

# **The Importance of Pipelines in Water Management for Onshore Unconventional Development\***

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## **Abstract**

This presentation will build on the study by the Ground Water Protection Council on water reuse and experience with midstream and upstream companies. Water infrastructure, once installed, greatly reduces the cost to move water from its source to the hydraulic fracturing site. This allows water from more distant sources, including brackish sources, municipalities and produced water, to be used in hydraulic fracturing. This presentation will contrast the water challenges of various onshore basins and analyze how the problems are being solved by upstream and midstream companies.

# The Importance of Pipelines in Water Management for Onshore Unconventional Development

**AAPG**

**Michael Dunkel - May 20, 2019**

**Advisian**

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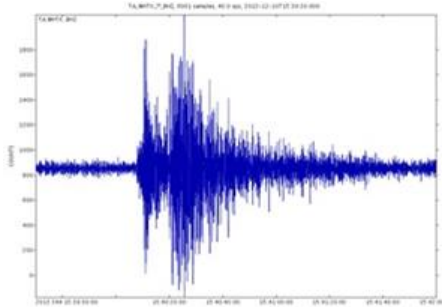
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# Agenda

- **Water Management**
- **Pipelines**
- **Costs**
- **GWPC report**

# Connecting Water Pipelines to Seismicity



***Induced  
Seismicity***



***Produced  
Water  
Disposal***



***Reuse instead  
of disposal***



***Pipelines  
needed for  
reuse***



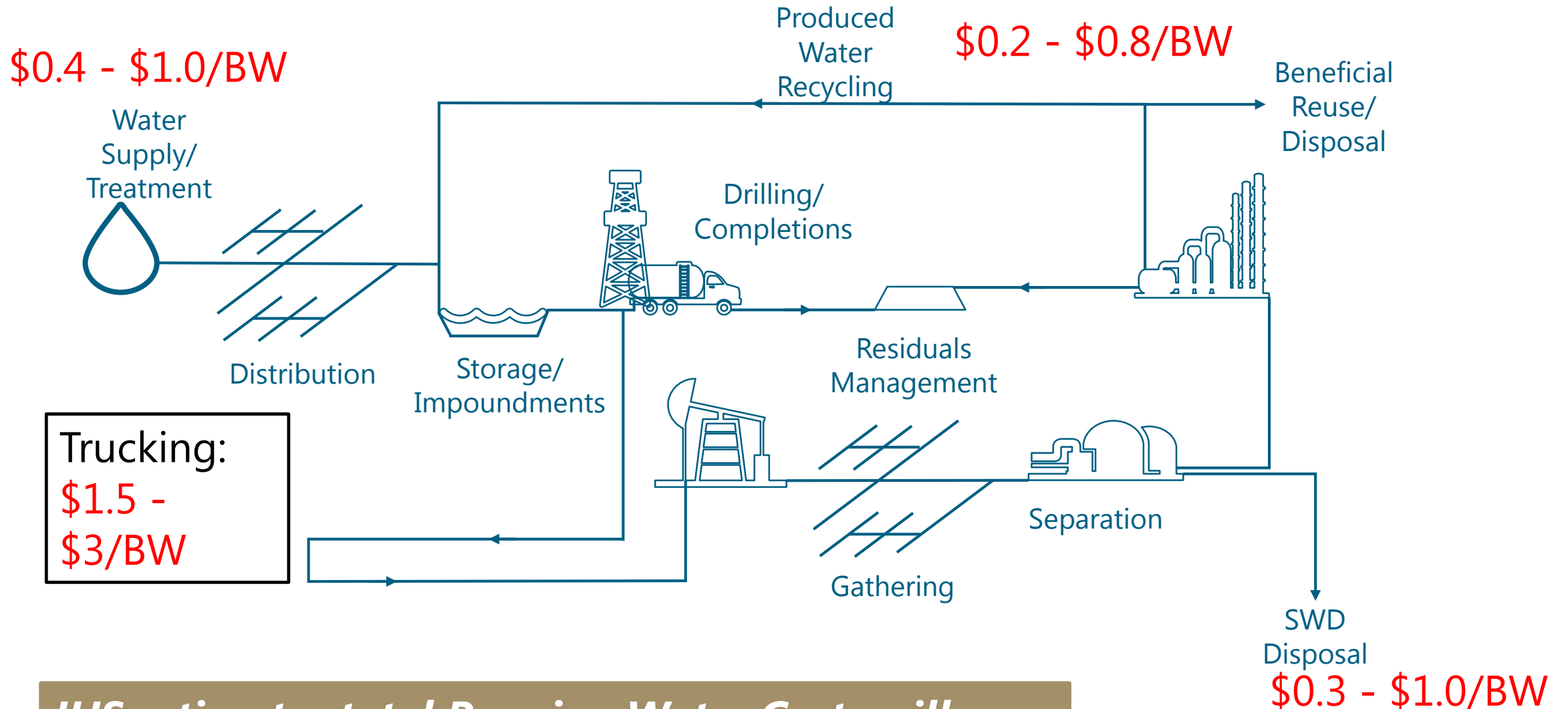


*Evan Dunkel*

## Water Cost Drivers

- Limited source water & high demand
- Potential limits on disposal & increasing water costs
- Concentration of drilling activity
