Example Play Fairways: Geothermally-powered Direct Air Capture + Storage

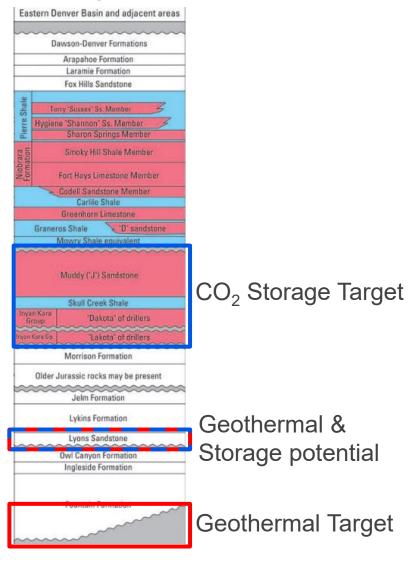
PM: Amy Lang PI: Aubrey Collie



Map symbol explanation

- Low Risk Geothermal Fairway
- Moderate Risk Geothermal Fairway
- High Risk Geothermal Fairway
- S CO₂ Storage Fairway with storage formation names
- Example GDAC Facility
- Example CO₂ Storage Facility
- Example CO₂ pipeline

Example Stratigraphic Column





Texas Gulf Coast Sedimentary Geothermal Fairway

Geothermal Targets:

Sedimentary: Frio, Wilcox, Smackover, Norphlet, and other formations.

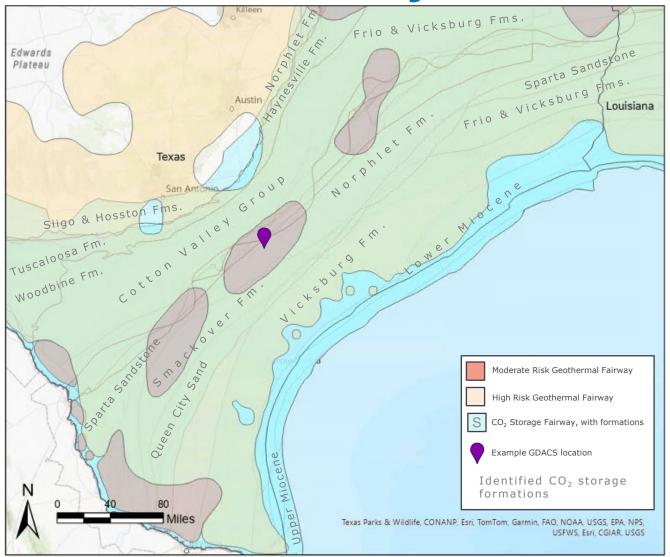
Geothermal gradient: 30-60°C/km

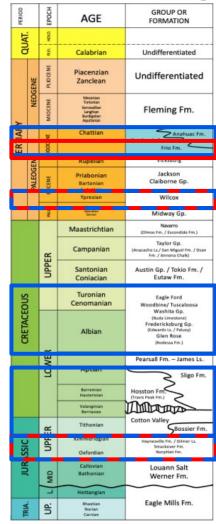
Target Depth: >km

A key element of gulf coast sedimentary geothermal plays are areas of significant overpressure, enhancing fluid flow and delivery of heat to power generation facilities.

Storage Targets:

There are at least a dozen potential carbon storage formations and at least that many storage fairways along the Texas Gulf Coast, with billions of tonnes of storage targeted for appraisal and derisking over the next decade. (Roberts-Ashby et al, 2014)





Generalized Texas Gulf Coast stratigraphy, from Wisian et al, 2023



Washington & Oregon Basalt Storage

Geothermal Target:

