



CO₂ as a Commodity for Realizing the Potential in Unconventional Production Strategies of Conventional Reservoirs

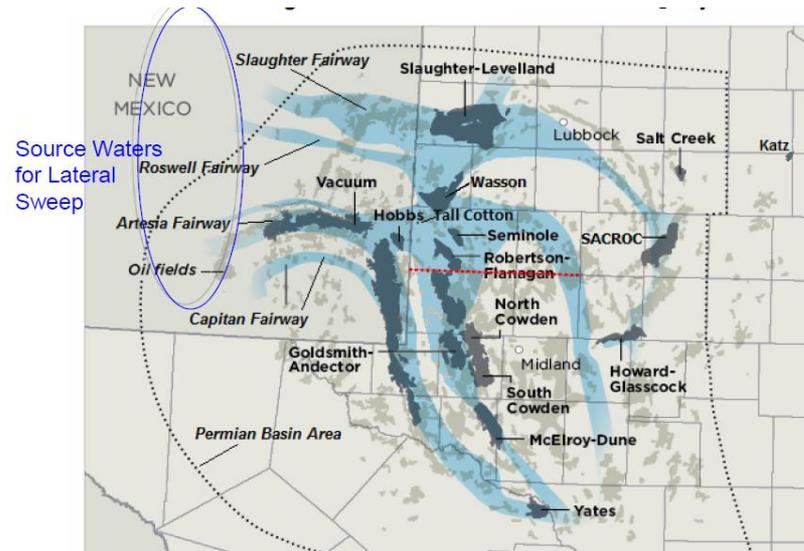
September 26th, 2019

What does that long title mean?

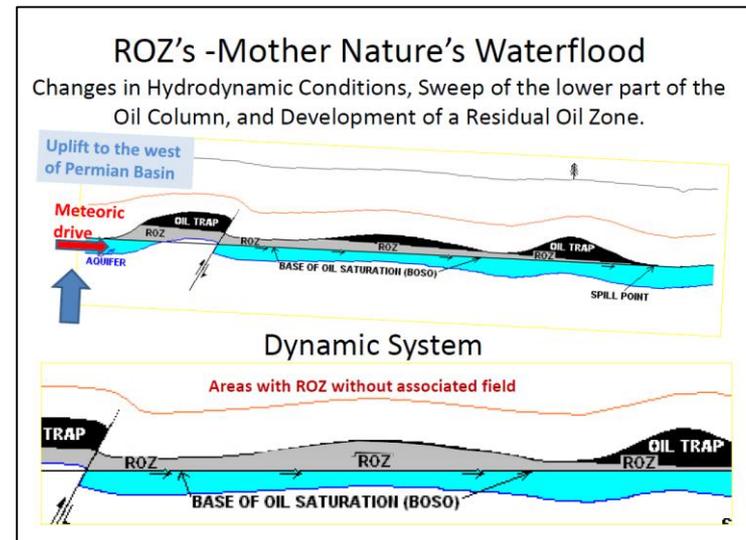
- It means,
 - Injecting CO₂, or a mix of CO₂ and produced gas, into areas of horizontal well development in conventional reservoirs (outside of conventional waterflood development)
 - Mobilizing a secondary oil bank not realized from frac'ing methods
 - Sequestering CO₂ long term
- Two options for implementation
 - Producer huff-and-puff
 - Dedicated CO₂ injectors
- Successful projects already underway in unconventional plays:
 - Eagleford (EOG, Marathon) – produced gas huff-and-puff
 - Bakken – (Hess) – produced gas huff-and-puff
 - Permian Wolfcamp – (Oxy) – CO₂ huff-and-puff

What is the Horizontal San Andres Play?

