



Fish Passage from the Tidewater to the Sierras Workshop

A Workshop at the 35th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference held in Davis, CA from March 29 – April 1, 2017.



Session Overview



■ Session Coordinators:

■ Michael Love, P.E.,
Michael Love &
Associates, Inc.

■ Mike Garello, HDR
Engineering, Inc.

■ Ross Taylor, Ross
Taylor & Associates

This workshop was a day-long course and discussion focused on taking a broad perspective to address stream and downstream fish passage challenges. This involved the examination of migration barriers from a watershed perspective and understanding how they are inter-related rather than focusing on one barrier at a time. The workshop also discussed the various technologies and approaches available to address barriers, lessons learned from previous projects, and future challenges ahead.

The morning focused on a range of fish migration challenges that arise at road-stream crossings, lowhead dams, and other infrastructure that impede movement of fish. These included inventory and ranking of barriers for remediation while working with multiple ownerships, identifying channel incision that creates fish barriers, conducting geomorphic risk assessments to avoid creating new upstream barriers, and how to select the best fish passage solution for a site.

In the afternoon the workshop focused on upstream and downstream passage over high-head dams. Here, we examined what has worked in the Pacific Northwest, lessons learned, and the similarities and differences in the challenges we face in California. Topics included volitional versus non-volitional upstream passage, guidance and collection systems for out-migrants, thermal barriers and temperature control, and the successes and failures of reservoir transit, among others.

Two interactive panel discussions presented various viewpoints on the use of volitional and non-volitional passage at high head dams as well as on the applicability of lessons generated in the Pacific Northwest for use in California.

+ Presentations

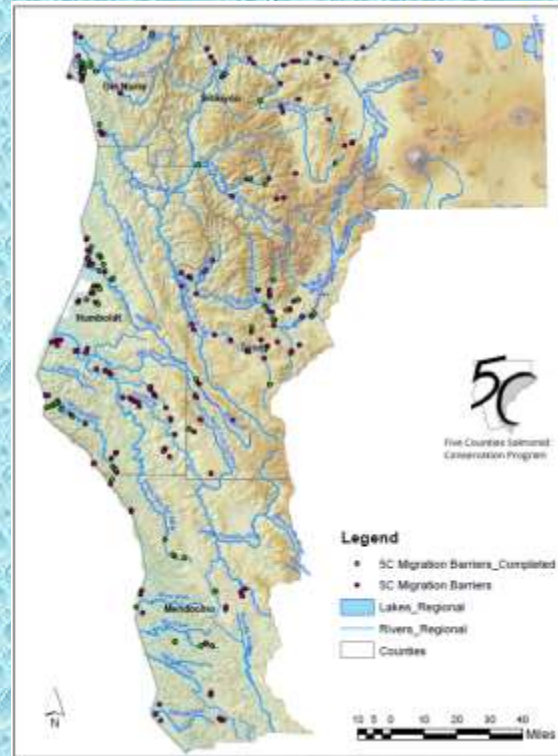
(1) Status of Fish Passage Assessments and Prioritization in California, Ross Taylor, Ross Taylor and Associates and Anne Elston, PSMFC

(2) The Need to Address Watershed Scale Channel Incision in our Passage Projects, Michael Love, P.E., Michael Love & Associates, Inc.

(3) One Size Does Not Fit All—Tools and Approaches to Addressing Stream Crossing Barriers, Michael Love, P.E, Michael Love & Associates, Inc.



Status of Fish Passage Assessments and Prioritization in California



Anne Elston – Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Ross Taylor – Ross Taylor and Associates (RTA)

Passage Assessment Methodologies

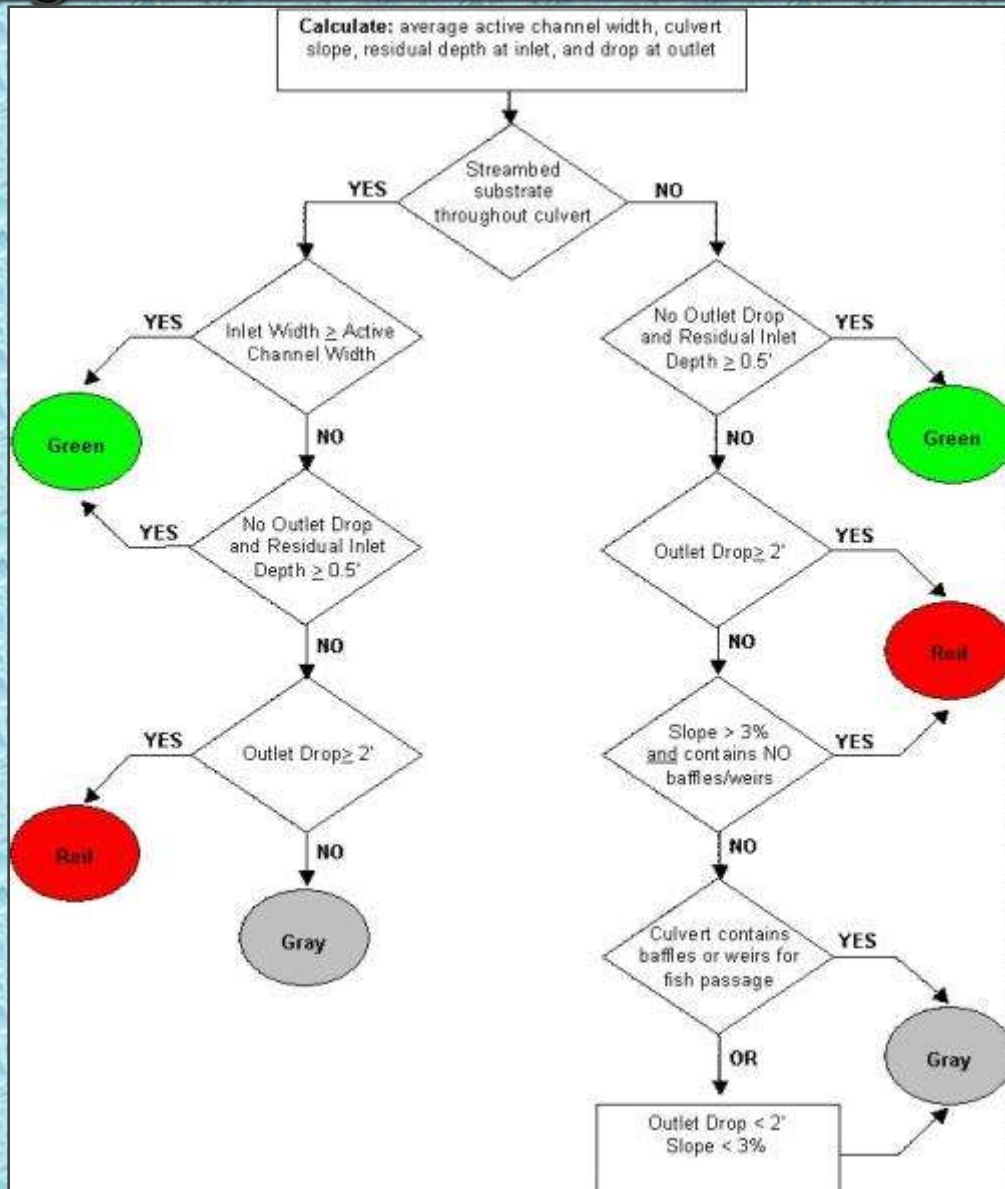
CDFW – Section 9

- Road/stream crossing based, but functional in other select cases.
- Relies on survey data, swimming and leaping abilities of focal species and hydrologic data.

CalTrans – Two pass

- First pass surveys – determine crossing type and inspect habitat suitability of adjacent channel.
- Second pass surveys – requires access for channel and crossing survey. Follow CDFW first-phase evaluation filter and run FishXing on “Grey” subset.

Passage Assessment Methodologies

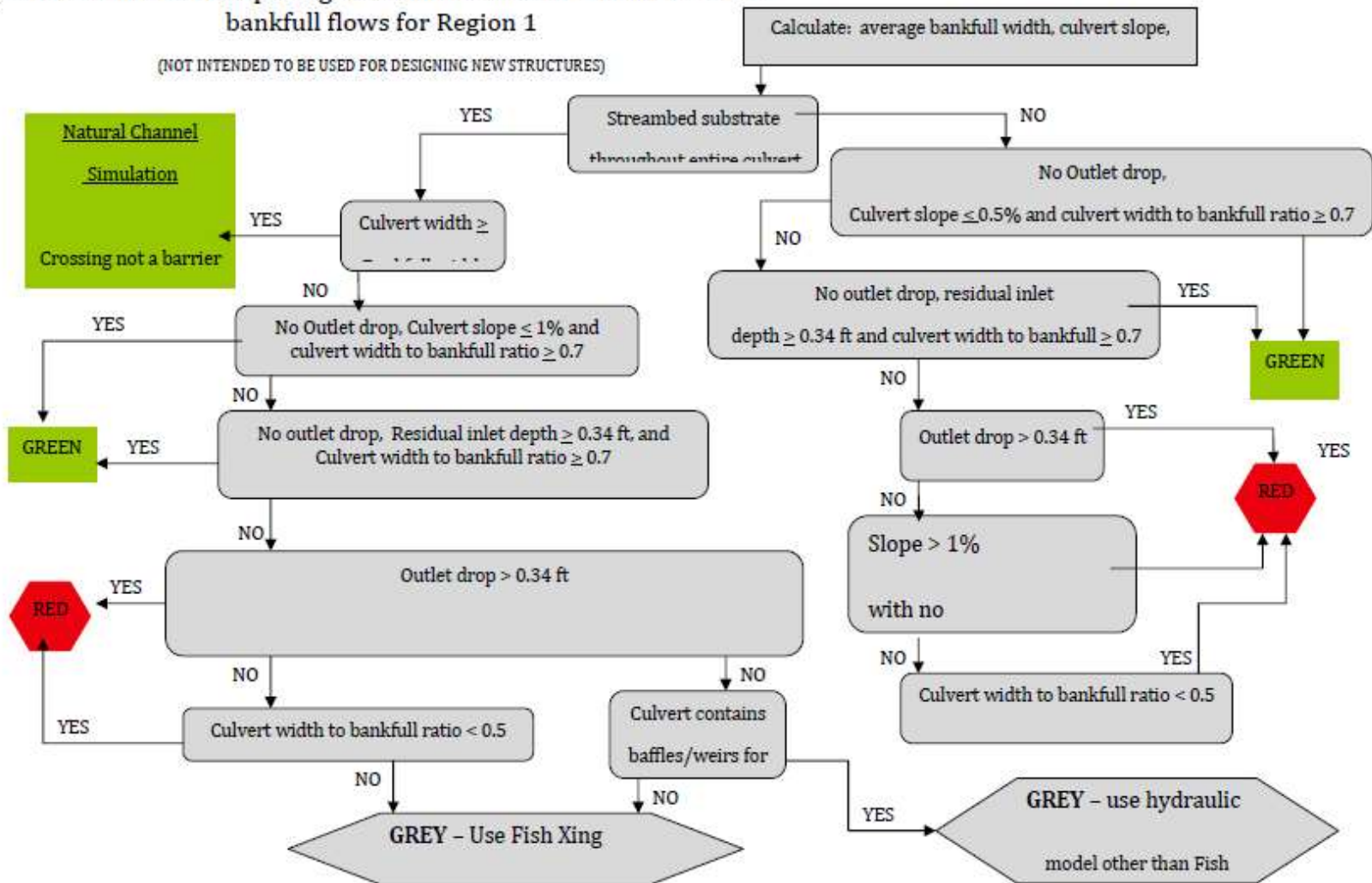


Passage Assessment Methodologies

Appendix B - Table 1:

Juvenile salmonid fish passage evaluation criteria at flows less than bankfull flows for Region 1

(NOT INTENDED TO BE USED FOR DESIGNING NEW STRUCTURES)

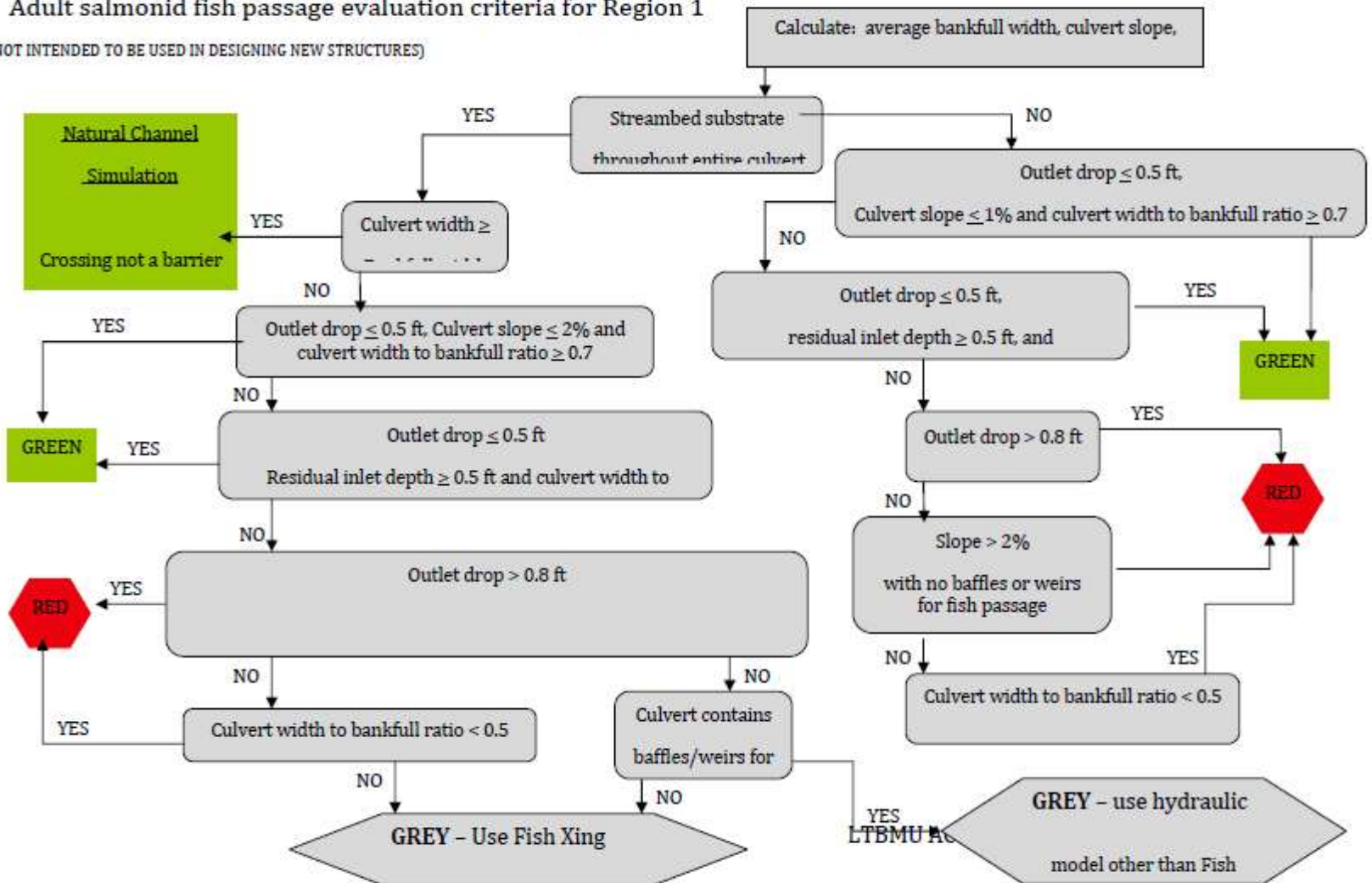


Passage Assessment Methodologies

Appendix B – Table 2:

Adult salmonid fish passage evaluation criteria for Region 1

(NOT INTENDED TO BE USED IN DESIGNING NEW STRUCTURES)



Status of Assessments

Coastal State-maintained (CalTrans)

- On-going and access continues to be an issue.

Sacramento-San Joaquin (DWR)

- On-going, as of 2012 about 95 sites unassessed.

Coastal County-maintained

- Relatively complete. Occasional missed sites.

Coastal City-maintained

- Inconsistent – complete, partial or unassessed.

Coastal Private-maintained

- Inconsistent w/unknown status in many locations.

Status of Assessments – CalTrans

2015 Accomplishments

- 455 new assessments completed (425 first-pass and 30 second-pass surveys).

Existing Barrier Locations as of 2015

District 1 (Eureka) – 286 locations.

District 2 (Redding) – 47 locations.

District 4 (Oakland) – 70 locations.

District 5 (San Luis Obispo) – 84 locations.

District 7 (Los Angeles) – 21 locations.

District 11 (San Diego) – 2 locations.

District 12 (Orange) – 1 location.

Status of Assessments – CalTrans

2015 Accomplishments

- Seven fish passage remediation projects completed.
- 37 active fish passage remediation locations (programmed).
- 22 fish barrier locations funded for project delivery – 18 sites identified high-priority CalTrans and CDFW.

Status of Assessments – DWR

2012 Report Summary

- 189 barrier sites identified in the Systemwide Planning Area.
- 45 DWR diversions added due to entrainment potential.
- Total barriers – 25 sites.
- Partial barriers – 23 sites.
- Temporal barriers – 46 sites.
- Need assessment – 95 sites.
- Screened and unscreened diversions – 45 sites.

Status of Assessments – DWR

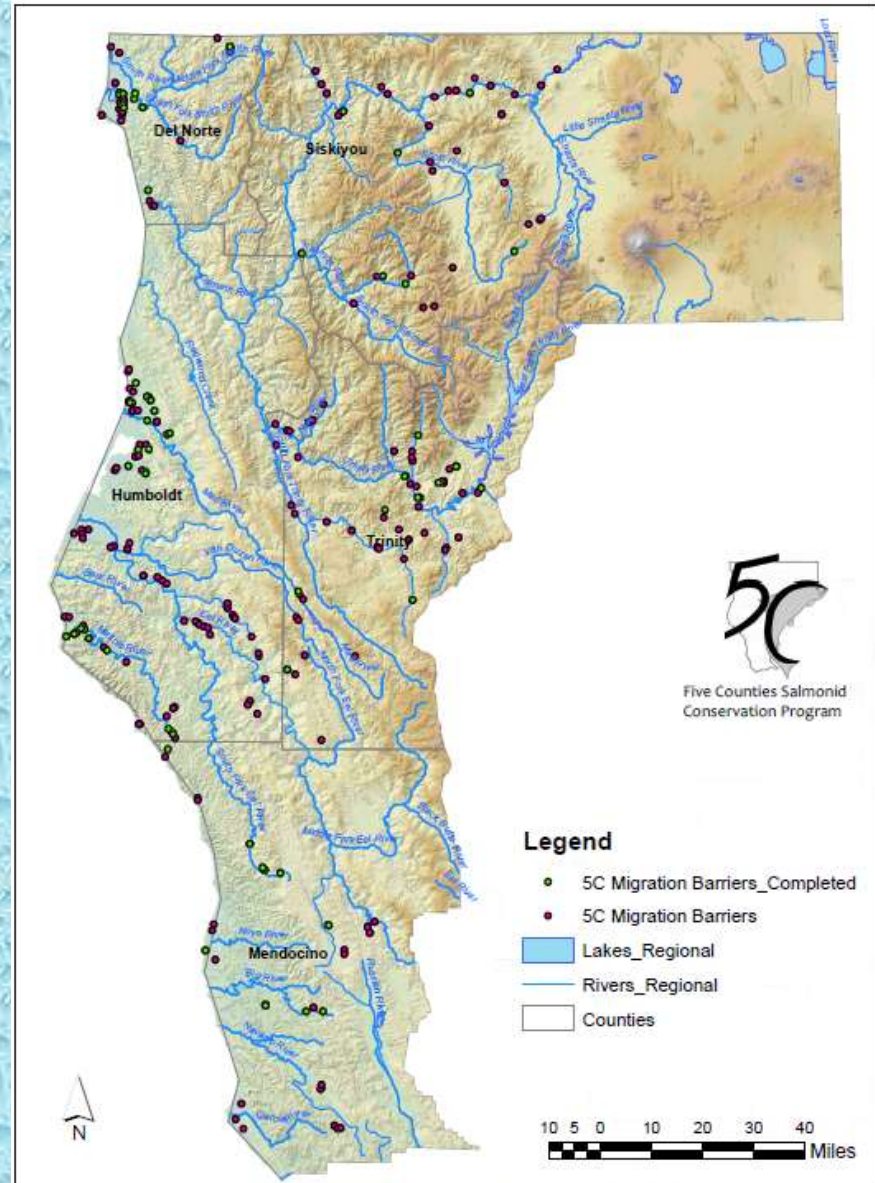
2012 Summary

- 25 total barrier sites = 900 miles blocked.
- Addition of partial and temporal = 3,000 miles.



Status of Assessments – Five Counties

- 245 sites ranked for treatment.
- As of 2014, 65 projects completed.
- Reconnected 150 miles of channel.
- Ongoing projects.



Accessing Assessments & Assessment Data

- Information from Fish Passage Assessments are housed in the Fish Passage Assessment Database (PAD), a California State-wide inventory of known and potential barriers to fish passage.
- Assessment focus in California has been mostly on evaluating passage for salmonids; therefore, most information in the PAD is salmonid focused. There is incidental information on passage for other species (i.e., lamprey, sturgeon, resident trout, etc.).

Nature of Assessments

Fish Passage Assessments include

- Single assessments conducted at a structure
- Assessments based on structure ownership (e.g., Highway and County Road System) due to source of funding
- Watershed-scale assessments

Nature of Assessments (Cont.)

Protocols vary and include

- Rapid Assessment Protocols
- CDFW Restoration Manual – Green Gray Red Filter
- USFS Green-Gray-Red Filter
- Hydraulic modeling (FishXing and HEC-RAS)
- Professional Judgment

Accessibility

PAD Program Page on Calfish.org
www.calfish.org/pad/ > Data Access

Data Portal

Table view of assessment data for California providing links to photos, map links to individual barriers, and access to fish passage assessment reports and other documents tied to individual barrier records. Hosted by CDFW.

Map Viewer - PAD Layer

Spatial view of assessment data for California. This is a layer on CDFW BIOS (Map Viewer).

Accessibility (Cont.)

PAD Program Page on Calfish.org
www.calfish.org/pad/ > Data Access Tab

Downloads

Compatible with Google Earth and other GIS applications (ArcGIS, QGIS).

Document Library

Provides direct access to fish passage assessment reports and other documentation with passage information provided to the PAD. This is hosted by the CDFW Document Library.

PAD Data Portal - Lower Eel Sub-Basin

Example

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE **BIOS**

Basemaps Layers

Add Data: BIOS X

Filter by extent ? Identify Features Advanced Tools

Active Layer: California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69]

Graphics and Selections

California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69] Selection Go T X

BIOS Layers

+ California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69] Go X

Reference Layers

Remove All Highlights

► Geolocation References

▼ Hydrography

+ USGS Stream Gages Go

+ CEDEN Stations Go

+ CDWR WDL Stations Go

+ NHD Med Res Flowlines Go

+ California Streams Go

+ California Lakes Go

+ Groundwater Basins Go

+ WBD HUC8 Watersheds Go

+ WBD HUC10 Watersheds Go

Map Scale=1: 36,1

California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69] Selected features: 1 Print Pr

Zoom	Photo	PAD_ID	PassageID	StreamName	TributaryT	SiteName	SiteType	BarStatus	SpeciesBlocked	NumStructures	Protocol	AssessedBy	SurveyDate
1	Go	Link	705990	7324 Wilson Creek	North Fork Eel-Eel River	Zenia Lake Mountain Road	Road crossing	Total	Multiple Andromous Salmonids		DFG Restoration Manual	Ross Taylor and Associates	2002
<input type="checkbox"/>		Burgess Ranch Road	Total	Road crossing...	Trinity County	Burgess Creek	Hembry Cr-South...	Ross Taylor and ...	Barrier Status: RED: the Green-Gray-Red filter...	-123.488482175835		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.18988949030
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Zenia Lake Mountain ...	Total	Road crossing...	Trinity County	Wilson Creek	North Fork Eel-E...	Ross Taylor and ...	Barrier Status: RED: the Green-Gray-Red filter...	-123.390451189537		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.00432045793
<input type="checkbox"/>		Ruth Zenia Road	Total	Road crossing...	Trinity County	Panther Creek#2	Bar Cr-West For...	Ross Taylor and ...	Barrier Status: RED: the Green-Gray-Red filter...	-123.452820937771		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.24305868308
<input type="checkbox"/>		rock falls	Partial	Non-structural ...	Private landowne...	Burger Creek	E el River	California Depart ...	ROCK FALLS.22 MI UPSTREAM, 12 feet high...	-123.368852972929		Ross Taylor and Associates	39.71907526384
<input type="checkbox"/>		Culvert Hwy 101	Partial	Road crossing...	California Depart...			Humboldt State ...		-124.177712630433		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.60486625217
<input type="checkbox"/>		Culvert Hwy 36	Total	Road crossing...	California Depart...	Fox Creek	Van Duzen River	Humboldt State ...		-123.999592294238		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.51073856876
<input type="checkbox"/>		Bridge	Unknown	Road crossing...	U.S. Forest Serv...	Black Lassic Creek	Van Duzen River	U.S. Forest Servi...	Bridge	-123.493540779453		Ross Taylor and Associates	40.34998826536

Map Viewer – PAD Layer

- Spatially view and export tables of known and potential barriers in a watershed.
- Obtain information about the barrier including structure type, barrier status, a description of the structure and impediment, photos, etc.
- See where gaps exist.
- **Add anadromous species “observed distribution” layers.**
- Print pdf maps of barriers and/or sites needing assessments.

