The first commercial gas field, Clay Basin, was discovered in 1927 in the southern Green River Basin. These fields produced only small amounts of oil, and only Mexican Hat still pumps a few barrels per day. Virgin (1907) west of Zion National Park, Mexican Hat (1908) near Monument Valley, and Cane Creek (1919) on the eastern shore of Great Salt Lake during the drilling of a water well. Between 1895 and 1896, gas and oil were discovered in the Paradox Basin. In 1905, the famous Sandia Mining Company of the Colorado Mining District drilled the Paradox gas field in the northernmost desert. During the 1900s, companies clamored to drill oil and gas, but with limited success. The majority of the oil produced during this time was natural gas. Texas companies began producing gas from wells that they drilled for oil. By 1914, Texas produced 20,000 barrels of gas per day.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, the exploration and development of oil and gas in Utah were largely driven by companies looking for oil. The main fields discovered during this period were Paradox, Farmington, and Mexican Hat. These fields were not very productive, but they paved the way for future discoveries.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, the exploration and development of oil and gas in Utah were largely driven by companies looking for oil. The main fields discovered during this period were Paradox, Farmington, and Mexican Hat. These fields were not very productive, but they paved the way for future discoveries.
### Early Uinta Mountain/Uinta Basin Discoveries, Eastern Utah

#### First Commercial Oil Discovery – 1948: Ashley Valley Field, Southern flank of the Eastern Uinta Mountains, Uintah County, Utah

- **Localities and Features**
  - **Pattern of Structure**
  - **Depositional Setting** for the lacustrine Green River Formation: Roche Lake Uinta

#### Largest Oil Field in Utah – 1956: Greater Aneth Field, Paradox Basin, Paradox Formation, Paradox Basin, and Northeastern Arizona

- **Field Features**
  - **Depositional Setting** for the lacustrine Green River Formation: Roche Lake Uinta

#### Largest Gas Field in Utah – 1952: Natural Buttes Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah County, Utah

- **Field Features**
  - **Depositional Setting** for the lacustrine Green River Formation: Roche Lake Uinta

### Early Paradox Basin Discoveries, Southeastern Utah

- **First Commercial Discovery in the Paradox Basin – 1948: Boundary Butte Field, San Juan County, Southeastern Utah**

- **Largest Oil Field in Utah – 1956: Greater Aneth Field, Paradox Basin, San Juan County, Southeastern Utah**

- **Largest Gas Field in Utah – 1952: Natural Buttes Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah County, Utah**

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### Textual Content

- **Depositional Setting for the Lacustrine Green River Formation: Roche Lake Uinta**

- **Largest Gas Field in Utah – 1952: Natural Buttes Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah County, Utah**

- **Largest Oil Field in Utah – 1956: Greater Aneth Field, Paradox Basin, San Juan County, Southeastern Utah**

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### Diagrams

- **Structure contour map of the top of the Ismay zone, Boundary Butte Field, San Juan County, Southeastern Utah**

- **Structure contour map of the top of the Green River Formation, Natural Buttes Field, Uintah County, Utah**

- **Structure contour map of the top of the Green River Formation, Greater Aneth Field, San Juan County, Southeastern Utah**

- **Structure contour map of the top of the Green River Formation, Blackbird Field, Uintah County, Utah**

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### inline text:

- **1949: Roosevelt (now Buhlfield) Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah and Duchesne Counties, Utah**
  - **Reservoir characteristics**
  - **Depositional Setting**
  - **Reservoirs**
  - **Status**
  - **Cumulative production**
  - **Average well depth**

- **1951: Red Wash Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah County, Utah**
  - **Reservoir characteristics**
  - **Depositional Setting**
  - **Reservoirs**
  - **Status**
  - **Cumulative production**
  - **Average well depth**

- **1952: Natural Buttes Field, Uinta Basin, Uintah County, Utah**
  - **Reservoir characteristics**
  - **Depositional Setting**
  - **Reservoirs**
  - **Status**
  - **Cumulative production**
  - **Average well depth**

- **1956: Greater Aneth Field, Paradox Basin, Paradox Formation, Paradox Basin, and Northeastern Arizona**
  - **Depositional Setting**
  - **Reservoirs**
  - **Status**
  - **Cumulative production**
  - **Average well depth**

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### Footnotes

- **Modified from Wray and others (2002), Wood and Chidsey (2015).**

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### Additional Information

- **Depositional Setting**
  - **Lacustrine Green River Formation**
  - **Eocene Lake Uinta**

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### References

- After Picard (1957).
- Modified from Wray and others (2002), Wood and Chidsey (2015).
**Early Paradox Basin Discoveries (Continued)**

- First Cretaceous Conventional Gas and Coalbed Methane Discoveries, Central Utah


- First CBM Discovery, Rock Cliffs - 1990: Castlegate Field, Carbon County, Utah


*Representative boundary definitions of the Conventional/Methane CBM play (below) are based on the geologic frameworks, stratigraphic, tectonic, hydrologic, and economic analyses performed for the Missouri Border SMP and adjacent study areas. The Conventional/Methane play is defined as:*

**References**

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