

Successful Oilfield Water Management 5 Unique Case Studies

Brent Halldorson Fountain Quail Water Management

Charting a Logical Path

Saltwater

- Lower cost (minimal treatment).
- Difficult logistics (storage + transport)

SALTWATER

(BASIC)
TSS/POLYMER
REMOVAL ONLY

(CUSTOM) REDUCE HARDNESS, SCALING INDEX, ETC.

Freshwater

- Higher cost (thermal distillation).
- Lower risk store and transport freshwater.

FRESHWATER

IS THE COST WARRANTED? LOGISTICS.

ZLC

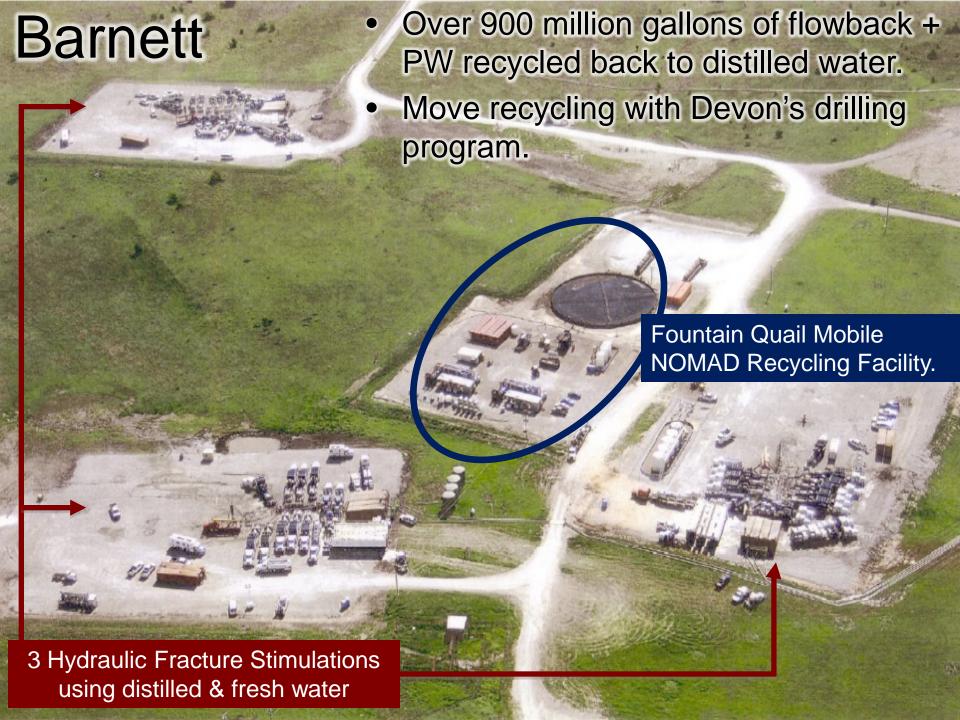
Freshwater #1 – Devon Energy Barnett Shale TX

Background:

- ➤ Early on everyone used freshwater for fracs.
- Disposal was limited (until Ellenburger used for disposal).
- Devon has a large acreage position held by production.
- FQWM had to become very efficient to compete with low cost Ellenburger disposal.

Objectives:

- Move recycling (disposal + freshwater) close to drilling activity.
- ② Frac with freshwater (minimal storage & transport issues).
- ③ Reduce disposal volume.
- Tie in nearby well flowback & PW using poly pipe.



Freshwater #2 – PW Into Freshwater, Upper Wolfcamp

Background:

- Customer has 17 wells tied into central SWD. Dispose of 5,000-7,000bpd.
- Freshwater is limited and costly. Customer prefers fraccing with and handling freshwater.
- ➤ Heavy brine (9.5-10#) has value to operator and others in the region.
- Early flowback hauled long distance to disposal.

