



# APPALACHIAN STORAGE HUB (ASH) STUDY

## Regional Subsurface Geology

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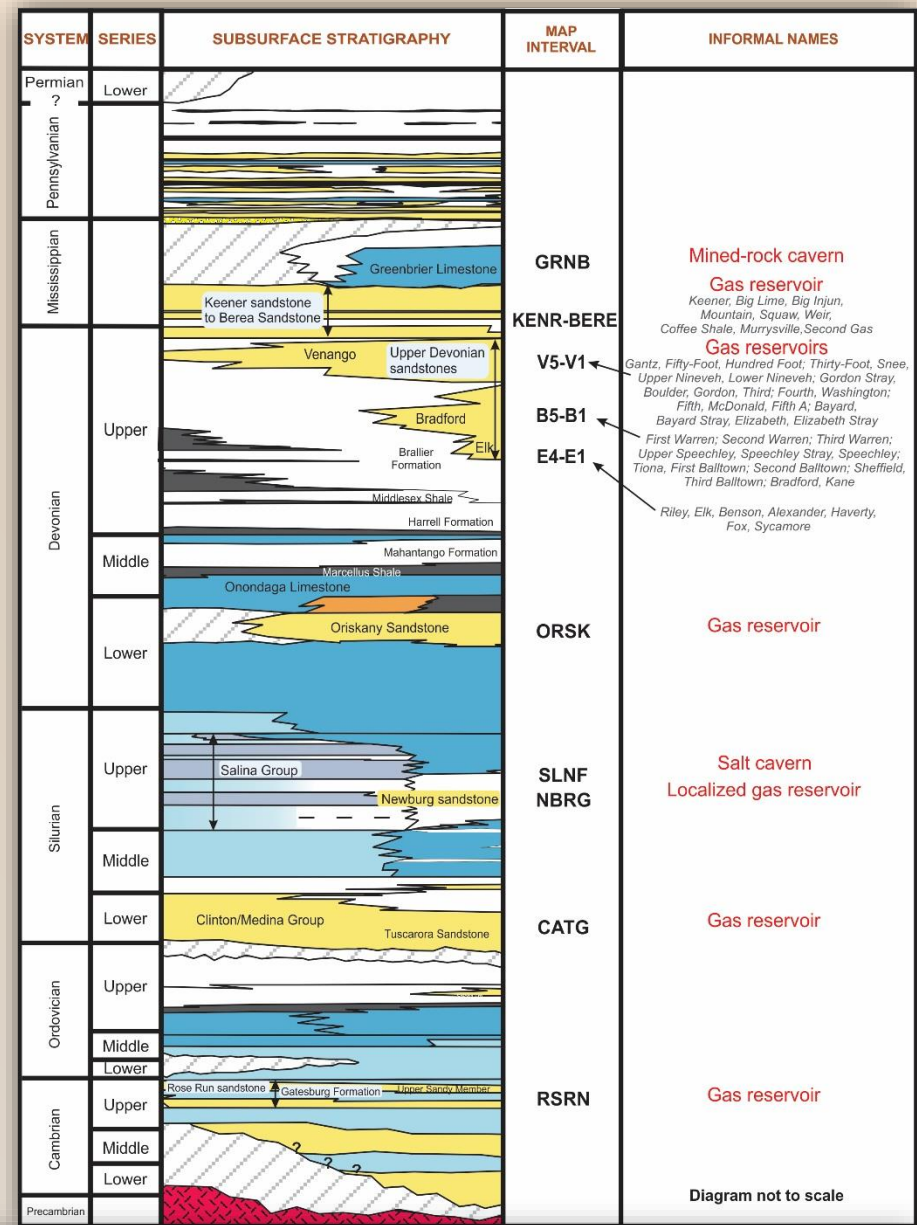
Robin Anthony, Pennsylvania Geological Survey

# INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

- Take a walk through **geologic time**, visiting geologic intervals of interest as we go
- Present the **lithostratigraphic framework** for subsurface geologic units in the AOI
- Discuss basic geological characteristics (**depth, thickness and extent**) of intervals included in the Study
- Present the concept of **stacked opportunities**

# GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY

- 10 intervals of interest
- Cambrian- through Mississippian-age units
- Various lithologies (carbonate, siliciclastic and salt)
- Rock type affected by environments of deposition, as well as post-depositional processes

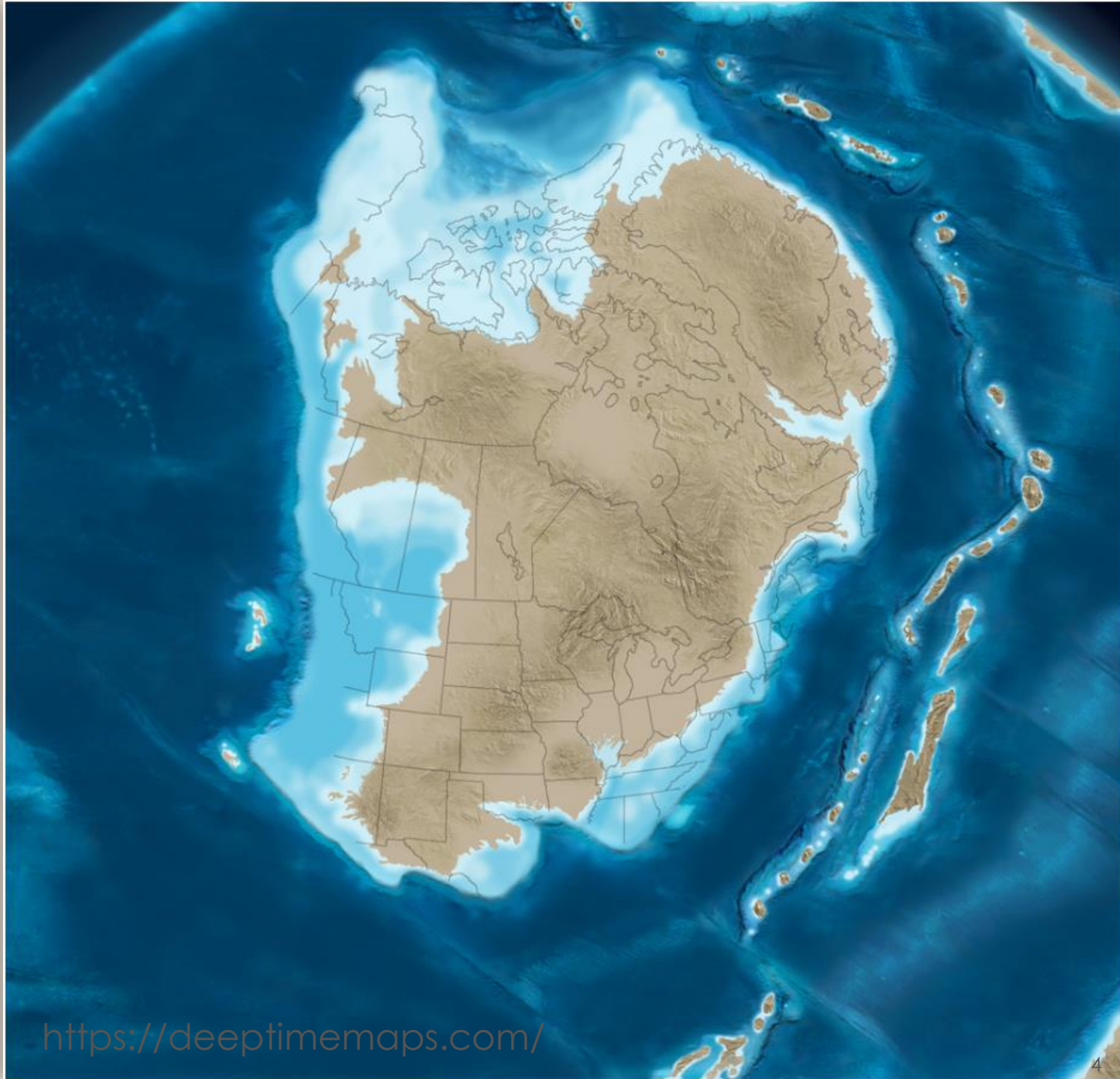
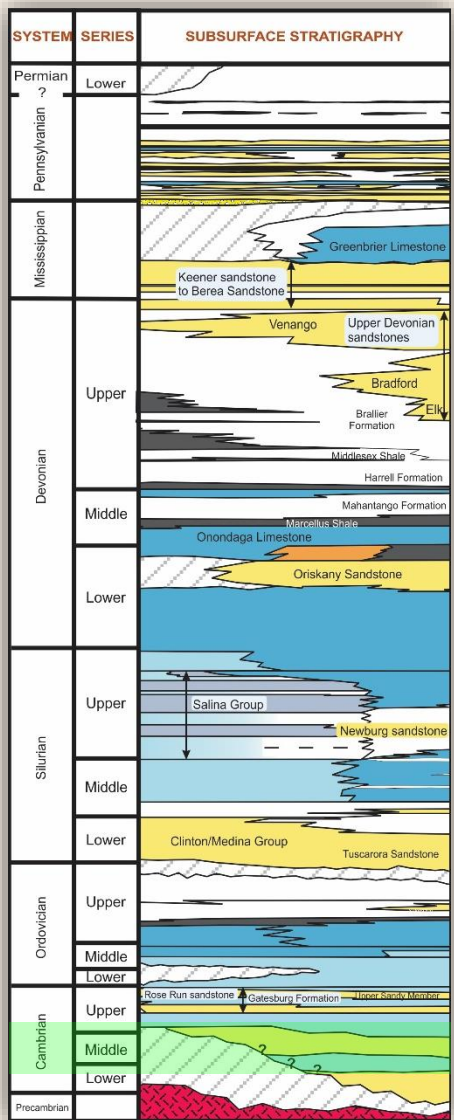


## LEGEND

|                     |                |              |                           |                           |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sandstone           | Evaporite/salt | Limestone    | <i>Murrysville</i>        | Drillers' Sand Names      |
| Siltstone and shale | Chert          | Dolostone    | <b>Gas reservoir</b>      | Type of potential storage |
| Organic-rich shale  | Coal           | Unconformity | Crystalline basement rock |                           |



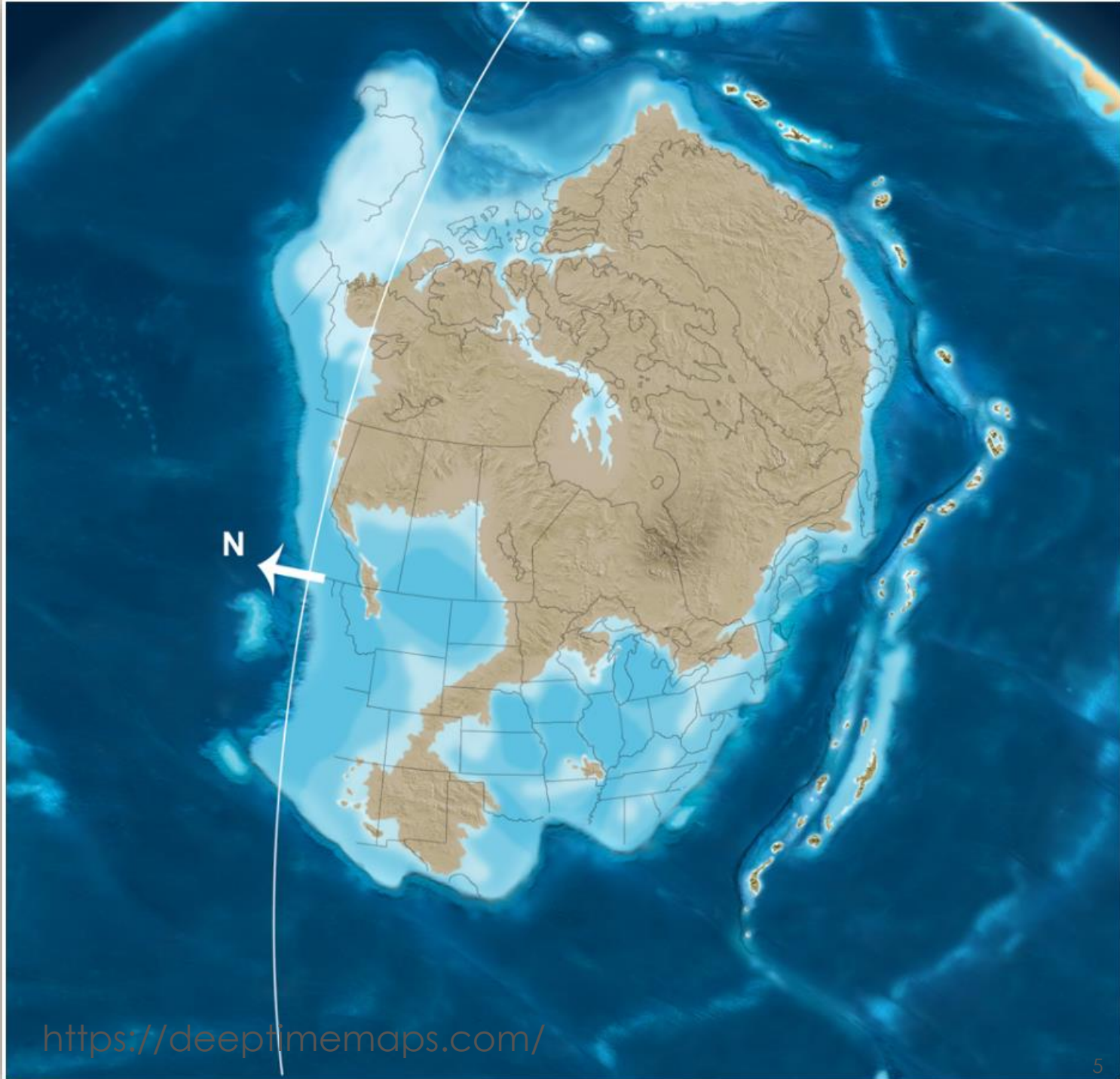
# 510 Ma Middle Cambrian





# 500 Ma Late Cambrian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY             |
|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Permian       | Lower  |                                     |
| Pennsylvanian |        |                                     |
|               |        |                                     |
| Mississippian |        | Greenbrier Limestone                |
|               |        | Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone |
| Devonian      | Upper  | Venango                             |
|               |        | Upper Devonian sandstones           |
|               |        | Bradford                            |
|               |        | Brallier Formation                  |
|               |        | Elk                                 |
|               | Middle | Middlesex Shale                     |
|               |        | Harell Formation                    |
|               |        | Mahantango Formation                |
|               | Lower  | Onondaga Limestone                  |
|               |        | Oriskany Sandstone                  |
| Sturian       | Upper  | Salina Group                        |
|               |        | Newburg sandstone                   |
|               | Middle |                                     |
|               | Lower  | Clinton/Medina Group                |
| Ordovician    | Upper  | Tuscarora Sandstone                 |
|               | Middle |                                     |
|               | Lower  |                                     |
| Cambrian      | Upper  | Rose Run sandstone                  |
|               | Lower  | Galesburg Formation                 |
| Cambrian      | Middle |                                     |
|               | Lower  |                                     |
| Precambrian   |        |                                     |



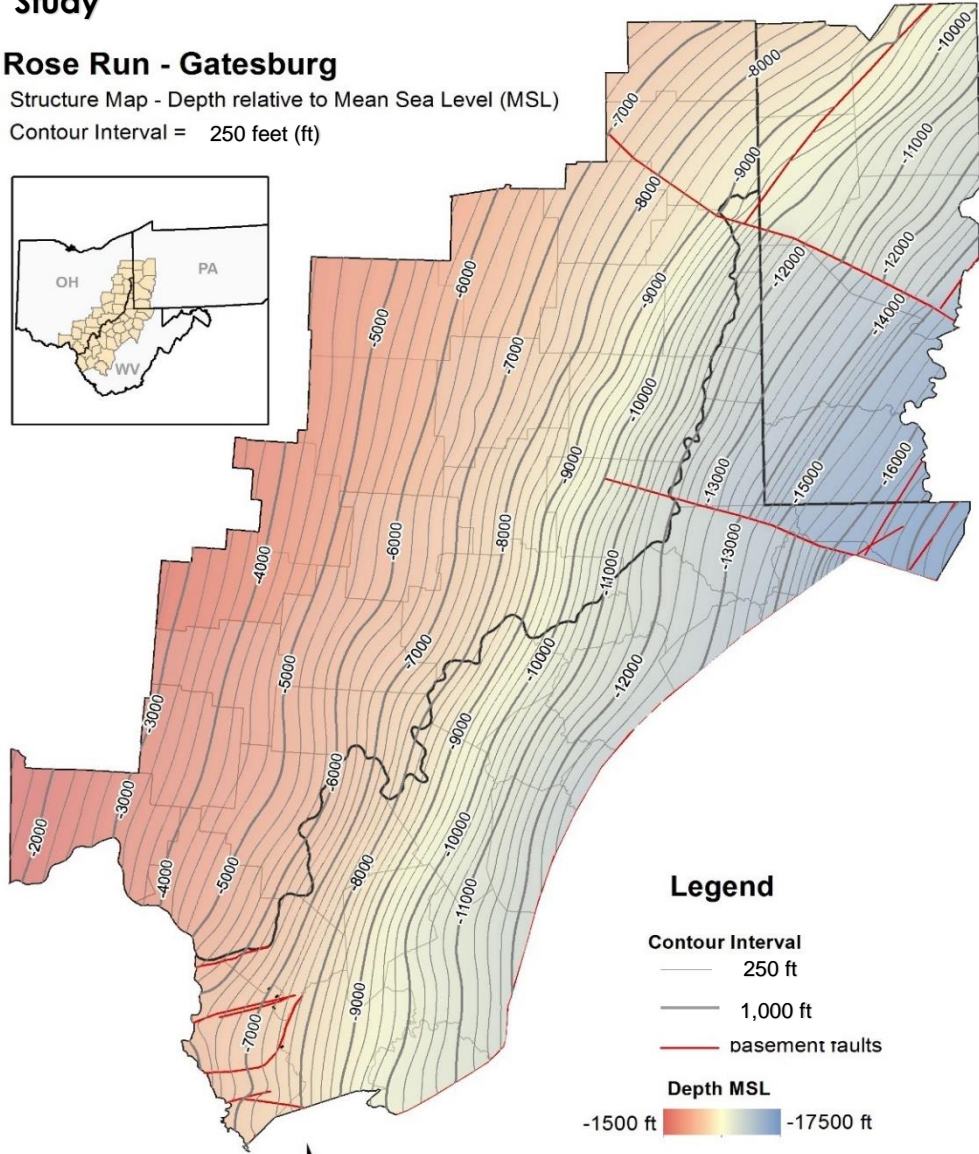
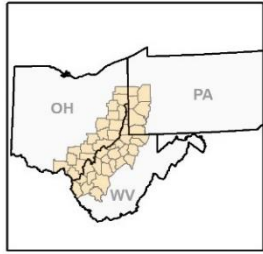
<https://deeptimemaps.com/>

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Rose Run - Gatesburg

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)

Contour Interval = 250 feet (ft)



### Legend

- Contour Interval
- 250 ft
- 1,000 ft
- basement faults
- Depth MSL
- 1500 ft
- 17500 ft



0 12.5 25 50 Miles

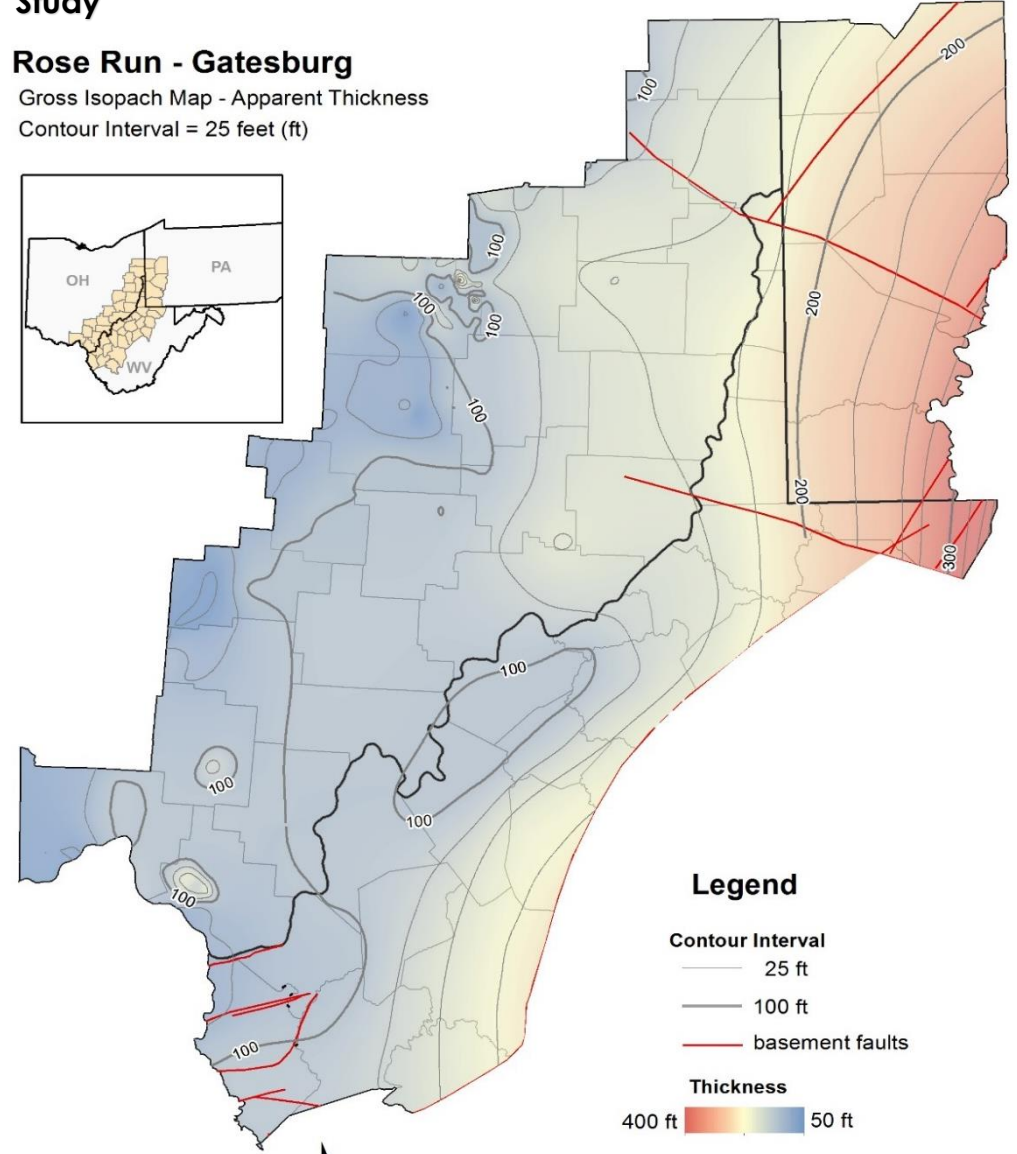
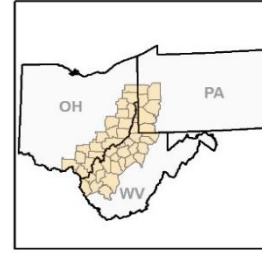
1:1,750,000

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Rose Run - Gatesburg

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness

Contour Interval = 25 feet (ft)



### Legend

- Contour Interval
- 25 ft
- 100 ft
- basement faults
- Thickness
- 400 ft
- 50 ft



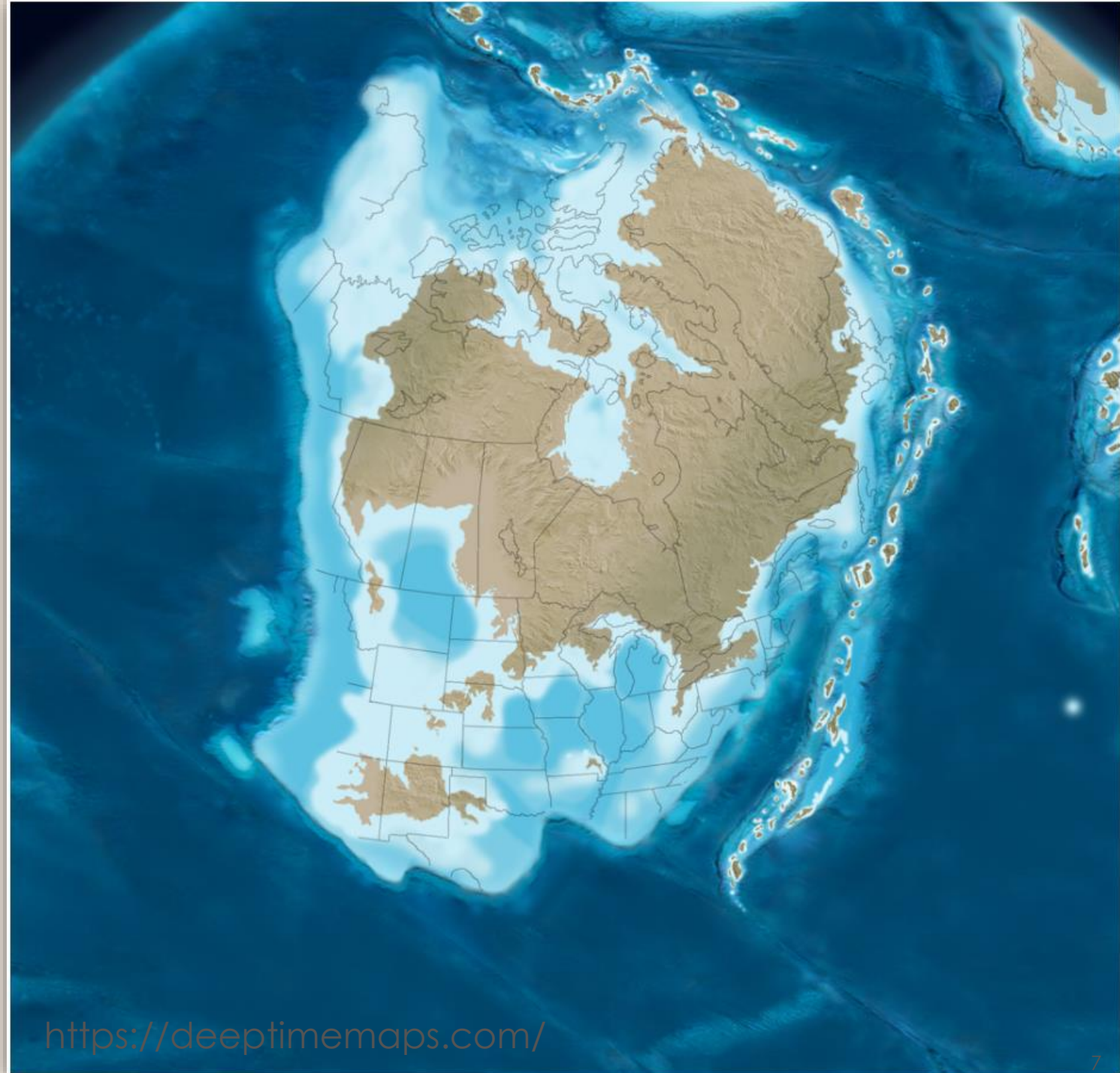
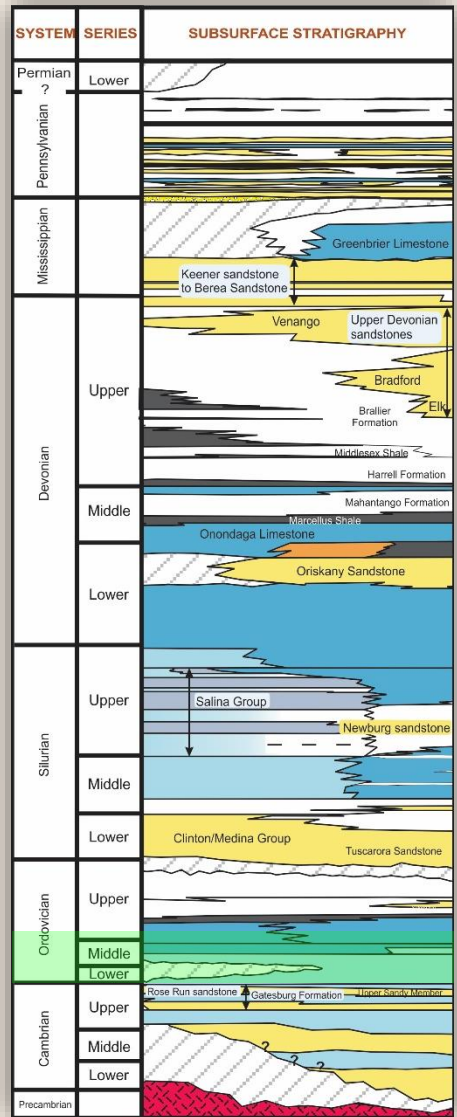
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000



