

# What's After Shale?

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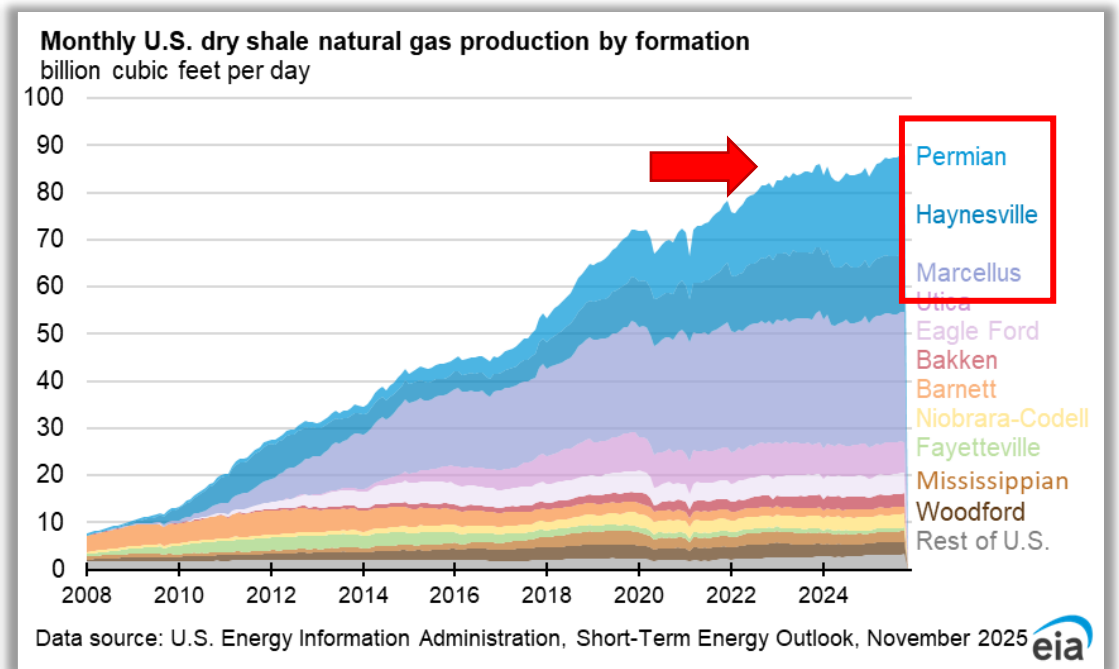
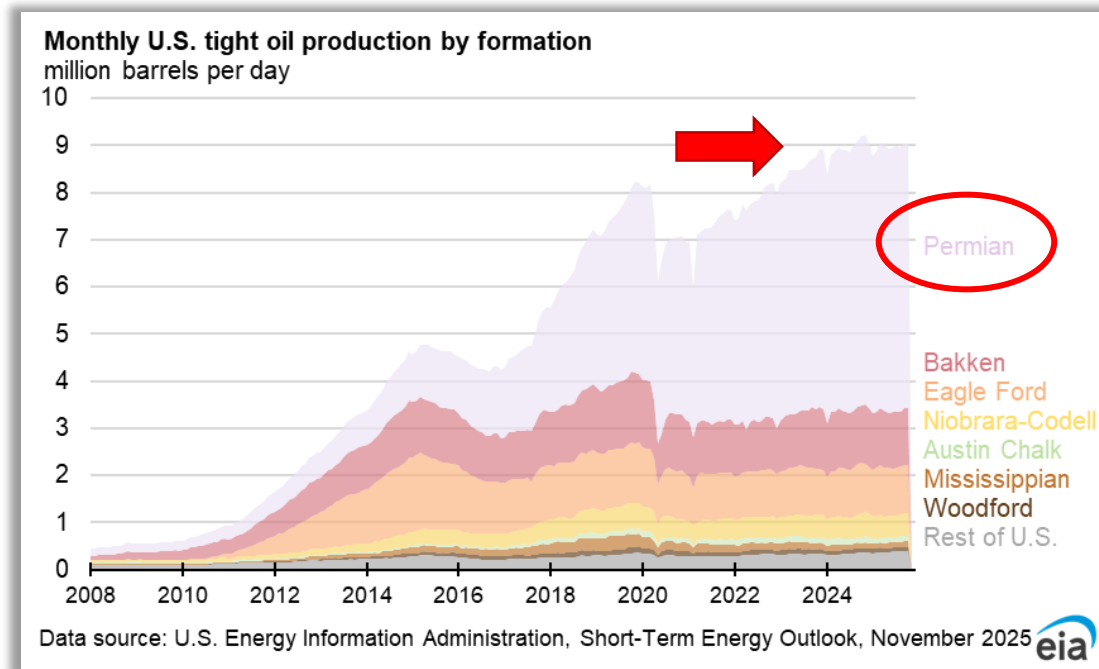
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# Introduction

# US Production Growth is Slowing...

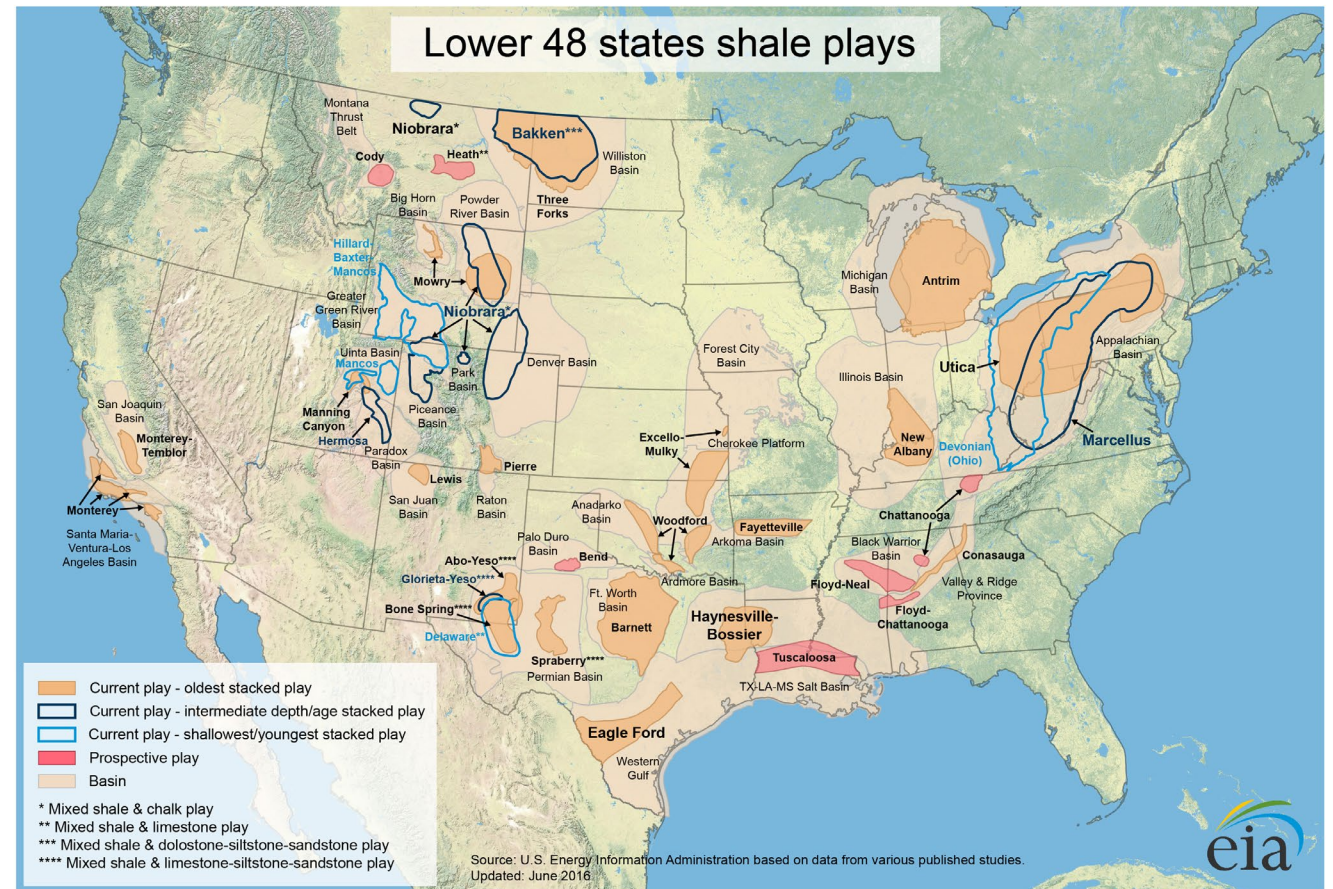
Figures from EIA



# What's Next?

1. Exploitation
2. Re-Entry
3. Exploration

Figure from EIA (2016)



# Strategy 1 - **Exploitation**

- “Squeeze the asset harder”
- **Ways to further exploit an existing acreage position:**
  - **Push to fringe areas** – Tier 2 and Tier 3 acreage
  - **Drill lower ROI targets** – Produce new benches above/below
  - **Consolidate and optimize** – Mergers, acquisitions, bolt-ons
- **Recent examples:**
  - **Permian Basin** – Devon/Coterra, Exxon/Pioneer, Diamondback/Endeavor, Oxy/Crownquest
  - **Other basins** – Catarus/SM, Chevron/Hess, Conoco/Marathon, Chesapeake/Southwestern
- **Low Risk, Low-to-High Costs**
  - Option #3 is especially expensive in the Permian

# Strategy 2 – Re-Entry

- **Applying new understanding/technology in old areas**
  - “Remember that well we drilled in 2014?”
- **Driven primarily by D&C**
  - Basic geologic understanding plateaued in shales before COVID
- **Recent examples:**
  - Uinta Basin (Green River/Wasatch) – SM Energy, Quantum
  - Appalachian Basin (Utica Shale) – EOG
  - East Texas Basin (Haynesville) – Comstock, Expand
- **Moderate Risk, Moderate Cost**

# Strategy 3 – **Exploration**

- **Test new intervals and/or new areas**
- **Recent examples:**
  - Barnett & Woodford Shales (Permian basin)
  - Cherokee Shale (Anadarko basin)
  - Mancos/Niobrara Shale (Uinta, Washakie, Piceance basins)
  - International – EOG, Continental
- **High Risk, Low Cost**
  - Largest potential for short-term or long-term profits
  - Two exit strategies – Build & Flip, Lease & Develop

## Strategy 3 – Exploration

- Test new intervals and/or new areas

**Let's Talk About This More....**

- International – EOG, Continental
- **High Risk, Low Cost**
  - Largest potential for short-term or long-term profits
  - Two exit strategies – Build & Flip, Lease & Develop

