

Science, Service, Stewardship



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Fish Passage Design for Roughened Channels



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Pre-Presentation Note



- The majority of material in this presentation is design concepts, techniques, and methods.
- Concepts, techniques, and methods ARE NOT NMFS CRITERIA.
- Please do not disseminate this presentation as NMFS criteria.



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Background

What Are Roughened Channels?



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Roughened Channels

- “Rocky” stream channel
- The main structure component is large rock.
- Used to...
 - Control stream grade
 - Increase stream slope
- Other generic terms
 - Rock ramps
 - Roughened chutes

 **Roughened Channels** NOAA
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Image: NOAA

 **Roughened Channels** NOAA
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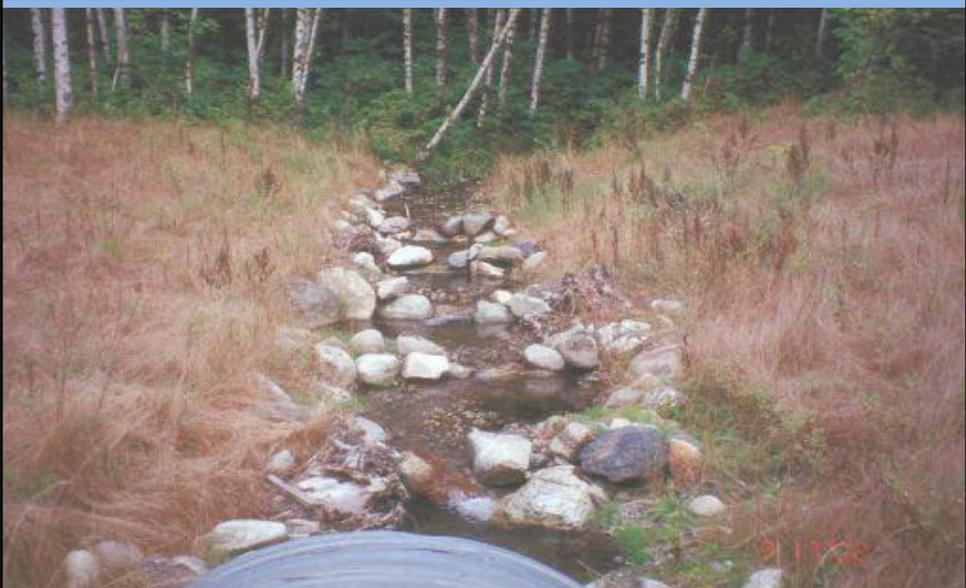
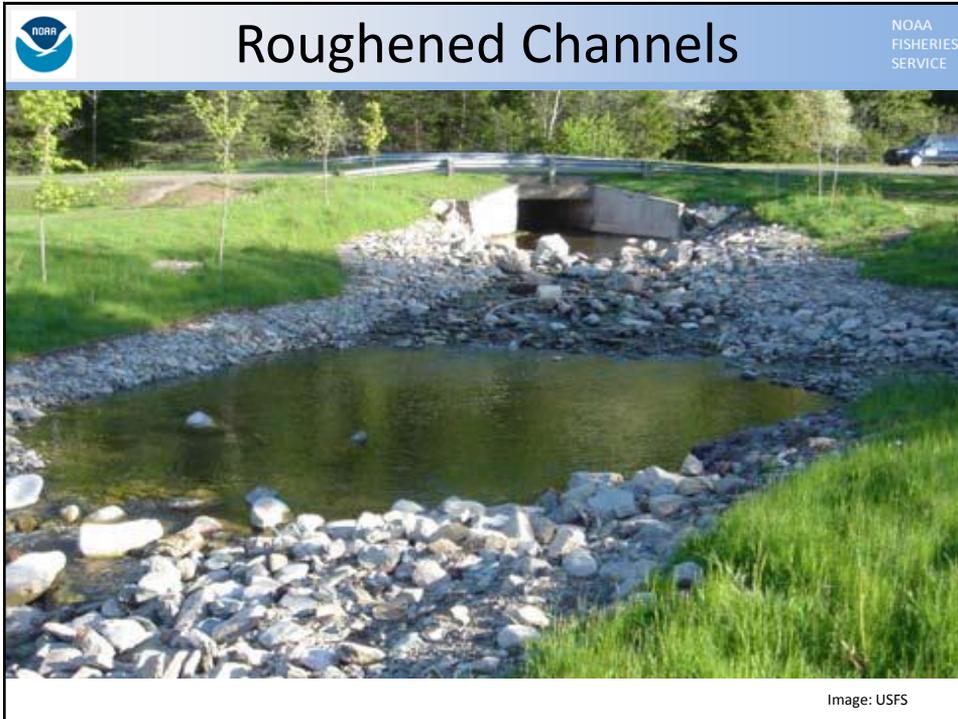


Image: WDFW



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Roughened Channels

- Structure slope is $>$ natural slope.
- Rock or roughness elements $>$ natural channel.
- Higher velocities than natural channel.
- More turbulent than natural channel.



Roughened Channels

- Structure provides...
 - Debris transport
 - Sediment transport
 - Fish passage
- Elements provide...
 - Structure stability
 - Fish refuge
 - Hydraulic diversity



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Background

Design Guidance



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Design Guidance

- WDFW 2003
- 1st design literature
- Appendix E
- Rock ramp approach
- **Little experience**
- **Experimental**



2003
EDITION

Design of Road Culverts for Fish Passage

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

TOP OF PAGE

Image: WDFW



Design Guidance



- USBR 2007
- 1st comprehensive design guidance for rock ramps.
- Focus on large system application.
- **Little experience**
- **Still experimental**

RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Rock Ramp Design Guidelines



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

September 2007

Image: USBR



Design Guidance



- CDFG 2009
- Introduces morphologic design approach.
- Better understanding of failure mechanisms.
- **Moderate experience**
 - Small systems.
- **Still experimental**
 - But more confidence in small system design.

PART XII
FISH PASSAGE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION



Image: CDFG



Recommendations



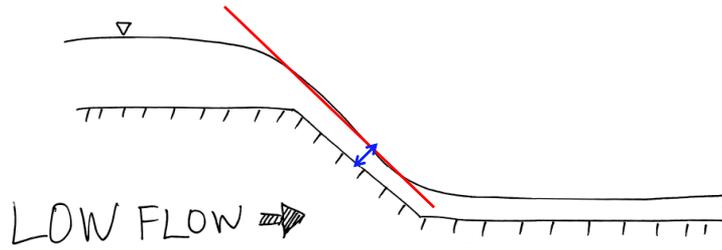
- Manuals **ARE NOT** NMFS criteria.
- Manuals **ARE** an excellent source of information for designers.
- BPA project managers become familiar with these documents.
- Provide as design references to BPA contractors and consultants.
- **THESE DESIGNS ARE STILL CONSIDERED EXPERIMENTAL.**