Active Layer: WBD HUC10 Watersheds

BIOS Layers

California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69]

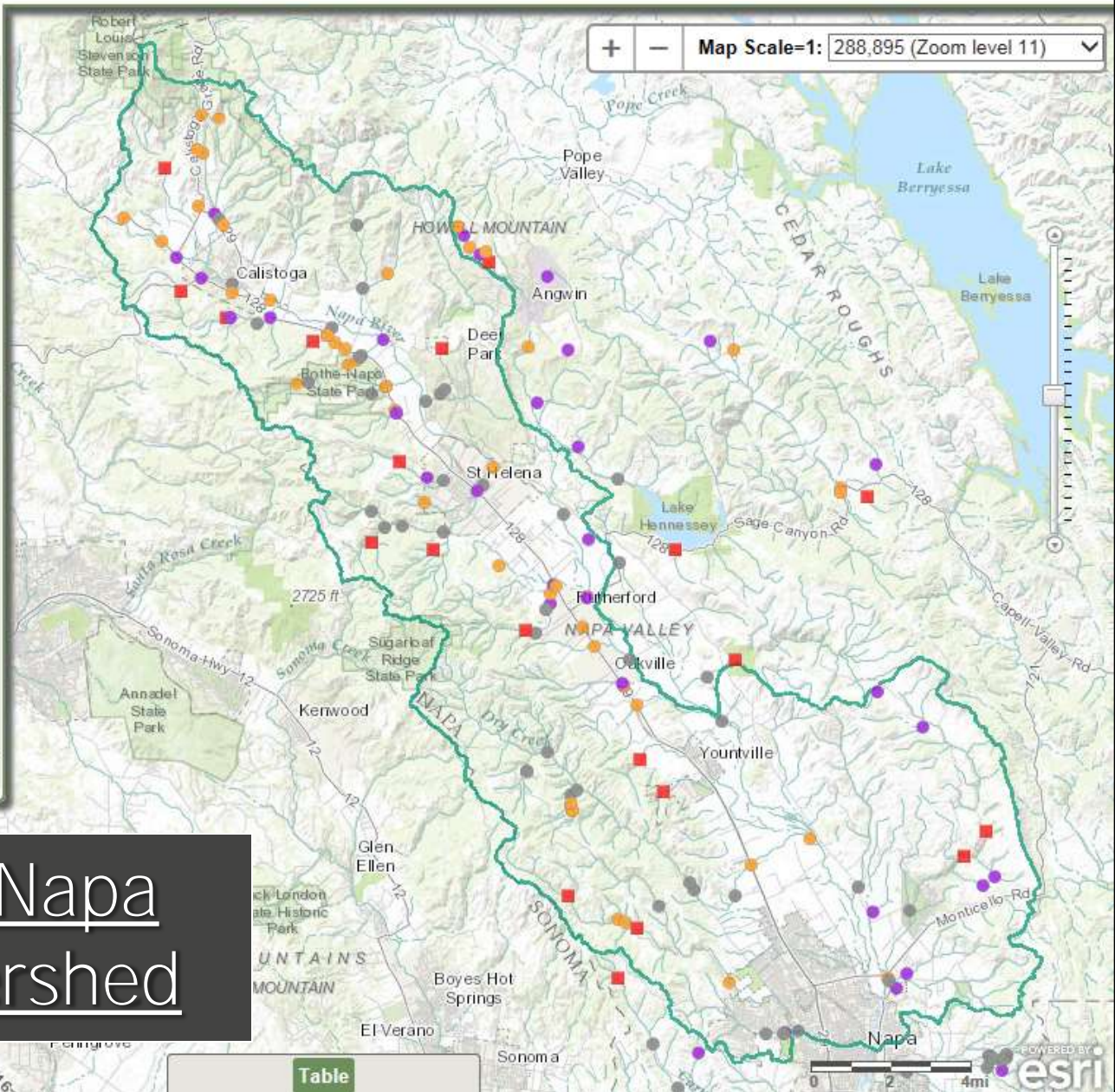
WebLegend

- ▲ Natural Partial Barrier
- ▲ Natural Total Barrier
- Not a Barrier
- Partial Barrier
- Remediated, Fish Response Unconfirmed
- ★ Screened Diversion
- Total Barrier
- Unassessed
- Unknown Passage Status
- ★ Unscreened Diversion

Reference Layers

Remove All Highlights

- ▶ Geolocation References
- ▼ Hydrography
 - + USGS Stream Gages
 - + CEDEN Stations
 - + CDWR WDL Stations
 - + NHD Med Res Flowlines



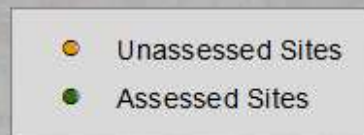
Example: Napa River Watershed

Gaps in Assessments

- Several gaps exist within watersheds
 - >5,000 unassessed sites recorded in the PAD.
 - Currently an unknown number of sites not inventoried in the PAD and not assessed.
- Why do gaps exist?
 - Site access issues due to land owner permission issues, nature of terrain and etc.
 - Funding sources

Fish Passage Assessment Gaps

Mill Valley in Marin County, California



Data Source:
Passage Assessment Database

Closing Existing Gaps

1) Identify Locations needing assessments (gaps). These include

- a) unassessed and unknown passage status sites in the PAD, and
- b) road and railroad crossings not identified in the PAD.

2) Assess these sites for fish passage.

Resources: NOAA Fisheries Veterans Program, Grant Funding.

Closing Existing Gaps (Cont.)

3) **Update** the PAD.

Option(s): Utilize the PAD Review Tool or provide updates directly to the PAD Administrator at Anne.Elston@wildlife.ca.gov. Contact information is available on Calfish.org.

Example: San Mateo RCD effort for entire County funded by USFWS and CDFW's FRGP.

PAD Mapping Review Tool (www.calfish.org > data access)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

Add/Edit-Dispute Barrier

Geofind

Basemaps

Metadata

Legend

Layers

Map Scale:

1:18,056 (Zoom level 15)

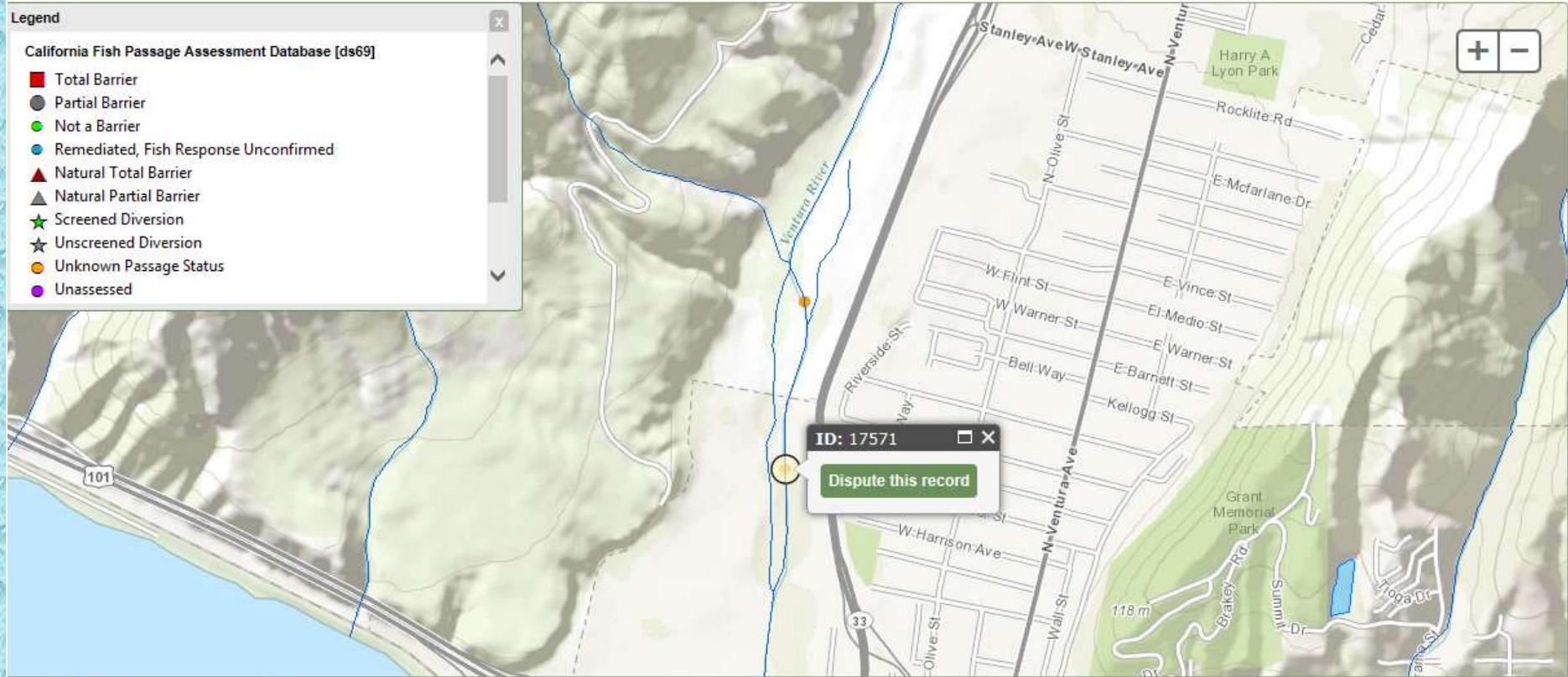


Passage Assessment Database

Legend

California Fish Passage Assessment Database [ds69]

- Total Barrier
- Partial Barrier
- Not a Barrier
- Remediated, Fish Response Unconfirmed
- ▲ Natural Total Barrier
- ▲ Natural Partial Barrier
- ★ Screened Diversion
- ★ Unscreened Diversion
- Unknown Passage Status
- Unassessed



California Fish Passage Assessment Records

PAD ID	Passage ID	Stream name	Tributary to	Structure/Site name	Structure type	Passage status	Protocol used	Party responsible for passage assessment	Approximate survey date:	Treatment status	Structure owner	Land owner	Site comments	Treatment recommendation	Watershed	County	CalWatHR
713889	17571	Ventura River	Pacific	Temporary Surface Diversion	Diversion	Unknown		Entrix, Incorporated	2003		Private landowner (s) (non-corporate)		See notes panel in the top left corner	See notes panel in the top left corner	VENTURA	Ventura	South Coast

Recent Updates

- HDR 2014-2016 Detailed Surveys at Highway Xings (North Coast, Bay Area and Inland) and H.T. Harvey & Associates Cow Creek Watershed Assessment.

When is PAD Updated?

- PAD is updated as information is provided to the PAD. The day after changes are made, this can be seen in the PAD Data Portal.
- PAD Layer on BIOS and Spatial Downloads are updated less frequently (last updated on November 2016). Next update is planned for April 2017.

Why is it critical to close gaps and update the statewide inventory?

Comprehensive assessment information is necessary for watershed-scale fish passage restoration and effective aquatic habitat connectivity.

The statewide inventory (PAD) collects information from multiple sources regardless of jurisdiction and ownership. It is a tool for identifying strategic barrier removal projects.

Prioritization Methodologies

CDFW (2003) – Section 9 of Restoration Manual

- First-cut ranking by scoring five criteria.
- Barrier score for three age-classes of salmonids, for a total barrier score.
- Species diversity and listing status – more diverse and listing severity raises score.
- Crossing condition and flow capacity – higher scores for poorer condition and limited storm flow capacity.
- Habitat quantity and quality – length modified by a qualitative assessment of quality.
- Professional judgement and other factors considered.

Prioritization Methodologies

CDFW (2003) – Use of Section 9 Prioritization

- Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Group.
- CalTrans District 1.
- FishNet 4C Counties.
- City of Arcata, Humboldt County.
- Strawberry Creek watershed, Humboldt County.
- Corte Madera Creek watershed, Marin County.
- Chorro Creek watershed, SLO County.
- San Luis Obispo County.
- CA State Parks – North Coast and Mendocino Redwoods.
- Northwest Railroad – Eel River watershed.

Prioritization Methodologies

CDFW (2012) – Memorandum: Priority Barriers

- CDFW and CalTrans would develop mutual list of priority sites along transportation corridors.
- CDFW would also develop a list based on significance to fish migration, regardless of stream crossing ownership.
- List would also identify completed projects.
- The 2012 list included 68 high-priority sites located in 24 coastal and central CA watercourses.
- The 2012 list included 11 sites removed from 2011 list – five barriers treated and six lowered priority.

Prioritization Methodologies

CDFW (2012) – Memorandum Priority Criteria

- High likelihood to improve migration for anad. species
- Availability of recent fish and habitat data.
- Willing partners and land access.
- Known political support at local, state or national levels.
- Site is identified as a barrier in federal recovery plan “core” population.
- Watercourse has eco-regional significance.
- CDFW is committed to project monitoring.
- Site is keystone barrier – lowermost in river/stream.

Prioritization Methodologies

DWR (2012) – Prioritization Criteria

- Signed MOU with Fish Passage Forum in 2006.
- Will utilize prioritization methods developed by the Forum when completed and supported by the 14 federal, state, and local participating entities.
- Interim prioritization process:
 - Biological importance based on NOAA recovery actions.
 - Linkage to State Plan Flood Control facilities.
 - Geographic location.
 - Urgency – three time frames: short, moderate and long term.

Prioritization Methodologies

DWR (2016) – CVFPP Conservation Strategy

- Appendix K – Synthesis of Fish Migration Opportunities in the Central Valley Flood System.
- Barriers ranked relative to each other with a score-and-rank methodology.
- Criteria included:
 - Impediment frequency – hydrology versus target fish swimming and leaping criteria.
 - Barrier intensity – impact on movement, barrier location.
 - Upstream habitat – quantity and quality.

Prioritization Methodologies

CalTrans/FishPac – Prioritization Criteria

- District 1 HSU/Lang report used CDFW (2003) criteria for ranking sites.
- CalTrans/FishPac – prioritization methods in draft form and not available.
- CalTrans/FishPac – species diversity, barrier severity, upstream habitat potential and expert judgement.

Prioritization Methodologies

USFS Tahoe District – Priority Considerations

- Is crossing located in priority watershed for Lahontan Cutthroat recovery?
- Will non-game, native fish and aquatic species also benefit from treatment of barrier?
- How much upstream habitat will be made accessible?
- Are there other stream restoration activities planned in the barrier's general location?
- Is the stream crossing currently a sediment contributor to Lake Tahoe?

Prioritization Methodologies

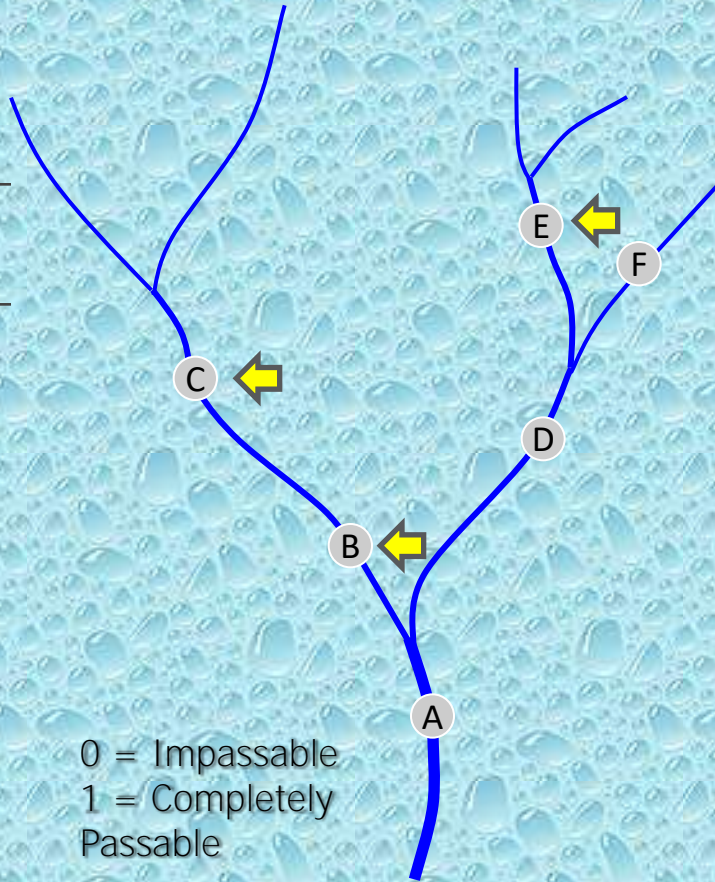
CA. Fish Passage Forum – Optimization Model

- In process of developing and testing an optimization model (FISHPass). It is a decision support tool for optimizing barrier mitigation.
- Integrates information on
 - Barrier passability
 - Potential habitat
 - Estimated mitigation cost
- Crucially, accounts for:
 - Spatial structure of barrier networks
 - Interactive effects of mitigation decisions on longitudinal connectivity

Barrier Optimization in Action

Barrier Inputs

BARID	PREPASS	COST	USHAB
A	0.4	\$250K	2.1
B	0	\$120K	0.9
C	0.3	\$70K	4.3
D	0.5	NA *	1.7
E	0.2	\$300K	0.1
F	0.1	\$400K	0.2



0 = Impassable
 1 = Completely Passable

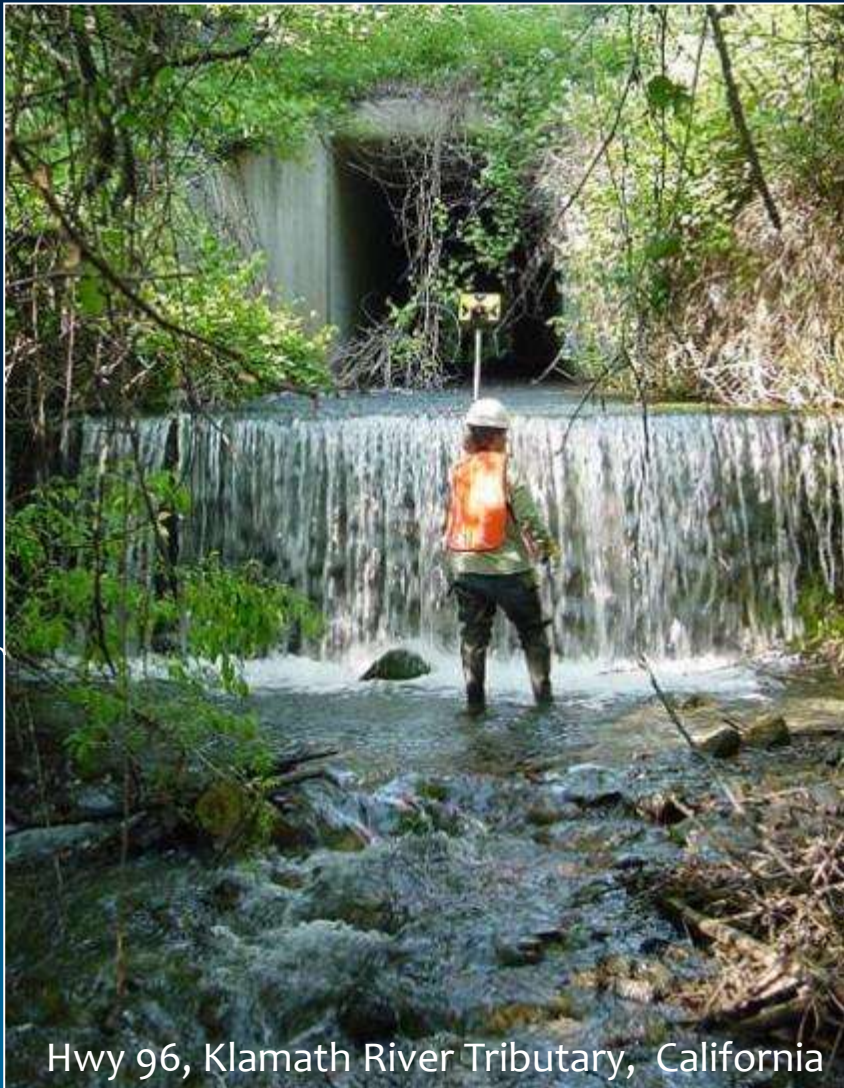
Optimal Solution

Budget	Soln	Gain
\$50K	F	0.090
\$100K	E	0.192
\$150K	B	0.876
\$200K	B, C	2.080
\$300K	B, C, E	2.272
\$400K	A, B	4.047

* : Natural Barrier

Note the lack of "nestedness" among solutions (i.e., barriers removed given a certain budget amount may not be removed when the budget is increased)

The Need to Consider Watershed Scale Channel Incision in our Passage Projects



Humboldt State University

Hwy 96, Klamath River Tributary, California

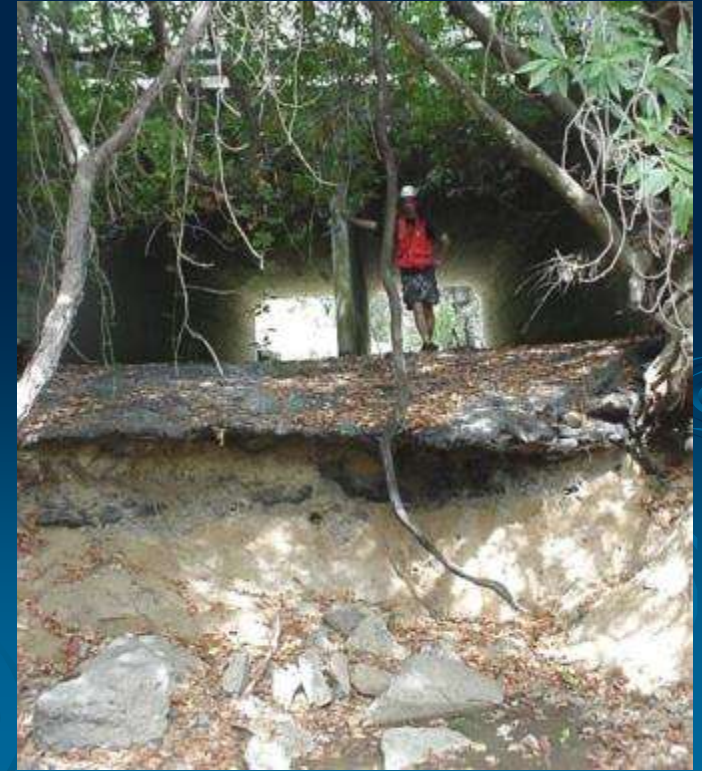
Michael Love P.E.
Arcata, California
mlove@h2odesigns.com



Michael Love & Associates

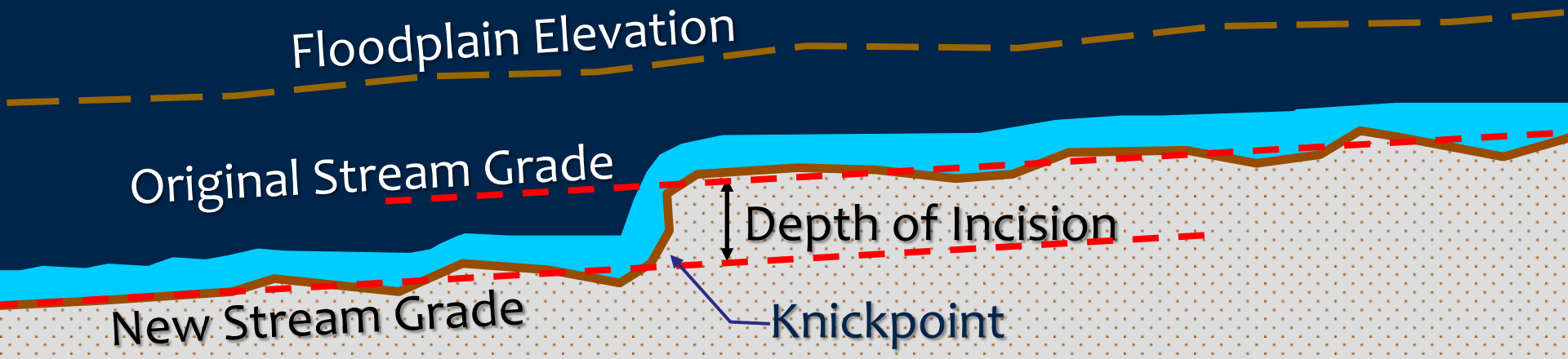
Hydrologic Solutions



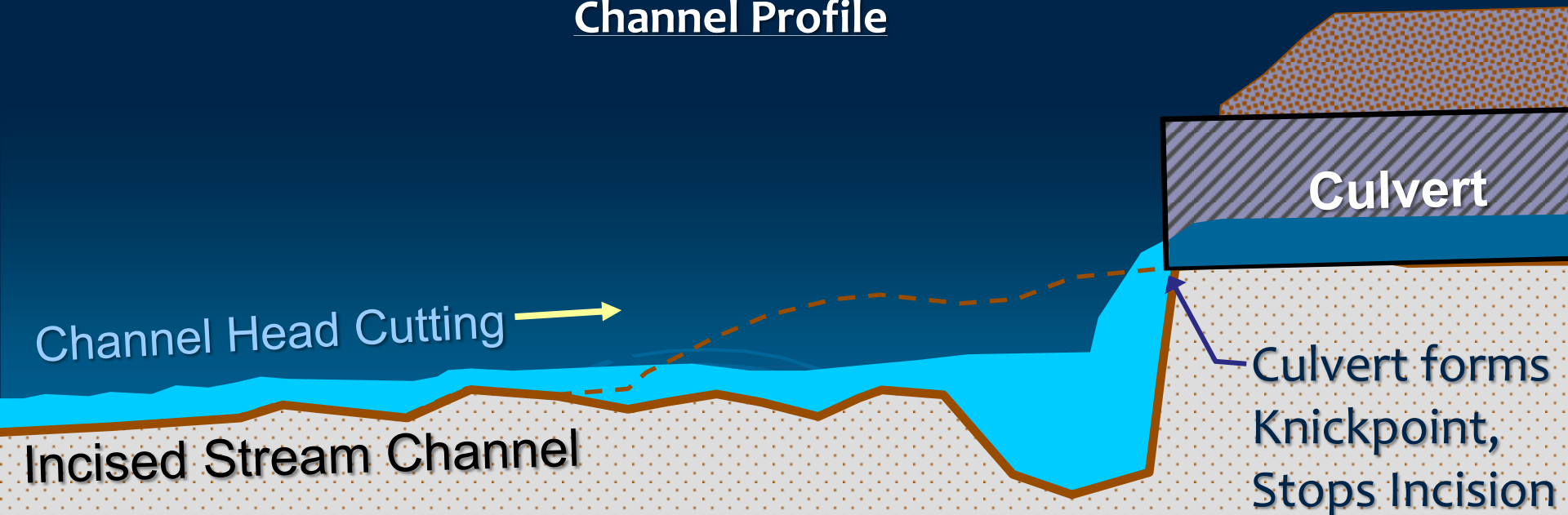


Photos: Ross Taylor

Process of Incision: Headwater Migration



Channel Profile



Channel Incision is a Natural Process, but...