# **The Problems (with Exploration)**

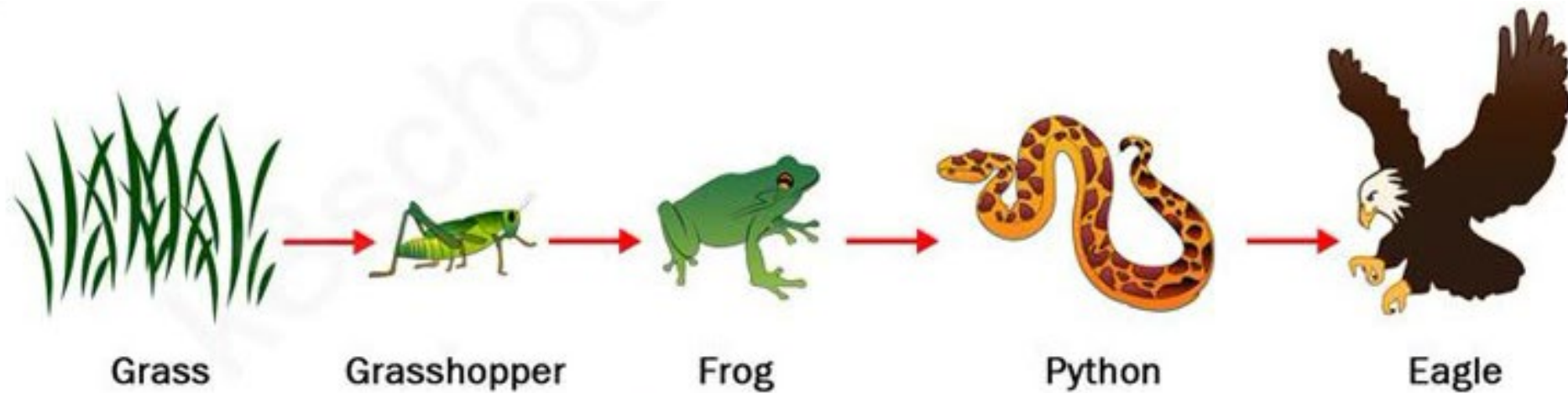
# Problem #1 – Minimum Requirements

- **Exploration is a three-legged stool at a minimum**
- **Requirements:**
  - **Funding** – Tough but findable
  - **Expertise** – Lowest in decades
  - **Risk tolerance** – Ruined by shale

