

Sixth Annual Conference on Carbon Capture & Sequestration

CCS Models

SECARB'S MISSISSIPPI SALINE RESERVOIR FIELD TEST - - SITE SELECTION, TEST PLANNING AND RESERVOIR MODELING

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Mississippi Test Site: Three Primary Objectives

1. Identify and Develop a Safe and Secure CO₂ Storage Site
2. Establish and Characterize a Regionally Extensive, High CO₂ Storage Capacity Saline Formation
3. Build Acceptance and Confidence for Long-Term CO₂ Storage

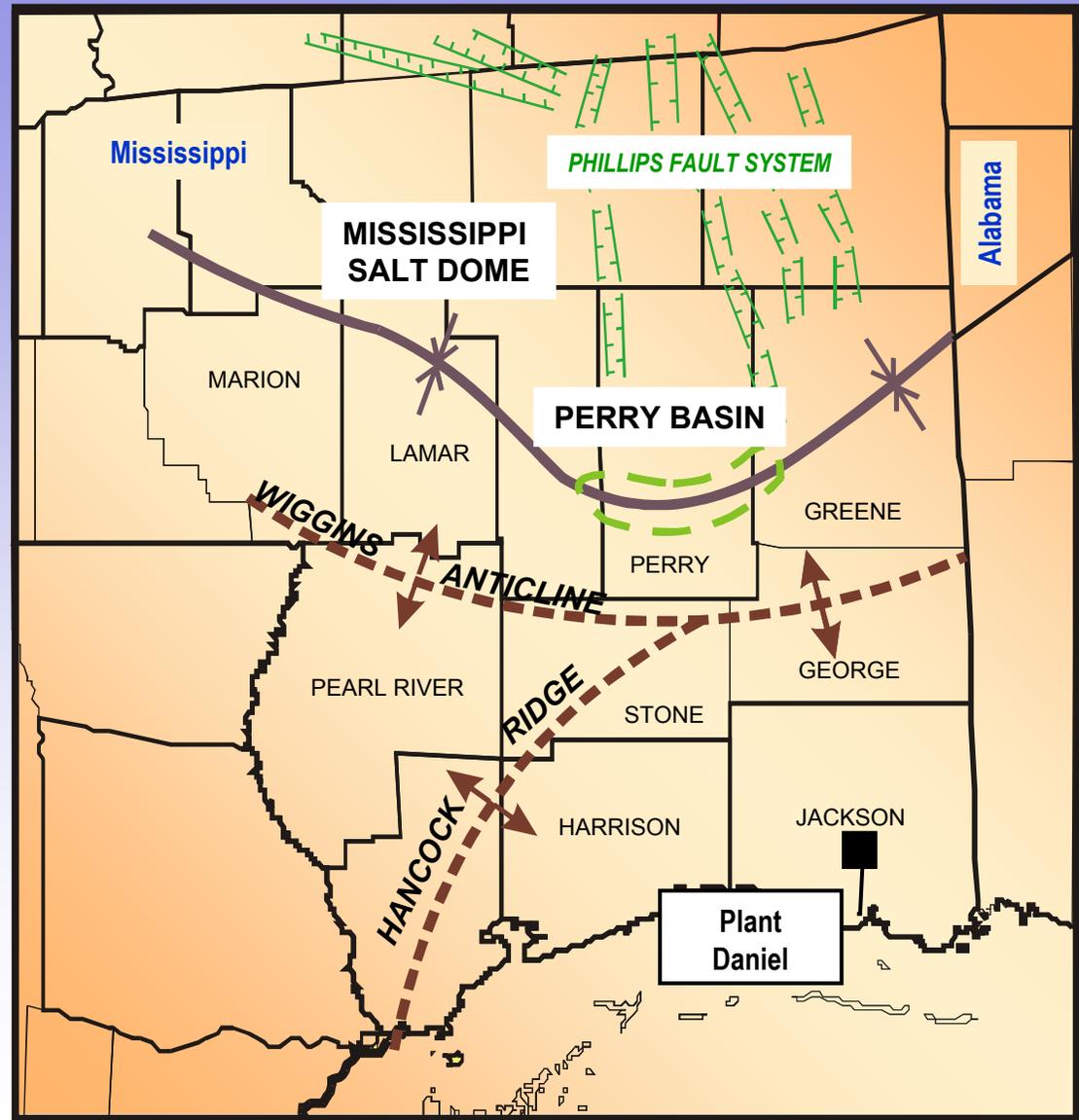
Key Test Site Issues

- How large and regionally continuous is the reservoir? Will it be able to store CO₂ emissions from the power plant for the next 40 years?
- What is the injectivity of the formation? How many wells will need to be drilled and how should these be spaced?
- Do the reservoir seal and the shallower geologic strata provide a safe geologic setting plus secondary storage options?
- When and where will the CO₂ plume become permanently trapped?
- What set of geologic data, reservoir assessments and monitoring systems will need to be established to meet regulatory requirements?
- What set of strategies and actions will help build local public awareness and acceptance for CO₂ storage?

1. Mississippi Test Site Characterization

The site evaluation process is designed to assure selection of a safe, secure CO₂ storage site and formation:

- Competent, regionally extensive caprock and seal(s)
- Multiple shallower “safety zones”
- Updip structural confinement
- High CO₂ storage capacity with favorable reservoir properties
- Favorable hydrological system
- Protection of potable and low salinity water
- Mapping of older, abandoned wells



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Saline Reservoir Units and Seals (SE Mississippi)

Potential CO₂ Storage Units:

- Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit (U. Cretaceous)
- Dantzler (Washita-Fredricksburg) Formation (L. Cretaceous)

Confining Units (Seals):

- Midway Shale
- Selma Chalk
- Austin Chalk
- Marine Tuscaloosa Shale

System	Series	Stratigraphic Unit	Sub-Units	Hydrology
Tertiary	Pliocene		Citronelle Fm.	Freshwater Aquifers
			Graham Ferry Fm.	
	Miocene	Misc. Miocene Units	Pascagoula Fm.	Freshwater Aquifers
			Hattiesburg Fm.	
			Catahoula Fm.	
	Oligocene	Vicksburg		Saline Reservoir
			Red Bluff Fm.	Minor Reservoir
	Eocene		Jackson	Saline Reservoir
			Claiborne	Saline Reservoir
			Wilcox	Saline Reservoir
Paleocene		Midway Shale	Confining unit	
Cretaceous	Upper	Selma Chalk	Navarro Fm.	Confining unit
			Taylor Fm.	
		Eutaw	Austin Fm.	Confining unit
			Eagle Ford Fm.	Saline Reservoir
		Tuscaloosa Group	Upper Tusc.	Minor Reservoir
			Marine Tusc.	Confining unit
			Lower Tusc. Interbeds Massive Sand	Saline Reservoir
		Lower	Washita – Fredricksburg	Dantzler Fm.
“Limestone Unit”				

