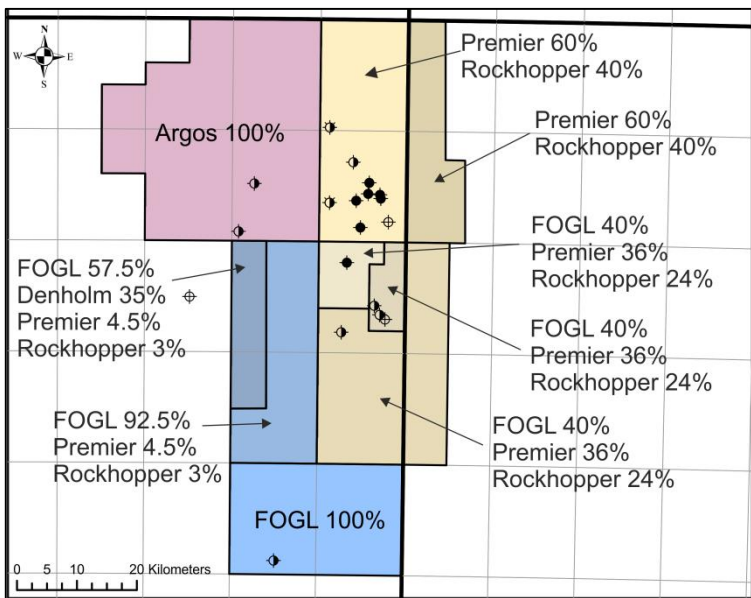
**Tax very competitive:  
26% Corporation  
Tax  
9% Royalty**

# Currently Licenced Acreage Positions

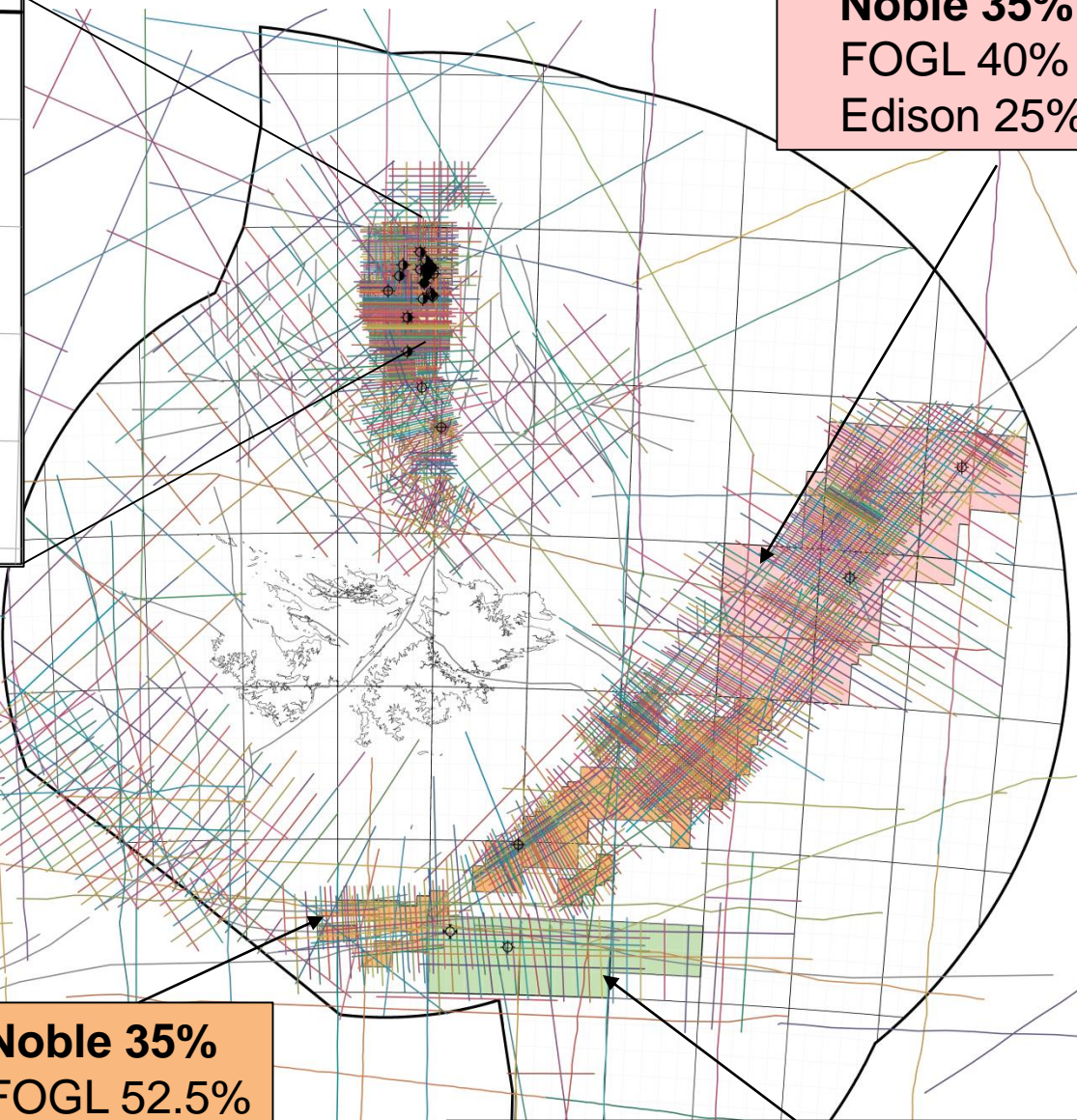


- Water depths of <200m to 2.5km
- Spread of international companies – one of our drivers.

# Seismic Coverage – 2D



**Noble 35%**  
**FOGL 40%**  
**Edison 25%**

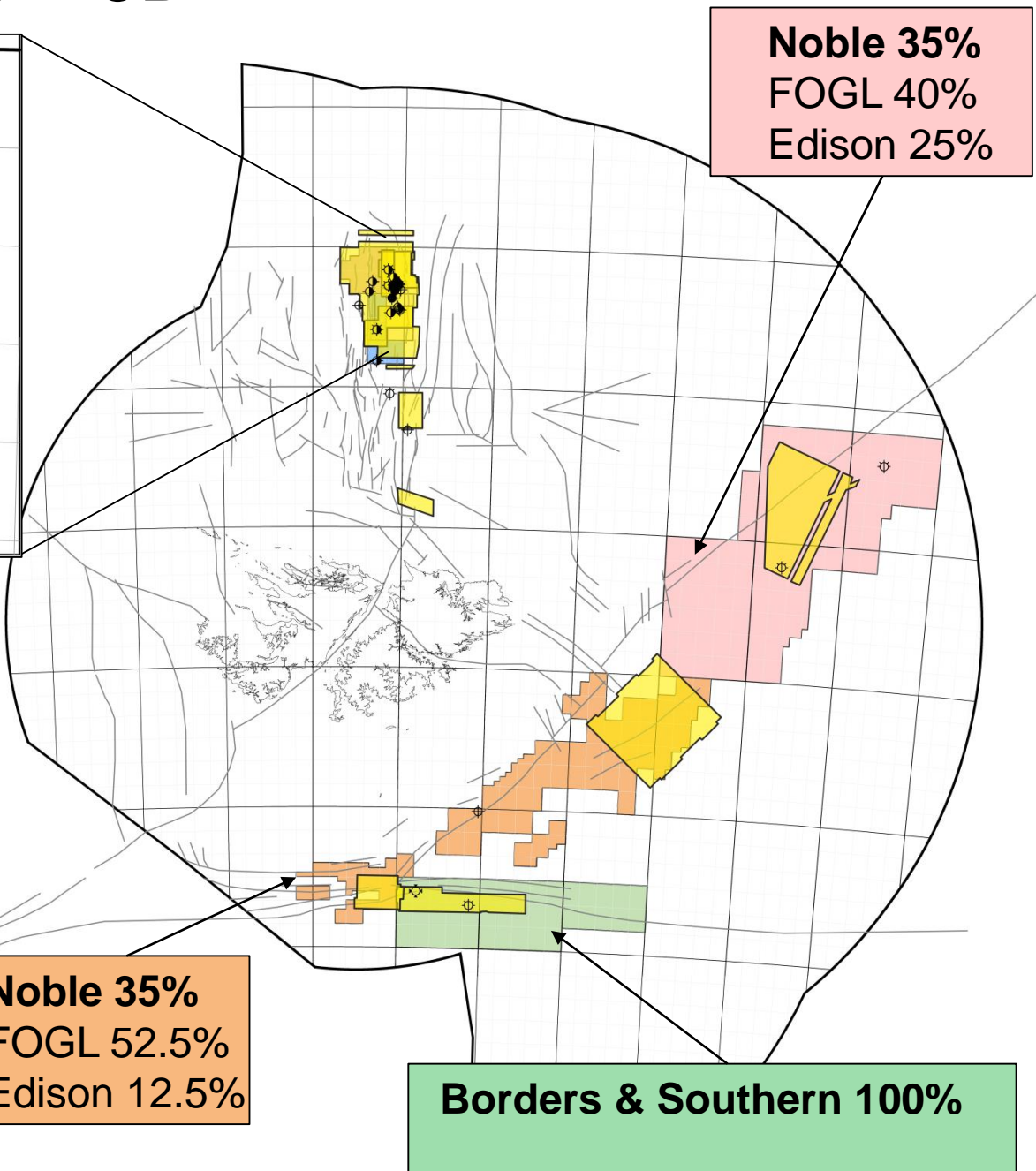
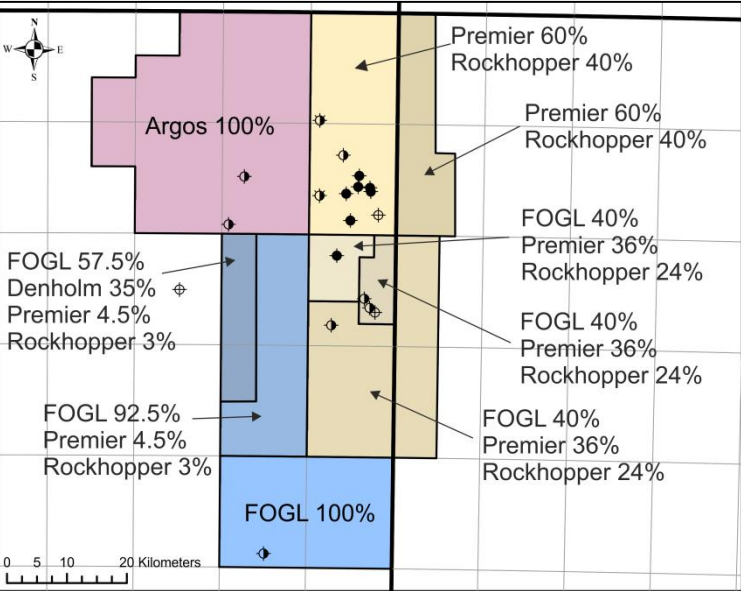