**\*\* POLL \*\***



# Problem #2 – Exploration Food Chain

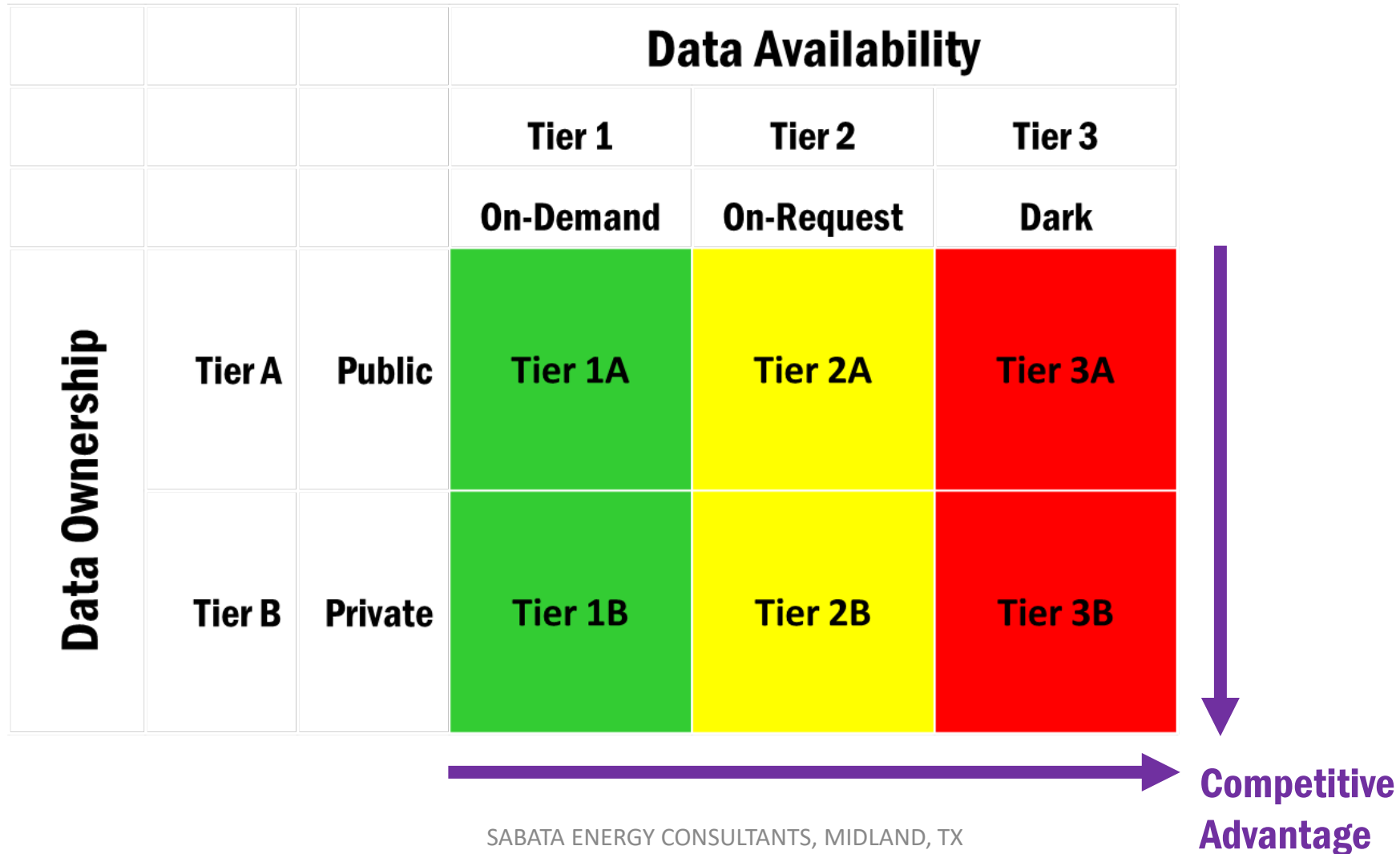


**Prospect  
Shops**

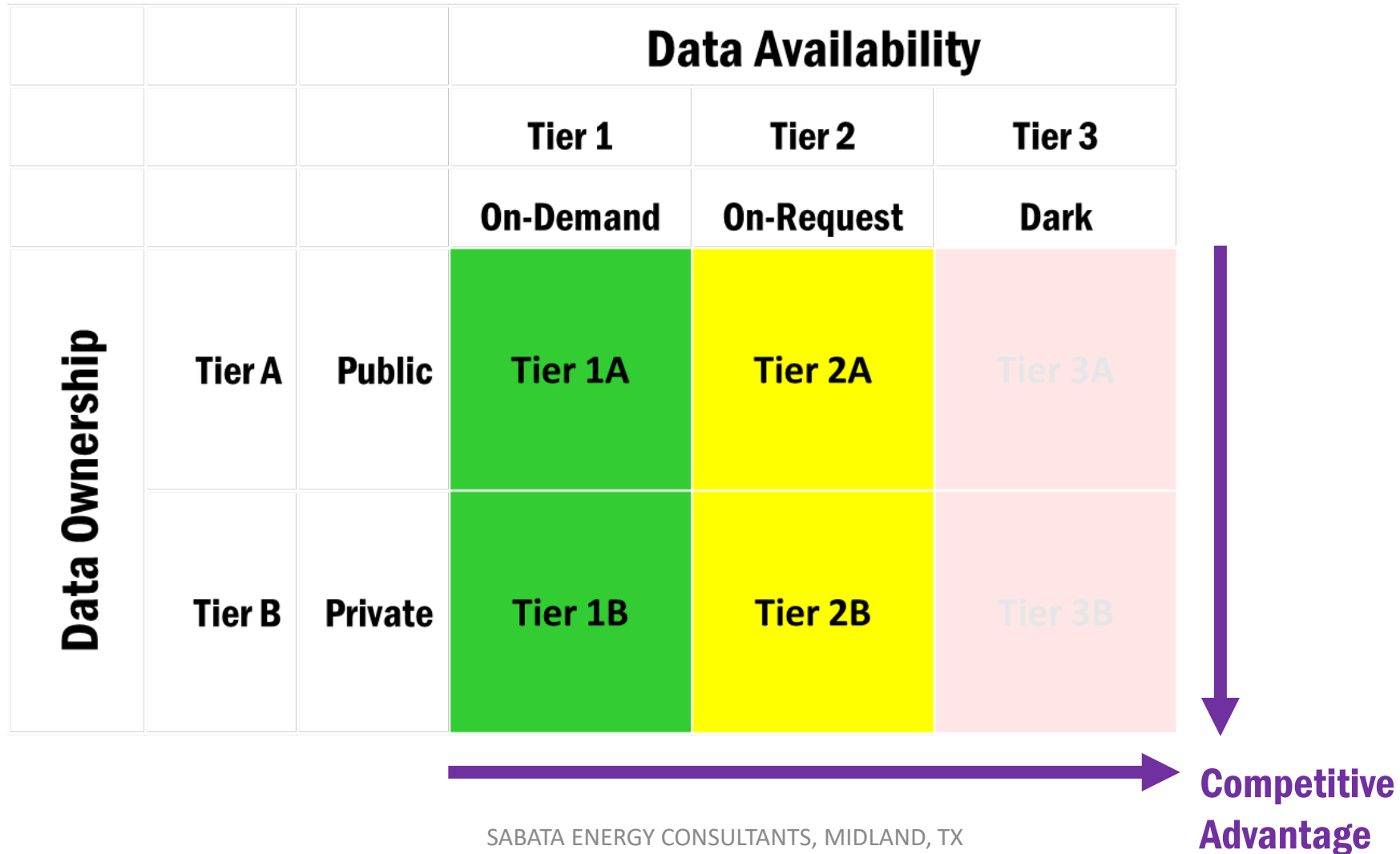


**Majors &  
Independents**

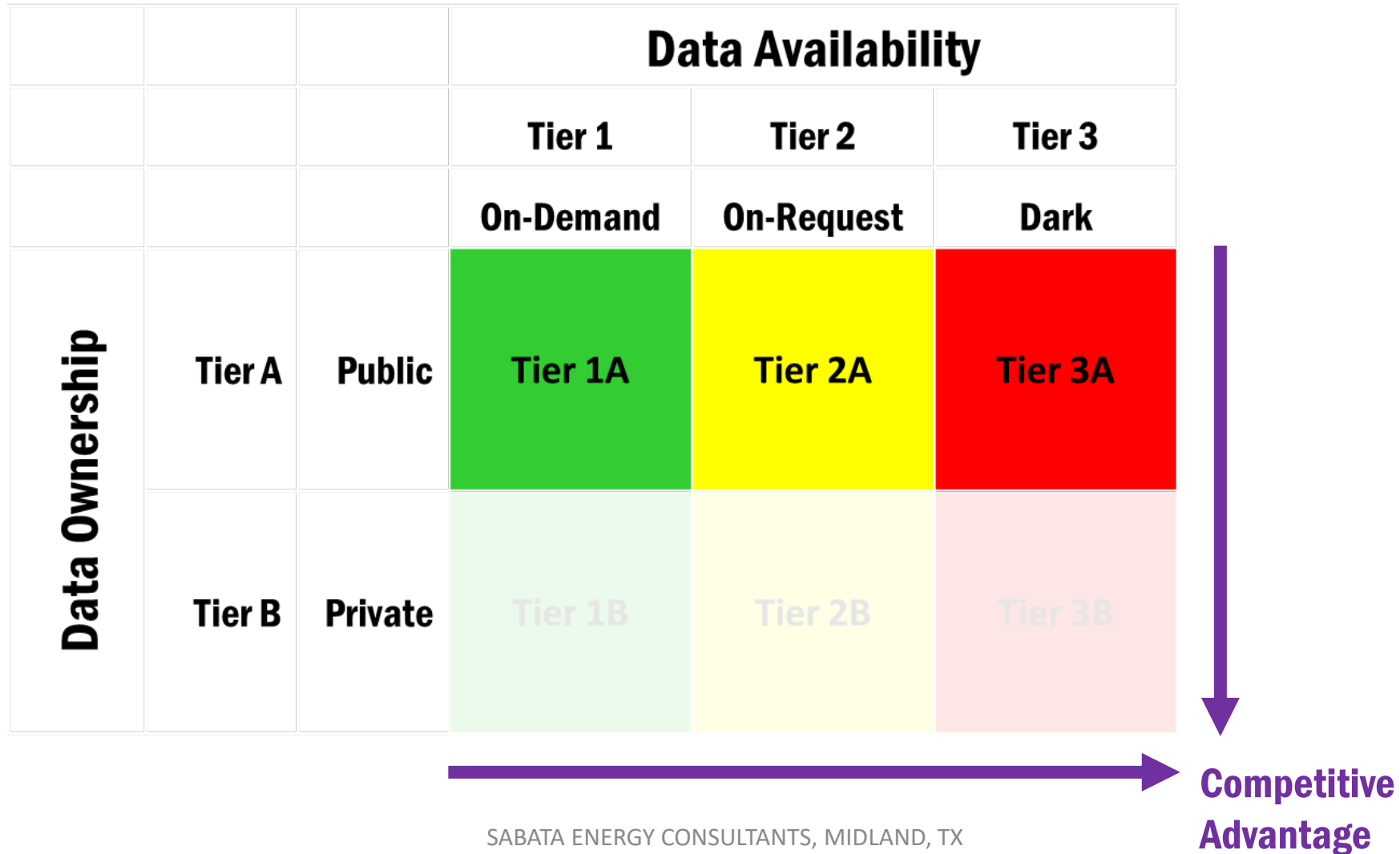
# Problem #3 – Unique Datasets



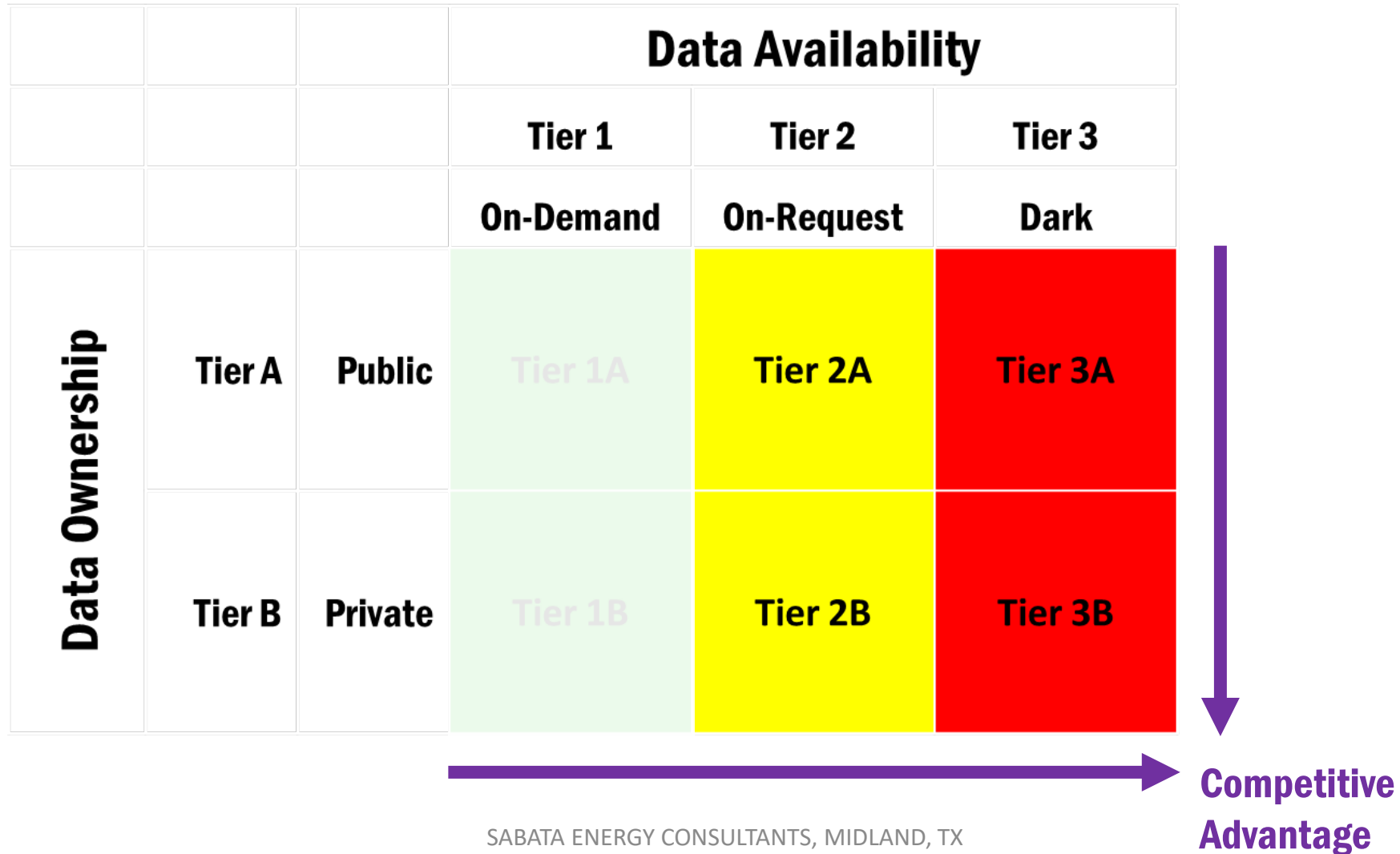
# Problem #3 – Traditional Data Vendors



# Problem #3 – Regulatory Agencies

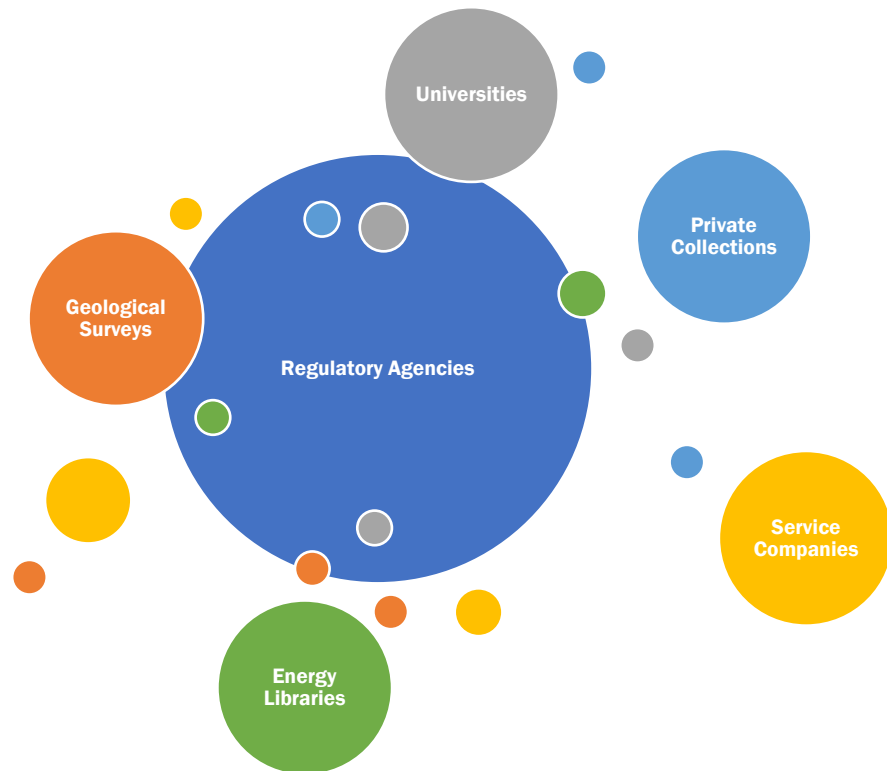


# Problem #3 – Private Collections

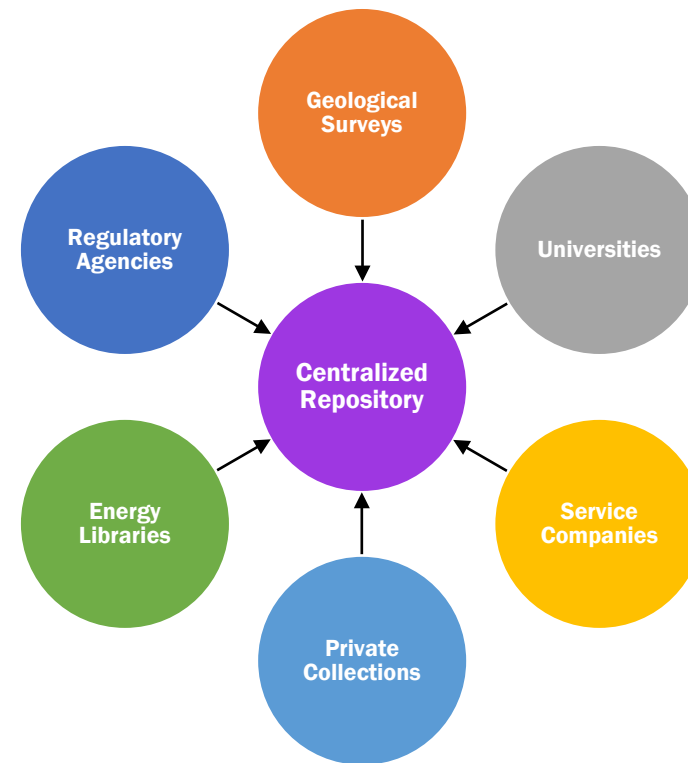


# Problem #4 – Data Deliverability

## Usual Data Model



## Ideal Data Model



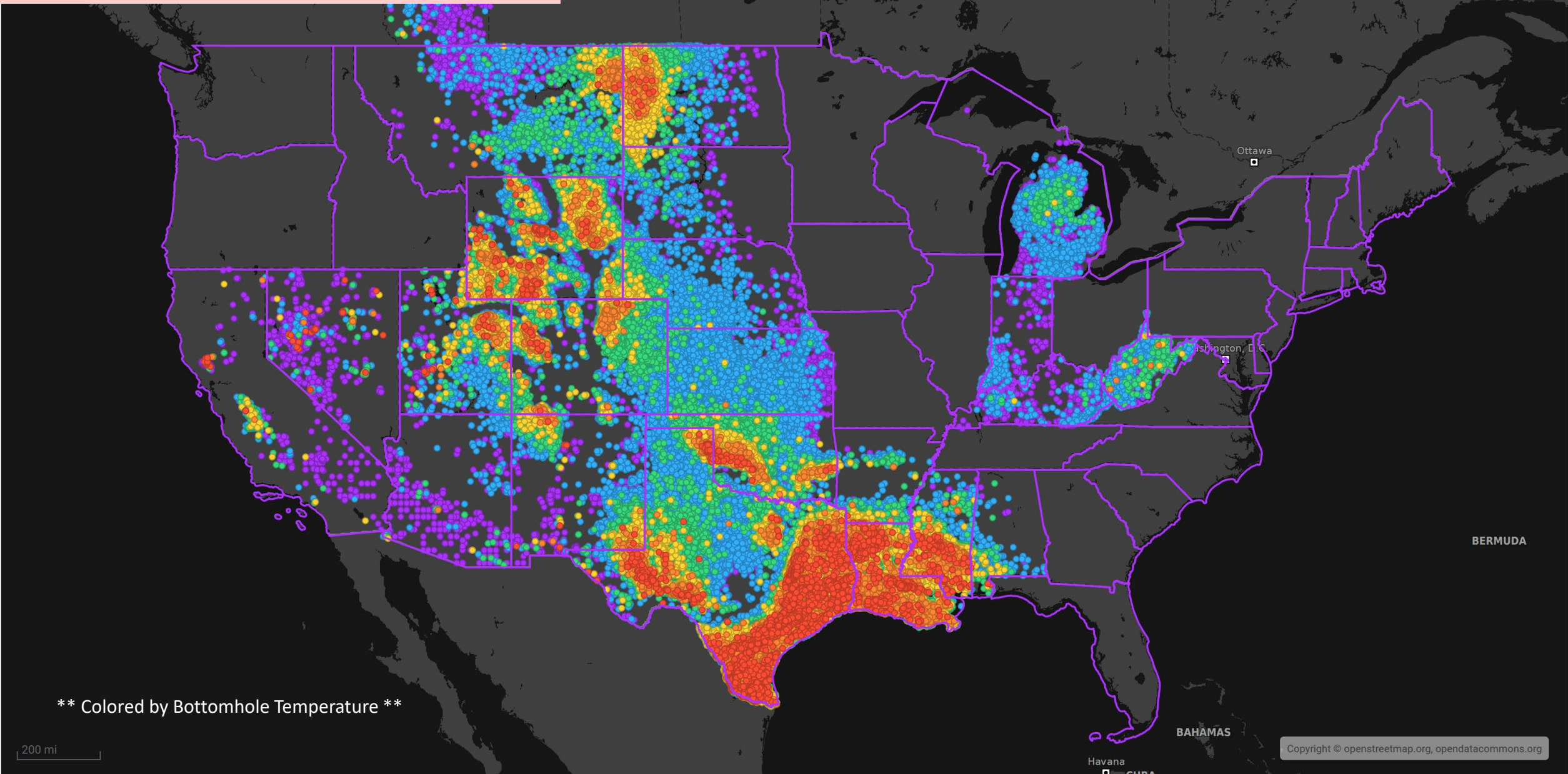
# Empirical Exploration

# Empirical Exploration

- Where's the best place to find oil & gas?
  - It's where you've already found it
- Millions of data points stranded on paper, TIFs, etc.
  - Most data companies have given up adding new data
  - Focused on building SaaS instead
- Well log headers a few key data fields:
  - Mud density – Proxy for pressure
  - Bottomhole temperature – Proxy for maturity
- Not perfect, but you can generally trust the trend

Dresser Atlas		Combination Logging Systems		⊘	
DRESSER		Compensated Densilog		Compensated Neutron	
FILE NO.	COMPANY TEXAS PACIFIC OIL COMPANY				
	WELL PHANTOM DRAW FED. UNIT NO. 2				
	FIELD <i>1/2</i> PHANTOM DRAW (WOLFCAMP)				