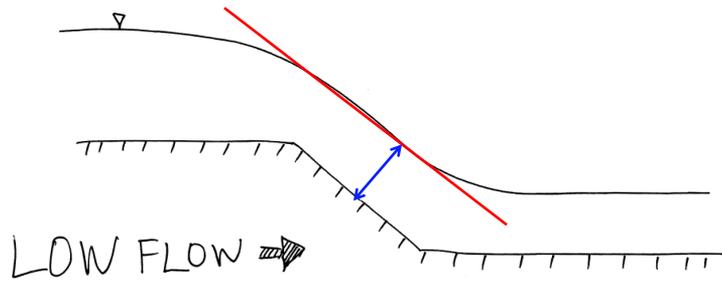
Background

A Simple Model of Flow Effects of
Roughened Channels

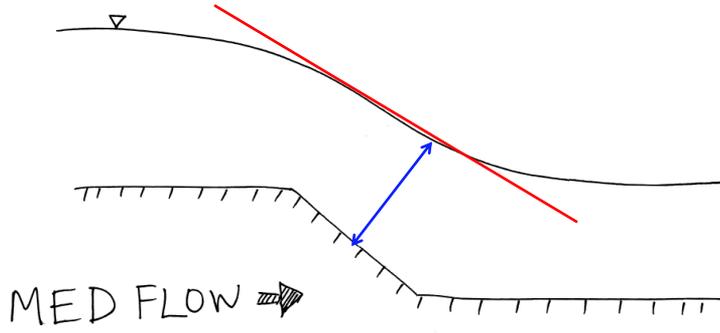
HYDRAULIC CONDITIONS GOVERNED BY
ROUGHENED CHANNEL



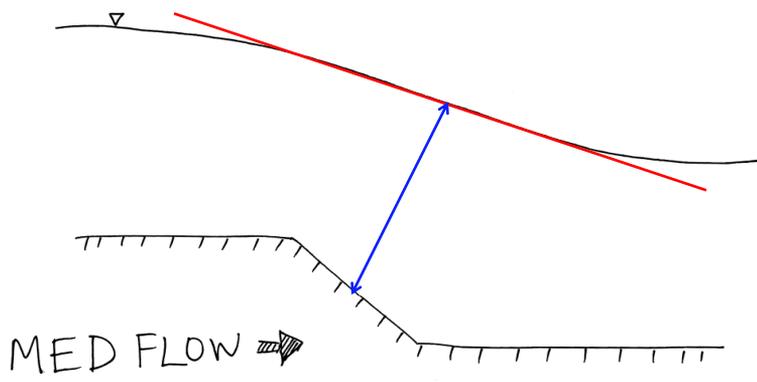
HYDRAULIC CONDITIONS GOVERNED BY
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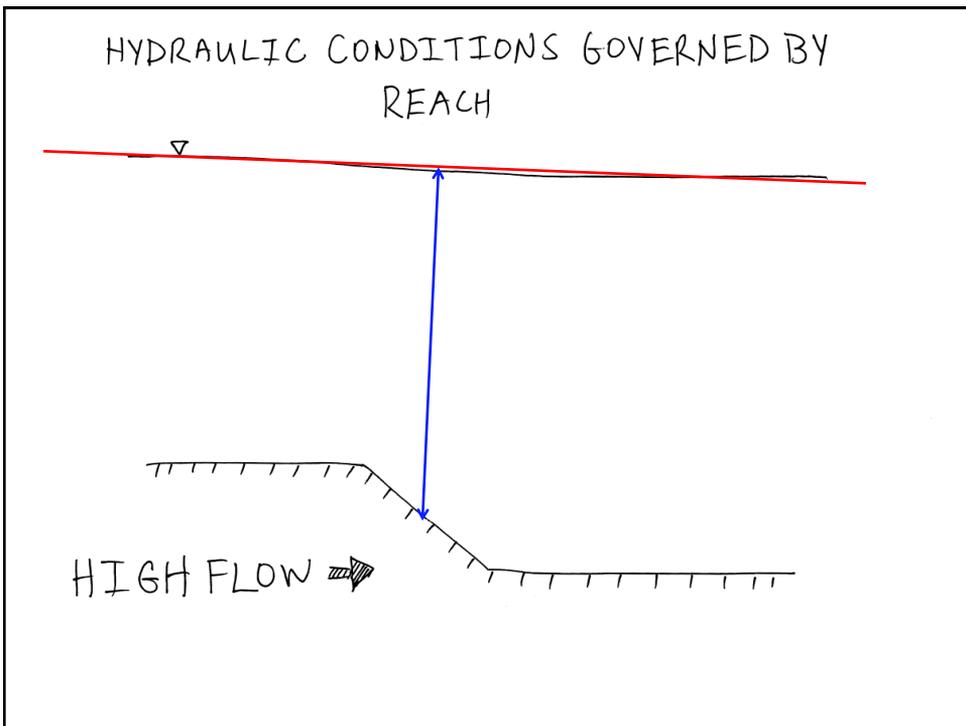
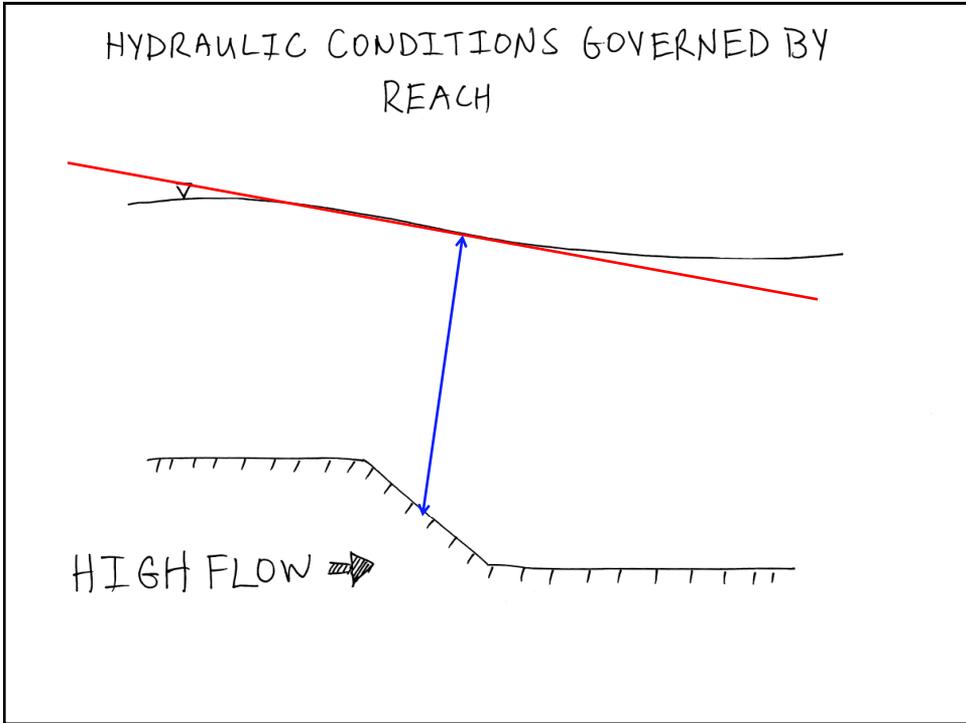


HYDRAULIC CONDITIONS GOVERNED BY BOTH ROUGHENED CHANNEL AND REACH



HYDRAULIC CONDITIONS GOVERNED BY BOTH ROUGHENED CHANNEL AND REACH





 Discussion NOAA
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- As flows increase...
 - Stream depth 
 - Stream slope 
- Equations to calculate scour, velocity, and turbulence **ALL** depend on depth and slope!

 Discussion NOAA
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- Highest velocity **MAY** occur at lower flows rather than at higher flows.
- Greatest turbulence **MAY** occur at lower flows rather than at higher flows.
- Greatest scour forces **MAY** occur at lower flows rather than at higher flows.



Fish Passage Implication



- High fish passage flow (5% exceedence) MAY NOT produce the highest velocities OR greatest turbulence across the roughened channel!
- Designers must evaluate several flows between the low and high fish passage flows to correctly evaluate fish passage!



Structural Implication



- High design flow MAY NOT BE the most unstable flow across the roughened channel!
- Designers must determine what flow will cause the most structural instability...and then design the framework elements based on that flow!



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Designs & Methods

Roughened Channels



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Designs & Methods Outline

1. Three degrees of design difficulty
2. Types
3. Design



Three Degrees of Difficulty



1. Design variables
2. Morphologic considerations
3. Modeling



Design Variables



- Design variables (what you can change).
 - Slope
 - Cross section area
 - Bed roughness
- Constraint (what you can't change).
 - Discharge



Design Variables



- Designer changes variables to develop appropriate depths, velocity, turbulence, and scour.
- Variables must produce a design that is **BOTH** structurally stable and passes fish.
- REMEMBER: These components must be evaluated over a range of flows!



Three Degrees of Difficulty



1. Design variables
2. **Morphologic considerations**
3. Modeling



Morphologic Considerations



- When you deviate too far from the natural stream template...
 - The stream will impose its natural pattern on the structure (failure).
 - The structure may resist changes to such a degree that adverse hydraulic conditions are created.