Additional Confining Zones

Confining Zone

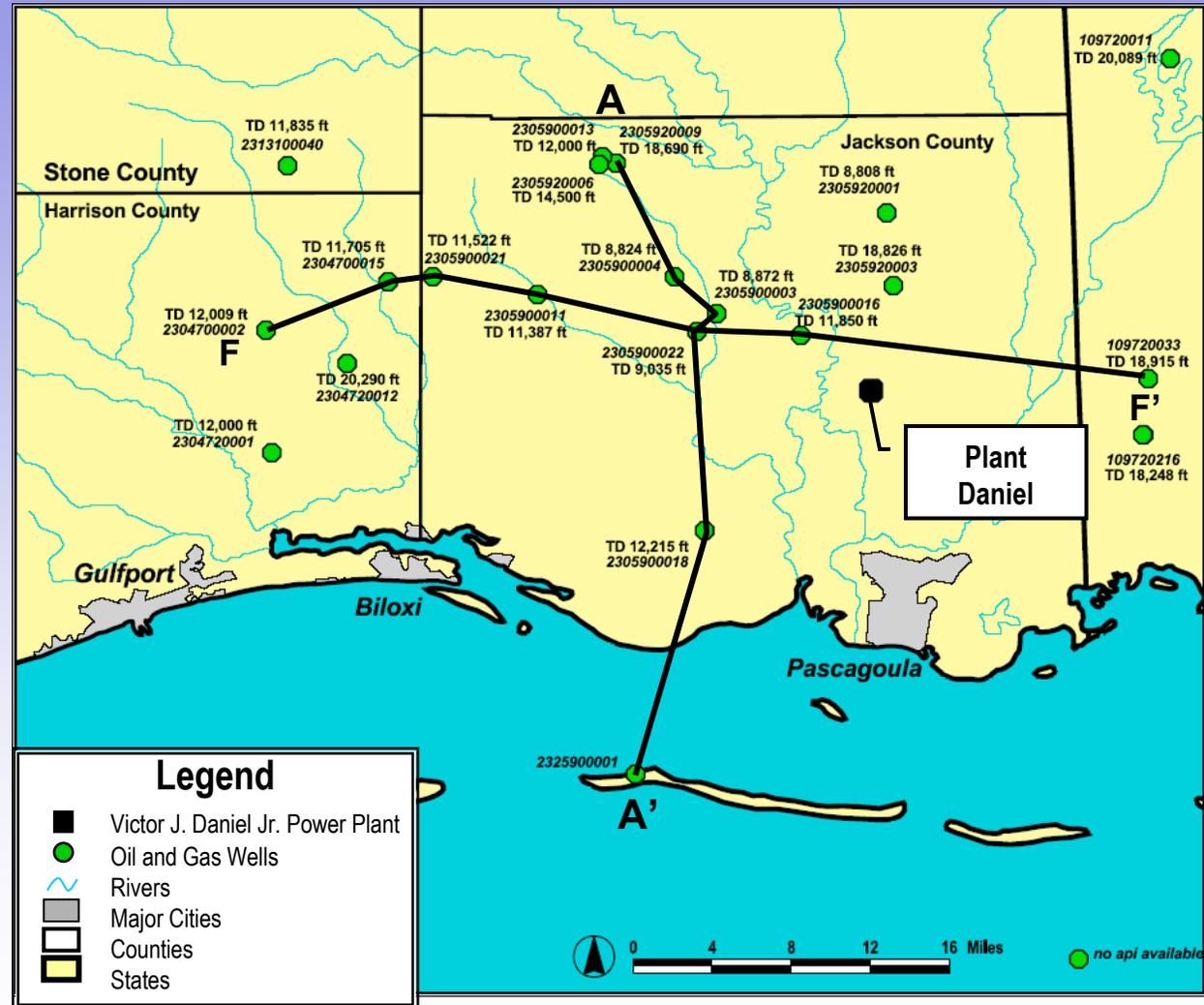
Injection Zone

Cross Section A-A' Location

A total of 20 oil and gas wells provide the essential deep subsurface information for the Mississippi Gulf Coast area.

The A-A' North-South cross section contains 8 data wells.

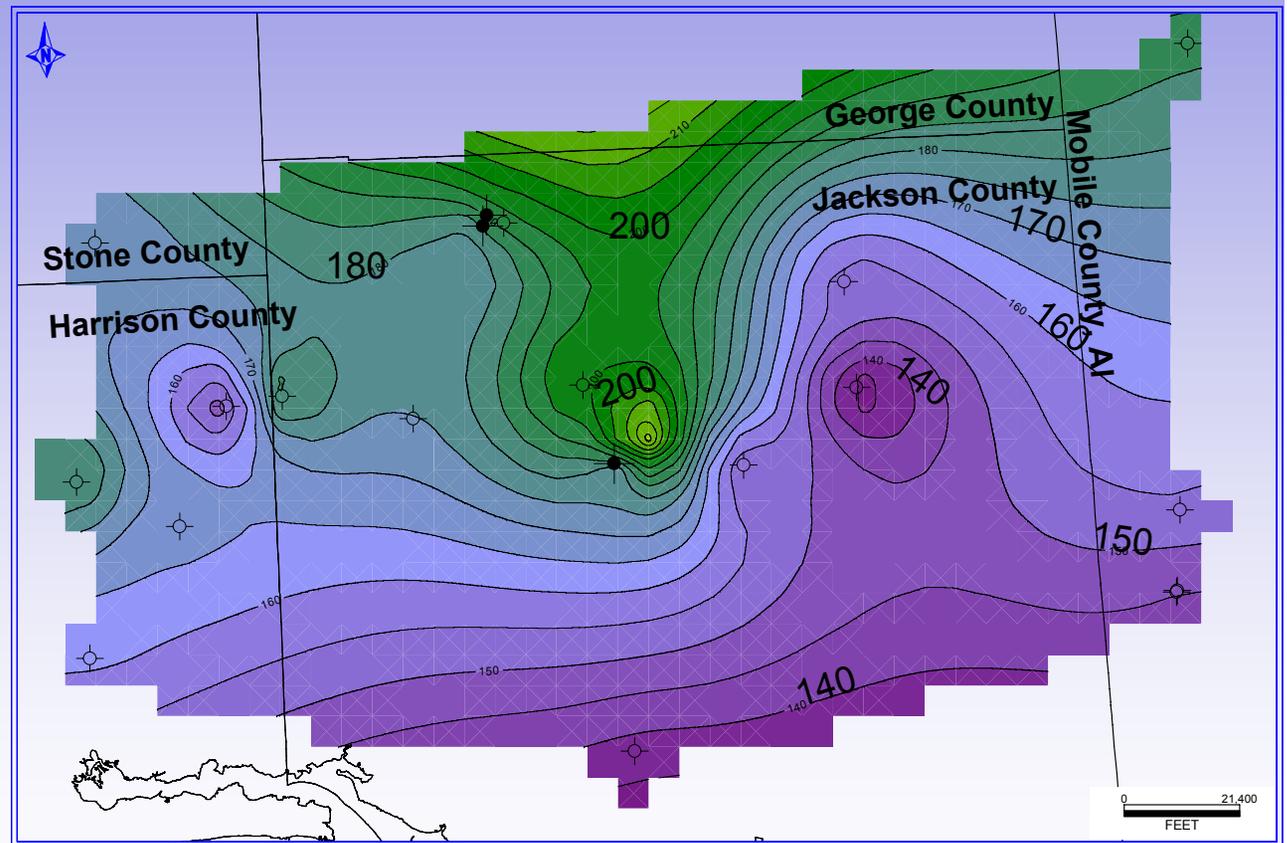
Additional cross-sections providing detailed geologic characterization will be undertaken for the Gulf Coast region.