**Noble 35%**  
**FOGL 52.5%**  
**Edison 12.5%**

**Borders & Southern 100%**

- Water depths of <200m to 2.5km
- Spread of international companies – one of our drivers.

# Seismic Coverage – 3D

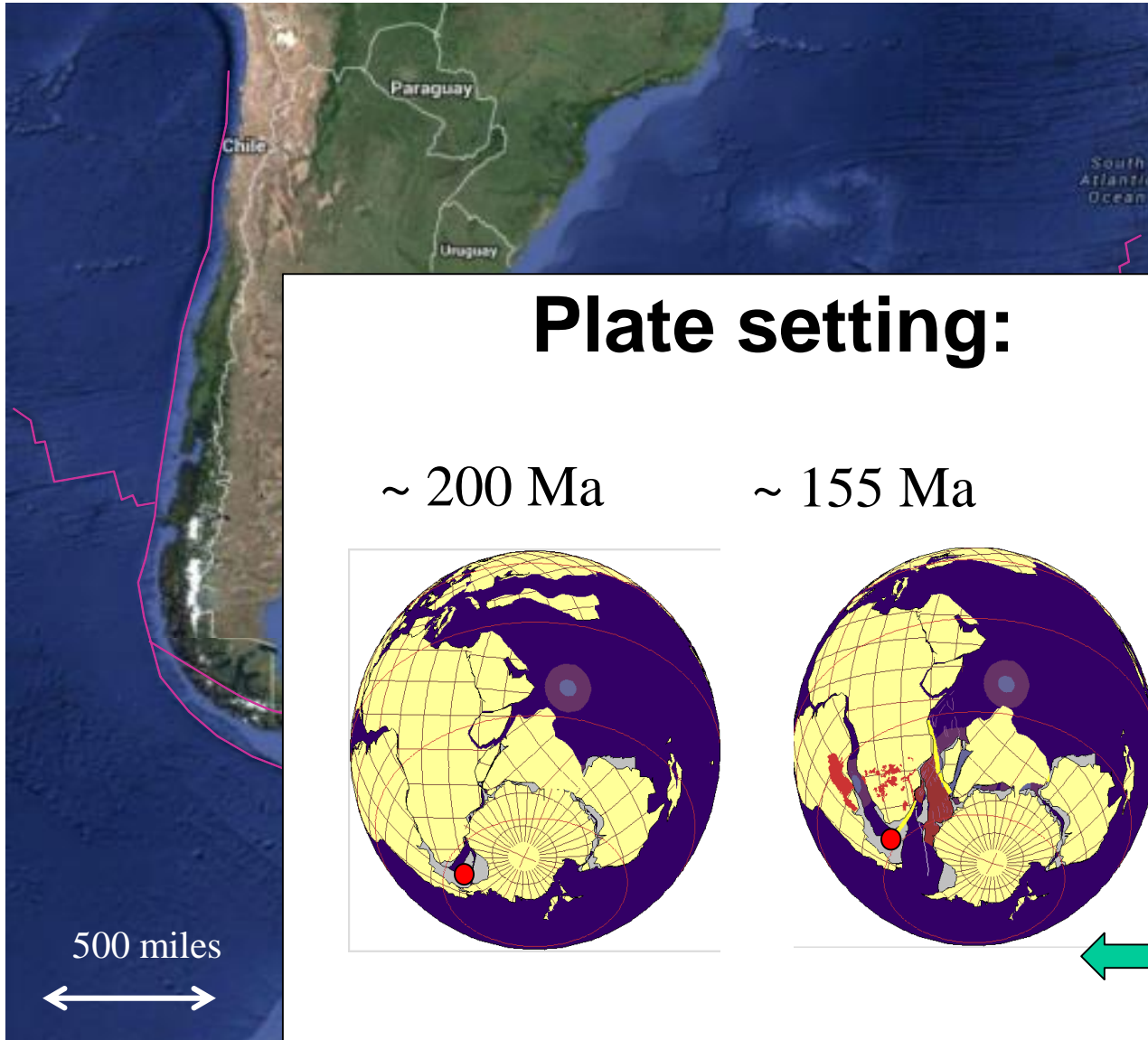


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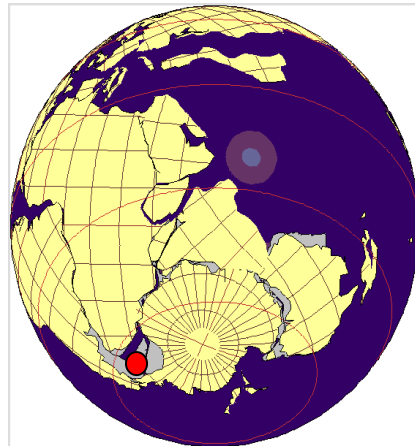
**Borders & Southern 100%**

