

Community Exposure Associated with Water Quality Near Unconventional Oil and Gas Development in Colorado and New Mexico

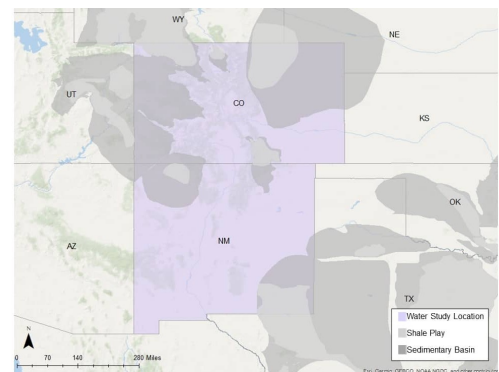
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Study Description

ABOUT Fact sheet in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

GOAL Analyze water quality and oil and gas operator data to produce a framework for identifying pathways between specific unconventional oil and gas development (UOGD) processes and potential groundwater and surface water contamination. The framework will be broadly applicable to oil and gas regions in the United States.



General study locations

What's happened?

- Analyzed water quality data and oil and gas operations records to identify case studies involving water supply contamination by benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) in Colorado.
- Examined the water quality data to identify whether concentrations of other chemicals exceed drinking water standards. This information will be used to help determine the source of BTEX detected in community water supplies.

What's new?

- Exploring the water quality data and oil and gas operations records to identify potential cases of release and transport of chemicals from oil and gas facilities to community water supplies.

What's next?

- Use the cases to inform in-depth chemical transport pathway modeling.
- Use the cases to estimate the health risk associated with community exposure to chemicals detected in community water supplies.

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