

# Bell Creek MVA Overview

## CSLF CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring Interactive Workshop

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Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC)...  
The International Center for Applied Energy Technology®

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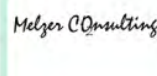
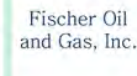
# Plains CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction (PCOR) Partnership





# Partnership - CLASS

PCOR  
Partnership  
2003 – Present



# PCOR Partnership Perspectives

## Philosophy

- Compatible with commercial operations
- Cost-effective/value-added
- Minimal interference with commercial operations
- Cognizant of public perception
- Scientifically defensible
- Address project risks
- Targeted
- Effective
  - Proven or high-potential/value technologies
  - Relevant
  - Site-specific



# PCOR Partnership Perspectives (continued)

## Demonstrate

- Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) storage can be safely and permanently achieved on a commercial scale in conjunction with enhanced oil recovery (EOR).
- Oil-bearing sandstone formations are viable sinks with significant storage capacity to help meet near-term U.S. objectives.
- Monitoring, verification, and accounting (MVA) methods can be established to safely and effectively monitor commercial-scale simultaneous CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and CO<sub>2</sub> storage projects.
- Provide a technical framework for accounting of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Lessons learned can benefit similar projects across the region.
- Establish relationship between the CO<sub>2</sub> EOR process and long-term storage of CO<sub>2</sub>.

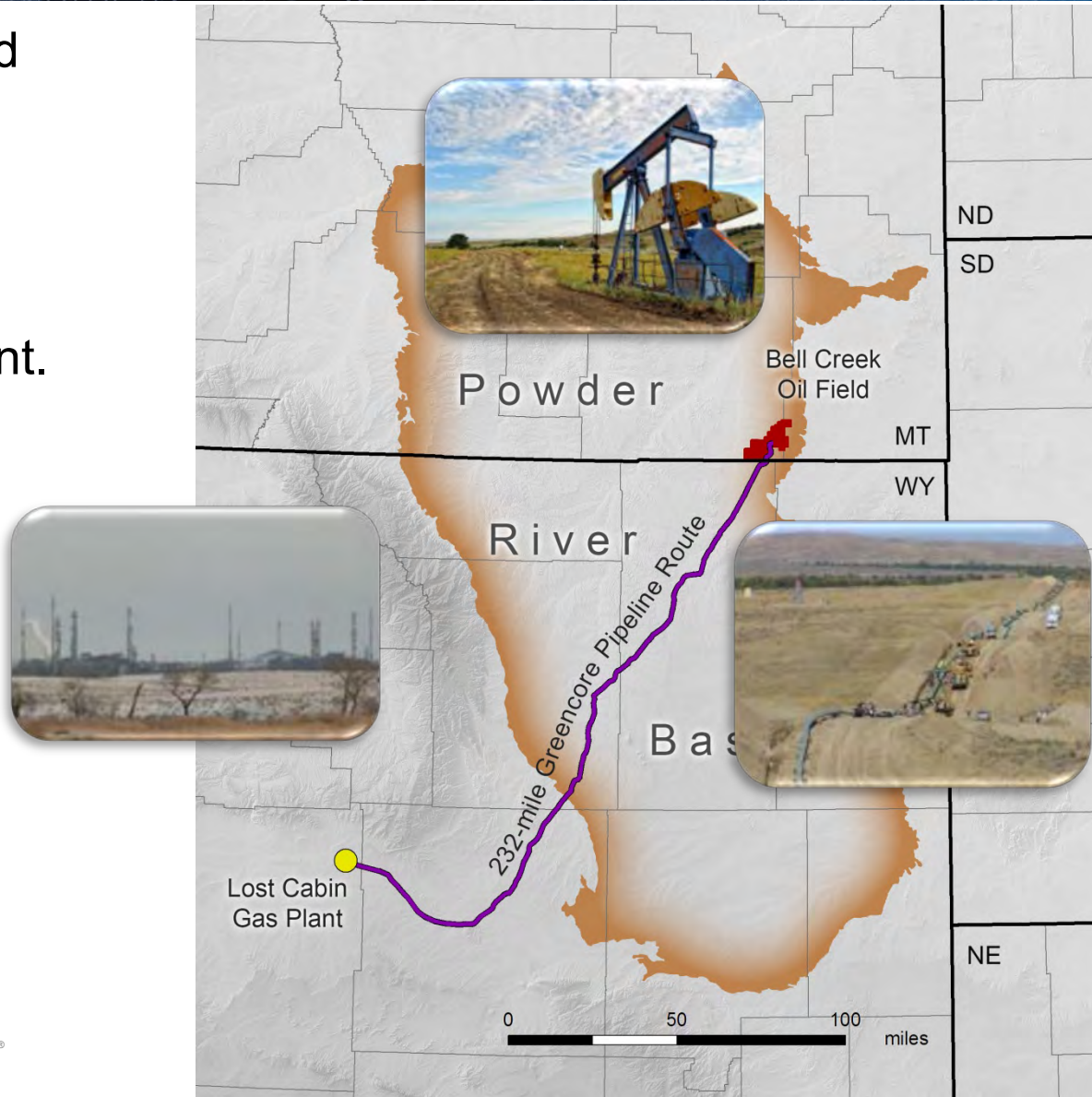


# Bell Creek CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and Potential Storage Project

- Bell Creek oil field is owned and operated by Denbury Resources Inc. (Denbury).
- CO<sub>2</sub> is sourced from ConocoPhillips' Lost Cabin natural gas-processing plant.