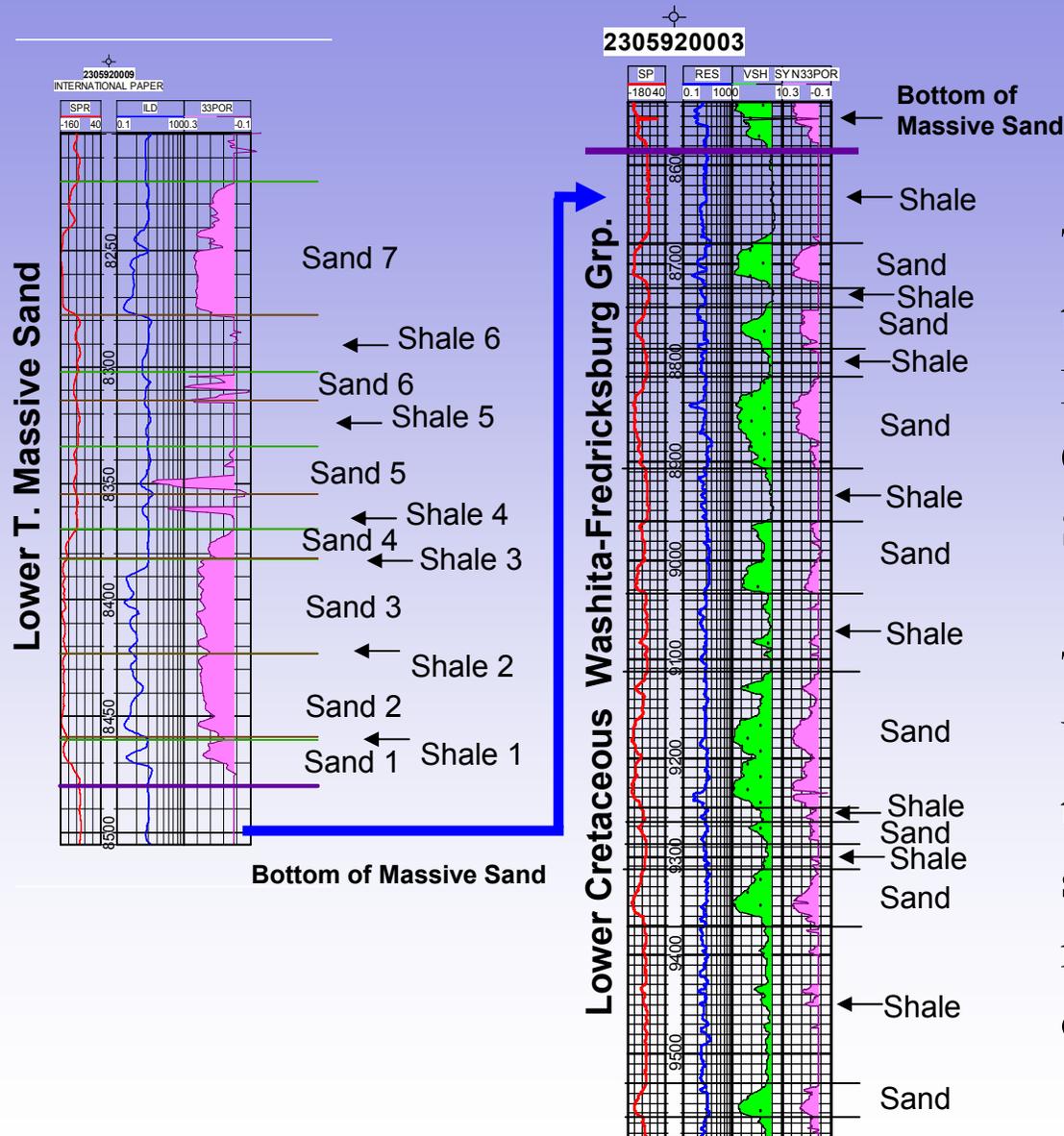
Net Sand Thickness Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit

Reservoir mapping confirms that the Massive Sand Unit of the Lower Tuscaloosa Fm. contains a thick section of net sand in southern Mississippi.

Even thicker units of deeper L. Cretaceous-age sediments underlie the Tuscaloosa Formation, but still require more detailed mapping.



Injection into Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit and Lower Cretaceous Sands (w/Baffles)



The figure to the left provides the type log for the Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit and Lower Cretaceous Dantzler Fm. in Southern Mississippi.

