

# Hydraulic Fracturing Test Site (HFTS)

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U.S. Department of Energy

National Energy Technology Laboratory

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Carbon Storage and Oil and Natural Gas Technologies Review Meeting

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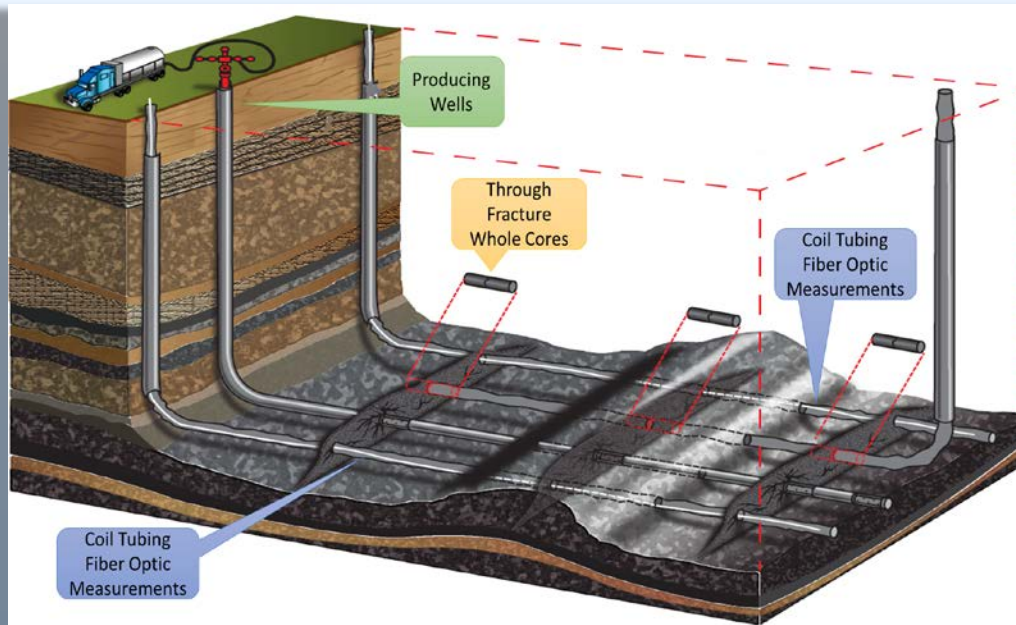
# Presentation Outline

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- HFTS Overview
- Review of Test Site Location and Details
- Project Progress
- Technical Status: Diagnostics Used to Refine Fracture Dimensions
- Accomplishments to Date
- Lessons Learned
- Synergy Opportunities
- Summary
- Appendix

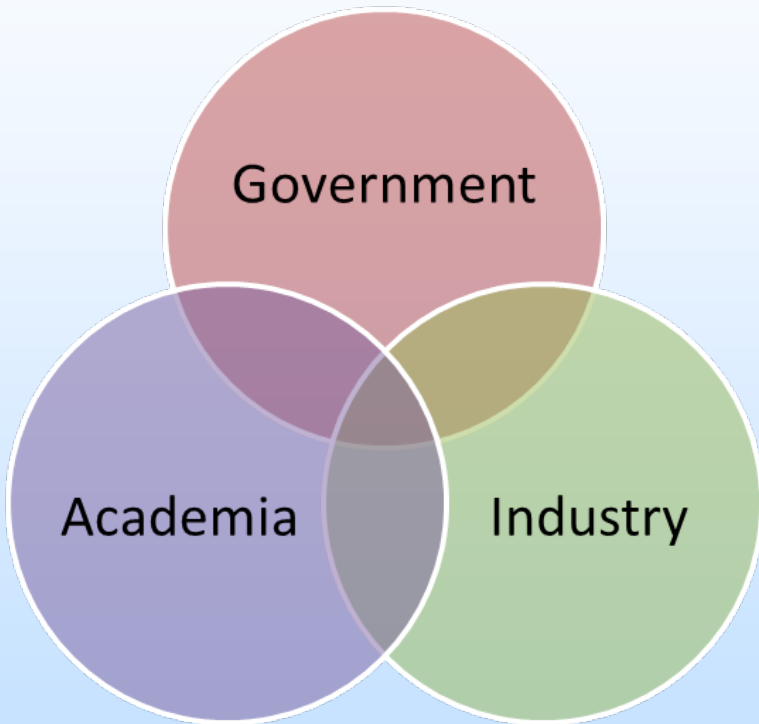
# Hydraulic Fracturing Test Site: Project Overview

Comprehensive \$25-million JIP research program



- Capture fundamental insights of fracturing process
- Acquisition of nearly 600 feet of through-fracture whole core
- Physical observation of created fractures and proppant distribution

# Public Private Partnership



- Leveraged investment in a dedicated, controlled field experiment
  - Access to producing and science wells explicitly designed for hydraulic fracturing diagnostics, environmental monitoring, data collection and technology testing
  - Use of multiple near-well and far-field diagnostics and verification with through fracture cores
  - Careful planning - staged approach to experiments
  - Access to many subject matter experts
  - Early adoption of learnings by industry participants – technology transfer
  - Balanced science and practical issues
- Data available to public upon of expiration of confidentiality period