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# Current Activities

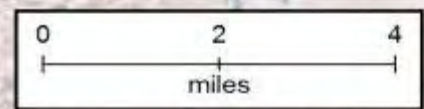
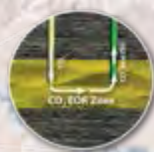
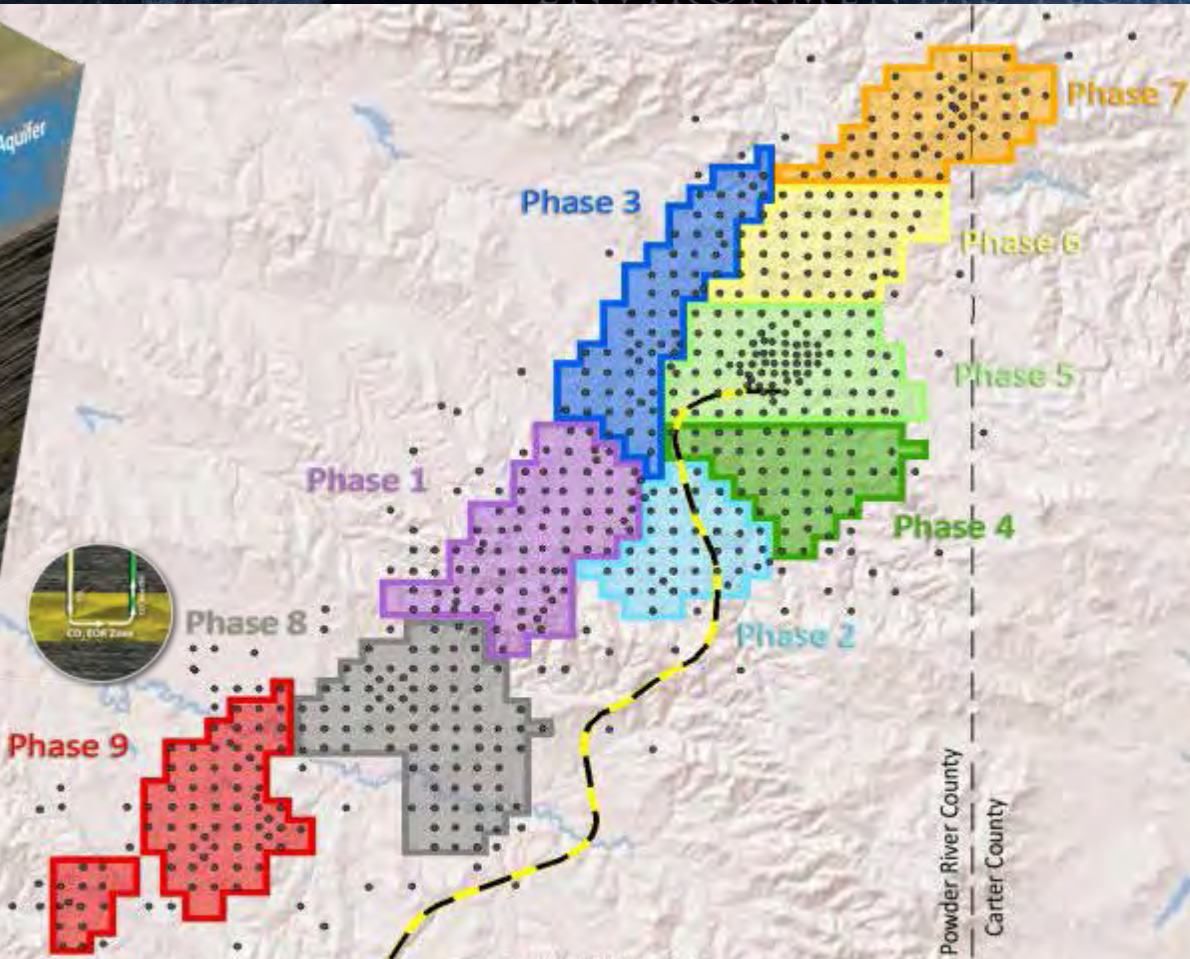
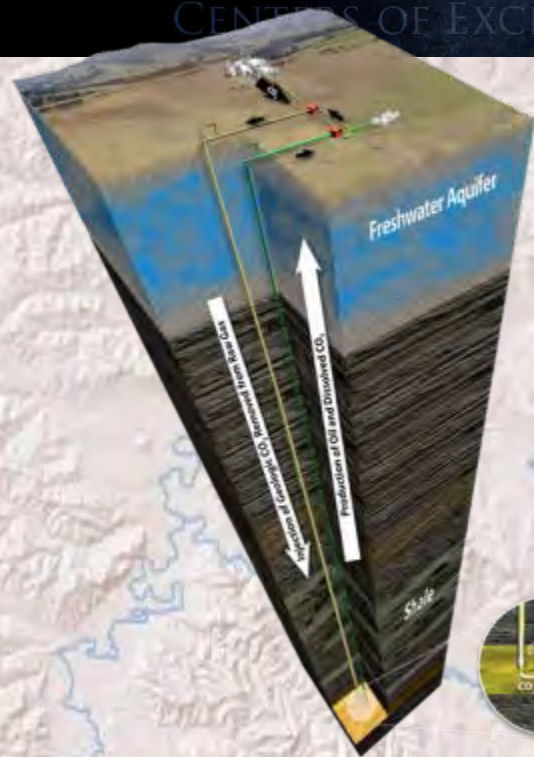
- Wells are being recompleted, and facilities are under construction.
- Plan to initially inject ~50 MMscf/day of CO<sub>2</sub> into Bell Creek.
- Injection scheduled to begin by mid-2013.