Morphologic Considerations

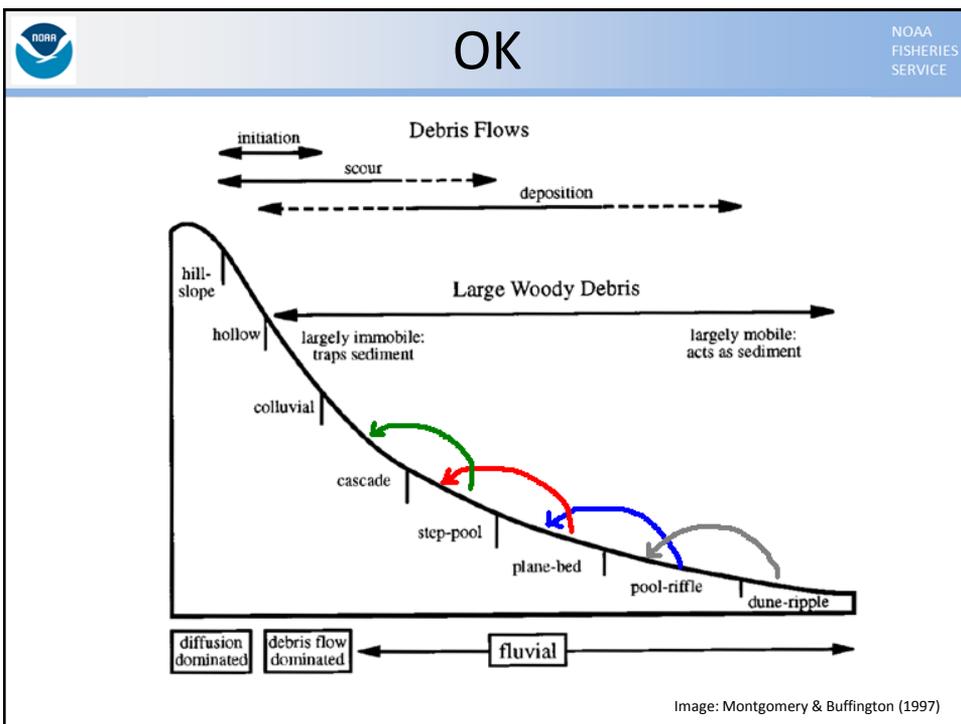


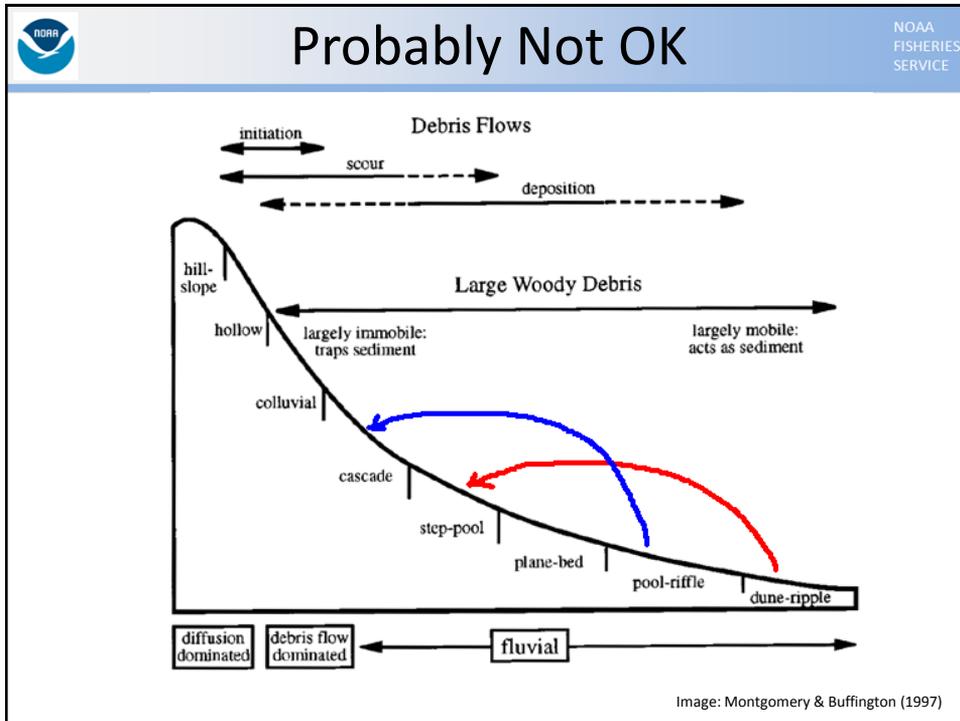
- The design should be as morphologically “transparent” as possible.
- Transitions between the structure and the natural channel must be as smooth and seamless as all constraints allow.
- Use of natural “templates” to facilitate better transitions.

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Morphologic Considerations

- Transitions
 - Slope
 - Channel width
 - Cross section area
 - Roughness
 - Planform





General Stability Issues

- Steep rough engineered structures are inherently unstable.
- Stability of roughened channels rely heavily on large rock as ballast.
- Increasing rock size may increases turbulence which may lead to a porous design...or a passage barrier.

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Sediment Transport



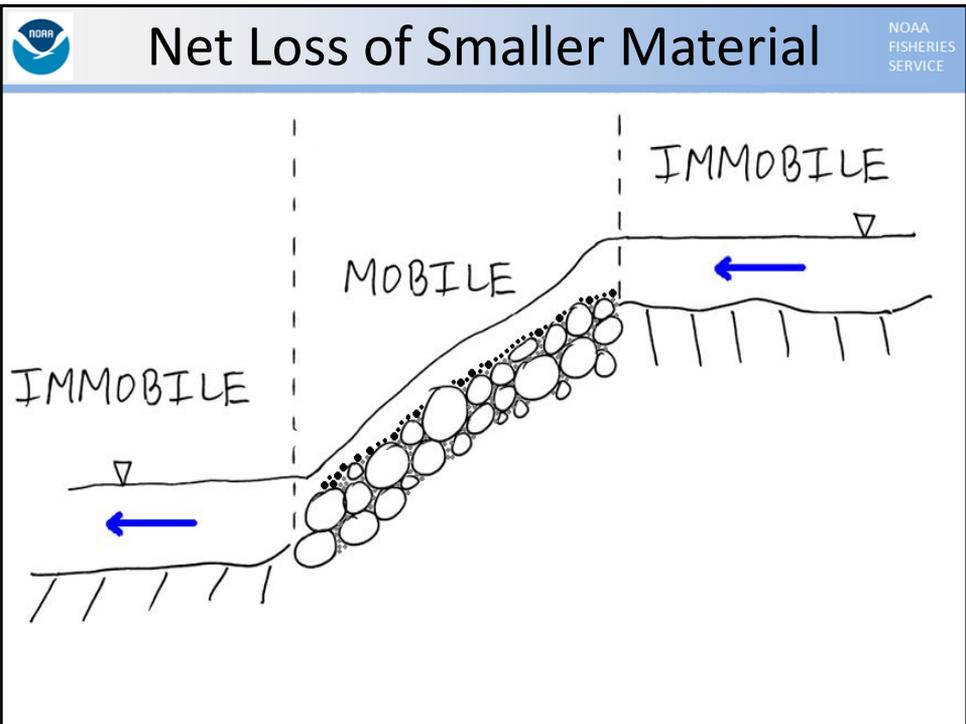
- Discontinuities in stream slope and roughness create dissimilar sediment transport conditions.
- Dissimilar conditions induce changes in bed material size and composition.

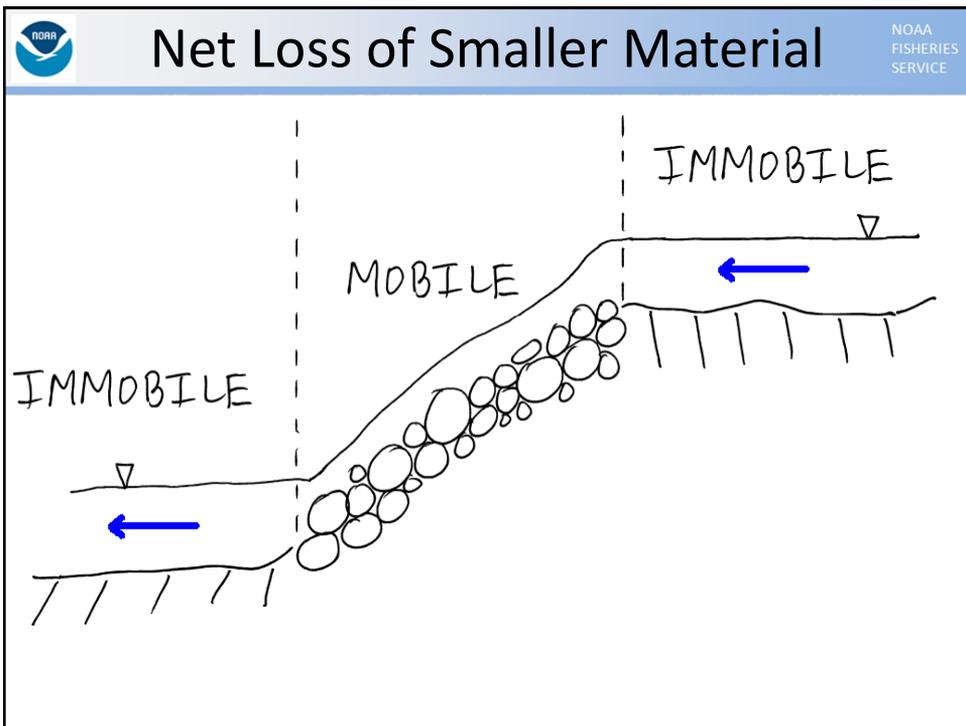
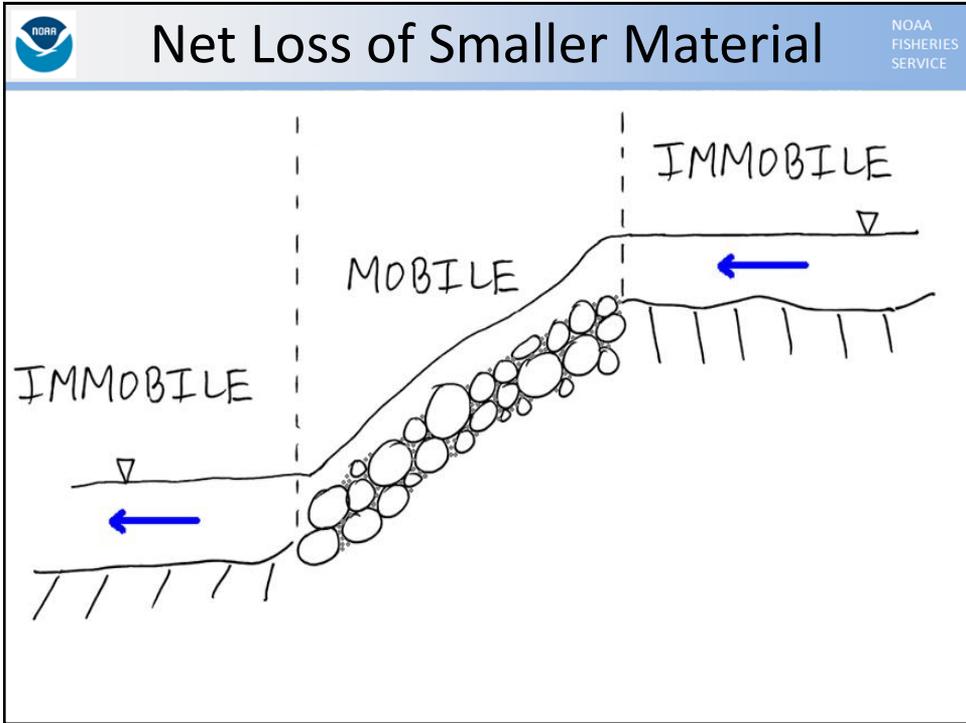


