

Characterization and Assessment of the Controls on Performance of Niobrara and Codell Reservoirs, Northern DJ Basin, Colorado

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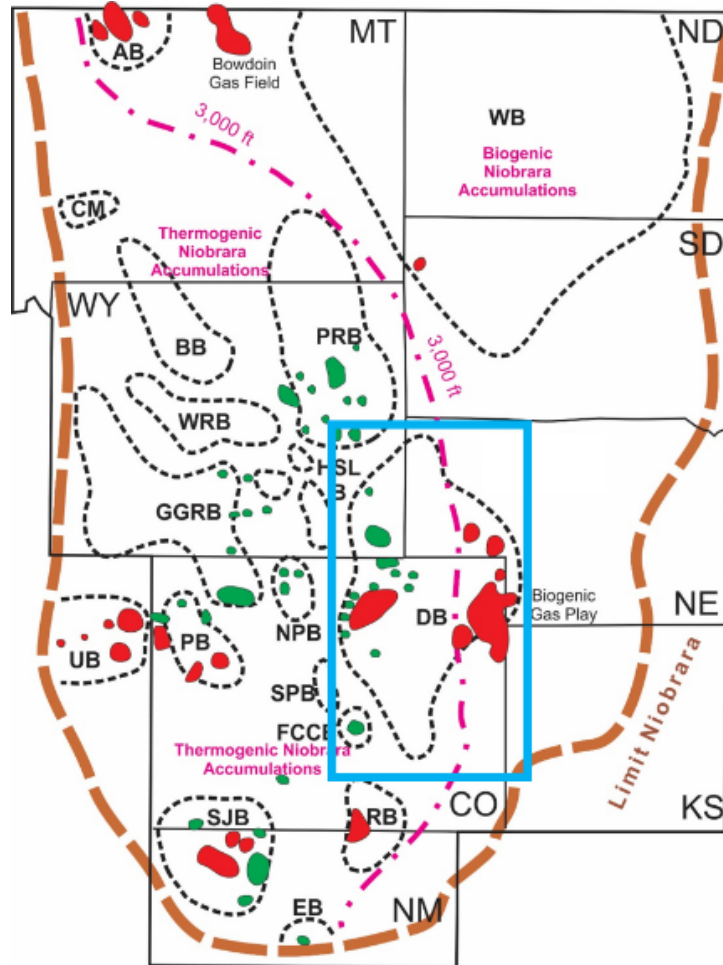
Geophysics M.S. Student

04/22/21

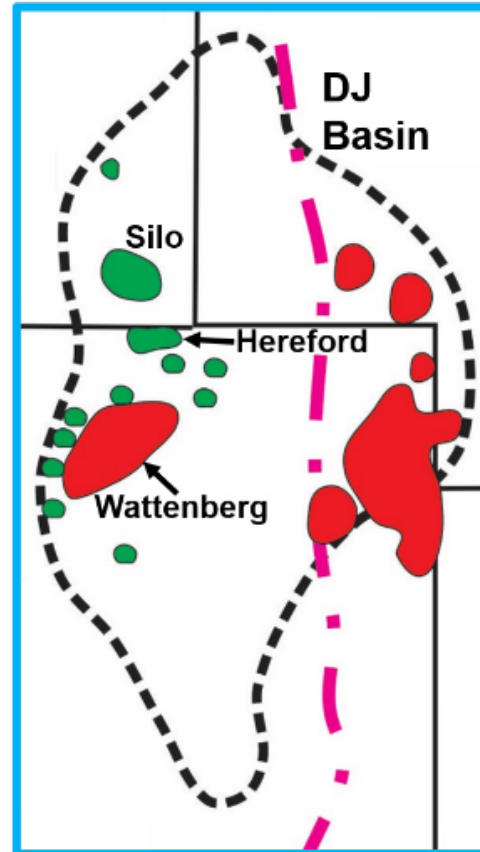
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Chalk Bluff Development Optimization Project

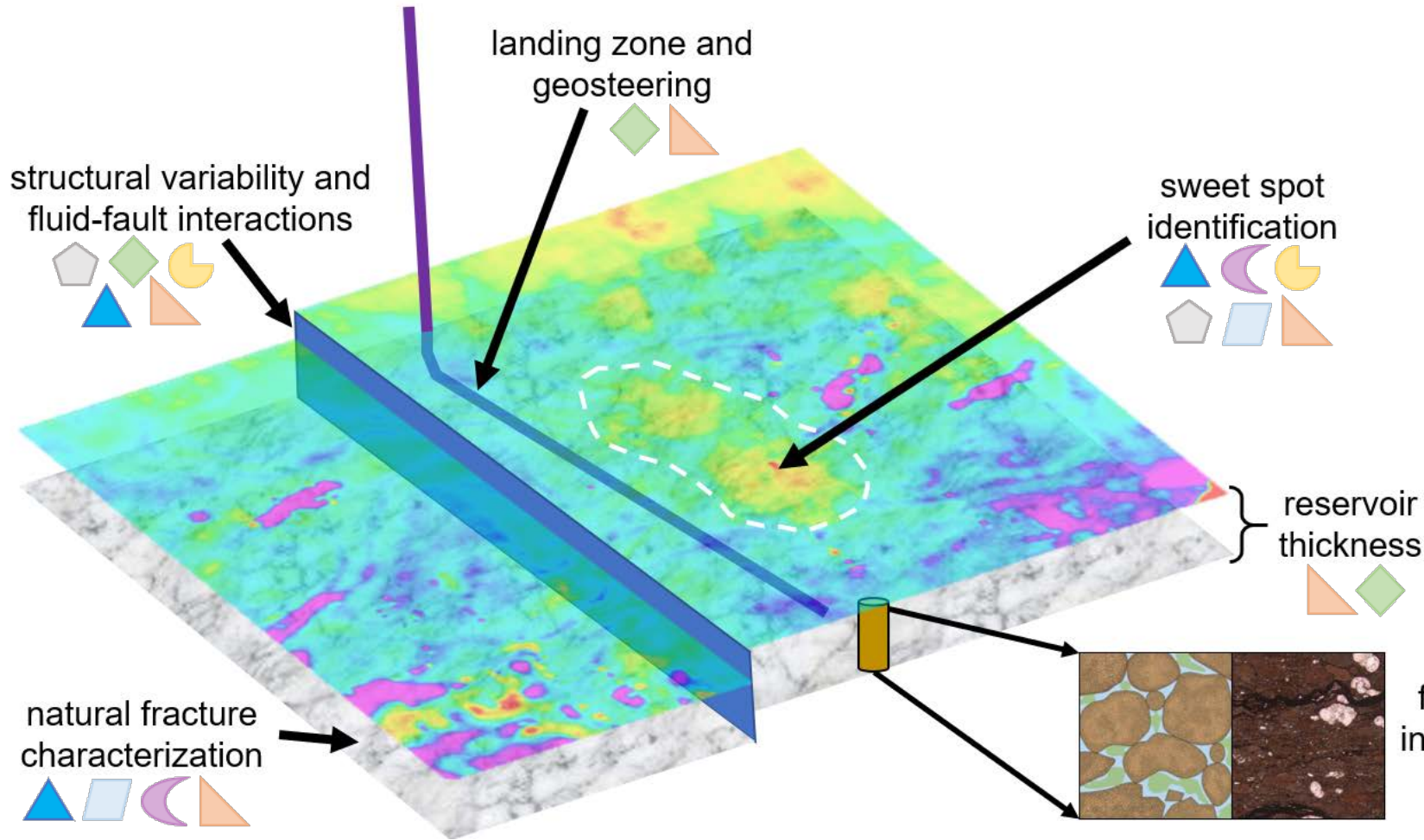


Modified from Sonnenberg and Underwood, 2012



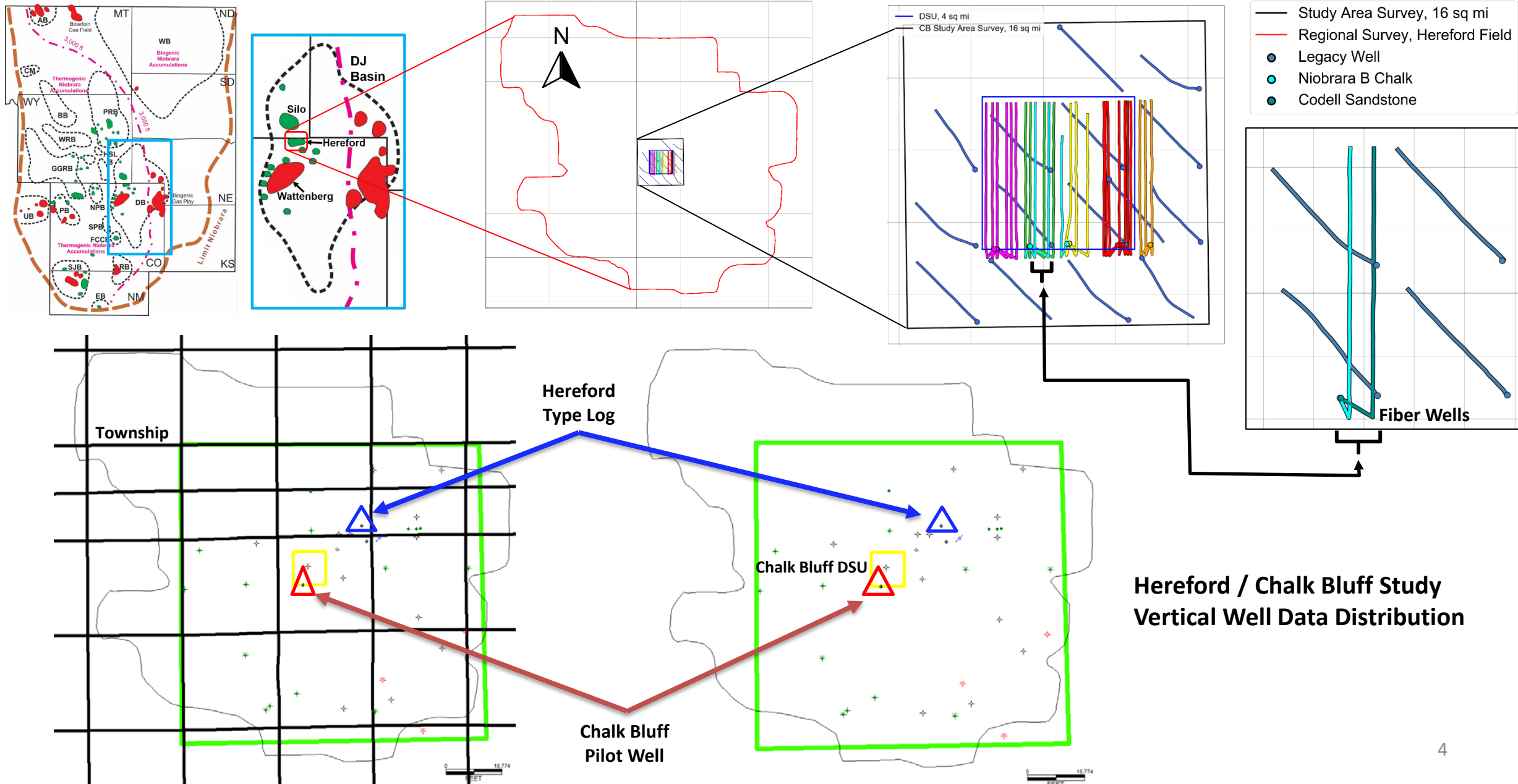
- Redevelopment of the Hereford Field in the northern Denver-Julesburg Basin
 - Features legacy wells and newly drilled wells
- Two targets
 - Codell Sandstone
 - Niobrara Chalk
- Goals
 - Accelerate learnings in Chalk Bluff to optimize additional D&C in the area
 - Generalize learnings to be applied to other unconventional reservoirs (e.g., Permian, Eagle Ford, Austin Chalk)

Characterizing Geologic Heterogeneity



Method	Symbol
Seismic attribute analysis	
Image log analysis	
Structural modeling	
Seismic inversion	
Production evaluation	
Petrophysical characterization	
Petroleum systems analysis	

Data Overview

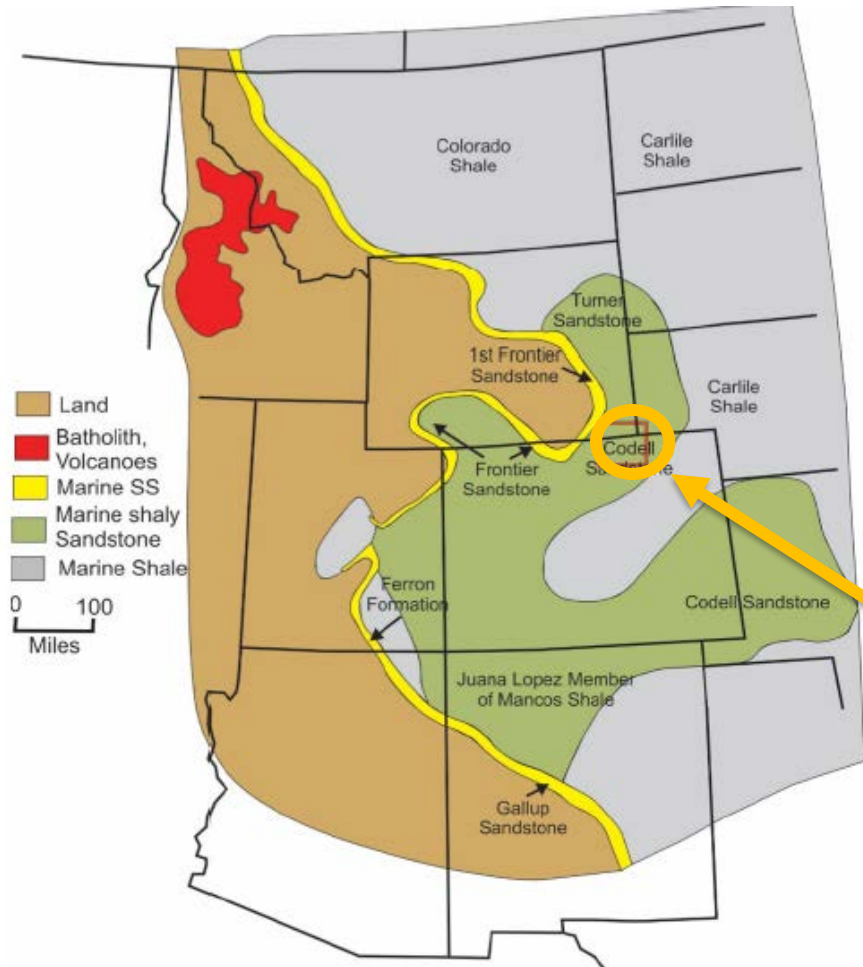


Hereford / Chalk Bluff Study Vertical Well Data Distribution

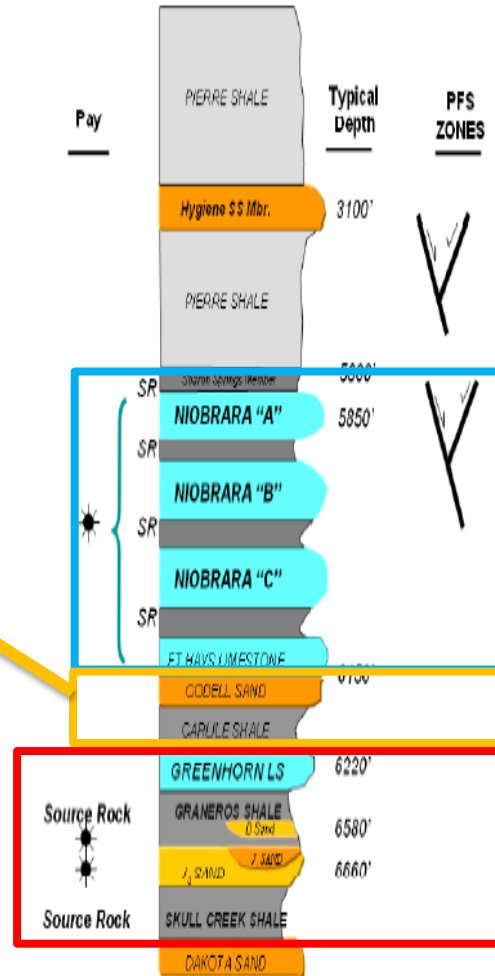
Assessing geologic heterogeneity

REGIONAL GEOLOGY AND DJ BASIN OVERVIEW

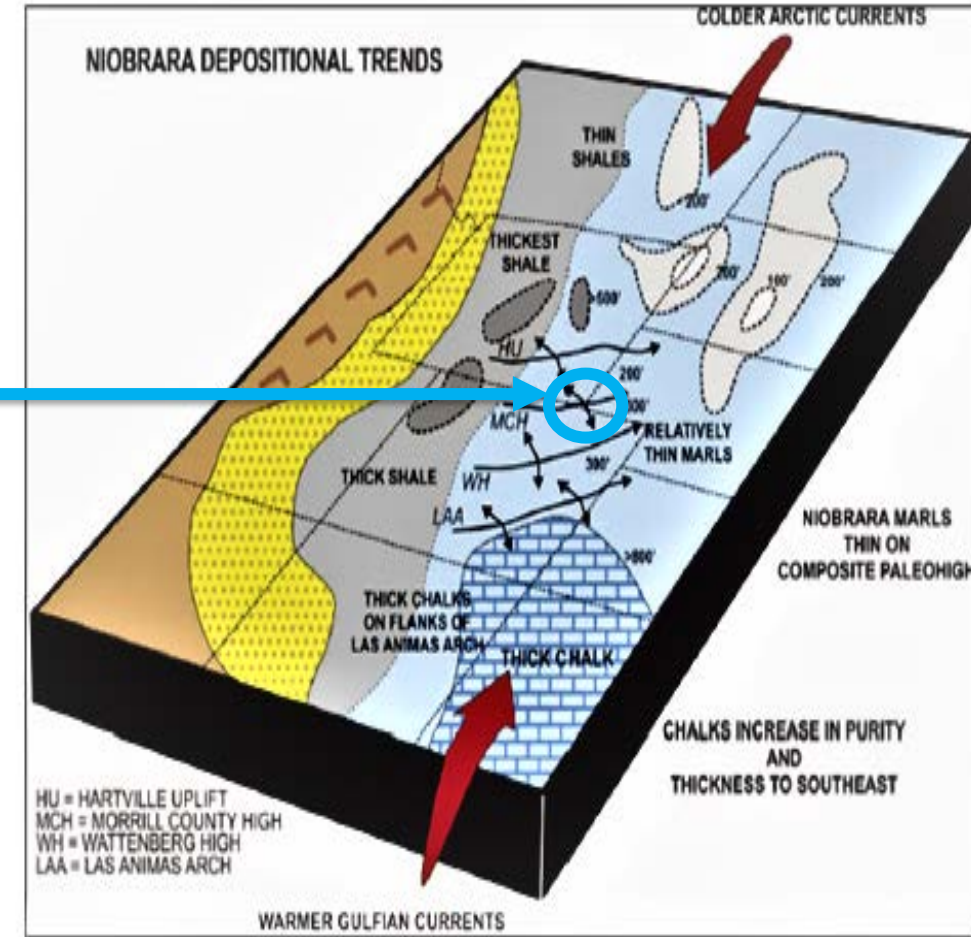
Depositional Context



Modified from Haun et al., 1972



Modified from Sonnenberg, after Underwood, 2013



(modified from Longman et al., 1998)

Codell Sandstone (Turonian Age)

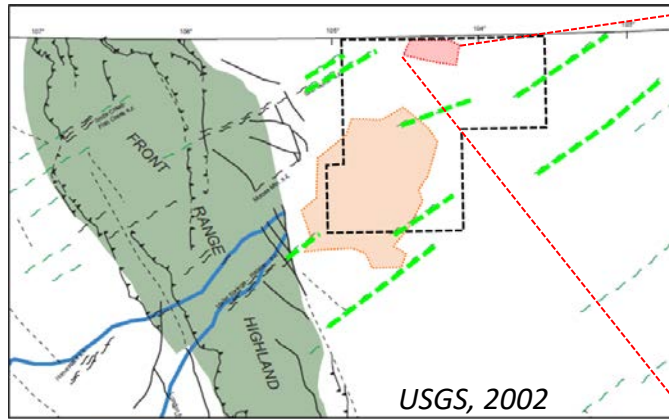
Niobrara Formation (Santonian - Turonian Age)

Figure 2.1. Stratigraphic column of Cretaceous interval for the 3D seismic area. A separate "D" bench may be found in some areas. Two tiers of polygonal type faults are recognized. Approximate drilling depths are indicated.

Structural Context

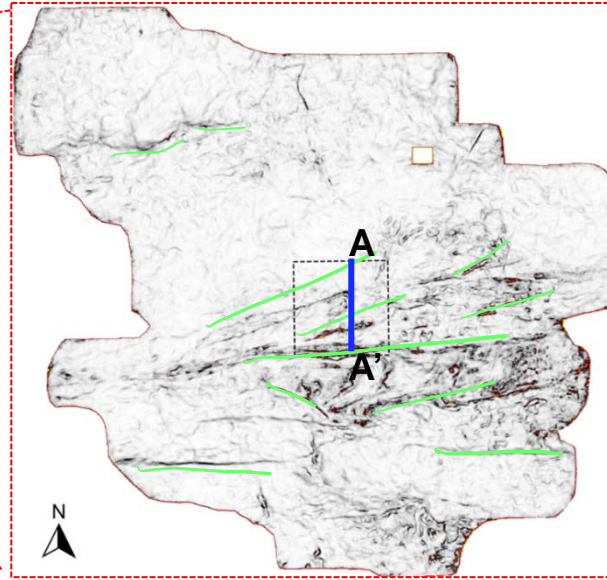


Precambrian

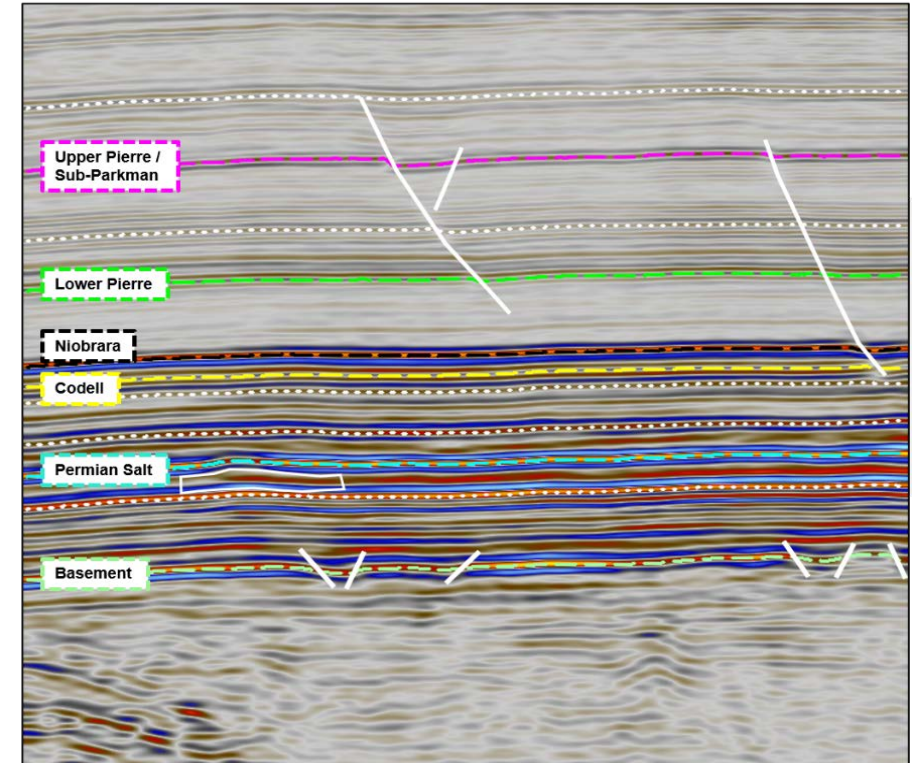


USGS, 2002

- Weld County
- Wattenberg Field
- Hereford Field
- Precambrian Shear Zone

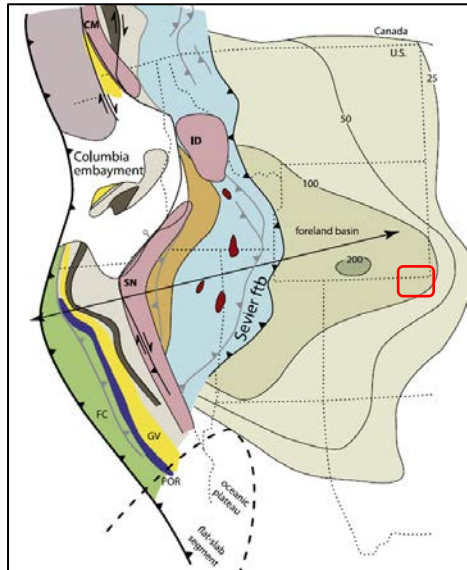


A

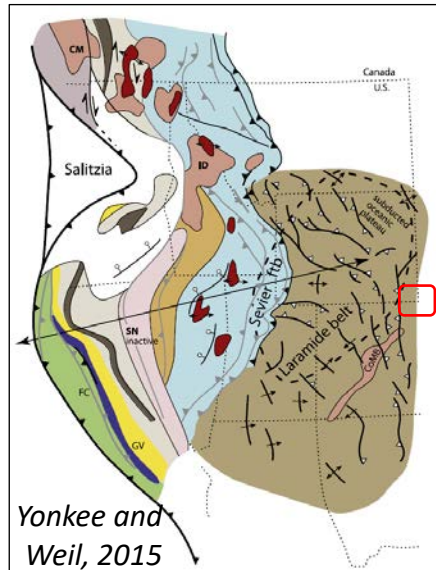


A'

