

# Hydraulic Analysis Methods for Restoration

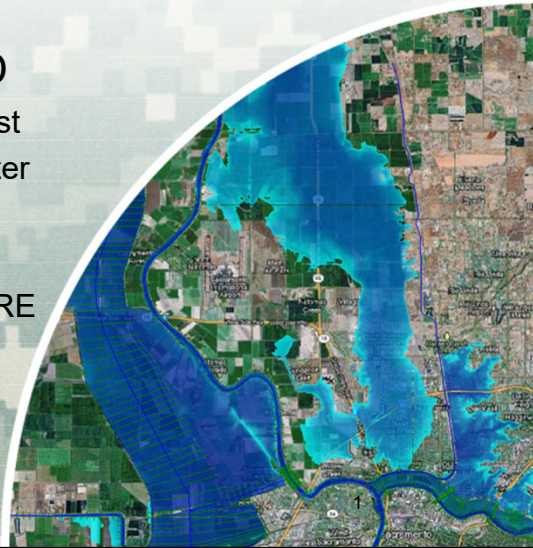
Stanford Gibson, PhD  
Sediment Transport Specialist  
Hydrologic Engineering Center

Includes Content by:  
Gary W. Brunner, P.E., D.WRE



US Army Corps of Engineers

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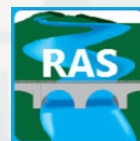


1

## Hydrology vs Hydraulics



HEC-HMS



HEC-RAS

How Much?

When?

Where? (Who)

How Deep?



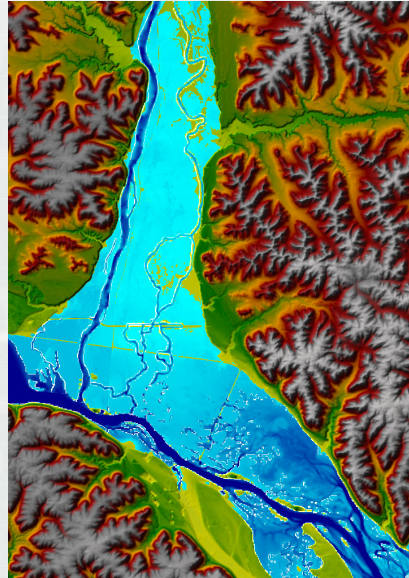
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## Hydraulic Products for Restoration Analyses

- Hydraulics Results
  - ▶ Depth
  - ▶ Inundation Boundary
  - ▶ Velocity
    - 1D-2D-3D?
- Channel Response
  - ▶ Channel Forming Discharge
  - ▶ Channel Stability Analysis
  - ▶ Mobile Bed Modeling (1D-2D)
- Water Quality Modeling

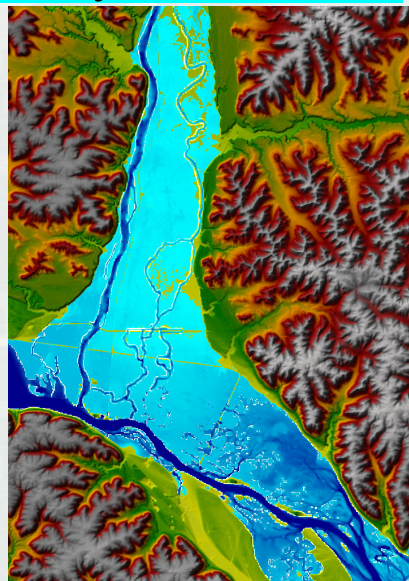


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## What Can I Get From My RAS Nerd?

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Today's  
Workshop

Tomorrow's  
Workshop

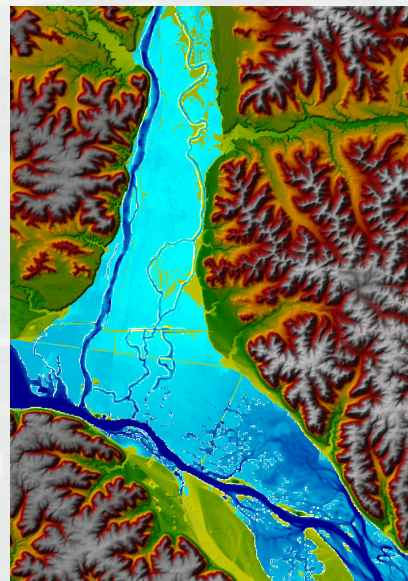


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## Hydraulic Products for Restoration Analyses

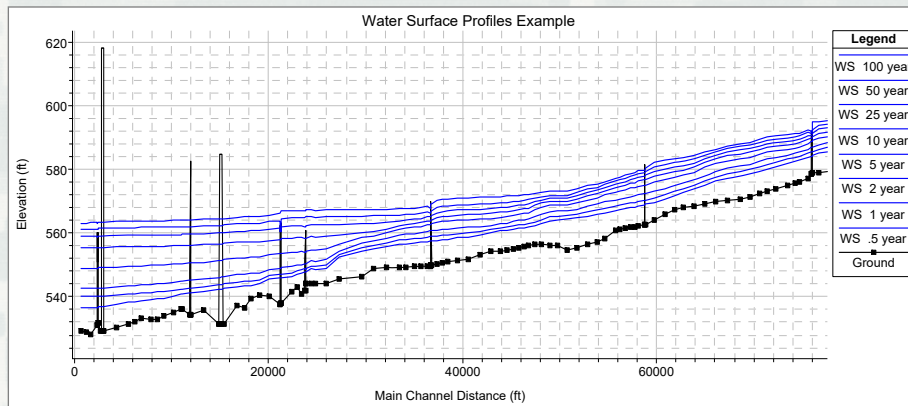
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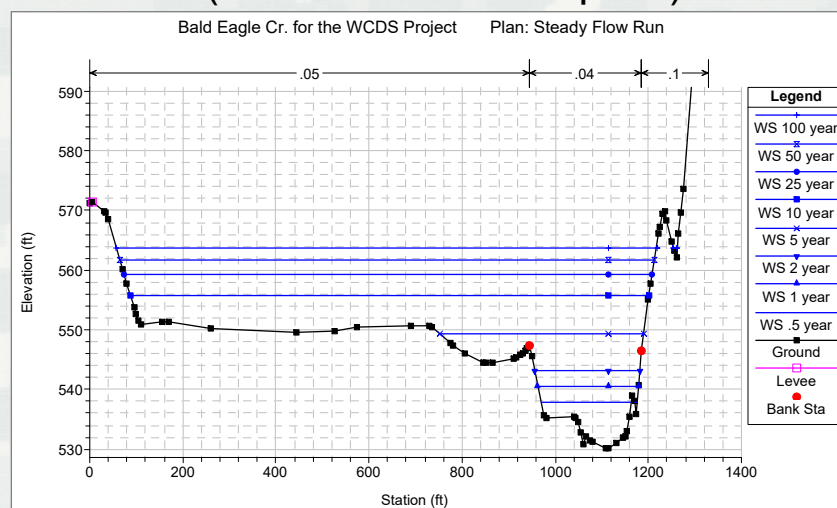
# Water Surface Profiles



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# Water Depth (Channel and Floodplain)



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## Water Surface Elevations

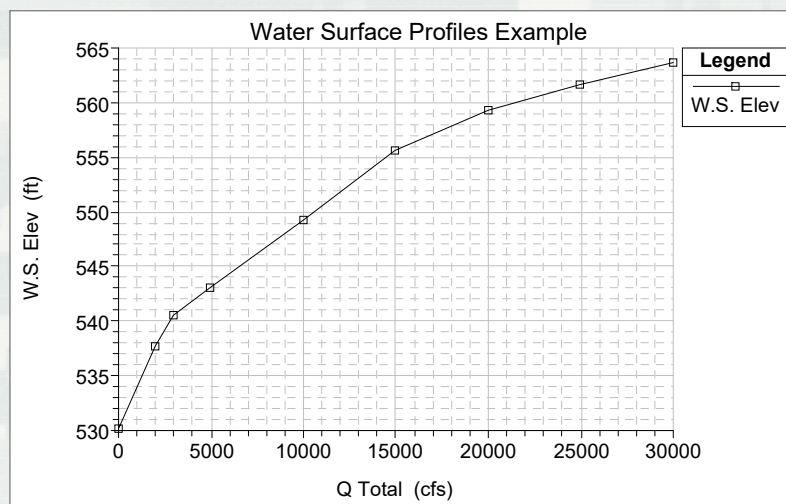
- Water surface elevations and depths need to be computed for a range of flows from low to high.
- This information can be used in many ways:
  - ▶ Determining stage vs. duration relationships
  - ▶ Calculating required minimum flow rates
  - ▶ Determining what flow rate will put water into the overbank area.
  - ▶ Evaluating the effects of large events on wetlands and channel restoration projects
  - ▶ Calculating fluctuations in stages due to fluctuations in flow rates from an upstream project (reservoir).



