

# **River Mechanics Guest Lecture**

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**Googled to find Dr. Pierre Julien's  
Web site**

**Found out he has talents he doesn't  
advertise**

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# Pierre Julien-Moonlight French Sculptor (alter ego)



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# Acknowledgements

Anita Wood, Jan Oliver, Carolyn Donnelly, Cheryl Rolland, Viola Sanchez, Suzanne Devergie, Karl Martin, Steven Gonzales, Ron Ferrari, Kent Collins, David Varyu, Blair Greiman, Nathan Holste Tetra Tech EMI, Paula Makar, and Chris Gorbach, Dr. Pierre Julien and many CSU graduate students provided photographs and technical information for this presentation.

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WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

.....FOR THE FUTURE



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- Provide wholesale water for ~40 million people
- Irrigate ~60% of fresh fruits and vegetables in the US
- 53 hydropower plants produce 40 billion kilowatt hours generating nearly a 1 billion dollar/yr. in power revenues



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# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## **Bank Stabilization Design Guidelines**

Report No. SRH-2015-25  
Albuquerque Area Office  
Science and Technology  
Policy and Administration (Manuals and Standards)  
Yuma Area Office



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- **S. Michael Scurlock**

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# Bank Stabilization Design Guidelines

- **Preliminary Investigations and Method Selection**
  - **Project Requirements and General Assessment**
  - **The Role of Geomorphology in River Projects**
  - **Hydraulic Assessment of Energy, River Form, and Shear Forces**
  - **Scour Assessment**
  - **Selecting a Bank Stabilization Method**



# Bank Stabilization Design Guidelines

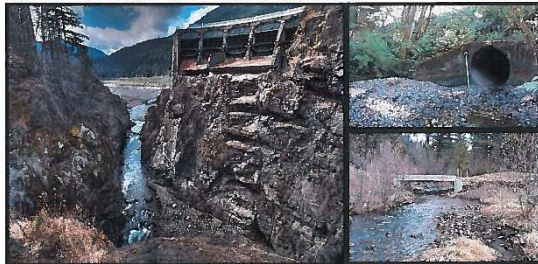
- **Design and Construction**
  - Preserving the Floodplain
  - Re-establishing the Floodplain
  - Design of Vegetated, Deformable Bank Lines
  - Design of Wood and Boulders
  - Channel Relocation/Construction
  - Transverse or Indirect Methods
  - Hardened Banks
  - Future Directions

# Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment

## RECLAMATION *Managing Water in the West*

### Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment

Advisory Committee on Water Information  
Subcommittee on Sedimentation  
Environment and Infrastructure Working Group



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Technical Service Center  
Denver, Colorado

September 2017

## JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION JAWRA AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

### Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment

Joel S. Sholtes, Caroline Ubang, Timothy J. Randle, Jon Fripp, Daniel Cenderelli, and Drew C. Baird

**Research Impact Statement:** We present a framework for infrastructure designers and managers to build and manage riverine infrastructure in a manner that is both resilient to hazards and more compatible with stream ecosystems.

**ABSTRACT:** Riverine infrastructure provides essential services for the operation and development of the world's nations and their economies. When much of this infrastructure was built in the United States, fluvial processes and stream ecology were not well understood, putting it in conflict with and at risk from the stream environment. High maintenance costs are often required to keep such infrastructure viable and some of it has led to the degradation of aquatic and riparian ecosystems. This commentary paper lays the foundation for infrastructure designers and managers to build and manage infrastructure in a manner both resilient to riverine hazards and more compatible with aquatic and riparian ecosystem needs. We introduce fundamental fluvial geomorphic and ecosystem concepts and provide a decision-making framework to replace or repair existing infrastructure or build new infrastructure. Common management challenges associated with 11 riverine infrastructure types are discussed and we provide suggestions on how each infrastructure type can be better built and managed within stream corridors. We close with a discussion on managing infrastructure under future hydrologic uncertainty and in response to natural disasters.

**(KEYWORDS:** rivers; aquatic ecology; riparian zone; sustainability; resiliency; restoration; floods; natural hazards.)

#### INTRODUCTION

Government agencies, along with private citizens, have worked to construct and manage a vast network of infrastructure within stream corridors. This riverine infrastructure and associated activities includes channel and floodplain works (channelization, large wood management, and floodplain encroachment), streamside infrastructure (roads, pipelines, levees, streambank protection), and stream crossing infrastructure (bridges and culverts, pipelines, grade control structures, dams, reservoirs, and

surface water diversion structures). We define riverine infrastructure broadly herein to include a spectrum of human activities in the stream corridor that fall under the umbrella of public works, stream engineering, and stream management. Riverine infrastructure provides vital services but is frequently detrimental to stream ecosystems and can pose a liability in terms of public safety and maintenance costs (Doyle et al. 2003; Nilsson et al. 2006; TNS and NRC 2006).

A large proportion of the infrastructure in the United States (U.S.) was built in the early and middle 20th Century and is nearing the end of its

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Sedimentation and River Hydraulics Group (Sholtes, Ubang, Randle, Baird), Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, Colorado, USA; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Fripp), National Resources Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas, USA; and National Stream and Aquatic Ecological Center (Cenderelli), U.S. Forest Service, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA (Correspondence to: Sholtes; jsholtes@bwr.com).

Editor: Sholtes, J.S., C. Ubang, T.J. Randle, J. Fripp, D. Cenderelli, and D.C. Baird 2018. "Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment." *Journal of the American Water Resources Association* 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1750-1824.12802>

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

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JAWRA

Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment, Journal of American Water Resources Association, Sept. 2018, by Sholtes, J.S., Ubang, C., Randle, T.J., Fripp, J., Cenderelli, D., and Baird, D.C.

# RECLAMATION

# Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment

- Much infrastructure build before fluvial processes and stream ecology were well understood
- Thus in many cases existing infrastructure is in conflict with the stream environment or at risk from it.
- This report lays foundation to build, maintain, or decommission infrastructure in a manner that is resilient to floods and channel migration.
- Introduce geomorphic and ecosystem concepts and provides recommendations for replacing, repairing, or building new infrastructure
- 4 stages discussed
  - Identifying project goals, scope and constraints
  - Evaluating hazards and values of the project
  - Formulating alternatives
  - Evaluating alternative for decision-making process and implementation of the project

# Managing Infrastructure in the Stream Environment

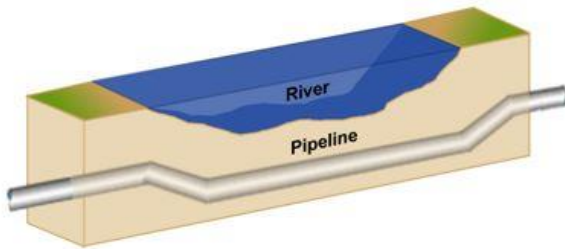
- **11 types of riverine infrastructure and management issues discussed:**
  - floodplain encroachment (general development in the floodplain)
  - large wood management
  - pipelines
  - levees and dikes
  - streambank protection
  - stormwater infrastructure
  - channelized rivers
  - grade control structures
  - transportation infrastructure
  - dams and reservoirs
  - surface water diversions

# Evaluating Pipeline Channel Crossing Hazards to Ensure Effective Burial

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*Managing Water in the West*

Technical Service Center Manuals and Standards

## Guidelines for Evaluating Pipeline Channel Crossing Hazards to Ensure Effective Burial



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Technical Service Center  
Denver Colorado

October 2019

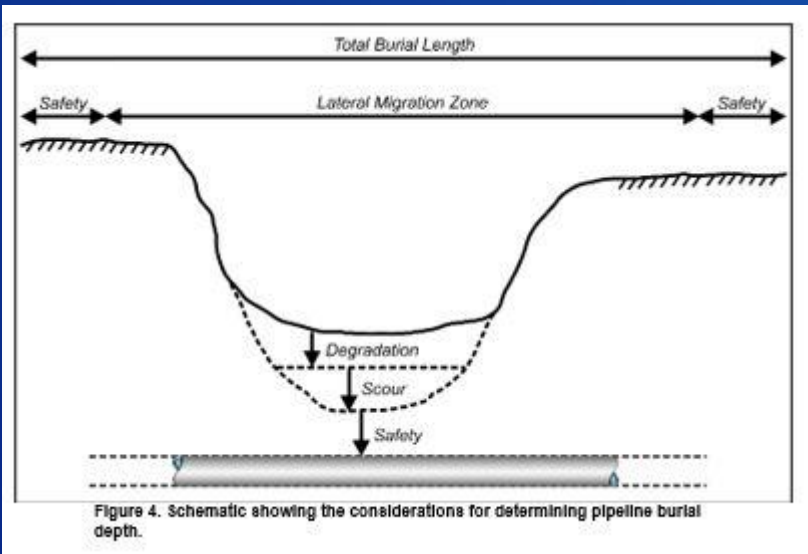
- **Authors:**
  - Drew Baird
  - Michael Sixta
  - Melissa Foster
  - Keil Neff

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# Evaluating Pipeline Channel Crossing Hazards to Ensure Effective Burial

- Office-Based Analysis of potential crossing sites
- Field investigation
- Hydrologic Analysis
  - Statistical Approaches
  - Rainfall-Runoff Modeling
- Hydraulic Analysis
  - At a station, 1-D HEC-RAS, 2-D
  - SRH-2D or HEC-RAS2D
- Degradation and Scour Analysis
  - Field evidence
  - General Scour
  - Bend Scour
  - Bedform Scour
  - Culvert Scour

# Evaluating Pipeline Channel Crossing Hazards to Ensure Effective Burial



$$Z_{event} = \text{MAX}(Z_{general}, Z_{bend}) + Z_{bedform}$$

$$Z_{total} = (Z_{event} + Z_{degradation})SF$$

$$L_{total} = L_{top\ width} + L_{movement} + SF$$

Scour SF 1.1 to 1.5

Lateral Migration SF 25-100 ft.

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# Geomorphic and Hydrologic

## Western New Mexico

### Channel Incision



- Washes actively incising
- Likely to continue
- Bed Lowering
- Potential Pipe Exposures
- Unsupported pipe suspension across wash

Apparent 5-8 ft. bed lowering,  
Failed Gabion Basket

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# Geomorphic and Hydrologic Hazards

## Headcuts



Head cut generated by subsurface flow



25 to 30 ft. deep head cut.  
Pipeline about 75 ft away.

# Geomorphic and Hydrologic Hazards

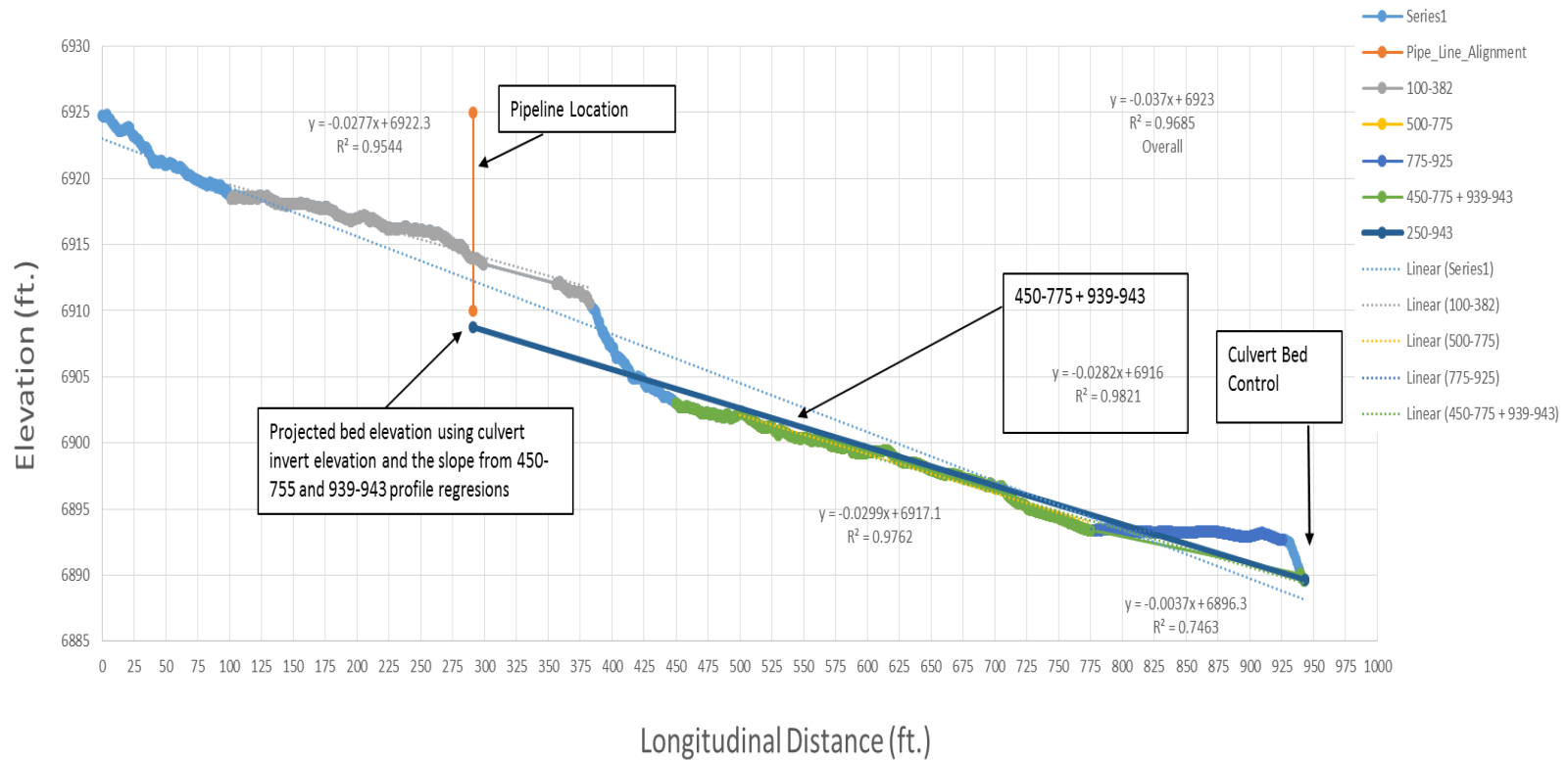


## Down valley migration

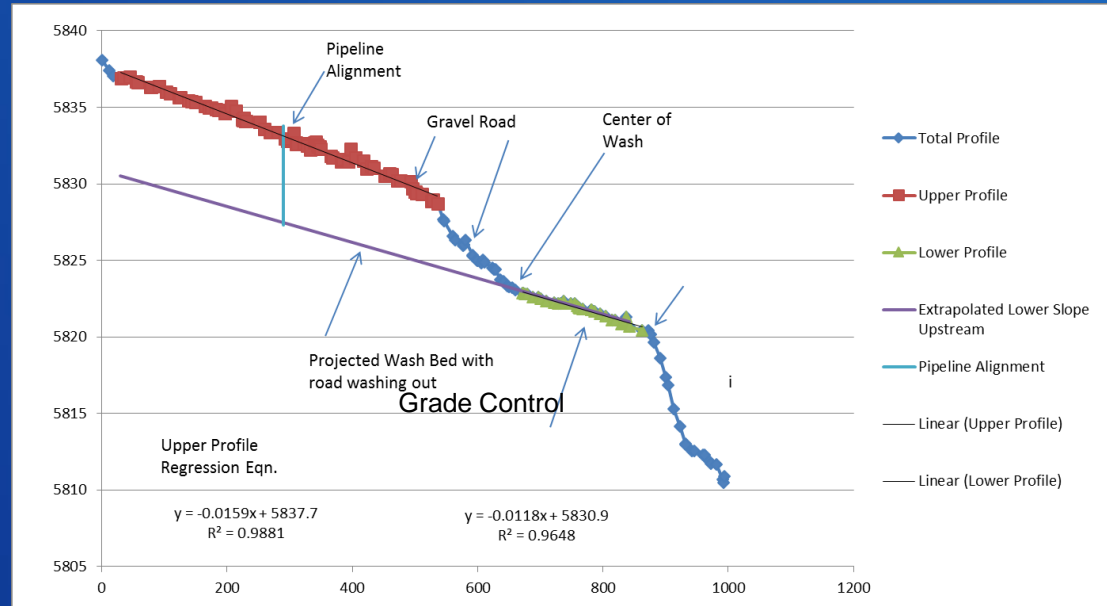
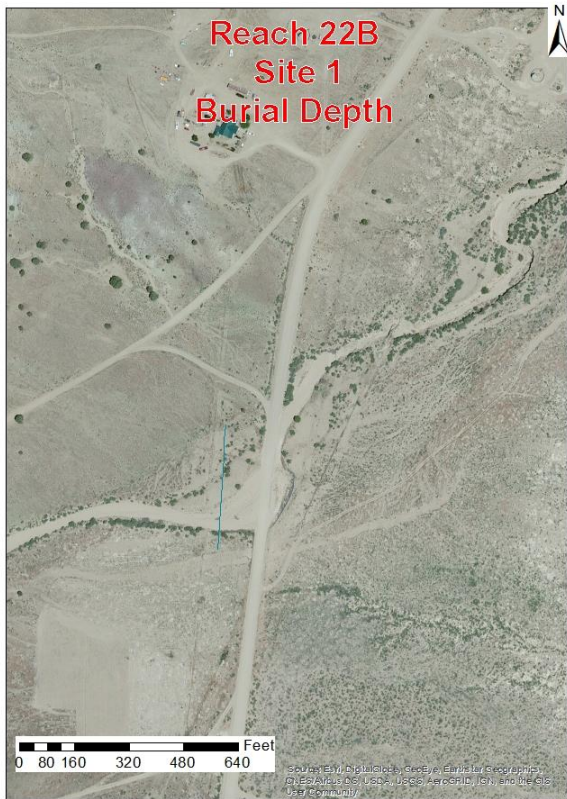
- Upper bank material collapsed and deposited at the toe.
- Next large enough flow event transports material eroding toe
- Bank fails along vertical planes...apparent cohesion.

# Degradation Estimate

Navajo Gallup Pipeline Reach 12.2 Site 4



# Navajo Gallup Reach 22B Site 1



# River Processes

- **Geology**
- **Geomorphology**
  - **Dynamic Equilibrium**
  - **Relationship between flows and sediment transport supply and sediment transport capacity**
    - **Aggradation**
    - **Degradation**
    - **Particle Stability**
    - **Stable Slope Calculation**
  - **Base level changes**

# River Processes

- **Dynamic Equilibrium**
  - **Balance between sediment transport capacity and sediment supply.**
    - **Cross section geometry and lateral location may change locally but the volume of sediment removal and the volume of deposition are nearly equal**
  - **Sediment transport capacity dependent upon slope, grain size, geometry, and hydrology.**
  - **Sediment supply dependent upon geology, upstream channel conditions, tributary input of sediment**
  - **More sediment supply than transport capacity leads to aggradation**
  - **Less sediment supply than transport capacity leads to degradation**

# River Processes

- **Aggradation**
  - Increased downstream bed slope
  - Decreased upstream bed slope
  - Reduced bank height
  - Potentially lower bank full flow capacity
  - Bed fining
  - Increased width
  - Tendency to decrease channel length
  - Potentially greater floodplain connectivity

# River Processes

- **Degradation**
  - Decreased downstream slope
  - Increased upstream slope if local
  - Increased bank height
  - Bed coarsening
  - Potentially higher bank full flow capacity
  - Tendency to increase channel length
  - Potential for decreased floodplain connectivity



# River Processes

- **Base Level Changes**
  - Reservoir or Diversion Structure
  - Channel incision downstream of Confluence
  - Effect can be Aggradation or Degradation
- **Urbanization**
  - Increased runoff
  - Same or lower washload supply
- **Incised channels**
  - Reduced sediment supply
  - Increased runoff from Urban development
  - Channel straightening

# River Engineering/Restoration

- **Develop hypothesis, channel processes, effects on resources and constraints**
- **Develop work plans to test hypothesis.**
- **Example hypothesis**
  - **Client: Erosion problems in the form of mass wasting causing deteriorated channel condition.**
  - **Questions:**
    - **What is the location of mass wasting in the water shed relative to causative factors such as base level changes, fire, human effects such as roads, railroads, bridges, land clearing, agricultural uses, or past channel straightening**

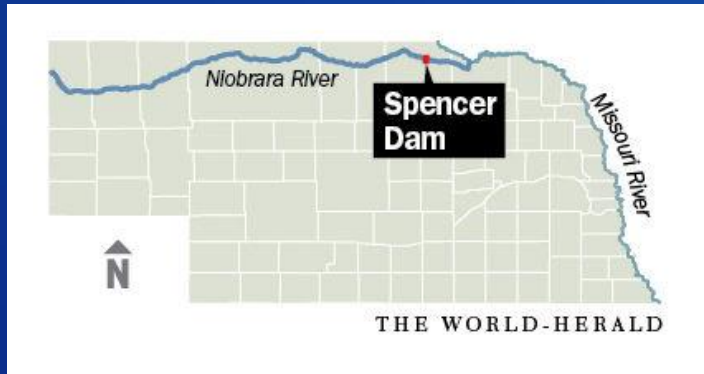
# River Engineering/Restoration

- **Questions continued:**
  - **What is the definition of “deteriorated channel condition”?**  
**Finer grained sediment fill active gravel deposits and preventing spawning, reduced channel capacity, or increase lateral migration into riverside infrastructure?**
- **What are client interest and goals**

# River Engineering/Restoration

- Review aerial photographs, geology maps, topographic maps, hydrologic records, and interview local residents.
- Determine field reconnaissance plan to answer questions and develop hypothesis
- Field reconnaissance/evaluation
- Refined hypothesis
- Action plan to test hypothesis and answer study analysis questions

# Mar. 14, 2019 Nebraska (rain, bomb cyclone, melting snow, ice jams)



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# Current events, road failure due to flooding Nebraska, and Apron Repair San Acacia Diversion Dam, NM



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# Lower Yellowstone Fish Bypass Channel Site Visit. Post Ice Jam Breach March, 2022



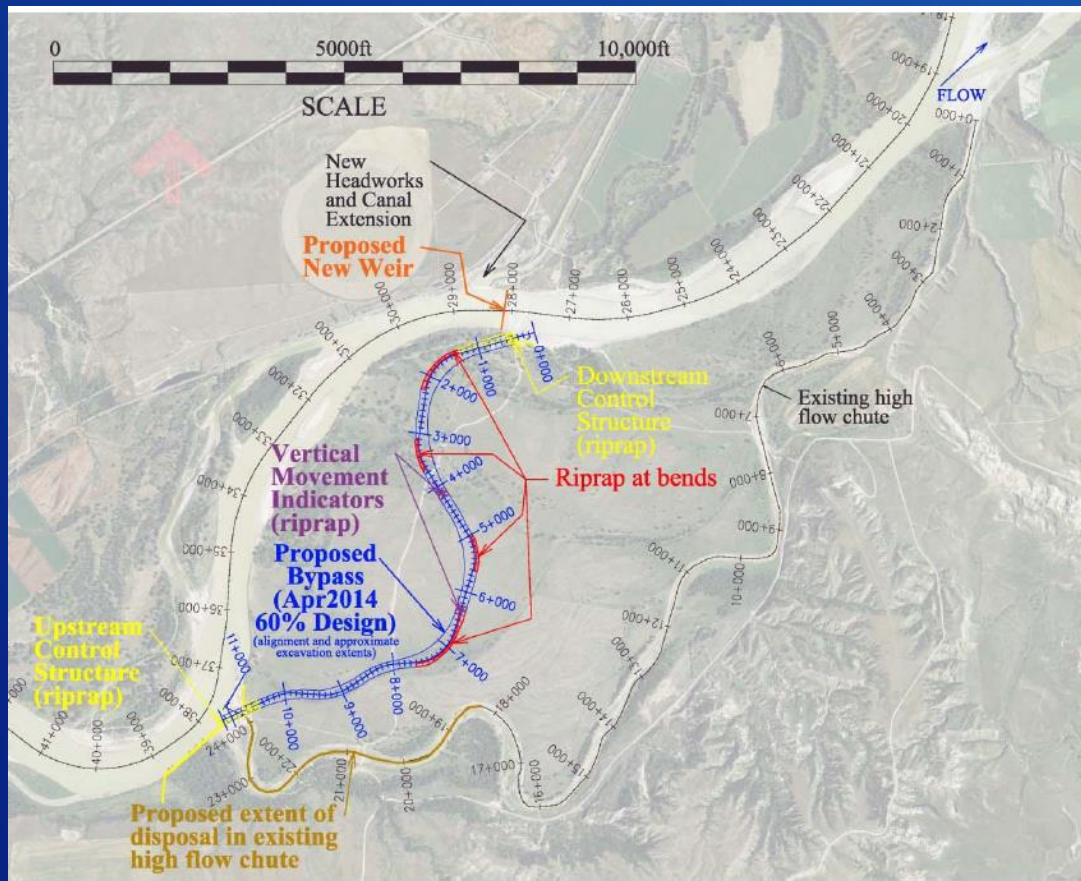
Intake Diversion Dam

Fish bypass flow inlet and upstream fish outlet

Left Channel (looking downstream) covered with ice



# Lower Yellowstone Diversion Dam Fish Bypass



- Flow Frequency
  - 2 yr. 54,000 cfs
  - 10 yr. 87,600 cfs
  - 50 yr. 116,200 cfs
  - 100 yr. 128,300 cfs

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# Ice Jam and Cofferdam Breach



- Discovered by contractor employee who was intending to re-fuel this pump.
- Ice jam and cofferdam breach caused a flow surge with velocities potentially exceeding design flow velocity.

Flow surge in the fish bypass channel damaged and relocated contractor's pump



# Fish Inlet (water outlet)



- Repair or bank erosion recommended
- Should bank line erosion continue would potentially change entrance angle. Designed based on nearby river characteristics
- Re-slope back to design and protect with riprap



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# Bend not protected with riprap



Continued erosion would potentially result in deep pool on outside of bend with larger flow velocity and shallow depths on inside of bend. Should extensive erosion occur the access road may need to be relocated.

Riprap bank protection is recommended with placement being on the existing eroded bank to provide some variable depth and velocity conditions.