# Regional Geology

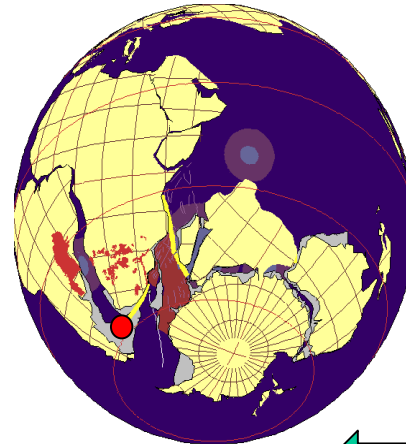


## Plate setting:

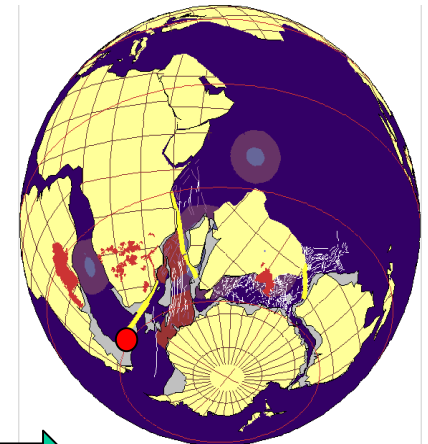
~ 200 Ma



~ 155 Ma



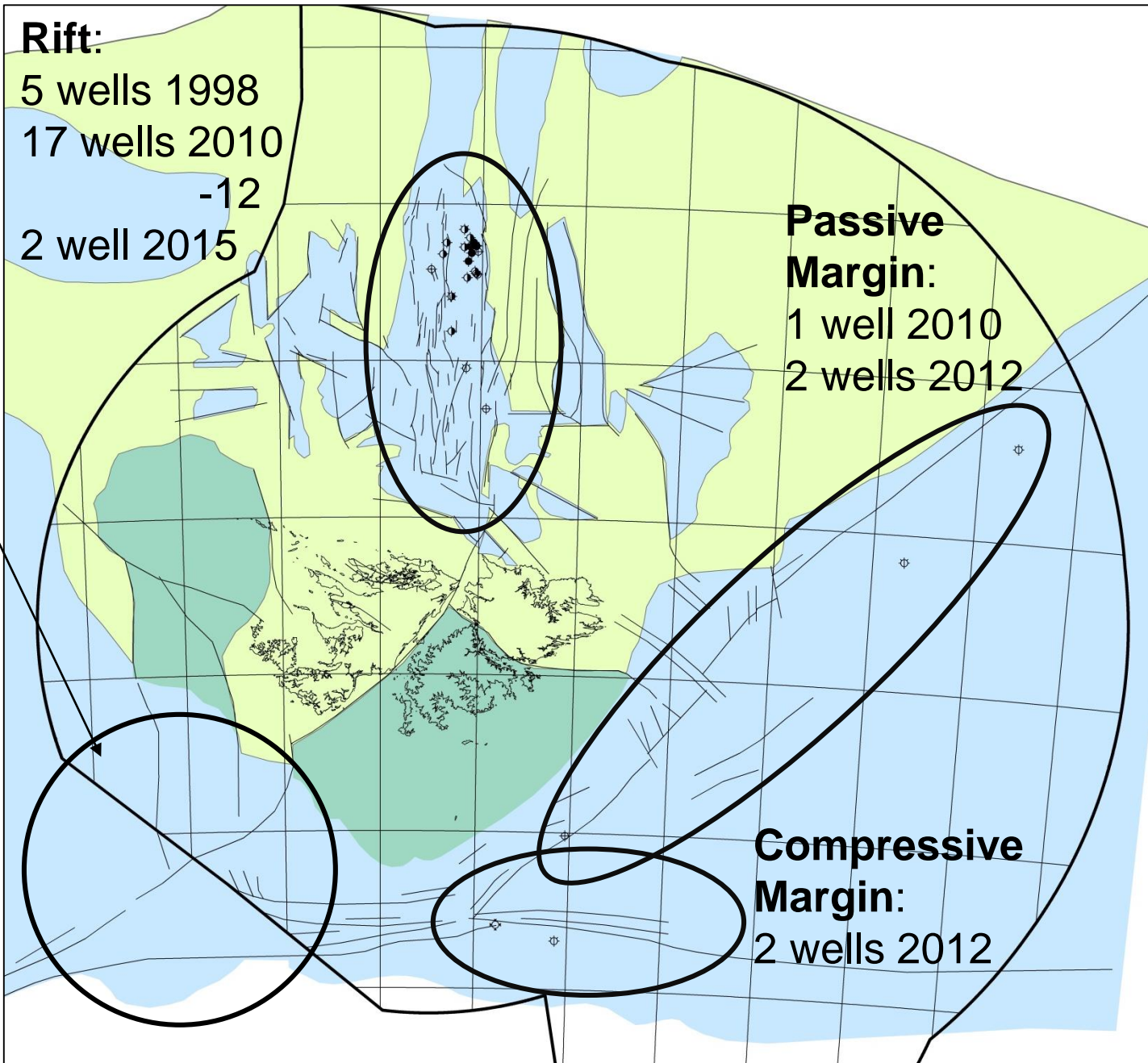
~ 105 Ma



(Reeves and de Wit 2000)



# Tectonic Provinces



**Rift:**  
5 wells 1998  
17 wells 2010  
-12  
2 well 2015




**Passive Margin:**  
1 well 2010  
2 wells 2012

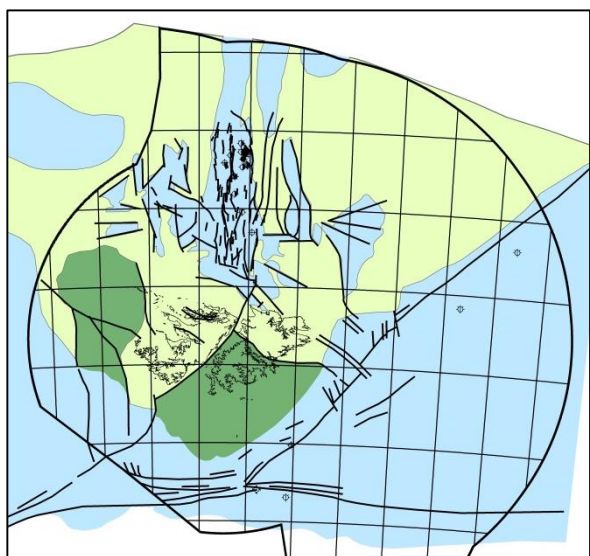
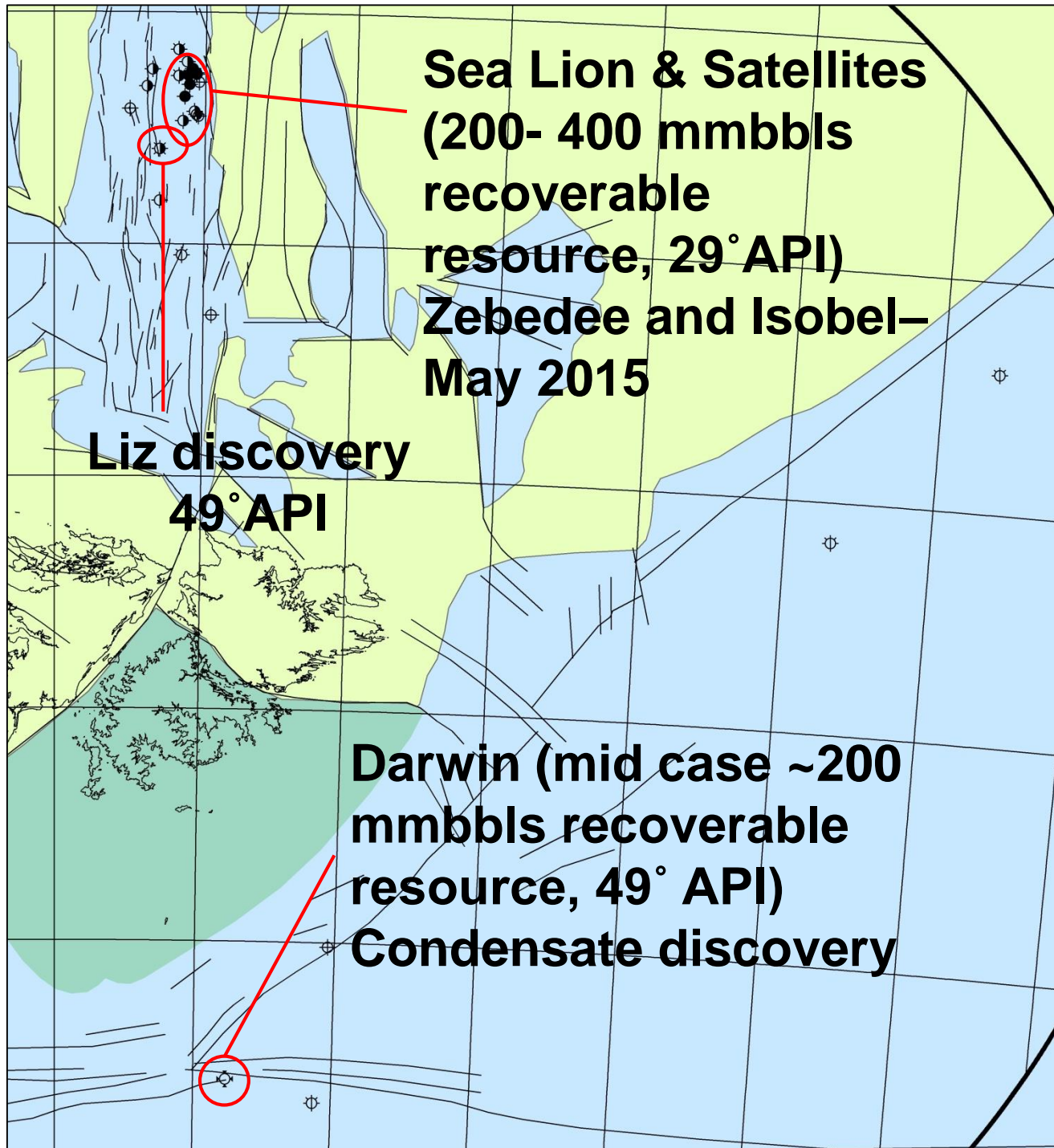
**Compressive Margin:**  
2 wells 2012