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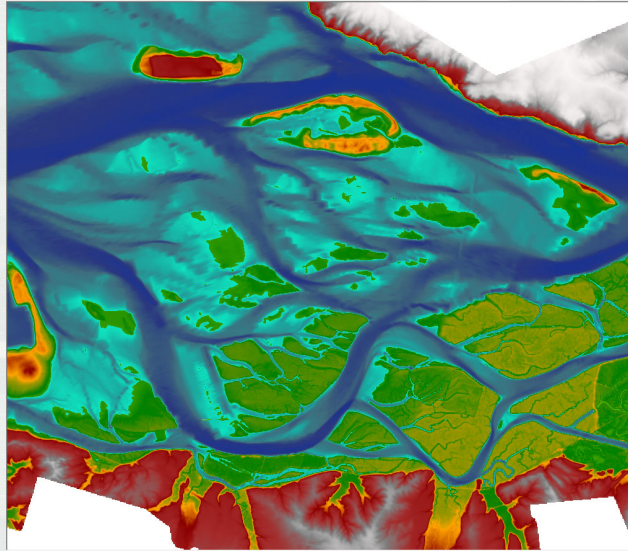
## Computed Rating Curve at a Cross Section



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## Water Depth – RAS-Mapper

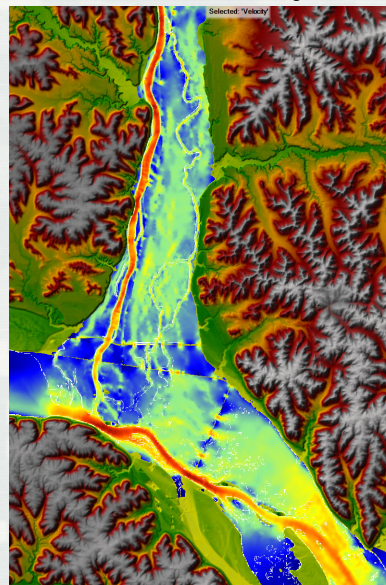


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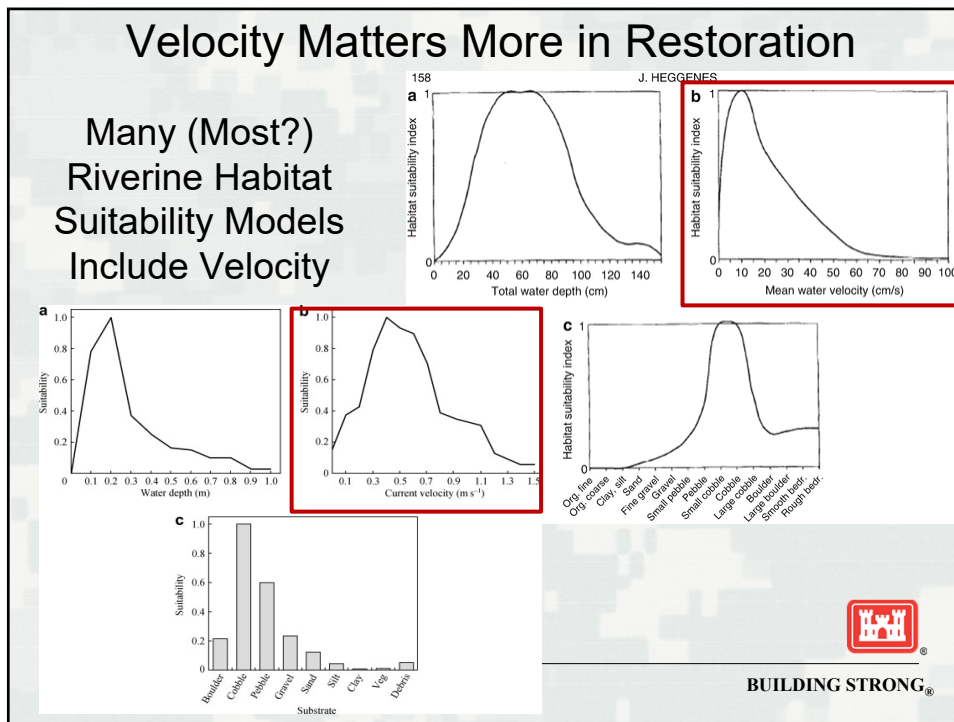
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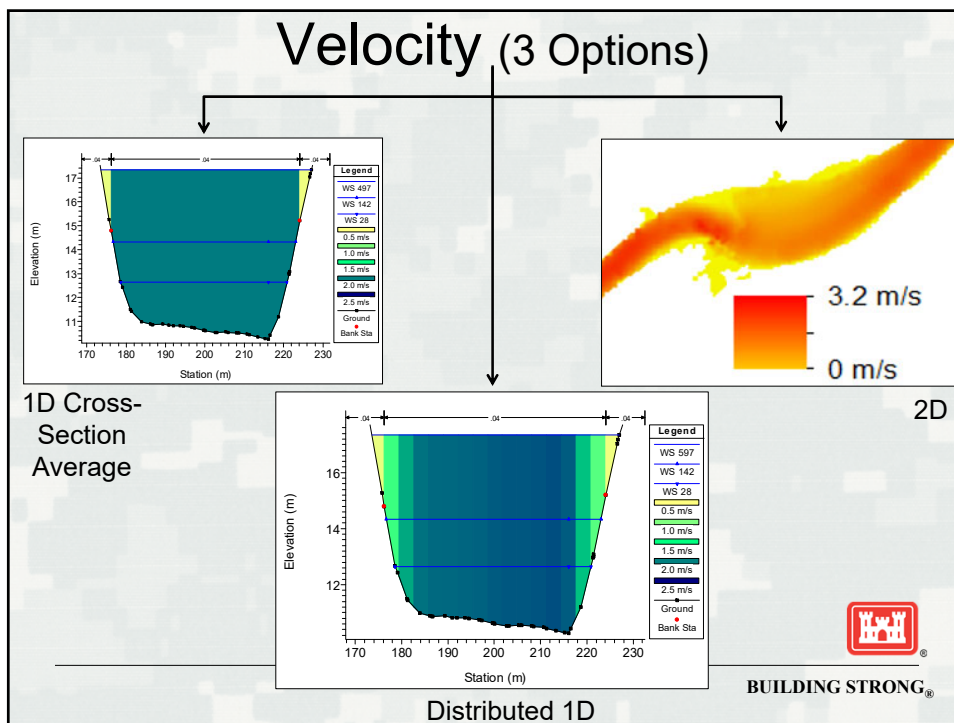


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## Velocities

- Velocities are required to evaluate many aspects of restoration projects.

Examples:

- ▶ Sediment transport calculations
- ▶ Channel stability (erosion and deposition)
- ▶ Plant stability
- ▶ Fish passage, spawning, and general habitat
- ▶ Habitat for other aquatic species
- ▶ Hydraulic structure design (structures for stream stability or habitat improvements)