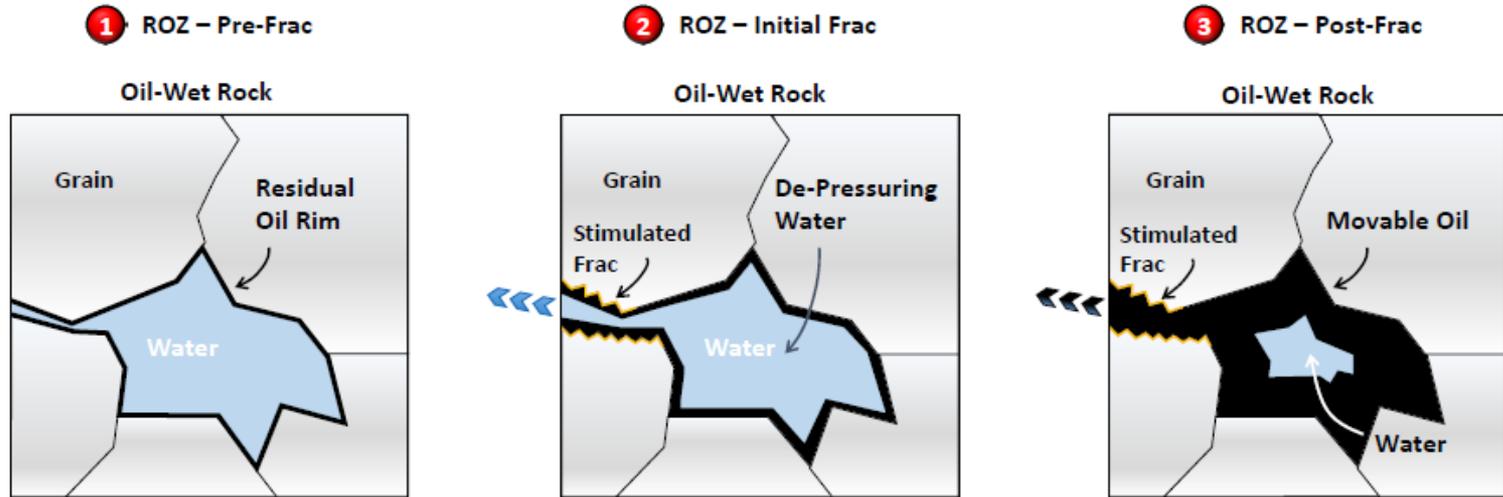
- Drilling horizontal wells outside of traditional anticlinal structures in the “fairways” between existing fields
- Use unconventional completion strategies to produce
- San Andres reservoir has conventional rocks properties
 - Porosity in the 6-8% range
 - Millidarcy permeability
- Water disposal is critical to economic success
 - High fluid volumes, with a 5-20% oil cut



Melzer & Trentham, SIPES, April 2016



What is the Horizontal San Andres Play?



Imagine an ROZ pore space....

- 1 Movable hydrocarbons have been swept leaving water plus residual oil molecules clinging to the rock → The resultant pressure of the incompressible water in the pore is so great that the compressible oil molecules can't move
- 2 For oil to mobilize, the pore must first be de-pressurized resulting in *high initial water production*
- 3 With some of the incompressible water removed, oil molecules expand, coalesce, & release from the pore surface → The well then produces both oil and water

