

AOGCC Pool Statistics

Katalla Field, Katalla Oil Pool

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Operator: Alaska Crude Corp
Discovery Well: Alaska Development Company
 No. 1
 Permit #100-057
 API No. 50-069-10004-00-00
 Sec. 36, T19S, R05E, CM
 Depth: 500' MD / 500' TVD
 1902

Status: Inactive**Location:** Southeast Alaska [Area Location Map](#) [Field Location Map](#)**Orders:** None

Summary: The Katalla Oil Field lies 2-1/2 miles east of the village of Katalla and 50 miles southeast of Cordova. It was the first commercial oil development in Alaska, with first production reportedly occurring in 1902. Prior to 1931, forty-four wells were reportedly drilled in the area. Of these, twenty-eight wells lay within the Katalla field, and 18 were produced. A small refinery was built approximately 1 mile northwest of the field, and it operated from 1911 until 1933. A total of 154,000 barrels were produced and sold locally, but on Christmas Day, 1933 the refinery burned and was never rebuilt. During 1961, Richfield Oil Corporation drilled the Bering Unit No. 1 and No. 2 wells, which are located about 9 miles to the east and northeast. Both wells were drilled slightly deeper than 6,000' measured depth, then plugged and abandoned. During 1969, Panoil Company began drilling the Katalla State No. 1 exploratory well in Katalla Bay. The well was drilled to a depth of 426', casing was run to 422' and cemented, when the drilling crew noted numerous failures in the structural members of the barge. The well was plugged and abandoned, and the casing was cut off 6' below the mud line. In 1985 and 1986, Alaskan Crude Corporation drilled the Katalla KS-01 exploratory well to a depth of 1,838'. That well remains shut-in. Under the 1982 "Chugach Natives, Incorporated Settlement Agreement," Chugach Alaska Corporation was granted exclusive right to all the oil and gas in the Katalla Oil and Gas area until midnight, December 31, 2004. At that time, the land is scheduled to revert to the United States, unless a well capable of producing in paying quantities has been completed.

Geology: Oil and gas seeps occur along the Gulf of Alaska coastline. These seeps were undoubtedly discovered by local Native inhabitants, but Tom White is credited with the discovery of oil at Katalla in 1896. Most of the wells in the Katalla district, including the discovery well, were drilled on oil seeps or near other producing wells. Wells in the field appear to have produced from fractured sandstone and siltstone within the shaley middle part of the Katalla Formation, at depths ranging from 360' to 1,750'. Comparable zones of fractured rocks along faults or folds elsewhere in the Katalla district appear to offer the best possibilities for accumulations of oil in quantity equal to or larger than the Katalla oil field. Most of the known anticlines are of small amplitude, are tightly compressed, and lack structural closure. (USGS Open File Report 50 p. 63-64 and USGS Open File 75-508).

[List of Wells](#)

	Oil (bbls)	NGL (bbls)	Gas (mcf)	Water (bbls)
Cumulative	154,000	0	0	0
2001 Total	0	0	0	0
2002 Total	0	0	0	0
2003 Total	0	0	0	0
2004 Total	0	0	0	0
2003 Daily Rate	0	0	0	0
2004 Daily Rate	0	0	0	0
Change (%)	0	0	0	0

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EOR Injection:

	Gas (Mcf)	Water
Cumulative	0	0
2001 Total	0	0
2002 Total	0	0
2003 Total	0	0
2004 Total	0	0
2003 Rate (per day)	0	0
2004 Rate (per day)	0	0
Change (%)	0	0

Disposal Injection in Field:

	Disposed Fluids
Cumulative	0
2001 Total	0
2002 Total	0
2003 Total	0
2004 Total	0
2003 Rate (per day)	0
2004 Rate (per day)	0
Change (%)	0

Field Development Information:

Wells In Field

Type Well	Status	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Producer	Oil Producer	0	0	0	0	0
Injector	Water Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	Gas Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	WAG Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	Water Supply	0	0	0	0	0
	Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Operating	Suspended	1	1	1	1	1
	Abandoned	27	27	27	27	27
Total		28	28	28	28	28