**~30 MMbbl of estimated incremental oil production from Bell Creek using CO<sub>2</sub> EOR.**



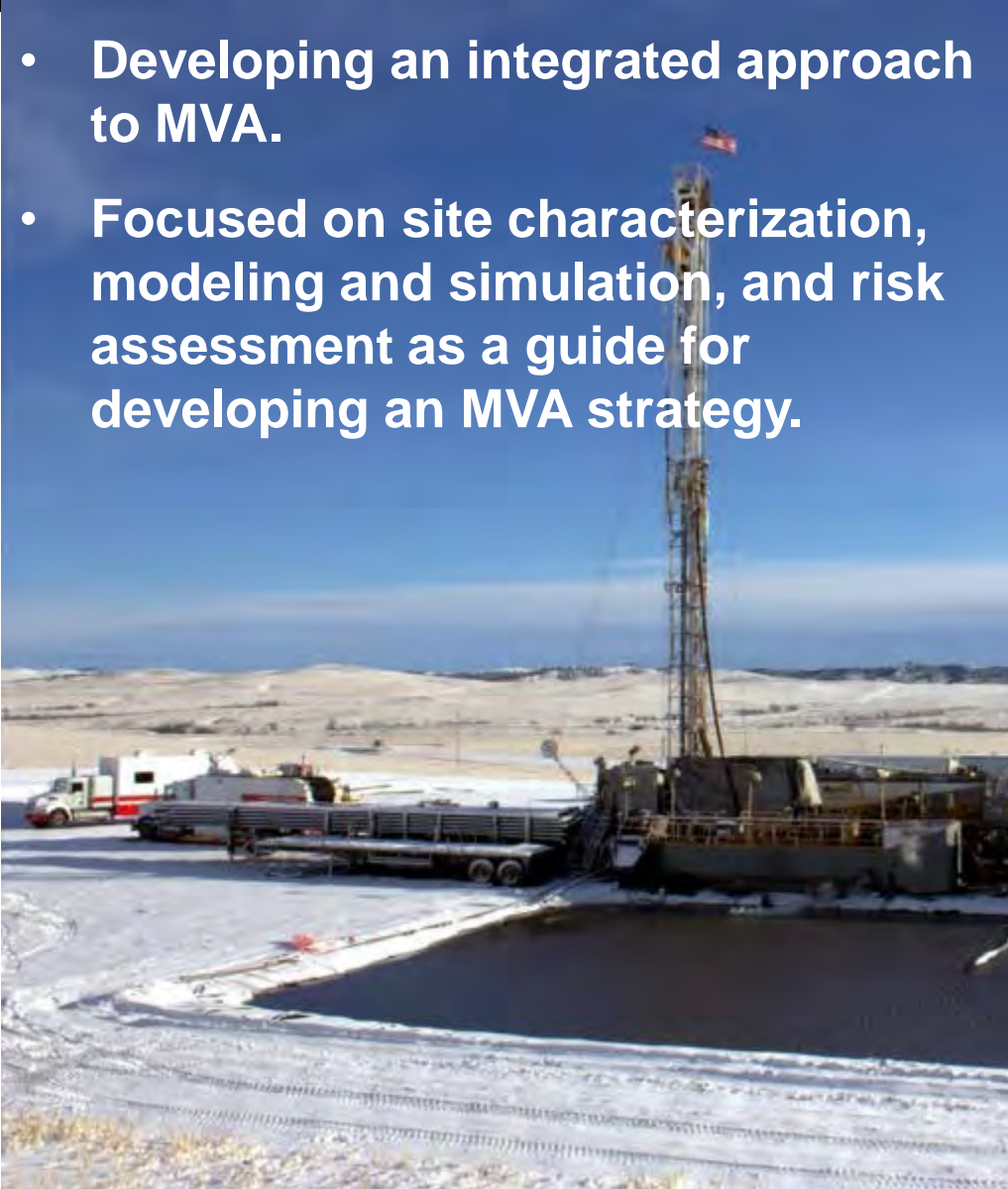
# Phased CO<sub>2</sub> EOR Injection





# PCOR Partnership Activities at Bell Creek

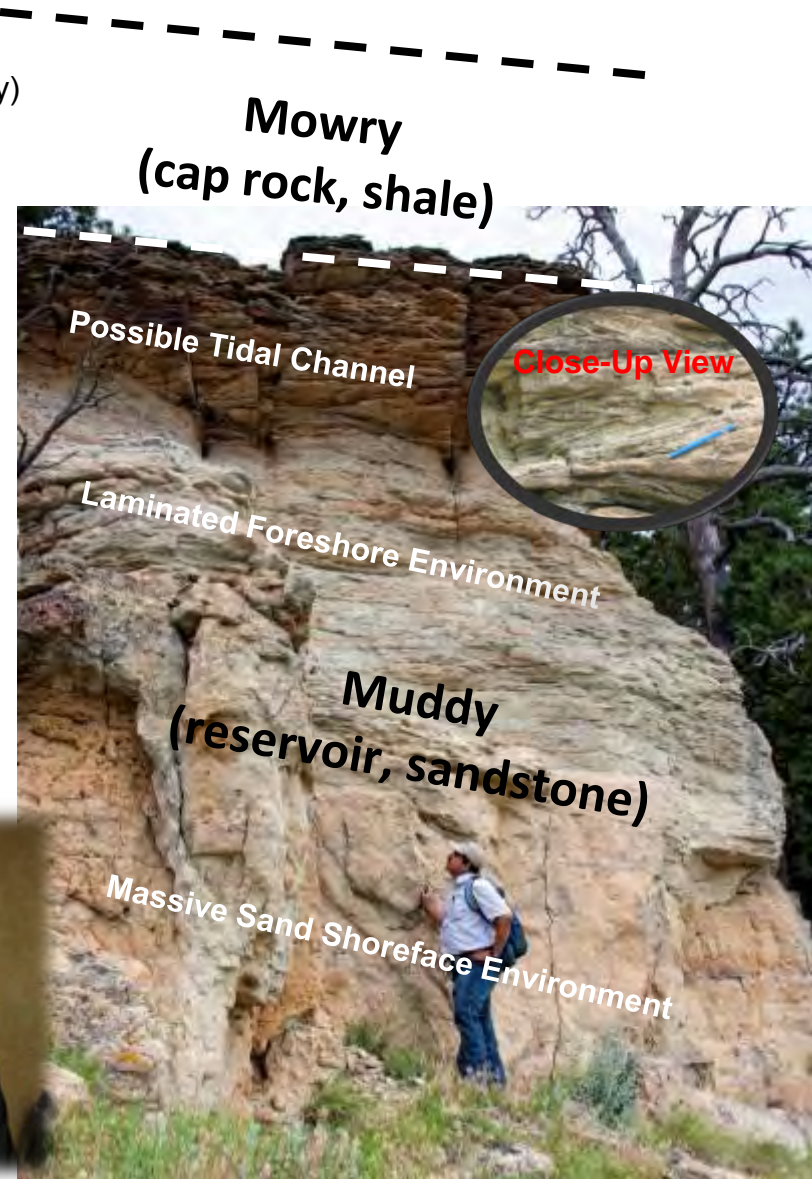
- Developing an integrated approach to MVA.
- Focused on site characterization, modeling and simulation, and risk assessment as a guide for developing an MVA strategy.