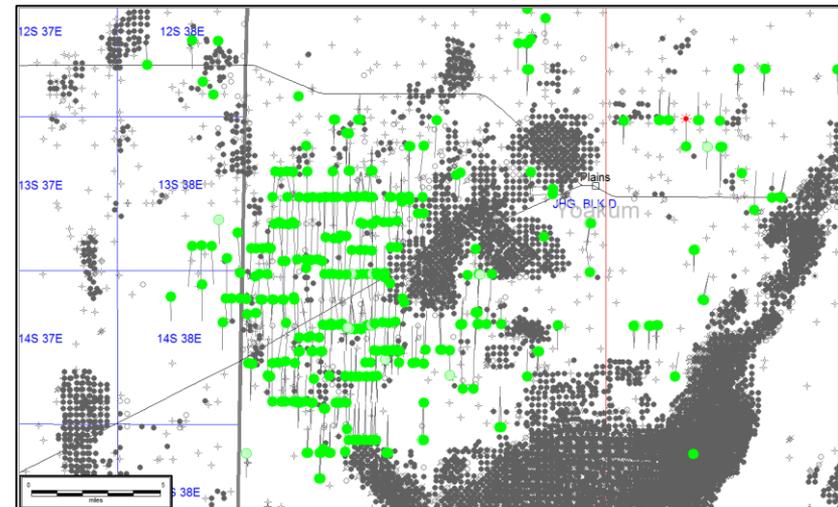
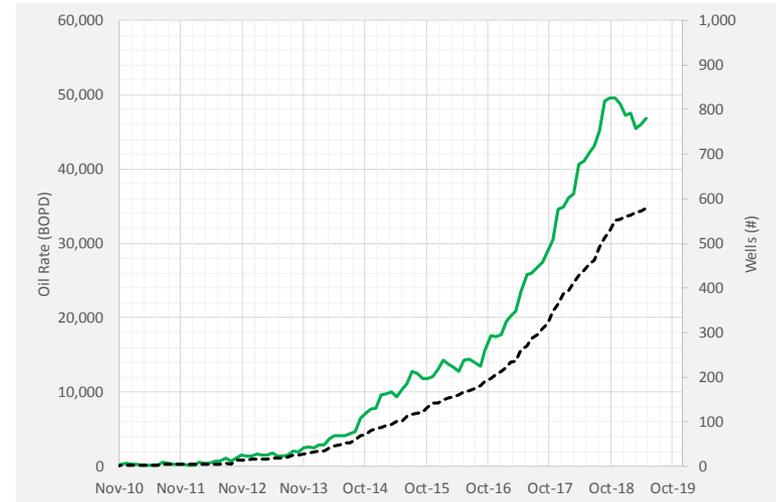
**A horizontal well with a multi-stage frac expedites this de-pressuring process*



Dec. 2017, CO₂-ROZ conference, Midland, TX

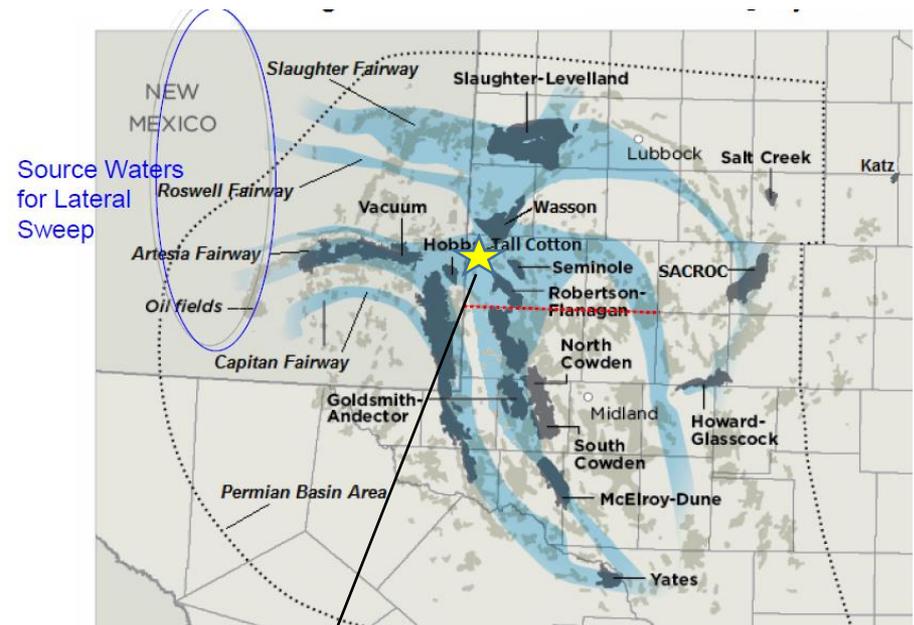
What is the Horizontal San Andres Play?

