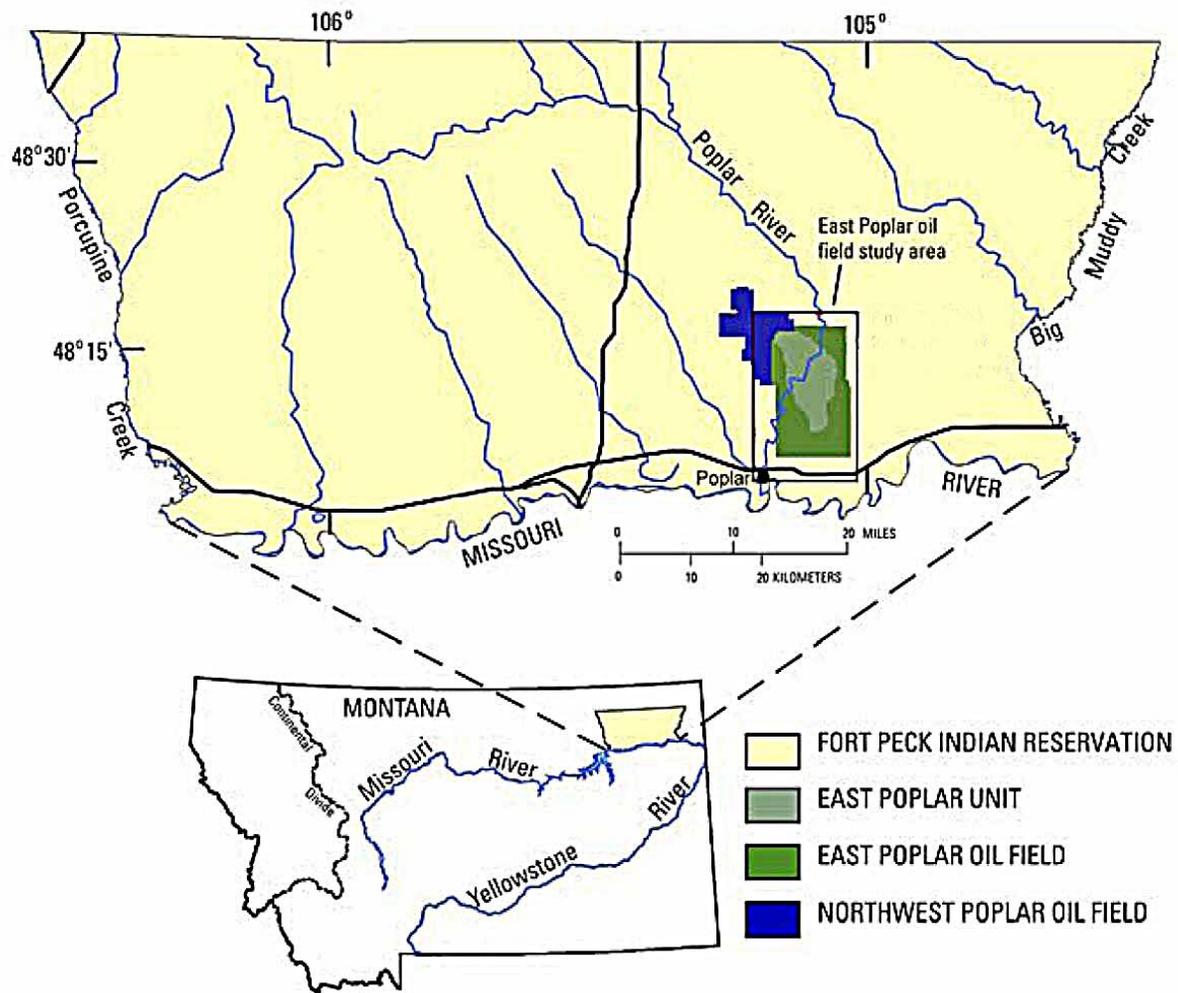


Site Characterization and Remediation
of
Contamination from Oilfield Produced Waters
East Poplar Oil Field, Fort Peck Indian Reservation
Roosevelt County, Montana



Presented by;
Michael A. Jacobs, P.G.

East Poplar oil field location map



Early Studies of Oilfield Contamination

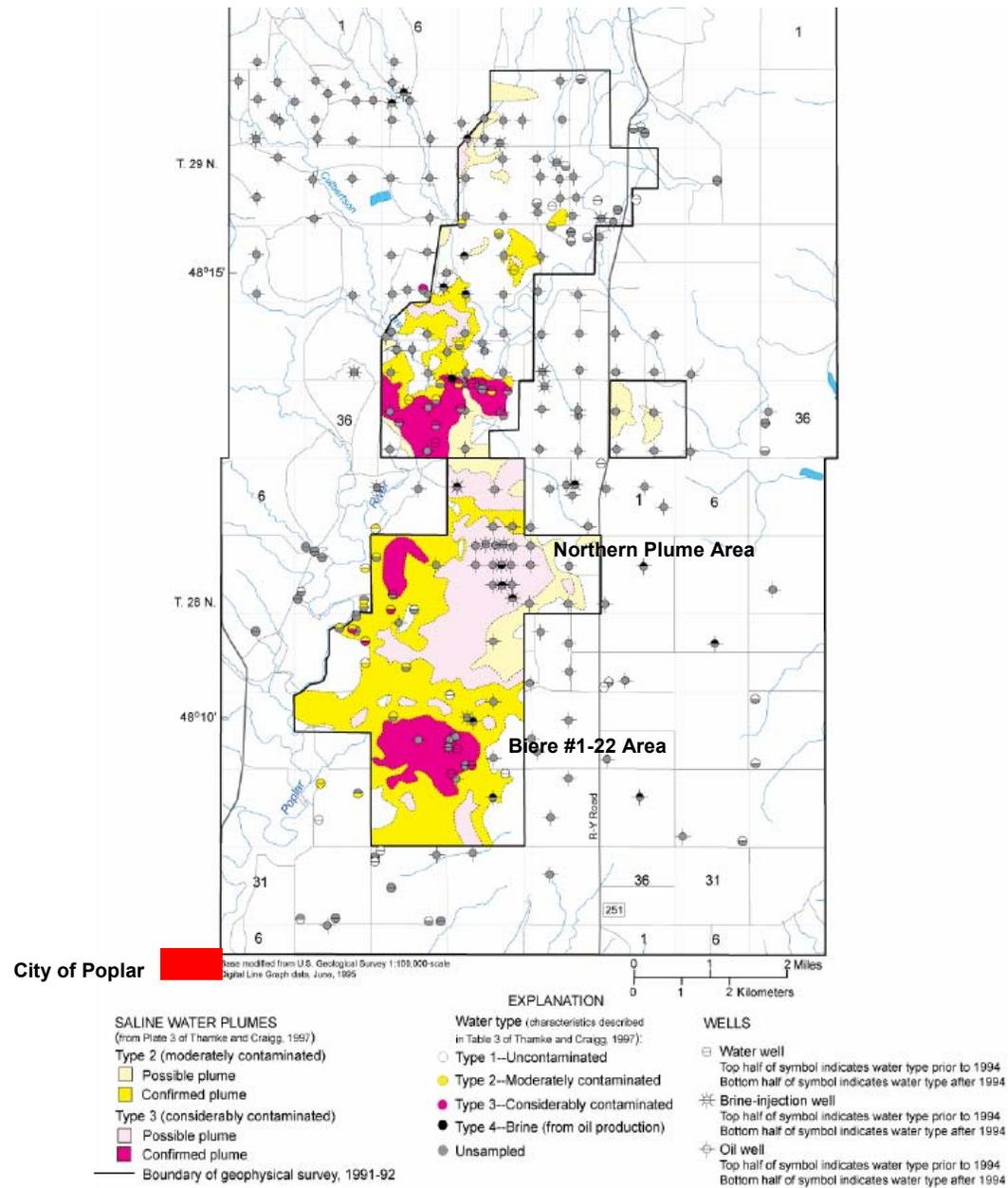
by

United States Geological Survey

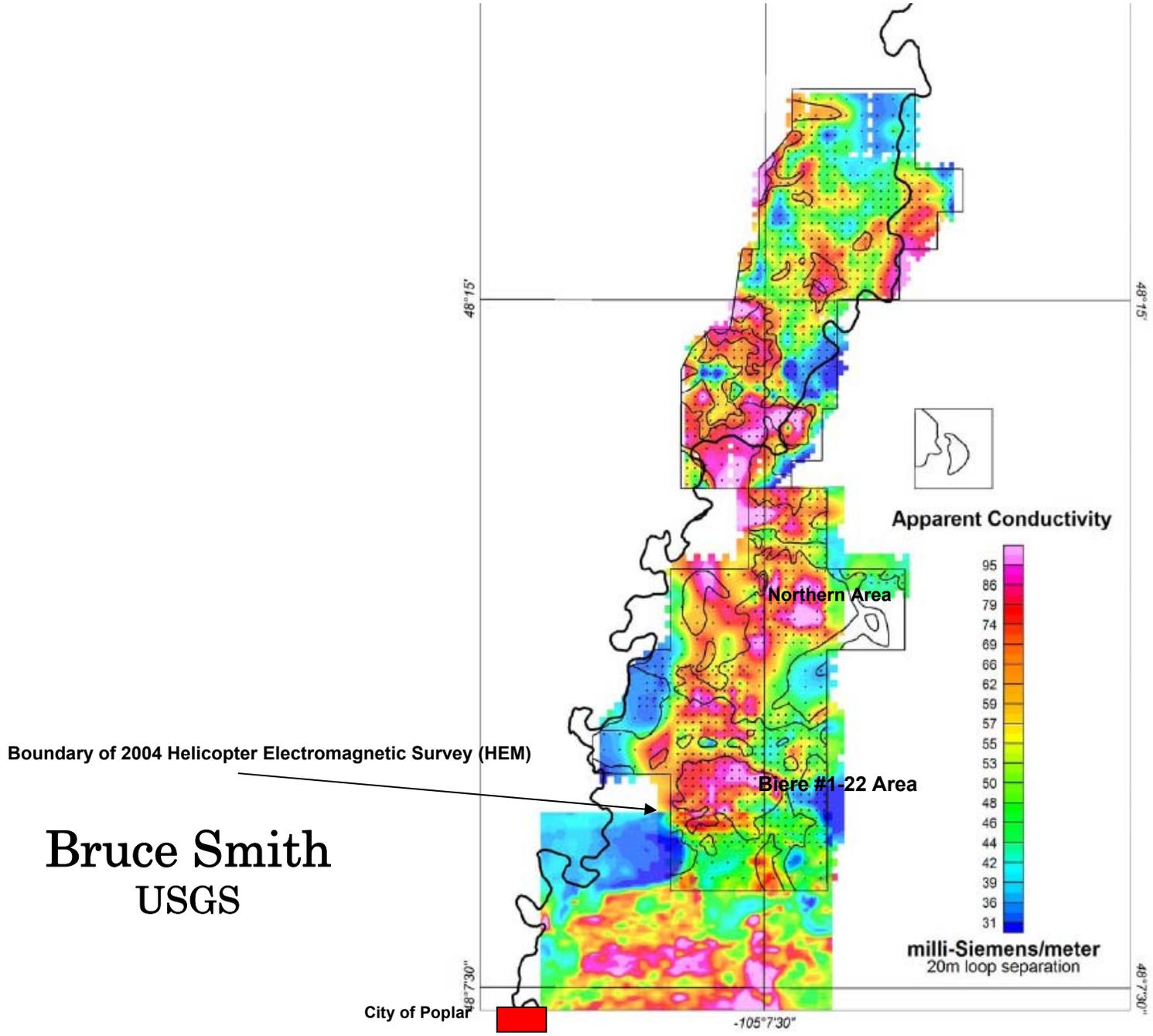
&

Fort Peck Tribes – Office of Environmental Protection

Interpreted location of saline water plumes in the East Poplar oil field study area 1991-1992
From USGS Ground EM-34 Survey
 (Thamke and Craig, 1997)



Re-interpretation of Ground EM 34 Survey (Apparent Conductivity)



Bruce Smith
USGS

Summary of Petroleum Production of East Poplar Field

- ⇒ First oil discovered in 1951 by Murphy Oil Corp.
- ⇒ Production primarily from the Mississippian Madison Group - Charles Limestone at $\approx 5,300'$ depth.
- ⇒ Cumulative Production > 47 MM/bbls
- ⇒ Current Annual Production ≈ 66 M/bbls

Common Produced Water Handling Practices

SWD's

- ⇒ Cretaceous Judith River Formation $\approx 1,000$ depth
- ⇒ Cretaceous Dakota SS $\approx 3,300'$ depth
- ⇒ Devonian Nisku Formation $\approx 7,300'$ depth (1 well)

Shallow open unlined pits at surface



Pioneer was notified by the EPA in late 1999, following several local landowner complaints about “salty” water in their wells, that a well previously owned and operated by Mesa Petroleum, the Mesa Biere #1-22, and plugged in 1986 was believed to be improperly plugged and leaking brine into the shallow aquifer

An investigation by PNR in late 1999 – 2000 confirmed that the well was leaking from around 1,000 feet below the surface into the shallow Aquifer.



Regulatory Agencies Involved

Primary Agencies Responsible

USEPA – Denver Region

Fort Peck Tribes – Office of Environmental Protection – Poplar Mt.
Christa Tyrrell, Director of Water Protection Division

Support Agency

USGS – Joanna Thamke - Helena, Montana
Bruce Smith – Denver, Colorado

Courtesy Involvement

Montana Department of Environmental Quality – Helena, MT

Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation – Helena, MT



Area of Widespread Regional Contamination

Mesa Biere #1-22 Well

Poplar River

PNR - Biere Study Area

City of Poplar

Skinners Island

White Shield Island

Missouri River

3.95 mi

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

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© 2008 Europa Technologies

© 2008 Google™



PNR – Biere Study Area

Mesa Biere #1-22 Well

Lockman Farm

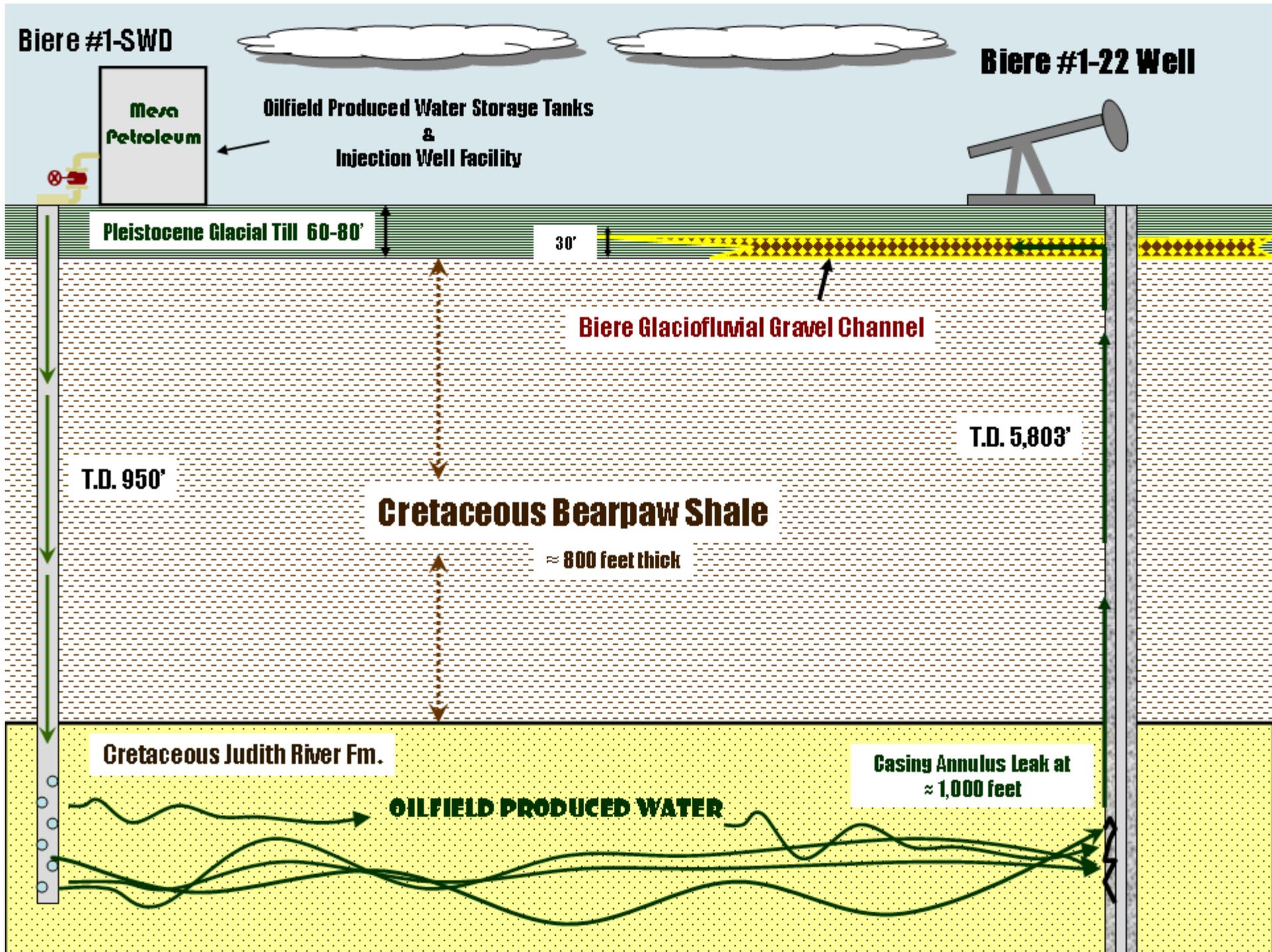
Trottier House

4565 ft

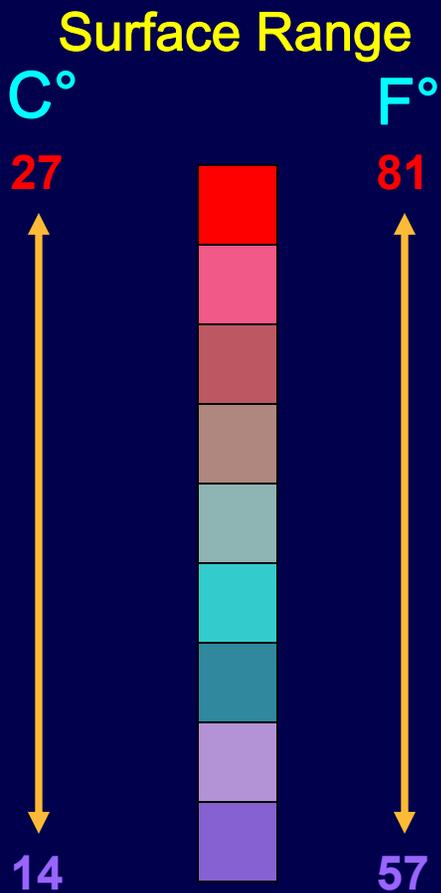
Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

© 2008 Tele Atlas

© 2008 Google

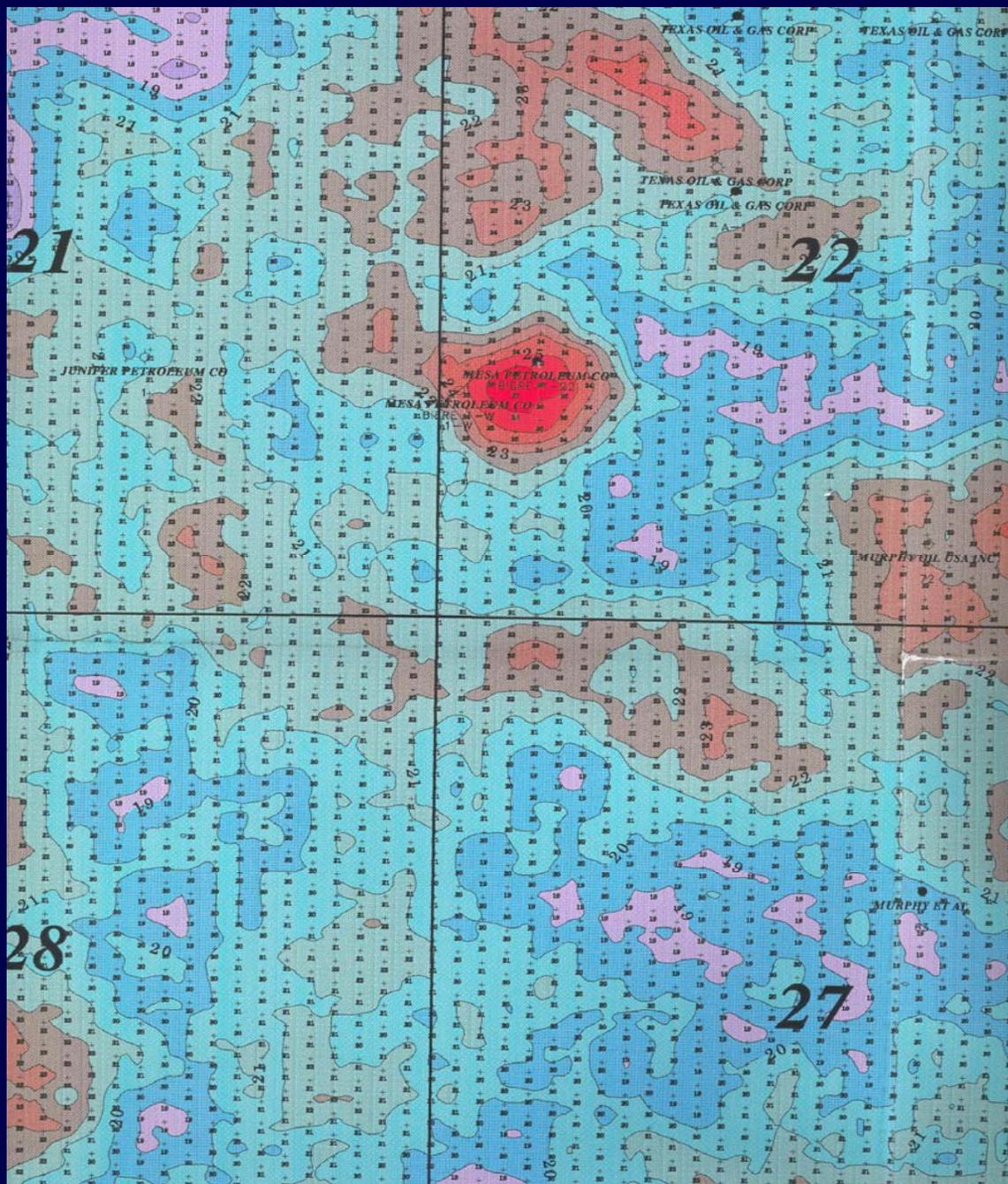


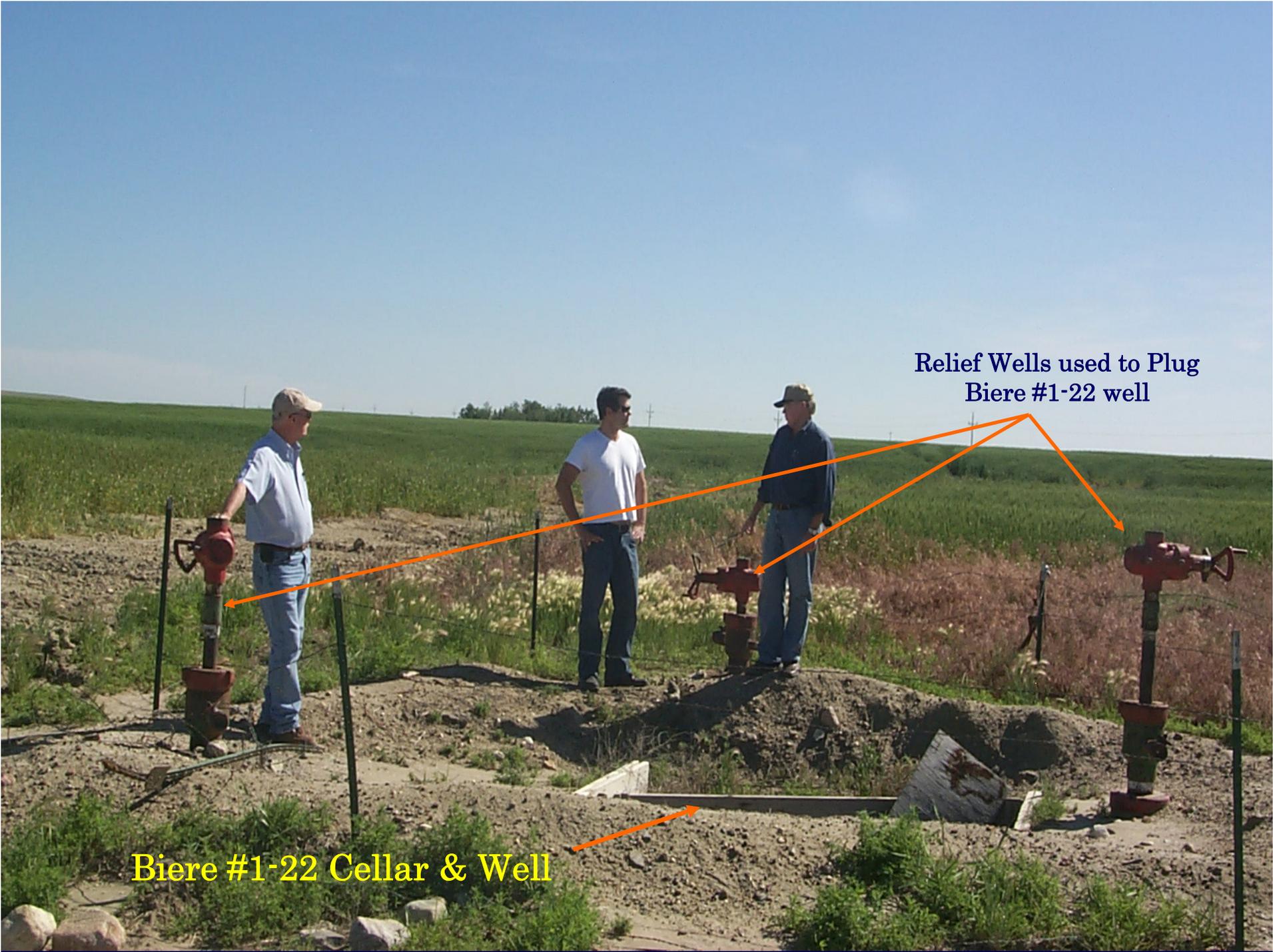
Apparent Surface Temperature Degrees Celsius