	COUNTY EDDY		STATE NEW MEXICO		
	LOCATION: 1980' FSL & 660' FWL				Other Services BHC AL/GR DLL/GR DIFL
	SEC 30	TWP 26-S	RGE 31-E		
Permanent Datum	GROUND LEVEL		Elev. 3076	Elevations KB 3094.9	
Log Measured from	K. B.		18.9	Ft. Above Permanent Datum DF	
Drilling Measured from	K. B.		GL 3076		
Date	7-8-78	8-12-78	8-16-78		
Run No.	ONE	TWO	THREE		
Service Order	12227	12401	12379		
Depth—Driller	12004	12718	12820		
Depth—Logger	12003	12715	12819		
Bottom Logged Interval	12001	12430	12817		
Top Logged Interval	SURFACE		12000	12430	
Casing—Driller	8 5/8 @ 3745	5 1/2 @ 12000	5 1/2 @ 12000		
Casing—Logger	3745	12000	12000		
Bit Size	7/8"	4 3/4"	4 3/4"		
Type Fluid in Hole	SALT GEL	GEL/RDIII	GEL/RDIII		
Density and Viscosity	9.2 34	17 60	16 50		
pH and Fluid Loss	10 - cc	10.5 12 cc	10 12 cc		
Source of Sample	PIT		PIT		
Rm @ Meas. Temp.	.097 @ 67 °F	1.78 @ 80 °F	.86 @ 83 °F		
Rmf @ Meas. Temp.	.087 @ 67 °F	1.4 @ 80 °F	.73 @ 83 °F		
Rmc @ Meas. Temp.	- @ °F	- @ °F	- @ °F		
Source of Rmf and Rmc	MEAS.	MEAS.	MEAS.		
Rm @ Circ	.04 @ 175 °F	.78 @ 180 °F	.25 @ 202 °F		
Time Since Circ	1 1/2 HOURS	22 HOURS	6 1/2 HOURS		
Max. Rec. Temp. Deg. F.	175 °F	180 °F	202 °F		
Equip. No. and Location	6123 HOBBS	6136 HOBBS	6123 HOBBS		
Recorded By	MC ATEE	JACKSON	MC ATEE		
Witnessed By	JONES & FOSTER	JONES	JONES & NORWOOD		