# Rational for Repairs and Hydraulic Analysis Recommendation

Mainstem of River

Ice completely covering secondary channel water surface, 3-30-2022. Upstream of Intake Diversion Dam

- Future ice jams could occur in the future that could continue erosion at these three sites.
- Mar 17, 2014, ice in past secondary did not result in erosion
- Appears that the critical hydraulic design case could be a smaller ice jam breach flow surges (when Joe's island is not inundated)
- We recommend this condition be hydraulically modeled to evaluate potential impacts and repairs from future surges using this event to evaluate
- Survey high water marks to calibrate HEC-RAS model to determine this surge's discharge

# Repairs made 2 weeks later

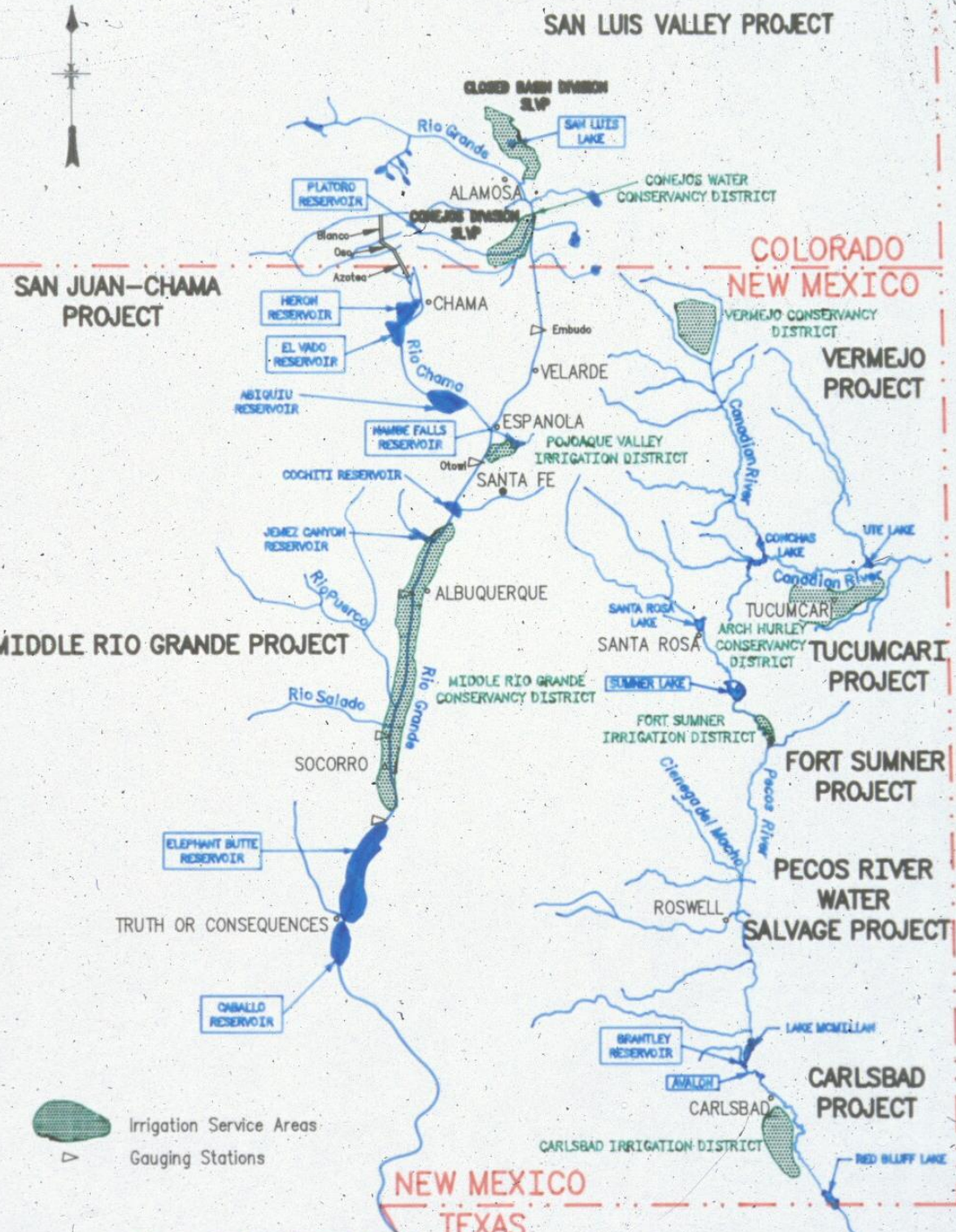


# Isleta Diversion Dam



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# SAN LUIS VALLEY PROJECT



SAN JUAN-CHAMA PROJECT

COLORADO  
NEW MEXICO

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE PROJECT

VERMEJO PROJECT

TUCUMCARI PROJECT

FORT SUMNER PROJECT

PECOS RIVER WATER SALVAGE PROJECT

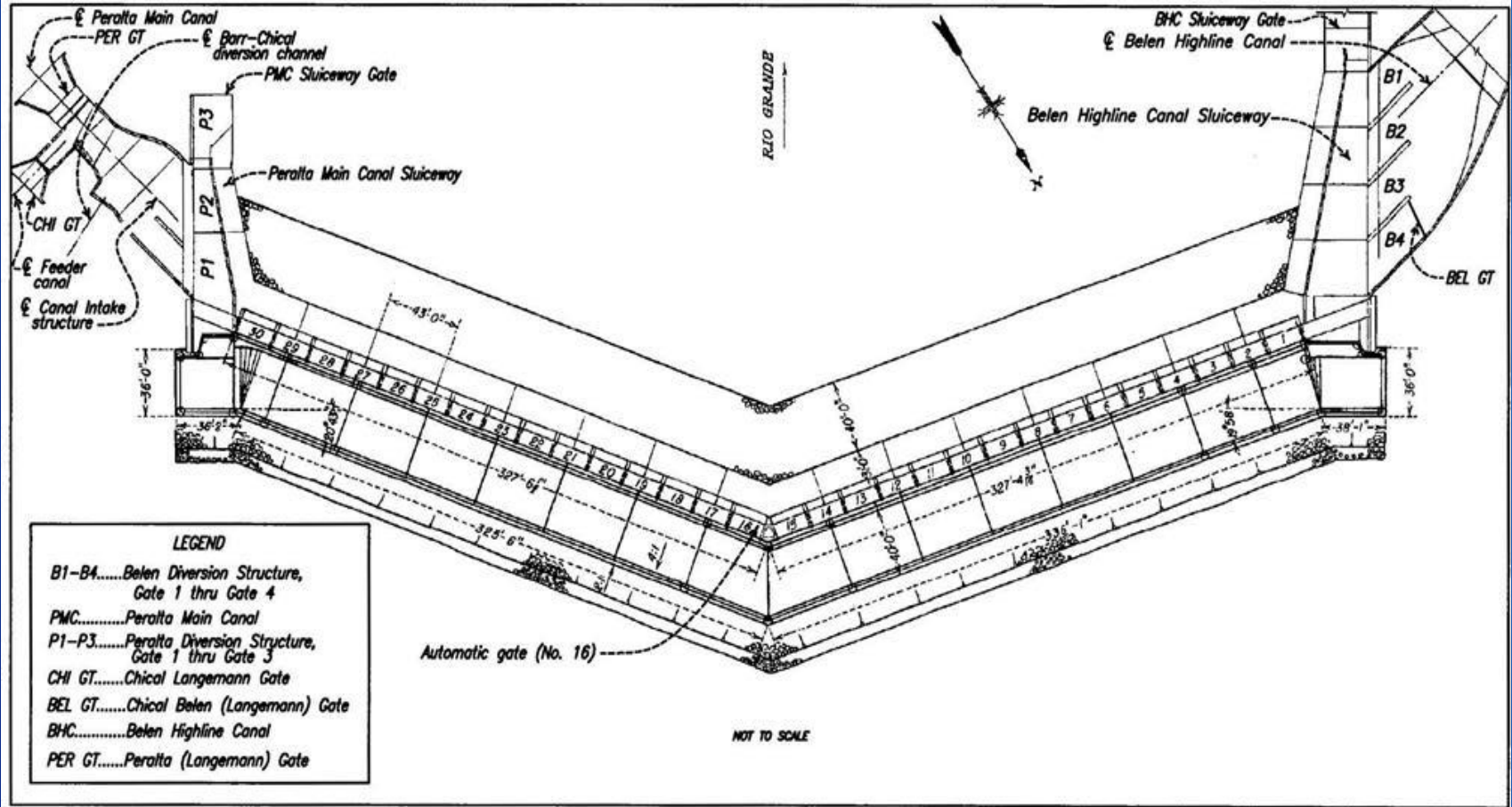
CARLSBAD PROJECT

NEW MEXICO  
TEXAS

Irrigation Service Areas  
Gauging Stations

TION

# Isleta Diversion Dam



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# Conceptual Sediment Management Framework for East Sluiceway Modifications



1. Align flow approaching sluiceway
2. Reduce turbulence of flow entering the sluiceway
3. Increase transport of sediment through the sluiceway
4. Minimize frequency and duration of sluicing operations
5. Reduce sediment diverted into the canals
6. Minimize persistent reductions in diversion flow capacity
7. Better manage sediment that continues to enter the canals
8. Adaptively manage gate operations



Photo by Tetra Tech 2019  
2019 MRGCD Spent in excess  
of \$1.2 M on sediment removal



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# Mobile bed and suspended sediment physical modeling

12.2 Rigid-Bed River Models 335

Table 12.1. Scale ratios for rigid-bed and mobile-bed river models

	Rigid-bed (Froude)			Mobile-bed		
	Prototype $P_r = 1$ $S_p = S_r$ $d_p = d_r$	Model $F_r = 1$ $S_p = f$ $d_p = d_r$	Complete $F_r = 1, S_p = f$ $d_p = 1, \nu_p = 1$ Same size as different size	Incomplete similitude $F_r \neq 1$ Same size as different size	Complete $F_r = 1, S_p = f$ $d_p = 1, \nu_p = 1$	Incomplete similitude $F_r \neq 1$ Same size as different size
<b>Geometric</b>						
Length	$L_r$	$L_r$	$L_r$	$L_r$	$L_r$	$L_r$
Width	$W_r$	$W_r$	$W_r$	$W_r$	$W_r$	$W_r$
Depth	$h_r$	$h_r$	$h_r$	$h_r$	$h_r$	$h_r$
Particle diameter	$d_p$	$d_p$	$d_p$	$d_p$	$d_p$	$d_p$
Section area	$Wd_r$	$Wd_r$	$Wd_r$	$Wd_r$	$Wd_r$	$Wd_r$
<b>Hydraulic</b>						
Time (flow)	$t_r$	$t_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$t_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$t_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$t_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$t_r L_r^{-1/2}$
Time (bed)	$t_b$	—	—	$t_b L_r^{-1/2}$	—	$t_b L_r^{-1/2}$
Velocity	$V_r$	$V_r L_r^{1/2}$	$V_r L_r^{1/2}$	$V_r L_r^{1/2}$	$V_r L_r^{1/2}$	$V_r L_r^{1/2}$
Shear velocity	$\tau_{*r}$	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$
Scoring velocity	$\omega_r$	—	—	$\omega_r L_r^{1/2}$	—	$\omega_r L_r^{1/2}$
Discharge	$Q_r$	$Q_r L_r^{3/2}$	$Q_r L_r^{3/2}$	$Q_r L_r^{3/2}$	$Q_r L_r^{3/2}$	$Q_r L_r^{3/2}$
Sediment discharge	$q_b$	—	—	$q_b L_r^{3/2}$	—	$q_b L_r^{3/2}$
<b>Dynamic</b>						
Shields	$M_r$	$M_r L_r^{1/2}$	$M_r L_r^{1/2}$	$M_r L_r^{1/2}$	$M_r L_r^{1/2}$	$M_r L_r^{1/2}$
Shear stress	$\tau_r$	$\tau_r L_r$	$\tau_r L_r$	$\tau_r L_r$	$\tau_r L_r$	$\tau_r L_r$
<b>Dimensionless</b>						
Slope	$S_r$	1	1	1	1	1
Darcy-Weisbach	$f_r$	—	—	$f_r L_r^{-1}$	—	$f_r L_r^{-1}$
Froude	$Fr_r$	1	1	1	1	1
Reynolds	$Re_r$	$Re_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$Re_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$Re_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$Re_r L_r^{-1/2}$	$Re_r L_r^{-1/2}$
Shields	$\tau_{*r}$	—	—	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$	—	$\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}$
Grass	$Re_b$	—	—	1	—	1
Reynolds	$Re_s$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_r$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_b$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_s$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_d$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_g$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_h$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_i$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_j$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_k$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_l$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_m$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_n$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_o$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_p$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_q$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_r$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_s$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_t$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_u$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_v$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_w$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_x$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_y$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_z$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{xx}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{yy}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{zz}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{xy}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{yz}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{zx}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{xy}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{yz}$	—	—	1	—	1
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Schmidt	$Sc_{zx}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{xy}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{yz}$	—	—	1	—	1
Schmidt	$Sc_{zx}$	—	—	1	—	1

12.4 Mobile-Bed River Models 341

Hydraulic

Froude  $F_r = 1$

Friction  $S_p = \frac{\tau_{*r}}{\rho g d_p} = \frac{\tau_{*r}}{\rho g d_p} \frac{L_r^{1/2}}{L_r^{1/2}} = \frac{\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}}{\rho g d_p L_r^{1/2}}$

or  $S_p = \frac{\tau_{*r}}{\rho g d_p} \frac{L_r^{1/2}}{L_r^{1/2}} = \frac{\tau_{*r} L_r^{1/2}}{\rho g d_p L_r^{1/2}}$

where  $\tau_{*r} = \frac{\rho g d_p S_p}{1}$

Sediment settling velocity ( $d_{sr} = 1$ )

Sediment transport ( $\tau_{*r} = 1$ )

$d_{sr} = \frac{v_s}{G-1}$

$\tau_{*r} = \frac{\tau_{*r}}{\rho g d_p}$

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342 Physical River Models

**Example 12.2 Calculation example for complete mobile-bed similitude**

Consider building a physical model for a very fine sand-bed river with an 8-m flow depth and 2 m/s velocity. Given a 40,000 m<sup>3</sup>/s flow discharge and 7 × 10<sup>-5</sup> slope, determine the scale ratios for complete similitude with  $x_r = 250$ . The prototype Shields parameter is  $\tau_{*p} = \frac{\rho g h_p S_p}{\rho g d_p} = \frac{8 \times 7 \times 10^{-5}}{0.08 \times 0.0002} = 1.7 > 0.03$ . The bed material is definitely mobile and the prototype value  $m = [2.3 \log(2 \times 80,000)]^{-1} = 0.089$ . The scale ratios for the following parameters are obtained from Column five of Table 12.1: (1) the depth ratio is  $z_r = z_p/x_r = 250^{0.089} \approx 80$  and the model depth is  $z_m = 8/80 = 0.1$  m; (2) the model particle diameter is  $d_{m0} = 0.2 \text{ mm}/250^{0.089} \approx 1.06 \text{ mm}$ ; and (3) it is interesting to calculate  $m = [2.3 \log(2 \times 0.1/0.0001)]^{-1} = 0.19$  for the model which is very close to the Manning-Strickler value  $m = 1/6 = 0.167$ .

Recalculating the scales now from Column six of Table 12.1 gives: (1) a model depth  $z_m = 8/250^{0.7} = 0.167$  m; (2) a particle size  $d_{m0} = 0.2 \text{ mm}/250^{0.2} \approx 0.6 \text{ mm}$ ; (3) the model sediment density  $(G-1)_m = 1.65/250^{0.6} \approx 0.06$ , or  $G_m = 1.06$ , for which gilsonite or polystyrene may be considered. The other parameters would be the hydraulic timescale  $t_r = 250^{0.65} = 36$ , and model velocity  $V_r = 250^{0.25} = 6.9$  with a model velocity  $V_m = 2/6.9 = 0.29 \text{ m/s}$ . The sediment timescale  $t_{sr} = 250^{1.1} = 11,900$  means that 1 h in the laboratory corresponds to 16 months of riverbed deformation. The model slope is  $S_m = S_p/S_r = 7 \times 10^{-5}/250^{-0.3} = 37 \times 10^{-5}$  and selecting  $\gamma_r = x_r$  results in a reasonable model discharge  $Q_m = Q_p/Q_r = 40,000/250^{0.25} \approx 0.48 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ .

We used length scale determined by physical size of lab space, number of gates and suspended sediment fall velocity



- Constructed 1:8 exact scale physical model of Peralta sluiceway and headworks and 10 adjacent river gates
- Constructed mixing boxes for continuous measurement of sediment concentration in the river channel, sluiceway and headworks.

# Physical Model and Instrumentation at Reclamation's Hydraulics Laboratory in Denver Colorado

Physical Model Design and  
Testing a combined team  
effort of MRGCD, POI (Tetra  
Tech) and Reclamation

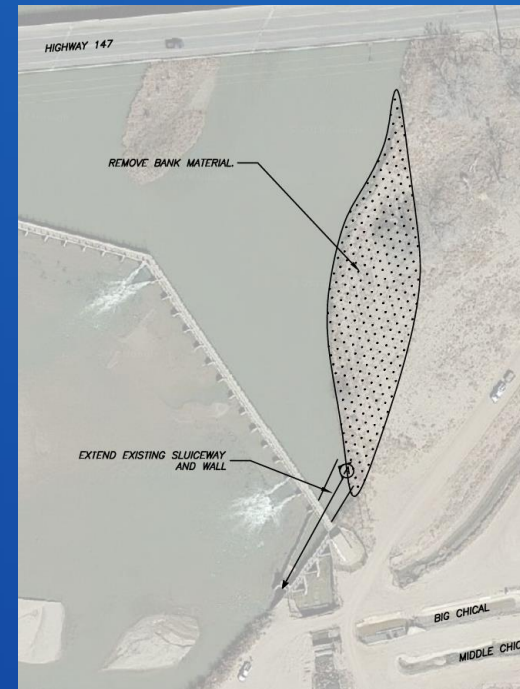


- Test Flows Represent 4,900 cfs in the river (2050 for 10 gates plus diversions and sluiceway outflow)
- Option performance comparison based on concentration in the headworks/concentration in the river ( $C_H/C_R$ )

Lab Team: Reclamation, Joseph Kubitschek, Drew Baird; MRGCD, David Gensler; Tetra Tech, David Pizzi

# East Sluiceway Sediment Management Options Tested in the Physical Model

- Existing configuration (Baseline)
- Realign east bank upstream of sluiceway
- Slope the sluiceway floor (into and out of sluiceway)
- Lengthen the sluiceway (straight and curved inlets)
- Widen the sluiceway
- Combinations



**Well represents sediment movement at Isleta.  
Flows could not transport sediment from flat  
sloped sluiceway**



# Tested 3.5% Sluiceway Bed Slope, Sluice Ops

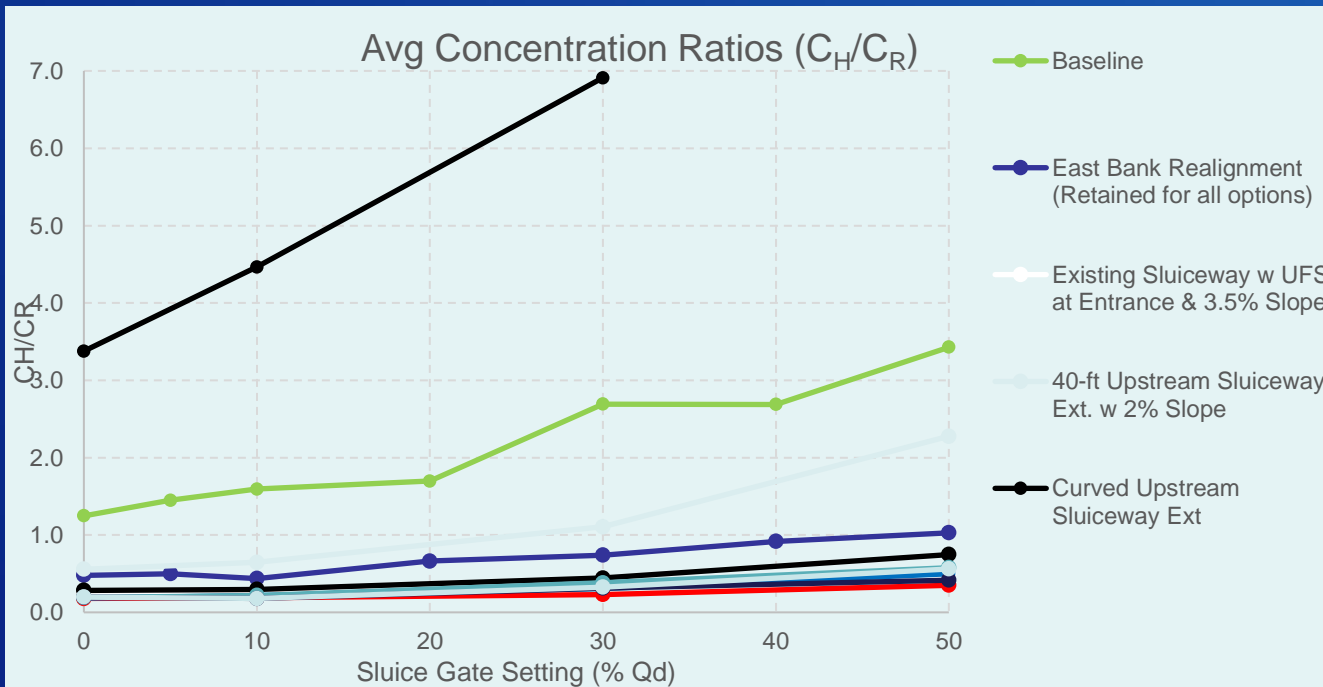


**Curved Sluiceway Extension Continuous Sluice  
Ops. Head loss from additional length caused  
deposition. Secondary currents from curved  
guidewall were ineffective.**



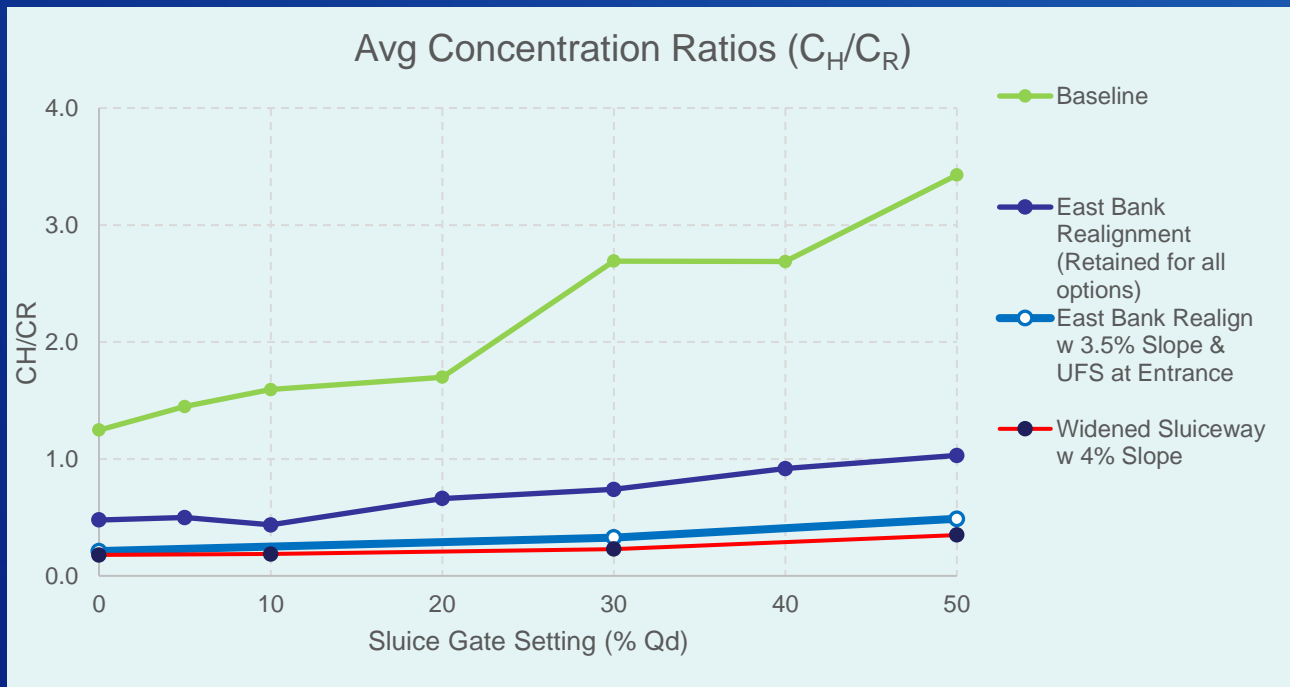
# Concentration Ratio Performance

## Headworks Concentration/River Concentration ( $C_H/C_R$ Ratio)





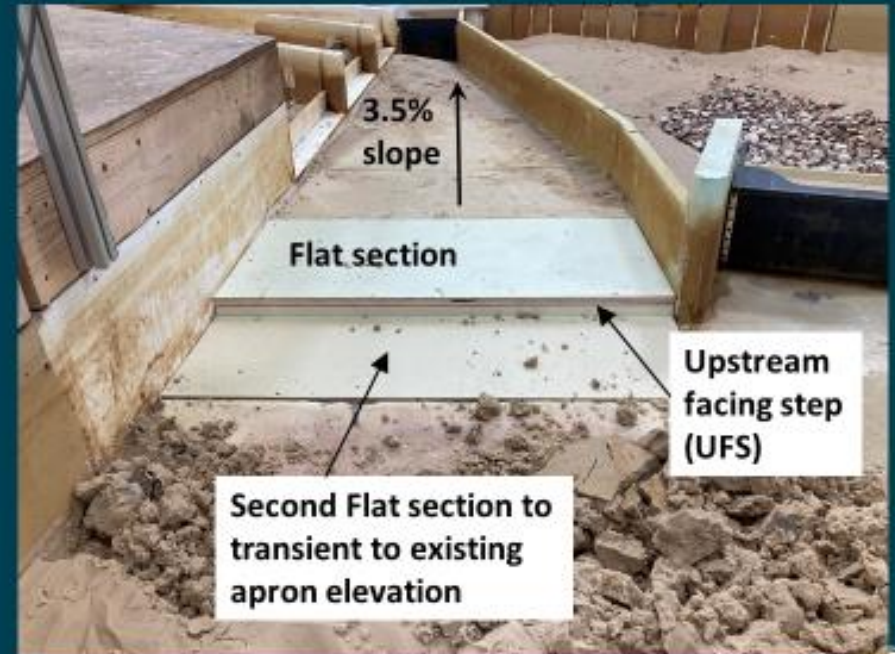
# Headworks to River Concentration Ratios for various sluiceway gate discharges and options



