

Case Studies: Fault Identification Using Borehole Image Log for Mississippian Limestone Horizontal Well Completion Design*

Yinghao Chen¹, Bruce Miller², Charles Wickstrom³, and Shane Matson³

Search and Discovery Article #41241 (2013)**

Posted November 11, 2013

*Adapted from an oral presentation given at AAPG Mid-Continent Section Meeting, Wichita, Kansas, October 12-15, 2013

**AAPG©2013 Serial rights given by author. For all other rights contact author directly.

¹Devon Energy, Oklahoma City, OK (Yinghao.Chen@dvn.com)

²Red Fork Energy, Tulsa, OK

³Spyglass Energy, Tulsa, OK

Abstract

Our case studies show that an effective well completion design is the key to Mississippian Limestone horizontal well oil production. In another words, understanding the natural fracture system, especially fault attributes, and choosing the right places for stimulation are very important to maximize oil and minimize water production.

Many features on the borehole wall are observed and can be quantified with a borehole image log, including fault and natural fracture systems, besides other geological features. All these features demonstrate different aspects of reservoir properties. We routinely review and understand these image log features, along with other information, before we complete a well. A perfect zone for cluster perforation and hydraulic fracture treatment has three key attributes – good porosity, a multi-strike natural fracture system, and a distance from a large fault – and all can be identified with the borehole image log. The first two are the foundation for maximizing the production rate. The third element is vital for reducing water cut in the Mississippian limestone reservoir. The major point of this presentation is that a large fault could connect the oil reservoir to aquifers above or below, which may increase the water cut significantly.

Four case studies will be discussed. Case #1: A few faults were observed on the borehole image log, but none of them seems to be large. IP results were good (345 bopd and 2000 bwpd). Case #2: A large fault was identified with the image log in the heel interval, although it did show up well on seismic data. Mud loss occurred there and the well was drilled dry for 3 days. We knew that we had to stay far away from the large fault and finally decided 250 ft should be far enough. Unfortunately, IP results (5 bopd and 1000 bwpd) convinced we were still not far away enough. Case #3: Seismic shows a large fault beyond the toe of the well. A test was designed on the small section of the toe to see how the

large fault would associate with the water cut. Again, an IP of 45 bopd and 4500 bwpd proved a large fault is very bad for oil production. Case #4: No fault, small or large, can be seen on the borehole image log in the entire well. The water cut was lower (IP = 250 bopd, 5 mmcfpd gas and 2500 bwpd).



Case Studies: Fault Identification Using Borehole Image log for Mississippian Limestone Horizontal Well Completion Design

Yinghao Chen, Devon Energy, Oklahoma City, OK

Bruce Miller, Red Fork Energy, Tulsa, OK

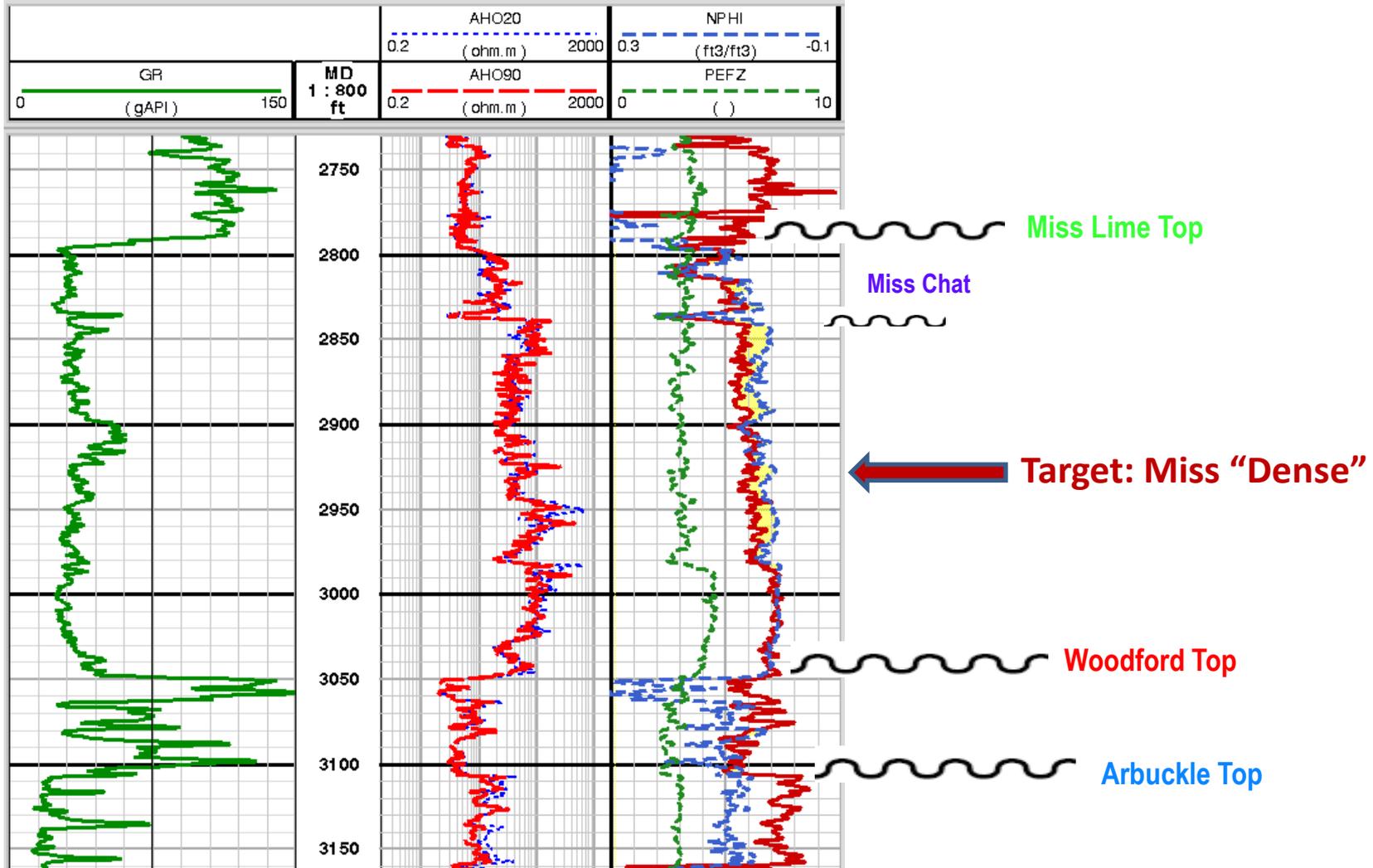
Charles Wickstrom, Spyglass Energy, Tulsa, OK

Shane Matson, Spyglass Energy, Tulsa, OK

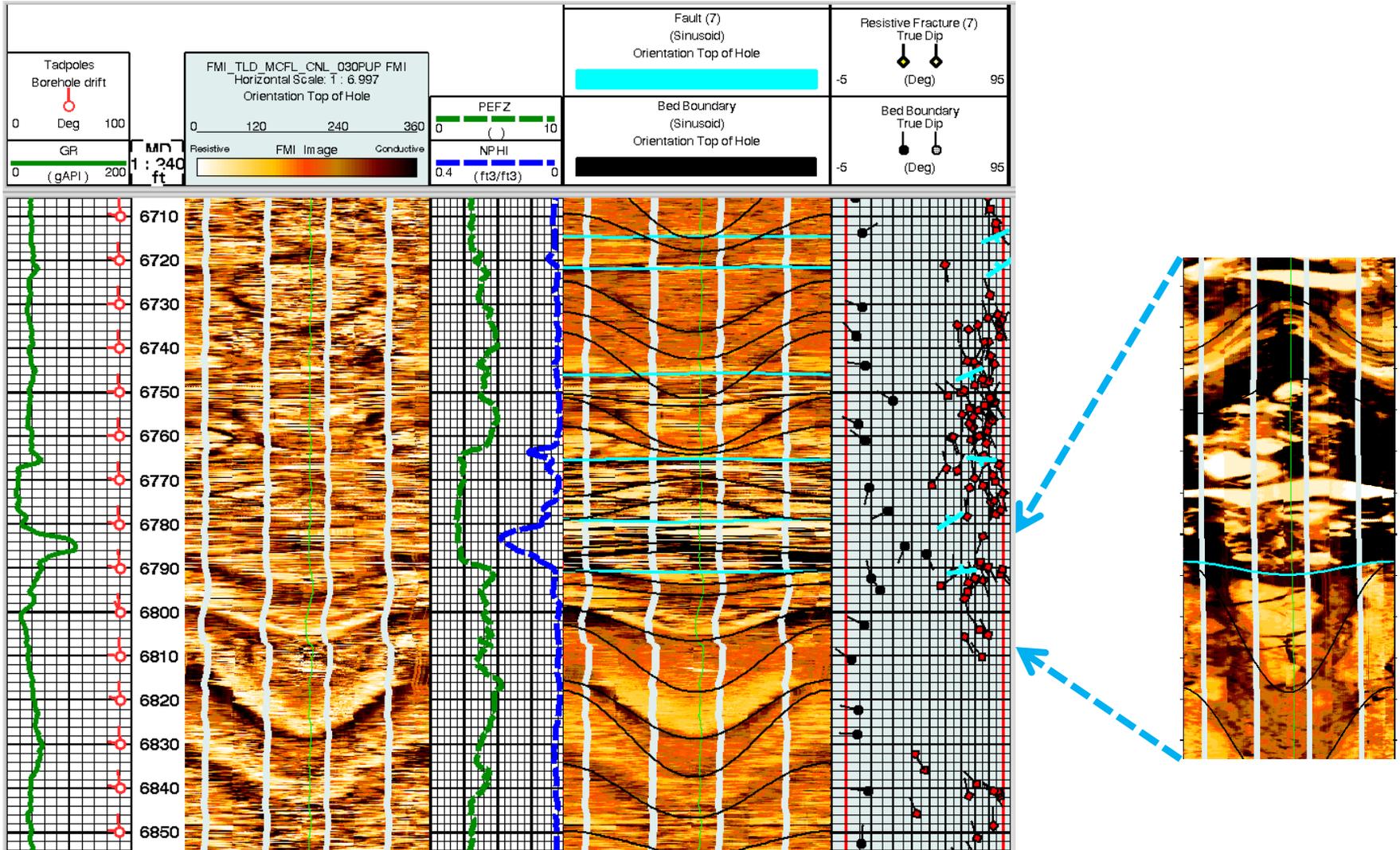
Agenda

- **Large Fault – Culprit for High water-cut?**
- **What a Fault looks like on Borehole Image Logs**
- **Case #1: No Large Fault, Lower water-cut, Tahara**
- **Case #2: Large Fault at Heel, Very High water-cut, Abunda**
- **Case #3: Large Fault near Toe, High water cut, Shaw**
- **Case #4: No Fault, Low water cut, NW Strohm**
- **Conclusion**