Survey Data - 11/10/99

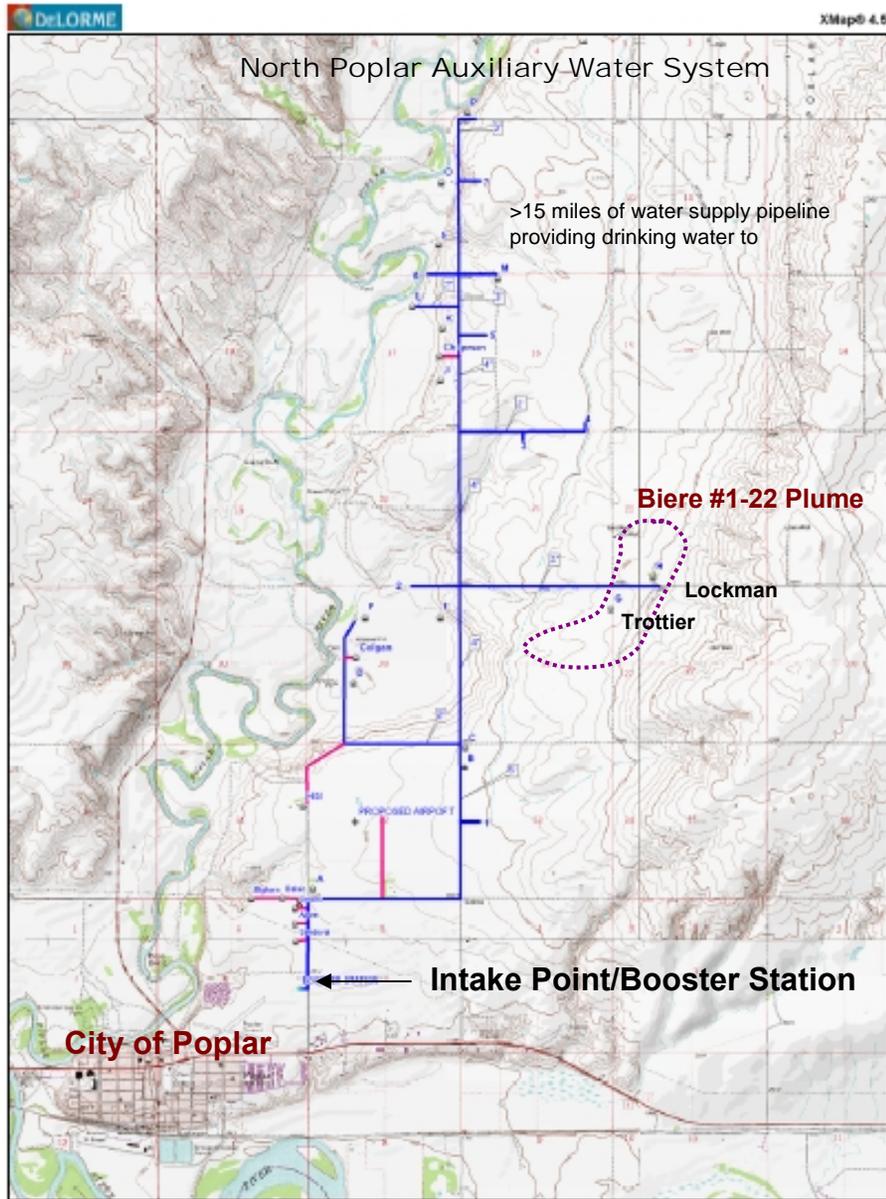
From LandSat Band 6 Thematic Imagery





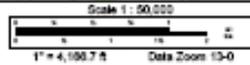
Relief Wells used to Plug
Biere #1-22 well

Biere #1-22 Cellar & Well



Data use subject to license.
 © 2004 DeLorme. XMap® 4.5.
 www.delorme.com

NPAWS System



PNR Work Conducted from Late 1999 to Mid-2006

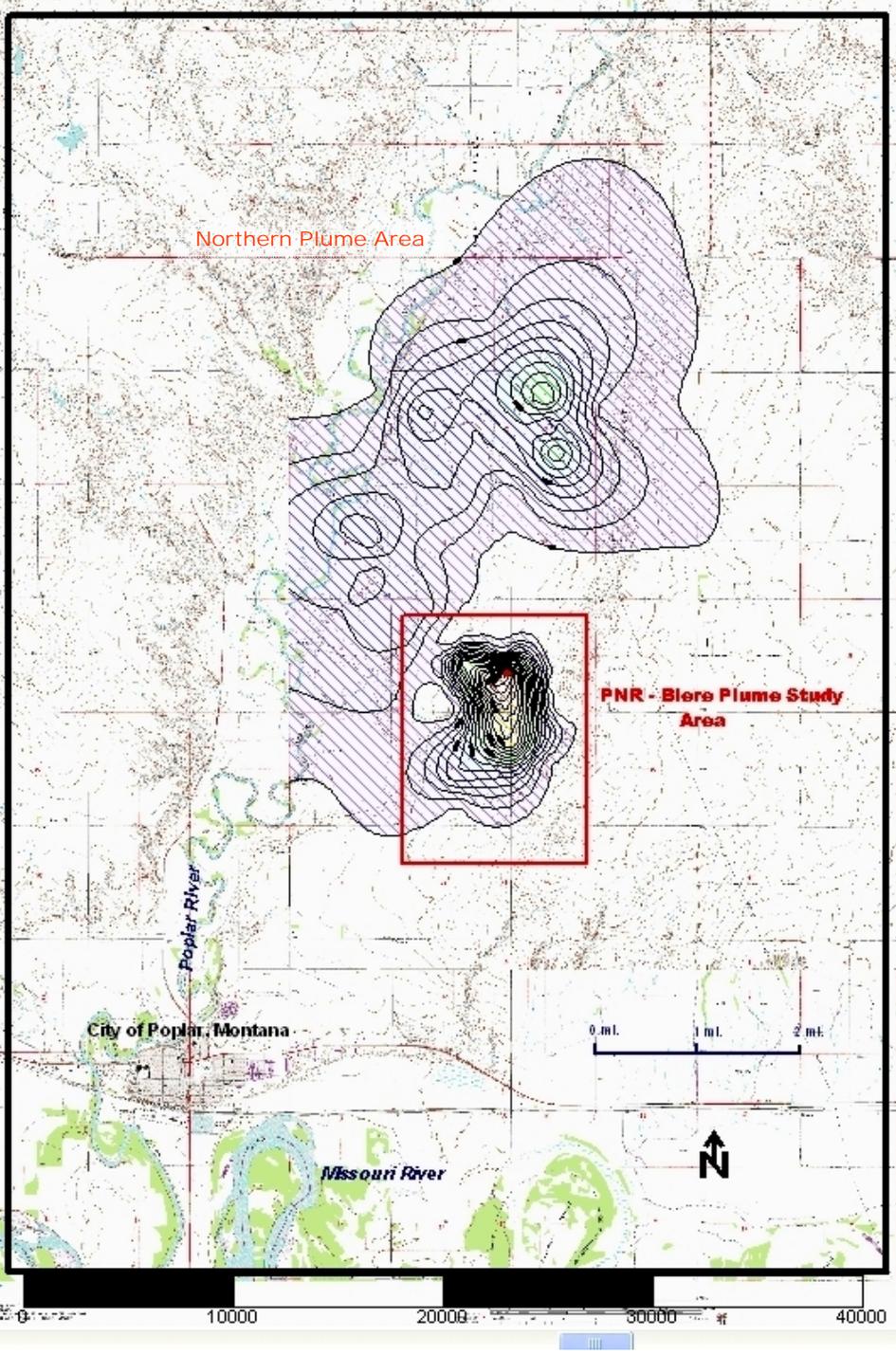
(and continuing to present)

👉 Plugging of Biere #1-22 – accomplished early 2000

📌 Biere #1-22 Wellbore Monitoring – Conduct Bi-Annual pressure & temperature surveys in the three Mesa Biere #1-22 relief wells from 1,000 feet to surface

☯ Monitor Well Installation & Sampling – PNR samples 63 wells total; 49 bi-annually & 14 annually





Northern Plume Area

PNR - Biore Plume Study Area

City of Poplar, Montana

Poplar River

Missouri River

0 mi. 1 mi. 2 mi.



0 10000 20000 30000 40000

Integrated Hydrogeological and Engineering Study

1. Development of Site-Specific Geological & Hydrogeological Conceptual Model

(Pioneer - Midland ED)

- Detailed Regional & Site Specific Geological, Hydrogeological & Geochemical Mapping**
 - ✓ **Structure Maps**
 - ✓ **X-Sections**
 - ✓ **Isopach Maps**
 - ✓ **Constituent Plume Maps**
 - ✓ **Construction of Lithologic and Well Completion Logs**

2. Aquifer Testing including additional Well Completions (Pioneer – Midland ED & HKM Engineering)

- Drilling of three additional wells (two 5” pumping wells and one observation well**
- Three Aquifer Tests**
 - ✓ **Test #1 - “Ground - Zero” Main Plume Area**
 - ✓ **Test #2 - Wiota Gravel “Choke Point” Area**
 - ✓ **Test#3 – Upgradient Gravel Channel**
- Conducted 15 Slug Tests**

3. Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Model – Visual MODFLOW

(Pioneer – Midland ED & Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Albuquerque, NM)

- Build Model including input of Geological, Hydrogeological and Hydraulic Data (aquifer pump & slug test data - initial head data – lithological and well completion data)**
- Perform Capture Zone Analysis**
- Perform Total Pumping Rate Analysis**
- Determine Location of Pumping Wells & Number or Wells Needed**

The Most Critical Step to Success is *“Understanding the Geology”*

Step 1 - Construct Geochemical Contaminant Plume Maps - 6 ½ years (26 quarters) of
geochemical water analyses data

Chlorides

Crude Oil Thickness/LNAPL

Dissolved Phase BTEX/Benzene – Dissolved Phase

Step 2 - Perform Detailed Geological Mapping (164 Wells)

- ♠ **Create and Standardize Lithological and Well Completion Logs – 164 wells**
- ♠ **Bedrock Structure Map –**
Cretaceous Bearpaw Shale
- ♠ **Geological Isopach Maps –**
Biere Upper Bench Gravel/Lower Alluvial Aquifer – Thickness Isopach
- ♠ **Construct Geological Cross Sections**

Step 3 - Conduct Geophysical Surveys

- ♣ Re-interpretation of 1,094 linear miles of Helicopter-Borne Electromagnetic Data – Conductivity Depth Sections
- ♣ Downhole Geophysics (Gamma Ray, Induction Logs) – 20 wells
- ♣ > 16 linear miles of Surface EM-34 Geophysical Conductivity Survey



Geological History of Biere Site

The more it snows
“Tiddly Pom”
The more it goes
“Tiddly Pom”
The more it goes
“Tiddly Pom”
On snowing

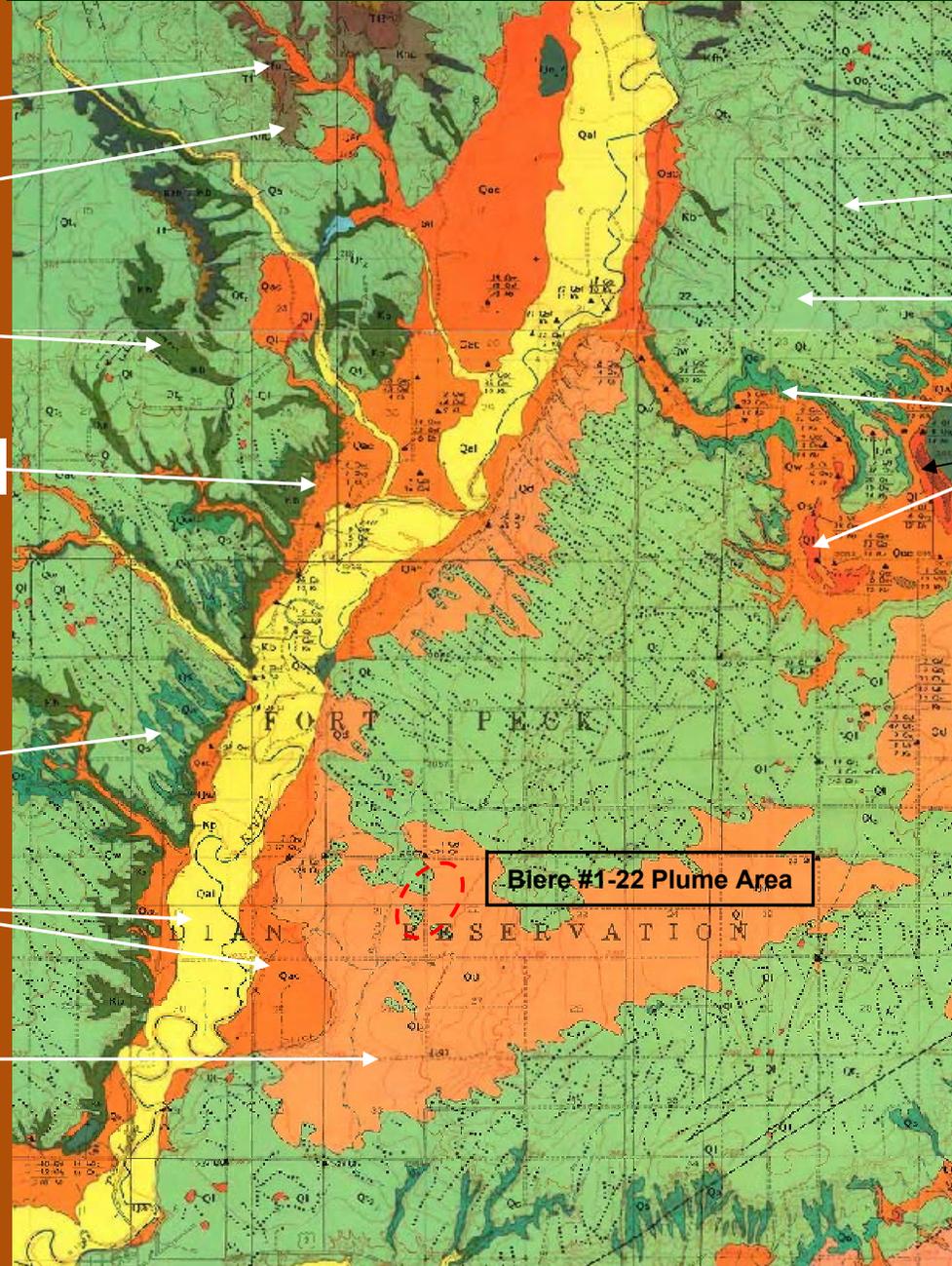
A.A. Milne – The House on Pooh Corner

Quaternary deposits of Pleistocene age and younger cover more than 90% of the study area

All of the aquifers in this study area are found in sands and gravels that are mainly

- ❑ Early to middle Pleistocene pre-glacial and interglacial
- ❑ Middle to late Pleistocene glacial outwash,
- ❑ Late Pleistocene ice-contact deposits,
- ❑ Holocene, post-glacial alluvium and
- ❑ Holocene alluvium-colluvium

Surface Geology of East Poplar Oil Field



T/Fort Union Fm

K/Hell Creek FM

K/Bearpaw Shale

T-Q/ Wiota Gravels – Aquifer

Q/Silts (up to 30m)

Q/Alluvium and Colluvium

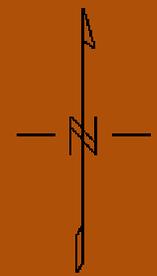
Q/Dune Sands

Ice-crack Moraines

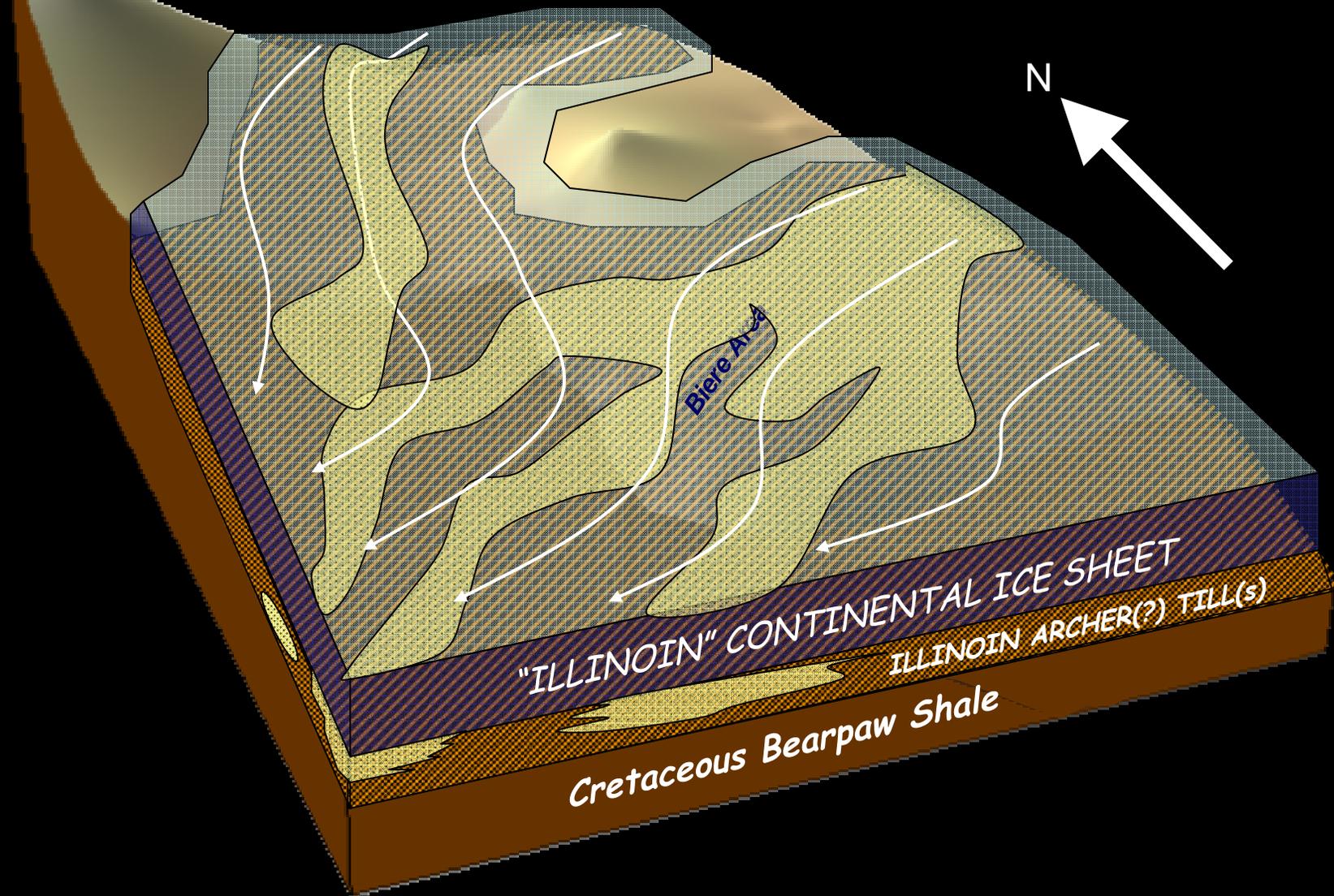
Q/Sprole Silt - Till
(mostly clay to boulders)

Q/Silts (up to 30m)