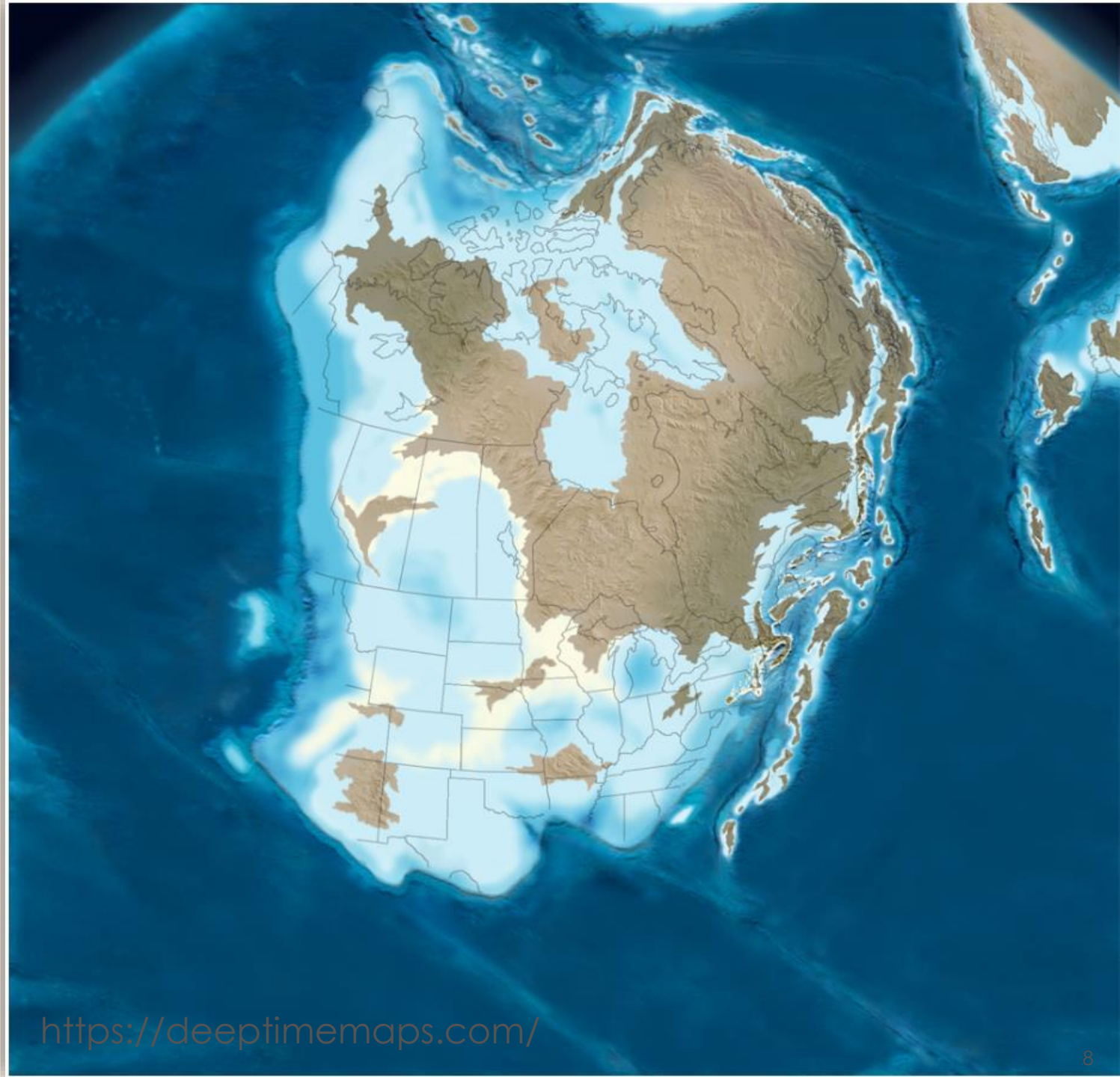
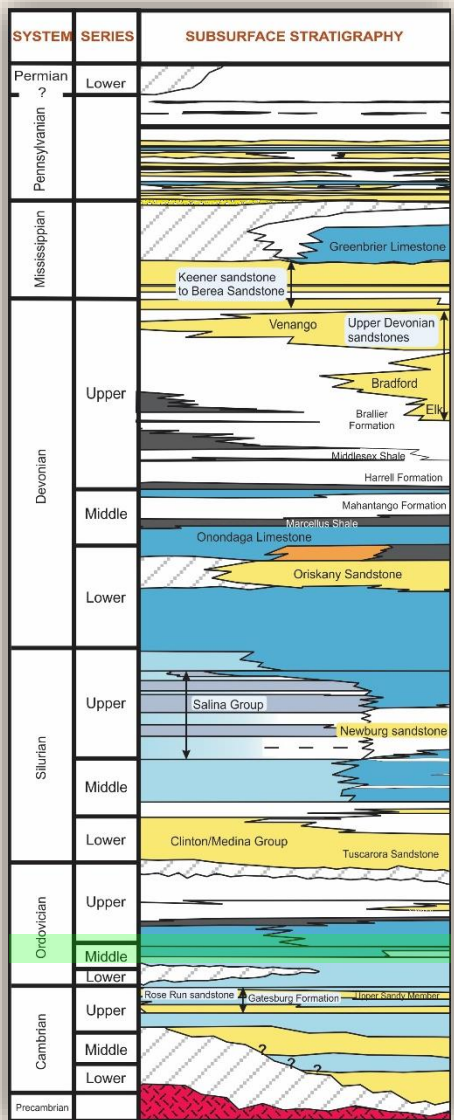
# 485 Ma

## Early Ordovician





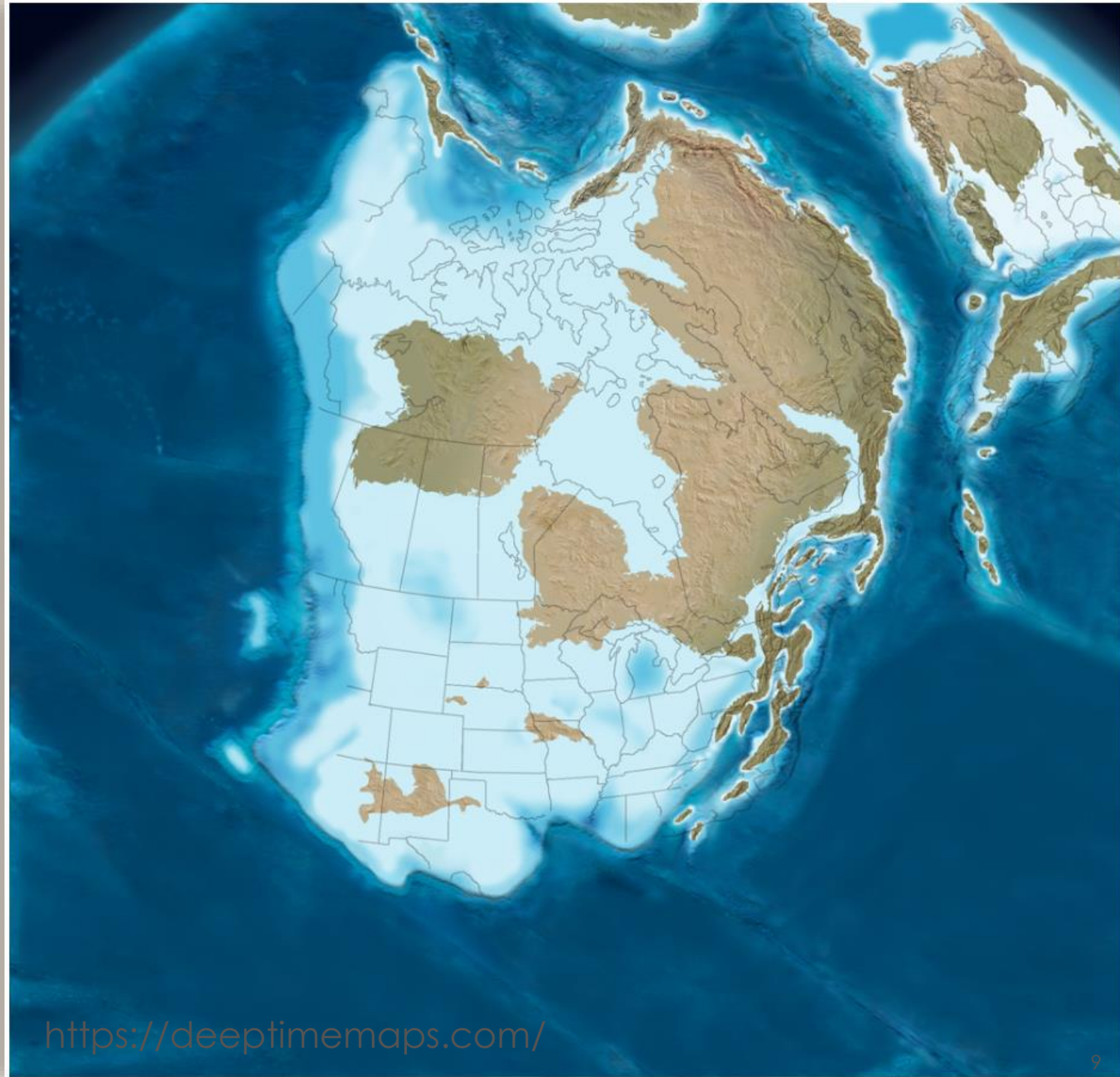
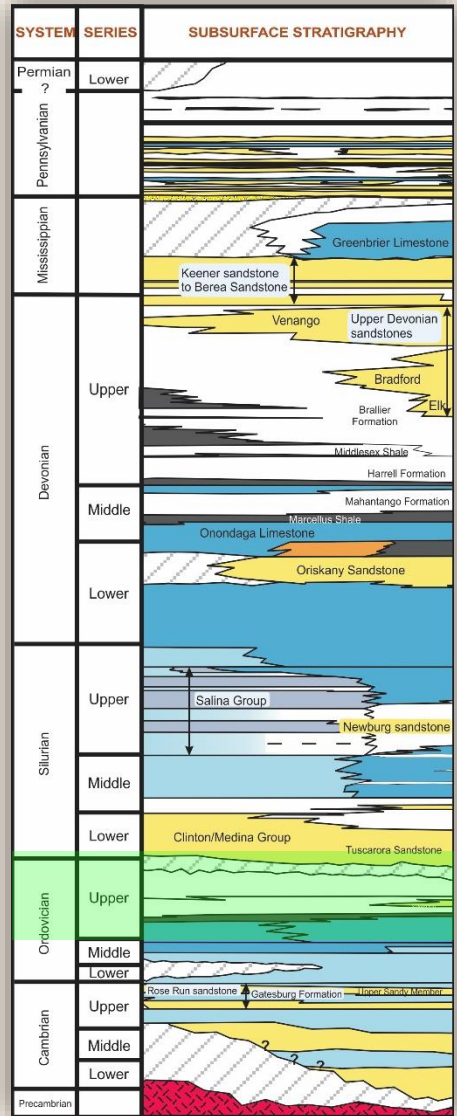
# 470 Ma Middle Ordovician



<https://deeptimemaps.com/>

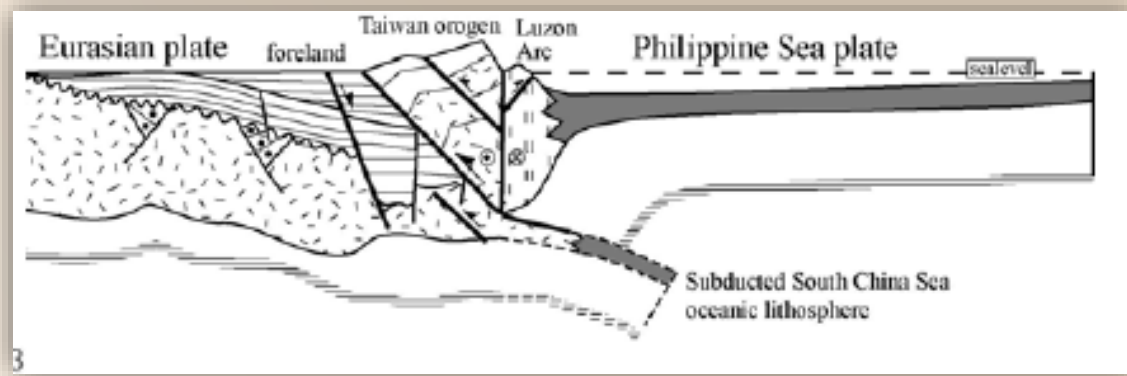
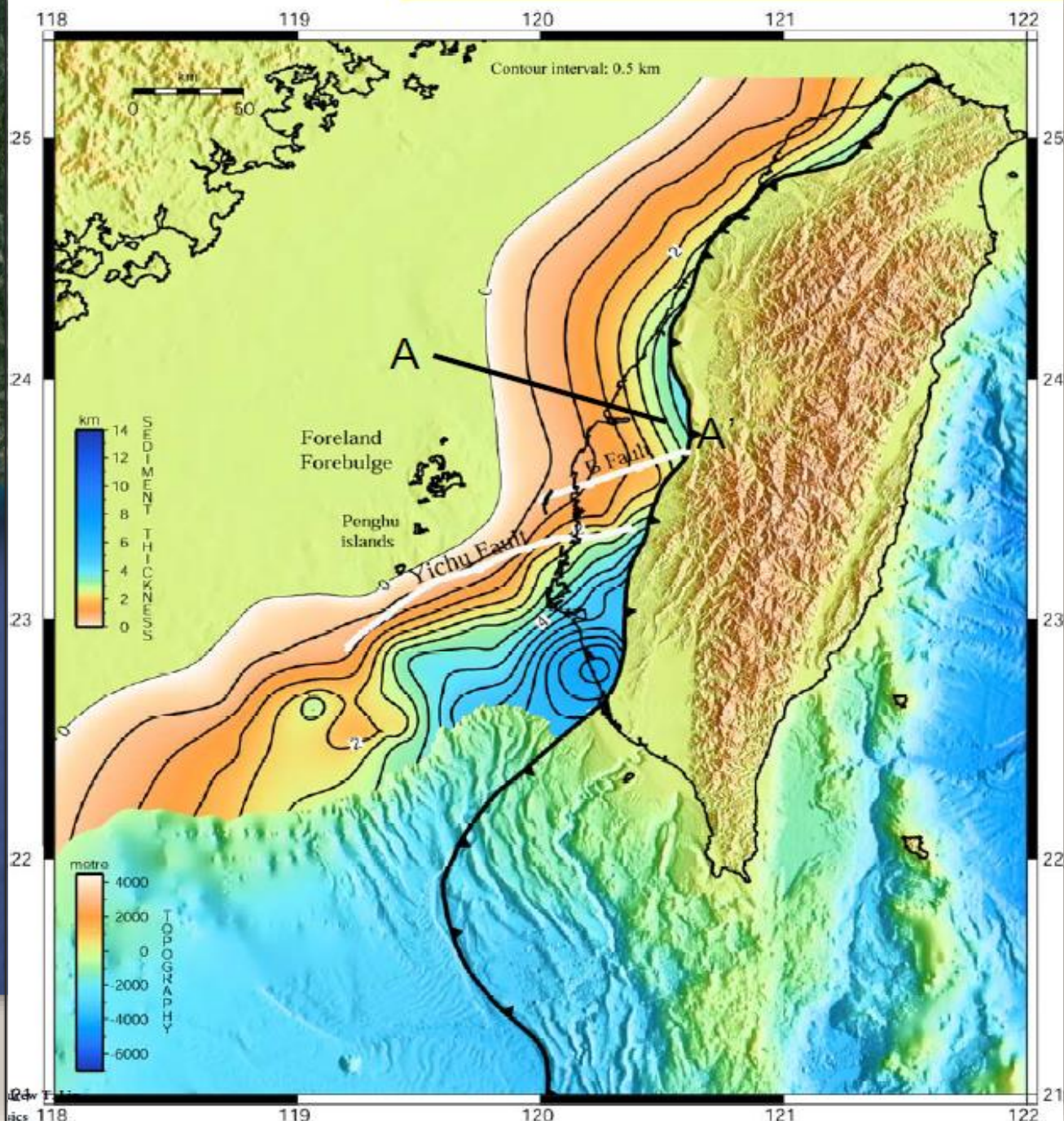


# 450 Ma Late Ordovician

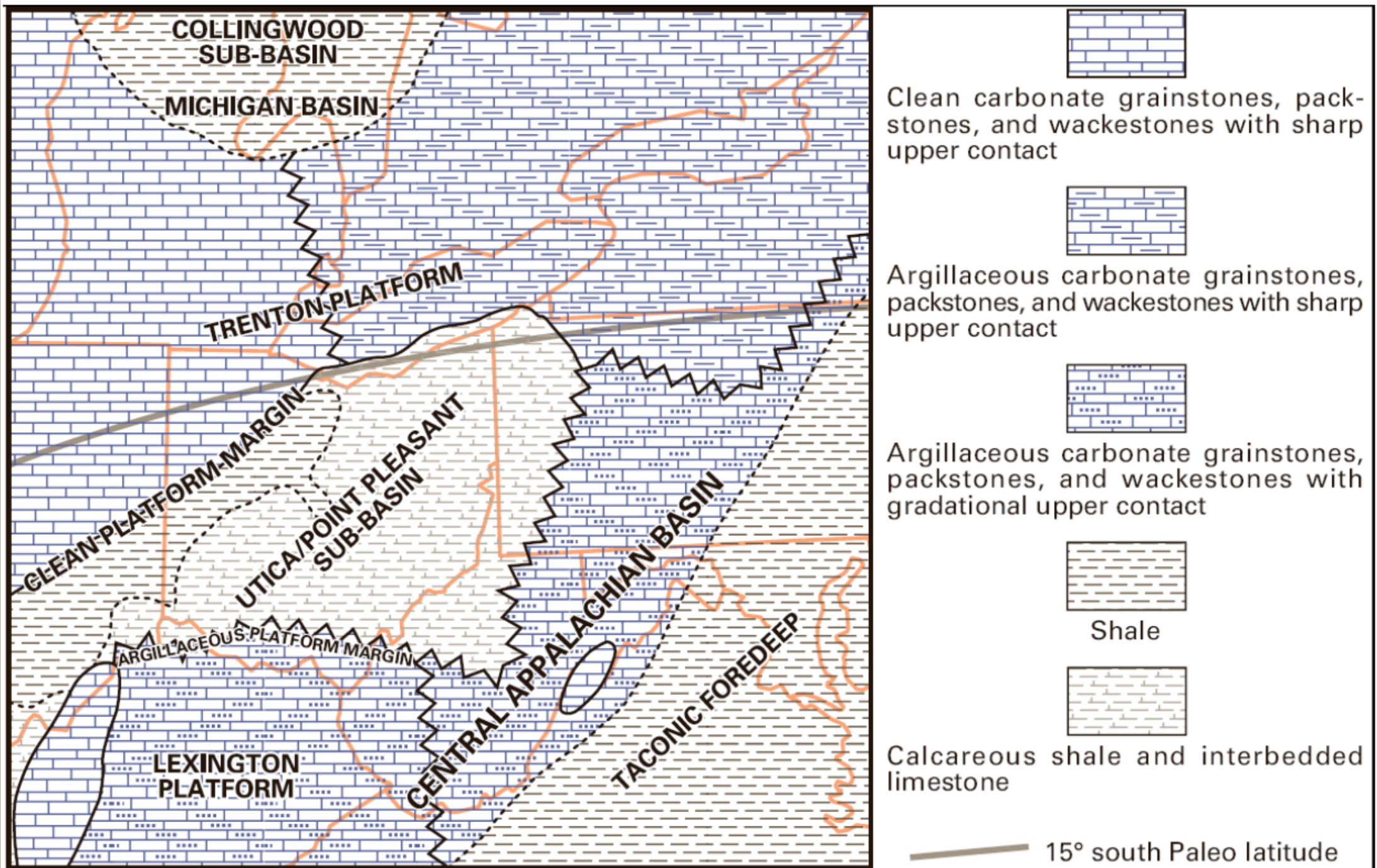




# Modern Analog: Taiwan Foreland Basin







# 430 Ma Early Silurian

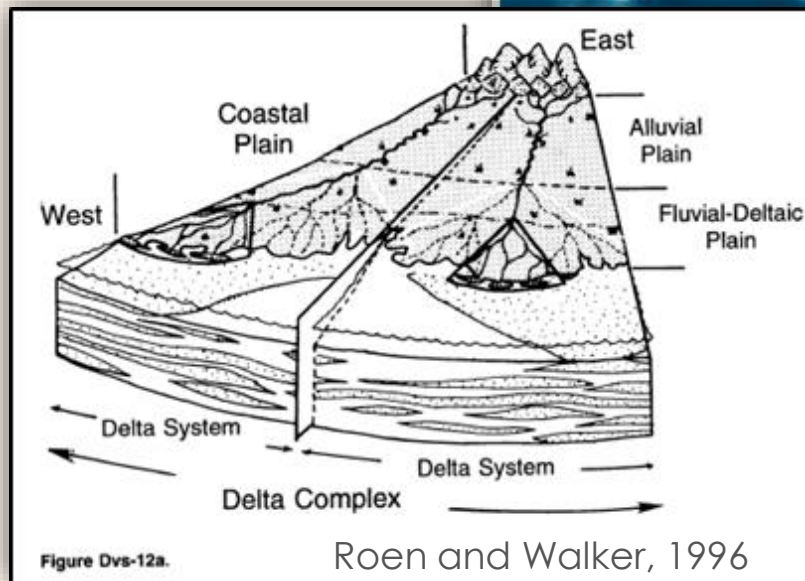
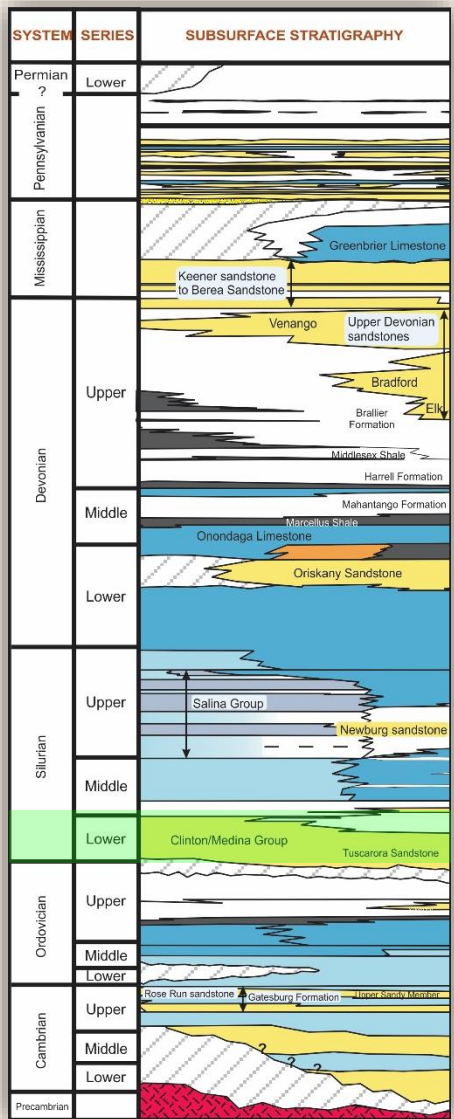
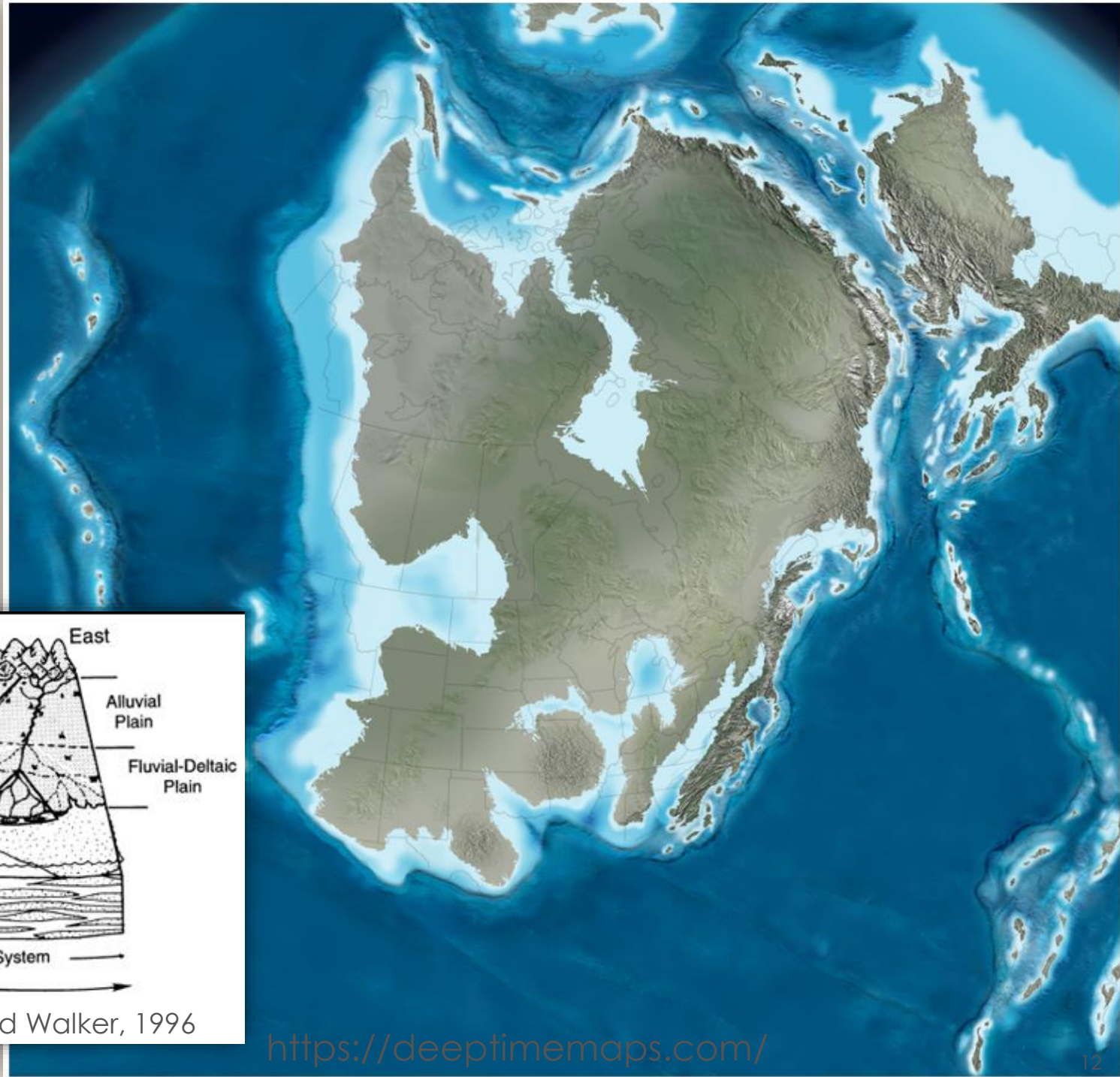


Figure Dvs-12a.