Objectives:

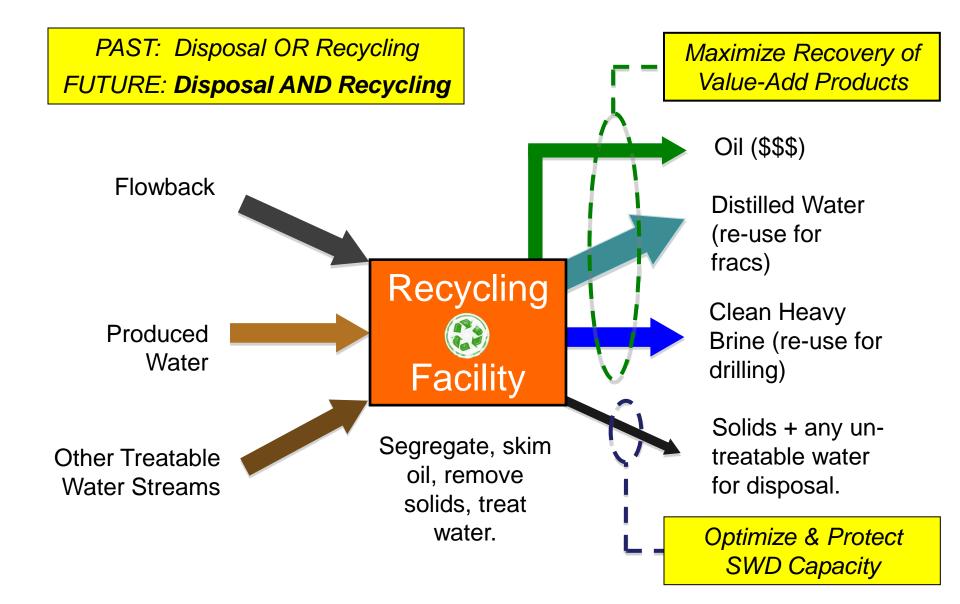
- Use PW as source water to create freshwater using NOMADs. Become independent of groundwater.
- ② Reduce SWD volume & extend SWD life.
- ③ Re-use NOMAD concentrate brine (9.5#) for drilling & completions.
- Treat high-solids flowback near source.



- Evaporation rate is very high (dry, windy).
- Nature concentrates NOMAD waste brine to 10# at no cost.



Recycling Center – Hub for Water



Saltwater #1 – Eagle Ford Shale TX

Background:

- The Eagle Ford is in "drill-to-hold" mode.
- ➤ Producers need a very mobile solution and can reuse saltwater in nearby fracs.
- Customer objective was to clean flowback and PW for reuse (high capacity, low cost).
- ➤ Remove TSS, iron and polymers.

Objectives:

- ① Test flowback (early, middle and late) and PW removal efficiencies at the well site level.
- ② Set-up in 12 hours and be ready for flowback.

High capacity (10,000bpd).

Solids removed prior to re-use.





	Parameter	Metric	Influent to ROVER (Feed)	Effluent from ROVER	Removal
	Alkalinity	mg/L CaCO3	406	206	49%
	Iron (Fe)	mg/L	83	trace	100%
	Manganese (Mn)	mg/L	1.2	trace	100%
H	Total Hardness (Ca+Mg)	mg/L	1025	602	41%
	Silica (SiO2)	mg/L	148	27	82%
	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	180	19	89%
	Turbidity	NTU	>100	3	n/a
	рН	рН	6.8	6.8	n/a
	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	mg/L	32,835	34,610	n/a