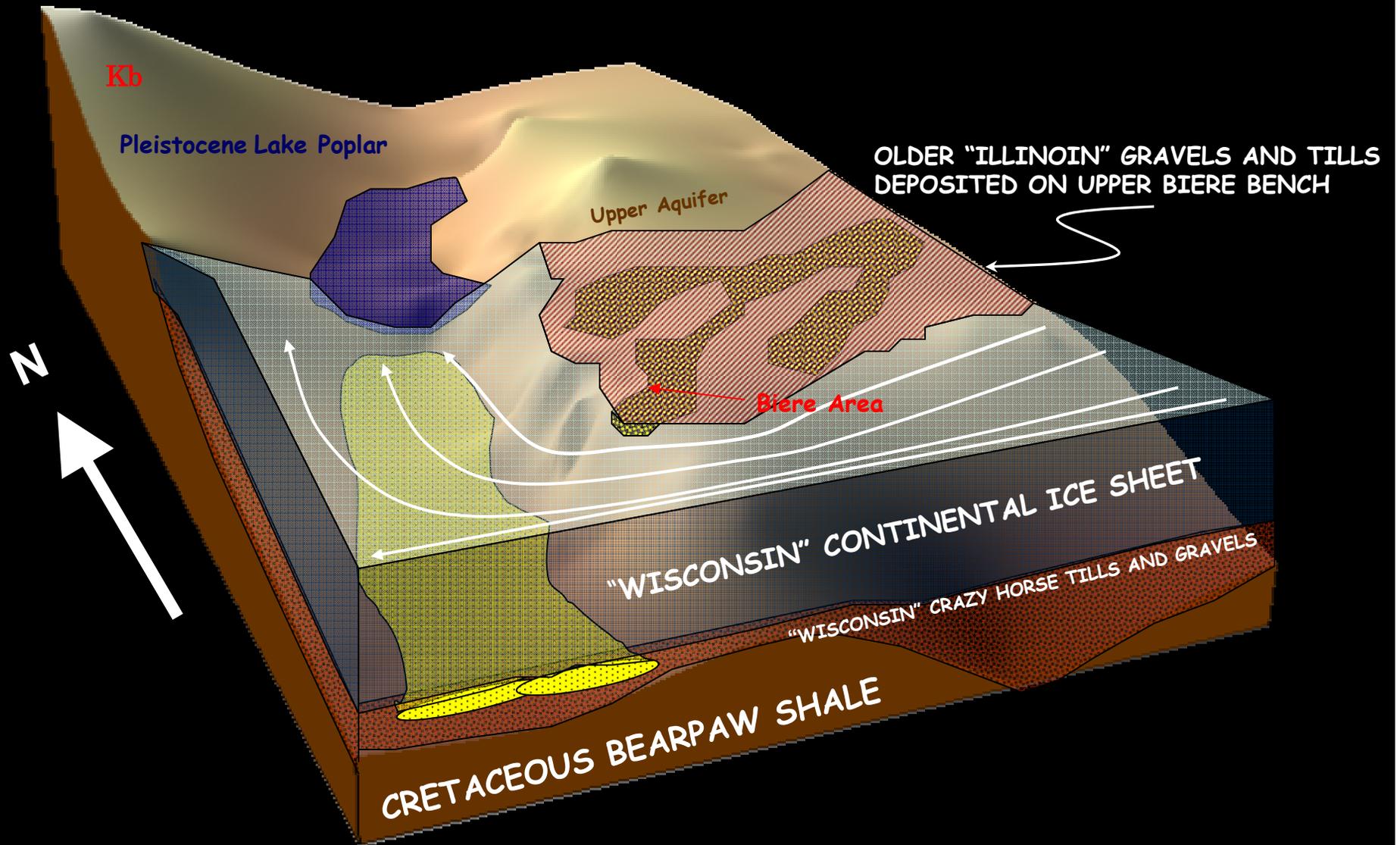
Q/Lake Sediments
(clays)

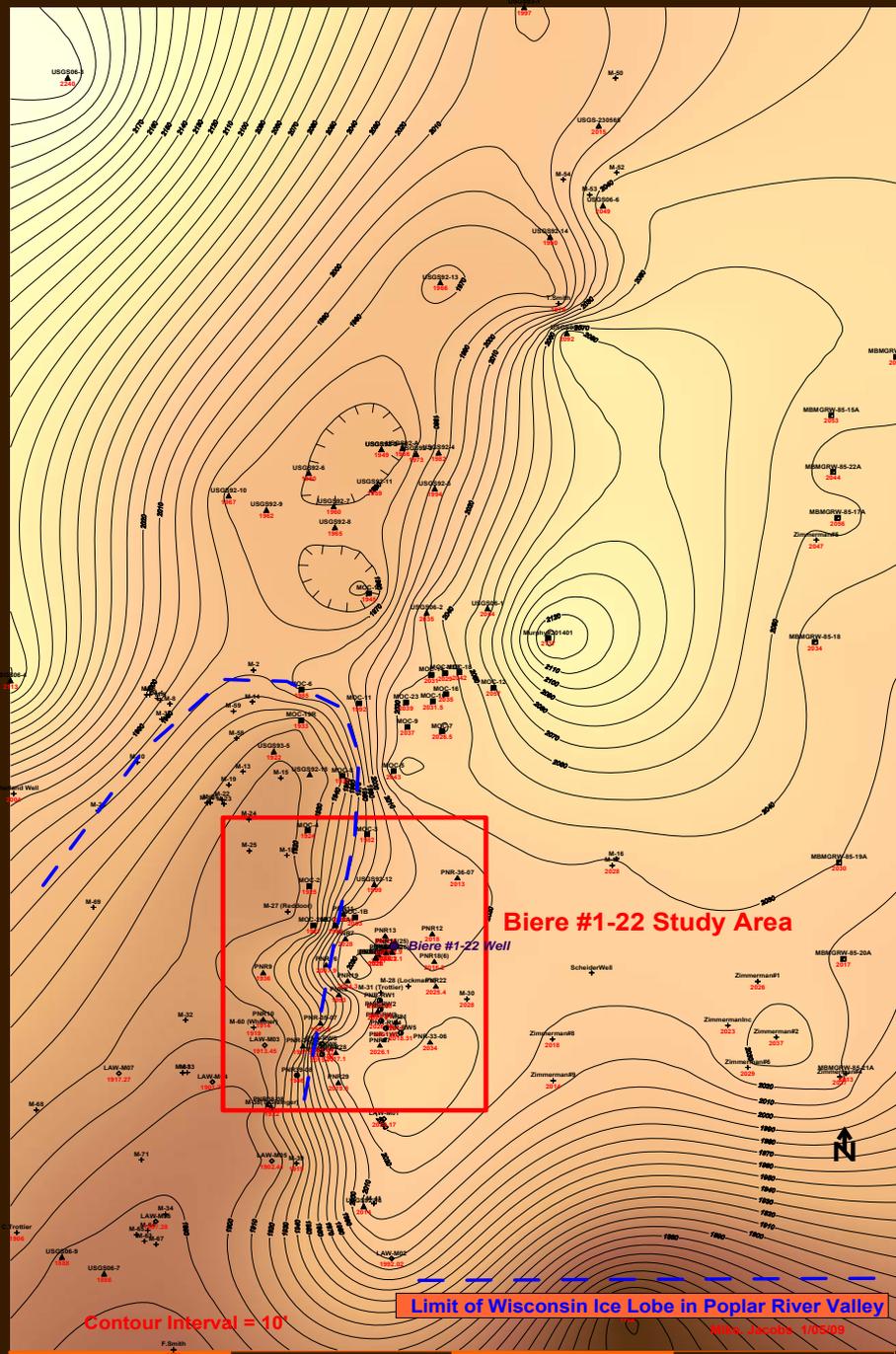


Conceptualized Drawing of "Illinois" Glaciation & Pleistocene Geological History



Conceptualized Drawing of "Wisconsin" Glaciation





Biere #1-22 Study Area

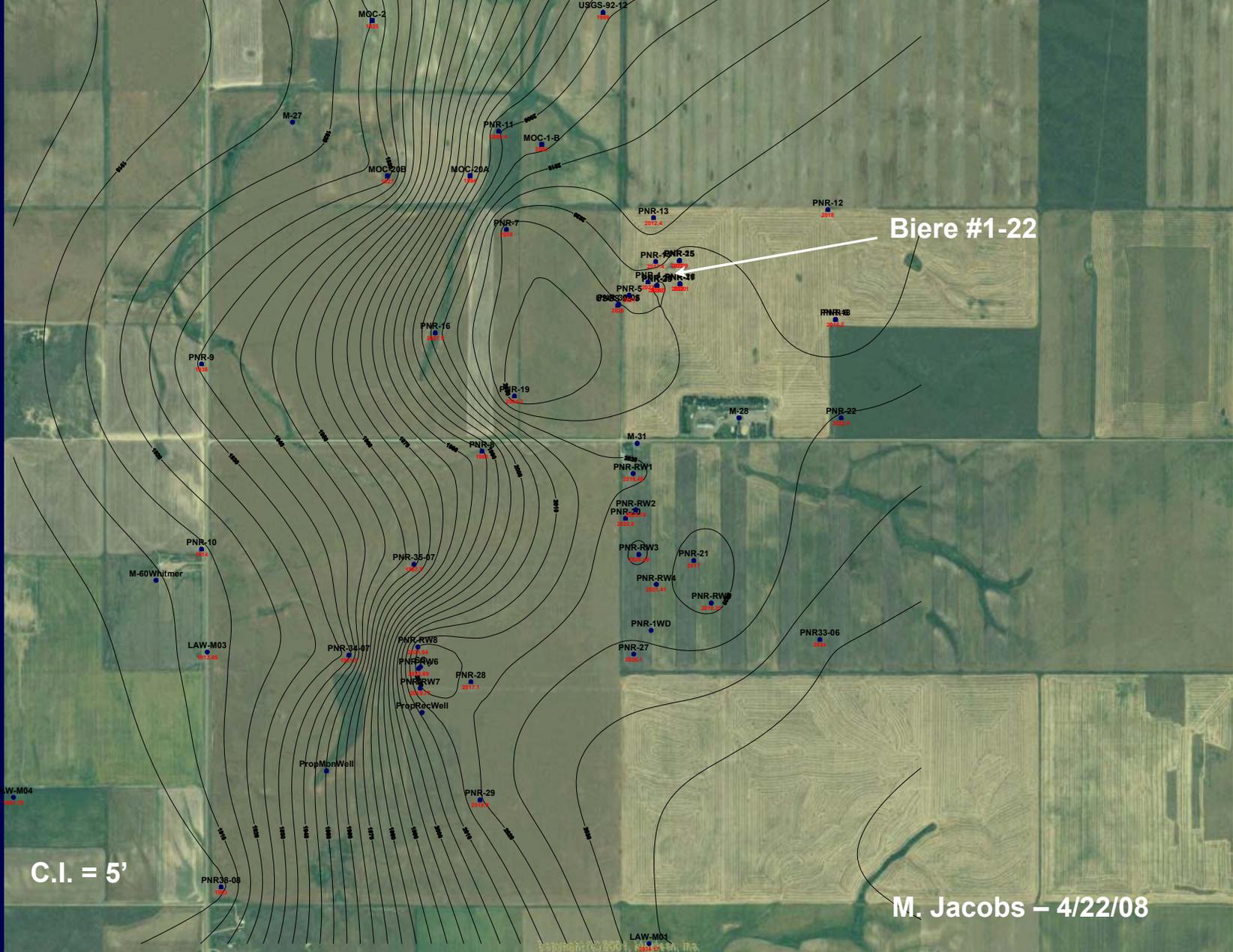
Biere #1-22 Well

Limit of Wisconsin Ice Lobe in Poplar River Valley

Contour Interval = 10'



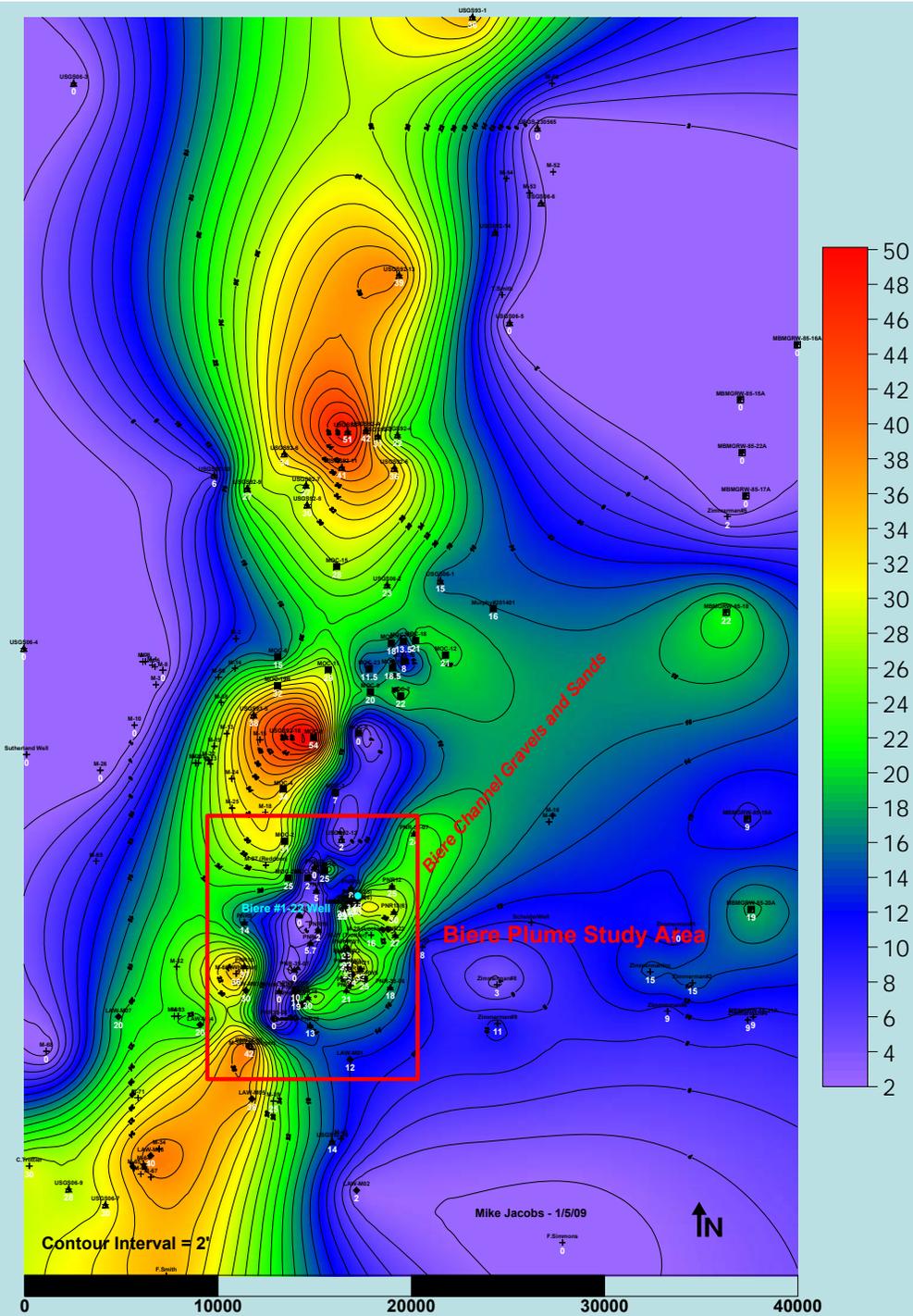
Structure Map – Top of Bearpaw Shale



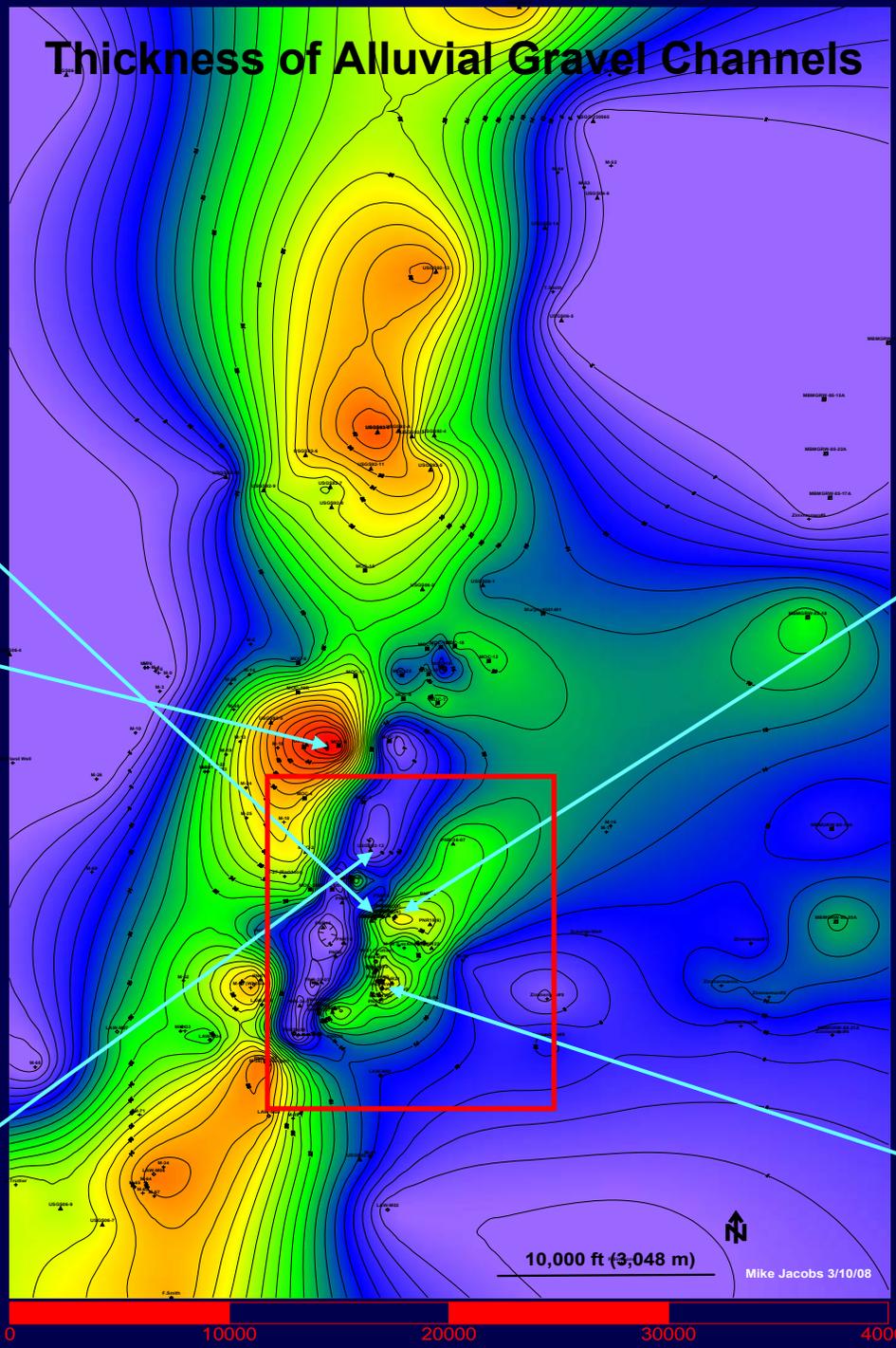
Biere #1-22

C.I. = 5'

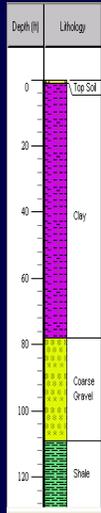
M. Jacobs - 4/22/08



Thickness of Alluvial Gravel Channels

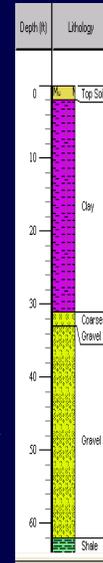


MOC-2



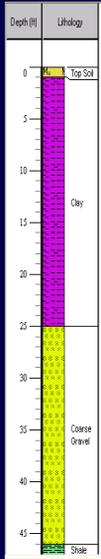
18'

PNR-5



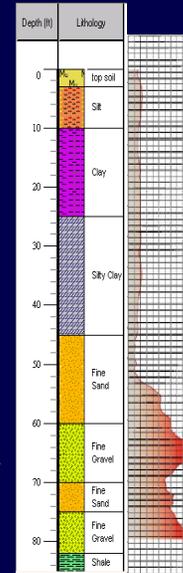
30'

MOC-8



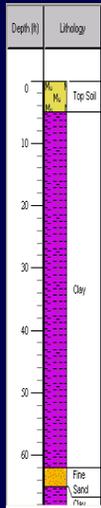
> 40'

PNR-21

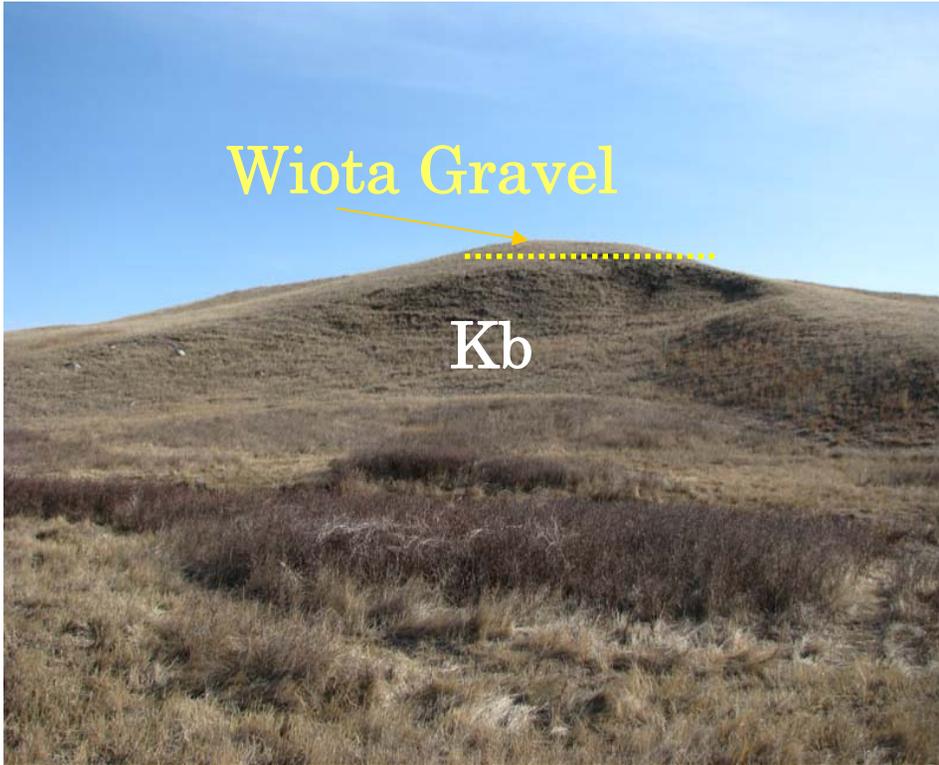


30'

USGS-92-12



2'