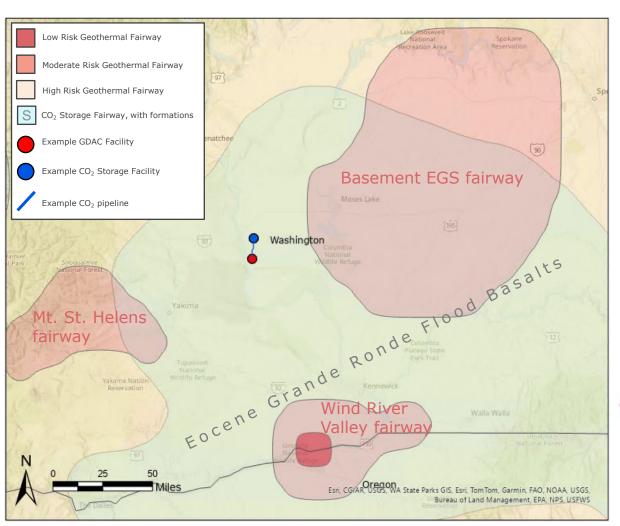
Basement EGS with potential for hydrothermal systems in the Mt. St. Helens and Wind River Valley areas (Forson et al, 2015).

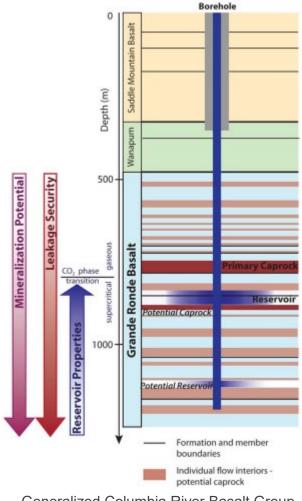
Geothermal gradient: 30-35°C/km (GeoMap)

Target Depth: 5-7 km

Storage Target:

Porous flood basalts within the Grande Ronde formation may be able to store hundreds of gigatons of CO₂ via both mineralization and conventional structural and capillary trapping. (Cao et al, 2023; McGrail, 2011)





Generalized Columbia River Basalt Group stratigraphy at the Wallula test site, from Zakharova et al. 2012.



West Virginia

Geothermal Target:

EGS: Basement

Sedimentary: Tuscarora

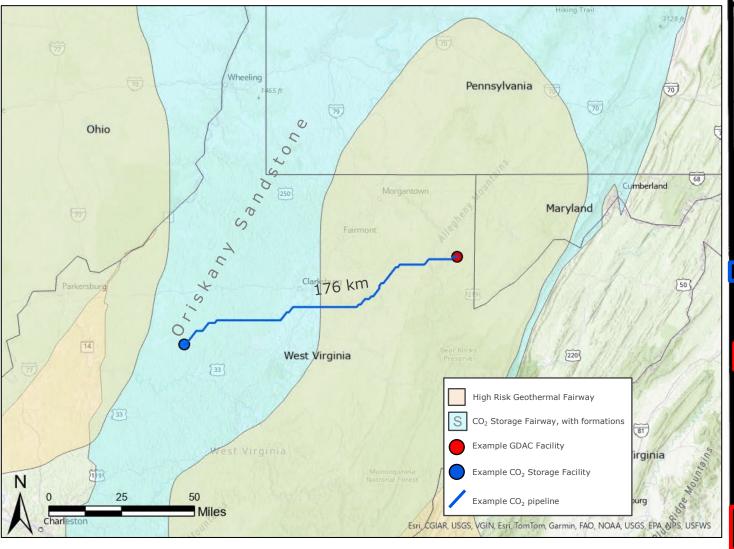
Sandstone

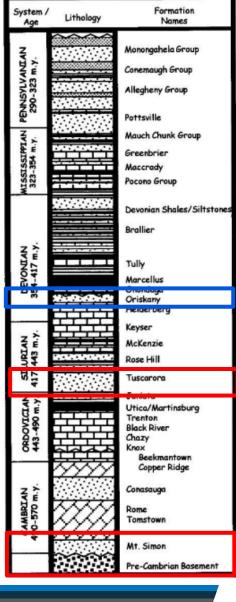
Geothermal gradient: 26-31°C/km (GeoMap; West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey)

Target Depth: 6.5-7.5km

Storage Target:

Primary storage target is the Devonian Oriskany Sandstone, which has exceptional injectivity and storage capacity. (MRCI, 2024)





General West Virginia Stratigraphy

Idaho Falls, Idaho

Geothermal Target:

Basement and volcanic enhanced geothermal targets associated with relict hotspot activity within the Snake River Plain, as well as potential for shallower blind systems in the Idaho thrust belt. (Jones et al, 2021)

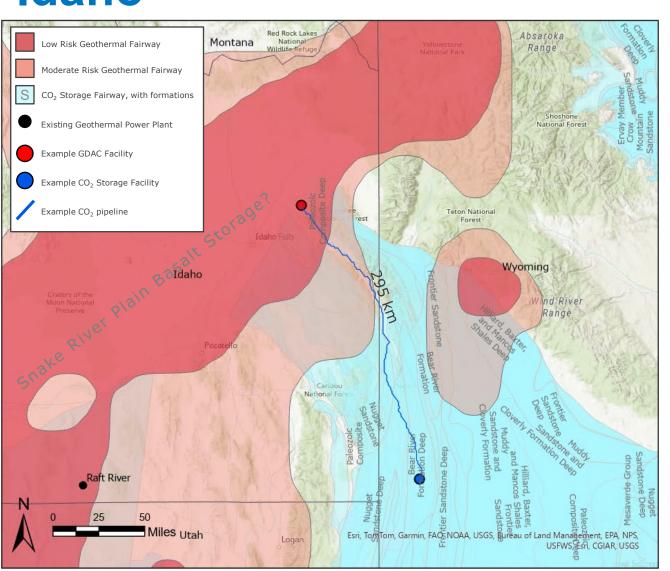
Geothermal gradient: 41-90°C/km (GeoMap; WVGES)

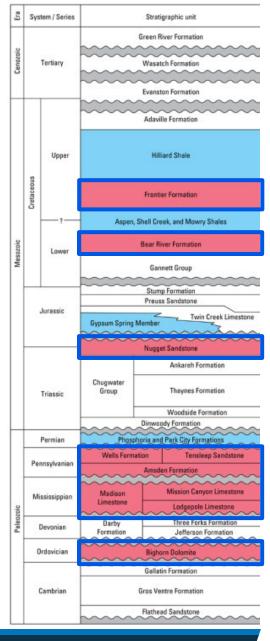
Target Depth: 2.5-6 km

Storage Target:

Multiple saline storage targets exist within the Wyoming-Utah thrust belt region, including high quality targets within the Nugget Sandstone and Fontier Formation. There are also numerous depleted hydrocarbon fields that may also be suitable storage targets. (Buursink et al, 2012)

There may also be suitable storage targets within the basalts of the Snake River Plain, although these formations are not as well developed as similar formations in the Columbia River basalts. (Pollyea & Fairley, 2012)







Vallez Caldera, Rio Grande Rift, New Mexico

Geothermal Target:

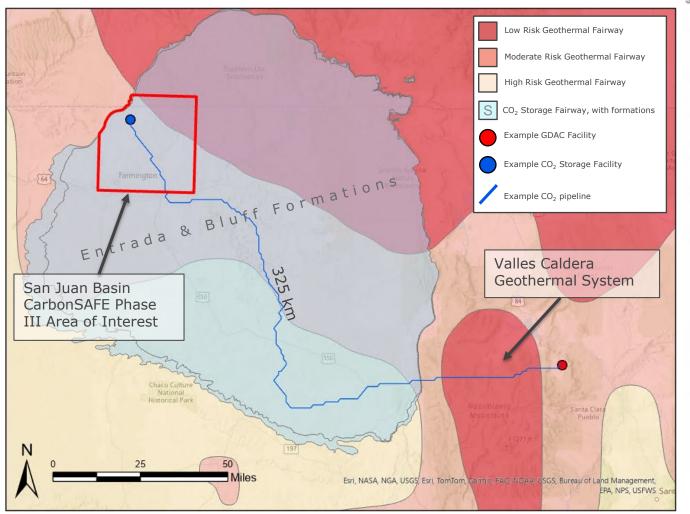
Valles Caldera geothermal system

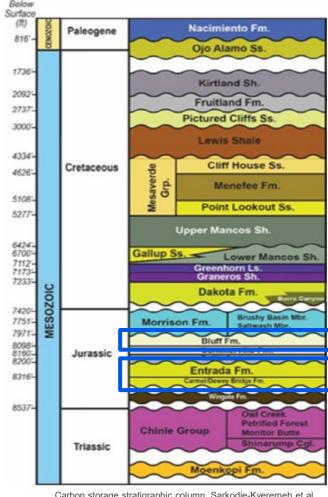
Geothermal gradient: 50-60°C/km (Goff & Grigsby, 1982)

Target Depth: 3-5km

Storage Target:

Storage is available in both the Entrada and Bluff Formations. Both formations are likely able to accept hundreds of gigatons of storage each, with high-quality targets existing primarily within the northwestern portion of the San Juan Basin and potential secondary targets elsewhere in the basin (Sarkodie-Kyeremeh et al, 2022).





Carbon storage stratigraphic column, Sarkodie-Kyeremeh et al, 2022. Target formation for the San Juan Bain CarbonSAFE project is the Entrada Formation, with secondary storage potential in the Bluff Formation.



Central Utah, FORGE analogue

Geothermal Target:

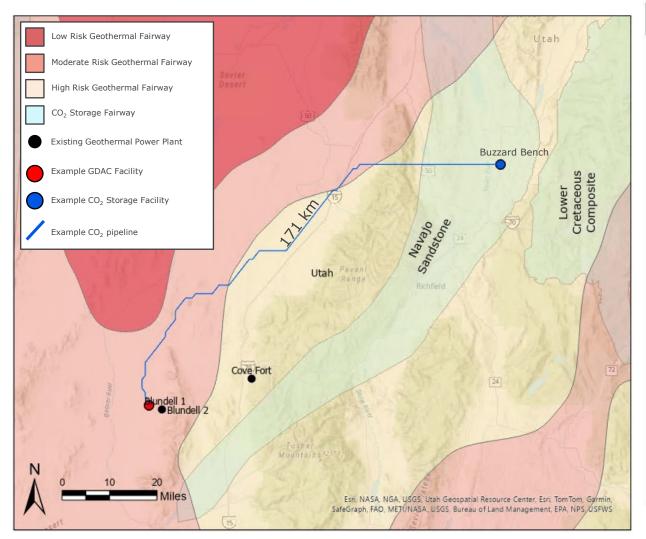
EGS: Plutonic basement targets (Fervo, personal comms.)

Geothermal gradient: 35°C/km (GeoMap) 86°C/km @ FORGE site

Target Depth: 2-6km

Storage Targets:

Thick, clean sands in the Navajo Formation are likely able to accommodate at least 50 million tonnes of CO₂ (Xiao et al 2019). Secondary storage is available in the Kayenta and Wingate formations, and other plays may be available in Cretaceous formations and intermontane basin-filling sediments elsewhere in the state. (Buursink et al, 2014)



| Period | Formation / Member | | Thickness (m) | THU. |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------|
| CRET | Mancos Shale | Blue Gate Sh Mbr | 100-400 | |
| | | Ferron Ss Mbr | 3-30 | _ |
| | | Tununk Sh Mbr | 105-125 | |
| | Dakota Sandstone | | 45 | 1 |
| | Cedar Mtn Fm | Upper member | 30-60 | |
| | | Buckhorn Cg Mbr | 70 | 1 |
| JURASSIC | Morrison Formation | | 150 | |
| | Summerville Formation | | 20 | ~ |
| | Curtis Formation | | 335 | |
| | Entrada Formation | | 330 | |
| | Carmel Formation | | 65-230 | |
| | Navajo Sandstone | | 130-155 | |
| | Kayenta Formation | | 58-110 | |
| | Wingate Sandstone | | 80-120 | |
| TRIASSIC | Chinle Formation | | 15 | |
| | Moenkopi Fm | Upper member | 120 | |
| | | Sinbad Ls Mbr | 50 | 7777 |
| | | Black Dragon Mbr | 100 | |
| PERM | Black Box Dolomite | | 100 | |
| | White Rim Sandstone | | 100 | |
| ۵ | "Hermosa" Formation | | 150 | 22 |
| MISS | Madison Limestone | | 400 | |

Stratigraphic column for central Utah, modified from Xiao et al, 2019.



