

## CLAVES PARA LA PROSPECCIÓN DE BORATOS TERCIARIOS EN LA PUNA

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### **Abstract**

I present here some of the most important clues for borate exploration in the Puna region and for extension in the Central Andes Borate Province. Six borate-bearing basins were discovered at present in the Argentine Puna. They are three at Jujuy province (Morro Blanco, Loma Blanca, Cauchari), two in Salta province (Sijes and Tincalayu) and one in Catamarca province (Antofalla). Borates are soluble salts that are strongly weathered at surface. In other sense, volcanic rocks and alluvium covered large surfaces with buried neogene formations. Both, borate solubility and extensive cover play in favor of hidden deposits. In the target definition, I use several parameters such as space location, timing of borate formation ( $6\pm 1$  Ma), lacustrine facies, evaporites, evaporite zonation, limestone and limestone brecciation, travertine, secondary ulexite, and geochemical anomalies of arsenic, lithium and strontium.

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