Malvinas Basin  
to the west

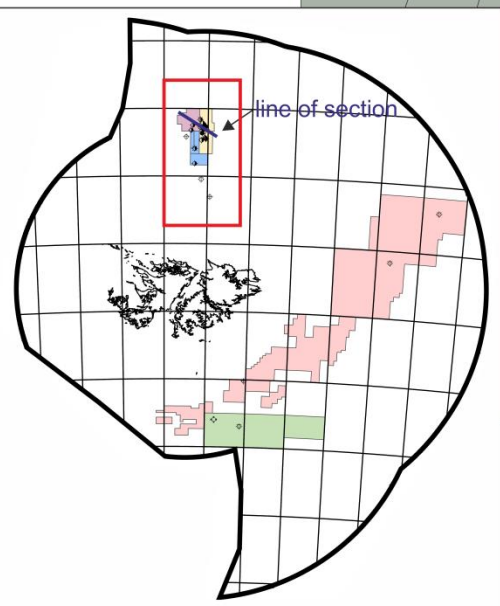
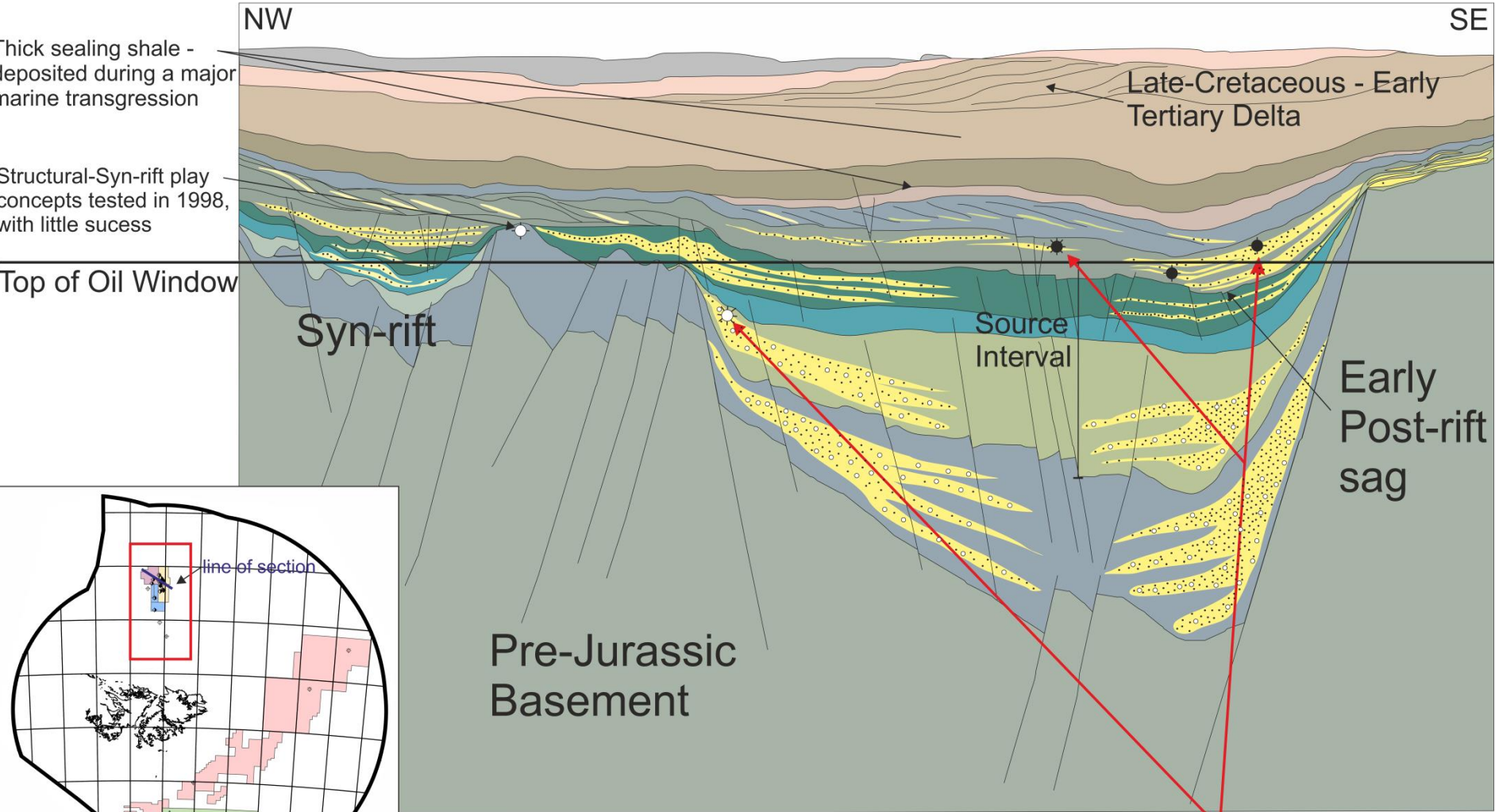
- Devono-Carboniferous Sediments
- Permo-Triassic, equivalent to Karoo Series of South Africa
- Possible extent of Mesozoic-Tertiary Basins

# Discoveries

-  Devono-Carboniferous Sediments
-  Permo-Triassic, equivalent to Karoo Series of South Africa
-  Possible extent of Mesozoic-Tertiary Basins



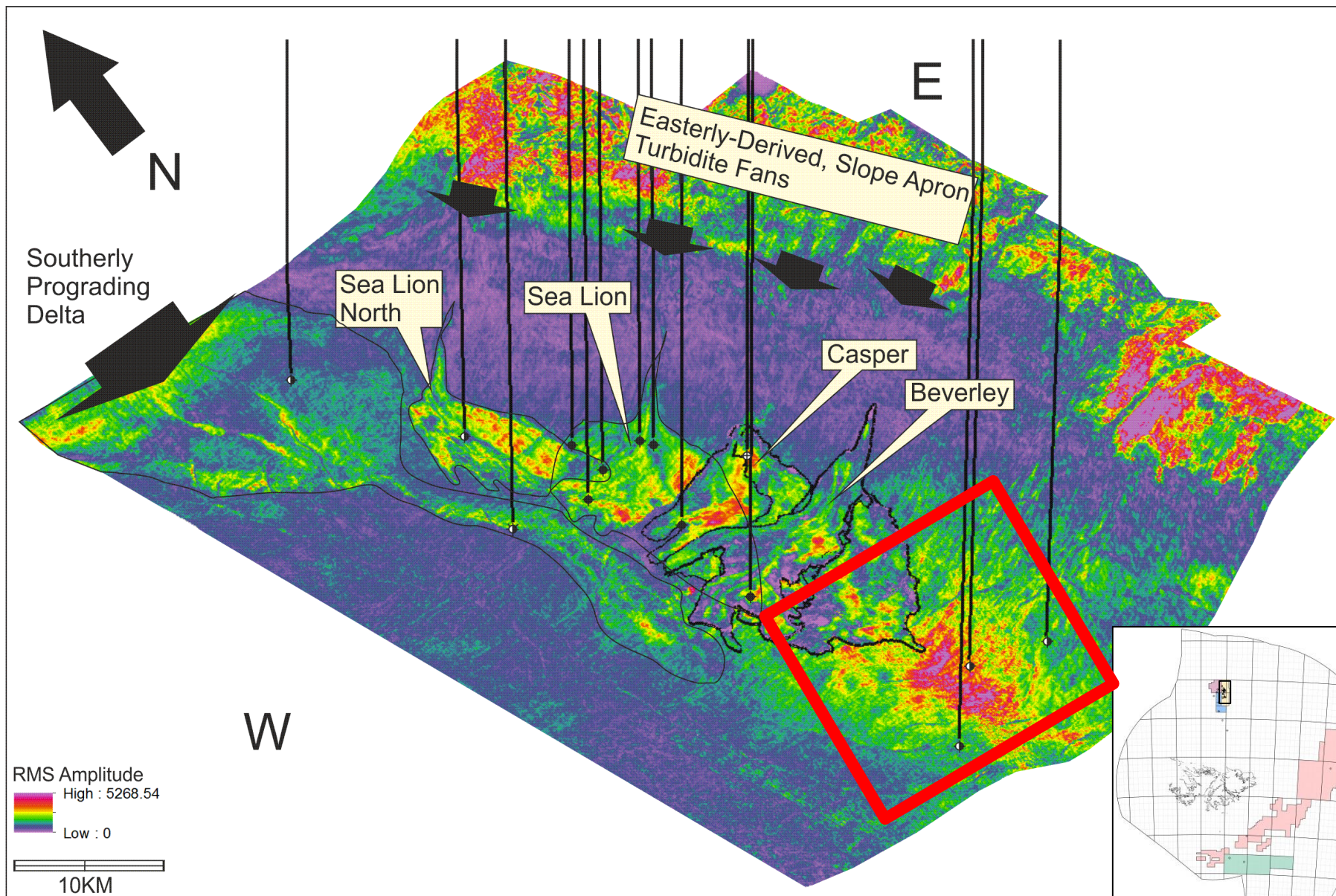
# North Falkland Basin: Lacustrine Failed-Rift System