Relationships



- For steeper slopes (relative to the natural channel) material continues move when transport has ceased in the natural channel.
- Net loss of fines to gravel size material occurs.
- This condition effects structure porosity **AND** turbulence.
- Sub-surface flow or increased turbulence may create a passage barrier.

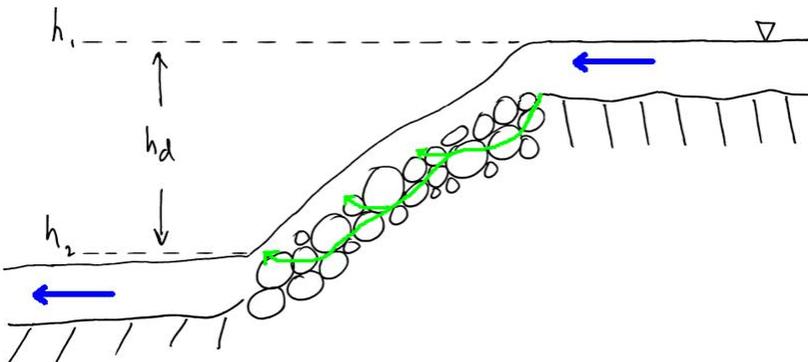




 **Results** NOAA
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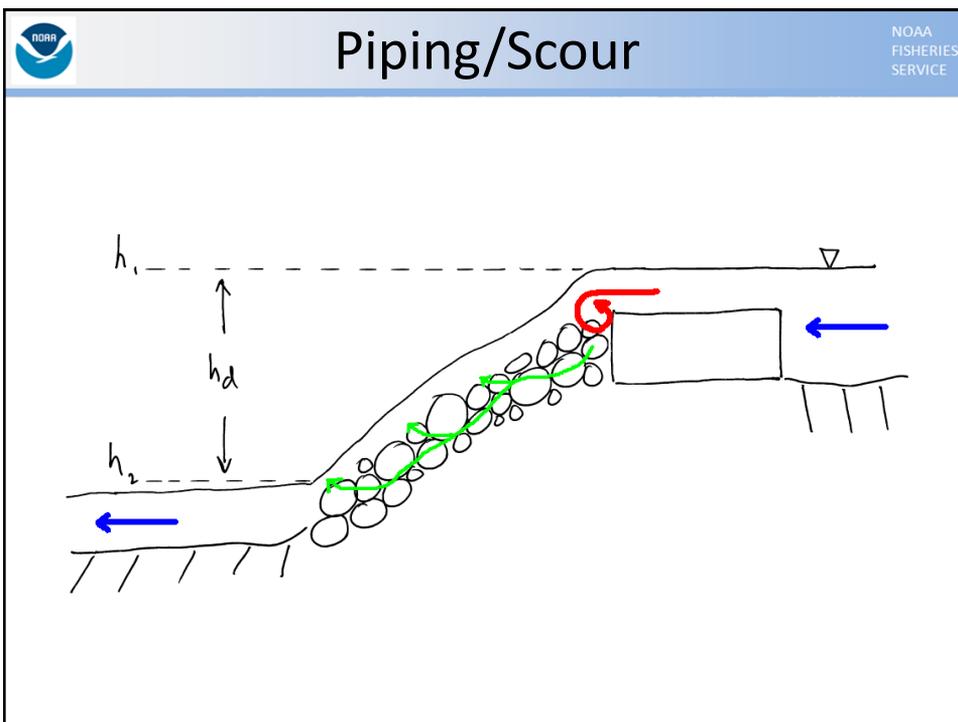
- Net loss of material increases roughness and turbulence.
- Net loss of material due to scour facilitates “piping”.
- Piping can also be the “stand alone” mechanism for removal of material.

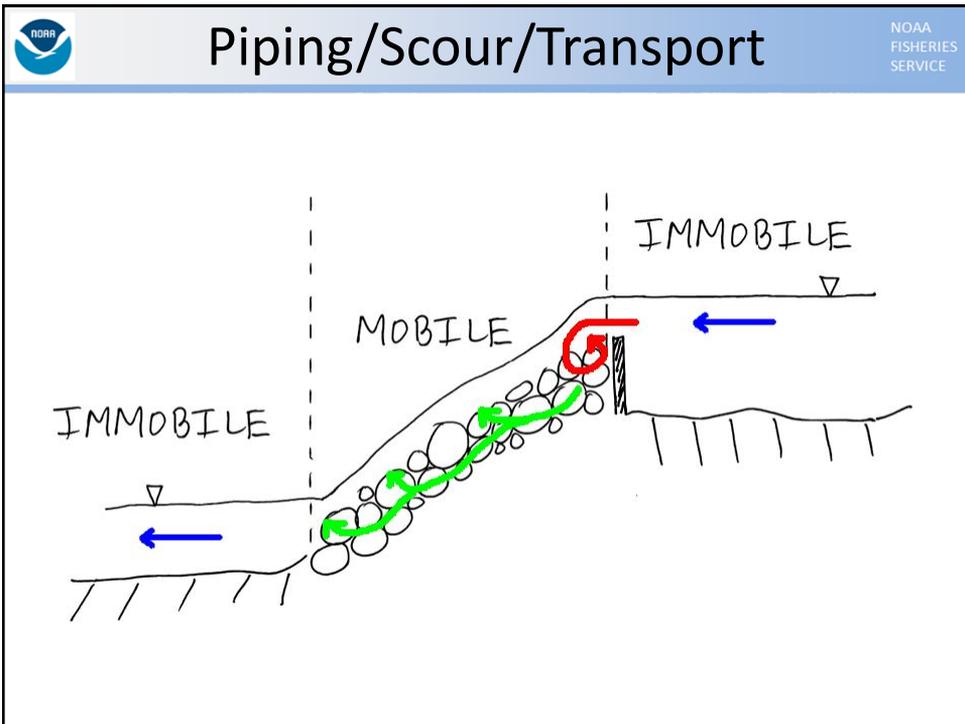
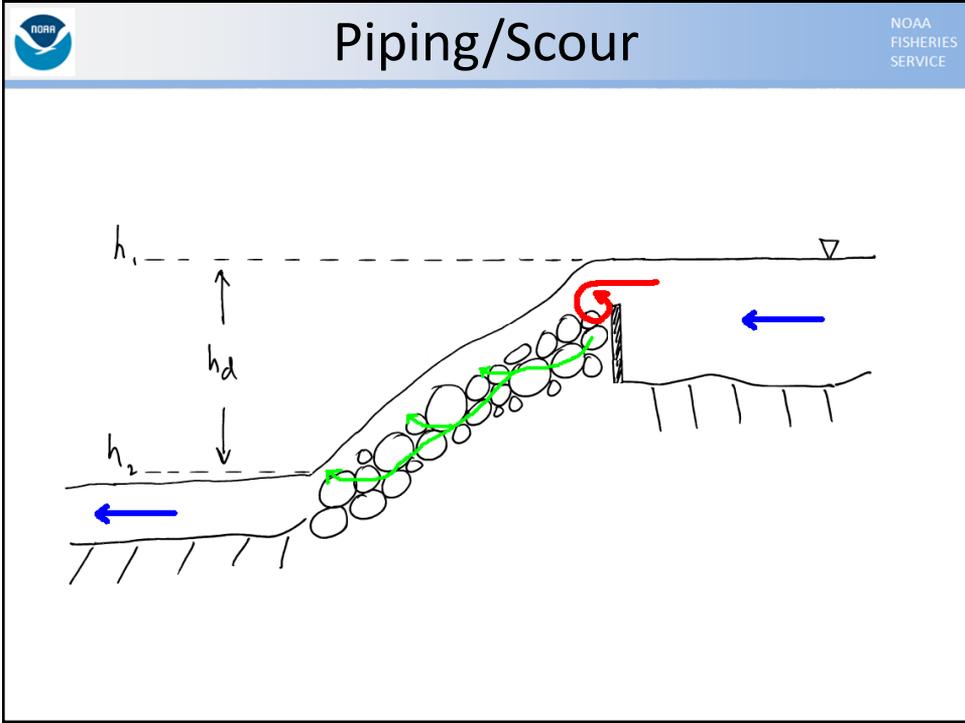
 **Piping** NOAA
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 **Problematic Applications** 

- Many roughened channels are built to retrofit lost stream grade at diversion dams and bridge aprons.
- Some designs have tried to incorporate material retention weirs.
- These applications bring their own set of problems to the design.







