

**BRONCO WASH PALEOFLOOD SITE  
HOUSE & PEARTHREE**



1994





1994

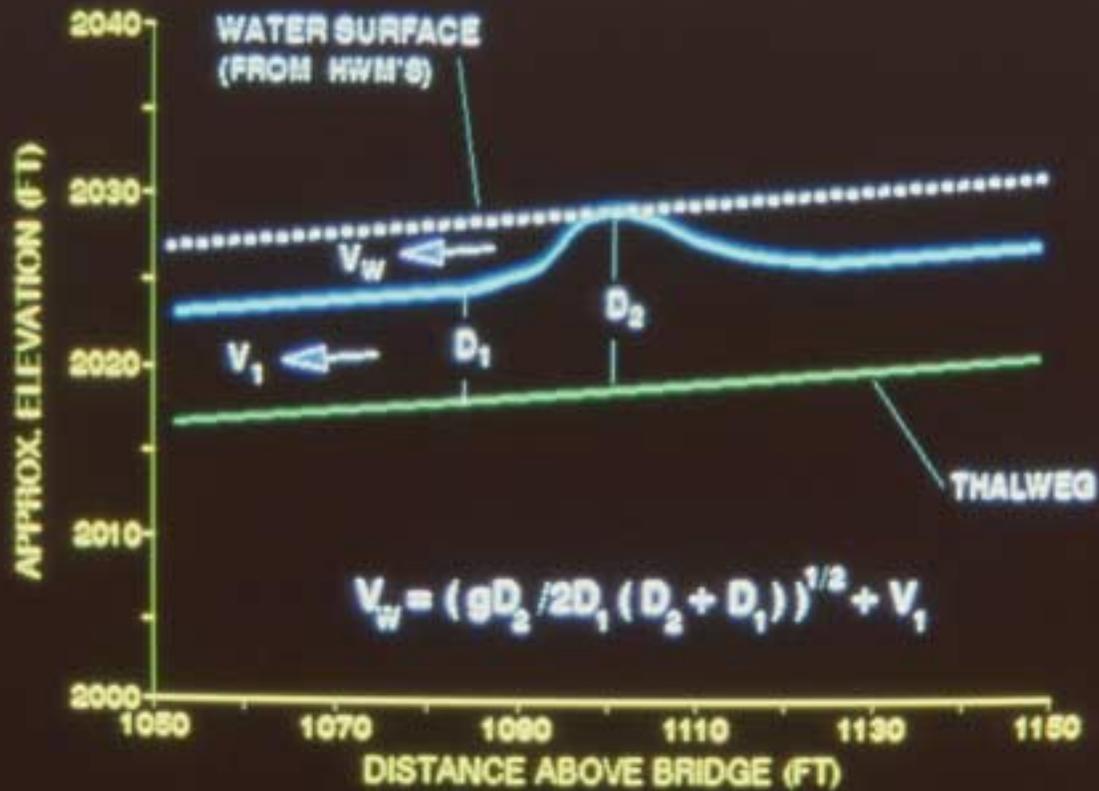
**EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT**  
**(ADOT EMPLOYEE WHO CLOSED**  
**HWY TO TRAFFIC)**

“Waves 4 -5 ft high  
at 4-5 minute intervals”

“Waves traveled 400-500 yards  
in 30-45 sec.”

“2 hour duration of waves”

# BRATER AND KING EQUATION FOR WAVE VELOCITY



## DISCHARGES (ft<sup>3</sup>/s)

23,900

Sum of paleoflood estimates  
(House & Pearthree 1995)

38,000

Sum of conveyance-slope estimates  
(Hjalmarson, 1971)

28,200

at Bridge (Carmody, 1980)(House &  
Pearthree, 1995)