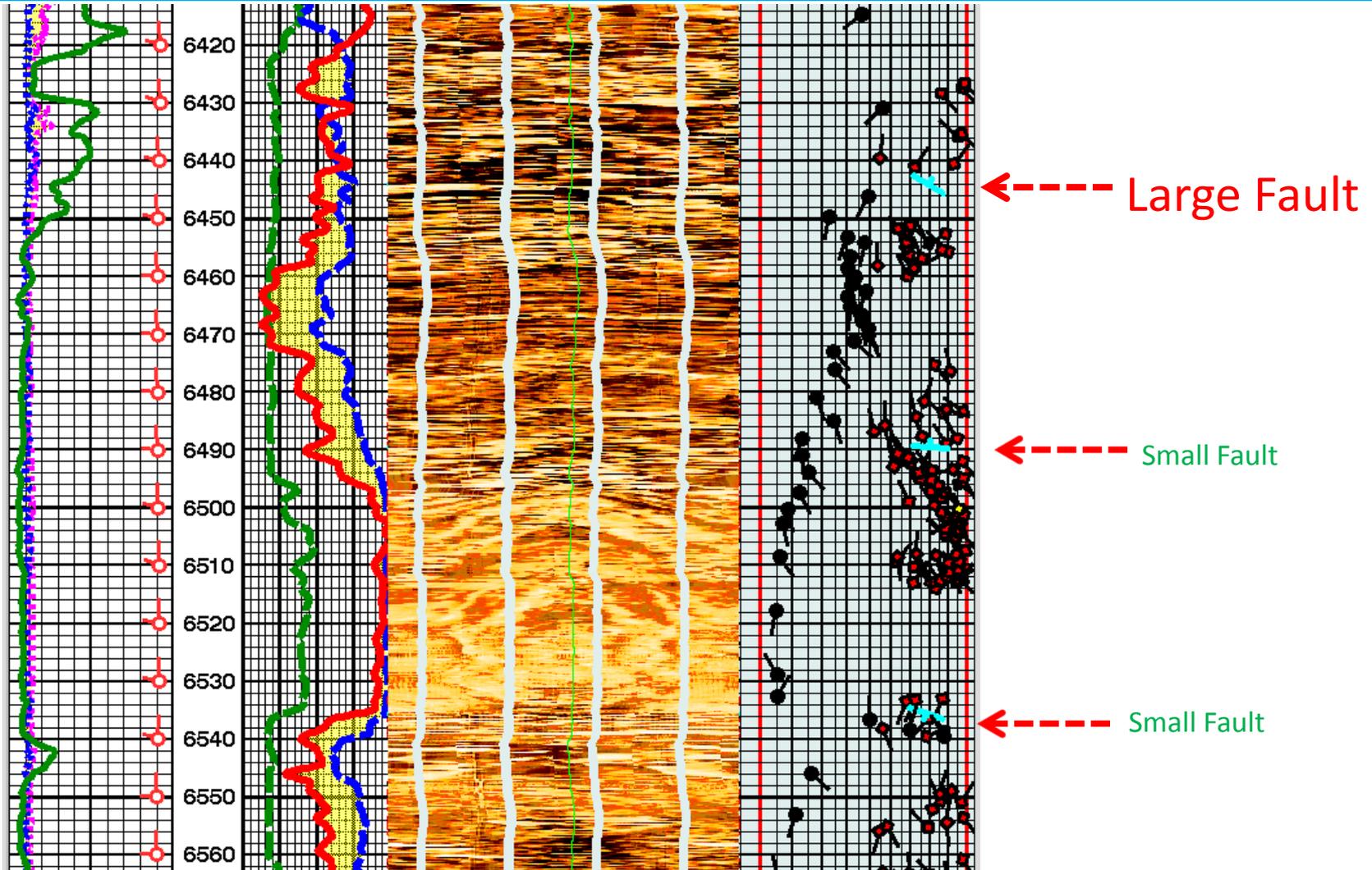
Type Logs of the Mississippian Limestone, Osage Co, OK



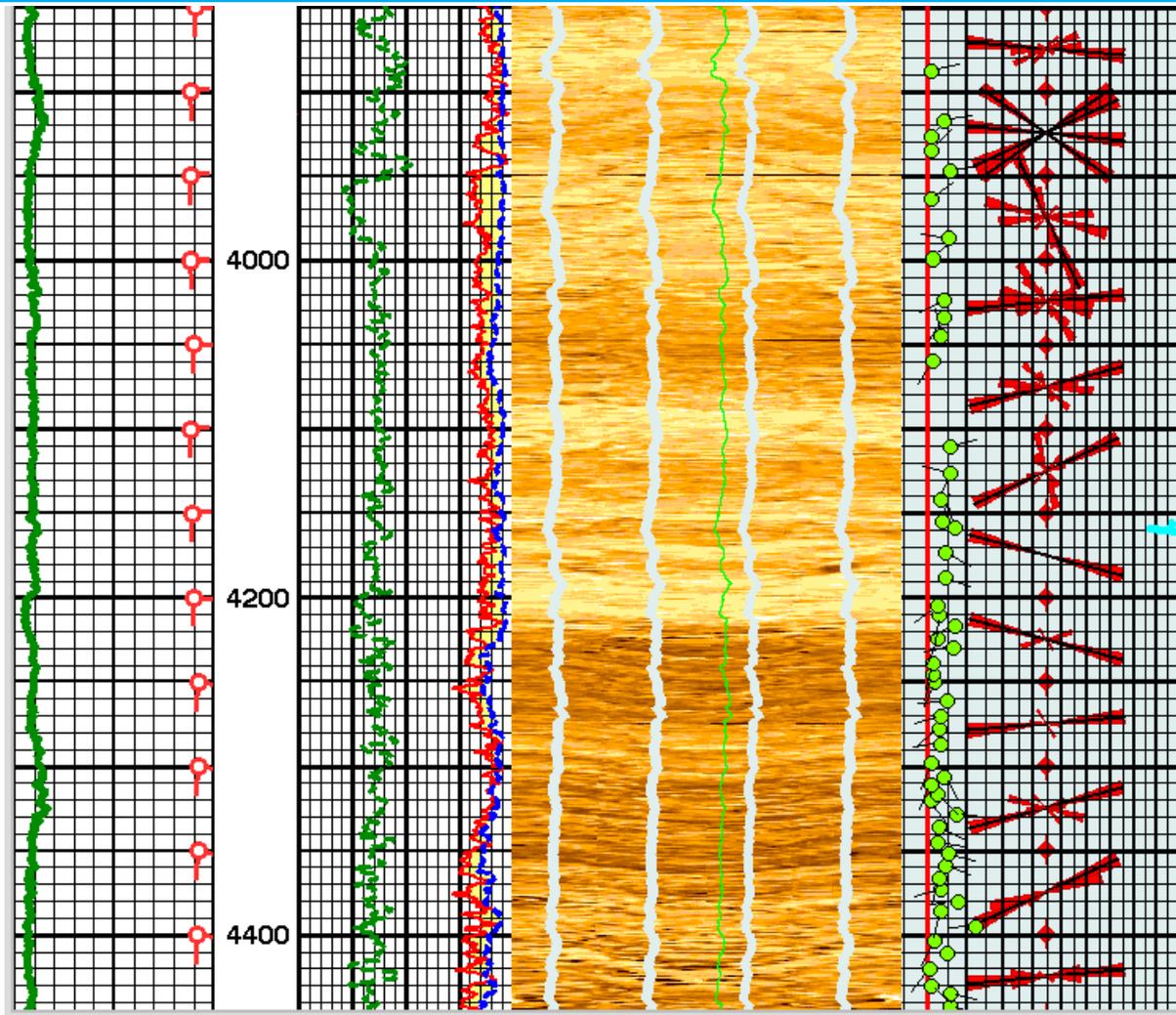
A Typical Fault on Borehole Images



Bedding Dip Pattern: A Large Fault of at least 80' Throw?



Rotation of Natural Fracture Strikes: Caused by a Large Fault ?

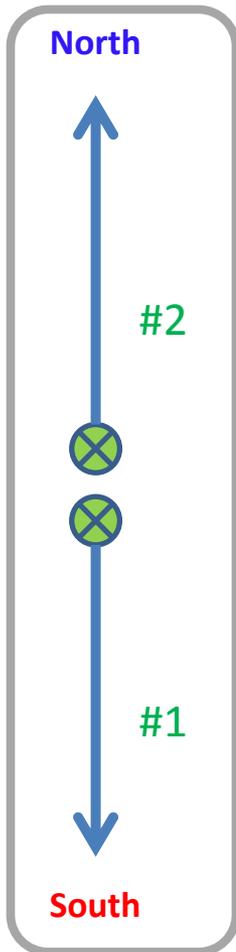
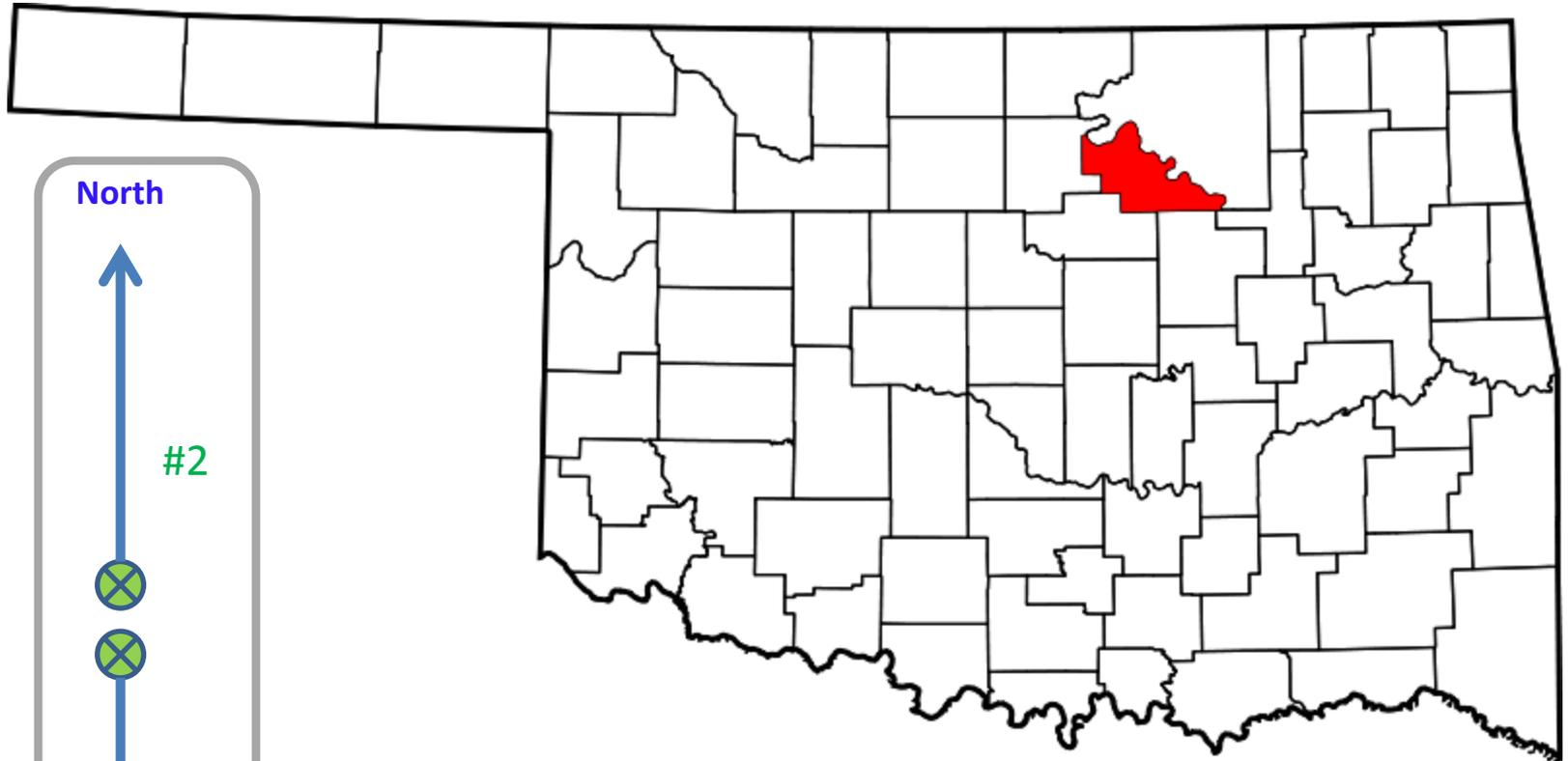


NE-SW
Striking Frac.