Knickpoint

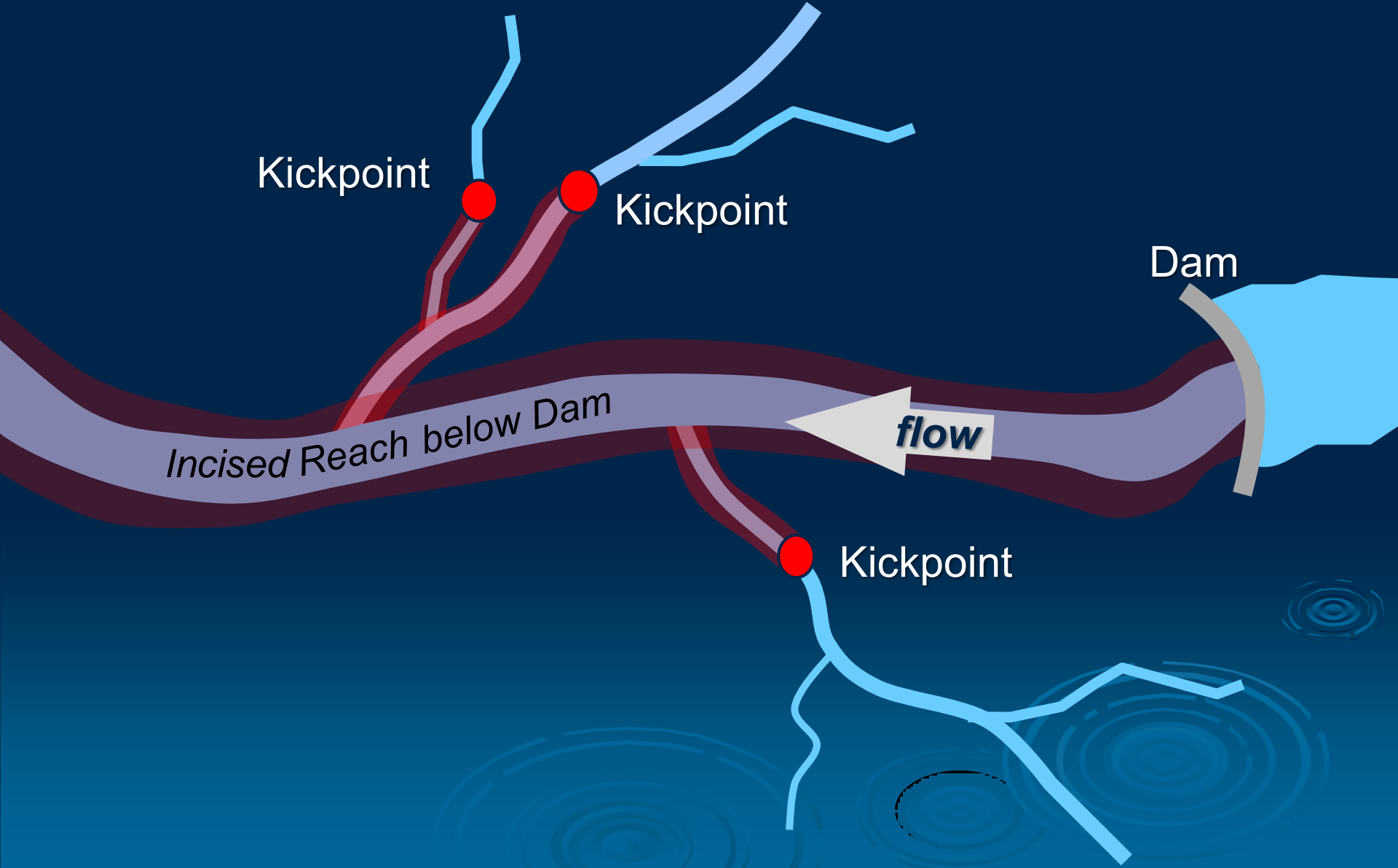
Incised River

We Initiate of the Incision More often then Not



Photo from US Army Corps of Engineers

Incision Often Moves Headward into Tributaries



Knickpoints that Stop Incision but Create Fish Barriers



Harrison Grade Creek, Calif.

Perched Culverts



Alameda Creek, Calif.

Photo: Jon Stead

Armored Utility Crossings



Napa River, Calif.

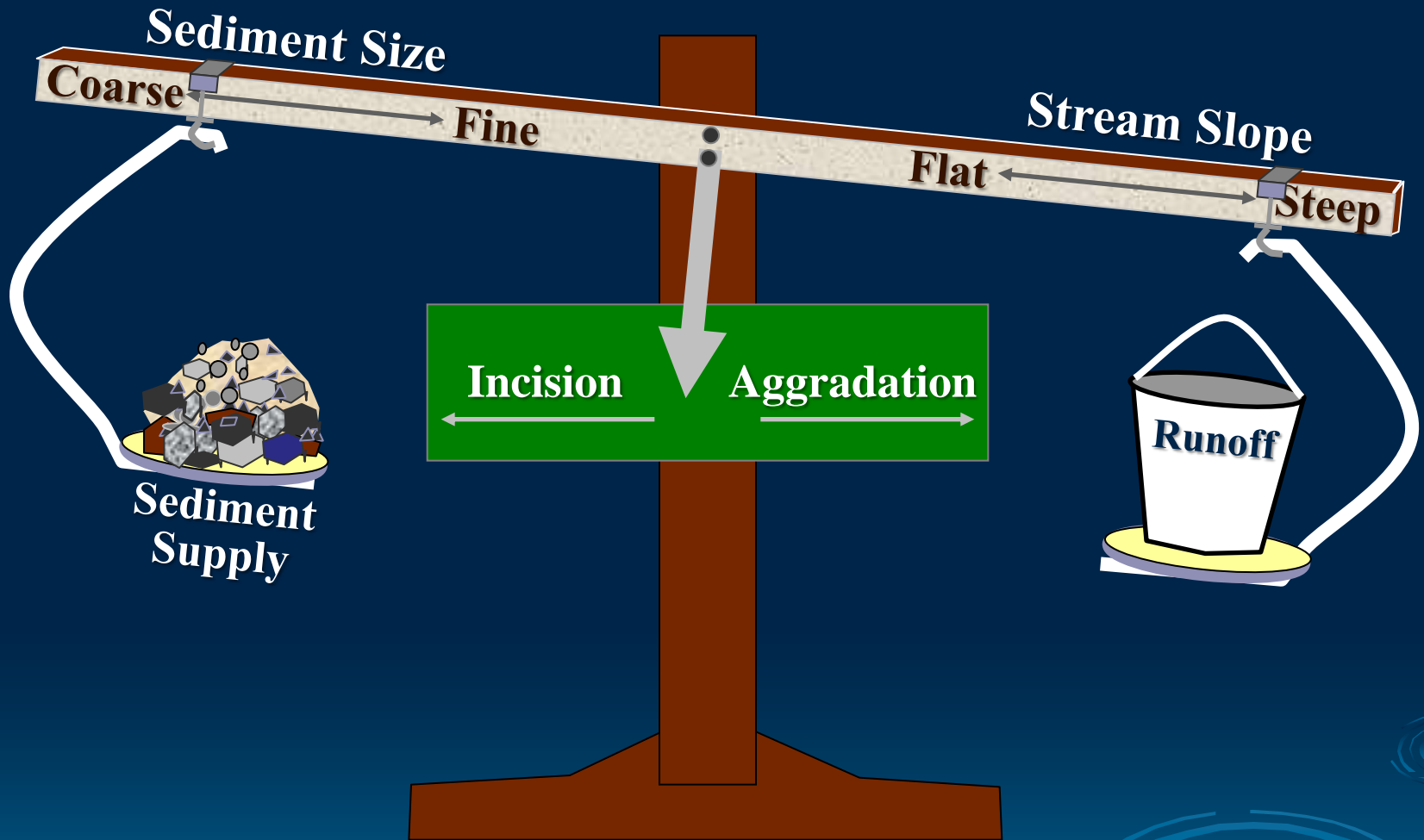
Perched Bridge Aprons



San Pedro Creek, Calif.

Perched Fishway Entrances

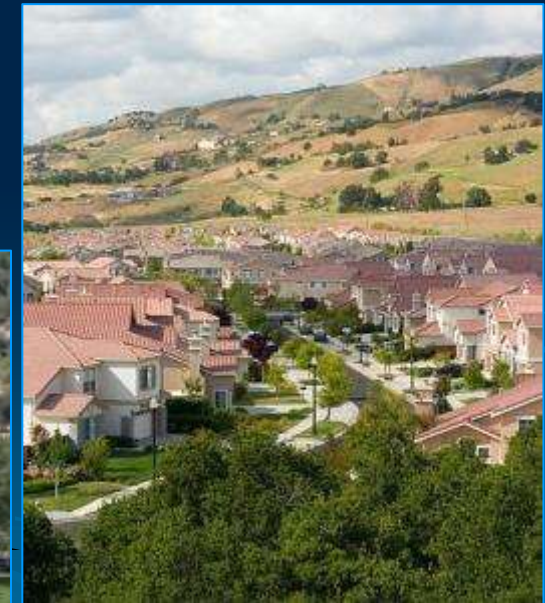
Dynamic Equilibrium and Causes of Incision



The Lane Relationship (from Lane, 1955)

Causes of Channel Incision

- ✓ Channelization
(shortening/steepening the channel)
- ✓ Channel encroachment
(Increase depth of flow, bed & bank shear)
- ✓ Increase in runoff
(urbanization, agriculture, road density)
- ✓ Decrease in sediment supply
(dams, gravel extraction, urbanization)
- ✓ Loss of wood in streams
(removal of large wood, beaver dams)
- ✓ Climate change/extreme weather



Causes of Channel Incision

Channel Encroachment

At Grade Apron
at Hatchery now
Perched 7 feet

Channel Incised
to Bedrock

LEGEND

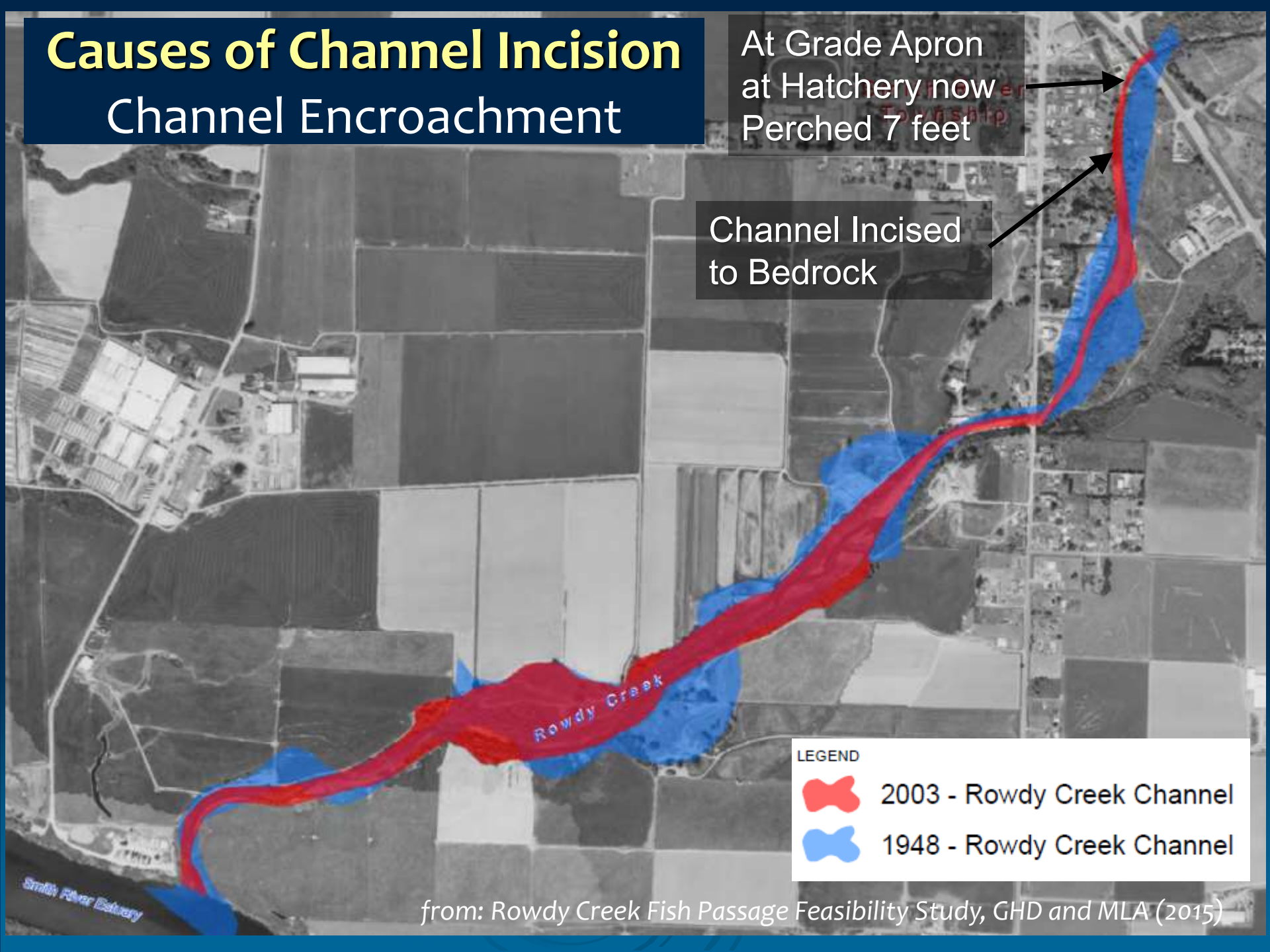


2003 - Rowdy Creek Channel



1948 - Rowdy Creek Channel

from: Rowdy Creek Fish Passage Feasibility Study, GHD and MLA (2015)

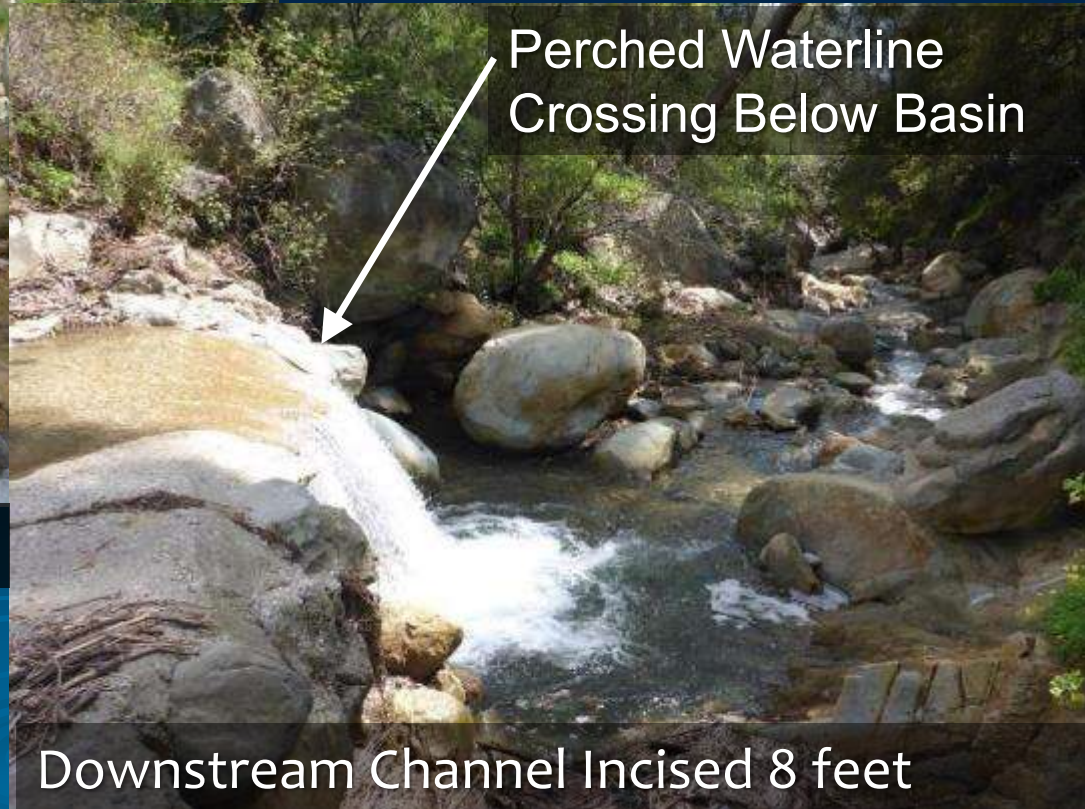


Causes of Channel Incision

Dams and Debris Basins



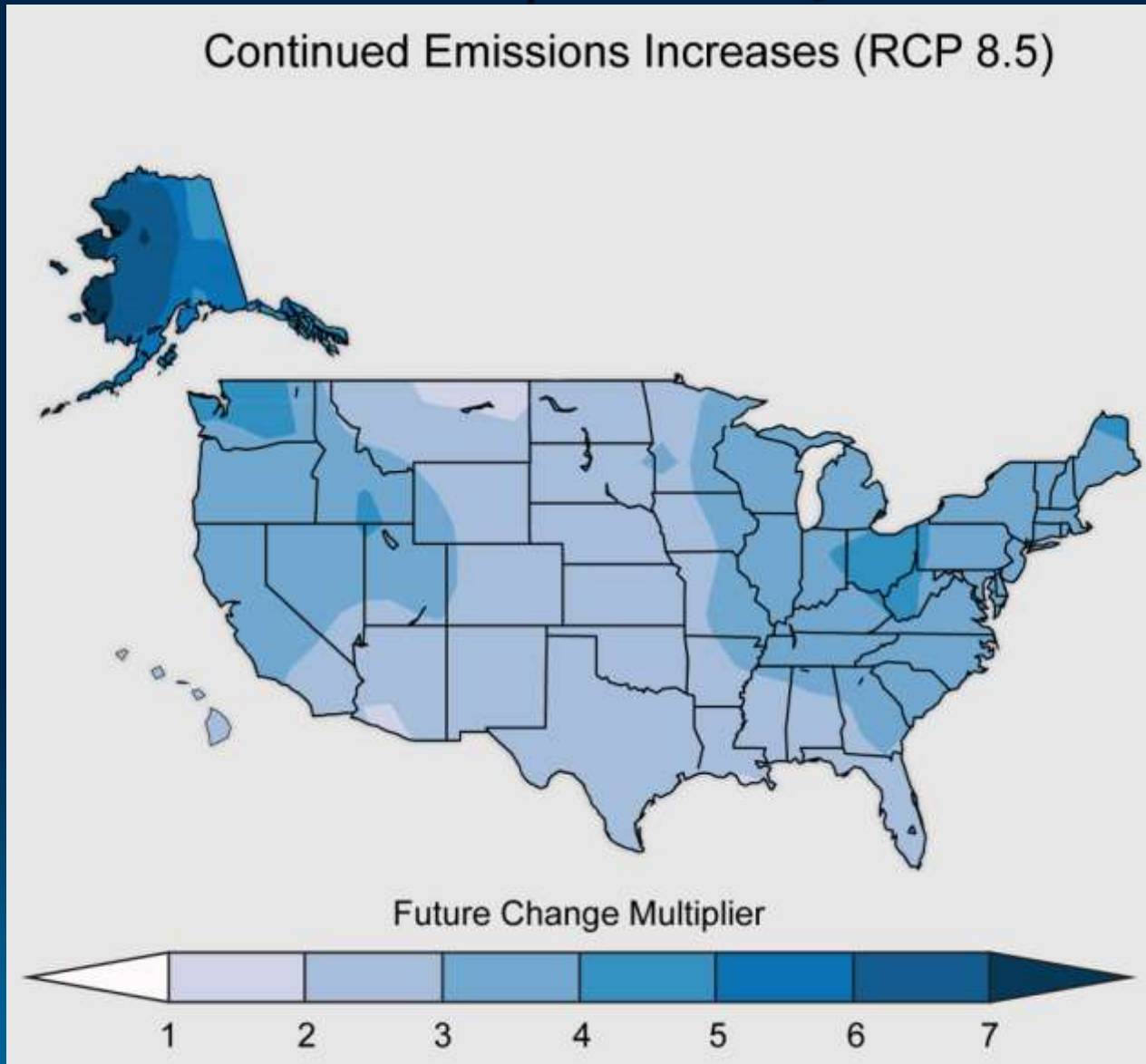
Debris Basin Catches all Sediment



Perched Waterline
Crossing Below Basin

Downstream Channel Incised 8 feet

Projected Increase in Heavy Precipitation Events 2081-2100 compared to 1981-2000

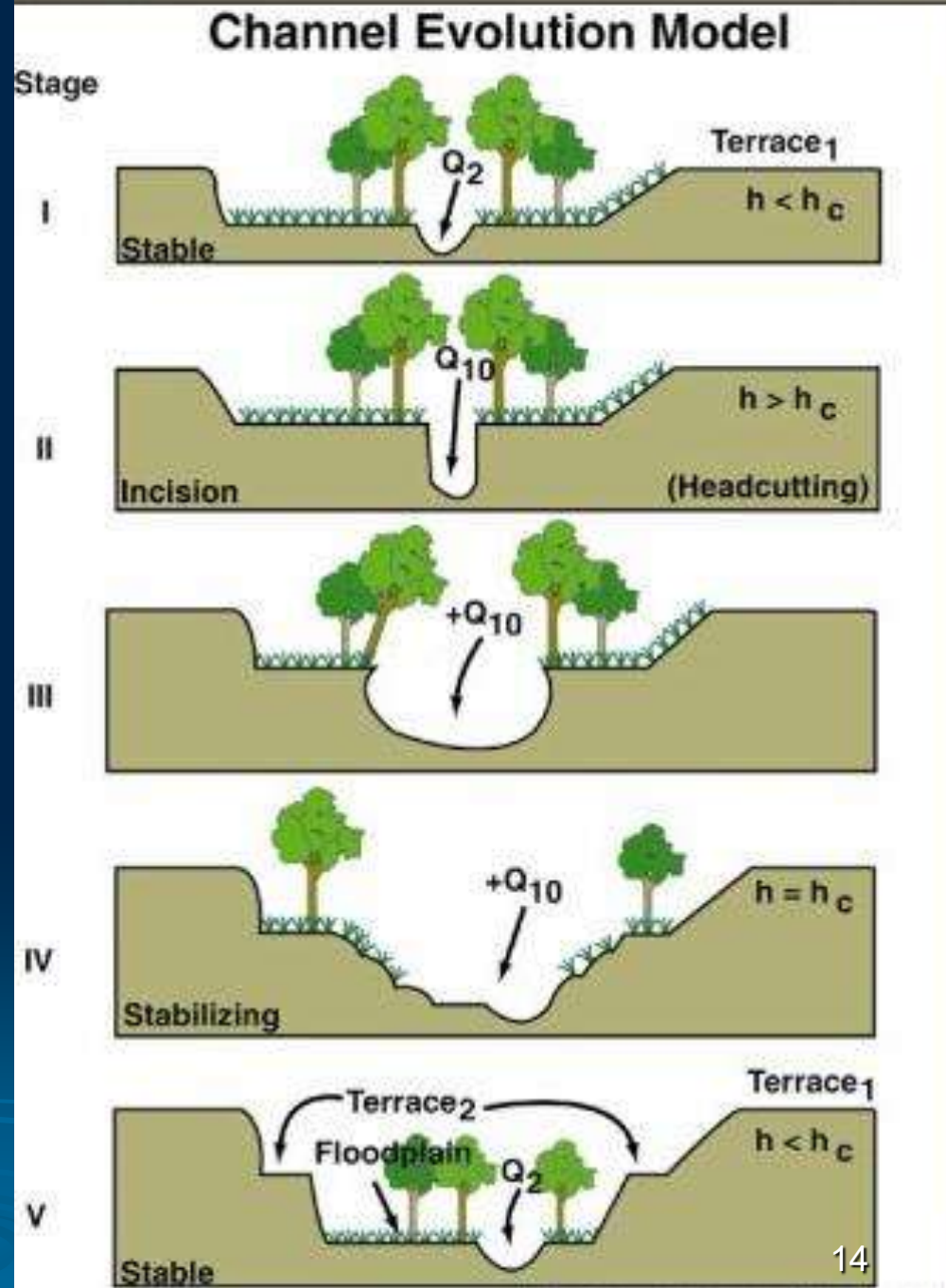


from U.S. National Climate Assessment, 2014

Channel Evolution Model (CEM)