**Hard compact "Fat Clay" of the overlying
Sprole Till and inter-channel clay
deposits**



**Loose, coarse-grained gravel of the
Wiota Gravel - Aquifer**

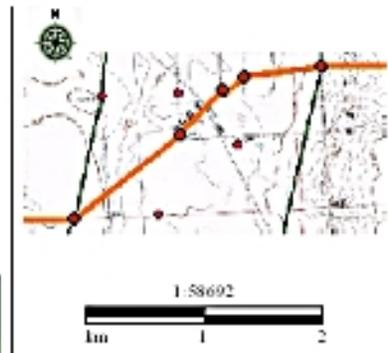
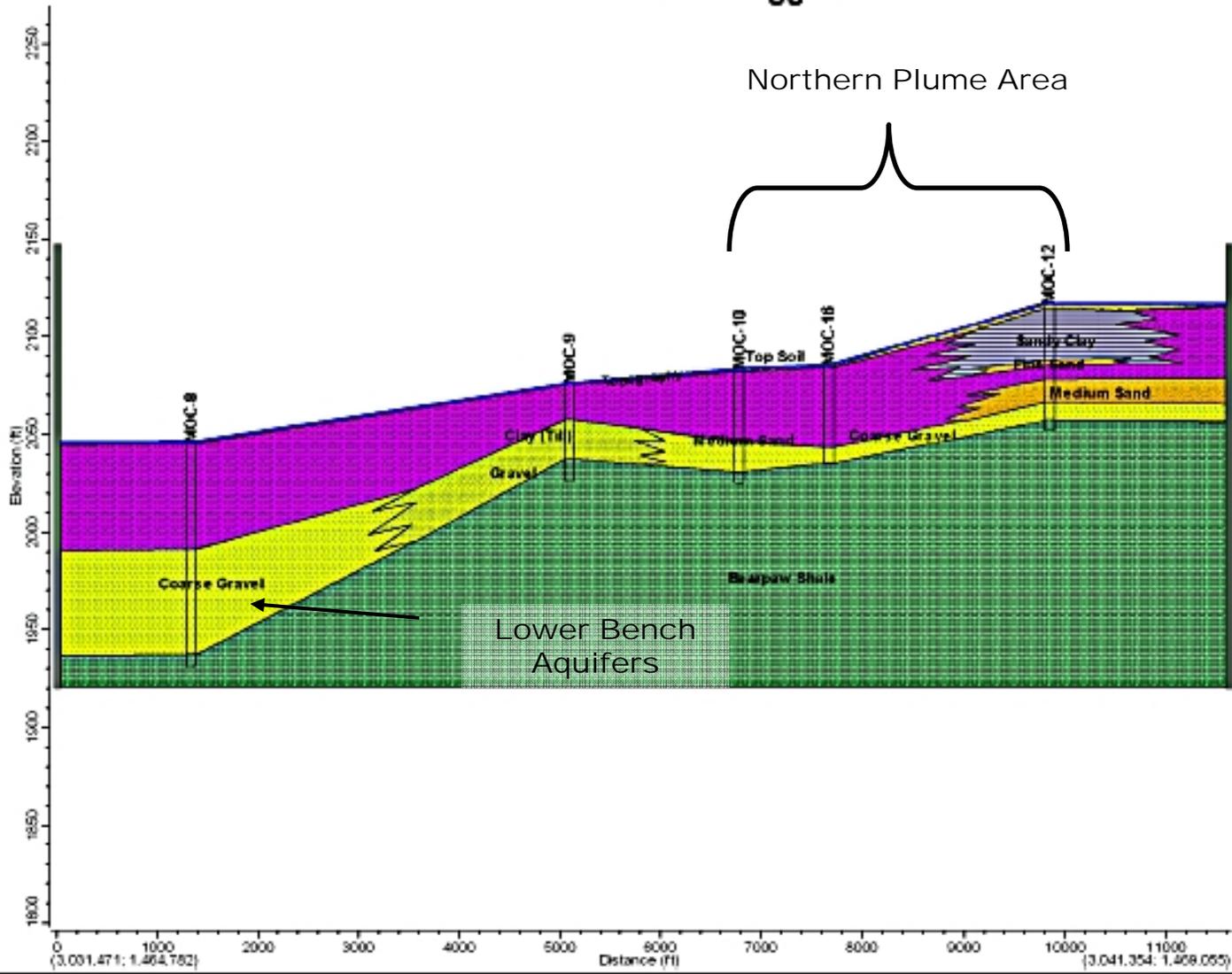
Geological Cross Sections



Pioneer Natural Resources
 303 West Wall St., Suite 101
 Midland, Texas 79701

Project: East Poplar Groundwater Study
 Location: Poplar, Montana

Cross-Section W-E 1 Vertical Exaggeration: 20



Legend

MODEL
 — Topography

GEOLOGY

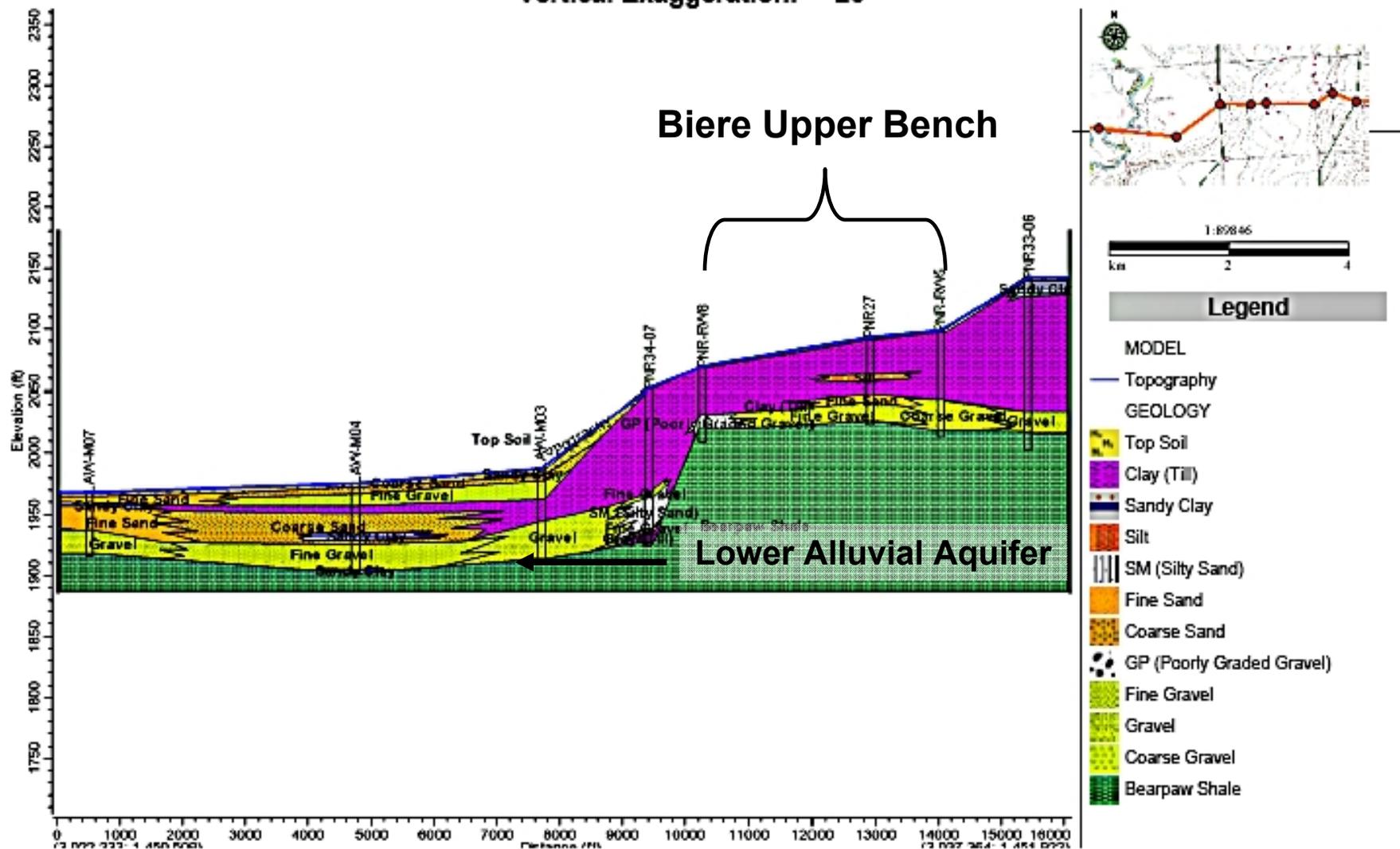
- Top Soil
- Clay (Till)
- Sandy Clay
- Fine Sand
- Medium Sand
- Gravel
- Coarse Gravel
- Bearpaw Shale

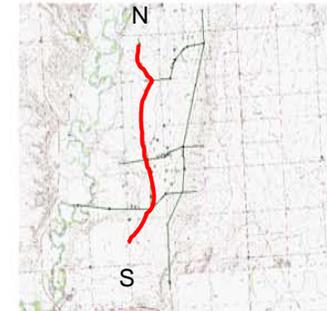
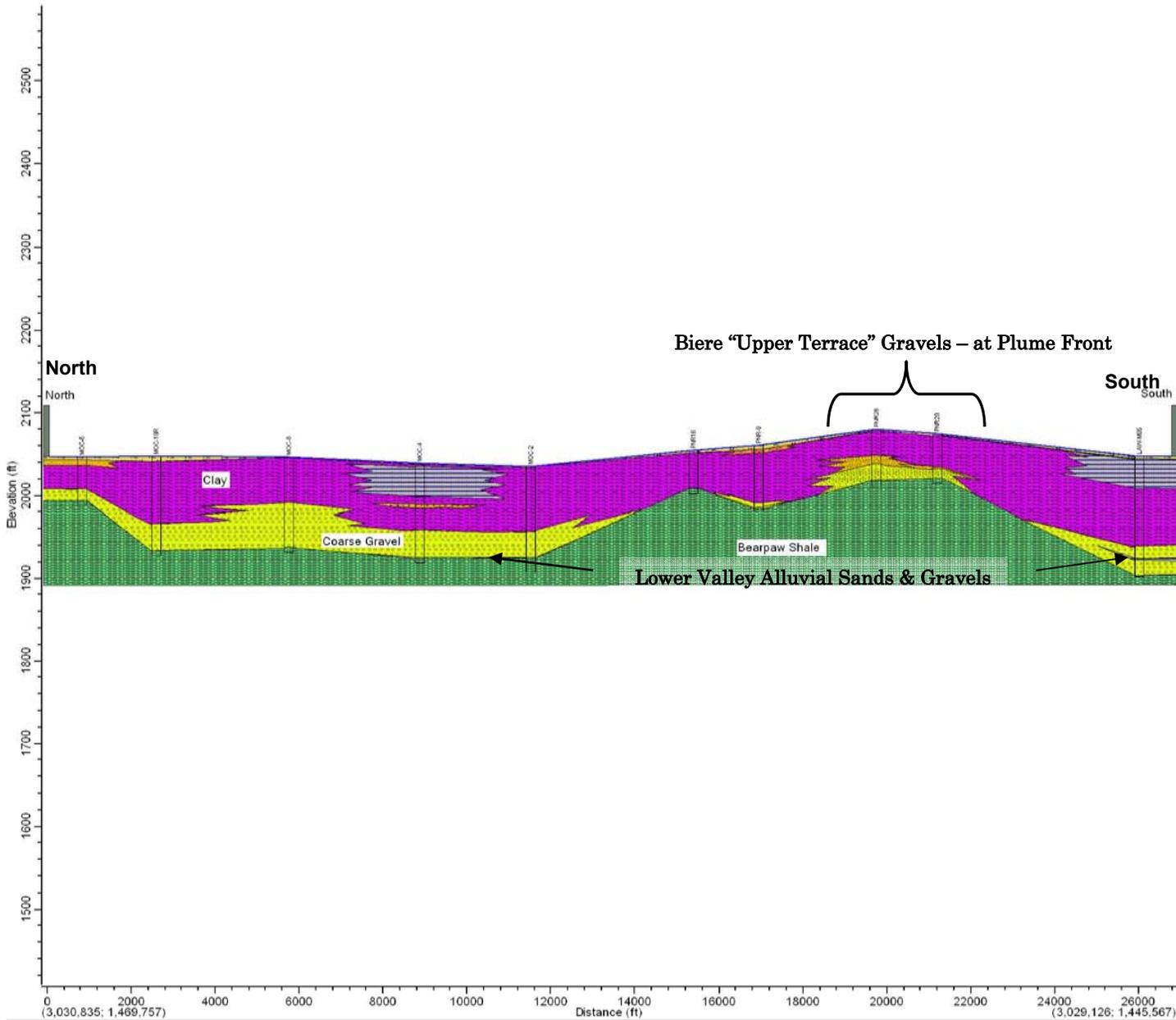


Pioneer Natural Resources
303 West Wall St., Suite 101
Midland, Texas 79701

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Location: Poplar, Montana

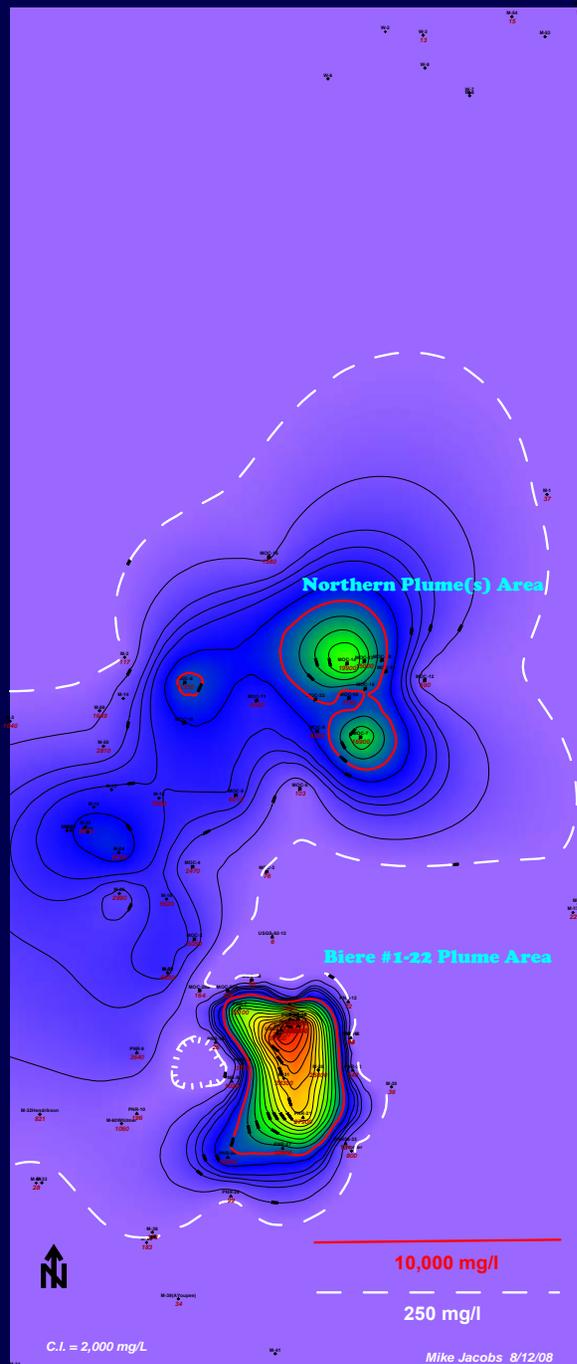
Cross-Section W-E3 Vertical Exaggeration: 20





Cross-Section N-S 1
Vertical Exaggeration: 20

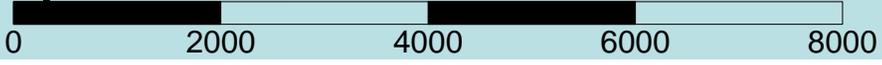
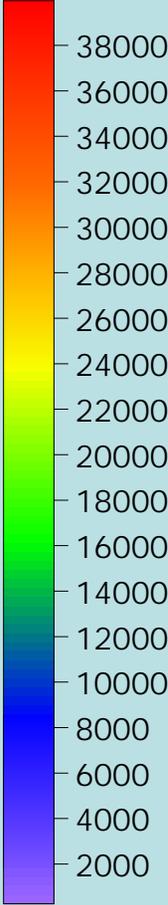
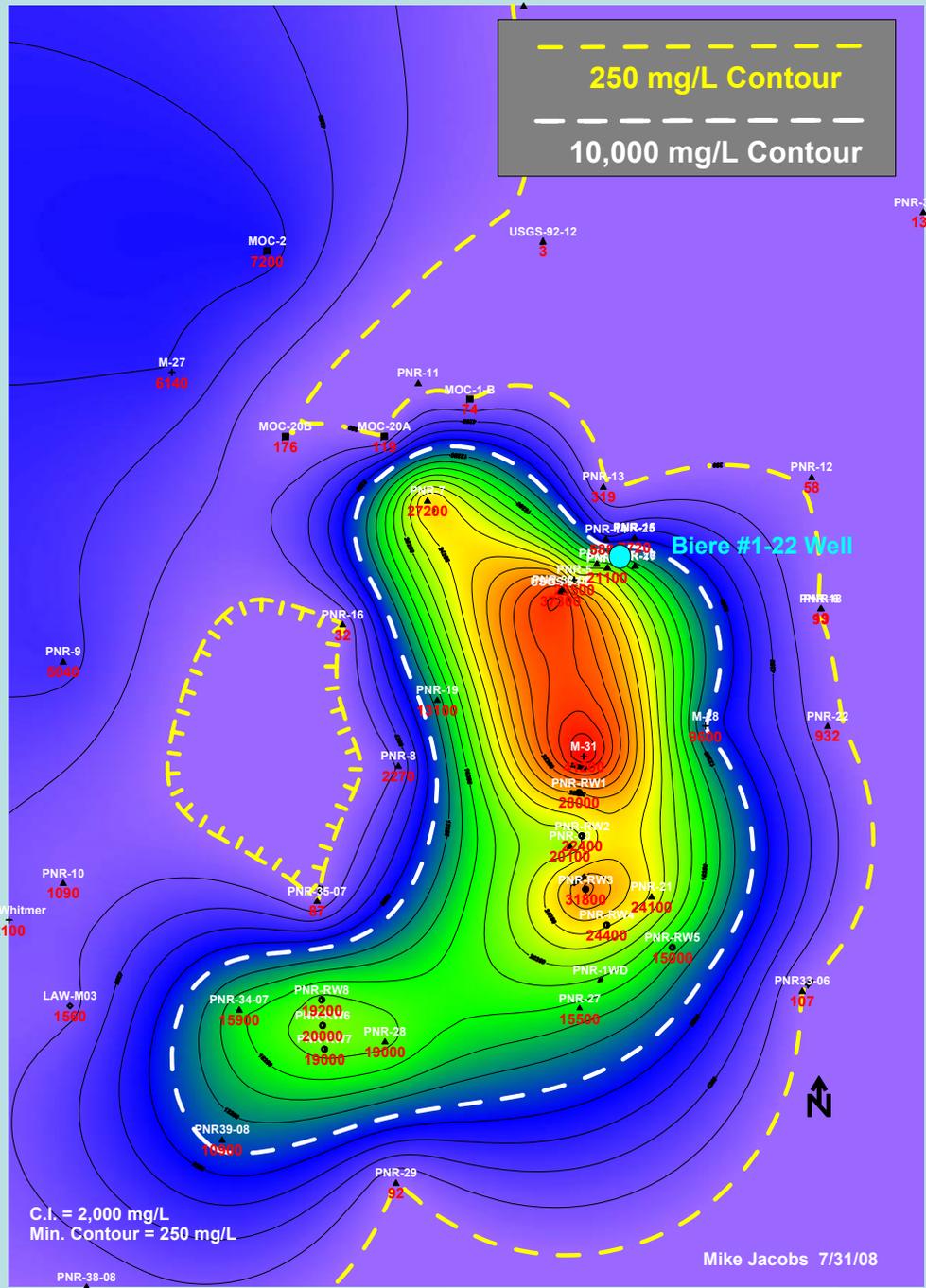
Contaminant Plume Mapping