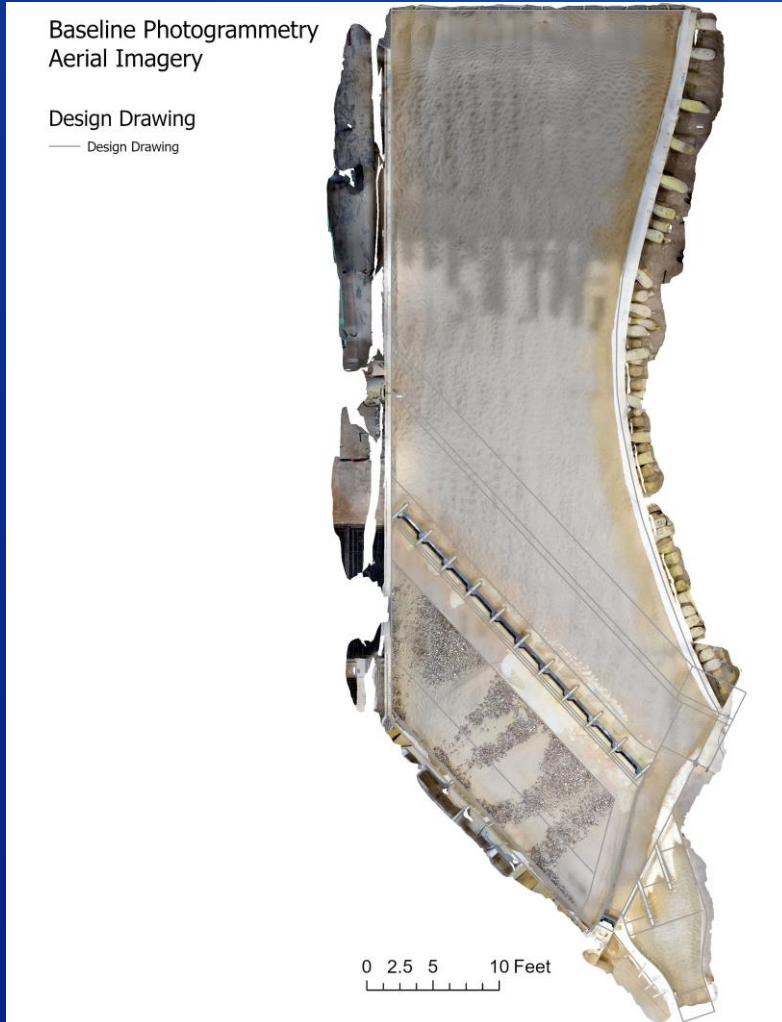
- **Realigning the east bank provided most benefit**
- **Preferred alternative East Bank realignment w/3.5% slope and UFS entrance.**



# Existing Sluiceway with 3.5% slope, flat section and upstream facing step (UFS)



# New 2-D Mobile Bed with Gate Functions (State of the Art by Dr. Yong Lai) Beta Test Case



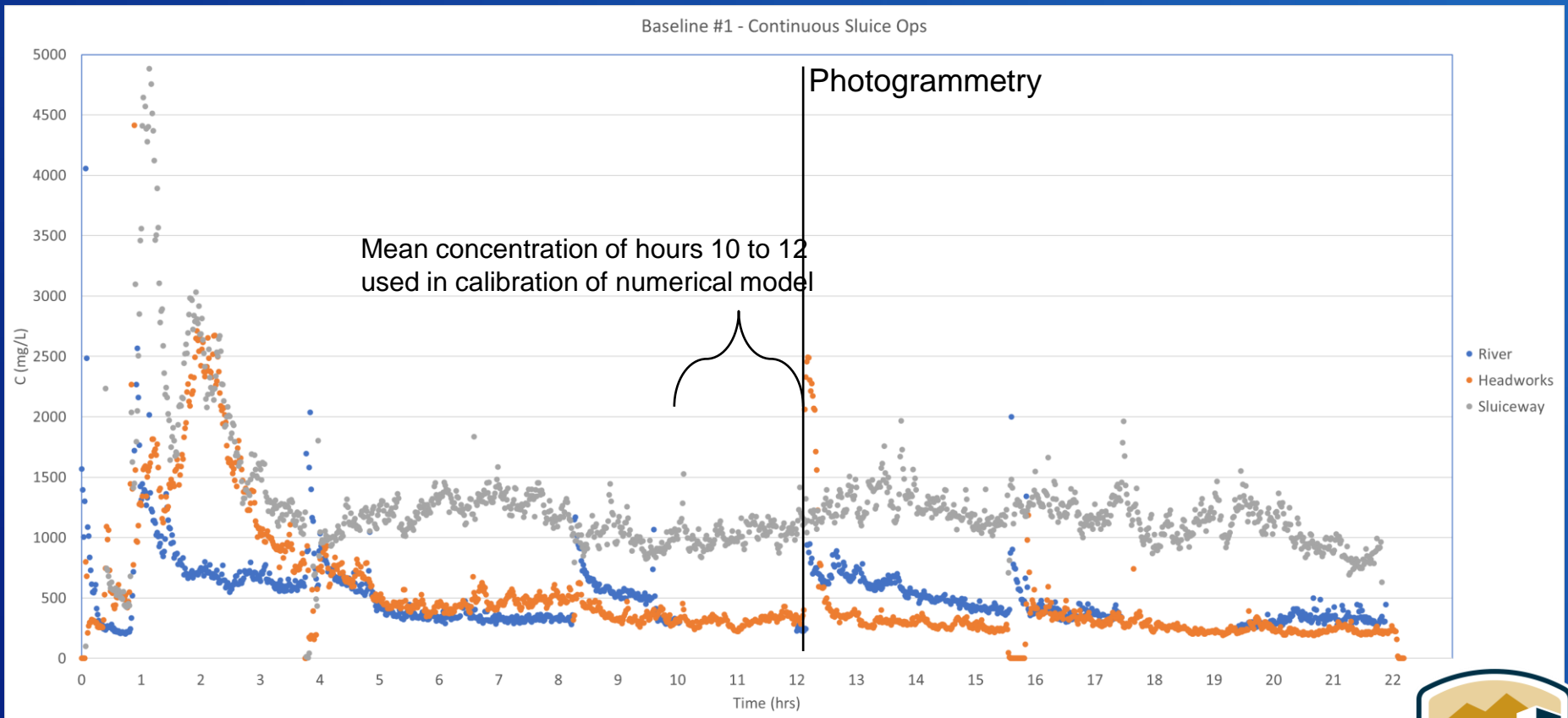
- Model Domain

Byrne and Baird 2022  
(Draft)



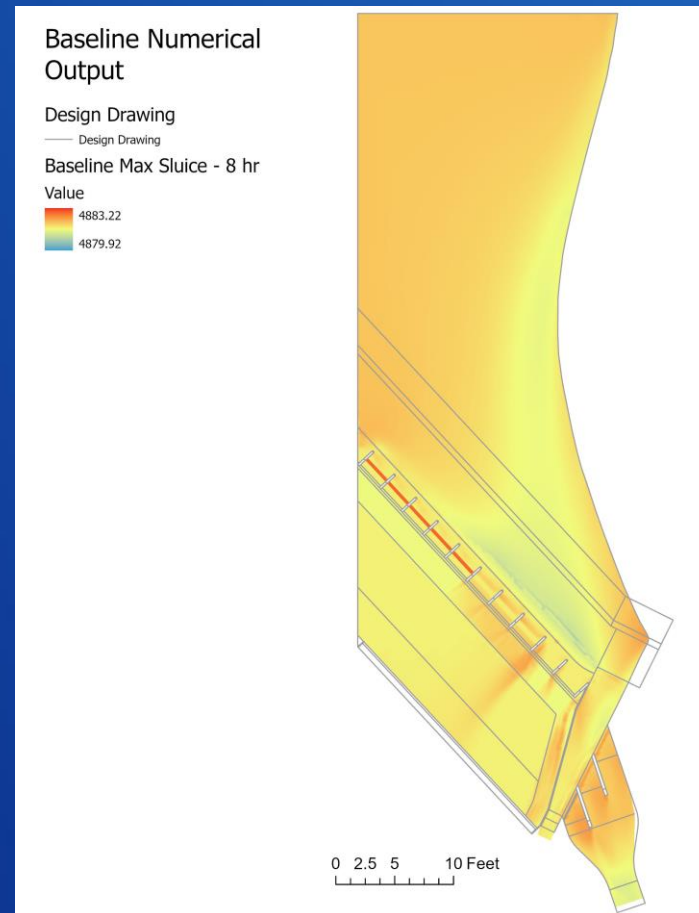
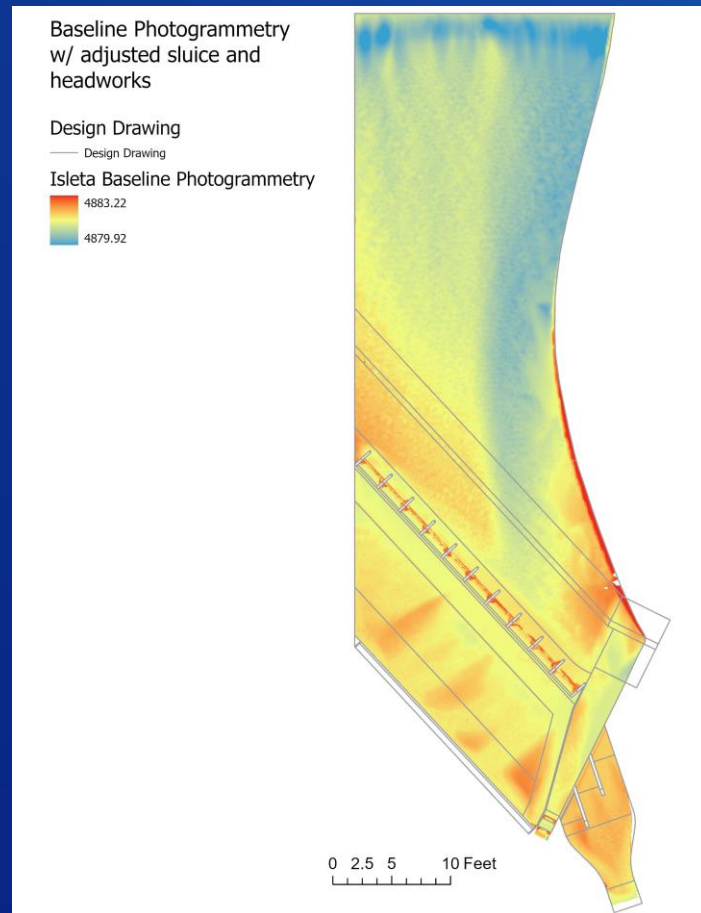
RECLAMATION

# Laboratory Sediment Data



# Model Final Results

Overall, numerical model had similar trends in deposition and erosion compared with the physical model



# Model Final Results

- **Final calibration parameters**
  - **Manning's n-values**
    - Sand = 0.022
    - Gravel = 0.025
    - Apron = 0.012
    - Sluiceway = 0.013
    - Headworks = 0.013
  - **Sand ripple factor = 0.9 (90%)**
- **Final numerical model percentage (negative numbers represent under prediction by the numerical model)**
  - **Total sediment transport = 13.38%**
    - River = 13.33%
    - Sluiceway = -18.16%
    - Headworks = -16.54%



# River Processes

- **Middle Rio Grande as example---why?**
  - Just about every geomorphic process can be found on the Middle Rio Grande
  - **Non-equilibrium river with**
    - Aggradation and Delta Depositional Process
    - Channel incision (Upstream Reservoir Construction)
    - Development of Inset Floodplain
    - Significant Lateral Confinements
    - Significant water with drawls
    - Channelization
    - Base level changes

# Historical Channel Characteristics

- **Historically high sediment load causing channel aggradation (raising of the river bed and floodplain due to sediment deposition).**
- **Avulsions**
  - Channel would fill, especially during hydrograph recessions.
  - During subsequent high flows, river waters would go overbank, and create new channel along lower valley areas.
- **Resulting river channel was wide, shallow and generally sand bedded with small pockets of gravel.**

Happ (1948), Lagasse (1980), and  
Scurlock (1998)



# Contemporary Channel Characteristics

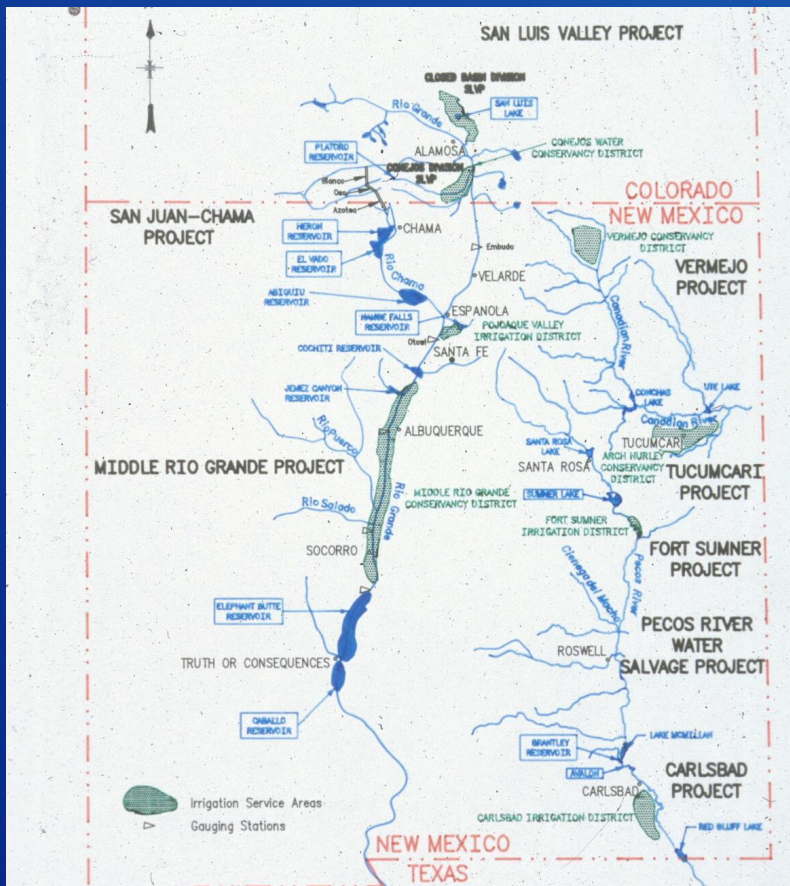
- Lower Sediment Load.
- Lower Flood Peaks (after the 1940's; Lagasse, 1980).
- Narrower Channel.
- Channel Incision (bed lowering).
- Coarser Bed Sediment.
- Aggradation upstream of Elephant Butte Reservoir

# Causes of Contemporary Channel Conditions

- **Climate conditions reduced flood peaks. (Since 1940's).**
- **Reduced tributary sediment supply-reduced grazing, tributary dams (Lagasse, 1980 and Massong and Porter, 2010).**
- **Human activities:**
  - **Irrigation Diversions.**
  - **Levee and river side drain construction.**
  - **Channel rehabilitation and maintenance.**
  - **Upstream sediment and flood control reservoirs.**
  - **Trans-mountain diversions.**
  - **Urbanization.**
  - **Downstream Elephant Butte Reservoir.**

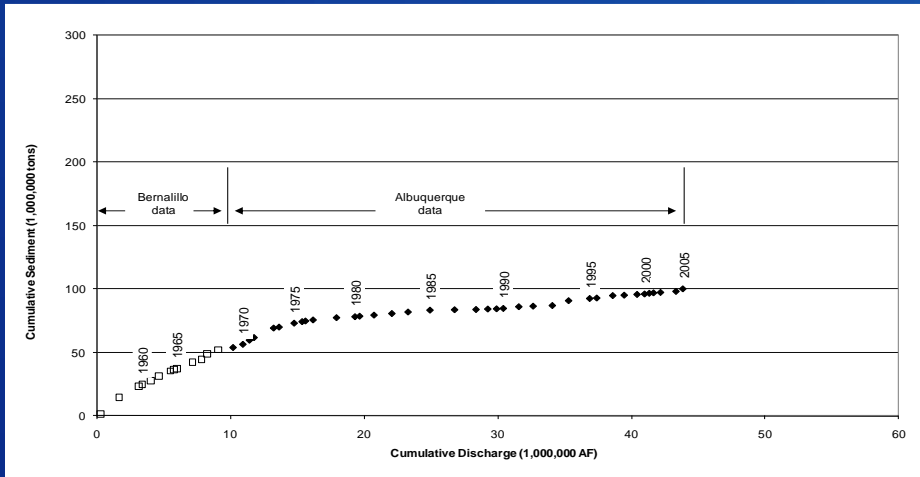
# Aggradation/Degradation

- **Aggradation**
  - River channel and floodplain raising due to sediment accumulation.
  - Sediment supply greater than transport capacity.
- **Degradation**
  - River channel lowering due to sediment removal.
  - Sediment supply less than transport capacity.
- **Reducing historical aggradation was one of the original purposes of upstream flood and sediment control reservoirs.**
- **Since 1973 Cochiti Dam to About Escondido, NM. the river has been degrading.**
- **From San Antonio, NM though Elephant Butte Reservoir Delta channel is aggrading.**



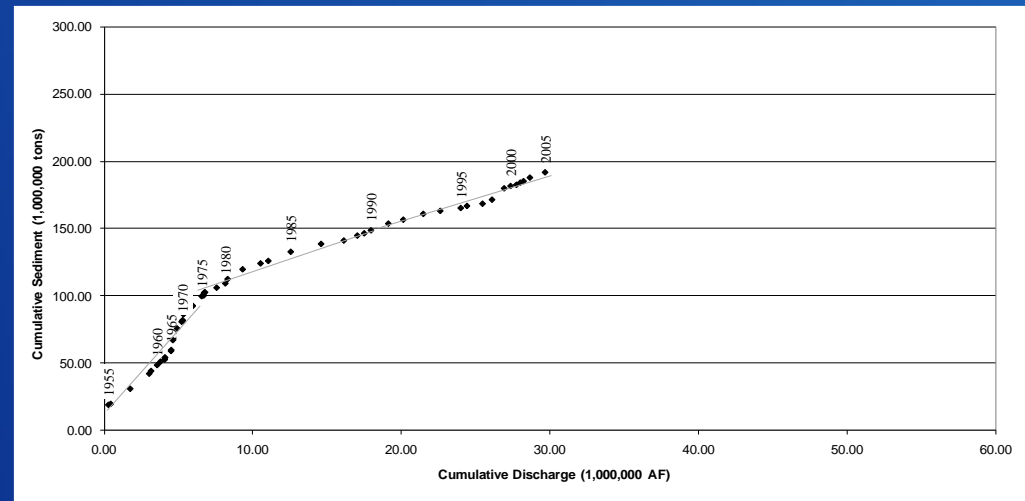
# RECLAMATION

# Cumulative Suspended Sediment vs. Cumulative Discharge



## Albuquerque Gage

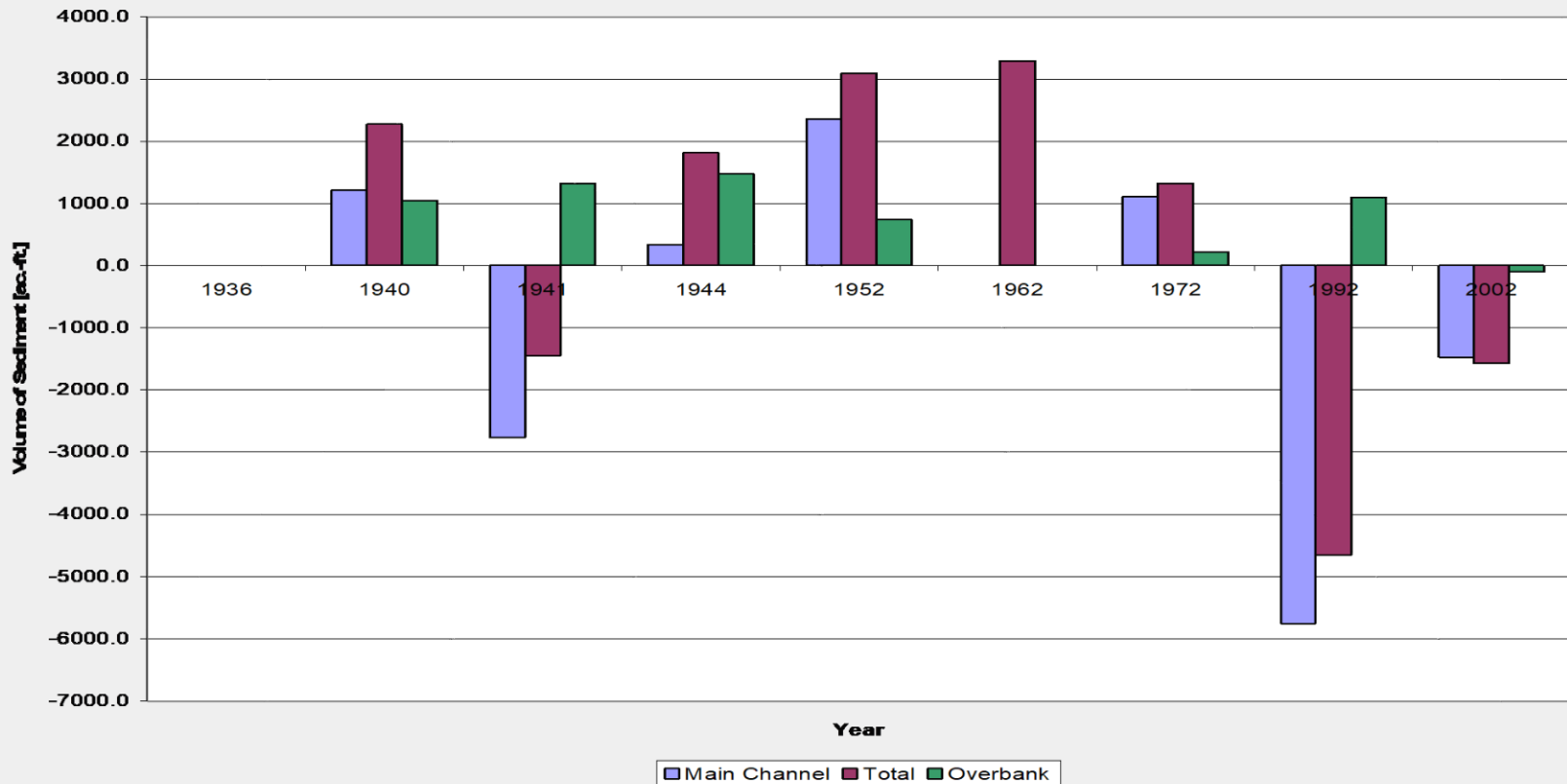
## San Acacia Gage



Makar 2010

RECLAMATION

# Albuquerque Reach- Angostura to Isleta Aggradation/Degradation 1936 to 2002

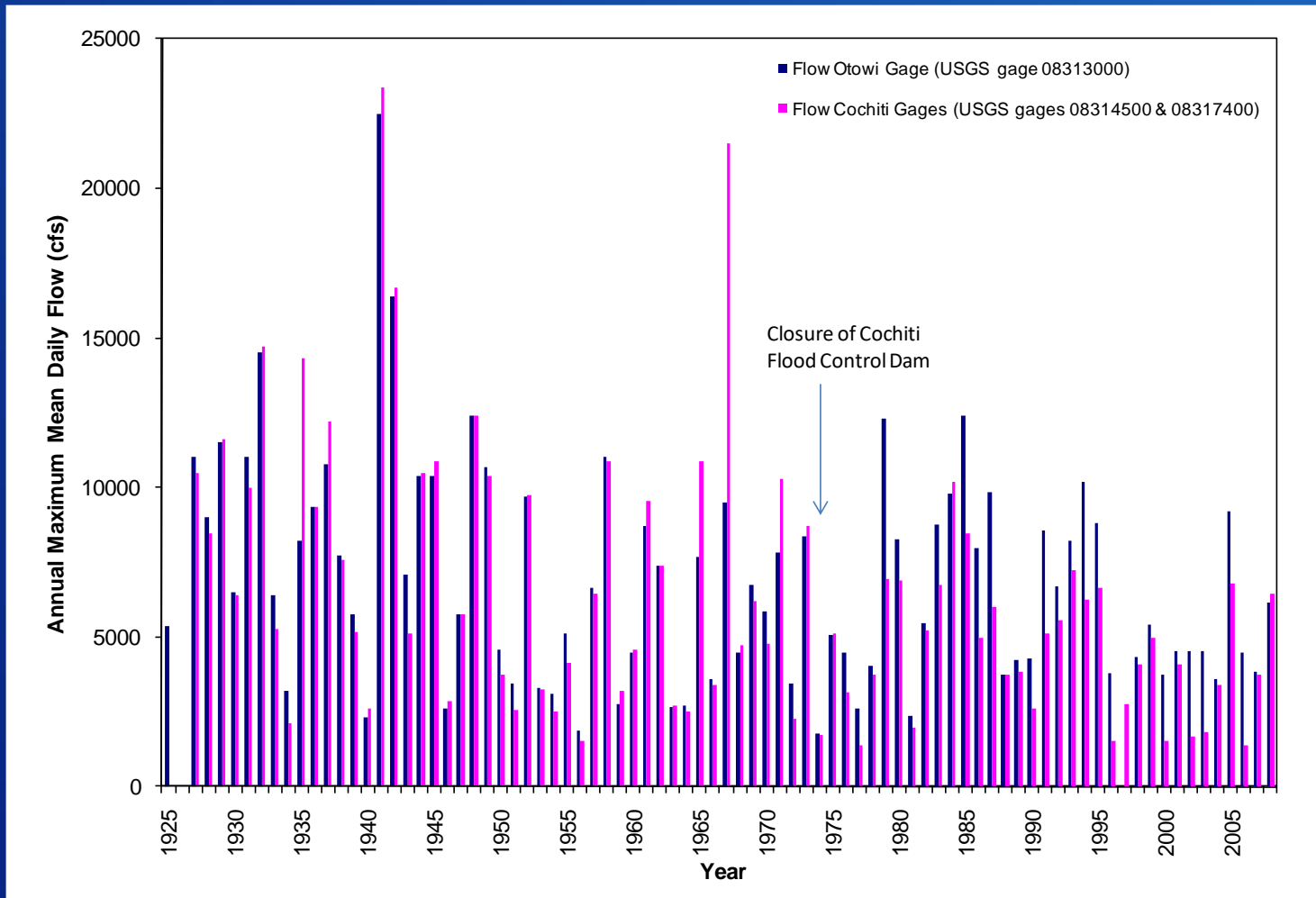


1936 to 1972 generally  
aggradational

Degradation since 1972

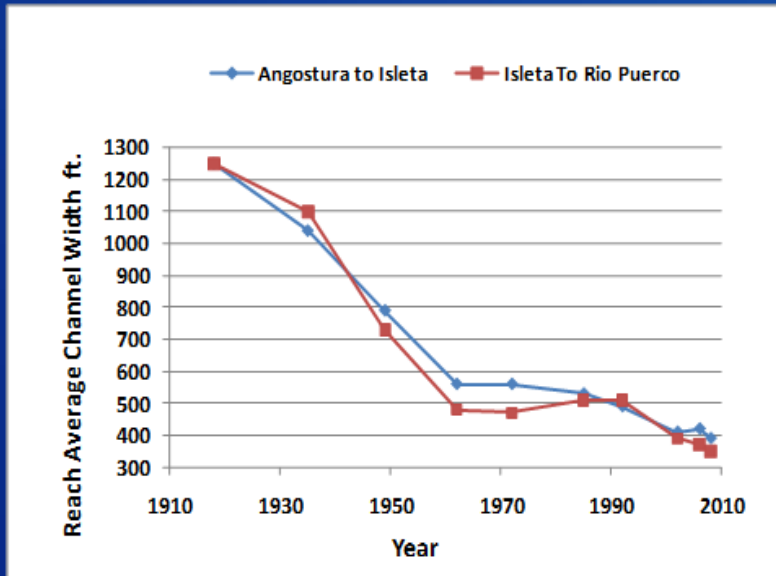
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# Otowi and Cochiti Mean Daily peak Flows