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## Velocities

- The level of detail in velocity information varies with the different levels of hydraulic models.
- Manning's Equation – provides a single average velocity at a cross section for a given flow rate:

$$\bar{V} = \frac{1.49}{n} R^{2/3} S_f^{1/2}$$

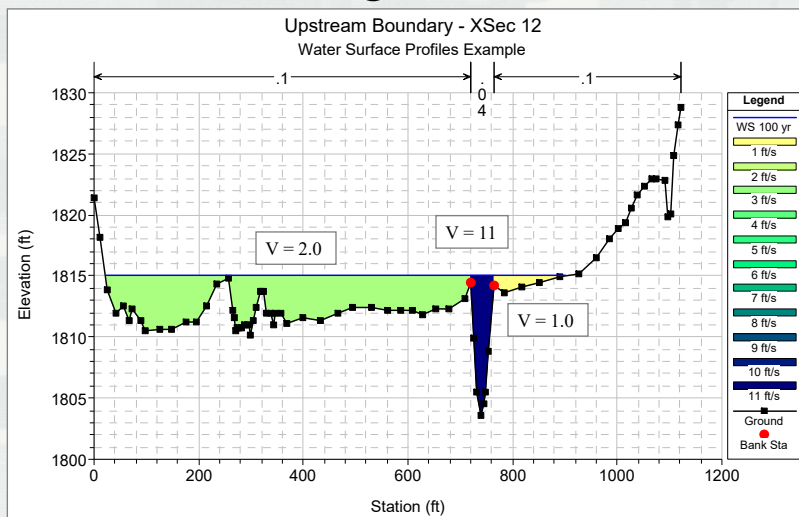


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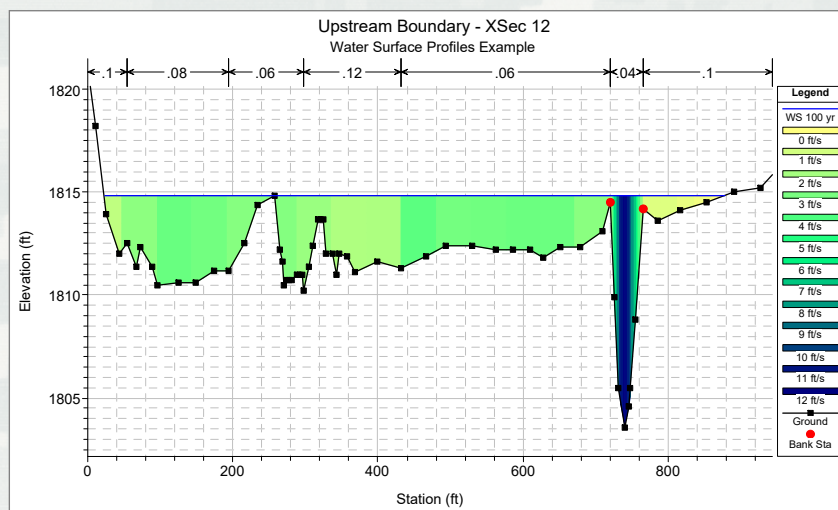


# Channel and Floodplain Average Velocities



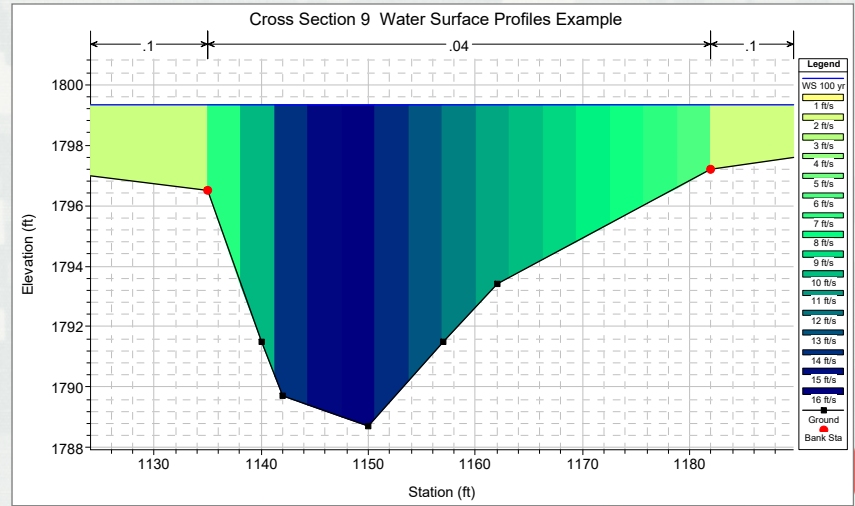
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# Detailed Velocity Slices



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## Main Channel Velocities



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## 1D Hydraulic Model Velocities

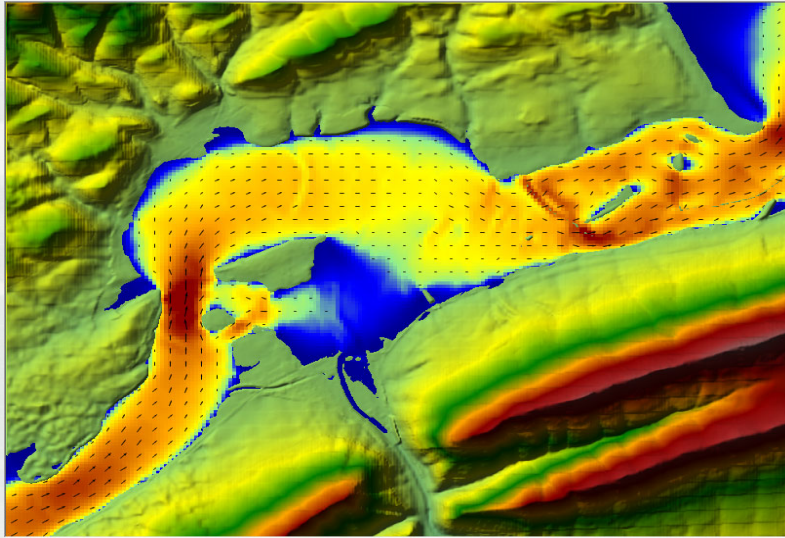
- One dimensional models calculate velocities with the assumption that the flow is perpendicular to the cross sections.
- Velocities are horizontally as well as depth averaged.



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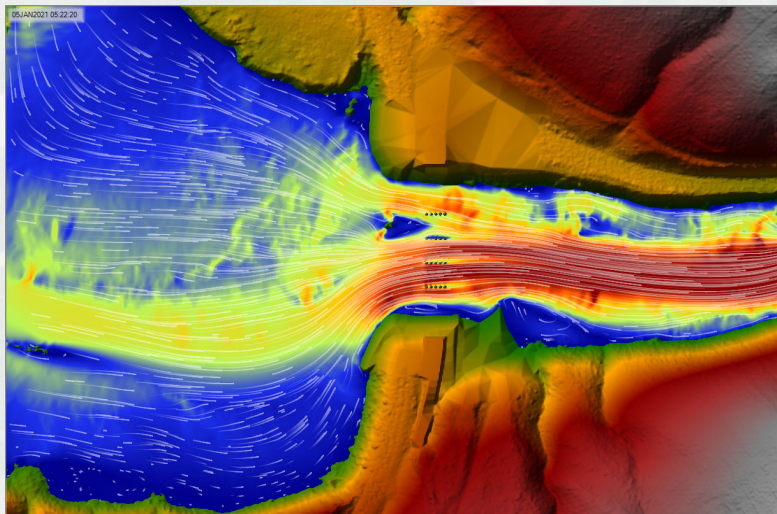
## Two-Dimensional Model Velocities



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## Multi-Dimensional Model Velocities- Continued




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So....

...2D or not 2D?



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**Modeler Application  
Guidance for Steady vs  
Unsteady, and 1D vs 2D vs  
3D Hydraulic Modeling**

August 2020

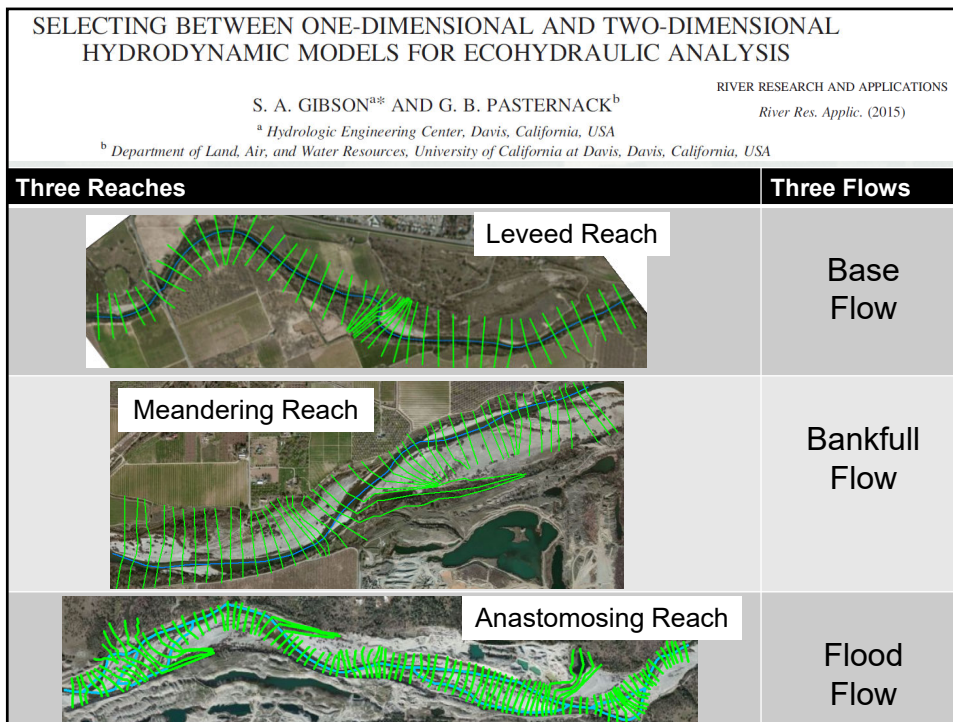
<https://www.hec.usace.army.mil/publications/TrainingDocuments/TD-41.pdf>