Late Cretaceous, 80 Ma



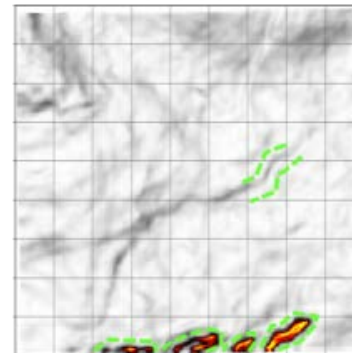
Paleogene, 50 Ma



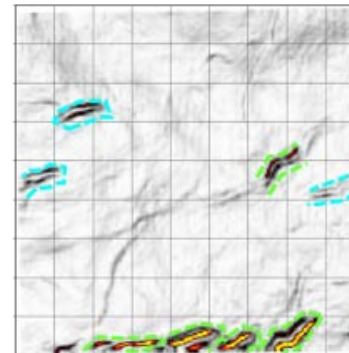
Yonkee and Weil, 2015

Identification of two-tiered polygonal fault system (Sonnenberg and Underwood, 2013)

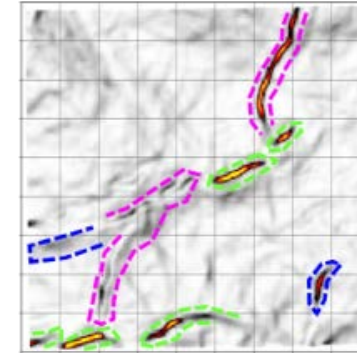
H6 Codell



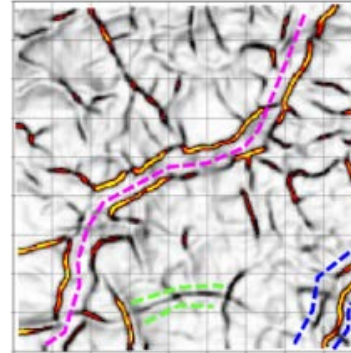
H7 Niobrara



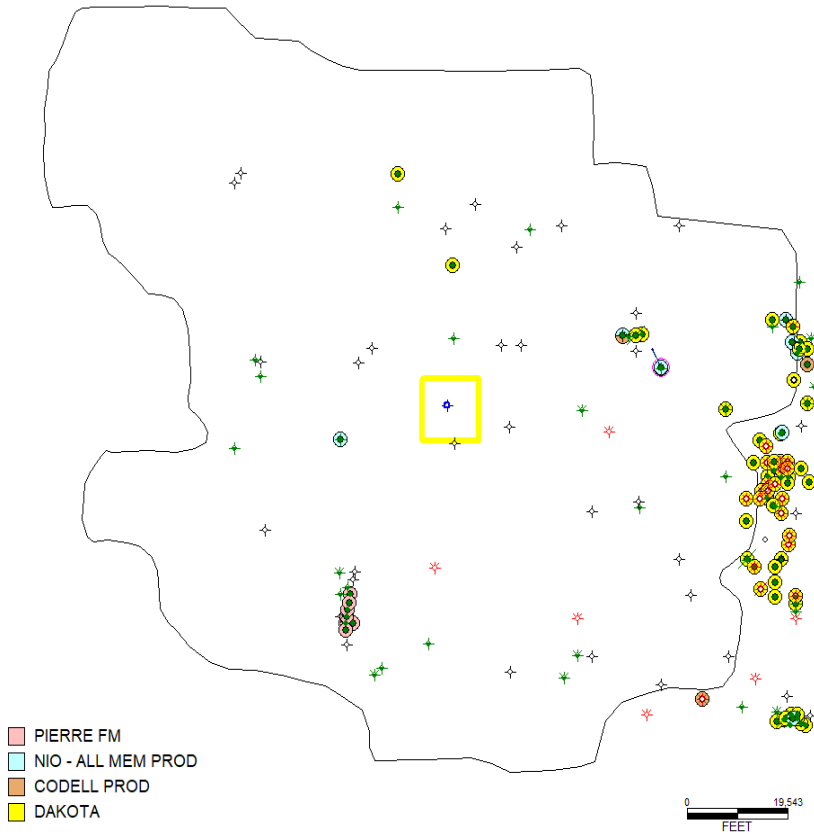
H8 Lower Pierre



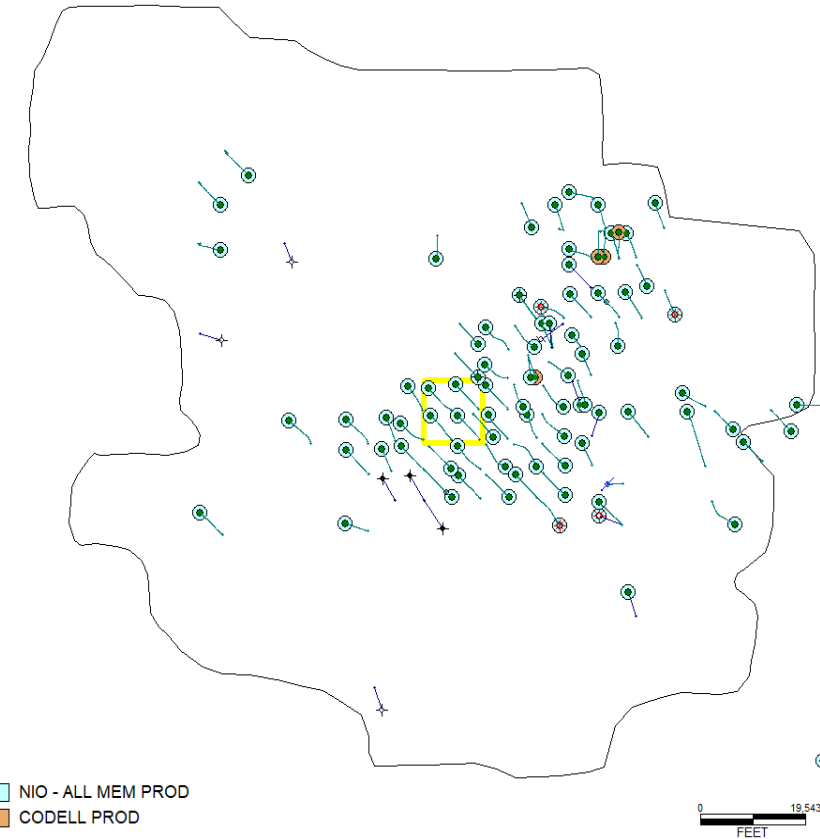
H10 Sub-Parkman



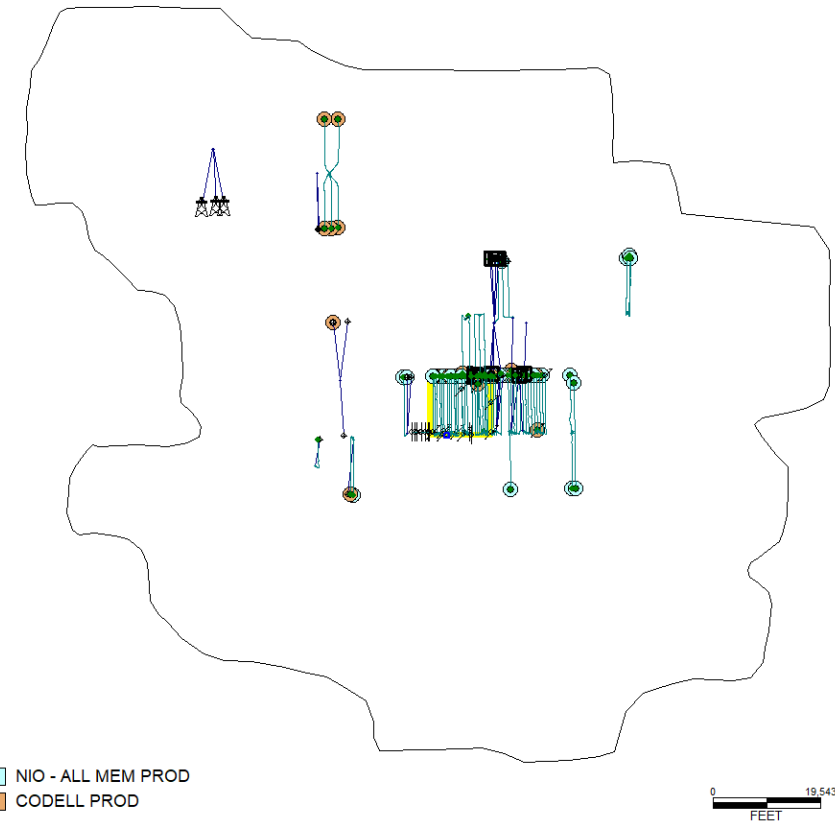
Hereford Field Production Evolution



1st Generation Conventional Wells
(Pre 2009)

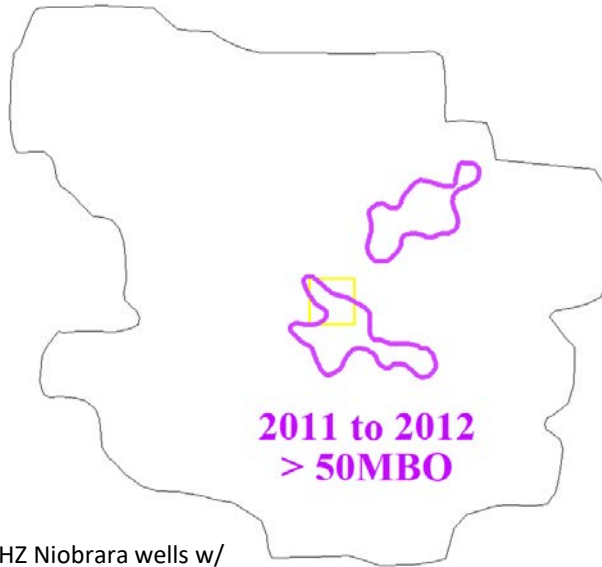
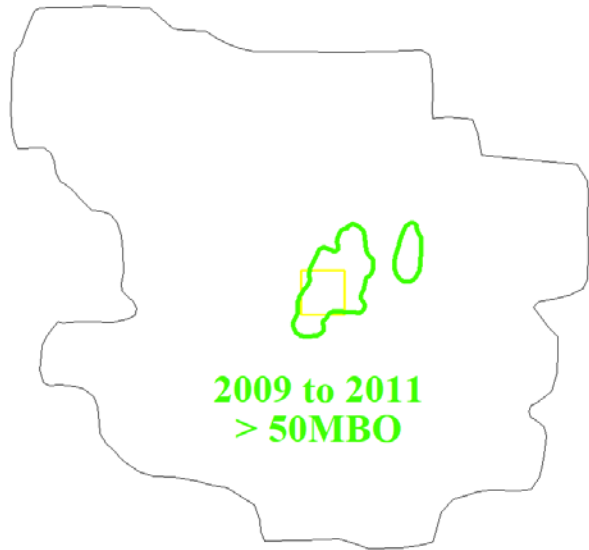


1st Generation Unconventional Wells, EOG
Uncemented Liner – Sliding Sleeve Completions (SRL)
(2009 - 2015)



2nd & 3rd Generation Unconventional
Wells Fifth Creek & HighPoint Resources
Cemented with Plug and Perf Completion (SRL & XRL)
(2015 - 2021)

Legacy Field Progression - Cumulative Production

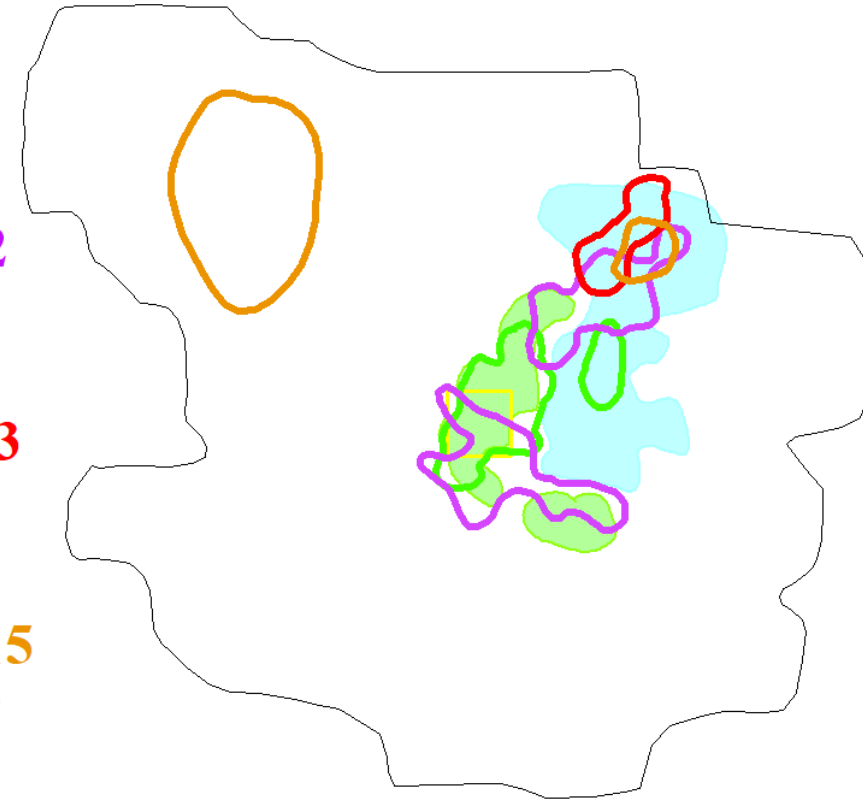


2009 to 2011
> 50MBO

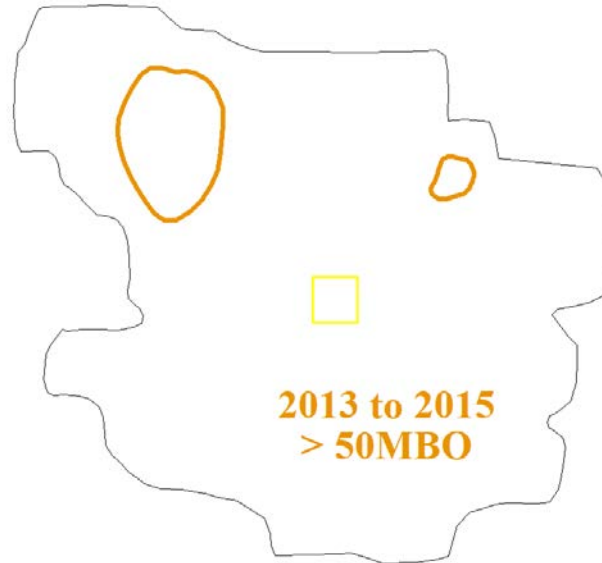
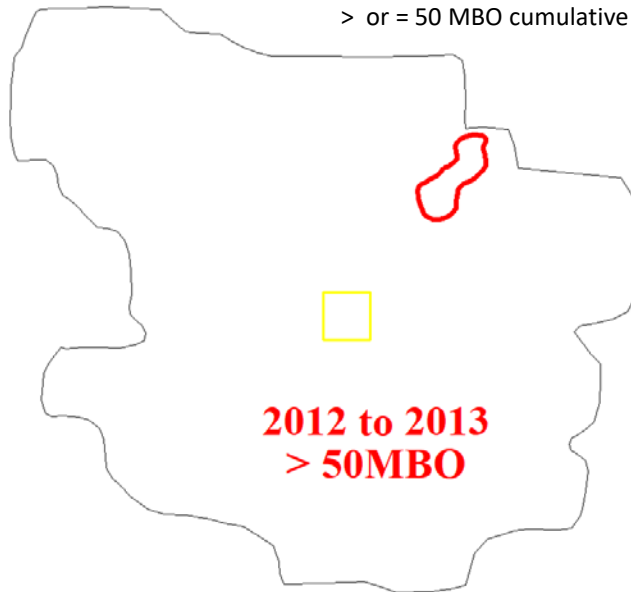
2011 to 2012
> 50MBO

2012 to 2013
> 50MBO

2013 to 2015
> 50MBO

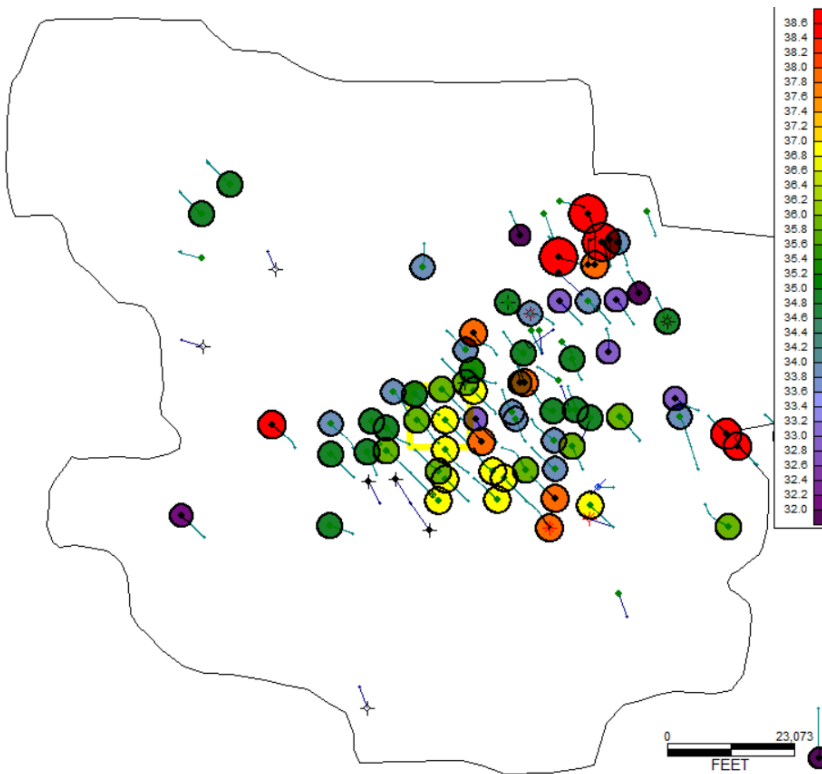


* From first Generation HZ Niobrara wells w/
> or = 50 MBO cumulative production

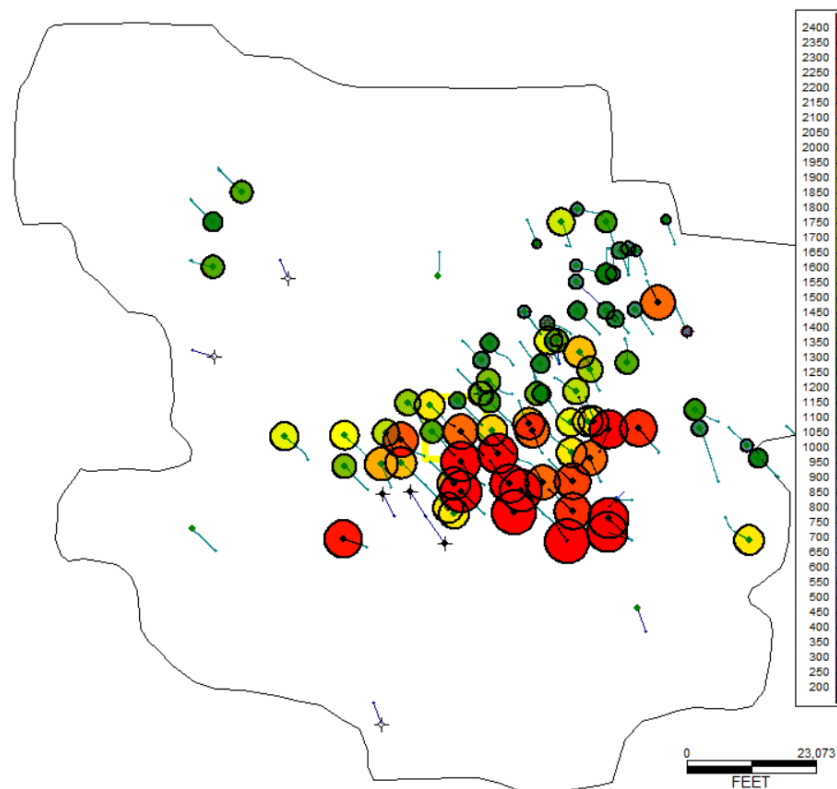


Green Shade = >50% Cum Oil Cut
Blue Shade = < 50% Oil Cut

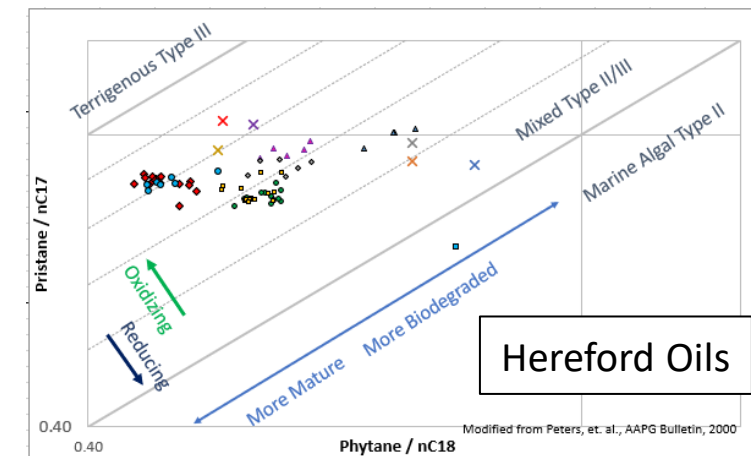
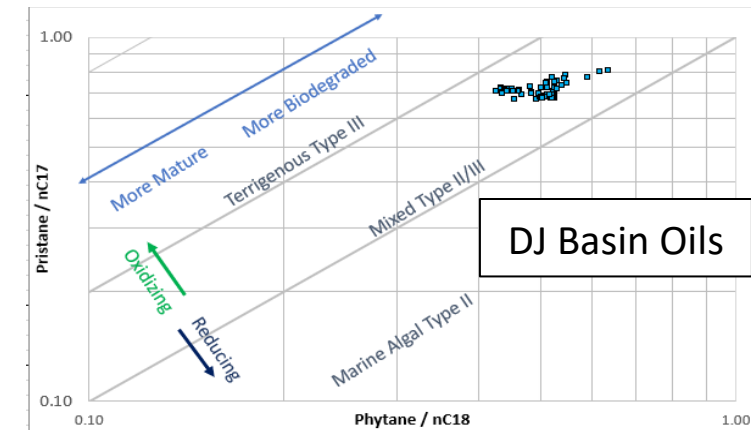
Produced Fluid Heterogeneity



Hereford – (1st Generation)
IP Oil Gravity Bubble Map
(32 to 38 deg)



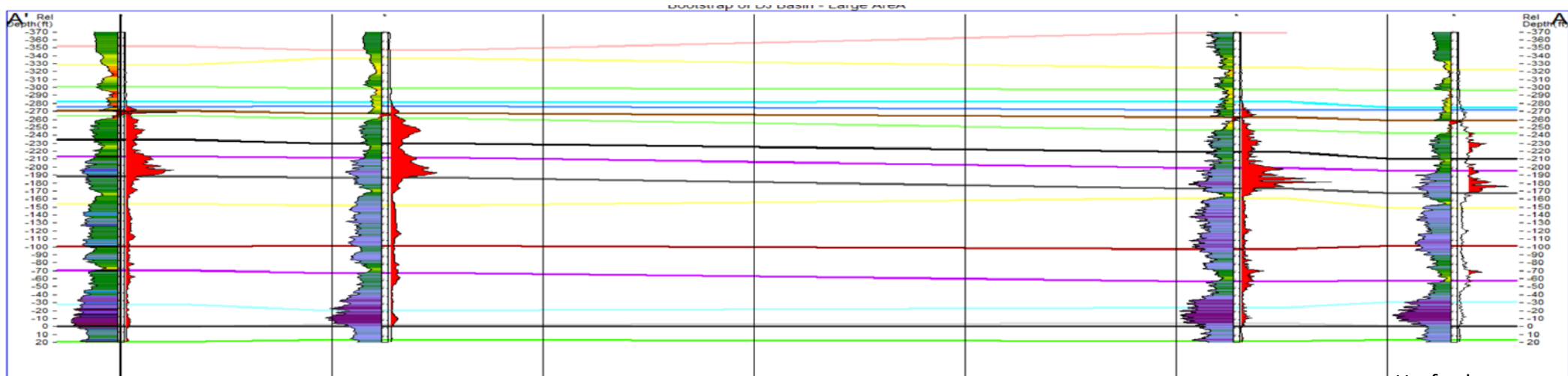
Hereford – (1st Generation)
CUM GOR Bubble Map
2400 to 200 (scf / BO deg)