# Reach Average Channel Width 1918 to 2010

1935 Aerial Photographs show evidence of MRGCD levees and drains.



- After 1949 width changes attributed to:
- Reclamation Channelization
  - Upstream Sediment and Flood Control Dams (reduced sediment loads and peak flows).
  - Trans-mountain diversions can encourage channel narrowing (vegetation growth).

$$Q^-, Q_s^- \rightarrow w^-, d^+, (w/d)^-$$

Where

- Q = Discharge
- $Q_s$  = Sediment Discharge (Bed Material Load)
- w = Channel Width
- d = Average Channel Depth
- w/d = Width Depth Ratio

The most recent width reduction is also related to drought conditions

# RECLAMATION



## **Average Bed Elevation Angostura to Bernalillo**

**1971-1995 lowered 7.3 Ft.**

## **Bernalillo to Corralles**

**1972-1992 lowered 3.5 Ft.**

## **Rio Puerco to San Acacia**

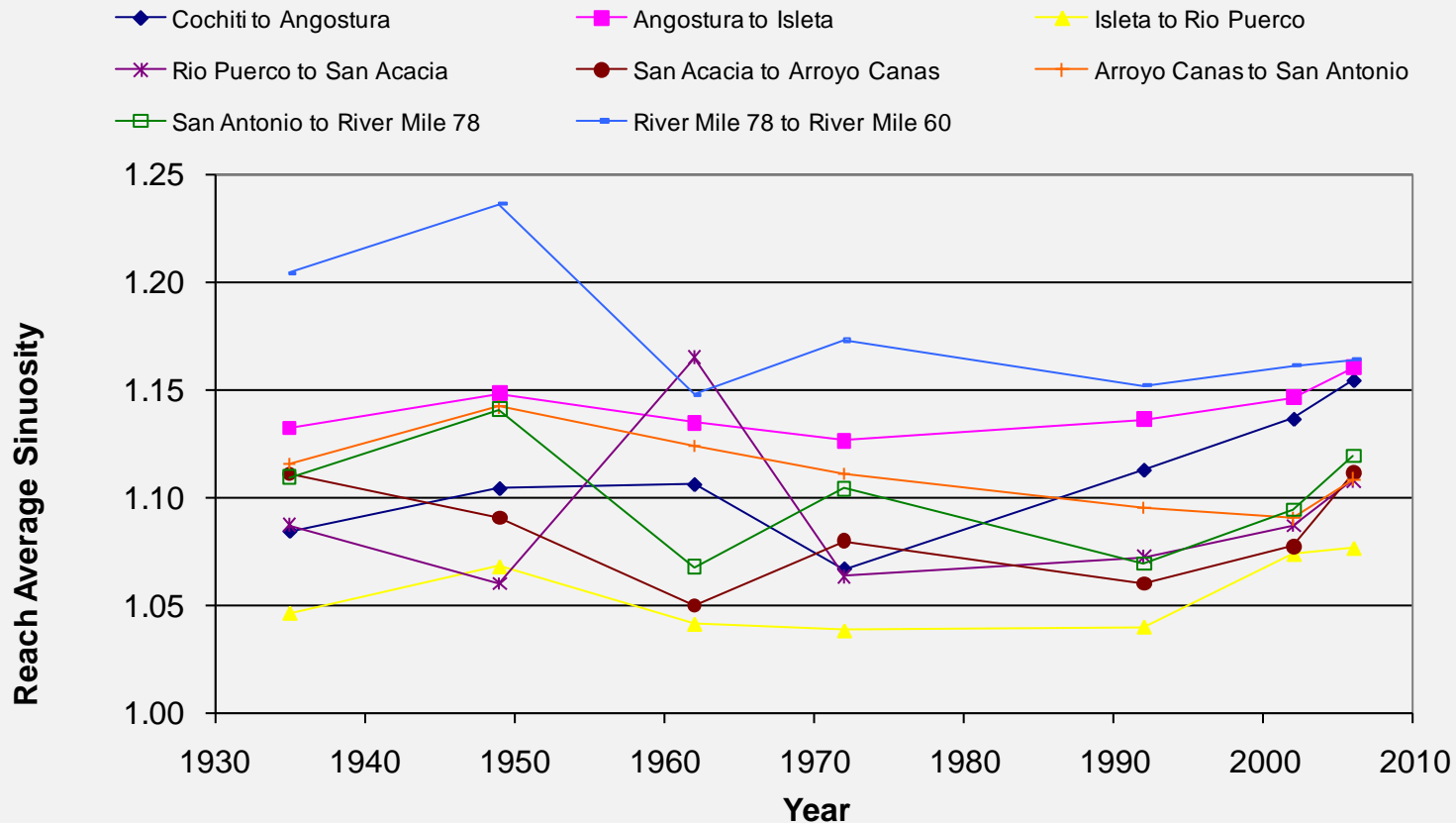
**1962-1992 lowered 3 Ft.**

## **San Acacia to Escondida**

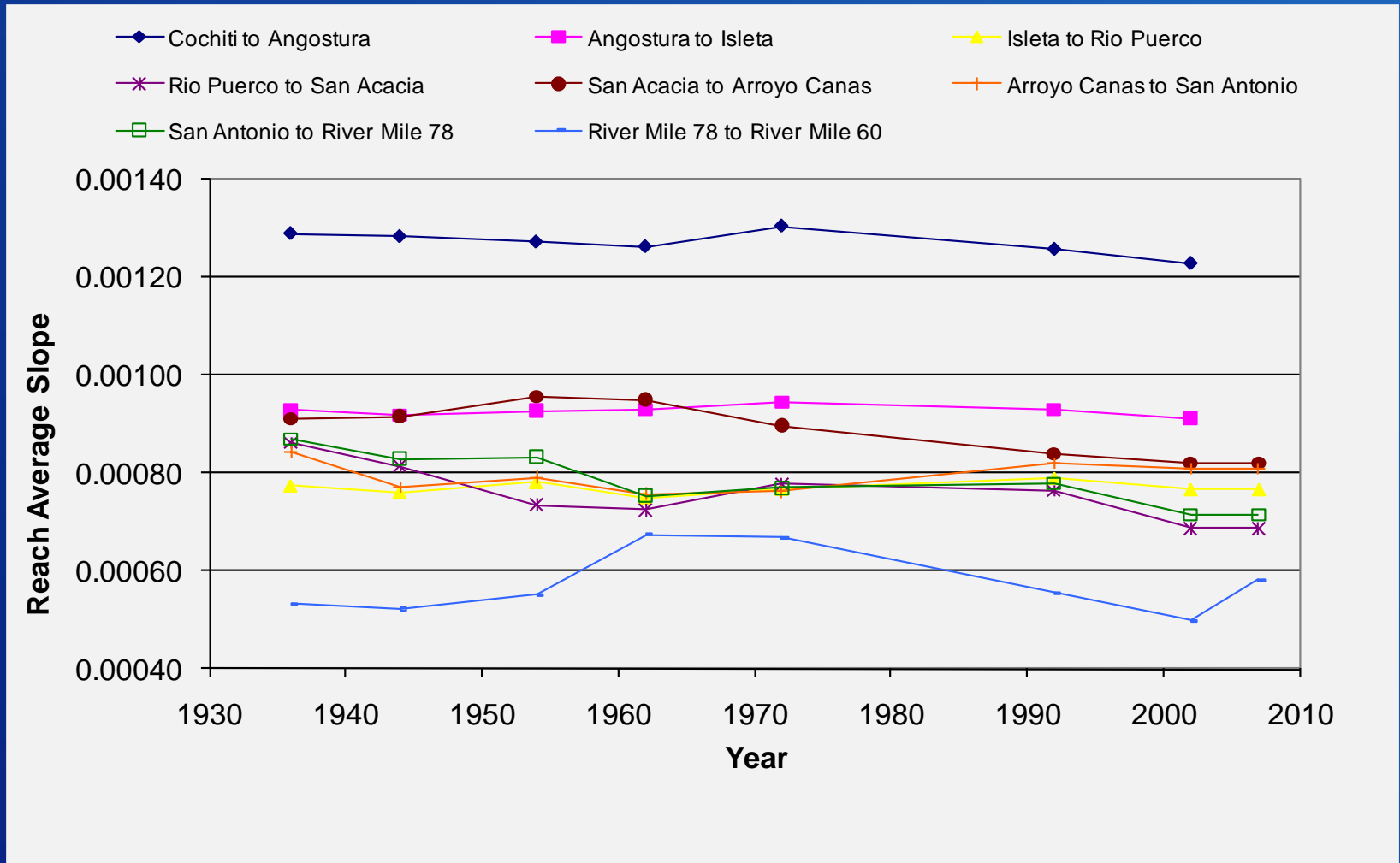
**1962-1999 lowered 9.6 Ft.**

**RECLAMATION**

# Reach Average Sinuosity Over Time

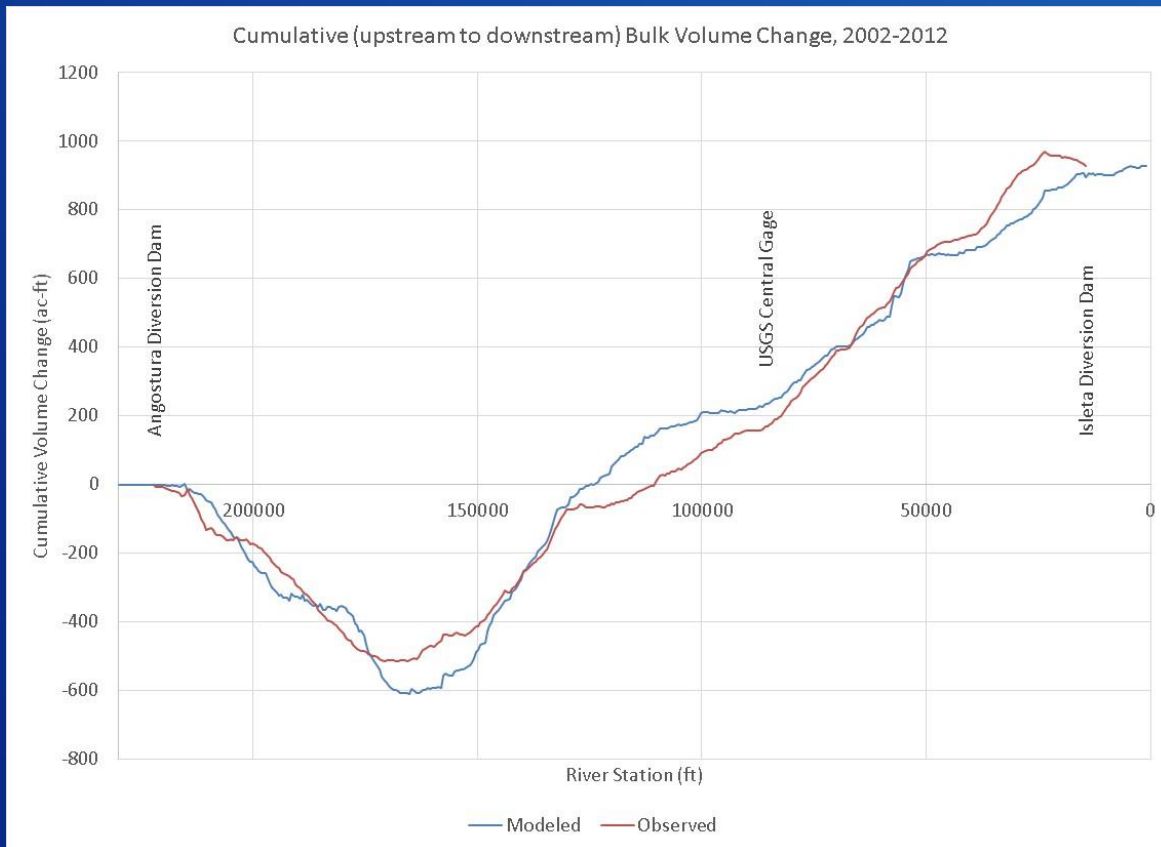


# Reach Average Slopes Over Time



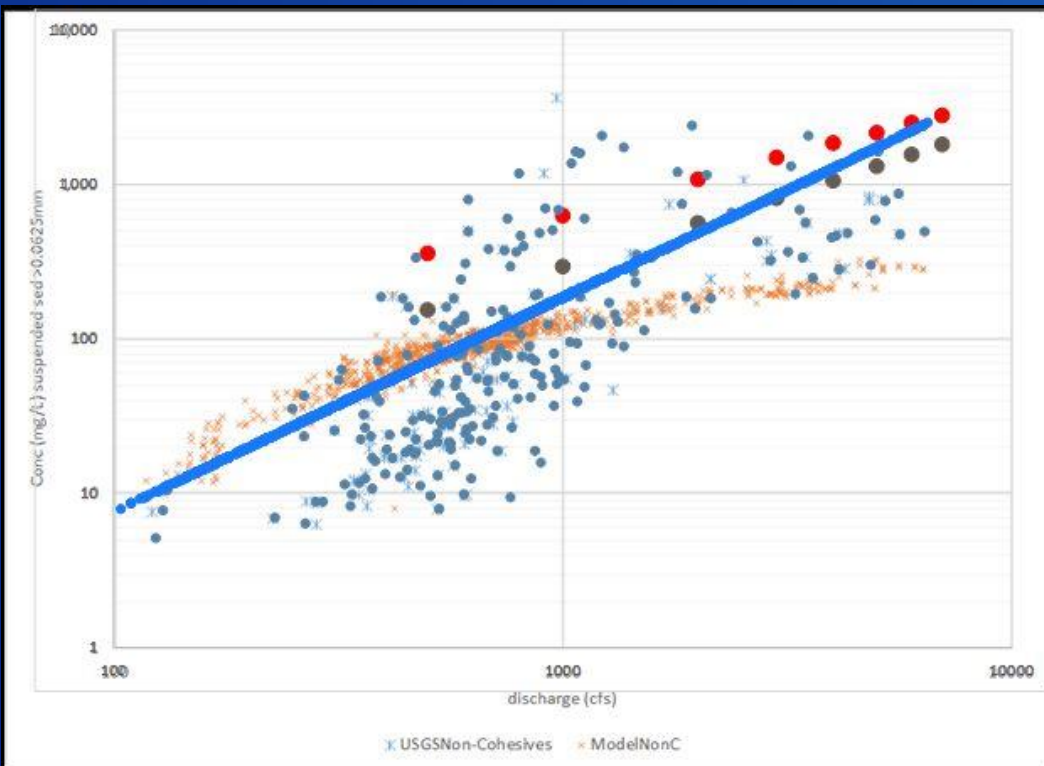
# **Sediment Transport Modeling Angostura Diversion Dam To Isleta Diversion Dam. (Albuquerque Area)**

- **Objective: Match main channel sediment volume changes between 2002 and 2012 data sets.**
- **Can calibrate model with measured data**  
Model tends to smooth bed elevation changes between adjoining cross sections (In general model smooths in time and space)



- **Calibrate Process:**
  - Alter hiding factor (0.67)
  - Alter active thickness layer (0.50 ft. tested range 0.25 to 1 ft)
  - Alter reference or critical shear stress (0.034 tested range 0.033 to 0.037)

# Albuquerque Gage BORAMEP, Modeled Bed Material Load



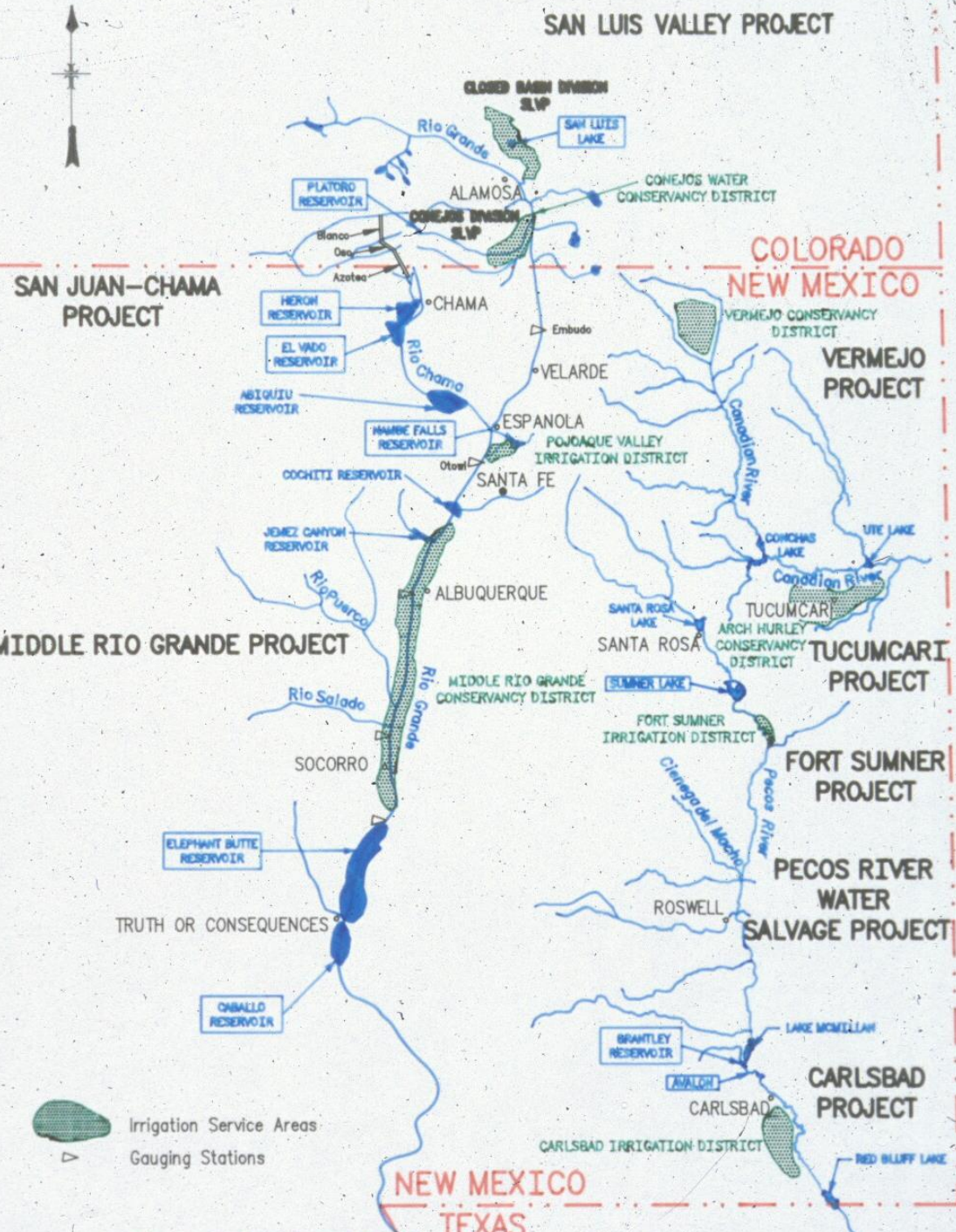
- Common for 1D model to over estimate the low flows and underestimate high flows
- Not the same bed material size is available.
- Low flows-flow focused in area of the channel with the coarsest sediment, so bed is coarser than input sediment size
- High flows-finer bar deposits available to the flow and more sediment gets mobilized
- 1D assumptions break down when flow goes out of bank where average velocity is lower than the main channel velocity (Blair Greimann)

# Potential Restoration Activities

- Channel Widening
- Terrace or Overbank Lowering
- Gradient Restoration Facilities (GRF)
- High flow side channels
- Micro-habitat Inlets
- Restore native riparian habitat mosaic, including salt grass, shrub, and bosque communities
- Combinations of the above

Santa Ana Project Example of Large-Scale River Restoration Project

# SAN LUIS VALLEY PROJECT



SAN JUAN-CHAMA PROJECT

COLORADO  
NEW MEXICO

VERMEJO PROJECT

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE PROJECT

TUCUMCARI PROJECT

FORT SUMNER PROJECT

PECOS RIVER WATER SALVAGE PROJECT

CARLSBAD PROJECT

NEW MEXICO  
TEXAS

Irrigation Service Areas  
Gauging Stations

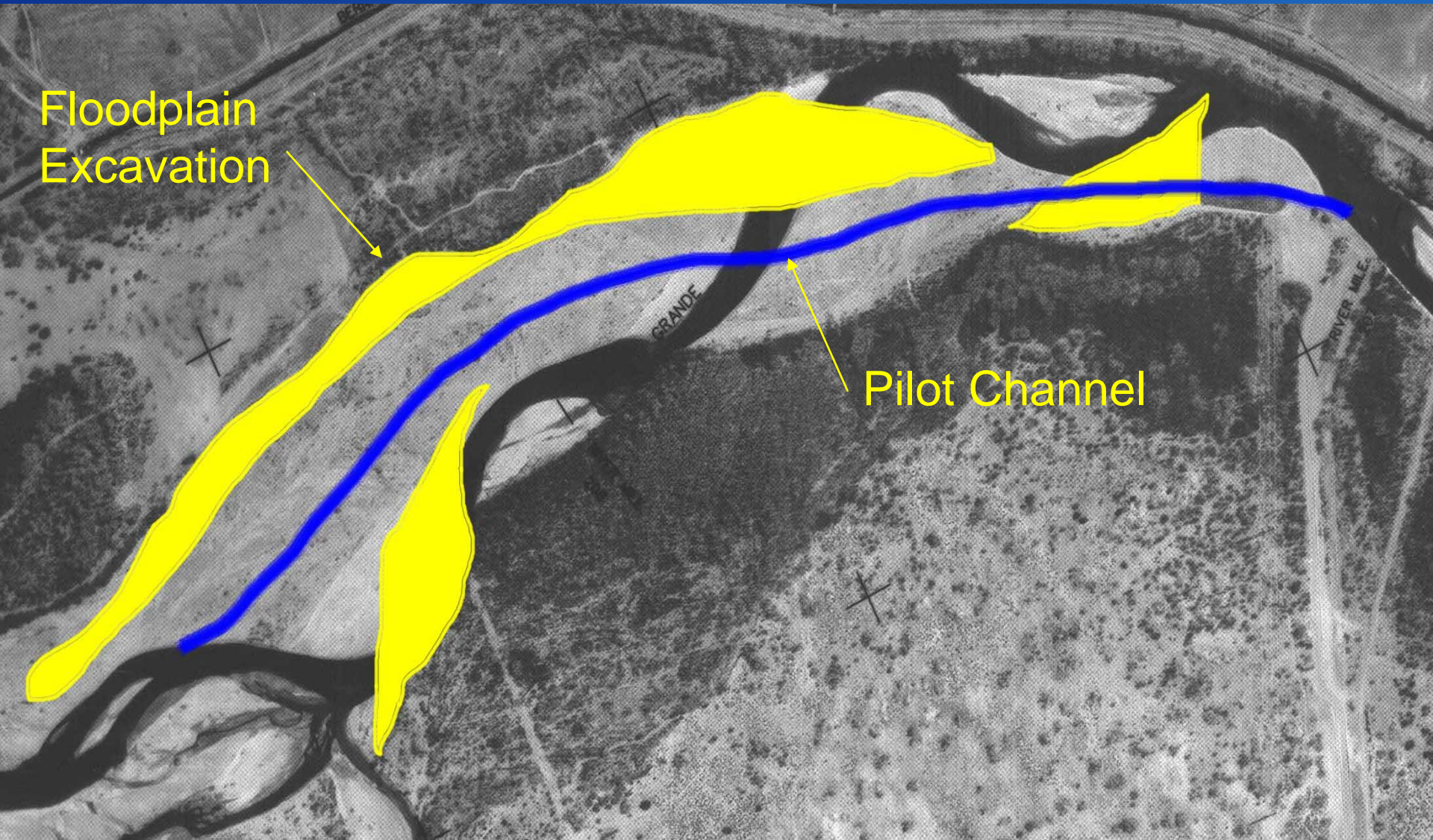
TION



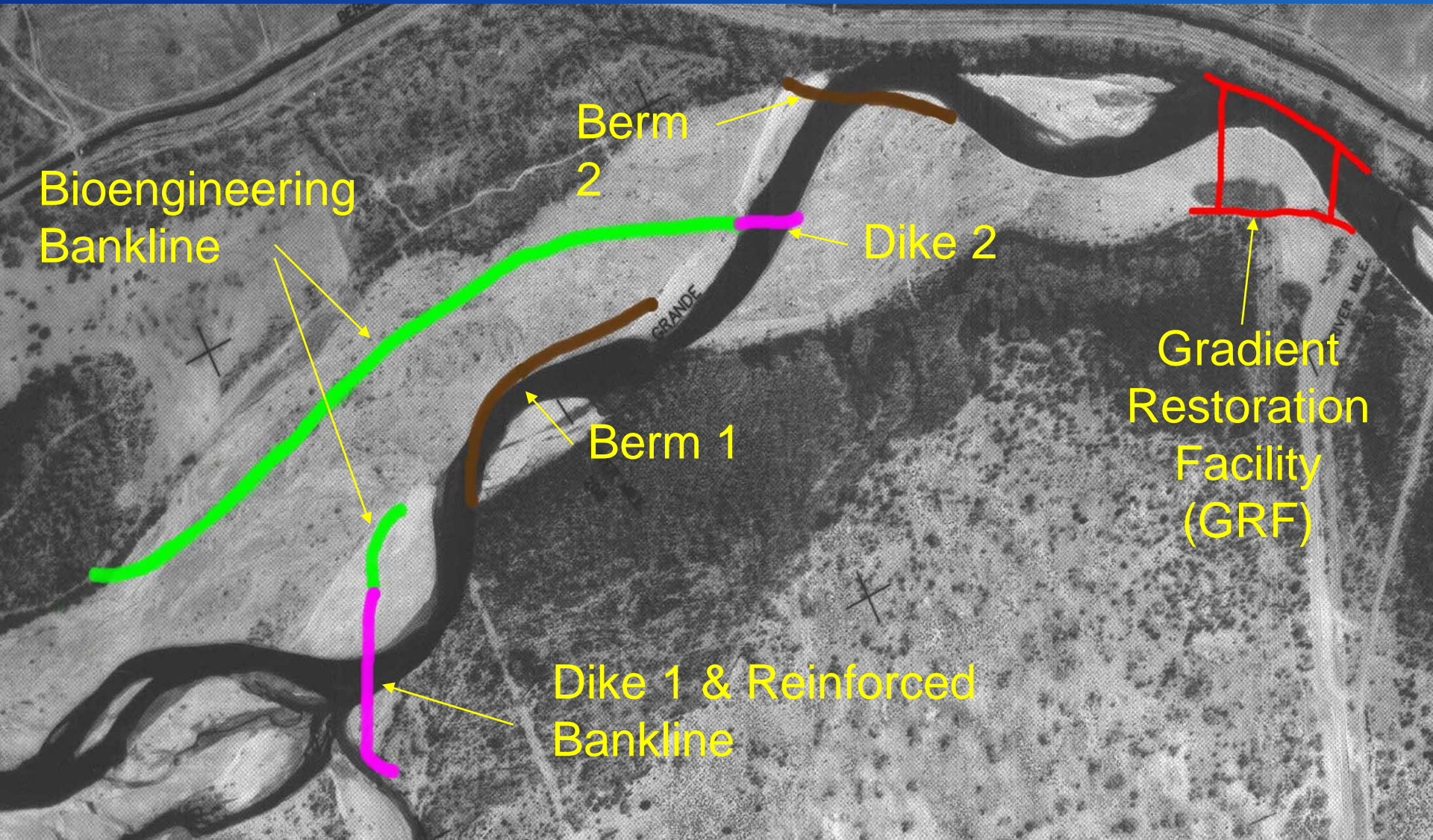


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# Santa Ana Phase 1 Earth Work