- Water system integration via pipelines

# Water Management Component Costs



*IHS estimates total Permian Water Costs will increase from \$12 B in 2018 to \$22 B in 2022.*



# Combined Water Costs

<i><b>Traditional Nearby Sourcing &amp; Disposing</b></i>		<i><b>Reuse without Pipelines (with trucking)</b></i>		<i><b>Reuse with Pipelines (no trucking)</b></i>	
0.4 – 1.0	Sourcing	0.2 – 0.8	Treatment	0.2 – 0.8	Treatment
0.3 – 1.0	Disposal	0.05 – 0.1	Storage	0.05 – 0.1	Storage
		1.5 – 3.0	Trucking	0.2 – 0.5	Pipeline
<b>\$0.7 – 2.0/BW Total</b>		<b>\$1.75 – 3.9/BW</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.45 – 1.4/BW</b>	<b>Total</b>

Notes: Pipeline & storage per barrel costs assume substantial volumes of water over a period of years. Costs do not include temporary (layflat) lines that may be necessary in most cases.



# Salt Water Disposal Well

- More deep SWDs (\$10+ million) being permitted in the Permian...will this increase seismicity?
- Texas RRC reducing injection pressures on new SWD permits
- Expect more delays and challenges from regulations



# Impoundments

- Two side-by-side 500k barrel PW impoundments now common
- Cost: ~\$2 million
- Producers and Midstream companies are increasingly developing PW impoundments for reuse.





*Cimarex water riser*

## The Rise of Produced Water Reuse in 2019 in Permian

- Cimarex: water reuse 53% in 2018; saving ~\$1.20/BW
- Devon, Oxy and Cimarex - water reuse 80+% in 2019
- Pioneer – 30% reuse by end of 2019
- Concho – Reusing water in all development areas



