

Irrigation Protection in CBM Areas



WYOMING

ASMR Annual Conference
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Wyoming Ag Protection Standard

Chapter 1, Section 20; Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations:

“All Wyoming surface waters which have the natural water quality potential for use as an agricultural water supply shall be maintained at a quality which allows continued use of such waters for agricultural purposes.

Degradation of such waters shall not be of such an extent to cause a measurable decrease in crop or livestock production.

Unless otherwise demonstrated, all Wyoming surface waters have the natural water quality potential for use as an agricultural water supply.”

What We're **NOT** talking
about....







What We **ARE** talking
about....







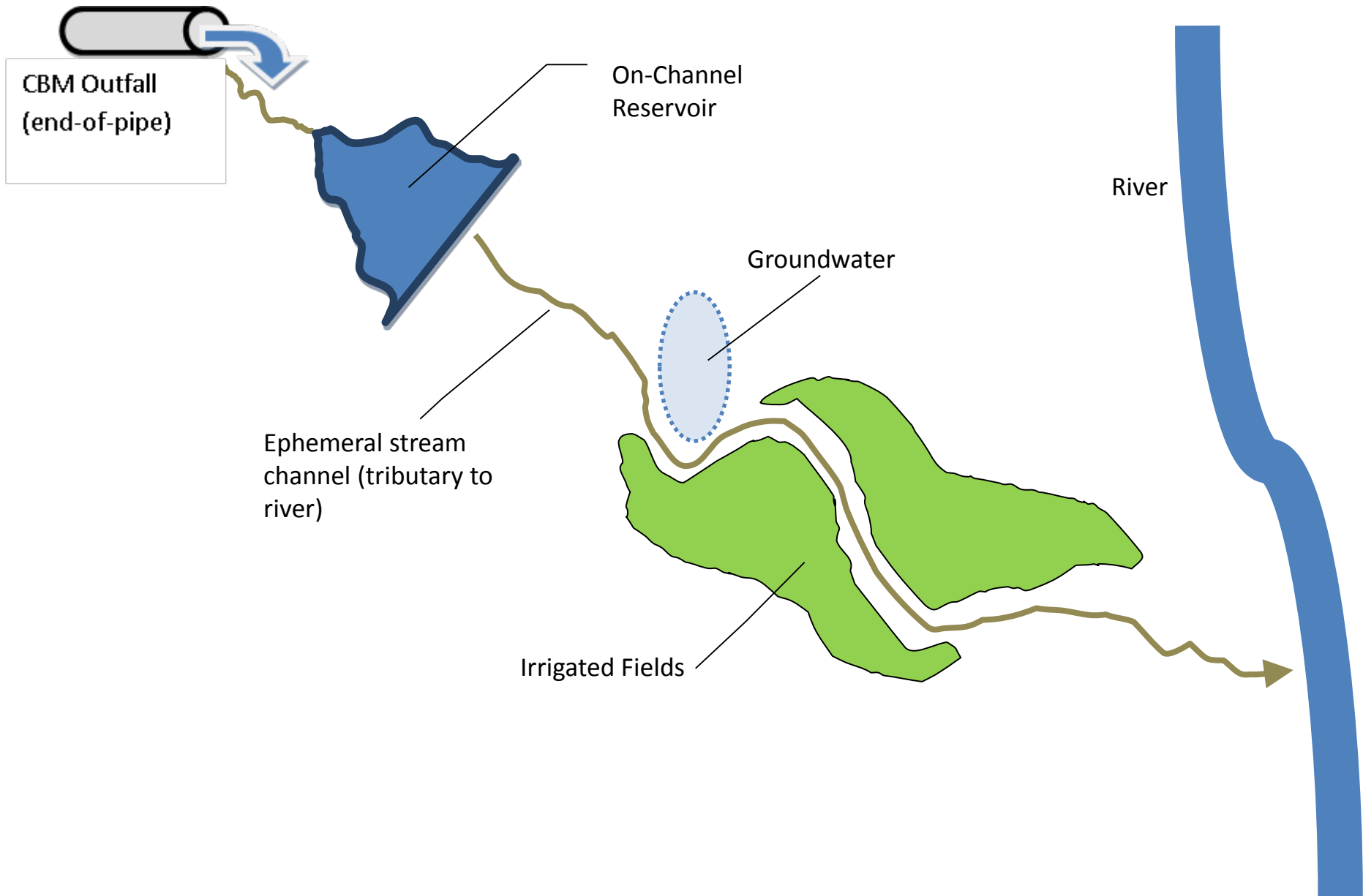


**Not Protected as
Irrigation**

What Gets Monitored

- CBM Outfalls (Produced Water)
- CBM Reservoirs
- Surface Water (Downstream)
- Groundwater
- Soils
- Crops / Forage

Typical CBM Layout



Reservoirs

Threshold: Reservoir water EC concentrating salts at 150% or greater.

