

Science on the Sandy River: Where is all the (Marmot) Dam sediment?

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National Center for Earth-surface
Dynamics (NCED)
Graham Matthews & Associates (GMA)

Overview

- Introduction
 - Russ Plaeger – Sandy River Basin Watershed Council
 - Dr. Peter Wilcock – Johns Hopkins University
- What's been done before
 - Chuck Podolak – Graduate Student, Johns Hopkins University
- Current Science
 - Goal
 - Where
 - Who
 - How
 - Smokey Pittman – Geomorphologist, GMA
- Our Results
- What's next
- Closing / Questions
 - Bottom Line – What's changed downstream – not much below Revenue, quite a bit above the gorge

Introduction

- Russ Plaeger – Sandy River Basin Watershed Council
- Dr. Peter Wilcock – Johns Hopkins



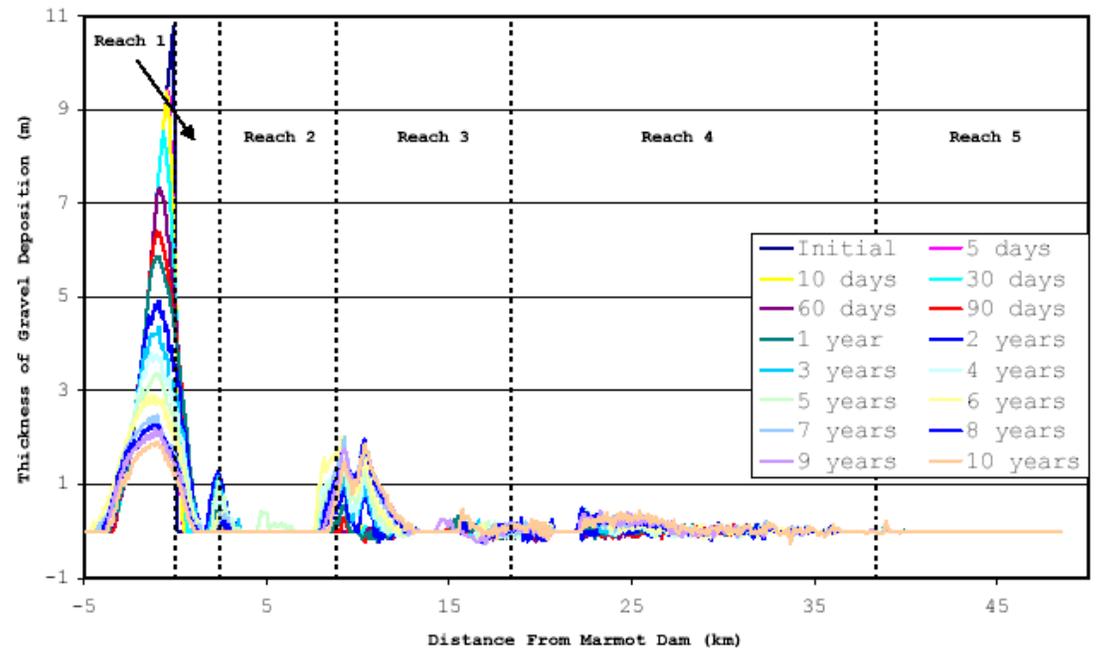
What are people looking at?

- Goal: Where does the Marmot Dam sediment go, and how does it affect the bed of the Sandy?
 - Why?
 - Pools / Riffles / Eddies = fish habitat & migration paths
 - Pools / Eddies / Bars = recreation spots & boating routes
 - River bed changes can influence flooding patterns

Previous Work

- Oregon State University / US Forest Service
- Stillwater Sciences / PGE

Figure 13b. Thickness of gravel deposition following removal of Marmot Dam (Alternative B - Run 1: Average hydrology and grain size)



Current Science

- Who:
 - Johns Hopkins / NCED / GMA / SRBWC
 - USGS
 - OSU
 - Bureau of Reclamation
 - OR Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Others:
 - Reed
 - Whitman
 - and more...
 - Assisted by:
 - PGE
 - US Forest Service
 - Landowners