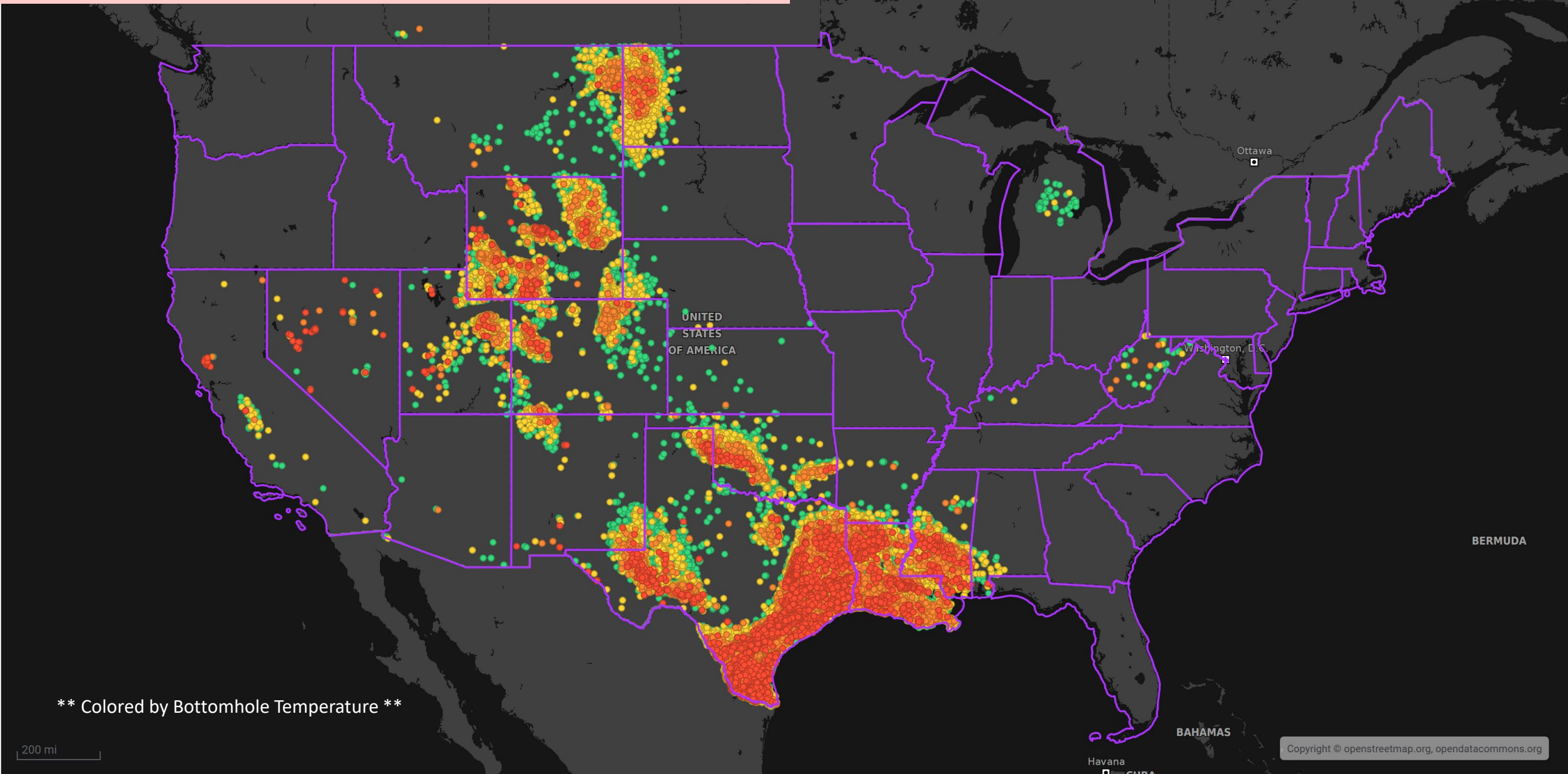
# All Bottomhole Temps



\*\* Colored by Bottomhole Temperature \*\*

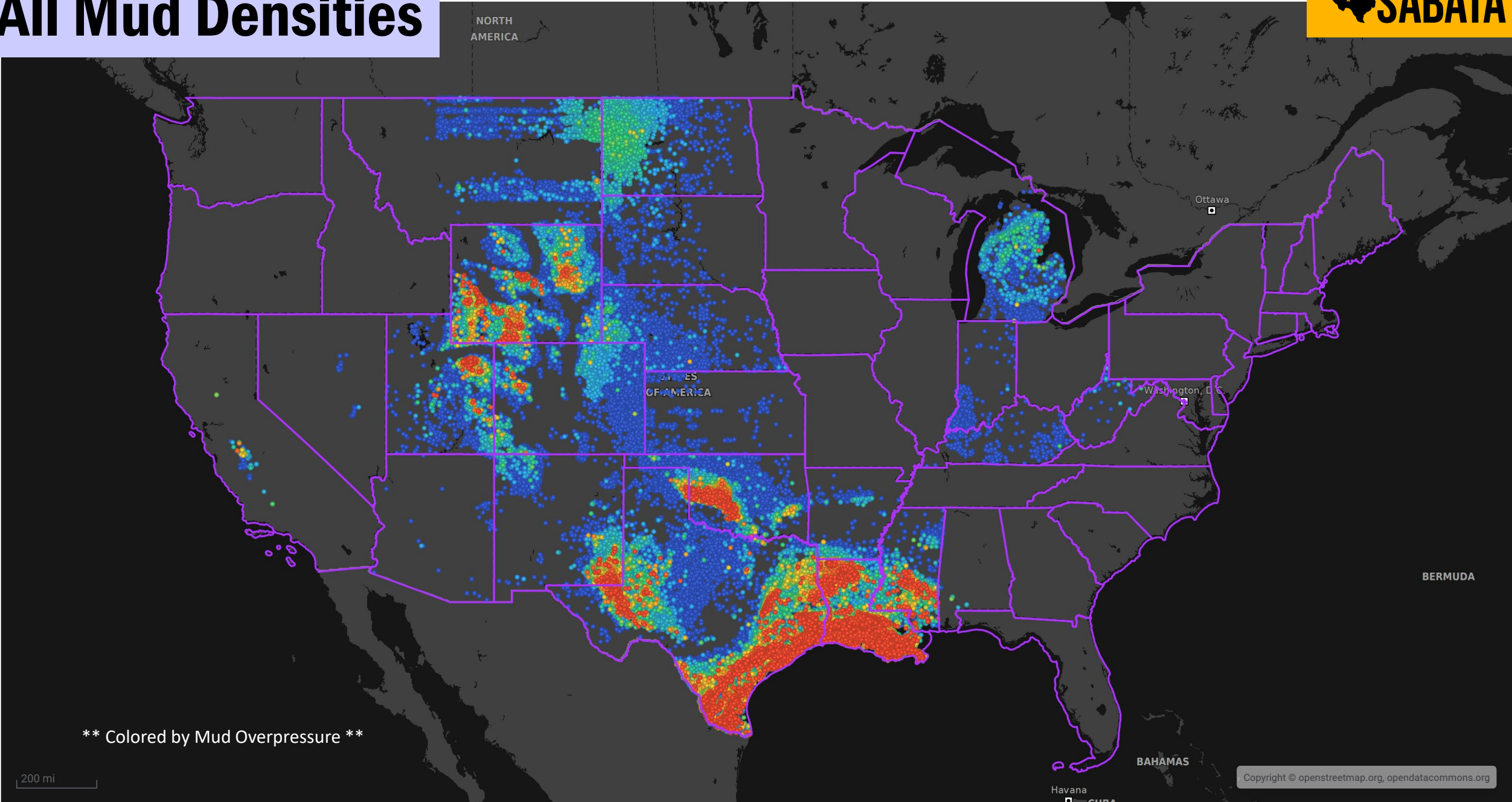
200 mi

# Bottomhole Temps $\geq 175$ deg F



\*\* Colored by Bottomhole Temperature \*\*

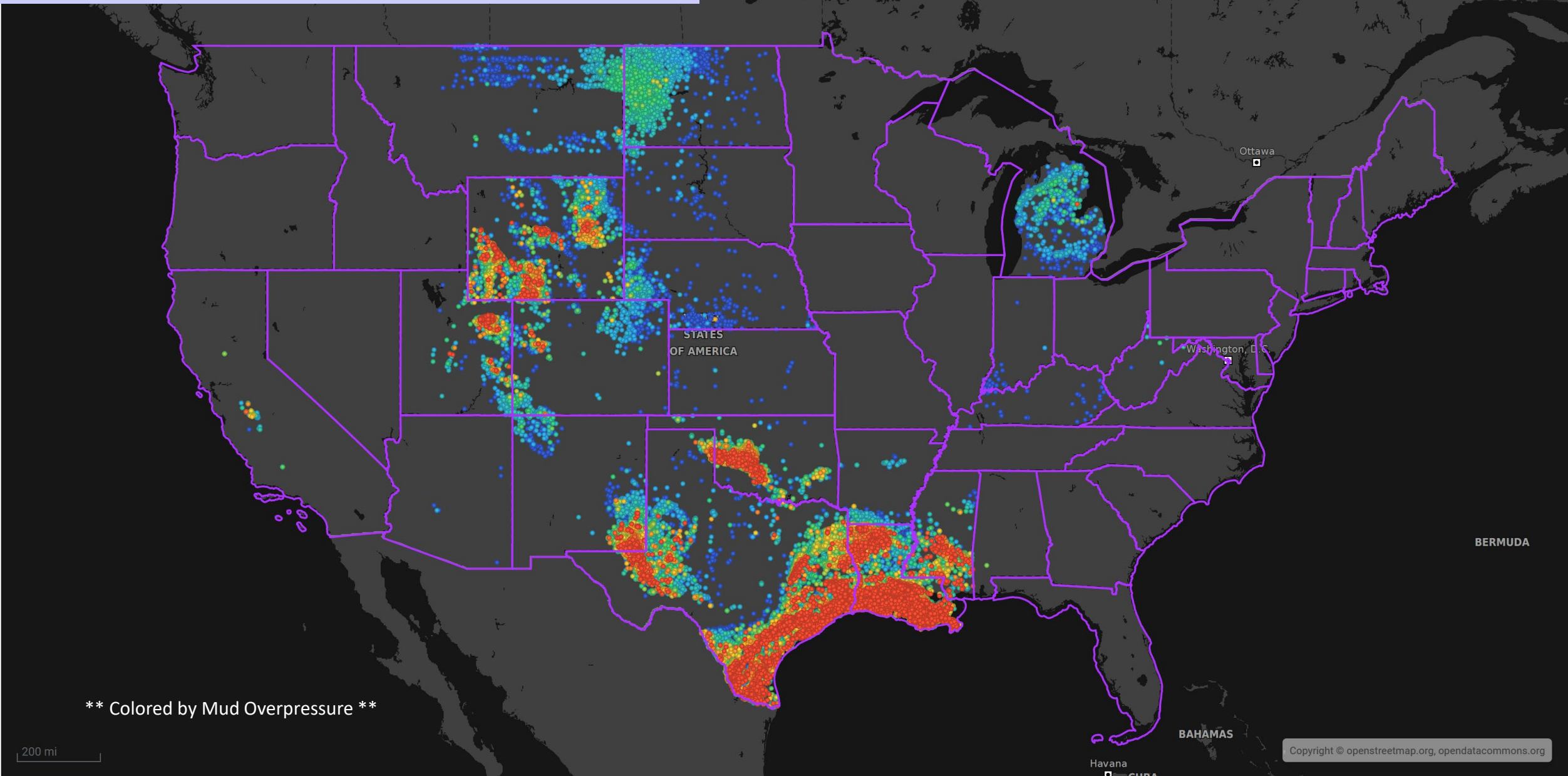
# All Mud Densities



\*\* Colored by Mud Overpressure \*\*

200 mi

# Mud Densities $\geq 10.25$ ppg

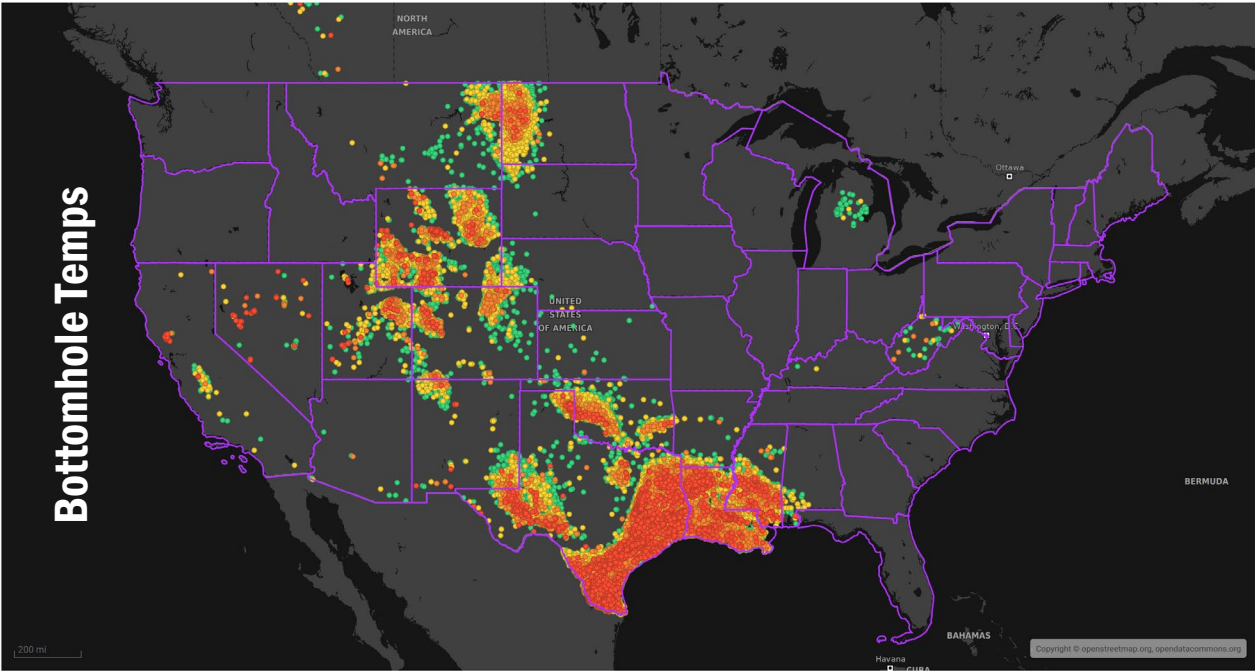


\*\* Colored by Mud Overpressure \*\*

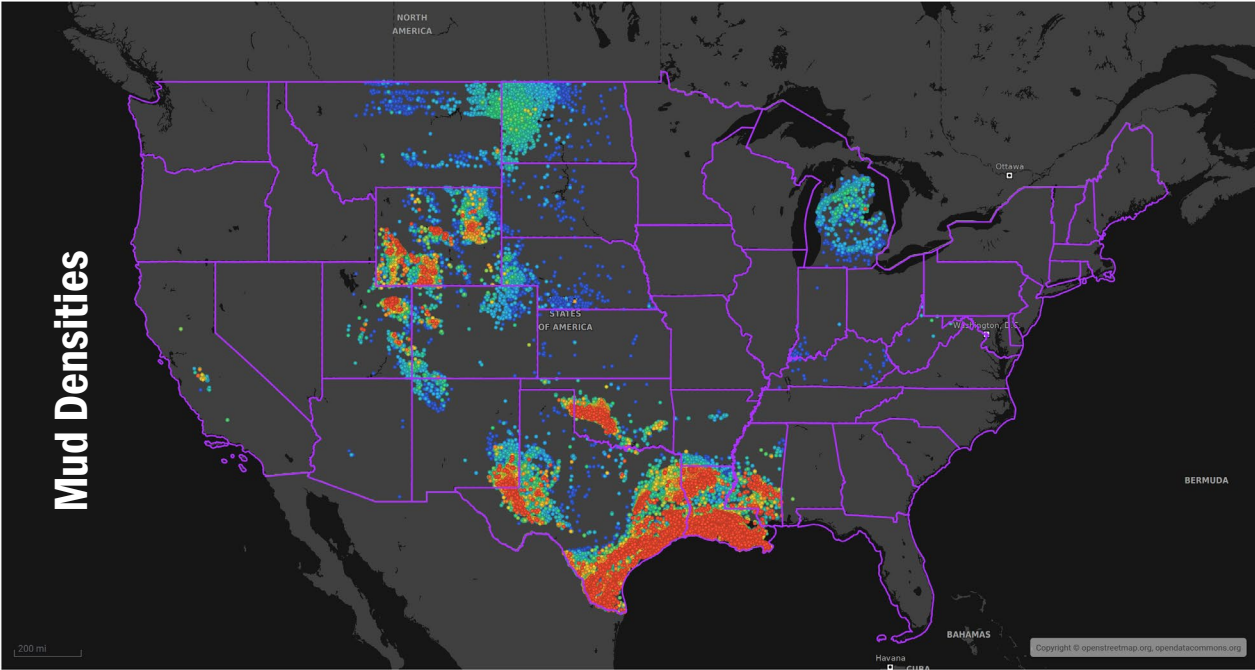