# Test Site Location

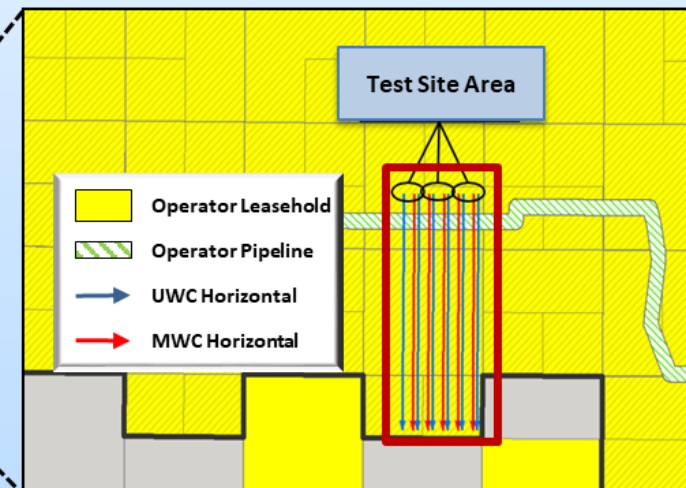
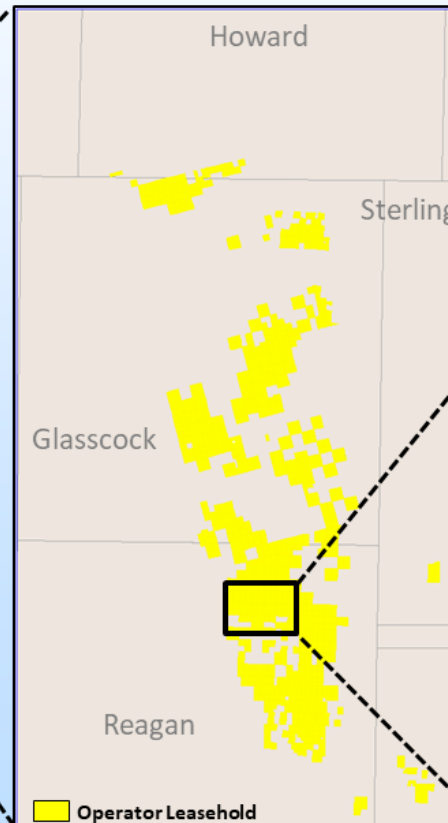
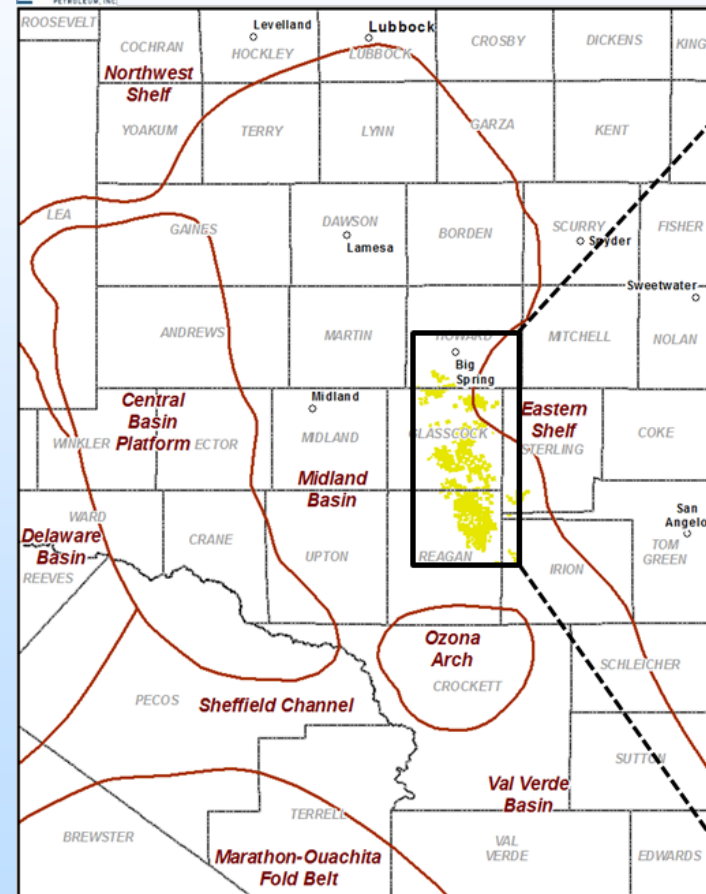
## Study Area

Permian-Midland Basin

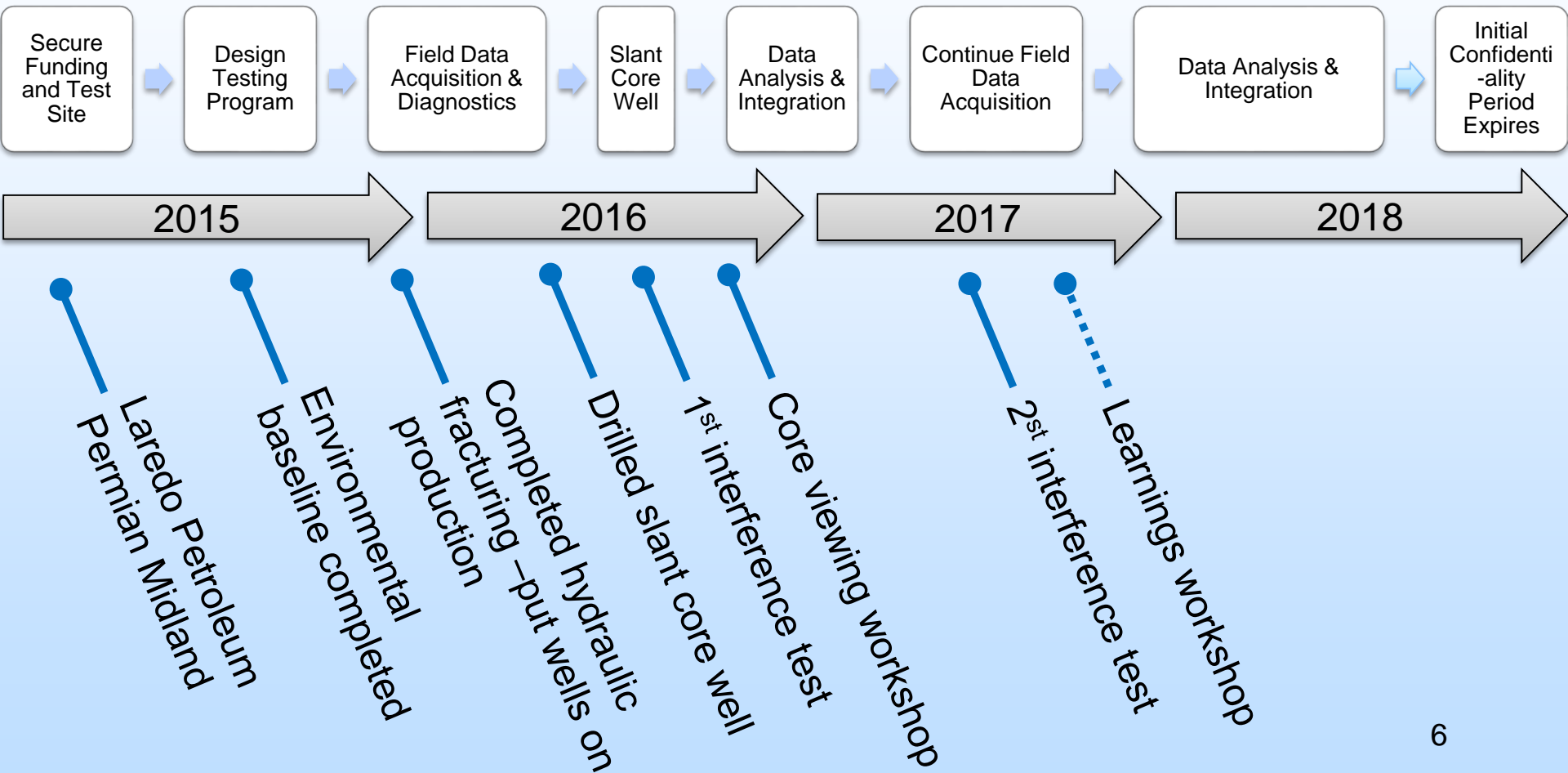
Reagan County

Upper & Middle Wolfcamp

LAREDO  
PETROLEUM, INC.