~~73,500~~

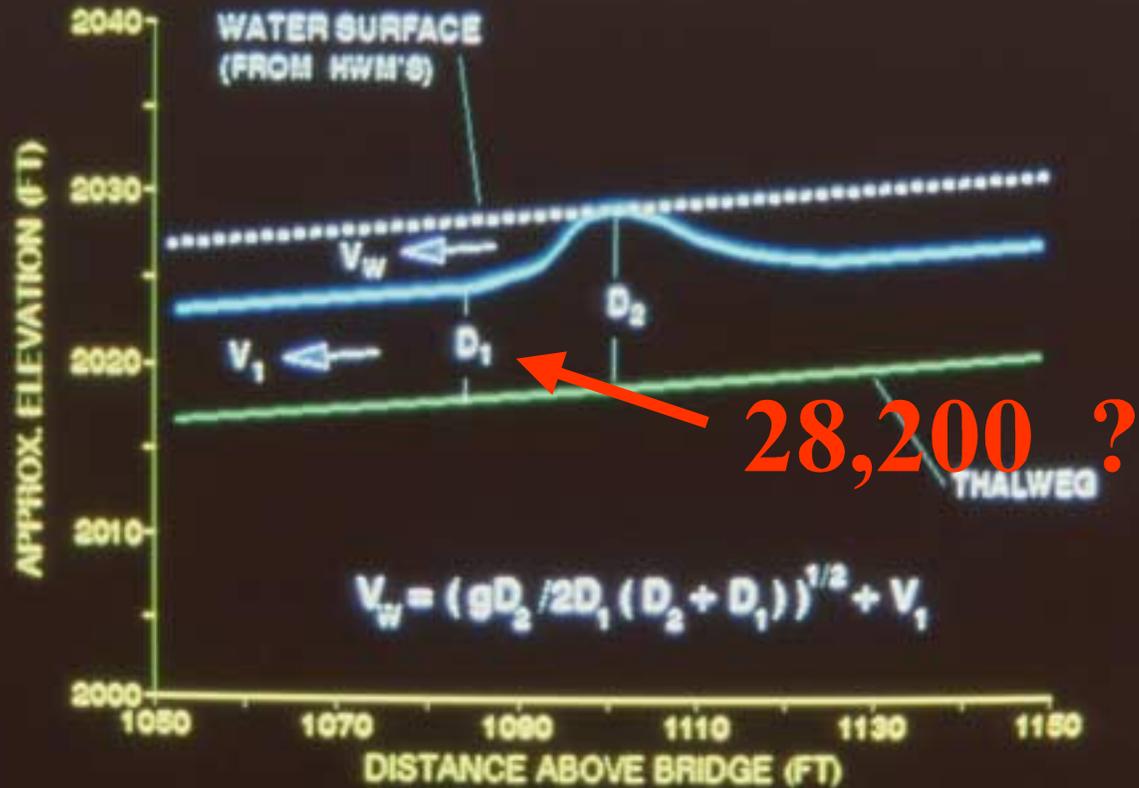
~~at Bridge (published by USGS)~~

?