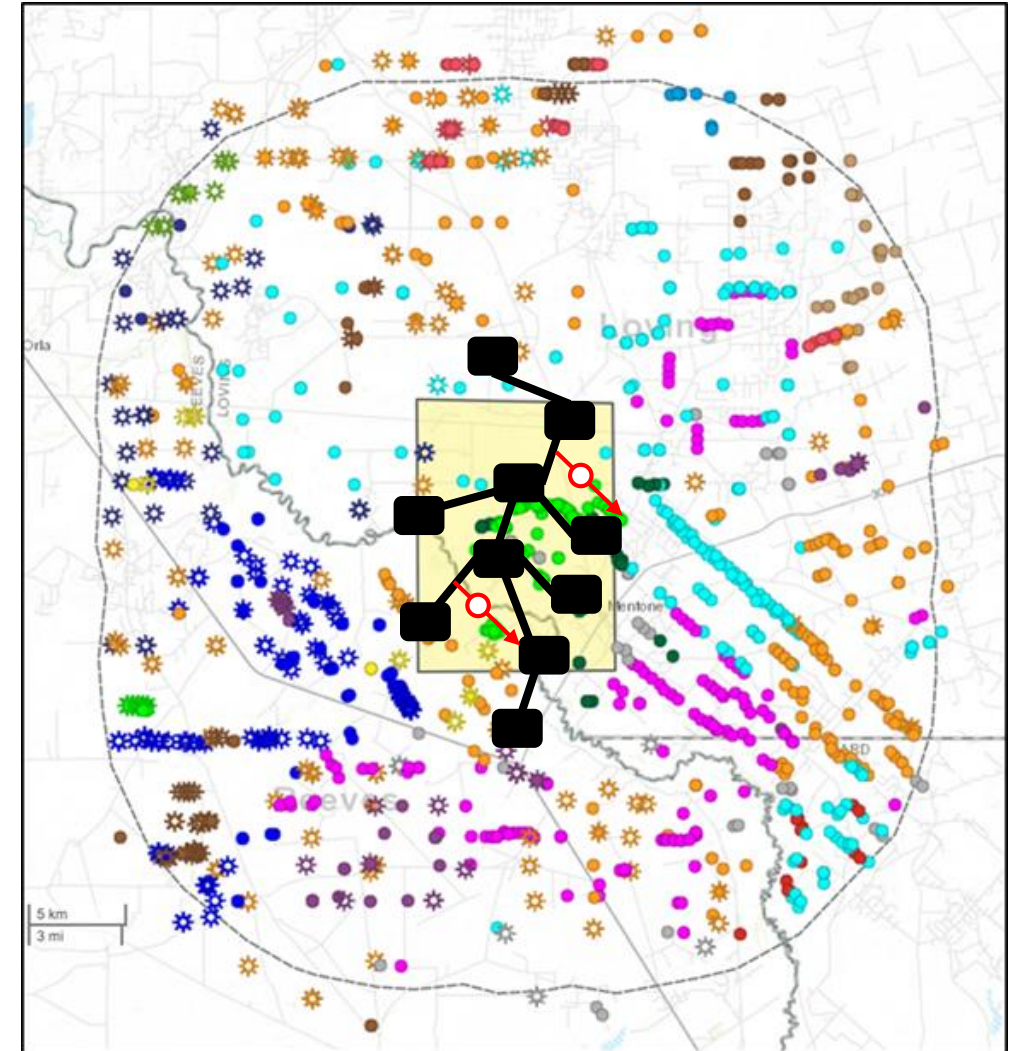
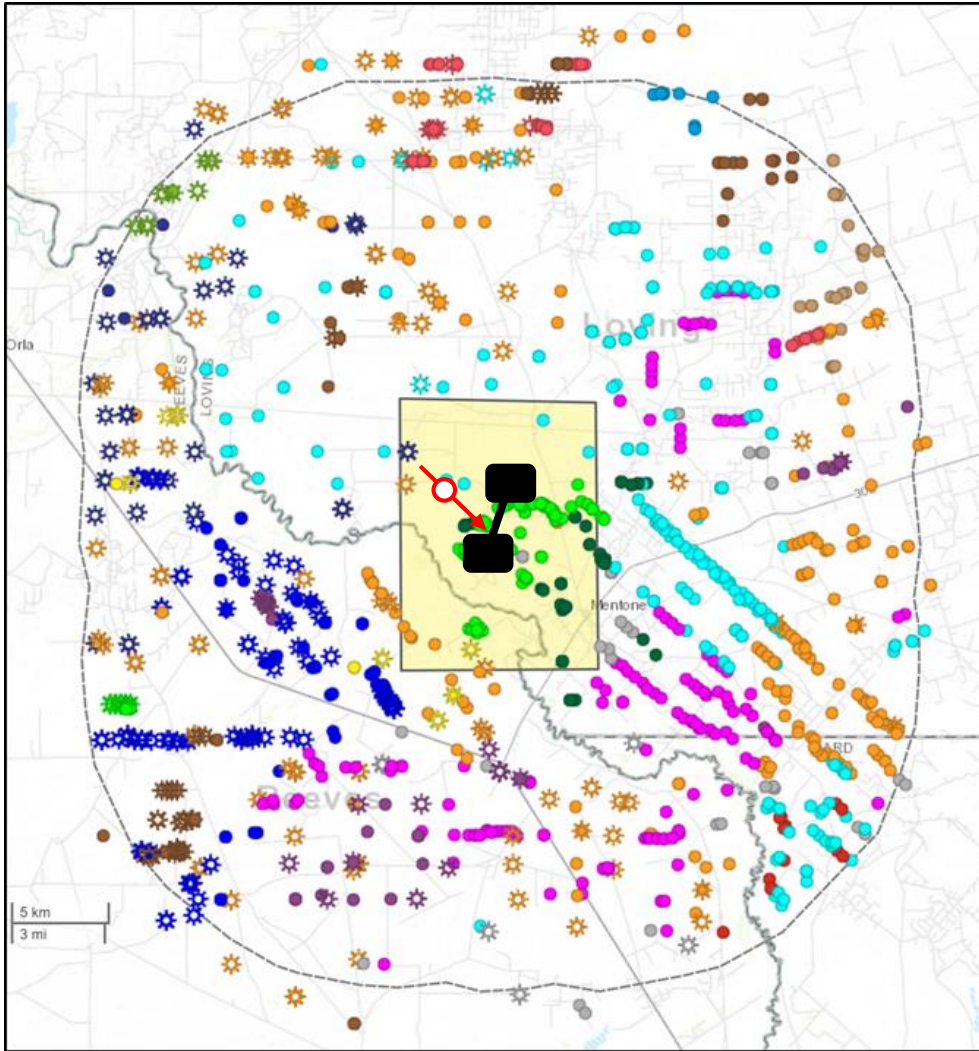


