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# Continental Shelf Institute

# Institutt for kontinentalsokkelundersøkelser

REPORT TITLE

BIOSTRATIGRAPHY OF STATOIL 15/9-1 NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA WELL

PE

CONTRACTOR

WELLFILE

CONTRACTORS REF.:

JOB. NO.:

0-62/1/77

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|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| DEPARTMENT                                      | NO OF PAGES                     | NO. OF ENCLOSURE    |
| Geology   | RESPONSIBLE SCIENTIST  LØfaldli |                     |

#### SUMMARY

Biostratigraphical analyses have been carried out on sample material from the interval 200m - 3734m in the Statoil 15/9-1 well. The stratigraphy is based largely on analyses of wet cuttings, but also some core-material and side wall cores have been examined. The results of these analyses based on foraminifera, nannofossils and palynomorphs are presented in this report, together with the environmental conclusion for each of the biozones. These investigations have revealed several hiatuses. A summary of the stratigraphical sequence in this well follows on page 1.

| KEY | WO | RDS |
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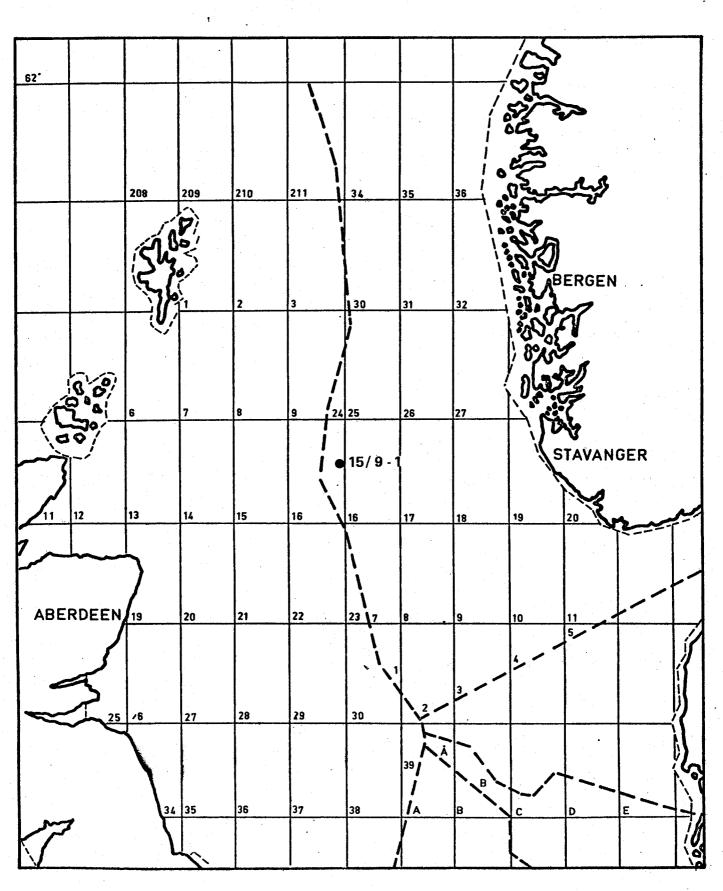
Biostratigraphy

North Sea

# SUMMARY REPORT

|   | INTERVAL (m) | THICKNESS (m)    | STAGE/ZONE                             | SYSTEM     |
|---|--------------|------------------|--|------------|
|   | 200-500      | 300+             | Early Pleistocene                      | Quaternary |
|   | 550-820      | 270 <u>+</u> 100 | Pliocene                               | Tertiary   |
|   | 870-1110     | 240 <u>+</u> 80  | Early Pliocene-<br>Late Miocene        | Tertiary   |
|   | 1140-1390    | 250 <u>+</u> 60  | Miocene                                | Tertiary   |
|   | 1420-1810    | 390 <u>+</u> 40  | Oligocene                              | Tertiary   |
|   | 1820-2020    | 200 <u>+</u> 60  | Oligocene-Eocene                       | Tertiary   |
|   | 2070-2521    | 451 <u>+</u> 68  | Eocene                                 | Tertiary   |
|   | 2539-2785    | 246 <u>+</u> 21  | Paleocene (                            | Tertiary   |
|   | 2788-2980    | 192±11           | Maastrichtian                          | Cretaceous |
|   | 2988-3304    | 316±8            | Post-Albian/Camp.<br>probably Senonian | Cretaceous |
|   | 3304-3350    | 46 <u>+</u>      | Early Albian                           | Cretaceous |
|   | 3350-3385    | 35 <u>+</u> 3    | Late Aptian                            | Cretaceous |
| V | 3388-3522    | 134 <u>+</u> 11  | Callovian                              | Jurassic   |
|   | 3530-3729    | 199 <u>+</u> 8   | Bathonian/Bajocian                     | Jurassic   |
| - | 3729-3734    | 5+               |  | ?Triassic  |