# Santa Ana Phase 1 Structural Elements



Bioengineering  
Bankline

Berm  
2

Dike 2

Gradient  
Restoration  
Facility  
(GRF)

Berm 1

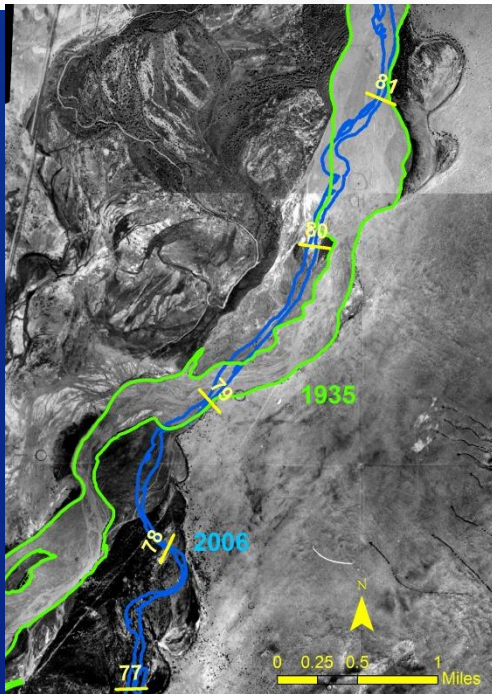
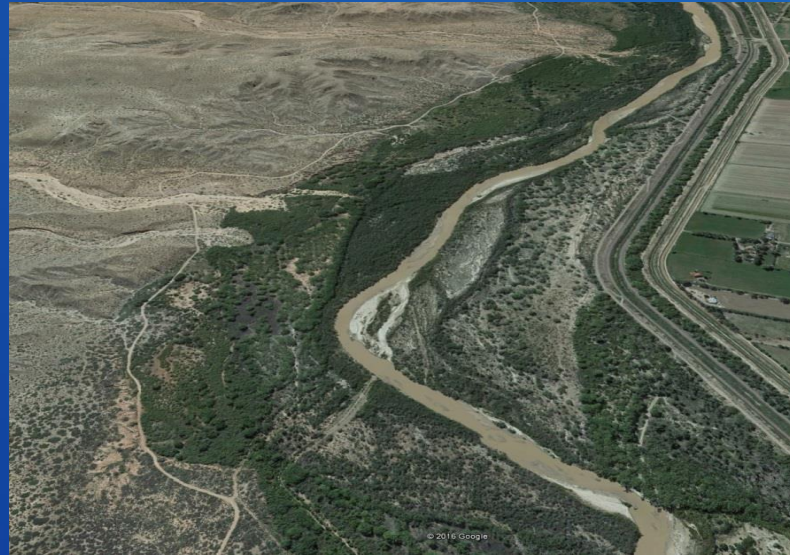
Dike 1 & Reinforced  
Bankline

# Develop Width Equation for Middle Rio Grande

## Study Objectives

1. Develop an improved method/equation to define a stable active channel width for the MRG, and
  2. Use existing methods and the newly developed equation to assess various stable and unstable width locations on the MRG
- **Does the term “stable active channel width” even apply?**

Holste and  
Greimann, 2019



## Planform Change

- Historically: wide, braided channel that frequently shifted position
- Currently: narrow, single thread channel with relatively fixed position (Fossilized)

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# Background

- **1961 MRG Width Equation**
  - Relationship to estimate stable channel width
- 301 measurements during 1952-1957 (Cochiti to San Antonio)
  - Mostly low flow years
- MEP used to calculate total load
- Statistical regression to test 13 variables (7 found significant)
- Regression equations for: flow velocity and Manning's n
- Multi-variable regression using width as dependent variable was never conducted
- Velocity and Manning's regression equations combined with continuity ( $Q = VA$ ) and standard Manning's formula to derive expression for width

# Background

- 1961 MRG Width Equation

$$V = 0.6385d^{0.485}w^{0.0306}C_t^{0.170}V_t^{0.112} \quad n = 0.5295D_{35}^{0.163}C_{sn}^{-0.156}T^{-0.184}$$

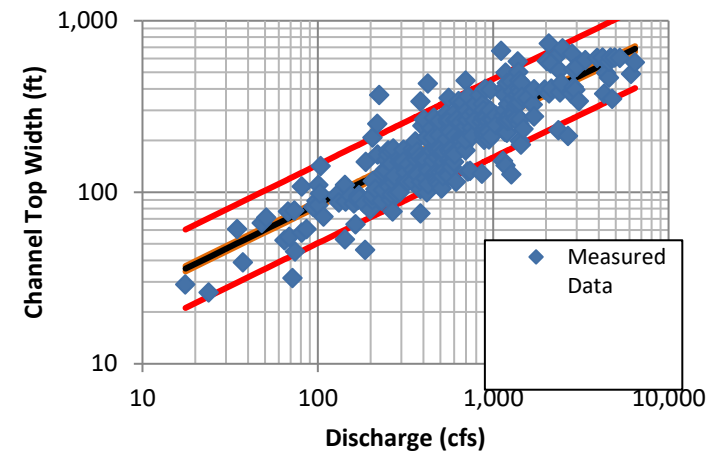
combined with

$$Q = VA \quad V = \frac{1.486}{n}d^{2/3}S^{1/2}$$

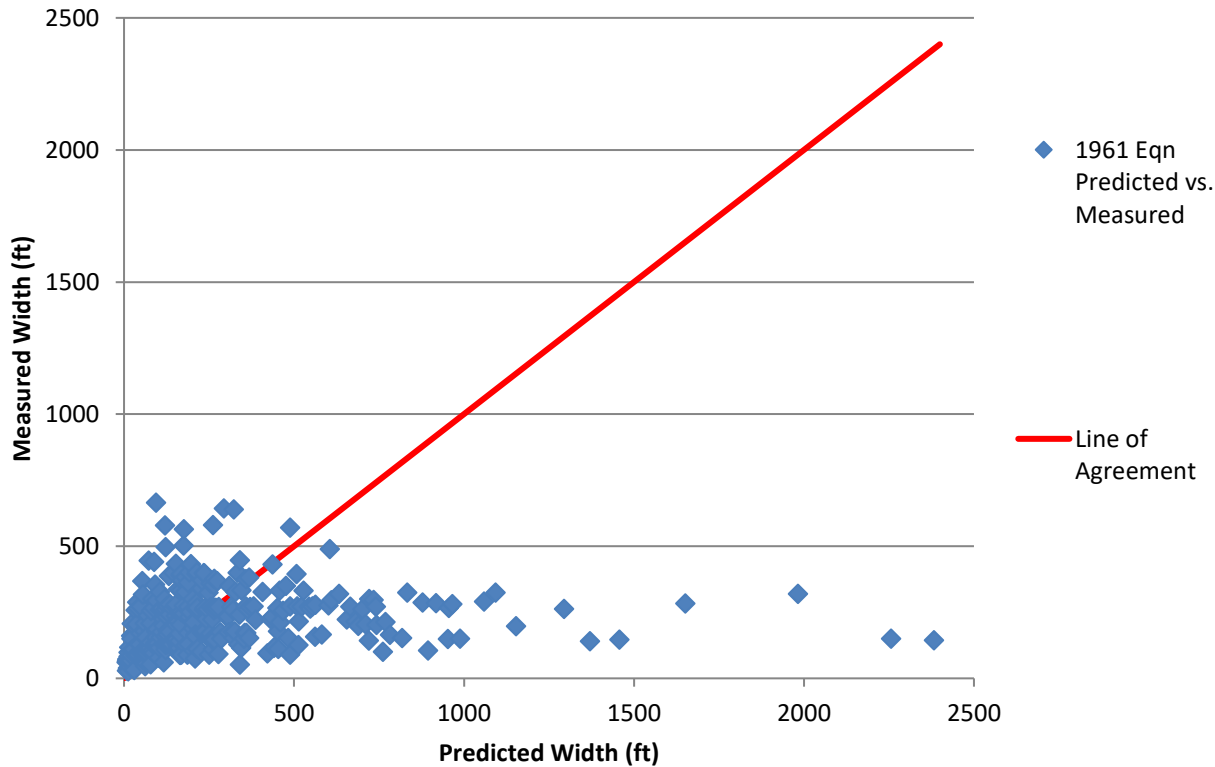
$$W = \frac{17,470 * Q^{0.778}S^{3.184}C_{sn}^{0.992}T^{1.171}}{C_t^{1.214}V_t^{0.800}D_{35}^{1.035}}$$

# Background

- Width Regression Eqn



## Reclamation (1961) Data





# Flow

- Found maximum daily average flow from each year
- Computed  $R^2$  between Q and W for Q computed various ways
  - Computed maximum 1 through 7 day average for every year than computed average or maximum of those values over the previous 5 to 12 years
- The Q that gave the highest  $R^2$  was the average of the annual maximum daily average flows from previous 9 years

# Reach Averaged Regression

Regression analysis using all variables

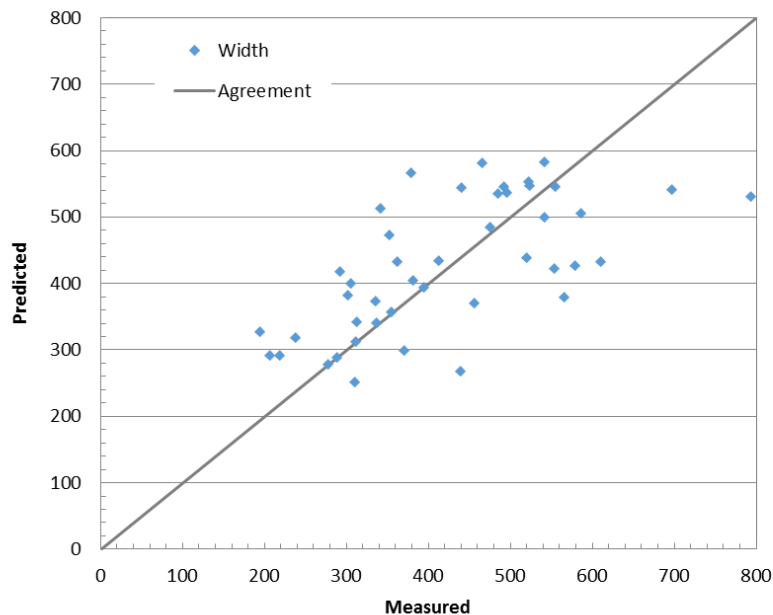
$$W = a Q^b D_{50}^c S^d$$

<i>Coefficien</i> <i>t</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Standard</i> <i>Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>
A	-0.54	2.50	-0.22	0.83	-5.59	4.52
B	1.34	0.20	6.60	0.00	0.93	1.75
C	-0.06	0.03	-1.99	0.05	-0.13	0.00
D	0.66	0.23	2.86	0.01	0.19	1.13

# Recommended Reach Averaged Regression (Downstream Hydraulic Geometry)

$$W = 0.11 Q^{1.25} D_{50}^{-0.1}$$

R <sup>2</sup>	0.43
ave error (ft)	2.4
std err (ft)	101.1



Percentile	% W error
0.25	6%
0.5	19%
0.75	29%
0.95	48%
0.99	58%

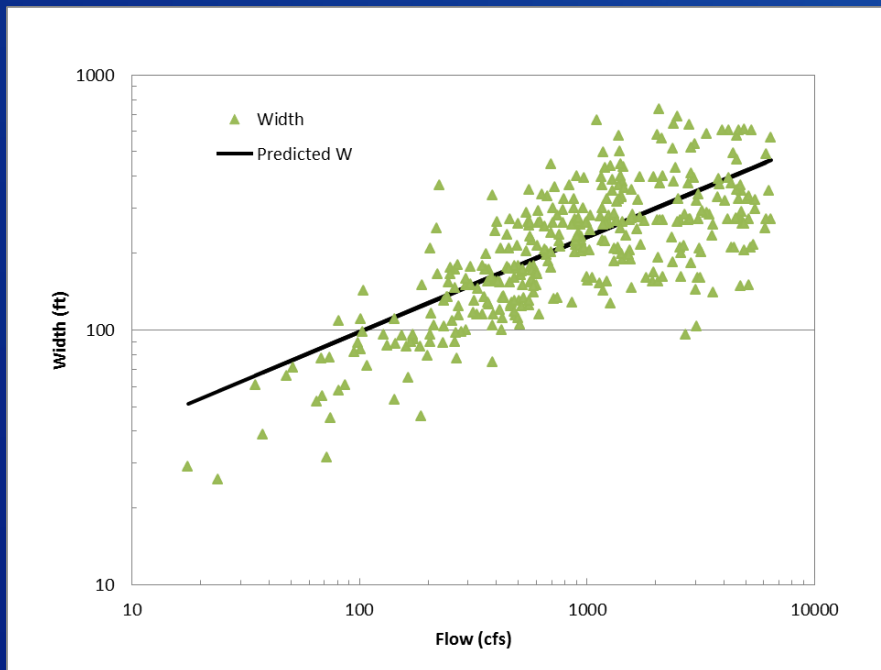
# At-a-Station Regression

## Parameter significance and correlation

- Only Q coefficient is significant at the 95% level

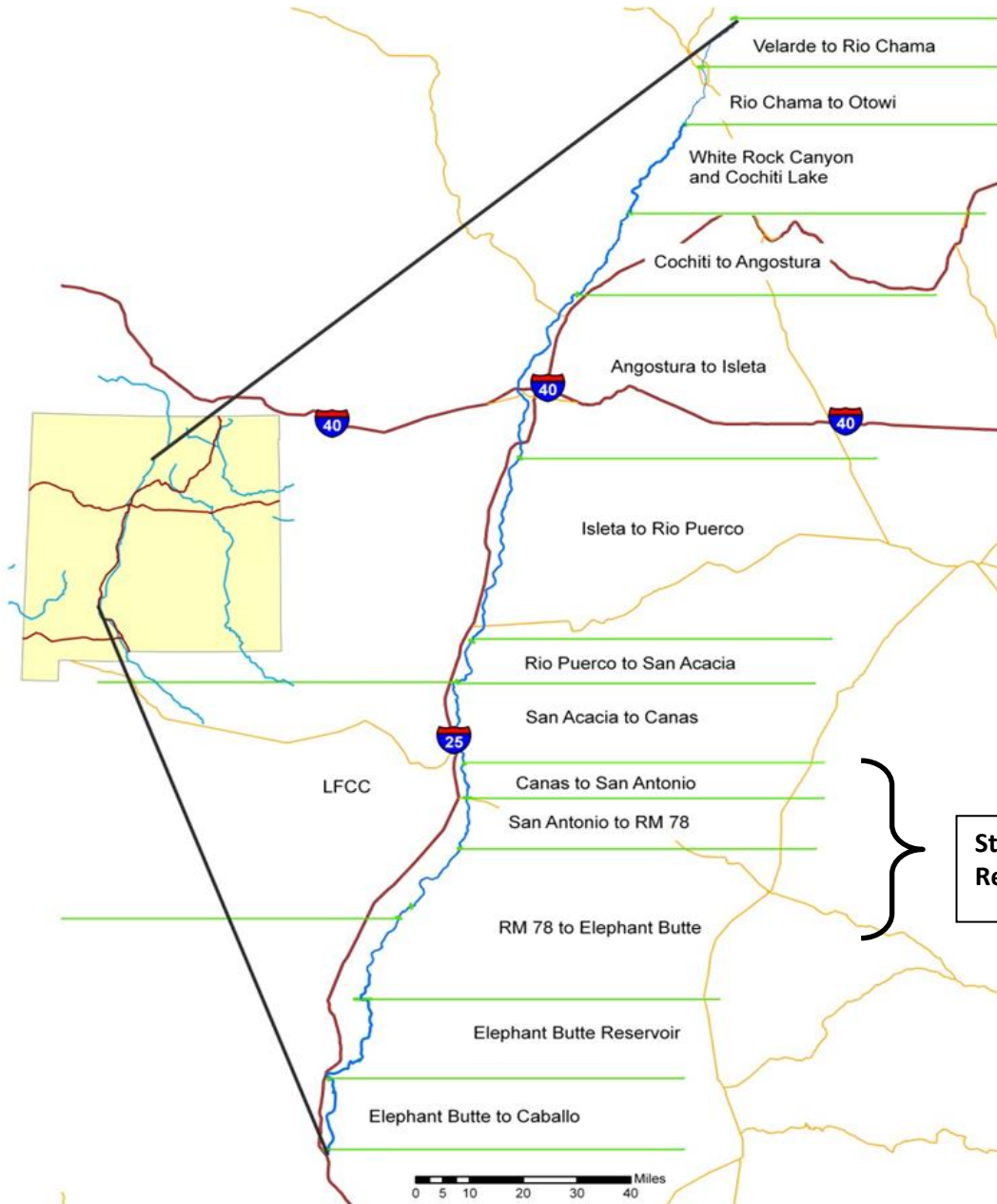
$$W = 17.7 Q^{0.37}$$

R <sup>2</sup>	0.37
ave error (ft)	1.6
std err (ft)	105



Percentile	% W error
0.25	12%
0.5	27%
0.75	46%
0.95	98%
0.99	180%

# Middle Rio Grande, New Mexico



# Location

Study Reach

# Sediment Plugs



- **What are Sediment Plugs?**
  - Channel aggradation and reduced bank height
  - Perched channel
  - High flows top of water column flows laterally out of channel leaving more sediment laden waters with less transport capacity
  - Continued aggradation and lateral flow
  - Reaches a point where nearly all flows go overbank

# Sediment Plugs

- 1991, 1995, 2005, 2008\*, & 2017 (2019??)



Ponded Water

\* July 4, 2008: 1600 cfs



\* June 3, 2008: 3700 cfs



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# Piping, Slope failures, levee raising and widening

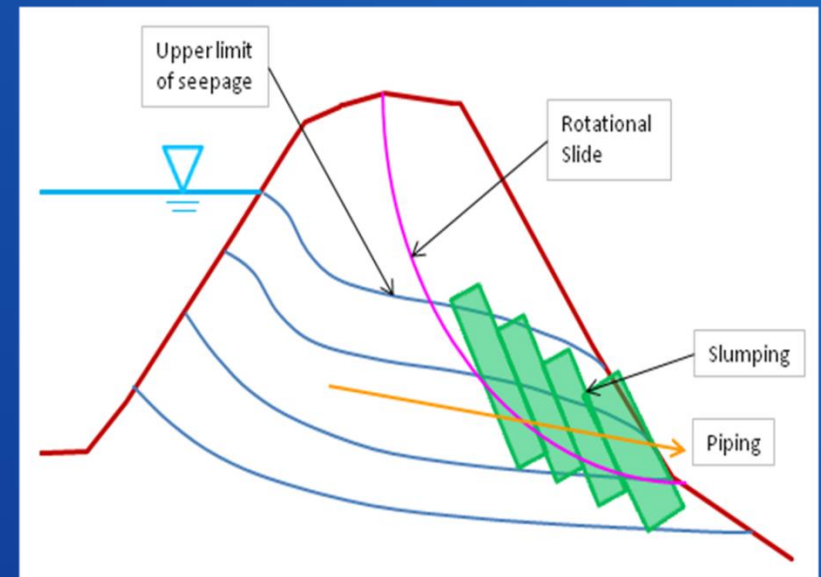
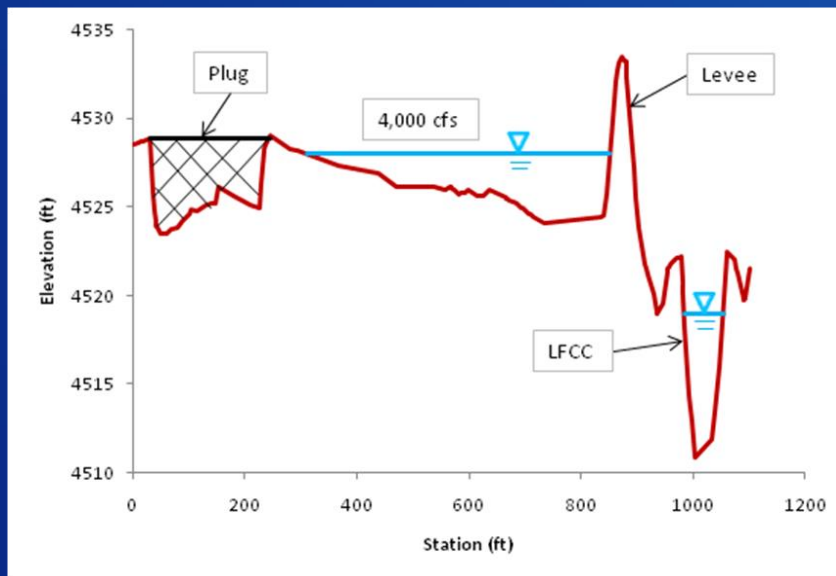


1991 Tiffany Levee Breach

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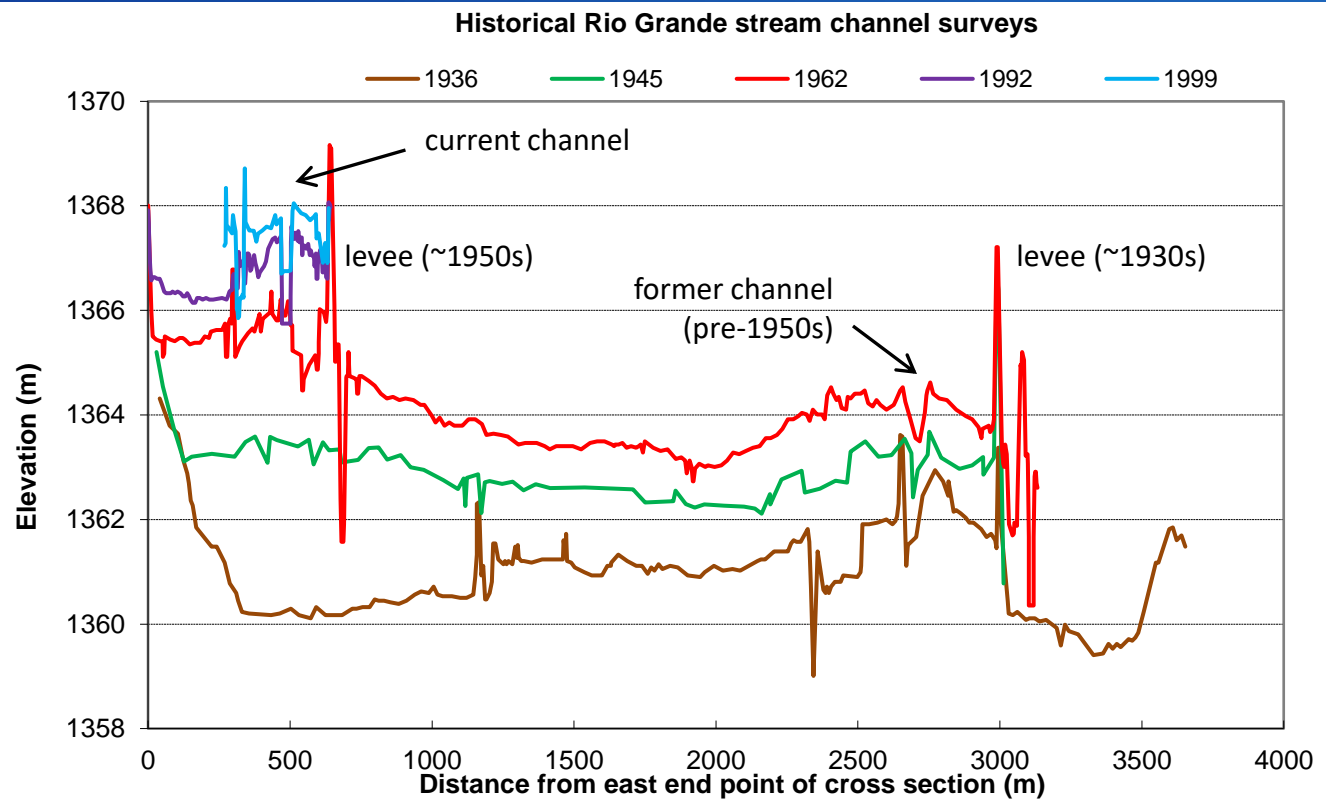
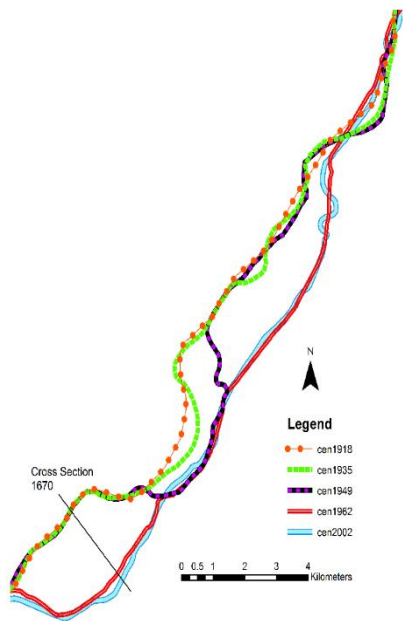


# Levee Failure due to Seepage



# Geomorphic Trends: Perching

- Channel and floodplain laterally constricted by spoil levees  
Valley Range Line 1670