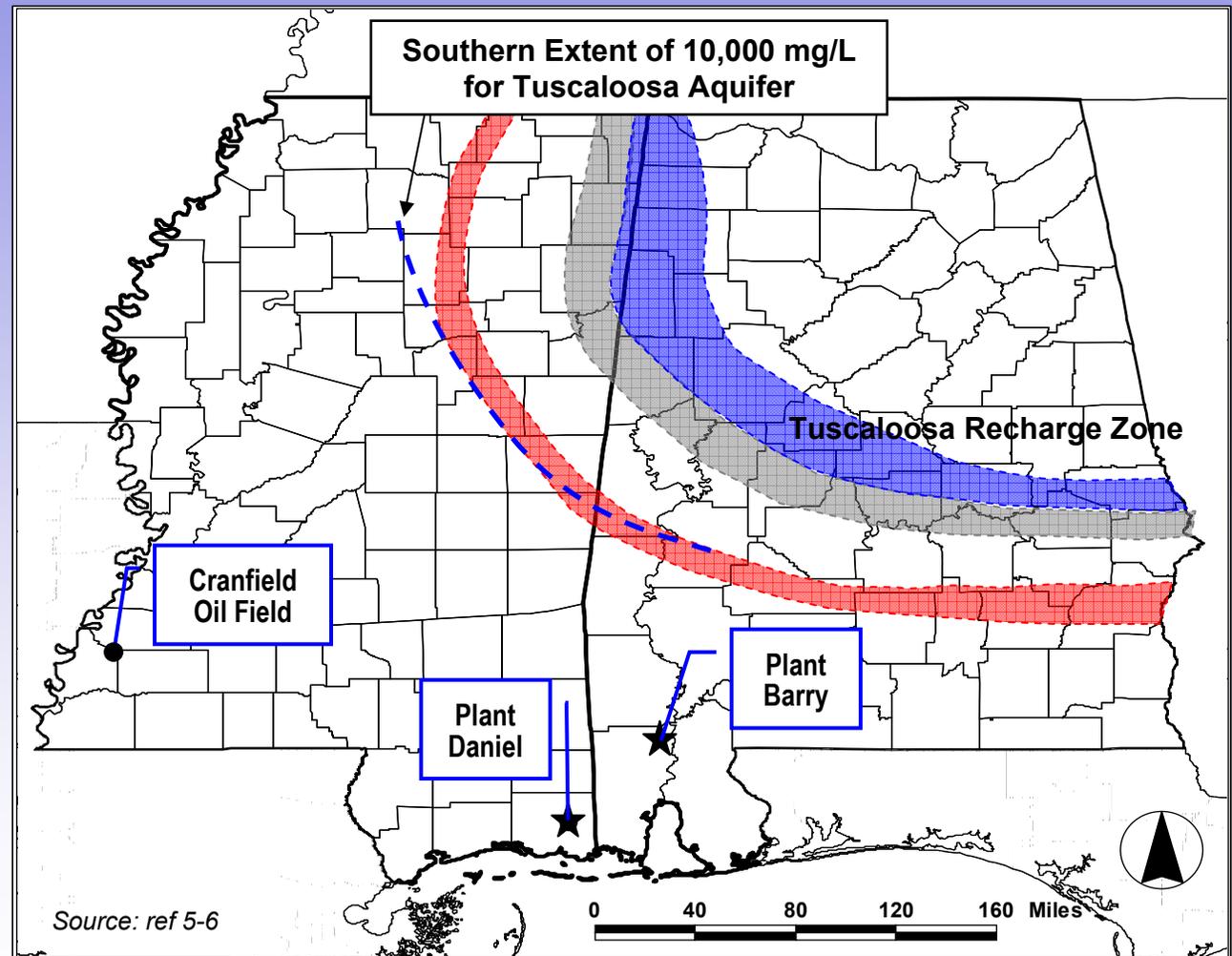
The Massive Sand Unit and Washita-Fredricksburg formations together hold over 600 ft of net sand. These two formations contain multiple flow units and shale breaks over a 1,300 ft interval.

Regional Hydrogeology and Potable Water Sources

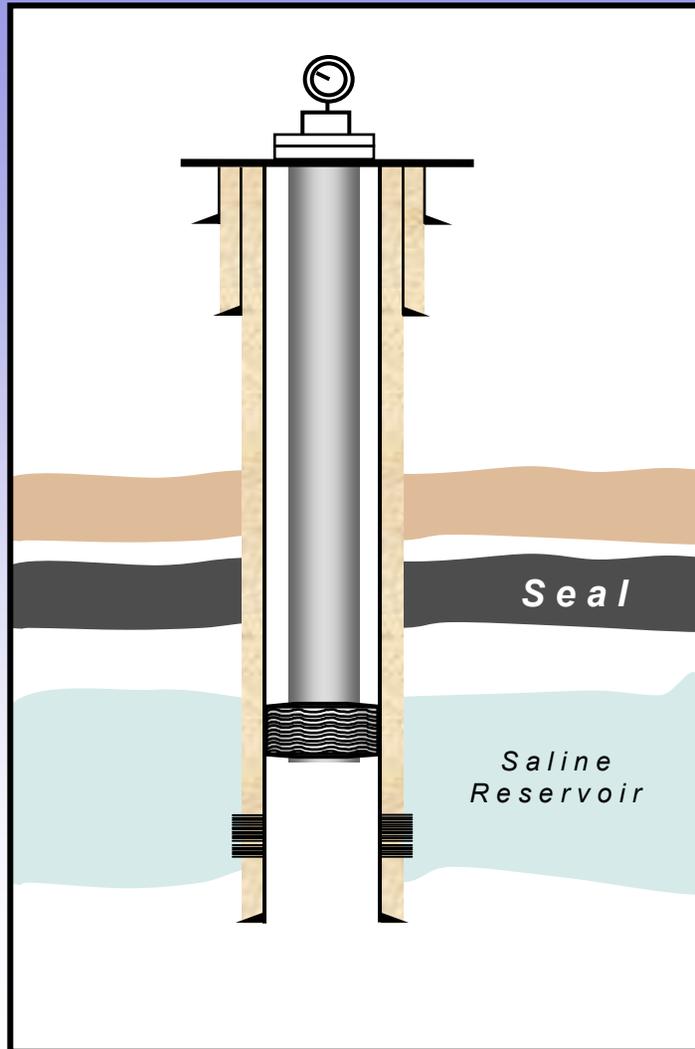
The hydrogeology map for Mississippi and Alabama shows:

- The EPA defined Underground Sources of Drinking Water (TDS <10,000 mg/L) portion of the Tuscaloosa aquifer
- The aquifer recharge zones at formation outcrops

The Tuscaloosa injection interval is well below the EPA protected water limits.