Active Completions in Pool (Month of December):

Type Well	Status	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Oil Producer	Flowing	0	0	0	0	0
	Gas Lift	0	0	0	0	0
	Shut-In	0	0	0	0	0
Service Well	Water Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	Gas Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	WAG Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	Water Supply	0	0	0	0	0
	Shut-In	0	0	0	0	0
Disposal Undef.	Disposal Injector	0	0	0	0	0
	Shut-In	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0

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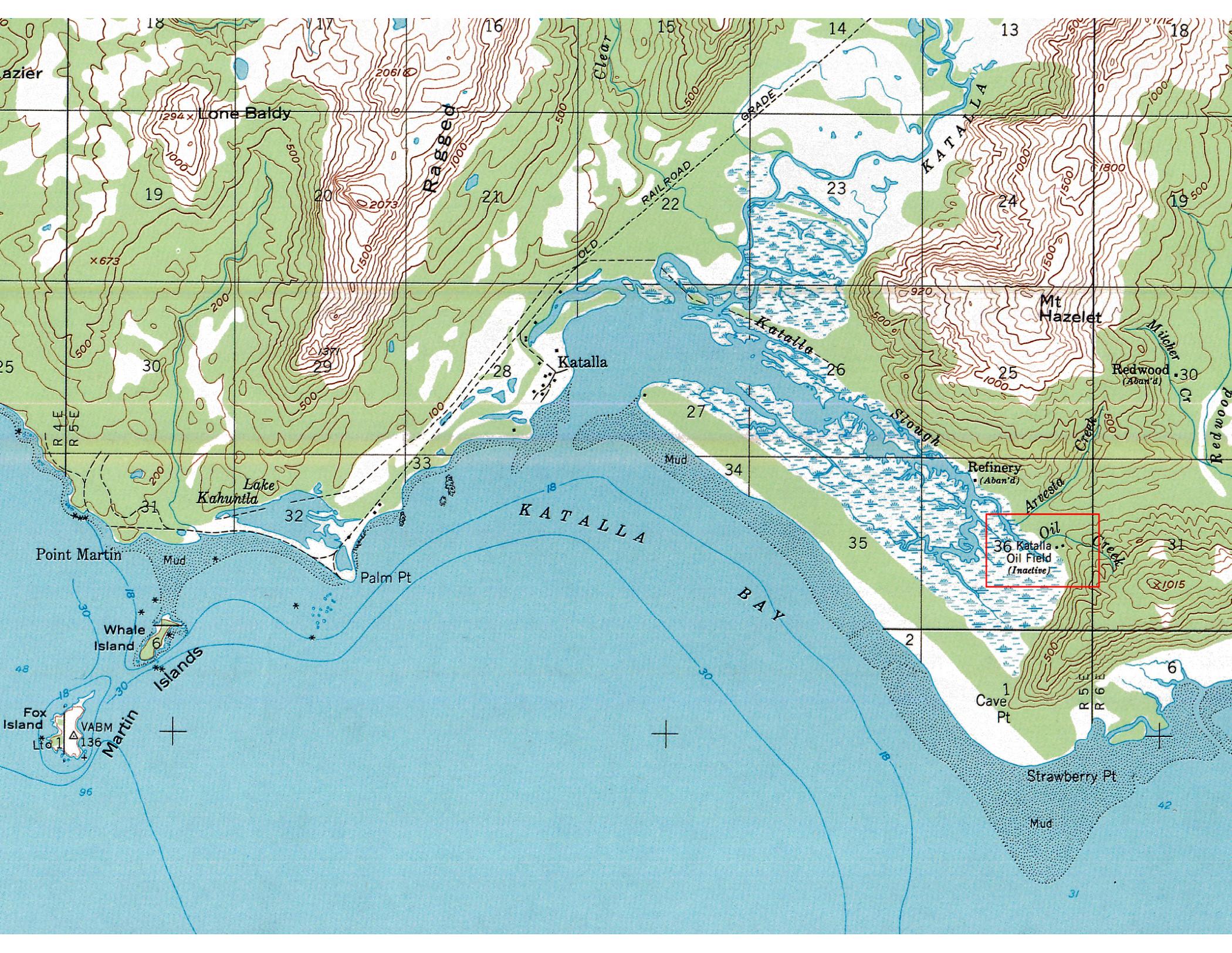
Permitted Wells in Field:

Type Well	Status	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Development	New	0	0	0	0	0
	Sidetrack	0	0	0	0	0
	Multilateral	0	0	0	0	0
Service	New	0	0	0	0	0
	Sidetrack	0	0	0	0	0
	Multilateral	0	0	0	0	0
Exploration	New	0	0	0	0	0
	Sidetrack	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0

Reservoir Properties:

Description	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Reference Datum - ft. below sea level	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature - ° F	-	-	-	-	-
Porosity - %	-	-	-	-	-
Permeability - md	-	-	-	-	-
Swi - %	-	-	-	-	-
Oil Viscosity @ Orig. Press. cp	-	-	-	-	-
Oil Viscosity @ Sat. Press. cp	-	-	-	-	-
Orig. Press. - psi	-	-	-	-	-
Bubble Point - psi	-	-	-	-	-
Current Reservoir Press. - psi	-	-	-	-	-
Oil Gravity - ° API	-	-	-	-	-
Gas Specific Gravity (Air = 1.0)	40-44	40-44	40-44	40-44	40-44
Gross Pay - ft.	-	-	-	-	-
Net Pay - ft.	-	-	-	-	-
Orig. FVF - RB/STB	-	-	-	-	-
Bubble Point FVF - RB/STB	-	-	-	-	-
Orig. GOR - SCF/STB	-	-	-	-	-
GOR (avg. December) - SCF/STB	-	-	-	-	-

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R 4 E
R 5 E

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34

35

36

31

Point Martin

Fox Island

Whale Island

Martin Islands

Palm Pt

Katalla

Mt Hazelet

Redwood (Aban'd)

Refinery (Aban'd)