# LOCALITY MAP



STATOIL WELL 15/9-1

## Introduction

The biostratigraphic zonation of Statoil well 15/9-1 is based on foraminifera, coccoliths, dinoflagellates, pollen and spores. Zonation of the Tertiary is based on foraminifera and to some extent coccoliths, whereas zonation of the Cretaceous is based on coccoliths and palynomorphs, with exception of the uppermost part where foraminifera are used. Zonation of the Jurassic is based exclusively on palynomorphs.

All taxa found of value to biostratigraphic and environmental interpretation are mentioned in faunal and floral lists, though only stratigraphical important taxa are mentioned on the stratigraphic chart.

A brief bibliography of the most important references used is given.

## BIOSTRATIGRAPHY

#### QUATERNARY

# Interval 200m - 500m. EARLY PLEISTOCENE

#### Foraminifera:

A calcareous, benthonic fauna is obtained from this interval. The fauna has a shallow-water character, and is dominated by <a href="Elphidium clavatum">Elphidium clavatum</a>. Other foraminifera recorded in this unit are:

Elphidium incertum

Elphidium ustulatum

Cassidulina laevigata

Cassidulina crassa

Quinqueloculina seminulum

Oolina melo

Buccella frigida

Elphidium spp.

Protelphidium spp. Trifarina spp.

#### TERTIARY

Interval 550m - 820m. PLIOCENE (270 m)

#### Foraminifera:

A quite rich fauna of calcareous, benthonic forms is obtained from this unit. The fauna has a shallow-water character and indicates an inner neritic condition. A Pliocene age is suggested by the occurence of the benthonic species <u>Cassidulina laevigata</u>, <u>Elphidium antonium</u>, <u>Nonion affine</u> and <u>Cibicides lobatulus</u>, var. <u>grossa</u>. Other foraminifera found include:

Cassidulina subglobosa

Elphidium clavatum

Quinqueloculina seminulum

Elphidium incertum

Biloculinella globula

Miliolinella cf. enoplostoma

Trifarina spp.

Uvigerina spp.

Protelphidium spp.

# Interval 870m - 1110m. EARLY PLIOCENE - LATE MIOCENE (240m)

#### Foraminifera:

A quite rich fauna of calcareous, benthonic forms have been found in this unit. The species <u>Cassidulina laevigata</u>, <u>Ammonia batavus</u>, <u>Nonion affine</u>, <u>Elphidium antonium</u>, <u>Nonion boueanum and Cibicides lobatulus</u>, var. <u>grossa</u> are quite common. The fauna suggests an inner neritic condition for this interval. Other foraminifera present include:

Dentalina vertebralis
Quinqueloculina seminulum
Pseudopolymorphina doanei
Dimorphina tuberosa

Listerella communis

Elphidium clavatum

Lenticulina vortex

Elphidium inflatum

Globulina gibba

Lenticulina calcar

Lenticulina peregrina

Marginulina costata

Marginulina filicostata

Bulimina elongata

Sigmoilina schlumbergeri

<u>Interval 1140m - 1390m, MIOCENE (250m)</u>

#### Foraminifera:

The fauna consists mainly of calcareous forms. The presence of the benthonic species <u>Asterigerina staeschi</u>, <u>Bulimina elongata</u>, <u>Elphidium inflatum and Virgulina schreibersiana</u> indicates a Miocene age of this unit. Other benthonic species include:

Nonion affine Høglundina elegans Cibicides lobatulus Globobulimina cf. auriculata " Nonion boueanum Gyroidina soldanii √ Sigmoilina cf. tenuis Cassidulina crassa Pullenia bulloides Cibicides akneriana Lenticulina calcar Lenticulina peregrina Guttulina communis Dentalina aciculata Bolivina antiqua

Planktonic foraminifera present in this unit include <u>Globi-gerina</u> <u>bulloides</u>, <u>Globoquadrina</u> altispira, Globoquadrina

dehiscens and Globigerinoides trilobus.