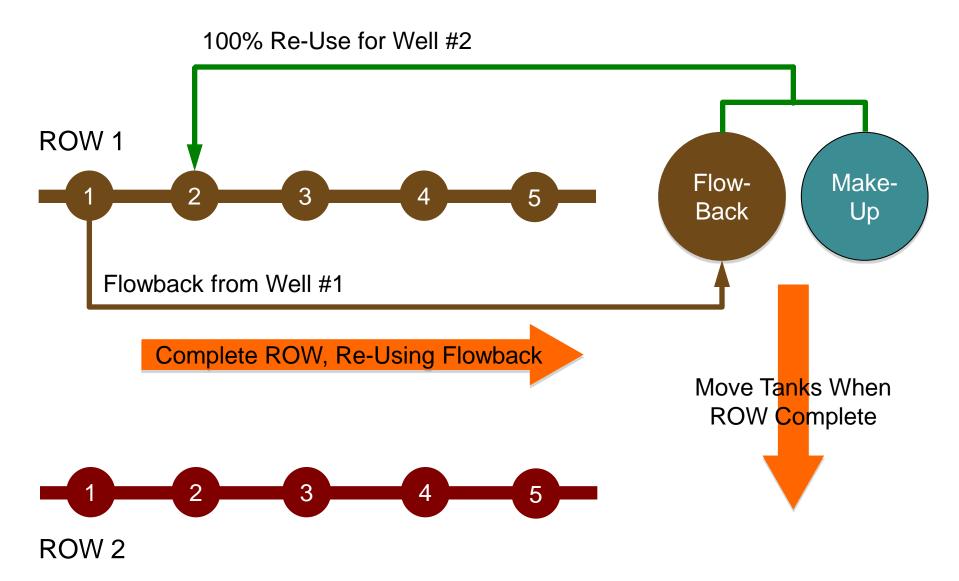
Saltwater #2 – Woodford/Cana OK

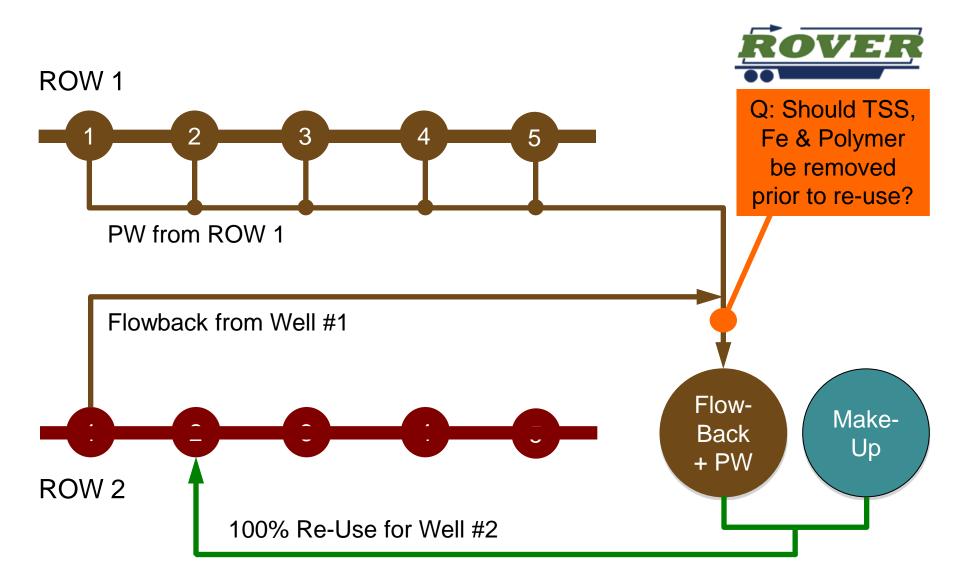
Background:

- ➤ Wells are drilled in "Rows". All flowback along each row is hard-pipe connected to tanks for re-use.
- ➤ Upon completion of a Row, the PW from that Row is connected to the next for reuse.
- The flowback and PW can easily be cleaned with the ROVER prior to re-use (TSS/polymer).

Study Objectives:

- Remove TSS from incoming flowback and PW prior to re-use.
- ② Prevents expensive cleanup when moving tanks from old Row to new Row.
- ③ Improve frac performance (reduce scaling index). Difficult to quantify value.





- Water formed good floc using FQWM standard treatments.
- Turbidity dropped from 600 NTU to 5 NTU.



Proposed ROVER Treatment cost: \$0.79/bbl.

Customer opted to continue "as-is" and re-use the water without treatment. They recognize that high solids has potential negative impacts for production, but they cannot quantify whether improved water quality will affect production.

Re-use without treatment can be a valid water management strategy.