Further Reservoir Characterization



The drilling of observation and injection wells will allow for additional data collection that will be used for geologic characterization and subsequent reservoir modeling.

- Core from the caprock (seal) and proposed storage formation
 - Permeability , porosity and lithology
- Wireline geophysical logging
 - Depth, thickness and porosity
- Pressure transient testing
 - Permeability and completion efficiency
- Stress testing
 - Fracture gradient and injectivity
- CO₂ plume tracking/robust MMV
 - Calibration with reservoir simulation

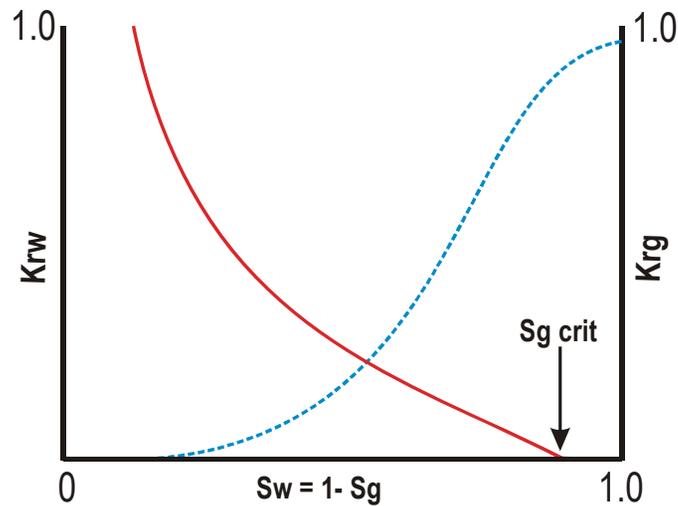
2. Integration of Geologic Characterization and Reservoir Modeling

As part of its Phase II Regional Characterization, the SECARB Team will:

1. Further characterize the massive wedge of Cretaceous-age sediments deposited along the Gulf Coast
2. Identify the high quality, secure CO₂ storage options within this massive wedge, areally and vertically
3. Examine the role of alternative CO₂ trapping and storage mechanisms on local and regional estimates of CO₂ storage capacity:
 - Pore space trapping
 - Internal reservoir architecture
 - Regional dip and aquifer flow

Defining Pore Space Trapping of CO₂

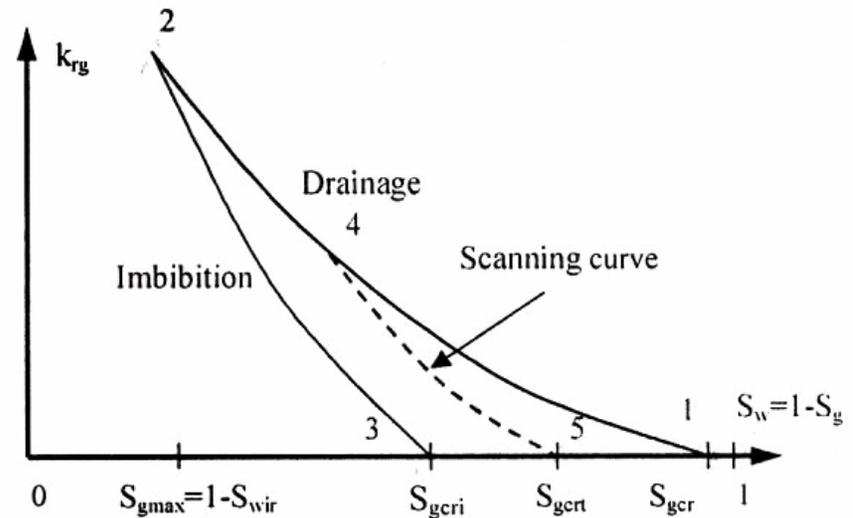
CO₂ and Water Relative Permeability Curves



Defining Effects of Critical Gas Saturation

CO₂ Relative Permeability Hysteresis

(Mo and Akervoll, 2005)



Defining Effects of Hysteresis

CO2 Injection into Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand (No Shale Baffles)

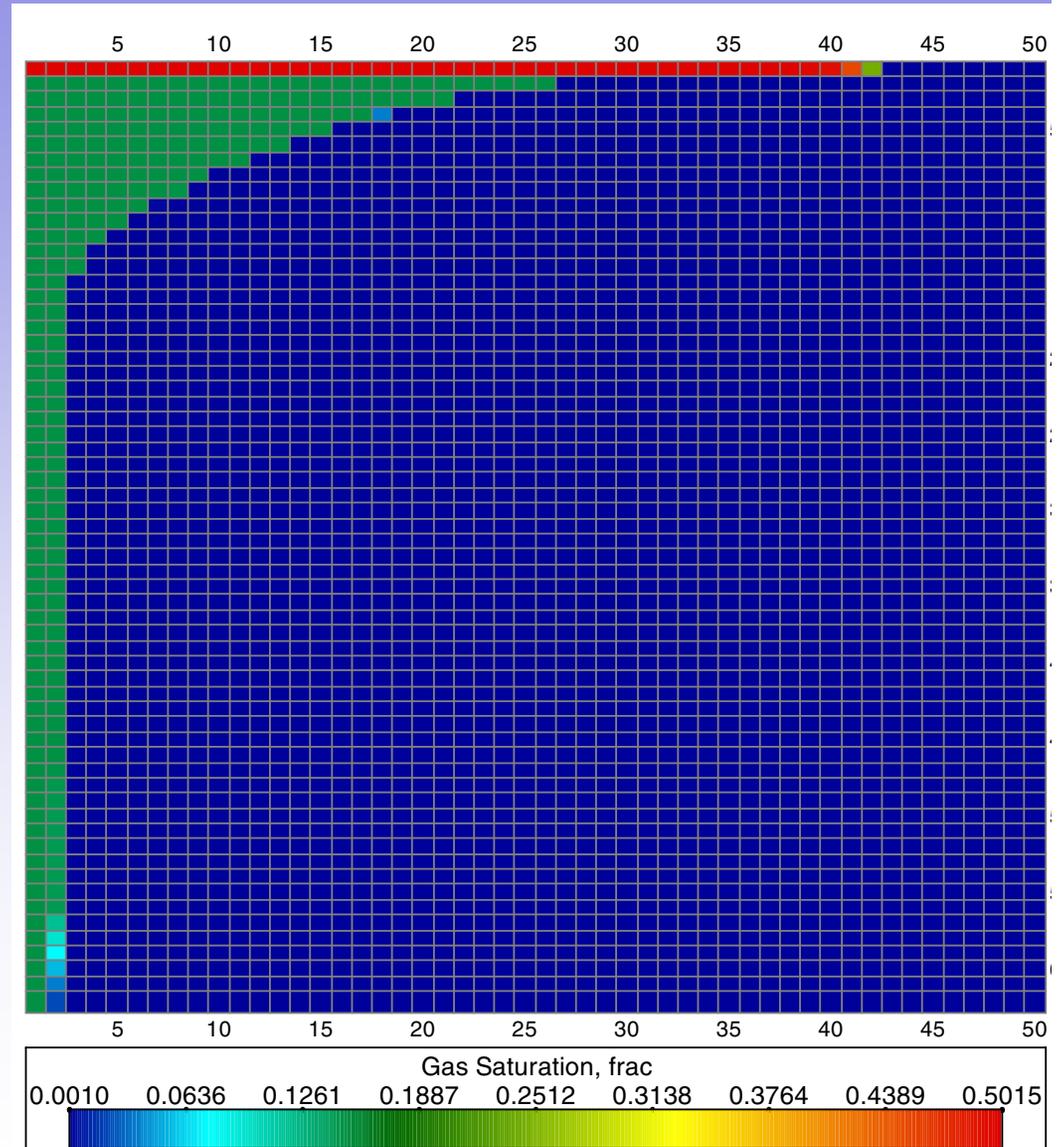
First Order Assessment of CO2 Storage Capacity/Plume Extent

