

# Depth to Top of the Inyan Kara Group Butte, Meade, and Lawrence Counties, South Dakota

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2013

## INTRODUCTION

This map is a product of the Belle Fourche River Watershed Groundwater Study performed by RESPEC, and is part of a series of 1:180,000-scale structure contour and depth-to maps for the study. The study area consists of Butte, Meade, and Lawrence counties located in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The study focused on four major aquifers including the Inyan Kara, Minnelusa, Madison, and Deadwood. The purpose of this map is to show the depth to top of the Inyan Kara Group within the study area.

## DATA

The outcrops and structural features shown on the map are from Martin and others (2004), with modifications to the structural features from Lisenbee (1985). The data points used to generate this map were compiled from the interpretations of drillers' logs of numerous monitoring, water, and oil and gas test holes. The primary drill-hole data sources used in this study are digital databases generated by state government programs: (1) the well completion report database created by the Water Rights Program, South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, (2) the lithologic logs database created by the South Dakota Geological Survey Program, and (3) the oil and gas database created by the Minerals and Mining Program, South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (see REFERENCES). The locations of wells and drill holes are typically recorded based on legal location, thus the plotted latitude and longitude of these points is only approximate. The ground-surface elevation was also determined in ArcGIS from 30 m DEMs.

Depth to formation maps were generated using Spatial Analyst in ArcGIS. Structure contour maps generated as part of this project were interpolated into grids using the "topo to raster" tool to generate elevation surfaces for each formation. Then depth was calculated by subtracting the elevation of the formation from the surface elevation.

Depth approximations are more accurate near the outcrop and well control data. Depths are approximate and could vary by 100 feet or more.

The gradient color interval on this 1:180,000-scale map is 250 feet. A consistent color gradient is used on all maps in this series. Both the database and the depth grid are available digitally.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author thanks the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership for the opportunity to work on this project. This project was funded by a South Dakota Department of Agriculture Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry grant, Butte Conservation District, Butte County Commissioners, Meade County Commissioners, and the City of Spearfish. Thanks also to Matt Stollenberg and Jared Oswald (RESPEC) for their support of this project, Ken Buhler (Water Rights Program, Department of Environment and Natural Resources) for access to the Water Rights database, and Alvis Lisenbee (South Dakota School of Mines & Technology) for review and discussion.