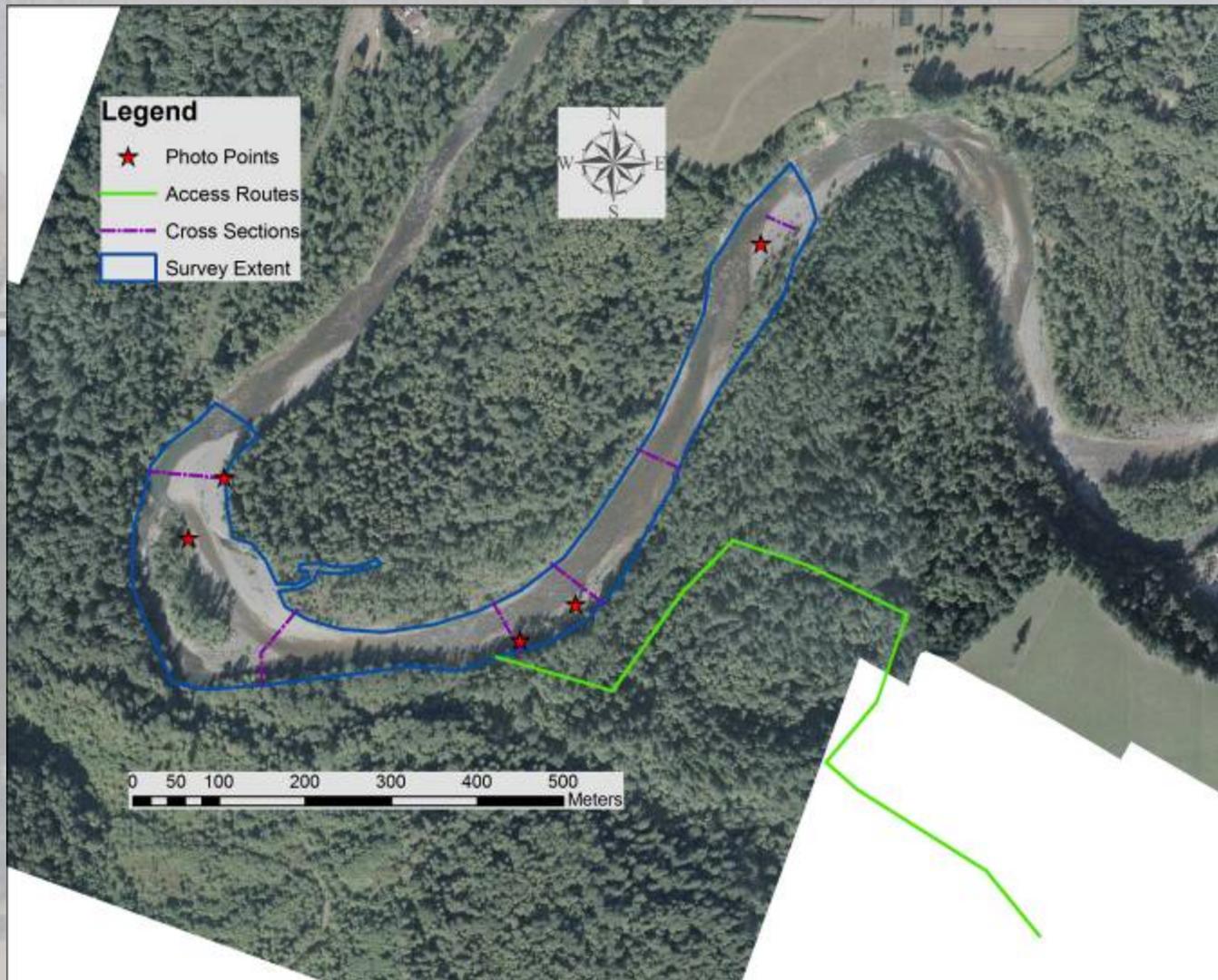
Current Science

- Where:



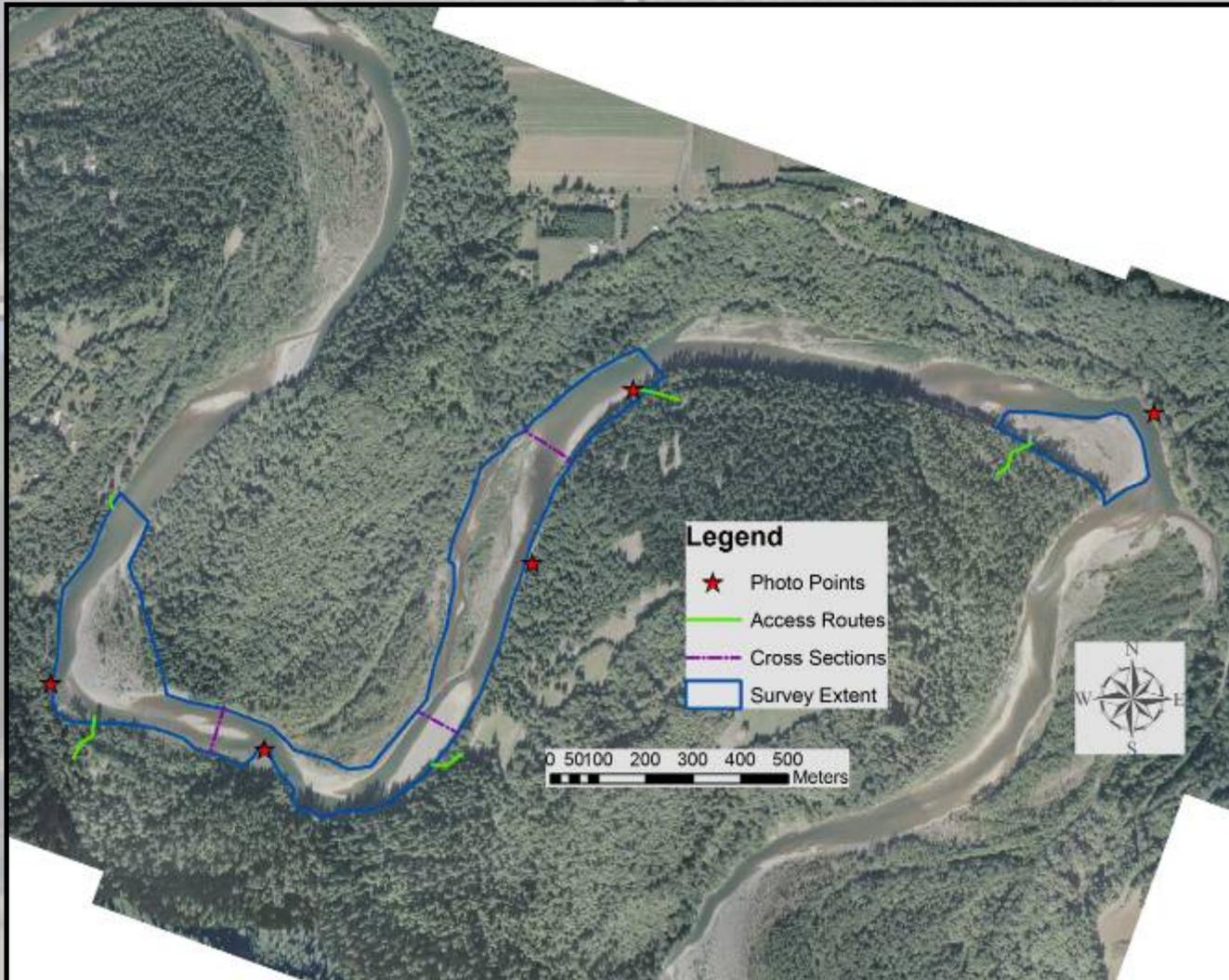
Current Science

- Where: Cedar Creek



Current Science

- Where: Oxbow Park