Stratigraphy, structure, and temperature

DETAILED REGIONAL STUDY OF HEREFORD FIELD

Hereford Geology



Chalk Bluff Pilot

Herford Type Log

Herford Study Area – Reservoir Log Stats

B1 Chalk

- Avg Thickness: 29'
- Range (8 to 52')
- ≥ 20 ohm/m (DIL): 0 - 34' (14' Ave)

B Chalk

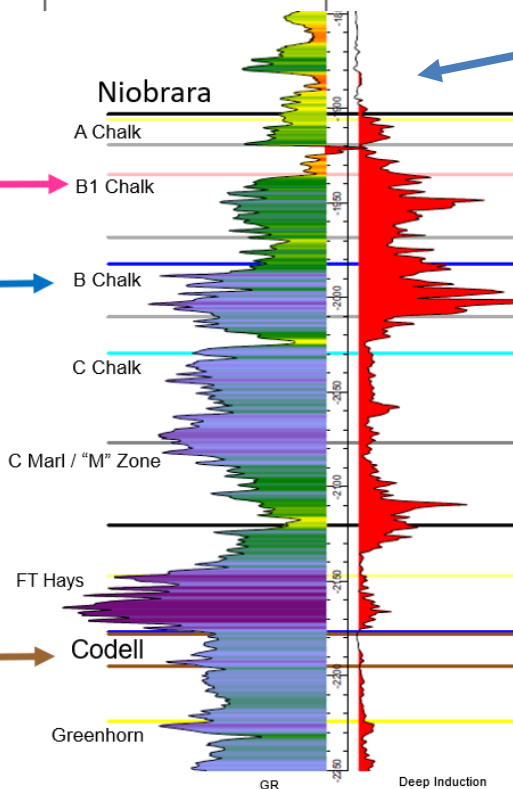
- Avg Thickness: 36'
- Range (20 to 56')
- ≥ 20 ohm/m (DIL): 0 to 43' (25' Ave)

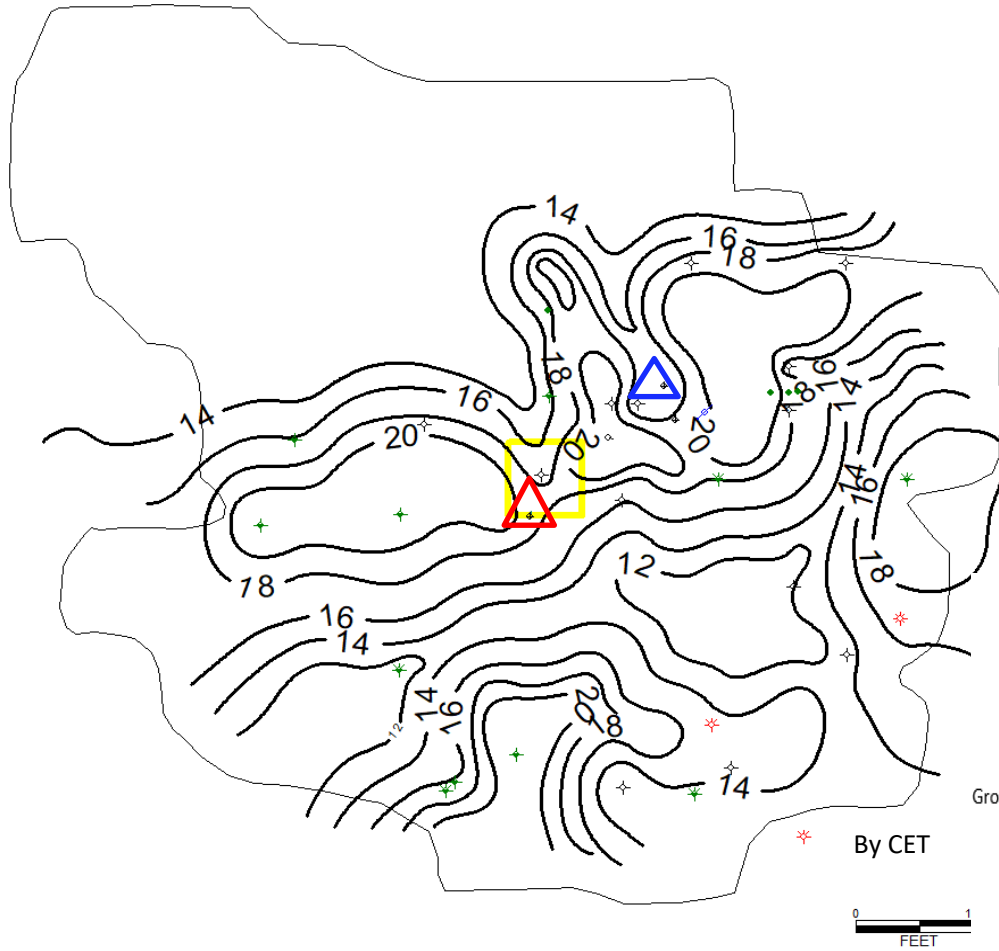
C Marl

- Avg Thickness: 45'
- Range (10 to 72')
- ≥ 20 ohm/m (DIL): 0 to 26' (5' Ave)

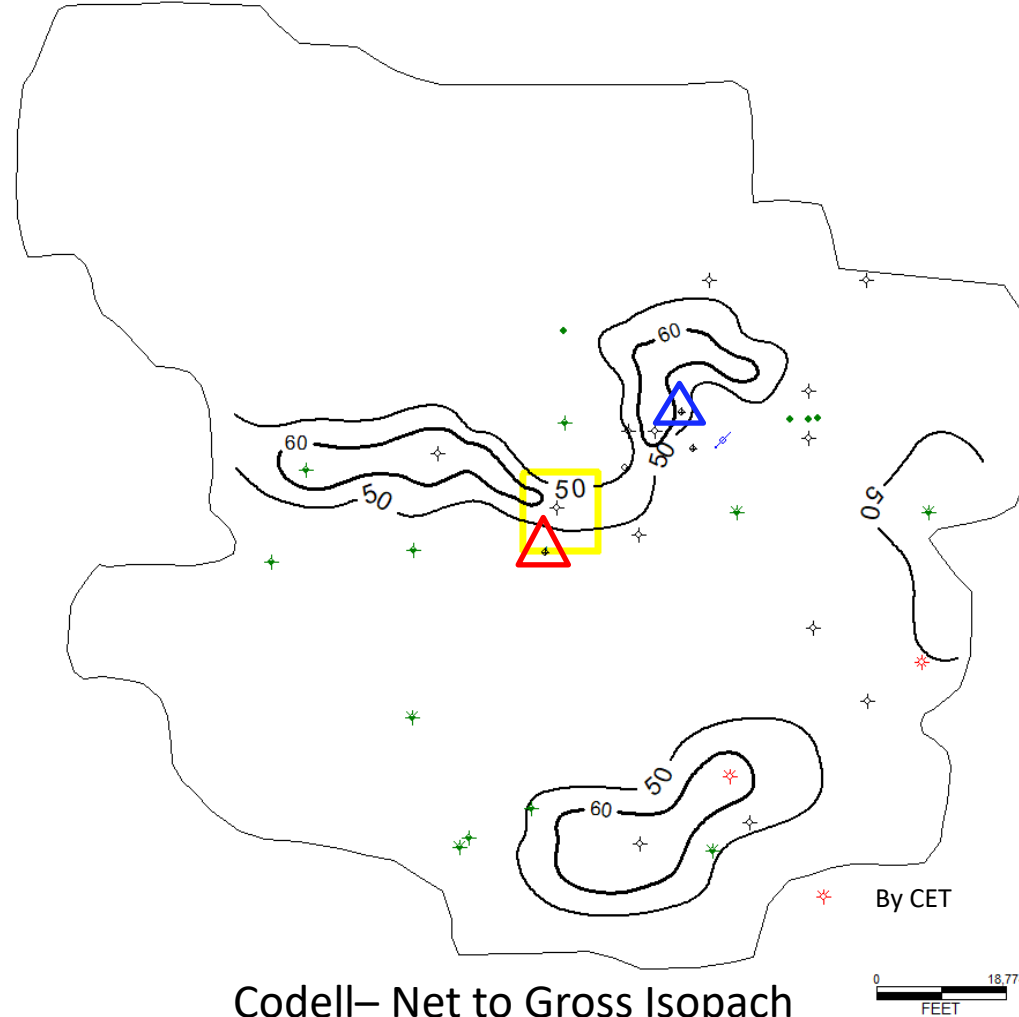
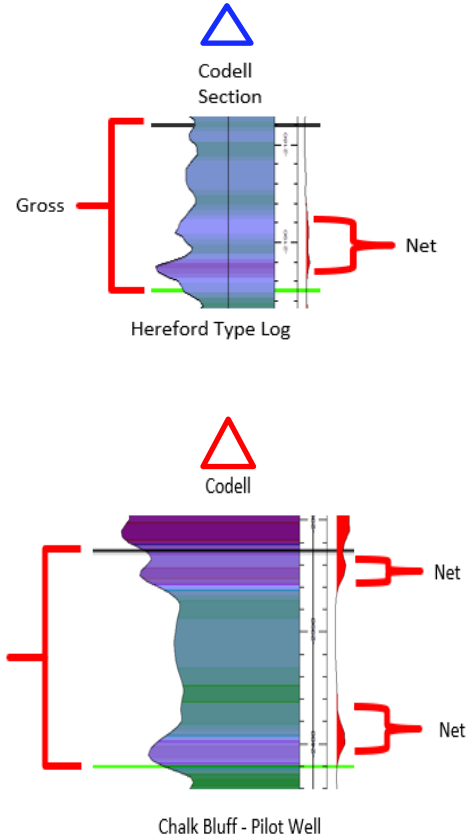
Codell

- Avg Thickness: 16.5'
- Range (<1 to 25')
- ≥ 4 ohm/m (DIL): 1.8 to 19+ (7.4' Ave)





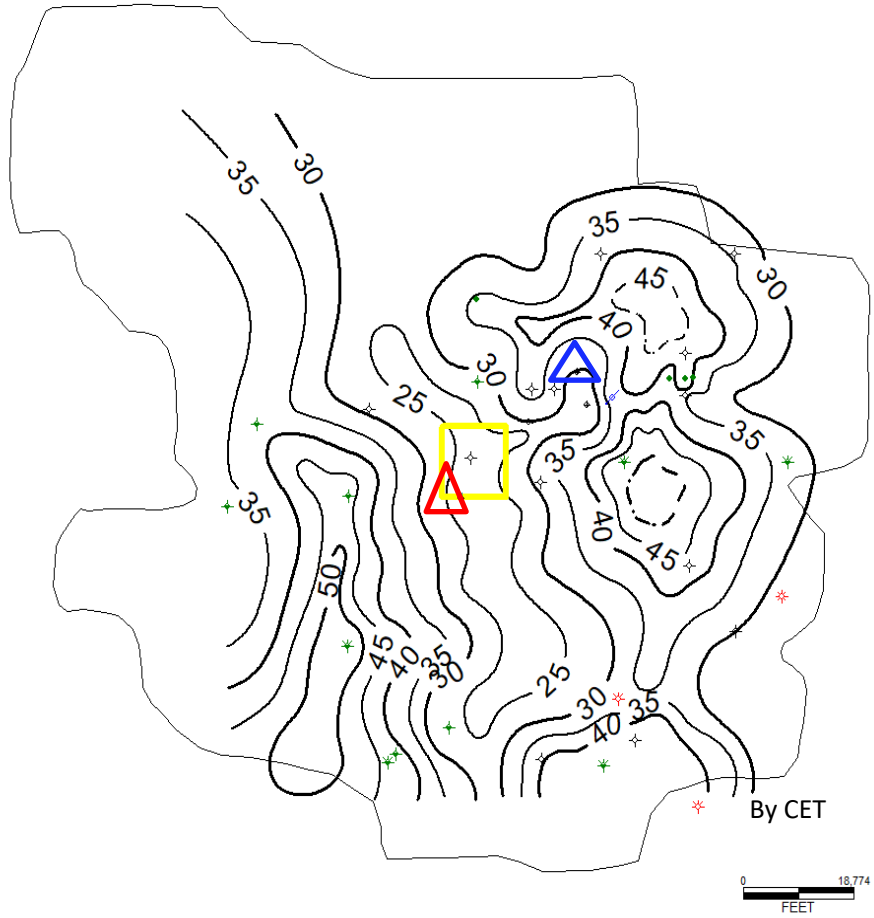
Codell-Gross Isopach
C.I. = 2 Ft



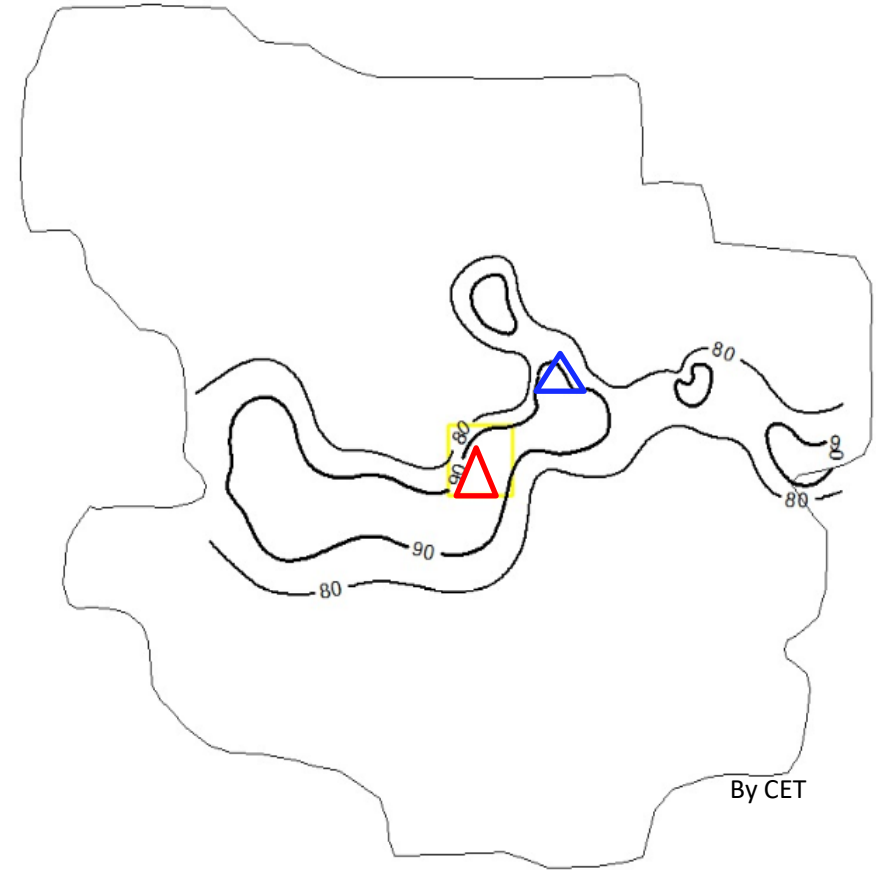
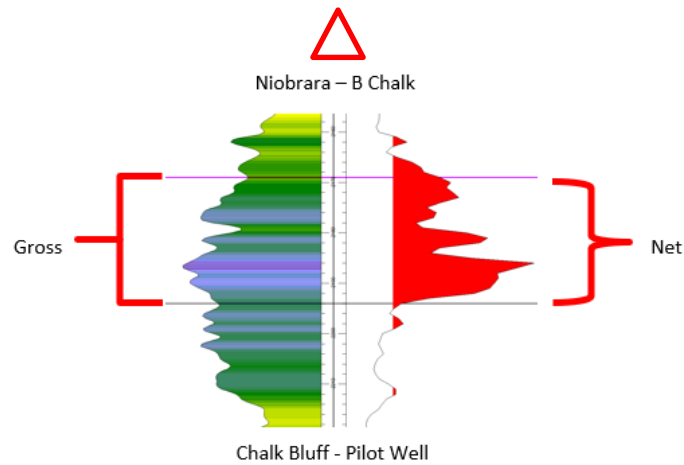
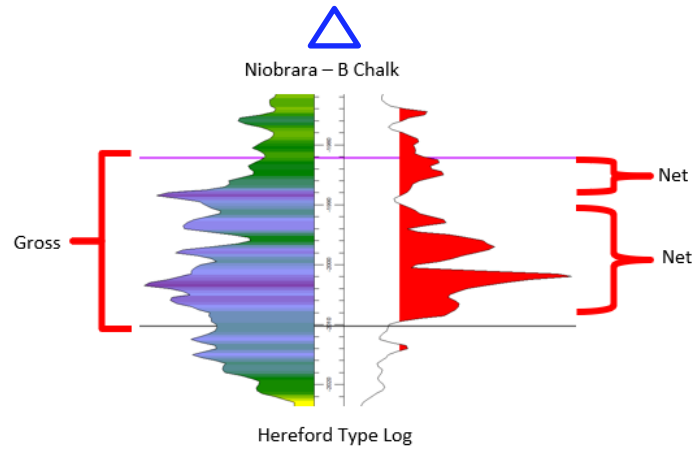
Codell- Net to Gross Isopach
C.I. = 10% Net to Gross

Net = (>/=) 4 ohm/m deep resistivity

Niobrara



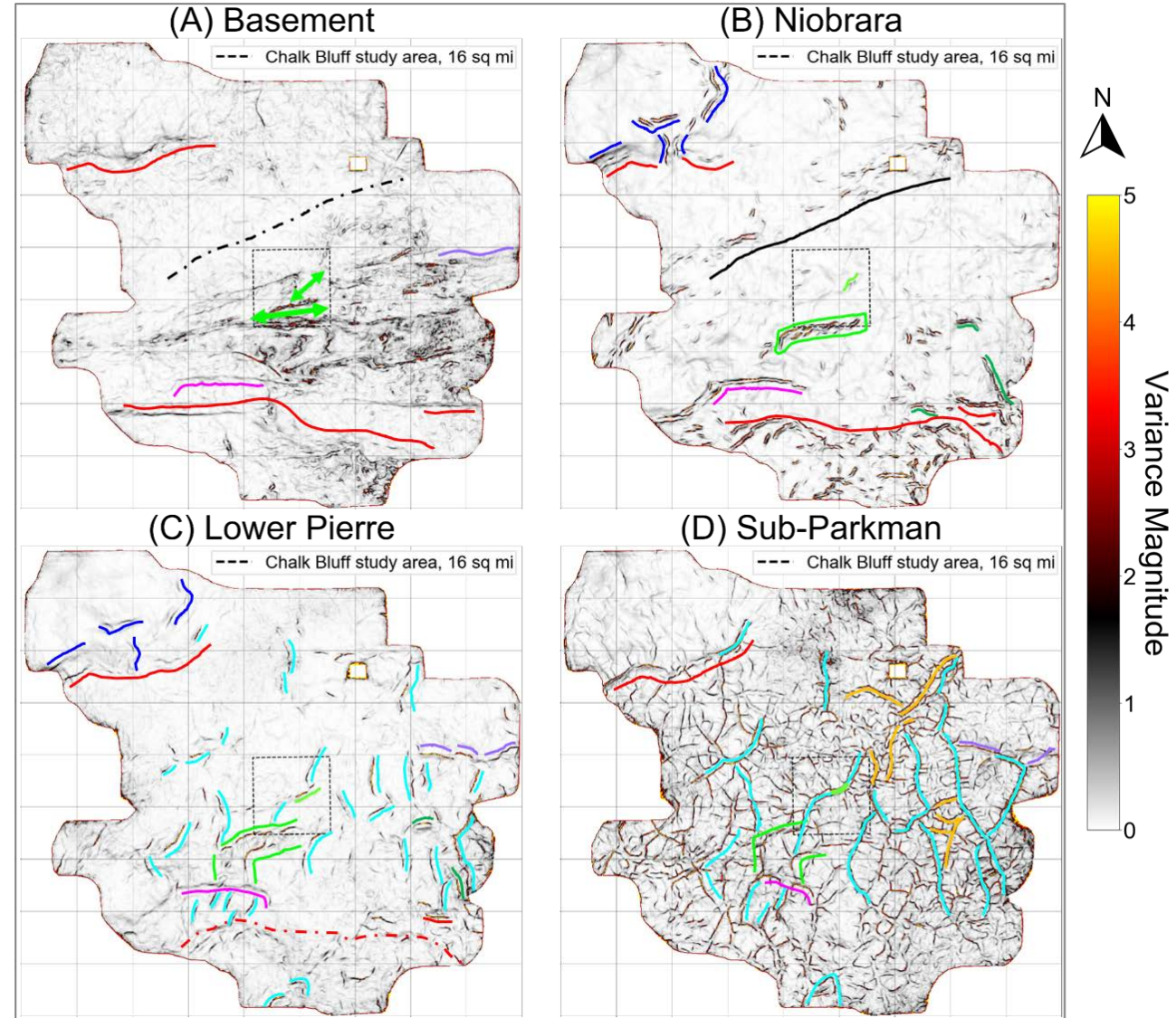
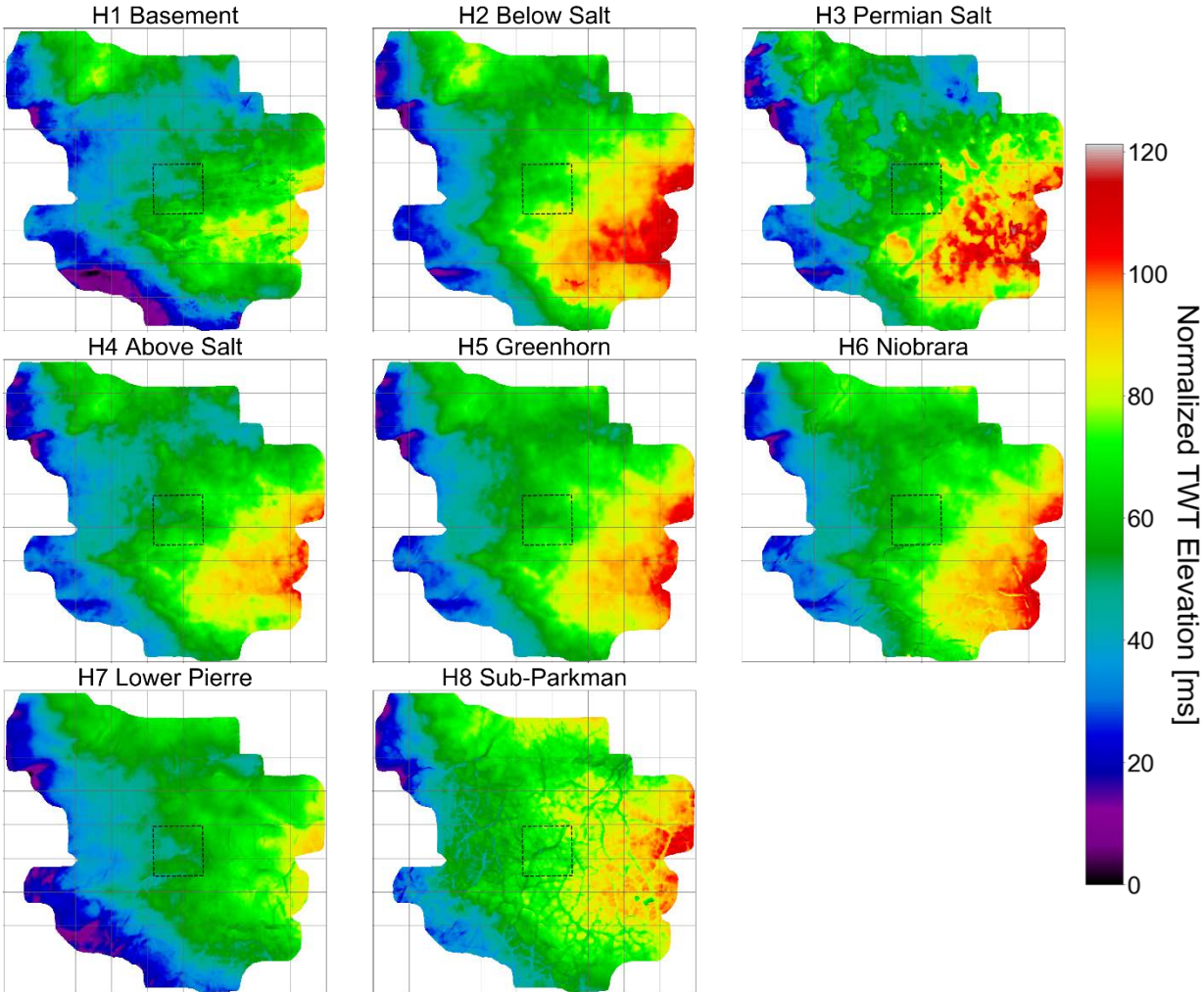
Niobrara B Chalk –Gross Isopach
C.I. = 5'