The fauna mentioned above indicates a neritic environment for this interval.

Interval 1420m - 1810m. OLIGOCENE (390m)

#### Foraminifera:

A quite rich fauna of agglutinated and calcareous forms is obtained from this interval. This fauna infers an environment with open marine conditions, probably on the shelf. An Upper Oligocene age is suggested by the occurrence of <u>Cibicides telegdi</u> at 1440 m. The section below 1500 m is probably of Middle to Early Oligocene age since <u>Rotaliatina bulimoides</u> is present here. Other foraminifera recorded in this unit include:

Turrilina alsatica Stilostomella adolphina Høglundina elegans Nonion affine Ceratobulimina contraria Pullenia bulloides Asterigerina staeschi Asterigerina gürichi Gyroidina soldanii Cibicides aknerianus Eponides schreibersi Alabamina tangentialis Sphaeroidina bulloides Sigmoilina cf. tenuis Globorotalia siakensis Globigerina bulloides

The upper limit of this interval is uncertain due to down-fallen Late Tertiary planktonic foraminifera.

# Interval 1820m - 2020m. OLIGOCENE - EOCENE (200m)

#### Foraminifera:

The fauna consists mainly of agglutinated, long-ranging species and minor elements of calcareous forms. Species of the genera Cyclammina, Ammodiscus, Glomospira, Haplophragmoides, Bathysiphon, Saccammina and Psammosphaera occur together with some specimens of the calcareous forms Høglundina elegans and Asterigerina staeschi. A few specimens of the planktonic species Globigerina bulloides are also found.

# <u>Interval 2070m - 2521m. EOCENE (451m)</u>

#### Foraminifera:

The poor fauna concists mainly of agglutinated long-ranging species of the genera Ammodiscus, Bathysiphon, Cyclammina, Glomospira and Haplophragmoides. In addition to these species, a few planktonic forms are found. The presence of Globigerina linaperta, Bathysiphon eocenicus and Cyclammina amplectens suggests an Eocene age for this interval. This fauna indicates a bathyal environment of deposition.

#### Nannofossils:

At 2521m, a characteristic early Eocene nannoflora was found with:

Discolithina plana
Sphenolithus radians
Neococcolithus dubius
Neococcolithus concinnus
Zygrhablithus bijugatus

# Interval 2539m - 2785m. PALEOCENE (246m)

#### Foraminifera:

The poor fauna generally consists of agglutinated foraminifera of little stratigraphic value. Species of the genera Ammodiscus, Glomospira, Cyclammina, Trochamminoides, Recurvoides, Haplophragmoides, Bathysiphon and Dendrophrya are found.

Planktonic foraminifera are present in the lowermost part of the unit. The presence of <u>Globorotalia pseudobulloides</u> at 2785m, suggests that this part of the section is of Early or Middle Paleocene age. Planktonic forms restricted to the Danian are not recorded, suggesting that the Danian may be absent. Species of the benthonic genera <u>Lenticulina</u> and <u>Gavelinella</u> are represented in the lowermost part of the sequence. Reworked Late Cretaceous foraminifera also occur in the lower part of the unit. The fauna present indicates an open marine environment, probably a bathyal condition in the upper part.

#### Nannofossils:

From 2692 to 2770m, both Cretaceous and Paleocene nannoplankton were found. Cretaceous forms are restricted to a few very common and relatively resistant species, suggesting that they are reworked into Paleocene sediments. These forms are: Neococcolithus protenus, Crucilacolithus tenuis and Rhomboaster cuspis.

## CRETACEOUS

# Interval 2788m - 2980m. MAASTRICHTIAN (192m)

Foraminifera and nannofossils indicate a Maastrichtian age for this interval. Environment, open marine.

#### Foraminifera:

Important stratigraphic markers within this unit include Heterohelix globulosa, Pseudotextularia elegans, Globotruncana contusa, Pseudoguembelina excolata and Stensiønina pommerana. Other foraminifera present include species of the genera Gavelinella, Gyroidinoides, Pullenia, Lenticulina, Haplophragmoides and Ammodiscus.