Action: Cease discharge of CBM water into affected reservoirs.

Groundwater

Threshold 1: Groundwater within 6 feet of surface.

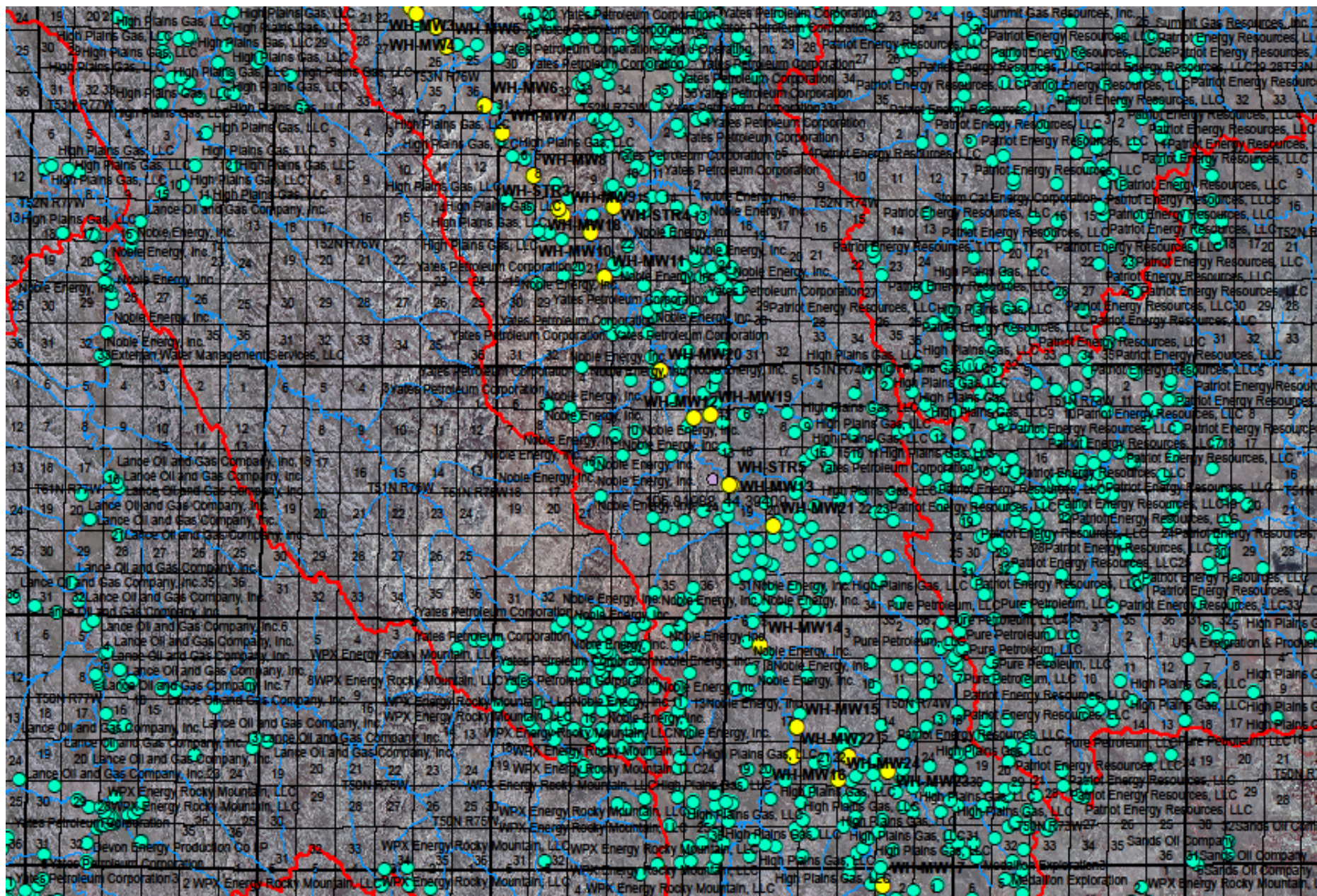
Action 1: Increase sampling frequency. Add sampling for dissolved inorganic carbon.