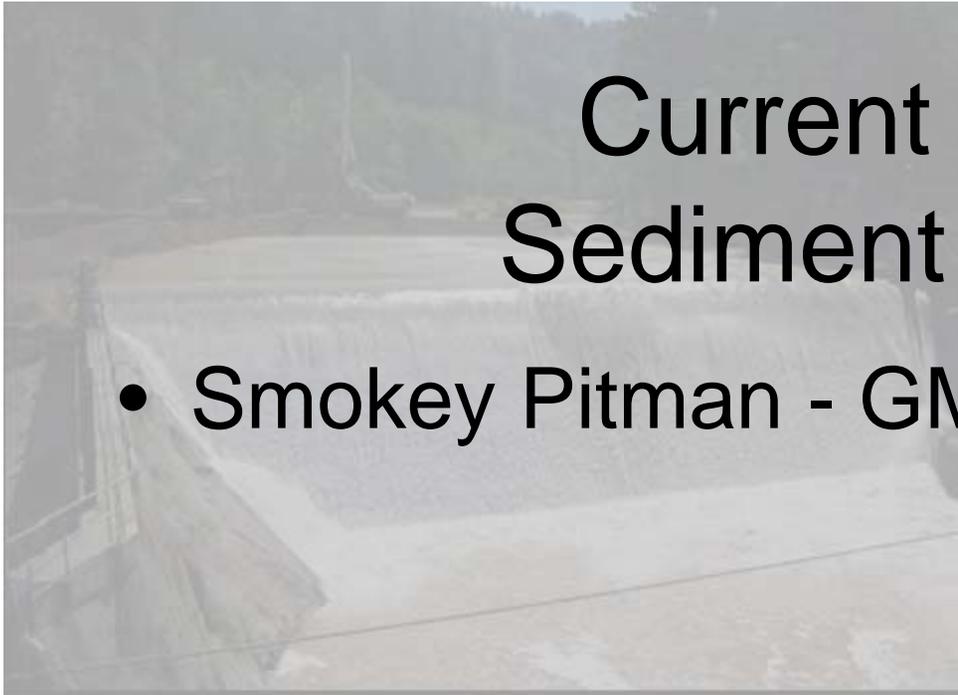
Current Science

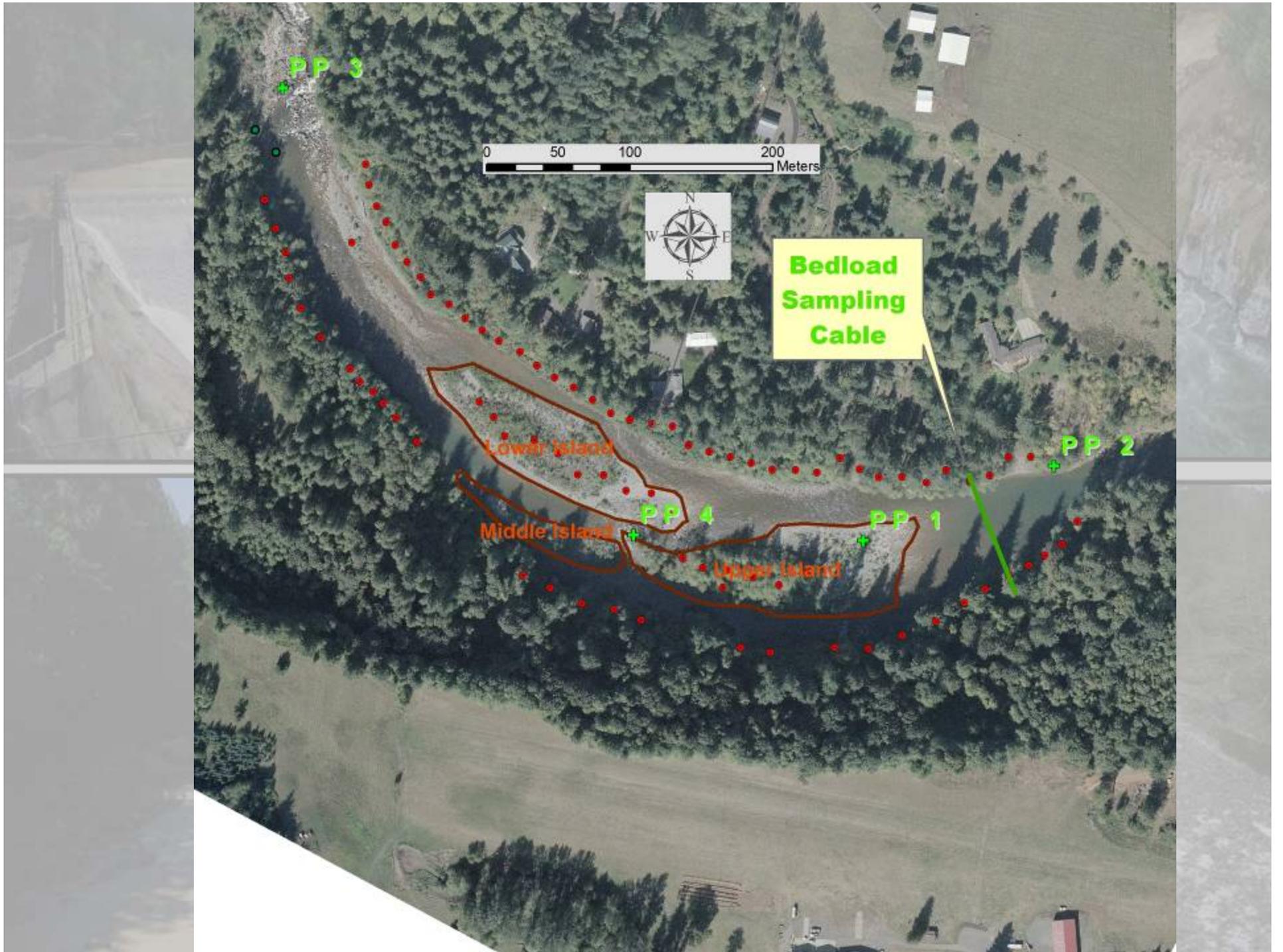
- How:



Current Science Sediment Sampling

- Smokey Pitman - GMA







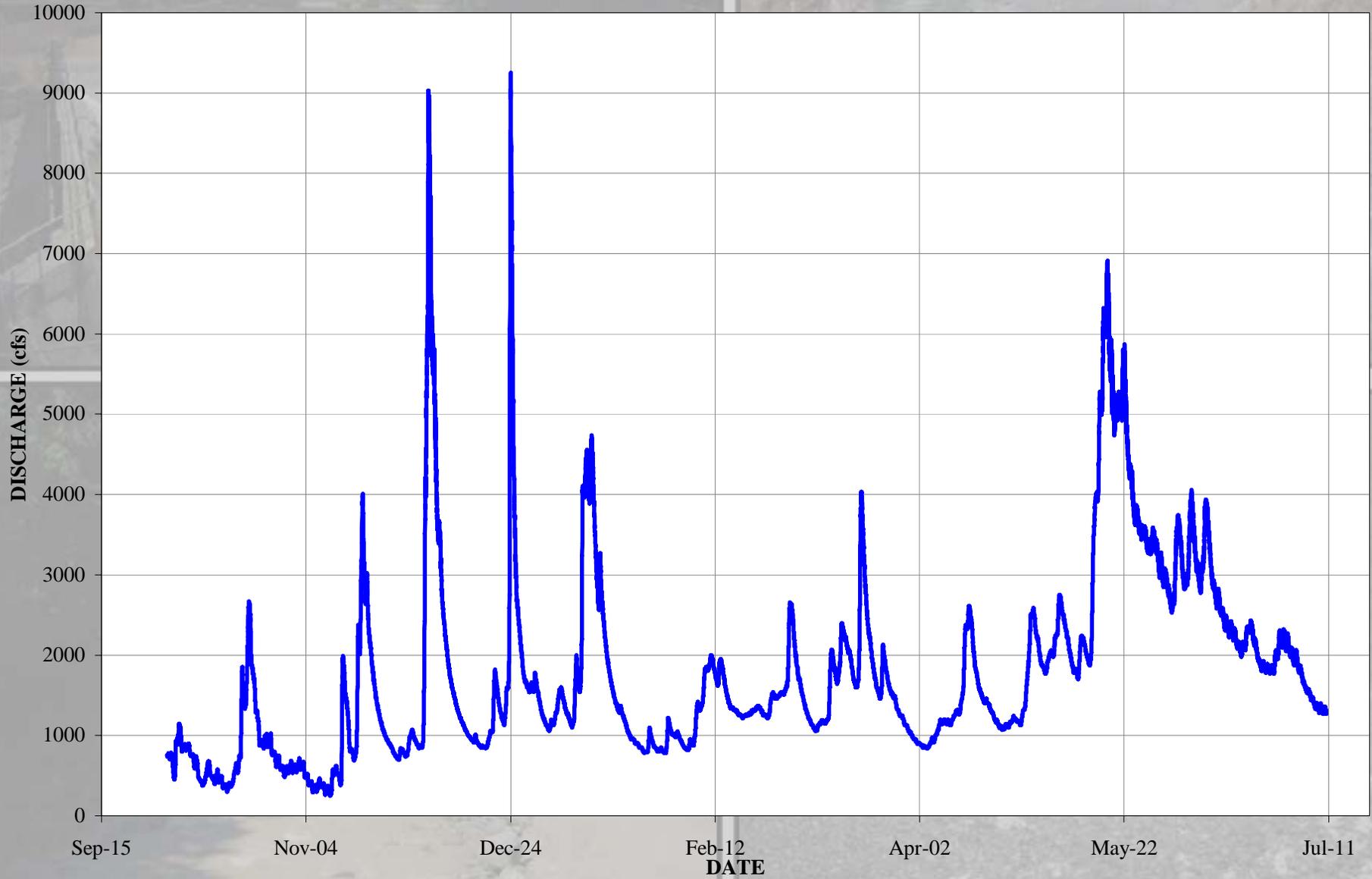


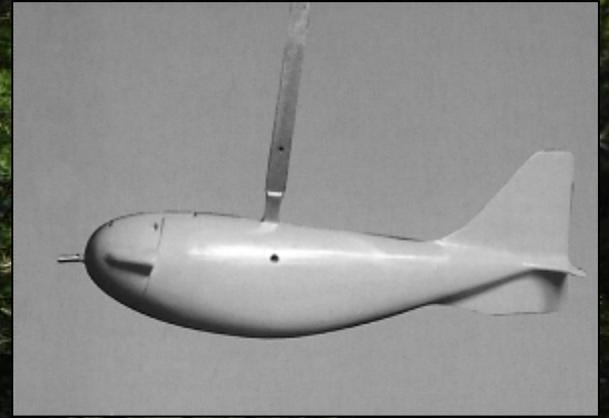






SANDY RIVER ABOVE REVENUE BRIDGE
GMA #14137003 -- WY2008 Discharge



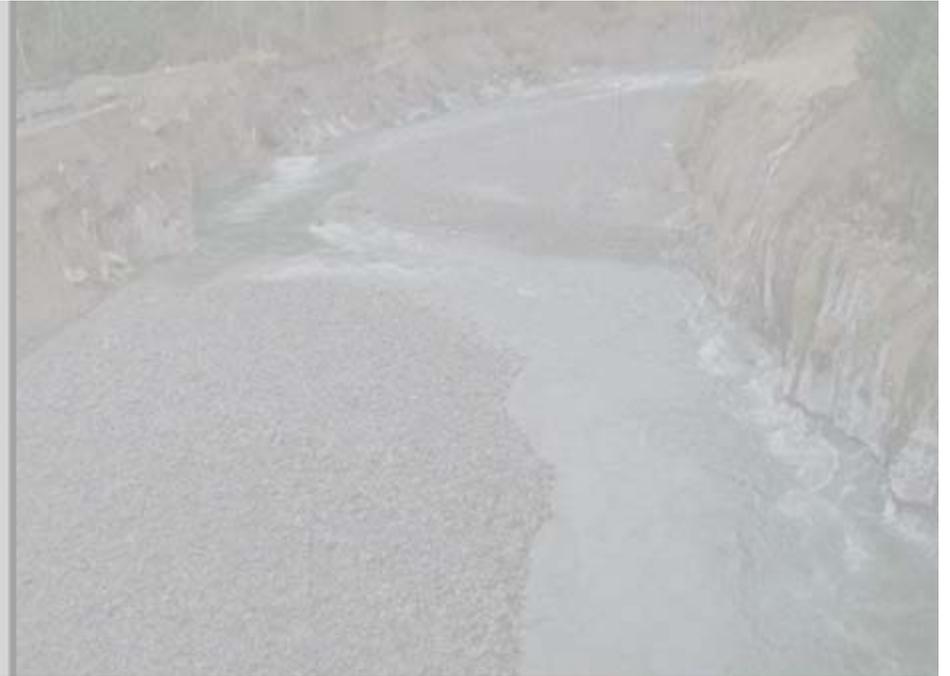


