

Chasing Ancient Oceans

Proposed Grand Junction talk for 19 Feb 2025

Abstract

**Robert G. Reynolds
Denver Museum of Nature & Science**

Colorado's record of sedimentary rocks can be considered as a series of depositional episodes (deposodes per Galloway). Broad patterns of subsidence and sediment supply have controlled the distribution of sedimentary rocks and this includes the occurrence of oil/gas source, reservoir and seal rocks through time and space.

The principal hydrocarbon engine in Colorado is in the Cretaceous Interior Seaway where we have found the majority of hydrocarbons that have been produced from our State.

New stratigraphic charts and diagrams will be used to show the regional trends in this ancient seaway, and the relations to local rock outcrops and mapping horizons in the Grand County region will be considered.

A proposal to create integrated charts between Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico will be discussed and feedback sought from the audience. This concept is being prepared for presentation to the respective State Geologists with the anticipation that regional patterns may become more evident and that future studies will be facilitated through more rigorous regional correlations.