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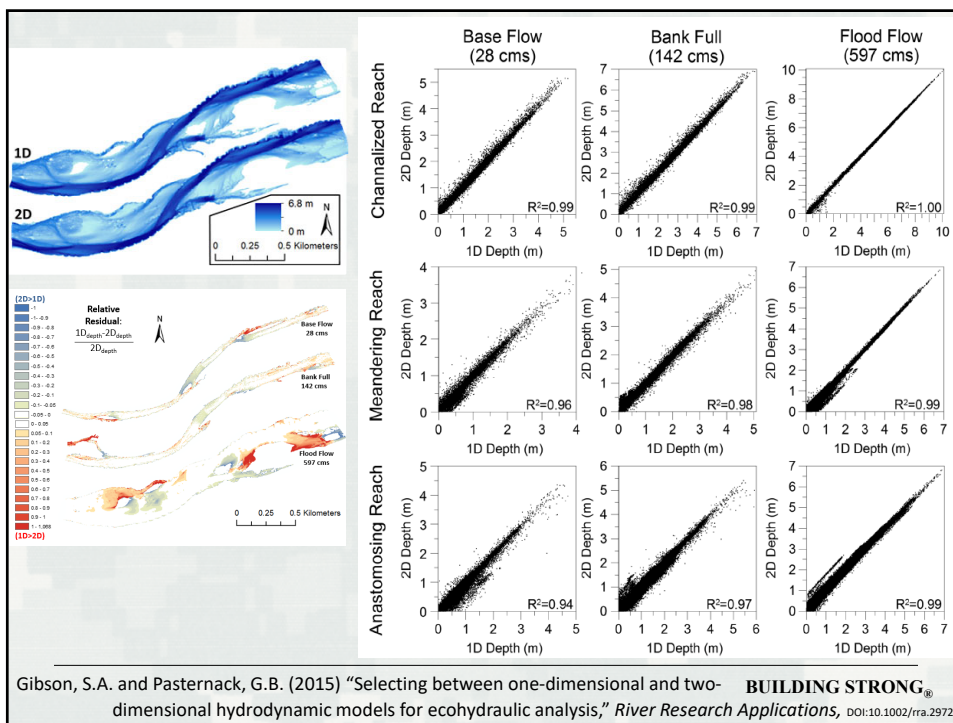


TD-41 BUILDING STRONG®

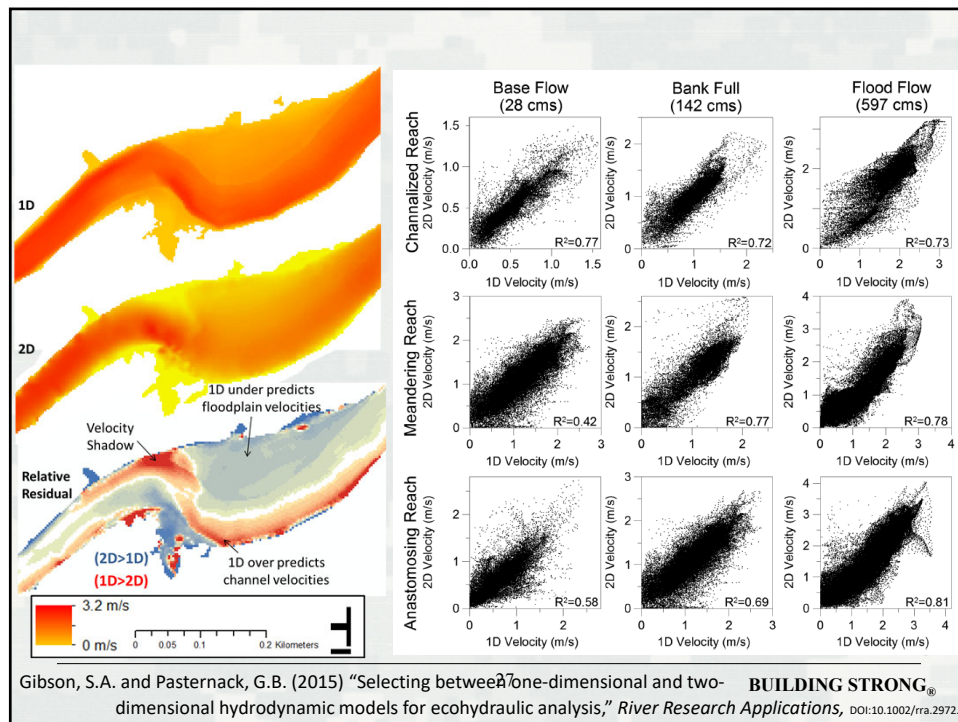
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## Model Selection

- The appropriate model for a given hydraulic study is dependent on many factors:
  - ▶ Study objectives
  - ▶ Data availability
  - ▶ Hydraulic considerations
  - ▶ Required Accuracy
  - ▶ Required Hydraulic Outputs
  - ▶ Modeling requirements (time, experience, cost)
  - ▶ Ease of application

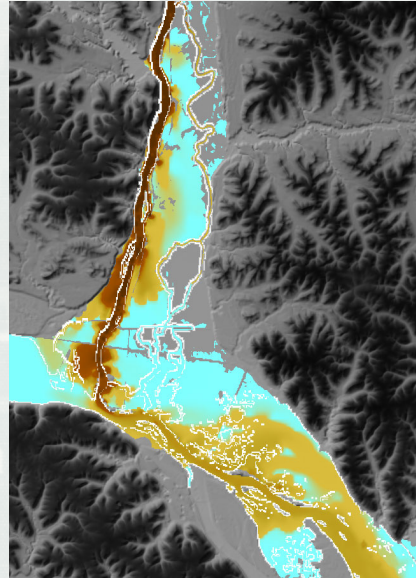


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## Hydraulic Products for Restoration Analyses

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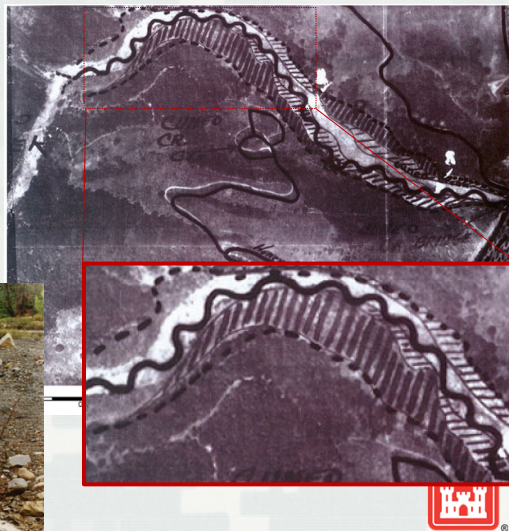


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## A Brief Digression About Morphological Failure Modes

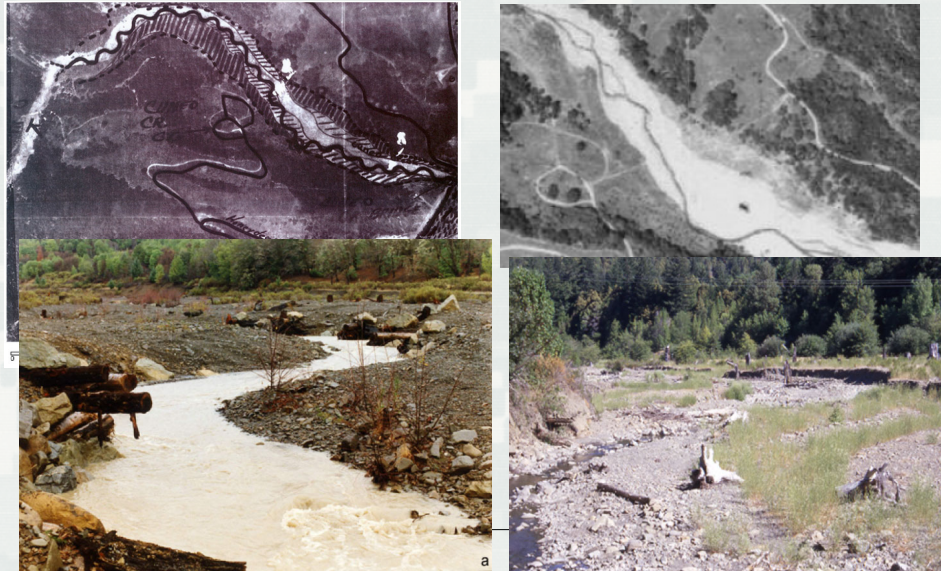
Morphological failure modes are one of the most common (maybe the most common) failure mode of our channelization projects: FRM or Restoration.