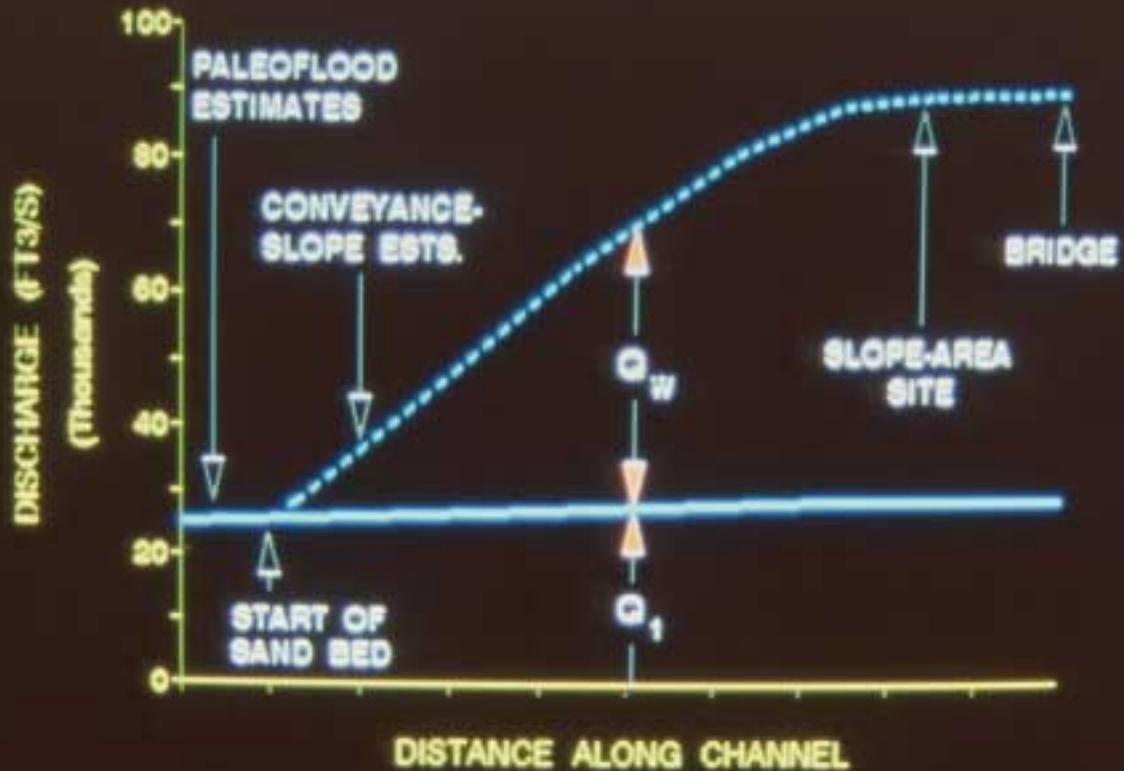
96,700

at Bridge (original computation by  
Hjalmarson, 1971)

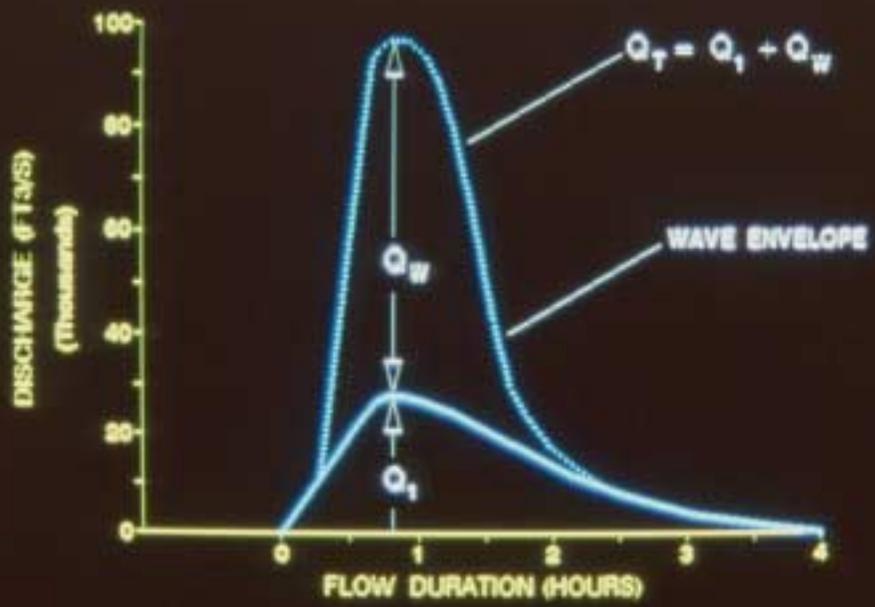
# BRATER AND KING EQUATION FOR WAVE VELOCITY



# HYPOTHETICAL PEAK DISCHARGE ALONG BRONCO CREEK



### HYPOTHETICAL HYDROGRAPHS FOR BRONCO CREEK



Mr. & Mrs. H. Hjalmarson

Free-Surface  
Instability  
Correlations

1549-C  
KOLOSEUS  
DAVIDIAN

*and*

Roughness-Concentration  
Effects on Flow Over  
Hydrodynamically  
Rough Surfaces