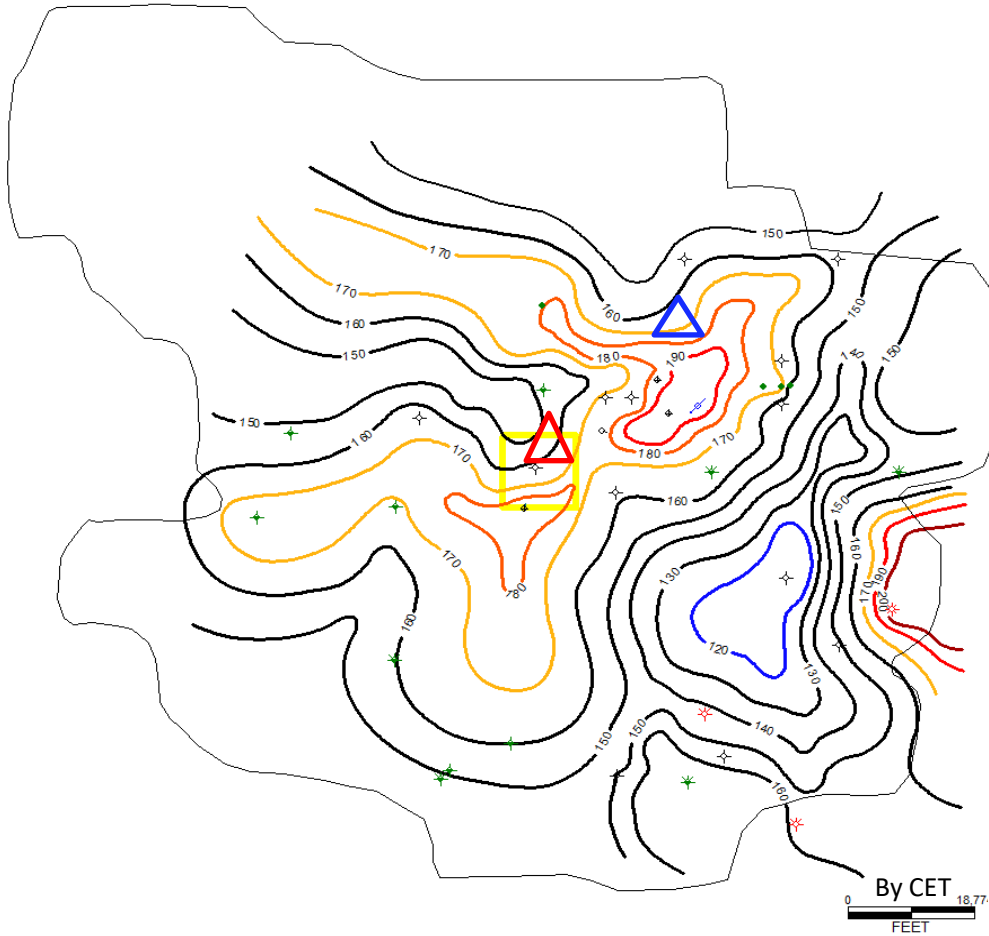
Niobrara B Chalk – Net to Gross Isopach
C.I. = 10% Net to Gross

Net = (>/=) 20 ohm/m deep resistivity

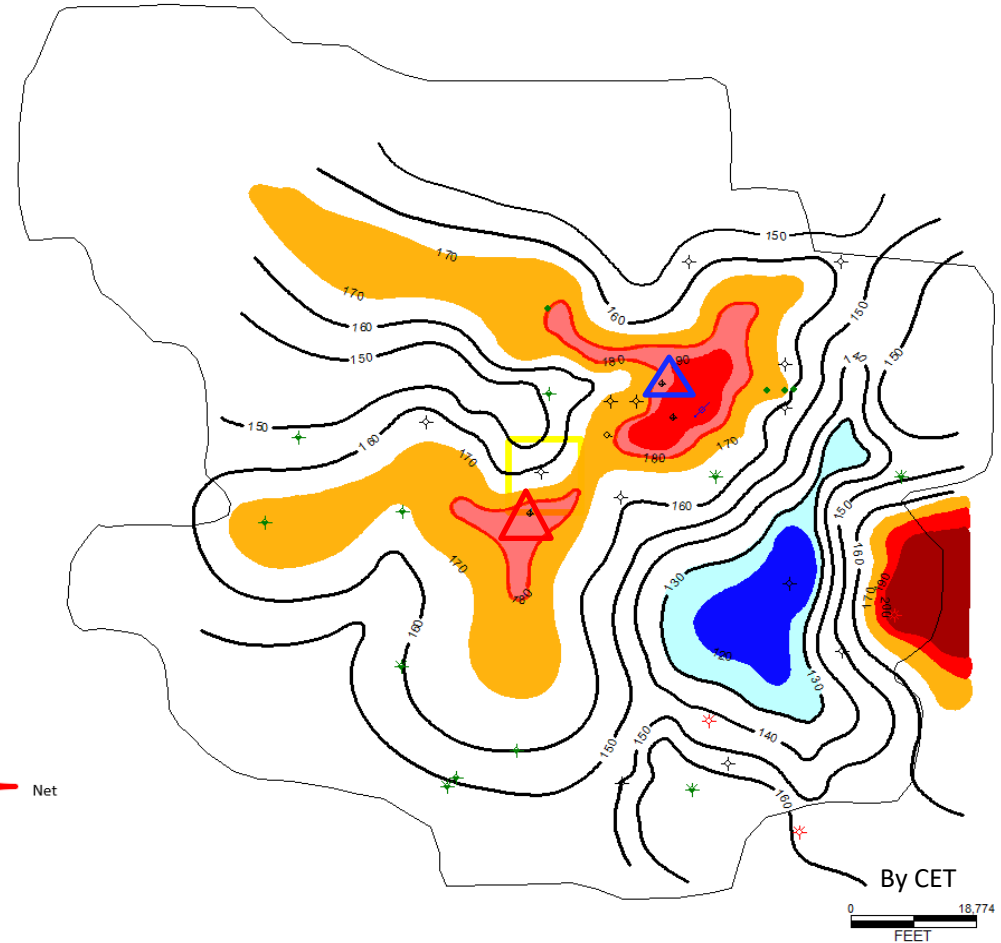
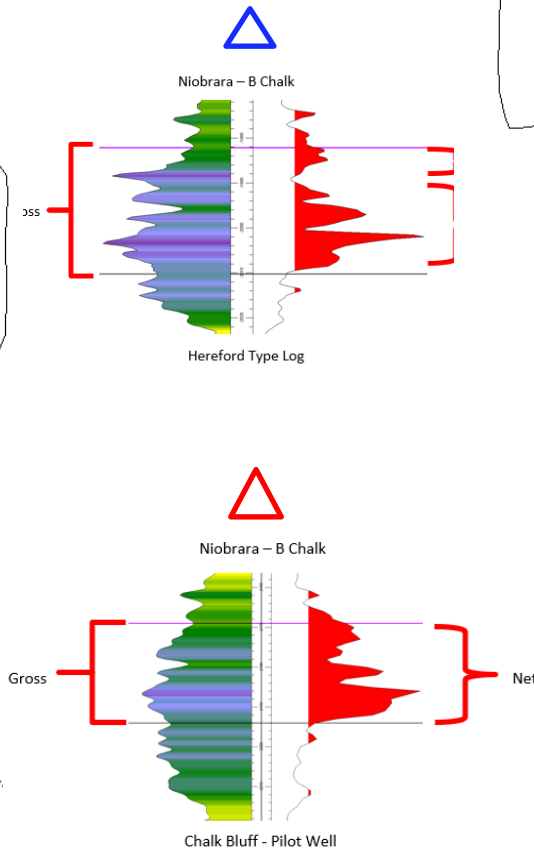
Present-Day Expression of Structure



B Chalk Formation Temp



Niobrara B Chalk – Formation Temp
C.I. = 10 Deg (f)



Niobrara B Chalk – Formation Temp w/ Shading
C.I. = 10 Deg (f)
Shade Interval 170 deg (F) to 200 deg (F)

Compaction

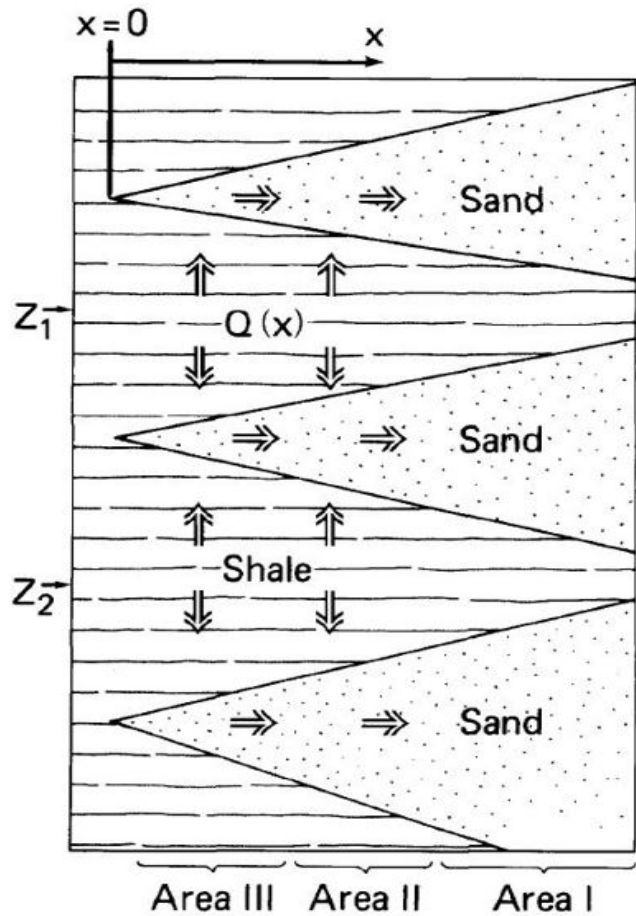
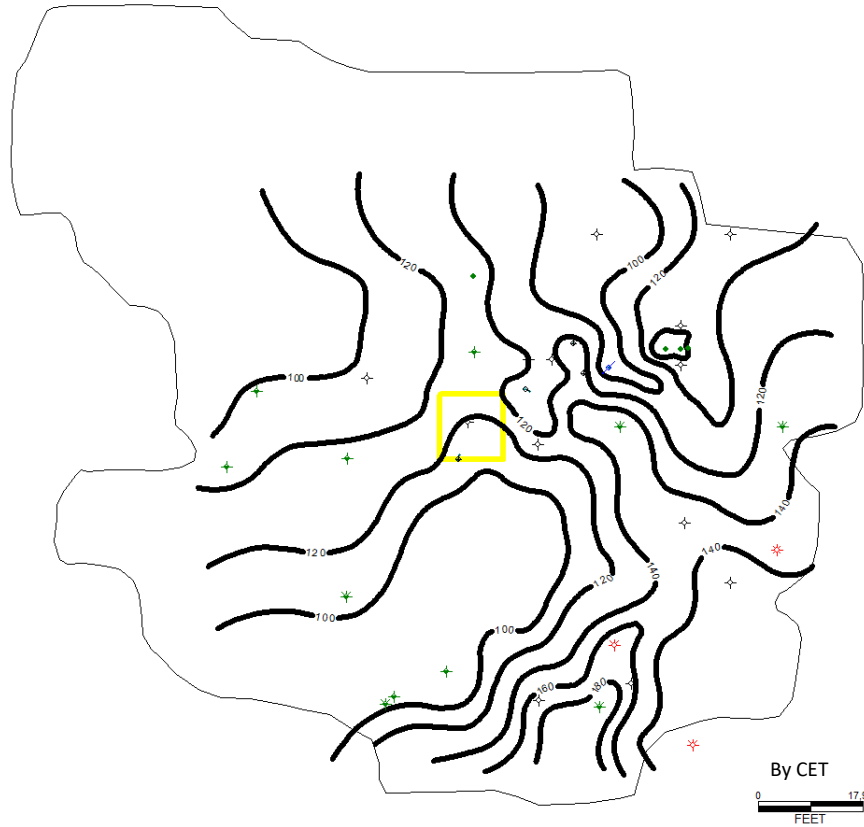


Figure 10—Cross section of idealized sand-shale sequence analyzed in this study.

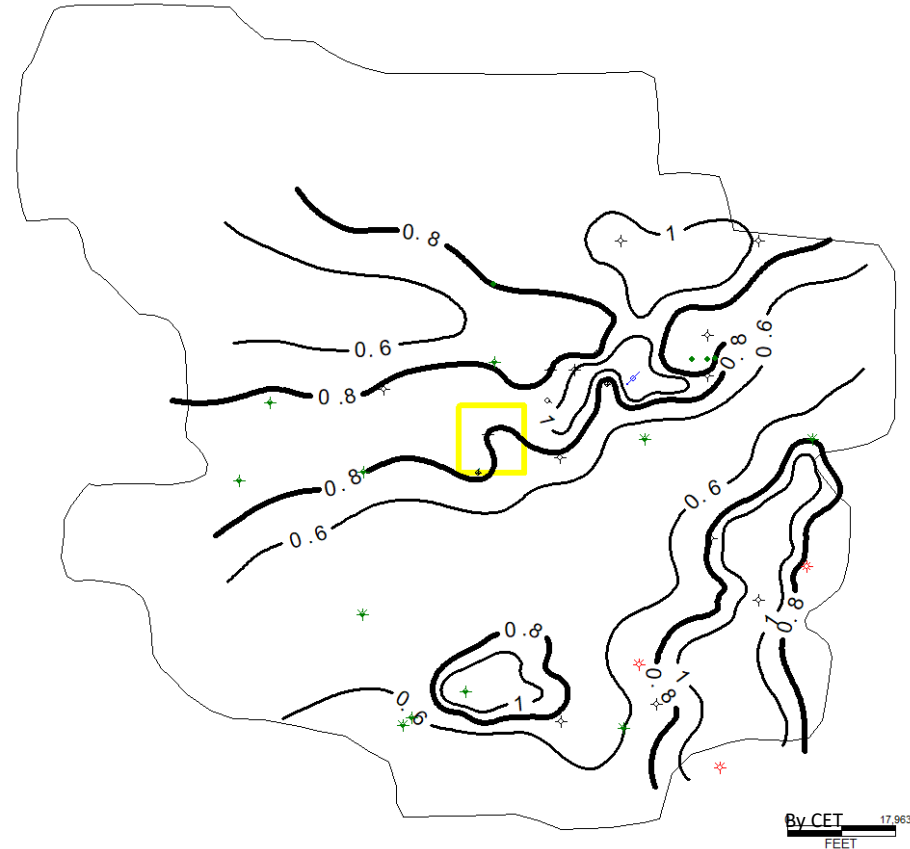
From Bredehoeft Et al 1988

Shale (ductile) compact differentially in relation to the Sand (brittle)



Niobrara Total Chalk – Isopach
C.I. = 20'

$$\text{Total Chalk} = \text{Nio Chalk (A+B1+B+C)}$$



Niobrara Total Marl to Total Chalk – Isopach
C.I. = 10% Marl to Chalk

$$\text{Marl to Chalk} = (\text{Nio Marl A+B1+B+C}) / (\text{Nio Chalk A+B1+B+C})$$

Marl (ductile) compacts differentially in relation to the Chalk(brittle)

Compaction – Fluid Compartmentalization



Petroleum System Charge Analog - (Niobrara Chalk Reservoir Fracture)

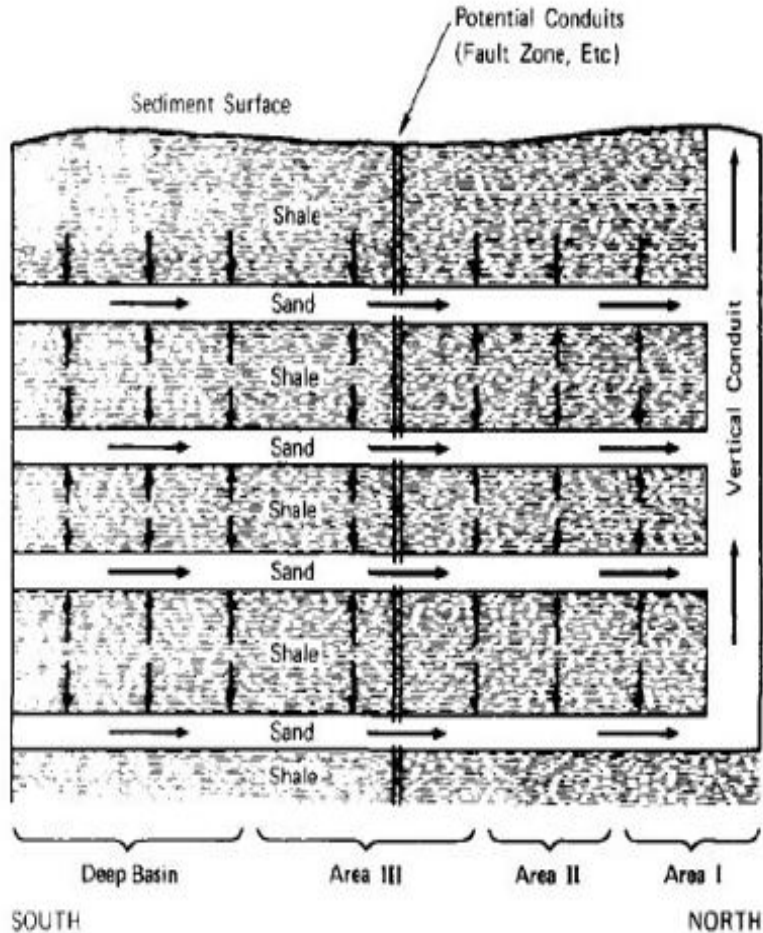
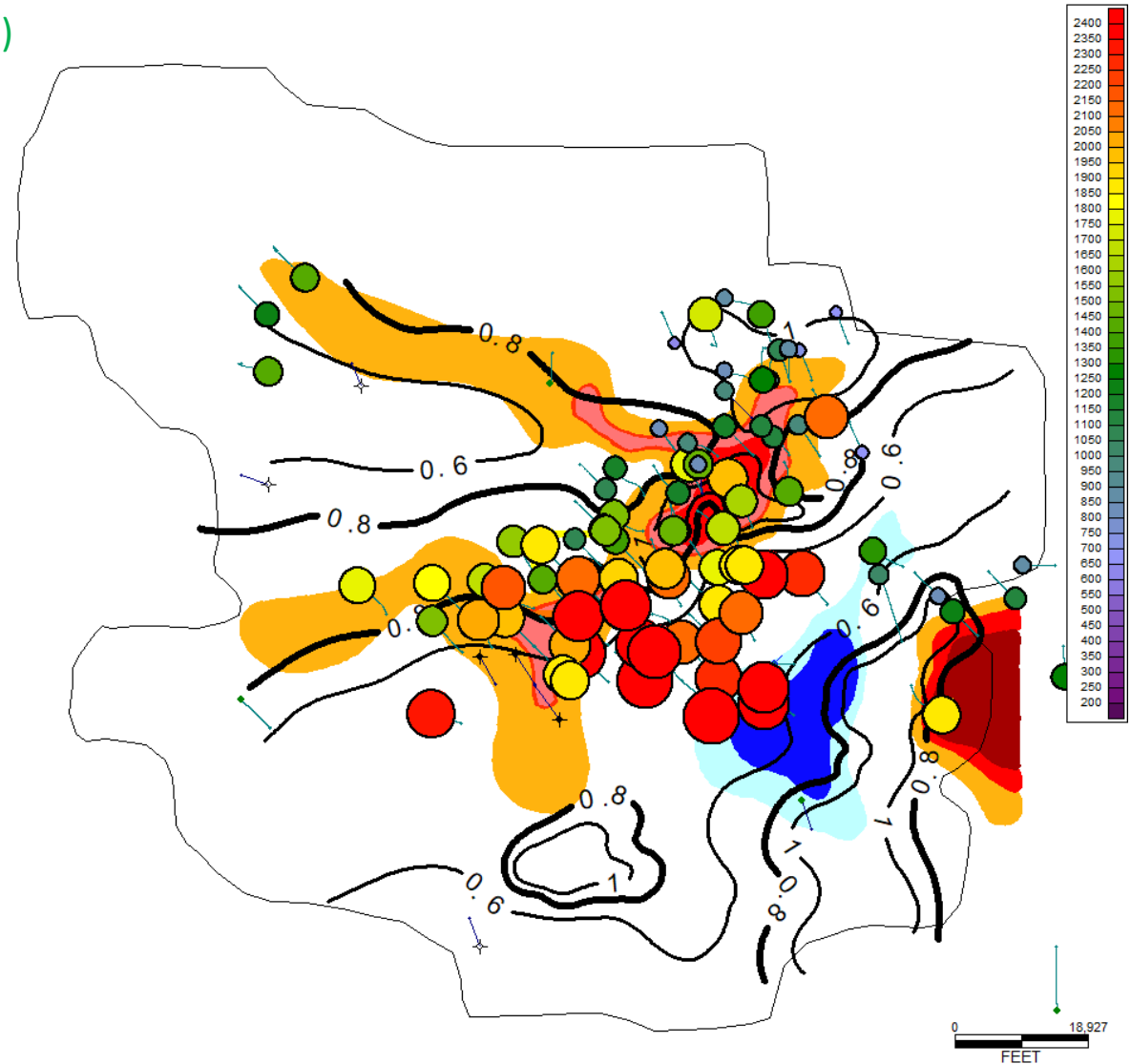