General Design Difficulties



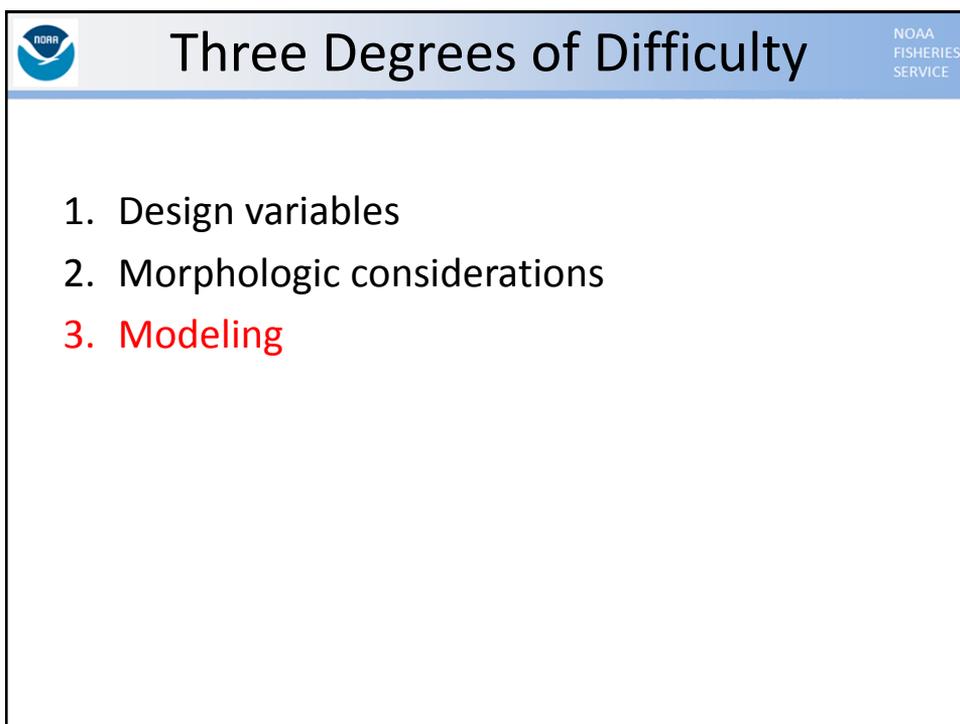
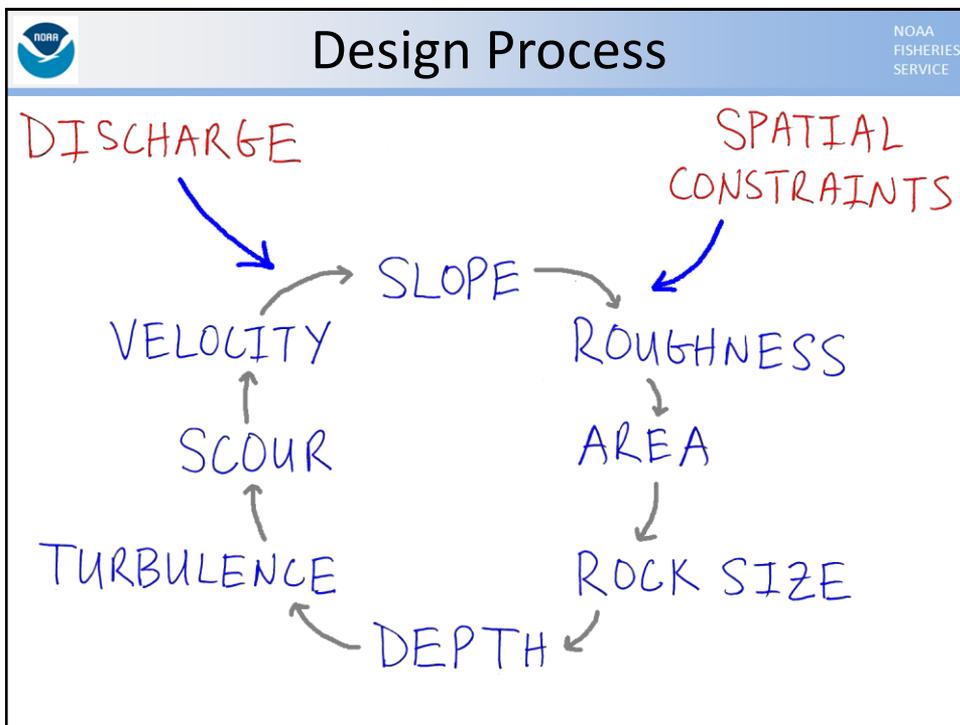
- If we assume the framework of structure is stable (a big IF) we have three major design obstacles...
 - **Creating low velocity** migration paths.
 - **Stabilizing fines and gravels.**
 - **Providing non-turbulent** conditions.



Design Process



- The design process is extremely iterative.
- Change in one stream condition or variable affects several other stream conditions or variables.





Modeling



- Designers use equations to model fish passage conditions in their channel design.
- Certain hydraulic conditions are assumed in these equations.
- When the hydraulic condition is violated the equation no longer produces valid results.



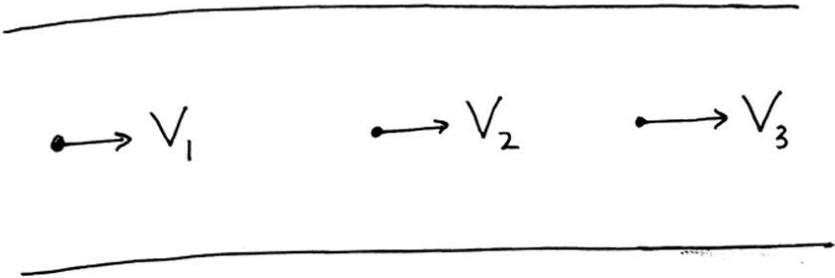
Hydraulic Assumptions



- For most equations in open channel hydraulics the equations assume “steady uniform flow”.
 - Velocity does not change with position in the stream or with time.
 - Example: Constant discharge (flow) in a pipe with a constant diameter.

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STEADY UNIFORM FLOW



$V_1 = V_2 = V_3$

 **Hydraulic Assumptions** NOAA
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- However velocity across a roughened channel is “steady NON-uniform”.
 - Velocity changes from point to point in the stream but do not change with time.
 - Example: Constant discharge (flow) in a pipe with a tapered diameter.

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Hydraulic Assumptions

STEADY NON-UNIFORM FLOW

$V_1 \neq V_2 \neq V_3$

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Hydraulic Conditions

STEADY NON-UNIFORM FLOW

DRAWDOWN

HYDRAULIC JUMP

ACCELERATION

HIGH VELOCITY

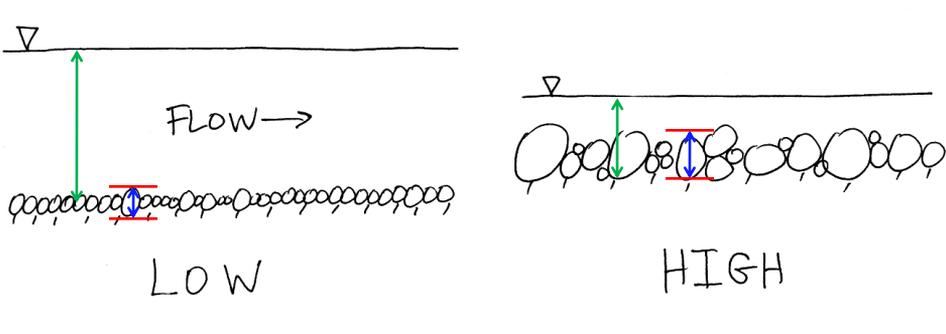
DECELERATION

 **Hydraulic Assumptions** NOAA
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- Most equations assume a low relative roughness.
- However relative roughness in roughened channels is HIGH.

 **Hydraulic Conditions** NOAA
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RELATIVE ROUGHNESS



LOW HIGH



Invalid Assumptions



- Equations are ill-suited to accurately predict the fish passage conditions of the design.
- Only experience can bridge the “unknown” between model results and actual function.
- Little experience with roughened channels so... designers are at a severe disadvantage.