Roen and Walker, 1996

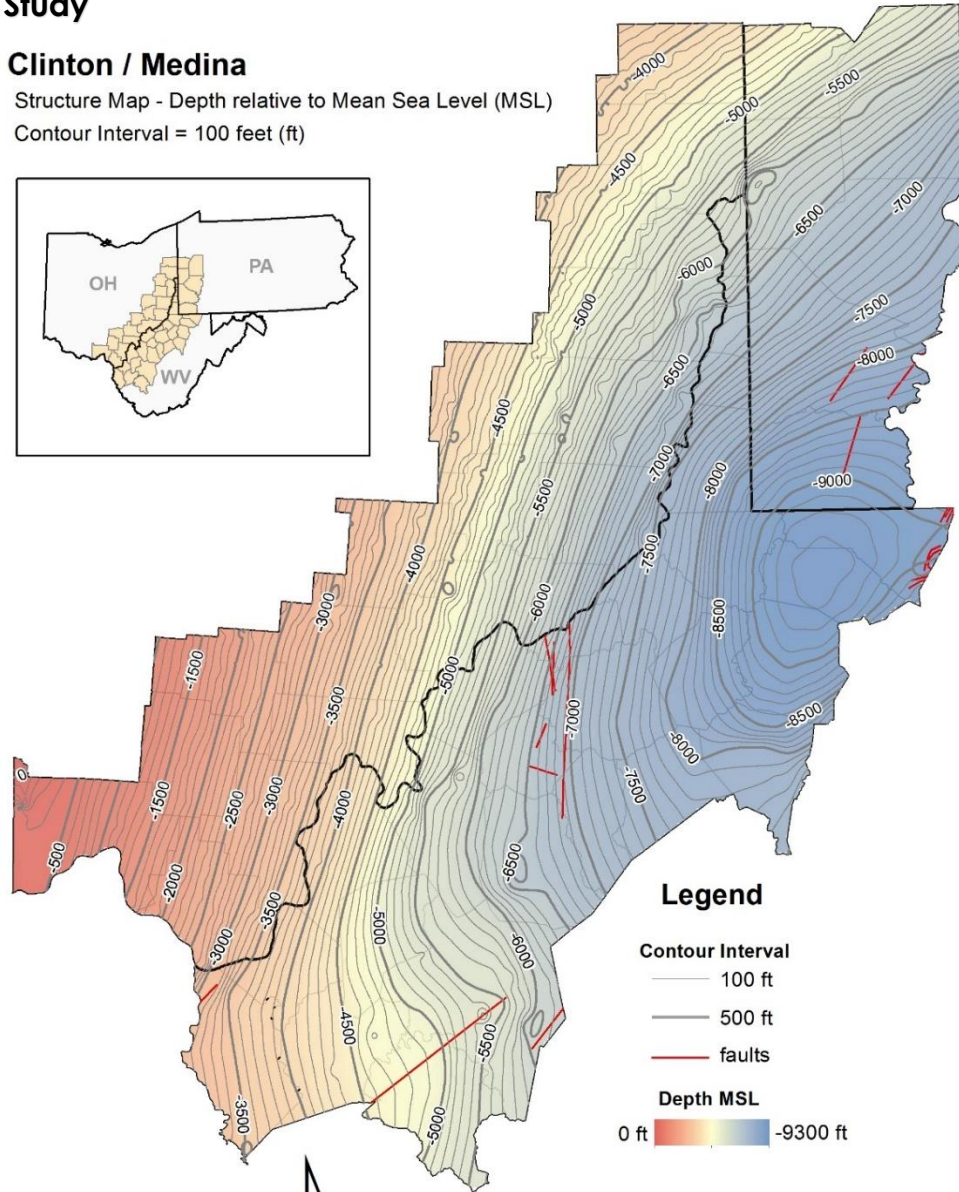
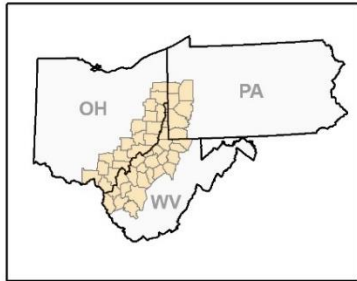




# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Clinton / Medina

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
 Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval

- 100 ft
- 500 ft
- faults

Depth MSL

0 ft -9300 ft



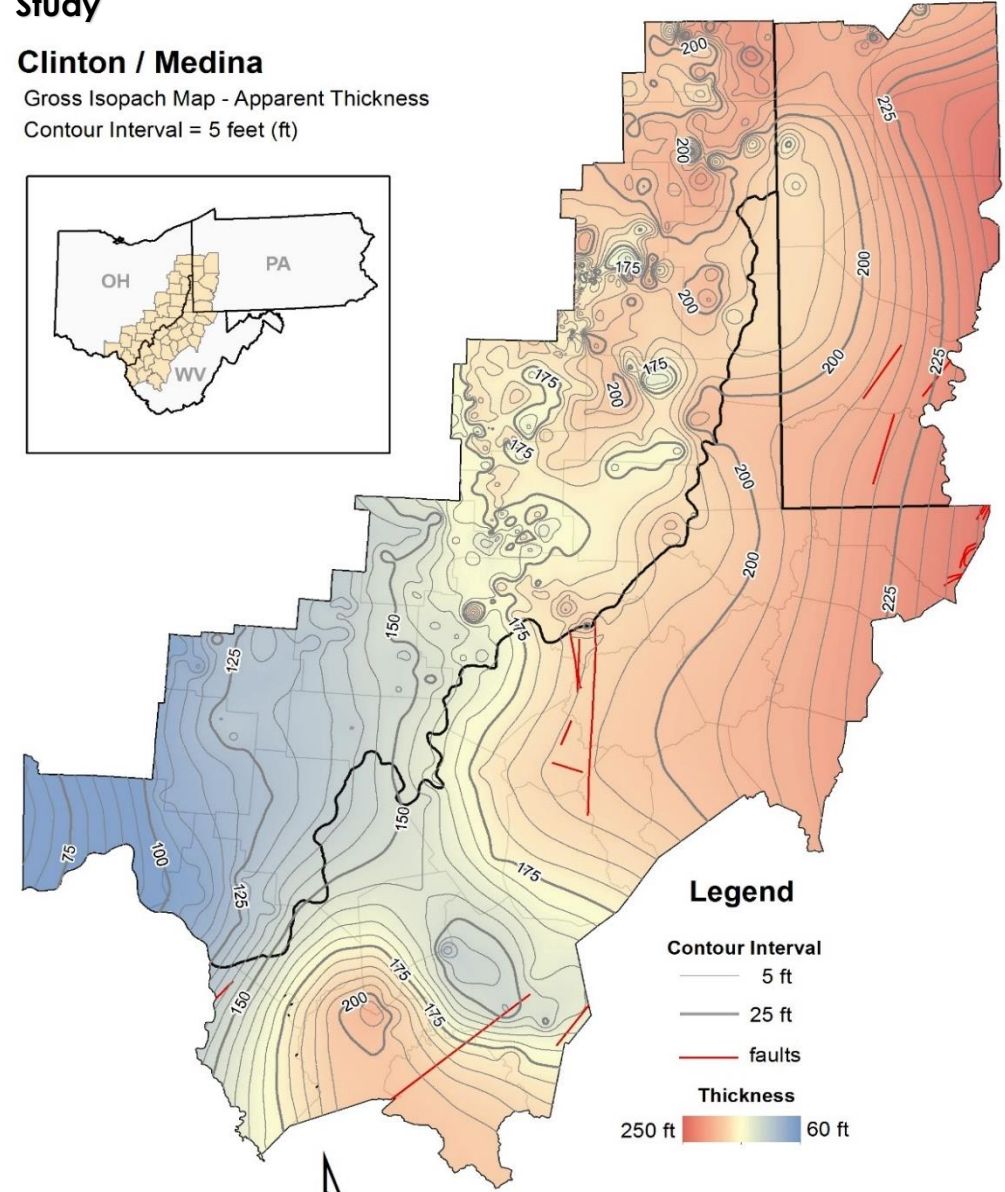
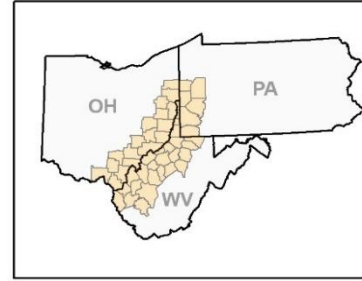
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Clinton / Medina

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
 Contour Interval = 5 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval

- 5 ft
- 25 ft
- faults

Thickness

250 ft 60 ft



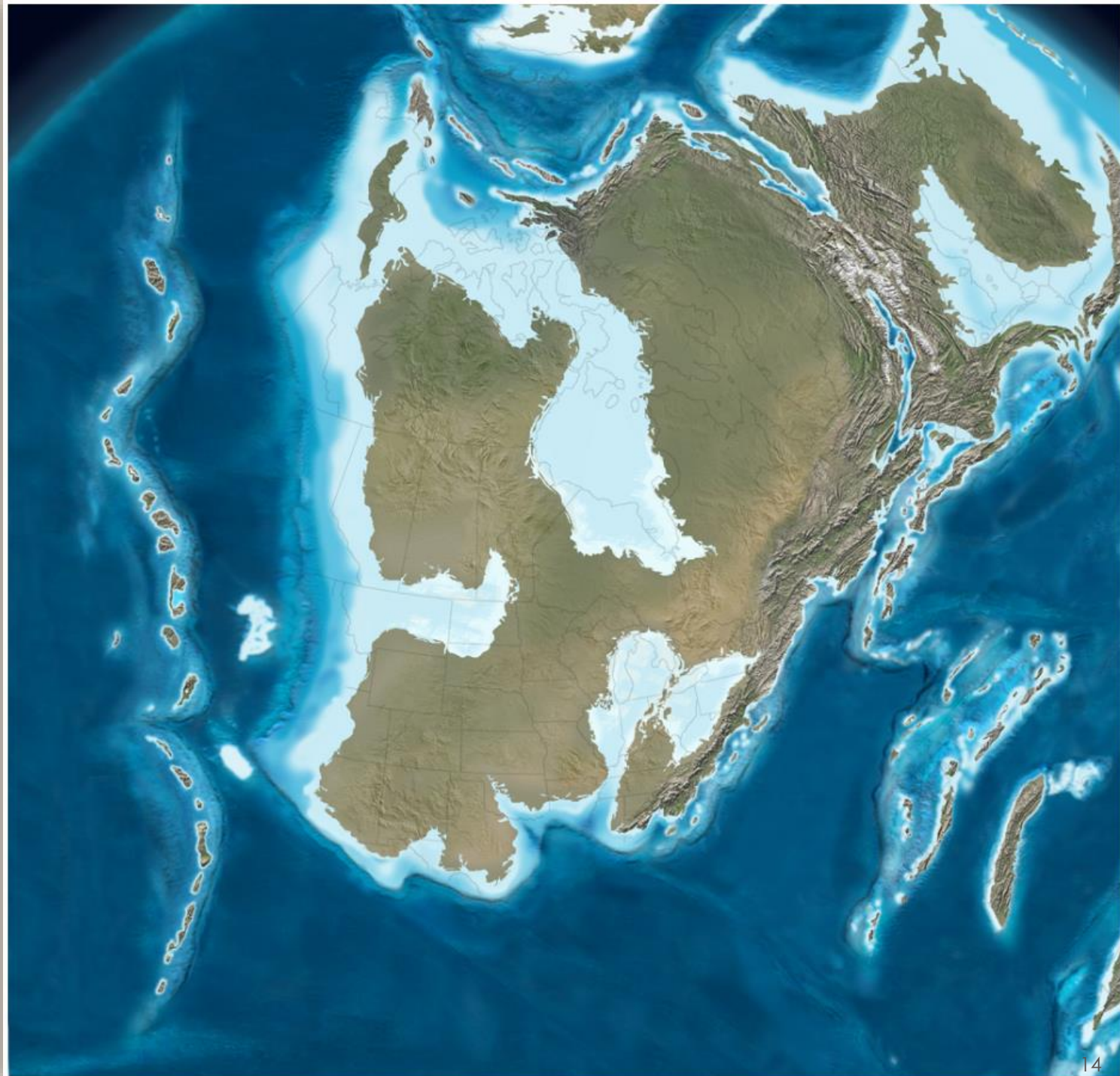
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000



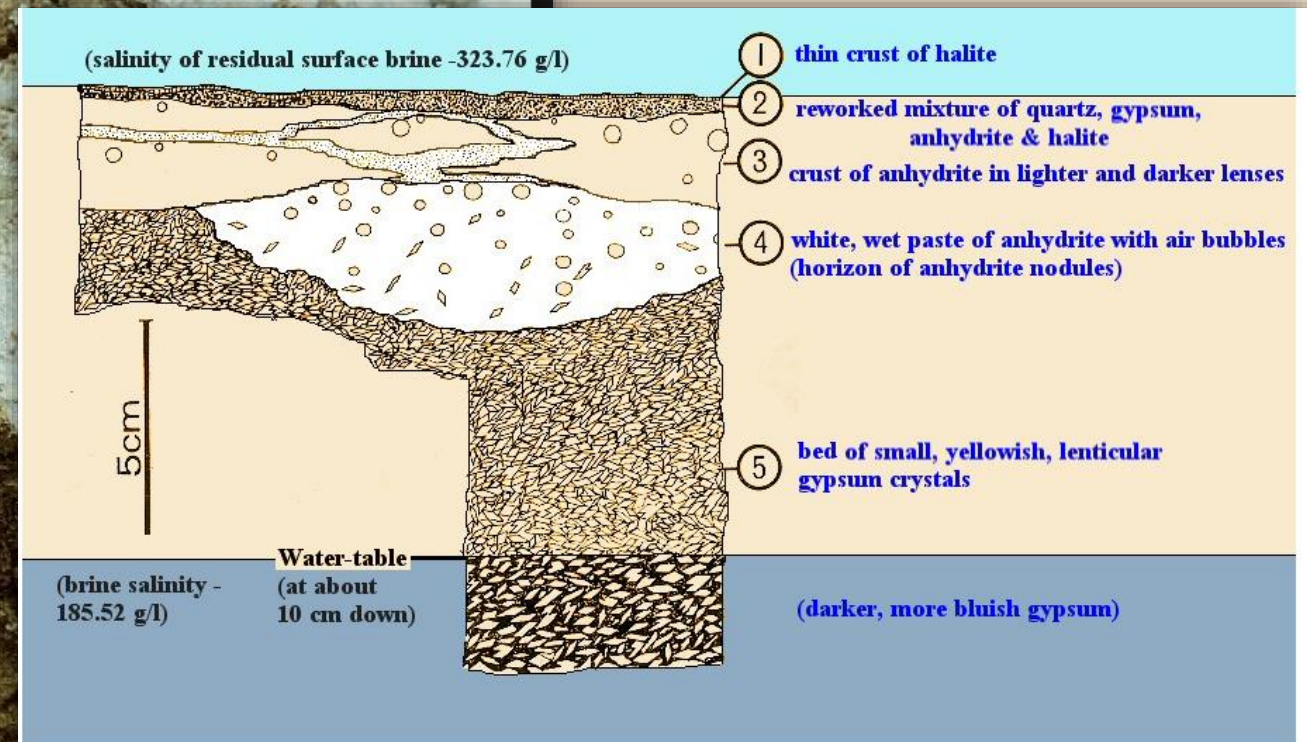
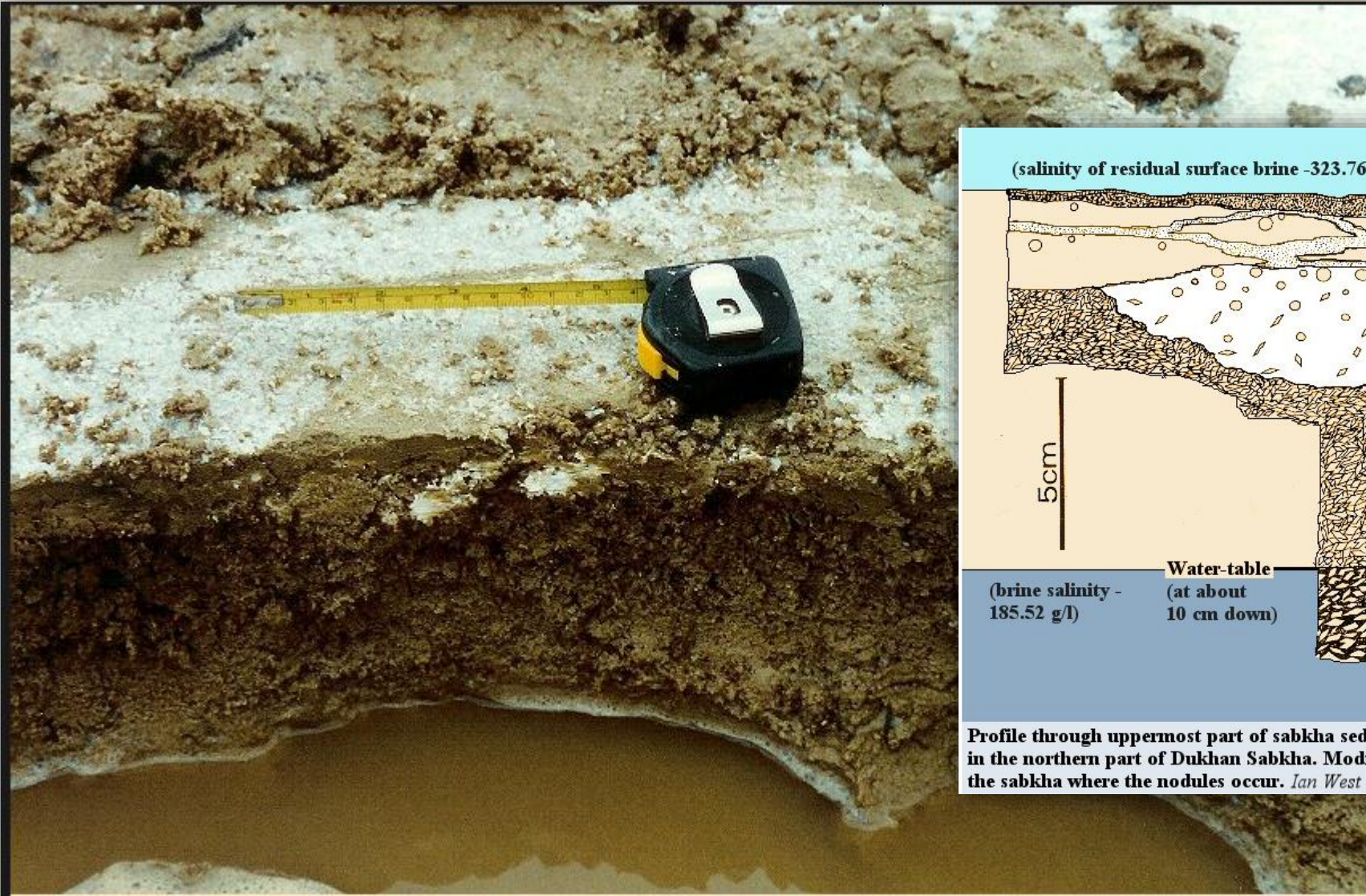
# 420 Ma Late Silurian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY             |
|---------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Permian       | Lower  |                                     |
| Pennsylvanian |        |                                     |
|               |        |                                     |
| Mississippian |        | Greenbrier Limestone                |
|               |        | Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone |
| Devonian      | Upper  | Venango                             |
|               |        | Upper Devonian sandstones           |
|               |        | Bradford                            |
|               |        | Brallier Formation                  |
|               |        | Elk                                 |
|               | Middle | Middlesex Shale                     |
|               |        | Harell Formation                    |
|               |        | Mahantango Formation                |
|               | Lower  | Onondaga Limestone                  |
|               |        | Oriskany Sandstone                  |
| Silurian      | Upper  | Salina Group                        |
|               |        | Newburg sandstone                   |
|               | Middle |                                     |
|               | Lower  | Clinton/Medina Group                |
| Ordovician    | Upper  | Tuscarora Sandstone                 |
|               | Middle |                                     |
|               | Lower  |                                     |
| Cambrian      | Upper  | Rose Run sandstone                  |
|               | Middle | Galesburg Formation                 |
|               | Lower  |                                     |
| Precambrian   |        |                                     |





# Modern Analog: Persian Gulf Sabkha



Profile through uppermost part of sabkha sediments about 50 metres from the margin of the salt crust (salt lake) in the northern part of Dukhan Sabkha. Modified after Perthuisot (1977). Compare with later photograph of pit in the sabkha where the nodules occur. Ian West & Tonya West (c) 2006.

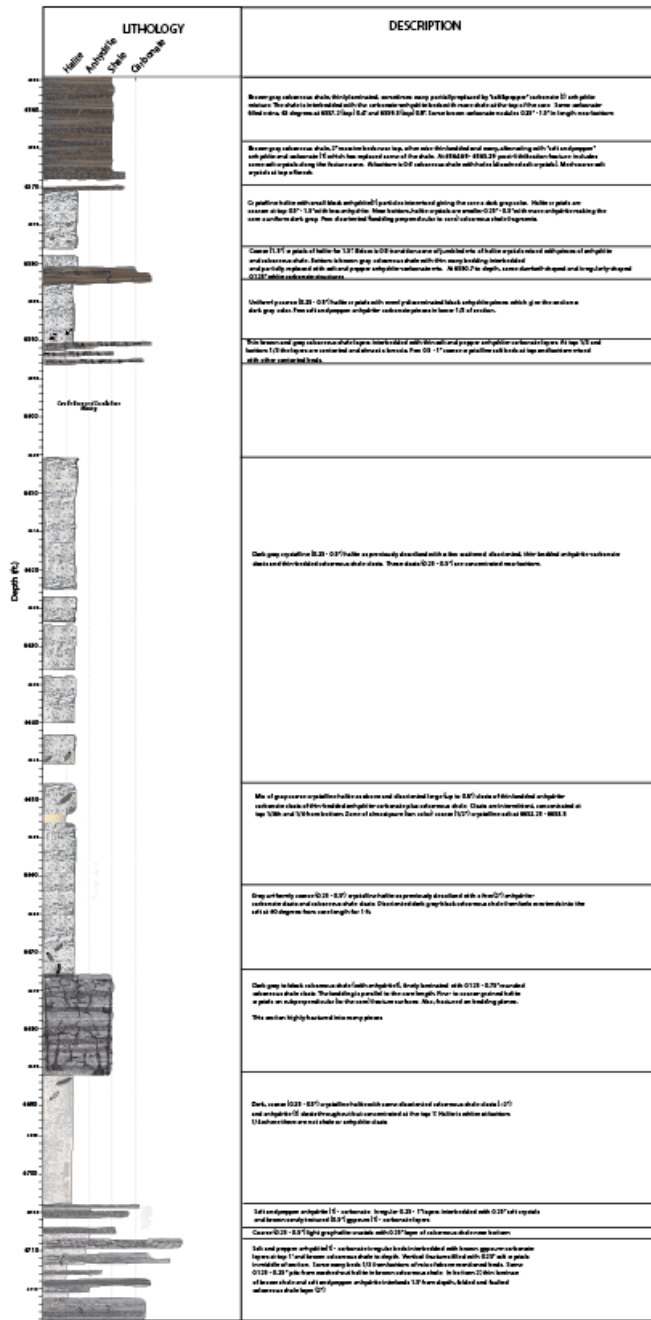
Pit through a marginal part of Dukhan Sabkha near the salt lake. White anhydrite occurs a few cm beneath the surface. The level of the gypsum-saturated brine is about 10 or 15 cm beneath the halite encrusted surface. Compare with profile of Perthuisot (1977). Ian West & Tonya West (c) 2006.



# The Salina is a bedded salt

PPG Industries Brine Well 36,  
Marshall County, WV

Well: PPG Industries Brine Well 36  
API Number: 4705106674 Interval Logged: Salina Formation

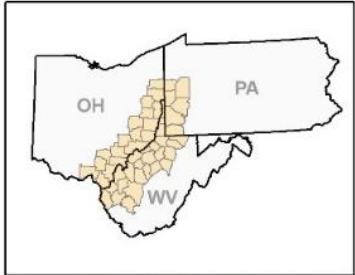




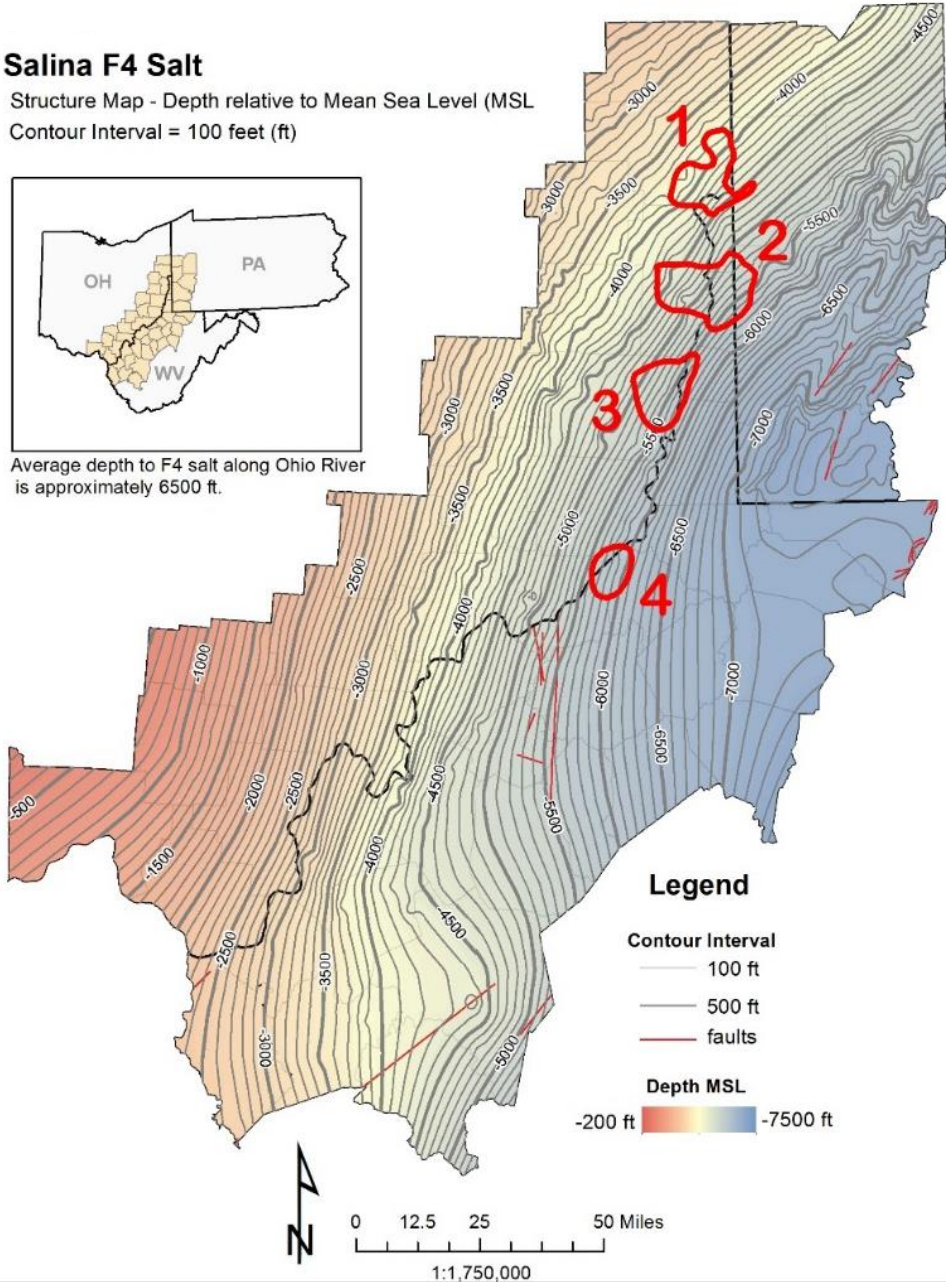
## Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

### Salina F4 Salt

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



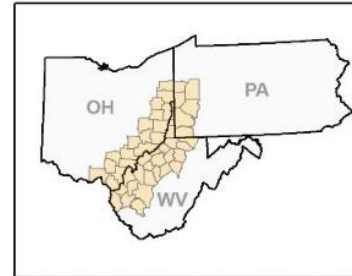
Average depth to F4 salt along Ohio River is approximately 6500 ft.