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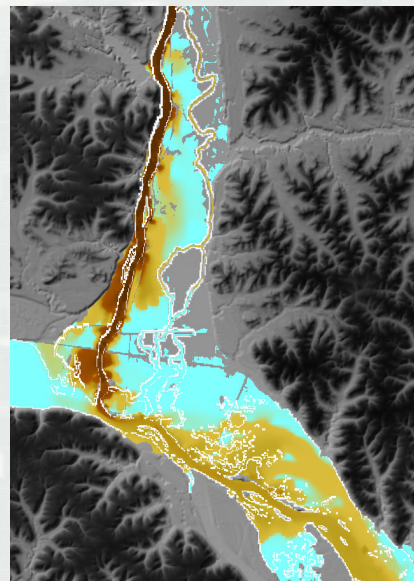
## A Brief Digression About Morphological Failure Modes



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## Hydraulic Products for Restoration Analyses

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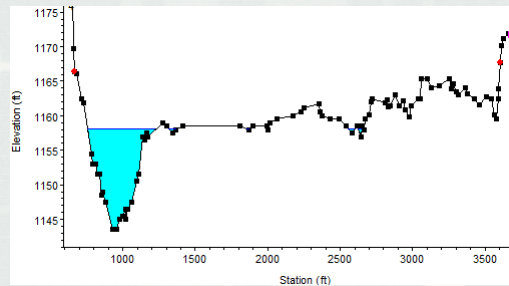
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## Philosophical Question

Why are river channels the  
shape and size they are?

What determines how much flow the channel  
can carry before it spills into the floodplain?

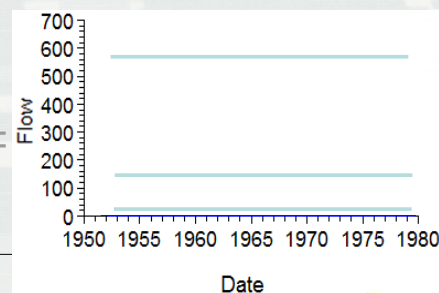
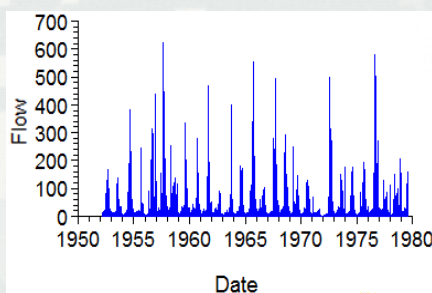


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## “Channel Forming Discharge”

“The single steady discharge which would  
produce the same cross section morphology,  
alluvial features, planform geometry, and  
dimensions as those generated by the actual  
flow regime.” (Inglis, 1949)



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# Channel Forming Discharge

## Three Options

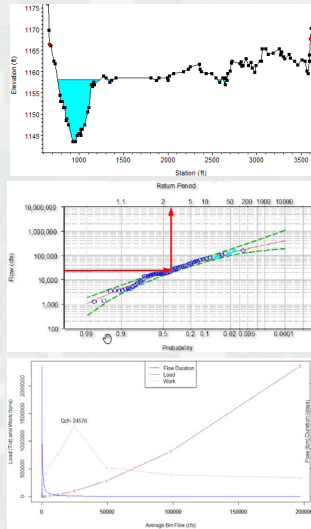
1. Bankfull Discharge

2. Recurrence Interval

3. Effective Discharge

If you are designing a channel,  
it might be worth asking:

What flow should the channel carry?



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## Bankfull Discharge

- Choosing the Bankfull Discharge as the channel forming discharge is a simple logical step – the flow most responsible for forming the channel is the flow that fills the channel.
- But it can be difficult to determine definitively.
- And bankfull can depart from the other methods in incised channels or rivers in arid environment.

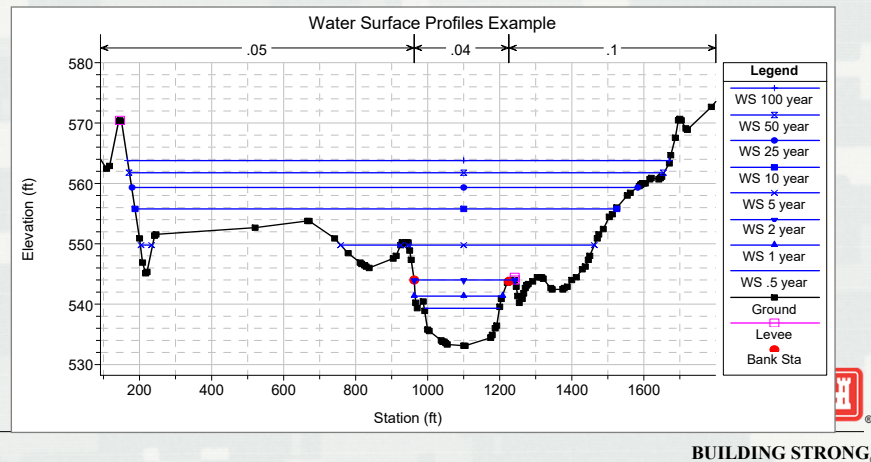


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## What is the Bankfull Stage?

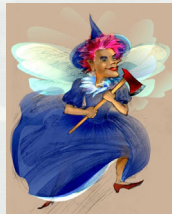
- Stage just before overbank flow
- Lower limit of perennial vegetation.



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## Effective Discharge

The flow that moves the most sediment over time

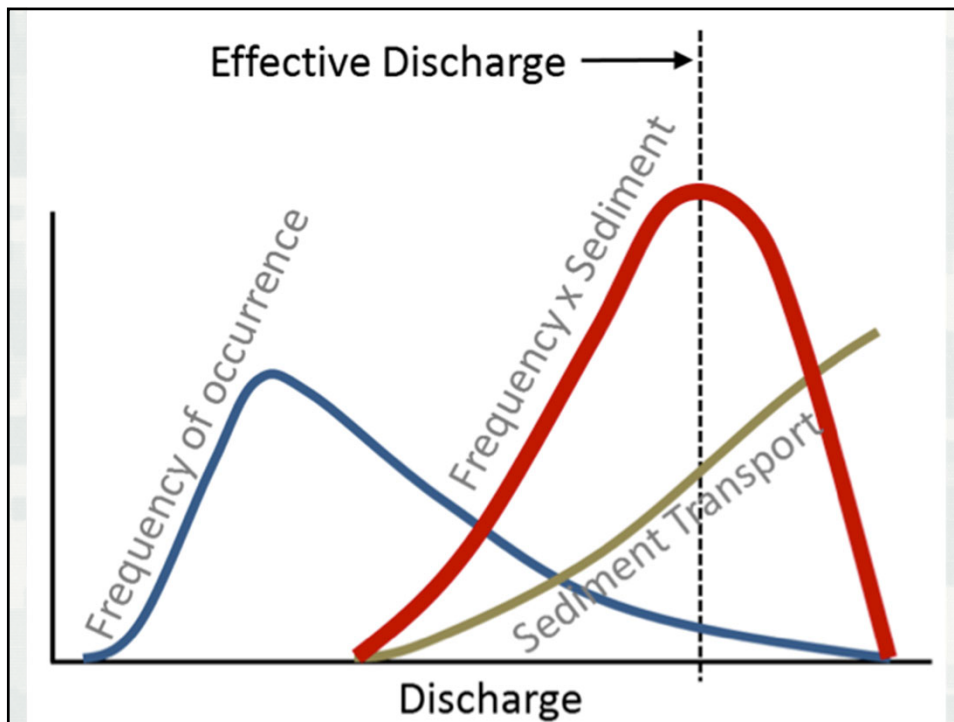


Wolman and Miller's Parable of Magical Woodcutters



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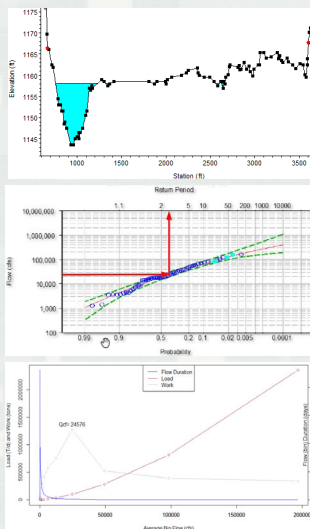
## Channel Forming Discharge

Three Options

1. Bankfull Discharge
2. Recurrence Interval
3. Effective Discharge

So, which should you use?