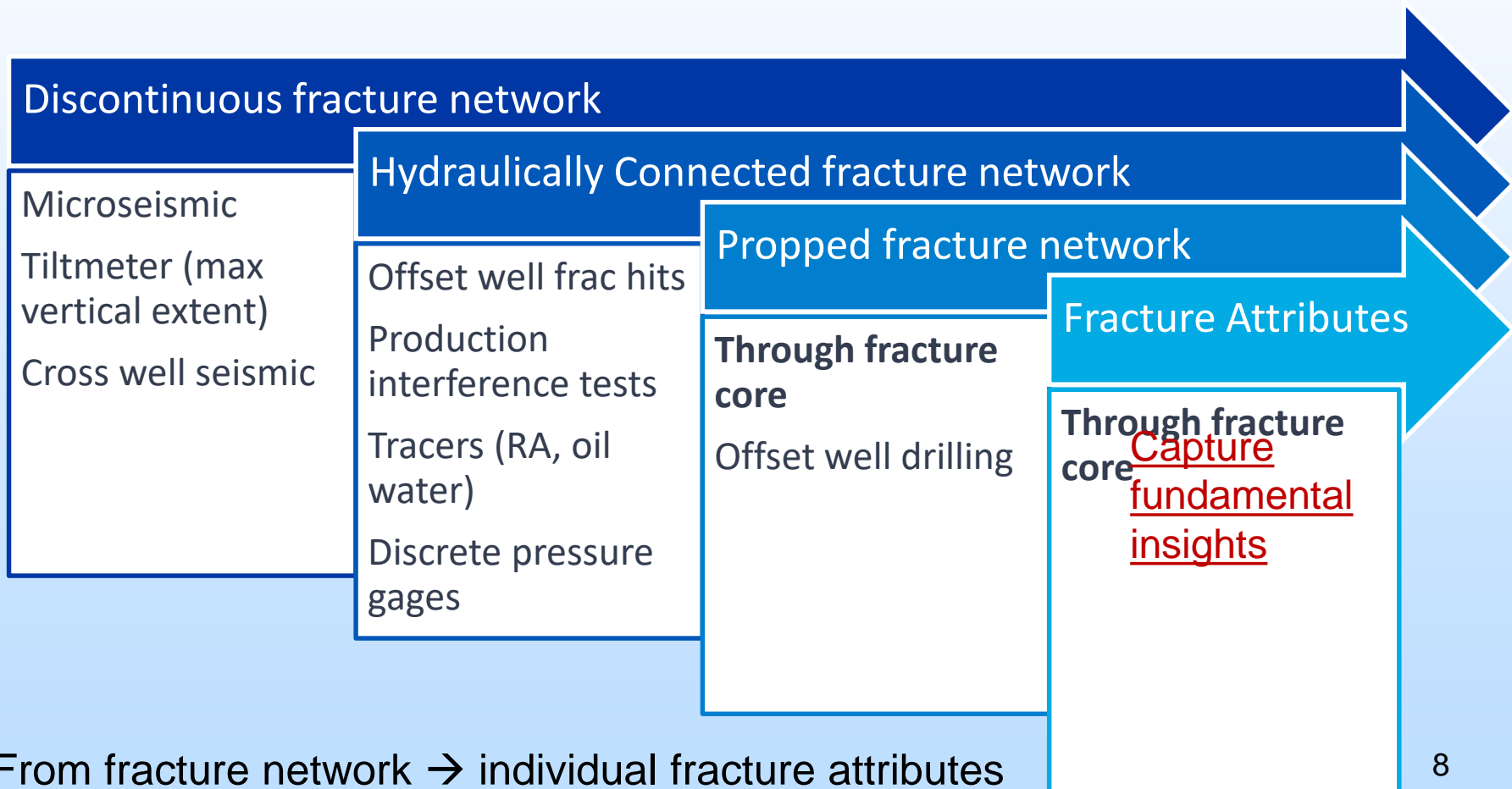
# Project Progress and Major Milestones



# Technical Status

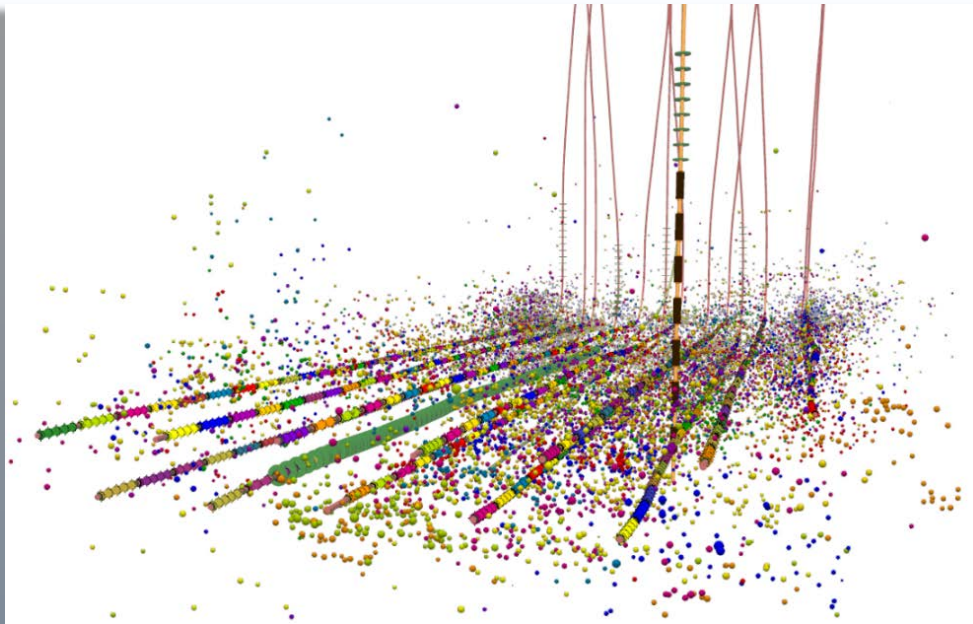
- **Diagnostics at HFTS used to refine fracture dimensions**
- Core: Capture fundamental insights of fracturing process
- Due to confidentiality limitations, will focus on what was done with examples and general conclusions