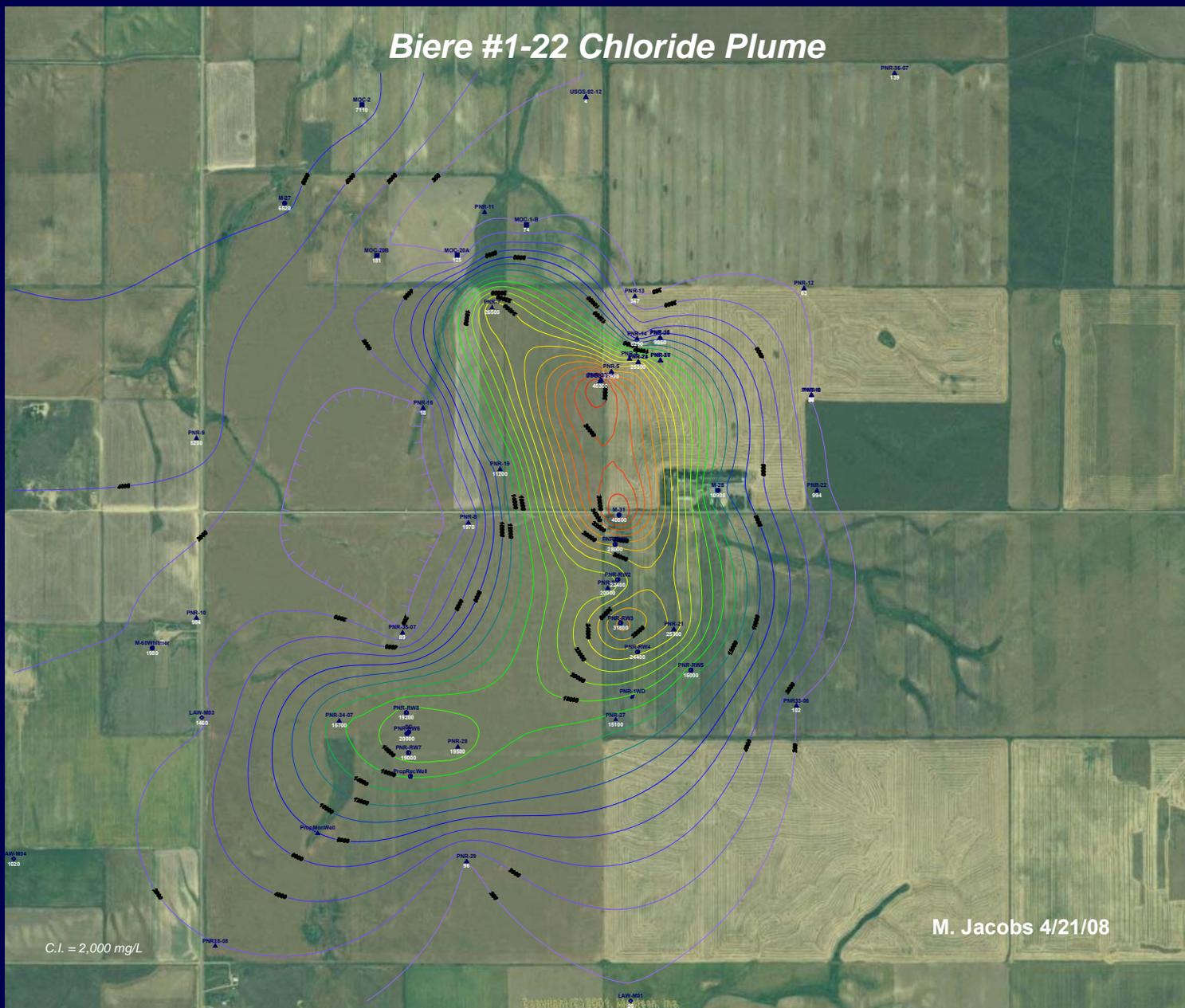
10,000 mg/l
 250 mg/l

C.I. = 2,000 mg/L

Mike Jacobs 8/12/08



Biere #1-22 Chloride Plume



C.I. = 2,000 mg/L

M. Jacobs 4/21/08

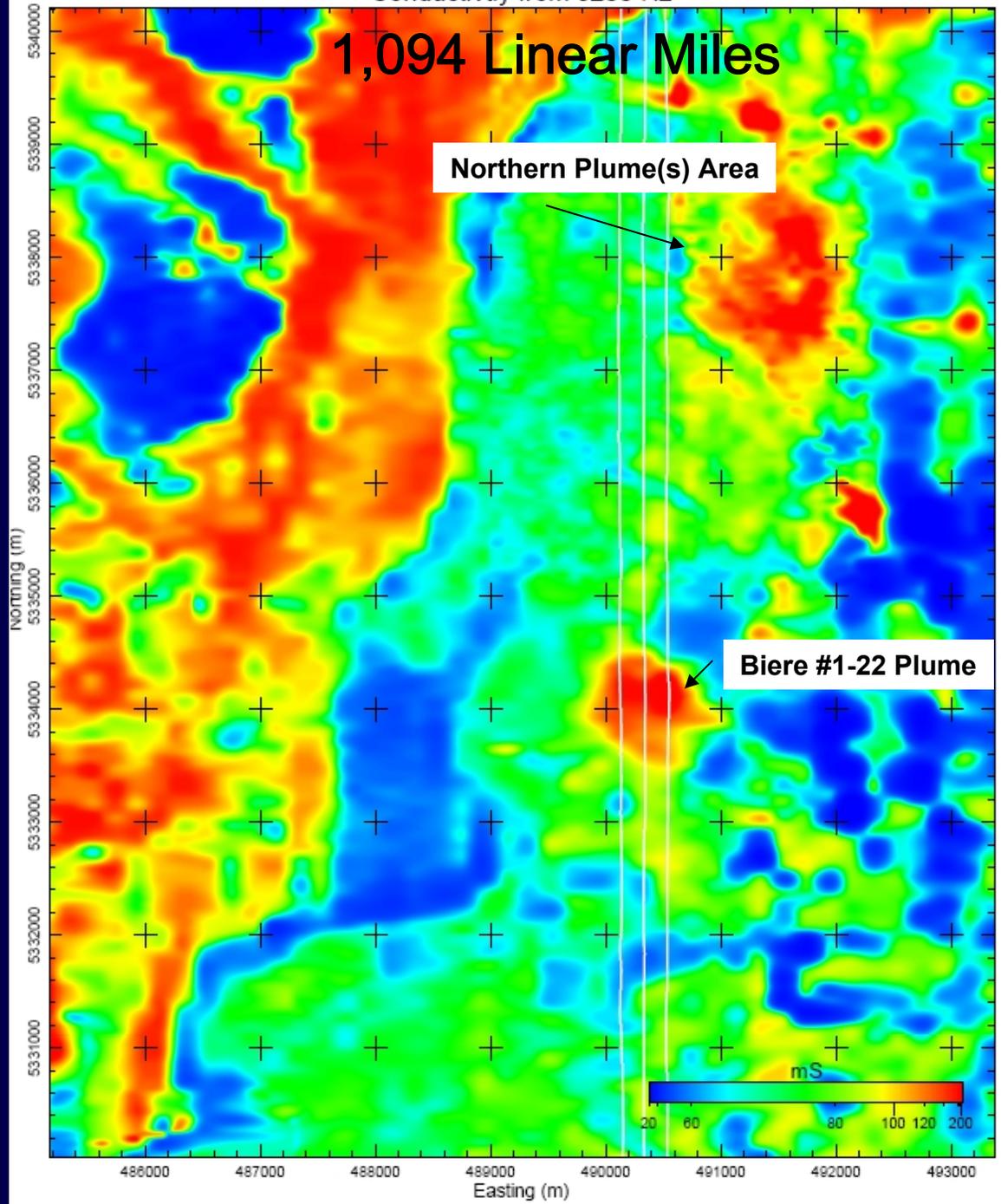
Interpretation of 2004 USGS Helicopter Electromagnetic (HEM) Survey & Conductivity Depth Sections

(Dr. Bruce Smith - USGS, Denver, Co., Condor Consulting, Lakewood, Co., and Mike Jacobs-PNR)



Conductivity from 8200 Hz

1,094 Linear Miles



2004 USGS – Helicopter Electro-Magnetic Survey

Lower Alluvial Sands and Gravels - Aquifer

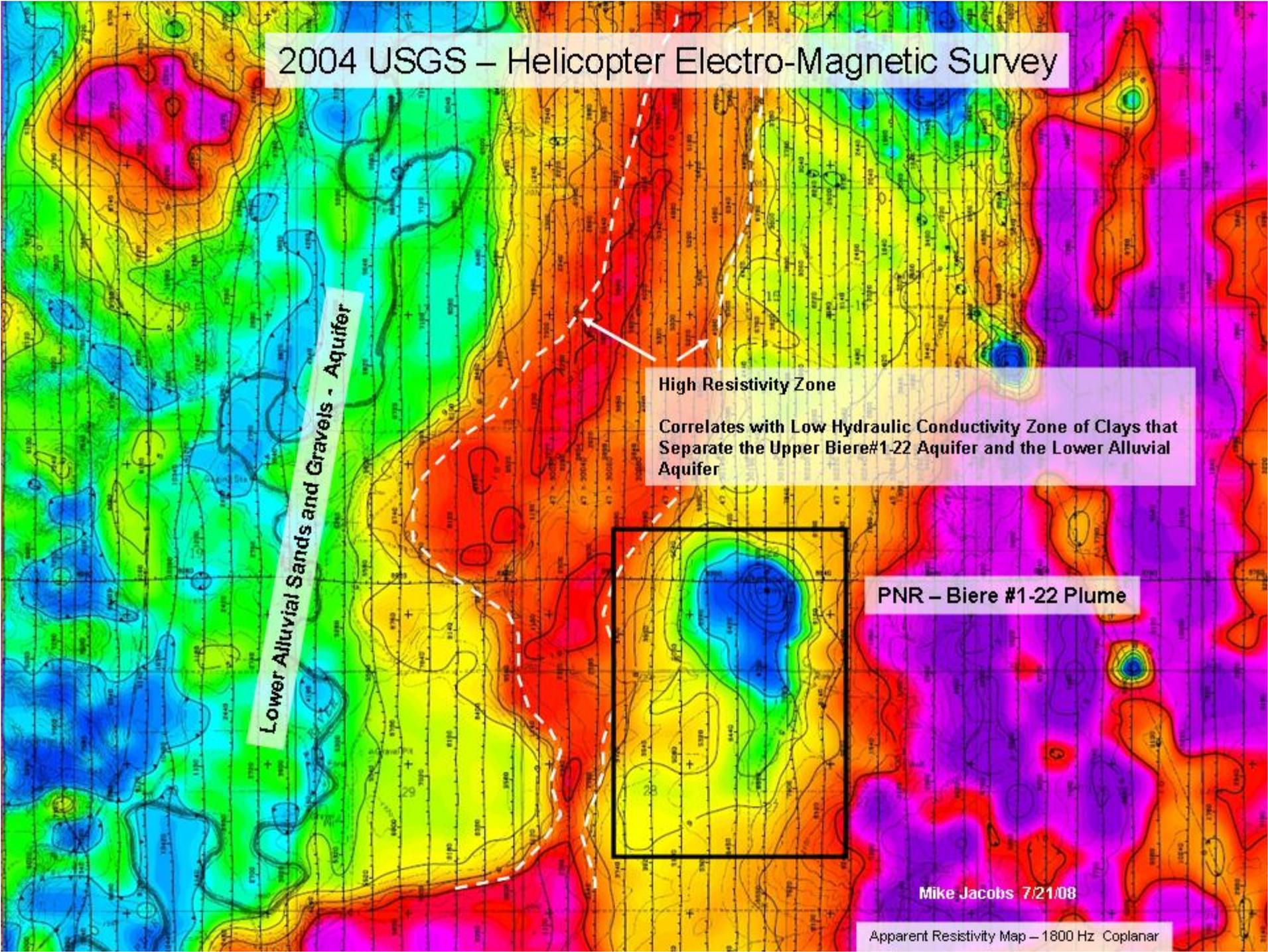
High Resistivity Zone

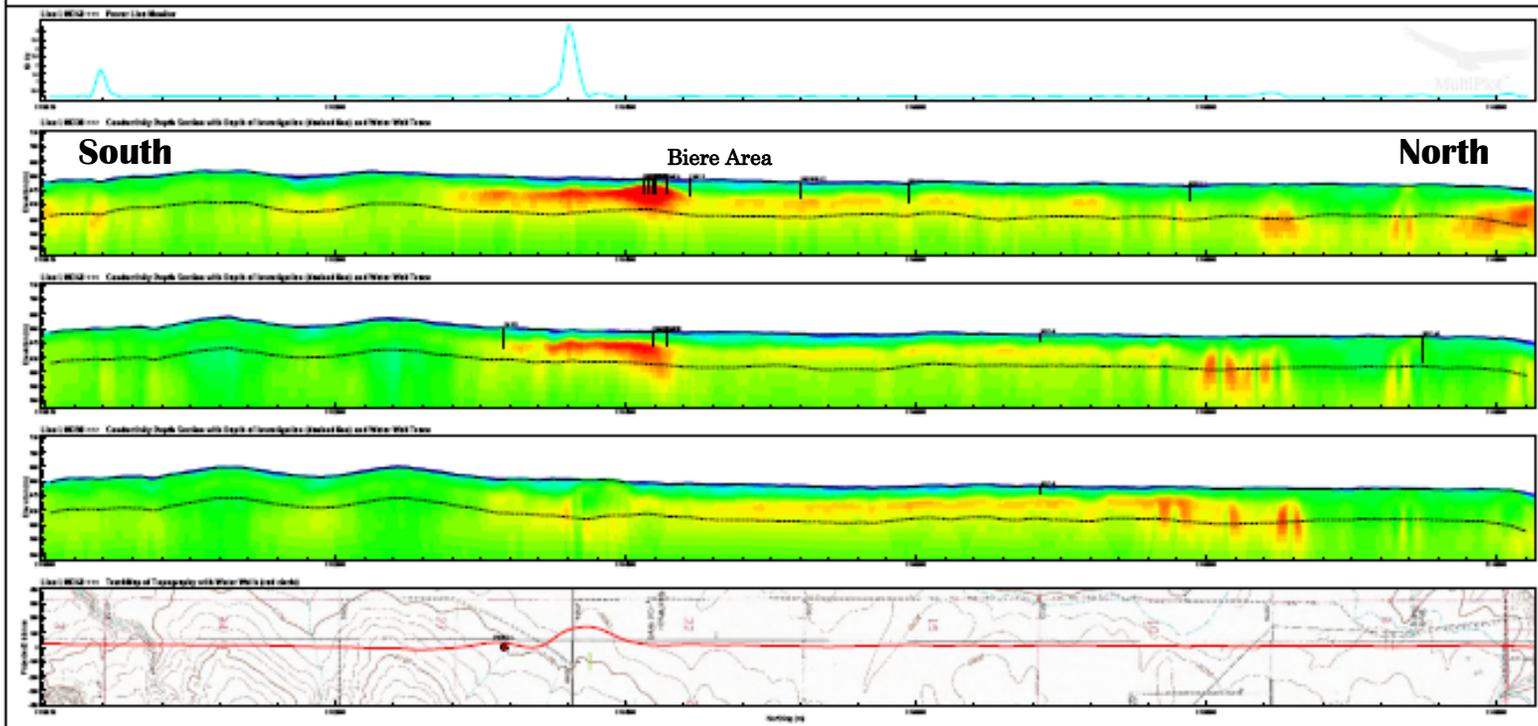
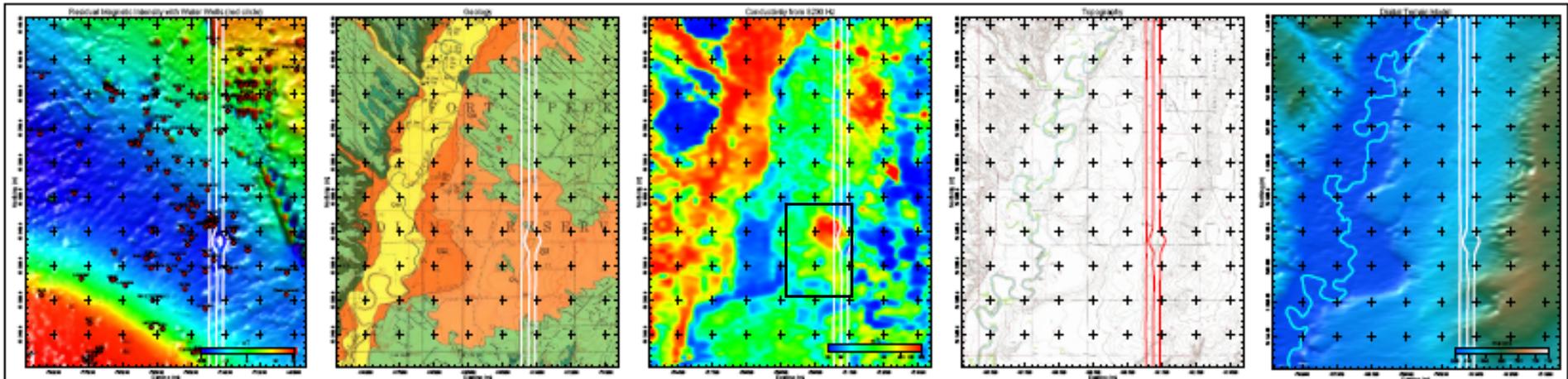
Correlates with Low Hydraulic Conductivity Zone of Clays that Separate the Upper Biere#1-22 Aquifer and the Lower Alluvial Aquifer

PNR – Biere #1-22 Plume

Mike Jacobs 7/21/08

Apparent Resistivity Map – 1800 Hz Coplanar





South

Biere Area

North

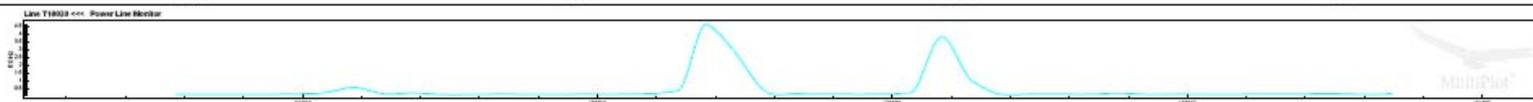
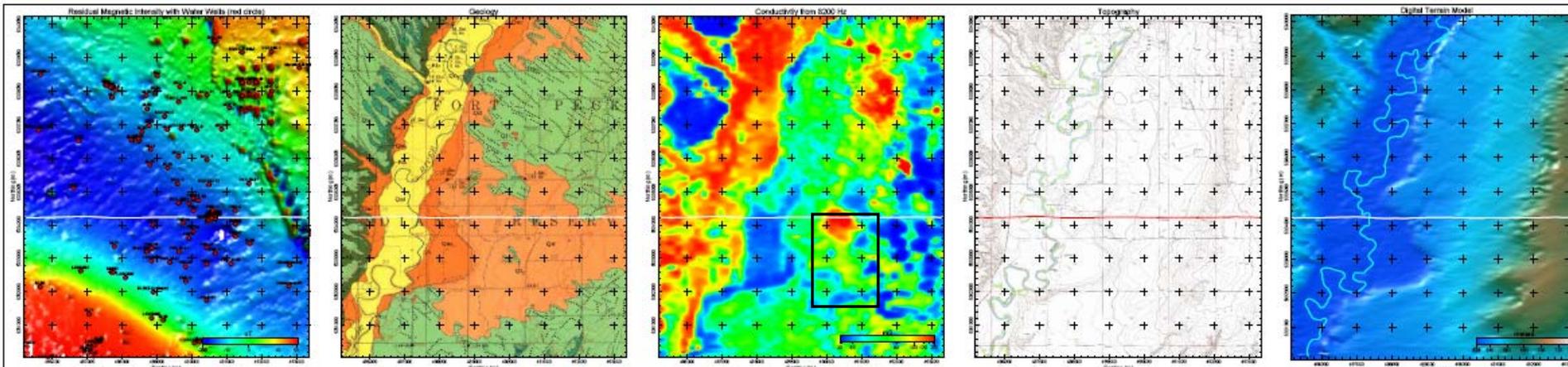
Conductivity Depth Section MultiPlot



Line L10340

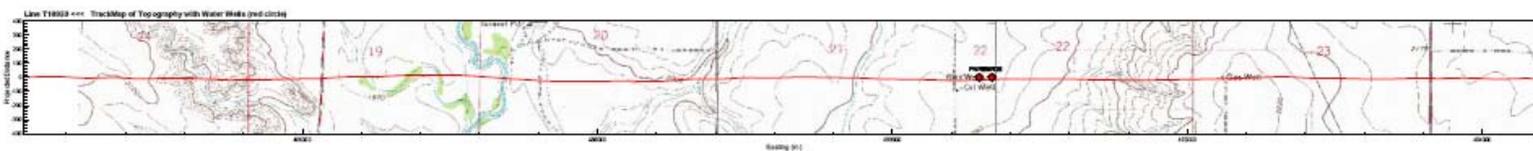
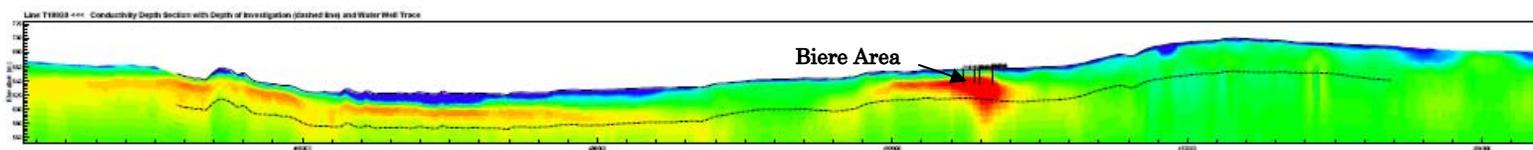
PIONEER
 Natural Resources USA, Inc.
 East Poplar Ground Water Study
 Roosevelt County, Montana
 RESOLVE Survey





West

East



Conductivity Depth Section MultiPlot



Scale 1 : 15000
 NGD27 UTM13W

Line T19020

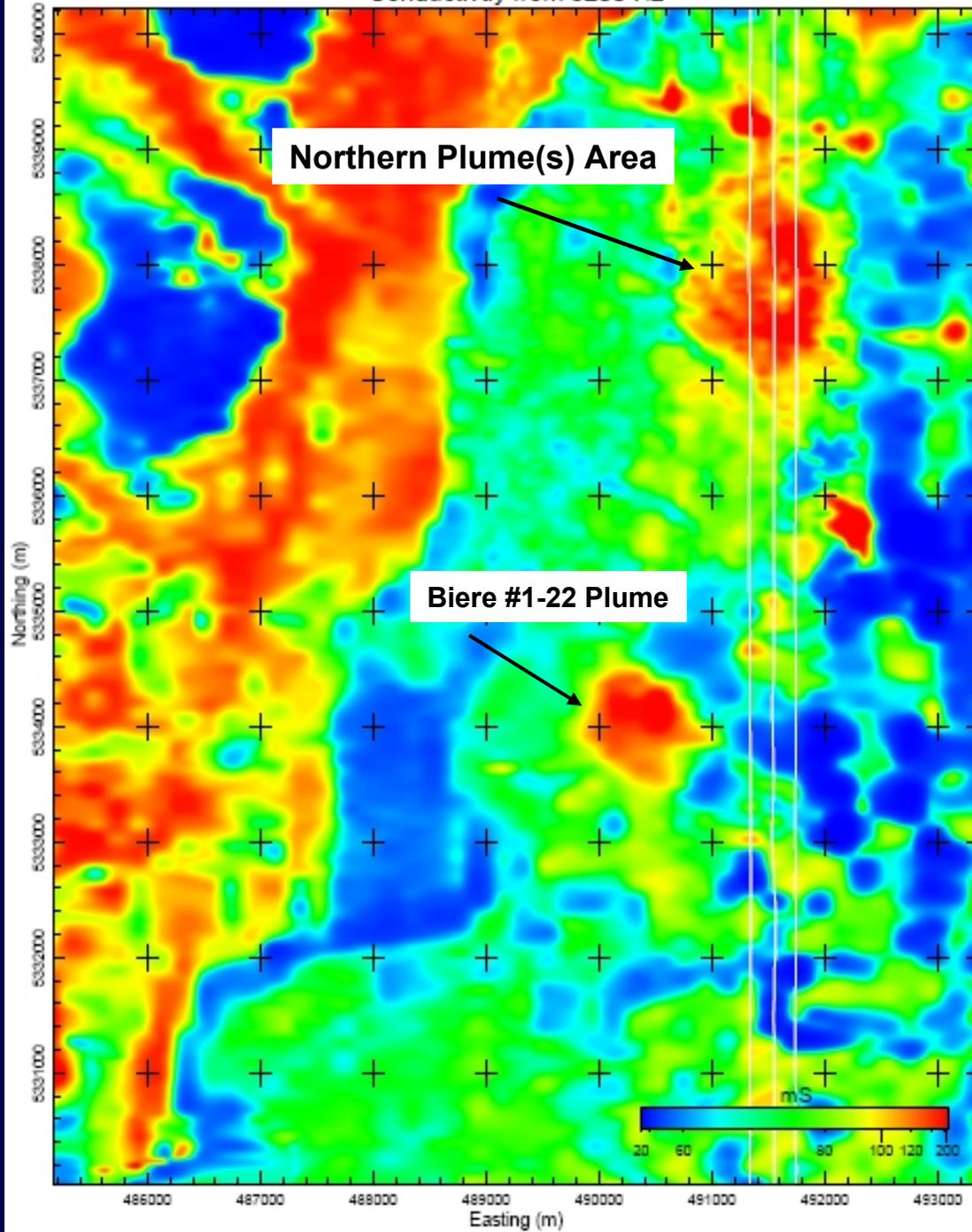
PIONEER
 Natural Resources USA, Inc.
 East Poplar Ground Water Study
 Roosevelt County, Montana