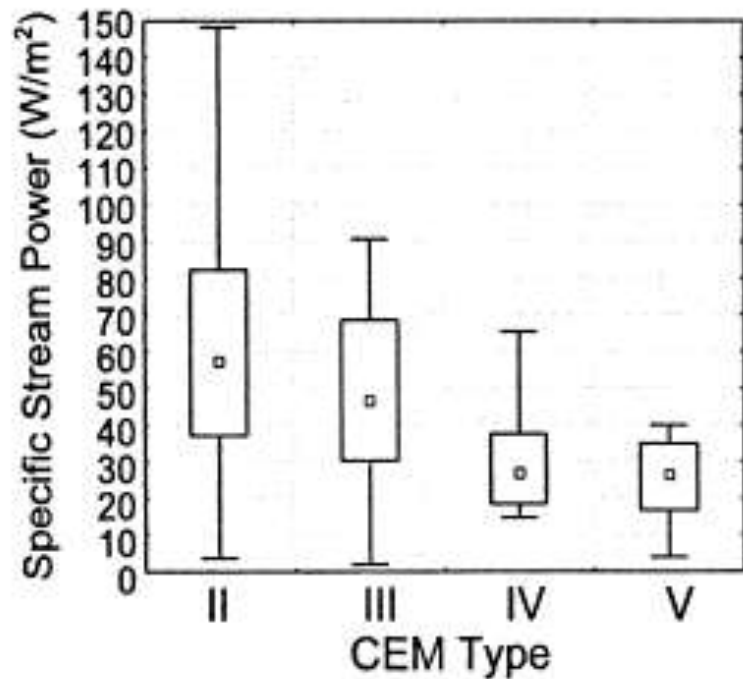
Stage II Incision



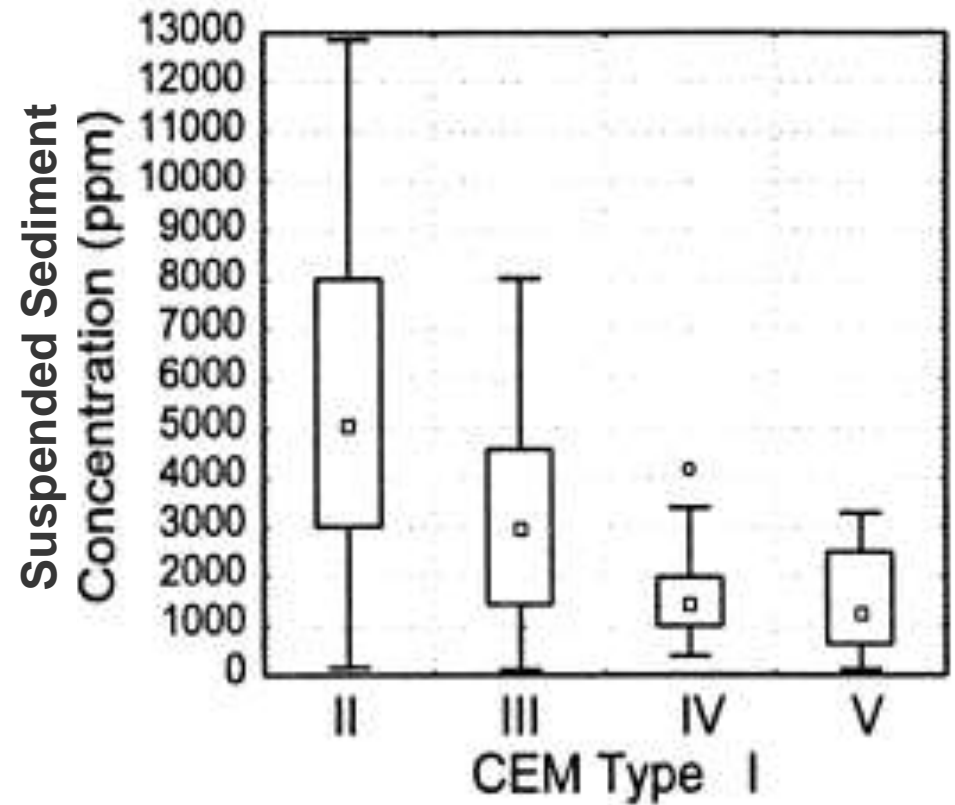


Incising Channel, Toby Tubby Creek Watershed, Mississippi

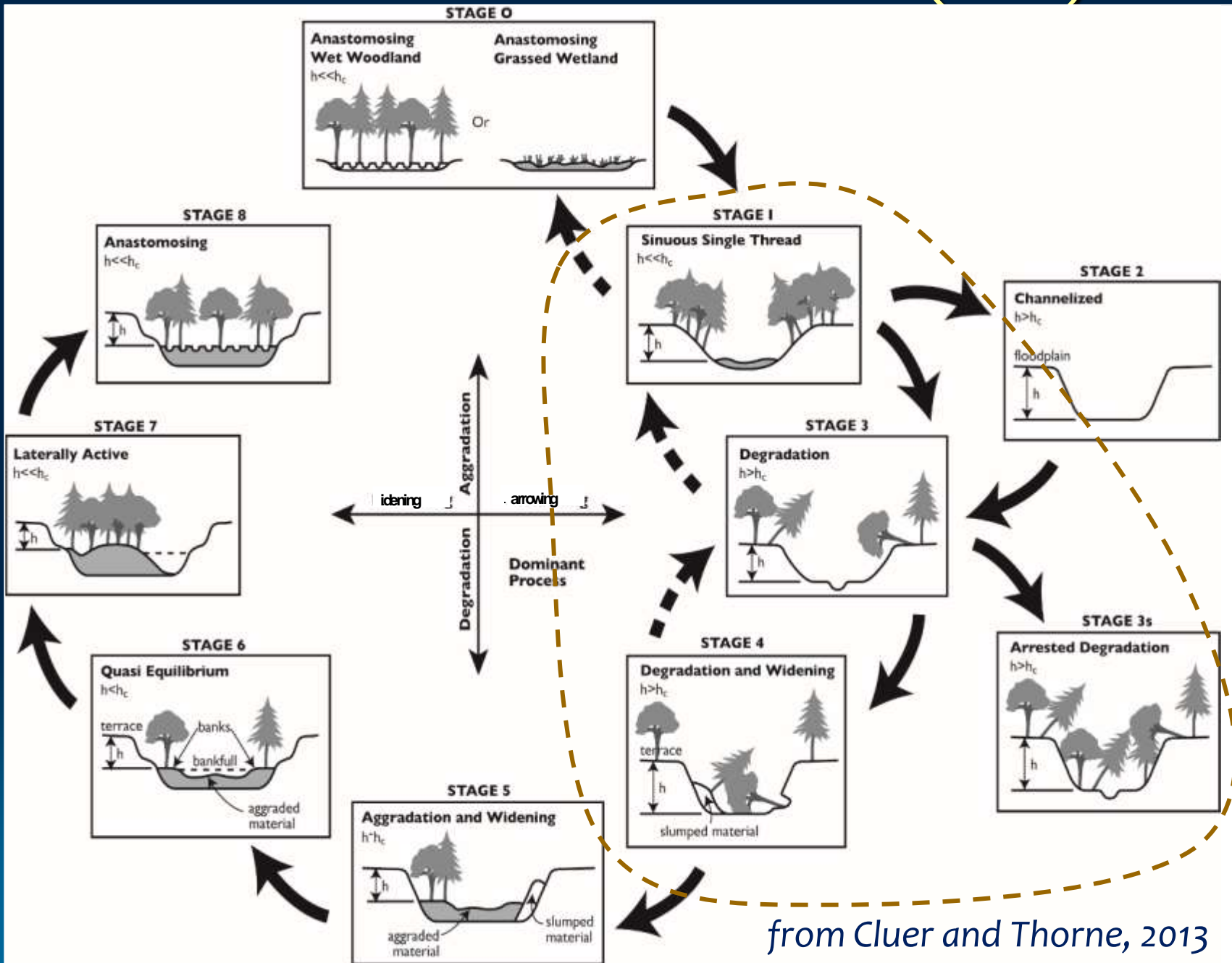
Water Quality and Stream Power vs. CEM Channel Type



Non-Outlier Max
Non-Outlier Min
75%
25%
Median



Stream Evolution Model (SEM)

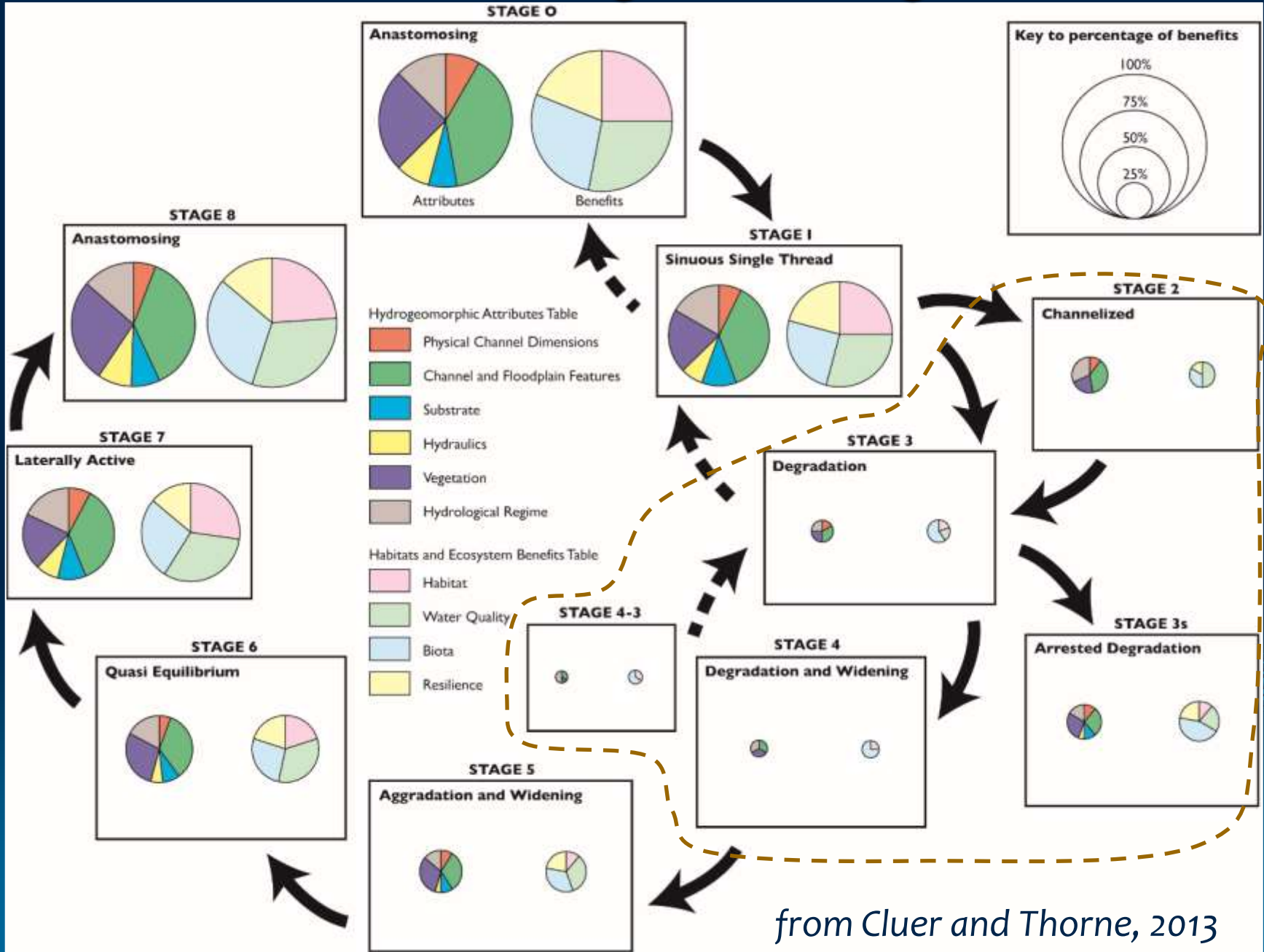


from Cluer and Thorne, 2013

Multiple Paths
Dead Ends



Stream Evolutionary Stage vs. Ecological Benefits



The Stream Channel Incision Syndrome

Loss of Habitat and Ecosystem Benefits

“We conclude channel incision presents a syndrome that is characterized by perturbed hydrology, degraded physical habitat, elevated nonpoint source pollution, and depleted fish species richness and that is extremely deleterious to instream ecosystem services.”

Shields et al. 2010. *The stream channel incision syndrome and water quality*. Journal of Ecological Engineering



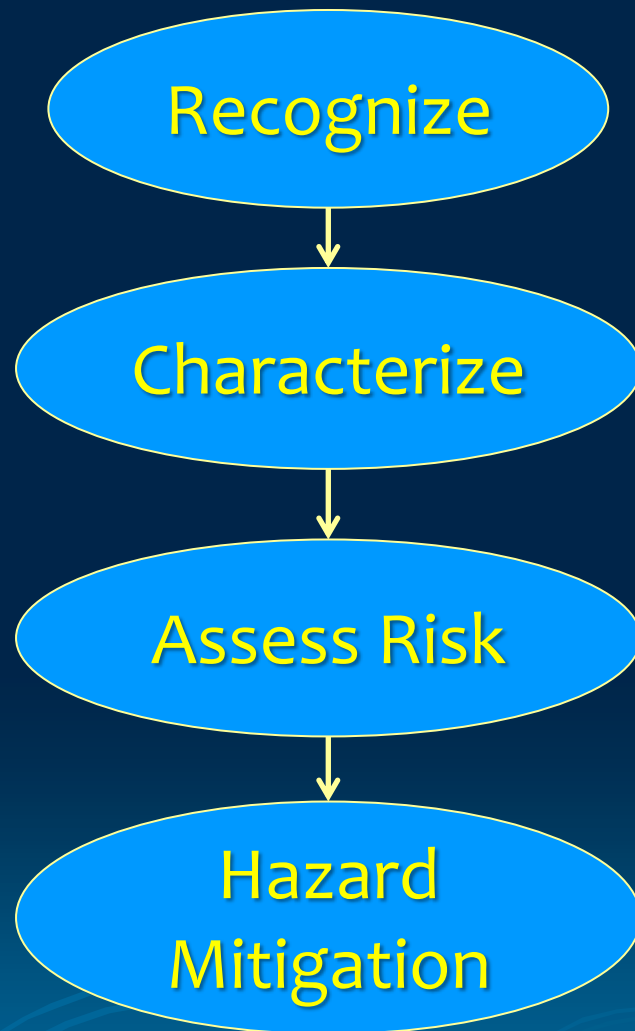
Allowing Incision to Migrate Upstream without Considering Risk



Jordan Creek at
Parkway Drive



Incorporating Incision Risk Assessments into Passage Projects



Resource: Castro, Janine. 2003. *Geomorphic Impacts of Culvert Replacement and Removal: Avoiding Channel Incision*. USFWS

Step 1 - Recognition: Incision or Local Scour?



photo: Kozmo Bates

From further downstream – Pipe at Stream Grade

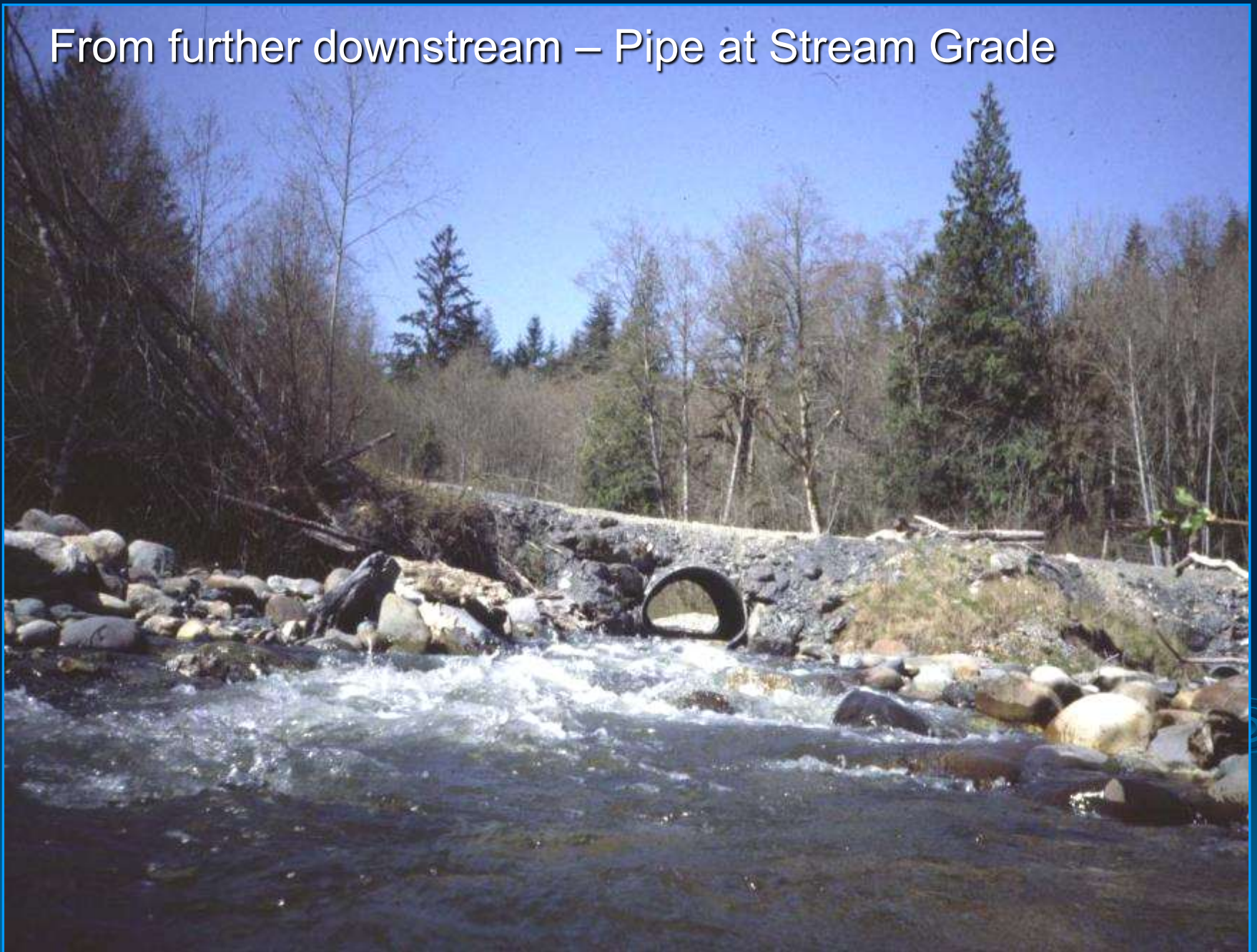
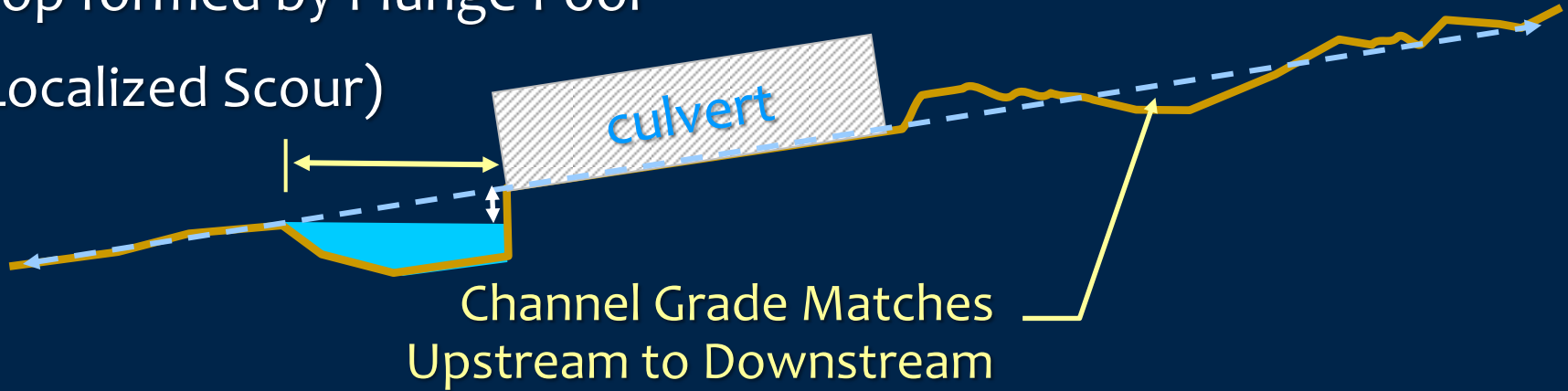


photo: Kozmo Bates

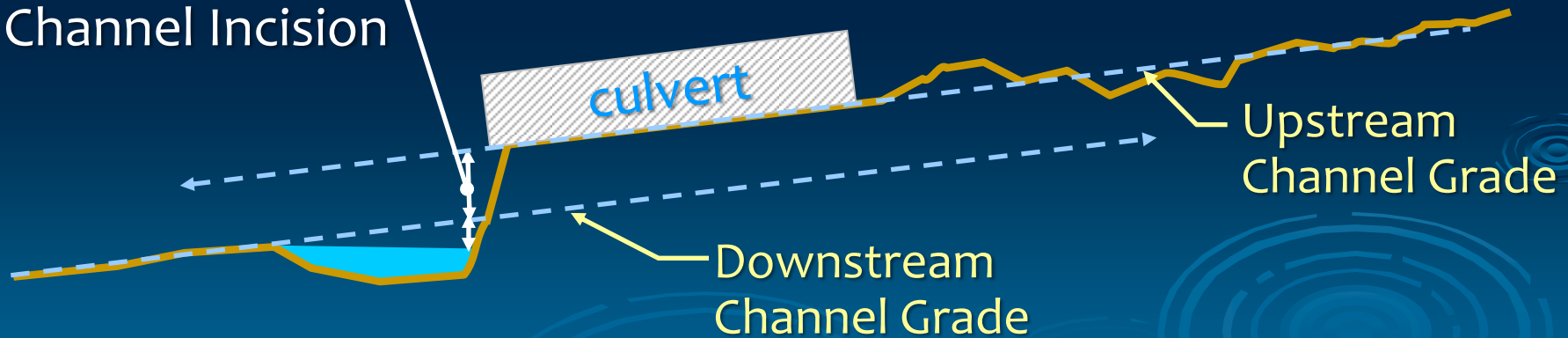
Recognize Local Scour vs. Incision

Drop formed by Plunge Pool

(Localized Scour)



Drop Result of Channel Incision



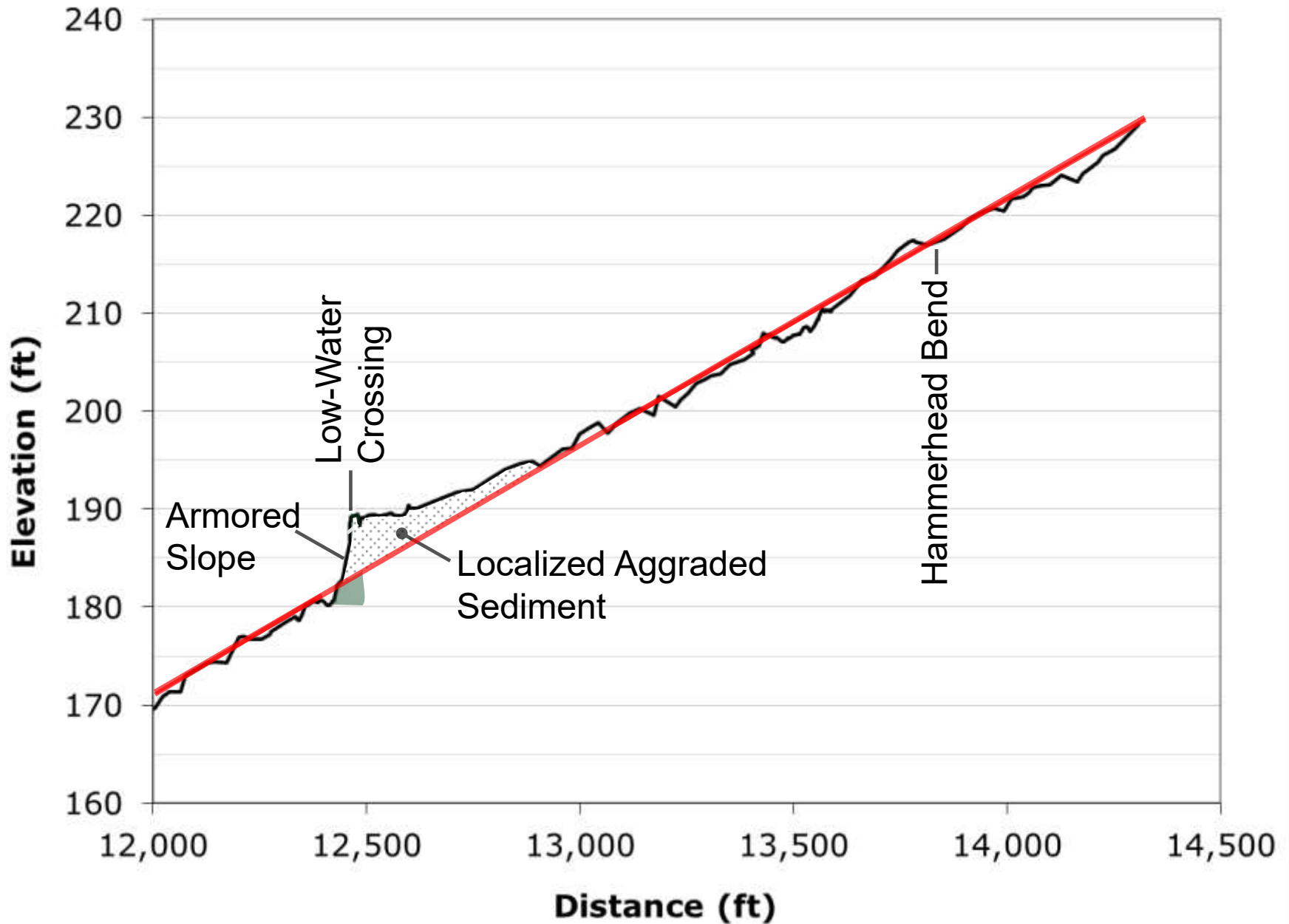
Channel Profile Interpretation

Incision Knickpoint or Not?



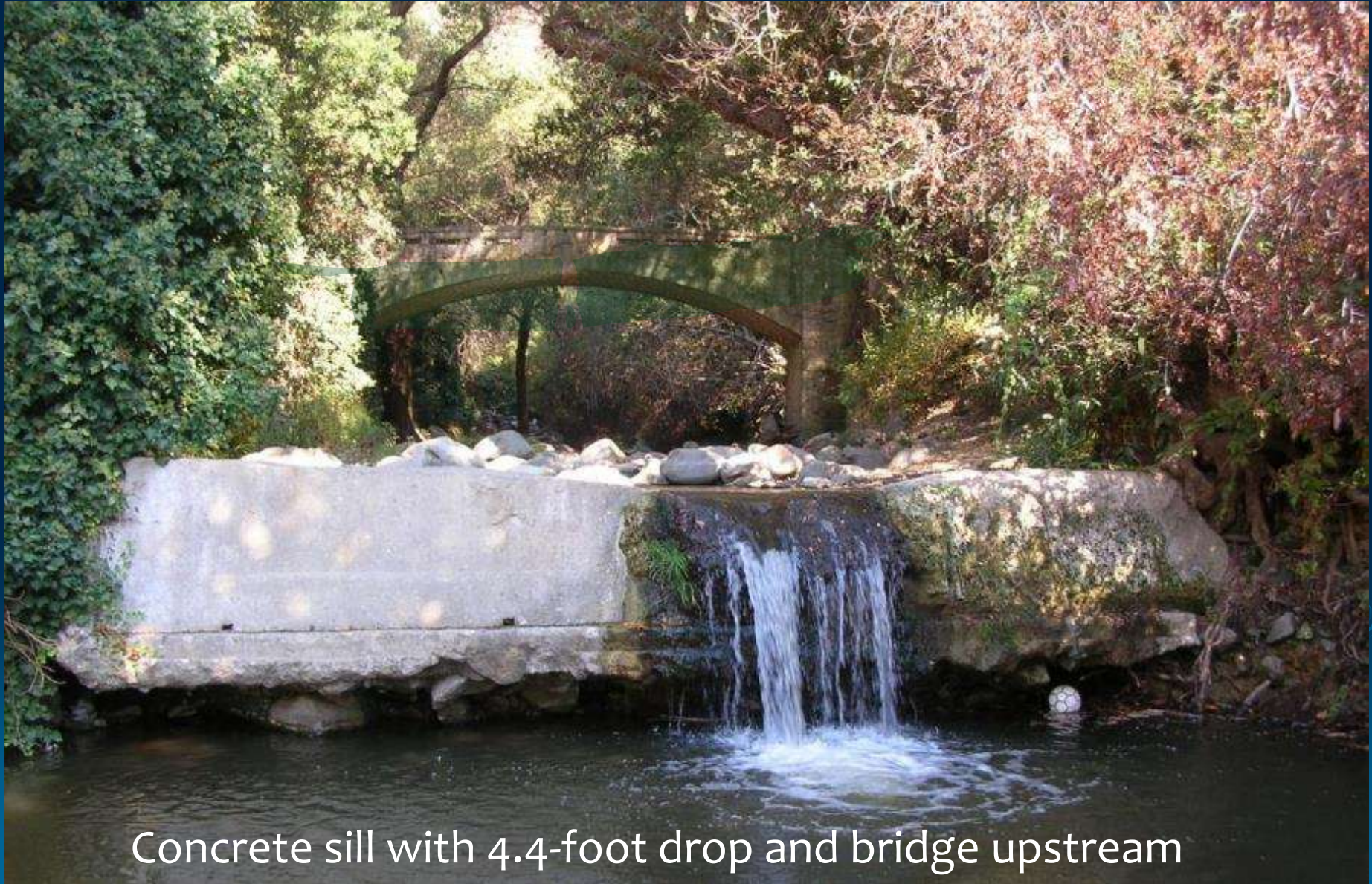
Vented low-water crossing (ford) with 8.7 feet of drop.