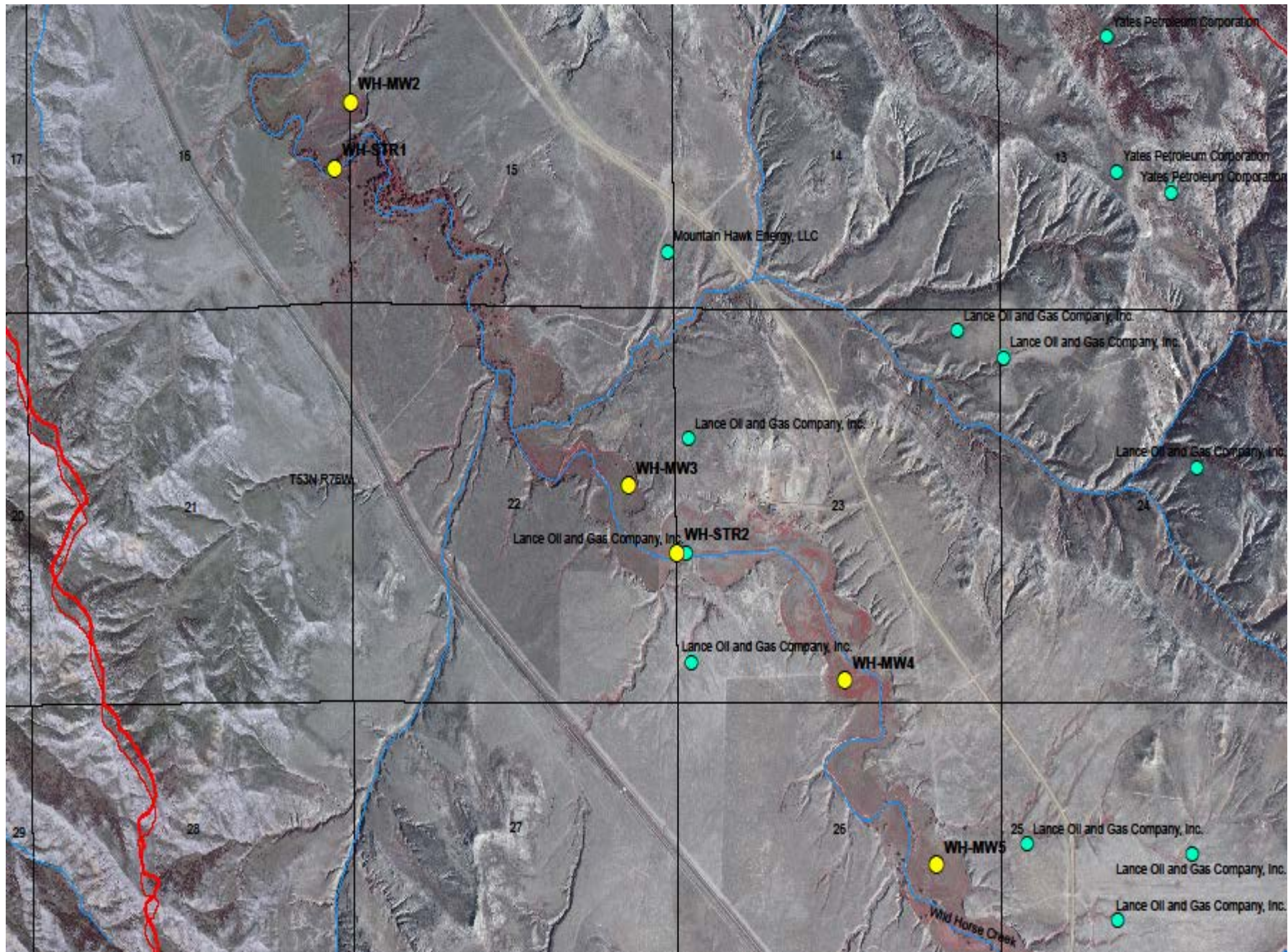
Threshold 2: Groundwater within 3 feet of surface AND contains CBM water.

Action 2: Cease CBM flows from contributing areas.

Soils

- **Threshold:** 40% increase in EC or SAR in one year; or 15% increase over 2 years or more; or, regardless of trend, any finding of ESP > 10% or EC > 4,000 micromhos/cm at 0-12" depth.
- **Action:** Increase soil sampling to twice per year. Investigate source of problem. If CBM water a contributing factor, mitigate by reducing CBM discharges, improving drainage and/or amending soils.





2012 Dead Horse Creek:

Depth to groundwater: 3.5 – 12.5 ft

Groundwater EC: 3,000 – 12,000 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$

Groundwater Carbon $\text{C}^{13}/\text{C}^{12}$: -4.5 to -12.5

Soil EC: 4,000 – 17,000 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$

Soil ESP: 1 - 20

Soil Smectite: 18 – 32 %

Reservoir EC: 550 – 5,300 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$

2012 Beaver Creek:

Depth to groundwater: 6 – 12.5 ft

Groundwater EC: 7,200 – 8,300 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$

Groundwater Carbon $\text{C}^{13}/\text{C}^{12}$: -4.5 to -14.5

Soil EC: 1,300 – 32,000 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$

Soil ESP: 1 - 20

Soil Smectite: 18 – 41 %

Reservoir EC: 800 – 3,600 $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$