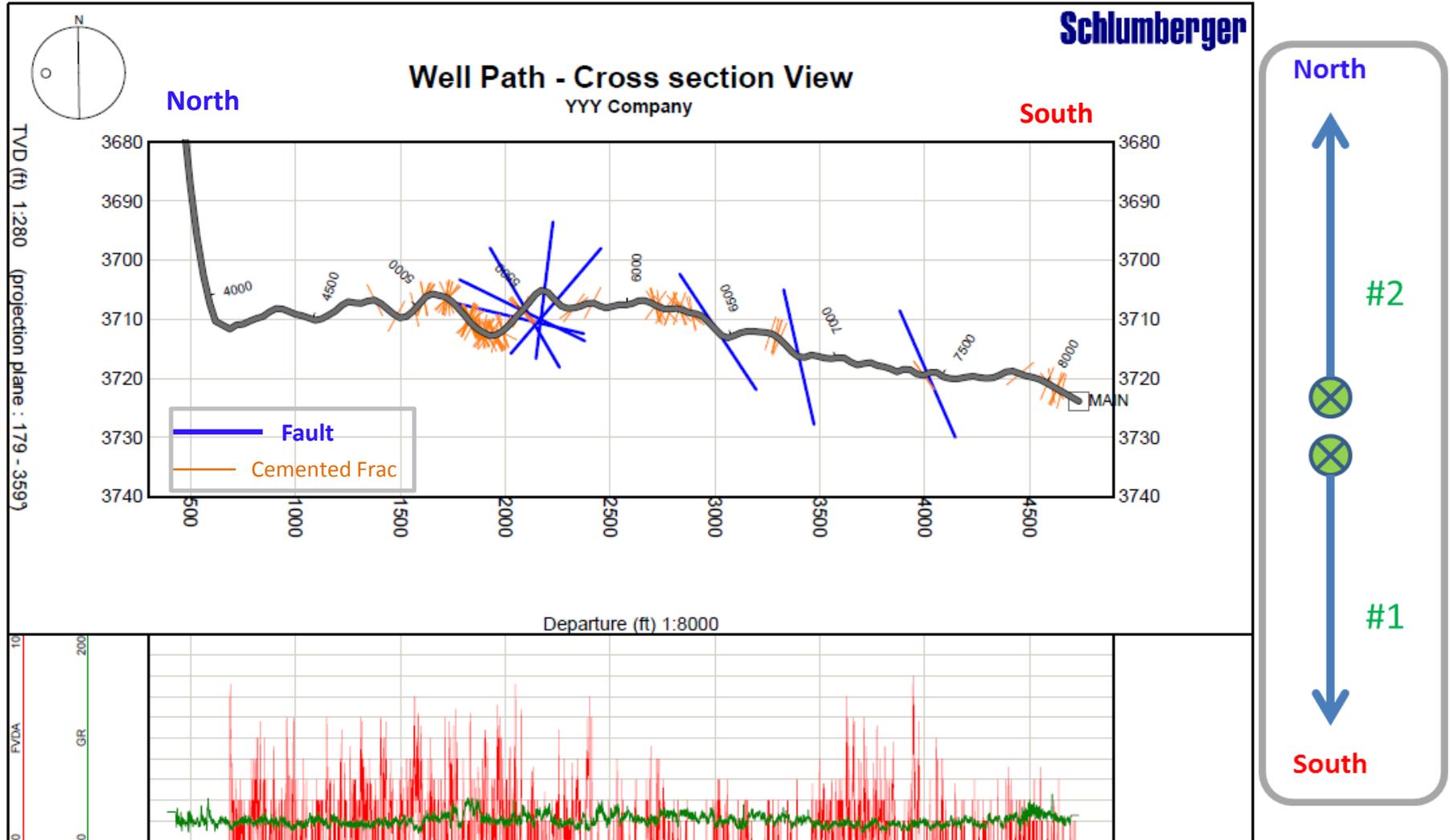
←-- Large Fault ?
Striking WNW-ESE

WNW-ESE
Striking Frac.

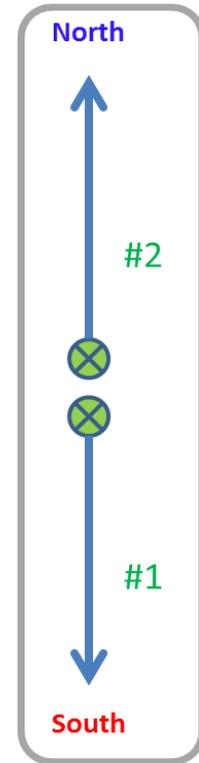
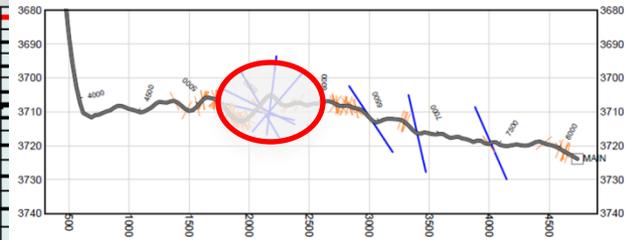
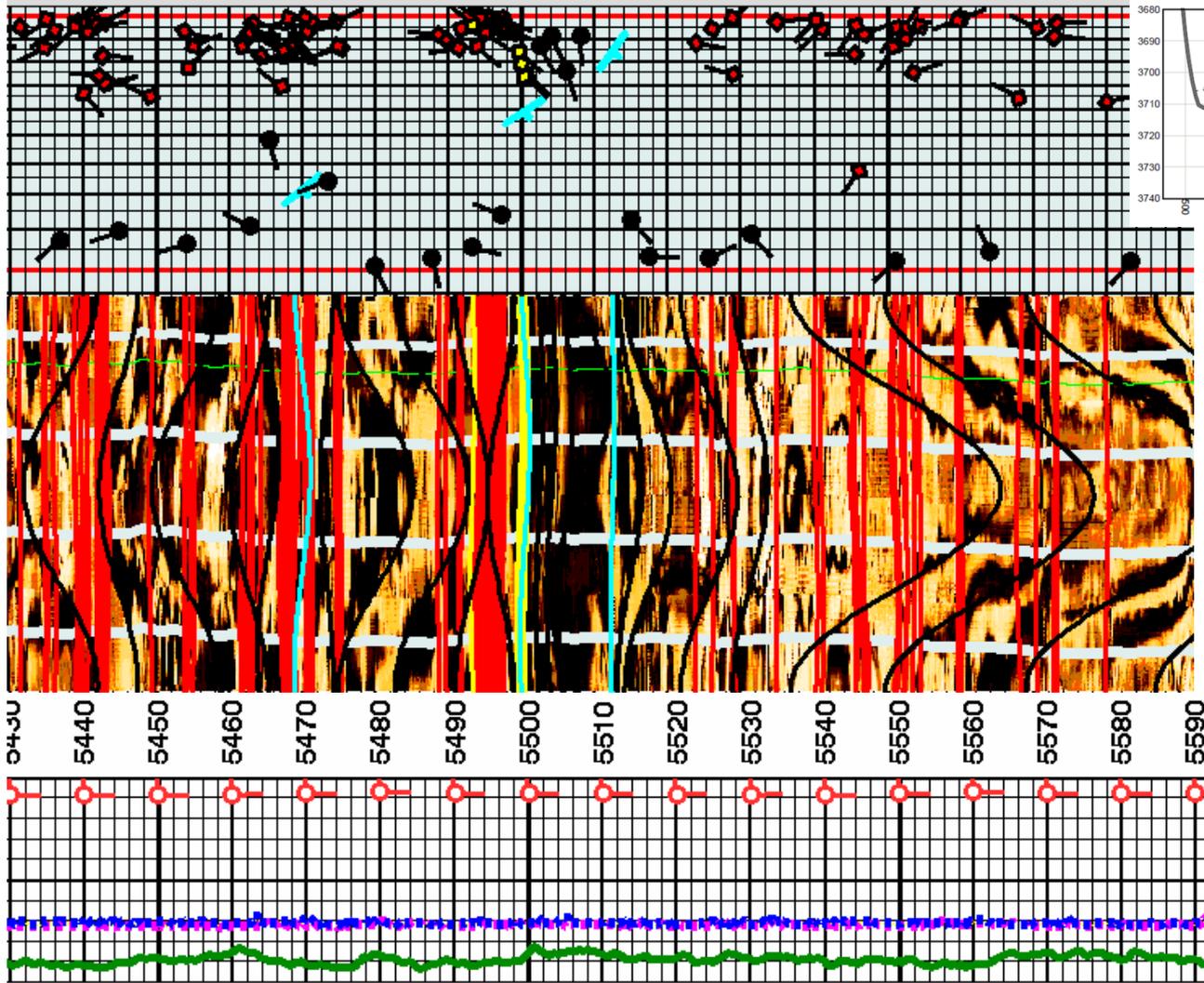
Locations of the first 2 cases, Pawnee Co.