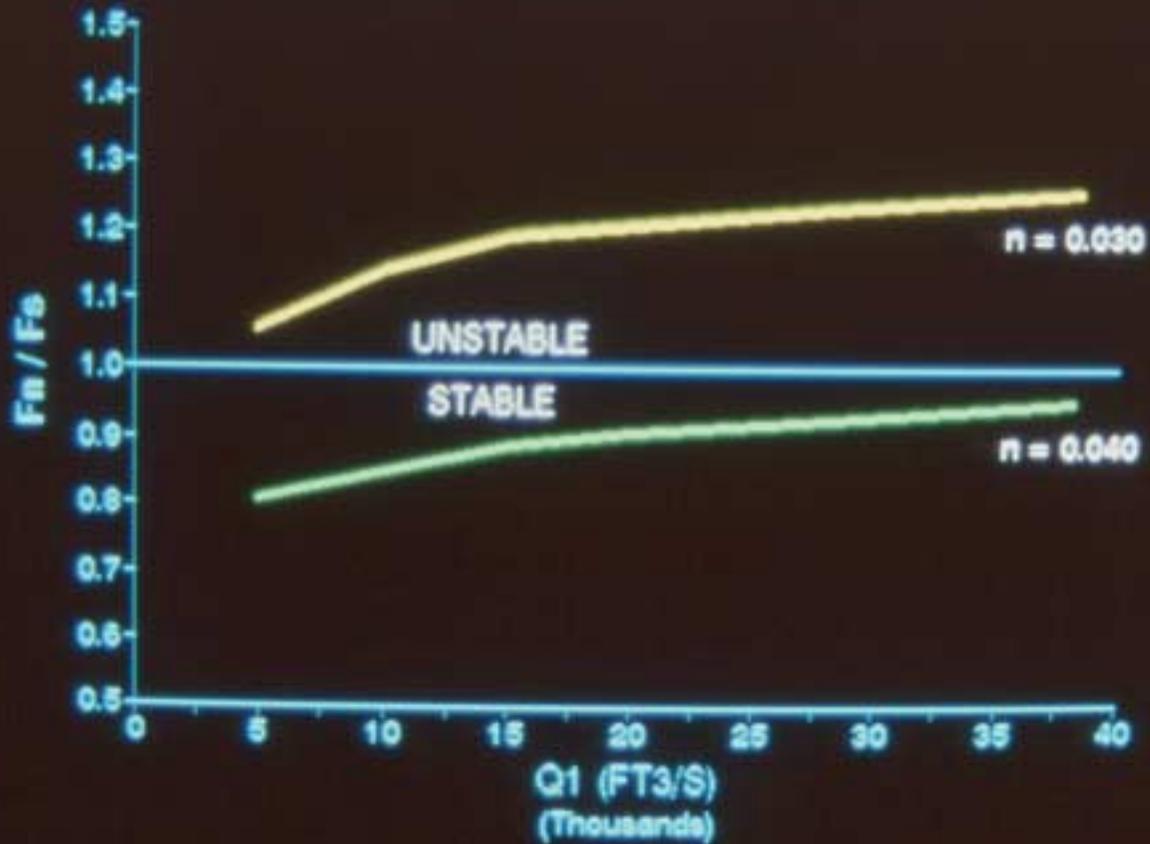
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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER-SUPPLY PAPER 1592-C, D

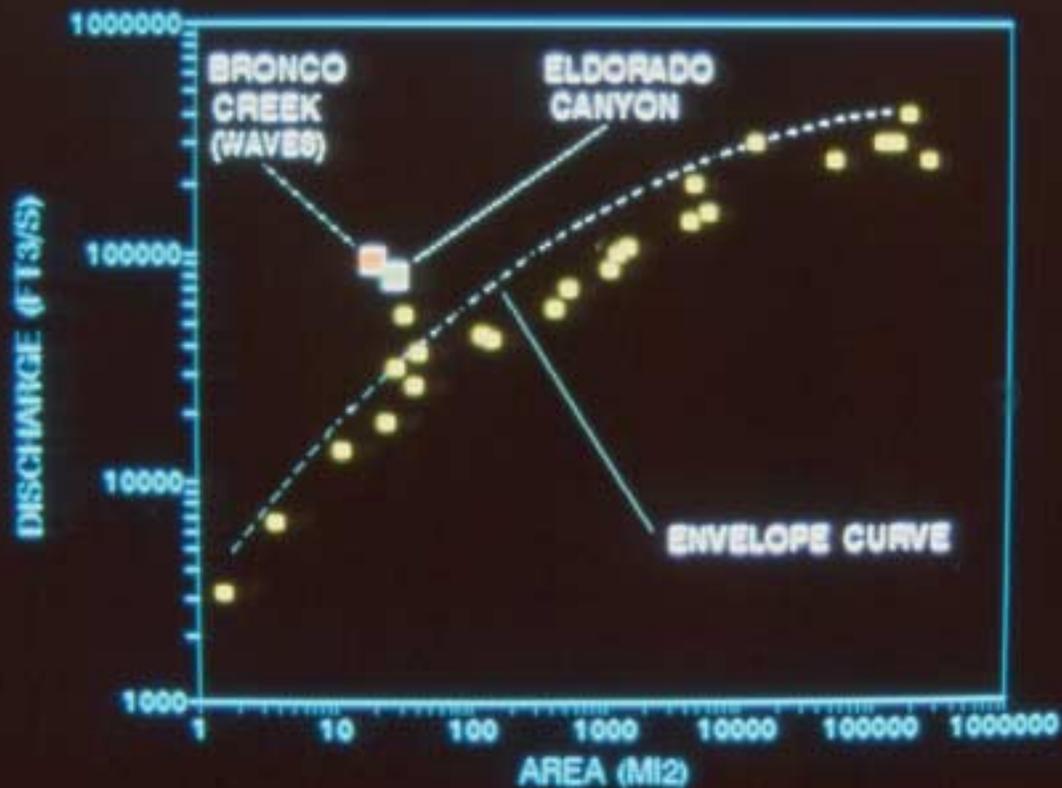
*Prepared in cooperation with the  
Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research*