*Courtesy of Fountain Quail*

# Water Reuse & Treatment Costs

- Treatment levels vary:
  - Bacteria kill
  - TSS/O&G
  - Iron / hardness
- Treatment costs range from \$0.2 to \$0.8/BW
- Few producers operate their own treatment plants

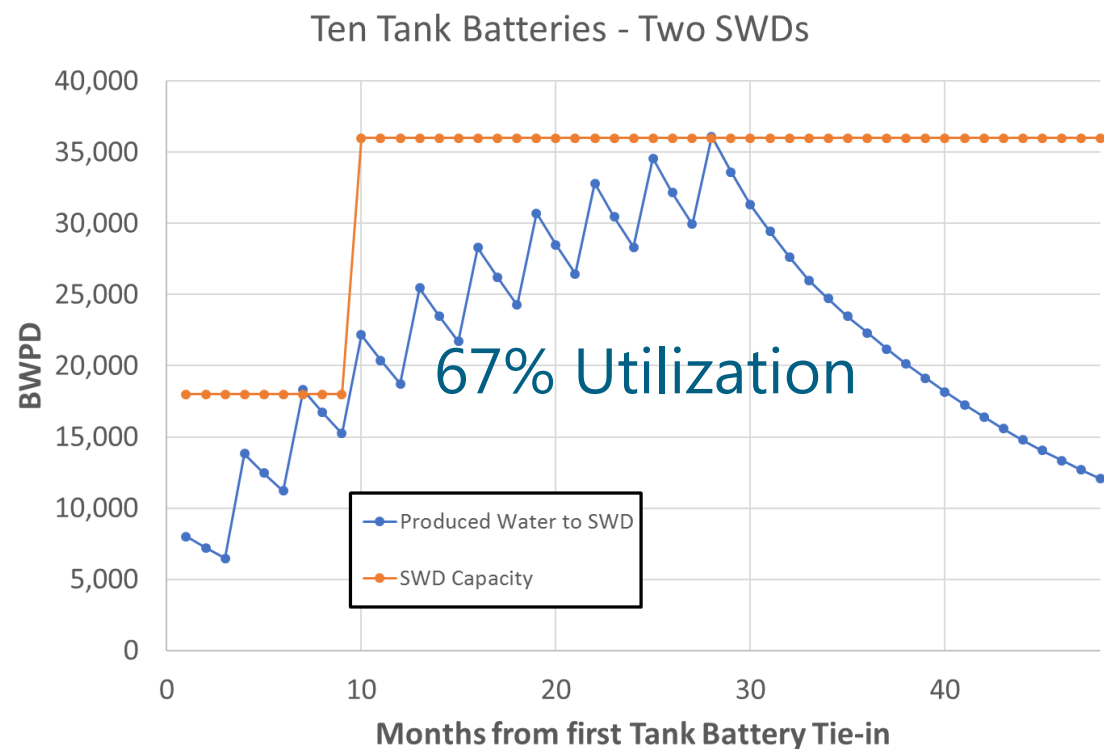
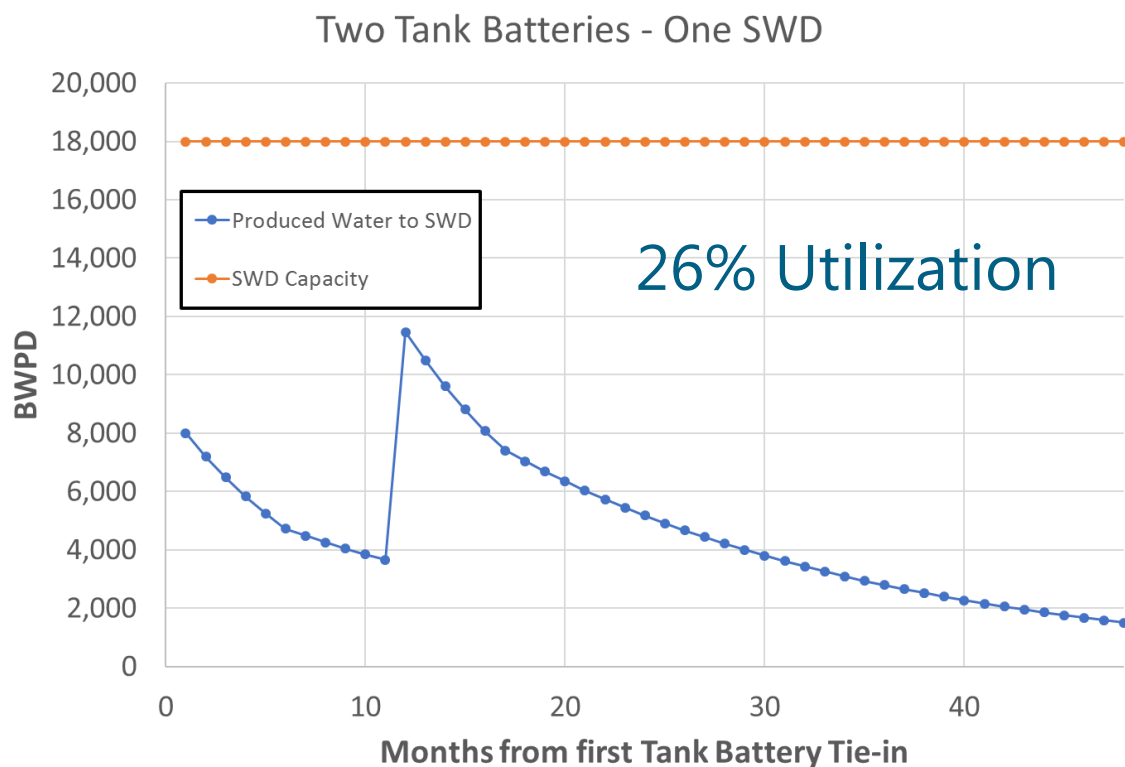
# Multiple Small Systems vs. One Large System



Legend: Tank battery ■ Water Pipeline / Salt water disposal well ↗

# Larger SWD Systems Gain Cost Efficiency

- Peak water demands can be spread across a linked network of SWDs
- Example: save the cost of 3 SWDs, or potentially ~\$25 to \$30 million
- Multi-producer systems can have even higher average capacity utilization



# Advent of Water Midstream

**Water Midstream: Own & operate water pipelines to deliver source water or take-away & dispose of produced water. May involve treatment & reuse.**

## Operator Positives

- Reduce costs
- Minimize Capex for producers
- Allow producers to complete more wells
- Balance water supply and demand better

## Operator Concerns

- Potential concern over control
- Commitment needed from producers
- Water mixing/Source water criteria
- Complexity of system



**GROUNDWATER**

PROTECTION COUNCIL



**PRODUCED  
WATER REPORT**

**Regulations, Current Practices & Research Needs**

# Developing Solutions: Modular Approach

## MODULE 01

### Regulatory & Legal Frameworks

This module describes the current legal and regulatory frameworks that address produced water. It also addresses changes that may need to occur to facilitate the use of produced water.