# Diagnostics at HFTS used to refine fracture dimensions





# Discontinuous fracture network



- Microseismic survey
  - Almost 400 stages monitored with dual-array (vertical and horizontal) borehole tools
  - Tools moved to reduce distance bias

- Tiltmeter
  - 7 level vertical array
  - Only 3 times the lower most tiltmeter registered any response, below 5000' TVD

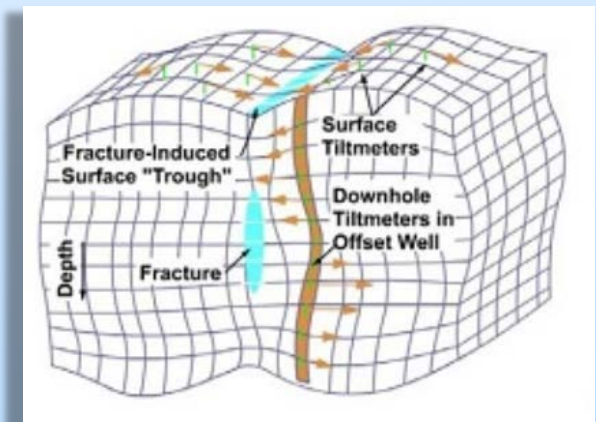
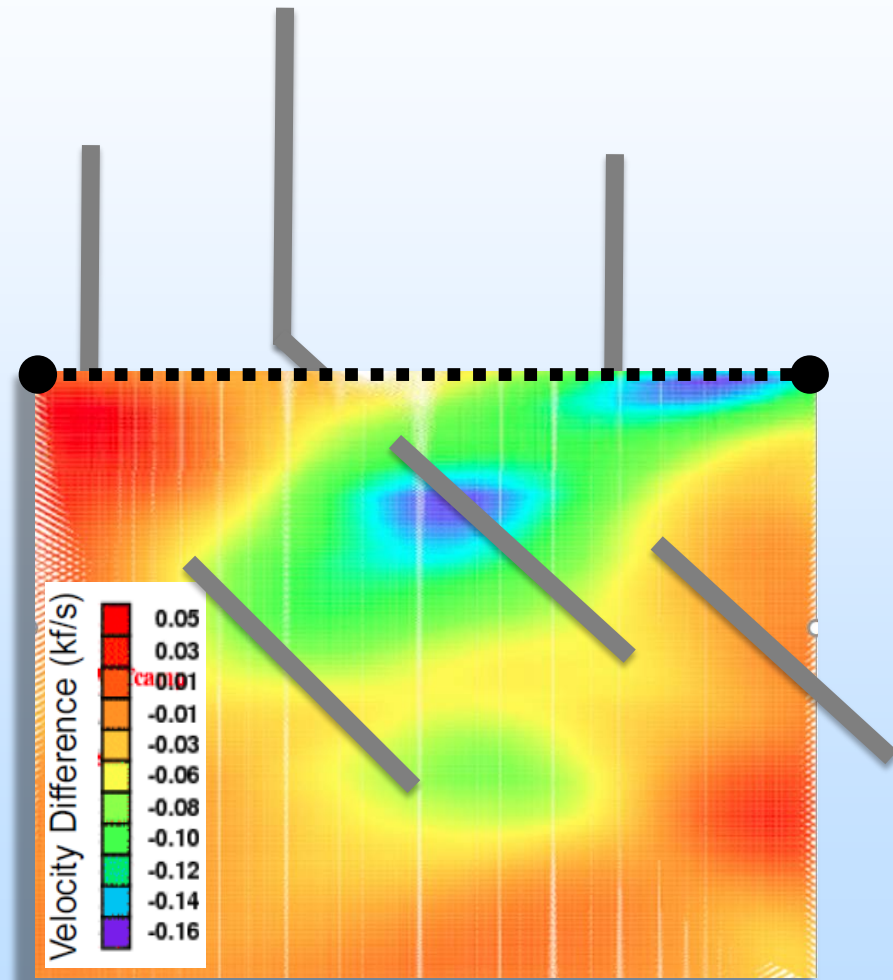
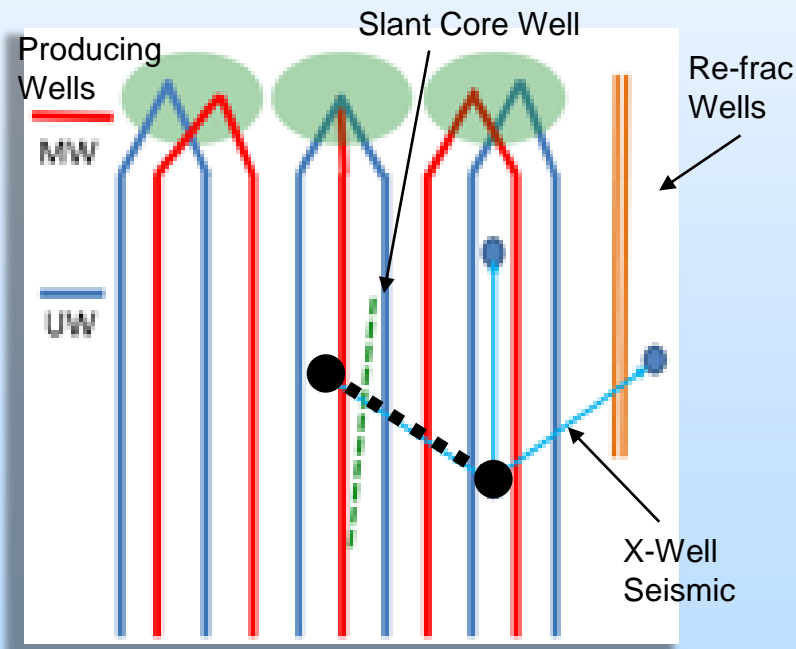