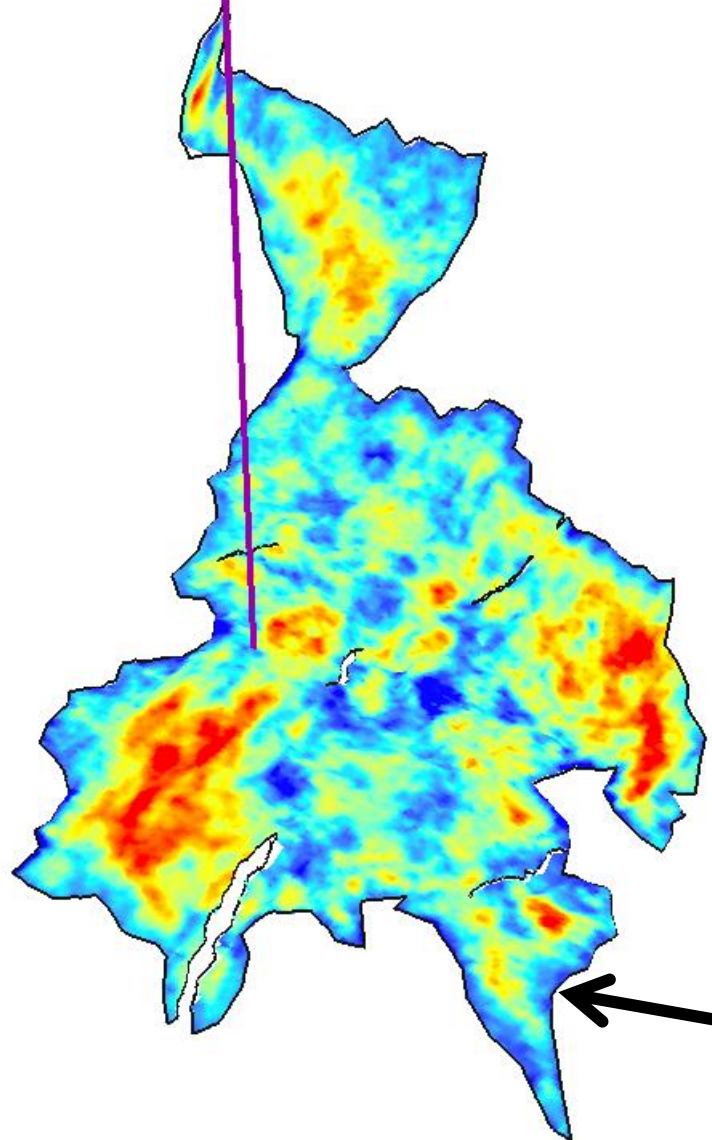
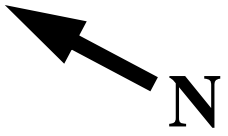