Selecting Roughness Value



- Paramount in modeling roughened channel designs is the selection of a roughness value.
- Simply defined, the roughness value models the rock size and the distance it protrudes above the streambed.
- Its really not that simple...there other conditions which effect roughness.



Manning's "n"



- Typically the roughness value used is the Manning's "n" value.
- The value of "n" effects model output for **ALL** the other design variables.
- "n" is the only value we don't know or can solve for in the design.



Overestimate "n"



- If we overestimate "n" velocities are higher and depth is shallower
 - Is real world velocity and turbulence acceptable for fish passage?



Underestimate “n”



- If we underestimate “n” velocities are lower and depth is higher
 - Is the design going to affect upstream landowners or infrastructure?



Manning’s “n”



- “n” values have been determined for a myriad of materials and conditions.
- **Not for roughened channels...**the selection of a “n” value is there for a non-trivial matter.



Calculating “n”



- Where can we go to get a defensible “n” value?
 - Experience (as before...limited)
 - Equations (assumptions are strained)
- Lets take a look at experience and equations anyway!



Calculating “n”



- Several equations exist to model “n”.
- Highly technical procedure to select and use them.
- Each equation has a limited range of application.



Empirical Methods

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Author	Slopes	Sediment Sizes (D ₅₀) (feet)	Relative Submergence R/D _{s4} or d/D _{s4}	Data Origin
Mussetter (1989)	0.54-16.8%	0.1-2.1	0.2-3.7	CO mountain streams
Bathurst (1985)	0.2-4% (tested for slopes up to 9%)	0.2 - 1.1	0.4-11	gravel and boulder bedded rivers
Rice, et al. (1998)	1-33%	0.1-0.9	0.3-1.9	riprap on steep slopes in flume
Bathurst (1978) ¹	0.8-1.7%	0.6-0.8	0.4-1.3	Regulated river in Great Britain
Hey (1979) ¹	0.09-3.1%	0.1-0.7	0.7-17.2	Straight gravel bedded rivers
Limerinos (1970)	Not provided	0.02-0.8	0.9-69	CA rivers with coarse beds
Jarrett (1984)	0.2-4%	0.2-1.4	0.4-10.8	cobble & boulder streams
Bathurst (2002)	0.2-4%	0.4-2.5	0.4-11	compilation of stream data sets

Image: CDFG



Calculating “n”

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- This method **DEMANDS** significant engineering experience...which we’ve already described as being limited due to the experimental nature of the design and a general lack of design specific data and research



Calibrated “n”



- Where **ELSE** can we go to get a defensible “n” value?
 - Developed data (non-available)
 - Calibrate from “reference reach” (?)



Calibrated “n”



- USGS has some “pretty picture” data...but this method also has its drawbacks.
 - Many designers are unaware of what they are.



Field Survey “n”



- Engineers often reference photos and associated data to ESTIMATE “n”.

Roughness Characteristics of Natural Channels

By HARRY H. BARNES, Jr.

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WATER-SUPPLY PAPER 1849

Color photographs and descriptive data for 50 stream channels for which roughness coefficients have been determined




Image: USGS



USGS Reach Average



- Length
 - 126 ft
- Width
 - 50 ft
- Slope
 - 4.5%
- **Manning’s “n”**
 - **0.75**

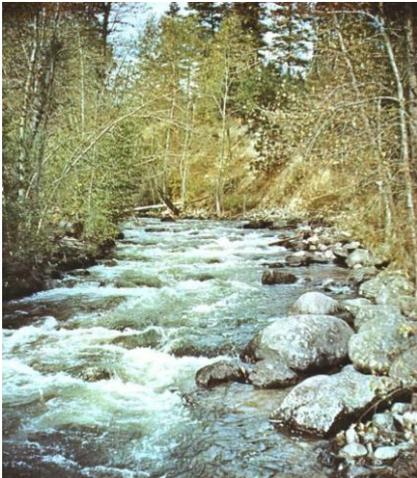


Image: USGS



Drawback #1



- Photo doesn't represent the surveyed discharge!
- Actual discharge is **A LOT** higher than shown in the picture.
 - Surveyed condition is 5ft higher.
 - Measured flow was > 1000 cfs.

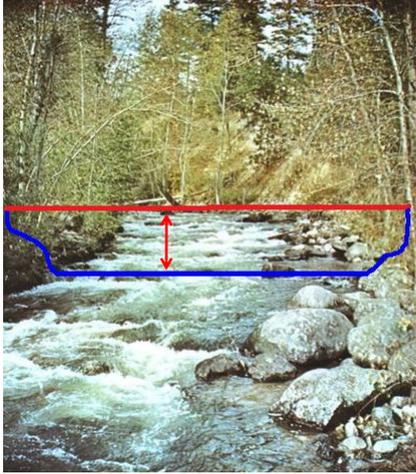


Image: USGS



Drawback #1



- “n” is lower for higher discharge.
- Basing roughness on picture is very misleading.
- Actual “n” value for conditions in picture could be higher or lower!

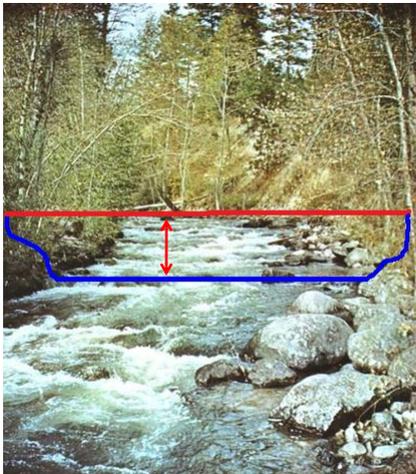


Image: USGS



Drawback #2:



- Reach conditions are not constant.
- Width
 - 43 ft to 54 ft
- Slope
 - 3.5% - 7.5%
- **Manning's "n"**
 - **0.50 to 0.85**
 - **Reach specific values vary!**

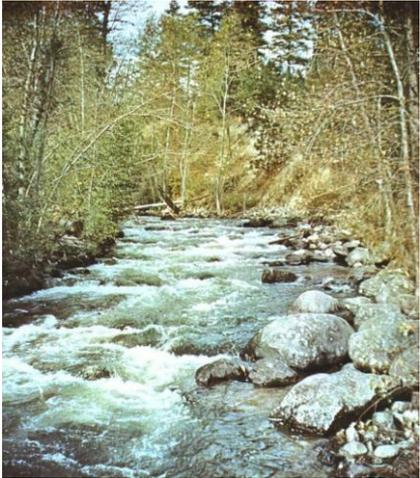


Image: USGS



Effects of Variation on Design



- Width
 - 30 ft
 - Rectangular channel
- **n = 0.50**
 - Depth = 5.0 ft
 - Velocity (ave) = 10 ft/s
- **n = 0.85**
 - Depth = 7.0 ft
 - Velocity (ave) = 7 ft/s

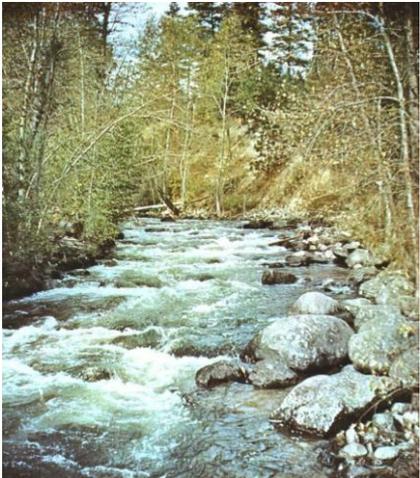


Image: USGS



Calibrated “n”



- The best method may be to go out and collect your own data (measure discharge).
- Before we can go out and collect some good “n” data.
- Lets look at some of its characteristics.



Quirky “n”



- “n” changes relative to channel depth.
- “n” changes relative to rock size.
- “n” changes relative to stream slope.
- Other conditions effect “n” as well.

