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West Tavaputs, SW Uinta Basin – A Story of Persistence

In 2002 newly formed Bill Barrett Corporation acquired the Stone Cabin, Jack Canyon & Peter's Point Fields in Carbon County, Utah, Southwest Uinta Basin. The company subsequently filed for a 3D seismic permit with the BLM in April 2002. Two years later after numerous environment, regulatory, and legal hurdles along with substantial cost, BBC received a Decision Record in July 2004. Working under intense scrutiny from environmental groups, the BLM, SHIPO and others BBC acquired an 83 square mile survey in the extremely rugged and remote West Tavaputs Plateau area south of the world renowned Nine Mile Canyon. The objectives were Mesaverde, Cretaceous and Jurassic sands.

After processing, interpretation showed substantial structures growing with depth. In May 2005 the Peter's Point #6-7D-13-17 spud testing a deep closure in the eastern portion of the survey. Total Depth was reached in Sept 2005 and logs were run and casing was set. Navajo and Entrada sands were perforated and tested gas. Up hole the Dakota was perforated, tested, completed and the well was put to sales with a combined IP of 11.4 MMcfe/d. Although delineation wells are required structural mapping indicates 26 possible Jurassic development locations with possibly more locations to the Dakota.