200 mi

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Bottomhole Temps



Mud Densities



# Look Familiar?

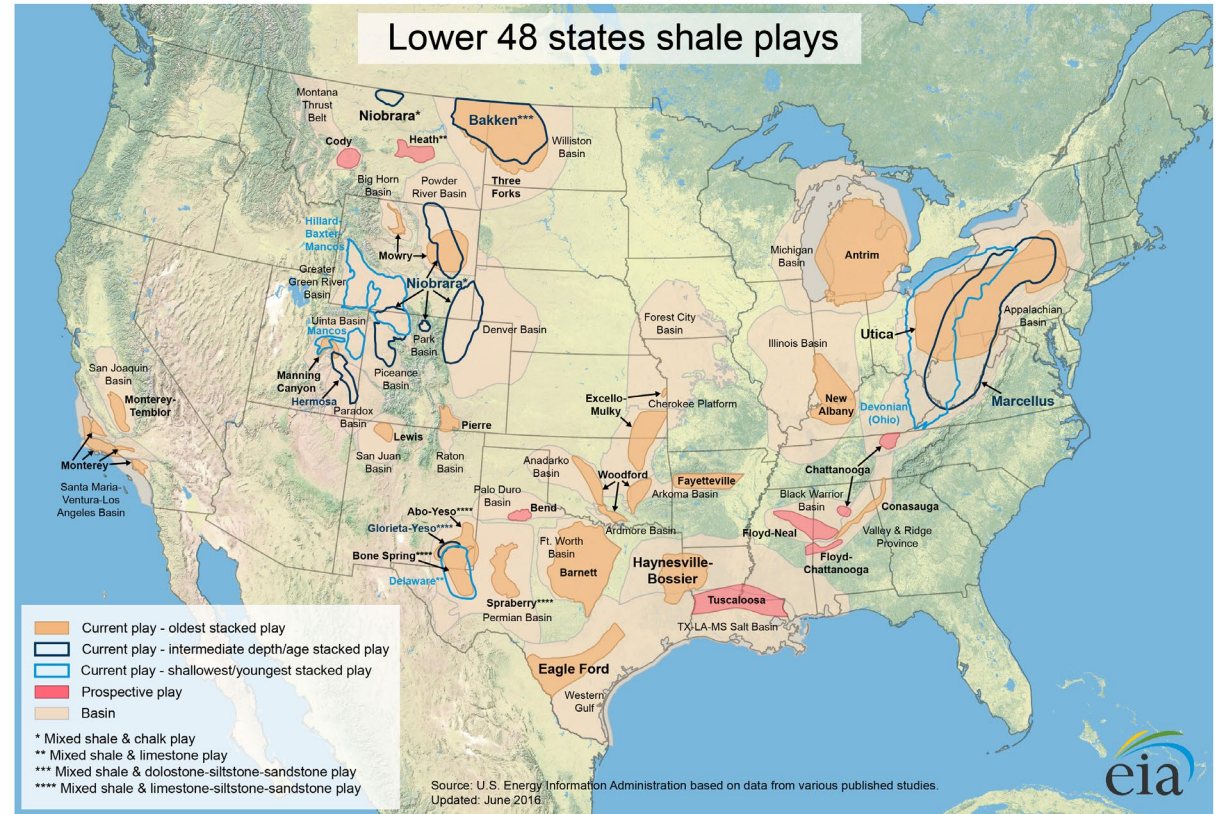


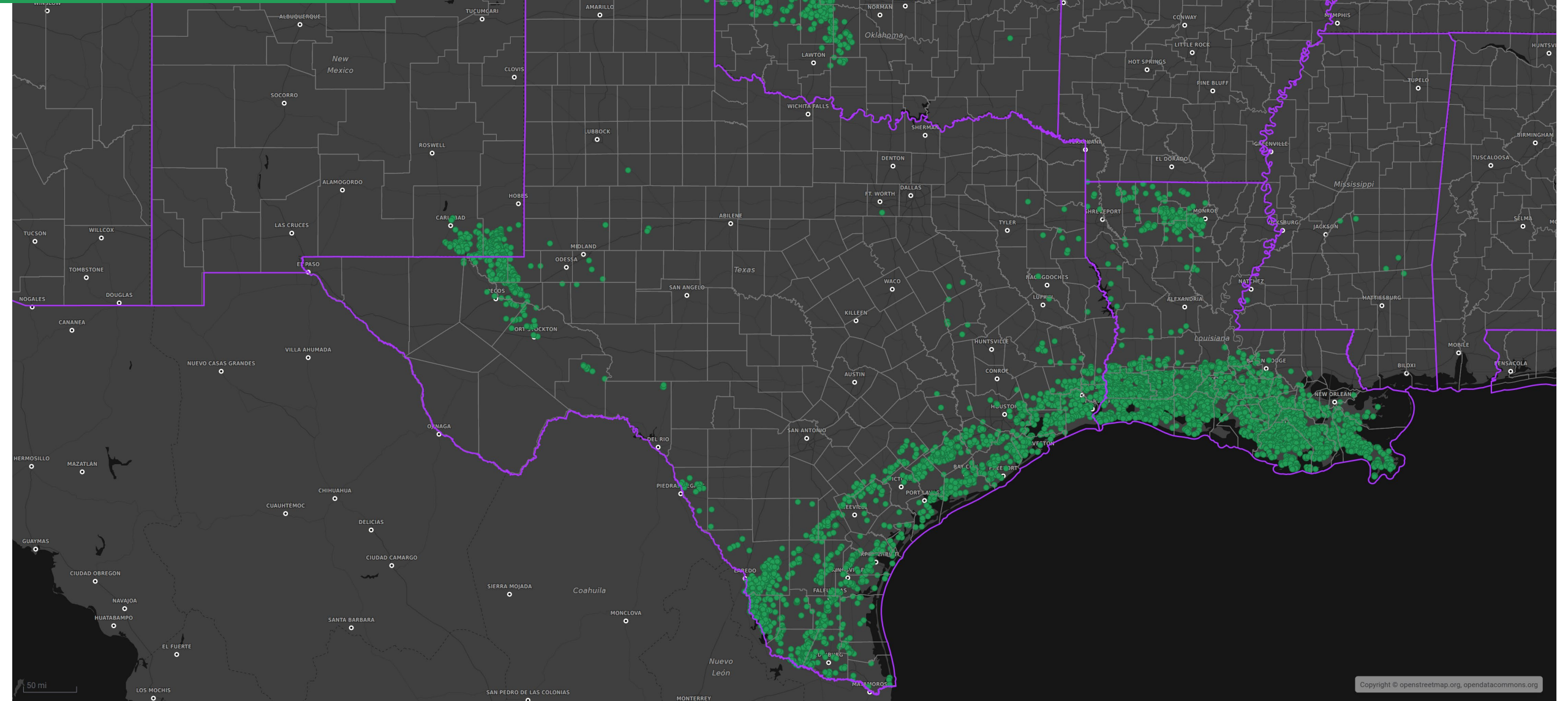
Figure from EIA (2016)

# Exploration Tiering (aka “Goldilocks Zones”)

		<b>Bottomhole Temperature</b>	
		175 - 250 deg F	≥ 250 deg F
<b>Mud Density</b>	≥ 13.5 ppg	<b>Liquids Prone (Tier 1)</b>	<b>Gas Prone (Tier 1)</b>
	9 – 13.5 ppg	<b>Liquids Prone (Tier 2)</b>	<b>Gas Prone (Tier 2)</b>