(d) All of the above.



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## More on the Channel Forming Discharge



John Shelley, Ph.D., P.E.  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District


Channel Forming Discharge (Part 1): Three Methods (feat. Dr John Shelley)  
258 views • Sep 11, 2020

<https://youtu.be/4pufoxJxiSo>

<https://youtu.be/4pufoxJxiSo>

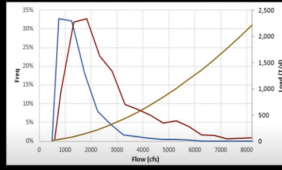
Effective Discharge Analysis

From an online class on "Screening Level Sediment Analysis"



Stanford Gibson, PhD  
Sediment Transport Specialist

Channel Forming Discharge Part 2: Computing an Effective Discharge  
142 views • Feb 9, 2021

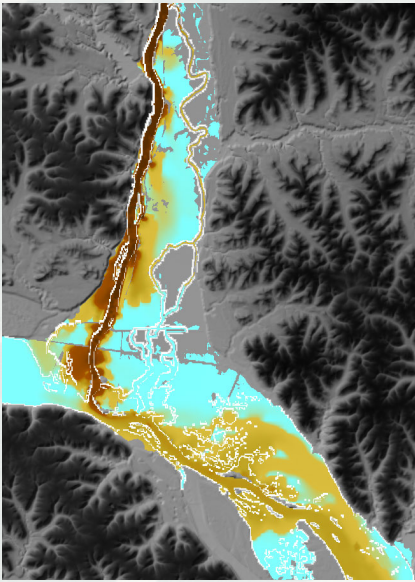


For more information see:  
Soar, P.J. and Thorne, C.R. (2001) *Channel Restoration design for Meandering Rivers*, ERDC/CHL C-63(1), Chapter 4.  
Editing by: Kyle Long

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# Channel Stability Design and Analysis in HEC-RAS

- Stable Channel Design and Analysis
  - ▶ Copeland's Method
  - ▶ Regime Theory
  - ▶ Tractive Force Methods (Lane, Shields)
  
- Sediment Transport Capacity
  - ▶ 6 different transport functions



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## Stable Channel Design and Analysis Tractive Force

The screenshot displays the 'Hydraulic Design - Stable Channel Design' window. The 'Solve For' section is highlighted with a red box, showing the following values:

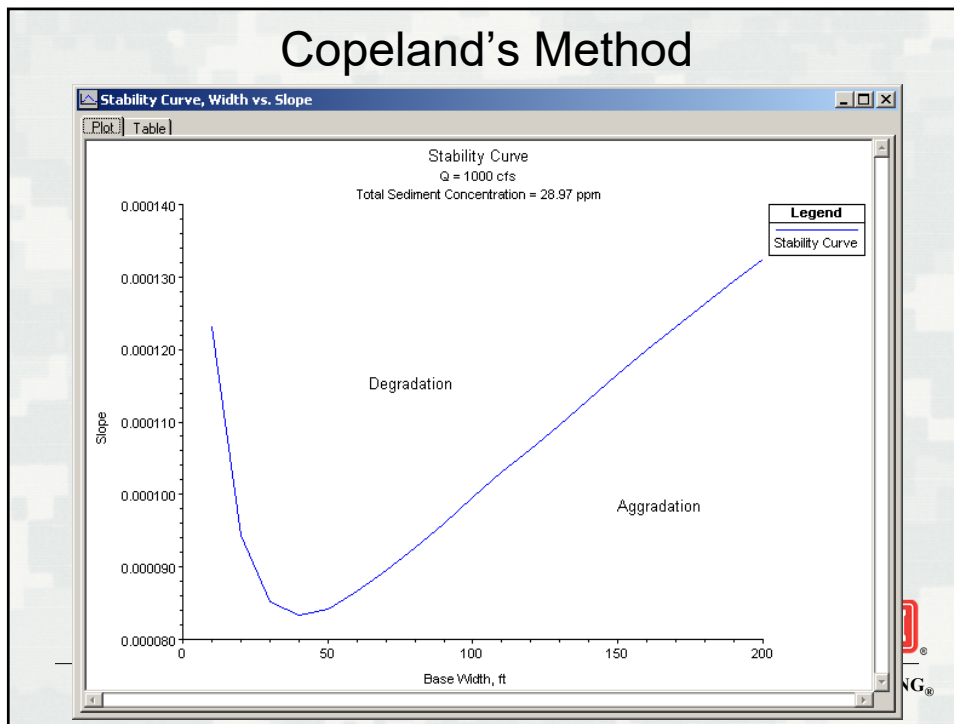
Method	d75 (mm)	W	S
Lane	33.7	16.7	33.7
	10.76	100	0.0005000

The 'Stable Channel Design Results - Tractive Force Method' table is also visible:

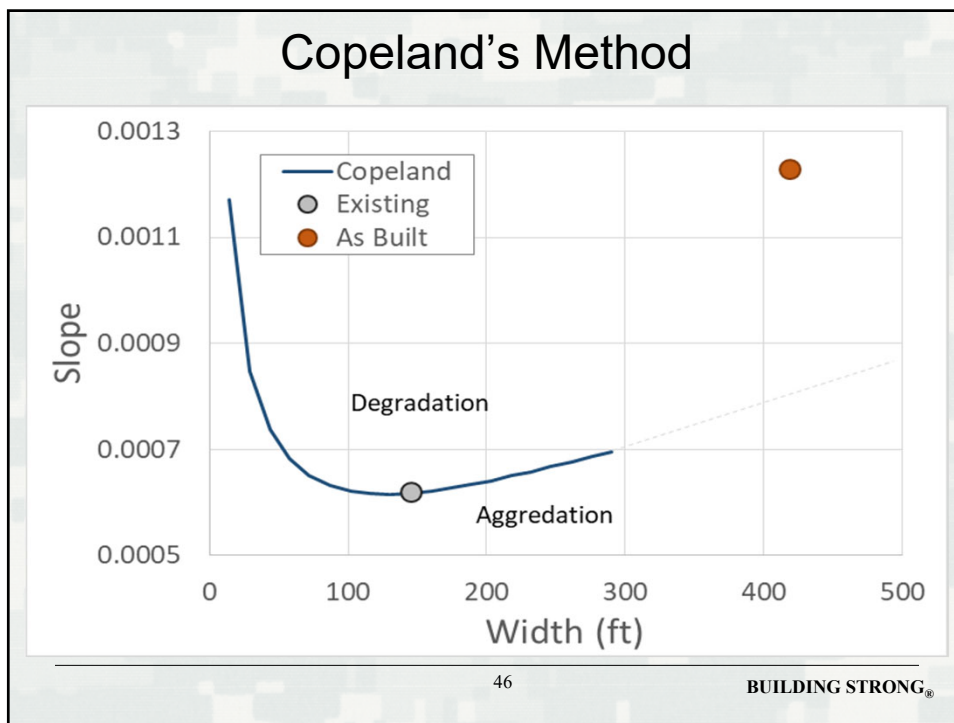
Station	Elevation	Equation	Roughness
1	66.13	10.76	Manning 0.0350
2	50	0	Manning 0.0350
3	50	0	Manning 0.0350
4	66.13	10.76	

The diagram on the right shows a cross-section of a channel with flow from left to right. A sediment particle is shown at the entrainment threshold. Forces acting on the particle are labeled:  $F_L$  (Lift force),  $F_D$  (Drag force), and  $F_C$  (Centrifugal force). The diagram is labeled 'Enlarged frame'.