# Site Characterization

- Outcrop
- Core libraries (U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Economic Geology)
- Historic data (well files)
- LIDAR
- Dedicated data collection and monitoring well (05-06 OW) (December 2011)
  - Well log collection and analysis
  - Core collection and analysis
  - Downhole pressure and temperature sensors
- Baseline 3-D surface seismic survey (summer 2012)
- Two dedicated groundwater-monitoring wells (winter 2012–2013)
- 27 pulsed neutron logs (PNLs) (winter 2012–2013)
- Collected cores from two wells in Phases 1 and 2 (March 2013)
- Dedicated geophone well (spring 2013)
- Two Baseline 3-D vertical seismic profiles (VSPs) (spring 2013)



# Site Characterization (continued)

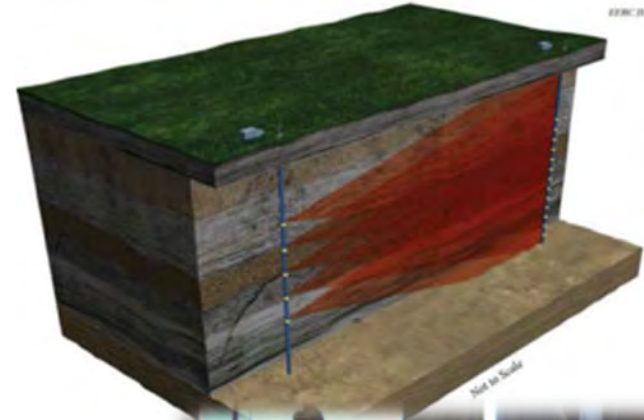
- The Muddy sandstone (only producing reservoir):
  - Depth = 4300–4650 ft
  - Gross thickness = 30–45 ft (net 15–25 ft)
  - Normal permeability range = 100–1000 mD
  - High porosity = 25%–35% (loosely consolidated)
  - Oil gravity = 32 –41 API





# Bell Creek MVA Program Goals

- Demonstrate CO<sub>2</sub> storage can be safely and permanently achieved on a commercial scale in conjunction with an EOR project.
- MVA methods can be established to effectively monitor a commercial-scale EOR CO<sub>2</sub> storage project.
  - Baseline data acquisition
    - Establish preinjection conditions
  - Verify site security
  - Track movement of CO<sub>2</sub>
    - Update risk assessment and simulation results
    - Identify fluid migration pathways
    - Evaluate containment
  - Establish relationship between the CO<sub>2</sub> EOR process and long-term storage of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Determine ultimate fate of CO<sub>2</sub>



# LIDAR

**Area covered by LIDAR: Approximately 75 square miles**

## Objective

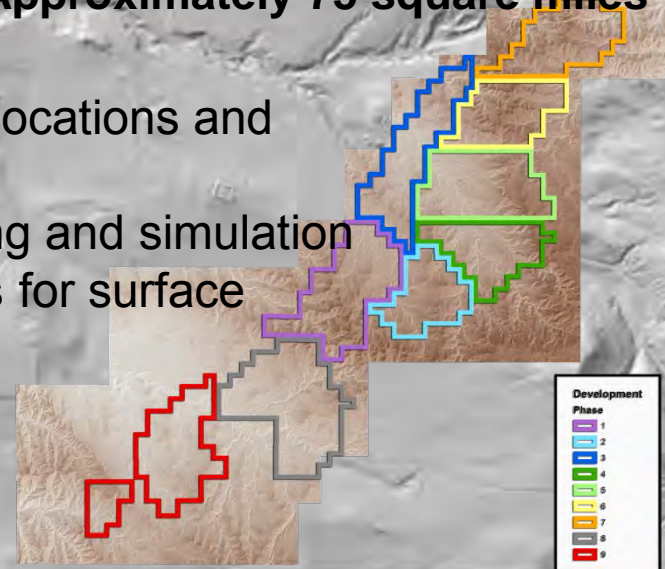
- Precisely place well locations and elevations
  - Geologic modeling and simulation
  - Locate wellheads for surface monitoring