# Sediment Plug Factors

## Channel Geometry

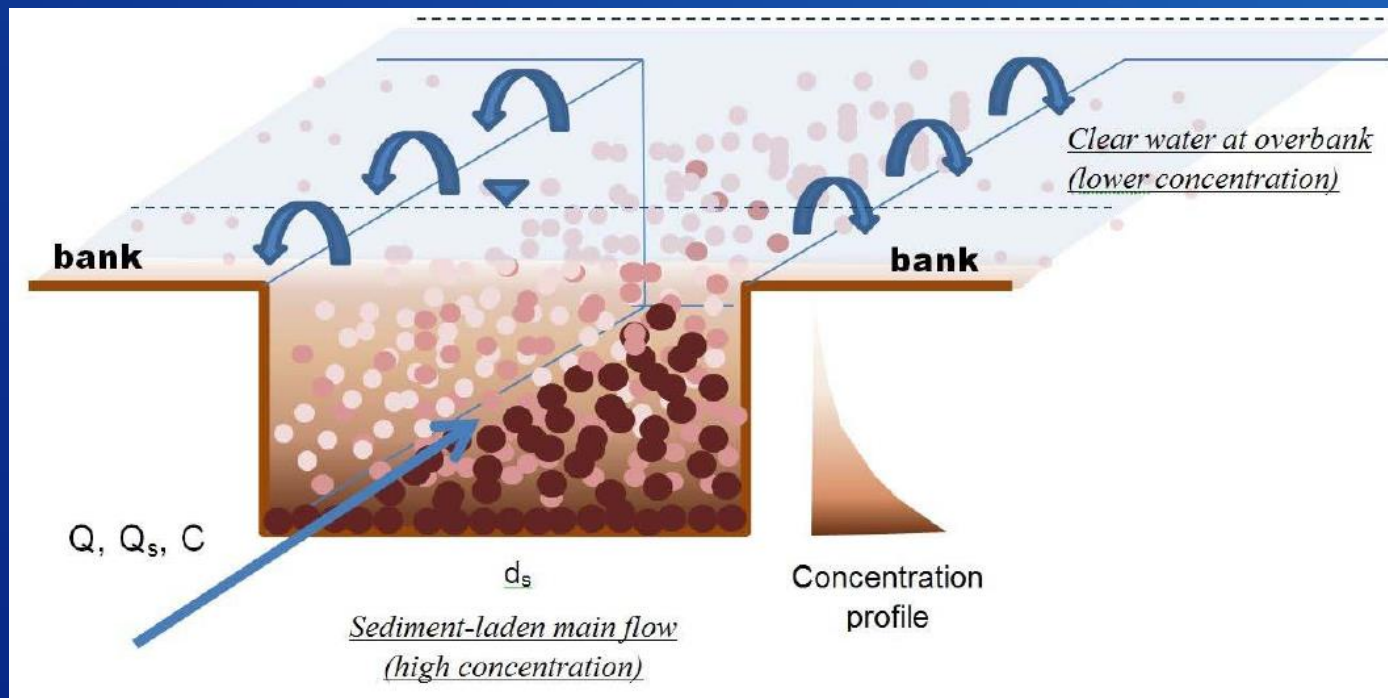
- Narrow channel and/or local constriction
- Limited main channel flow and sediment transport capacity
- Perched channel above floodplain
- Local energy losses (upstream from abrupt bends or bridges)

## Hydrology

- Long duration, high magnitude, snowmelt runoff
  - Every year since 2000, and almost every year since 1990, a sediment plug has occurred whenever there is a suitably large spring runoff

# Sediment Plugs

- Flow lost to overbank, sediment remains in channel



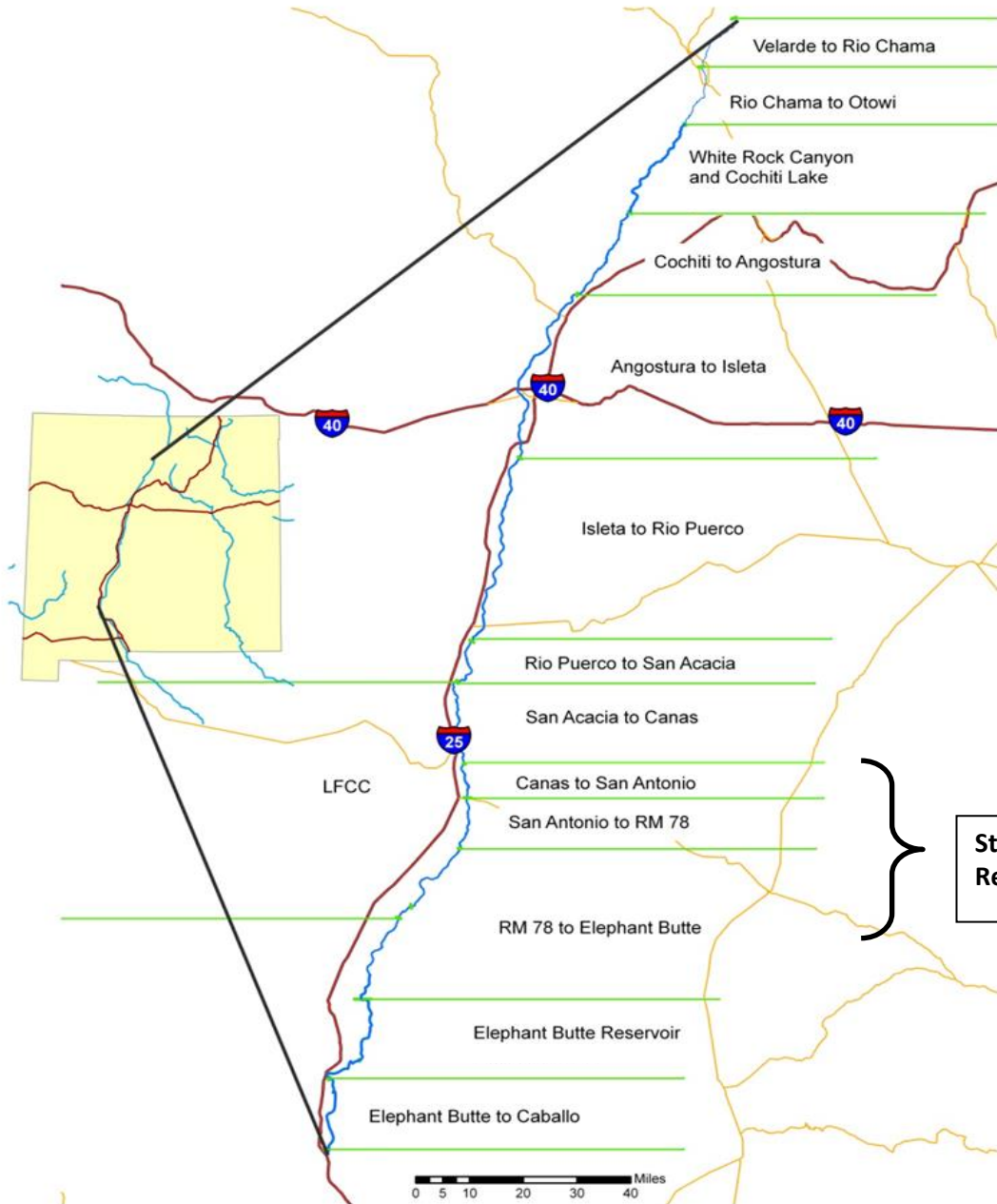
(Park and Julien, 2011)

# San Acacia to the Narrows of Elephant Butte

Degradation, Aggradation and Delta Deposition  
Processes

RECLAMATION

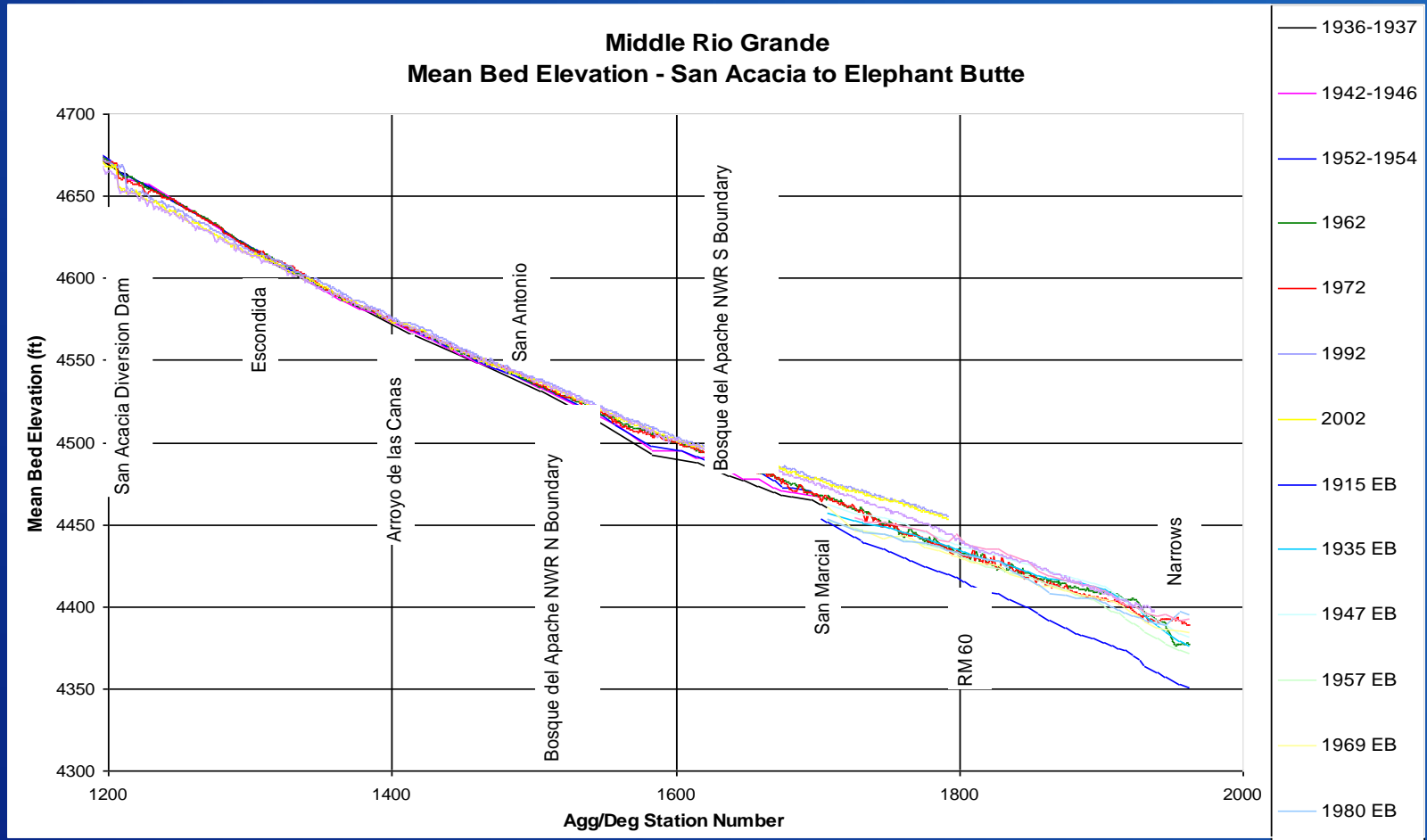
# Middle Rio Grande, New Mexico



# Location

Study Reach

# San Acacia to Elephant Butte Longitudinal Profile



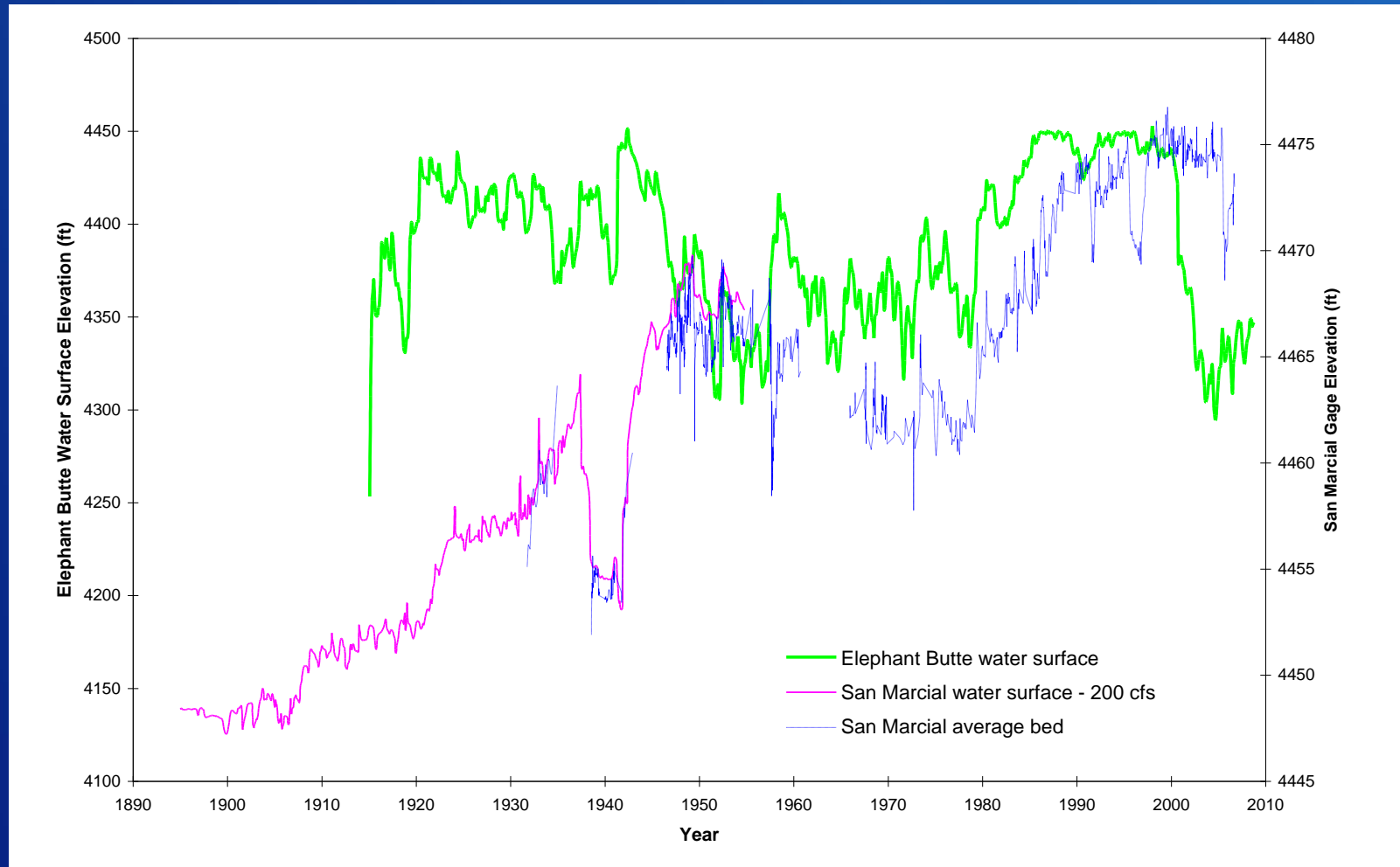
# Channelization into Elephant Butte



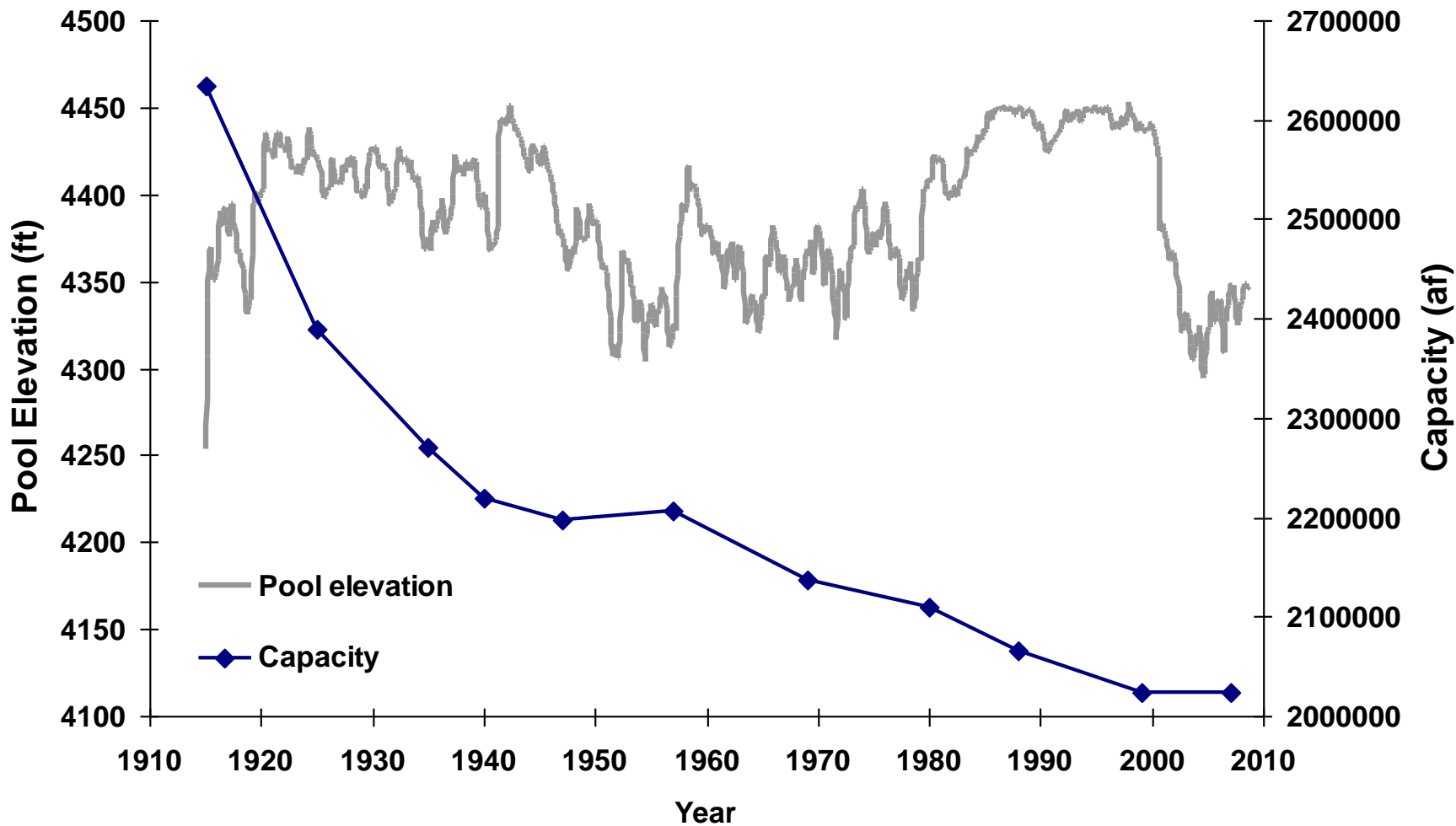
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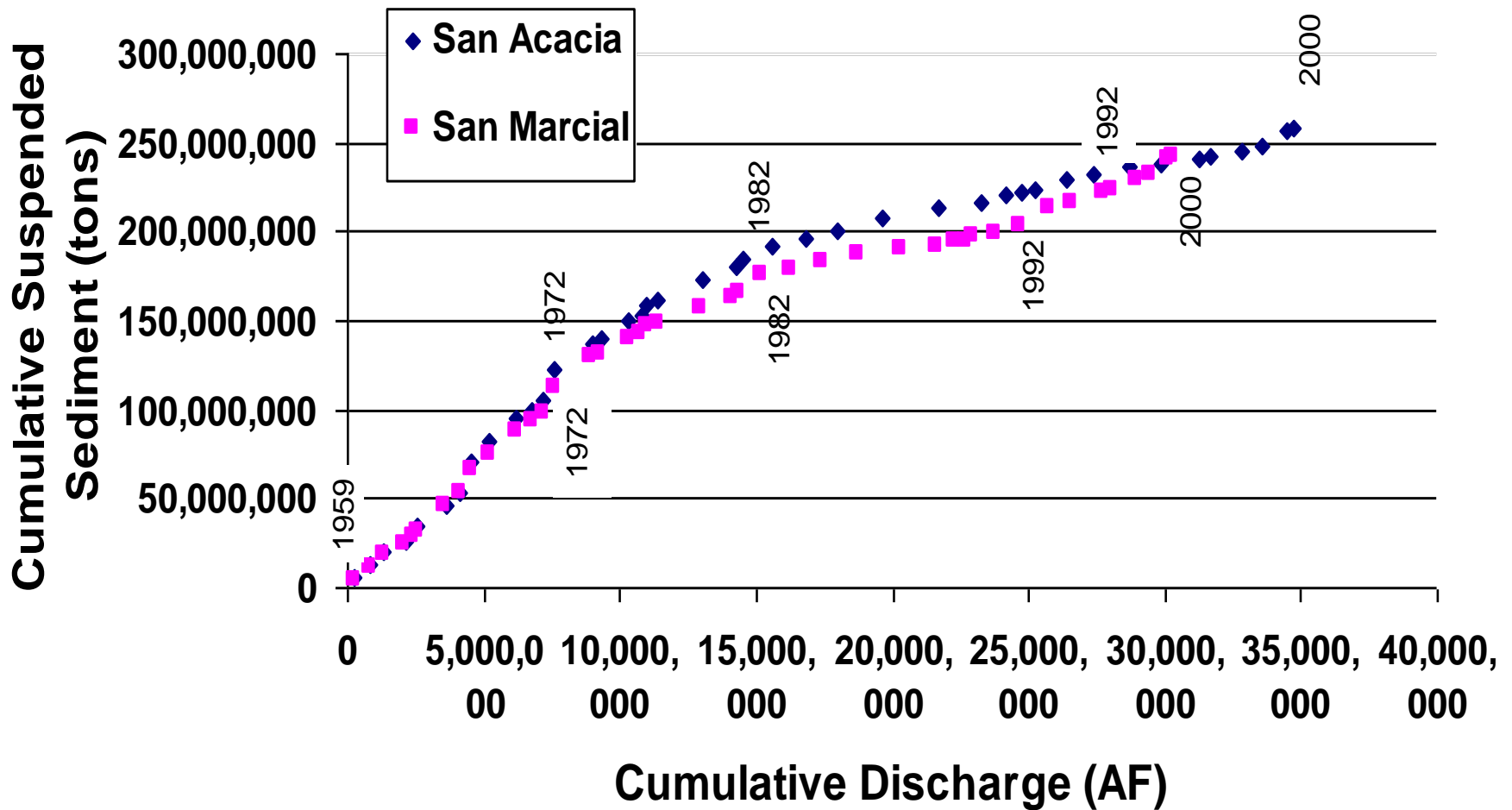
# Elephant Butte and San Marcial Bed Elevations



## Elephant Butte Reservoir, NM Pool Elevation and Capacity

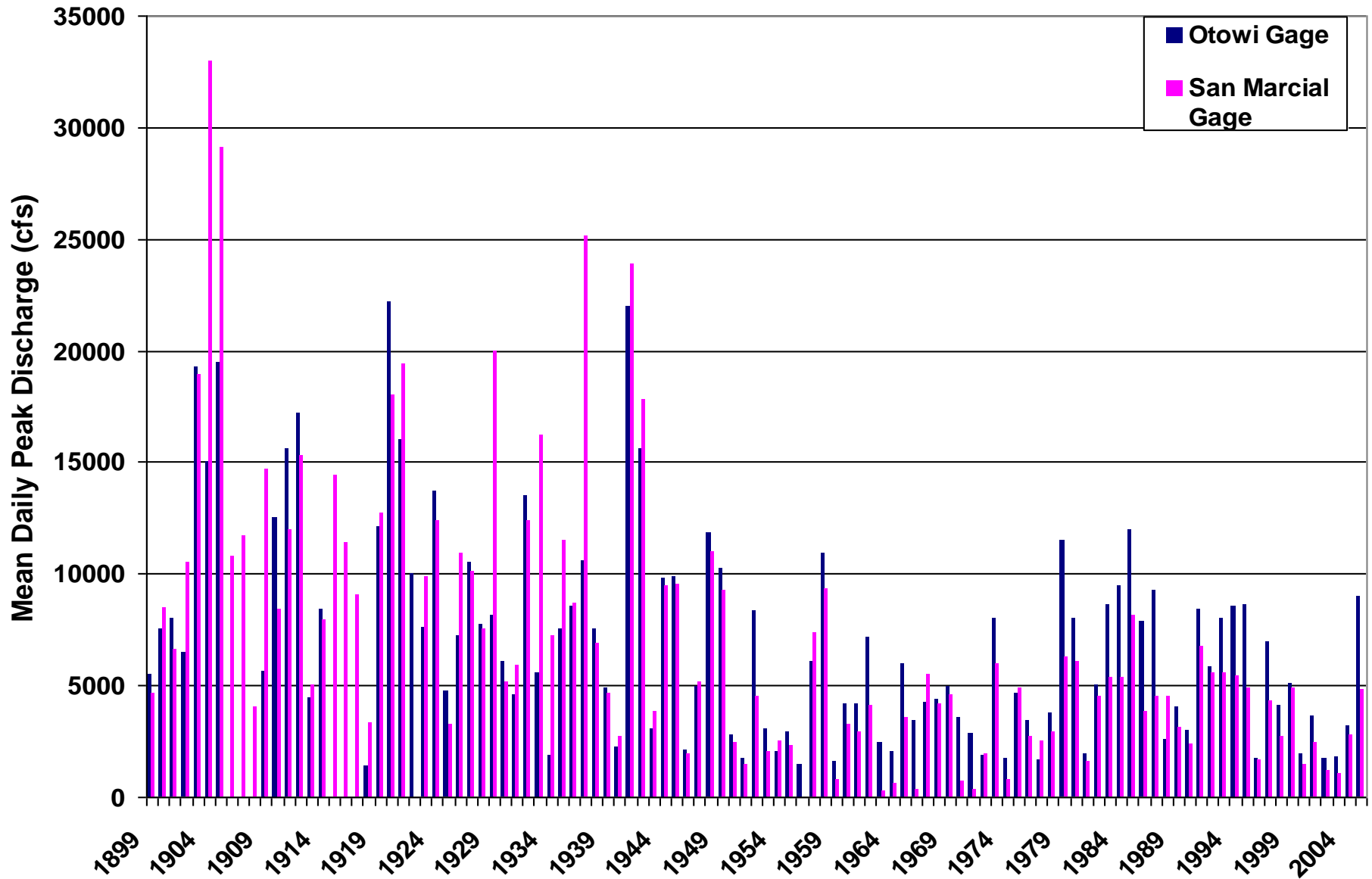


# Water Sediment Relationship

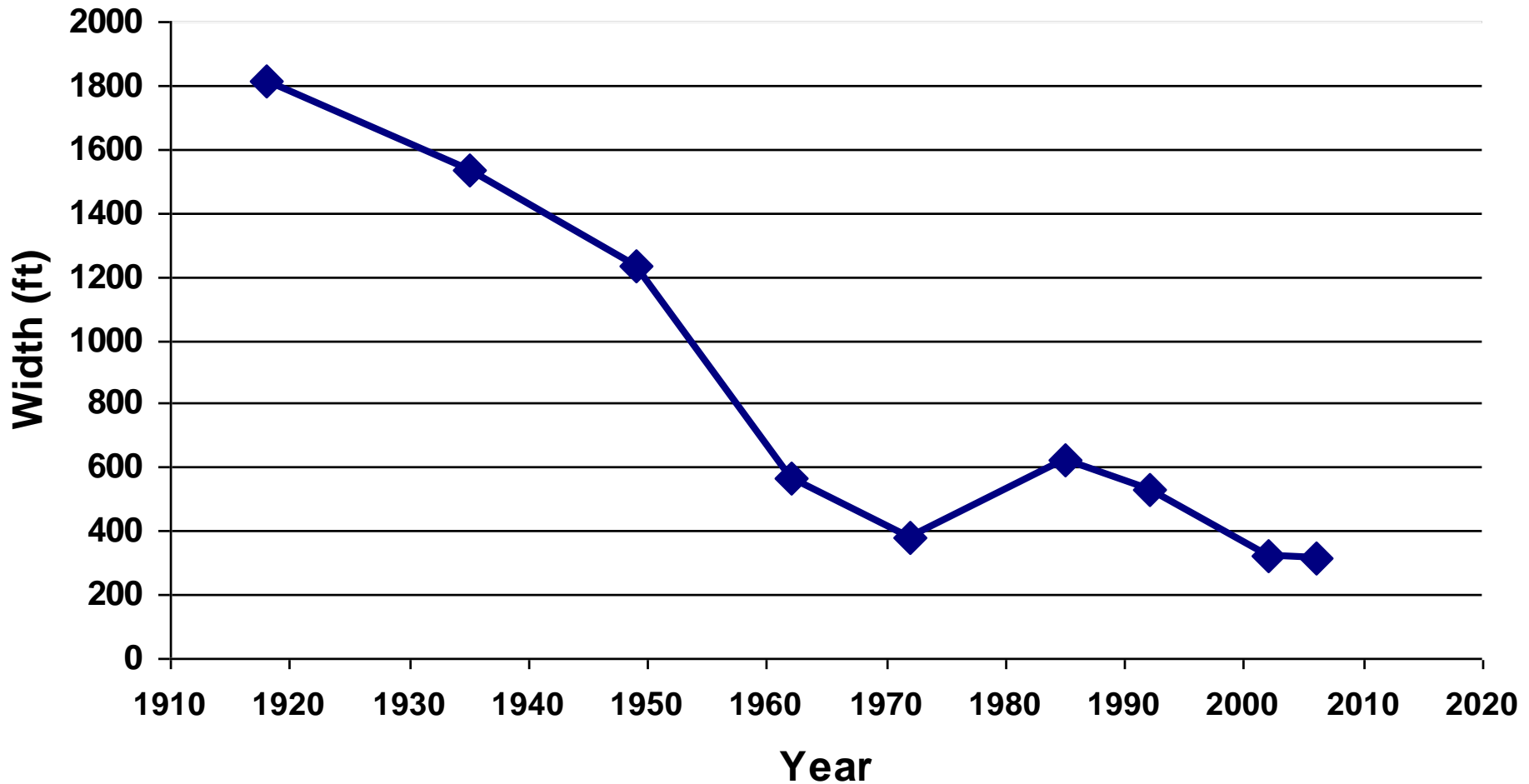


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# Mean Daily Peak Discharge (cfs)