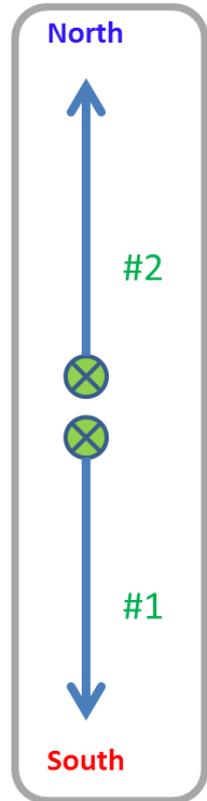
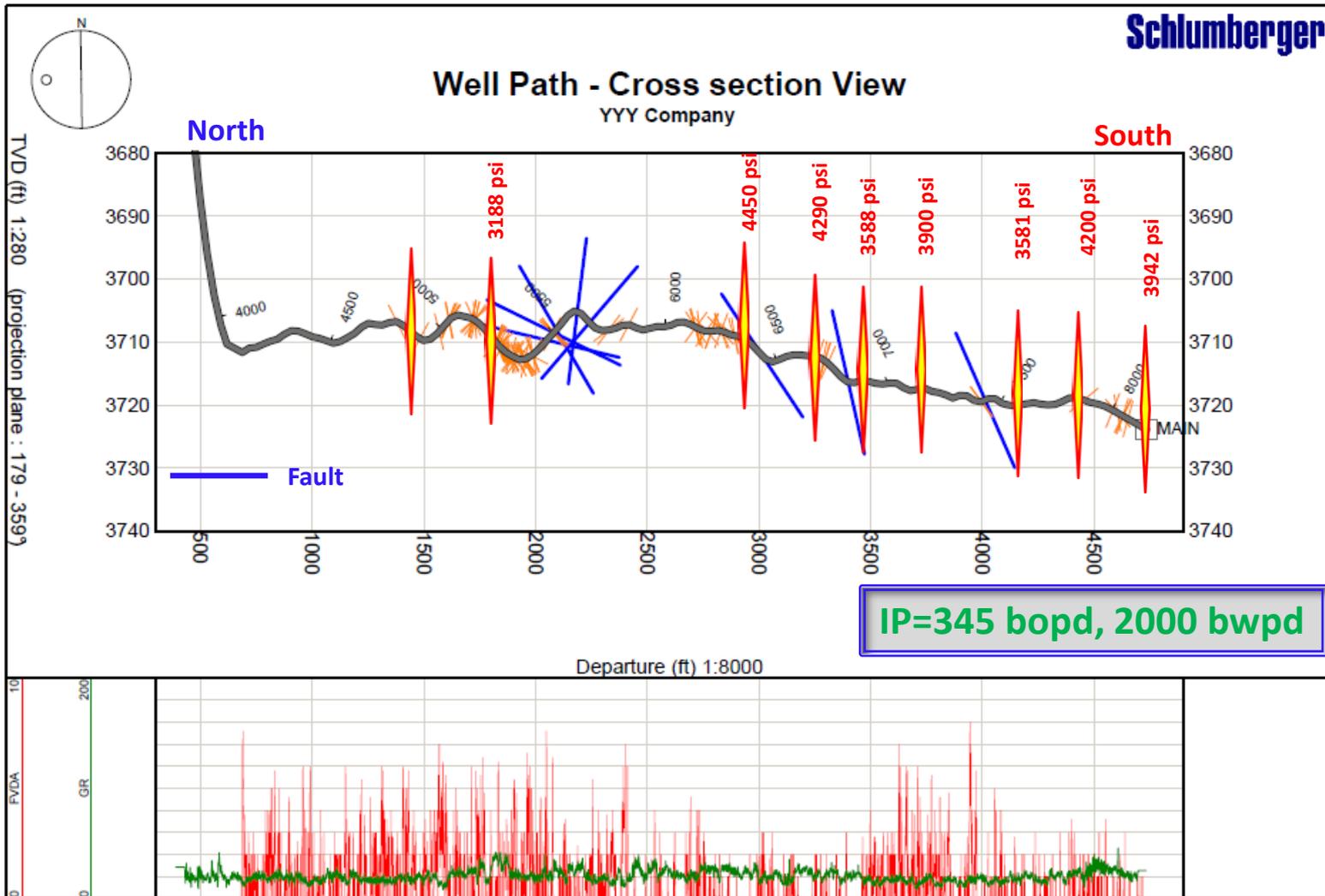
Case #1: A few Small faults, No Large Fault