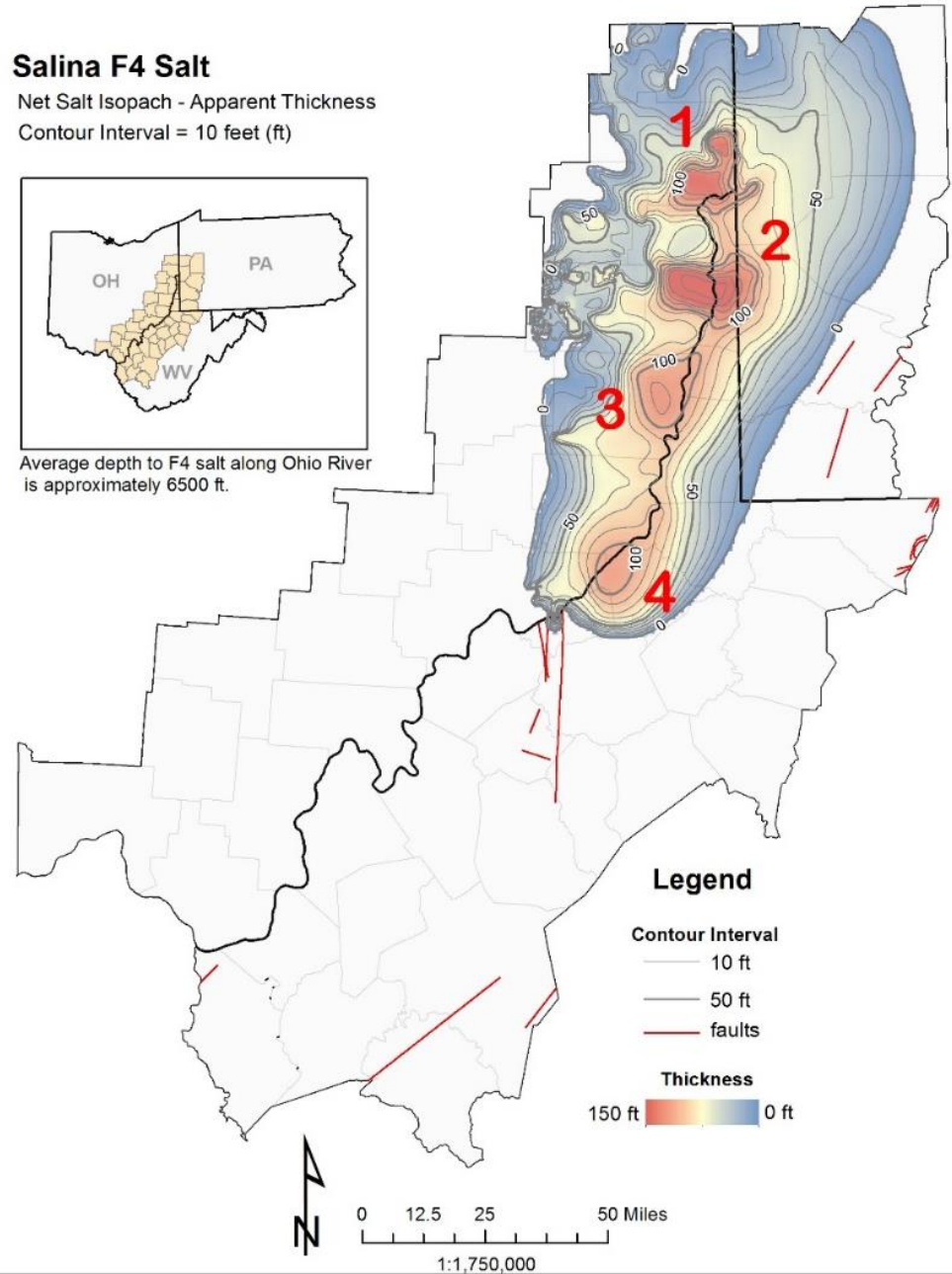
## Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

### Salina F4 Salt

Net Salt Isopach - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 10 feet (ft)

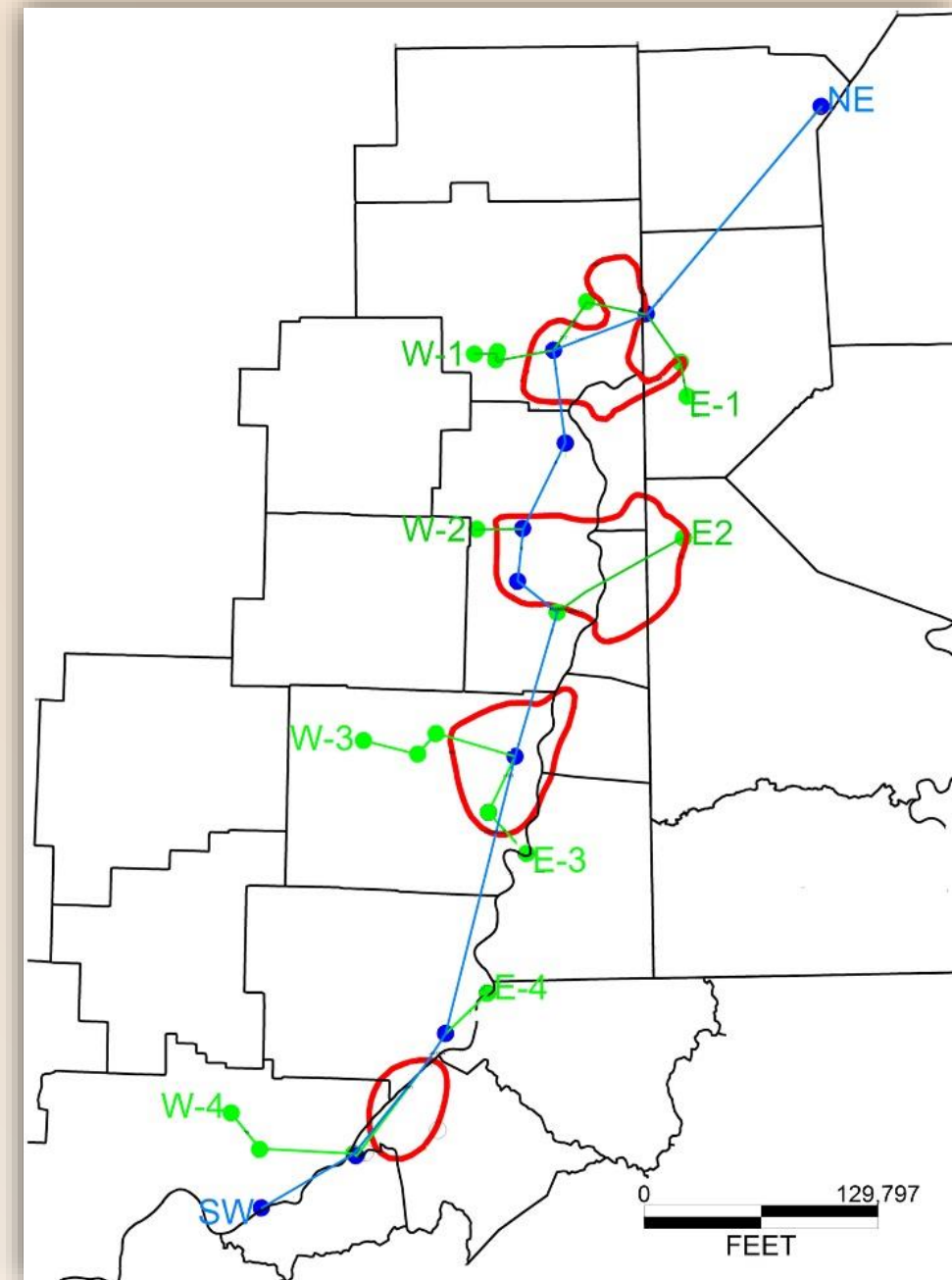


Average depth to F4 salt along Ohio River is approximately 6500 ft.



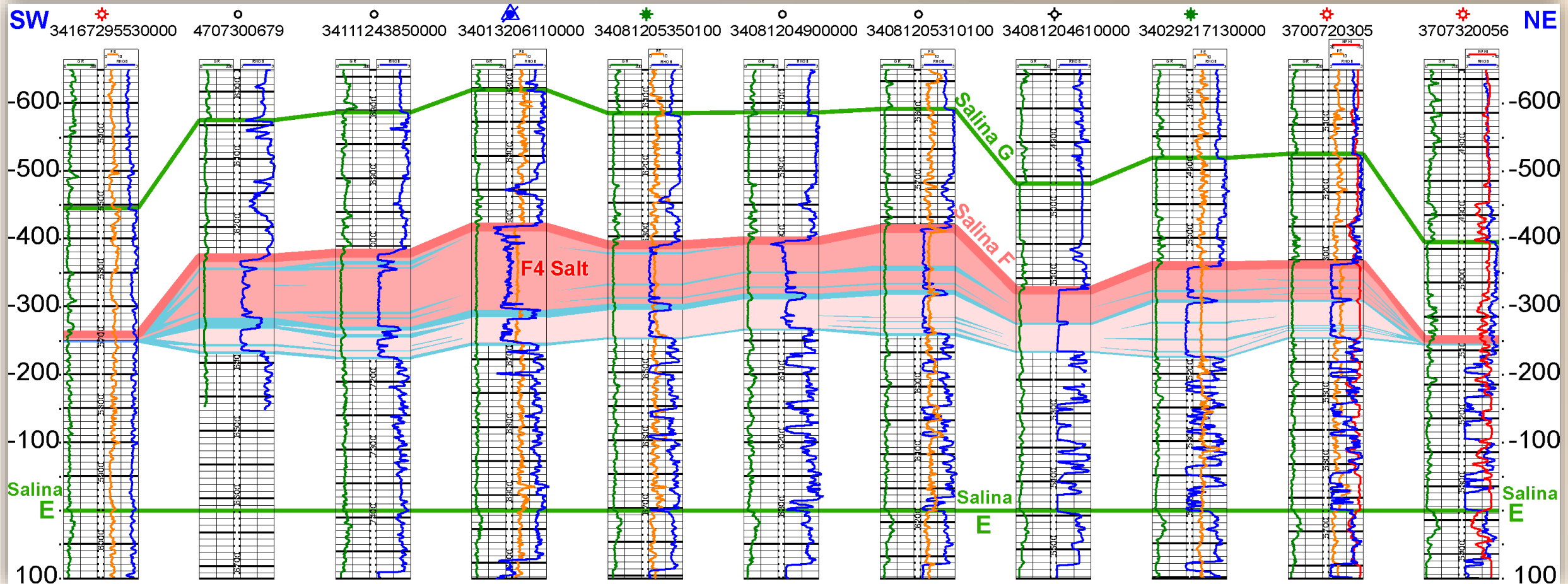
# SALINA SALT CROSS SECTIONS

- One strike section –SW to NE along the Ohio River Valley corridor
- Four dip sections – W to E through each of the four Salina F4 Salt areas

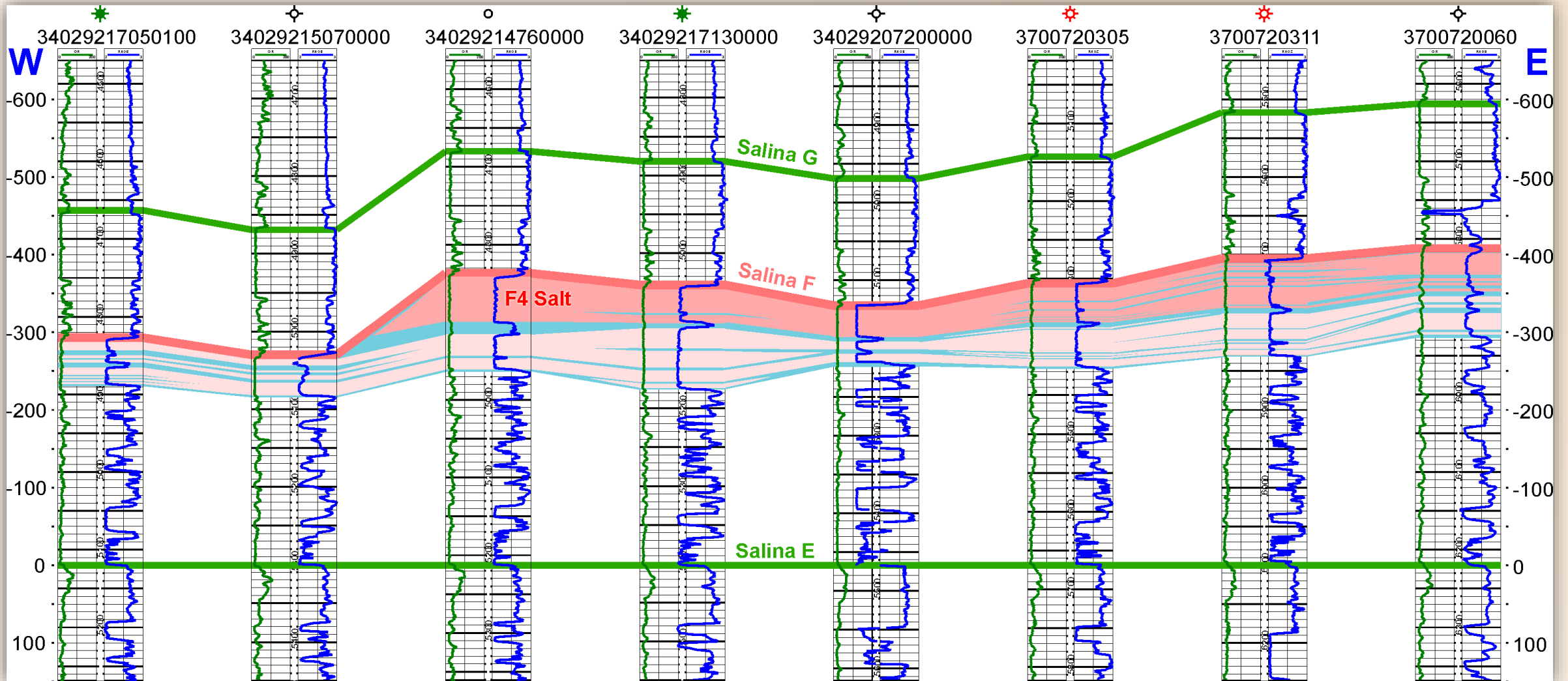




# SW-NE (STRIKE) CROSS SECTION

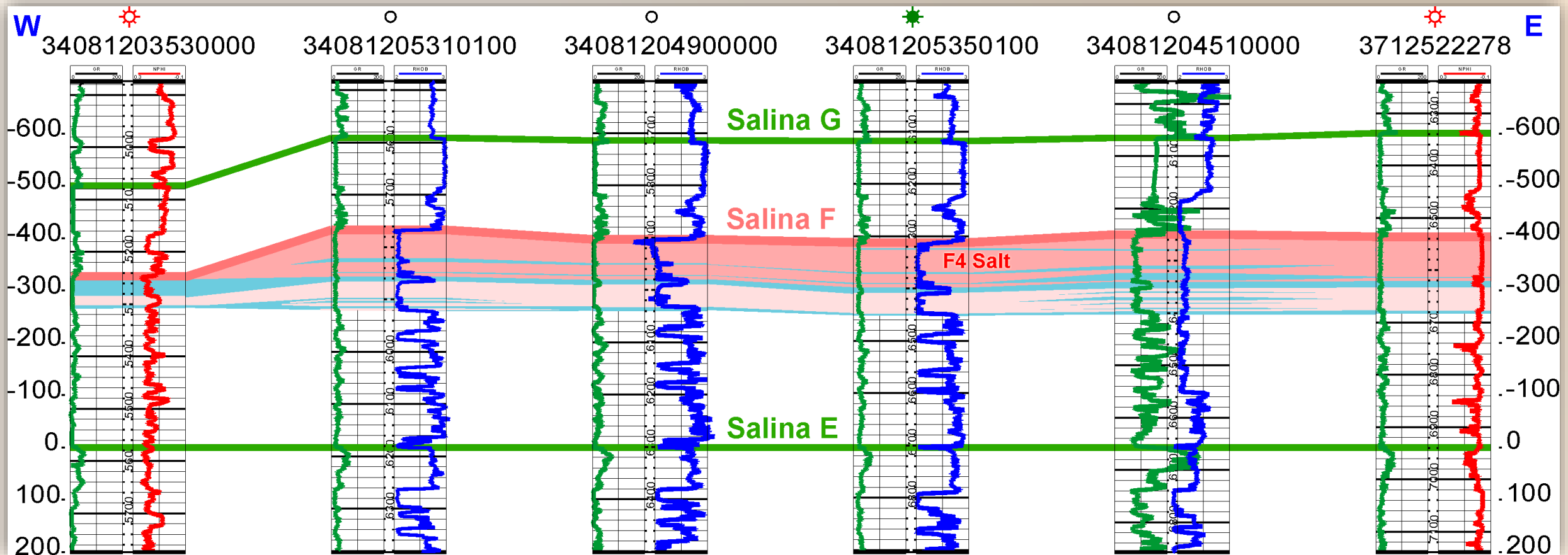


# W-E (DIP) CROSS SECTION – AREA 1

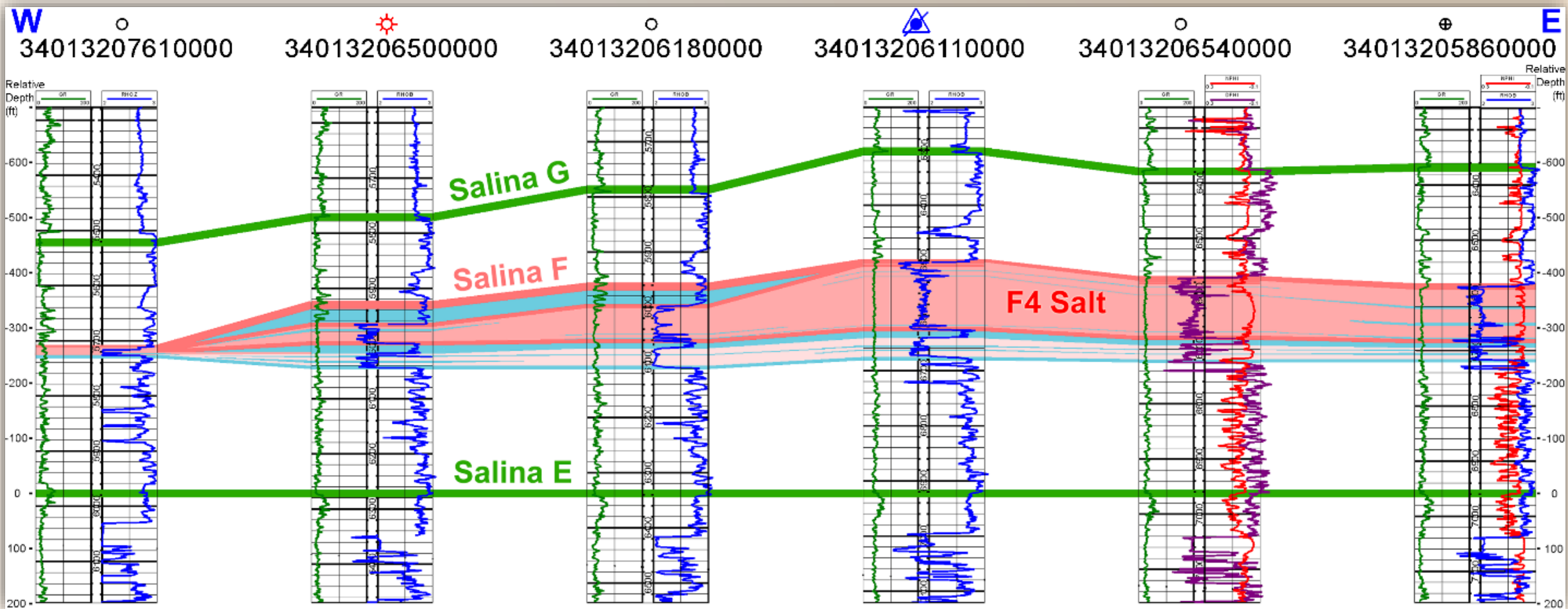




# W-E (DIP) CROSS SECTION – AREA 2

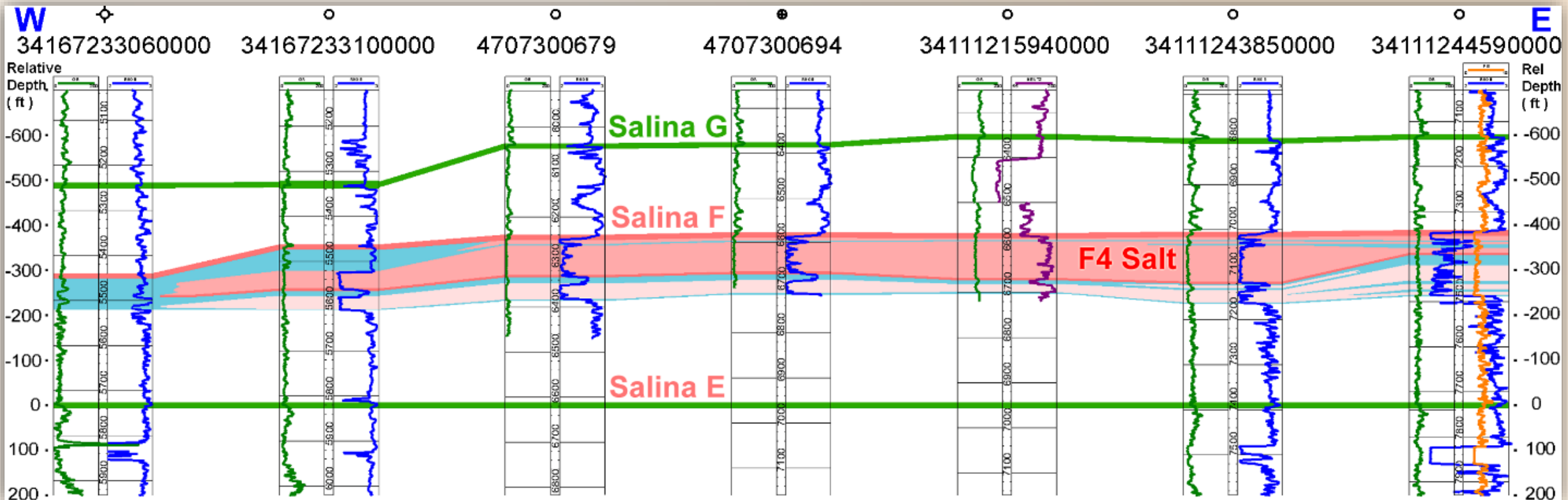


# W-E (DIP) CROSS SECTION – AREA 3

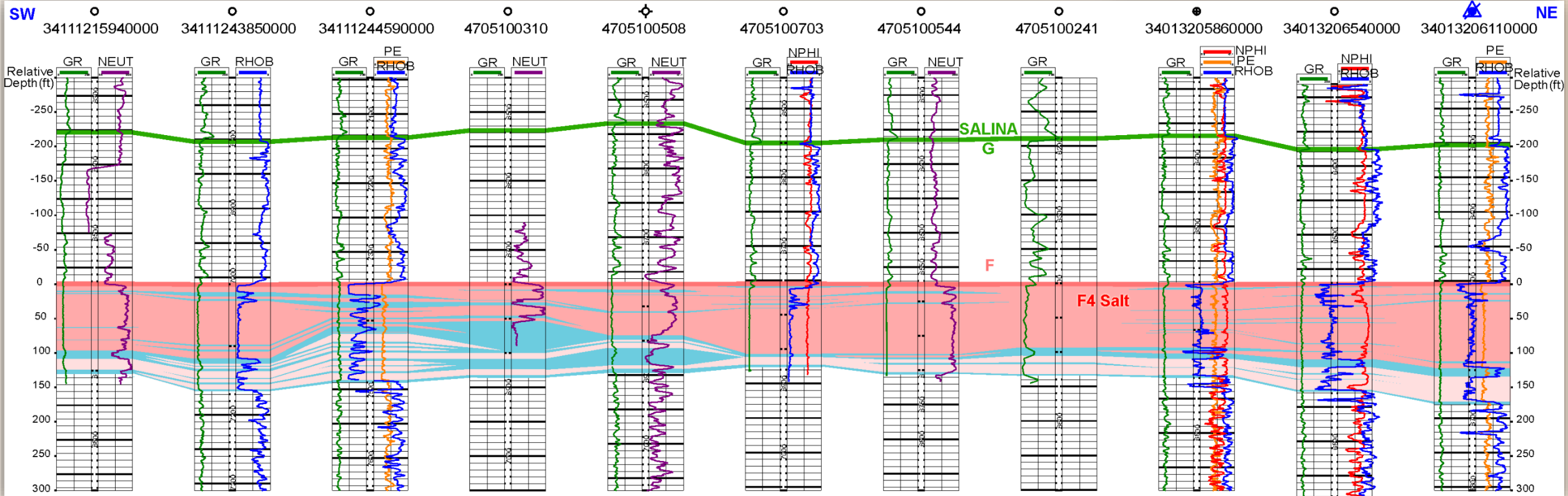
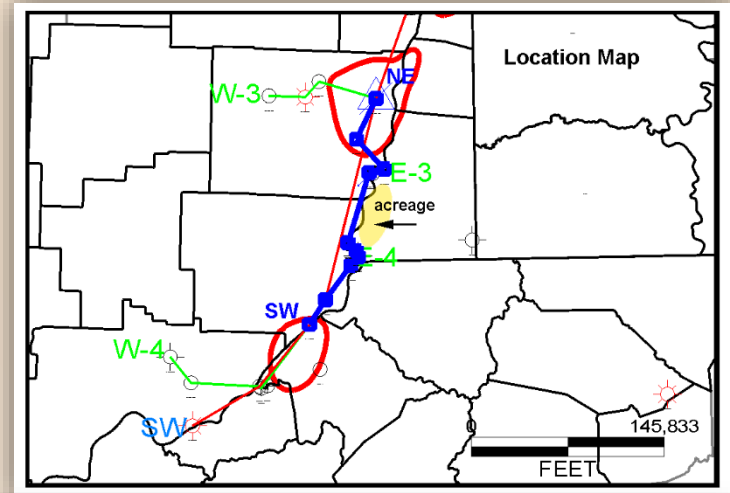




# W-E (DIP) CROSS SECTION – AREA 4



# DETAILED F4 SALT CROSS SECTION MARSHALL COUNTY, WV



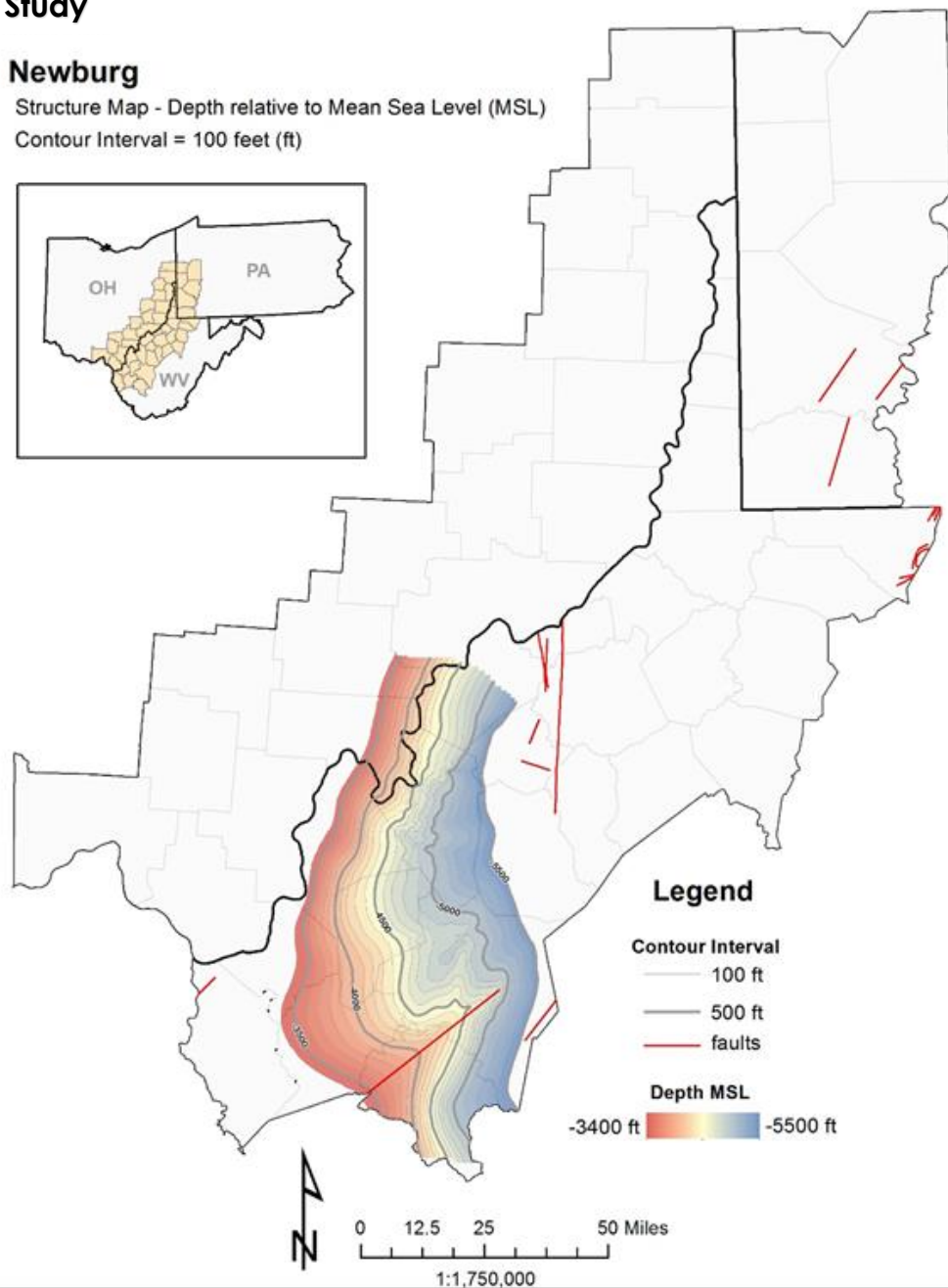
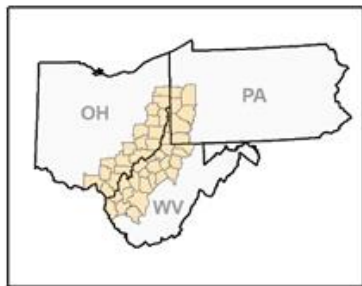


# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Newburg

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)

Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)

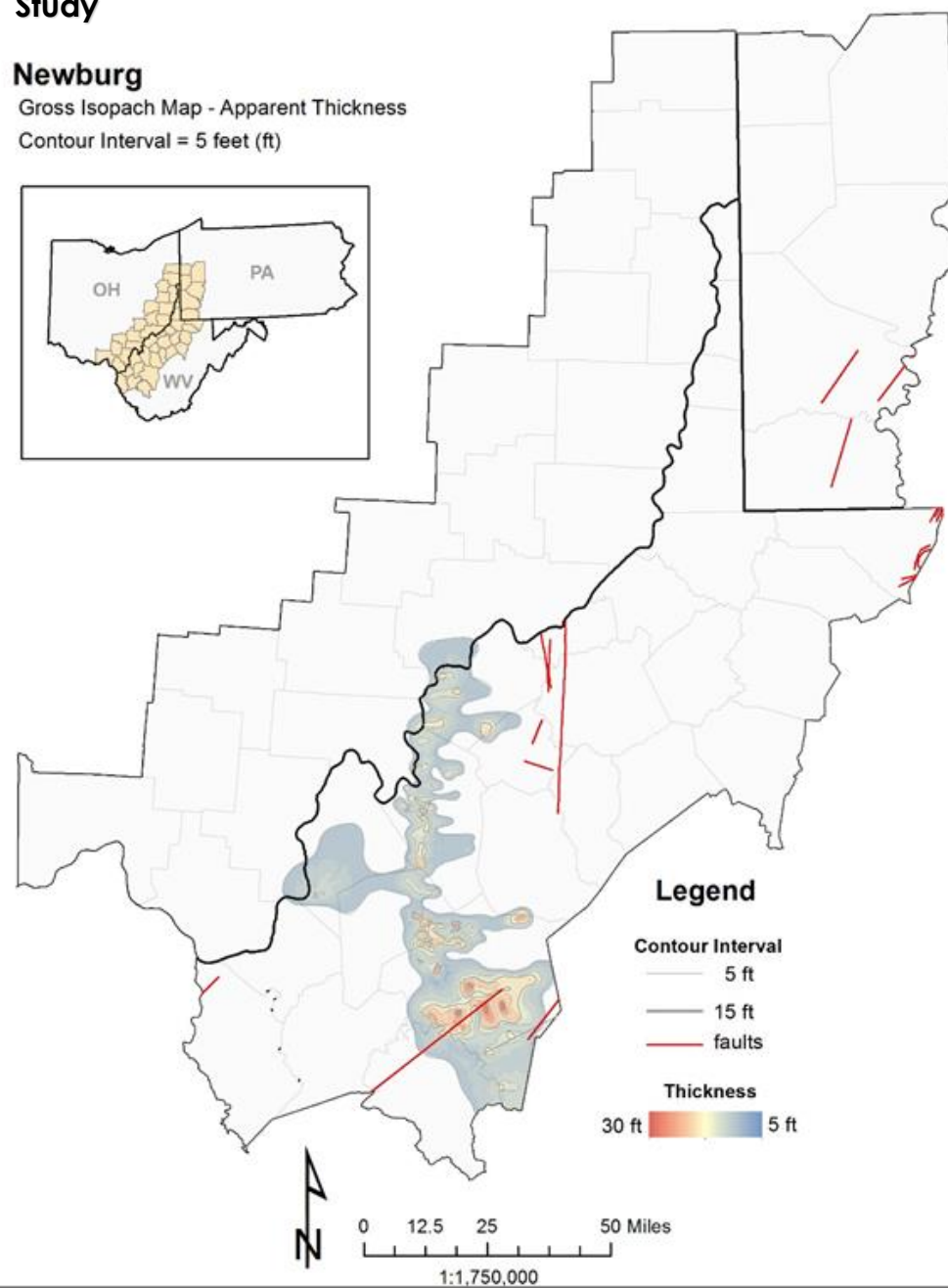


# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

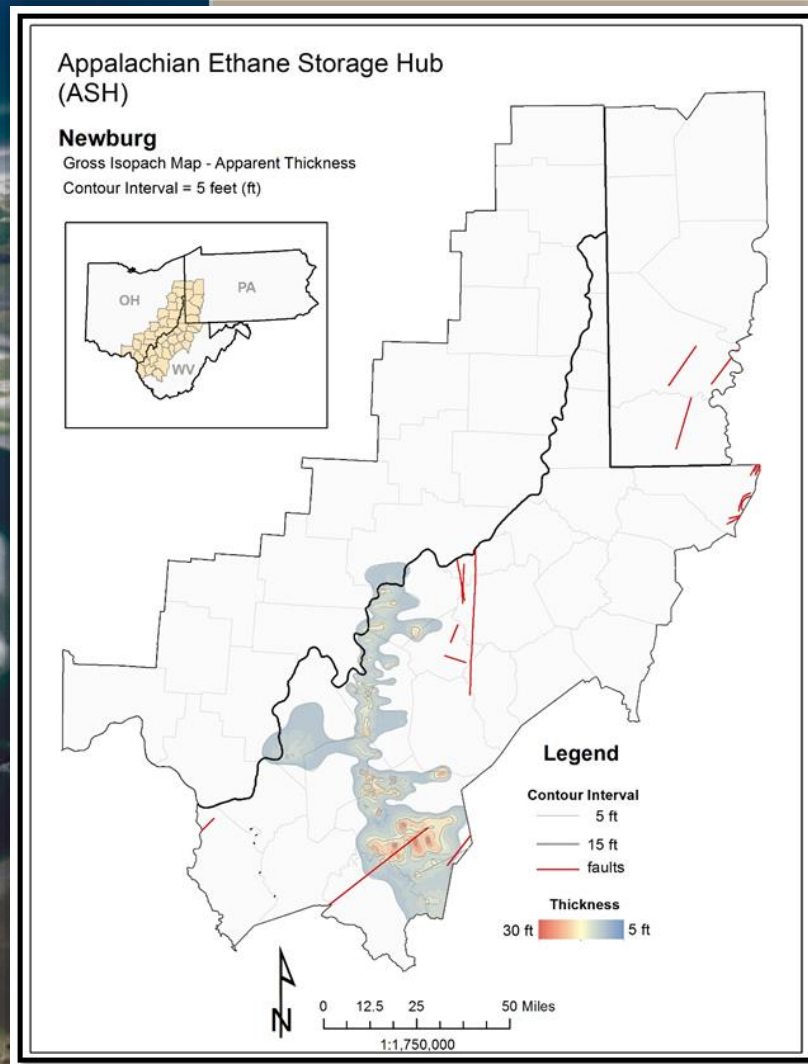
## Newburg

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness

Contour Interval = 5 feet (ft)



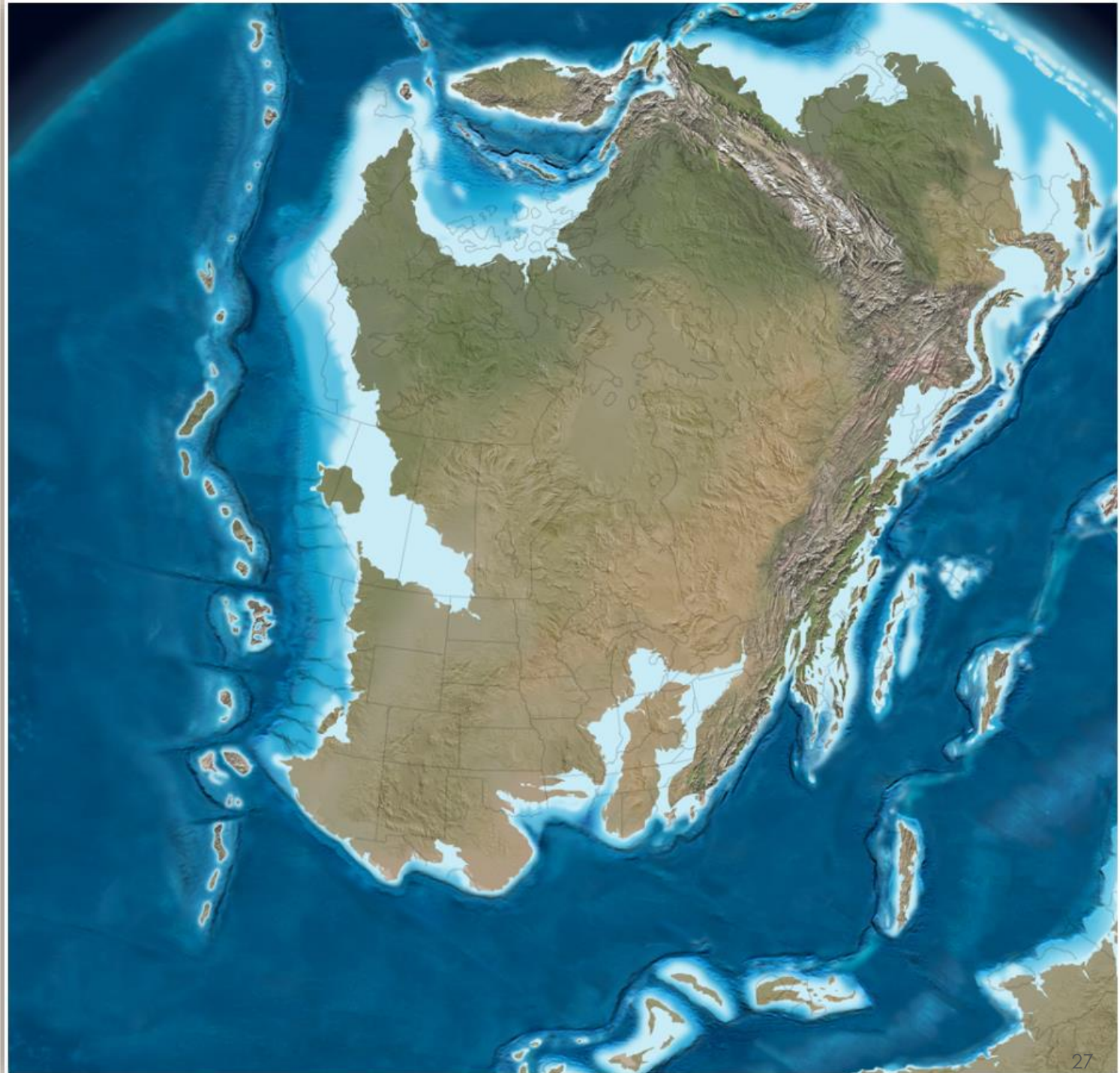
# Modern Analog: U.S. East Coast (Massachusetts) Coastal Sand Bodies



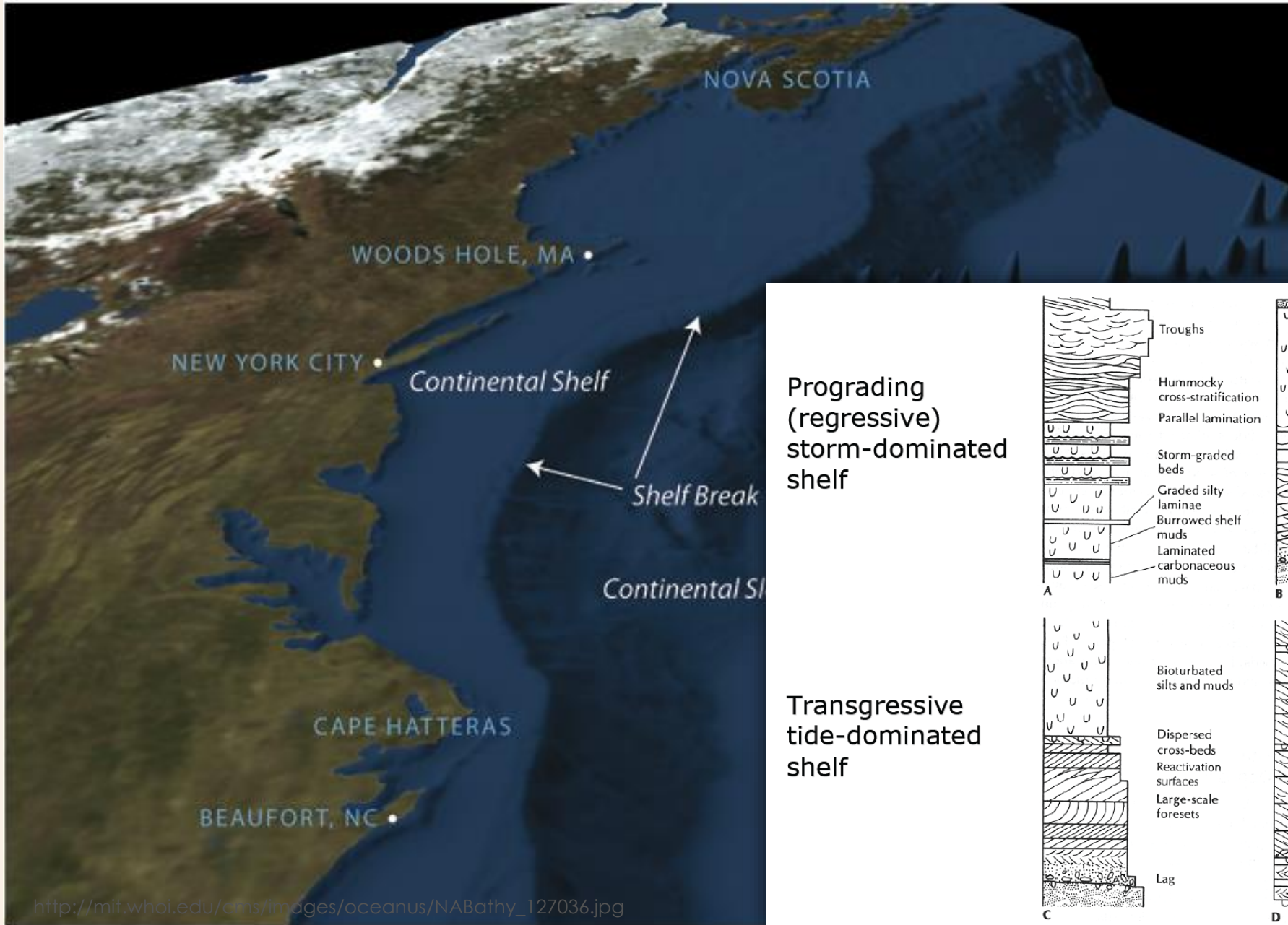


# 400 Ma Early Devonian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES               | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY             |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Permian       | Lower                |                                     |
| Pennsylvanian |                      |                                     |
|               |                      |                                     |
| Mississippian |                      | Greenbrier Limestone                |
|               |                      | Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone |
| Devonian      | Upper                | Venango                             |
|               |                      | Upper Devonian sandstones           |
|               |                      | Bradford                            |
|               | Middle               | Brallier Formation                  |
|               |                      | Elk                                 |
|               |                      | Middlesex Shale                     |
| Lower         | Harell Formation     |                                     |
|               | Mahantango Formation |                                     |
|               | Onondaga Limestone   |                                     |
| Silurian      | Upper                | Oriskany Sandstone                  |
|               |                      | Salina Group                        |
|               | Lower                | Newburg sandstone                   |
|               |                      | Clinton/Medina Group                |
| Ordovician    | Upper                | Tuscarora Sandstone                 |
|               | Middle               |                                     |
|               | Lower                |                                     |
| Cambrian      | Upper                | Rose Run sandstone                  |
|               | Lower                | Galesburg Formation                 |
| Precambrian   |                      |                                     |

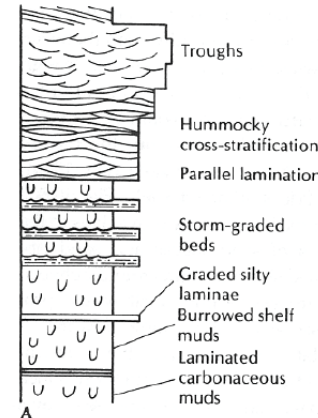


# Modern Analog: U.S. East Coast Continental Shelf



[http://mit.whoi.edu/cms/images/oceanus/NABathy\\_127036.jpg](http://mit.whoi.edu/cms/images/oceanus/NABathy_127036.jpg)

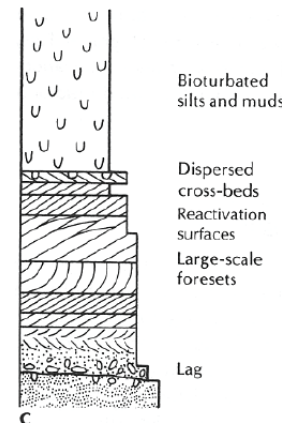
**Prograding (regressive) storm-dominated shelf**



Laminated carbonaceous muds  
Burrowed glauconitic silty muds  
Storm-graded beds  
Hummocky cross-stratification  
Large inclined surfaces with troughs  
Lag  
Burrowed or bored subjacent unit

**Transgressive storm-dominated shelf**

**Transgressive tide-dominated shelf**



Burrowed silt  
Subtidal channel  
Large foresets with internal troughs  
Burrowed silt  
Large foresets with internal troughs  
Subtidal channel  
Gravel lag  
Tidal-flat and estuarine deposits

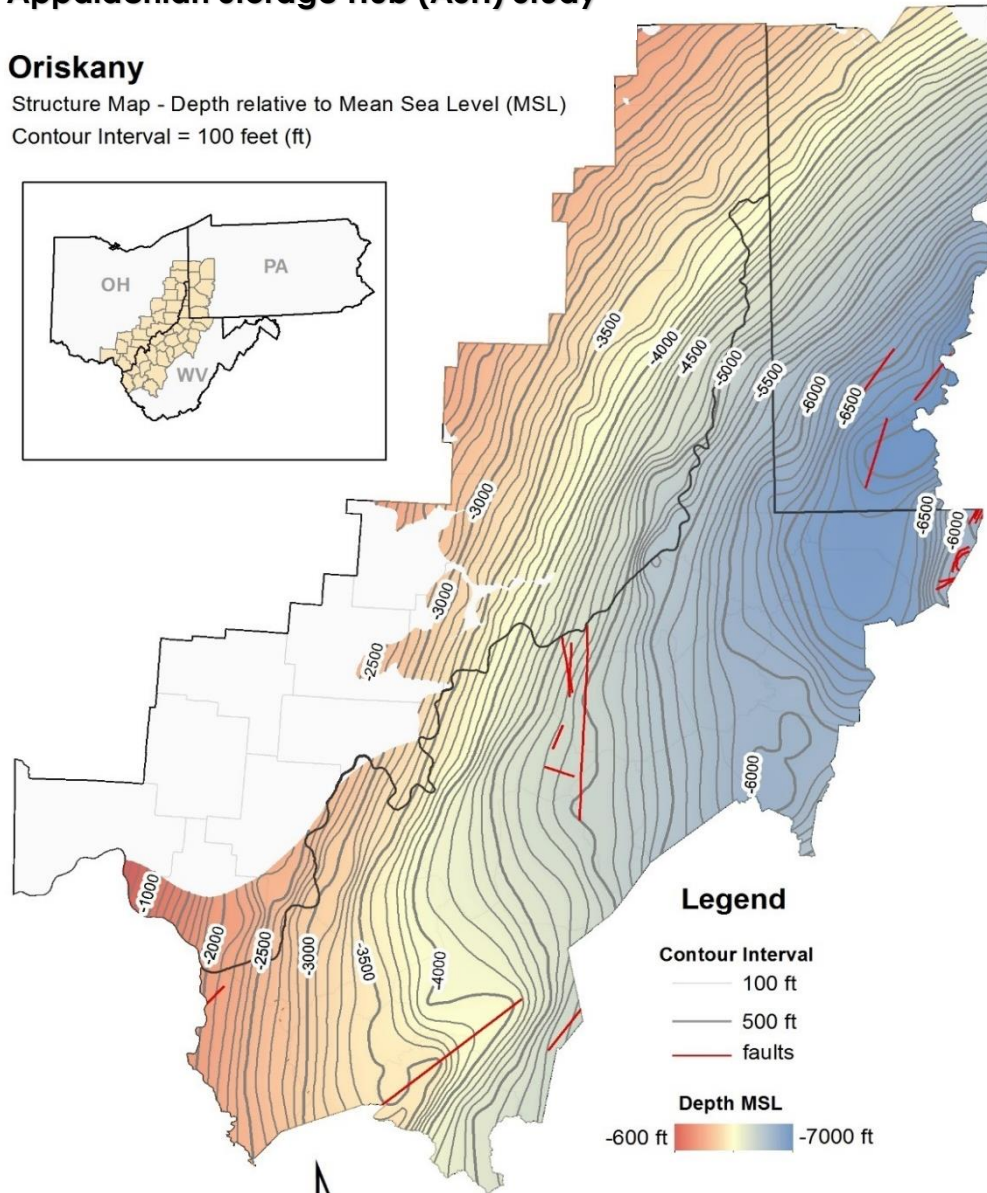
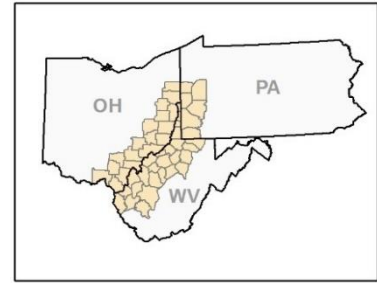
**Balanced accumulation, tide and storm shelf**



# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Oriskany

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval

- 100 ft
- 500 ft
- faults

Depth MSL

-600 ft -7000 ft



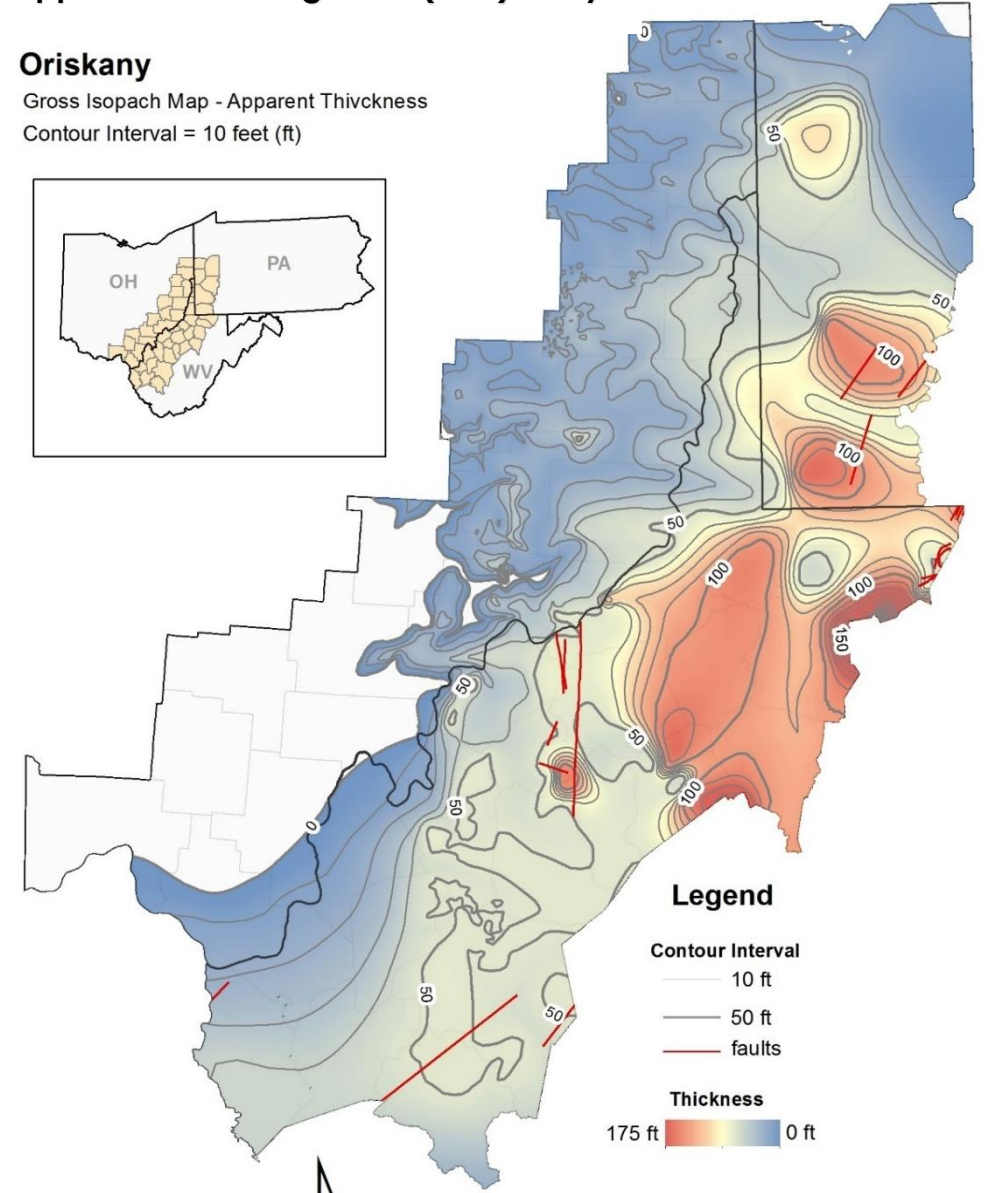
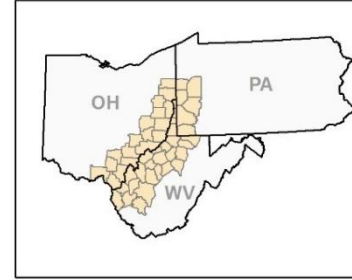
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Oriskany

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 10 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval

- 10 ft
- 50 ft
- faults

Thickness

175 ft 0 ft



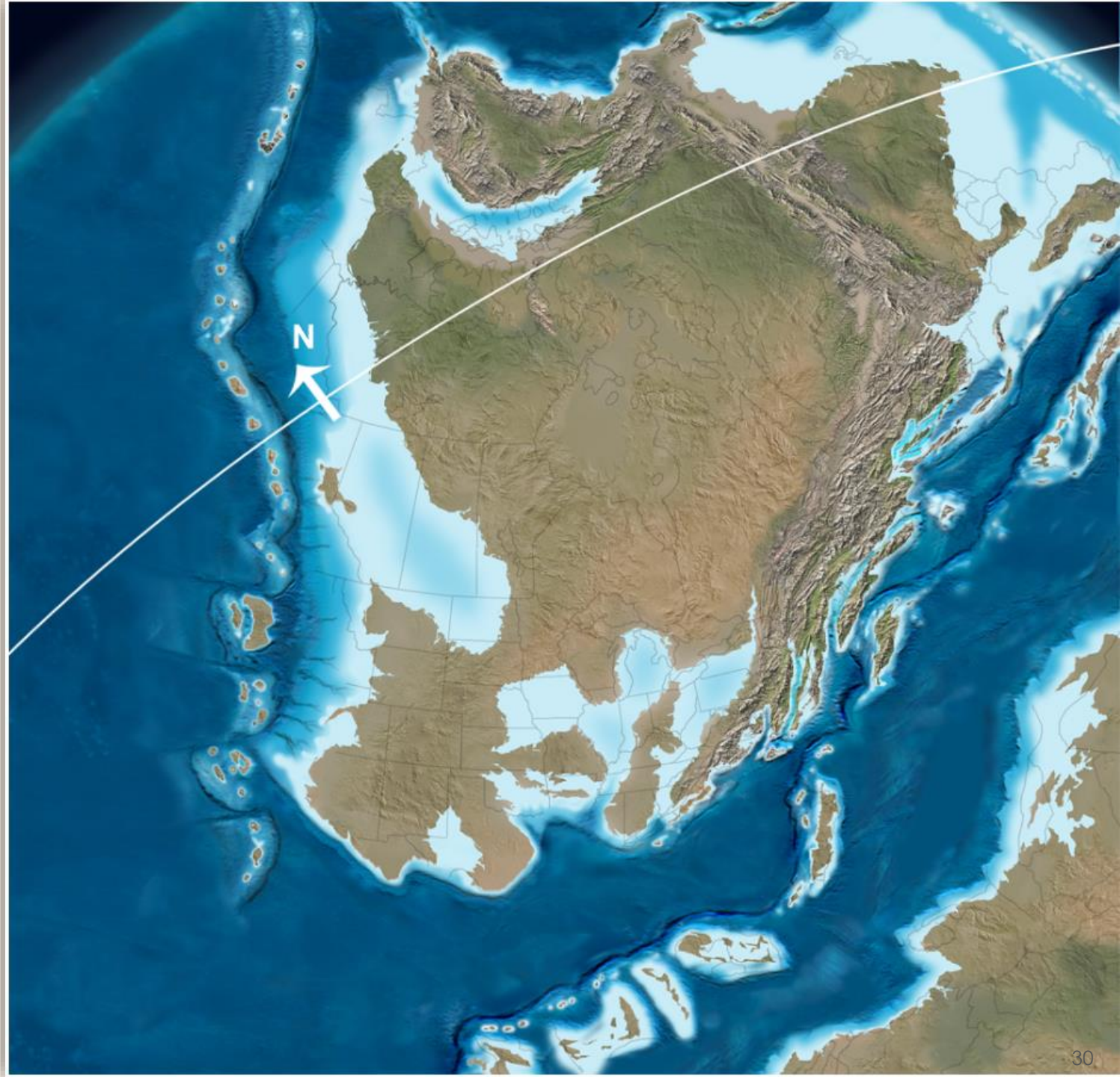
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000