- As of May 2019:
 - > 40 companies
 - > 540 wells
 - > 46,000 BOPD
- Primarily focused in Yoakum, Gaines, Cochran and Andrews County
- Wide range of companies involved, small independents to super majors
- Low operating costs (~\$10/BO) if you have water disposal

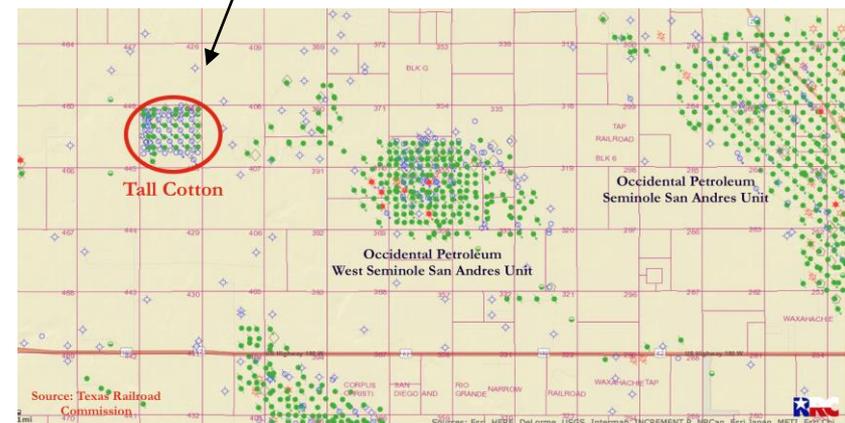


Why the Horizontal San Andres Play?

- San Andres dolomite
 - Most widely CO₂ flooded rock in the world
 - Proven response to CO₂ injection
 - Proven ability to sequester gas
 - Demonstrated results flooding the ROZ fairway (KM-Tall Cotton Field)
- Permian Basin:
 - Has the knowledge, expertise and technical ability to implement EOR projects
 - Has the infrastructure for distribution



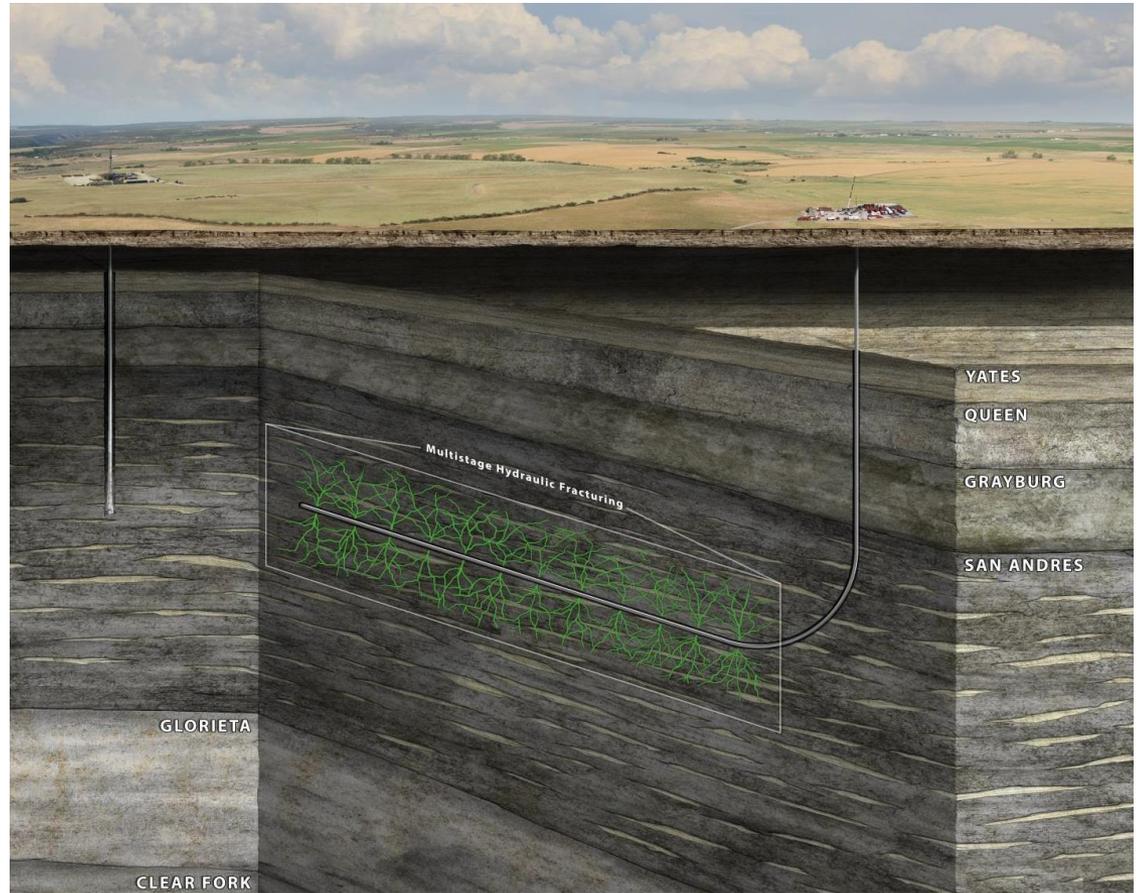
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Horizontal San Andres Characteristics