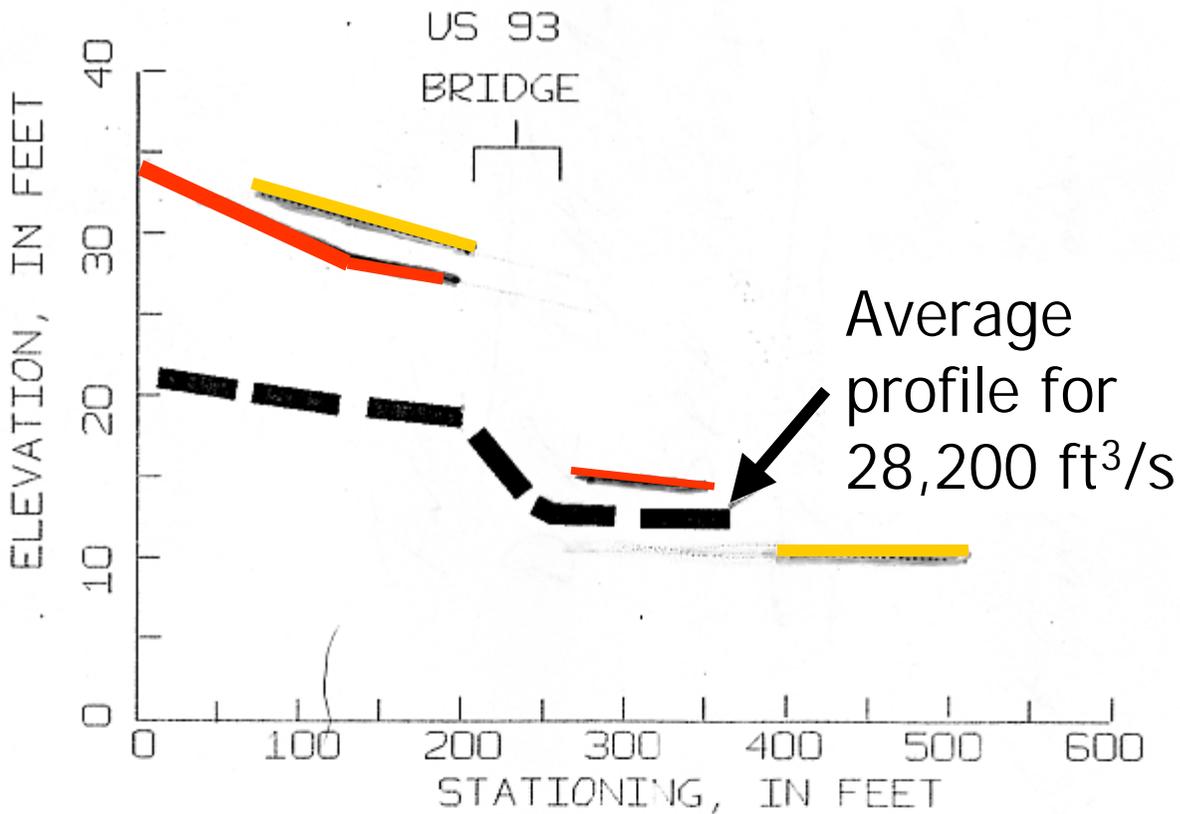
### RELATION OF FLOW INSTABILITY DEGREE (MEAN VALUES FOR SECTIONS 3 AND 4)



## LARGEST PEAK DISCHARGES IN RELATION TO DRAINAGE AREA FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN



ESTIMATED FLOOD PROFILES AT BRIDGE



SITE	ASSUMPTION	CONDITION
Bridge	Gradually varied flow	Large drop of water surf.
Slope-area	Stable flow	Steep-smooth channel
	Stable channel	Mobile sand bed
Paleoflood	Known hydraulics	Rough-steep-irregular channels
	Stable flow	Steep-smooth channel

# UNSTABLE FLOW

GRAVITY FORCE > BOUNDARY RETARDING  
FORCE

$$V_{\text{WAVE}} = \text{CELERITY} + V_{\text{BASE}}$$

## FAVORABLE CONDITIONS

LARGE WIDTH-DEPTH RATIO  
LOW ROUGHNESS COEFFICIENT

## REFERENCES

HUNTER ROUSE & USGS WSP 1592-C

# CHARACTERISTICS

Roll waves travel downstream

Breaking front

Waves grow (perhaps always)