Channel Profile Interpretation



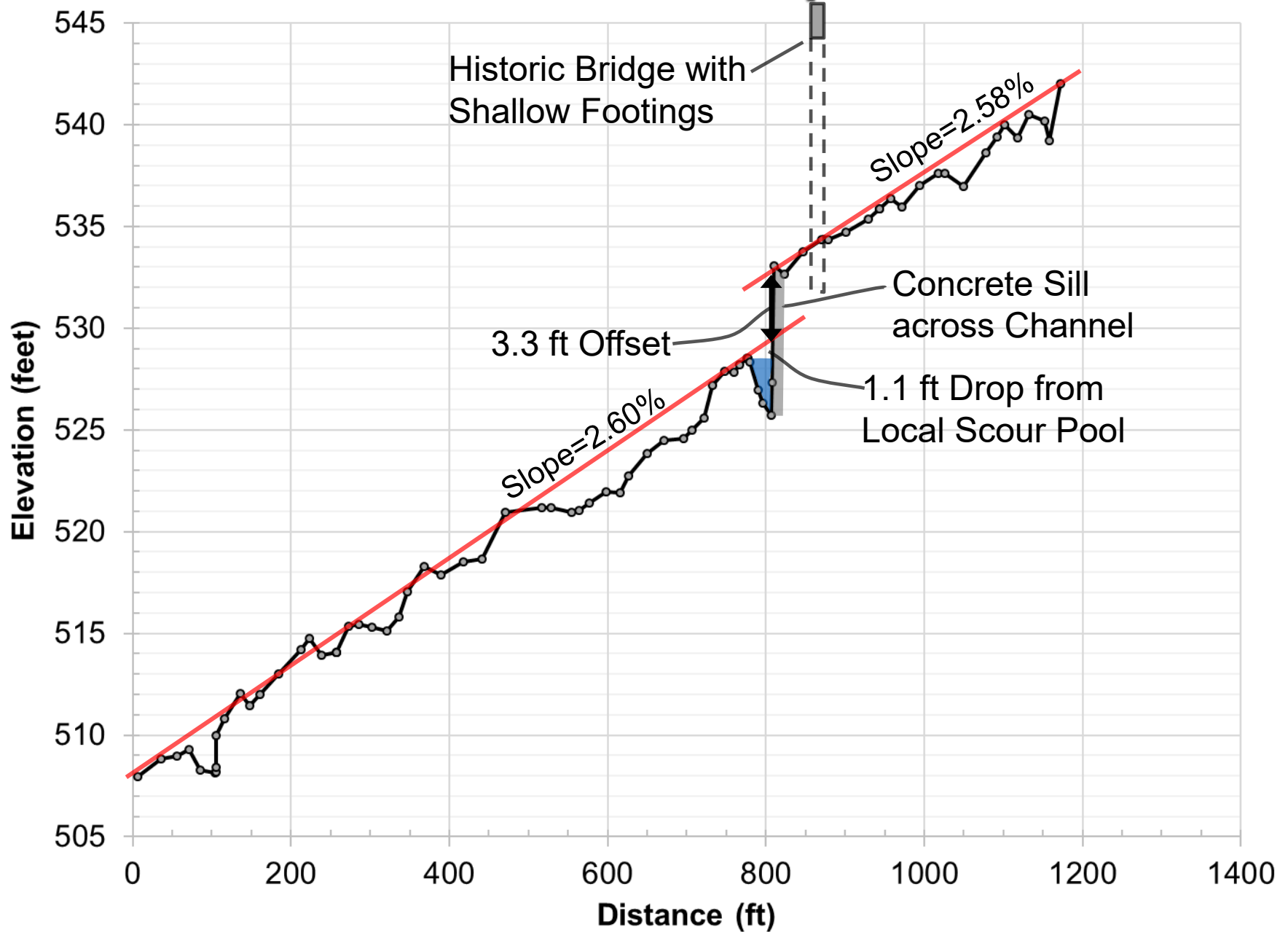
Channel Profile Interpretation

Incision Knickpoint or Not?



Concrete sill with 4.4-foot drop and bridge upstream

Channel Profile Interpretation



Other Channel Incision Indicators

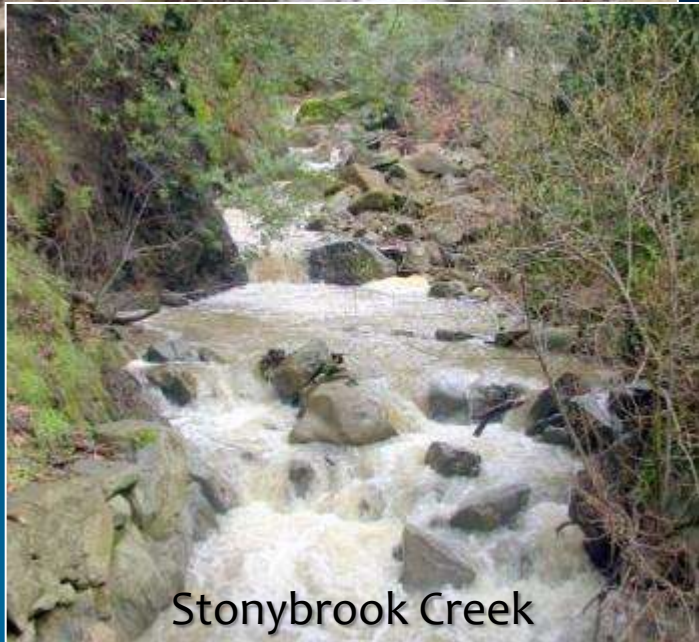
- ❑ **Lack of Sediment Deposition**
Erosion of channel bed down to bedrock or other resistant soil layers
- ❑ **Toe of Bank is Vertical**
Exposed roots, lack of sediment layering at streambed-banks interface
- ❑ **Actively Widening (Stage III)**
Active bank failures, low depositional bars
- ❑ **Lack of Pools**
Long reaches of riffles/runs without pools
- ❑ **Cultural Features Exposed**
Perched culverts or exposed bridge footings, aprons, and pipelines



Risk Assessment - Rate of Headward Incision

More mobile the bed material, more rapid the channel regrades.

Boulder Channel



Stonybrook Creek

Fine Grain Bed and Banks



Auburn Ravine

Risk Assessment for Removing Kickpoints in Incised Channels

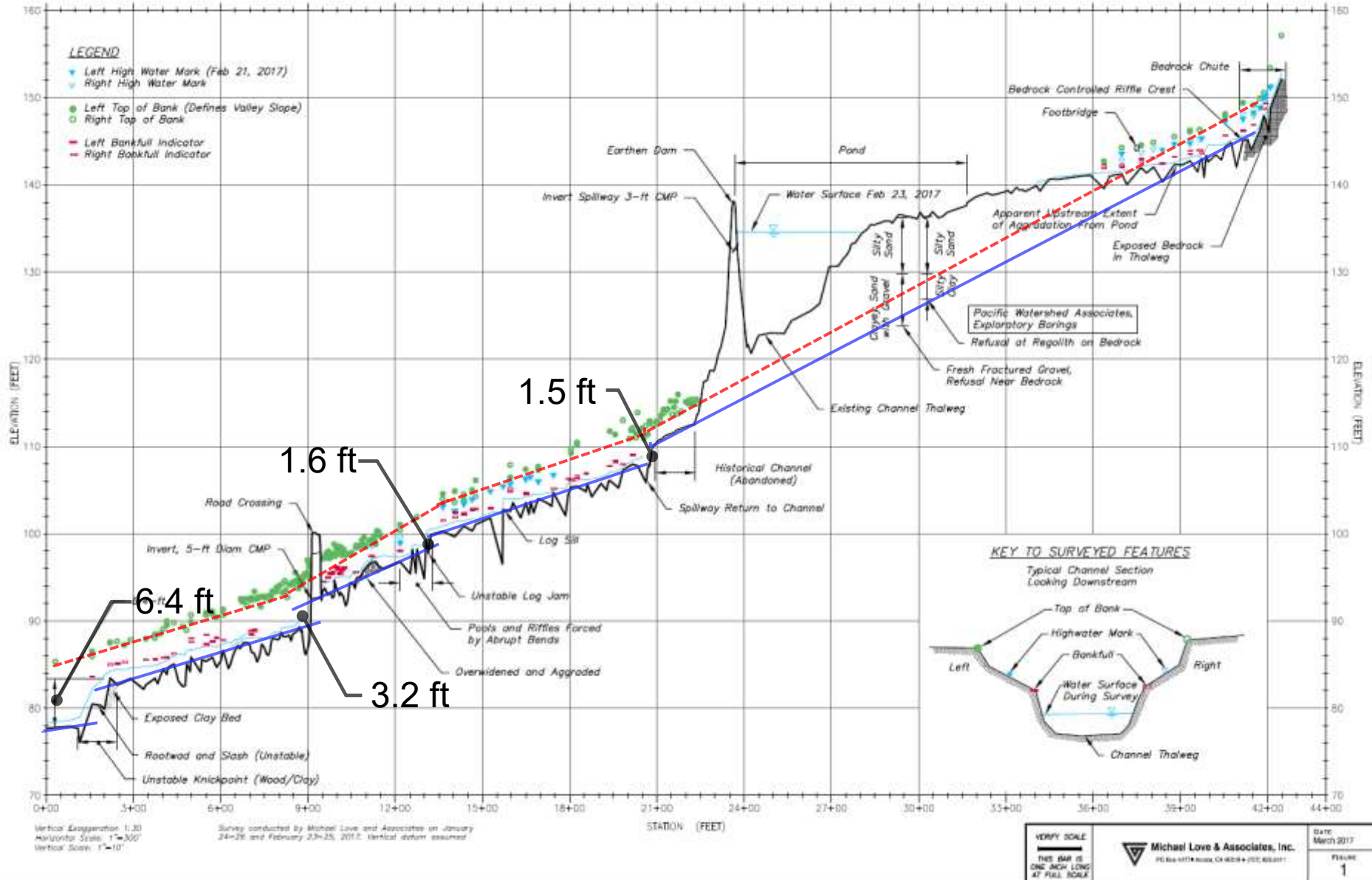
- ❑ **Anticipated magnitude and extent**
Depth of incision and length of channel at risk
- ❑ **Risk to upstream property and infrastructure**
- ❑ **Impact to existing riparian vegetation**
Will water table lower with incision and rootzone become dry?
- ❑ **Change in connectivity to side-channels and floodplain**
- ❑ **Rate of incision, bank widening, and sediment release**
Mobility of bed, erosivity of banks, wood controls, bedrock
- ❑ **Ability of channel to recover**
Will bank material and land-use permit channel evolution (widening)?

Thalweg Profile Inter Chal



Thalweg Profile Interpretation – Group Exercise

Challenge Creek



One Size Does Not Fit All

Contemporary Design Approaches to Address Fish Passage at Stream Crossings



Duffy Gulch, Noyo River, California

Michael Love P.E.
Arcata, California
mlove@h2odesigns.com
707-822-2411



Michael Love & Associates

Hydrologic Solutions

California Department of Fish & Wildlife
California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual
Part XII: Fish Passage Design and Implementation (2009)



Available at:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/resources/habitatmanual.asp>

Primary Authors:

Michael Love P.E.
Michael Love & Associates, Inc.

Kozmo Bates P.E.
Olympia, WA



**CULVERTS MUST BE LAID
SO FISH MAKE THE GRADE**

Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

Stream Crossing Project

Fish Passage Approach

Retrofit

Replacement/Removal

New

Profile Control

Baffles

Technical Fishway

Drop Structures

Roughened Channel

Restored Profile

Uncontrolled

Regrade

Natural Bed

Hydraulic Approaches

Geomorphic Approaches

Increasing Ecological Function

Stream Simulation Design Approach for Passage of Aquatic Organisms

“A channel that simulates characteristics of the natural channel will present no more of a challenge to movement of organisms than the natural channel.”



Primary Source:

USFS (2008). *Stream simulation: an ecological approach to road stream crossings*

Available at the FishXing website: FishXing.org

What is Stream Simulation?

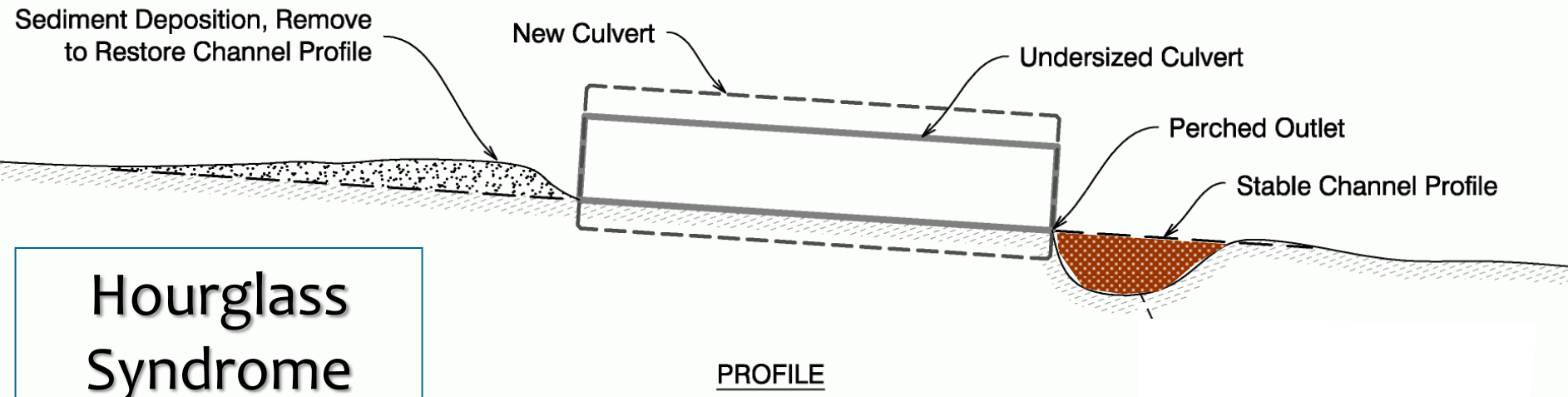
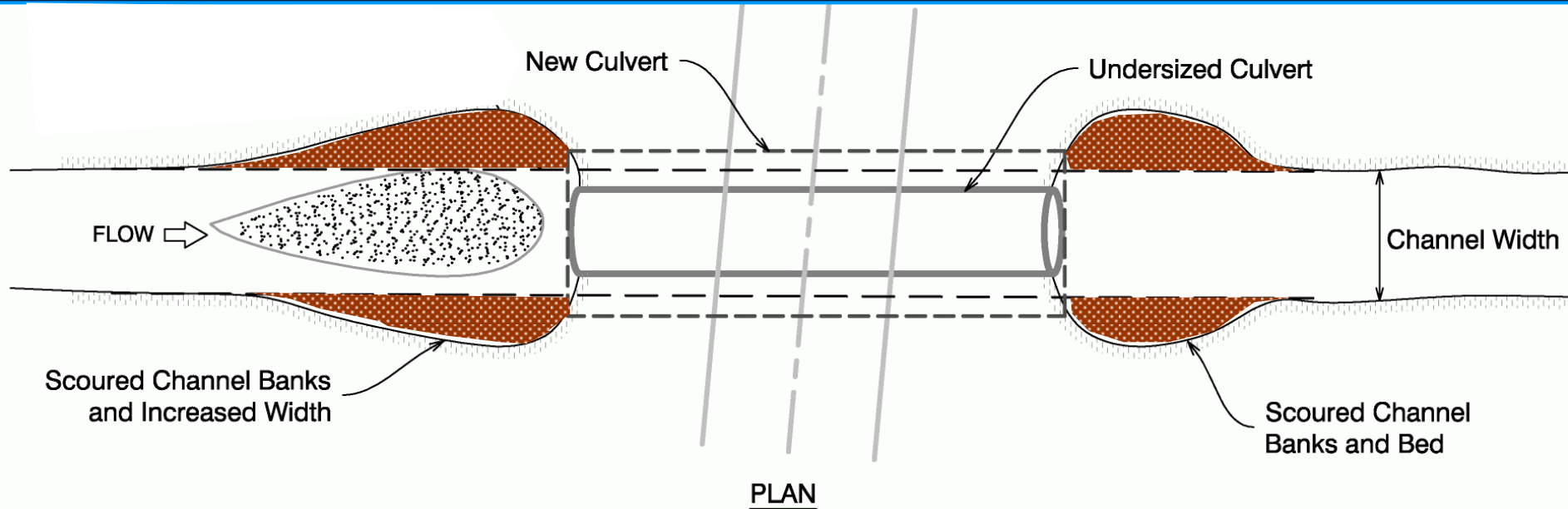
- A Geomorphic Approach to Designing Stream Crossings
- Design Profile Seamlessly Connects Downstream & Upstream Channel Profiles
- Simulate A Natural Channel Reference Reach



- Channel Slope
- Bankfull Cross Section Dimensions
- Channel Structure
 - Channel Bedforms
 - Mobility/Stability
- Forcing Features
- Continuous Banks

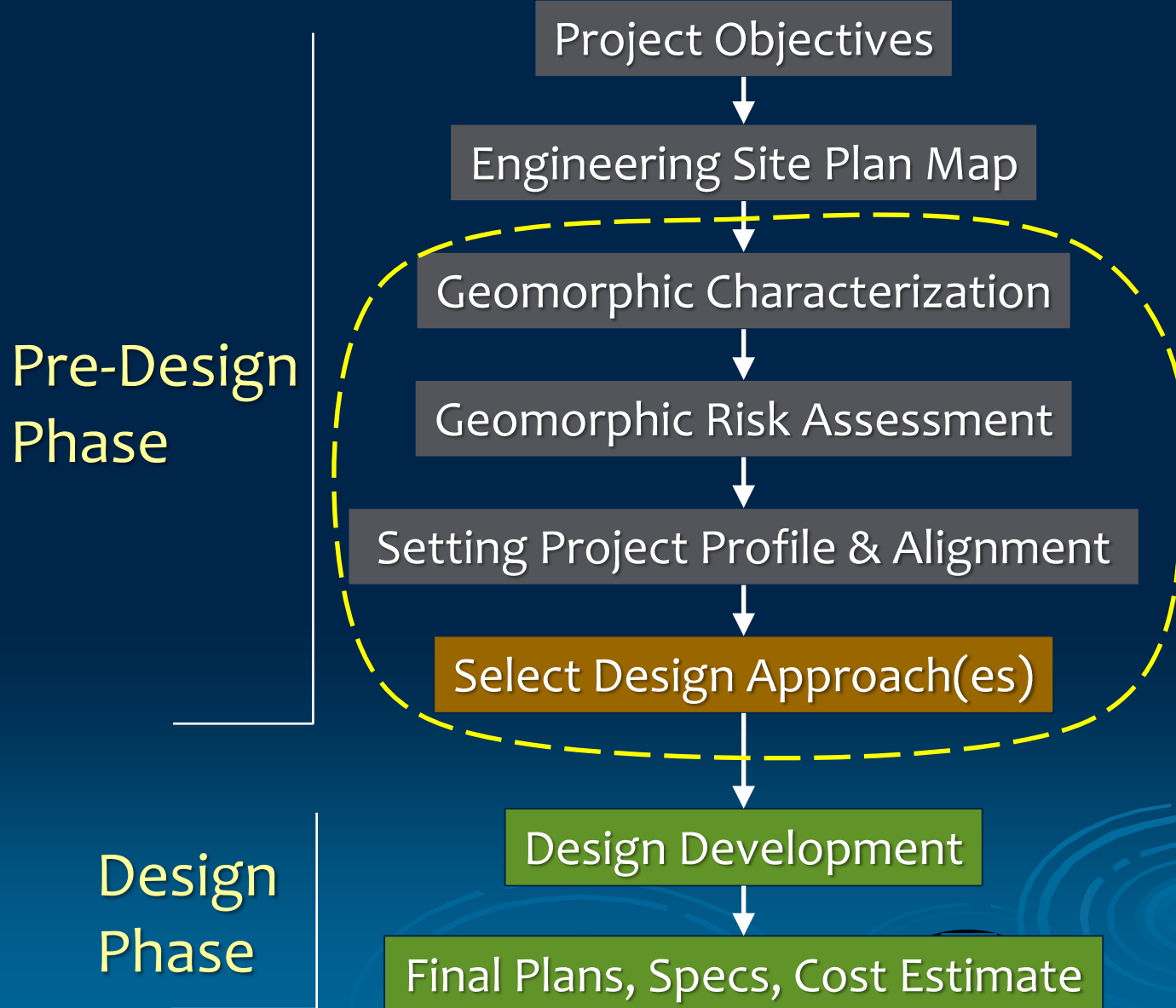


Restoring Channel Geometry



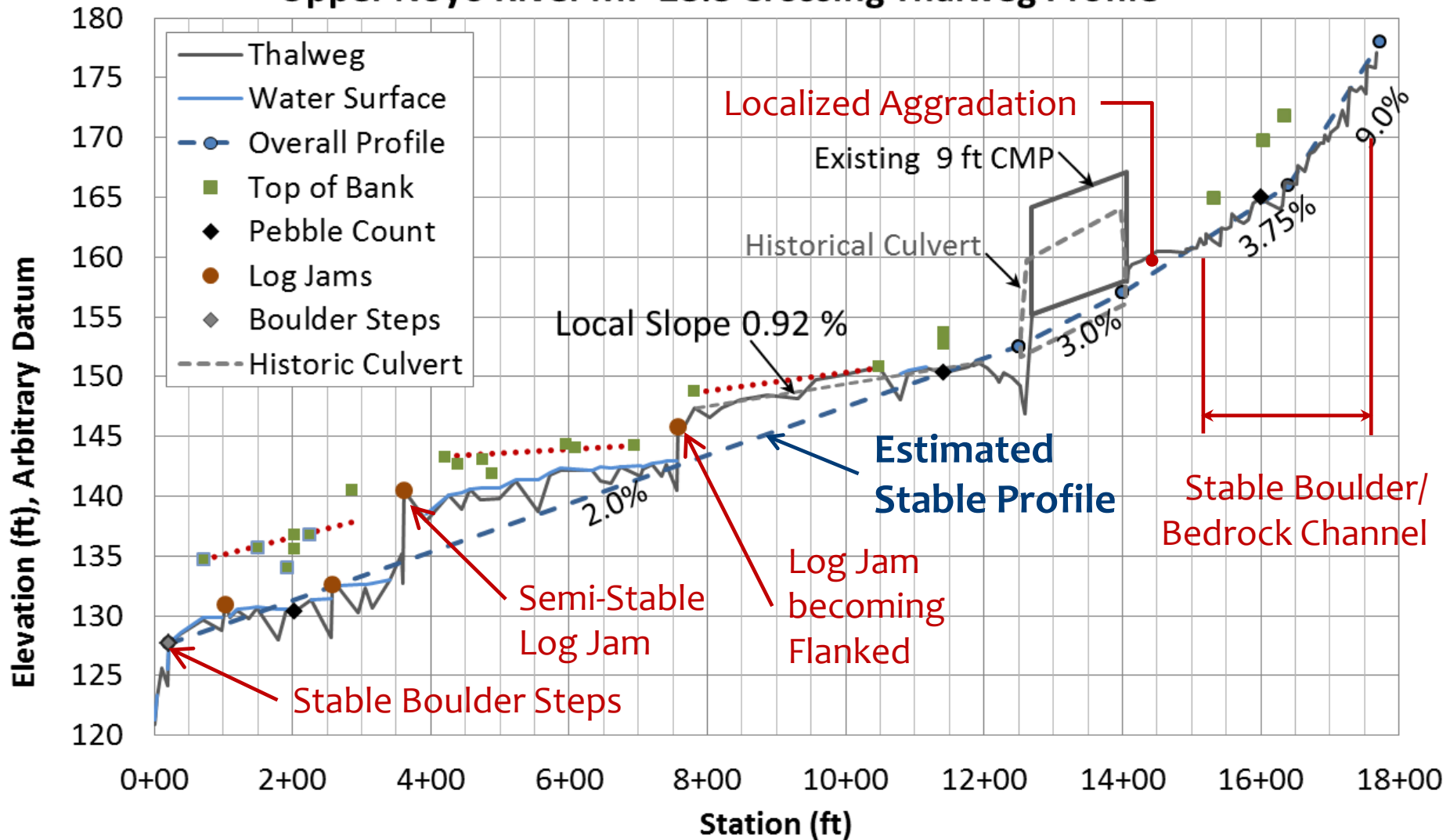
Hourglass Syndrome

Passage Design Process



Channel Profile Analysis

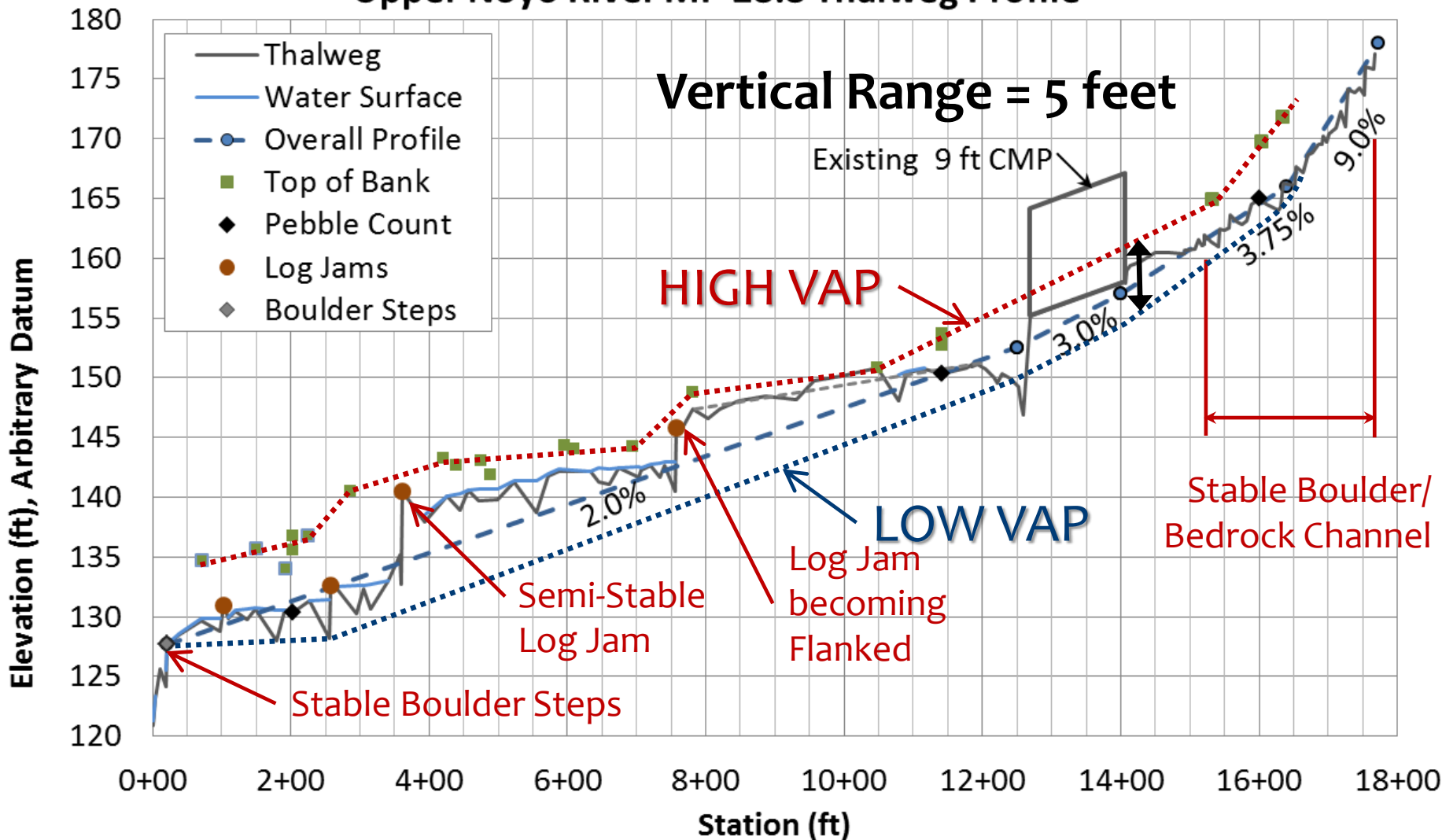
Upper Noyo River MP 28.8 Crossing Thalweg Profile