Image courtesy: Petroskills

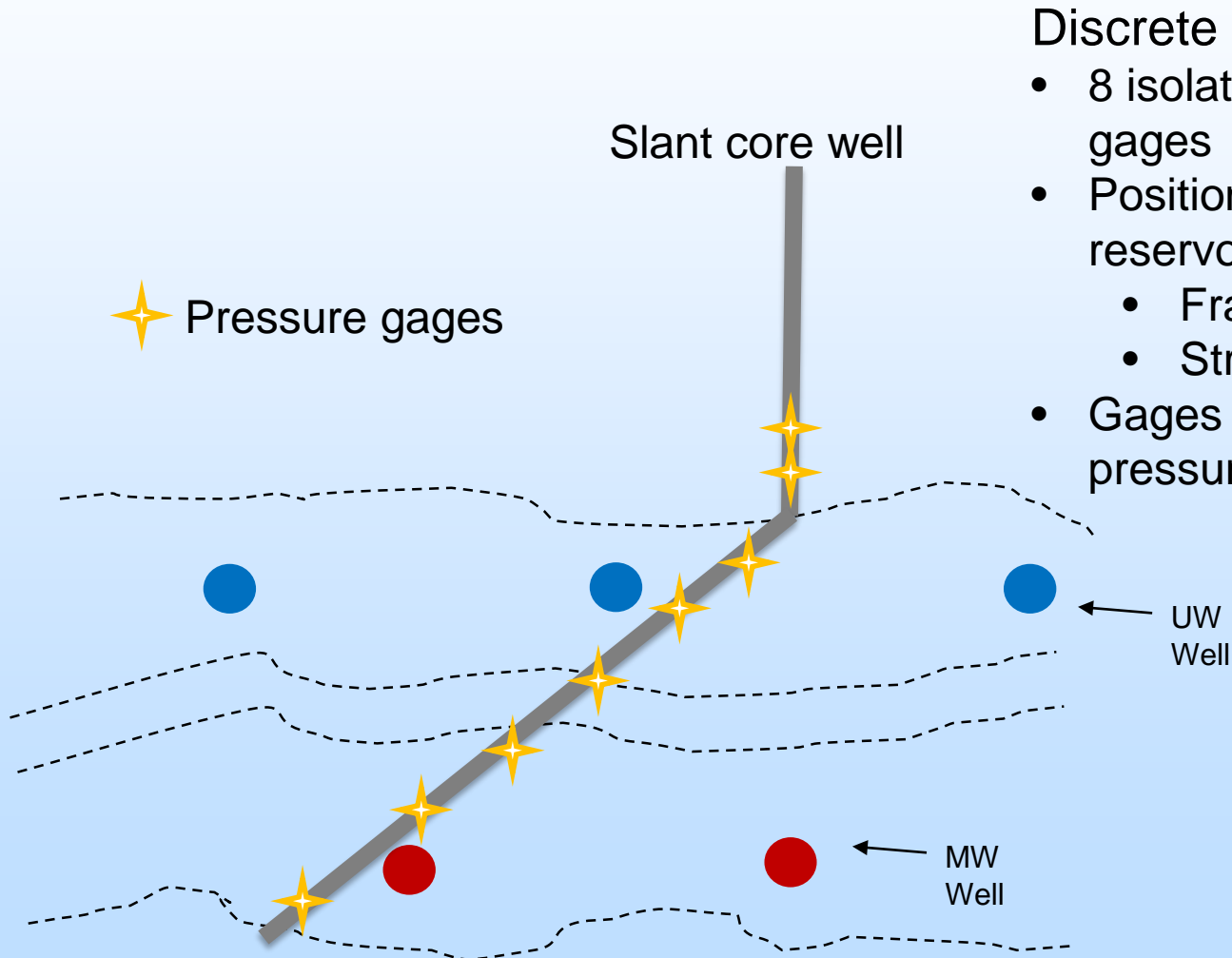
# Discontinuous fracture network

Initial and repeat X-Well seismic surveys

- 3 images: across core well, normal to fracture plane, refrac wells
- Velocity difference



# Hydraulically connected fracture network



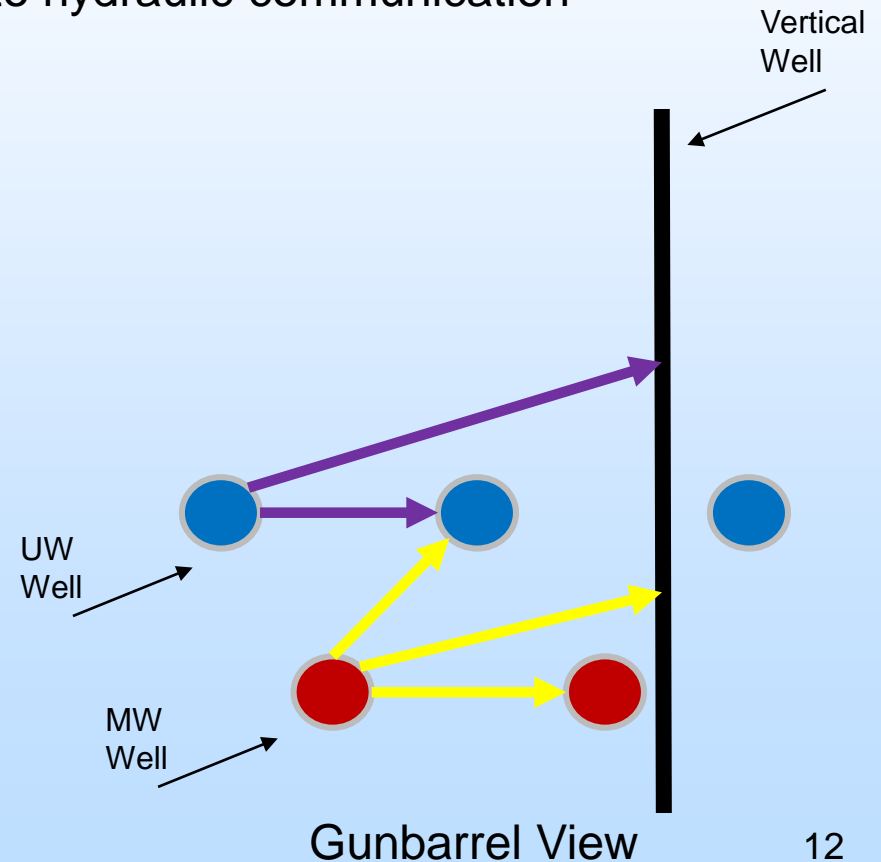
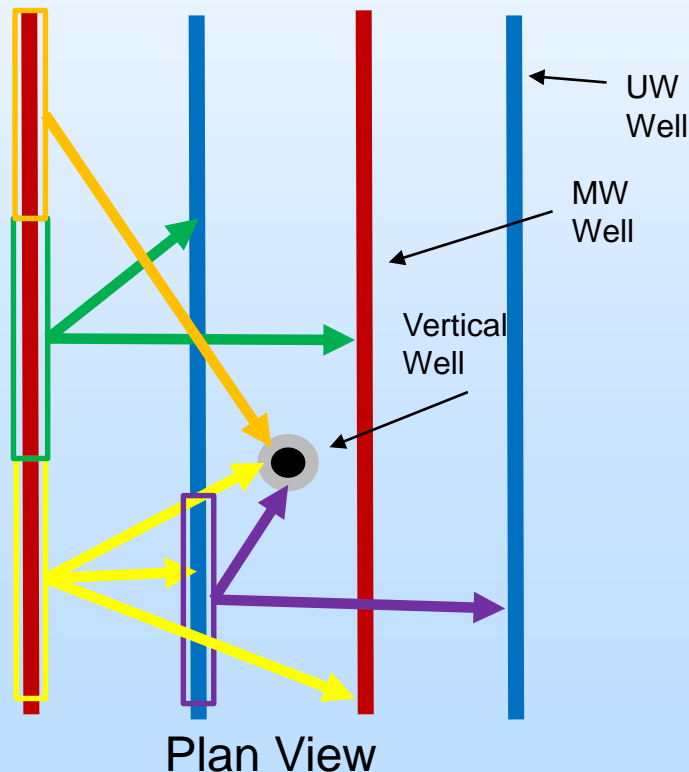
Discrete reservoir pressure gages