The example involves:

- Injecting 100,000 metric tons/year of CO2 into the Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit (for four years).

The modeling shows:

- Outer extent of the CO2 plume at the end of ten years is 4,300ft.
- Most of the injected CO2 rises to the top of the formation, due to buoyancy.



Note: One grid block = 100 ft horizontally

Second Order Assessment of Storage Capacity/ Plume Tracking

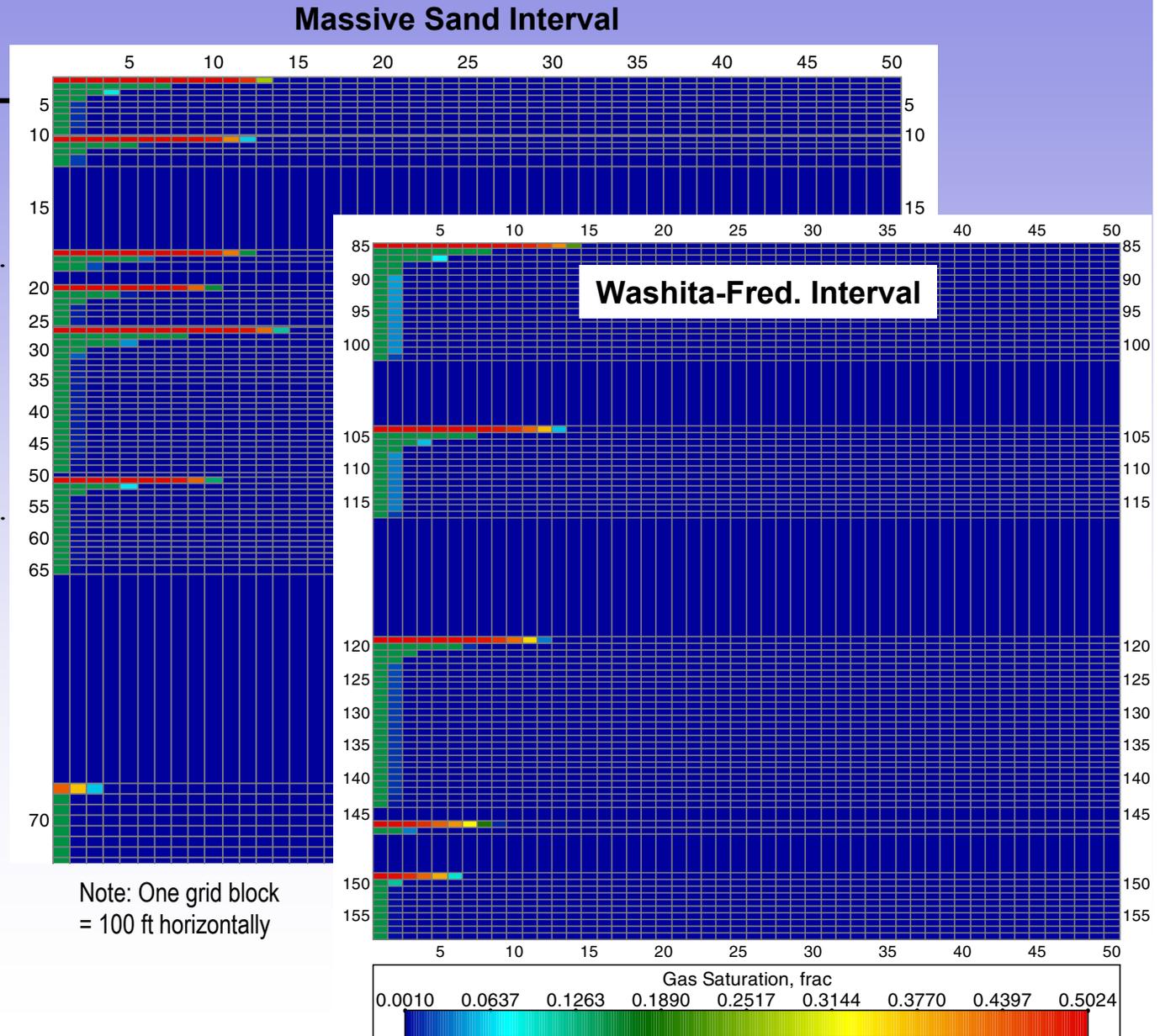
CO2 Injection into Massive Sand Unit and Lower Cretaceous Sands (w/Baffles)

The example involves:

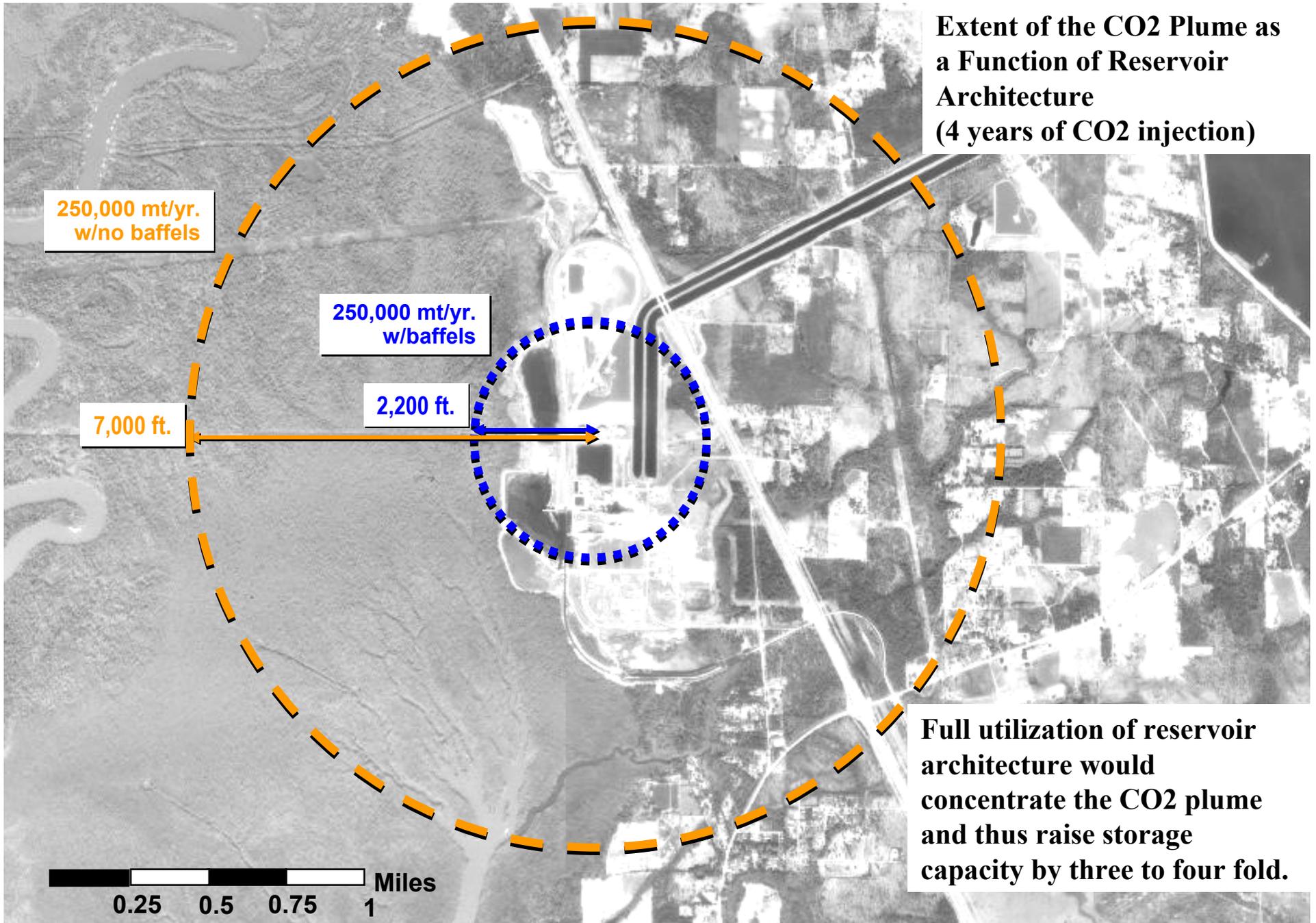
- Injecting 100,000 metric tons/year of CO2 into the L. Tuscaloosa Massive Sand and L. Cretaceous sands

The modeling shows:

- Maximum plume extent at the end ten years is 1,400 ft.
- Internal reservoir architecture (baffles) creates multiple CO2 intervals that restrict the vertical migration of the CO2 plume



CO2 Concentration Assuming Larger (250,000 mt/yr) of Injection



3. Large Favorable Regional CO2 Storage Capacity

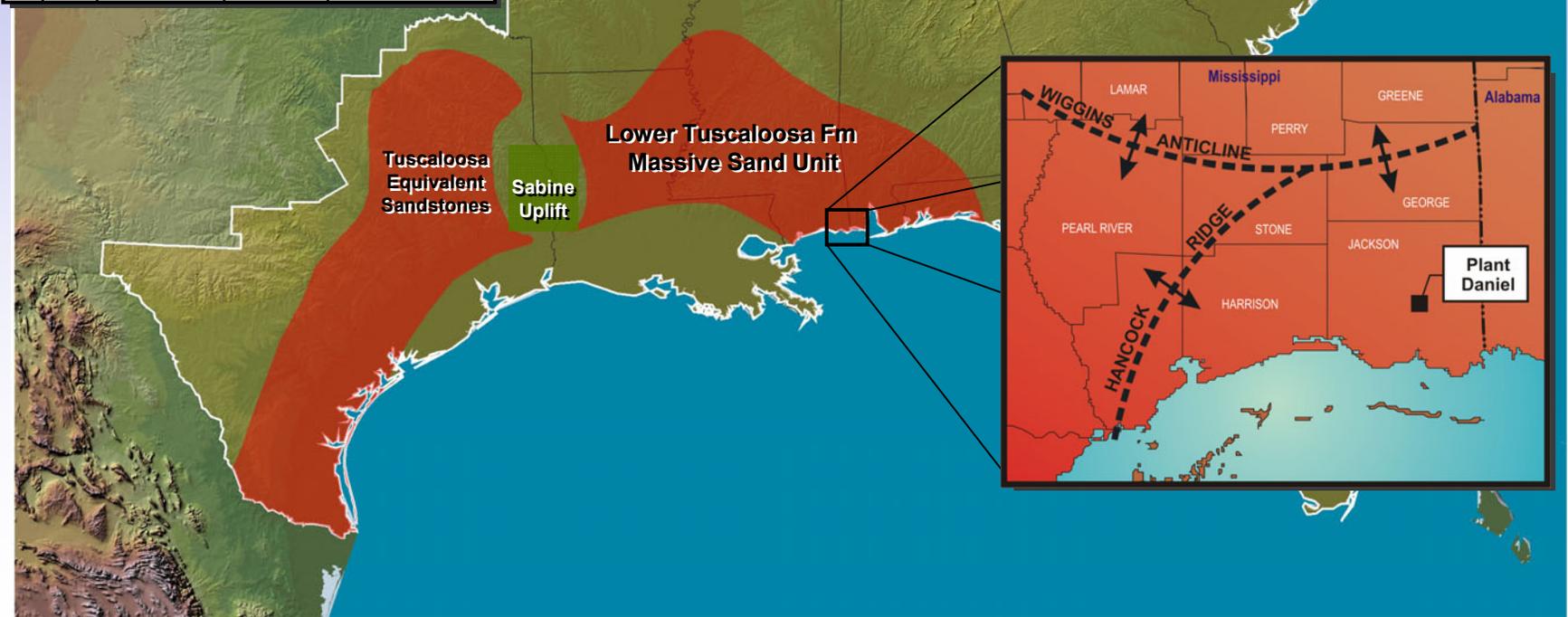
The Cretaceous- and Tertiary-age sediments along the Gulf Coast provide one of the nation's most significant options for geologically storing CO2.