36 Katalla Oil Field (Inactive)

1 Cave Pt

Strawberry Pt

6

42

31

Lone Baldy

Ragged

Clear

GRADE

RAILROAD

OLD

KATALLA

KATALLA BAY

Mitchell

Redwood

Arnesia

Creza

Lake Kahuntla

Mud

Mud

Mud

VABM Lt 136

42

6

42

31

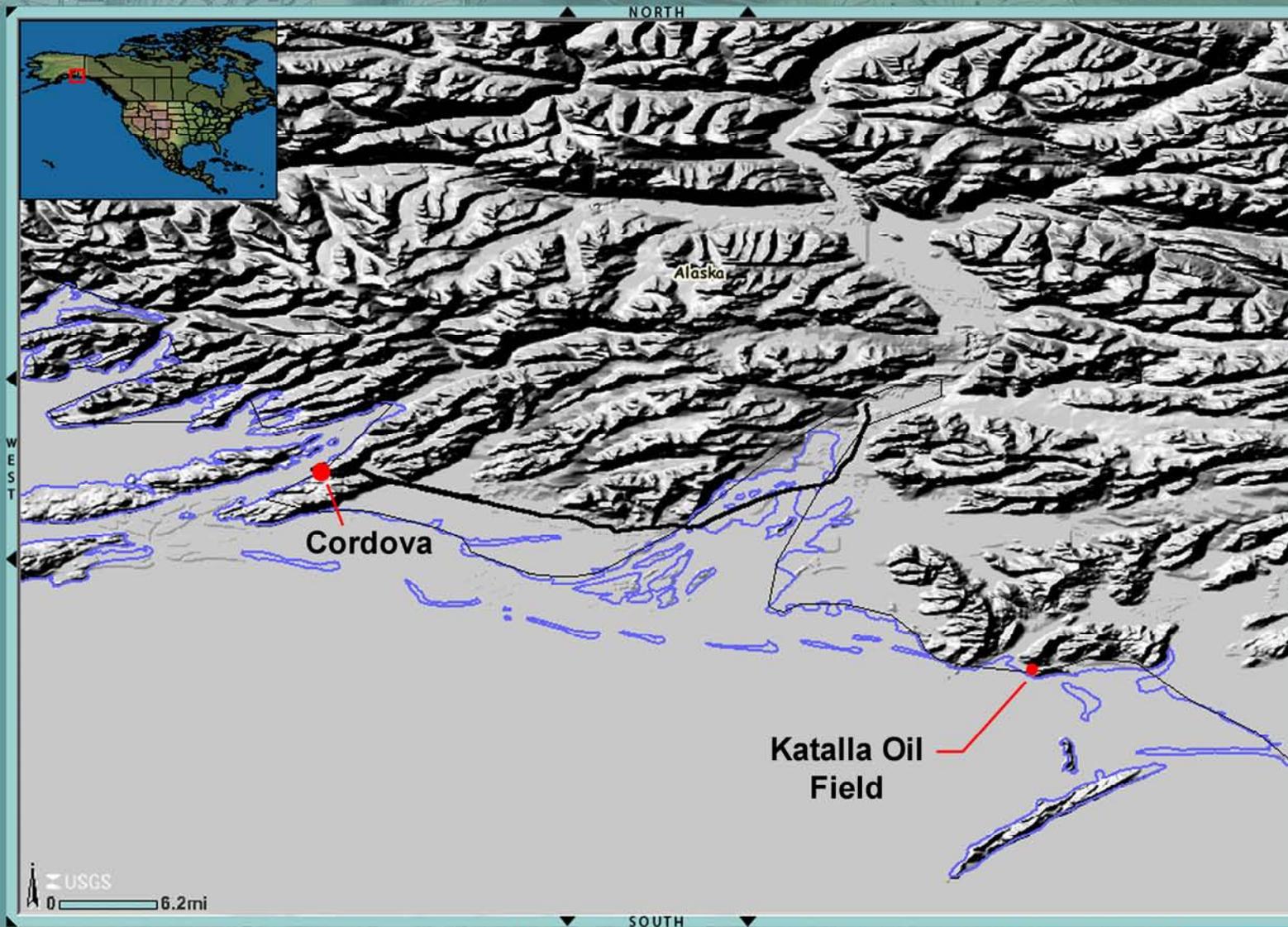


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Bear Creek Lake



Wells Drilled for Petroleum in the Katalla District

Compiled by Carol Huber, US Forest Service from USGS Map MF-722, by Don J. Miller, 1975; Locations 47 and 48 added by S. Davies, AOGCC.

Location No.	Company and Well Name or Number	Location	Year	Depth	Formation penetrated	Results and Remarks
1	Alaska Steam Coal & Petroleum Syndicate (ASC&PS)(A)	Katalla Field	1901	270	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned, tools lost. Show of oil.
2	ASC&PS (1)	Katalla Field	1902-03	550	Katalla Fm.	Discovery of well at Katalla field: struck flow of oil at 366 ft in 1902. Produced intermittently 1902-1933
3	ASC&PS (2)	Katalla Field	1903	1,000	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 700 ft. Produced intermittently 1912-33.
4	Alaska Petroleum and Coal Co. 1 (110)	Near head of Katalla Slough	1903	1,710	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned at limit of drilling equipment. Small shows of oil reported.
5	Alaska Petroleum and Coal Co. 2 (111)	Katalla River	1903	280	Quaternary unconsolidated deposits	Abandoned.
6	Company not known	East shore of Bering River	1903	580	Quaternary unconsolidated deposits	Abandoned.
7	ASC&PS (3)	Katalla Field	1904	900	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1912-33.
8	ASC&PS (8)	Katalla Field	1904	unknown	Katalla Fm.	Not known; probably abandoned at shallow depth.
9	ASC&PS (c)	Katalla Field	1904	unknown	Katalla Fm.	Not known; probably abandoned at shallow depth.
10	ASC&PS (103)	Chilkat Creek	1904	400	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned, tools lost.
11	ASC&PS (104)	Near mouth of Chilkat Creek	1904	650	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned; tools lost? Shows of oil and gas.
12	ASC&PS (105)	Near mouth of Chilkat Creek	1904	800	Katalla Fm.	Shows of oil and gas; not tested for production?
13	ASC&PS (108)	Mitcher Creek	1904	1,000	Katalla Fm.	Show of oil; not tested for production.
14	Alaska Petroleum & Coal Co. 3	Near Katalla	1904	1,500	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned.
15	Clarence Cunningham 1 (106)	Near Point Hey	1904	unknown	Quaternary unconsolated	Abandoned at shallow depth.
16	Clarence Cunningham 2 (107)	Near Point Hey	1904	unknown	Tokun Fm.	Abandoned at depth of several hundred feet.
17	Alaska Petroleum & Coal Co. 4 (113)	Near Katalla	1905-06	unknown	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned at depth probably exceeding 1,500 ft.
18	Rathbun well (101)	West shore of Bering Lake	1905-6	1,700	Eocene, Tokun(?) Fm.	Abandoned; small flow of gas in 1945.
19	Alaska Petroleum & Coal Co. 5 (114)	Near Katalla Sough	1907	1,600	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned.
20	Alaska Coal Co. 1 (115)	Mirror Slough	1911-17	1,040	Orca Group(?)	Abandoned. Shows of oil and gas at 710 ft.
21	Alaska Coal Co. 2 (116)	Mirror Slough	unk	272	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned.
22	Alaska Coal Co. 3 (117)	Mirror Slough	unk	250	Katalla Fm.	(no record)
23	Amalgamated Development Co. (4)	Katalla Field	1912	690	Katalla Fm.	Oil between 400 and 500 ft; produced 1912-33
24	Amalgamated Development Co. (5)	Katalla Field	1912	1,000	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 650 and 800 ft; produced 1912-22