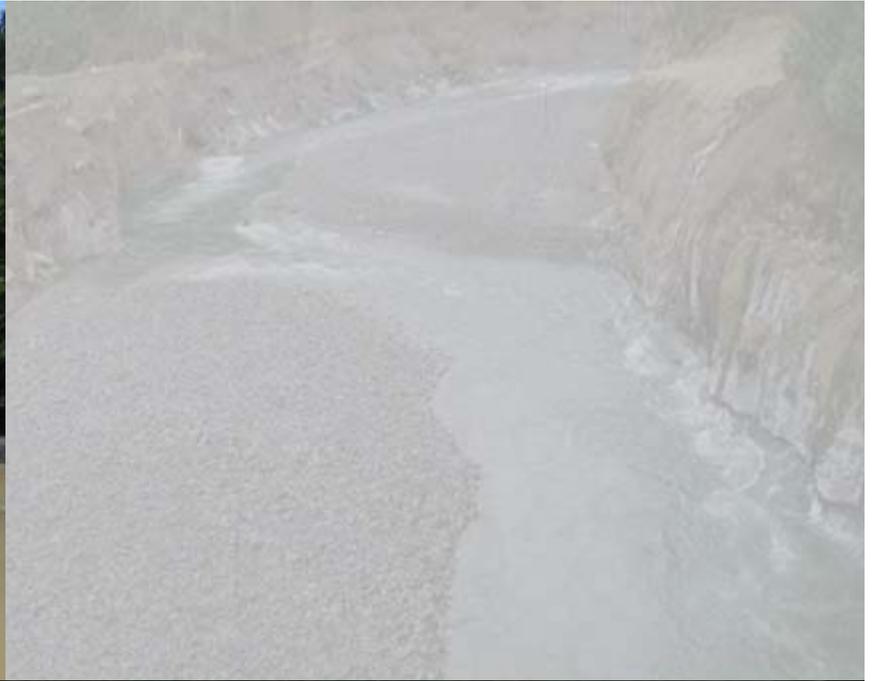


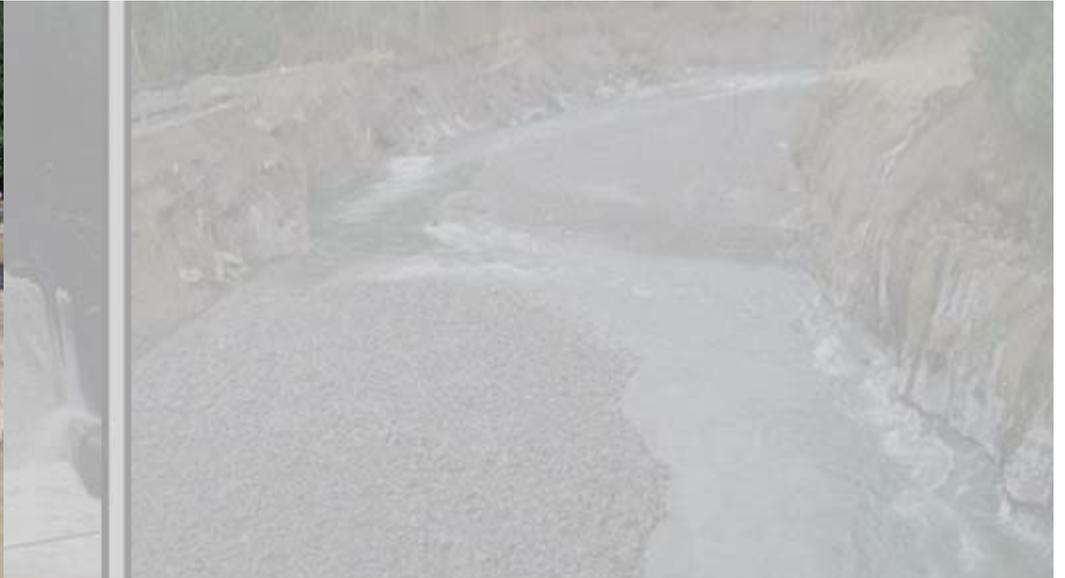
Preliminary Results

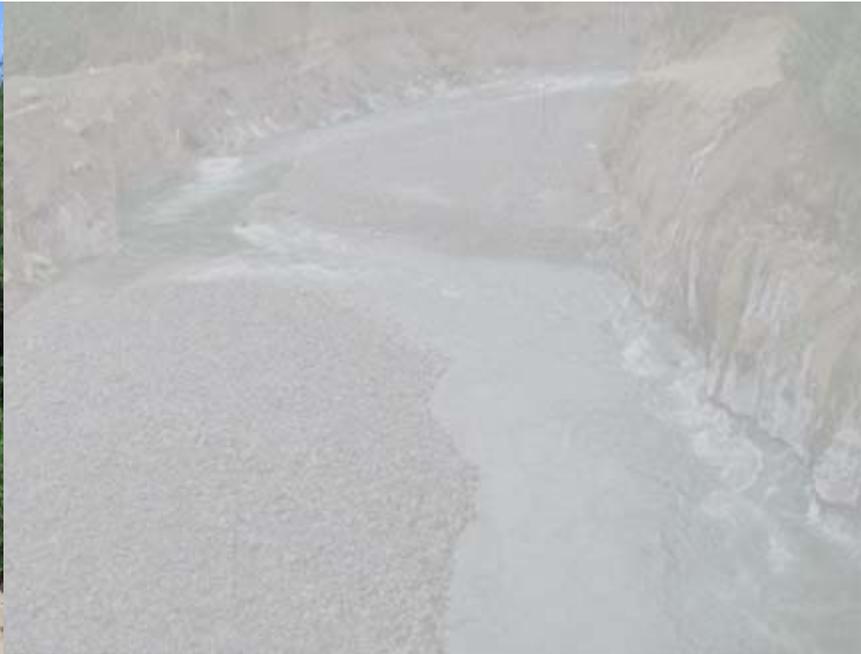
- Summer 2007 vs. Summer 2008

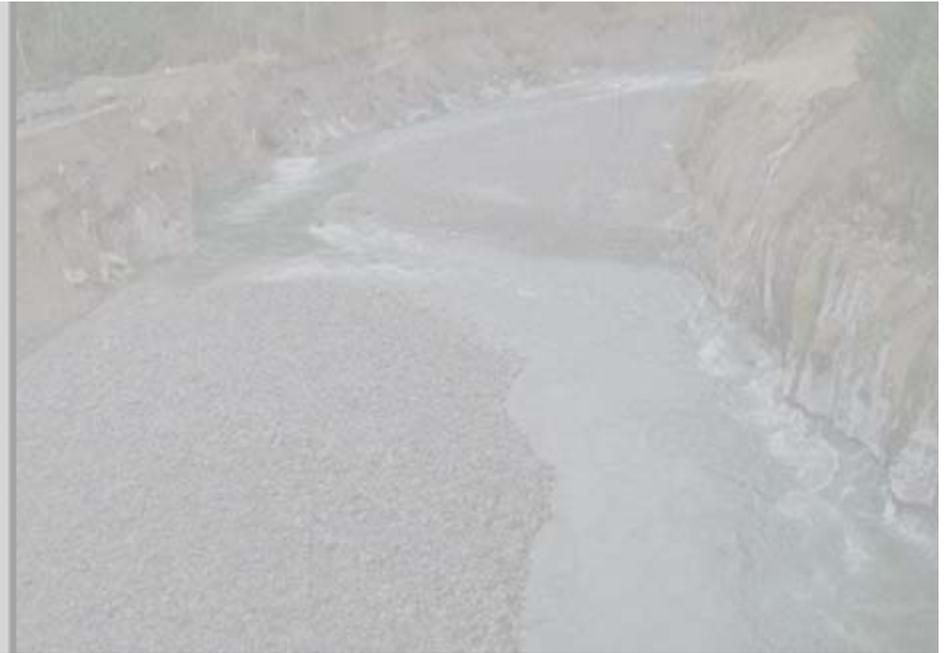


















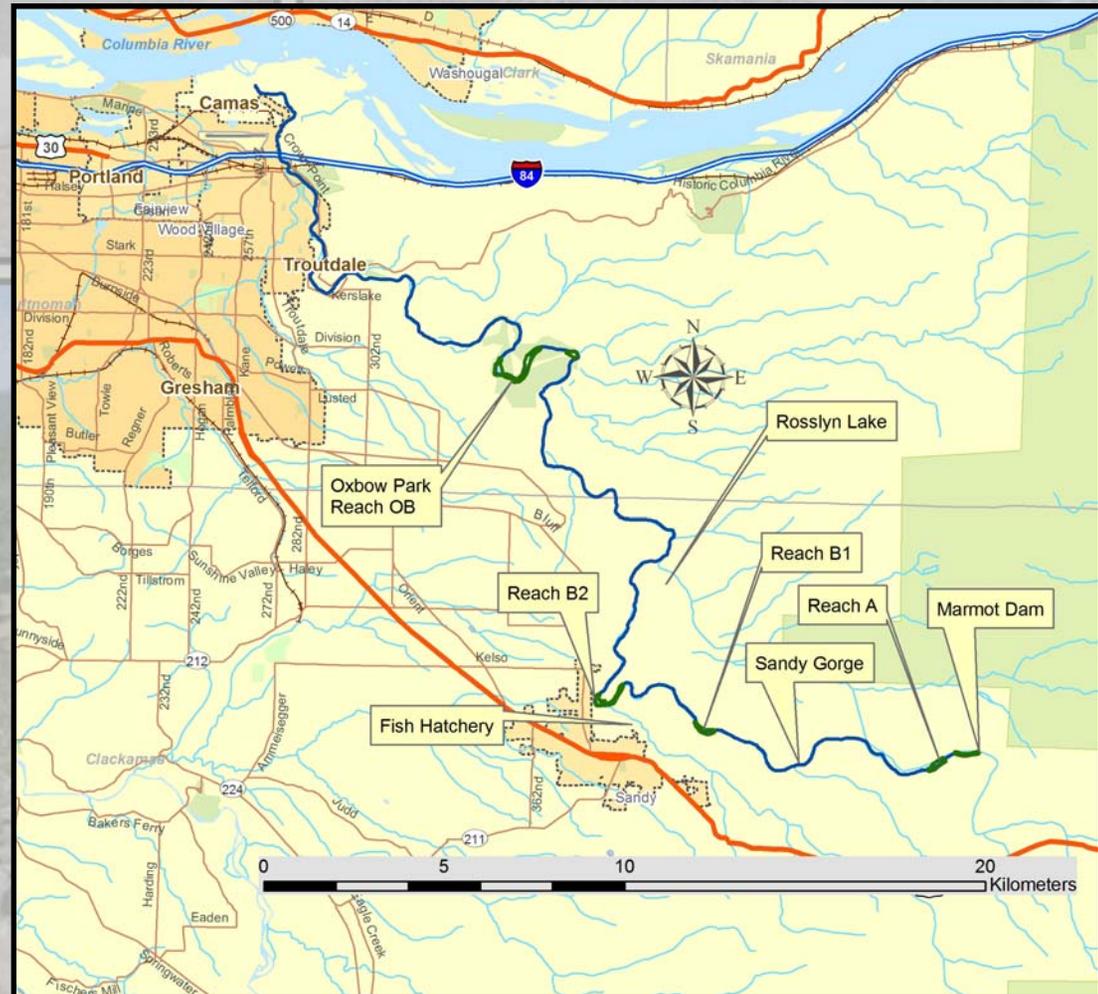


Preliminary Results

- Summer 2007 vs. Summer 2008
 - Revenue Bridge
 - Cedar Creek
 - Oxbow Park
 - Some bars have slightly more sand
 - Some small (few feet) shifting around of bars
 - Nothing new (like 2006-2007 in Oxbow)

Preliminary Results

- Where is the sediment?