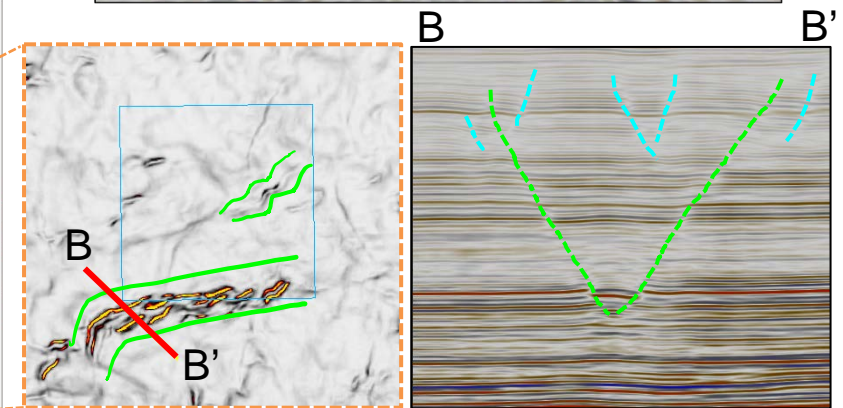
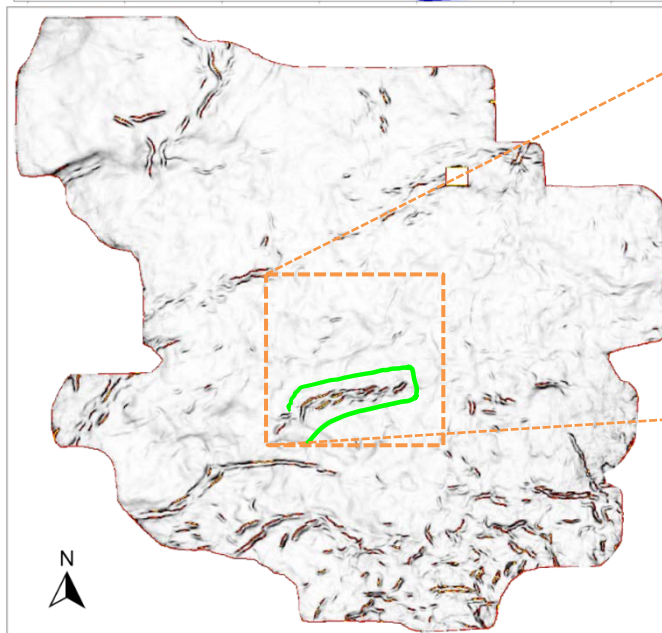
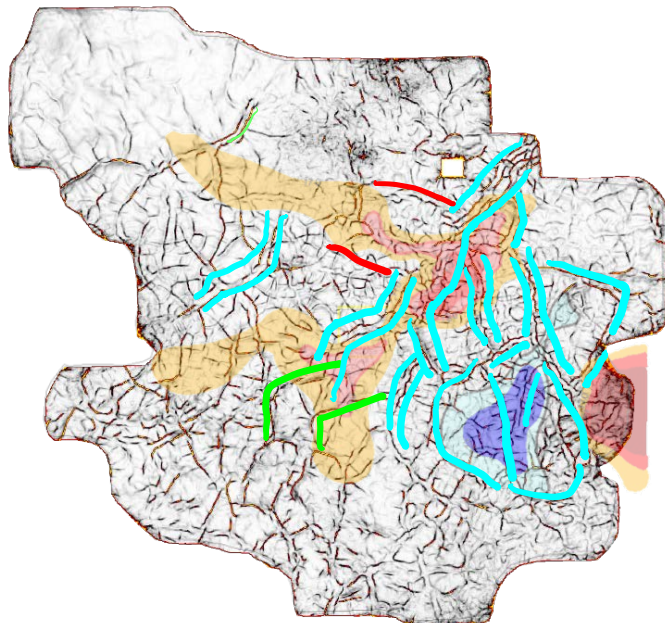
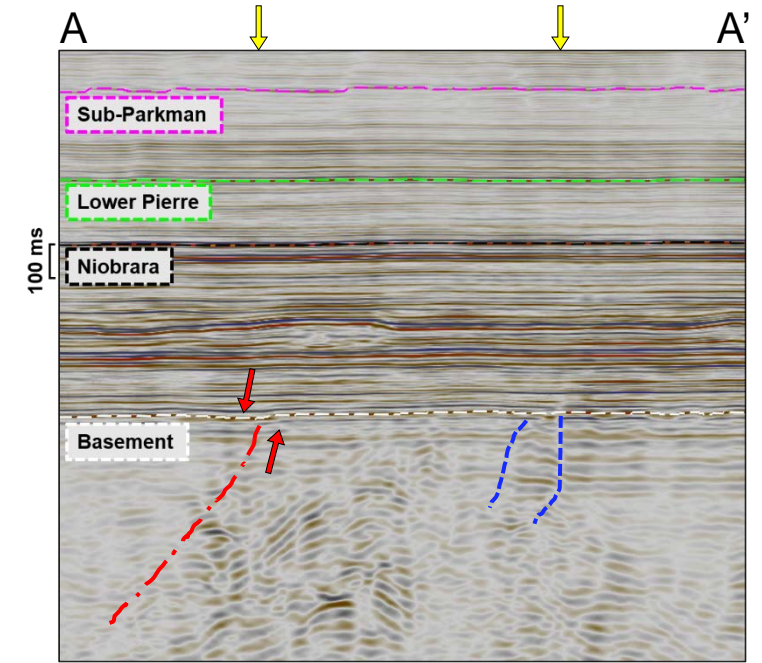
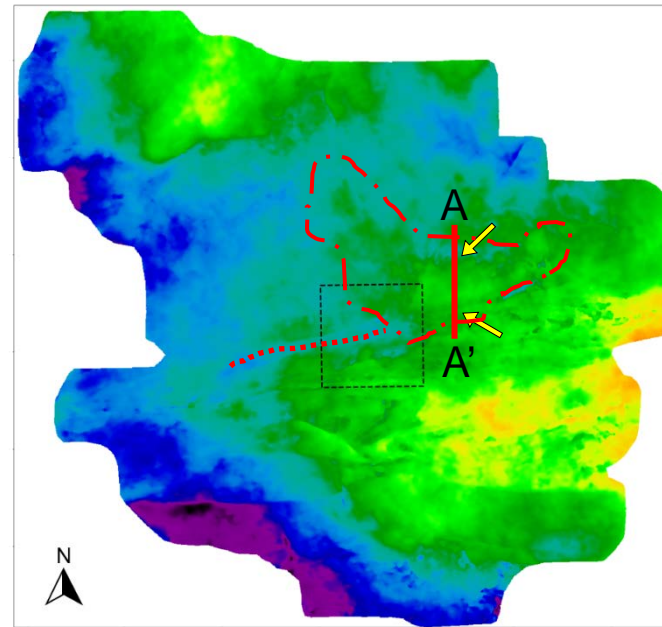
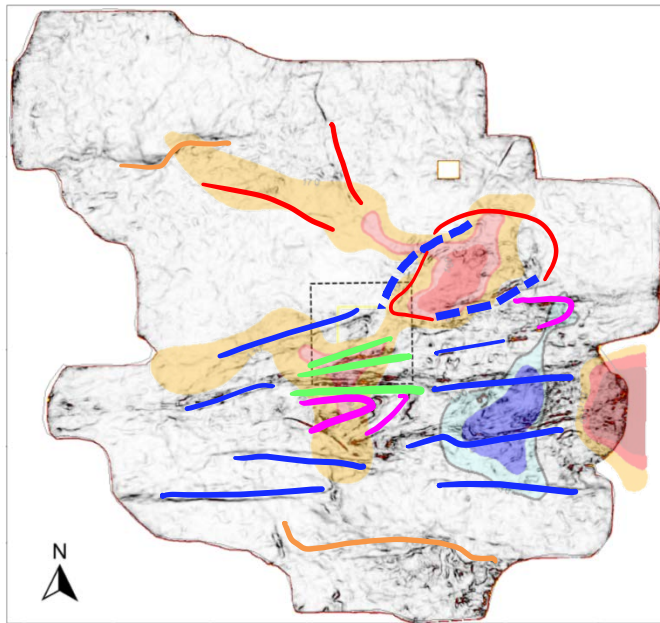
Figure 12—Diagrammatic cross section of a compartmentalized flow system.

From Bredehoeft Et al 1988

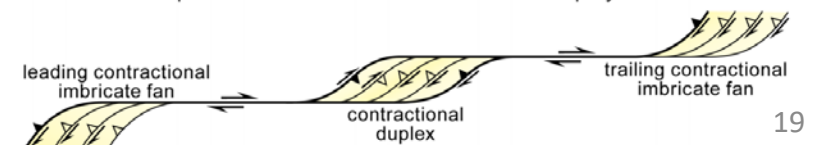


Hereford – (1st Generation) CUM GOR Bubble Map
W/ B Chalk Formation Temp Shade & Marl to Chalk Ratio Isopach

Basement Control on Temperature and Expulsion

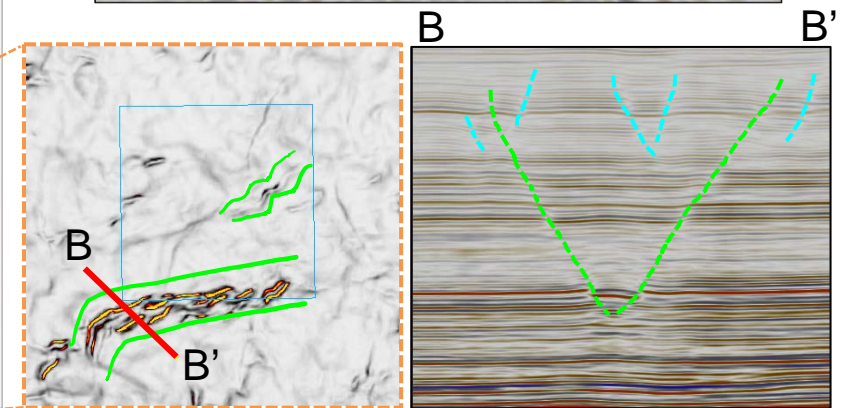
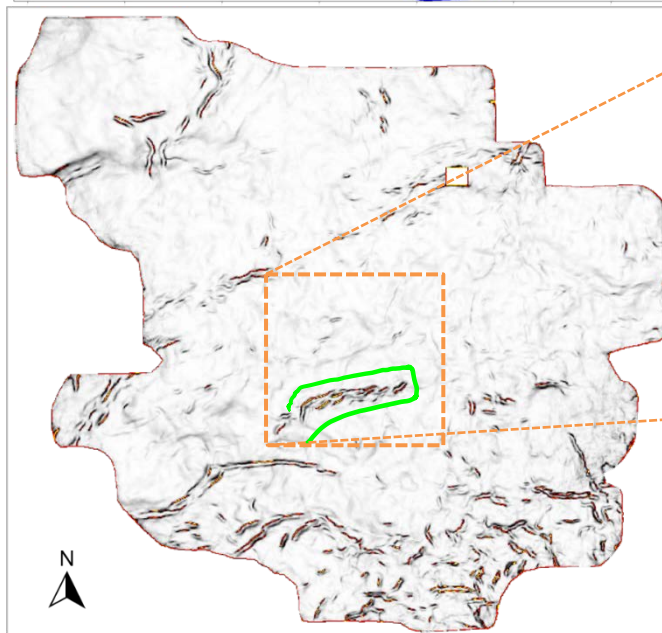
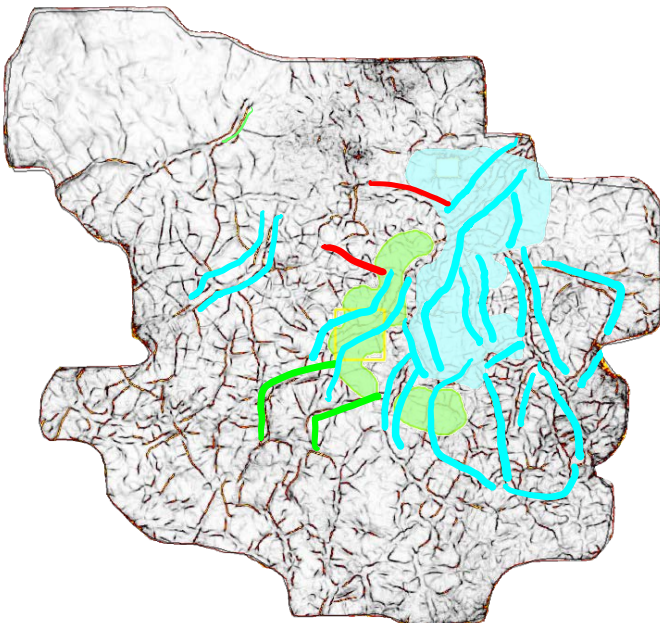
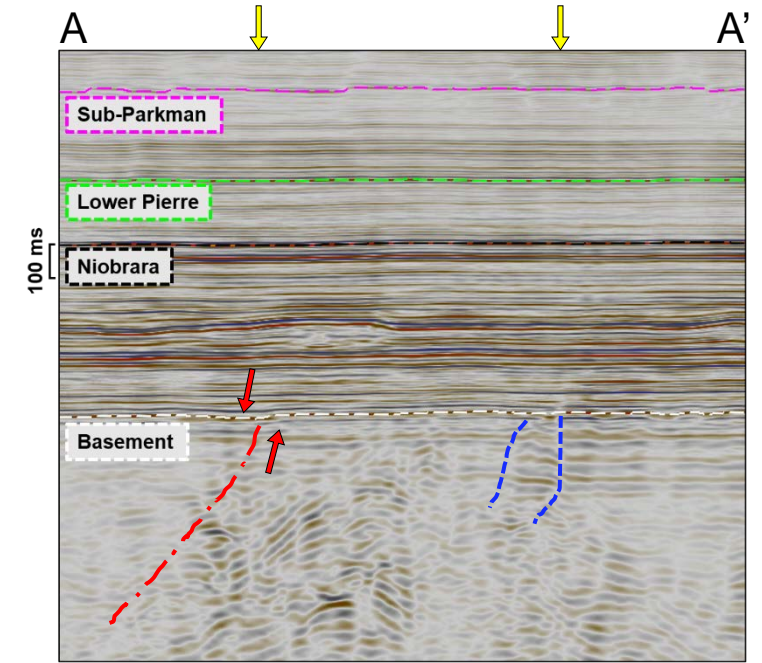
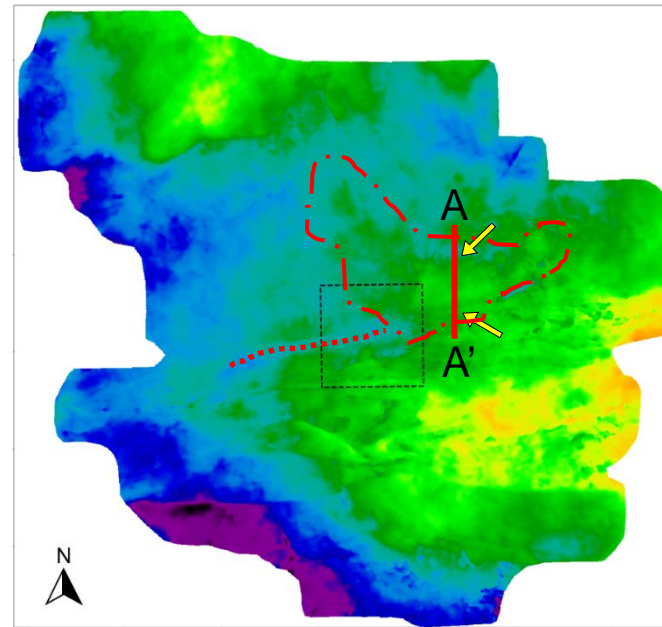
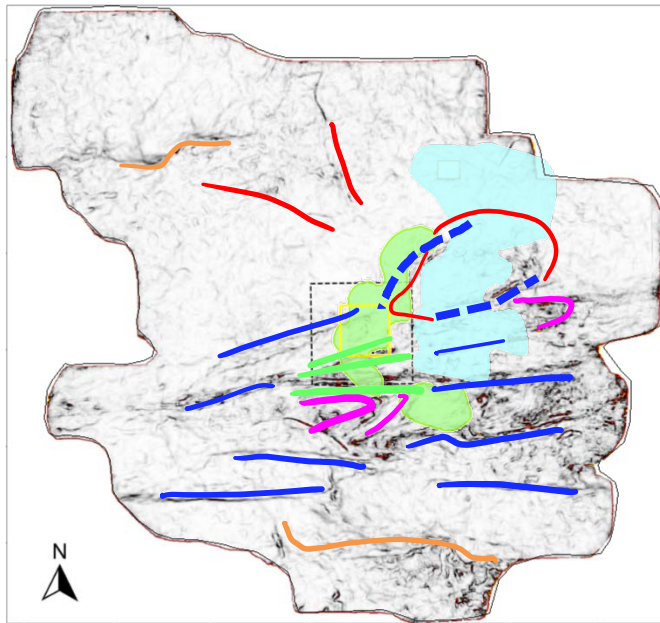


Map view of an idealized dextral strike-slip system

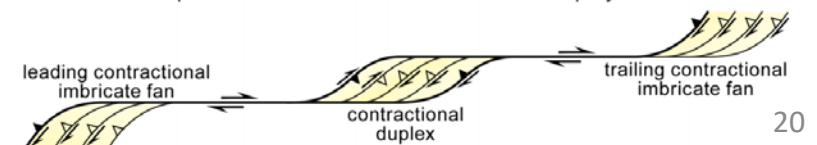


after Woodcock & Fischer (1986) *J. Struct. Geol.* 8(7) 725-735

Basement Control on Temperature and Expulsion

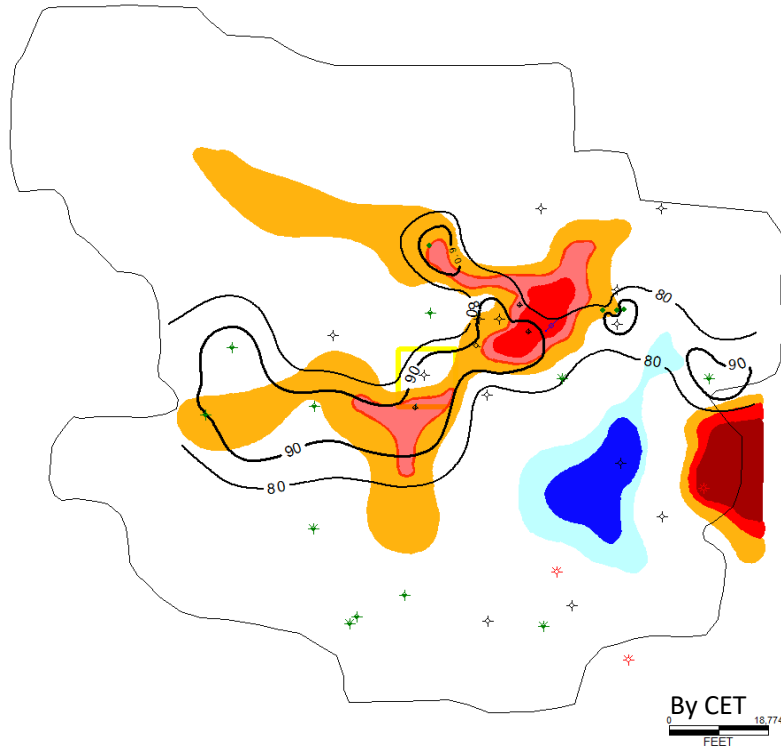


Map view of an idealized dextral strike-slip system



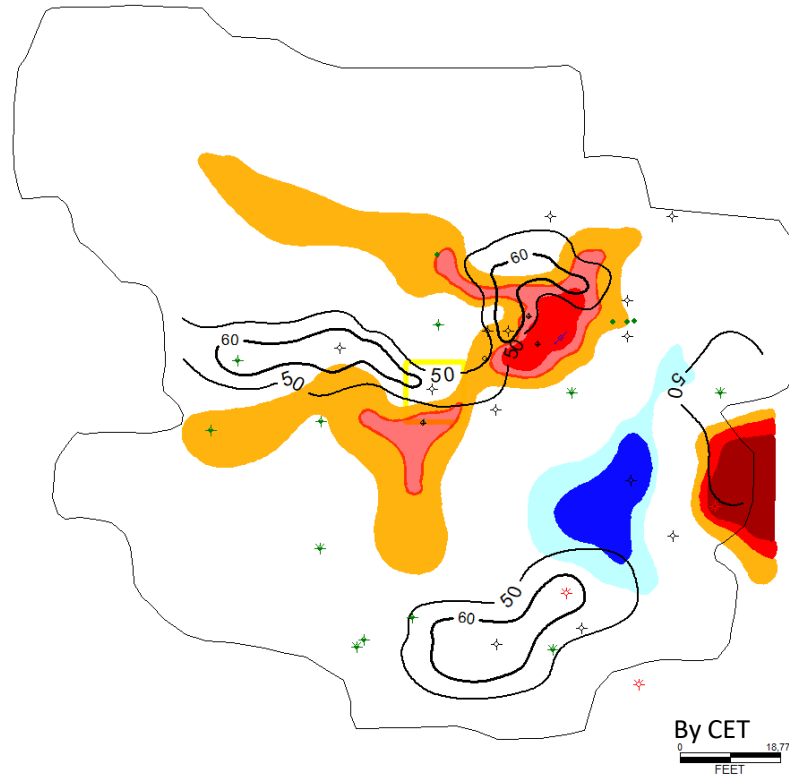
after Woodcock & Fischer (1986) *J. Struct. Geol.* **8**(7) 725-735

Compaction – Impacts on Reservoir Quality



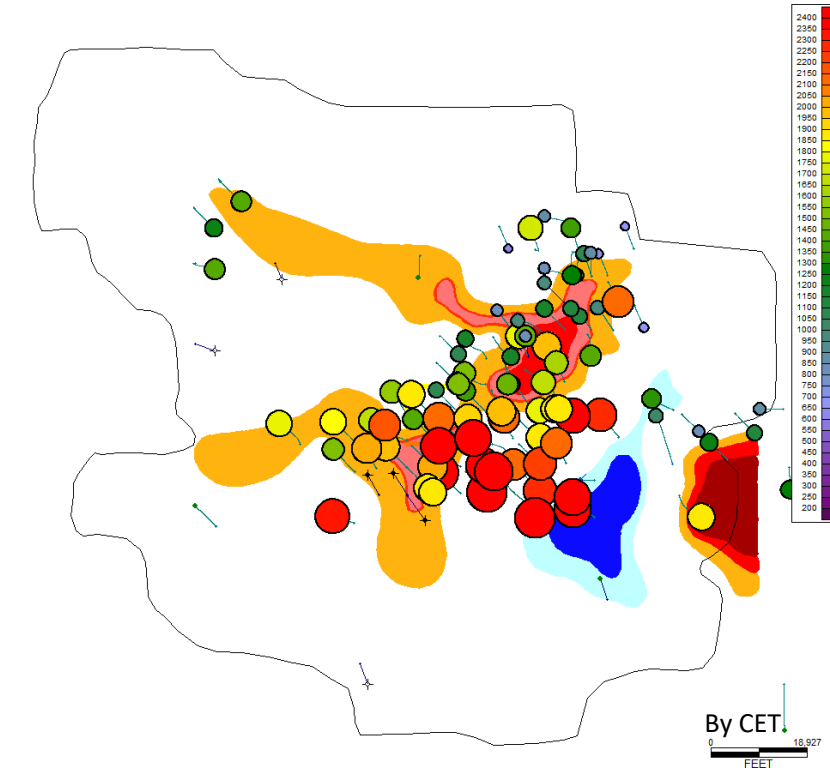
Niobrara B Chalk – Net to Gross Isopach
C.I. = 10% Net to Gross

W/ B Chalk Formation Temperature Shade



Codell– Net to Gross Isopach
C.I. = 10% Net to Gross

W/ B Chalk Formation Temperature Shade



Hereford – (1st Generation) CUM GOR Bubble
Map - With B Chalk Formation Temp Shade
2400 to 200 (scf / BO deg)

Vertical log assessment

HIGH-RESOLUTION PETROPHYSICAL ANALYSIS AND RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION

Petrophysical Model – Reservoir Deliverability



NMR			
NMR Total Porosity TCMR.CFCF	NMR CFCF (BFV) Bound Fluid Volume	NMR CFCF (CMFF) CMR Free Fluid	NMR T2 Logarithmic Mean (ms)
0.011	0.0098	0.0011	107.43
0.010	0.0093	0.0009	31.51
0.013	0.0119	0.0014	61.42
0.011	0.0099	0.0006	171.91
0.015	0.0135	0.0020	180.28
0.012	0.0110	0.0008	45.08
0.010	0.0078	0.0019	58.46
0.009	0.0080	0.0009	133.16
0.011	0.0101	0.0009	122.66
0.012	0.0106	0.0013	121.11
0.011	0.0094	0.0015	107.34
0.008	0.0072	0.0011	14.17
0.010	0.0084	0.0012	12.36
0.007	0.0062	0.0010	15.50

NMR – Mobile and Clay Bound Fluid Volumes

Calculated Organic Properties			
Matrix (Ambrase corrected) (INDO CAL with Clay) (4-#ff-#Organo Matrix OM)	ASQ Organic OM (K Sample TOC Stage level)	ASQ Organic OM (K Sample TOC Stage level)	Volume of Kerogen (SMOKER TOC*VWR * p(kerogen)/100)
0.052	0.026		0.086
0.089	0.028		0.094
0.059	0.027		0.090
0.052	0.031		0.106
0.090	0.031		0.102
0.085	0.034		0.119
0.084	0.022		0.072
0.092	0.022		0.079
0.111	0.030		0.100
0.108	0.025		0.082
0.062	0.013		0.045
0.107	0.034		0.114
0.102	0.031		0.105
0.112	0.037		0.122

Organic Matrix

Porosity and Perm							
Log Density Porosity (Not Corrected) = ((2.71-pb)/(2.71-pFluid))	TOTAL POROSITY (Log Uncor) = ((2.71-pb)/(2.71-pFluid))	φEff Log Corr - SIMINDO (CAL) = φCDP(1-Clavier SH Cal)	ASQ Sand Shale - φe = (((φDelay^2 + φNclay^2)/2)^1/2)	Core Ave. (φ)	Core Ave. (HZK mD)	Core Ave. R35 (Micron) (Winland CALC)	Core Ave. Cap Psi CAL
0.104	0.085	0.069	0.118	0.078	0.006	0.032	5,648.13
0.113	0.094	0.069	0.117	0.098	0.019	0.060	3,759.00
0.108	0.089	0.047	0.126	0.078	0.001	0.011	12,192.21
0.122	0.104	0.082	0.123	0.086	0.011	0.037	5,882.29
0.121	0.102	0.077	0.121	0.076	0.002	0.021	6,745.44
0.132	0.113	0.098	0.119	0.098	0.026	0.074	2,547.46
0.088	0.070	0.058	0.106	0.067	0.002	0.024	5,187.07
0.089	0.070	0.062	0.114	0.069	0.003	0.028	4,878.56
0.119	0.100	0.080	0.141	0.074	0.002	0.019	8,207.95
0.099	0.081	0.066	0.133	0.079	0.002	0.023	5,313.25
0.058	0.041	0.038	0.075	0.074	0.004	0.033	3,830.83
0.134	0.115	0.101	0.141	0.124	0.015	0.043	3,461.08
0.124	0.105	0.092	0.134	0.125	0.013	0.045	2,869.34
0.143	0.124	0.110	0.148	0.124	0.017	0.040	4,171.17