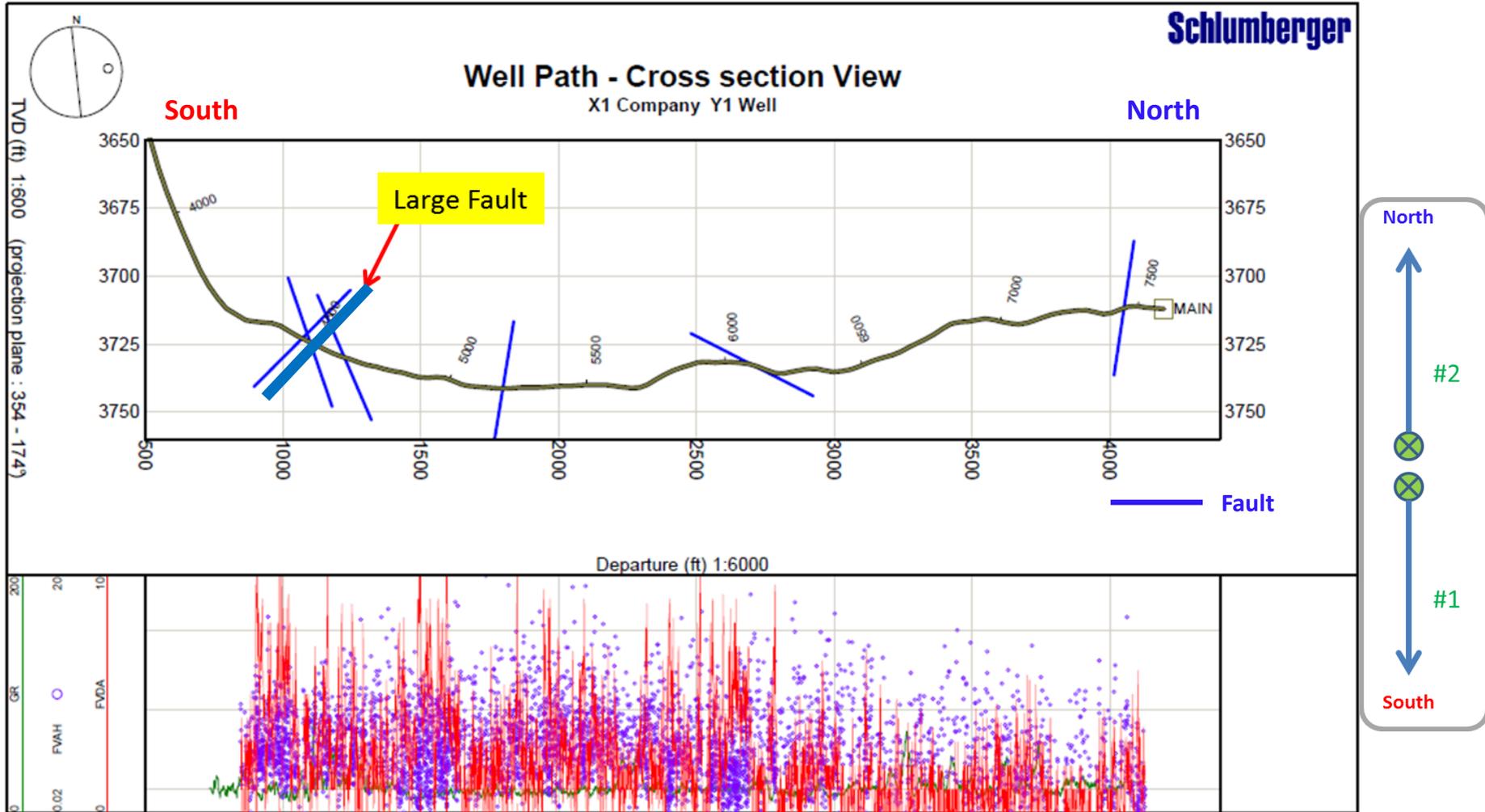
Case #1: Image Logs of the Small faults



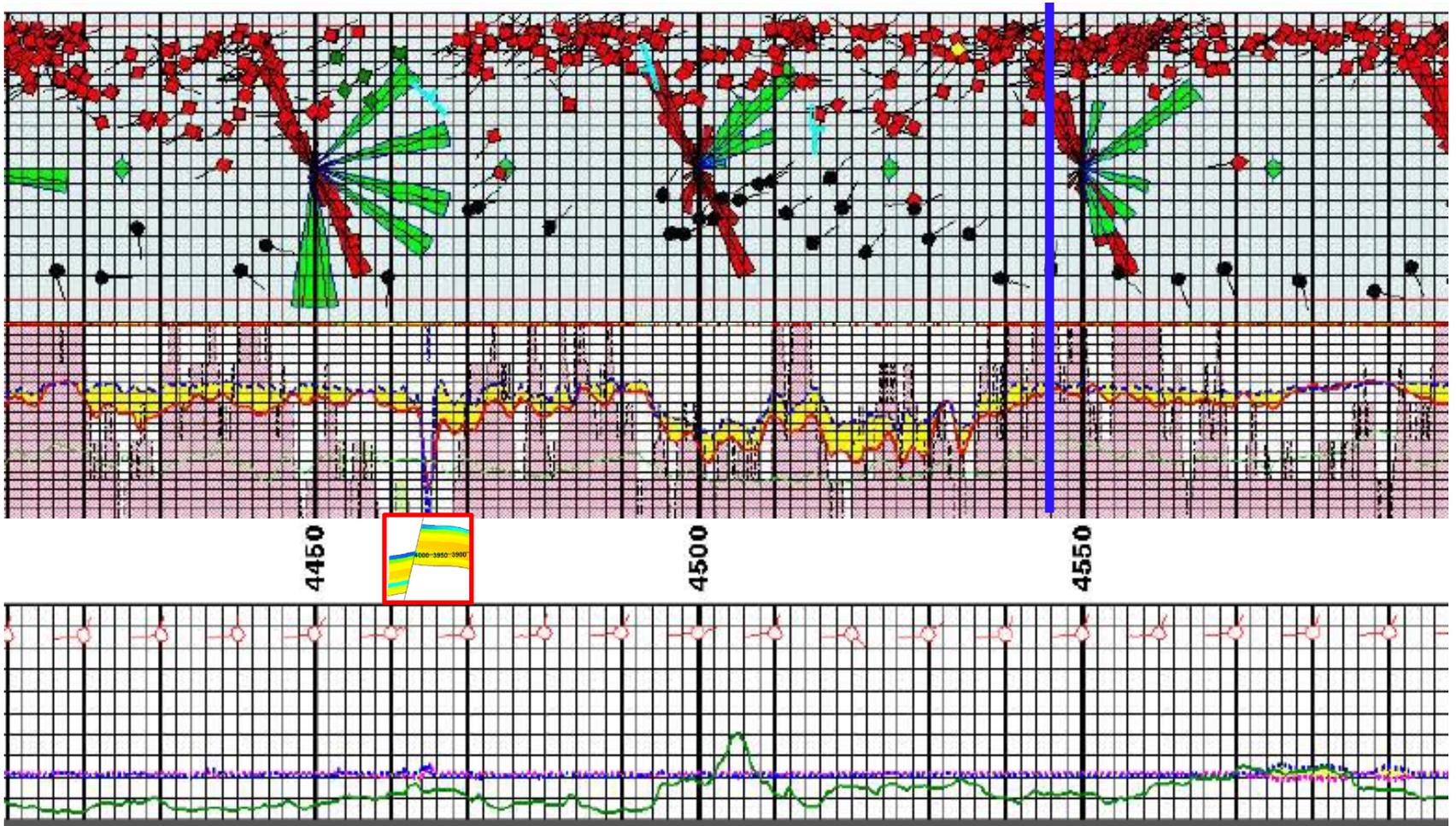
Case #1: Hydraulic Fracture Stages



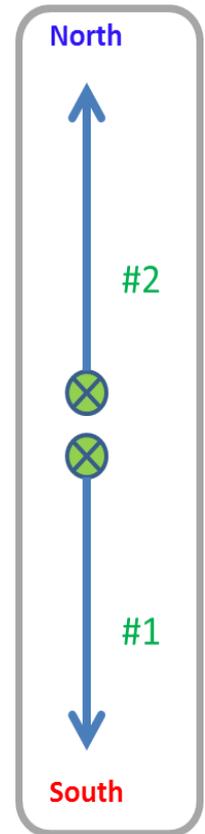
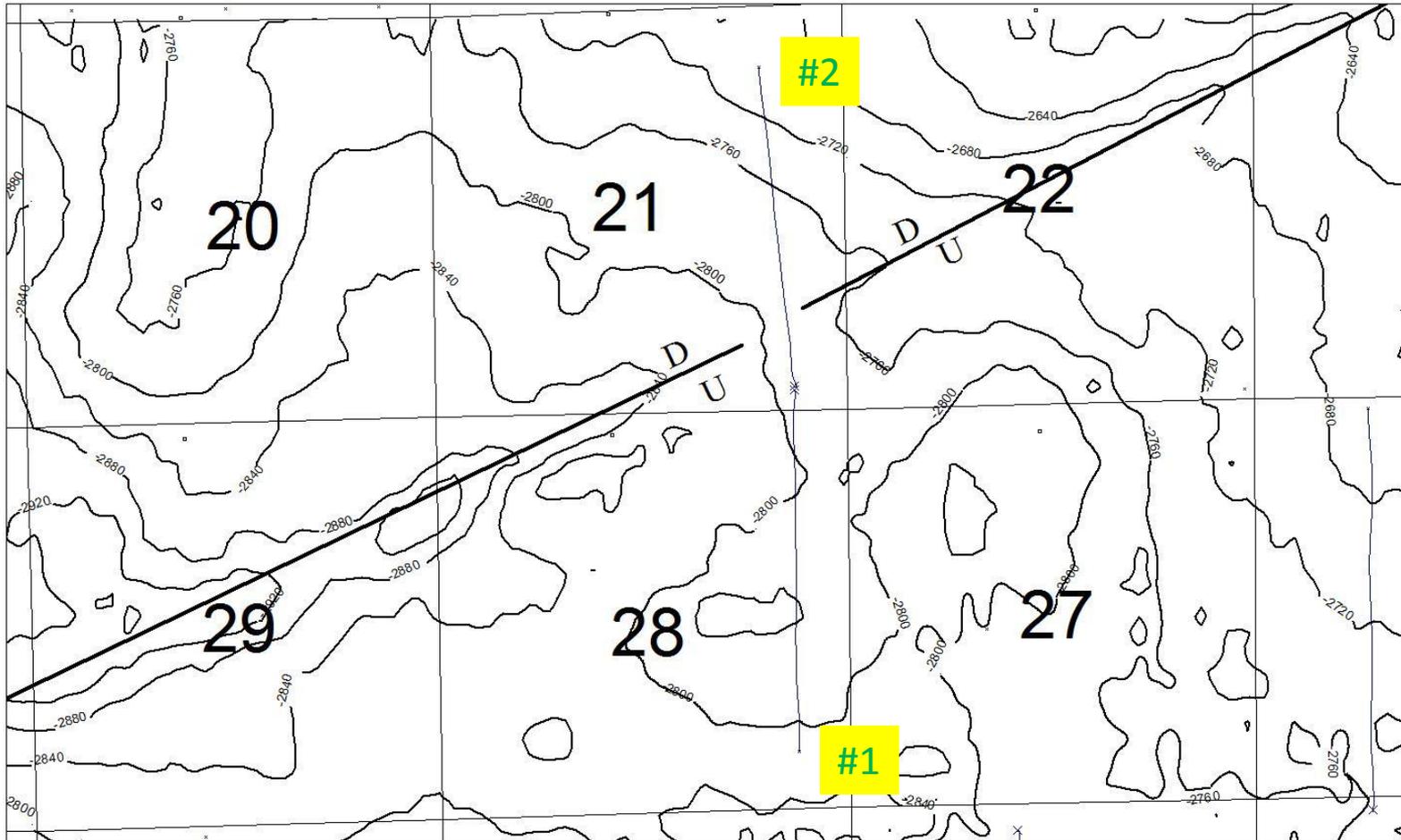
Case #2: Borehole Image Shows a Large Fault



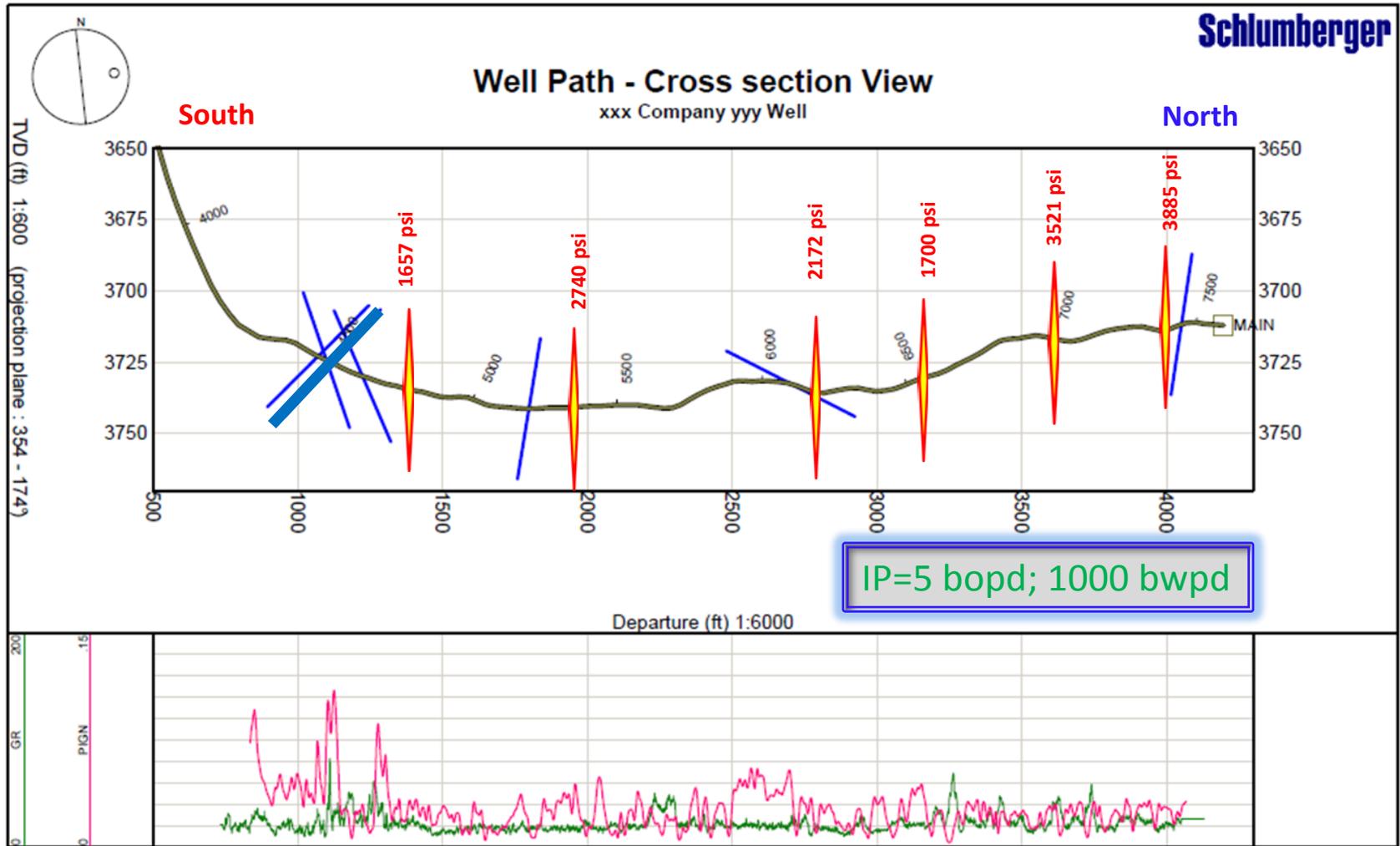
Case #2: Image Log and Interpretation results – 90' throw?



Case #2: 3 D Seismic Map - Well drilled thru Gap of the Faults?



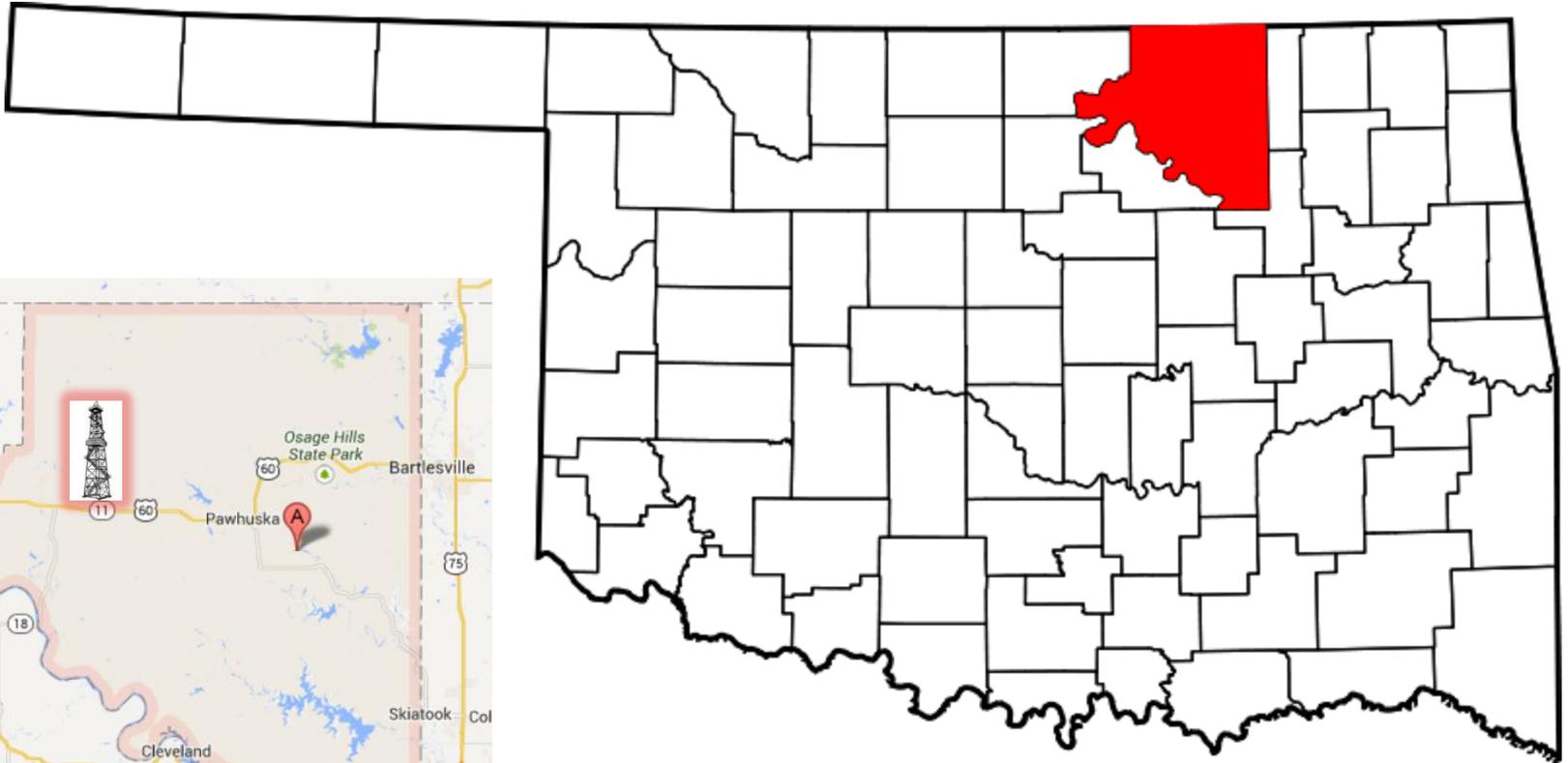
Case #2: Stage #6, 250' from the Large Fault



Case #2: What We've Learnt

- A large fault identified with borehole image log
- Well drilled between 2 faults on 3D Seismic ?
- Lost circulation in the large fault zone, well drilled dry for more than 3 days
- CBL shows poor cement quality 200' on each side of the fault
- porosity is over 10 pu across the large fault while average porosity elsewhere is 3 pu or less
- GR is higher there too. It may be caused by radioactive (Uranium) deposit
- **Well IP 5 bopd and 1000 bwpd in Summer (July), 2012**
- **Stage #6 is 250' away from the large Fault – Not Enough**

Locations of the Case #3 and #4, Osage Co.