# Rio Grande Reach Mean Channel Width San Acacia to San Marcial General Narrowing Trend between 1918 and 2008---Snapshot in Time



# Elephant Butte Delta



Late 1990's

2001



RECLAMATION

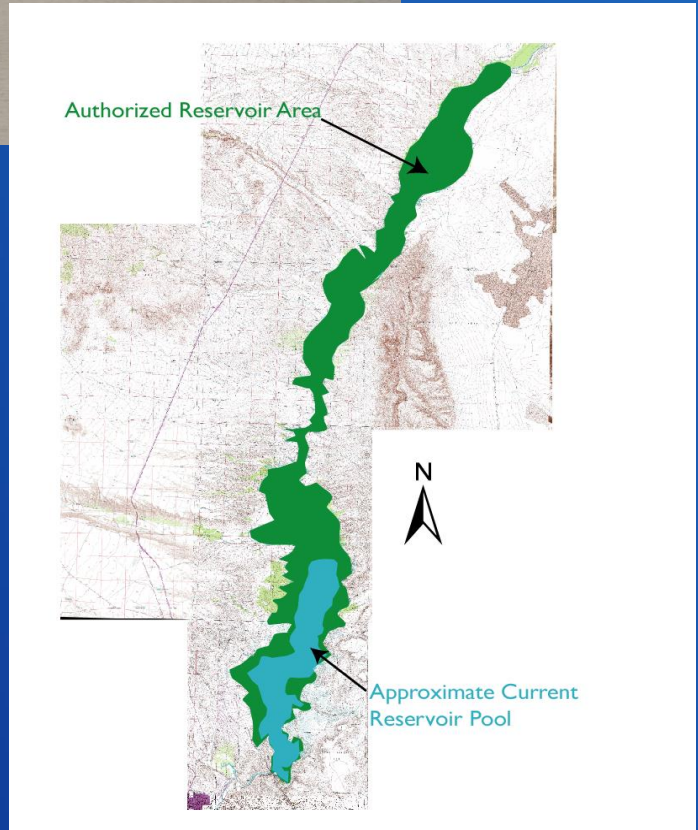


**Amphibious  
Excavators  
Operate in 1 psf  
soil conditions**



**RECLAMATION**

# Temporary Channel Sediment Deposition



RECLAMATION



Thank you!  
Question/Discussion



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

RECLAMATION

# Washington State Salmon Recovery and Fish Passage

Examples of restoration

RECLAMATION

# Salmon Recovery Columbia River Basin

- **Multi-Agency Approach**
- **COE Passage at Large Dams**
- **BPA Water Operations and Funding some Restoration**
- **Reclamation Passage in tributary diversions**
- **Reclamation Main channel Habitat Restoration**



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION





RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION



RECLAMATION

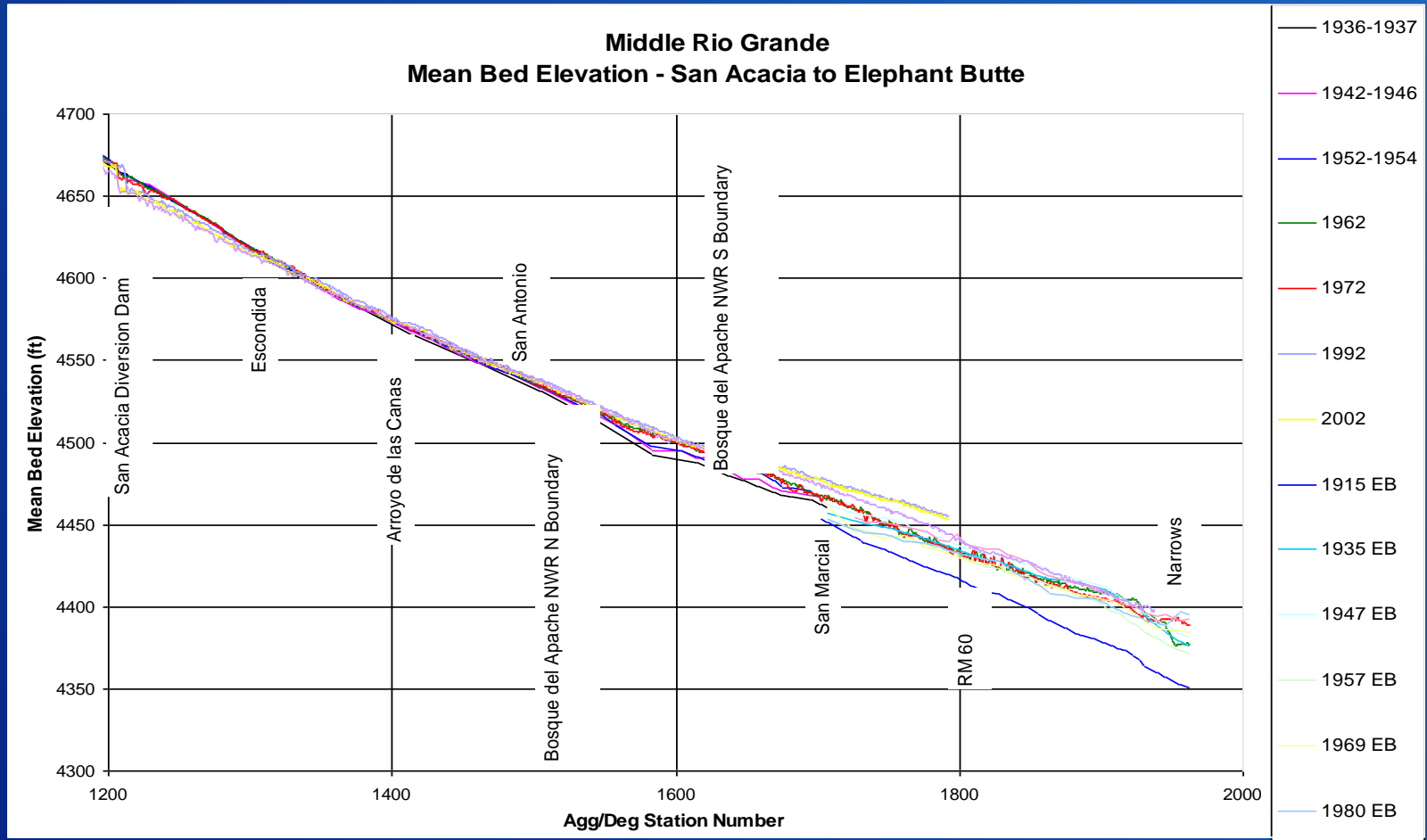


03/01/2005

# RECLAMATION

RECLAMATION

# This one showing less data Lower Reach Channel Degradation

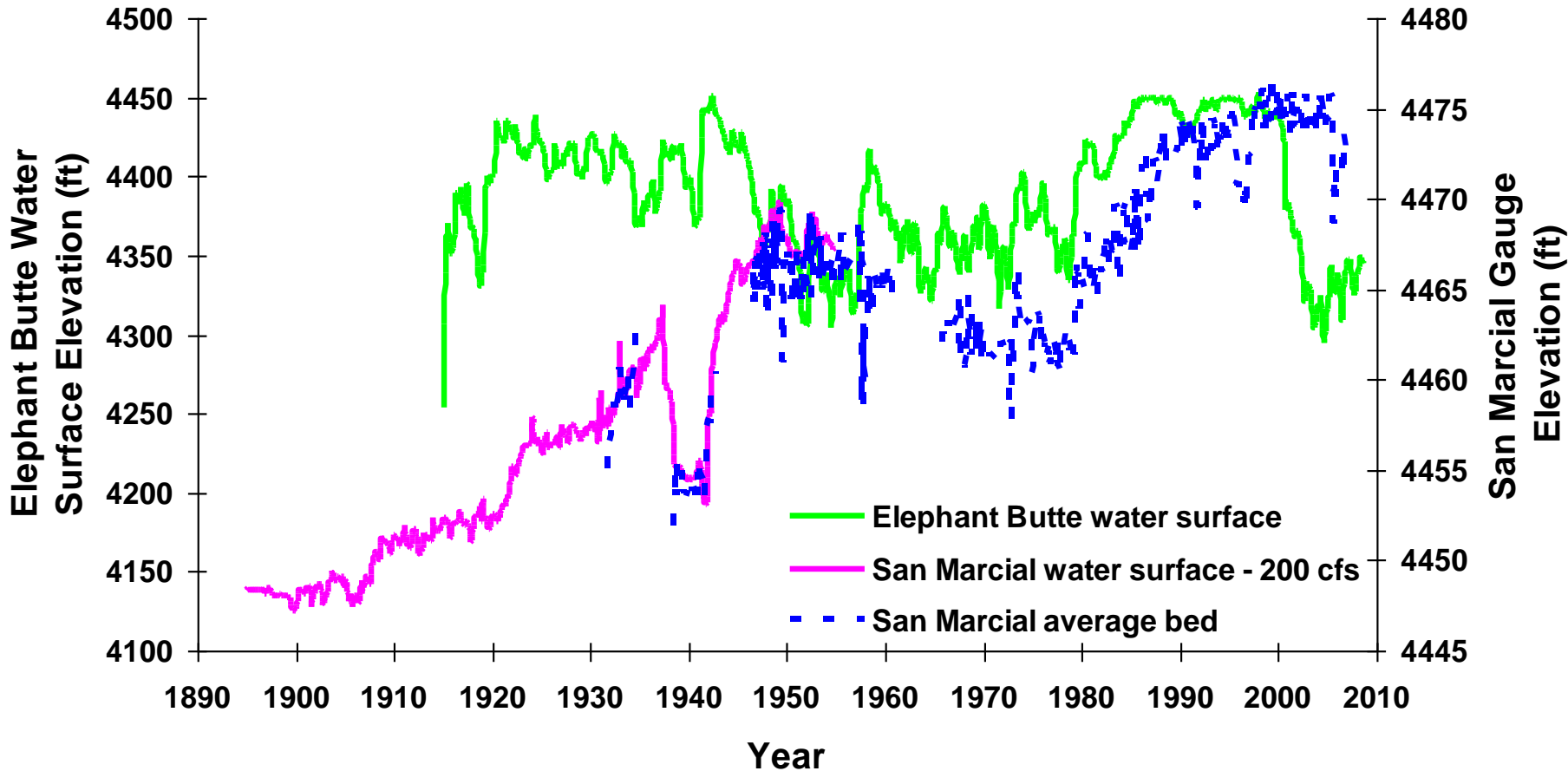






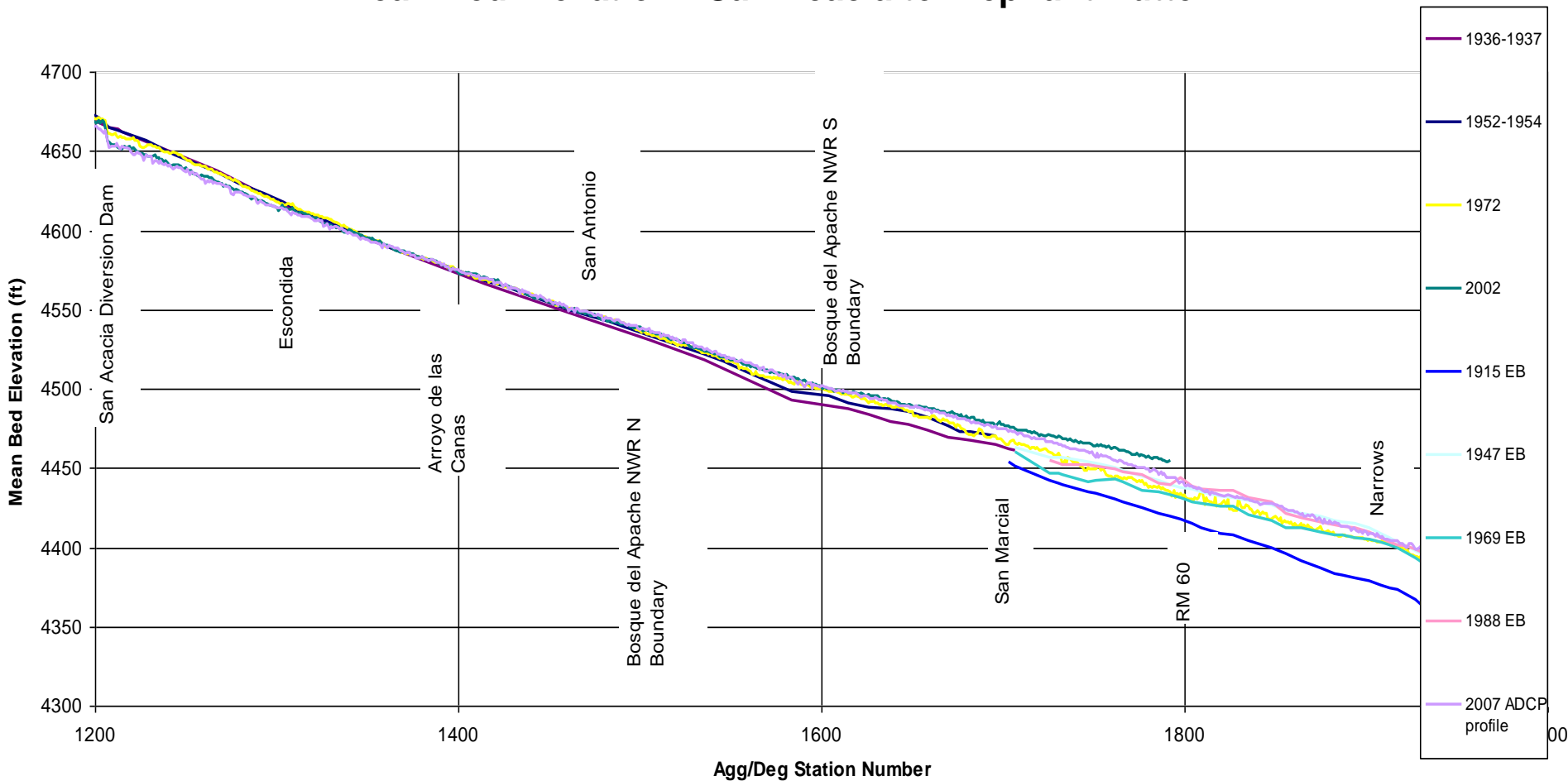
# Middle Rio Grande

## San Marcial Gauge Elevations and Elephant Butte Water Surface Elevation



# Middle Rio Grande

## Mean Bed Elevation - San Acacia to Elephant Butte

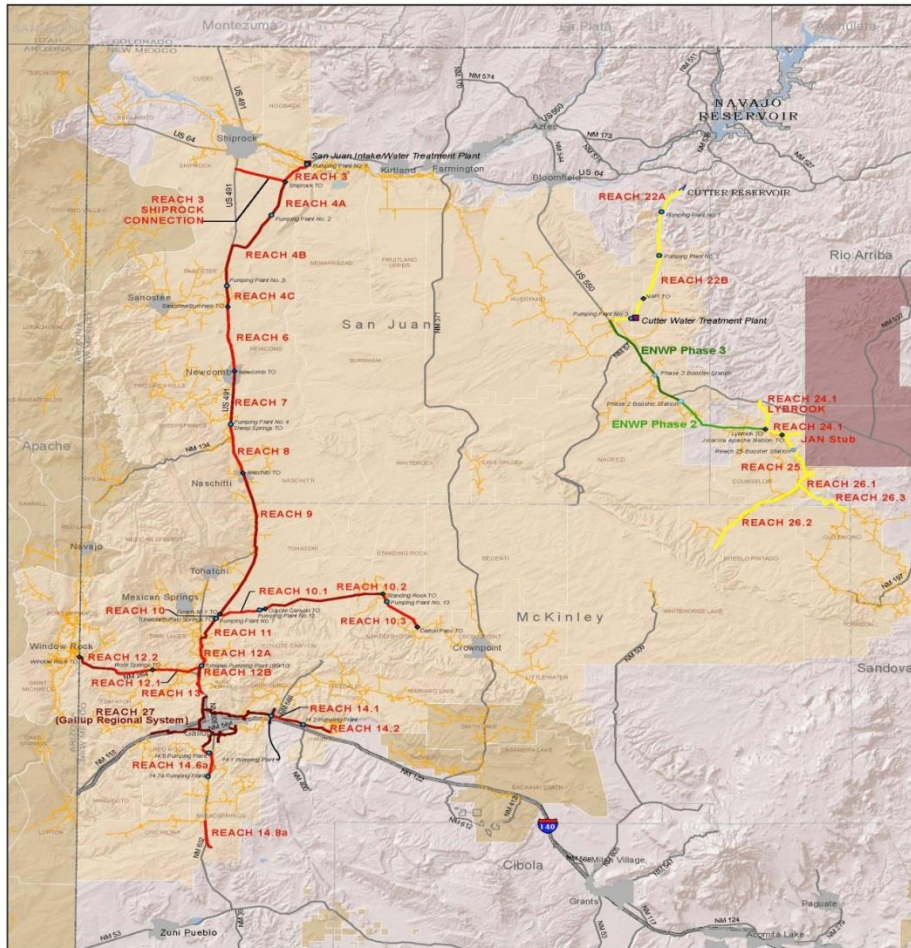




RECLAMATION

# Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project

- 280 miles of pipeline
- Several pumping plants
- Two water treatment plant
- About 37,700 Acre-Ft. of water
- Water for about 250,000 people
  - Main water supply for Navajo Nation
  - Augment City of Gallup NM Water Supply
  - Water for the Jicarilla-Apache Nation
- 48" line

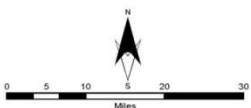


**LEGEND**

- San Juan Lateral
- Gallup Regional System
- Cutter Lateral
- Eastern Navajo Water Pipeline (ENWP) Phase 2
- Eastern Navajo Water Pipeline (ENWP) Phase 3
- Water Treatment Plant
- Pumping Plant
- Turnout
- Navajo Tribal Utility Authority Distribution System
- Jicarilla Apache Nation (JAN)
- Navajo Nation Serviced Chapters
- Navajo Nation Non-Serviced Chapters

Note: Pumping Plant numbers reflect FEIS designations. Some pumping plants in original FEIS design have been combined and/or eliminated as a result of additional analyses and optimization studies.

Disclaimer: Not for construction purposes. Alignment may be refined as designs and field reviews are completed.



## Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project

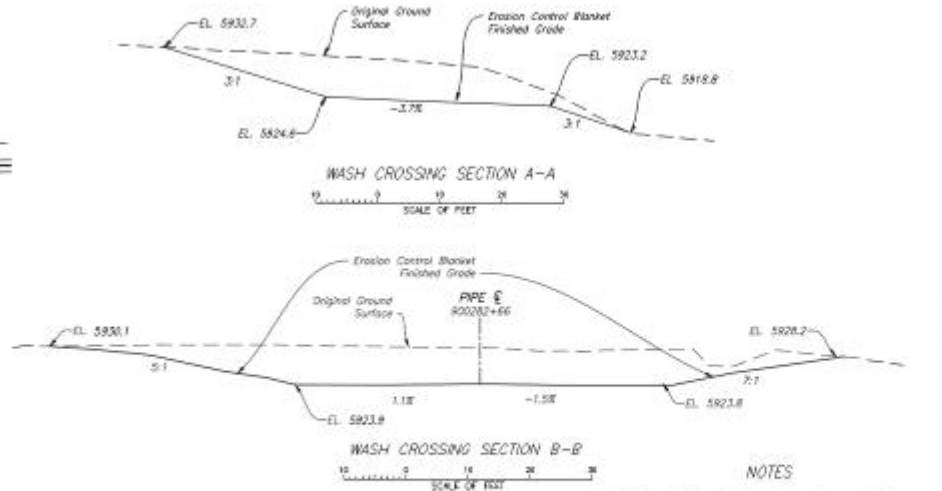
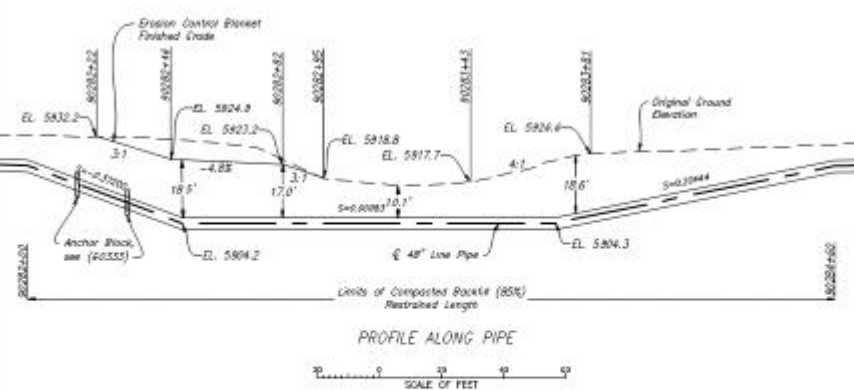
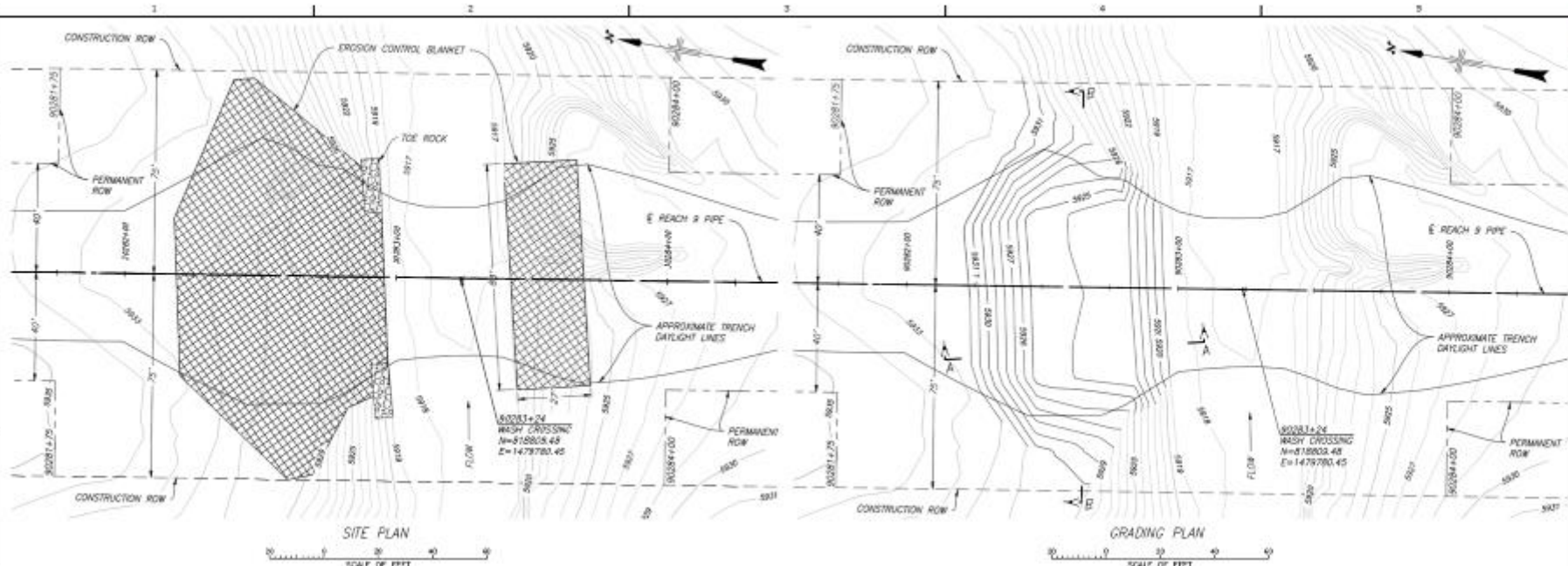
### RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*



1695-529-537  
Last Update: April 20, 2015  
Print Date: 4/28/2015

# RECLAMATION



- NOTES**
1. For General Notes, Symbols, Abbreviations, and Pipe Classification, see (60281).
  2. For Plan and Profile, see (60287).
  3. Adjust extent of erosion control blanket as directed by COR.
  4. Typical wash crossing details, see (60335 & 60336).
  5. For steep pipe details, see (60333).