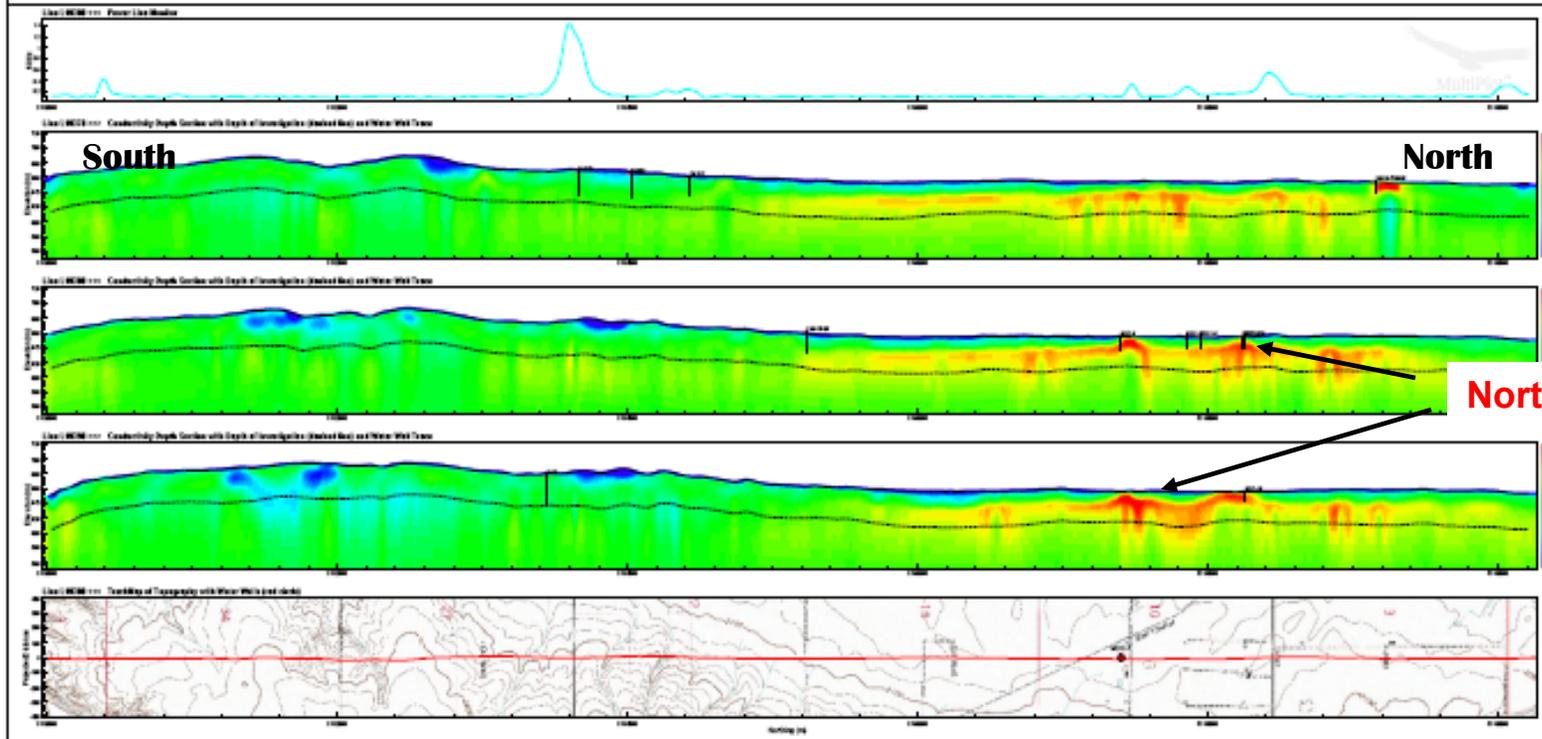
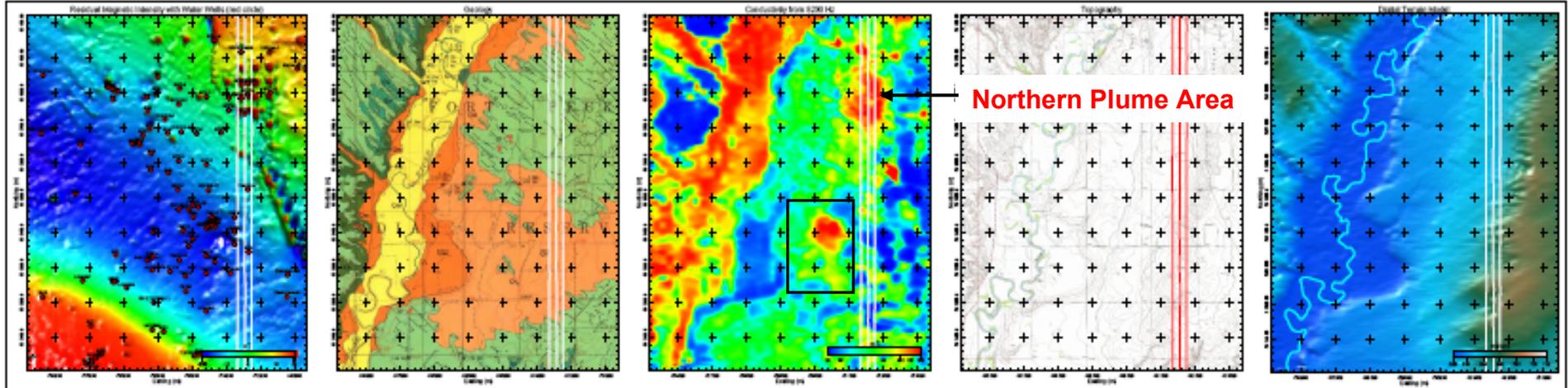
RESOLVE Survey

Flow: August 2004
 Processed: April 2007



Conductivity from 8200 Hz





Conductivity Depth Section MultiPlot

Scale 1 : 10000

Line L10380

PIONEER
Natural Resources USA, Inc.

East Poplar Ground Water Study
Roosevelt County, Montana

RESOLVE Survey

From April 2011
through April 2013

Northern Plume(s) Area

Aquifer Testing

(Pioneer – Midland ED & HKM Engineering)

- Drilled three new wells - two 5” pumping wells and one observation well
- Conducted Three Aquifer Pump Tests

Test #1 - Northern Main Plume Area – 18 hour pump test

Test #2 – Southern Plume Area – 18 hour pump test

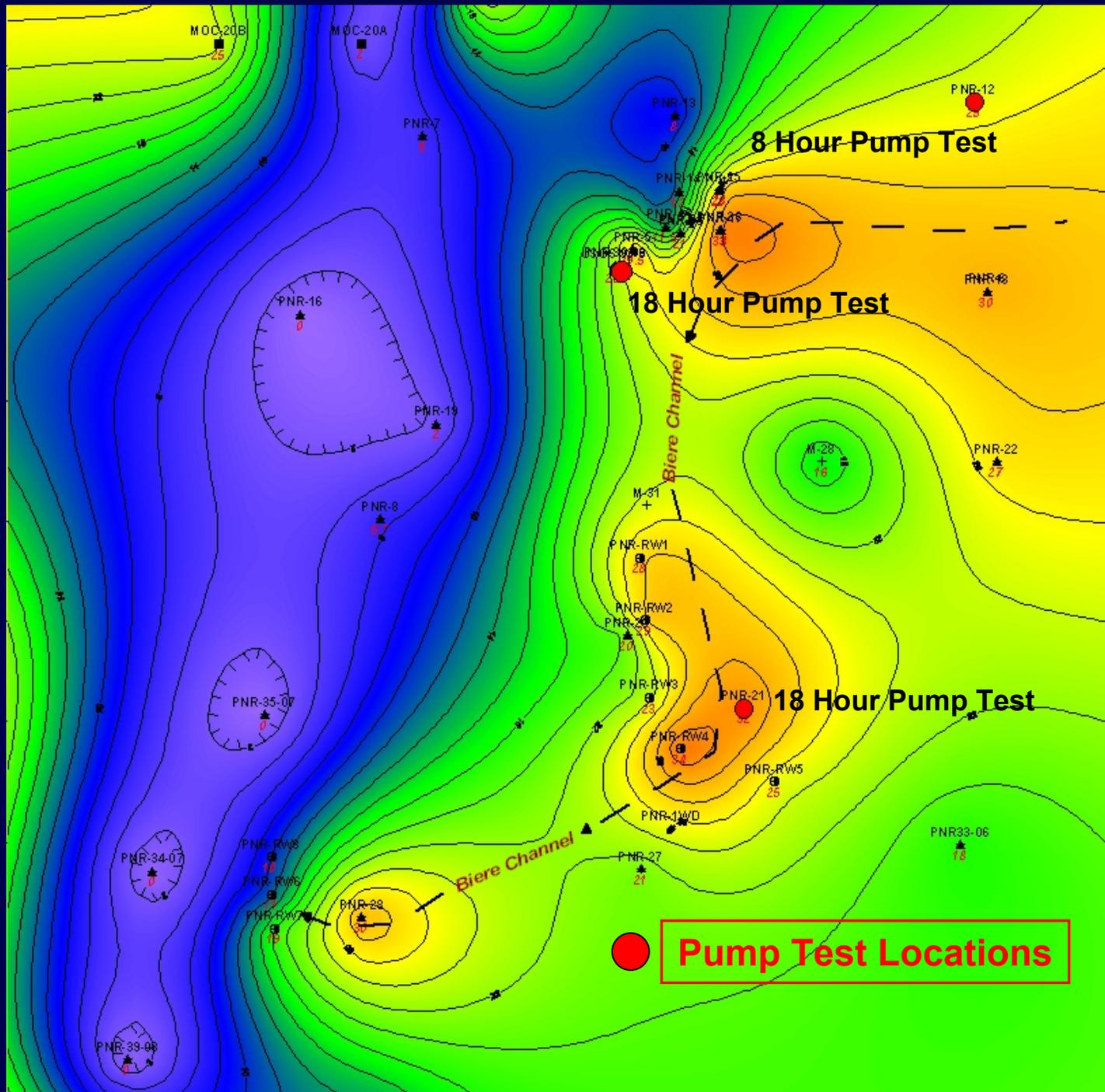
Test#3 – Upgradient Gravel Channel – 8 hour pump test

- Conducted Slug Tests on 14 wells



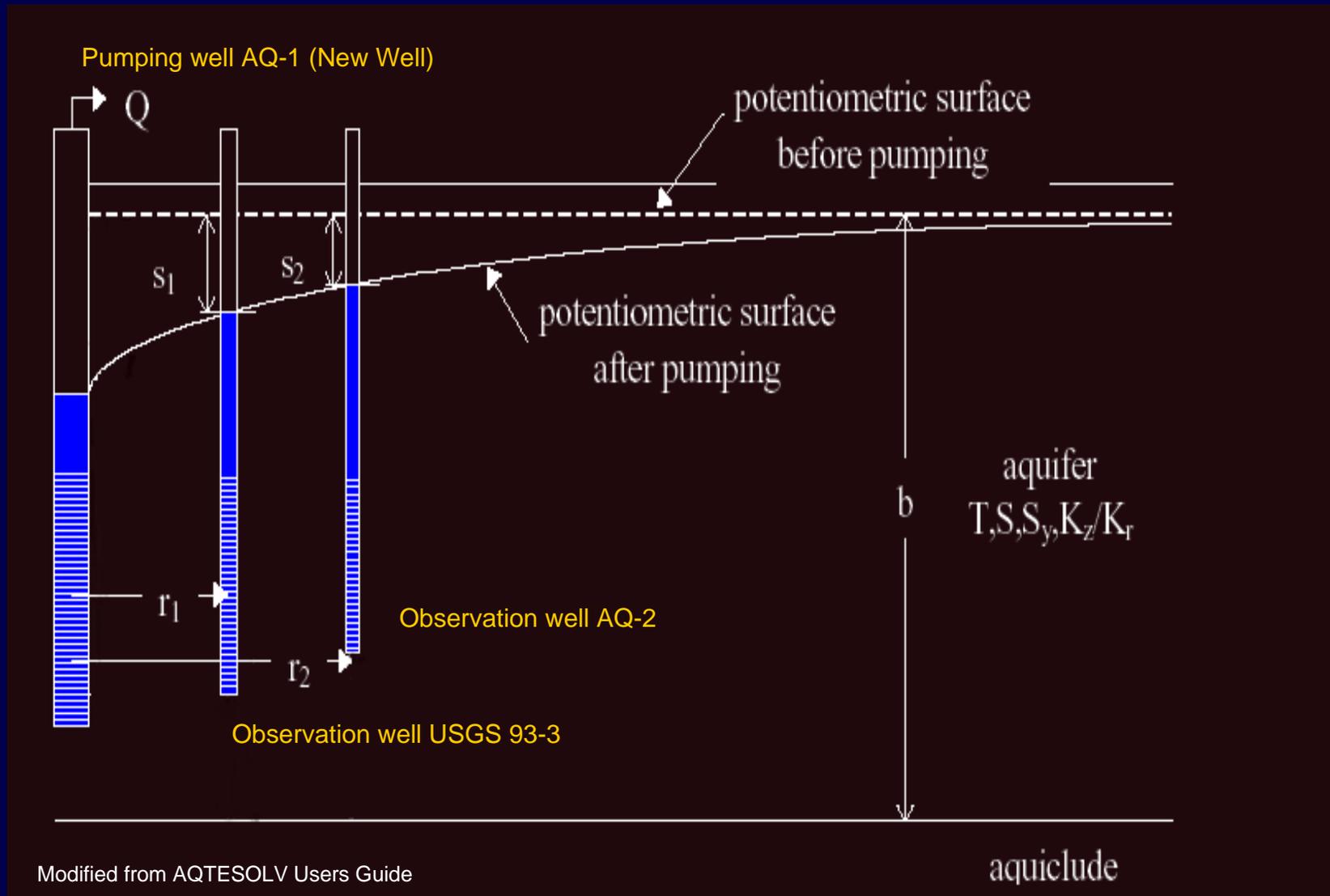
Hydrogeologic and Hydraulic Parameters Important for Aquifer Characterization, Modeling, & Cleanup

<u><i>Parameter</i></u>	<u><i>Importance To Groundwater Cleanup</i></u>
Hydraulic Conductivity K	Ease with which water can move through a formation and influences the rate at which groundwater can be pumped for treatment. Influences the total flow rate of the system.
Hydraulic gradient i	Influences the direction of contaminant movement based upon the elevation and pressure differences.
Transmissivity T	Influences the rate at which groundwater can be pumped and, thus, influences the total flow rate of the system.
Groundwater velocity V_i	Influences the direction and velocity of dissolved contaminant movement - important when designing a containment system.
Porosity θ	Pores store water and contaminants. Influences the hydraulic conductivity and impacts the fate of the contaminants due to various physical, chemical, and biological processes that take place in the saturated zone.
Effective porosity θ_e	Has an impact on the groundwater velocity.
Storage coefficient S	Influences the quantity of groundwater that can be obtained by pumping
Specific yield S_y	Fraction of total pore volume released as water by gravity drainage during pumping of an unconfined aquifer and influences the quantity of groundwater that can be obtained by pumping.



 Pump Test Locations

Aquifer Testing



PNR-30-06 Pumping Test Results - Northern Channel - Plume "Hot Spot"

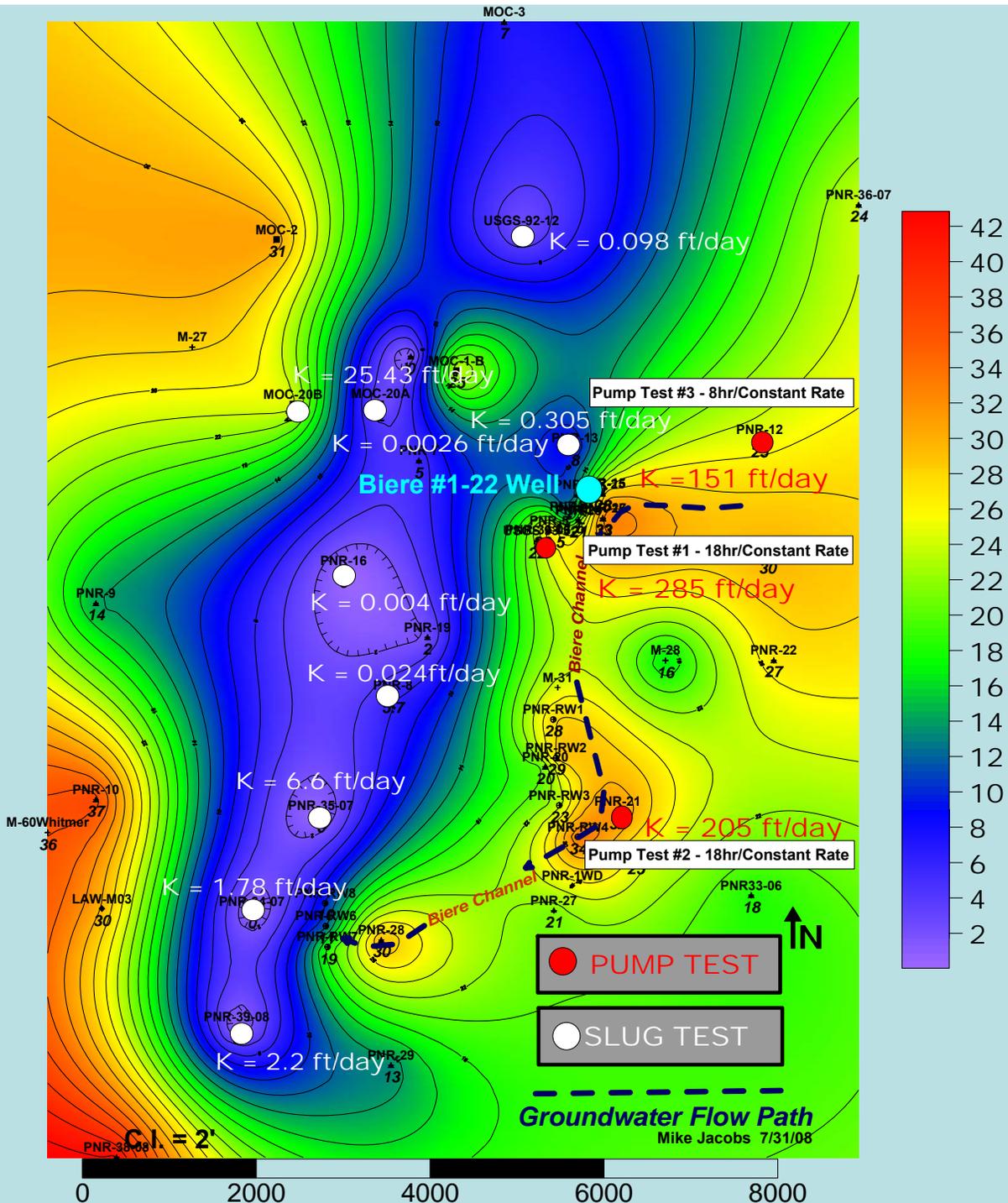
WELL	DISTANCE (feet)	PUMPING RATE (gpm) hh:mm:ss	MAXIMUM DRAWDOWN (feet)
PNR-30-06 <i>Pumping Well</i>	0.0	29 gpm for 19:17:12	1.96
USGS-93-3A	14	0	0.92
USGS-93-3	24	0	0.86
PNR-5	162	0	0.34
PNR-14	682	0	0.24

Avg. K = 285 ft/day

PNR-31-06 Pumping Test Results – Southern Channel – Plume Front Area

WELL	DISTANCE (feet)	PUMPING RATE (gpm) (hh:mm:ss)	MAXIMUM DRAWDOWN (feet)
PNR-31-06 <i>Pumping Well</i>	0.0	80 gpm for 00:12:46 60 gpm for 00:56:35 53 gpm for 18:30:47	16.22
PNR-21	20		1.16
PNR-32-06	65		0.54
PNR-20	970		0

Avg. K = 205 ft/day





**Hard compact "Fat Clay" of the overlying
Sprole Till and inter-channel clay
deposits**



**Loose, coarse-grained gravel of the
Wiota Gravel - Aquifer**

Slug Test Evaluation (-28° F)



Later that Day – Still Smiling



Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Model – Visual MODFLOW

(Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Albuquerque, NM & Pioneer Midland ED)

1. Build Model

☞ **Input of Hydrogeological & Hydraulic Data**

⇒ Input Initial Head Data – 47 Wells

⇒ Define Hydrogeological Layers & Aquifer Thickness

Elevation of Top of Hydrostratigraphic Layers

Elevation of Bedrock (Bearpaw Shale)