Pits with Berms

Excavation into Hillside

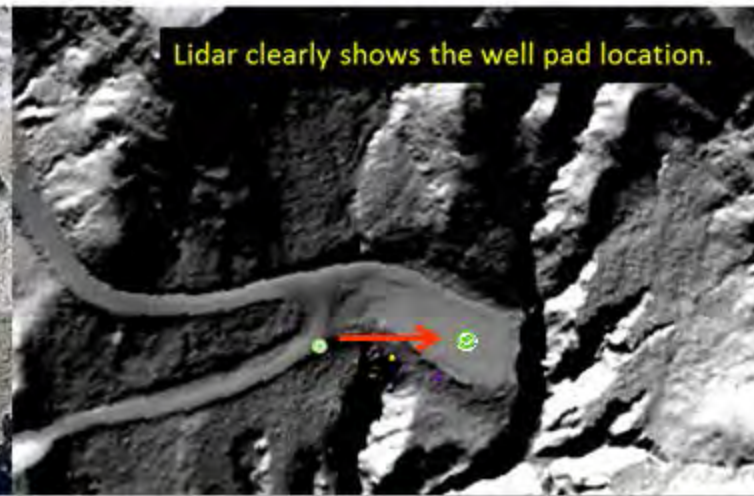
Road

Well Pad



**Aerial Imagery**

**Lidar**

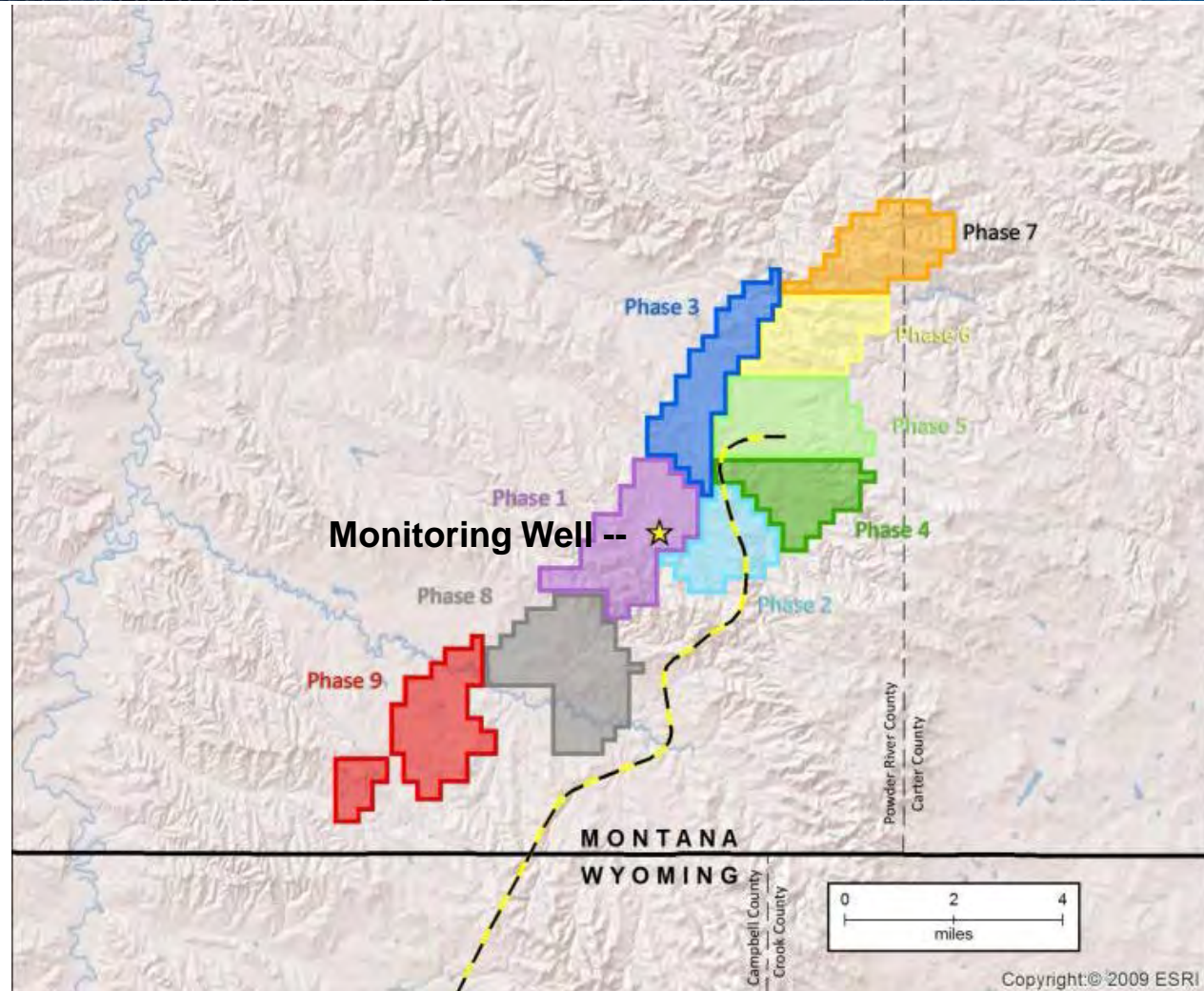




# Monitoring and Characterization Well

- Goals

- Characterization data
- Correct historic data
- Increase confidence in fluid movement predictions
- In situ pressures and temperatures
- Identify out-of-zone fluid migration
- Provide monitoring point that is unobtrusive to oil field operations



# Surface and Near-Surface MVA Program

- Objectives
  - Verify site security
  - Identify and understand preinjection and postinjection anomalies
  - Update risk assessment based on monitoring data
- Surface and near-surface monitoring program:
  - Soil gas
    - ◆ P&A (plugged and abandoned) wells
    - ◆ Active injection and production wells
    - ◆ Interspaced samples
  - Water
    - ◆ Residential wells
    - ◆ Stock wells
    - ◆ Surface waters