Vertical Adjustment Potential (VAP) Profiles

Estimates the range of possible channel profiles for life of project

Upper Noyo River MP 28.8 Thalweg Profile



Vertical Adjustment Potential (VAP)

Develop VAP with long profile and field investigations:

- ✓ Channel slopes
- ✓ Stability/mobility of channel type/material
- ✓ Channel controls and anticipated longevity
[bedrock, large wood, colluvium, hard infrastructure]
- ✓ Knickpoints, evidence of active incision (downcutting) or aggradation
- ✓ Pool scour depths (low VAP)
- ✓ Bankfull and floodplain elevations (high VAP)
- ✓ Historical information (existing invert elev. and slope)

Stream Simulation Appropriate

Drop formed by Plunge Pool
(Localized Scour)



Stream Simulation Not Appropriate

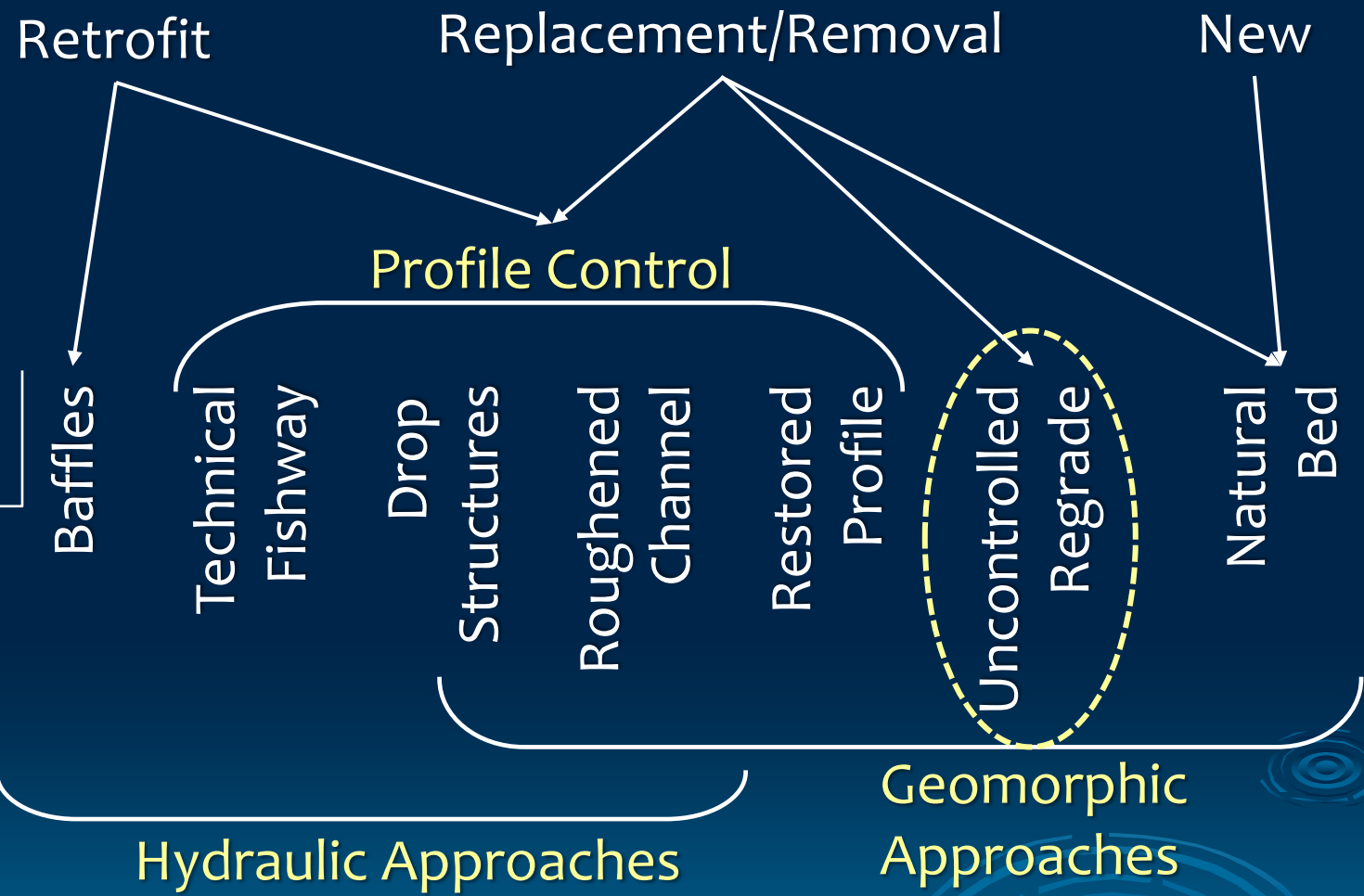
Drop Result of
Channel Incision



Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

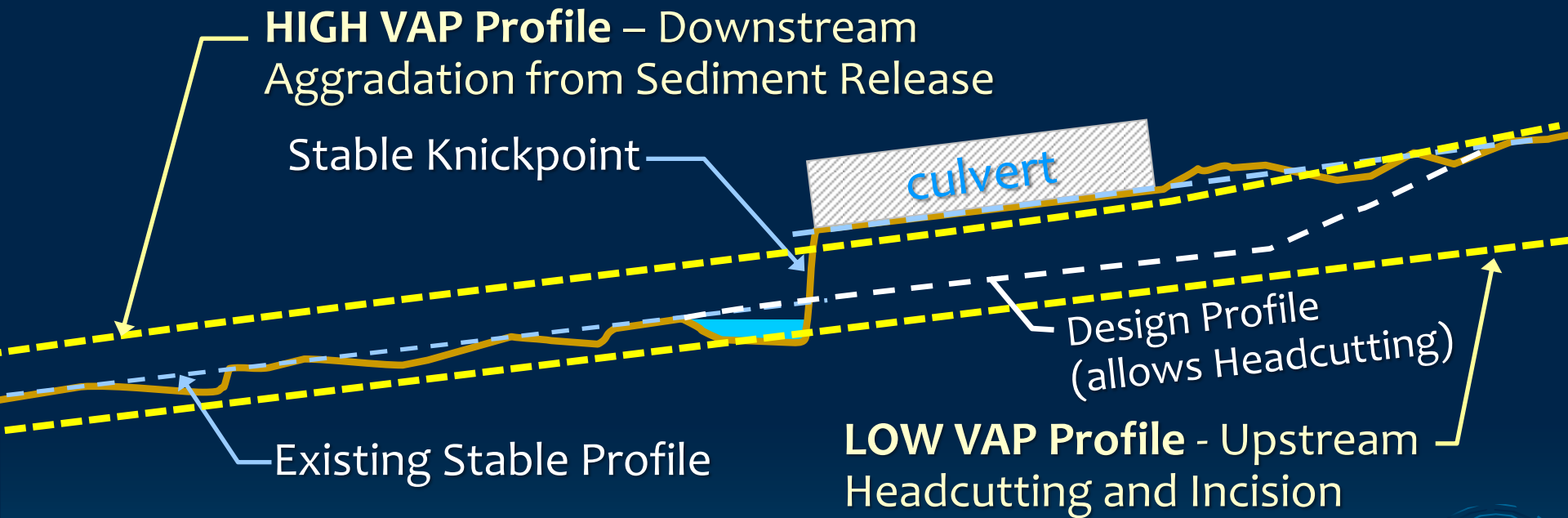
Stream Crossing Project

Fish Passage Approach



Increasing Ecological Function

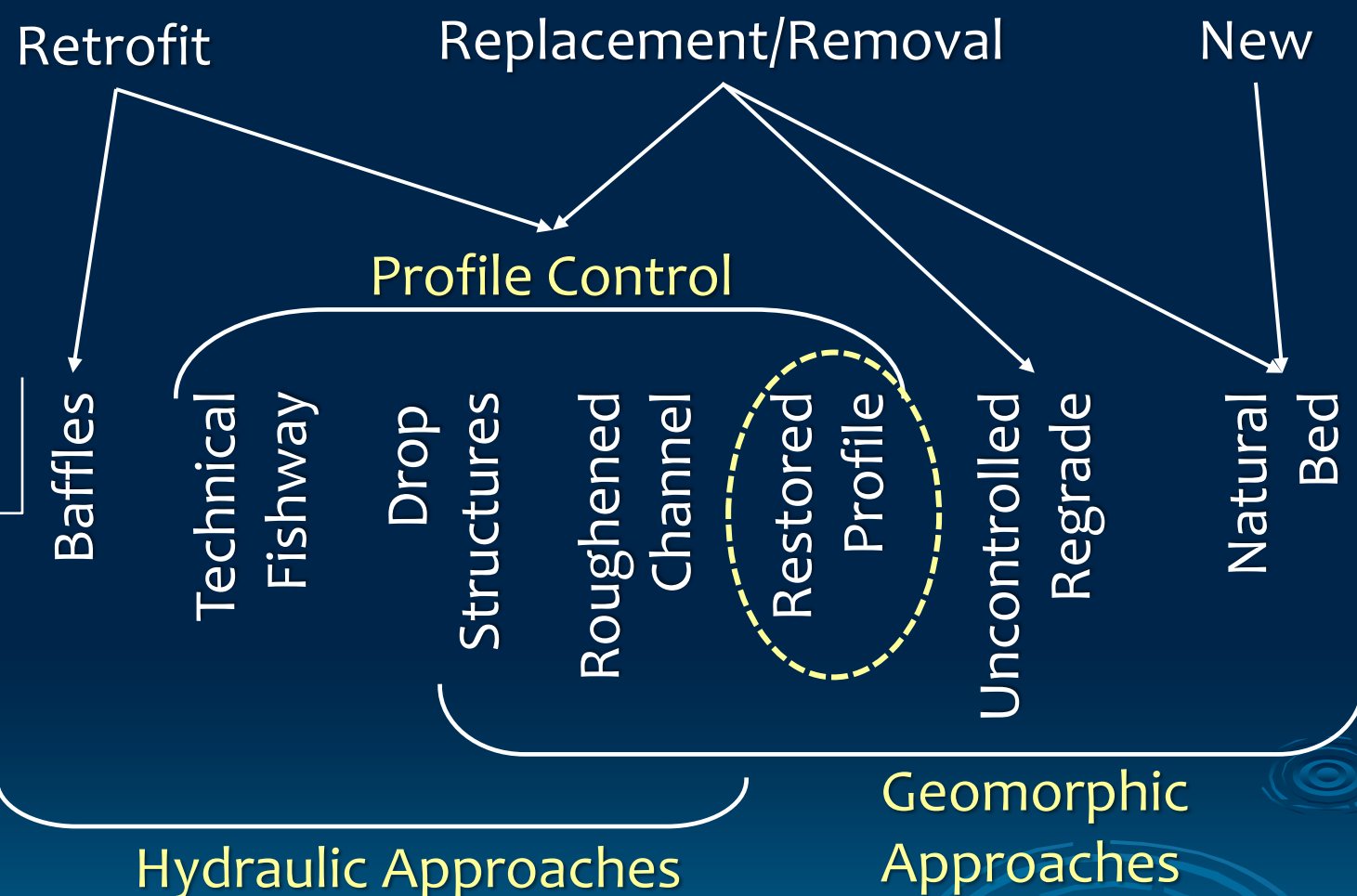
VAP Profiles for Incised Channels (no grade control – “Uncontrolled Regrade”)



Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

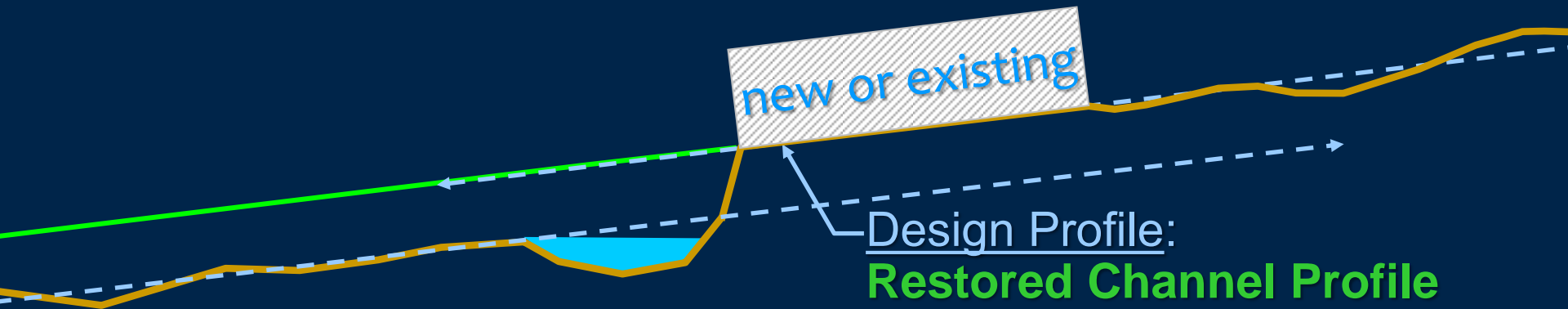
Stream Crossing Project

Fish Passage Approach



Increasing Ecological Function

Restored Profile Option



Restoring Incised Channels and Connectivity

Placing Wood - Profile Restoration



Baker Creek
photos: Sam Flanagan, BLM

Restoring Incised Channels and Connectivity

Beaver Dam Analogs



Post Lines



Reinforced Dams



Wicker Weaves

from: NOAA Fisheries

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Roughened Channel

Restored Profile

Uncontrolled Regrade

Natural Bed

Profile Control

Forced Profiles

Hydraulic Approaches

Geomorphic Approaches

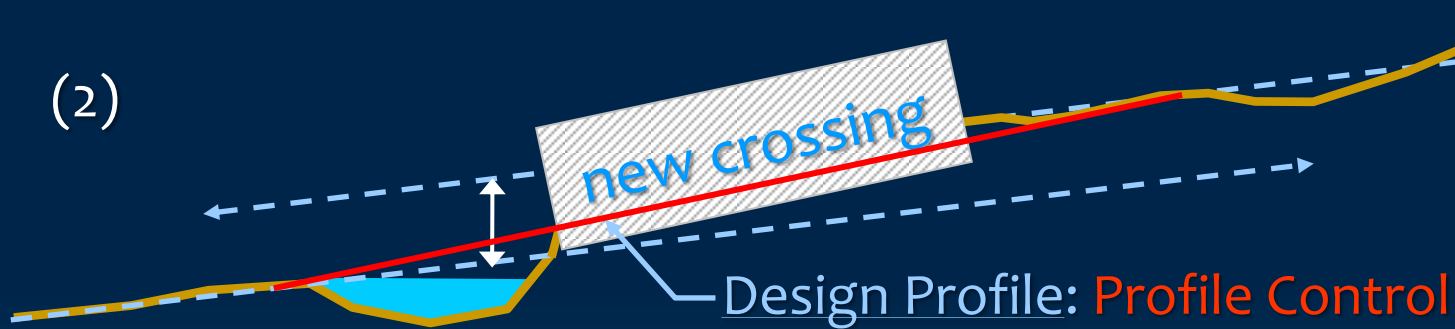
Increasing Ecological Function

Forced Profiles

(1)



(2)



(3)



Profile Control - Downstream Transitions

Drop at Fishway Entrance
from Downstream Scour



Photo: Glenn Hurlburt



Photo: Mike Garelo

Rock Weir Failed from
Downstream Scour

Using Low VAP to Set Profile Control Transition

≤ Drop Criteria for Target Fish Species/Lifestage

Anticipated Drop Across Weir (with scour pool)



Profile Control Structures to Backwater Culvert

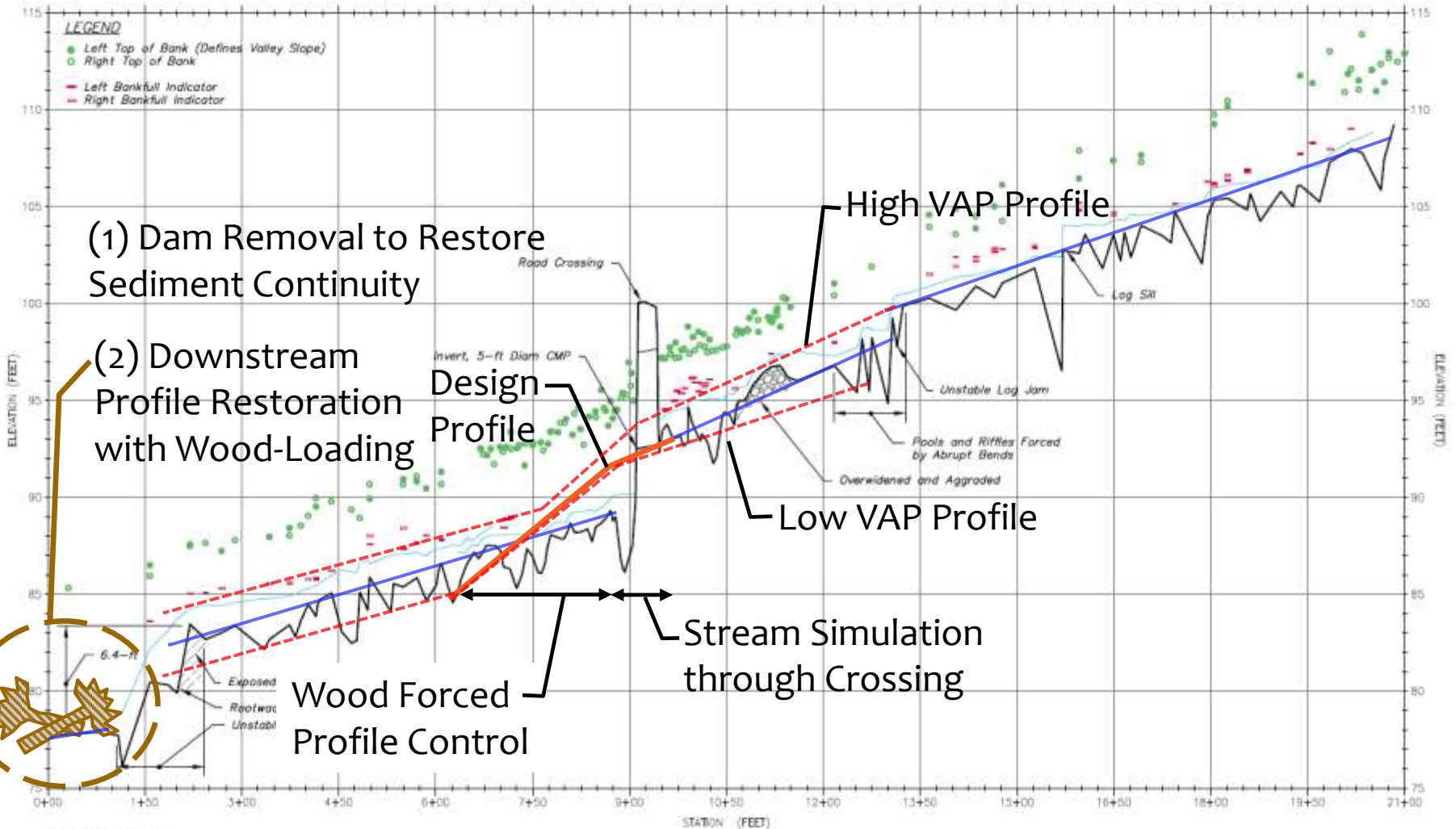
Low and High Potential Profiles

Anticipated Length of Self-Forming Scour Pool

- ✓ Place Downstream End of Profile Control based on Anticipated Scour Pool Length at Low VAP Profile

Challenge Creek

Setting the VAP Profiles and Design Profile



Vertical Exaggeration: 1:30
Horizontal Scale: 1"=150'
Vertical Scale: 1"=5'

Survey conducted by Michael Love and Associates in January 24-26 and February 23-25, 2017. Vertical datum assumed.

VERTICAL SCALE
THIS BAR IS ONE INCH LONG AT FULL SCALE

Michael Love & Associates, Inc.
20100 407th Avenue, CA 94024 • (707) 882-0111

Date: March 2017

Figure 2

Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

Stream Crossing Project

Fish Passage Approach

Retrofit

Replacement/Removal

New

Profile Control

Baffles

Technical Fishway

Drop Structures

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Hydraulic Approaches

Geomorphic Approaches

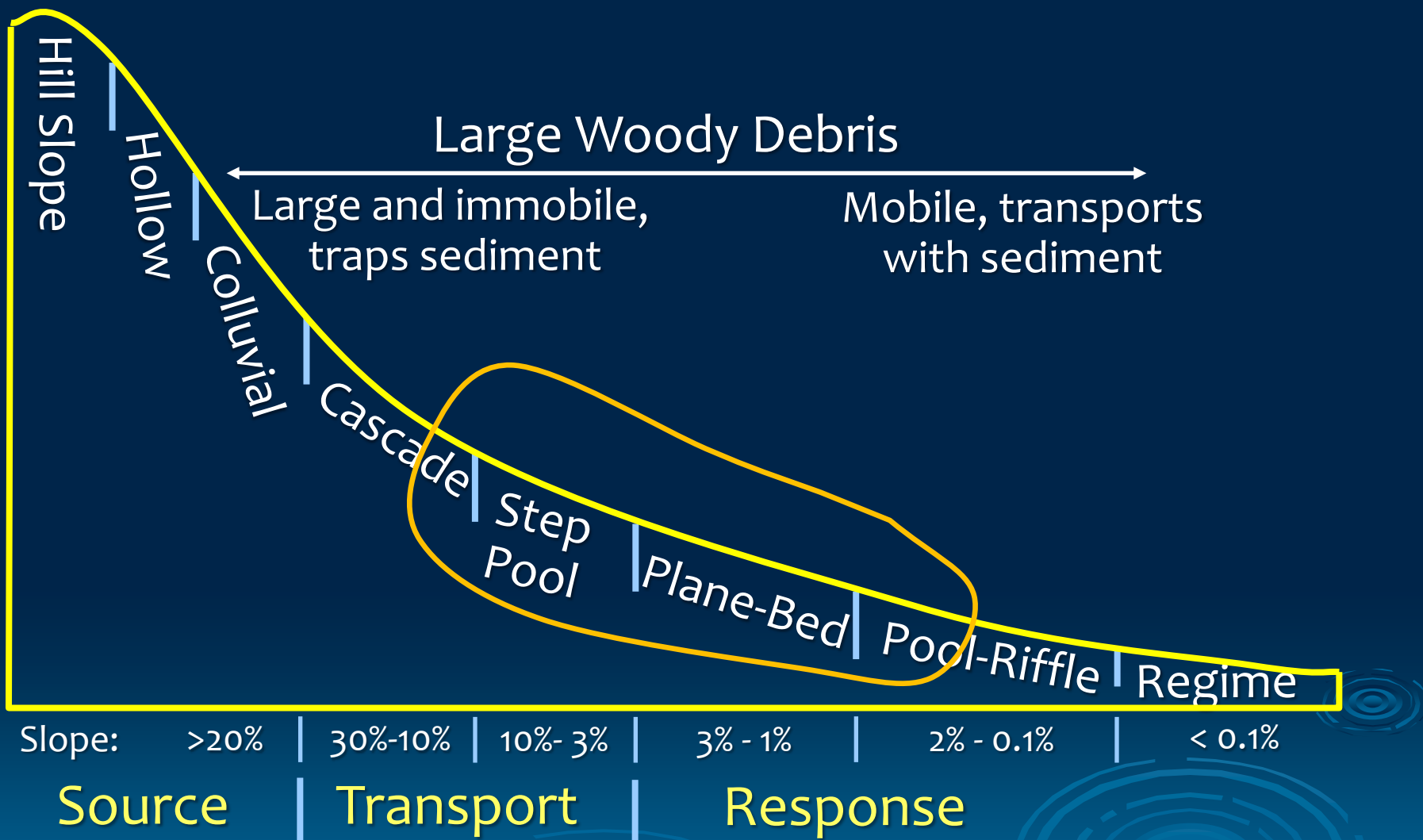
Increasing Ecological Function

Natural Steep-Stream Morphology

Step Pool Stream Channels



Generalized Stream Classification

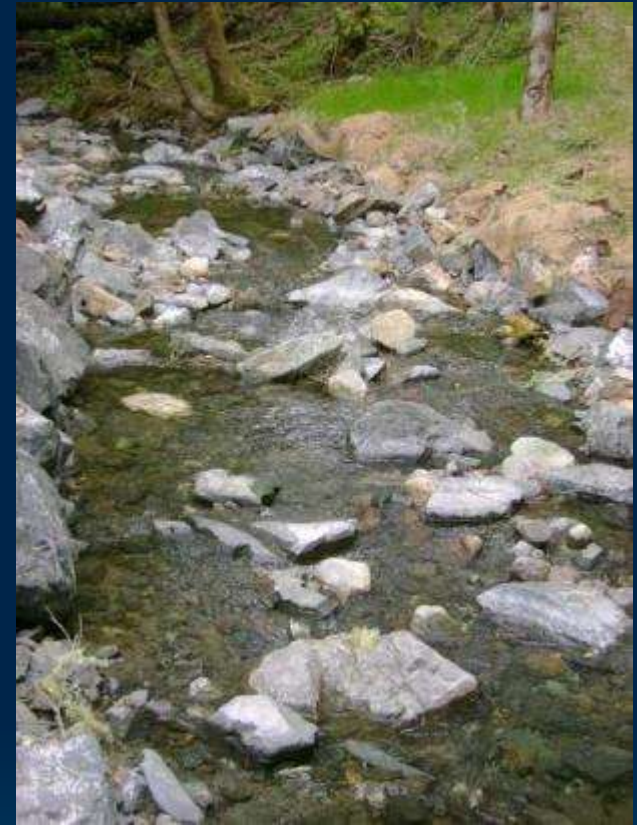


(from Montgomery and Buffington, 1993)