#### Nannofossils:

The presence of <u>Nephrolithus frequens</u> at 2801m indicates a Late Maastrichtian age. Other nannofossils present in this unit:

Archangelskiella cymbiformis

Eiffellithus turriseiffelli

Prediscosphaera cretacea

Micula staurophora

Lucianorhabdus cailleuxi

Eiffellithus anceps

Cretarhabdus surirellus

Zeugrhabdotus diplogrammus

Microrhabdulus decoratus

Tetralithus obscurus

Cretarhabdus crenulatus

Reinhardtites levis

# Interval 2988m - 3304m. POST-ALBIAN/CAMPANIAN, probably SENONIAN (316m).

This interval yielded only poor and undiagnostic nannofossils, dinoflagellates and pollen. Samples at 2998 and 3028m indicate a Campanian age. Palynofloras at 3286 - 3291m and 3301 - 3304m indicate a general Late Cretaceous (post-Albian) age. We consider the interval as probably Senonian. Environment: Open marine.

#### Nannofossils:

A Campanian age is indicated at 2998m with the arrival of Cribrosphaera ehrenbergi. This age is supported by the constant presence of Watznaueria spp. from 3028 downward. As a whole, the nannoflora of this interval is poor. A pre-Maastrichtian, Late Cretaceous age is all that can be said with certainty. The data are insufficient to indicate stratigraphical hiatuses.

Nannofossils found include:

Archangelskiella cymbiformis
Eiffellithus turriseiffelli
Prediscosphaera cretacea
Micula staurophora
Cretarhabdus surirellus
Tetralithus obscurus
Cretarhabdus crenulatus

Cribrosphaera ehrenbergi Cretarhabdus conicus Watznaueria spp.

#### Palynology

Palynological analyses were carried out only on the lower part of this interval. At 3301 - 3304m considerable amounts of wood fragments and coaly matter were recorded. This indicates a transgressive phase and a probable stratigraphic hiatus. Assemblages at this level and above contain very few palynomorphs of value in biostratigraphy. However, triporate pollen and the dinoflagellate cyst Palaeohystrichophora infusorioides sensu stricto were recovered at 3286 -3291m. Although these forms are known from the late Vraconian (latest, Late Albian) they are uncommon before the Cenomanian and later Senonian deposits. This, together with the absence of other typical Late Albian species, indicates a post-Albian age at this level. The magnitude of the stratigraphic hiatus, which may be quite considerable, can not be estimated on the basis of the palaeontological evidence available. The latest known

occurrence of P. infusorioides is in the Middle/Late Campa-

This interval is tentatively referred to the Senonian.

# Interval 3304m - 3350m. EARLY ALBIAN (46m)

Nannofossils indicate an Albian age for this interval. whilst dinoflagellates indicate a general Late Aptian/ Early Albian age. Nannofossils found include:

Parhabdolithus splendens Nannoconus 108 Tetralithus gothicus Ahmuellerella octoradiata Diazomatolithus lehmani Parhabdolithus asper

Dinoflagellates:

The following species were recorded from this interval:

Apteodinium grande Palaeoperidinium cretaceum Cyclonephelium compactum C. distinctum Cassiculosphaeridia reticulata Dictyopyxidia imperfecta Exochosphaeridium striolatum Gonyaulacysta cassidata G. confossa Cribroperidinium edwardsi Hystrichodinium pulchrum Hystrichosphaeridium tubiferum Odontochitina operculata 0. costata Oligosphaeridium complex Prolixosphaeridium granulatum Scriniodinium campanula S. rostratum Litosphaeridium sp.? Cauca parva Hystrichodinium voigti ?Microdinium crinitum

The consistent presence of  $\underline{C.parva}$  and  $\underline{P.cretaceum}$  in this assemblage is indicative of a Late Aptian to Early Albian age for this interval.

The combination of nannofossil and dinoflagellate occurrence is taken as conclusive evidence of an Early Albian age for this interval.

Environment: Shallow marine.

# Interval 3350m - 3385m. LATE APTIAN (35m)

Aptian nannofossils and Late Aptian/Early Albian dinoflagellates are present in this interval.

#### Nannofossils:

At 336lm, a characteristic Aptian association is present with <u>Cornusphaera mexicana</u>, <u>Micula infracretacea</u>, <u>Stauro-lithites matalosus</u> and <u>Nannoconus</u> <u>84</u>.