Dickinson, ND

Geothermal Target:

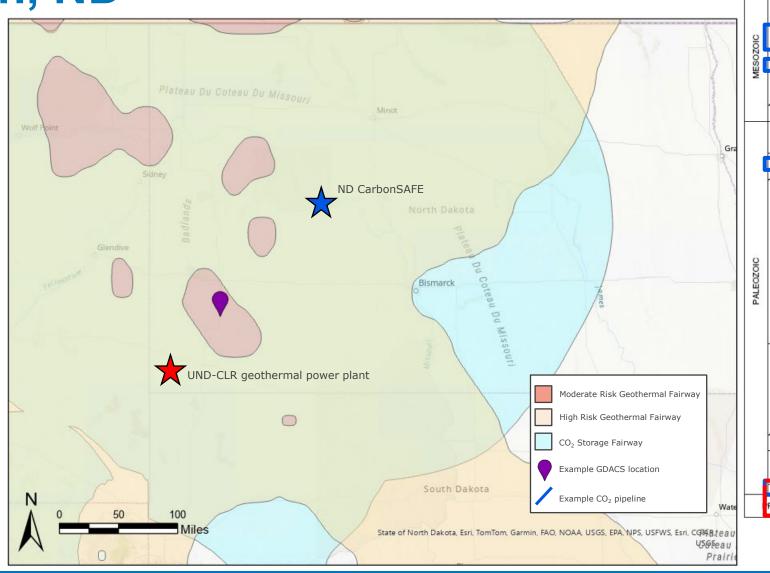
EGS: Basement Sedimentary: Lodgepole, Deadwood, and other deep, high-permeability sands.

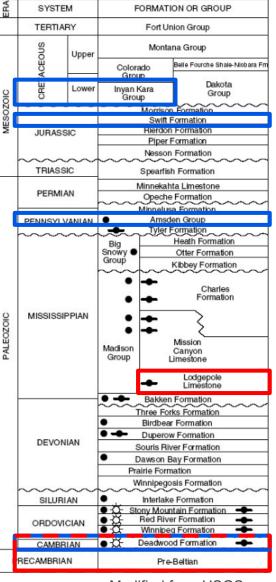
Geothermal gradient: 38°C/km (GeoMap)

Target Depth: 2.5-6km

Storage Targets:

The Williston basin contains multiple storage targets, including the Deadwood, Black Islands, Lower Swift, Inyan Kara, and Broom Creek formations. The North Dakota CarbonSAFE Phase III project has evaluated the Broom Creek formation and found it to be an excellent storage target. (Buursink et al. 2014)





Modified from USGS



The Geysers Geothermal Area, California

Geothermal Target:

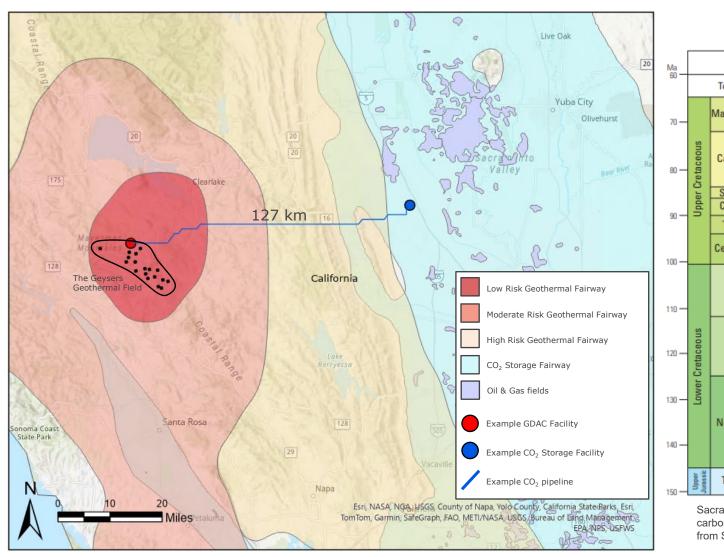
Shallow hydrothermal targets, shallow to medium-depth hot dry rock.