Saltwater #2 – RO Brackish, Wise County, TX

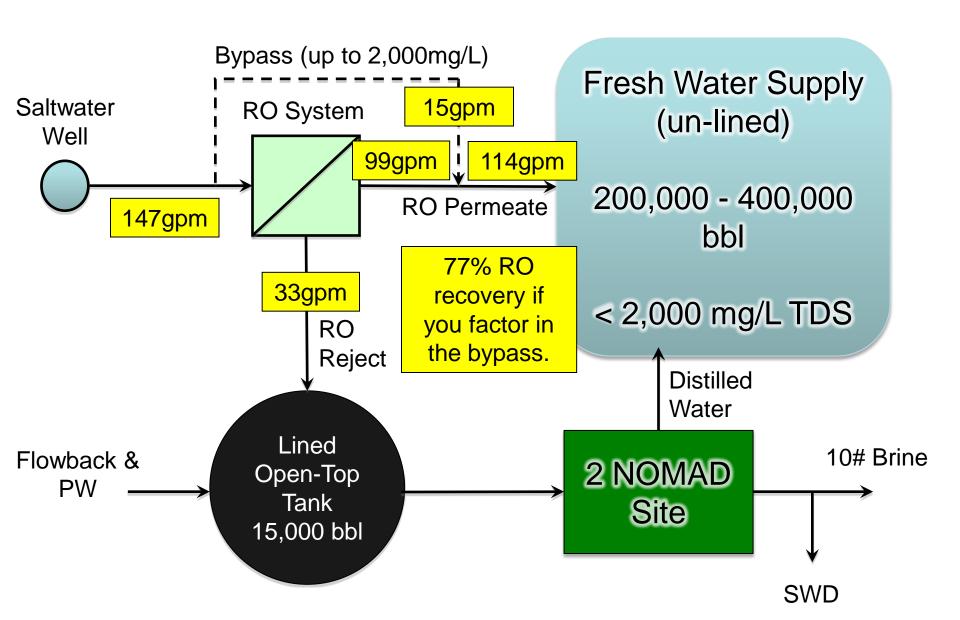
Background:

Customer challenged us with this problem:

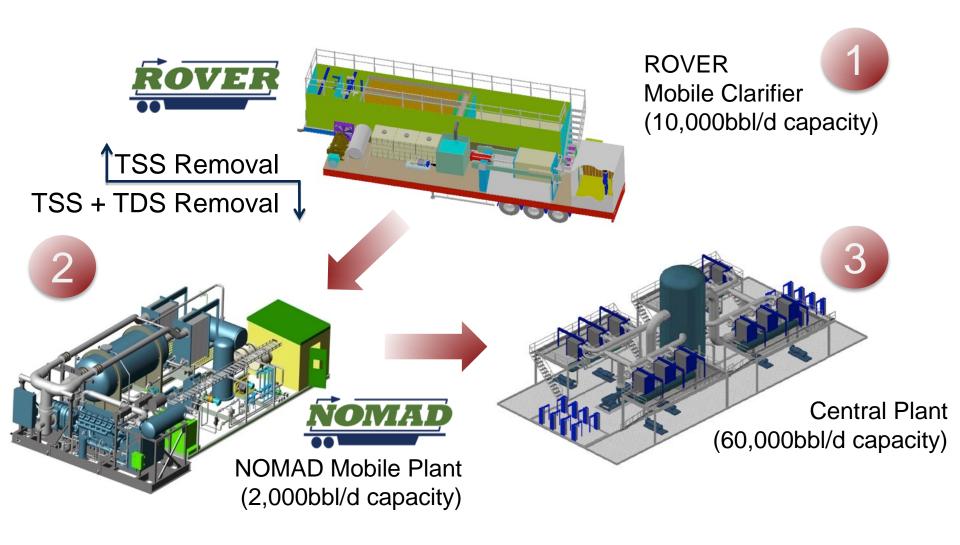
- They have an area in northern Wise County with limited freshwater.
- ➤ There are saltwater wells available.
- ➤ They prefer to have a large freshwater pond and use freshwater if possible.
- ➤ Is it economic to try to go to freshwater?

Study Outcome:

- ①Budget cost: \$0.50/bbl for RO.
- ②RO recovery increased by blending up to 2,000mg/L TDS into the "freshwater" pit.
- 3 The RO reject is sent to NOMAD treatment and is handled along with flowback and PW.



Flexibility



New Trends

- Pit covers (prevent evaporation).
- Combine Recycling & Disposal (not Recycling OR Disposal).
- More use of brackish water and saltwater be careful about hydrogeology.
- Have a common sense discussion with parties involved:
 - Landowners are often writing leases stating that E+Ps must buy groundwater from them.
- Incentivize, not mandate recycling (i.e.: TWRA).
 www.txwra.org

What is Needed?

1. Common Sense Approach.

Ask the right questions & keep it simple (saltwater or freshwater).

2. Range of Solutions.

- Look for a proven track record. Talk to the customers.
- Technology must be based on real science backed up with real results.

3. Flexibility.

Solution must be adaptable to the changing needs of the industry.

4. Cooperation.

Share results and experiences (good <u>and</u> bad). We can learn as much, or more, from what has not worked.