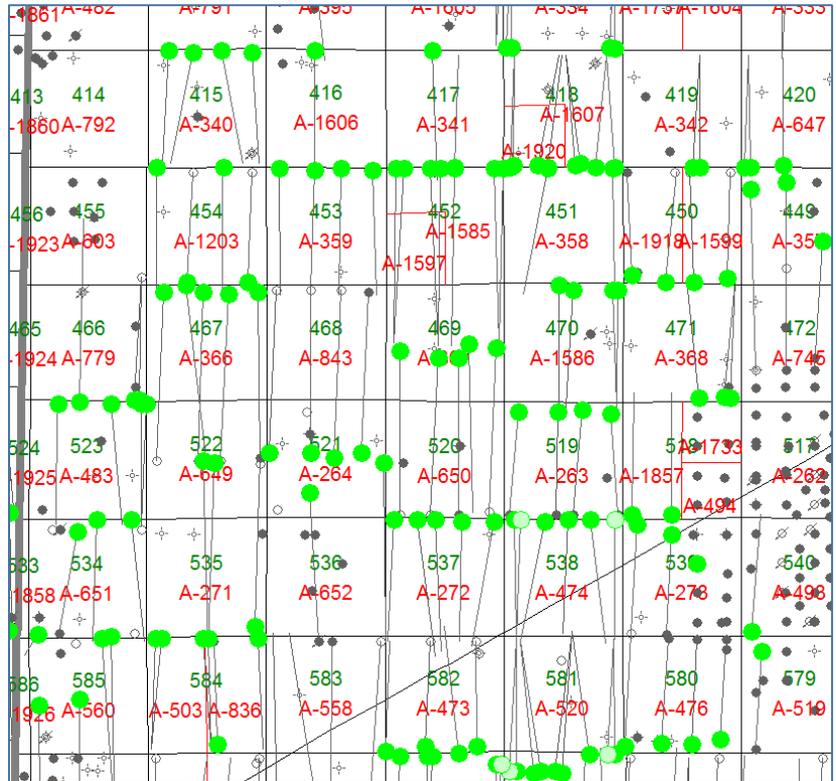
Well Characteristics

- Depth: ~5500'
- Length: 5000'-7500'
- Frac Stages every 200-300'
- Smaller proppant loads than unconventional plays
- D&C costs of \$2.5-\$3.0MM/well



Horizontal San Andres Characteristics

- Wells are typically developed:
 - North-South
 - 4-6 wells per section
 - Frac heights ~100ft
- EURs of 150-500+ MBO
- Ultimate recoveries in the 5-10% OIP range
- Waterflood is not an option
- CO₂ injection can recover another 25-30% of the OIP!