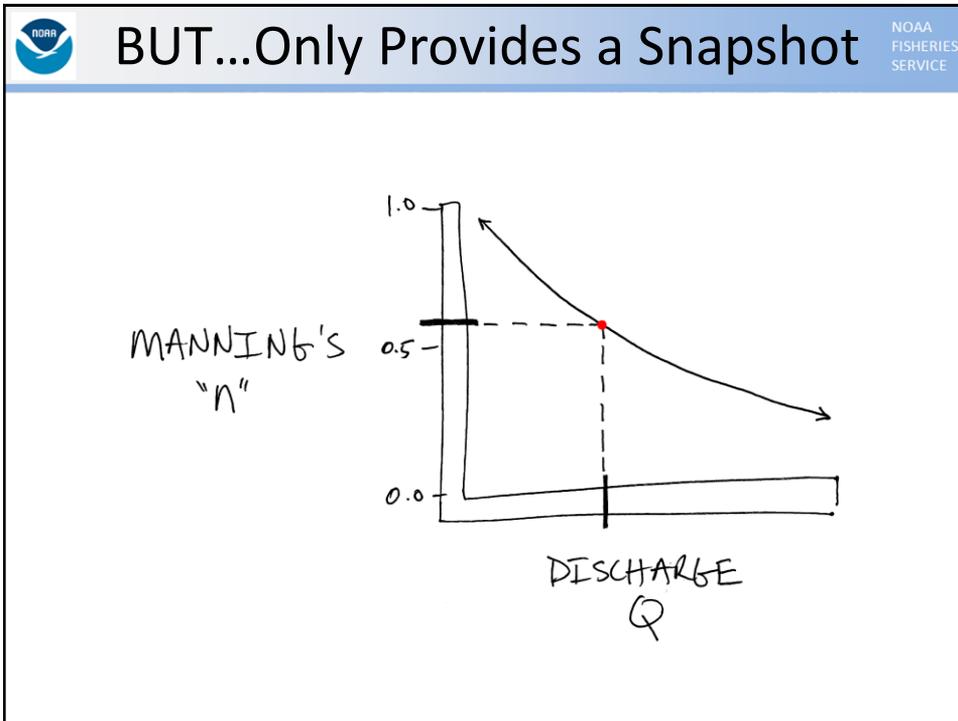


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Calibration Method

$$Q = \frac{1.49}{\text{"n"}} A R^{2/3} S^{1/2}$$

$$\text{"n"} = \frac{1.49}{Q} A R^{2/3} S^{1/2}$$



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- ## Final Thoughts on "n"
- Since flow depth effects "n" designers should develop a relationship between "n" and stream depth when collecting field data for design.
 - Several discharges (preferably within the expected fish passage window) should be measured and the "n" value back-calculated.



Final Thoughts on “n”



- Once you have a defensible method for selecting a suite of “n” values you can move to the design phase.



TAKE HOME



- It’s not a trivial task!
- It’s not an easy task!
- Requires significant experience!
- Designers are reduced to extrapolation and guess-imation.
- Selected roughness has a **SIGNIFICANT** effect on hydraulics of the design.



TAKE HOME



- BPA should select designers which have a proven track record of designing roughened channels.
- BPA should contact NMFS engineering as soon as a roughened chute design has been established as an alternative or conceptual design.



Designs & Methods Outline



1. Three degrees of design difficulty
2. Types
3. Design



Rock Ramp

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- Rock ramp and pool (Bates & Love 2009)
 - Contain no bedform (uniform size material).
 - Continuous slope and material .
 - Limited to slopes < 4% and drops of 5ft or less.
 - Design with an energy dissipation pool at the downstream end.



Rock Ramp

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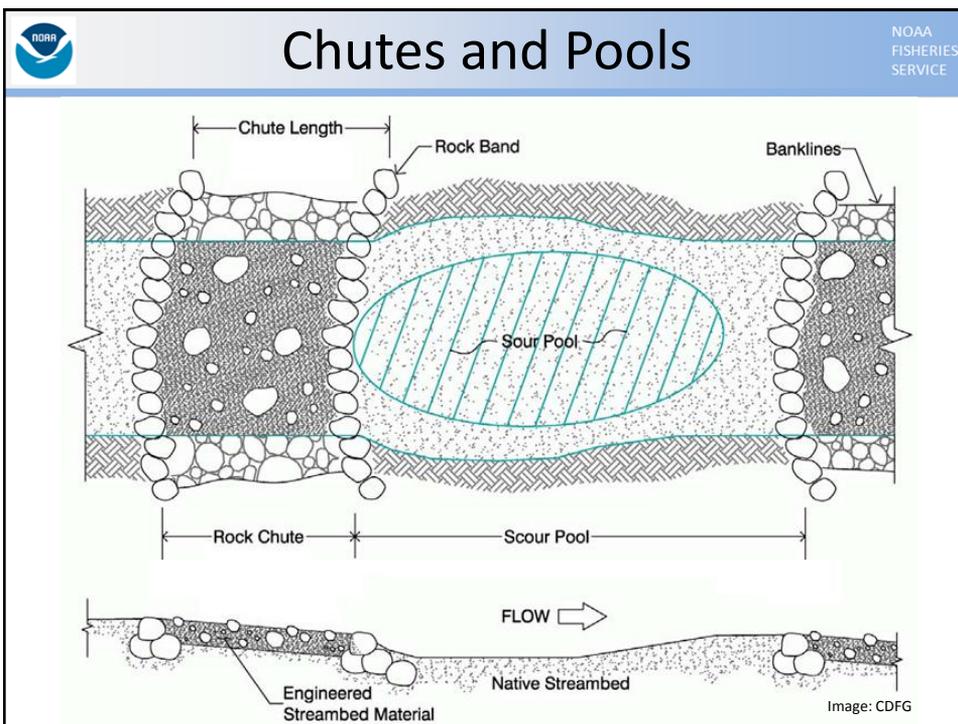


Image: USBR

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Chutes and Pools

- Chutes and Pools: Subunit ramp and pool (Bates & Love 2009)
 - Rock ramp/pool is a discrete subunit
 - Armored pool dissipates energy and protects from scour
 - Over all structure slope <4%
 - Pools at 0% and chutes >4%
 - Drop across the subunit is 2 ft or less





Morphologic



- Morphology based (Bates & Love 2009)
 - Based on the morphology and composition of natural channels.
 - May be used where natural slopes > 4%
 - **May be used for design slope > 4%**
 - **CAUTION:** The greater the structure slope deviates from natural conditions the greater the risk of failure.



Morphologic



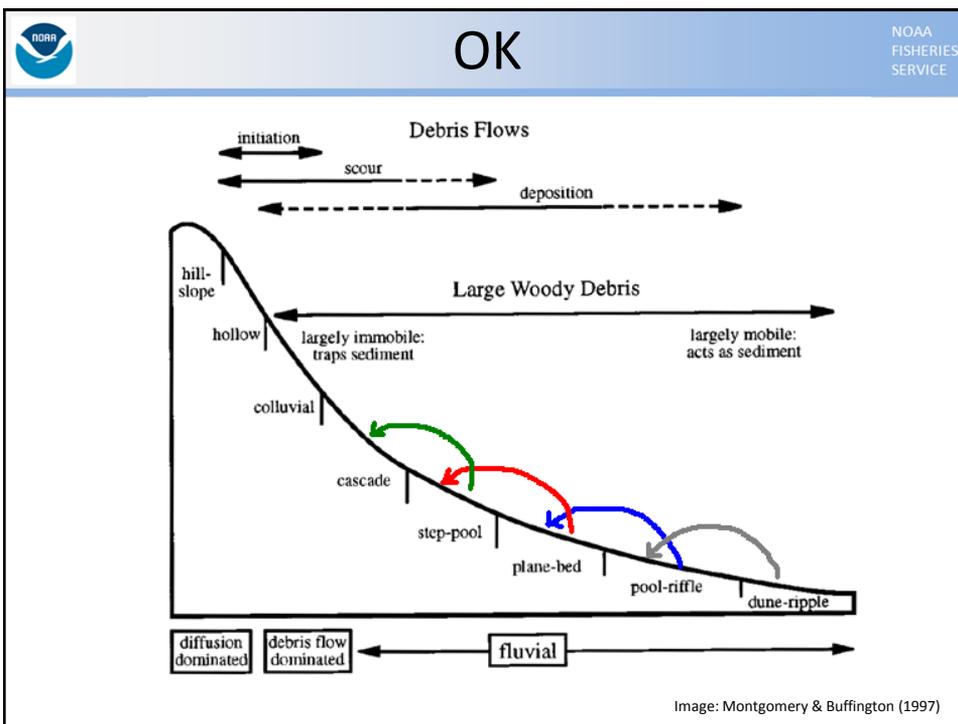
- Considerations
 - Bedform morphology changes with stream slope.
 - Natural morphology, slope, spacing, and rock size should be considered when selecting an appropriate design template.