2010-2015 - 6 Discoveries in the early post rift basin fill

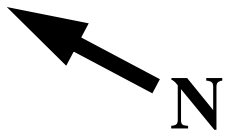


# North Falklands Basin – Eastern Flank Play

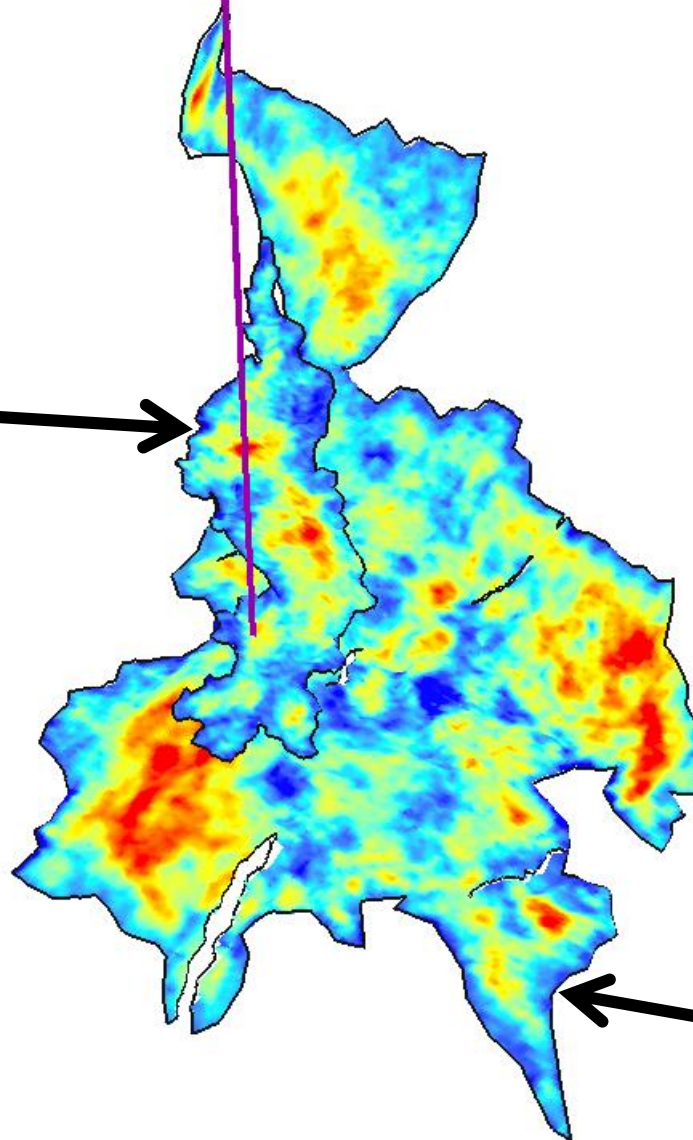




← Zebedee Main

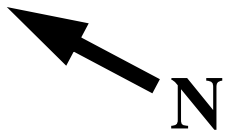


Beverly 20



Zebedee Main





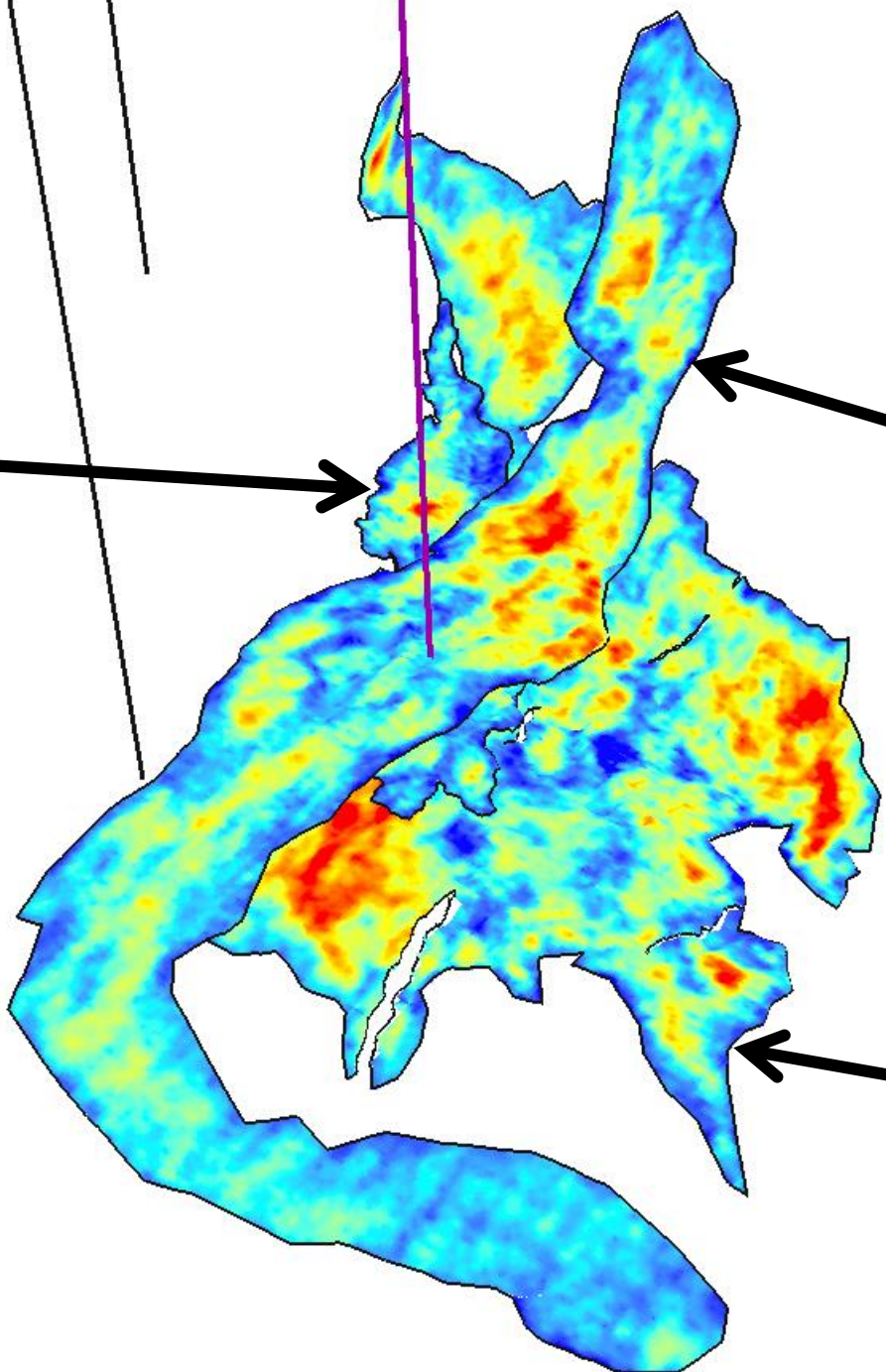