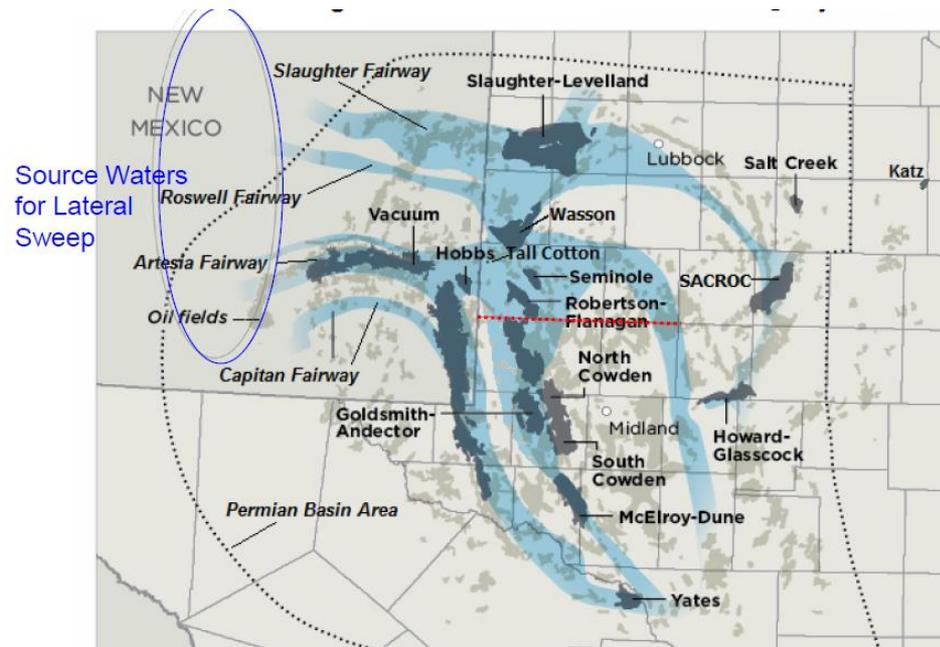
Size of the Prize (big picture)

- Roughly ~4MM acres of San Andres fairway (light blue)
- Assuming:
 - $\Phi = 6\%$
 - $S_o = 40\%$
 - $h = 100$ ft

OIP = 59,580 MMBO

REC. OIL = 14.9 MMMBO!

- At a net utilization rate of 6 MCF/BO, 89 TCF of CO₂ would be needed



Melzer & Trentham, SIPES, April 2016

Implementation: Option #1

CO₂ “huff-n-puff”

- Pros
 - Use existing wellbores
 - Exploitation of known flowpaths
 - Ability to use produced gas as well that may be currently flared
 - Existing EOR projects in Eagleford & Bakken show ~30%-50% type uplifts in EUR with natural gas (CO₂ should do better)
- Cons
 - Shut in oil production for the injection and soak period (up to 30 days)
 - Requires multiple cycles
 - Requires sizeable upfront CAPEX for compression

Implementation: Option #2

Dedicated CO₂ Injection

- Pros
 - Don't have to take producers offline
 - Mobilization of a larger area of oil-bearing rock
 - Ability to use produced gas as well that may be currently flared
- Cons
 - Requires sizeable upfront CAPEX to drill dedicated injectors (horizontal or vertical)
 - Requires sizeable upfront CAPEX for compression
 - Requires continuous, reliable CO₂ supply
 - Will sweep efficiency be detrimentally impacted by the fracture network created?

Horizontal San Andres CO₂ Potential

- Why isn't it already on-going?
- Several obstacles to implementation
 - Majority of current operators are small in size or private equity backed
 - Long-term vision to invest tens of millions of dollars in a long payout project
 - Optimistic forecast of long-term oil prices (can't hedge until the oil shows up)
 - Constrained CO₂ supply in the Permian
 - Natural supplies are primarily accounted for through long-term contracts
 - Anthropogenic capture needs to fill the gap (at an economic rate)

Summary

- Billions of barrels of recoverable oil lies in the San Andres formation of the Permian Basin
- The stranded oil can, and has been, recovered through CO₂ injection and gas can be sequestered
- The horizontal San Andres play has 500+ wellbores available for implementation close to existing CO₂ pipeline networks
- Several issues like CO₂ supply, capital allocation need to be resolved for the next phase of the play to get underway, ultimately oil price (or carbon credits) will be the catalyst.

Questions?