Geomorphically-Based Roughened Channel Concept

Common Channel Types

- Increasing Slope ↓
- ❖ Roughened Riffles
 - ❖ Plane Bed Channel (rock ramps)
 - ❖ Rapids or Chutes & Pools
 - ❖ Step-Pools
 - ❖ Cascades & Pool



Caution:

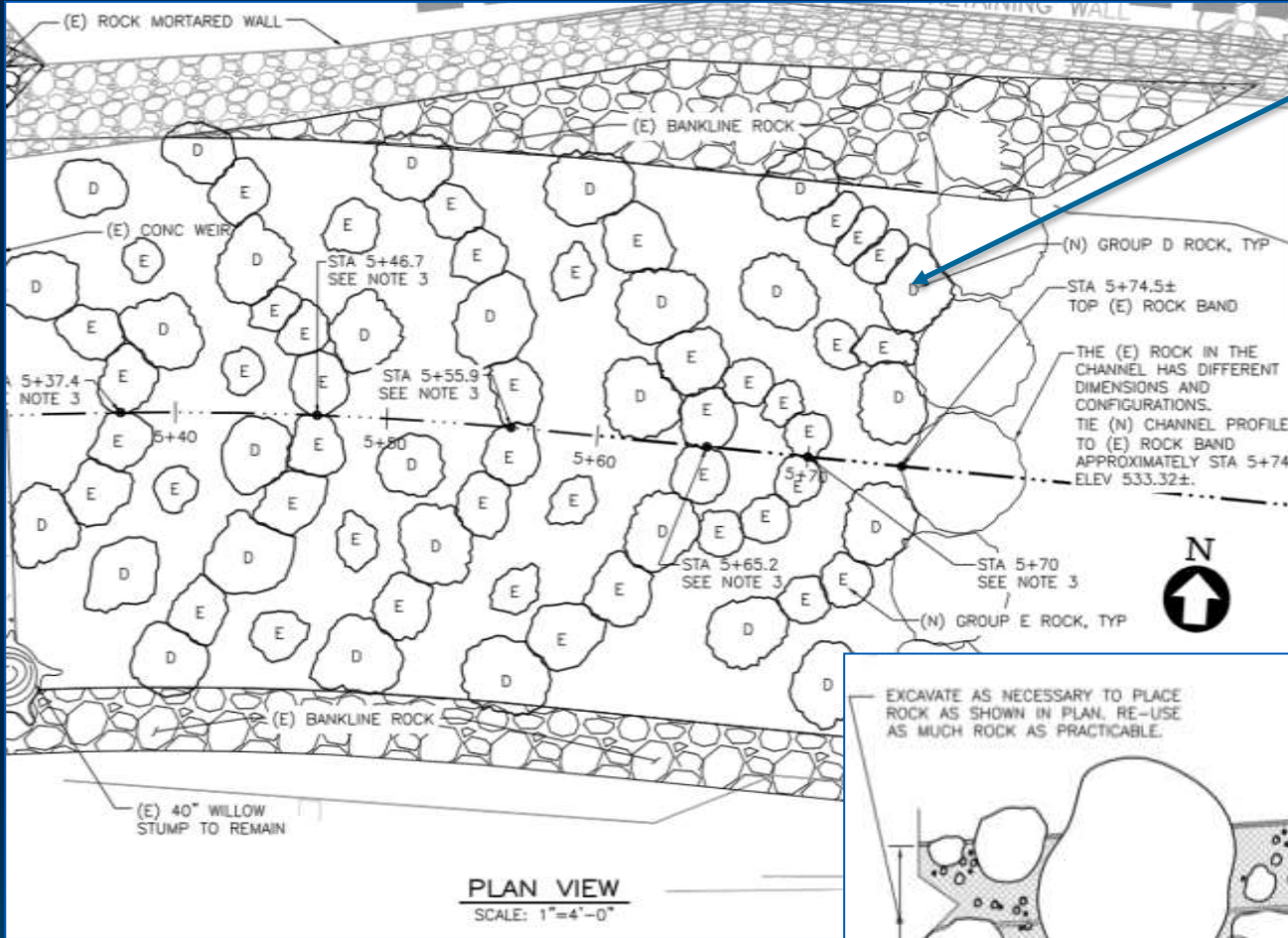
- Only use channel types & slopes that the target species/lifestage are known to ascend
- Risk increases further the roughened channel characteristics deviates from the natural channel (i.e. slope, bed material, entrenchment)

Geomorphically-Based Roughened Channels

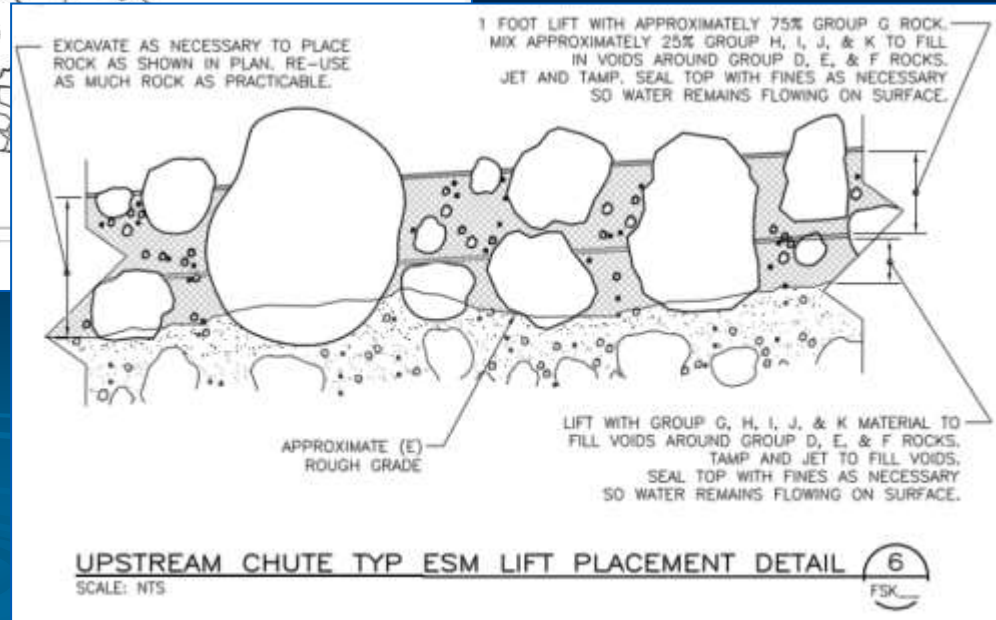
- Channel constructed steeper than the adjacent channel (profile control)
- Based on morphology of steeper stream channel
- **Stable engineered streambed material (ESM)** forms channel bed & banks, with smaller material filling voids
- Quasi-hydraulic design for target species/lifestages [velocity, depth, drop, turbulence-EDF]



Roughened Channel Rock Placement Plan



Placement Plan for Structure Rocks [D, E] within ESM



Material Placement in Lifts

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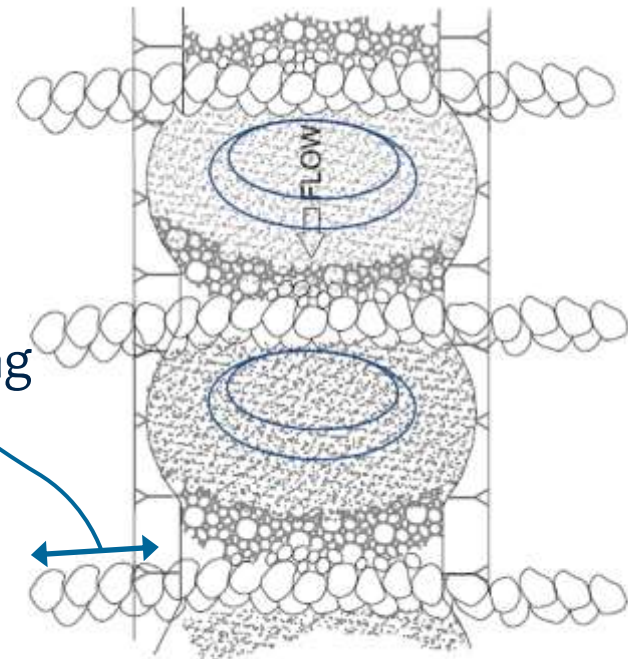
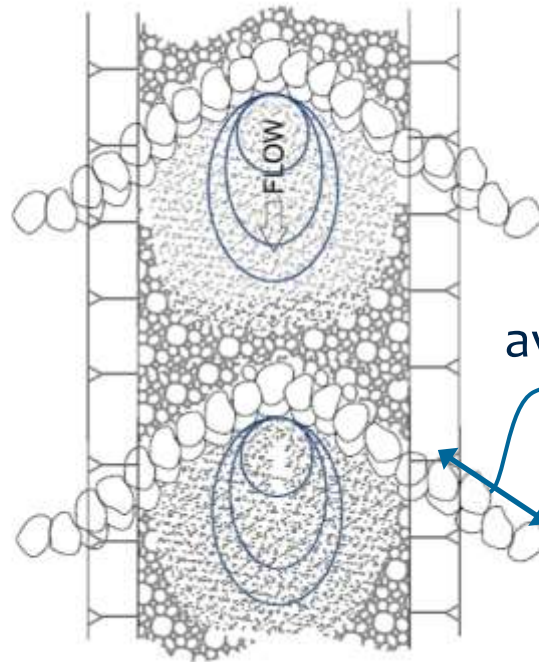
Geomorphic Approaches

Increasing Ecological Function

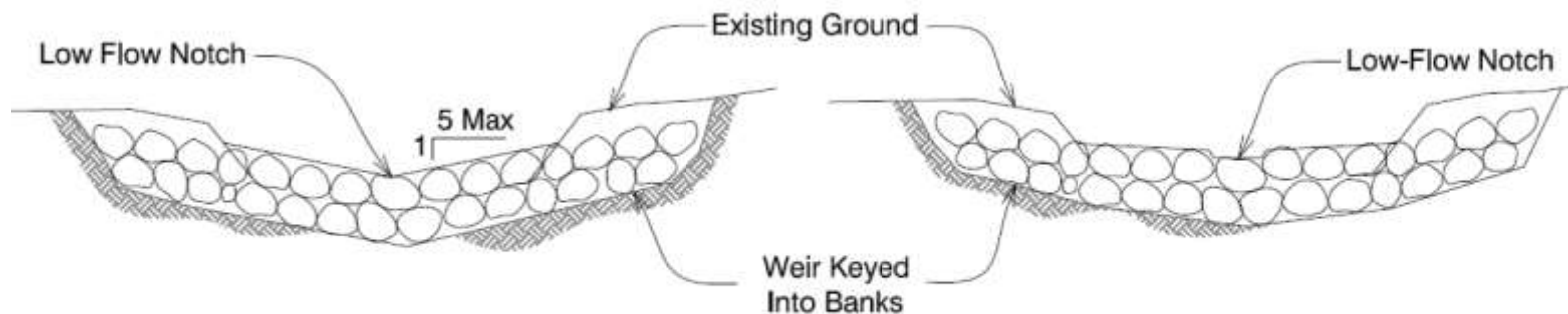
Shape of Rock Weirs Controls Scour Pool Shape

Arch Concentrates Scour
(Longer/Narrower Pools)

Straight Weirs Spread Scour
(Shorter Pools/Wider)



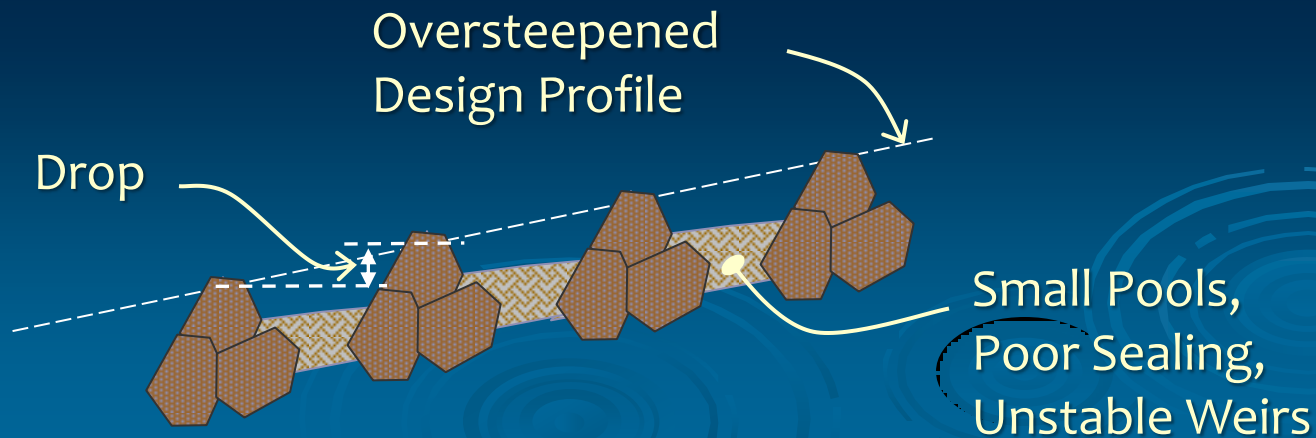
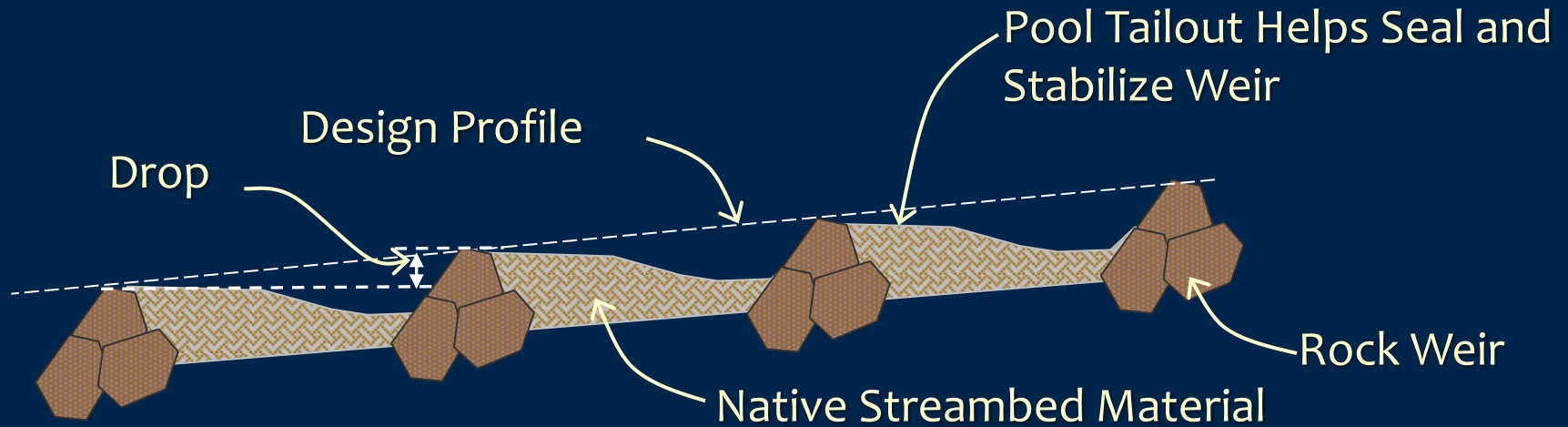
Key into
banks to
avoid flanking



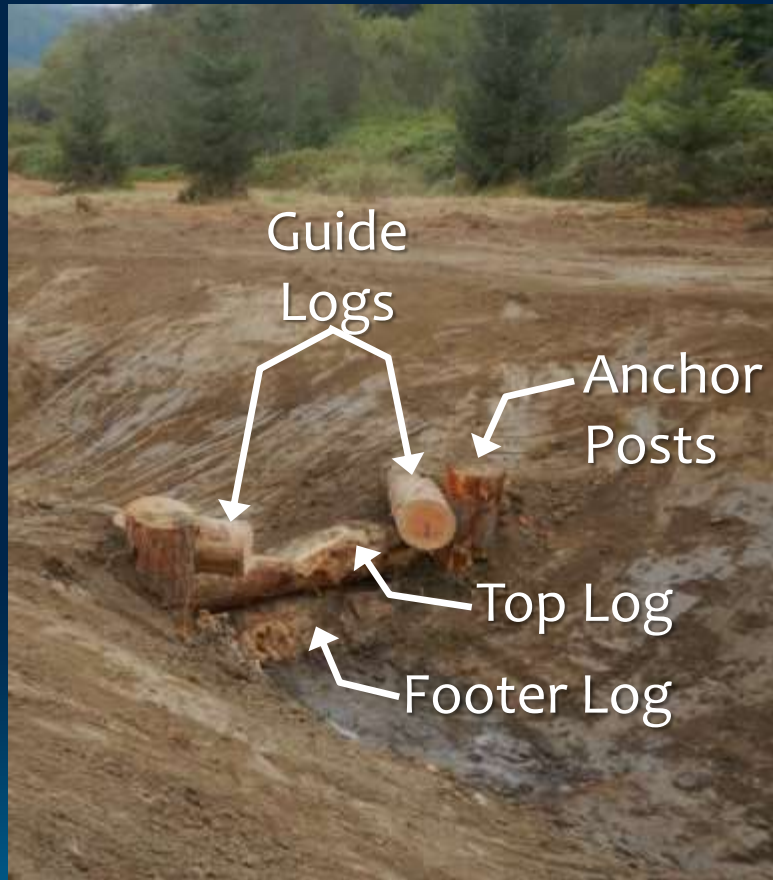
ARCH AND CHEVRON ROCK WEIR

STRAIGHT ROCK WEIR

Spacing of Rock or Log Weirs



Log Weir Design



Notched Top Log



- Top Log and Guide Logs Thru-Bolted to Anchor Posts
- Top Log Anchored to Footer Log

Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

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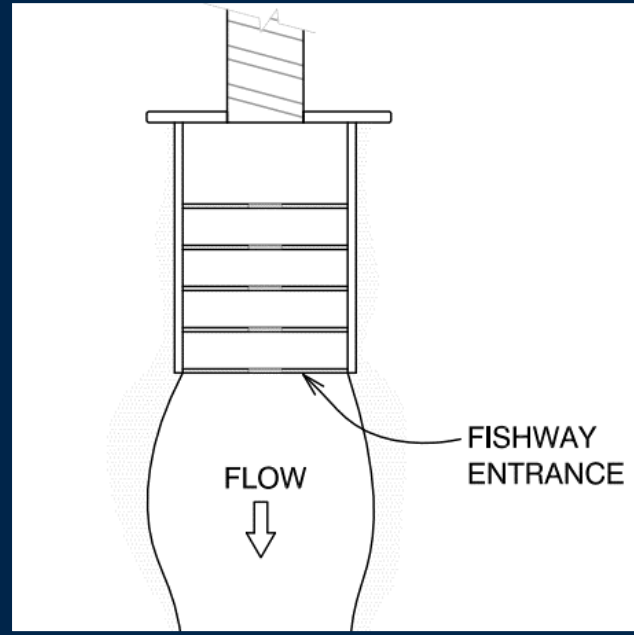
Natural Bed

Hydraulic Approaches

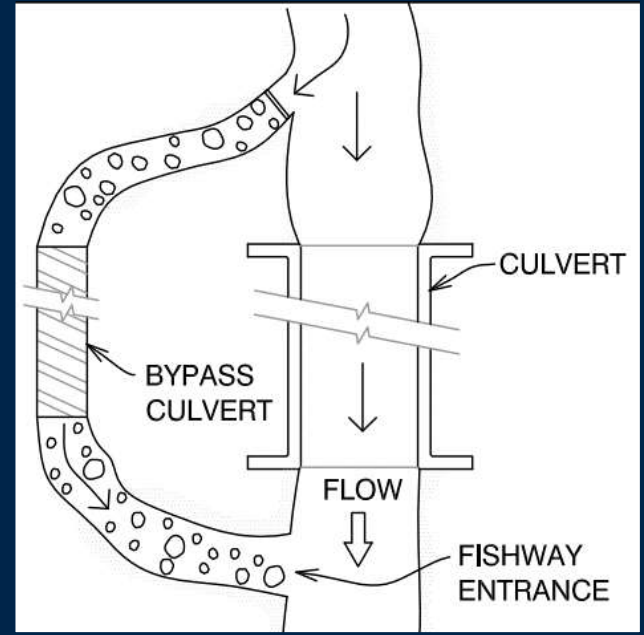
Geomorphic Approaches

Increasing Ecological Function

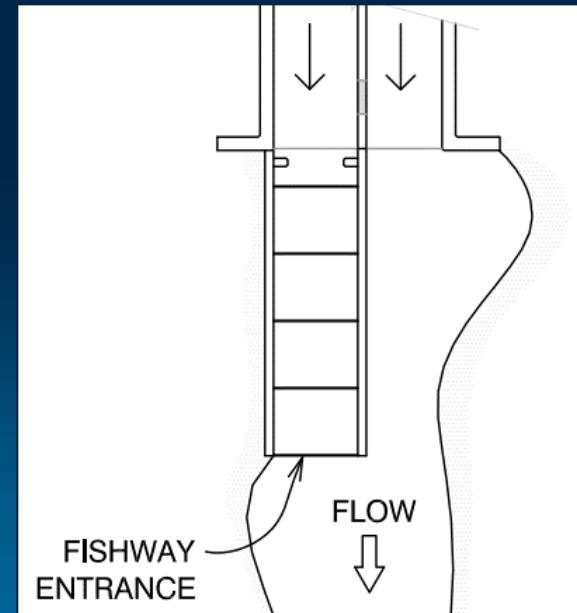
Technical Fishway Configurations



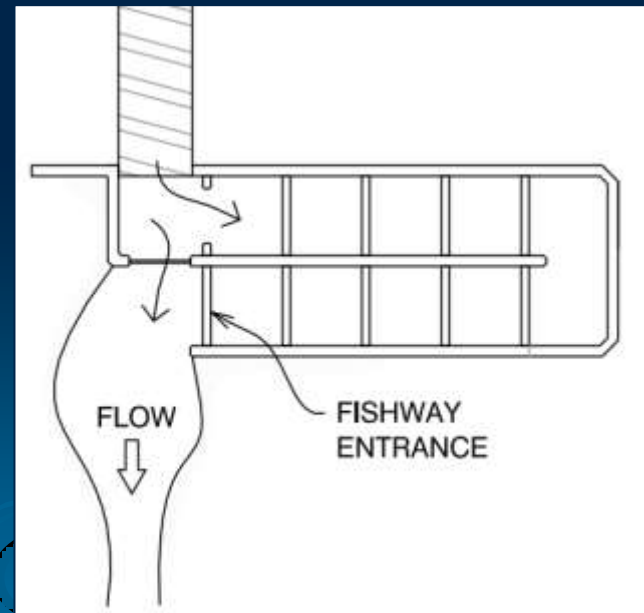
Full Width



Bypass Fishway



Partial Width Fishway



Bypass Fishway

Technical Fishways for Stream Crossings



Full Width "Vortex" Pool-and-Chute Fishway



Photo: Kozmo Bates

Bypass Pool-and-Weir Fishway



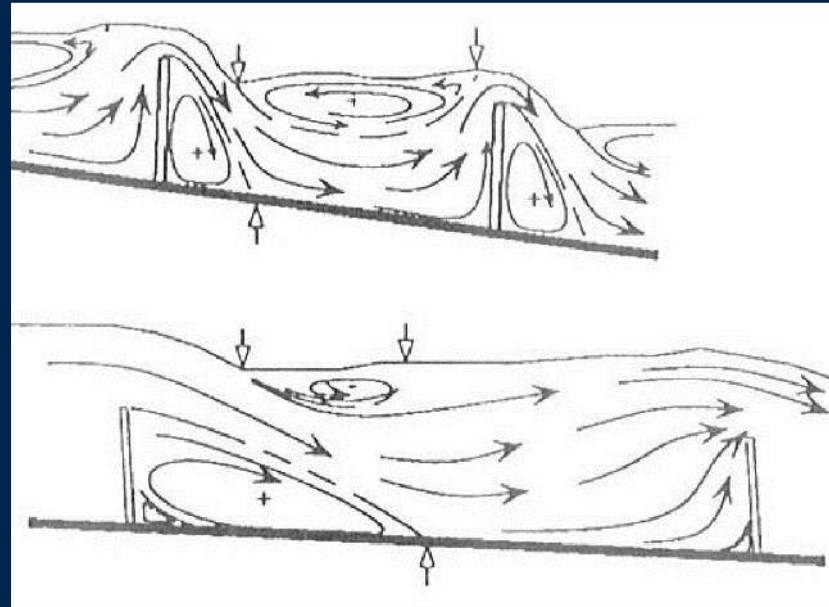
Partial Width Pool-and-Chute Fishway



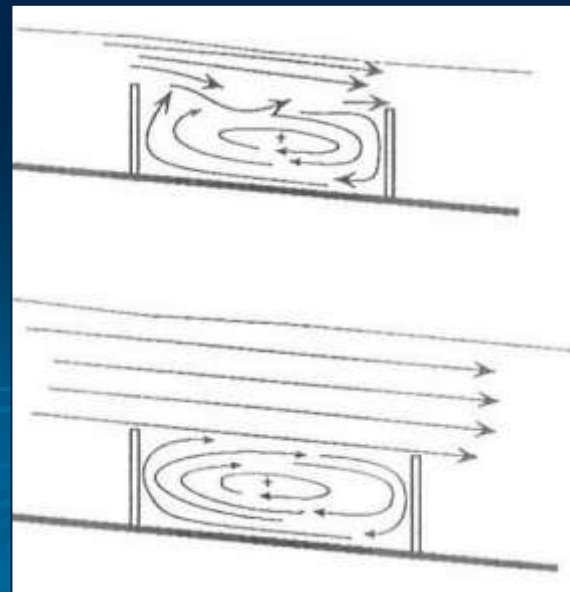
Bypass "Serpentine" Pool-and-Weir Fishway