Wells Drilled for Petroleum in the Katalla District

Compiled by Carol Huber, US Forest Service from USGS Map MF-722, by Don J. Miller, 1975; Locations 47 and 48 added by S. Davies, AOGCC.

Location No.	Company and Well Name or Number	Location	Year	Depth	Formation penetrated	Results and Remarks
25	Amalgamated Development Co. (6)	Katalla Field	1912	100	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned, tools lost.
26	Amalgamated Development Co. (7)	Katalla Field	1912	645	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 300 to 450 ft; produced 1912-33
27	Amalgamated Development Co. (8)	Katalla Field	1913	1,100	Katalla Fm.	Small amounts of oil between 700 and 800 ft; produced briefly in 1917.
28	St. Elias Oil Co. (9)	Katalla Field	1917	1,810	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned; small amounts of oil at 650 and 1,000 ft; gas at 350 ft
29	St. Elias Oil Co. (109)	Near Katalla Field	1917	1,613	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned, caving. Small amounts of oil at 1,050, 1,230, and 1,613 ft, gas at 260, 290, 460, and 1,520 ft.
30	St. Elias Oil Co. (11)	Katalla Field	1918	1,130	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 490 and 590 to 1,000 ft, gas at 380 and 475 ft; produced 1918-33
31	St. Elias Oil Co. (12)	Katalla Field	1918	903	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 330, 430, 590 ft; produced 1918-33
32	St. Elias Oil Co. (13)	Katalla Field	1918-19	900	Katalla Fm.	Oil at 635 and 770 ft. Gas at 637 ft; produced 1919-33
33	St. Elias Oil Co. (14)	Katalla Field	1919-20	2,265	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned; show of oil and gas
34	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1920	740	Miocene and(or) Oilgocene, Katalla Fm.	Oil at 365, 510, and 740 ft. Produced 1920-33
35	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1920	903	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1920-33
36	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1921	1,000	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1921-33
37	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1921-22	1,465	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1922-33
38	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1922	1,202	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1922-33
39	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1922	1,751	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1922-33
40	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1923?	1,280	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1923?-33
41	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1925	1,160	Katalla Fm.	Produced 1925-33
42	Chilkat Oil Co.	Katalla Field	1925-26	2,350	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned.
43	Chilkat Oil Co.	Near Katalla Field	1931-32	2,005	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned. Show of gas.
44	Alaska Gulf Syndicate Johnson 1 (111)	Nichawak Mountain	1930	190	Katalla Fm.	Abandoned.
45	Richfield Oil Corp.	East side Bering River	1961	6,175	Katalla Fm.	Dry and abandoned
46	Richfield Oil Corp.	Near outlet of Bering Lake	1961-62	6,019	Katalla Fm.	Dry and abandoned
47	Panoil Company	Katalla Bay	1969	426	Not reported	Abandoned because of serious danger of collapsing the drilling barge in heavy surf.
48	Alaskan Crude Corp.	Katalla Field	1985-86	1,838	Katalla Fm.	Suspended