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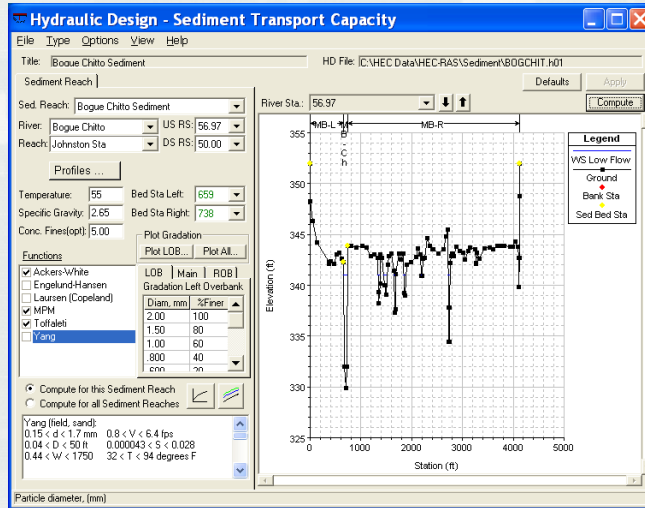


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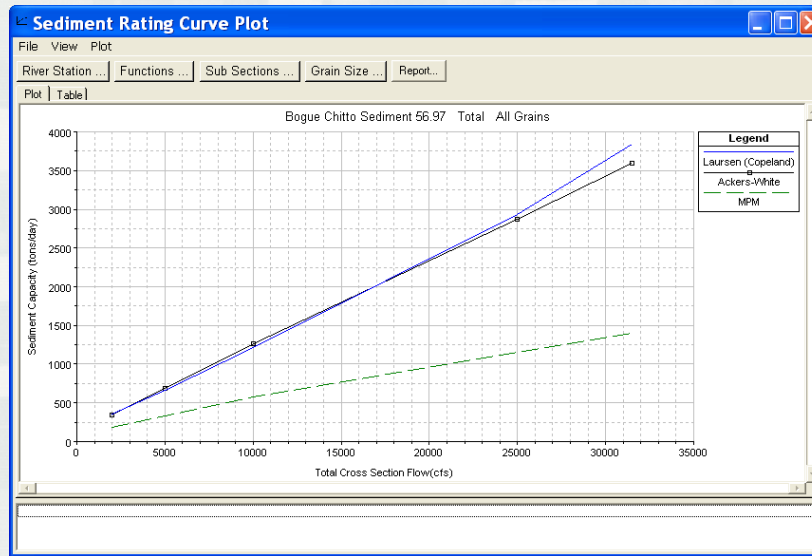
# Sediment Transport Capacity Calculations



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# Transport Capacity vs. Flow



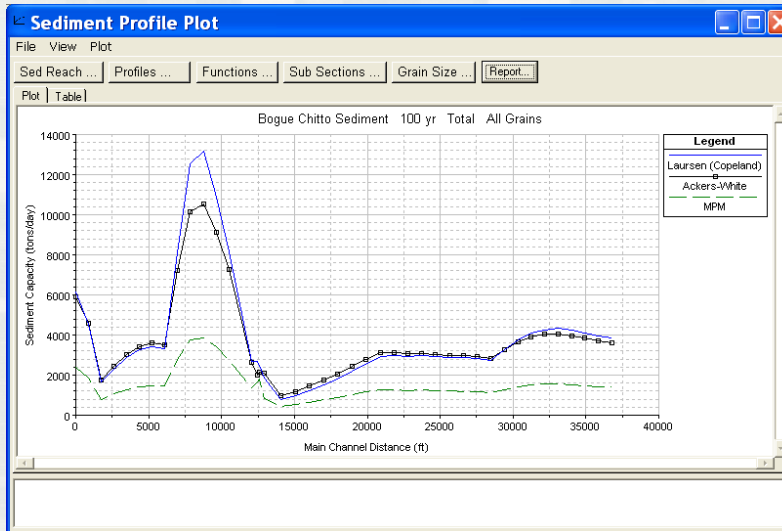
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Best used to test relative differences (e.g. current and design).

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## Transport Capacity vs. Channel Distance



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For more on the Stable Channel Design Tools:



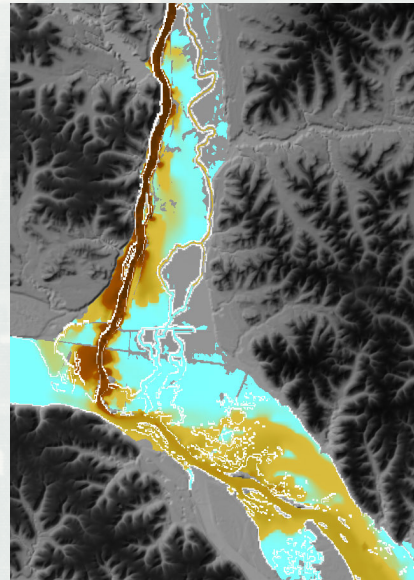
<https://youtu.be/Z3eCii4VbZ4>

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## Hydraulic Products for Restoration Analyses

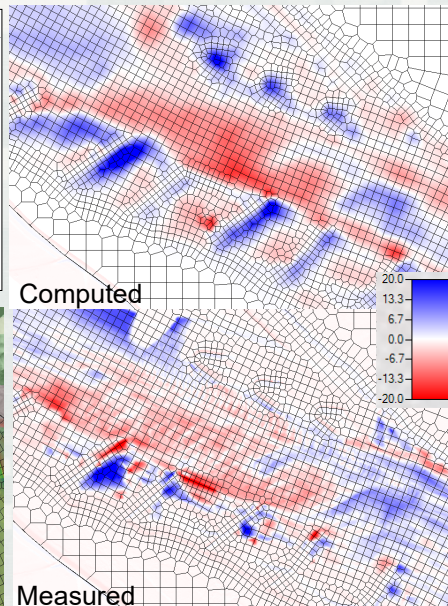
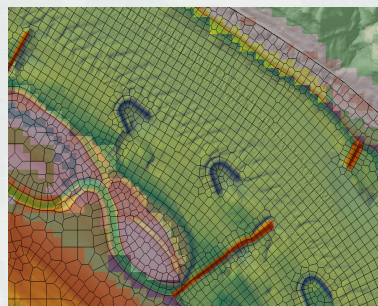
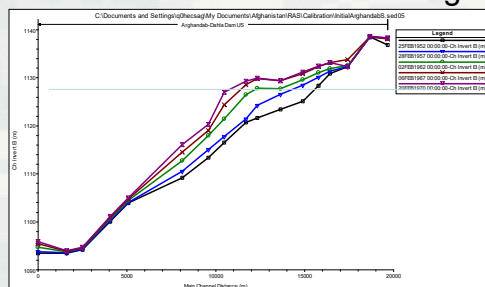
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## Mobile Bed Sediment Modeling 1D-2D...



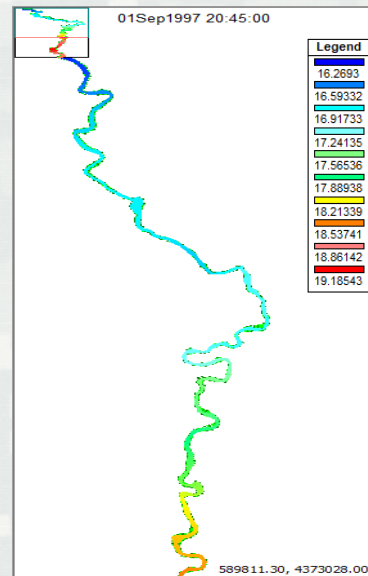
...More Tomorrow

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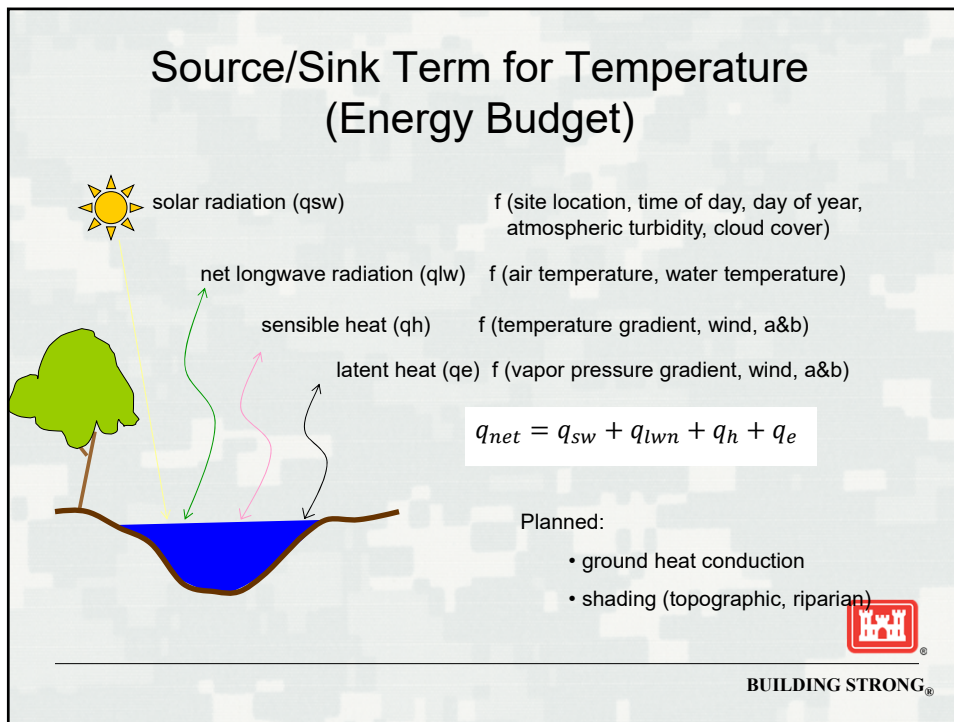
## Water Quality Modeling