Beverly 20



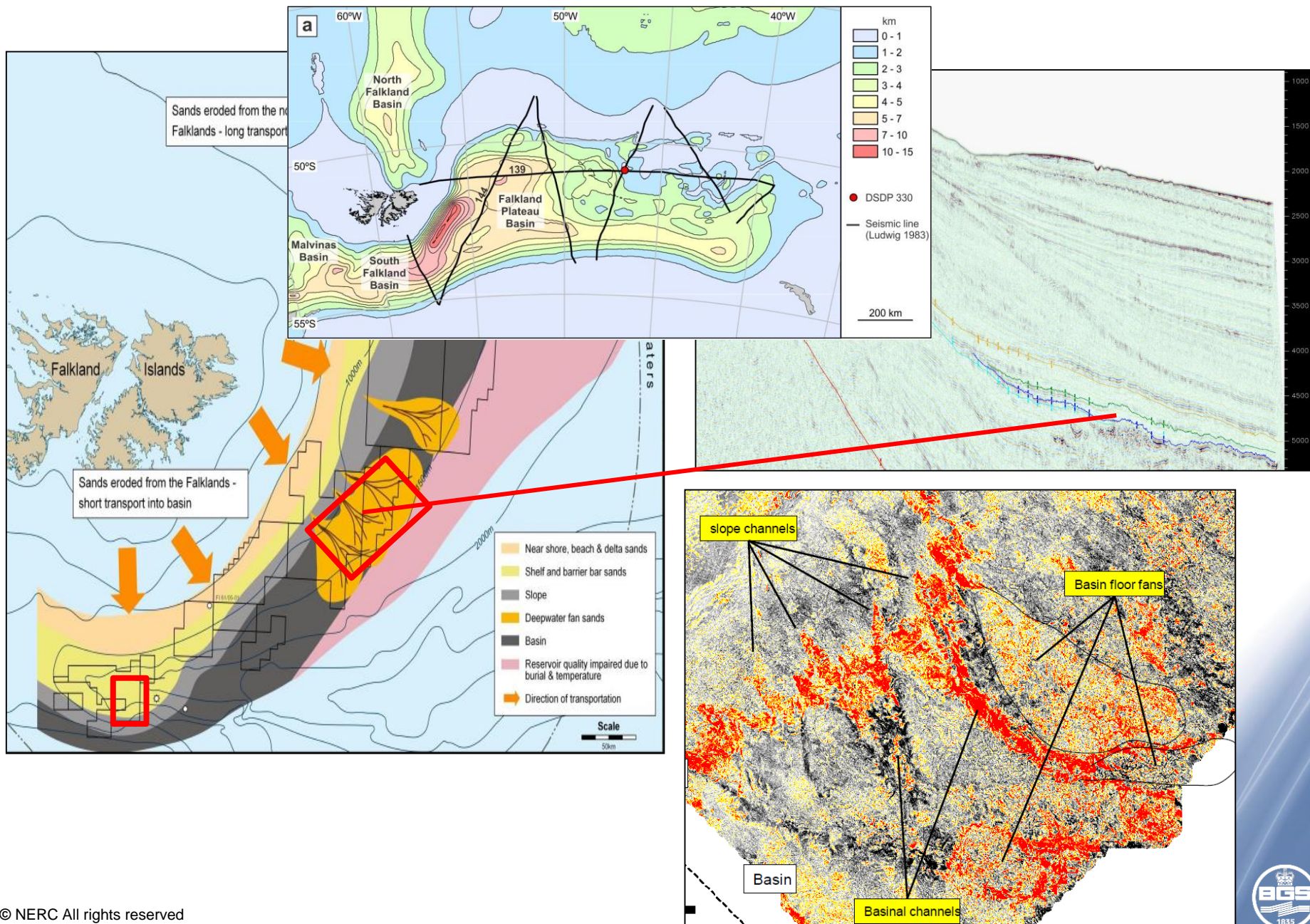
Hector



Zebedee Main

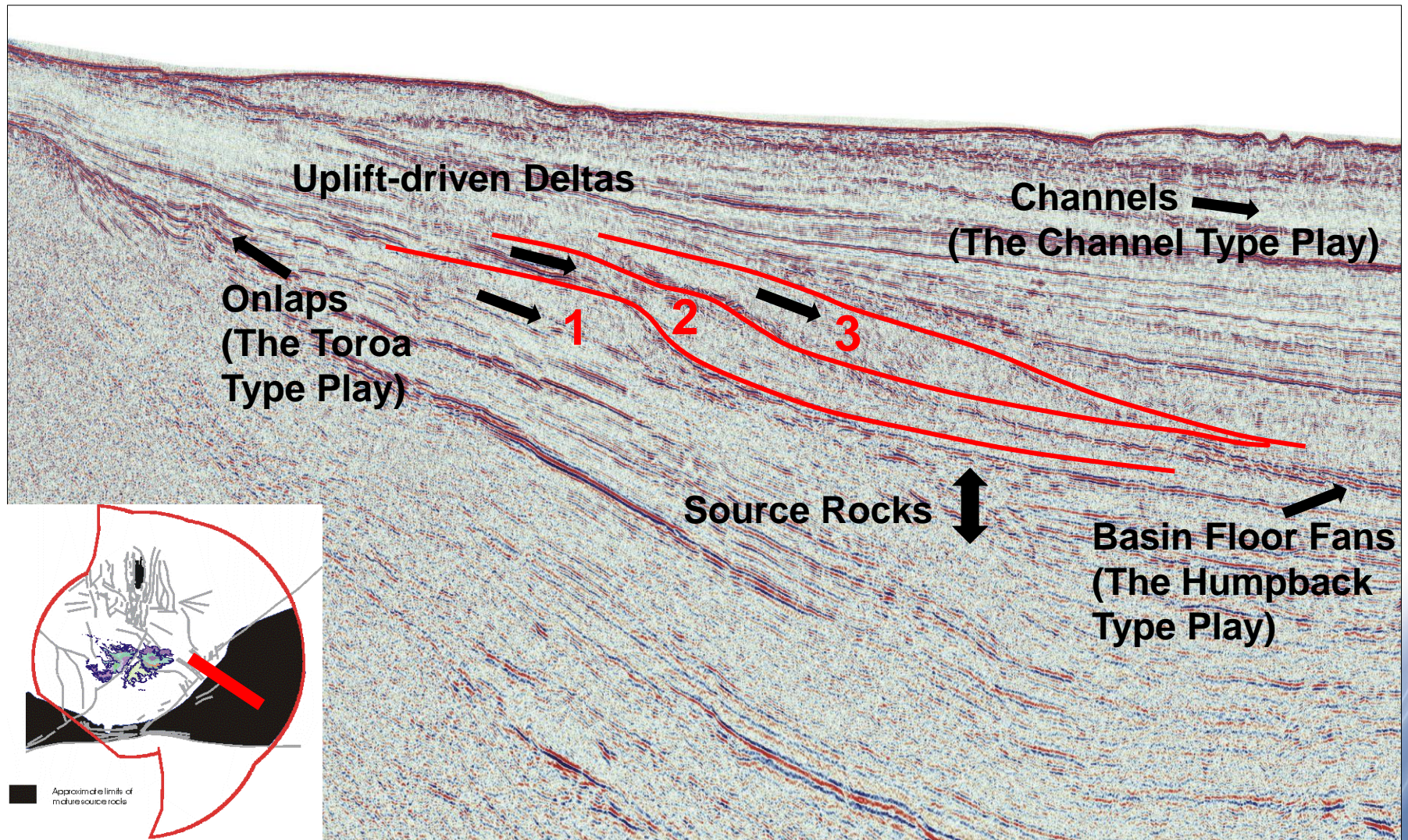


# Falkland Plateau Basin

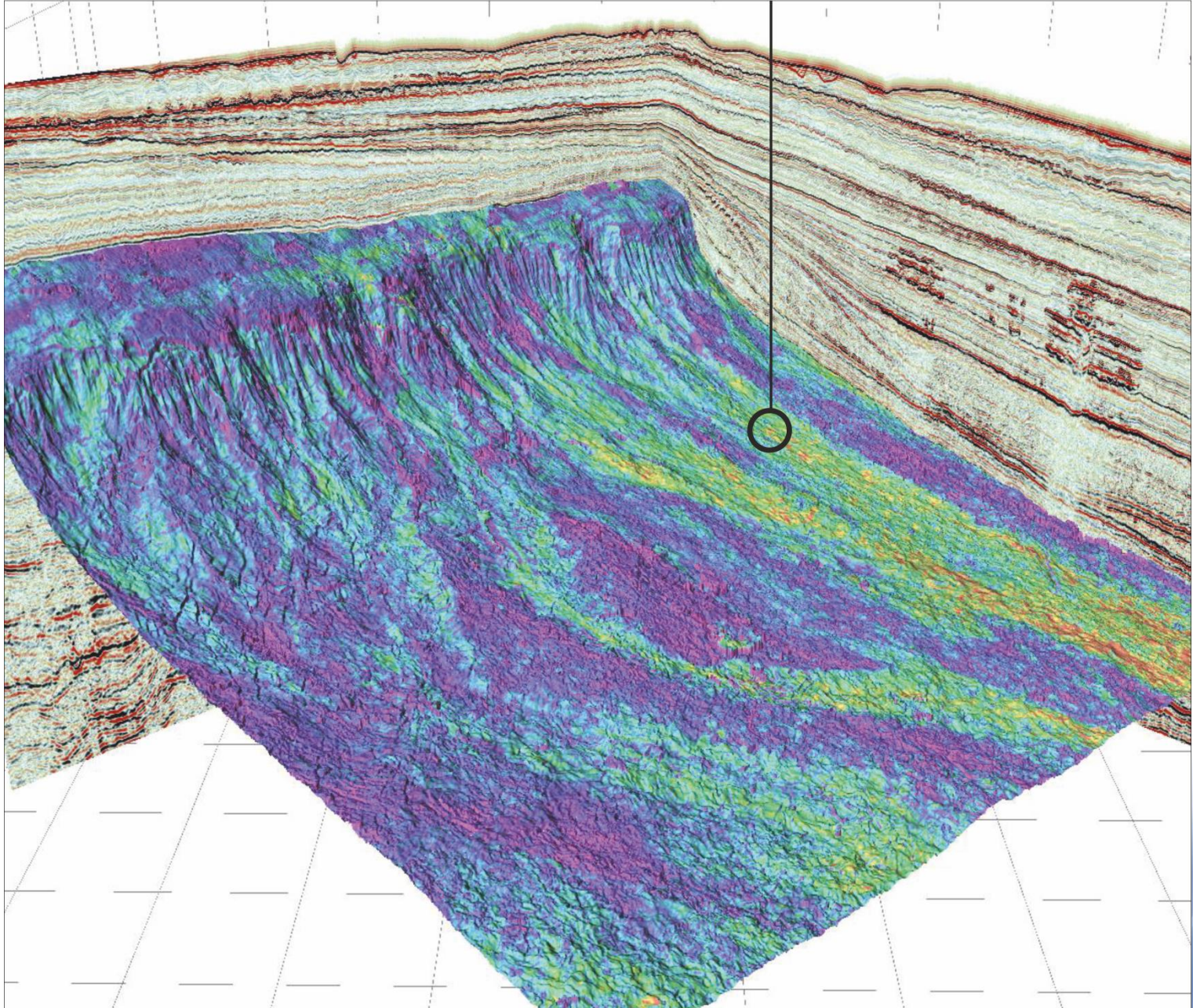




# Typical Passive Margin Plays of FPB



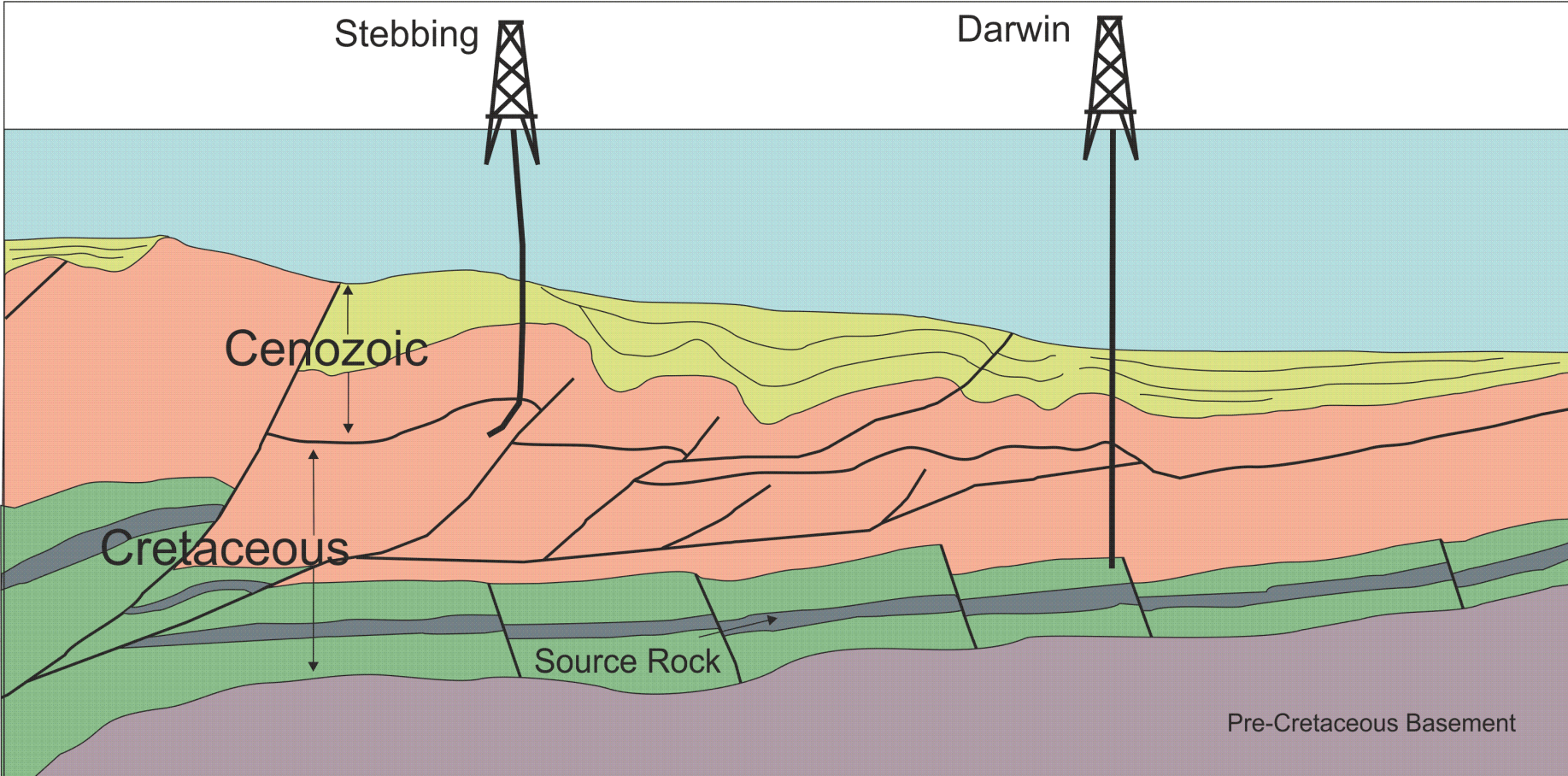
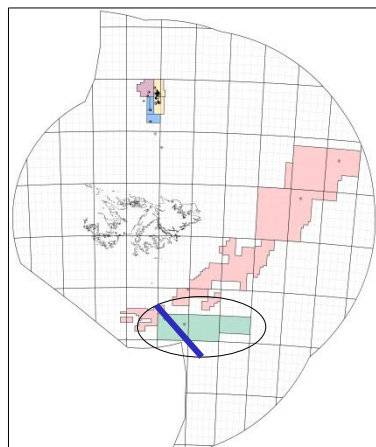
# HUMPBACK