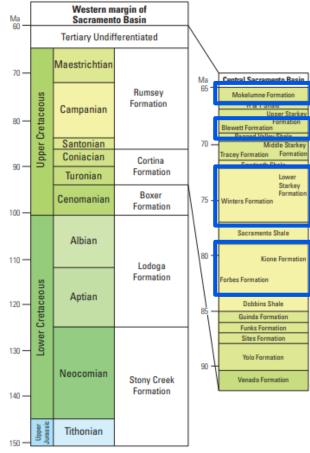
Geothermal gradient: Up to 130°C/km (Peacock et al., 2020)

Target Depth: 2-5km

Storage Targets:

Storage targets in the Sacramento basin include existing or depleted gas fields in the Kione, Mokelumne, and other formations, as well as saline aquifer targets in the Tracey, Blewett, and Starkey formations and various sands within the Great Valley Sequence. (Downey and Clinkenbeard, 2005; Oldenburg et al, 2017)





Sacramento Basin stratigraphic column with potential carbon storage targets identified in blue. (Modified from Schenk et al, 2019)



Longmont, Colorado (DJ Basin)

Geothermal Target: Greater Wattenberg Field Area (GWA)

EGS/AGS: Basement

Sedimentary: Lyons Sandstone

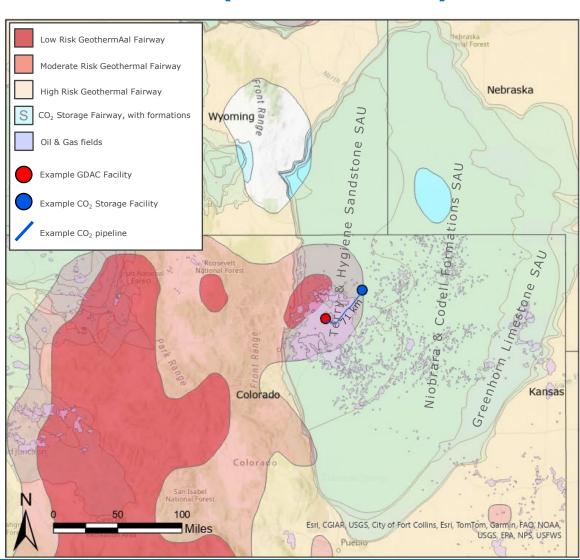
Geothermal gradient: 30-47+°C/km (GeoMap; Lacazette et al, 2024)

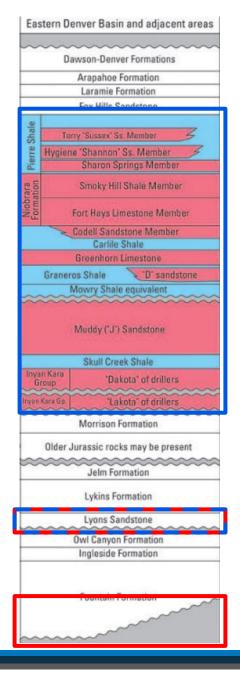
Target Depth: 3-5 km

Geothermal appraisal activities are ongoing in the GWA, with tests planned for both sedimentary targets in the Lyons Formation (Geothermal Technologies, Inc) and basement target (Oxy's GLADE project).

Storage Targets:

- Various members of the Pierre Shale.
- Codell Sandstone
- Greenhorn Limestone
- Muddy Sandstone
- Lyons Sandstone







Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

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