- 8 isolated bottom hole pressure gages
- Positioned across sections of reservoir with various attributes
  - Fracture count, type, etc.
  - Stress, etc
- Gages provide vertical and lateral pressure discrimination

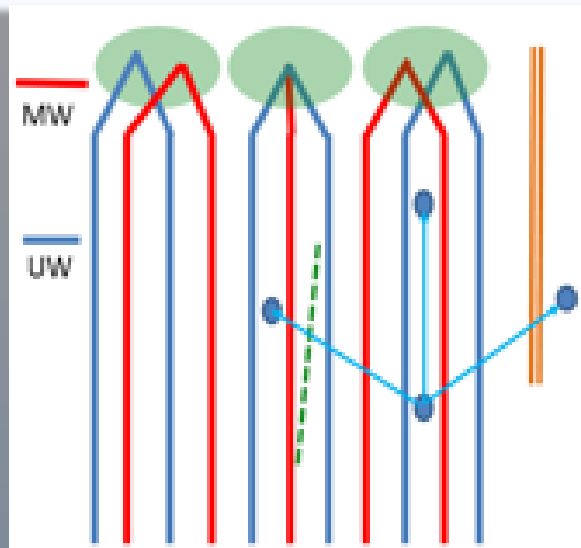
# Hydraulically connected fracture network

## Tracers

- Oil and water tracers, RA tracers
- Communication of fracturing and reservoir fluids across wells
- Long term sampling provides insight into hydraulic communication changes over time



# Hydraulically connected fracture network



## Pressure/production interference testing

- BH gages in producing wells used to detect change in pressure as offset wells are shut in/opened
- Sequence designed to determine vertical and horizontal pressure interference
- Initial and repeat tests provide insight in hydraulic communication change over time
- 1<sup>st</sup> test after 6 months, second after 18 months

	Well 1	Well 2	Well 3	Well 4	Well 5	Well 6	Well 7
Day 1	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing
Day 2	Shut In	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing
Day 3	Shut In	Shut In	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing
Day 4	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing
Day 5	Producing	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In	Producing	Producing	Producing
Day 6	Producing	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In	Producing	Producing
Day 7	Producing	Producing	Producing	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In	Producing
Day 8	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Shut In	Shut In	Shut In
Day 9	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Shut In	Shut In
Day 10	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Shut In
Day 11	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing	Producing

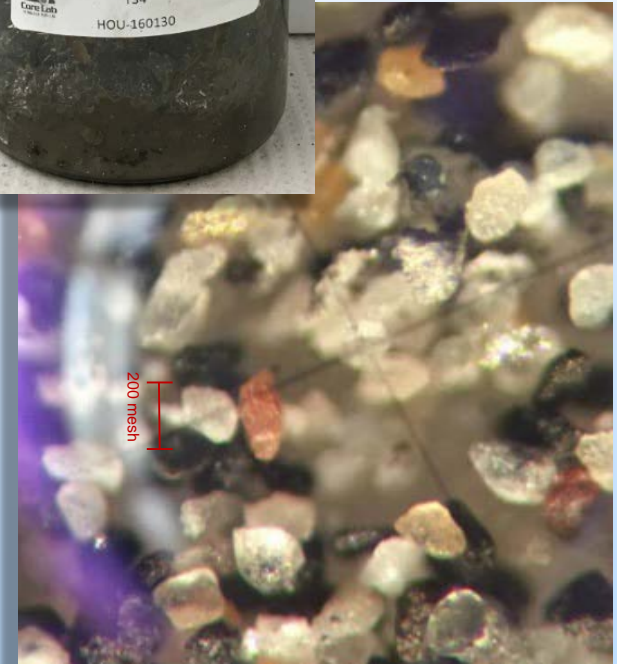
# Propped fracture network

- Developed methods for detection and quantification of subsurface proppant distribution
- Resolved spatial distribution of proppant in the created SRV along the cored interval
- Results provided insights into propped fracture dimensions, concentration, perforation cluster efficiency, impact of natural fractures on proppant transport



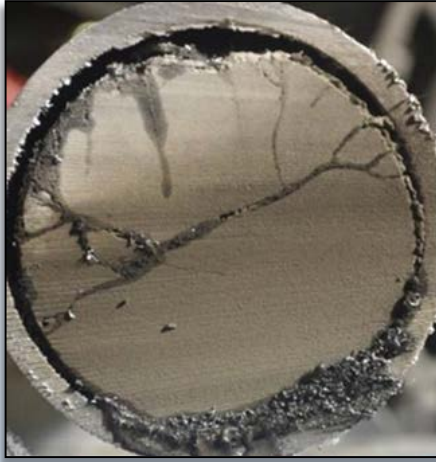
Sludge collected from core.

After washing and sieving, proppant and other particles can be identified and quantified