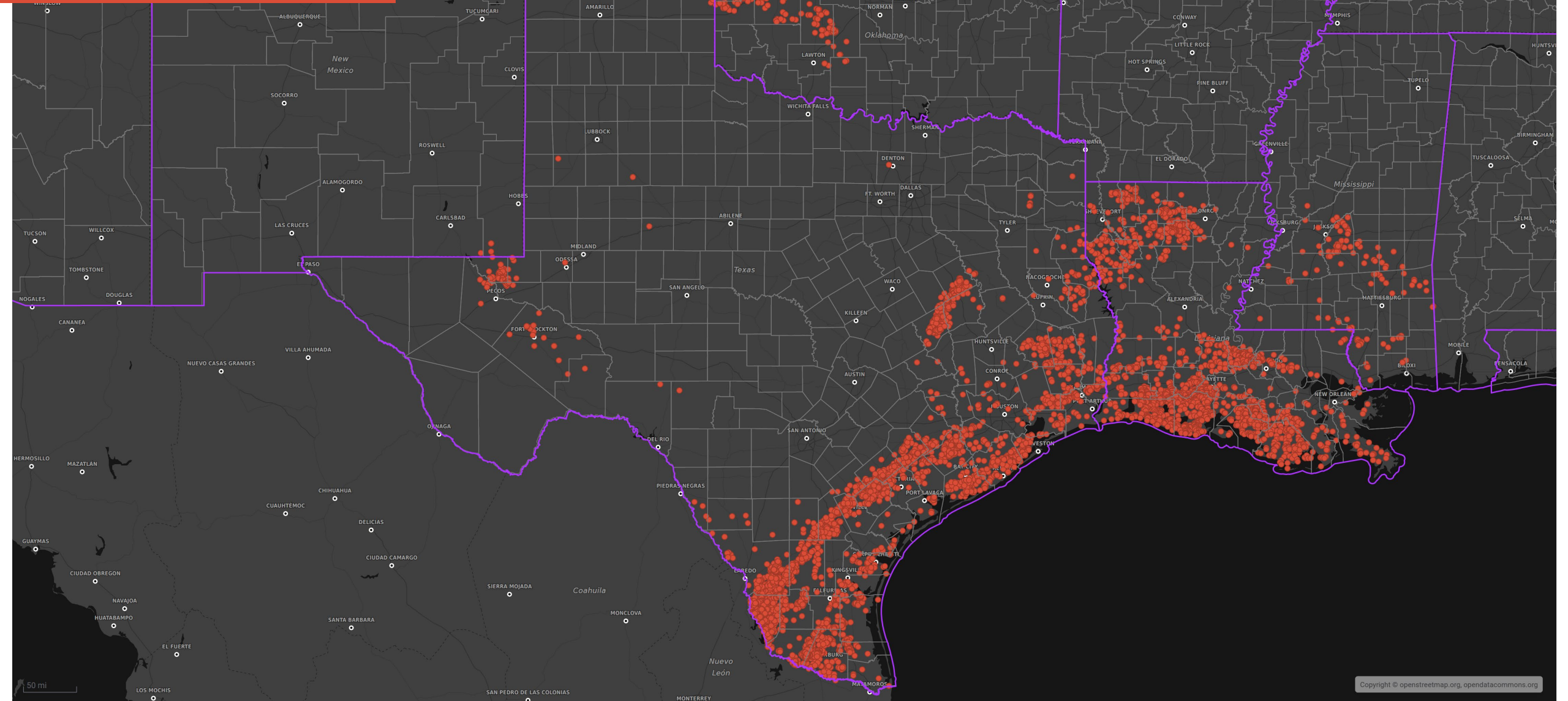


# Liquids Prone Tier 1 Pressure

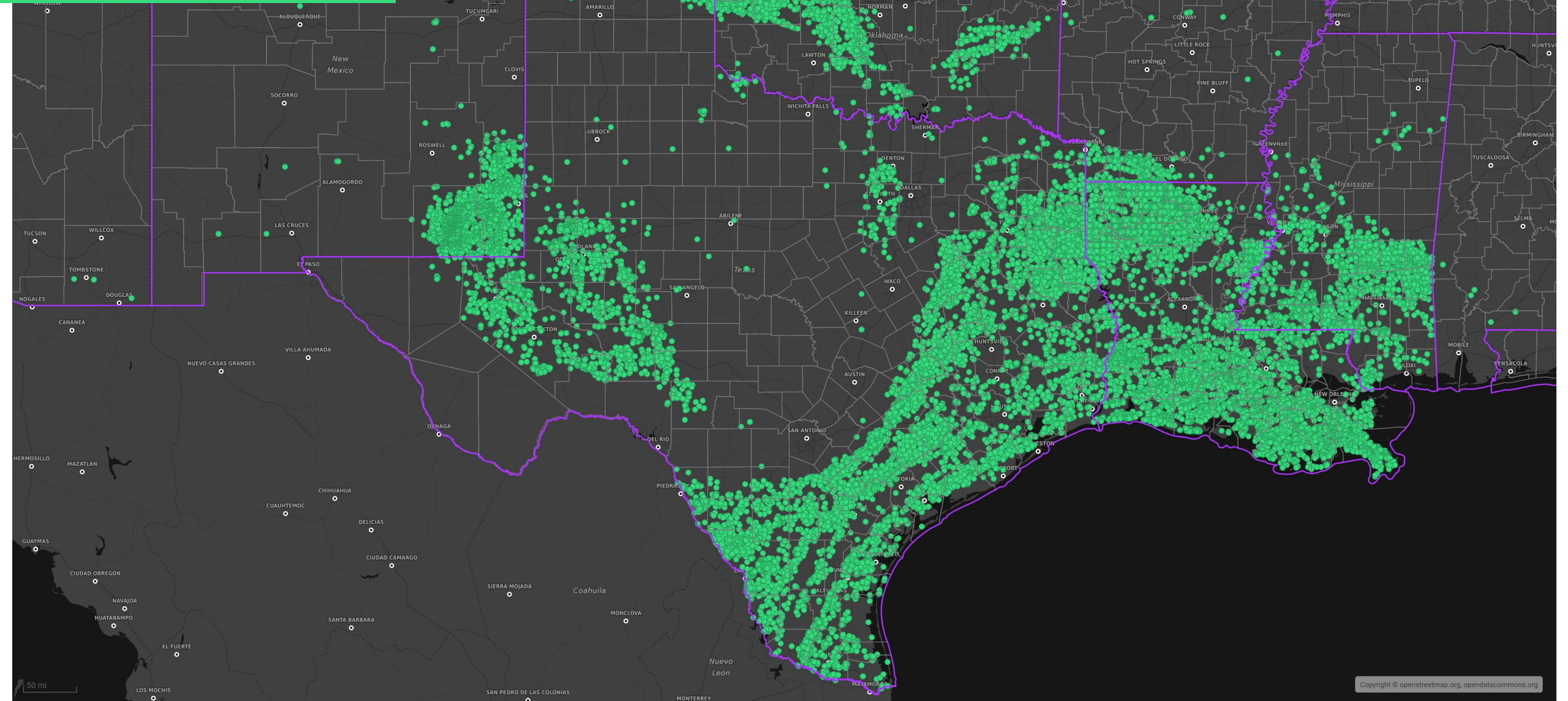


50 mi

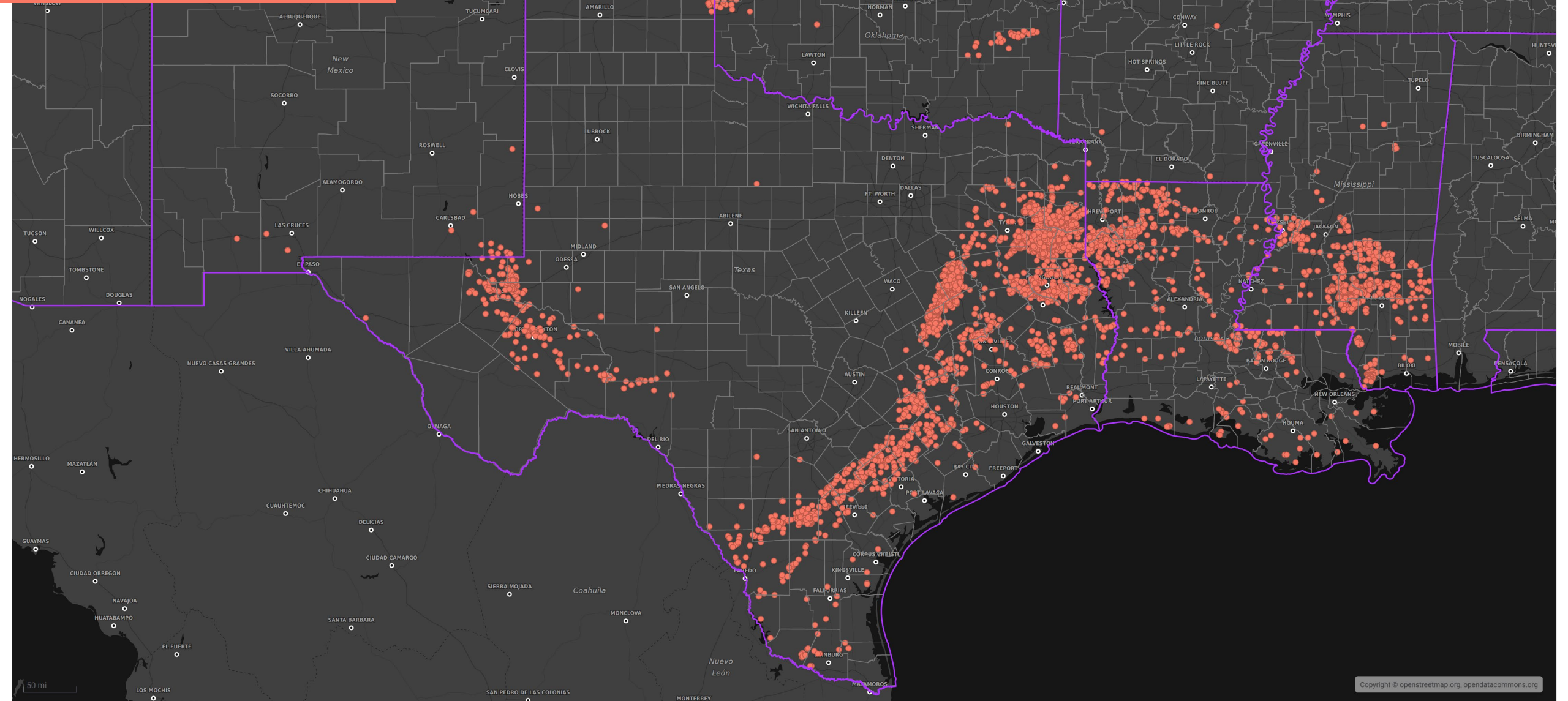
# Gas Prone Tier 1 Pressure



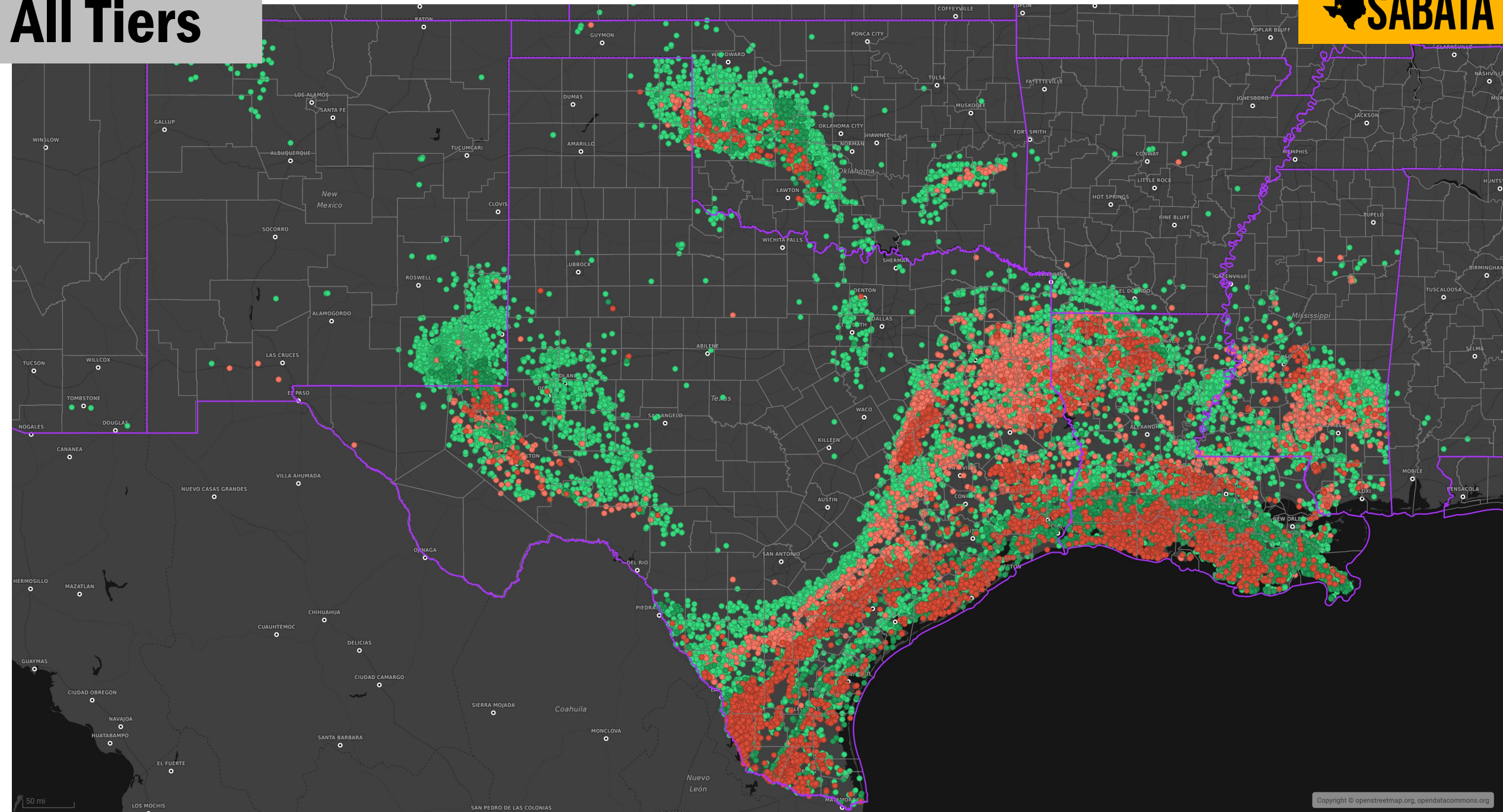
# Liquids Prone Tier 2 Pressure



# Gas Prone Tier 2 Pressure



# All Tiers

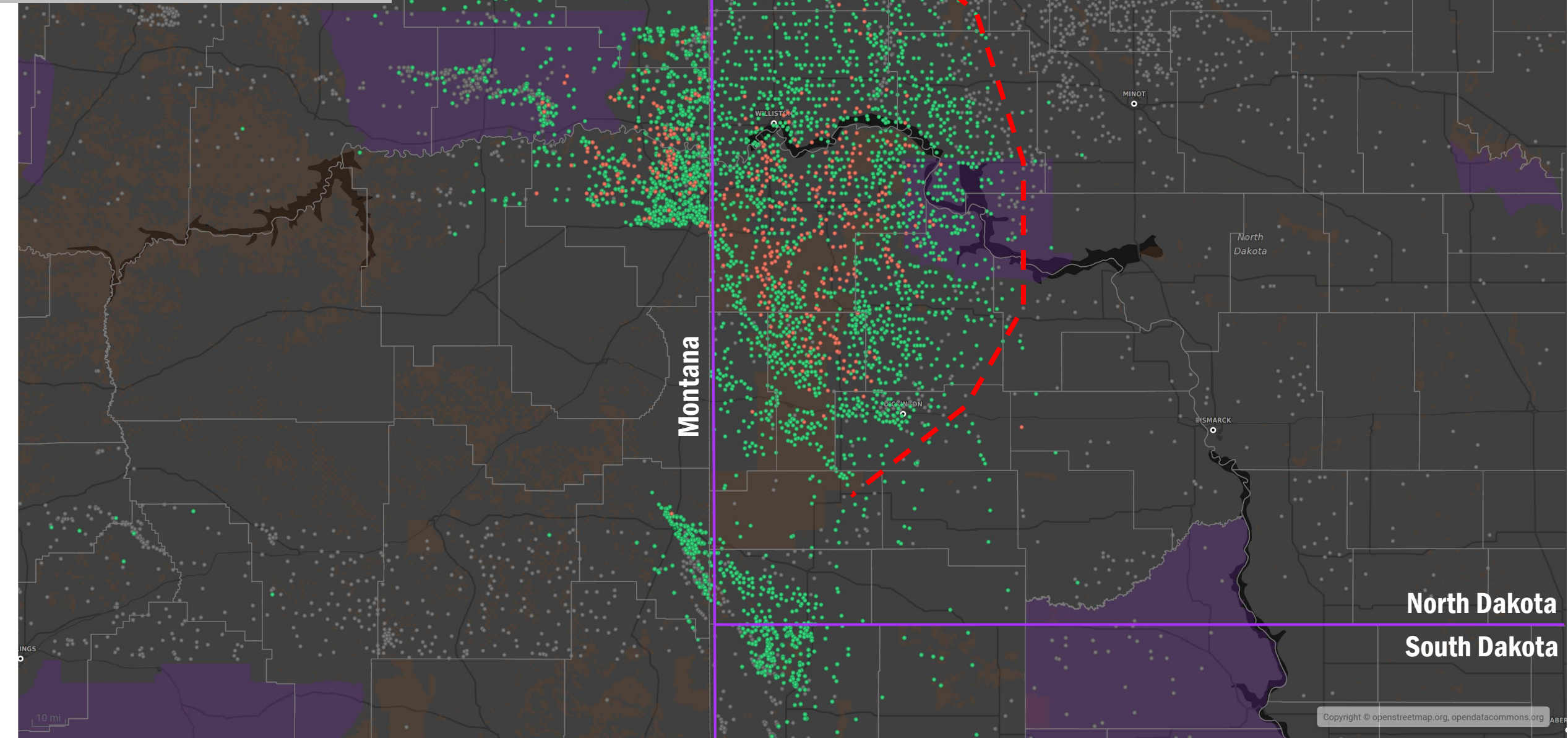


# **Blind Test – Bakken Play**

# Carpet Bomb

## 1 well log/section

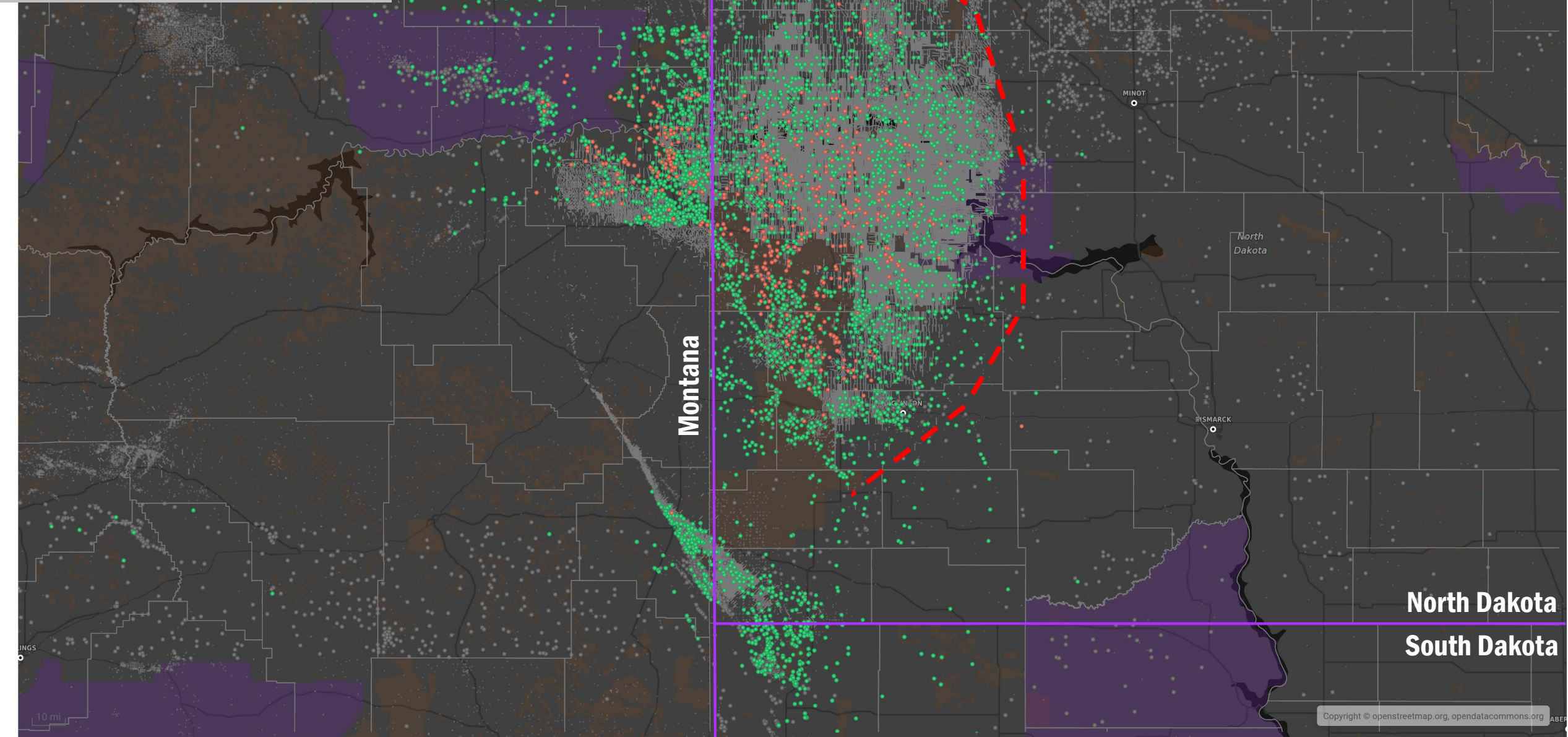