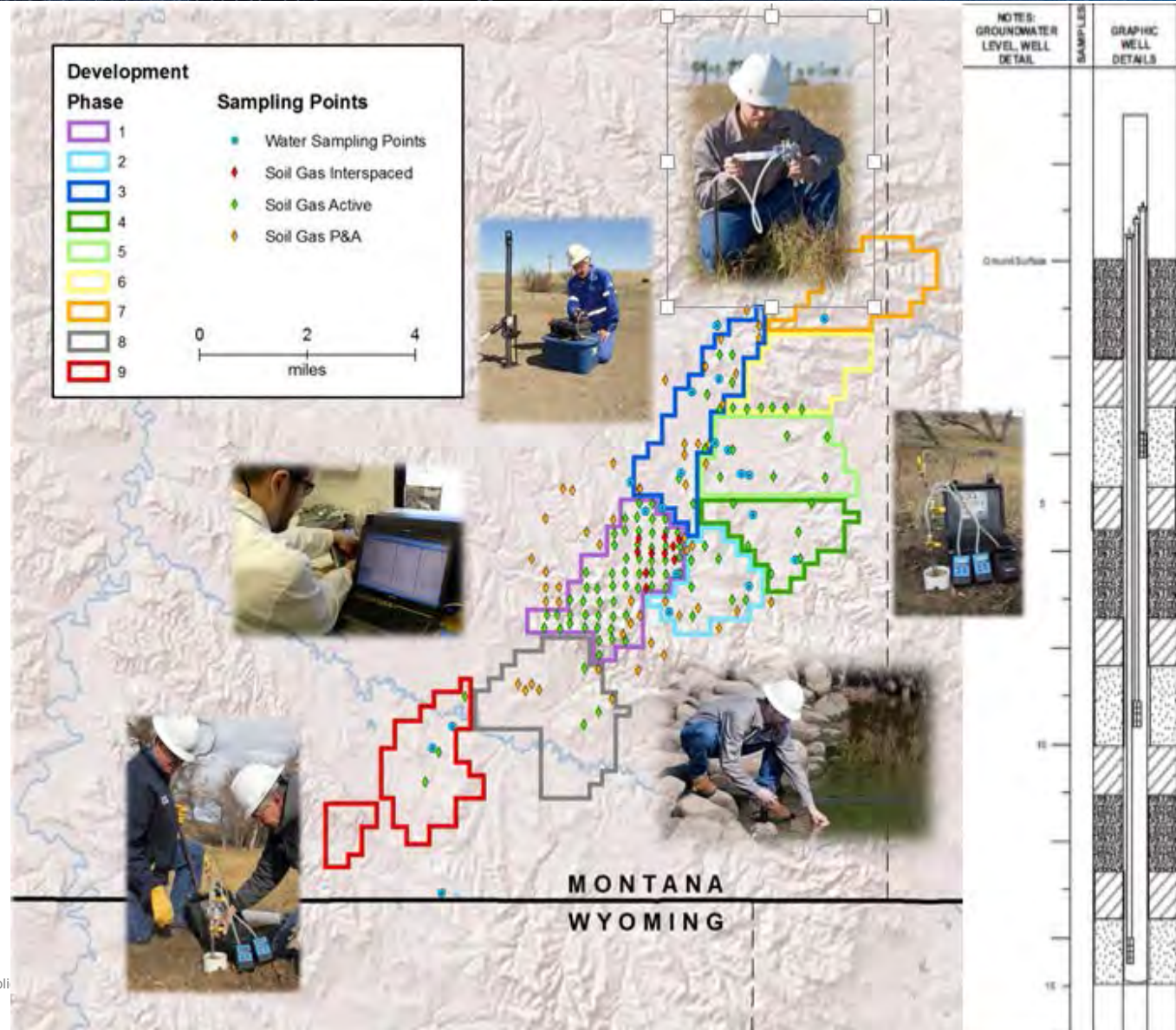




# Surface and Near-Surface MVA Program (continued)

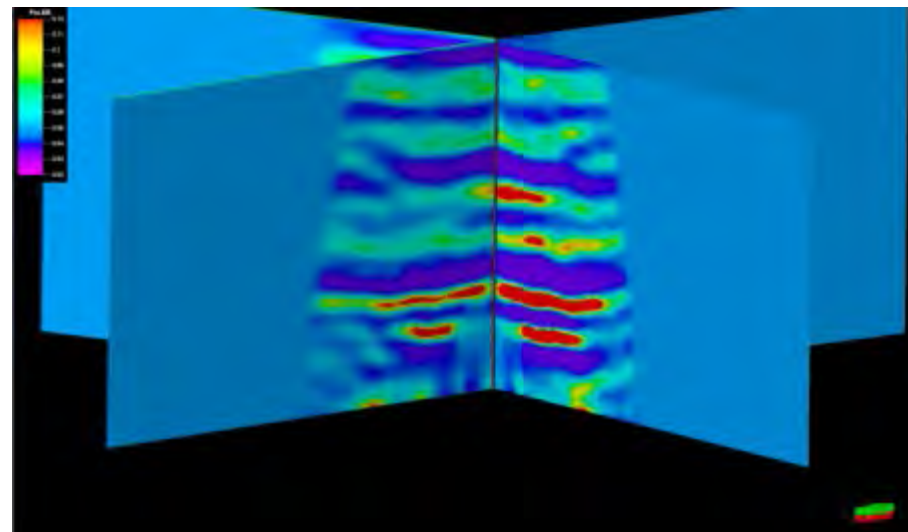
- 1-year baseline data set (November 2011 – November 2012)
  - Seasonal soil gas, groundwater, and surface water chemistry variations over range of microenvironments
- Identify and understand anomalies and verify site security:
  - Natural biological processes
  - Seasonal variations
  - Agricultural practices
  - Migration from depth