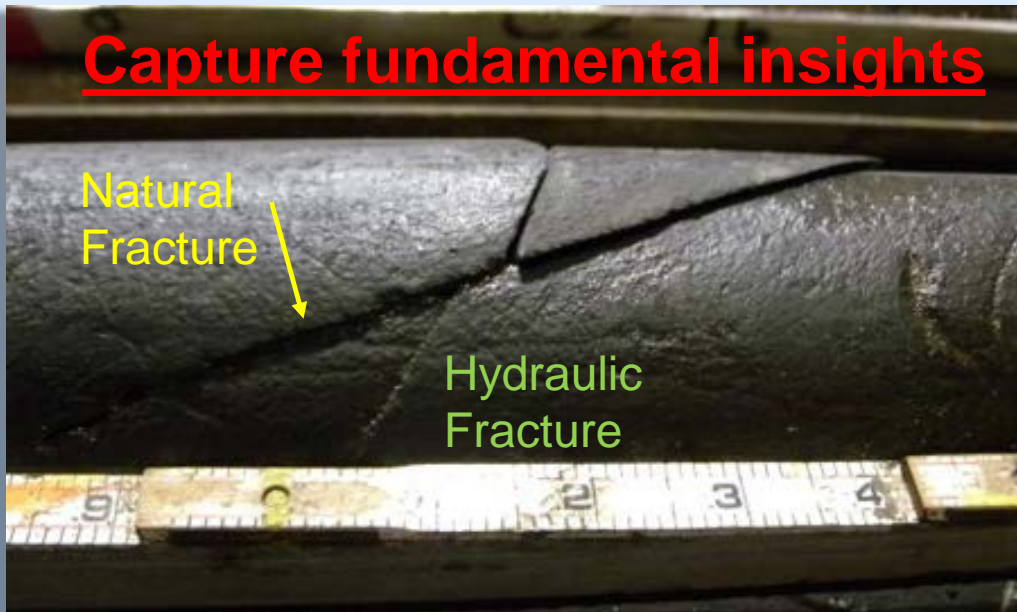


# Fracture Attributes from Core



- Type
- Occurrence
- Orientation
- Morphology
- Mineral fill
- Interactions
  - HF/NF
  - Bedding
  - Frac fluid

## Capture fundamental insights



# Accomplishments to Date

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- Formed a successful public-private partnership
- Drilled 11 new long-reach test wells, 6UW & 5MW
  - Vertical pilot below lower WC
  - Advanced OH logs and cores, 14 uDFIT's
  - Complete core analysis, petrophysics, geochem, petrography, imaging, etc.
- Completed 13 wells (2 refrac) with over 450 frac stages
  - Tracer, microseismic, and tilt-meter surveys
  - 4 toe DFIT's in cased horizontals
- Advanced open hole horizontal logs in 2 wells adjacent to core well



# Accomplishments to Date

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- Collected ~600 feet of through fracture whole core
  - CT scanned entire Core
  - Ran advanced OH – QC, Image, SG
- Ran multiple isolated pressure gages in core well to monitor reservoir pressure in multiple formations exhibiting various levels of fracturing as identified in whole through-fracture cores
- Completed detailed fracture description
- FIB-SEM
- Completed initial and repeat multi well sequential production interference test with high resolution BH pressure and temperature data

# Accomplishments to Date

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- Air and water sampling, before, during, and after completions
- 2 Fiber Optic coil tubing production logs
- BH pressure gages in all producing wells, including refracs
- Collected a before and after fracturing cross-well seismic survey
  - 3 profiles across various fracture orientations, including refrac wells
- Industry and Government involvement
  - 23 subject matter specific workshops with hundreds of attendees
  - 57 project update net-meetings/phone conferences

# Lessons Learned

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- Careful planning and operational de-risking helps ensure project tracks on budget and on time
- Multi-disciplinary teamwork critical for successful execution
- Multi agency involvement provides access to SME's and allows early adoption of learnings, leading to efficient technology transfer
- A balance between science and practical issues is key to success when collaborating with various stakeholders

# Synergy Opportunities

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- Collaborate with other NETL field test sites; in the Marcellus and Utica shale
- Access to field samples in the near future
- Continue to grow the public-private partnership to extend field data acquisition, analysis, and data integration

# Project Summary

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- We have captured fundamental insights of fracturing
- Hydraulic fractures do not grow into fresh water zones
  - No evidence of fracturing or reservoir fluids migrating into aquifer
  - Substantiated with fracture diagnostics and aquifer fluid sampling
- Propped fracture dimensions are very different from hydraulic fracture dimensions
- No impact on local air quality during hydraulic fracturing
  - Potential for elevated emissions during flowback if using open systems
- We will continue to analyze and integrate various datasets to get a deeper understanding of the fracturing process

# Appendix

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- These slides will not be discussed during the presentation, **but are mandatory.**

# Benefit to the Program

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- The research project is focused on **environmentally prudent development of unconventional resources & enhanced resource recovery**.
- The HFTS is a collaborative, comprehensive hydraulic fracturing diagnostics and testing program in horizontal wells at a dedicated, controlled field-based site. The program emulates the field experiments DOE/NETL and GRI performed in vertical wells in the 1990s (Mounds, M-Site, SFEs). Technology has since advanced into long horizontal, multi-stage shale wells creating a new set of challenges and unanswered questions. HFTS will conduct conclusive tests designed and implemented using advanced technologies to adequately characterize, evaluate, and improve the effectiveness of individual hydraulic fracture stages. Through-fracture cores will be utilized to assess fracture attributes, validate fracture models, and optimize well spacing. When successful, this will lead to fewer wells drilled while increasing resource recovery.