⇒ Assign K from Pump and Slug Test Data to Layers

⇒ Input Geological Data

Lithology Logs

⇒ Well Completion data

Elevation of T/Screen Interval

Screened Interval

Size of Casing

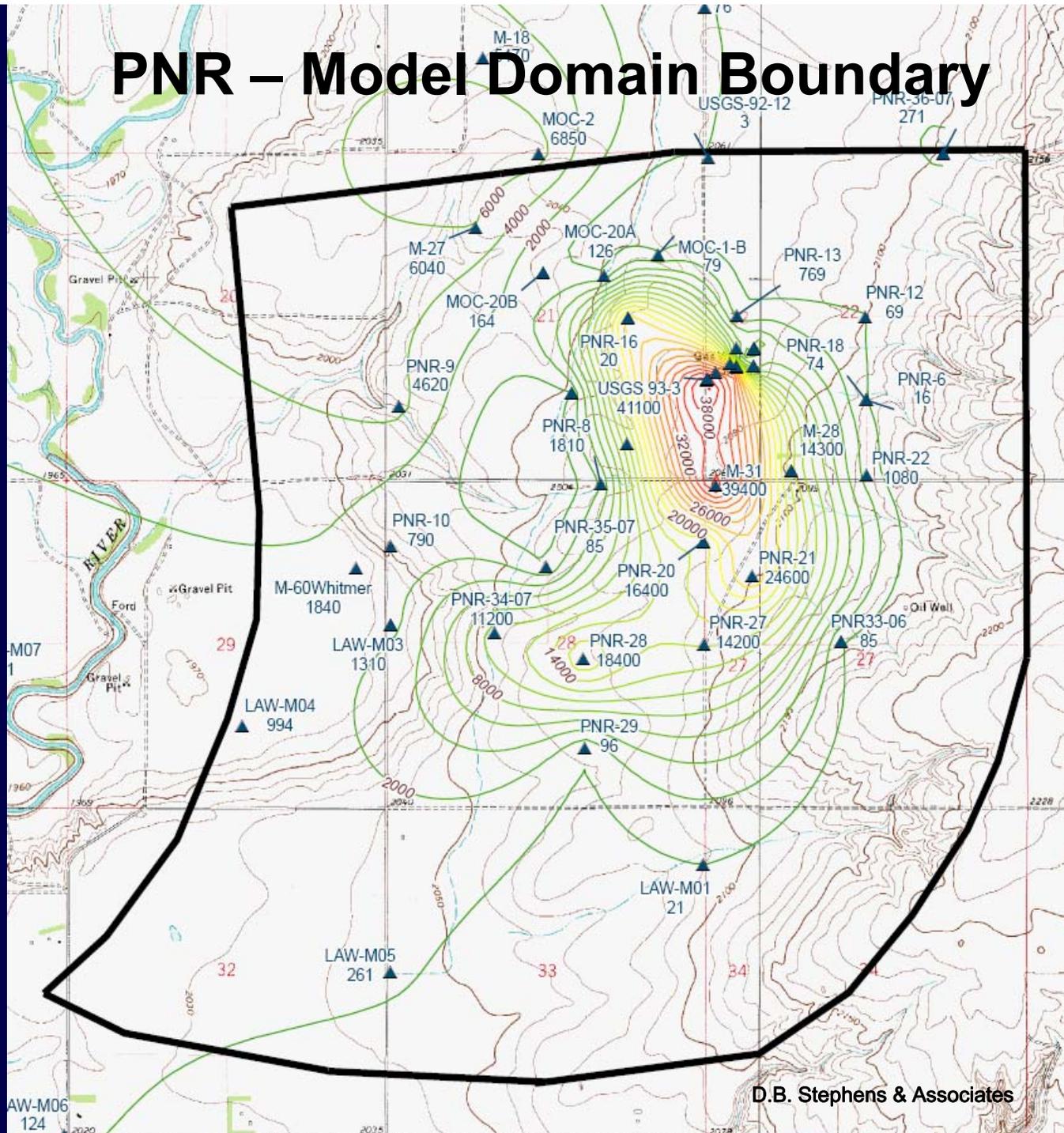
Screen Slot Size

2. Perform Capture Zone Analysis

3. Perform Total Pumping Rate Analysis

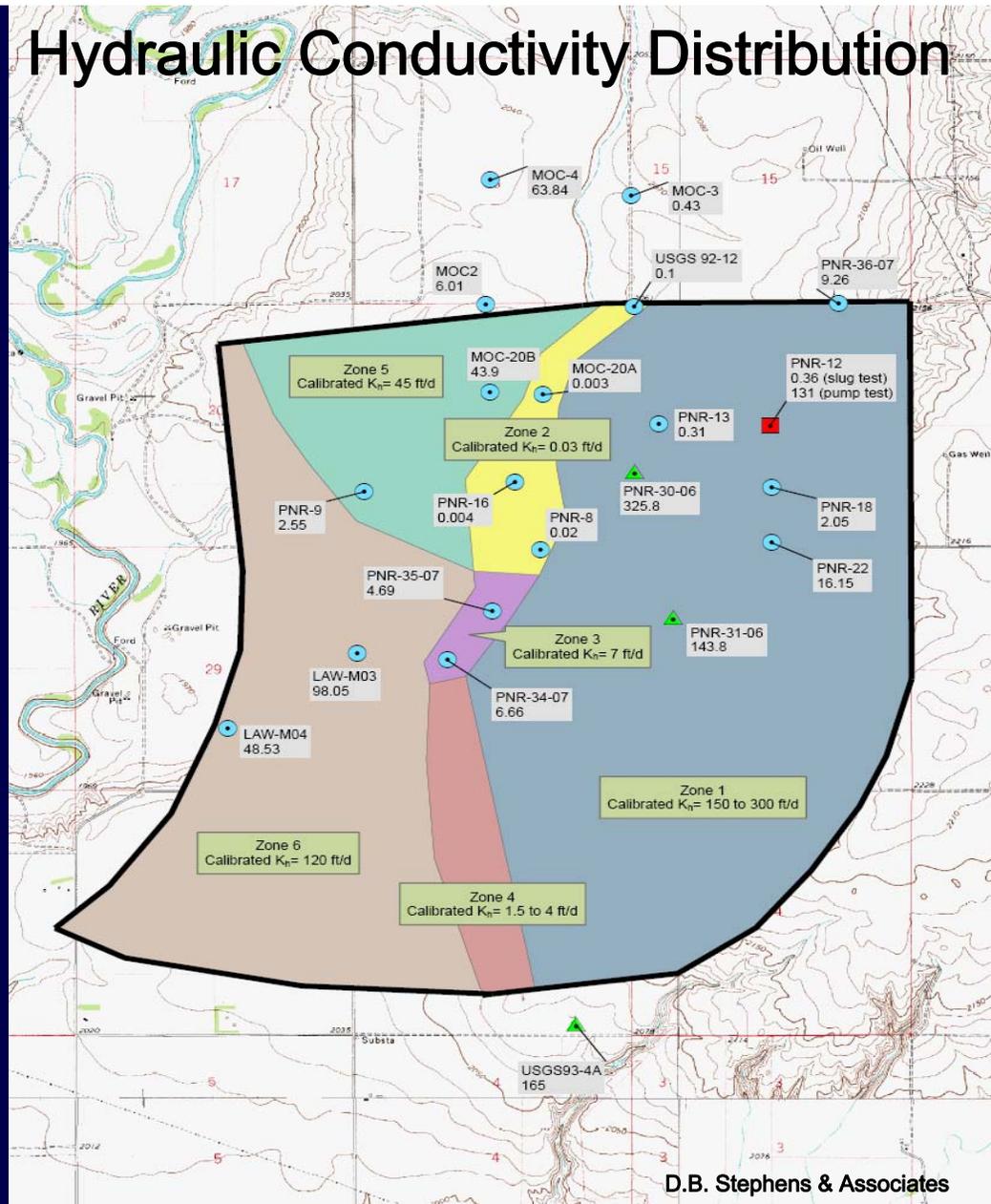
4. Determine Location of Pumping Wells & Number or Wells Needed

PNR – Model Domain Boundary

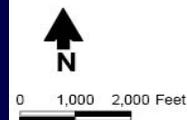


D.B. Stephens & Associates

Hydraulic Conductivity Distribution



D.B. Stephens & Associates

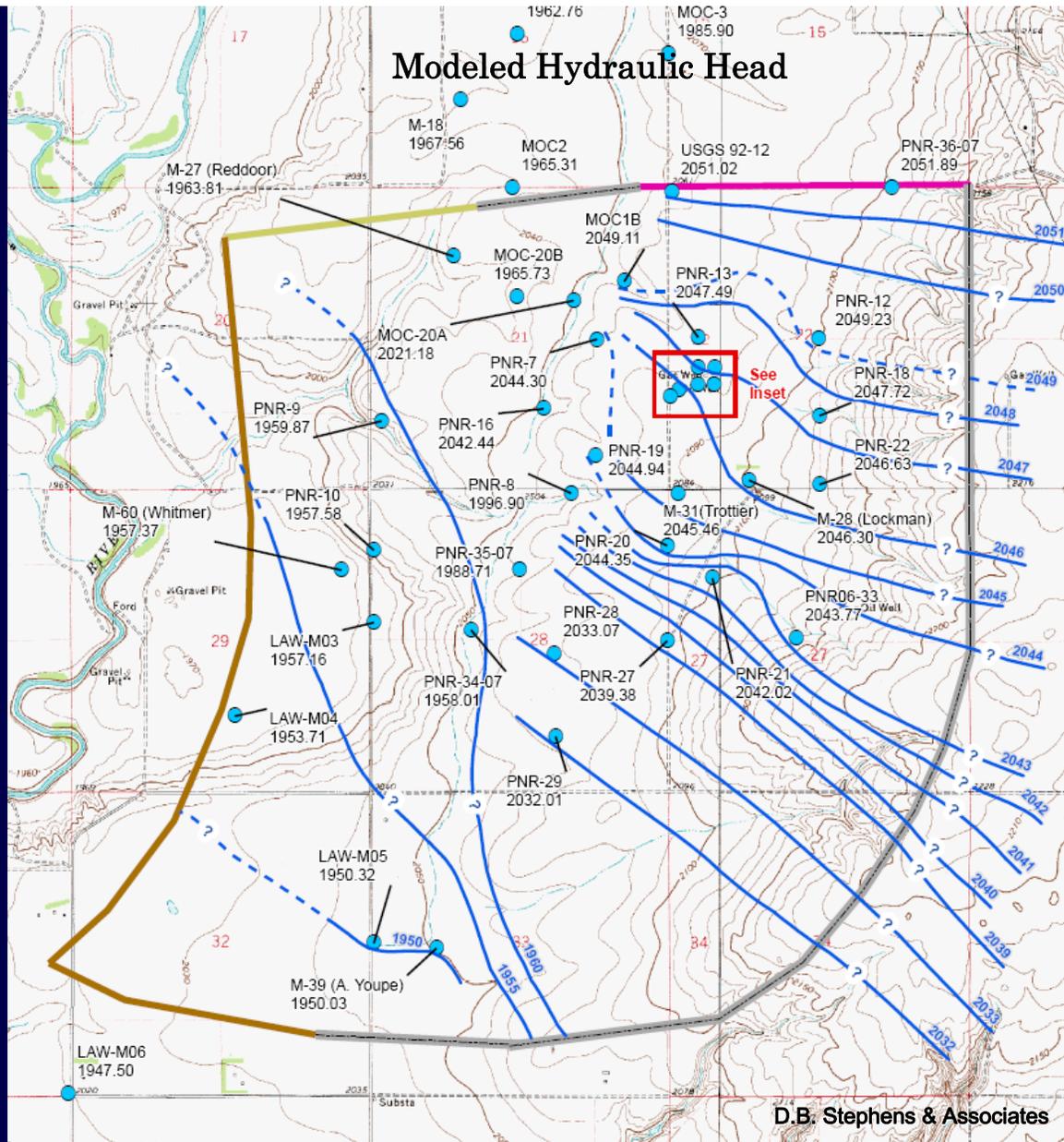


Explanation

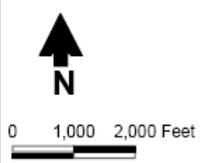
- Model Boundary
- Hydraulic Conductivity (ft/day)
 - Pump Test
 - Slug Test
 - Pump Test and Slug Test

- Horizontal Hydraulic Conductivity (K_h) Zones
 - Zone 1
 - Zone 2
 - Zone 3
 - Zone 4
 - Zone 5
 - Zone 6

Modeled Hydraulic Head

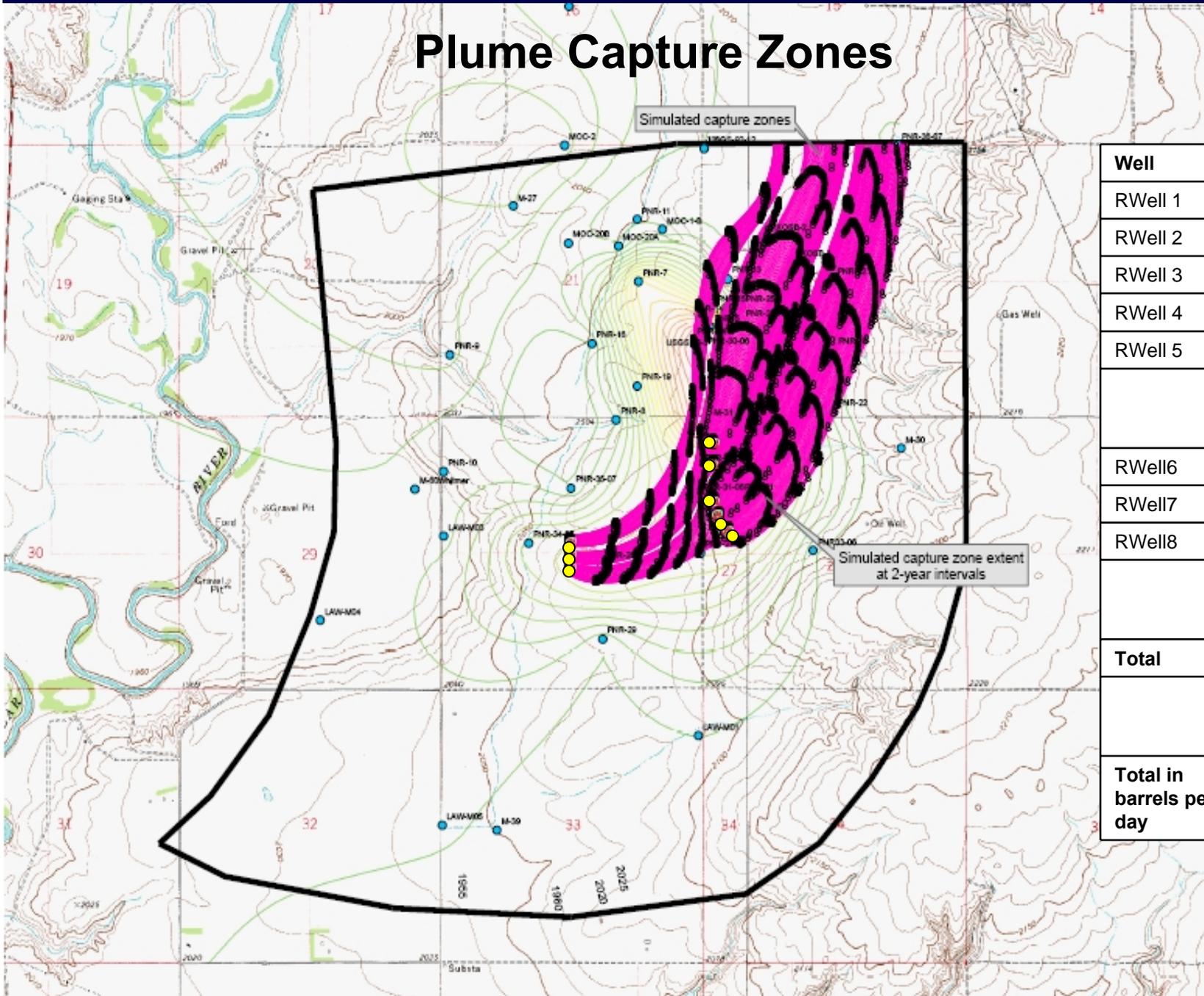


D.B. Stephens & Associates



- Explanation**
- Model boundary type**
 - No Flow
 - General Head
 - Prescribed Flux
 - Prescribed Head
 - Potentiometric Surface (ft msl)**
 - Monitoring well with groundwater elevation (ft msl)
 - Equipotential (dashed where inferred)

Plume Capture Zones



Well	Q (gpm)
RWell 1	30
RWell 2	15
RWell 3	8
RWell 4	25
RWell 5	30
RWell6	10
RWell7	10
RWell8	10
Total	138 gpm
Total in barrels per day	4731

2008 Biere #1-22 Brine Plume - Surface EM-34 Geophysical Work

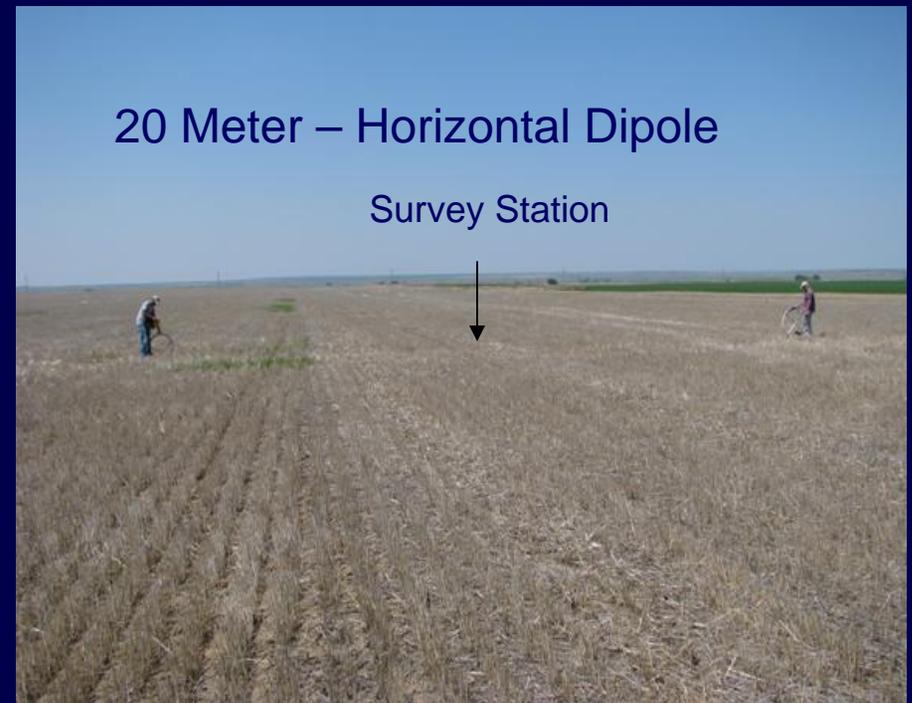
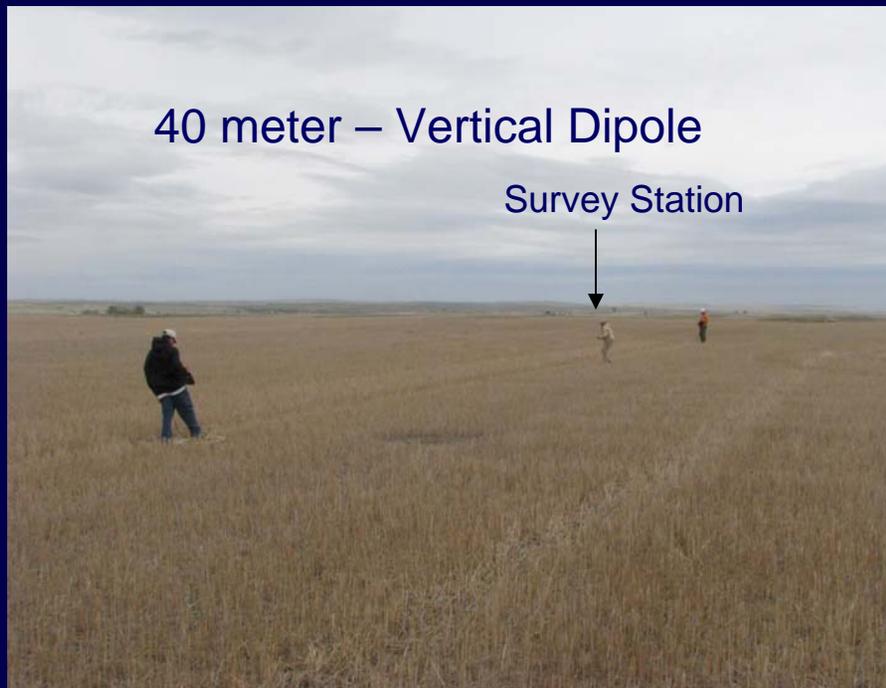
Advantages of EM34 surveys are:

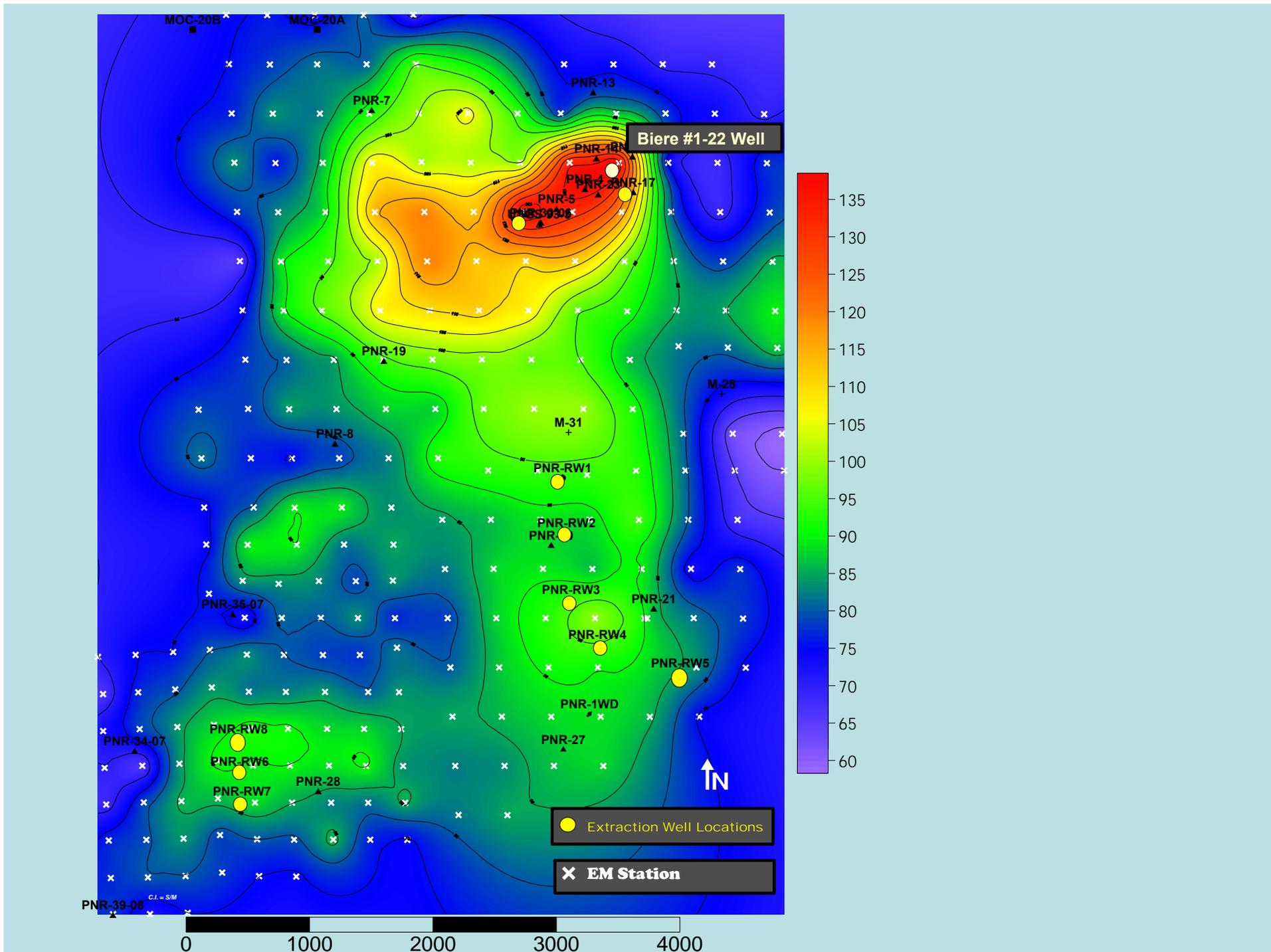
- ✓The equipment is relatively lightweight and portable



- ✓Measurements can be collected rapidly with a minimum number of field personnel, 2 to 3.
- ✓Is accurate and good for groundwater investigations up to 180' in depth

- The electromagnetic (EM) geophysical method determines electrical properties of earth materials by inducing electromagnetic currents in the ground and measuring the secondary magnetic field produced by these currents.
- An alternating current is generated in a wire loop or coil above the ground's surface. Both the primary magnetic field (produced by the transmitter coil in the instrument) and the secondary field (produced by currents in the earth) induce a corresponding alternating current in the receiver coil of the instrument.
- The coils are kept at a fixed distance and orientation relative to the ground to simplify data analysis. The spacing and orientation of the EM field determines the effective depth of the investigation with good results up to depths of as much as 60 meters (180 feet) at the 40-meter spacing.