*Provide scientifically defensible evidence to confirm or refute environmental impact claims.*



# Reservoir MVA Program

- Objectives
  - Verify site security
  - Establish preinjection reservoir and subsurface conditions
  - Update risk assessment based on monitoring data
  - Track movement of CO<sub>2</sub> and subsurface fluid migration
  - Establish relationship between the CO<sub>2</sub> EOR process and long-term storage of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Input for simulation
- Reservoir-monitoring program:
  - Continuous
    - ◆ Wellhead and bottomhole pressures (BHPs)
    - ◆ Permanent downhole monitoring equipment
  - Periodic
    - ◆ Seismic
    - ◆ Well logs
    - ◆ Pressure surveys
    - ◆ Tracer analysis (?)





# Reservoir MVA Program (continued)

- Utilize existing infrastructure (commercial EOR project)
- Active wells outfitted with real-time sensors:
  - Surface and production casing pressure
  - Flowline and tubing pressure
  - Production tests and flow logs





# Monitoring and Characterization Well Real-Time Data

- Three casing-conveyed pressure/temperature gauges
  - Two in reservoir
  - One in overlying zone of porosity/permeability
- Distributed-temperature fiber optic cable
  - Continues temperature profile along length of wellbore





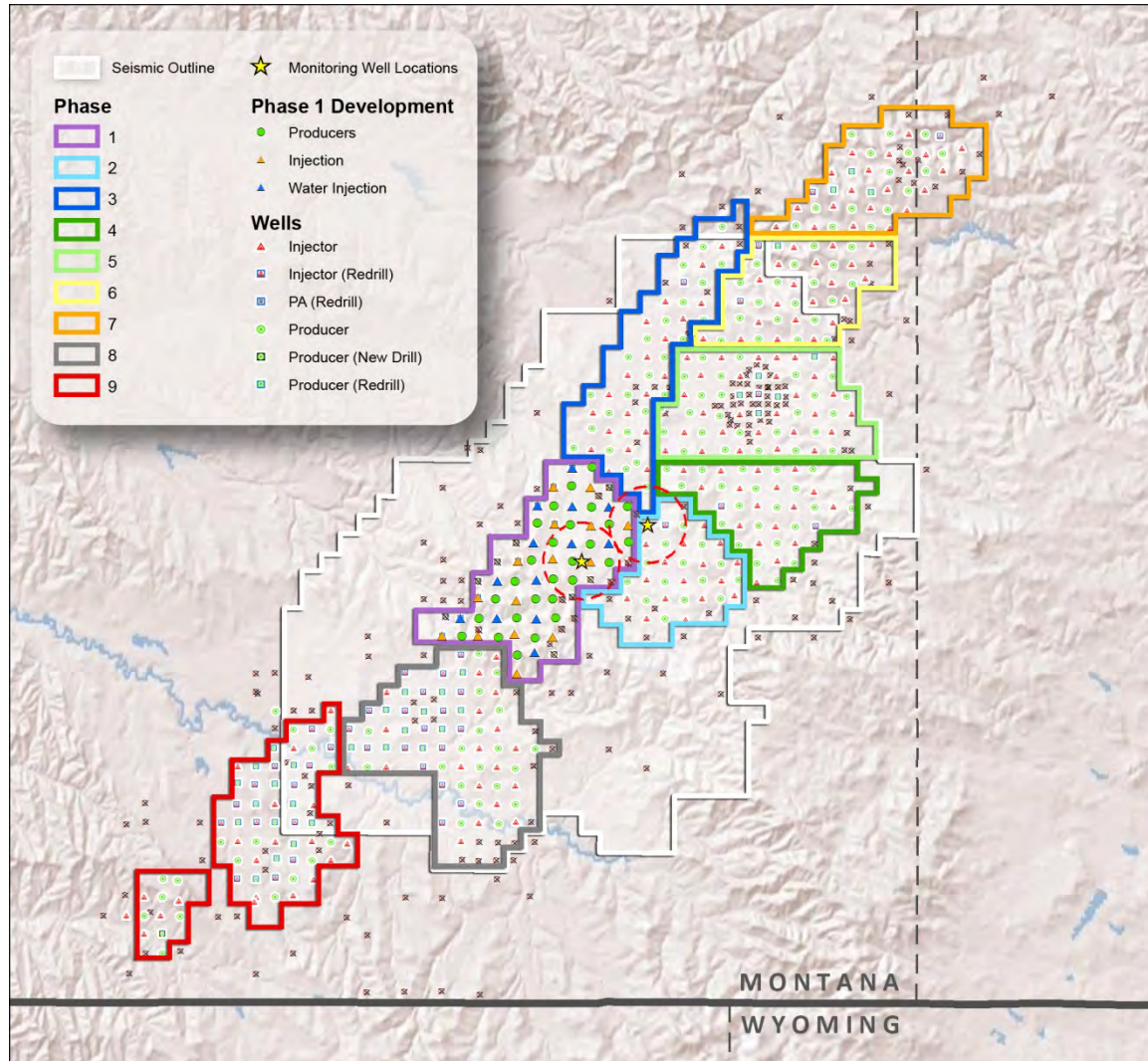
# Seismic

- Assist with updip/downdip boundaries and reservoir structure.
- Provide baseline data for time-lapse seismic plume tracking.
  - Check shot and seismic source testing completed November 2011.
  - 40-mile<sup>2</sup> 3-D baseline survey completed summer 2012.
  - Two 3-D 50-level VSP surveys spring 2013:
    - 05-06 OW (deployable array)
    - 33-14 OW (permanent array)