- **HEC-RAS can perform water temperature analysis and Nutrient Fate and Transport modeling**
  - ▶ Nitrite; Nitrate; Organic Nitrogen; Ammonia; Organic Phosphorus; Phosphorus; Algae; Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand; and Dissolved Oxygen

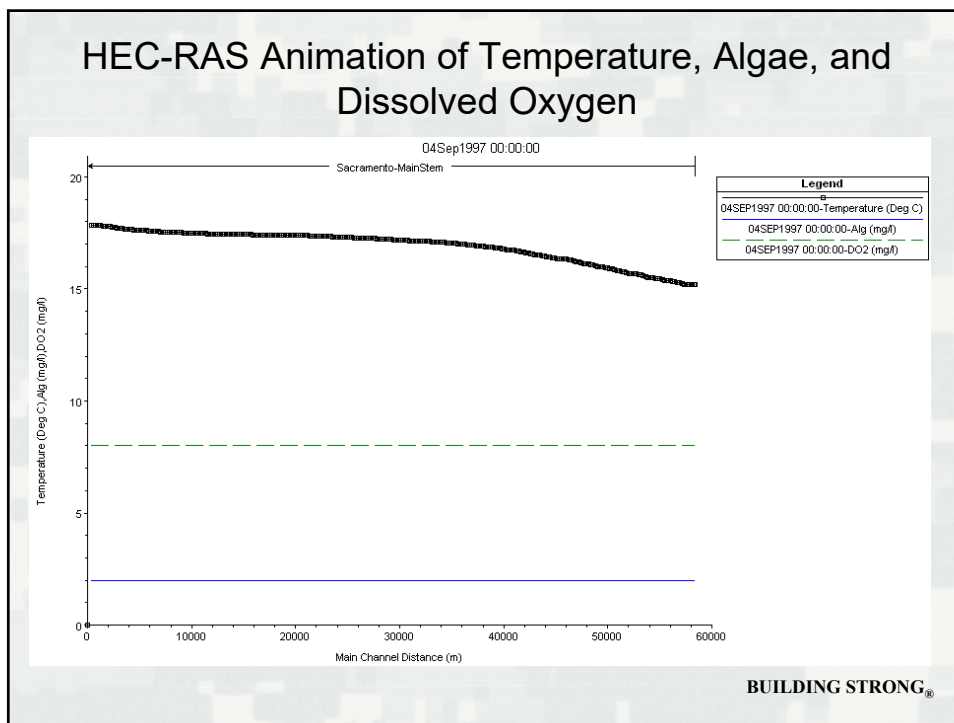


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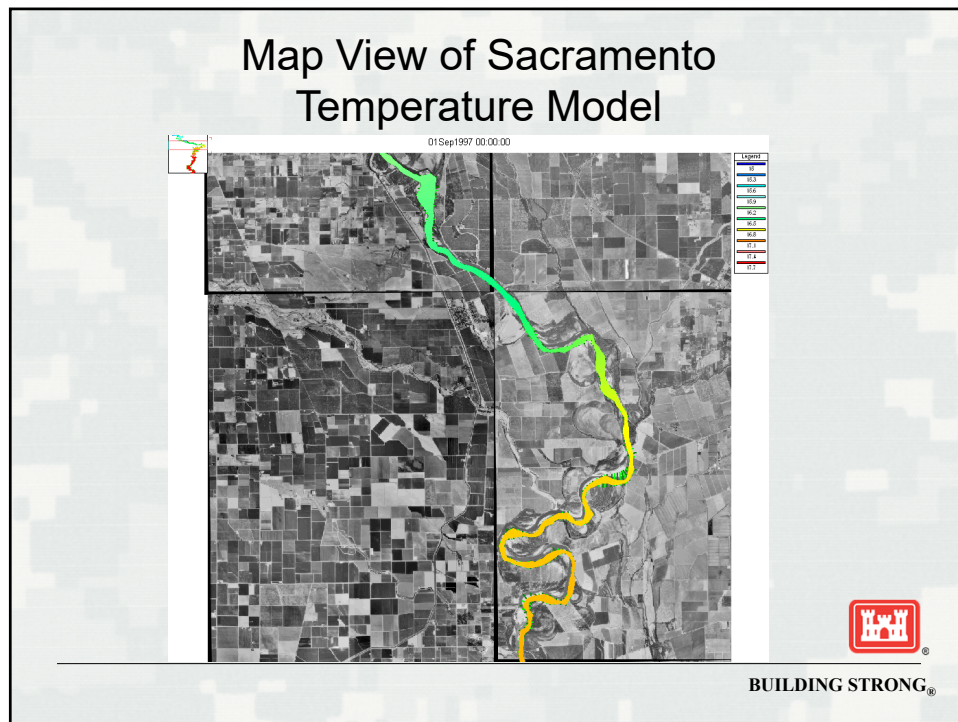
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## Summary

- This lecture provided an overview of the type of information that can be provided from Hydraulic Model Studies
- Students learned how hydraulic information can be used in a restoration study
- The types of hydraulic models available were discussed, as well as what type and level of detail they can provide.
- Students were made aware of the available features within HEC-RAS that can assist in performing a restoration study.



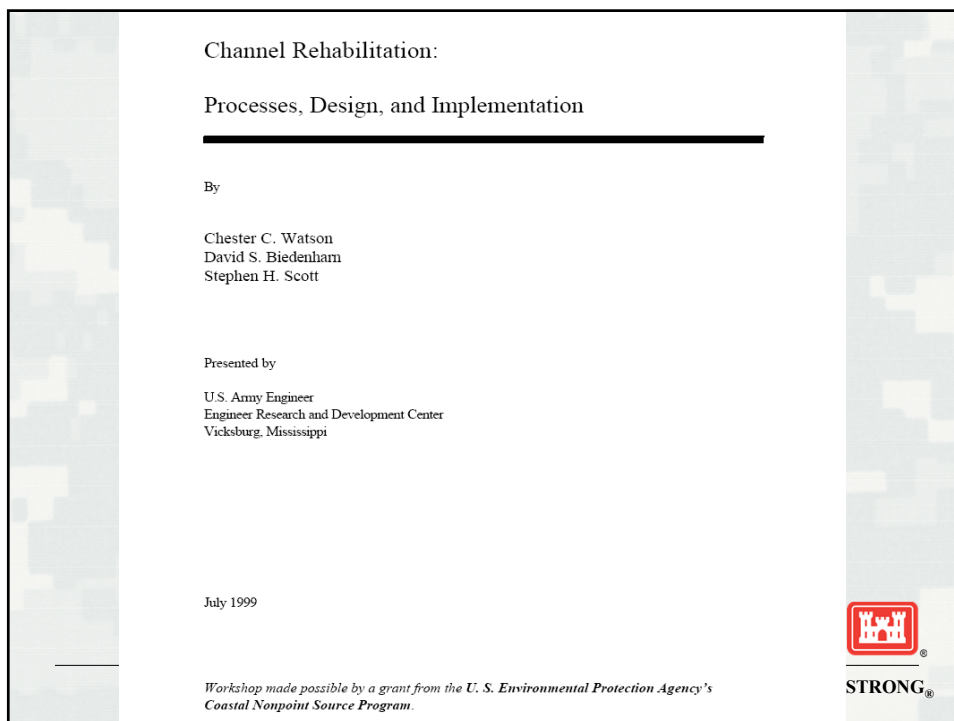
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ERDC/CHL TR-01-28

Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory



**US Army Corps  
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Engineer Research and  
Development Center

### Hydraulic Design of Stream Restoration Projects

Ronald R. Copeland, Dinah N. McComas, Colin R. Thome,      September 2001  
Philip J. Soar, Meg M. Jonas, and Jon B. Fripp



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