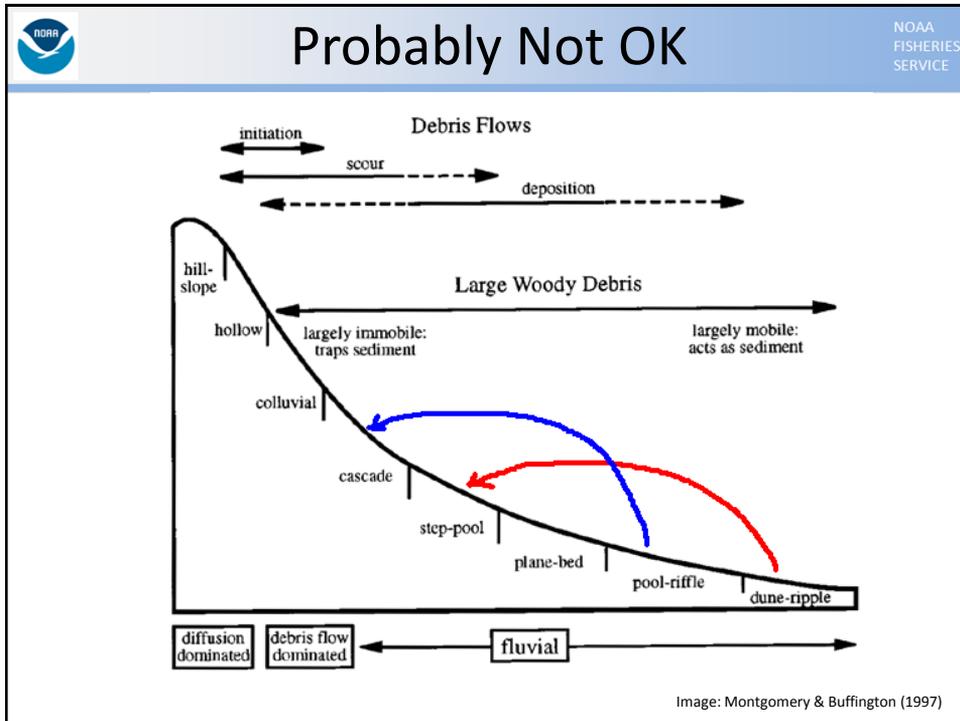


Morphologic



- Considerations
 - Design “template” should be as close to natural channel as possible.
 - Will require significant data collection (burden of proof is on the designer).





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Designs & Methods Outline

1. Three degrees of design difficulty
2. Types
3. Design



General Fish Passage Design



- With so many design constraints the application of this type of fish passage structure is very narrow.
- Structure must be shown to pass fish between the low and high fish passage flows.
 - Low flow (95% exceedence)
 - High flow (5% exceedence)



General Fish Passage Design



- The shorter the ramp the more controlled the hydraulics.
- Issue with longer ramps (flow acceleration)
 - Exhaustion barrier
 - Less stable due to increasing velocities the further the ramp extends
 - Retaining fines
 - Shallower depths



Slope and Roughness



- Slope > adjacent stream slope
 - Slope should be as close to natural slope as possible.
 - Not to exceed 6% (NMFS criteria)
- Roughness > adjacent stream channel
 - Roughness should be as close to natural stream roughness as possible.



Channel Design



- Bates & Love 2009
 - Triangular and trapezoidal cross sections
 - Hydraulic diversity
 - Design width => adjacent stream width
 - Active channel should become fully wetted at the low fish passage flow.



Channel Design



- Transition: Bates & Love 2009
 - Transition should take into consideration flow acceleration due to constriction of the active channel AND the adjacent floodplain.
 - Steep side slopes can destabilize the channel by constricting flow in the structure.



Channel Design



- Bates & Love 2009
 - Should fully contain the bankfull or 2 yr flood event.
 - Require a downstream armored pool to dissipate energy and protect from scour.



Channel Design



- Bates & Love 2009
- General guidance...when a roughened channel extends more than 5 channel widths the structure should be...
 - Broken up with a large pool, adequately sized, to dissipate energy before the next section.



Bank Design



- Bates & Love 2009
 - Streambank is designed as an armored bank.
 - Largest rock at toe to protect bank from scour.
 - Generally composed of smaller material than channel bed.
 - Height of bank should extend sufficient to protect from scour, flanking, and channel avulsion.



General Design



- The bed and banks should be made of a stable framework at the structural design flow.
 - 50%-70% of the structure should be immobile
- The bed and bank material should be well graded (NMFS criteria).



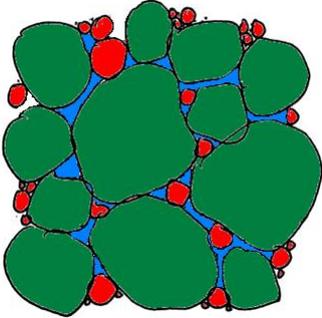
General Design



- Bed and banks should be framework supported not matrix supported.
 - Larger roughness/stability elements should be in contact with each other.
 - Bed should contain 5%-10% fines.

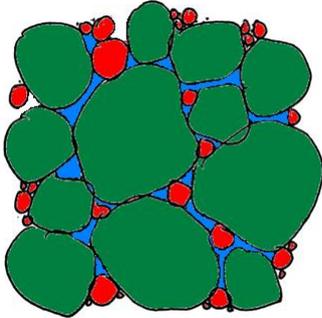
 **Design Bed Components** 

- **Framework rock**
 - Immobile component of design (structural design flood)
- **Void material**
 - Provides seal
 - **Small cobbles & gravels**
 - **Fines (< 2mm)**

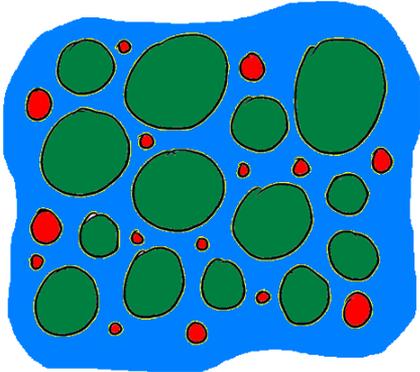


 **Streambed Types** 

Framework-supported
Fines <25%



Matrix-supported
Fines >40%





General Design



- Bed and banks should contain sufficient fines to seal sufficiently (NMFS criteria).
 - Subsurface flows are the typical mechanism for failure.
- Due to these constraints roughened channel designs are **ONLY** to be used in systems with sufficient bedload (NMFS criteria).



General Design



- The design should therefore include collecting and quantifying both the sediment load and size.
- Typical methods to evaluate energy dissipation in fishways can be used to quantify turbulence in roughened channel designs.



General Design



- Although no studies have been performed to definitely correlate fish passage with turbulence levels, a common maximum turbulence (energy dissipation value) used in design is...
 - 7 ft-lb/s over the range of flows expected to pass fish.



Fish Passage Criteria



Roughened Channel



Fish Passage Criteria



- Channel must be designed around stream simulation techniques.
- Channel slope < 6%.
- Total channel length is < 150 ft.
- Bed material must be uniformly graded.
- No subsurface flow.
- Minimum flow depth of 1 ft for adult salmonids.



Fish Passage Criteria



- Bed materials and rock placement mimic channel complexity of the adjacent stream reaches.
- NO hydraulic drops across the entire width of the roughened channel.
- Design must demonstrate that any scouring of fines from the engineered channel will be refilled by subsequent bedload transport.



Fish Passage Criteria

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- It is noted that if the channel roughness of adjacent stream reaches is heavily influenced by woody debris, it may be difficult to mimic this condition with any sort of constructed roughened channel.



Fish Passage Criteria

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- Guidance on the mixture of bed material is still evolving, but general guidance is provided in...
 1. WDFW (2003)
 2. CDFG (2009)



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Project Review & Assessment

Roughened Channel



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Project Review & Assessment

- NMFS engineering support should be anticipated and sought after, for review and approval of roughened channel projects.



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Data for Review

Roughened Channel



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Data for Review

- Selection of roughness values (Manning's "n") and accompanying justification.
- Hydraulic model assumptions and output.
- Target species, life stages and migration timing at project site.



Data for Review



- Calculation of lower and upper fish passage stream flows for each life stage and species and 100-year flow.
- Water surface profiles at existing conditions for upper and lower fish passage stream flows and 100-year flow.



Data for Review



- Water surface profiles with proposed roughened channel for upper and lower fish passage stream flows and 100-year flow.
- Rock and engineered streambed material sizing and thickness calculations.



Data for Review

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- Geotechnical information may be necessary to ensure project design is structurally appropriate.
- Calculations of depths and velocities along length of roughened channel.
- Calculation of overall drop and slope along roughened channel.



Data for Review

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- If at a water diversion, ditch/pump hydraulic calculations showing roughened channel provides sufficient head to divert maximum diversion flow + bypass flow at minimum stream flow considering head losses at flow measurement devices, fish screens, pipes, open ditches, headgates, etc.



Data for Review



- Design drawings showing structural dimensions in plan, elevation, longitudinal profile, and cross-sectional views along with important component details including construction notes on placement of bed material and boulders.
- Post construction evaluation and monitoring plan.



Monitoring



Roughened Channel



Monitoring



- Contingency plan (what are you going to do if it fails?)
- Study plan (collect data to further develop design concept!)
- Monitoring plan
- Adaptive management record (what did you modify and why?)
- Provide a report for presentation/peer review.



- Evaluated until the 50 year return flood.
- Monitoring must include an assessment of passage conditions and/or maintenance of original design conditions, and repaired as necessary to accomplish design passage conditions.



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Maintenance

Roughened Channel



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Maintenance

- May require seasonal or annual maintenance.
- Monitoring plan should include specific maintenance measures to ensure the upstream passage of salmonids in the event that...
 - flow goes subsurface.
 - the structure becomes a turbulent barrier.
 - the structure becomes a velocity barrier.
 - passage is in any other way impeded.



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END

Thank you!



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