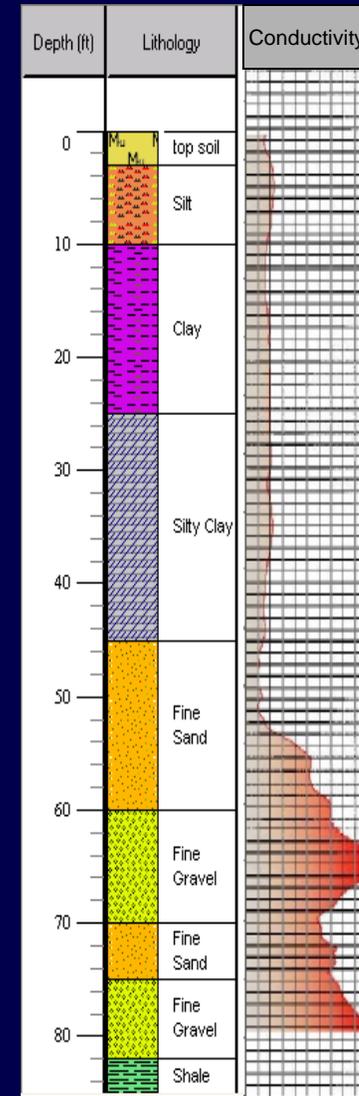




Downhole Geophysical Logging

Natural Gamma/Conductivity 20 Wells

PNR-21



Designing and Constructing the Biere Aquifer Restoration System

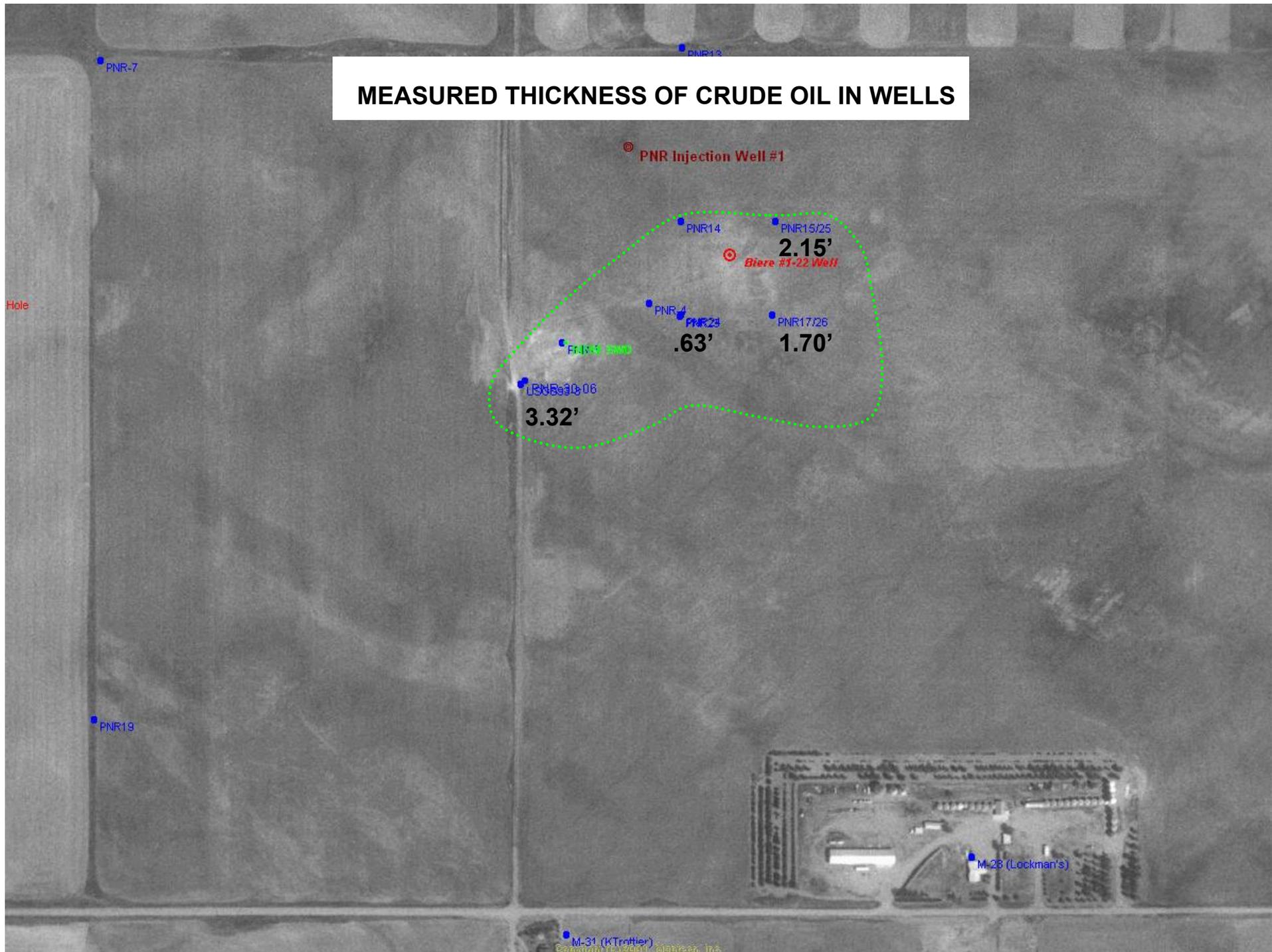
A Picture Story



PNR – Biere #1-22 Crude Oil Recovery Project



MEASURED THICKNESS OF CRUDE OIL IN WELLS





Crude Oil from Well



Crude Oil Recovery "Pilot Test"





- Current Transmission Line
- New Transmission Line
- Trenching for Lines (to be installed)
- ⊕ Product Recovery Well
- System Location

Trenching Electrical Line



Laying Electrical Line



Crude Oil Recovery Project - Installation

Plumbing in Wells



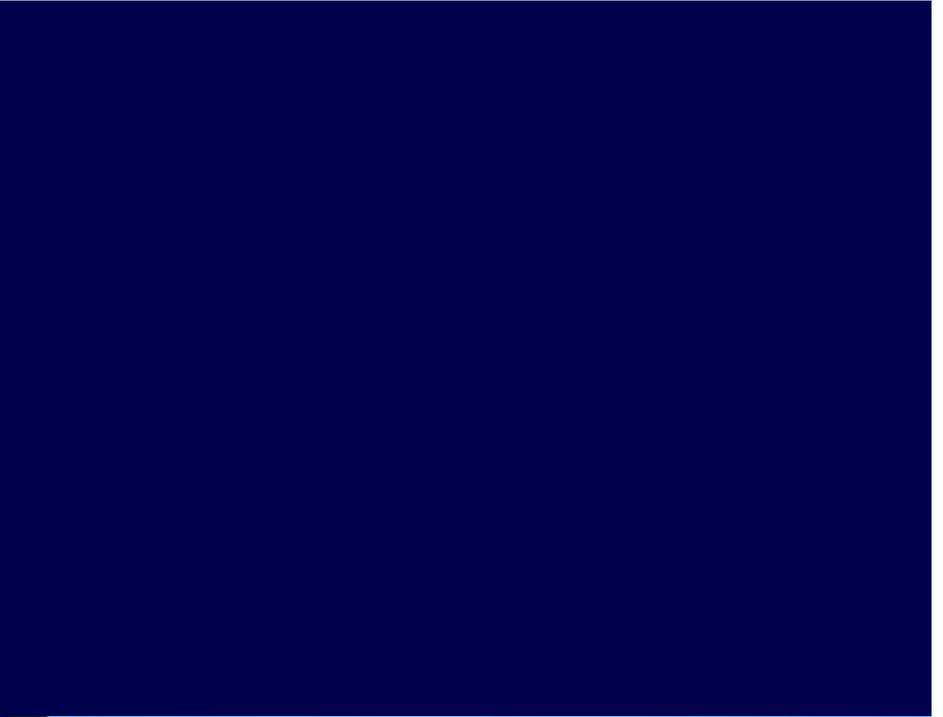
8" Recovery Well













Pioneer's
“Git er Dun”
Roustabout Crew
(good but very costly!!!!)

Ed Hance – Former Operations Services Manager, Current Manager of Operations - Tunisia

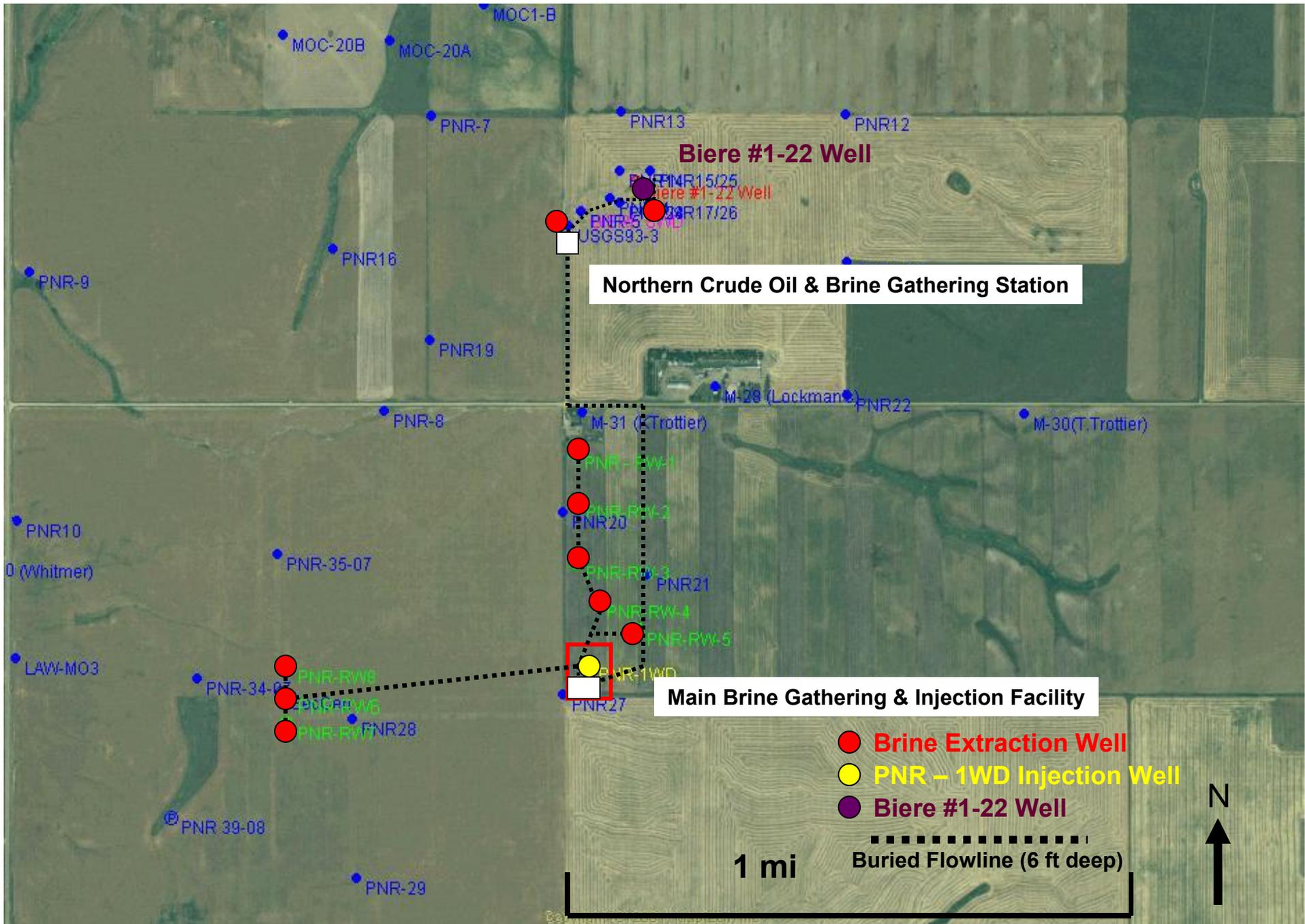
Recovery Rate \approx 2.5 bbl/day
90 gallons/day





**NORTHERN CRUDE OIL
AND
BRINE RECOVERY STATION**





Some Logistics of Biere Aquifer Restoration System

Flowlines

>15,000 ft of SDR-7, 2-inch poly flowline

>5,000 ft of SDR-7, 4-inch poly flowline

Main Brine Collection Facility

1 - 7,500 ft USEPA Class V Injection Well

8 - Brine Extraction Wells (with either a 5hp or a 3/4hp Stainless Steel Grundfos pump)

5 – 500 bbl Brine Storage Tanks

1 - 250 hp Tri-Plex Injection Pump

2 – Electrical Transfer Pumps

Meter Shed with flow meters and conductivity meters

Northern Crude Oil/Brine Recovery System

3 – Crude Oil Extraction Wells

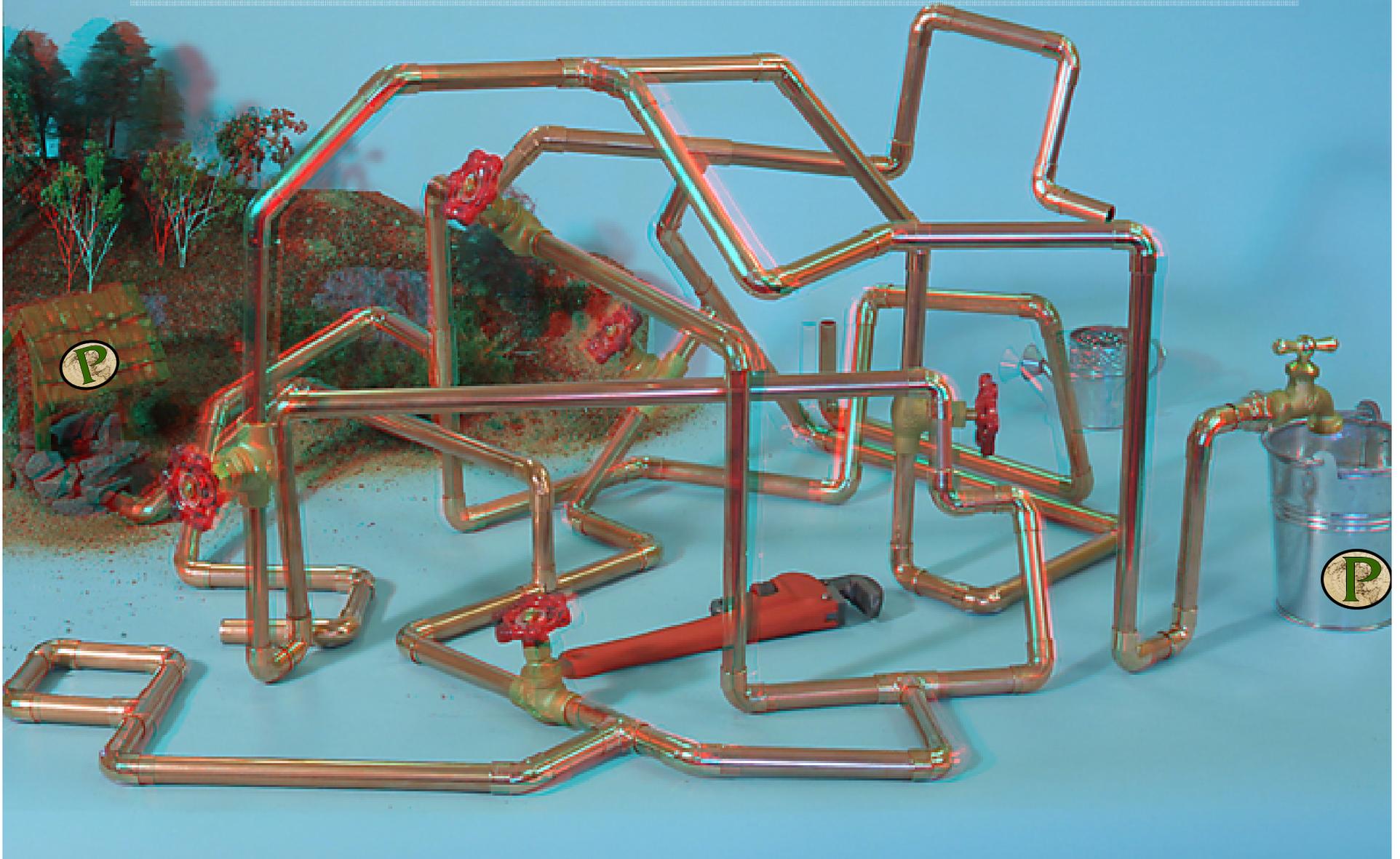
2 – Dual Crude/Brine Extraction Wells (1, 5hp Grundfos pump and 1, 3/4hp pump)

2 – Xi-Tech Product Recovery Pumps

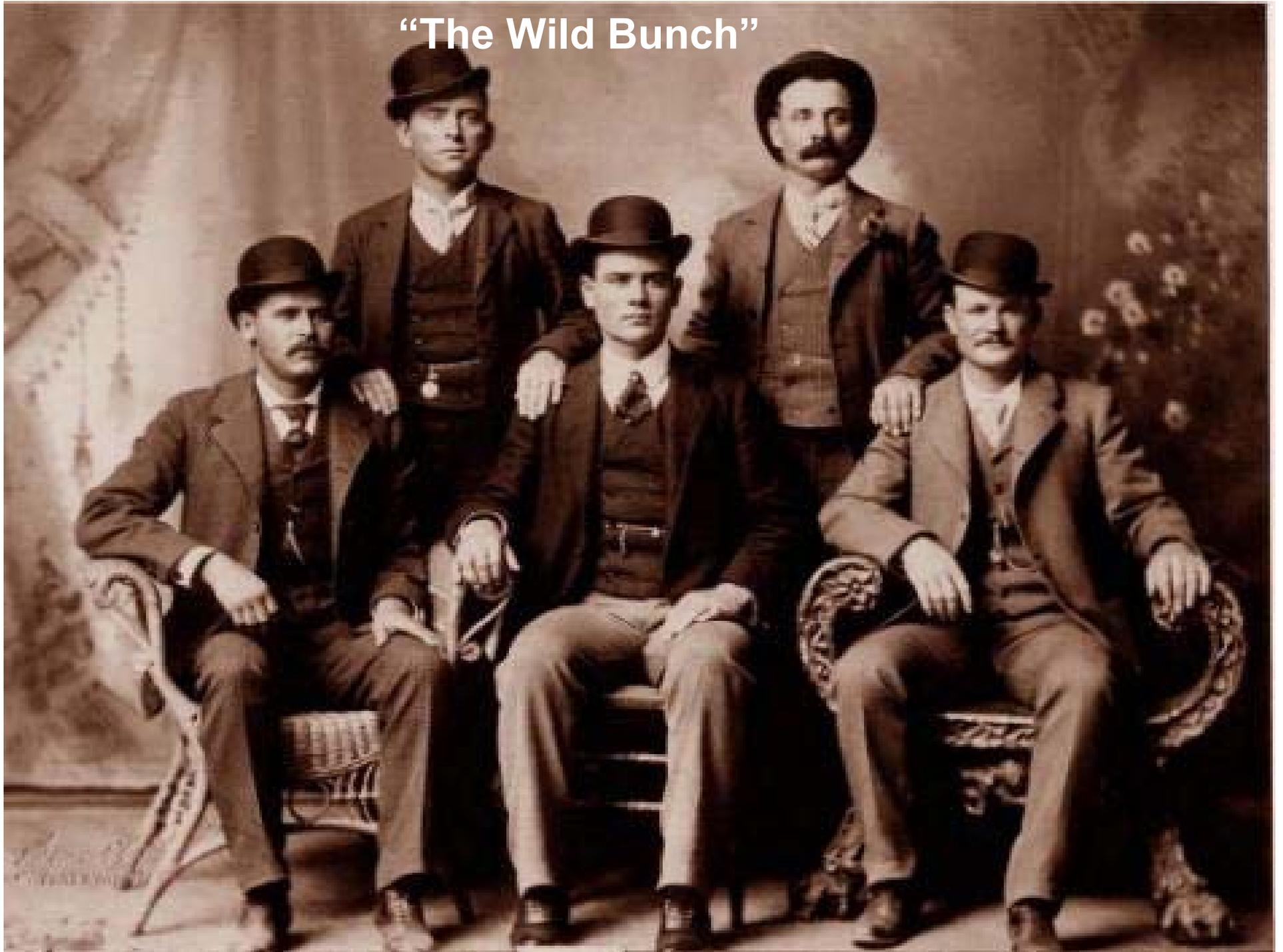
2 – 250 bbl Crude and Brine Storage Tanks

1- Electrical Transfer Pump

My First attempt to Develop a Working Scale Model



“The Wild Bunch”



PIONEER'S TRINIDAD COLORADO CREW



High Level - Planning and D



PNR-1WD – 7,600' T.D in Devonian Nisku Fm.



Injection Well - Step Rate Test







**RESULTS - WELL CAPABLE OF
14,400 BBLs/DAY @ 2,000 PSI**



Brine Recovery Well – “PNR-RW1”

11/26/07

Brine Recovery Well – “PNR-RW2”



11/27/07



Gravels – PNR-RW1

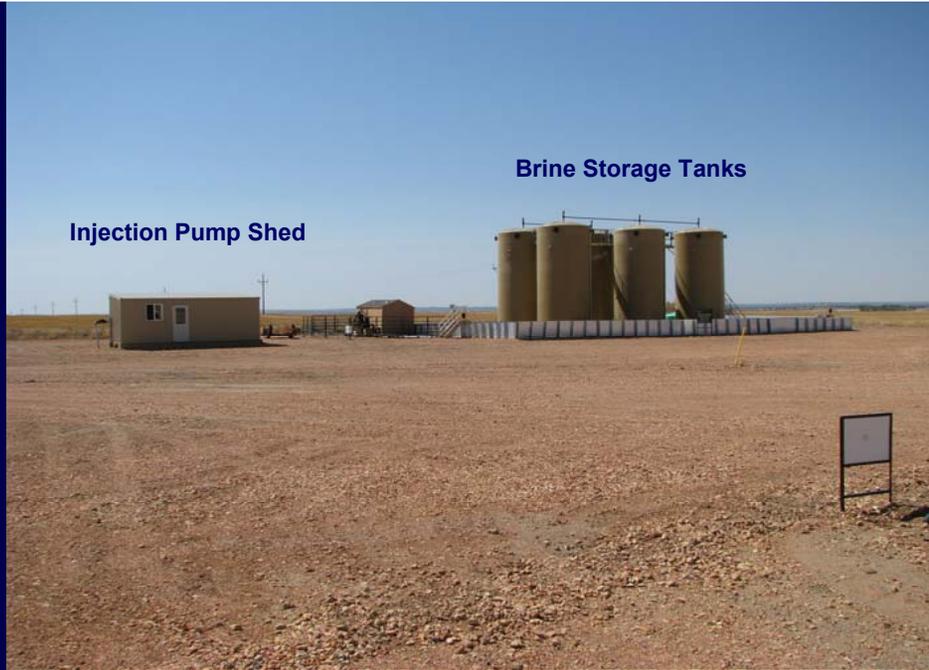
Gravels – PNR-RW2











Injection Pump Shed

Brine Storage Tanks



Injection Pump



PNR-1WD Wellhead



System Kick off Ceremony



Pioneer Senior Management





2008 Recipient

United States Department of Interior Environmental Achievement "Team" Award



From left to right: **Mr. Willie Taylor**; Chief of Division of Environment Compliance, DOI; **Ms. Lynne Scarlett**, Deputy Secretary of the DOI; **Ms. Joanna Thamke**, Hydrogeologist, USGS; **Mr. Nathan Wiser**, USEPA, Region 8; **Mr. Mike Jacobs, Sr.** Environmental Specialist, Pioneer Natural Resources; **Mr. Victor Labson**, Acting Chief Geologist, USGS, Washington, D.C.



Questions?????

A HIGHER LEVEL OF CONFUSION

"I fully realize that I have not succeeded in answering all of your questions. Indeed, I feel I have not answered any of them completely. The answers I have found only serve to raise a whole new set of questions, which only lead to more problems, some of which I wasn't even aware were problems!! To sum it all up . . . In some ways, I feel I am just as confused as ever, but I believe I am confused on a *higher* level, and . . . about more *important* things now."

Dissolved Phase - Benzene