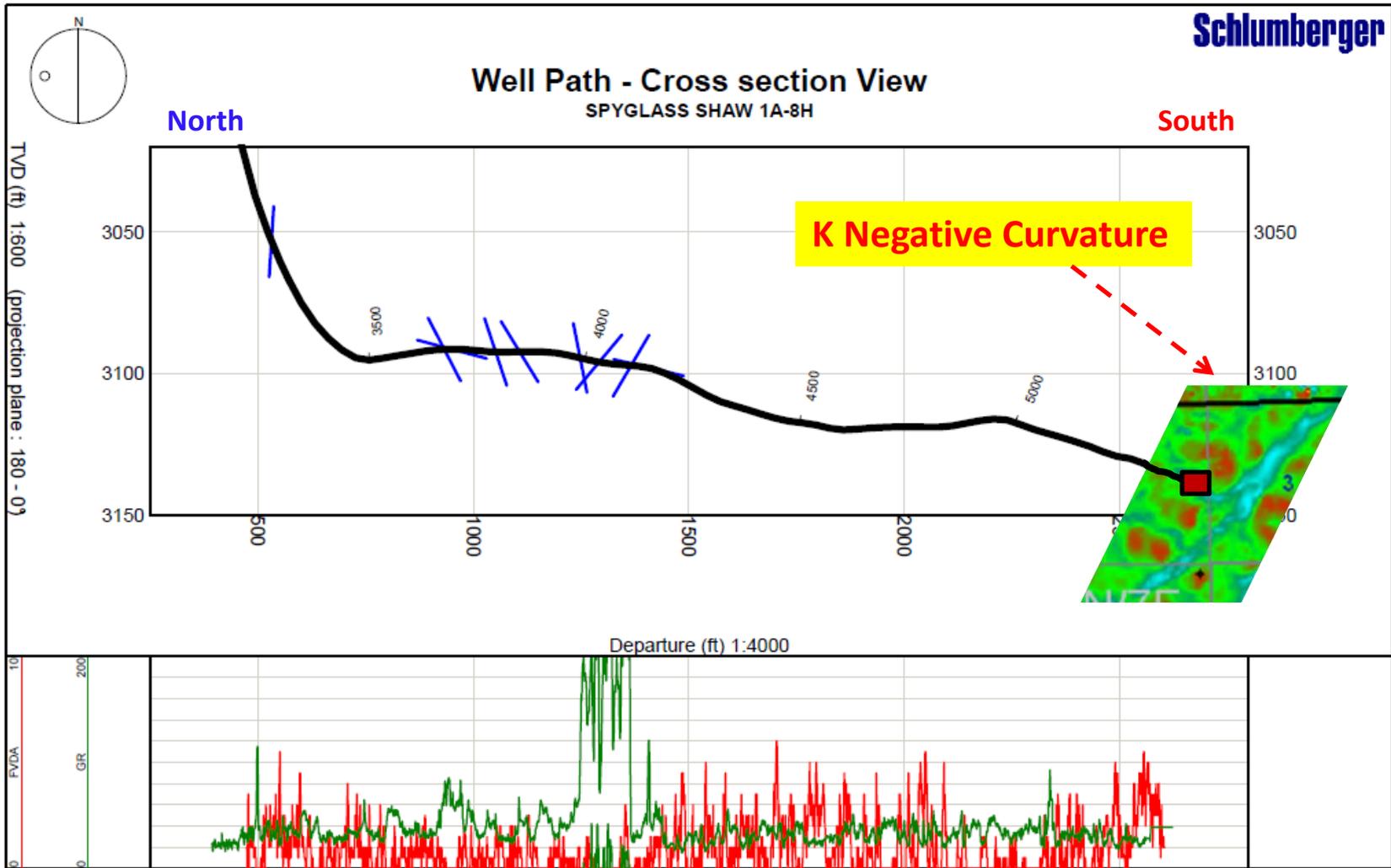


County Map of Oklahoma

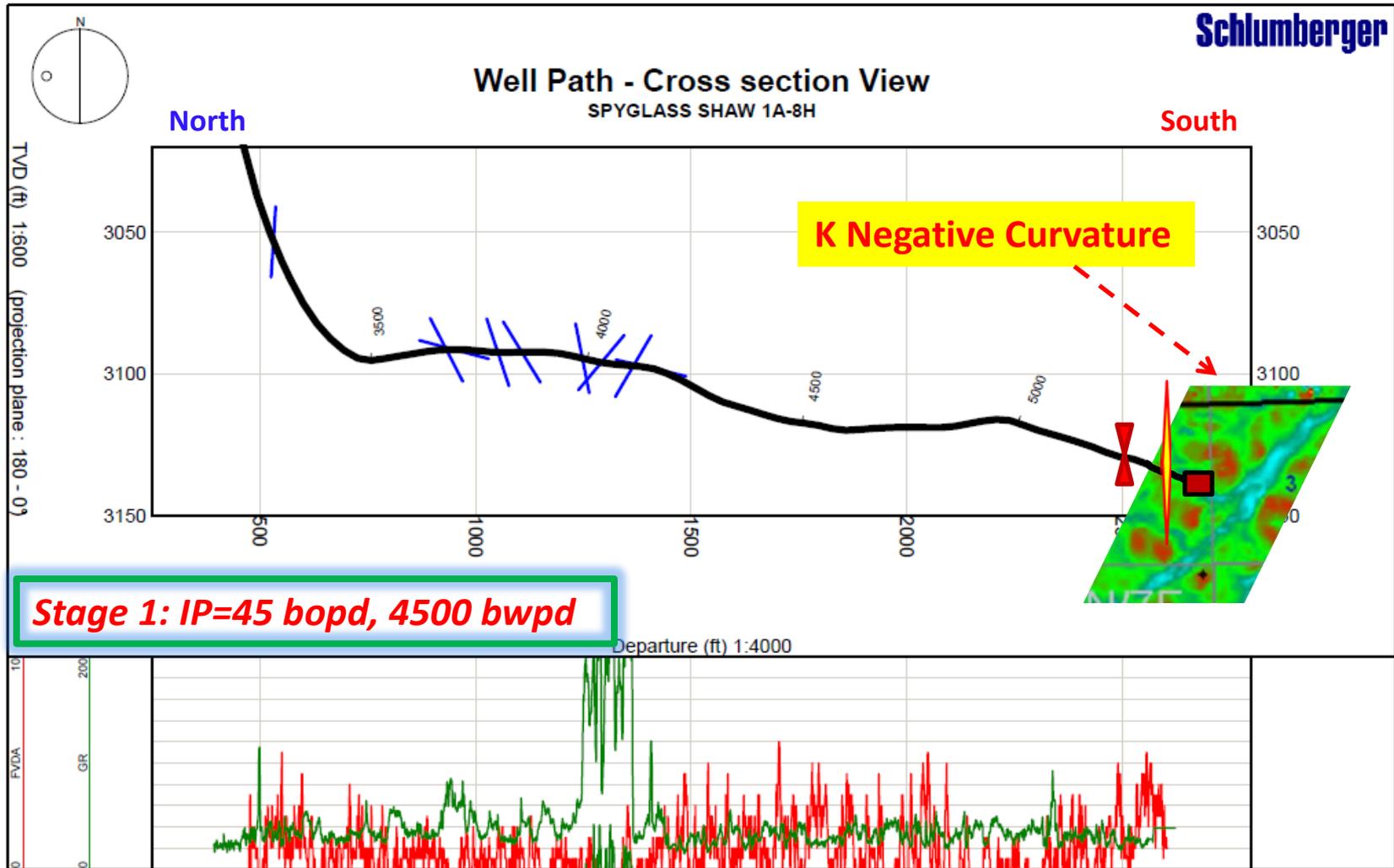


Osage County Map

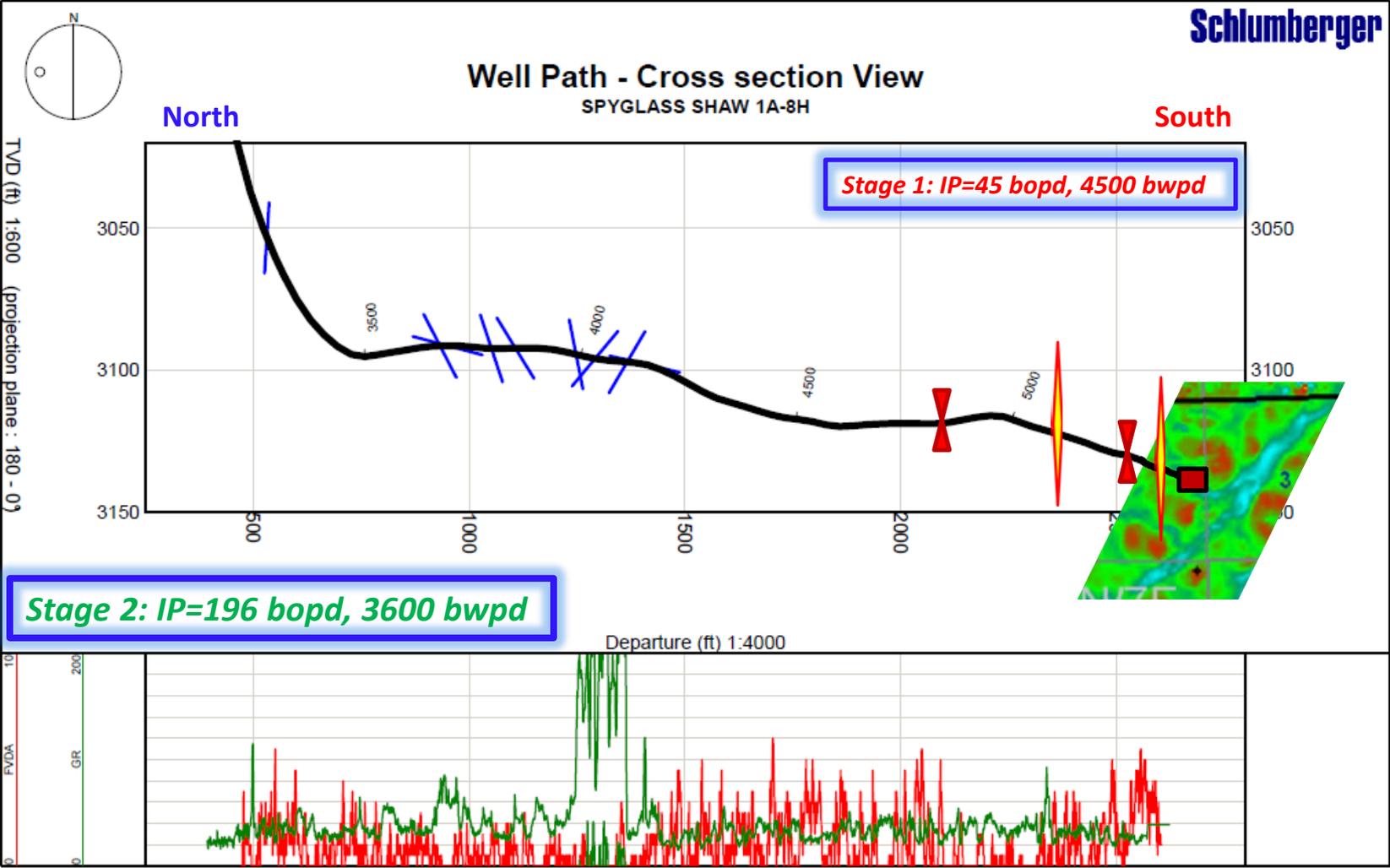
Case #3: A Large Fault from Seismic at Toe of this Lateral; A few Minor or Small Faults at Heel from Image Log