KATALLA, KATALLA OIL

Reference List

Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, 2005, Well and Production Information Database

Huber, C., 2005, Wells Drilled for Petroleum in the Katalla District, compiled by Carol Huber, US Forest Service from USGS Map MF-722, by Don J. Miller, 1975.

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Katalla, Katalla Oil Pool

Summary

The Katalla Oil Field lies 2-1/2 miles east of the village of Katalla and 50 miles southeast of Cordova. It was the first commercial oil development in Alaska, with first production reportedly occurring in 1902.¹ Prior to 1931, forty-four wells were reportedly drilled in the area. Of these, twenty-eight wells lay within the Katalla field, and 18 were produced. A small refinery was built approximately 1 mile northwest of the field, and it operated from 1911 until 1933. A total of 154,000 barrels were produced and sold locally, but on Christmas Day, 1933 the refinery burned and was never rebuilt.² During 1961, Richfield Oil Corporation drilled the Bering Unit No. 1 and No. 2 wells, which are located about 9 miles to the east and northeast. Both wells were drilled slightly deeper than 6,000' measured depth, then plugged and abandoned. During 1969, Panoil Company began drilling the Katalla State No. 1 exploratory well in Katalla Bay. The well was drilled to a depth of 426', casing was run to 422' and cemented, when the drilling crew noted numerous failures in the structural members of the barge. The well was plugged and abandoned, and the casing was cut off 6' below the mud line.³ In 1985 and 1986, Alaskan Crude Corporation drilled the Katalla KS-01 exploratory well to a depth of 1,838'. That well remains shut-in.⁴ Under the 1982 "Chugach Natives, Incorporated Settlement Agreement," Chugach Alaska Corporation was granted exclusive right to all the oil and gas in the Katalla Oil and Gas area until midnight, December 31, 2004. At that time, the land is scheduled to revert to the United States, unless a well capable of producing in paying quantities has been completed.⁵

Oil and gas seeps occur along the Gulf of Alaska coastline. Local Native inhabitants undoubtedly discovered these seeps, but Tom White is credited with the discovery of oil at Katalla in 1896.⁶ Most of the wells in the Katalla district, including the discovery well, were drilled on oil seeps or near other producing wells. Wells in the field are believed to have produced from fractured sandstone and siltstone within the shaley middle part of the Katalla Formation, at depths ranging from 360' to 1,750'. Comparable zones of fractured rocks along faults or folds elsewhere in the Katalla district appear to offer the best possibilities for accumulations of oil in quantity equal to or larger than the Katalla oil field. Most of the known anticlines are of small amplitude, are tightly compressed, and lack structural closure.⁷

SFD Revised 7/22/2005

¹ Petroleum News, 1997, Katalla: The Native Word for Oil, in Katalla to Prudhoe Bay: An Entertaining Look at the History of the Oil and Gas Industry in Alaska, Petroleum News Special Publication.

² U.S. Forest Service, 2001, Katalla Oil and Gas, informational handout.

³ Panoil Company, 1969, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells form filed with Division of Oil and Gas on August 29, 1969, in AOGCC Well History File 169-077.

⁴ Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, 2005, Well and Production Information Database and Well History Files

⁵ U.S. Forest Service, 2001, Katalla Oil and Gas, informational handout.

⁶ Petroleum News, 1997, Katalla: The Native Word for Oil, in Katalla to Prudhoe Bay: An Entertaining Look at the History of the Oil and Gas Industry in Alaska, Petroleum News Special Publication.

⁷ USGS Open File Report 50 p. 63-64 and USGS Open File Report 75-508