Large waves overtake small waves

Waves can be separated by dry sections of channel

# WAVES IN SOUTHWEST

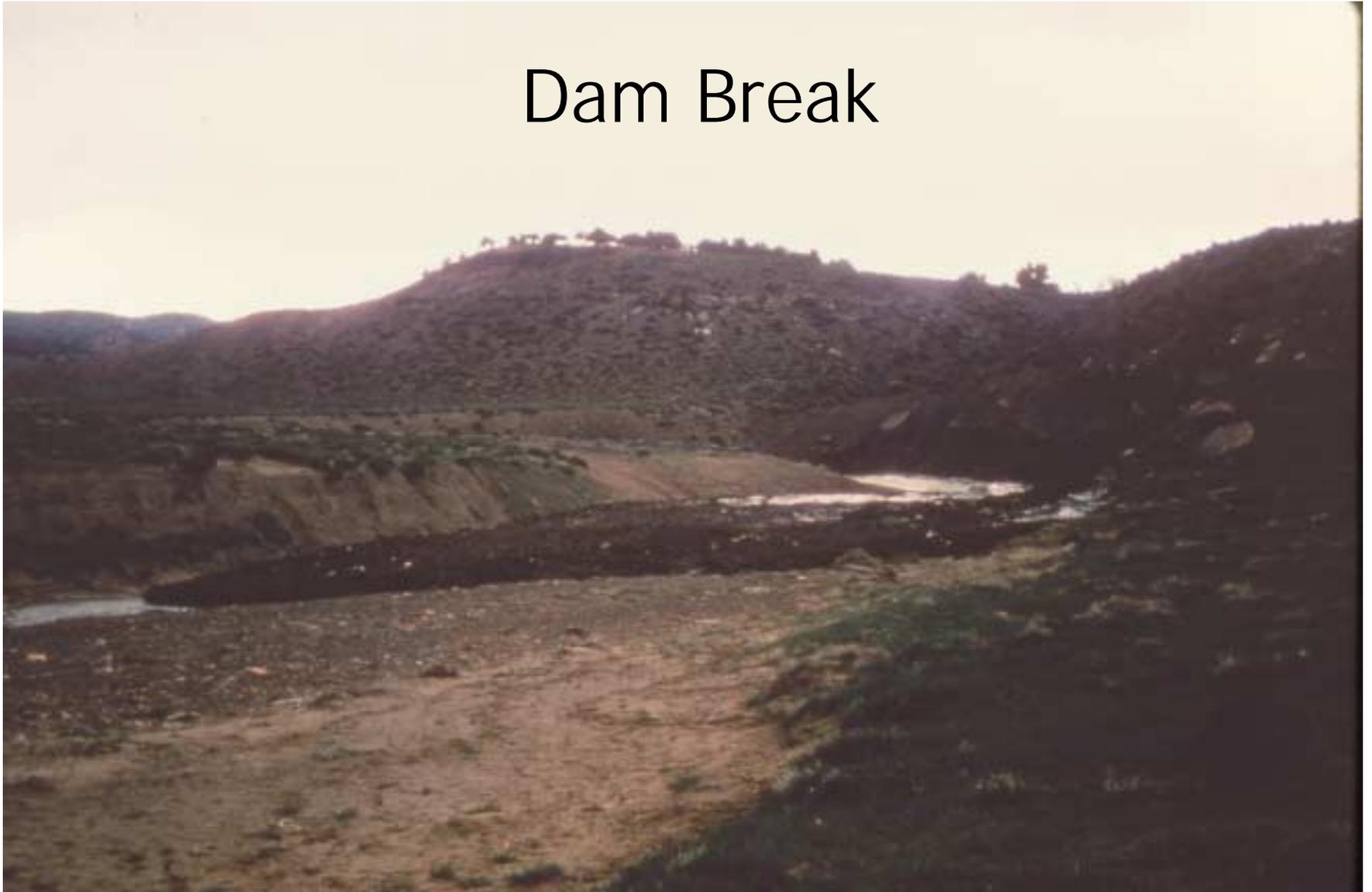
# Standing waves and antidunes in Arizona



# Standing waves and antidunes



# Dam Break



# Roll waves from unstable flow

PALM CANYON

NEAR

BOREGGO SPRINGS, CA

AUGUST 16, 1979