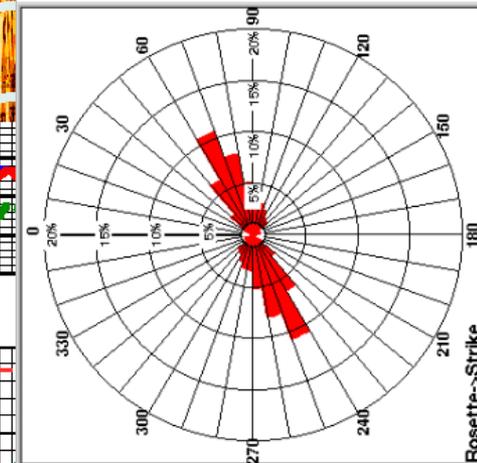
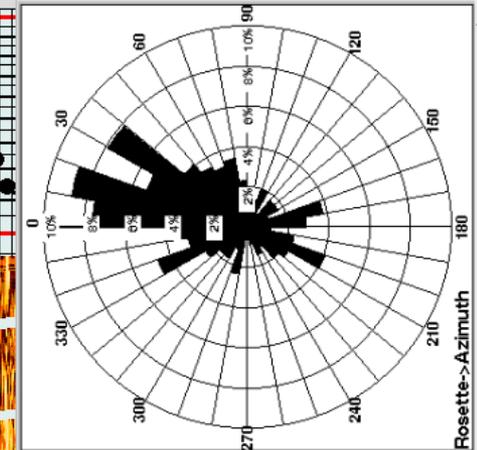
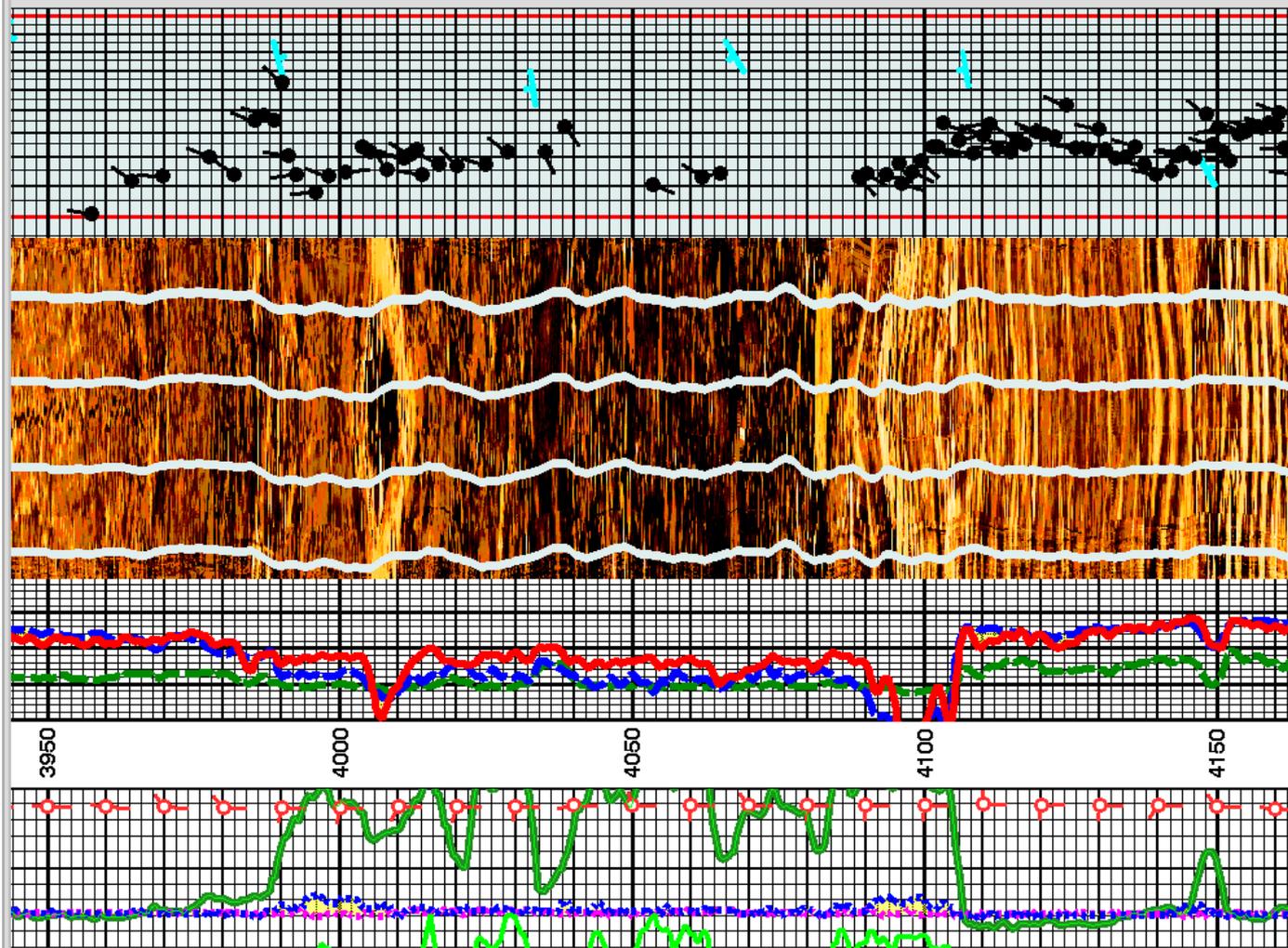
Case #3: Test #1 (Stage #1) – Zone of a Large Fault



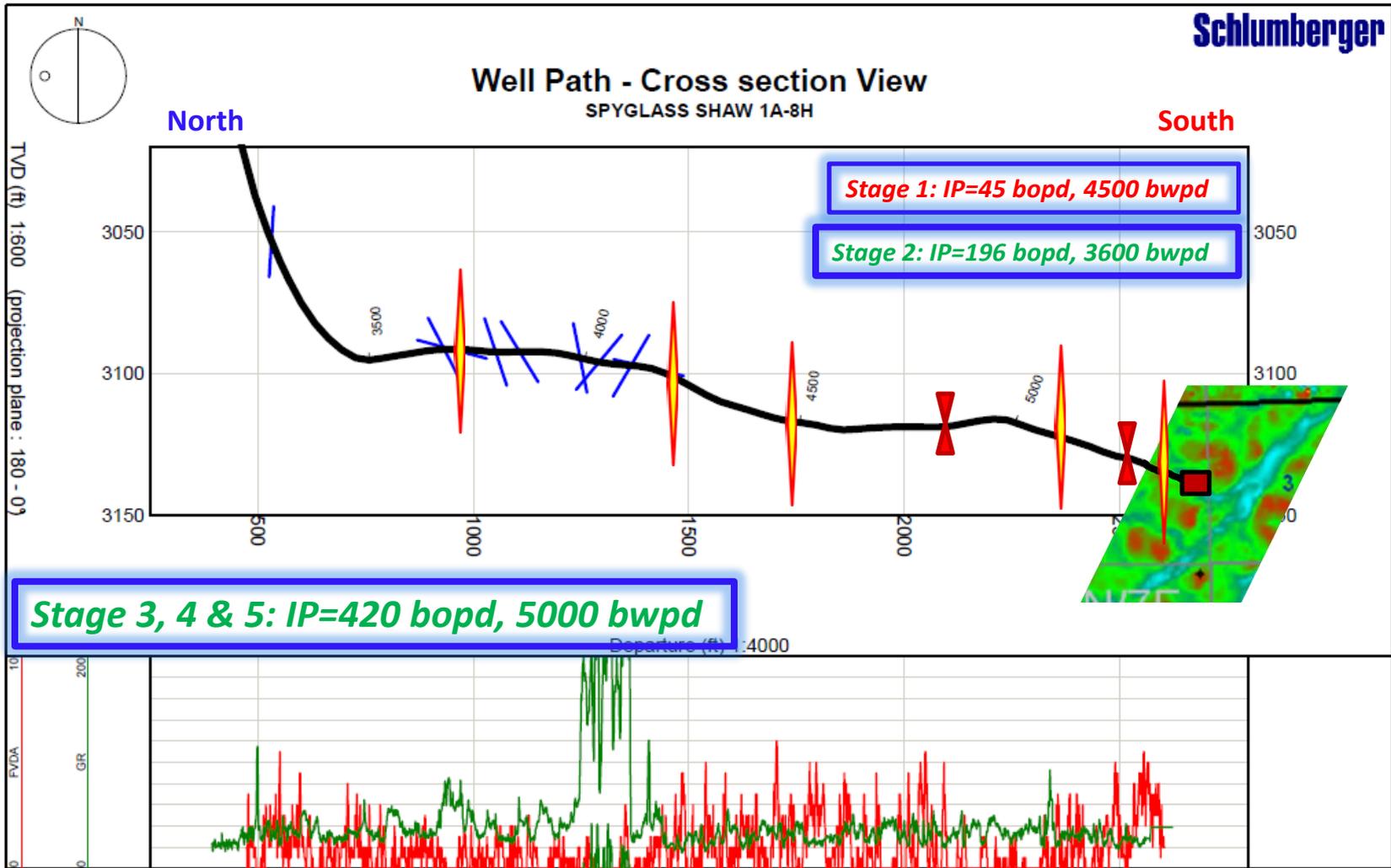
Case #3: Test #2 (Stage #2) – No Fault



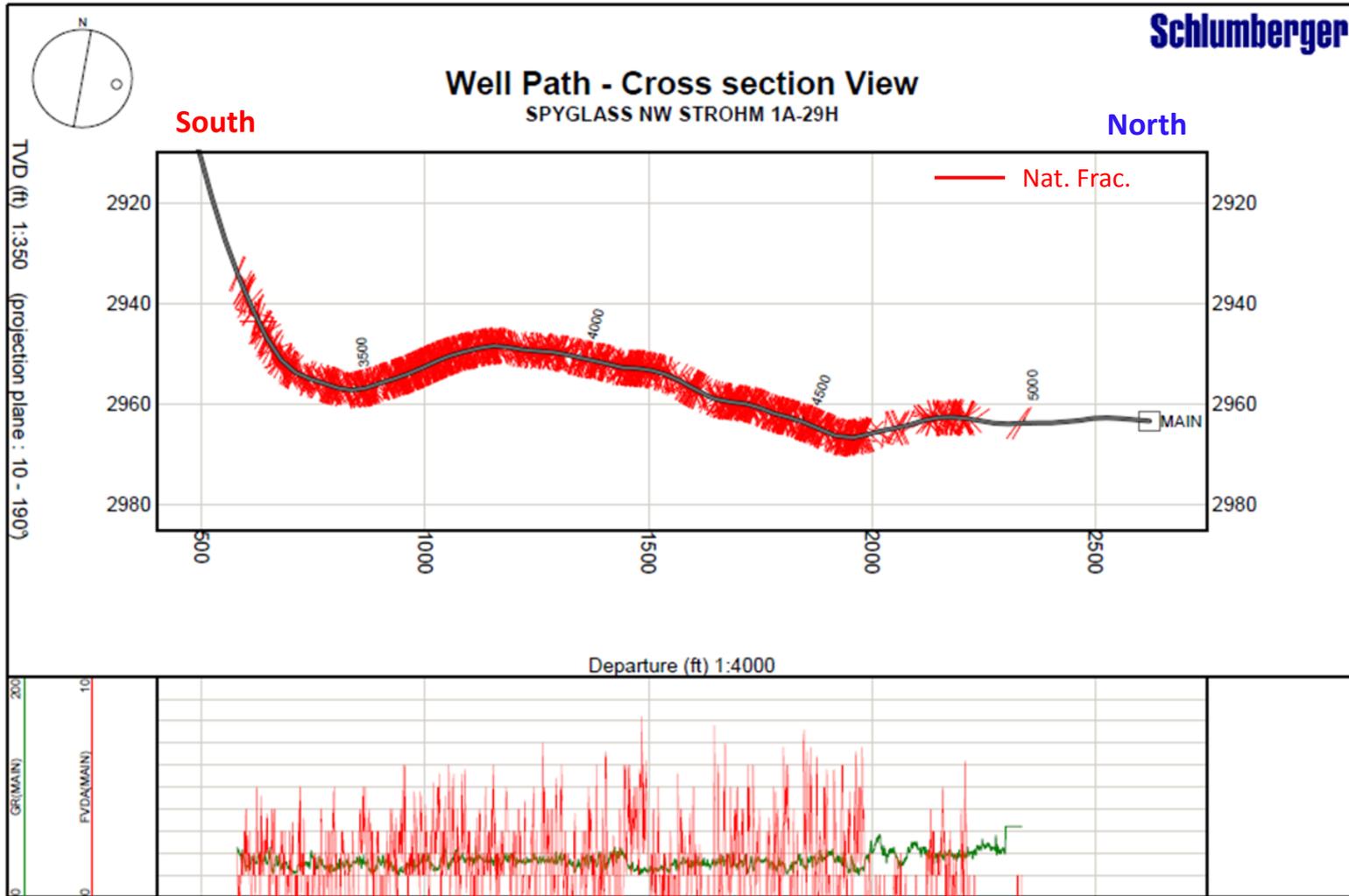
Case #3: Interval for Test #3 - Faults from Image Log