Calibrated Organic and Effective Porosity



Effective Reservoir Saturation

Calculated SW & SWE				
Ratio Sw = (Ro/Rt)^.5	SIMINDUX - INDO Form	ASQ Swe (Shaly Sand) 1/φ Corr Den(Square Root (Rw/Rt + (0.35Vclay/2)^2 - 0.35Vclay/2)	ASQ Shale Method - Corrected φ - Log Swe (Ro/Rsh)^0.5	SW (Mineral Matrix MM) = (Ro/RT)^.05
0.806	0.812	0.645	1.027	1.324
0.602	0.627	0.364	0.824	0.957
0.697	0.647	0.312	0.881	1.114
0.368	0.399	0.203	0.752	0.583
0.409	0.436	0.213	0.764	0.649
0.278	0.309	0.178	0.694	0.440
0.887	0.819	0.629	1.133	1.441
0.896	0.929	0.766	1.085	1.445
0.579	0.624	0.431	0.803	0.923
0.993	0.998	0.831	1.057	1.613
2.070	1.990	2.040	2.067	3.599
0.799	0.886	0.731	0.694	1.265
0.926	1.017	0.845	0.747	1.468
0.687	0.770	0.628	0.648	1.085

Core & Sample Saturations				
Gas Filed Property of Oil (Core or Crush)	VTR Gas % PV (Core or Crush)	Gas Sat % PV (Core or Crush)	Oil Sat % PV (Core or Crush)	Water Sat % PV (Core or Crush)
1.595	38.757	19.527	43.717	
2.928	24.349	29.608	46.043	
1.311	30.384	16.471	53.144	
2.085	22.149	23.122	54.729	
1.614	22.660	20.370	56.970	
3.127	20.203	31.505	48.292	
1.277	44.751	19.786	36.464	
1.174	40.997	15.899	42.224	
0.612	29.118	8.229	62.653	
1.145	51.055	14.931	34.004	
1.704	68.857	23.899	12.304	
3.505	57.863	27.682	14.455	
3.253	60.115	25.648	14.237	
3.807	55.160	30.122	14.718	

Core & Sample Saturations

BVW and Scenario			
RT BVW Ratio	AFICH (Bk Volume Value Log(BVW) (See P1))	ASQ Shale Porosity (Bk Volume Value Log(BVW) (See P1))	ASQ Shale Sand Method Porosity in 300 - Log (BVW) (See P1))
1.05	0.068	0.057	0.065
1.07	0.053	0.057	0.041
1.08	0.067	0.046	0.037
1.05	0.094	0.066	0.025
1.10	0.037	0.066	0.026
0.95	0.024	0.074	0.021
0.90	0.075	0.055	0.066
1.04	0.082	0.056	0.086
1.08	0.061	0.061	0.056
1.07	0.098	0.050	0.094
1.09	0.115	0.040	0.148
1.06	0.084	0.065	0.100
1.05	0.084	0.063	0.113
1.06	0.075	0.067	0.091

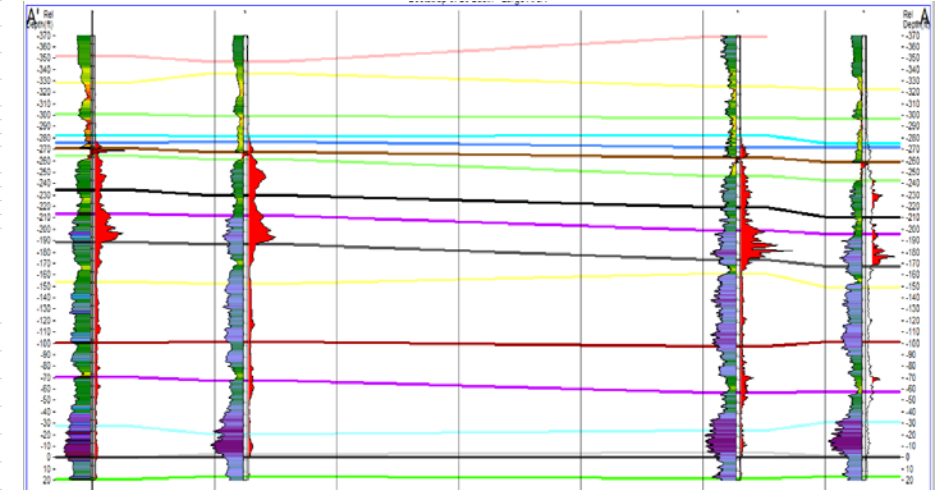
BVW Scenarios (Grain Size & Wettability)

Reservoir Quality Summary

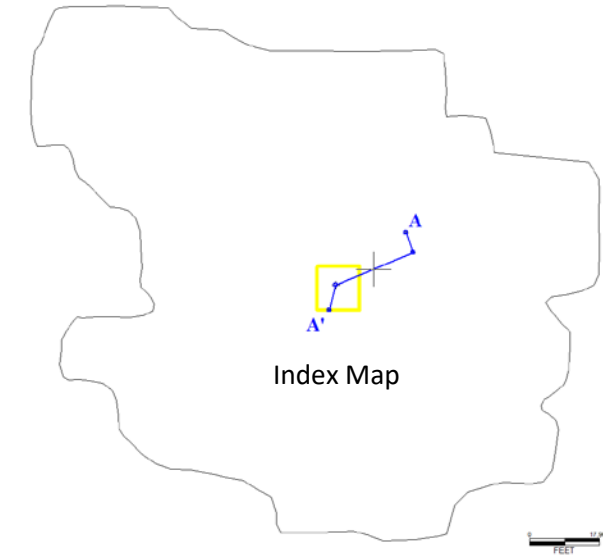


Niobrara Monophasic Sample 1.01 2010			Niobrara Recombined Sample 2018			Codell Recombined Sample 2018		
At Saturation Point (2051 psi and 230F)			At Saturation Point (2093 psi and 190F)			At Saturation Point (1918 psi and 195F)		
Bo	1416	RB/STB	Bo	1.36	RB/STB	Bo	1.337	RB/STB
Rs	591	SCF/STB	Rs	583.84	SCF/STB	Rs	522.34	SCF/STB
Gas at 1615 psi and 230F			Gas at 1715 psi and 190F			Gas at 1615 psi and 195F		
Bg	0.010343	RCF/SCF	Bg	0.0093	RCF/SCF	Bg	0.0101	RCF/SCF
Shrink Factor (OIL)			1.3					
Reservoir Volumes								
Adsorbed Gas in Place Vol (Gs scf/area) = 1359.77*Area*h*Bluik Den (p)	SIMX EFF and Sat - Free Gas in Place Volume - (Gf) = 43560*Area*h*(phi _{eff} - S _g - Sat Gas - (1 - S _w))* (MMB)	SIMX EFF and Sat - Oil in Place Volume - (OOIPstb) =7758*h*(phi _{eff} - S _w)* (1-S _w)		SIMX EFF and ASQ Shale Sand SWE Sat - Free Gas in Place Volume - (Gf) = 43560*Area*h*(phi _{eff} - S _g - Sat Gas - (1 - S _w))* (MMB)	SIMX EFF and ASQ SWEt - Oil in Place Volume - (OOIPstb) =7758*h*(phi _{eff} - S _w)* (1-S _w)	Formation	Mem Thickness	
26,874,984,658.63	18,723,226,220.71	23,855,151.83		28,819,063,979.30	36,718,199.03	NIO Gen	7321	274
1,462,024,108.69	1,047,085,173.20	1,334,085.03		1,775,514,885.42	2,262,173.02	A Ch	7324	13
2,444,293,988.24	893,501,832.39	1,138,405.40		1,620,241,089.10	2,064,339.59	A MARL	7337	16
3,454,294,455.07	4,961,696,354.76	6,321,667.99		6,558,411,637.05	8,356,033.49	B1 CH	7353	33
1,498,008,720.93	1,898,894,218.08	2,419,369.90		2,632,018,836.29	3,353,439.64	B1 MARL	7386	14
2,445,664,226.70	5,804,115,049.49	7,394,988.67		6,897,496,814.57	8,788,059.91	B CH	7400	28
1,763,049,393.64	852,068,621.60	1,085,615.59		1,497,013,861.43	1,907,336.51	B MARL	7428	19
4,492,909,107.65	866,989,731.24	1,104,626.49		2,348,650,631.86	2,992,401.88	C CH	7447	48
6,651,418,871.22	4,241,426,769.96	5,403,976.77		6,270,779,180.30	7,989,562.68	C MARL	7495	43
1,996,900,784.41	873,786,513.65	1,113,286.23		1,856,261,099.42	2,365,051.29	C MARL BASE	7538	27
891,995,575.84	-2,594,548,890.44	-3,305,699.40		-2,515,333,666.17	-3,204,771.75	Ft HYS	7565	30
						Ft HYS BASE	7595	
scf	scf	BO		scf	BO			
Total HC - FT HYS	25,982,989,082.79	21,317,775,111.15	27,160,851.23	31,334,397,645.47	39,922,970.78			
						Codell	7596	17
614,428,514.05	681,645,539.31	943,188.56		1,431,795,362.92	1,981,166.05	Upper Codell	7604	8
326,971,407.65	-4,356,924.99	-6,028.65		363,231,710.27	502,601.39	Lower Codell	7604	9
303,598,099.39	696,950,063.55	964,365.33		1,102,505,346.96	1,525,529.57	Codell BASE	7613	

AVE Statistics (In Place) - 640 Ac



Example Model Wells



Index Map

B Chalk:
 Low case : 6.2 MMBO
 High case: 7.35 MMBO
 Low case : 5.1 BCF
 High case: 5.8 BCF

Codell:
 Low case : 454 MBO
 High case: 1.3MMBO
 Low case : 696 MMCF
 High case: 1.1 BCF

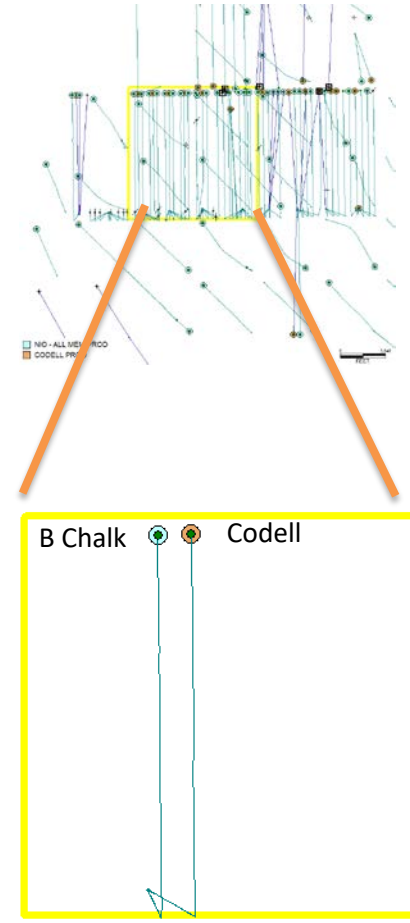
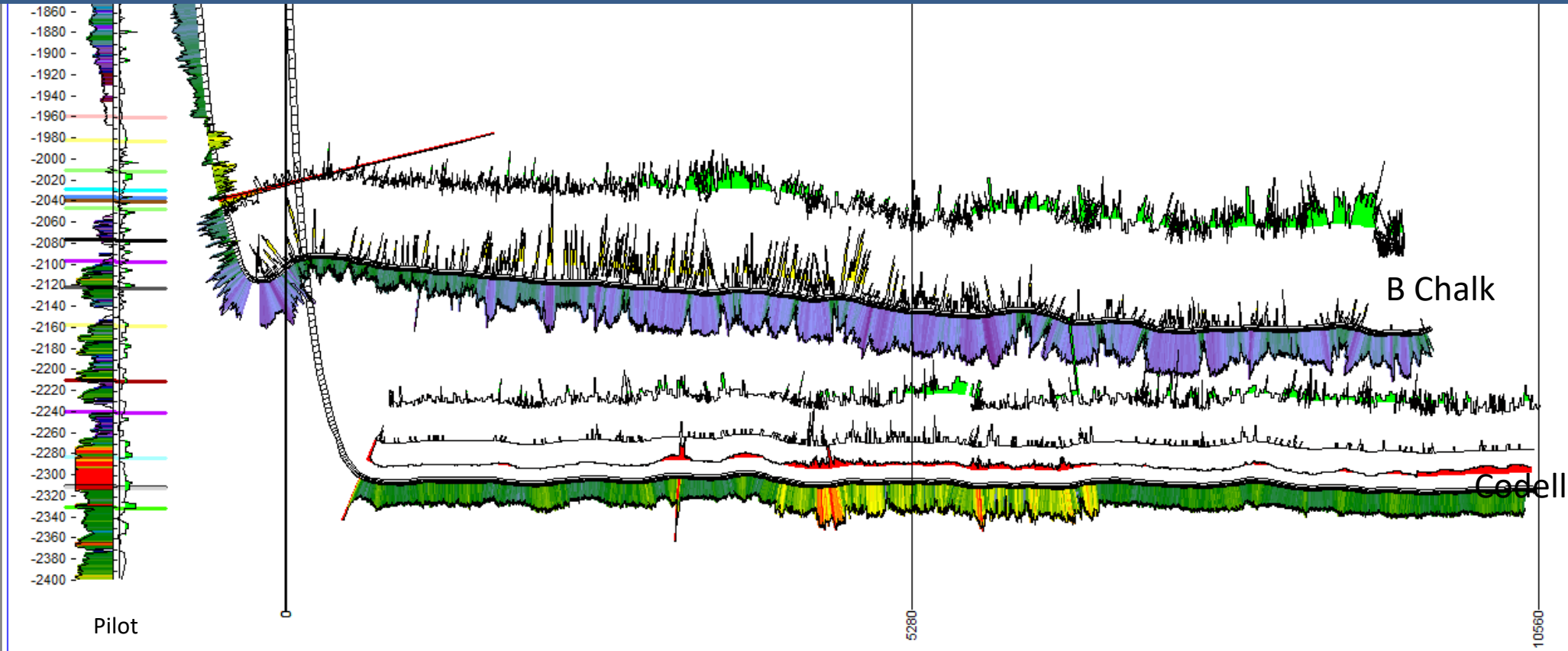
B1 Chalk:
 Low case : 5.3 MMBO
 High case: 6.9 MMBO
 Low case : 4.9 BCF
 High case: 6.5 BCF

C Marl:
 Low case : 3.5 MMBO
 High case: 5.4 MMBO
 Low case : 4.2 BCF
 High case: 6 BCF

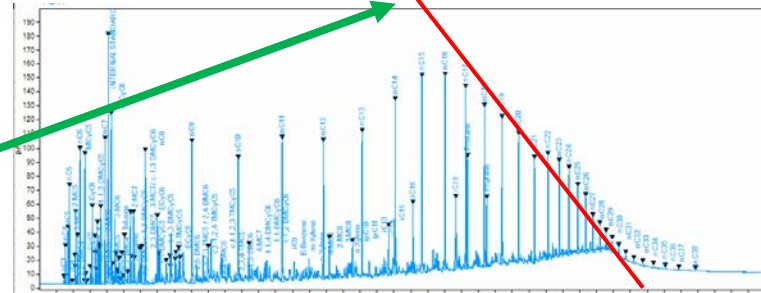
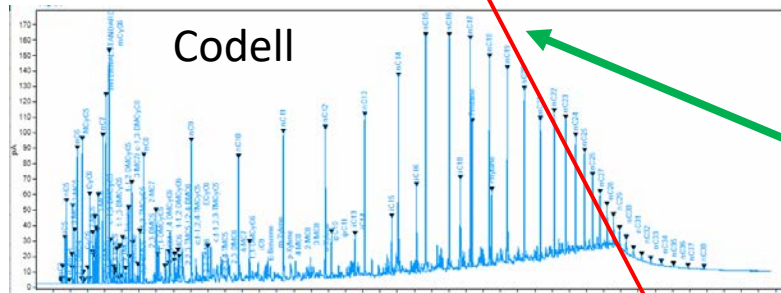
Connecting regional observations to pore-scale observations

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF FIBER-OPTIC WELLS: CHALK BLUFF STUDY AREA

Fiber Wells



Oil Sample Compartmentalization – Origins?

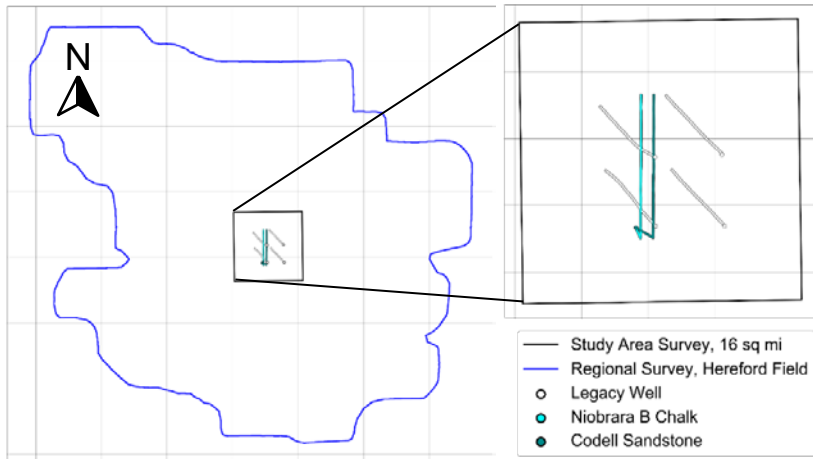
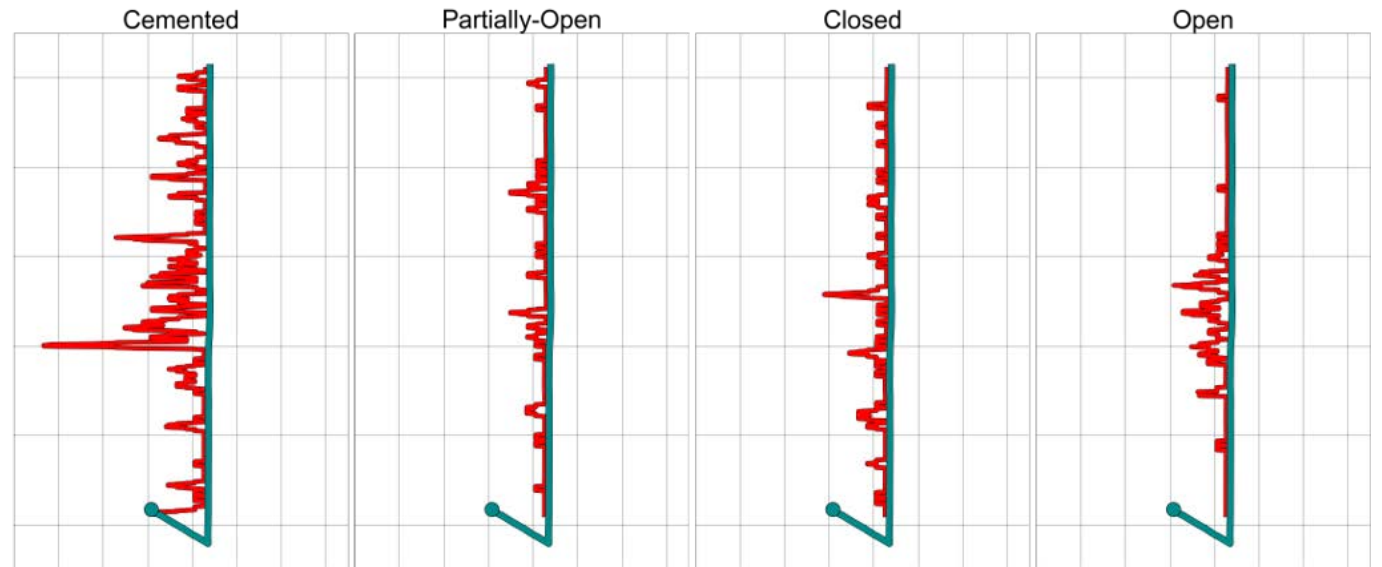
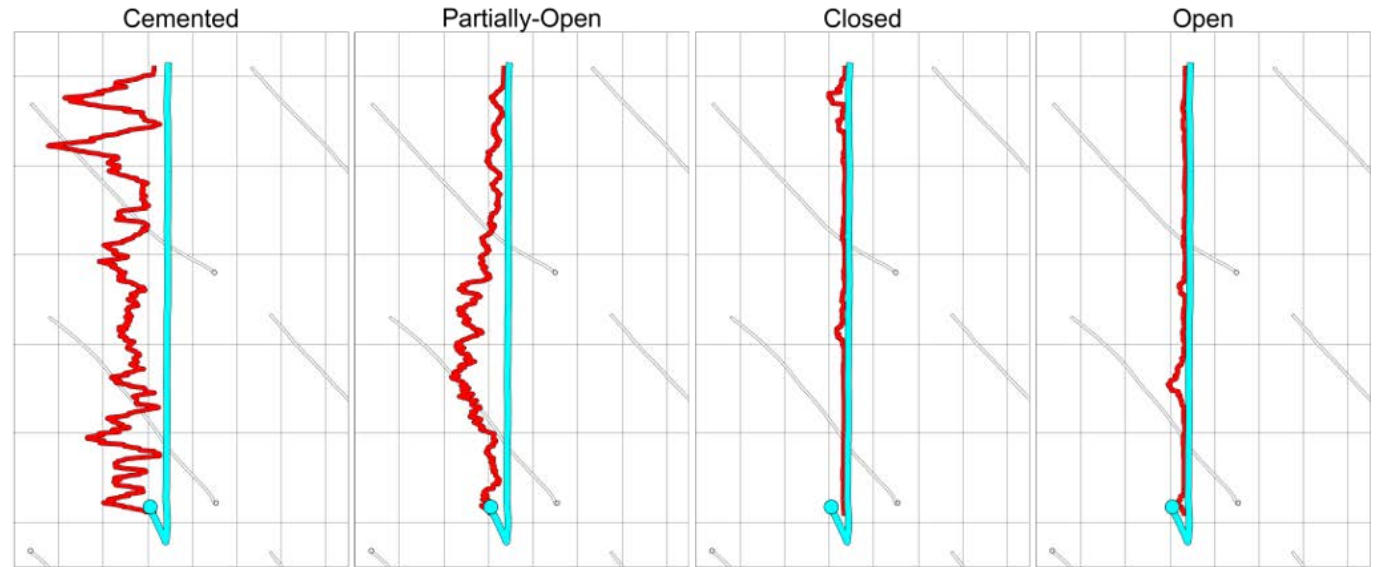
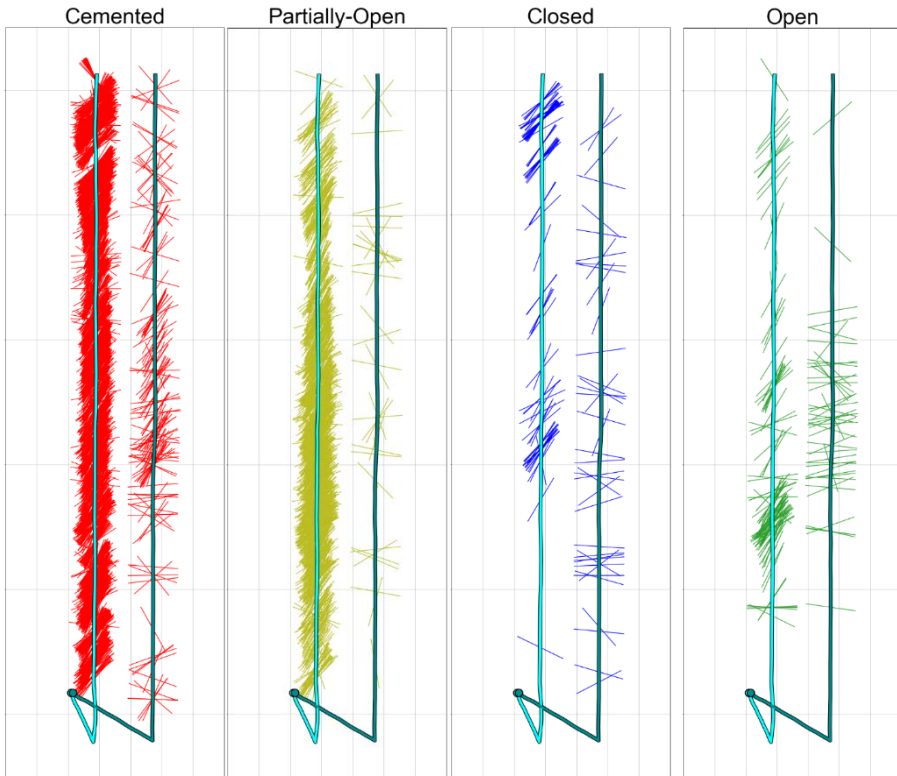