# Plays on Compressive Margin

Stebbing –  
Stacked Cenozoic folds.  
Deeper target not reached

Darwin –  
Cretaceous tilt blocks.  
Gas-condensate  
discovery

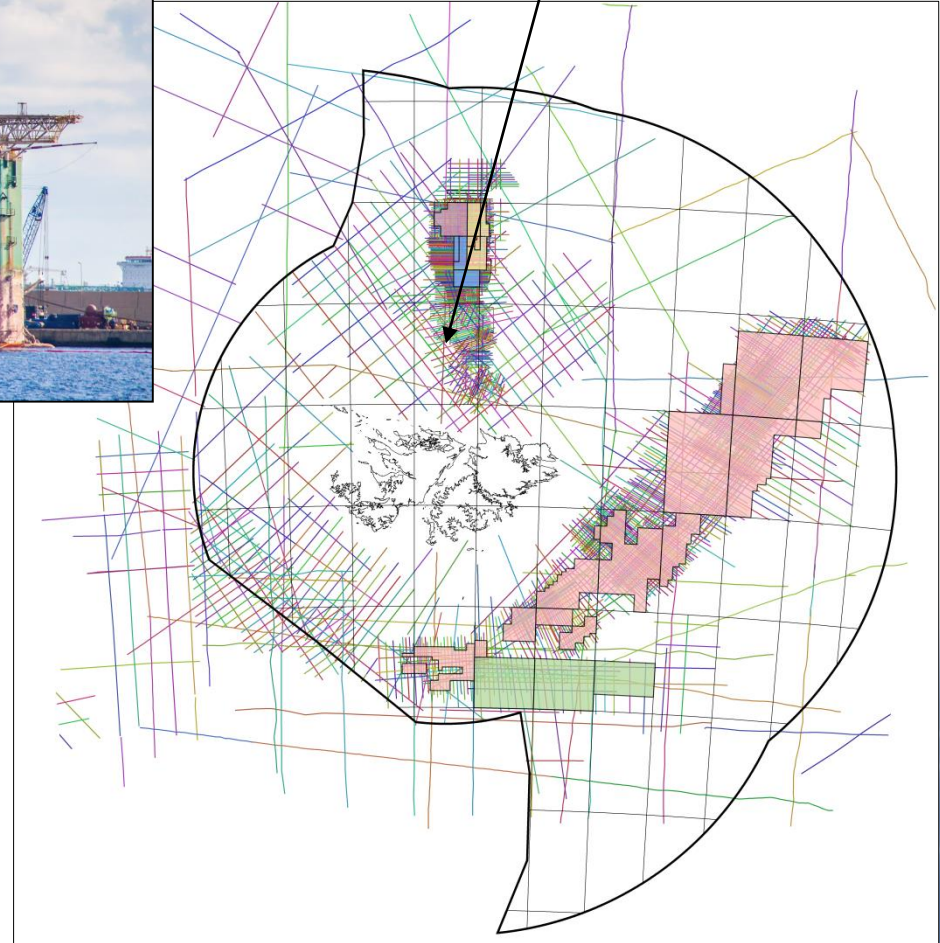




Drilling currently on-going with one completed well and five more scheduled for completion by September this year!

**Lots of Opportunities...**

Recently relinquished area

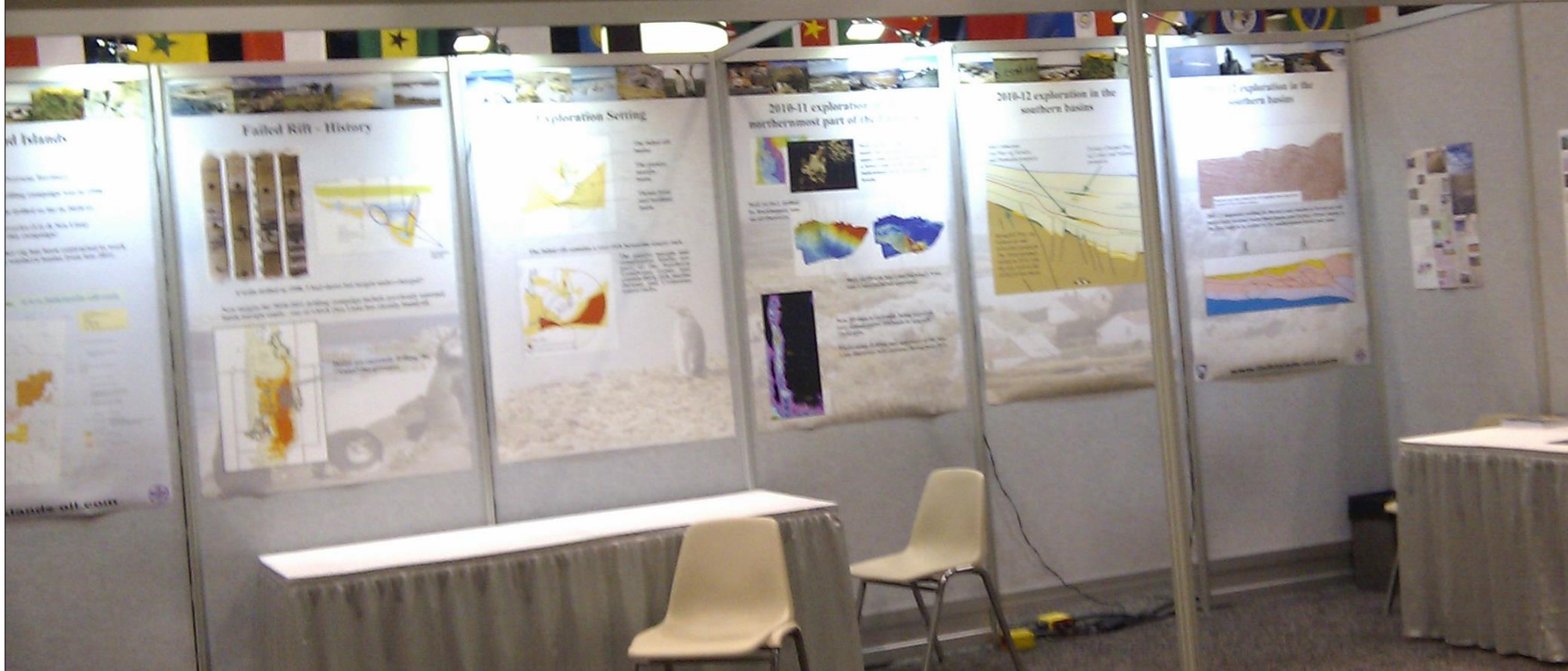


# FALKLAND ISLANDS



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