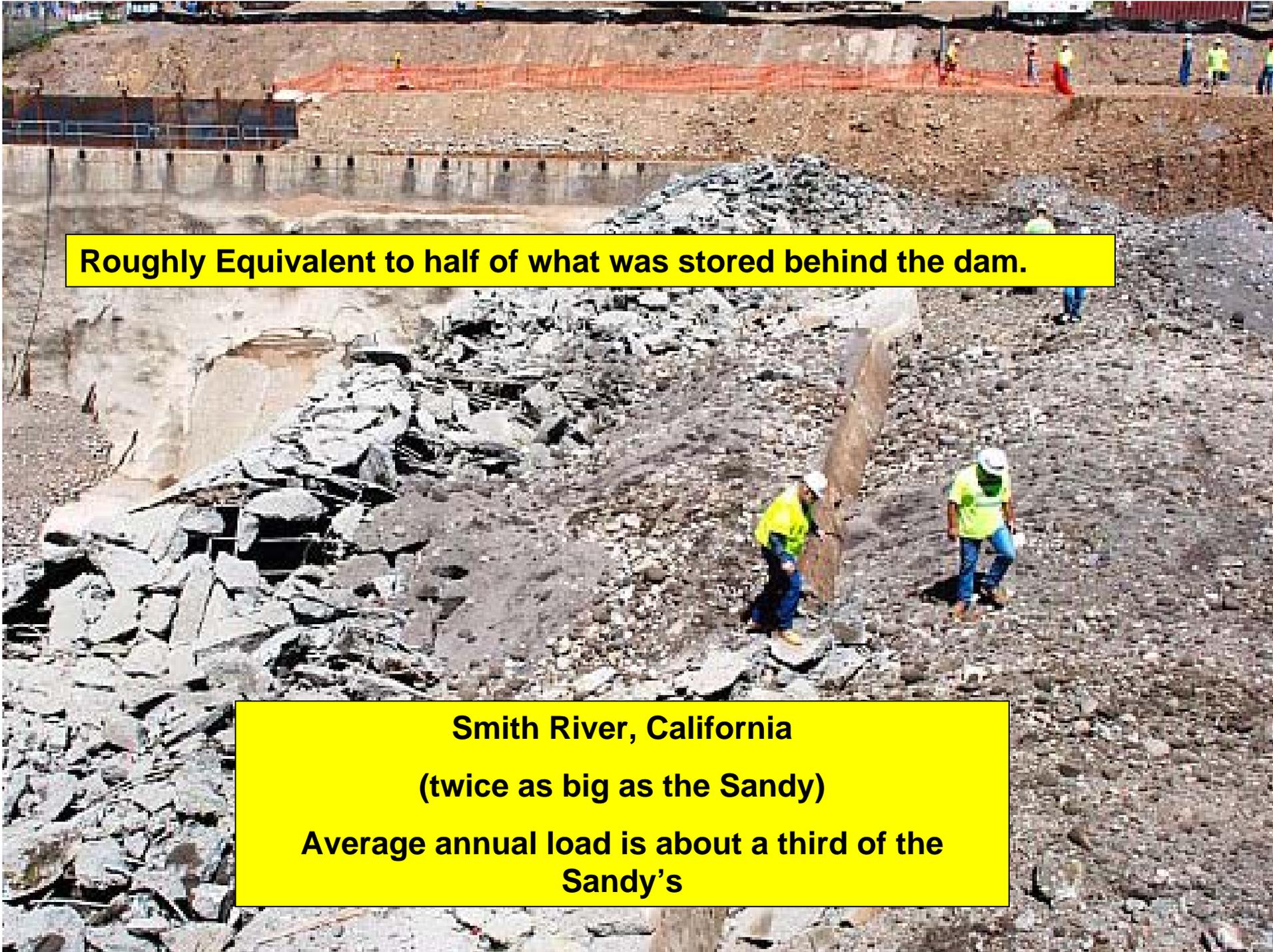


**Suspended Sediment Load:
425,000 tons**



**Bedload: 160,000 Tons
(85% sand)**





Roughly Equivalent to half of what was stored behind the dam.

**Smith River, California
(twice as big as the Sandy)
Average annual load is about a third of the
Sandy's**

What's Next

- GMA survey – August 2008
- JHU/NCED/GMA – July 2009
- BOR survey
- Ongoing USGS / OSU work upstream
- Sediment sampling – winter 2008-2009
 - Location – TBD – help please

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For More

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