Kerogen mixing

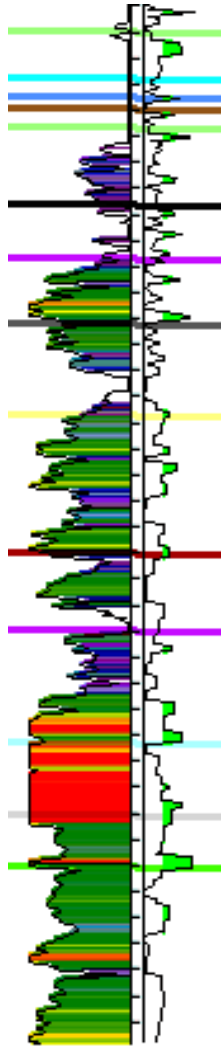
B Chalk

INDEX

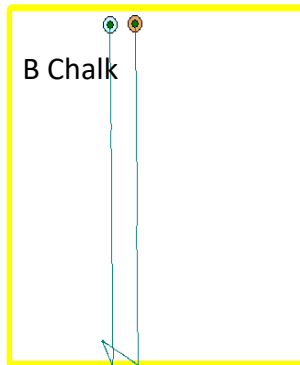
Present-Day Expression of Fractures



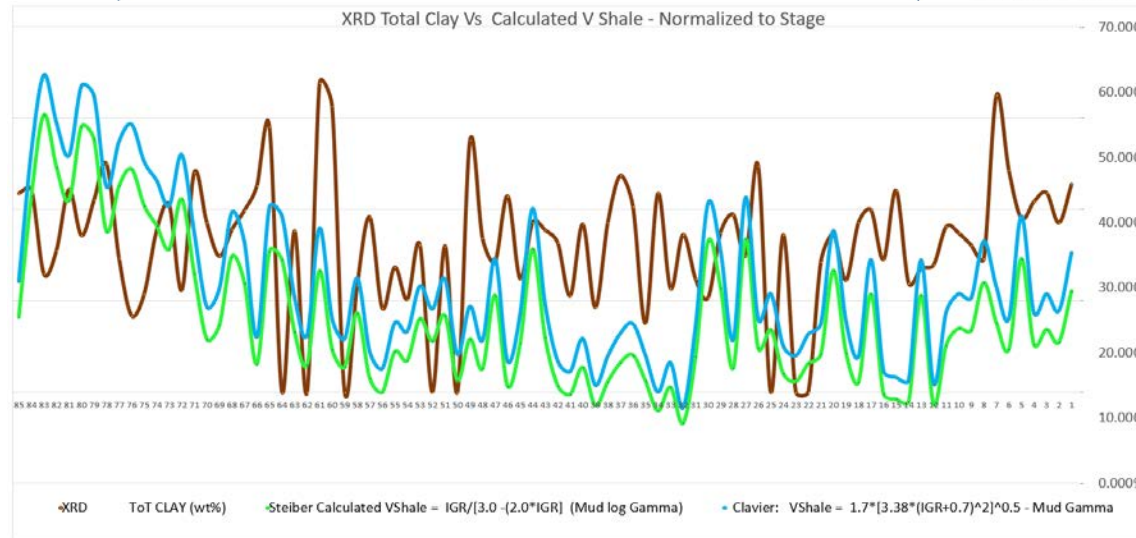
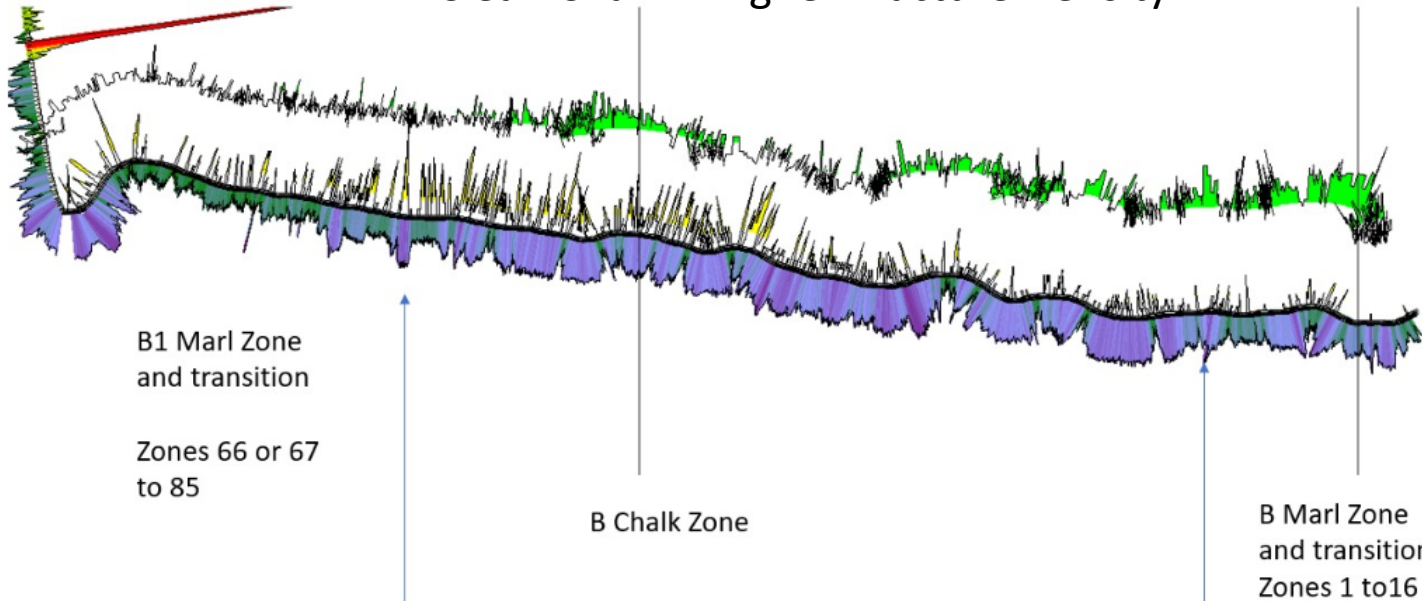
Niobrara B Chalk



Pilot



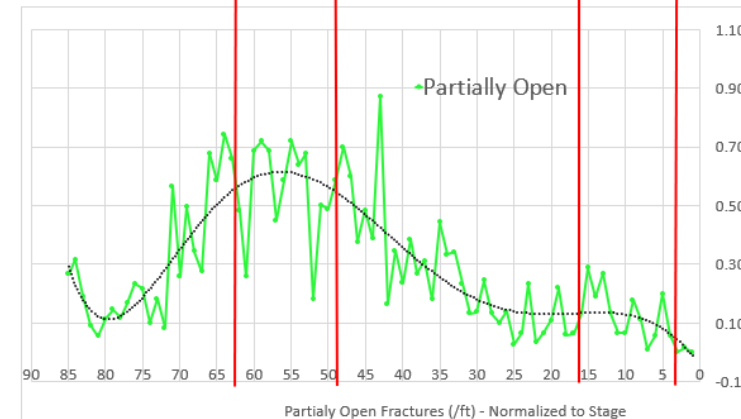
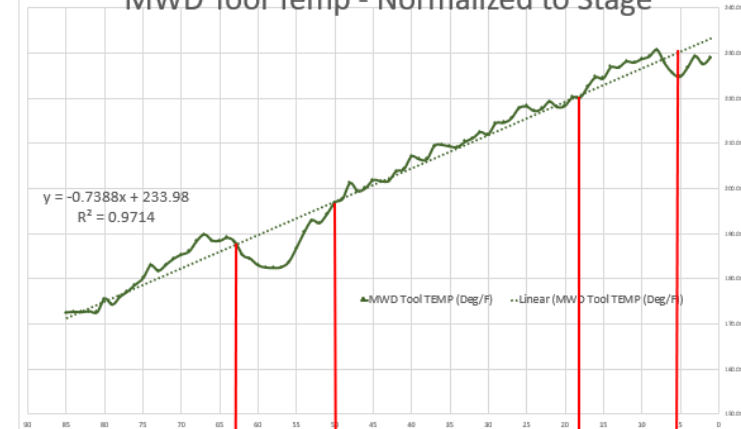
Clean Chalk = Higher Fracture Density



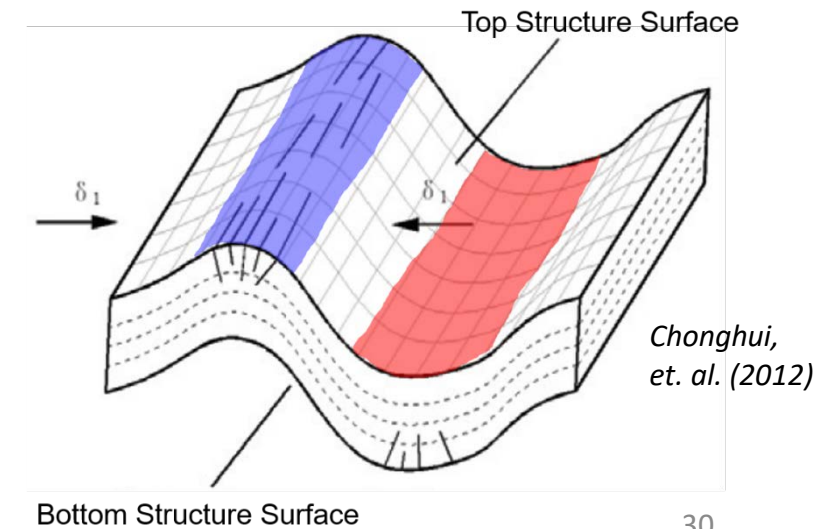
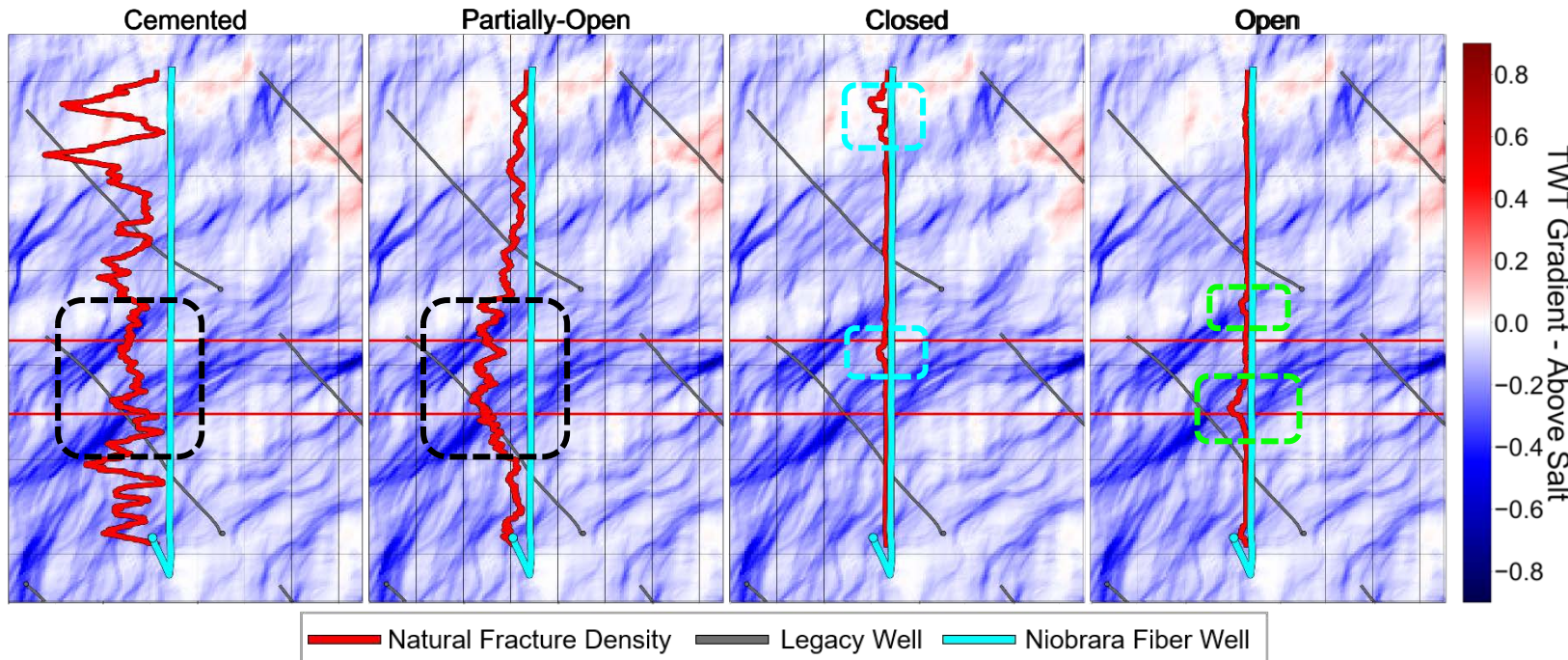
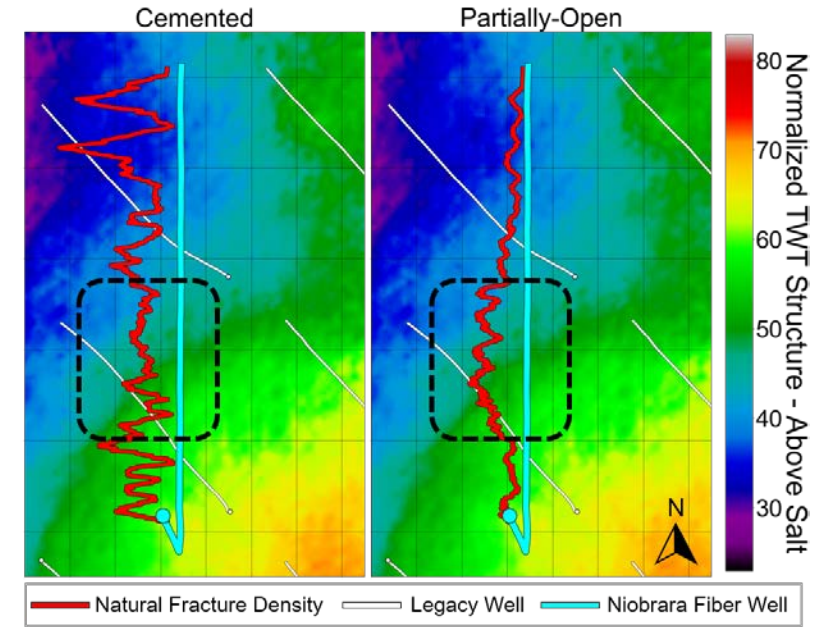
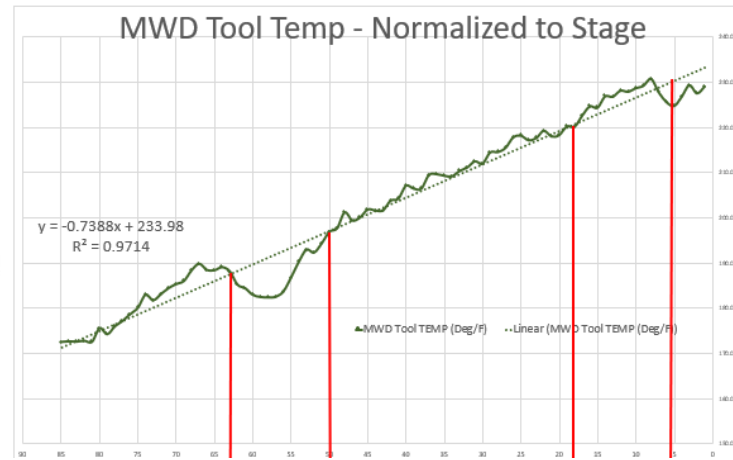
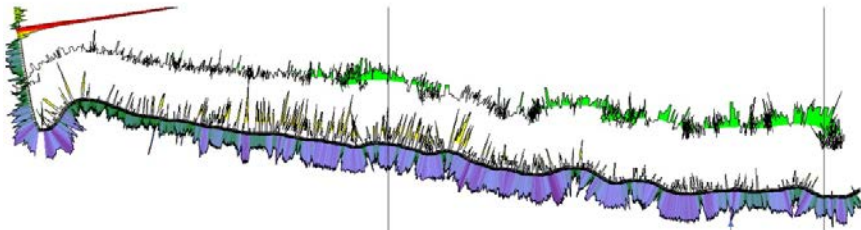
Stage by Stage analysis - Steering Evaluation

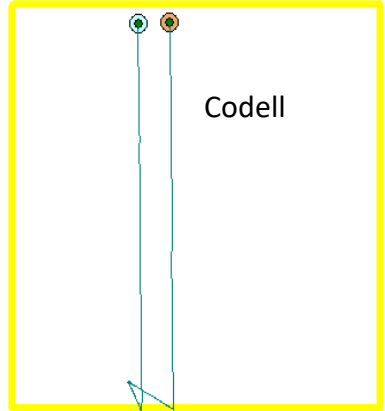
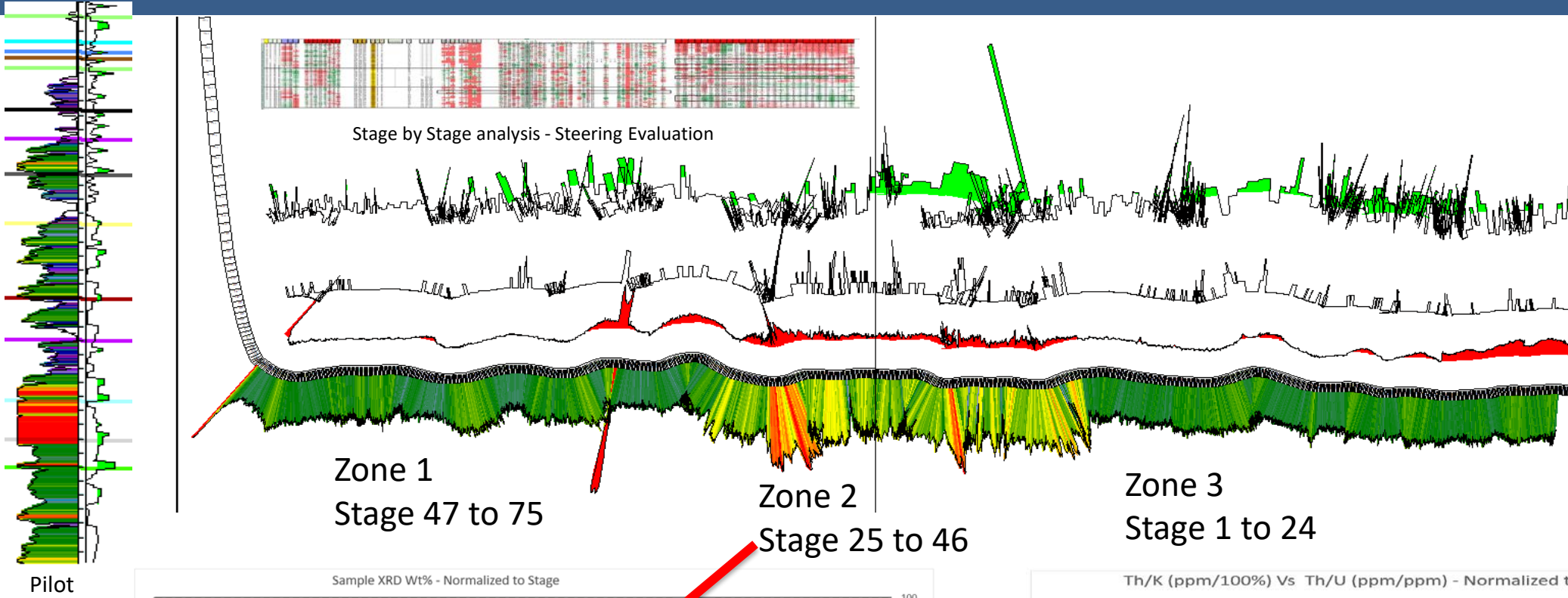


MWD Tool Temp - Normalized to Stage

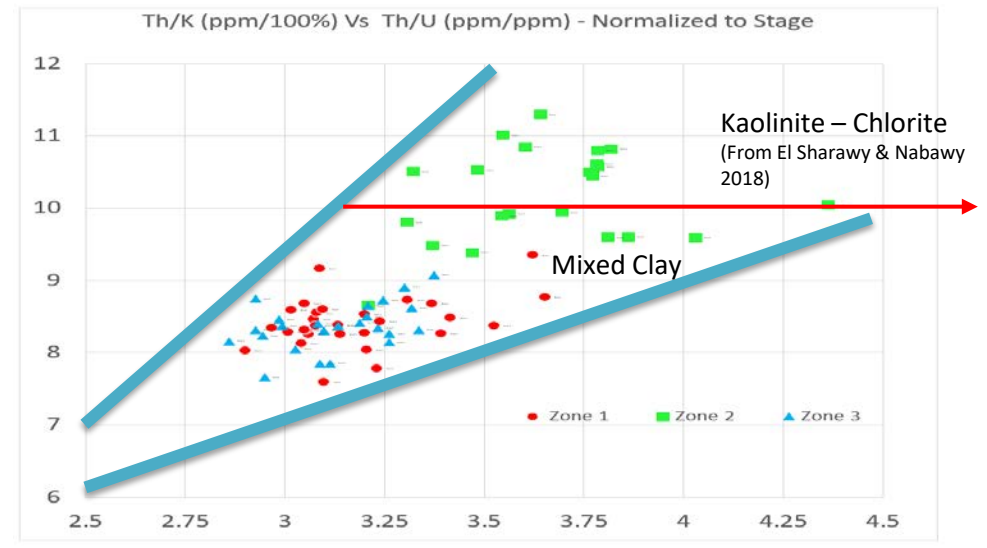
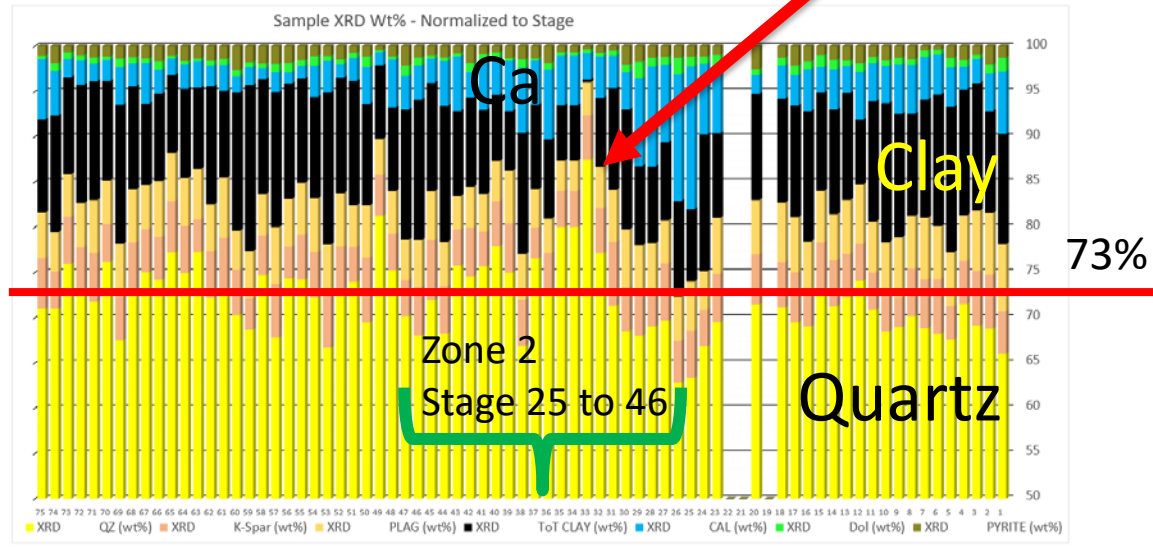