Other nannofossils present are:

<u>Watznaueria</u> spp.

<u>Parhabdolithus</u> <u>asper</u>

Micrantholithus hoschulzi

Below 3361m, the paucity of nannofossils prevent a continuous stratigraphic control.

## Palynology:

Rich dinocysts assemblage recorded from this interval is characterized by the presence of <u>Cassiculosphaeridia reticulata</u>. <u>C.reticulata</u> range from Aptian to Cenomanian. Most other species recorded are known to range from Aptian to Albian. The assemblage can be confidently dated as Late Aptian to Early Albian, on the presence of the following species:

Apteodinium grande
Palaeoperidinium cretaceum
Cyclonephelium compactum
C. distinctum
Cassiculosphaeridia reticulata
Exochosphaeridium striolatum
Gonyaulacysta cassidata
G. confossa
Cribroperidinium edwardsi
Hexagonifera chalamydata
Hystrichodinium pulchrum
Hystrichosphaeridium tubiferum
Litosphaeridium siphoniphorum (single specimen)

Odontochitina operculata

O. costata
Oligosphaeridium complex
Pareodinia ceratophora
Prolixosphaeridium granulosum
Scriniodinium campanula
S. rostratum
Spiniferites cingulatus

Environment: Open marine.

Kimmerid grou 2.

## JURASSIC

# Interval 3388m - 3522m. CALLOVIAN (134m)

Cores and cuttings yielded a sparse dinocyst microflora. The taxa recorded are not known to be restricted to the Callovian with the exception of <u>Lithodinia deflandrei</u>. Dinoflagellates from the upper part of this interval (3388m - 3409m) suggest a possible Early Oxfordian age. The following taxa are recorded from this interval:

Gonyaulacysta jurassica
Scriniodinium oxfordianum
S. dictyotum
S. crystallinium
Adnatosphaeridium aemulum
Lithodinia deflandrei
Wanaea digitata
Valensiella cf. vermiculata
Chytroeisphaeridia chytroides
Cleistosphaeridium spp.
Tenua rioulti
Pareodinia spp.
Sirmiodinium grossi
Leptodinium cf. subtilum

Environment: Marine, near shore.

# Interval 3530m - 3729m. BATHONIAN/BAJOCIAN (199m)

3530m to 3626,80m. BATHONIAN

3643m to 3729m. ?BAJOCIAN/BATHONIAN

At 3530m there is a change in palynofacies suggesting near shore marine conditions above in contrast to the deltaic conditions below: The number of pollen and spores and other remains of landplants increase. At 3568m when remains and 3576m samples contain reworked Late Triassic palynomorphs.

At 3591-3594m, and 3618-3621m non-marine samples are poorer in palynomorphs of a clearly higher coalification rank, indicating deposition very close to the shore line.

Dinoflagellates:

Tenua baculata

Spores and pollen:

V Cerebropollenites. mesozoicus Diverse bivesiculate coniferous pollen grains Podocarpidites rousei Classopollis classoides Cycadopites nitidus Exesipollenites Eucommiidites minor Eucommiidites troedsonii Callialasporites spp. Concentrisporites hallei Perinopollenites elatoides Chasmatosporites apertus Chasmatosporites sp. Lycopodiumsporites semimurus Lycopodiumsporites austroclavatoides Corrugatisporites amplectiformis Leptolepidites equatibossus

Environment: Inner deltaic.

Interval 3643-46m to 3726-29m contains samples of a lower coalification rank than those recorded in the above lying interval.

Sleepner

Dinoflagellates (& Acritarchs): Veryhachium/Micrhystridium.

Spores and pollen:

The same assemblage as for the interval 3530m to 3618m.

#### Environment:

Inner deltaic conditions for most of this interval though acritarchs and rare dinoflagellates indicate episodes of restricted marine (brackish) conditions.

# Interval 3729m - 3734m and downwards. TRIASSIC (tentative)

There is a marked lithological change from the above lying interval: A light grey/white sandstone. This sandstone yielded no palynomorphs except cuticle fragments of Mesozoic leaves.

Other palynomorphs recorded from routine preparation of the cuttings yield assemblages similar to the above interval (3530m to 3726m).

There is no evidence of Liassic deposits, we suggest a hiatus between the Middle Jurassic and the barren sandstone, which is probably of Triassic age.

Furinment: ?

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