● LIQUIDS PRONE (TIER 1) ● LIQUIDS PRONE (TIER 2) ● GAS PRONE (TIER 1) ● GAS PRONE (TIER 2)



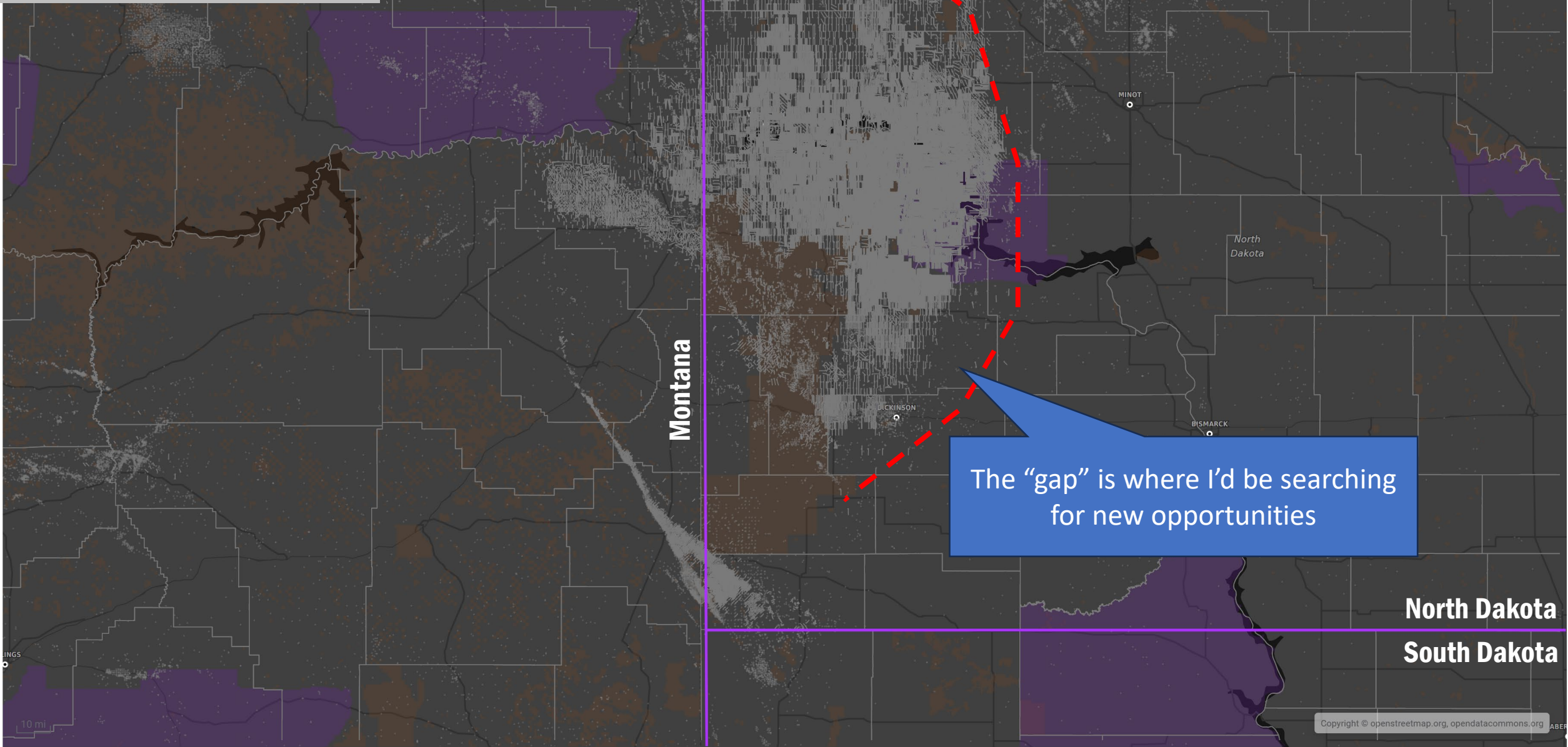
# Carpet Bomb

## 1 well log/section

● LIQUIDS PRONE (TIER 1) ● LIQUIDS PRONE (TIER 2) ● GAS PRONE (TIER 1) ● GAS PRONE (TIER 2)



# Carpet Bomb 1 well log/section



The "gap" is where I'd be searching for new opportunities

North Dakota  
South Dakota

# Final Thoughts

- The shale party isn't over...
- Now we have to decide...
  - Do we look for an afterparty?



**SABATA**