Controls on Open Fractures in the Niobrara

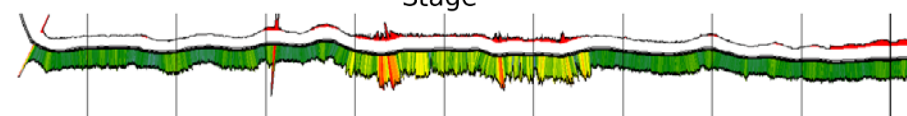
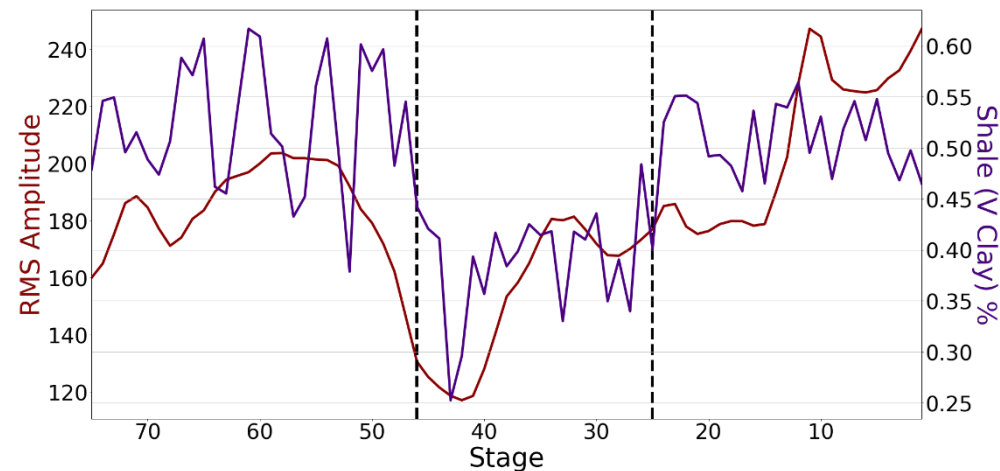
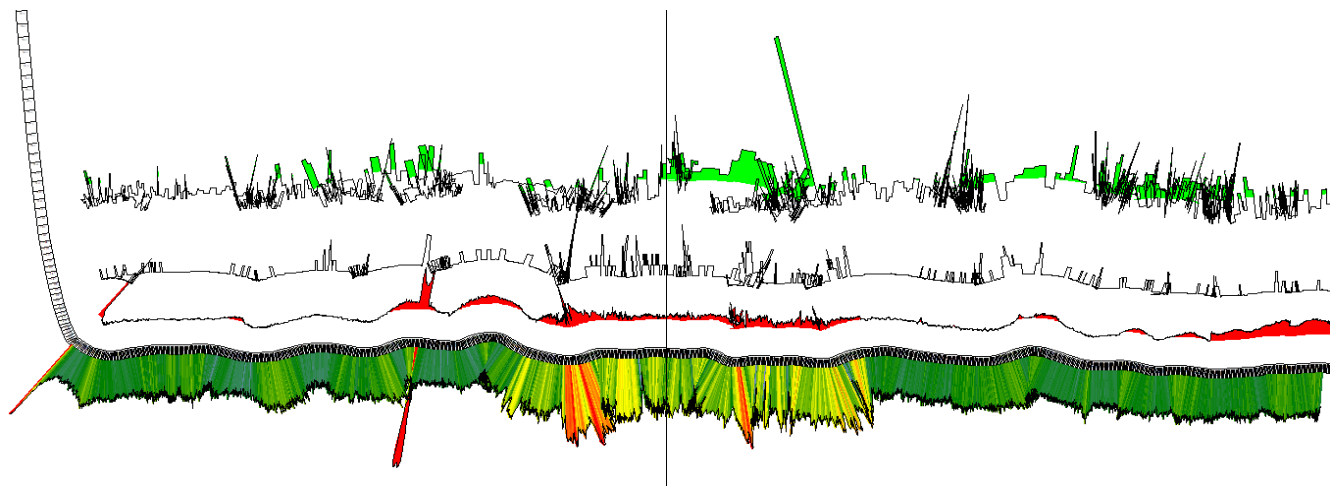




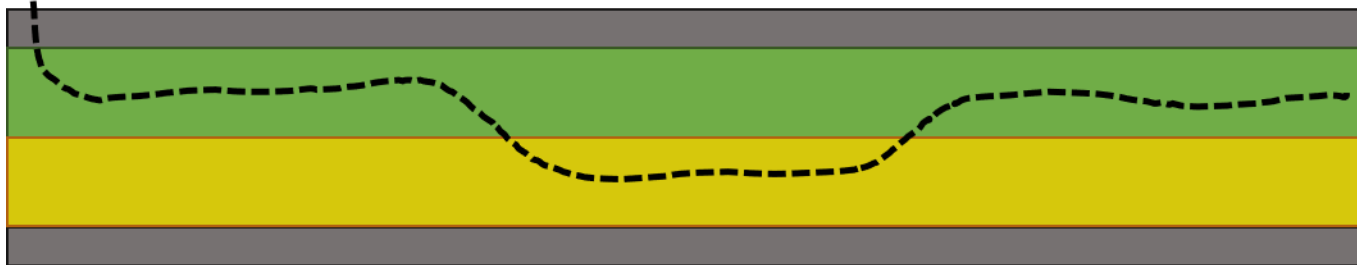
Higher Resistivity = Better Reservoir Quality
(Shaded > or = 4 ohm/m)



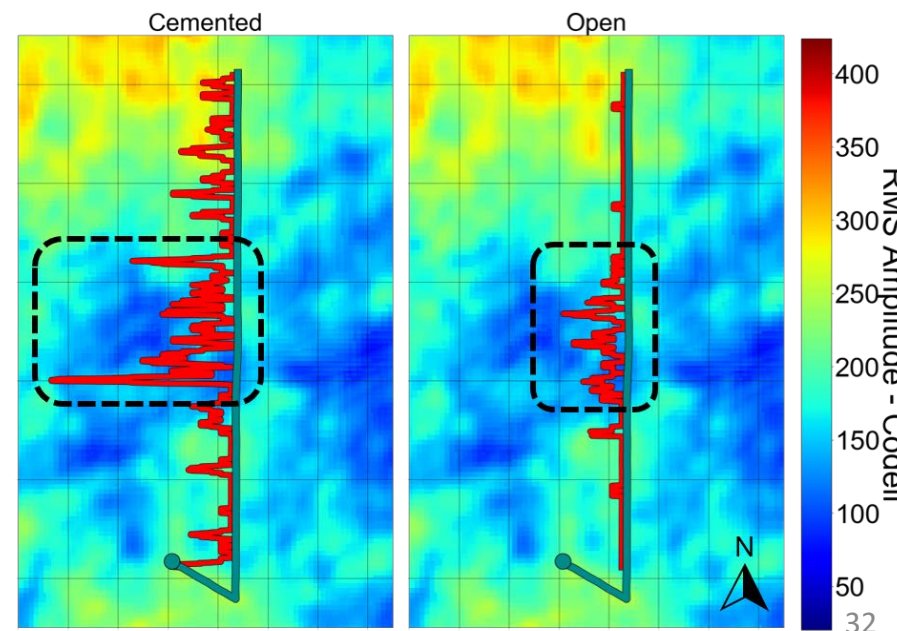
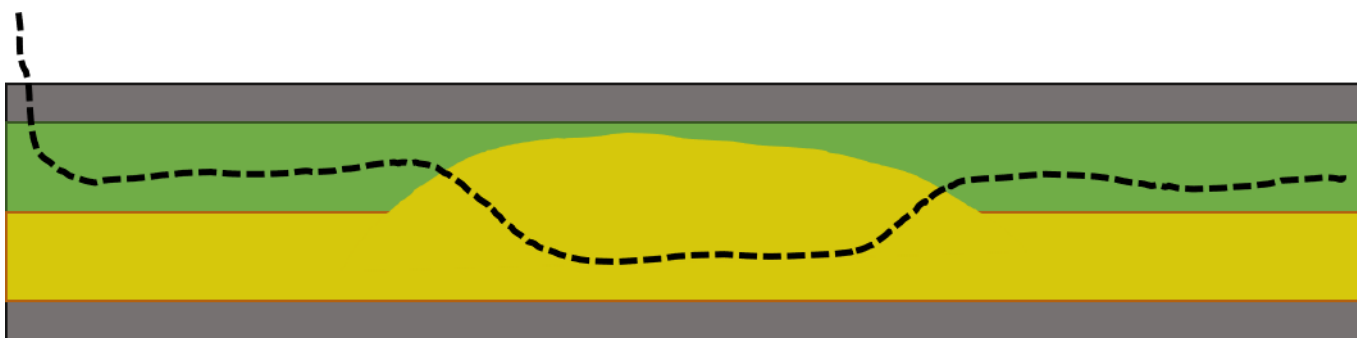
Seismic sensitive to thicker pay zone?



1

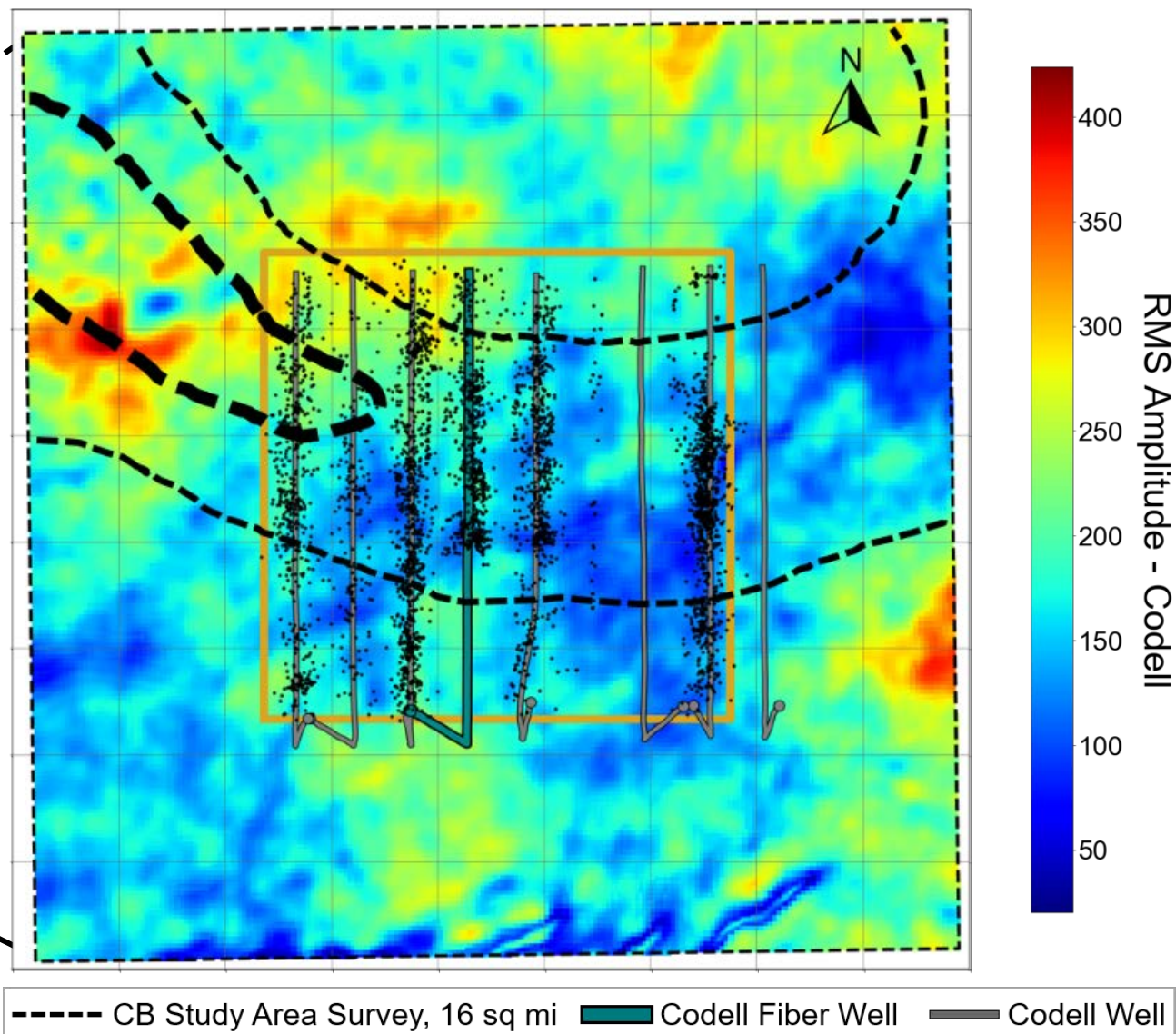
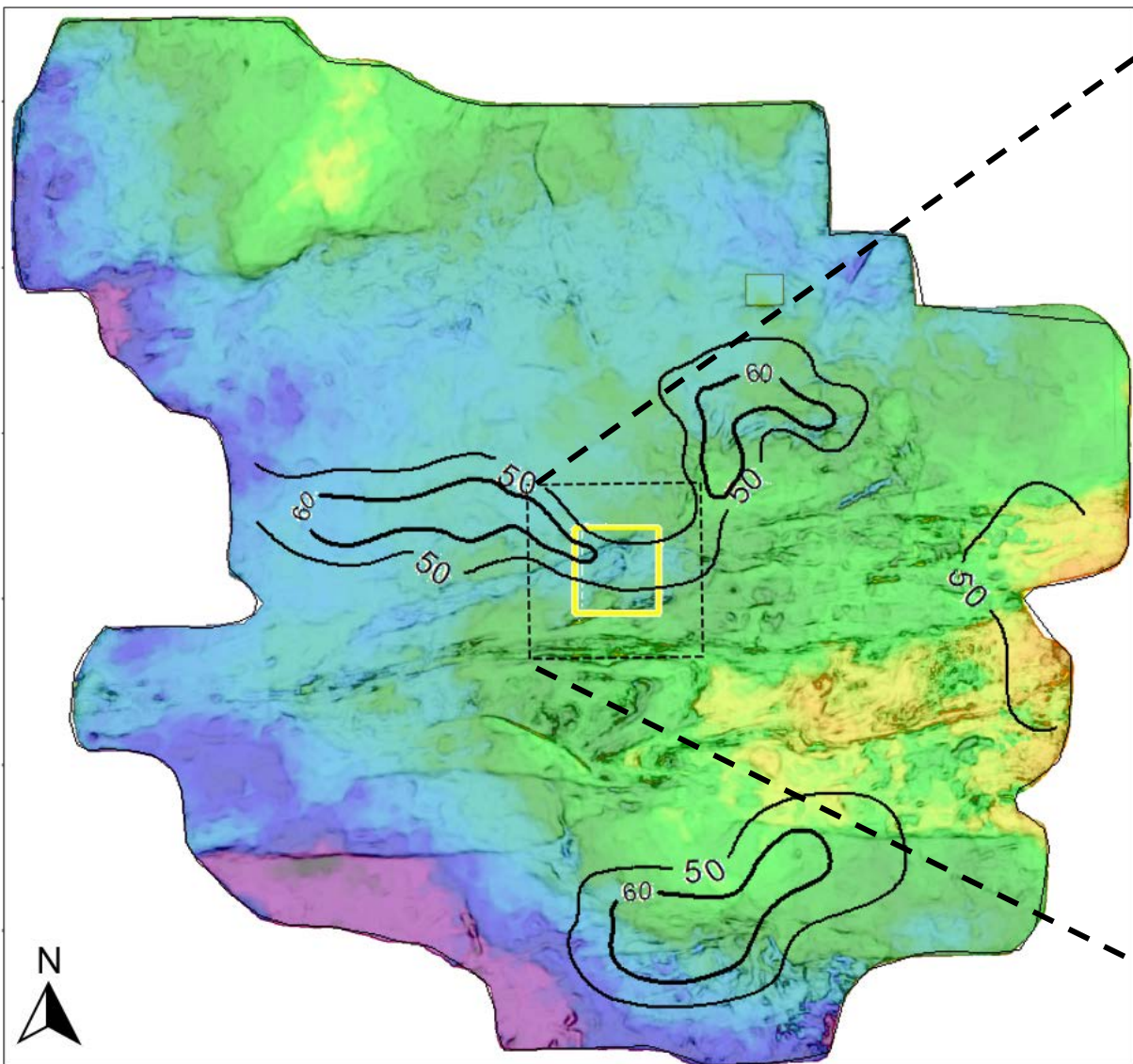


2



— Natural Fracture Density — Legacy Well — Codell Fiber Well

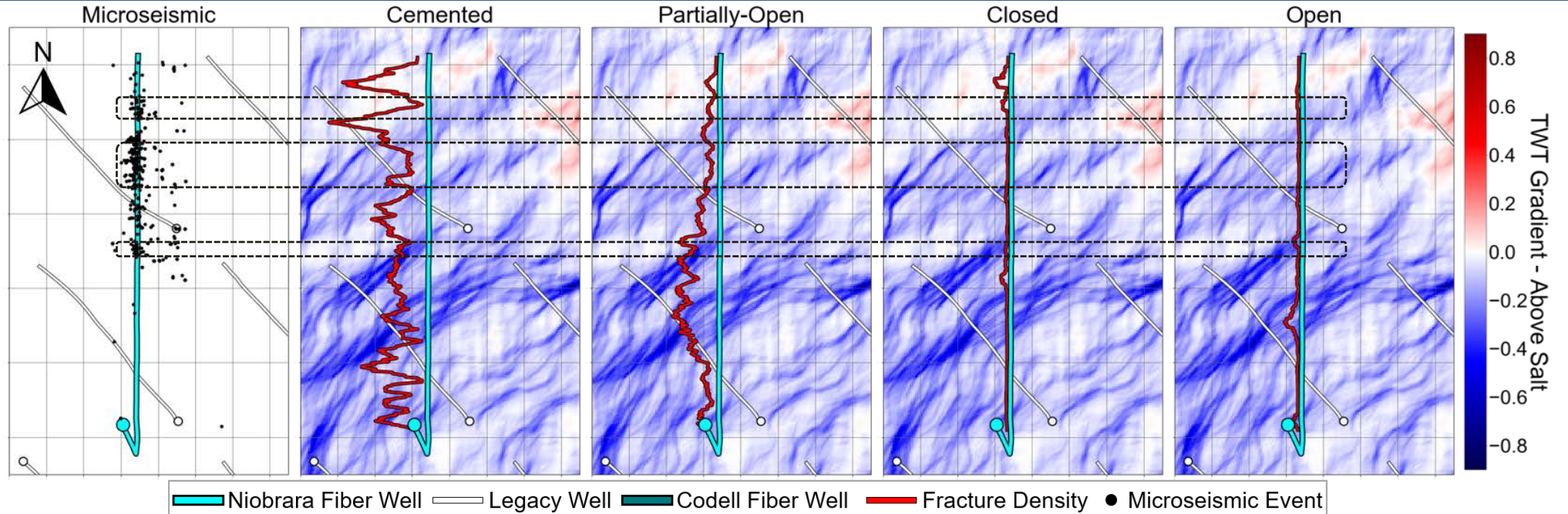
Codell Pay Zone Relationship to RMS Amplitudes



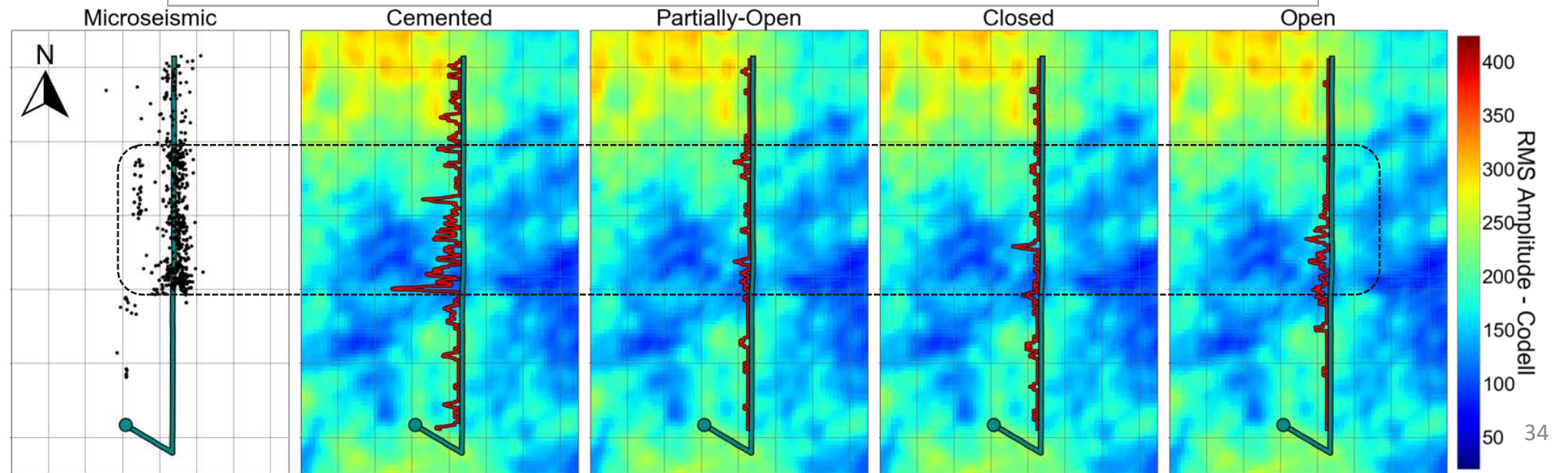
Fracture Impacts on Microseismic Events



Niobrara B Chalk



Codell Sandstone

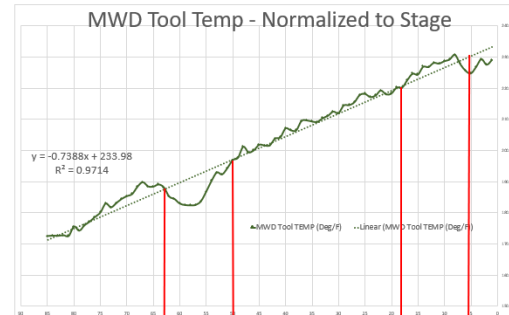
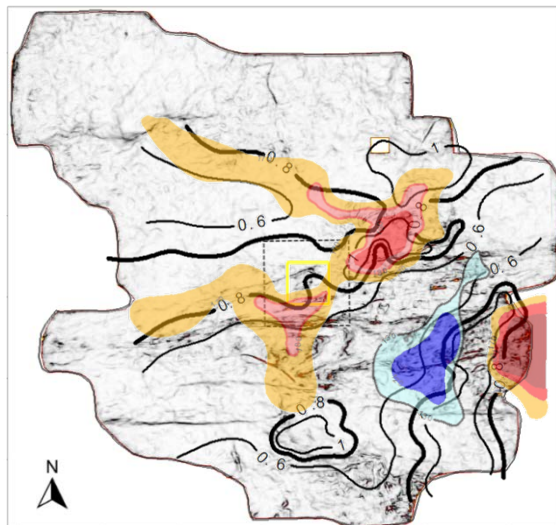


Summary



Niobrara

- Structurally-controlled
 - definable fracture fairways
- Fracture depletion
 - redefine reservoir quality for new phases of production
- Upside potential in the Niobrara
 - additional targets in the B1 Chalk and C Marl (should commodity prices allow)



B1 Chalk:

Low case : 5.3 MMBO

High case: 6.9 MMBO

Low case : 4.9 BCF

High case: 6.5 BCF

C Marl:

Low case : 3.5 MMBO

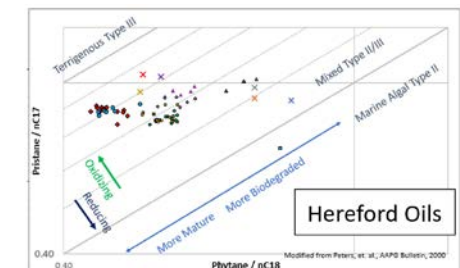
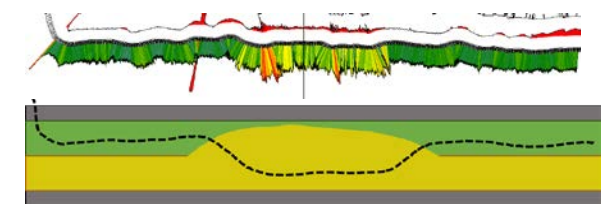
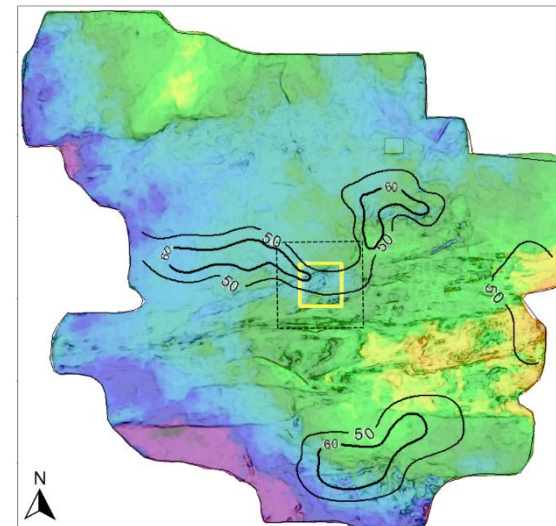
High case: 5.4 MMBO

Low case : 4.2 BCF

High case: 6 BCF

Codell

- Stratigraphically-controlled
 - lower-Codell brittle pay zone
- Oil mixing
 - Potential to develop deeper source intervals
- Upside potential
 - predictable pay across the region, mappable with well and seismic





- Optimization
 - Adjust completions in the Niobrara to avoid depleted fractures and maximize exposure to saturated matrix and un-depleted fractures
- Drilling
 - More attention on geosteering to target pay (especially in Codell)
 - Basic MWD tools diagnostic for reservoir characterization
- Enhanced Oil Recovery
 - Significant volumes remaining in place
 - Opportunities in both formations but more definable recovery factor in Codell

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Spring 2021

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