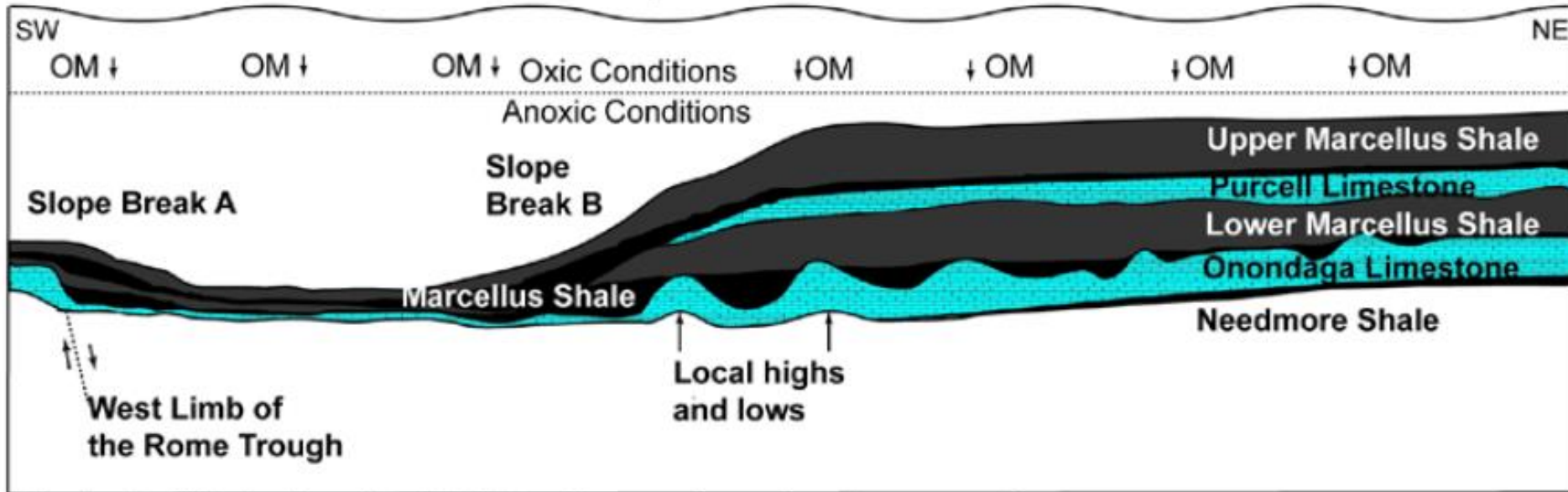
# 385 Ma Middle Devonian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY   |   |
|---------------|--------|---|---|
| Permian       | Lower  |   |   |
| Pennsylvanian |        |   |   |
| Mississippian |        | Greenbrier Limestone<br>Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone   |   |
| Devonian      | Upper  | Venango Upper Devonian sandstones<br>Bradford<br>Brallier Formation<br>Elk<br>Middlesex Shale<br>Harell Formation |   |
|               |        | Middle  | Mahantango Formation<br>Marcellus Shale<br>Onondaga Limestone |
|               |        | Lower   | Oriskany Sandstone  |
| Silurian      | Upper  | Salina Group<br>Newburg sandstone   |   |
|               |        | Middle  |   |
|               | Lower  | Clinton/Medina Group<br>Tuscarora Sandstone   |   |
| Ordovician    | Upper  |   |   |
|               | Middle |   |   |
|               | Lower  | Rose Run sandstone<br>Galesburg Formation<br>Lincolnton Formation   |   |
| Cambrian      | Upper  |   |   |
|               | Middle |   |   |
|               | Lower  |   |   |
| Precambrian   |        |   |   |



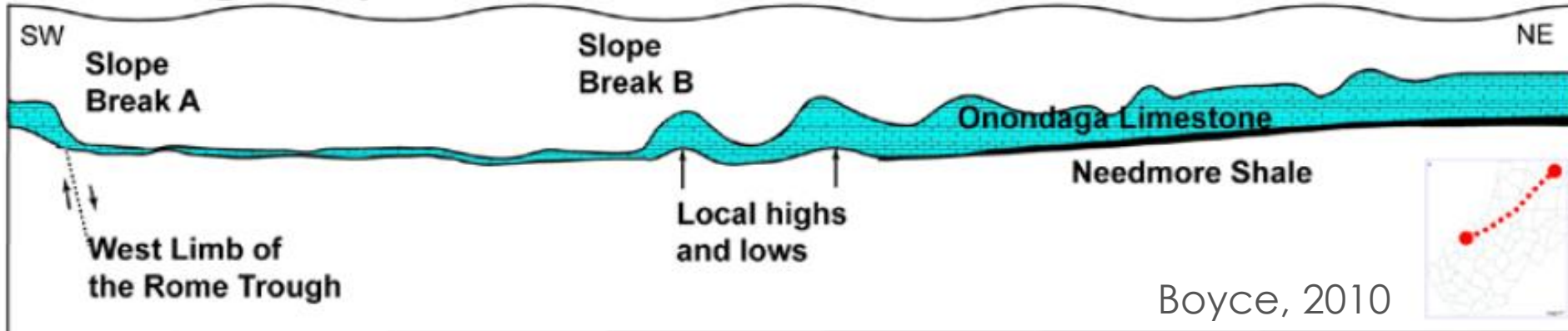


# Marcellus and Purcell Deposition

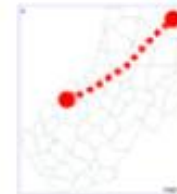


\* Black color fill in the Marcellus highlights of increased organic matter preservation

# Onondaga Deposition

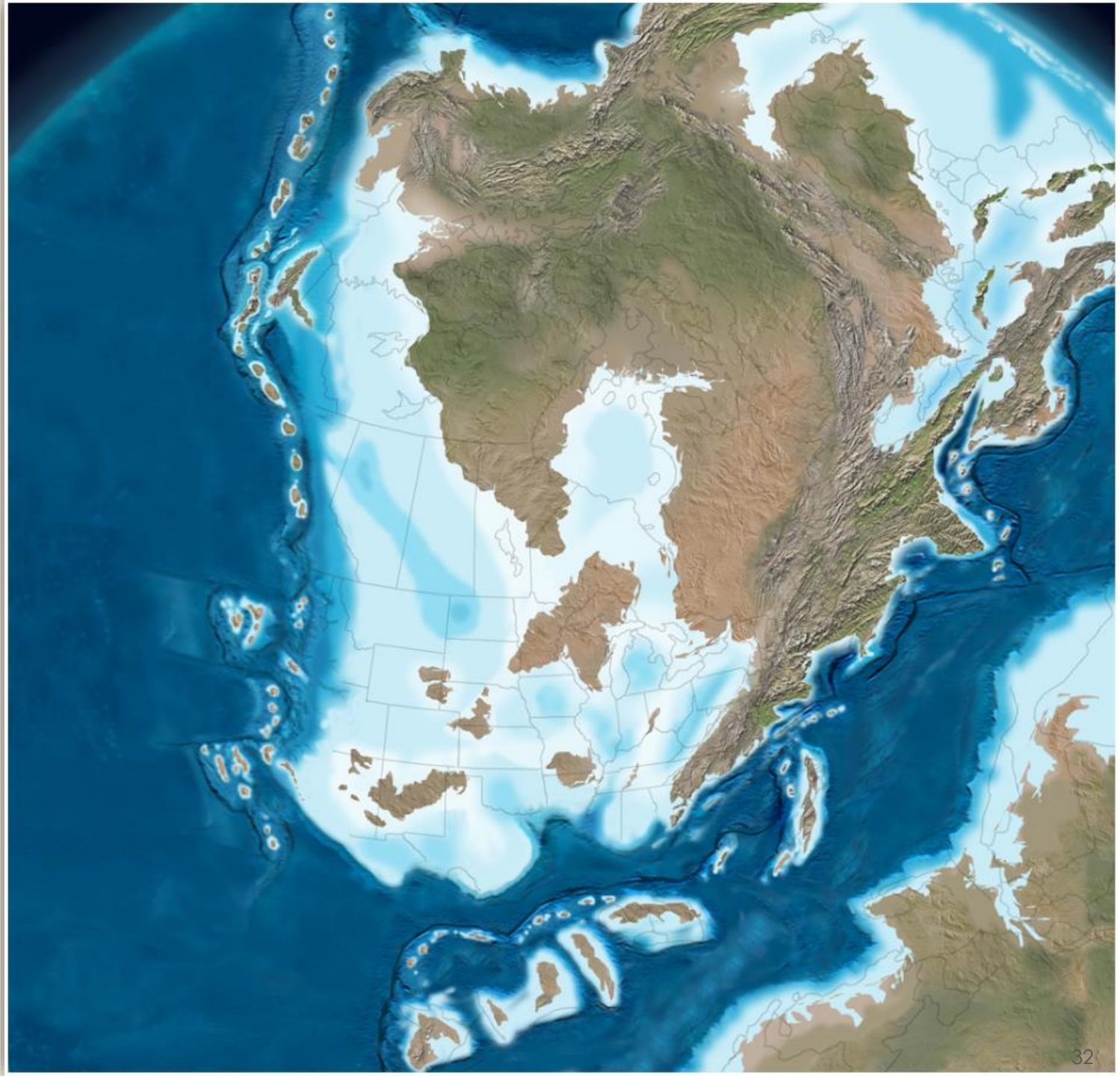


Boyce, 2010



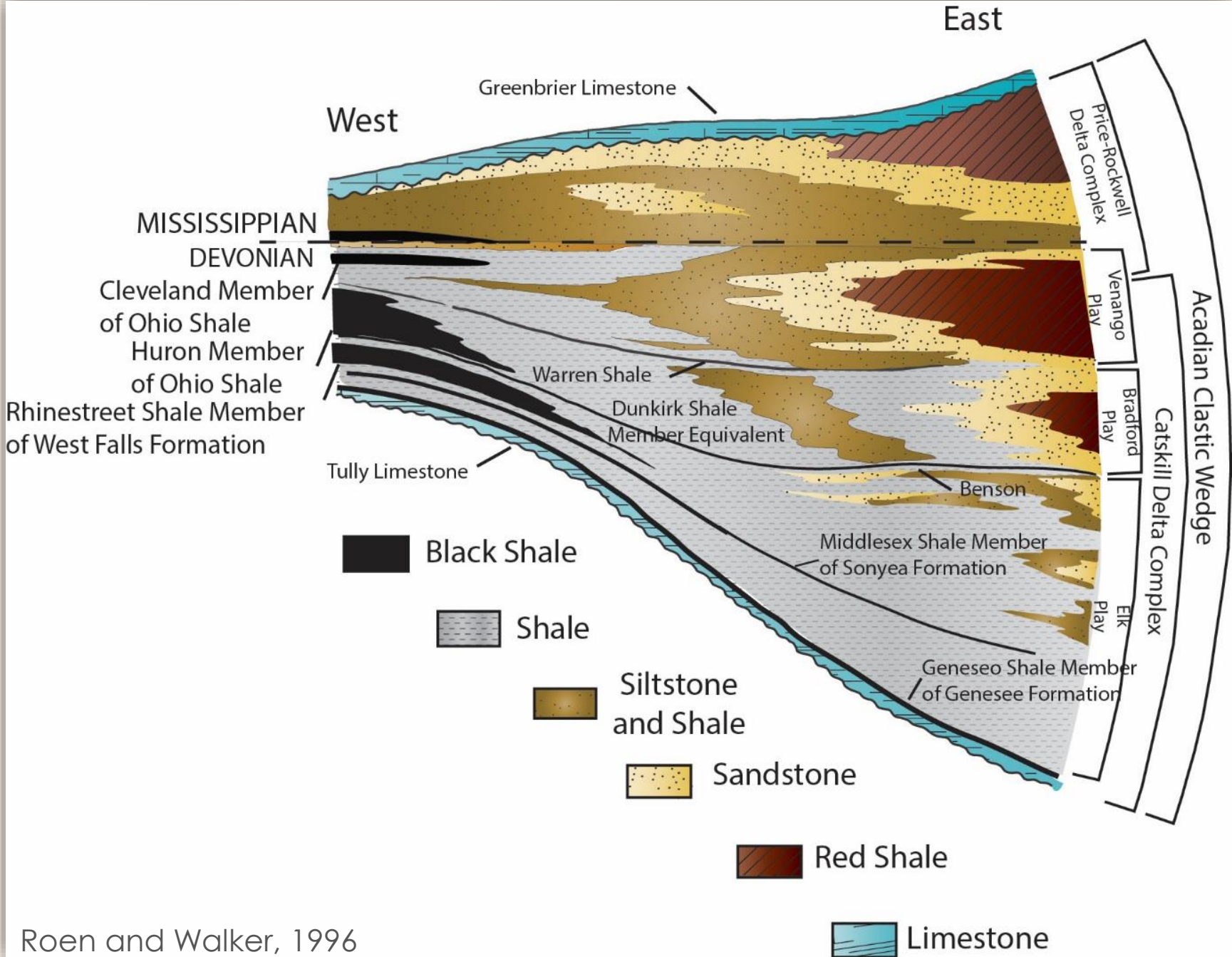
# 360 Ma Late Devonian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES               | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY             |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Permian       | Lower                |                                     |
| Pennsylvanian |                      |                                     |
|               |                      |                                     |
| Mississippian |                      | Greenbrier Limestone                |
|               |                      | Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone |
| Devonian      | Upper                | Venango                             |
|               |                      | Upper Devonian sandstones           |
|               |                      | Bradford                            |
|               |                      | Brallier Formation                  |
|               |                      | Elk                                 |
|               | Middle               | Middlesex Shale                     |
|               |                      | Harell Formation                    |
|               |                      | Mahantango Formation                |
|               |                      | Marcellus Shale                     |
|               |                      | Onondaga Limestone                  |
| Lower         | Oriskany Sandstone   |                                     |
|               |                      |                                     |
| Sturlian      | Upper                | Salina Group                        |
|               |                      | Newburg sandstone                   |
|               | Middle               |                                     |
|               |                      |                                     |
| Lower         | Clinton/Medina Group |                                     |
|               | Tuscarora Sandstone  |                                     |
| Ordovician    | Upper                |                                     |
|               | Middle               |                                     |
|               | Lower                |                                     |
| Cambrian      | Upper                | Rose Run sandstone                  |
|               | Middle               | Galesburg Formation                 |
|               | Lower                | Lincroft Formation                  |
| Precambrian   |                      |                                     |





# Catskill Delta Complex

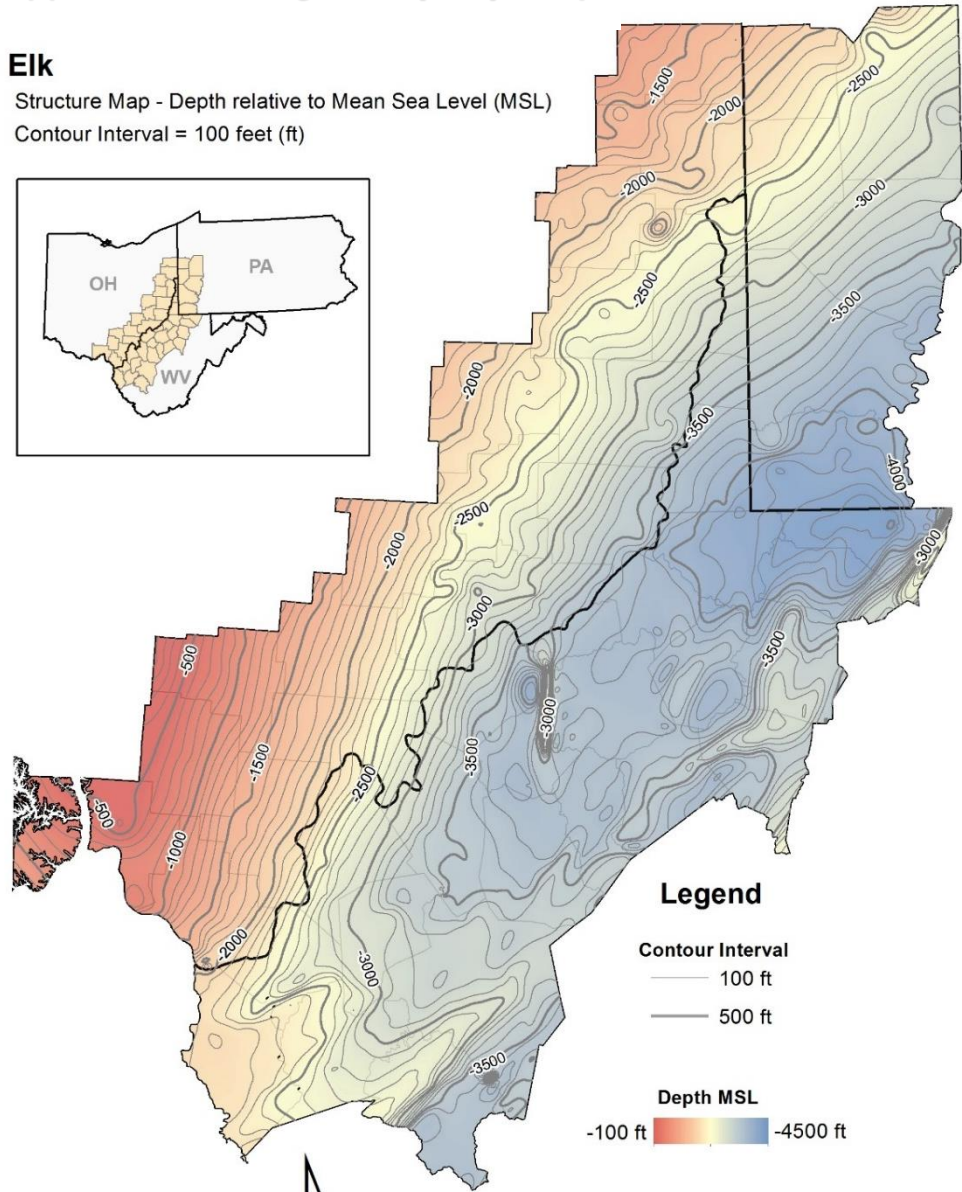
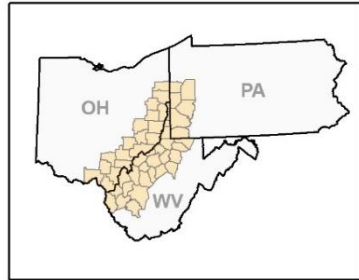


Roen and Walker, 1996

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Eik

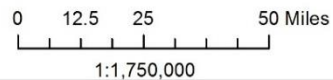
Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
 Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval  
 — 100 ft  
 — 500 ft

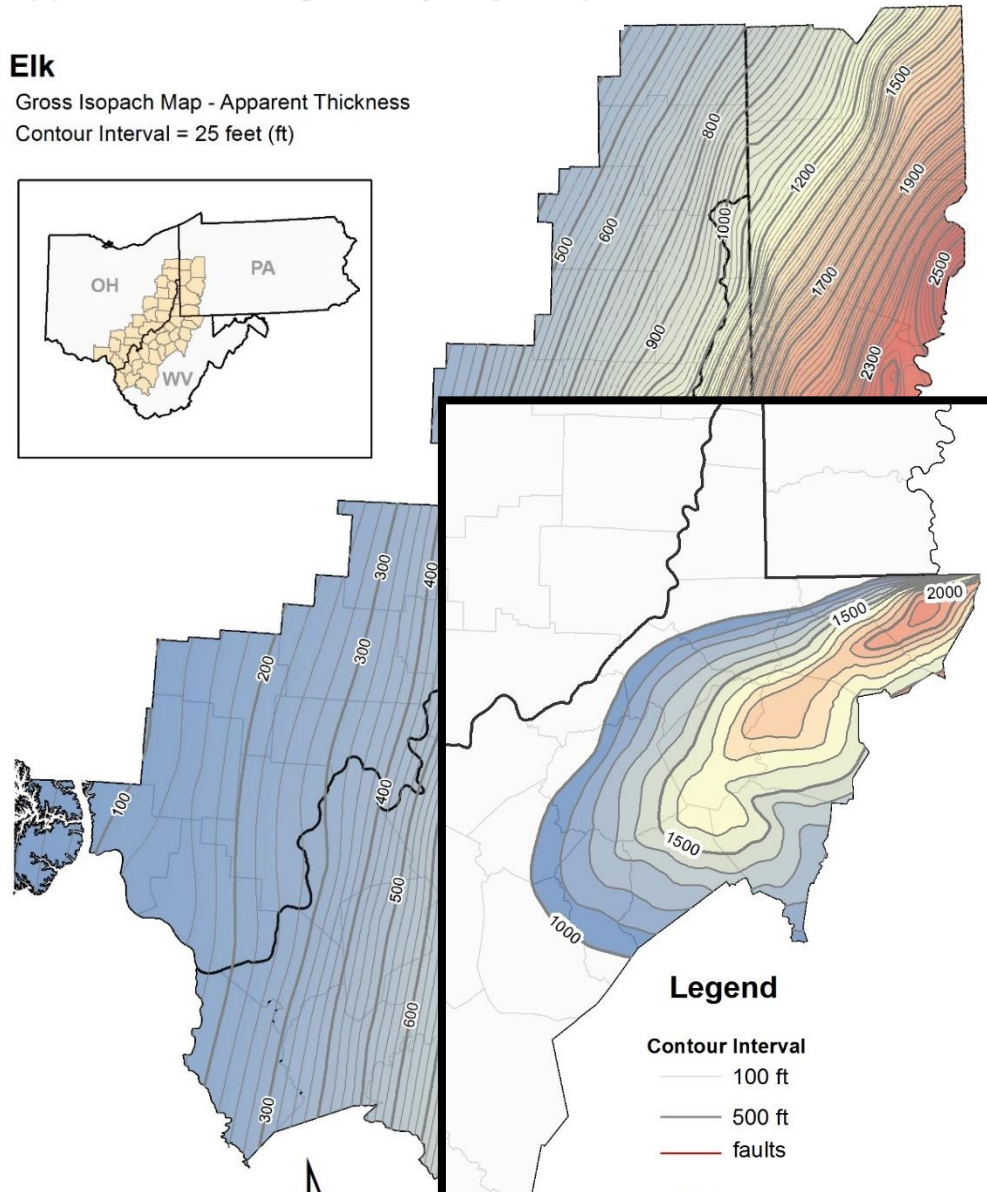
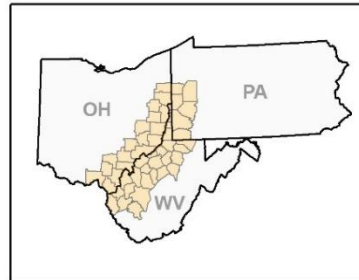
Depth MSL  
 -100 ft -4500 ft



# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Eik

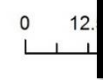
Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
 Contour Interval = 25 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval  
 — 100 ft  
 — 500 ft  
 — faults

Thickness  
 2100 ft 1000 ft

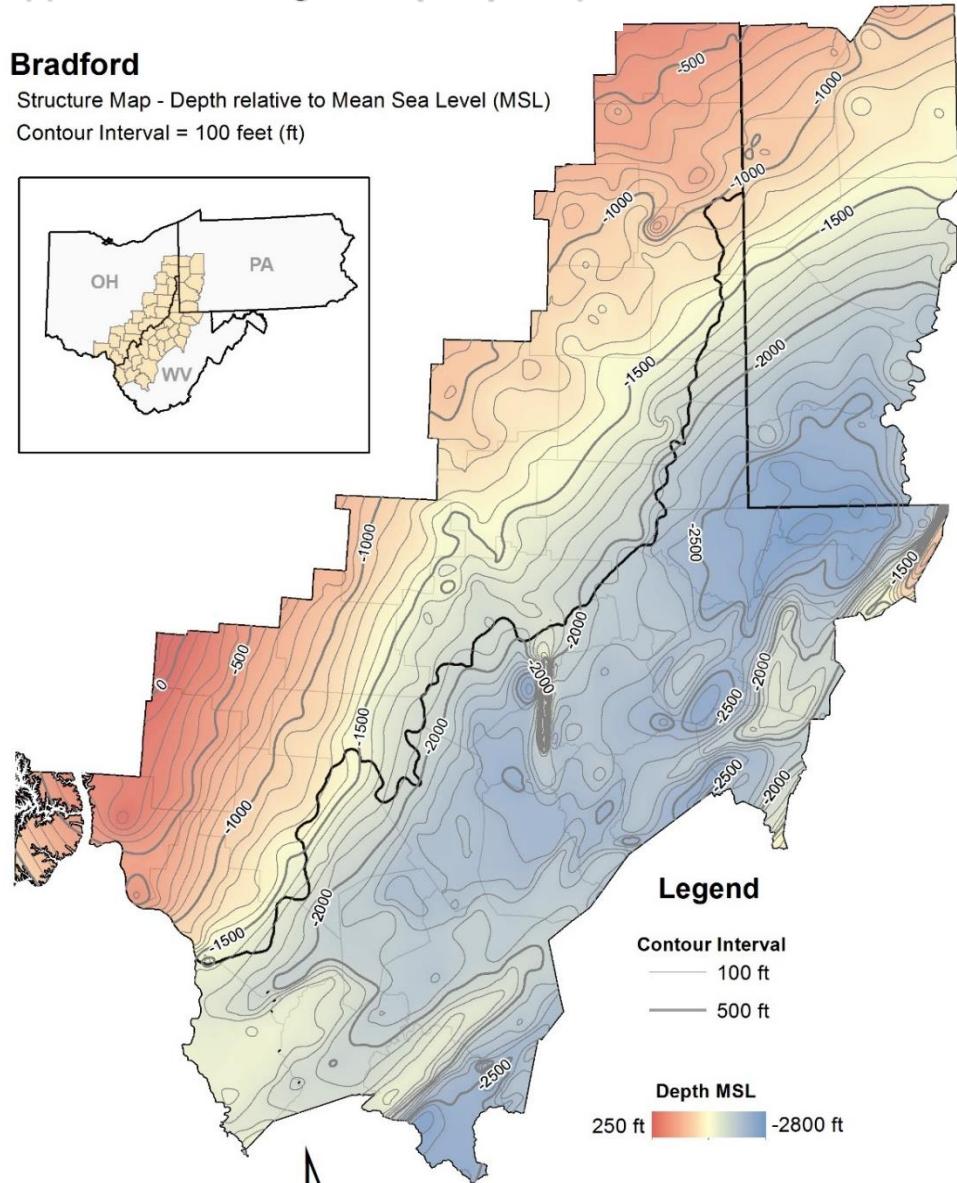
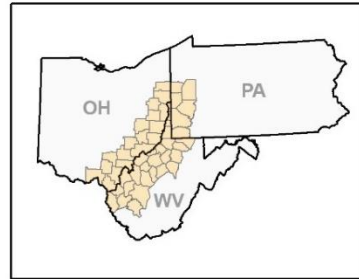




# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Bradford

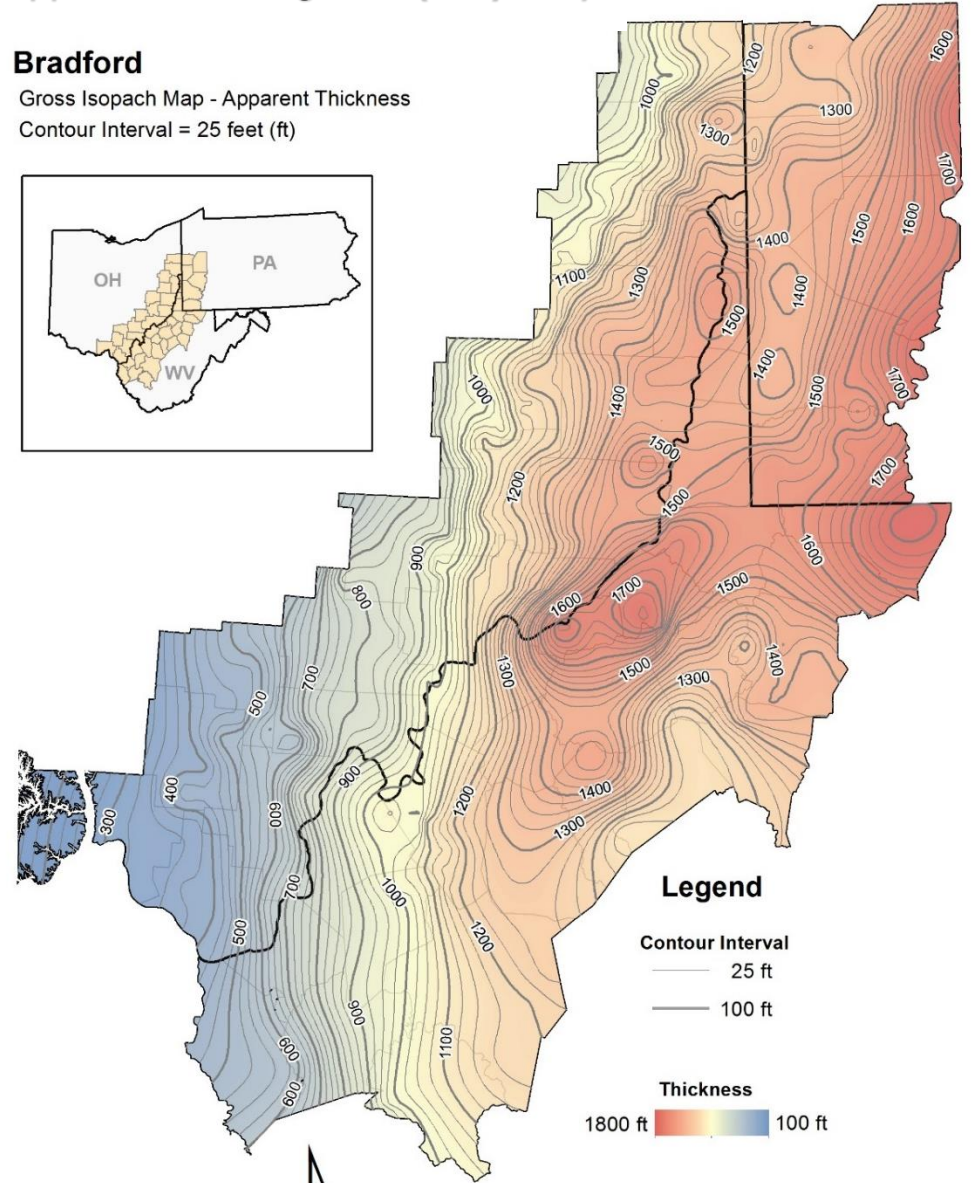
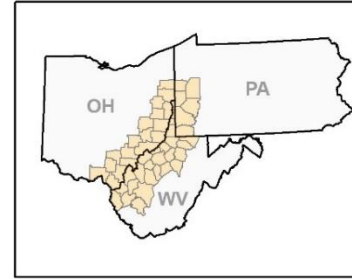
Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Bradford

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 25 feet (ft)

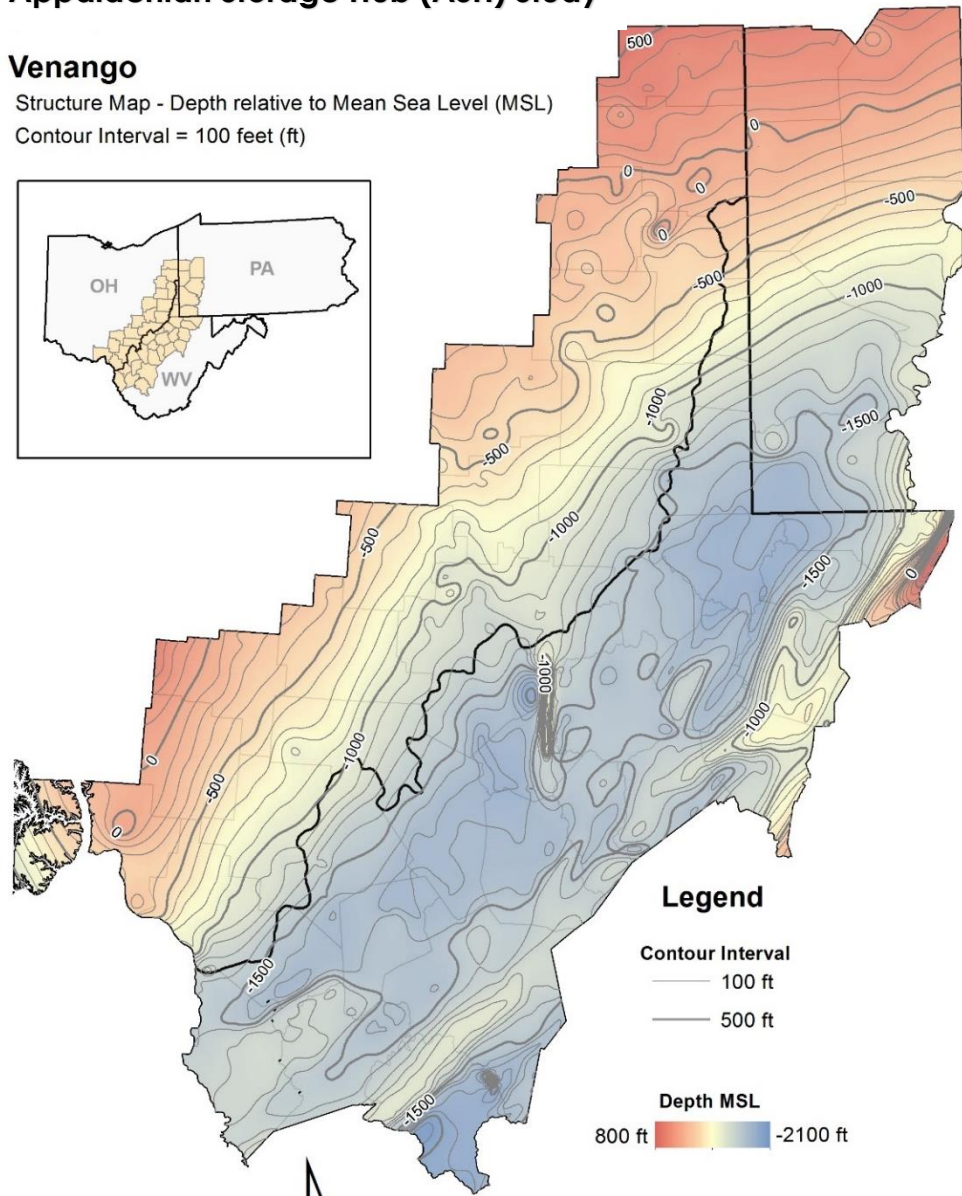
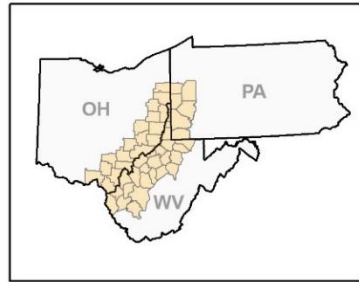




# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Venango

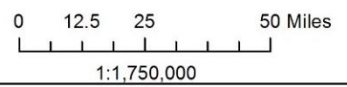
Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



### Legend

Contour Interval  
— 100 ft  
— 500 ft

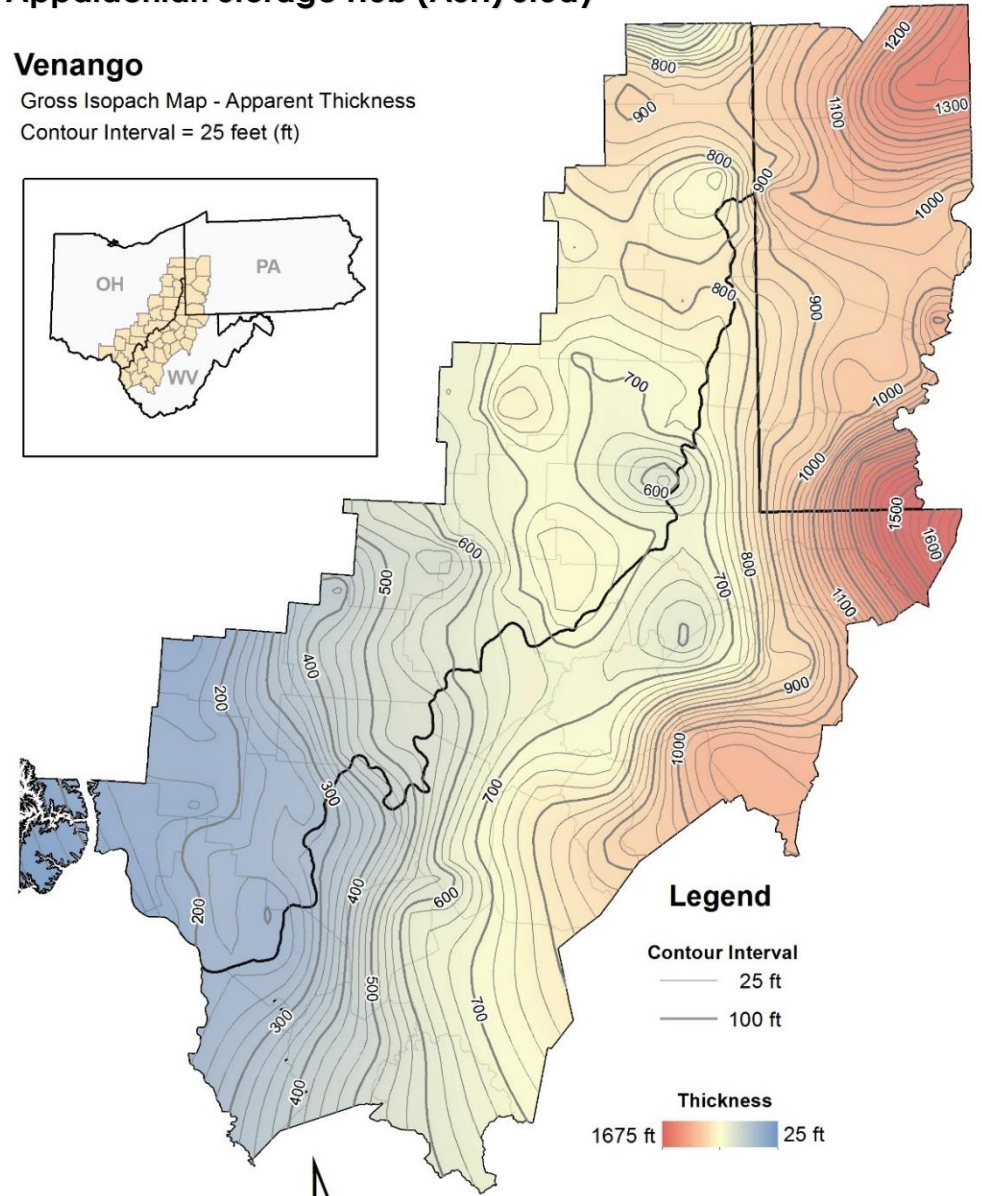
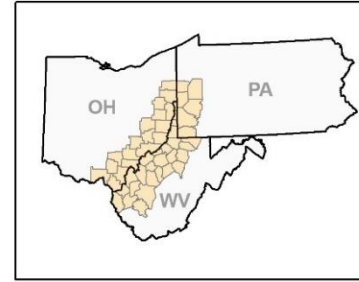
Depth MSL  
800 ft -2100 ft



# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Venango

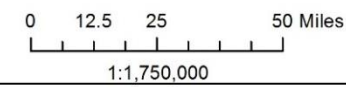
Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 25 feet (ft)



### Legend

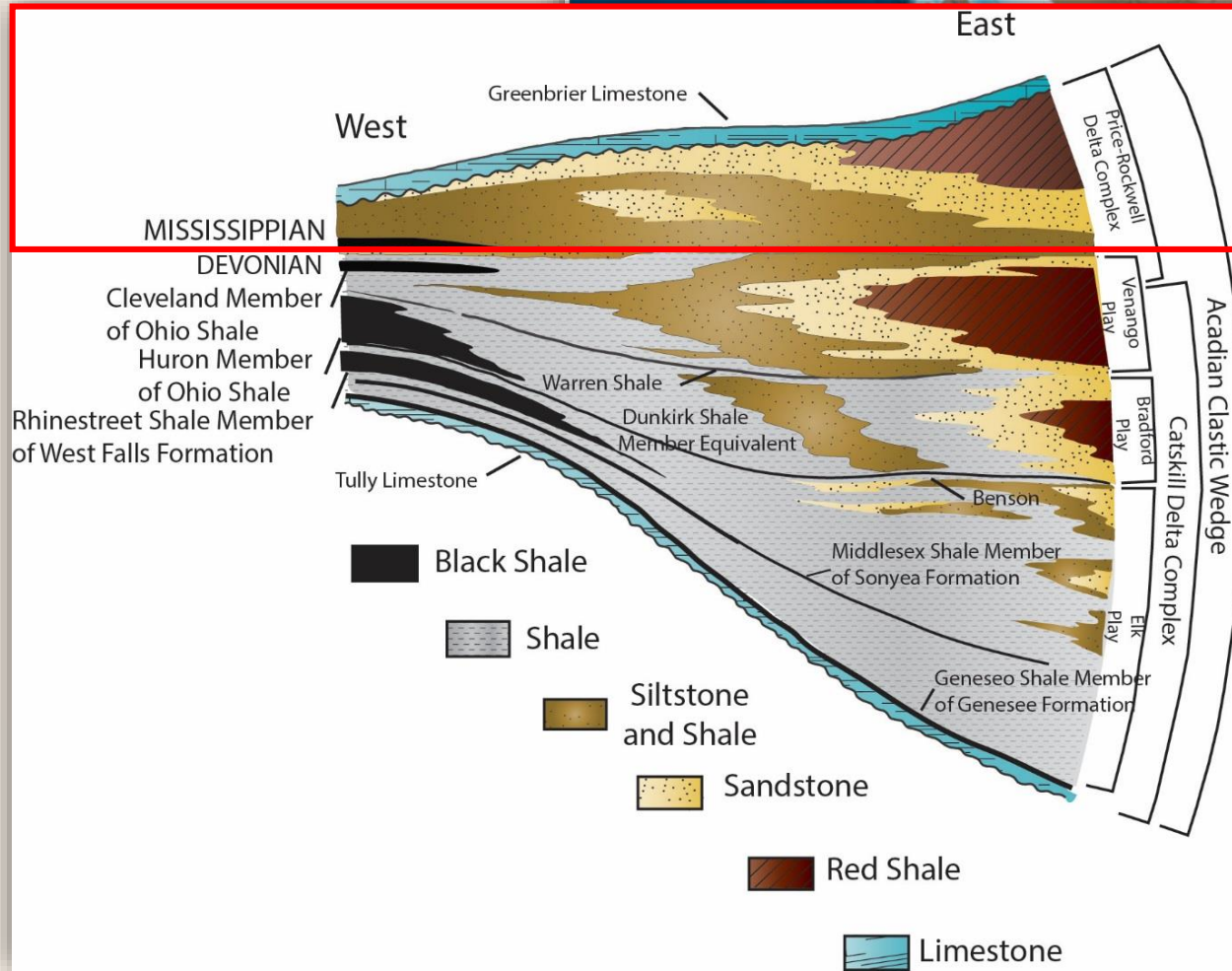
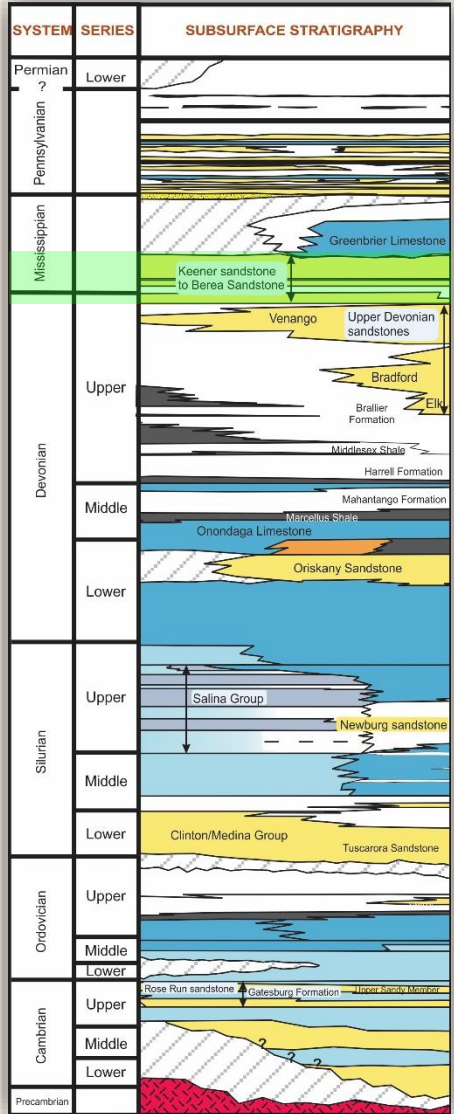
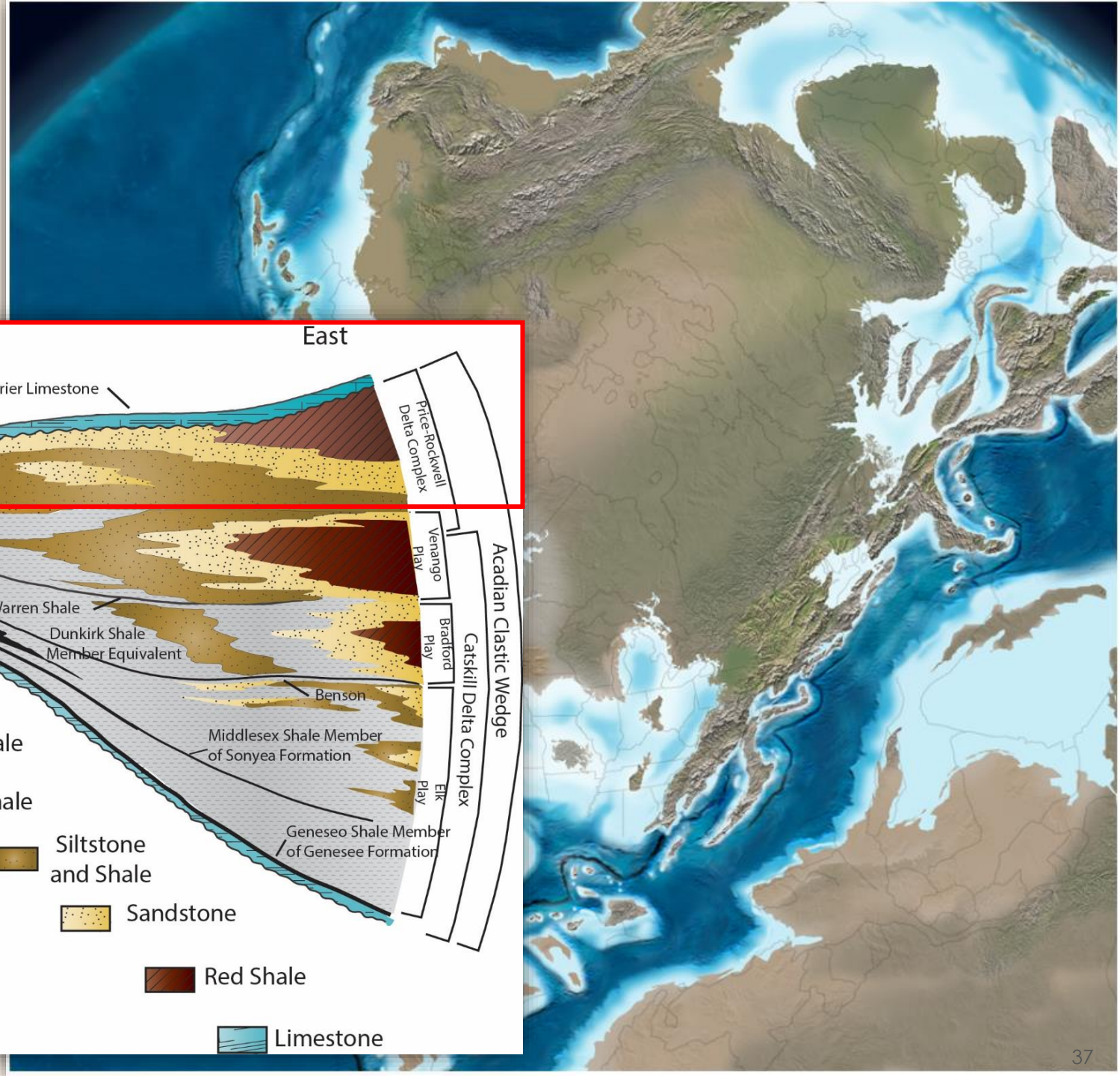
Contour Interval  
— 25 ft  
— 100 ft

Thickness  
1675 ft 25 ft





# 345 Ma Early Mississippian

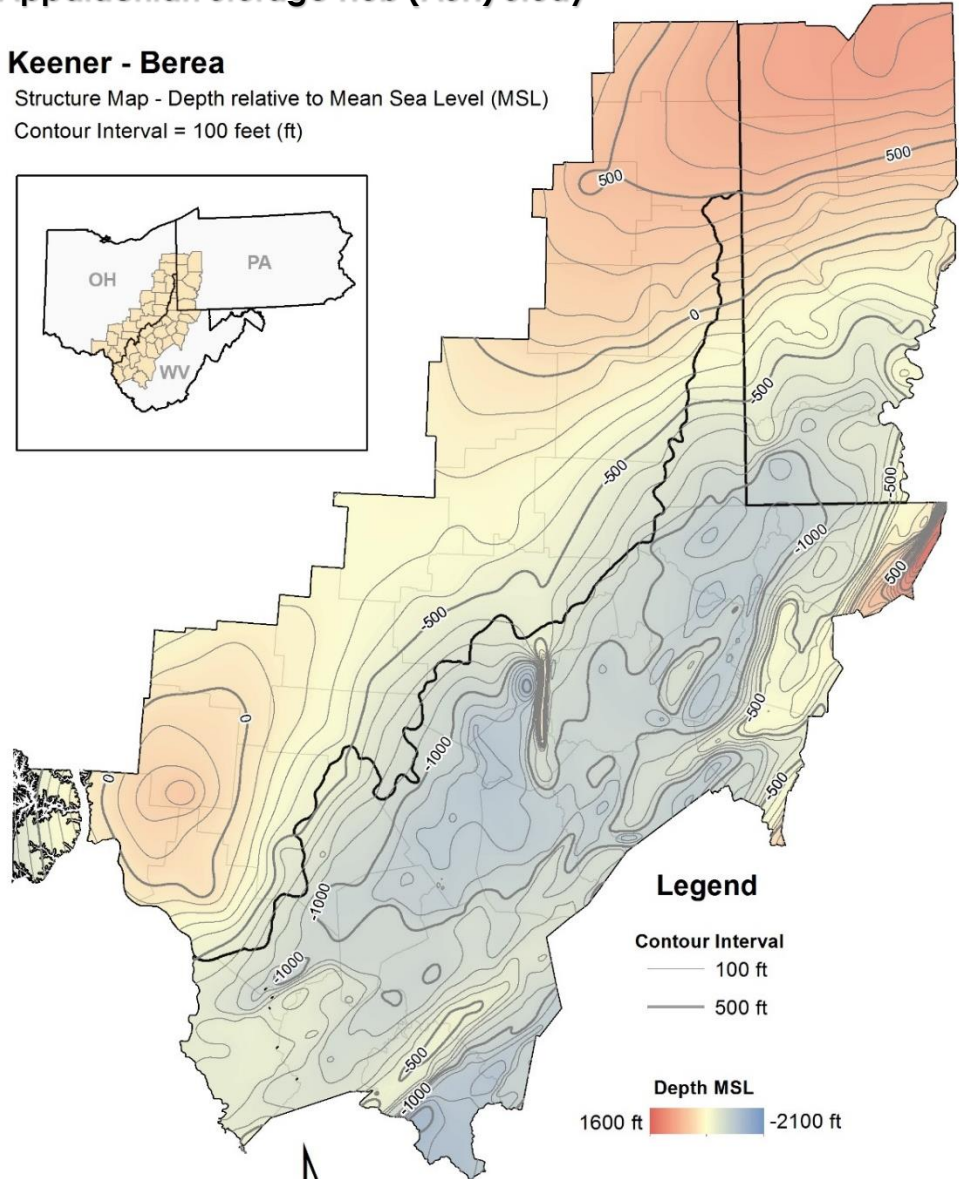
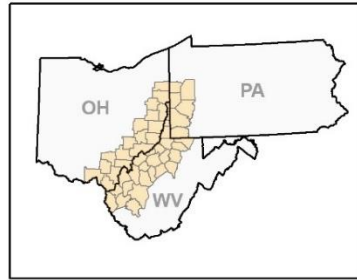




# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Keener - Berea

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



### Legend

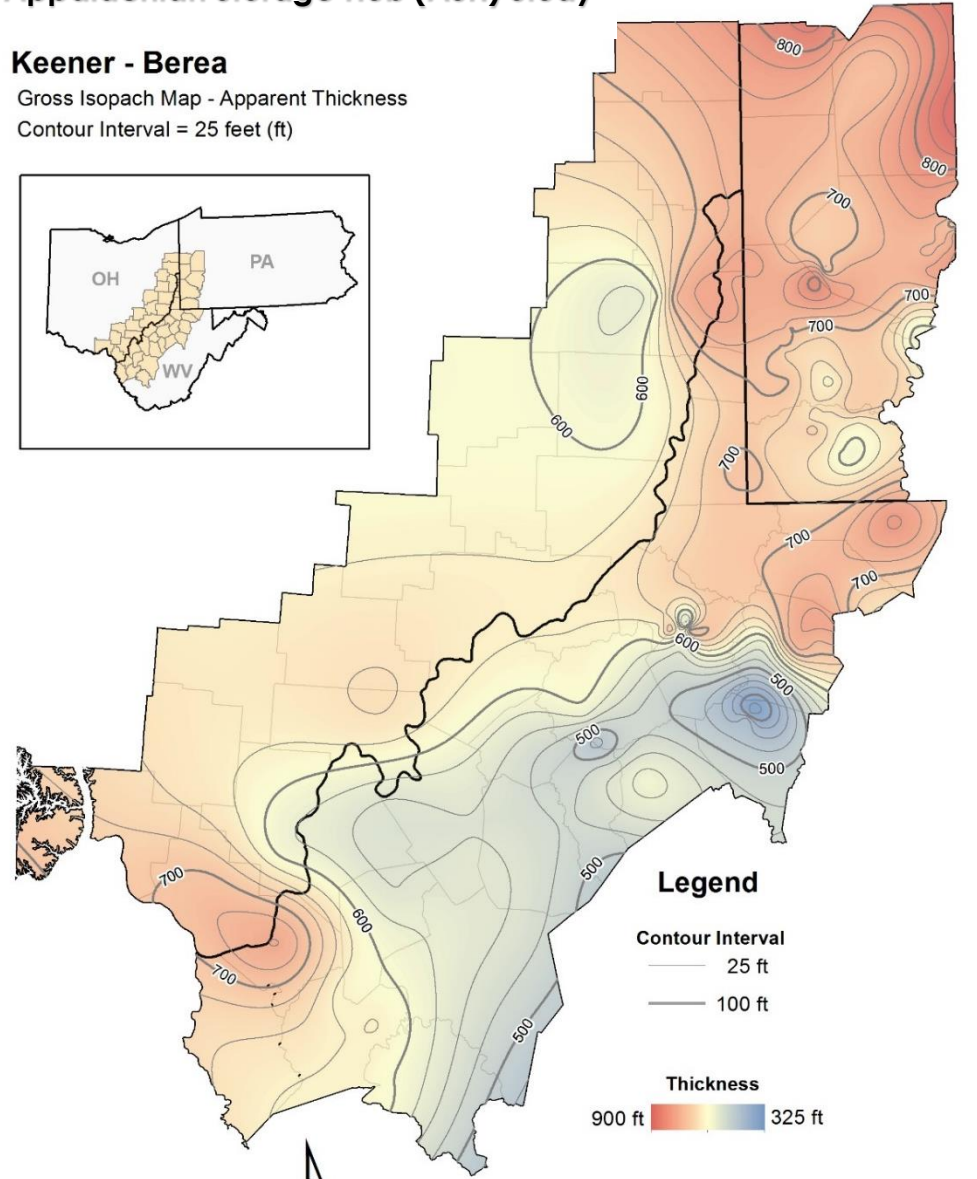
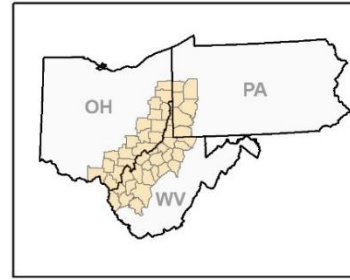
Contour Interval  
— 100 ft  
— 500 ft