- These formations extend from southeast Texas, through Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida and Georgia and into the offshore of the Carolinas.
- These formations appear to have major, regionally extensive reservoir seals (confining units).
- The formations are deep, with generally good porosity and thickness, providing significant CO2 storage capacity and storage concentration.

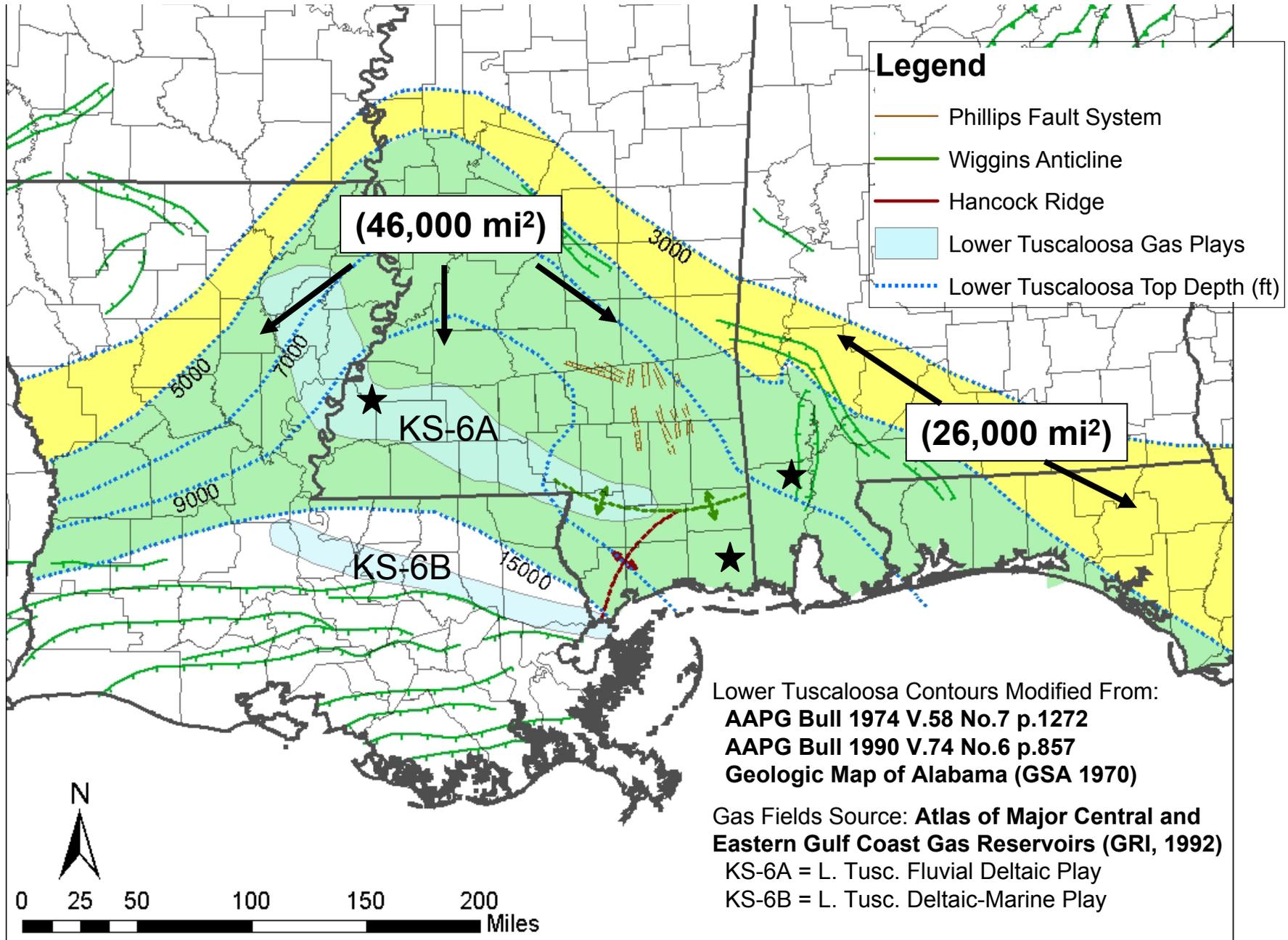
The Lower Tuscaloosa Massive Sand Unit and Mississippi Test Site Location

Stratigraphic Column for the Mississippi Gulf Coast

System	Series	Stratigraphic Unit	Sub-Units	Hydrology	
Tertiary	Miocene	Misc. Miocene Units	Pascagoula Fm.	Freshwater Aquifers	
			Hattiesburg Fm.		
			Catahoula Fm.		
Cretaceous	Upper	Selma Chalk	Navarro Fm.	Confining unit	
			Taylor Fm.		
		Eutaw	Austin Fm.	Confining unit	
			Eagle Ford Fm.	Saline Reservoir	
		Tuscaloosa Group	Upper Tusc.	Upper Tusc.	Minor Reservoir
				Marine Tusc.	Confining unit
	Lower Tusc.		Interbeds	Saline Reservoir	
			Lower Tusc. Massive Sand	Saline Reservoir	
	Lower	Washita - Fredricksburg	Dantzler Fm.	Saline Reservoir	
			"Limestone Unit"		



A Variety of Reservoir Settings Exist for the Lower Tuscaloosa Formation



Next Steps

Because of its pervasive presence and favorable characteristics, particular emphasis will be given to the CO₂ storage capacity of the Lower Tuscaloosa Fm and its equivalent sandstones.

- Build on the detailed geological work underway in Southern Mississippi, at Plant Daniel and other field tests in the SECARB region.
- Capitalize on the potential for further detailed data and geological characterization in Alabama, Georgia, and other states.
- Developed improved confidence in the CO₂ storage capacity of this saline formation (currently estimated at about 100 billion metric tons) and establish more detailed characterization of this formation in the SECARB area.