**Leadership:**

John Baza, Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
Shellie Chard, Oklahoma DEQ, Water Quality

## MODULE 02

### Produced Water Use in the Oilfield

This module describes the current uses and potential future uses of produced water inside the oilfield. It defines the existing constraints of use and identifies the opportunities and challenges of expanded use.

**Leadership:**

Tom Kropatsch, Wyoming Oil & Gas Commission  
Scott Kell, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

## MODULE 03

### Produced Water Use & Research Needs Outside the Oilfield

This module describes current and potential use of produced water outside the oilfield and identifies the research needs that will need to be addressed to facilitate expanded use.

**Leadership:**

Ken Harris, California Department of Conservation  
Nichole Saunders, Environmental Defense Fund

# Economics of Reuse

## Water Costs without Reuse



## Water Costs with Reuse



# Trends in Water Management

## Sourcing

Fresh ↓

Brackish ↑

Reuse ↑

## Treatment

Mobile Unit —

Fixed Plant —

Wellsite  
bacteria —

## Storage

Frac Tanks ↓

Impoundments ↑

Above-ground  
Storage Tanks ↑

## Transport

Trucking ↓

Permanent  
Pipelines ↑

Temp. Lines ↑

## Disposal

Saltwater Disposal  
Wells ↑

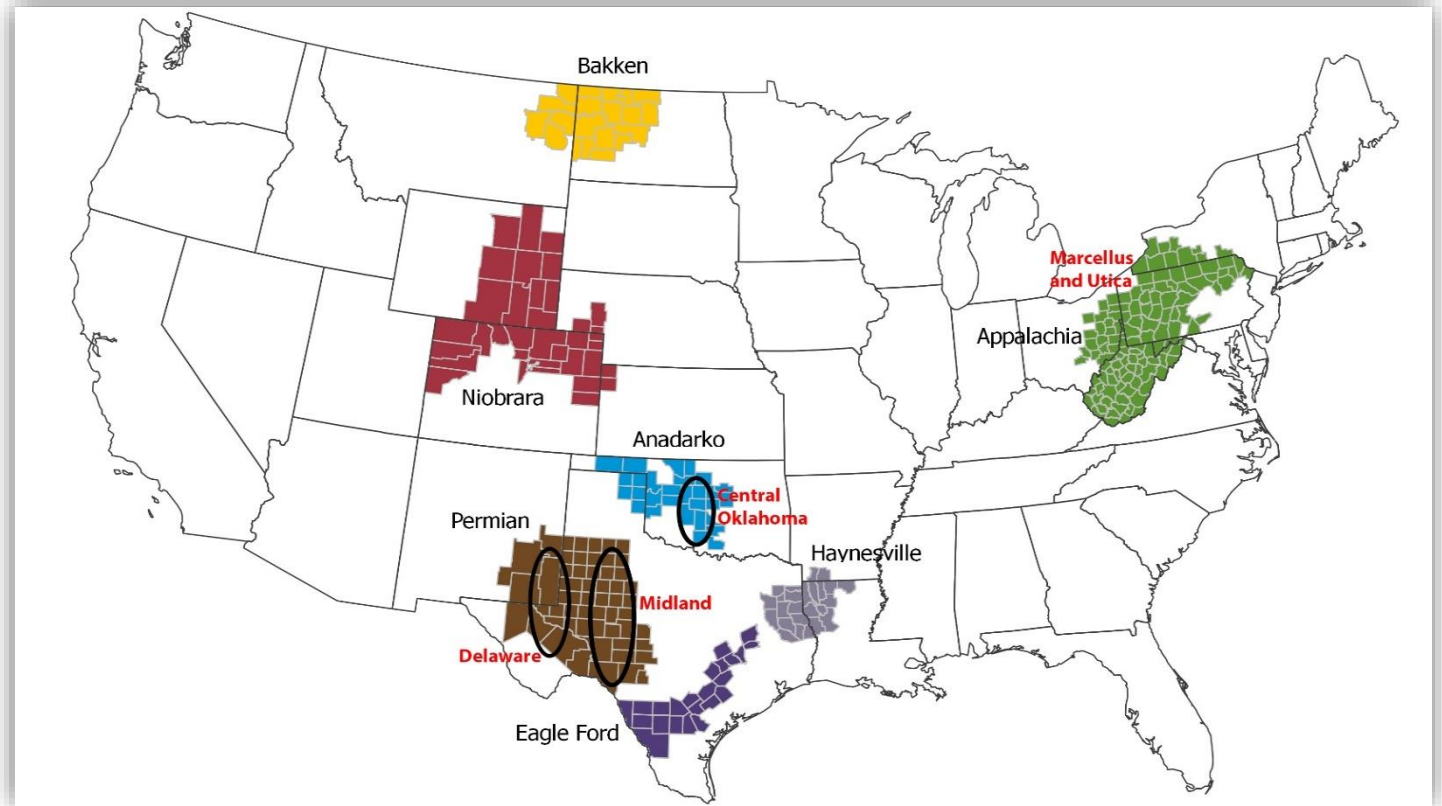
Reuse in new Frac  
Wells ↑

Reuse outside O&G —

# Produced Water Reuse In Unconventional Oil and Gas Operations: Regional Studies

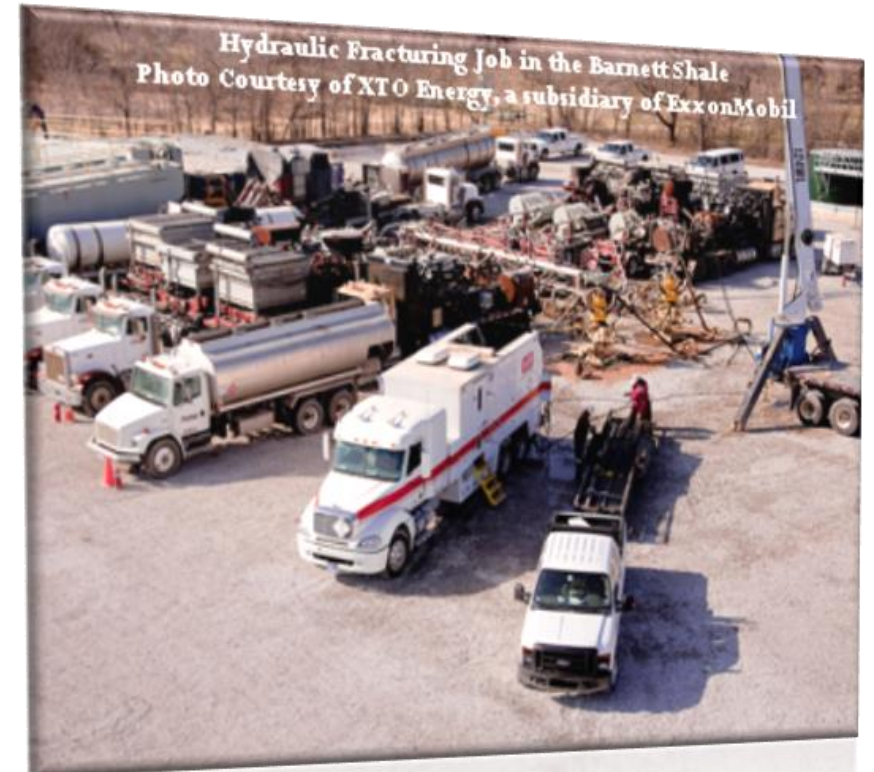
## Seven basins profiled

- Appalachia
- Bakken
- Eagle Ford
- Haynesville
- Niobrara/ DJ
- Oklahoma
- Permian



# Challenges & Opportunities of Water Management

- Adapting state regulatory frameworks
- Transport
- Storage
- Underground Injection
- Treatment
- Spill Management and Mitigation
- Treatment Residuals Management
- Air Emissions
- Wildlife Protection



# Future for Water Infrastructure

- More water pipelines for sourcing & produced water
- Key drivers: cost, reduce trucking, increase reuse, disposal limits
- Each basin/county has different water factors for infrastructure
- Large & small producers installing water infrastructure
- Water midstream companies: growing role