Flow Regimes of Technical Fishways

Plunging (weir flow)



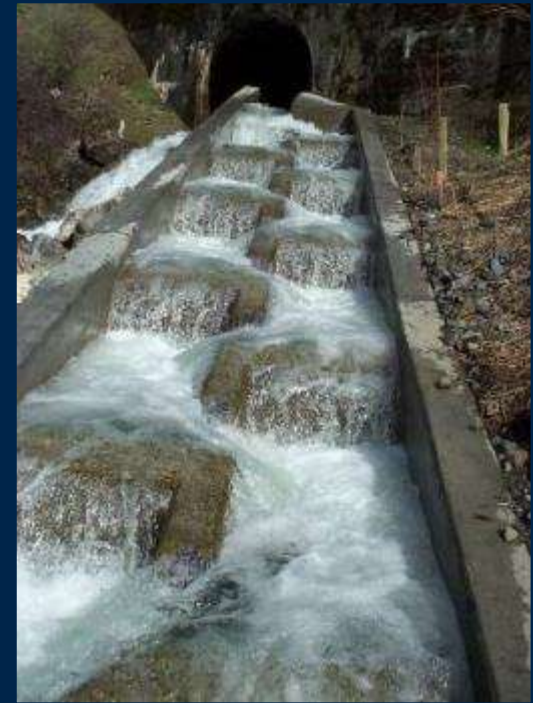
Streaming
(hydraulic roughness)



from Ead, 2004

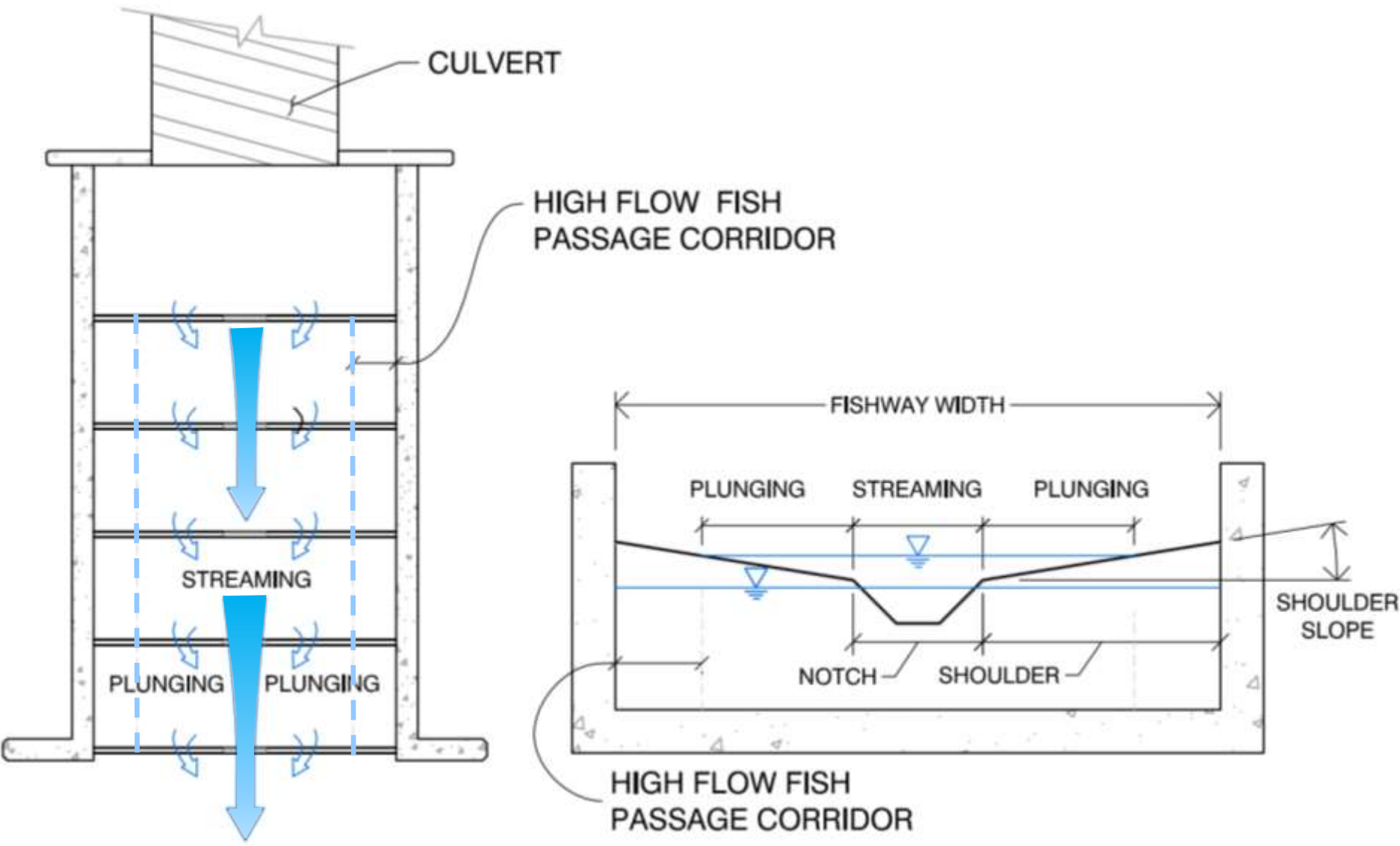
Fishways & Turbulence

- Energy is Dissipated in Receiving Pool through Turbulence (heat)
- Excessive Turbulence can Block Fish
- The Energy Dissipation Factor (EDF) provides Rate Energy Dissipates per Volume of Water



Pool and Chute Fishways

Simultaneous Plunging and Streaming



Pool and Chute Fishway Hydraulics



Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

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Uncontrolled Regrade

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Hydraulic Approaches

Geomorphic Approaches

Increasing Ecological Function

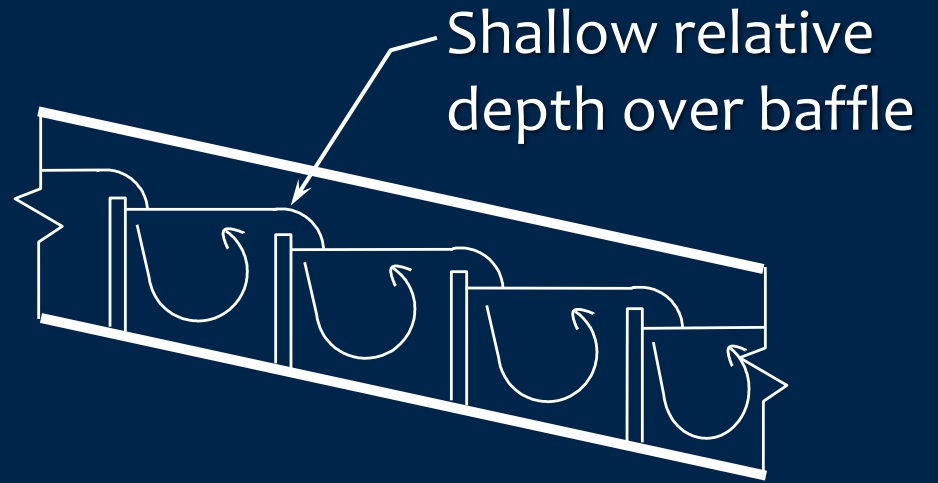
Culvert Baffle Retrofits for Fish Passage

Baffles Improves Fish Passage

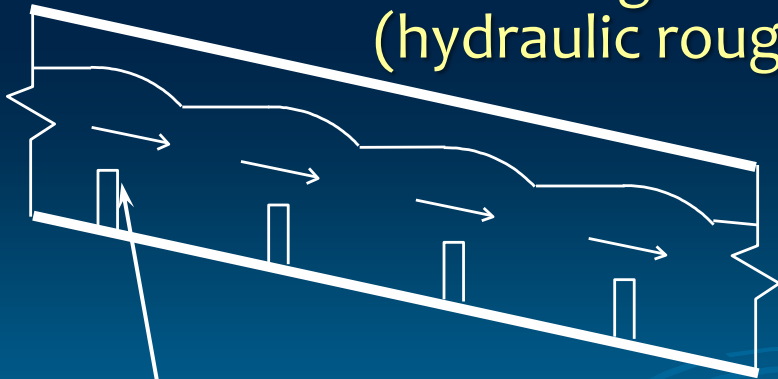
- Increases Hydraulic Roughness
- Decreases Velocity
- Increases Depth
- **Limited to Culvert Slopes Less than 3%**
(excessive turbulence at higher slopes)



Plunging (weir flow)



Streaming (hydraulic roughness)



Increased relative depth over baffle



Turbulence Limits Passage

Energy Dissipation Factor (EDF)

EDF in Channels
with Streaming Flows:

$$EDF = \frac{\gamma QS}{A}$$

S = Channel/Culvert Slope (ft/ft)

Q = Flow (cfs)

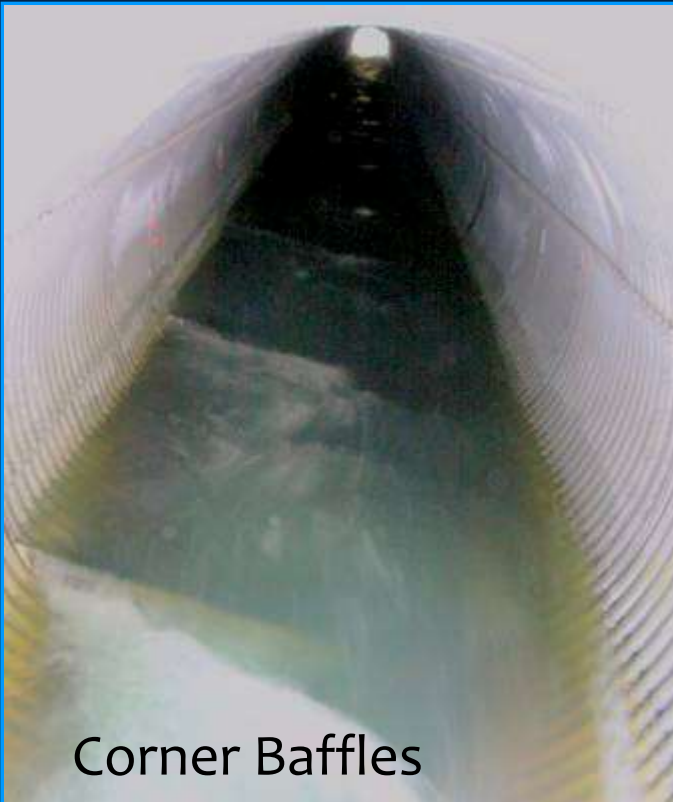
A = Wetted Area (sf)

γ = Unit Weight of Water (62.4 lb/cf)

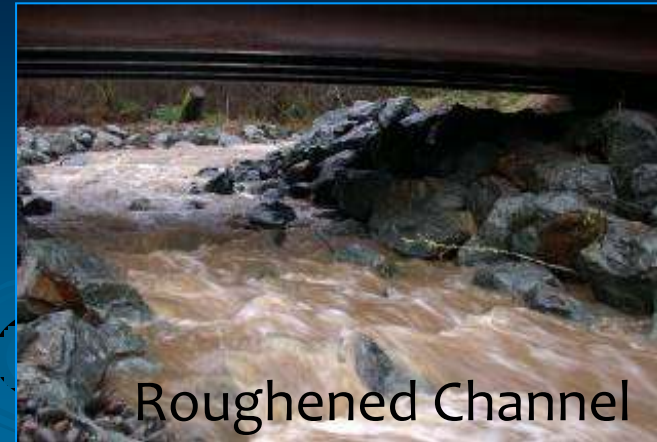
Thresholds (rule-of-thumb):

Adult Anadromous Salmonids:

- Baffles: $EDF \leq 5 \text{ ft-lb/s/ft}^3$
- Roughened Channels: $EDF \leq 7 \text{ ft-lb/s/ft}^3$



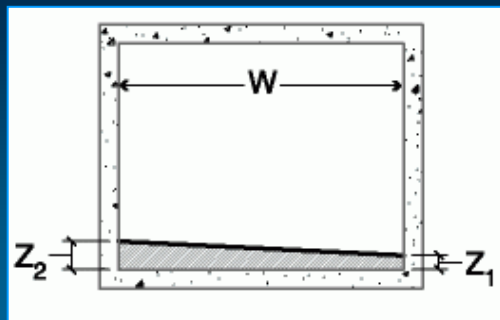
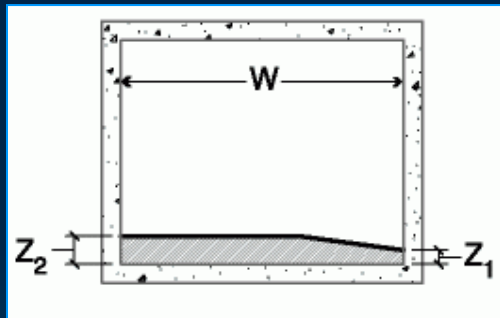
Corner Baffles



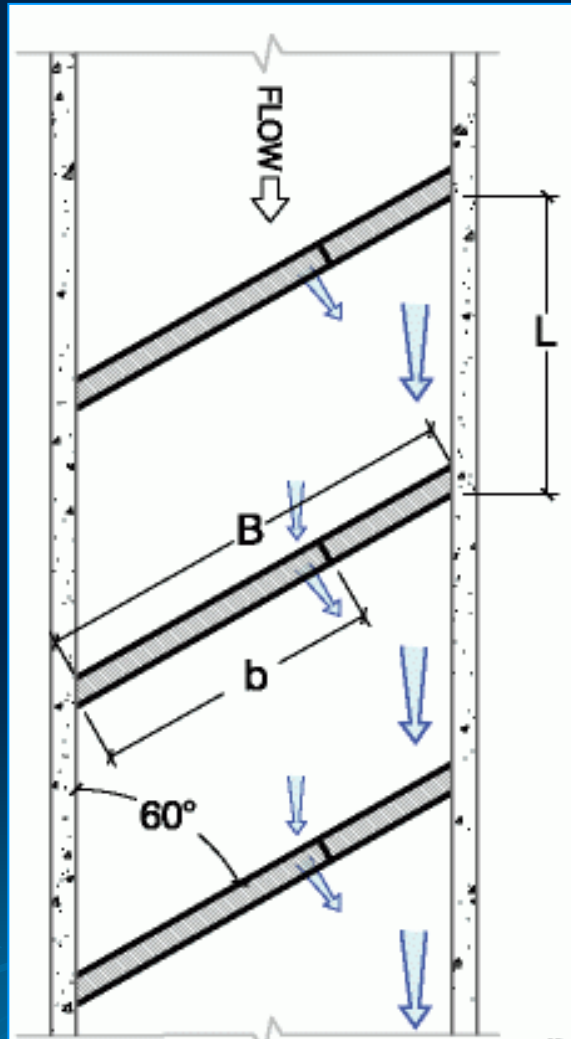
Roughened Channel

Angled Baffles for Retrofitting Flat-Bottom Culverts

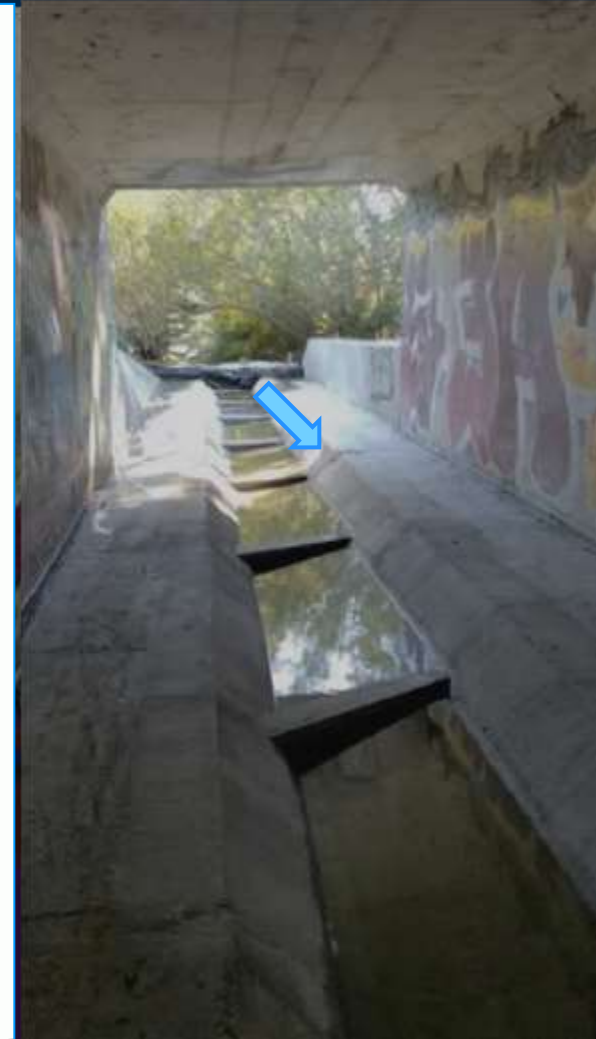
- Skew baffles shunt flow and debris to low side
- Fish passage corridor on high side



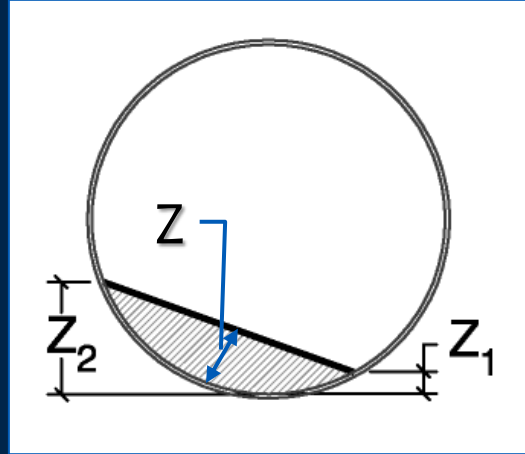
Section



Plan



Corner & Weir Baffles



Corner Baffles

- For circular culverts
- Smaller culverts
- Convey flow & debris along low side
- Passage along high side

Weir Baffles

- For circular or pipe-arch culverts
- For larger culverts ($W > 8'$)
- Convey flow & debris in center
- Passage along sides

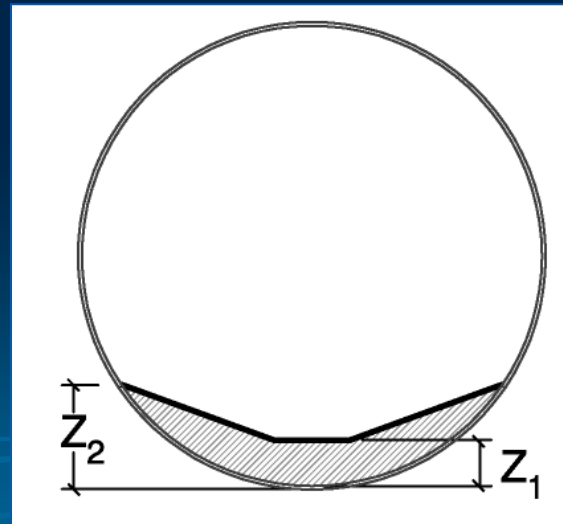


Photo: Kozmo Bates

Baffled Outlet Transition



Low Flow

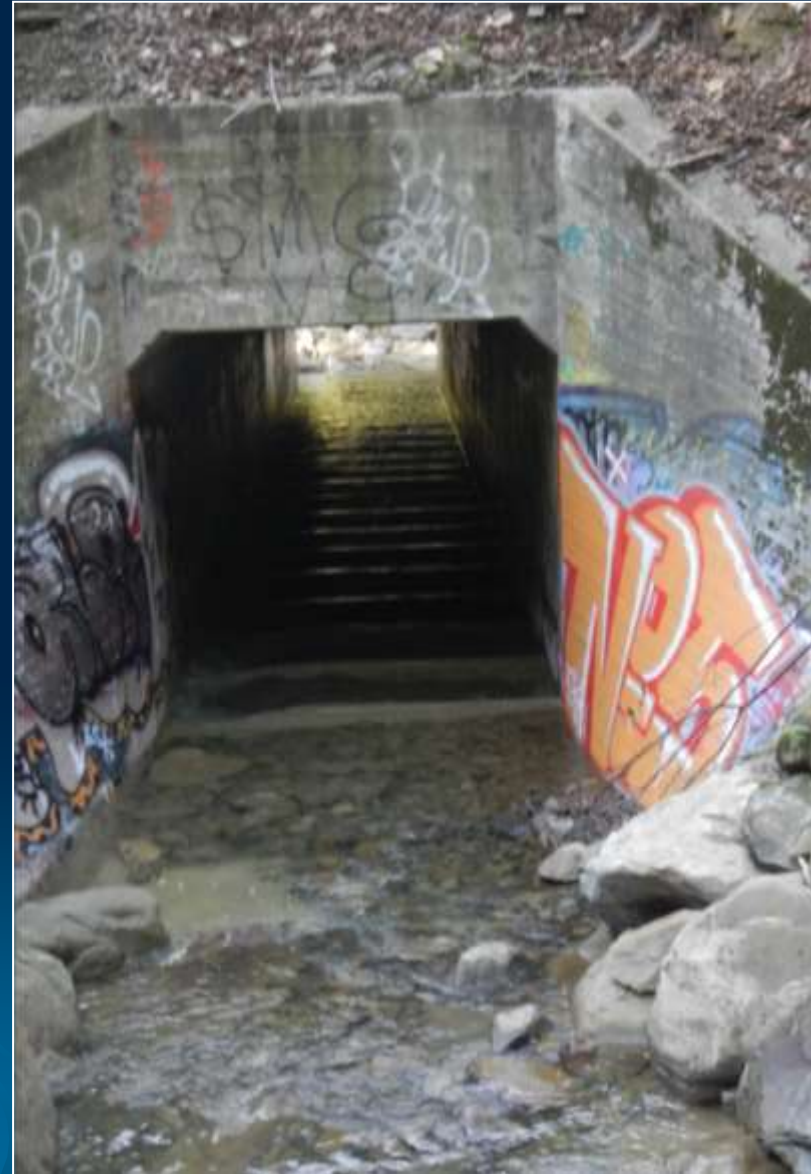


High Fish Passage Flow
(excessive hydraulic drop)

- ✓ Evaluate the Outlet Transition
- ✓ Avoid Excessive Hydraulic Drop at Outlet
- ✓ Tailwater should Meet or Exceed Depth in Baffled Culvert

Baffling Thoughts

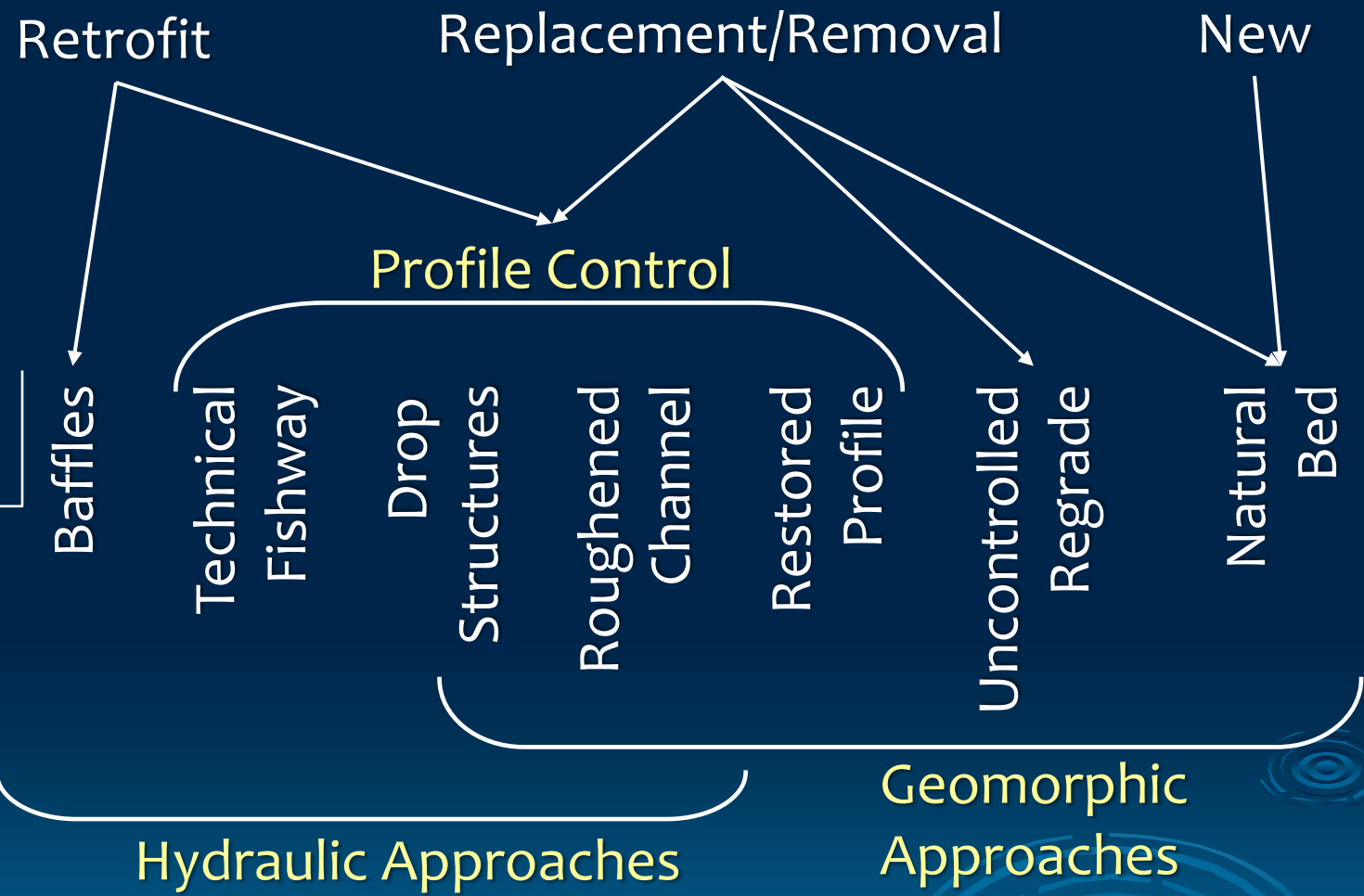
- ✓ **ONLY for Retrofits**
- ✓ Requires regular inspection and debris clearing
- ✓ Passage effectiveness for smaller/weaker swimming fish is unknown
- ✓ Frequently reduces capacity
- ✓ Turbulence limits passage
- ✓ Give due attention to hydraulic transition at culvert outlet



Design Approaches for Aquatic Organism Passage

Stream Crossing Project

Fish Passage Approach



Increasing Ecological Function