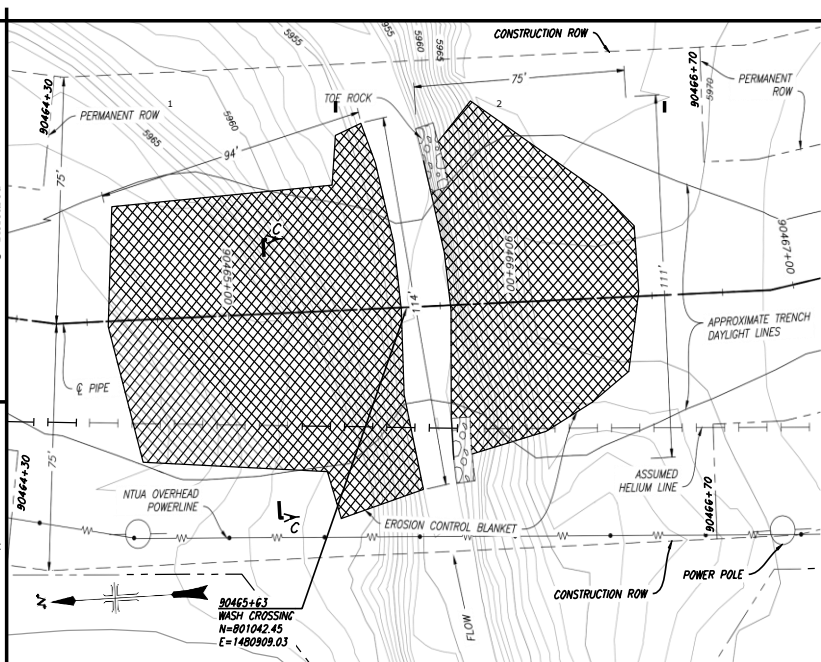
DATE: 01/20/2015  
 DRAWN: MCHAMBERS  
 CHECKED: WARDEN  
 DESIGNED: MCHAMBERS  
 PROJECT: SAN JUAN LATERAL - REACH 9  
 SHEET: 1 OF 1  
 SCALE: AS SHOWN

WASH CROSSING  
 STA. 90282+00  
 1695-D-603  
 SHEET 1

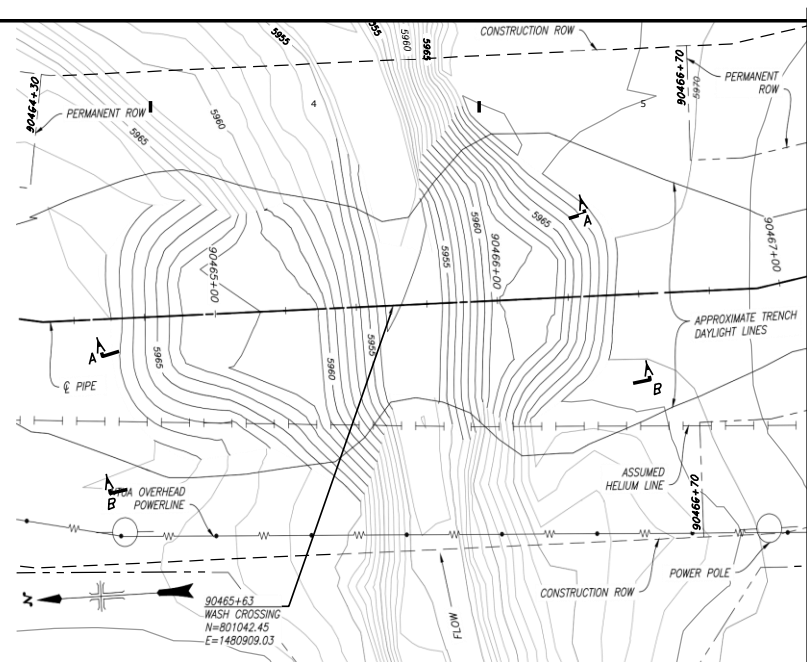
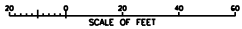


Released

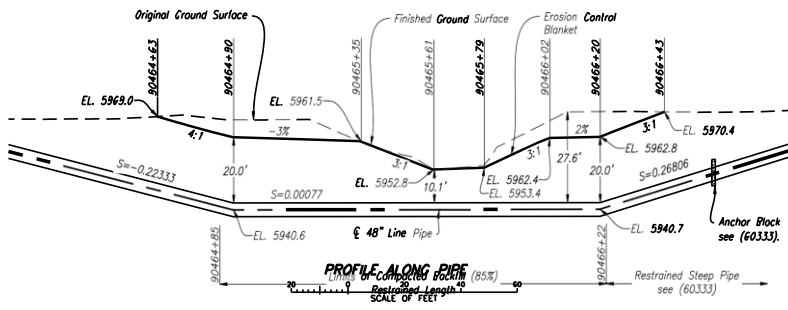
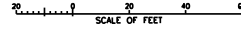
DATE PLOTTED: 07/11/2017  
TIME PLOTTED: 11:54 AM  
PLOT NUMBER: 001  
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



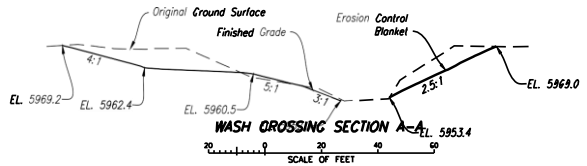
**SITE PLAN**



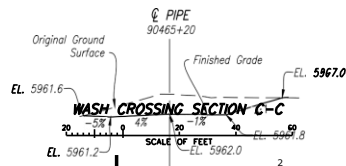
**GRADING PLAN**



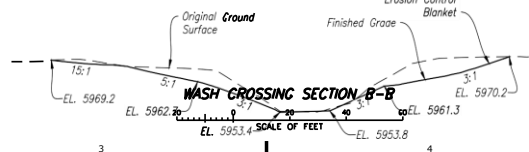
**PROFILE ALONG PIPE**  
Restrainted Length (85%)  
SCALE OF FEET



**WASH CROSSING SECTION A-A**  
SCALE OF FEET



**WASH CROSSING SECTION C-C**  
SCALE OF FEET

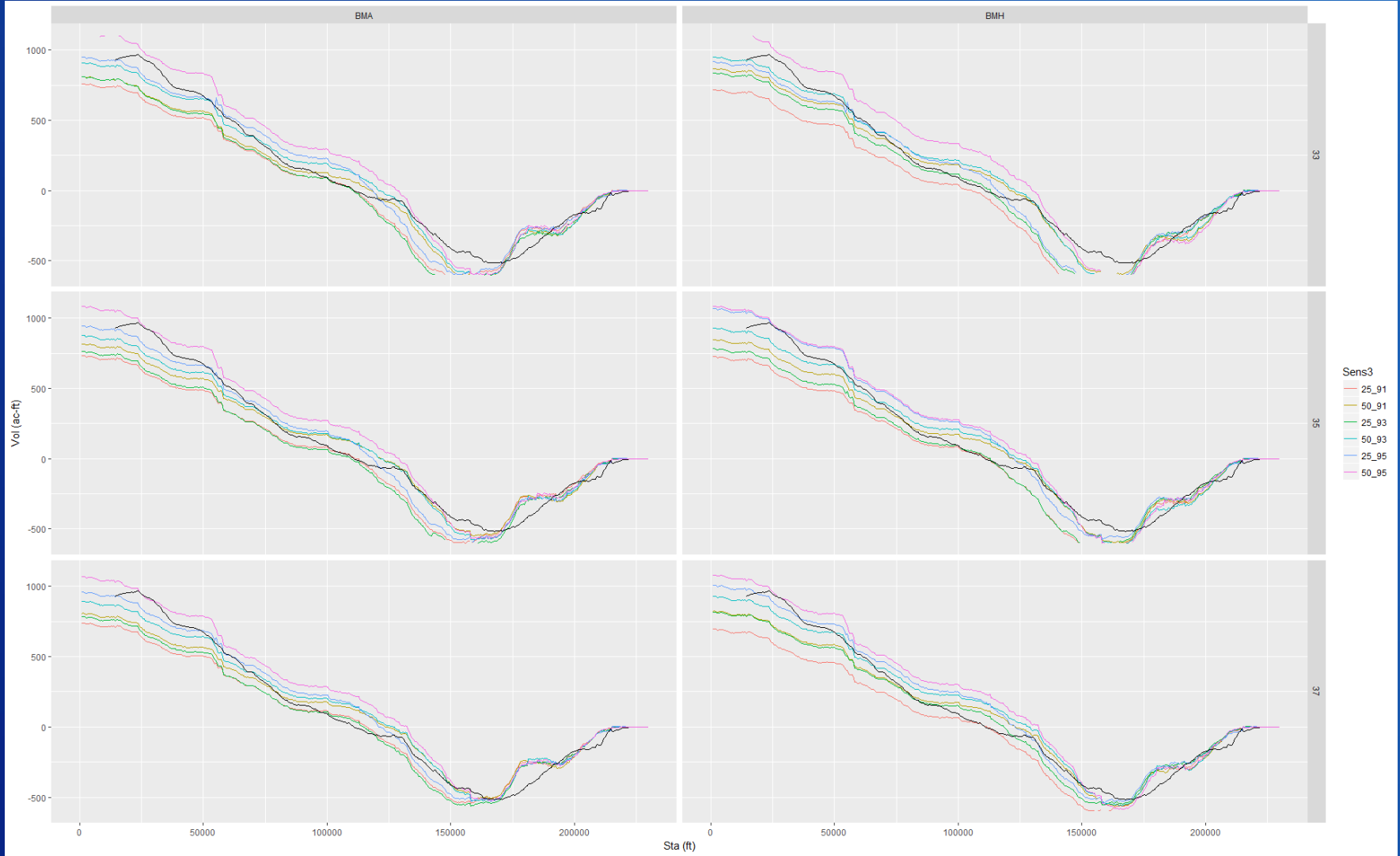


**WASH CROSSING SECTION B-B**  
SCALE OF FEET

**NOTES**

1. For General Notes, Symbols, Abbreviations, and Pipe Classification, see (60281).
2. For Plan and Profile, see (60291).
3. Adjust extents of erosion control blanket as directed by COR.
4. For typical wash crossing details, see (60335 & 60336).
5. For steep pipe details, see (60333).

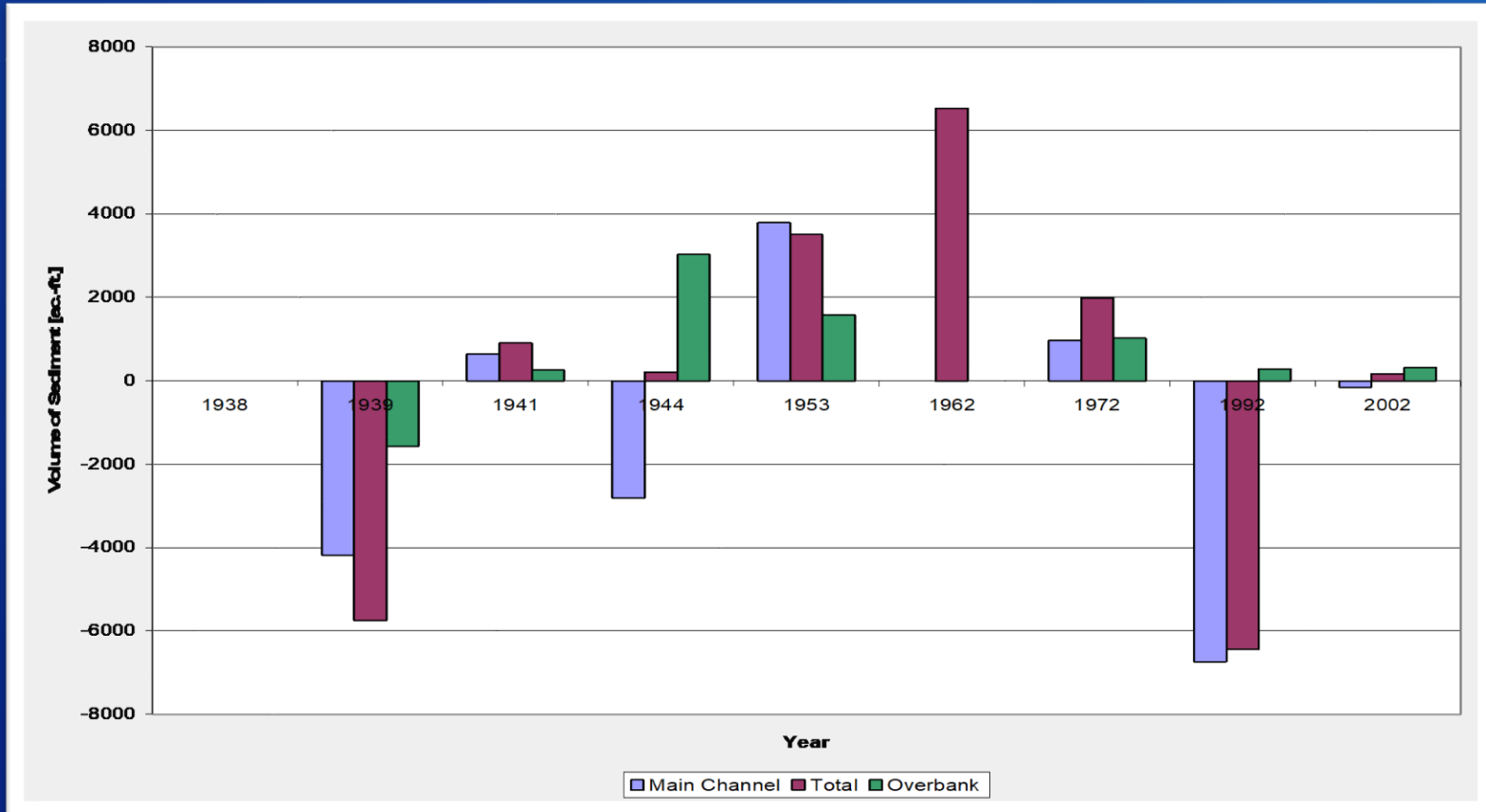
PROJECT MANAGER	JOEL SHULTS
DESIGNER	SHANNON MONAHAN
CHECKER	ANDREW WARDNER
DATE	07/11/2017
SCALE	1/8"=1'-0"
PROJECT NUMBER	1695-D-60349
PROJECT NAME	San Juan Lateral - Reach 9



Varyu (2018)

RECLAMATION

# Belen Reach-Isleta to San Acacia Aggradation/Degradation 1936 to 2002

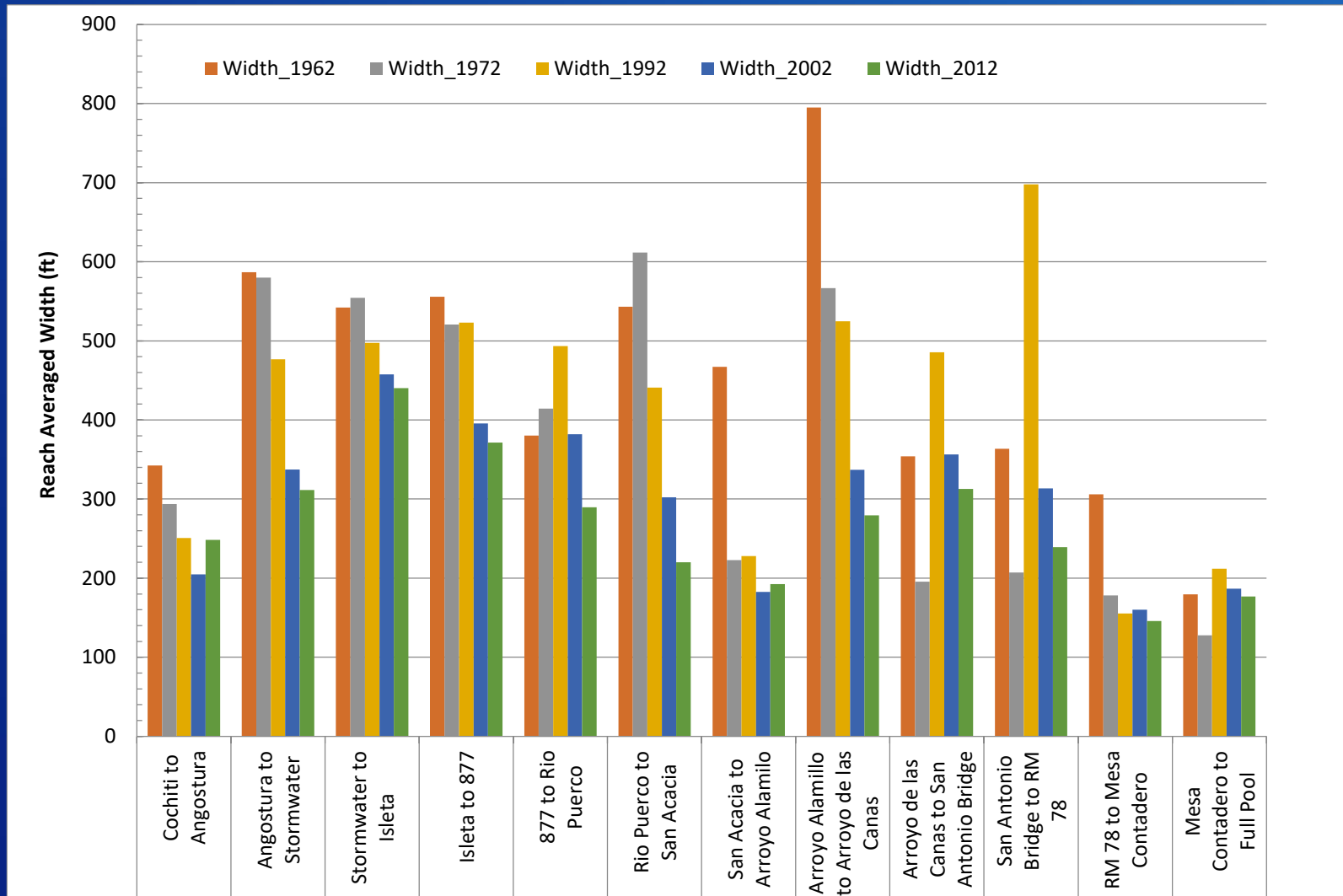


1936 to 1972  
generally  
aggradational

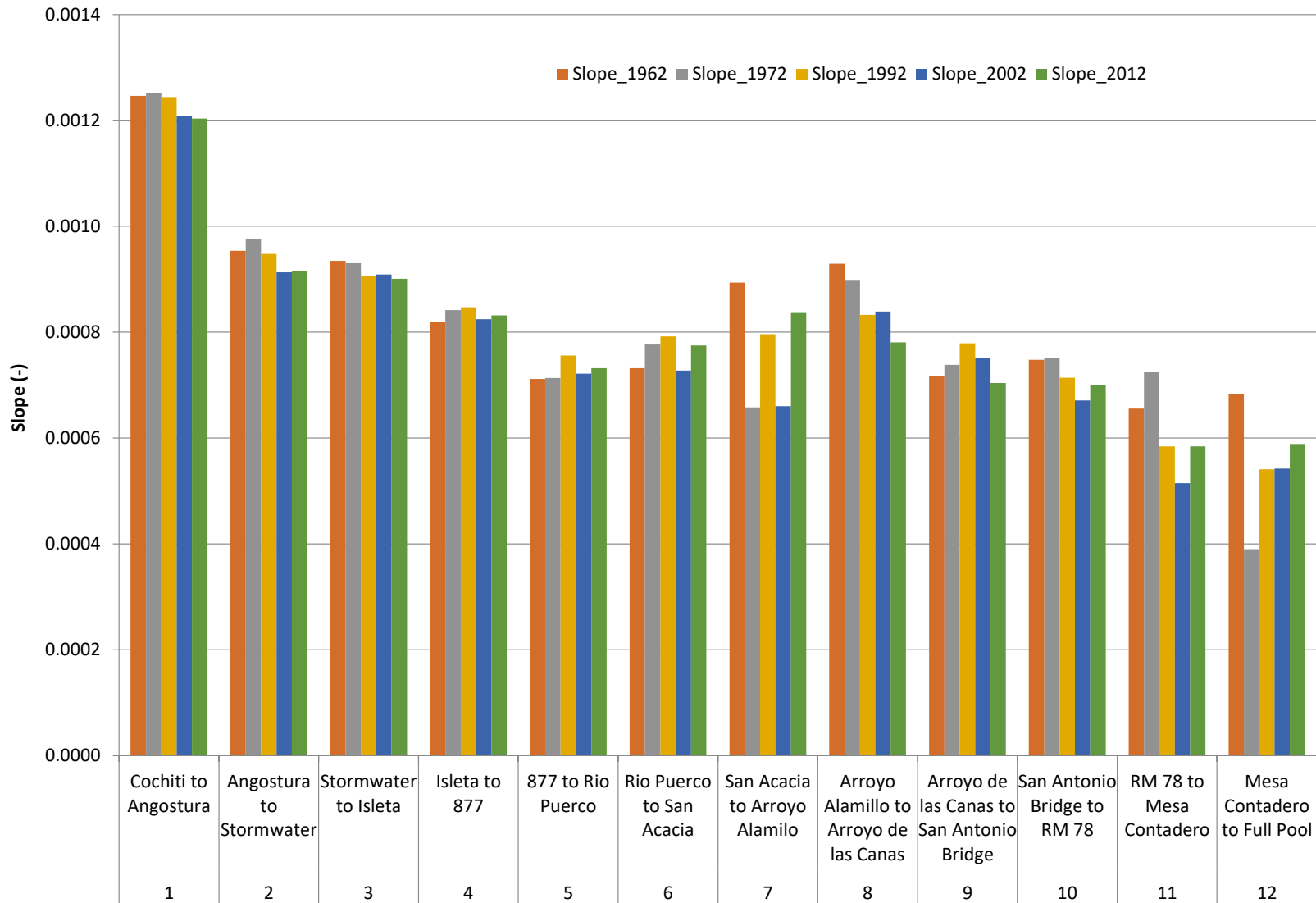
Degradation since 1972, except between 1992 and  
2002, slight main channel degradation and overbank  
deposition.

RECLAMATION

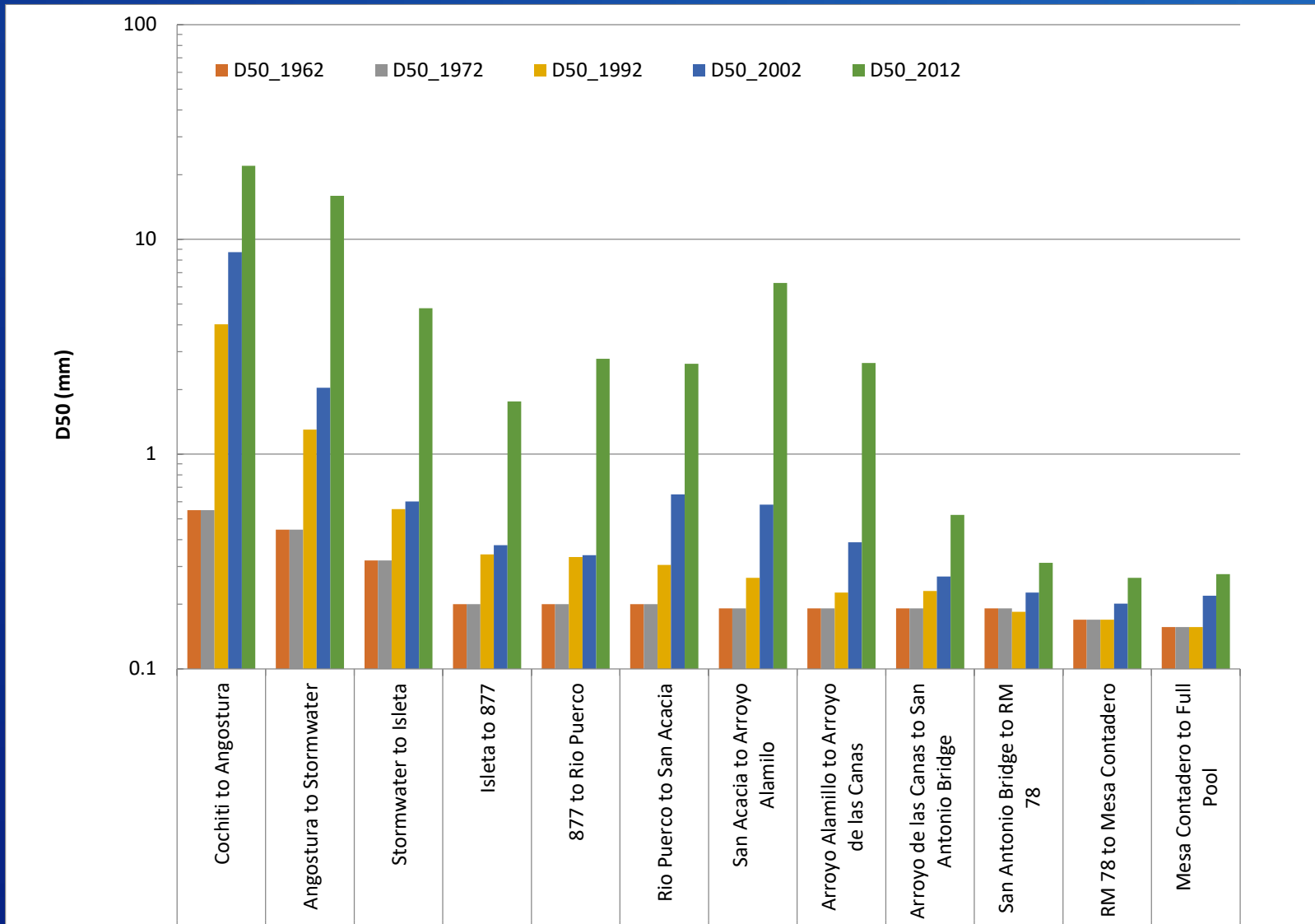
# Width (W)



# Slope (S)



# Median Diameter (D50)



# Flow (Q)