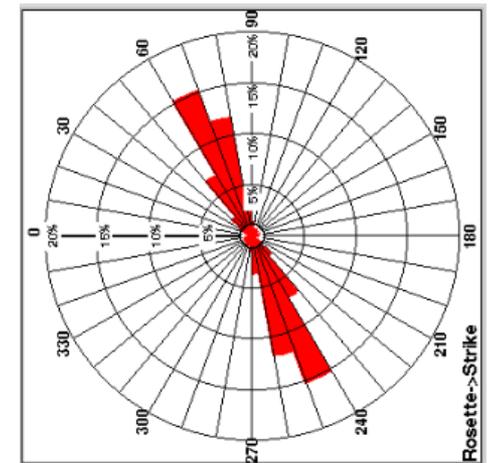
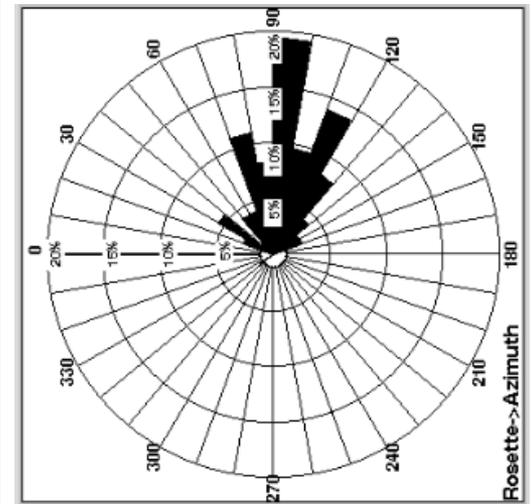
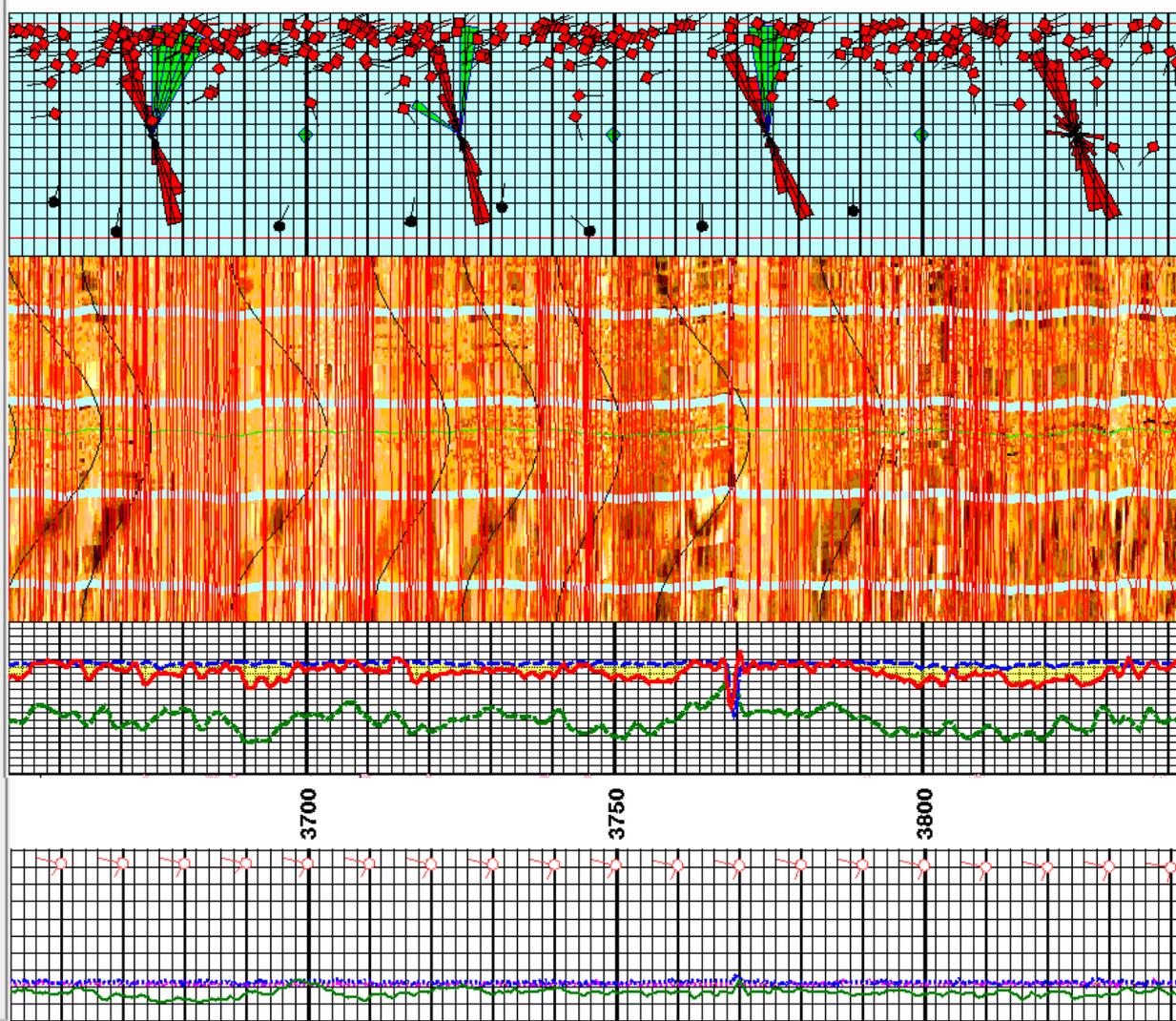
Case #3: Rest of the Borehole – Test #3 (Stage #3, #4 & #5); a Few Small & Medium Faults



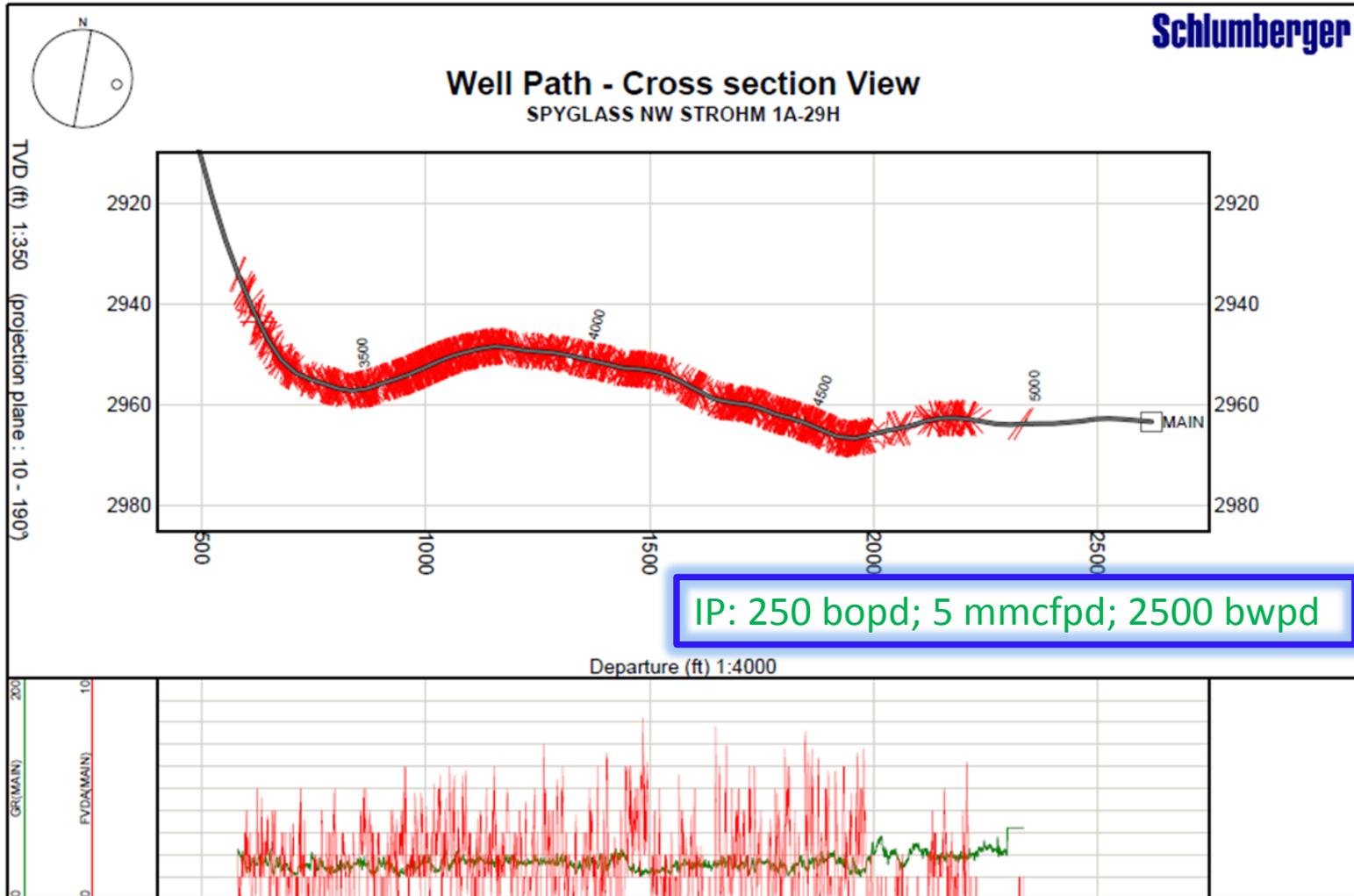
Case #4: No Fault Observed on Image Log



Case #4: Image Log and Interpretation Results



Case #4: IP Results



Conclusion

Stay Away from Large Fault !