# Project Overview

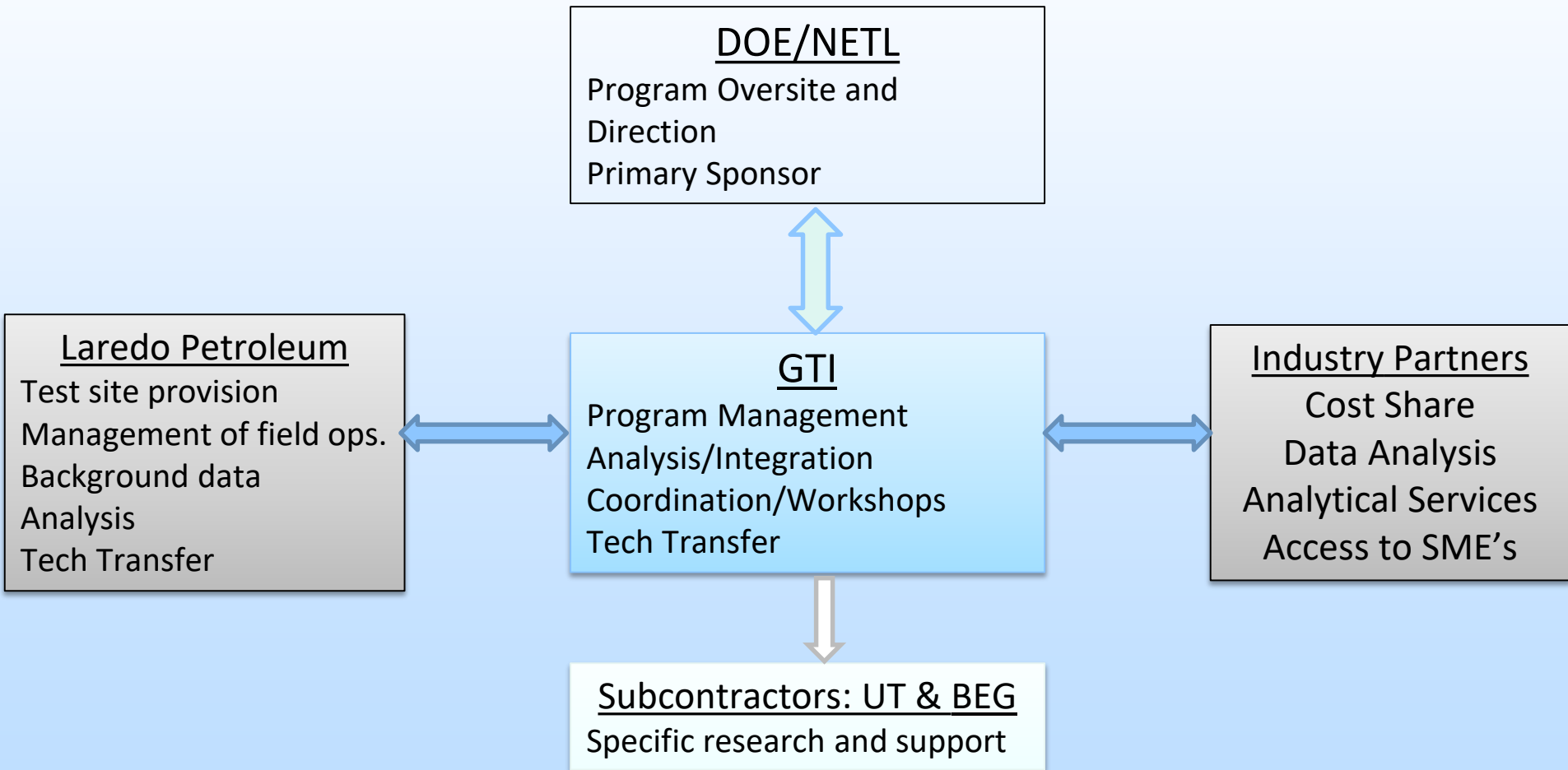
## Goals and Objectives

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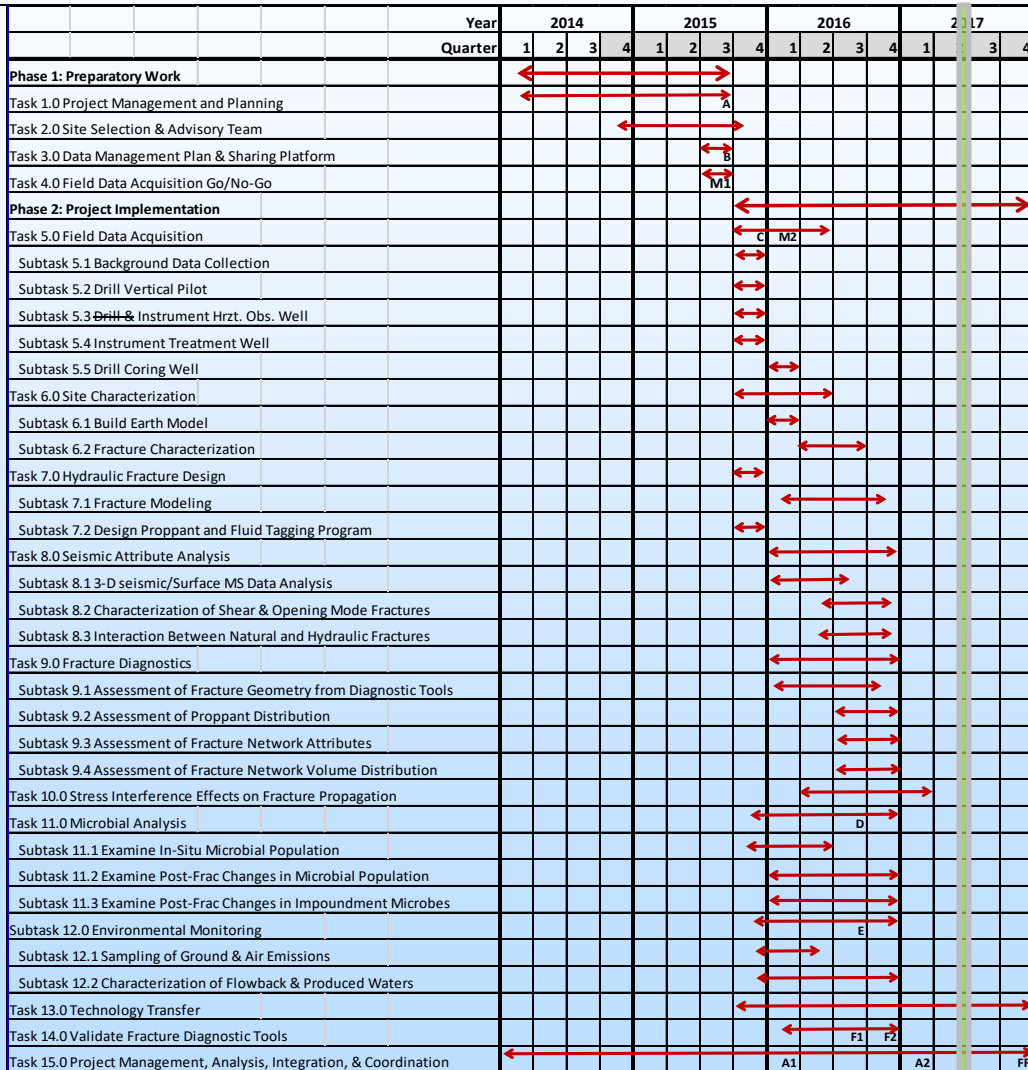
- The primary goal of the HFTS is to minimize current and future environmental impacts by reducing number of wells drilled while maximizing resource recovery.
- Objectives
  - Assess and reduce air and water environmental impacts
  - Optimize hydraulic fracture and well spacing
  - Improve fracture models
  - Conclusively determine maximum fracture height



# Organization Chart



# Gantt Chart



Milestones & Deliverables	
A	Project Management Plan
B	Data Management Plan & Data Sharing Platform
M1	Go/No-Go Decision Point
M2	Complete Hydraulic Fracturing Field Data Acquisition and Put Wells on Production
C	Technology Test & Verification Plan
D	Topical Report on Microbial Population Changes
E	Topical Report on Environmental Monitoring
F1, F2	Technical Reports on Fracture Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Analysis
A1, A2	Annual Report
FR	Final Report

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- James Courtier, Karen Chandler, Danny Gray, Shaun Martin, Randy Thomas, Joe Wicker, Jordan Ciezobka, (2017) Best Practices in Designing and Executing a Comprehensive Hydraulic Fracturing Test Site in the Permian Basin, URTeC: 2697483
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# Acknowledgements

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Images Courtesy: DOE/NETL, Laredo, GTI