Depth MSL  
1600 ft -2100 ft

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Keener - Berea

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 25 feet (ft)



### Legend

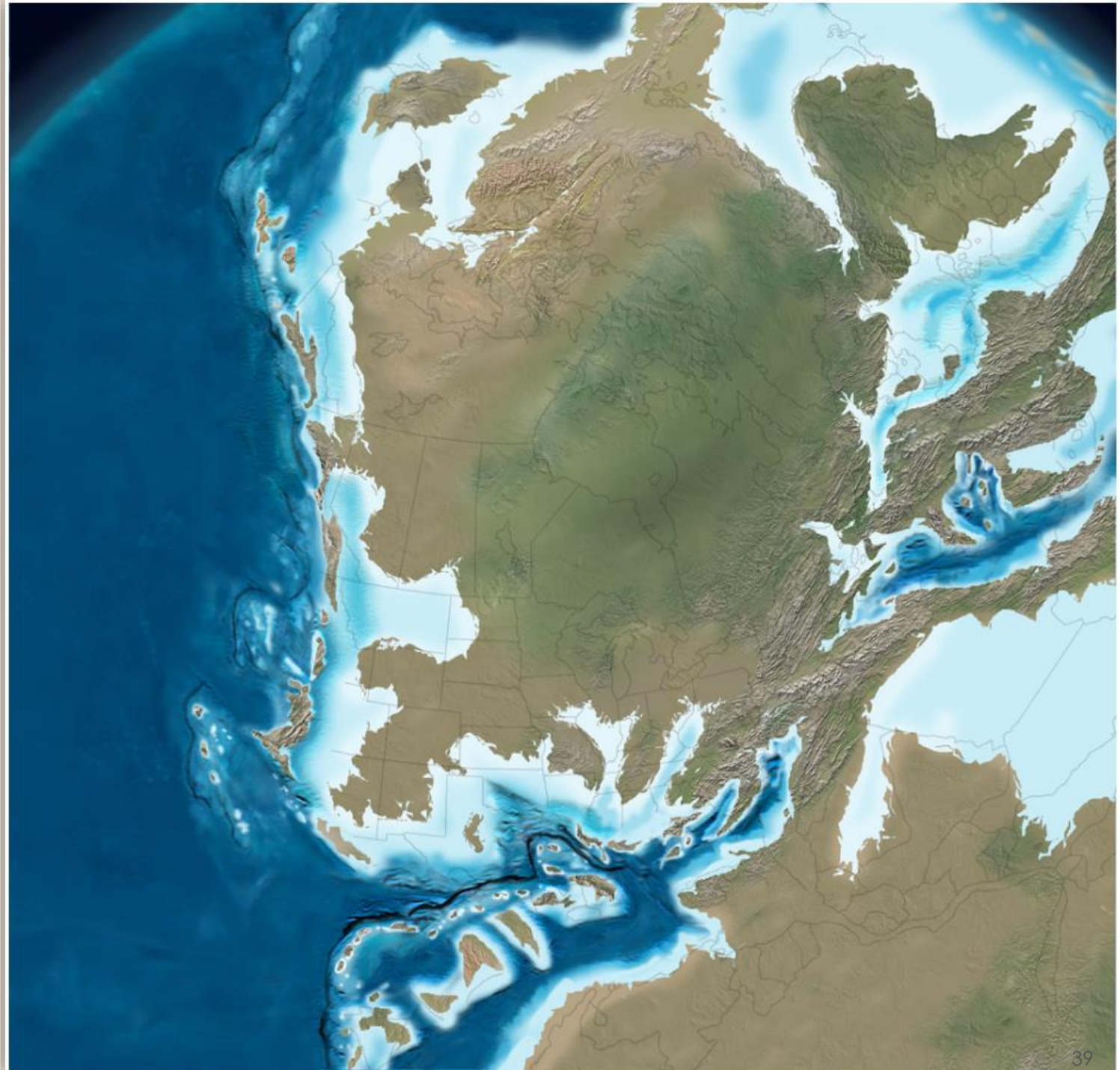
Contour Interval  
— 25 ft  
— 100 ft

Thickness  
900 ft 325 ft



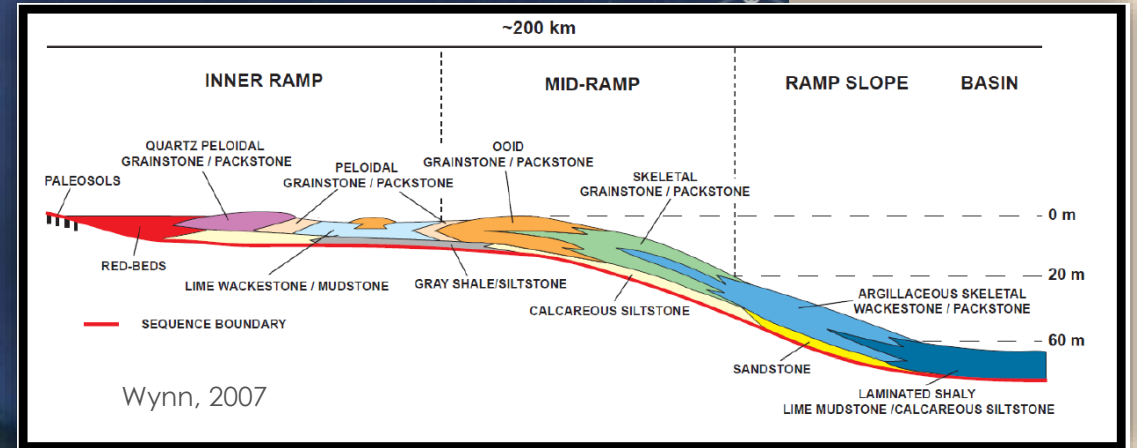
# 325 Ma Late Mississippian

| SYSTEM        | SERIES  | SUBSURFACE STRATIGRAPHY   |   |
|---------------|---------|---|---|
| Permian       | Lower   |   |   |
| Pennsylvanian |         |   |   |
| Mississippian |         | Greenbrier Limestone<br>Keener sandstone to Berea Sandstone                                   |   |
| Devonian      | Upper   | Venango Upper Devonian sandstones<br>Bradford<br>Brallier Formation<br>Elk<br>Middlesex Shale |   |
|               |         | Middle  | Harell Formation<br>Mahantango Formation<br>Marcellus Shale<br>Onondaga Limestone |
|               |         | Lower   | Oriskany Sandstone  |
|               | Sturian | Upper   | Salina Group<br>Newburg sandstone   |
|               |         |   | Middle  |
|               |         | Lower   | Clinton/Medina Group<br>Tuscarora Sandstone                                       |
| Ordovician    | Upper   |   |   |
|               | Middle  |   |   |
|               | Lower   | Rose Run sandstone<br>Galesburg Formation<br>Lincolnton/Amman                                 |   |
| Cambrian      | Upper   |   |   |
|               | Middle  |   |   |
|               | Lower   |   |   |
| Precambrian   |         |   |   |





# Modern Analog: Bahama Banks Carbonate Platform

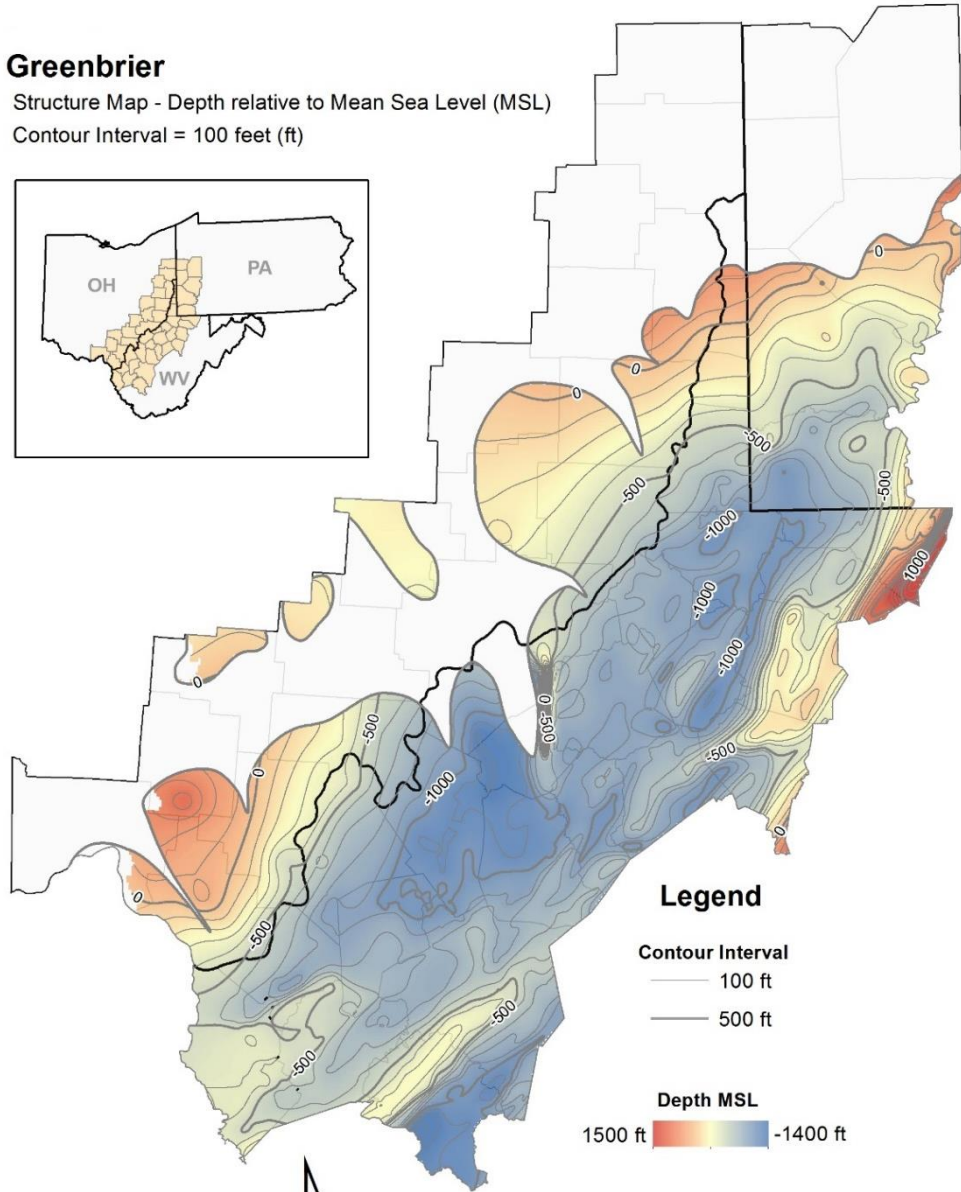
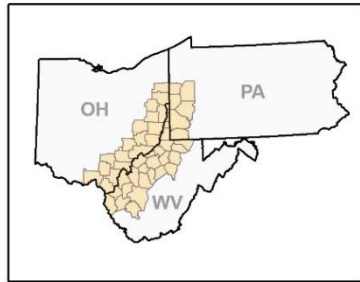




# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Greenbrier

Structure Map - Depth relative to Mean Sea Level (MSL)  
Contour Interval = 100 feet (ft)



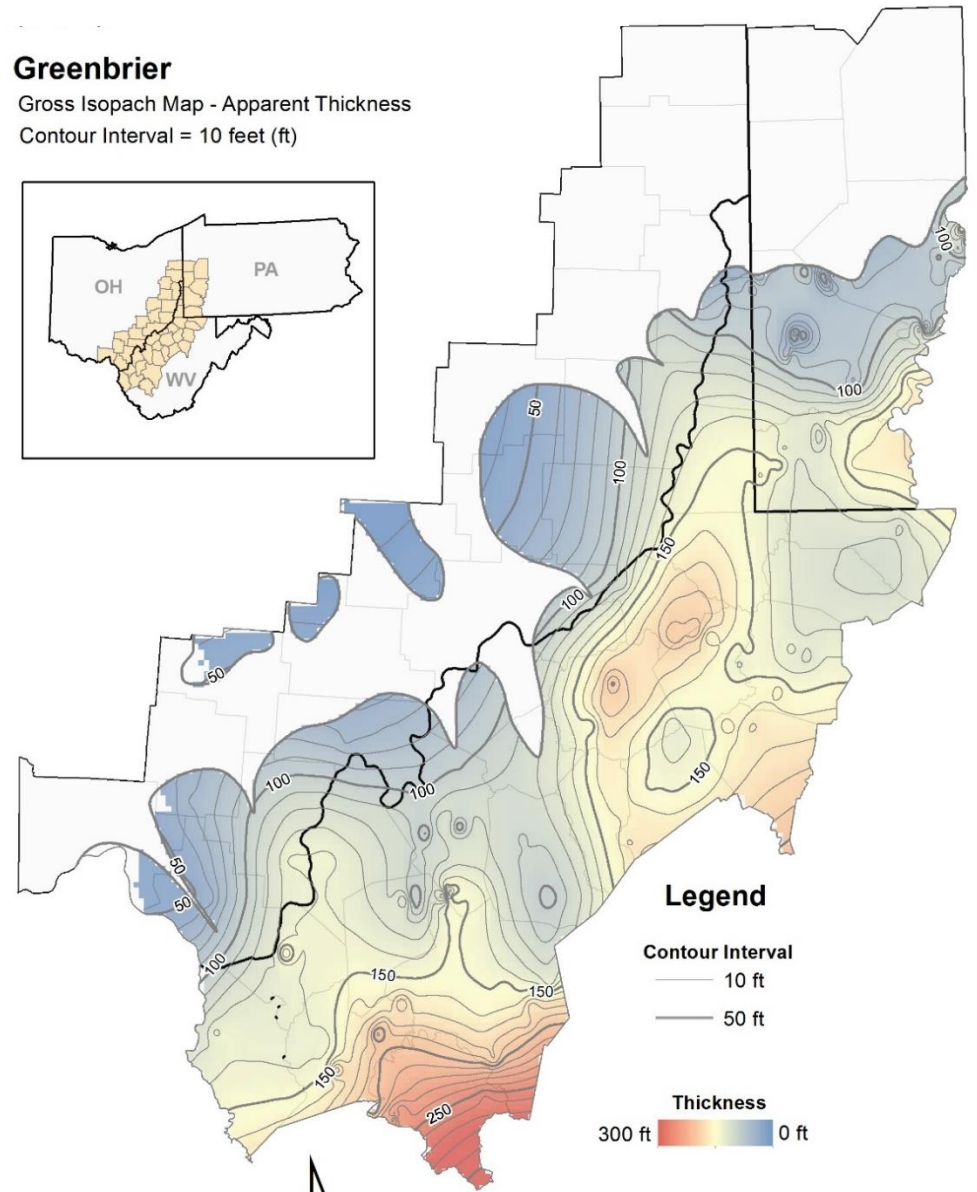
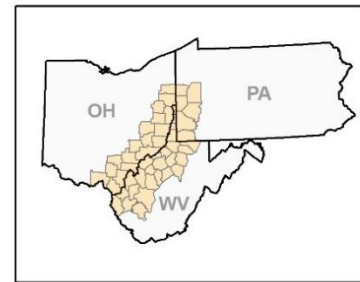
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000

# Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH) Study

## Greenbrier

Gross Isopach Map - Apparent Thickness  
Contour Interval = 10 feet (ft)

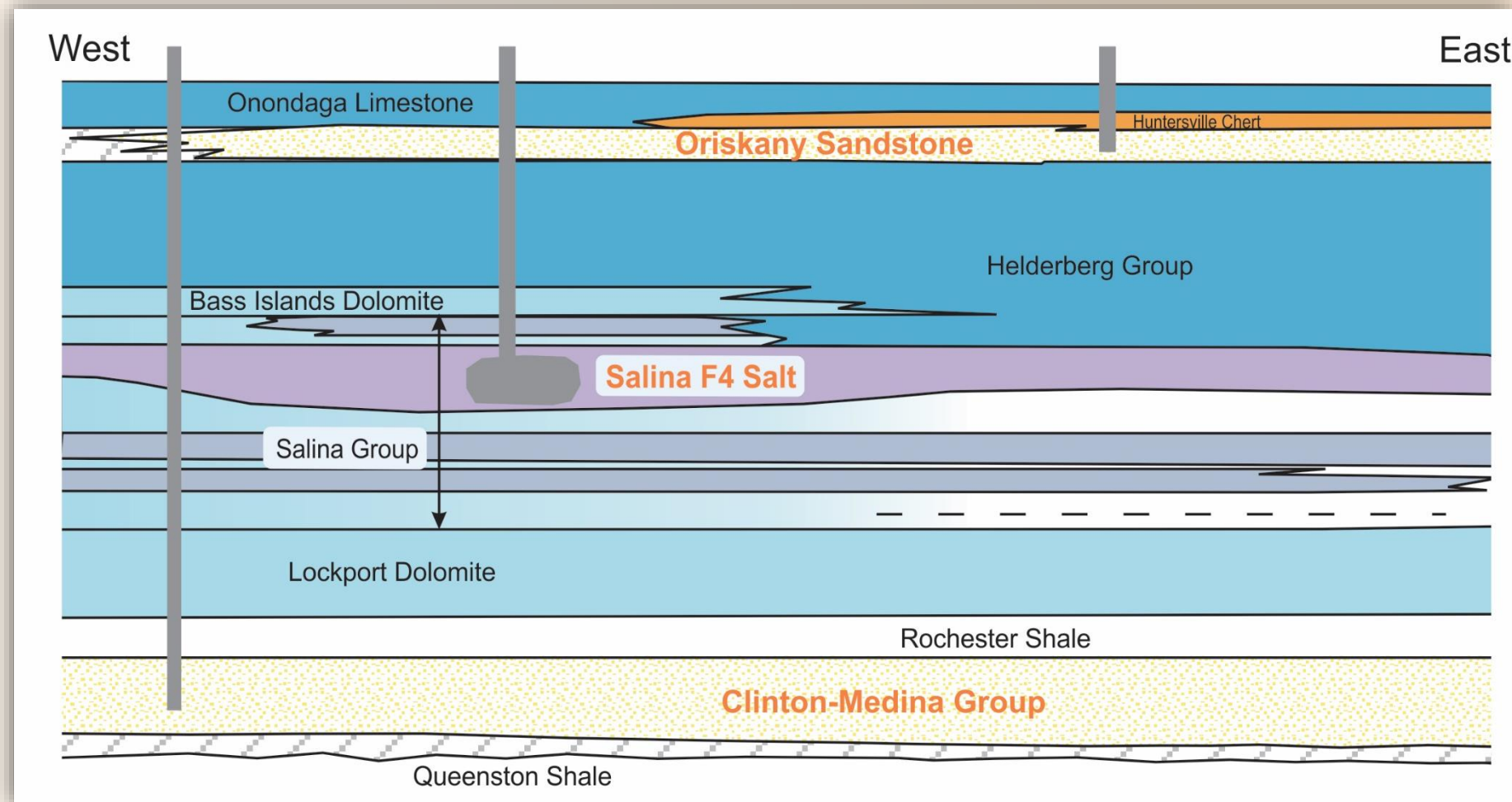


0 12.5 25 50 Miles

1:1,750,000

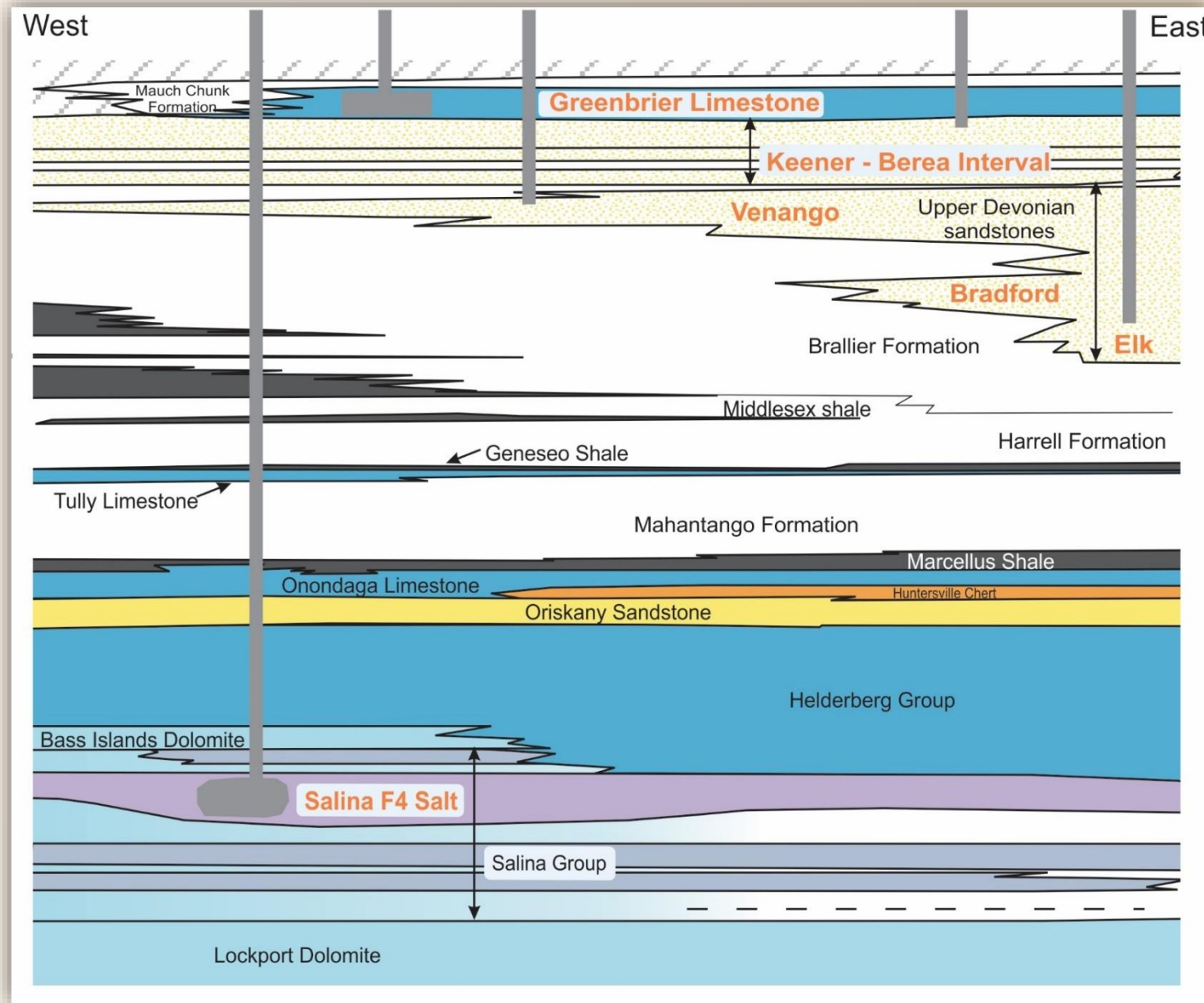
# STACKED OPPORTUNITIES: NORTHERN PROSPECT

Optimal reservoir types within each unit may (or may not) be co-located.

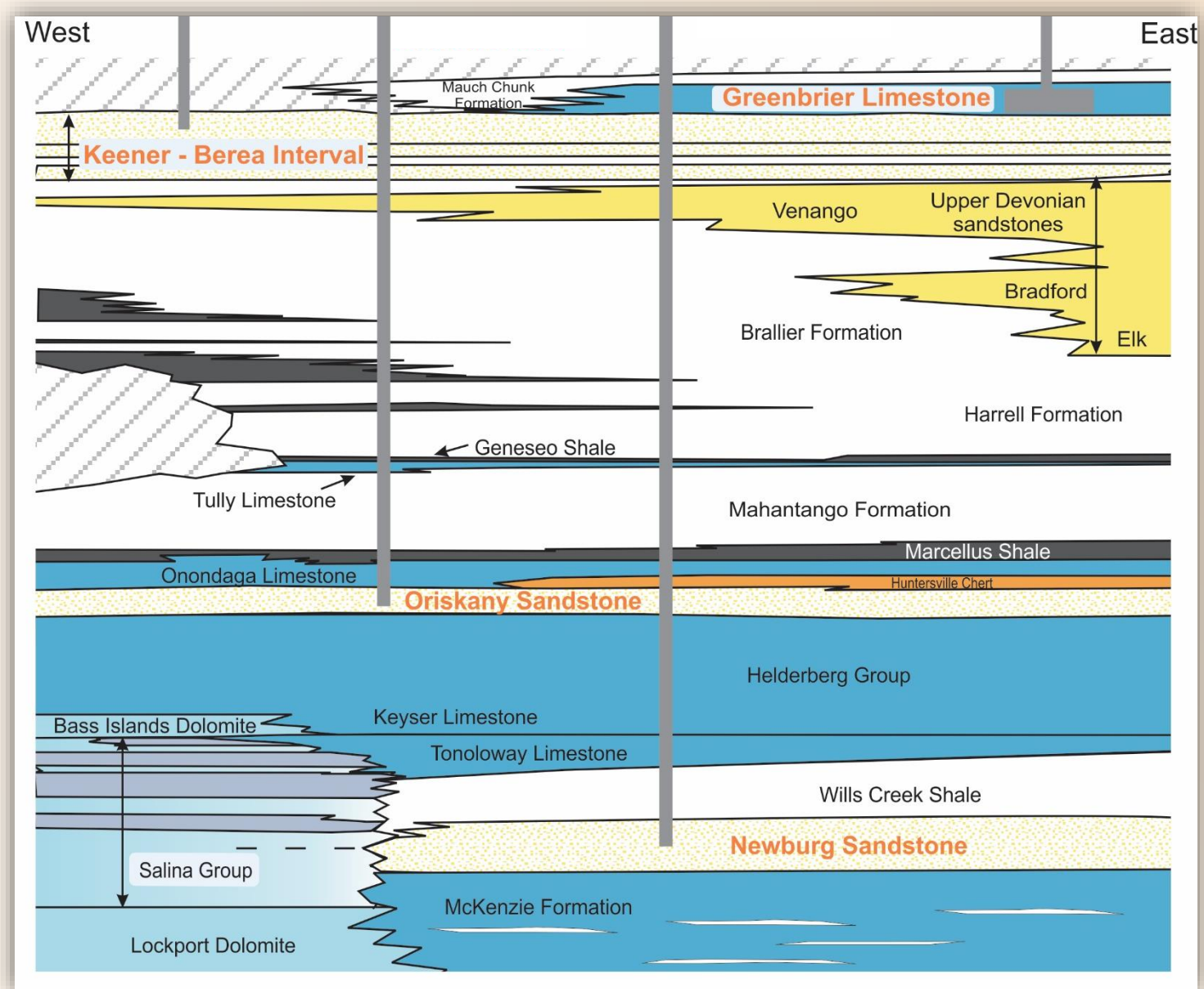




# STACKED OPPORTUNITIES: CENTRAL PROSPECT



# STACKED OPPORTUNITIES: SOUTHERN PROSPECT





# SUMMARY

- 500 million years is a long period of time and a LOT happened:
- 3 major **mountain-building events**
- **Foreland basins** captured sediments
- Older rocks **folded and faulted** over multiple episodes
- Reservoir quality dependent on many different factors
- Optimal reservoir types in the 10 units of interest may (or may not) be **co-located** above or below one another



**THANK YOU!**