# Time-Lapse Seismic

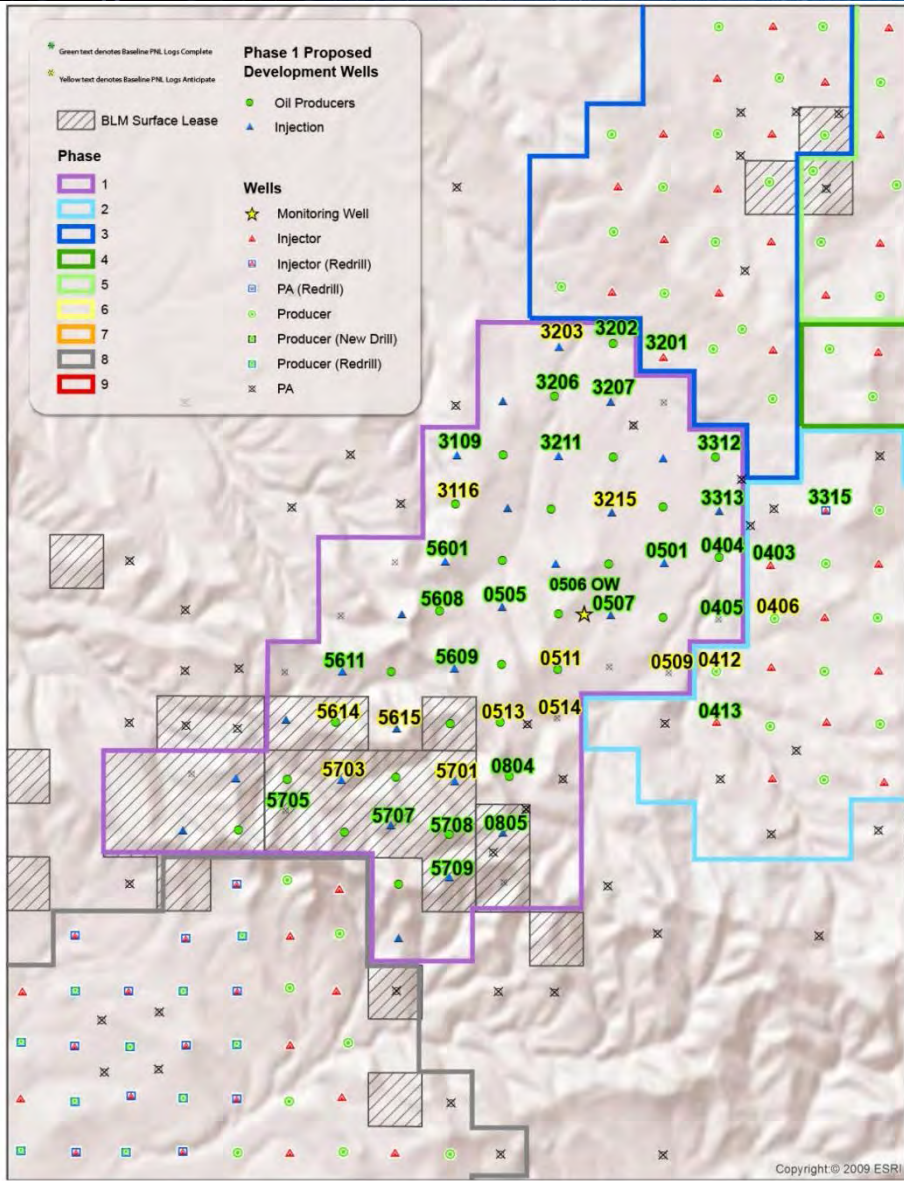
- **Time-lapse 3-D surface seismic**
  - **Characterization**
  - **Lateral flow patterns**
  - **Pattern evaluation**
- **Time-lapse 3-D VSP**
  - **Evaluation of pattern**
  - **Channeling/lateral flow boundaries**
  - **Sweep**
  - **Correlation of PNLs**
  - **3-D surface seismic calibration**





# PNLs

- Sigma mode from total depth (TD) to 200 ft
  - Fluid–gas saturations
- Carbon/oxygen mode over reservoir
  - Water–oil–CO<sub>2</sub> saturation
- Baseline and repeat(s)
  - Time-lapse CO<sub>2</sub> saturations changes (near-wellbore environment)
  - Porosity and gamma ray data from TD to surface (characterization)
- Completed baseline PNLs in 27 wells surrounding active injection area (Phase 1) in January 2013
  - Potential to log up to 13 additional wells prior to injection (pending availability)



# Lessons Learned

- Keys to success
  - Integrated approach to MVA, risk assessment, characterization, modeling, and simulation.
  - Public engagement and landowner relations.
  - Adequate planning and contingency plans during drilling and monitoring operations.
  - Communication
    - ◆ Providing clear objectives to service providers and stakeholders.





# Summary

*The PCOR Partnership is working closely with Denbury on an integrated approach to characterization, modeling, risk assessment, and MVA to evaluate the technical and economic viability of safe, long-term CO<sub>2</sub> storage in conjunction with a commercial EOR project.*

- Plan to start injection of ~50 MMscf/day of CO<sub>2</sub> into Bell Creek by mid-2013.
- An estimated 30 million incremental bbl of oil will be recovered using CO<sub>2</sub> EOR at Bell Creek while permanently storing millions of tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

# Contact Information

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# Field History

- **Discovered in 1967 (21,771 acres)**
- **Developed within 2 years (450+ wells)**
- **Primary production (solution gas drive), waterflooding, and two micellar polymer pilot tests**
- **Stock tank original oil in place (STOOIP) ~350 million barrels of oil (MMbo)**
- **Cumulative production 133 MMbo (~38% recovery)**

