



# **Floods, Floodplains & Levees**

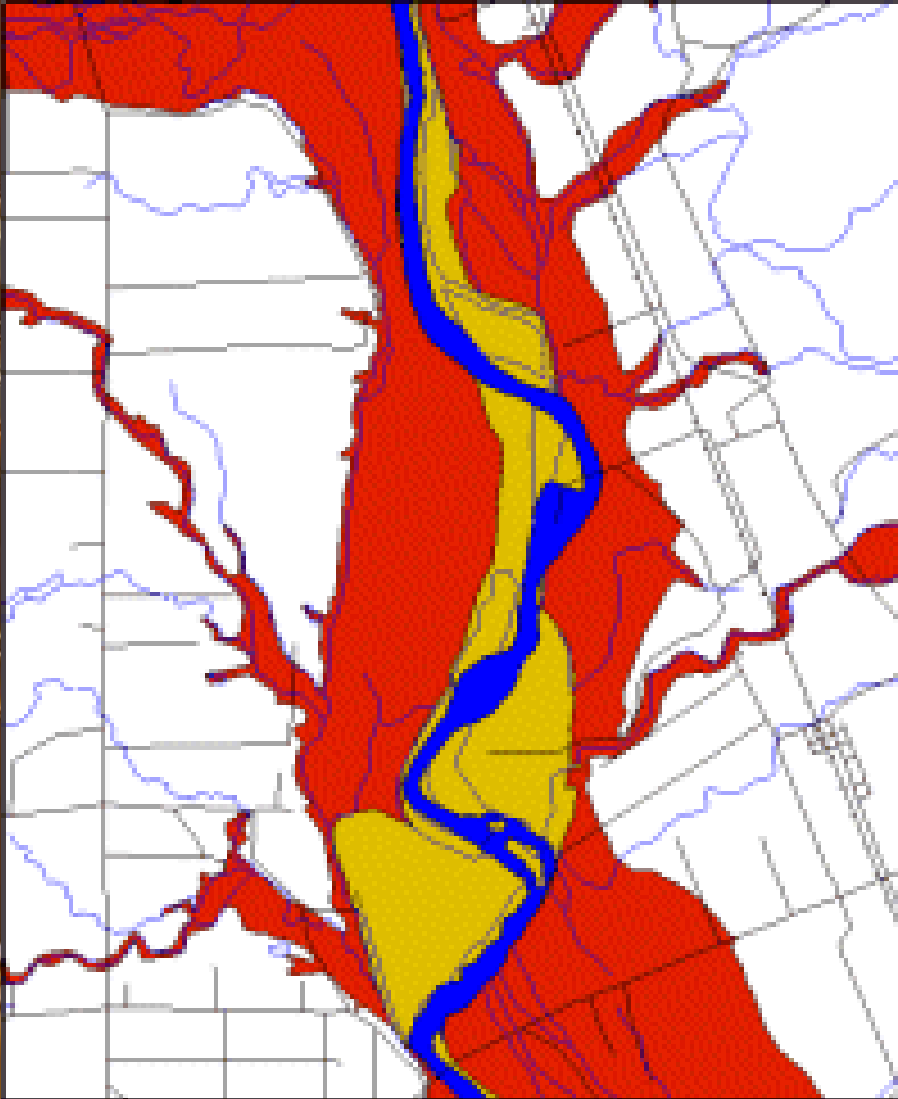
**Let's take a look...**

# Floodplains

- A floodplain is the land surrounding a waterway, into which flood waters spill.



# Floodplains



← In this riverbed map, the river is in blue.

Over time and with flooding, a river changes its course.

It moves in and out of its floodplain.

# Floodplains

- When rivers flow through areas where many people live and work, what happens when the rivers flood?



# Flooding

- Flooding becomes a problem in areas with many people.



**A flooded Mississippi River in Illinois, 1993.**



**Downtown New Orleans after hurricane Katrina, 2005.**

# Levees

- Engineers design and build levees, dams and dikes to keep fast-moving and dangerous flood waters away from people's homes and roads.



Repairing levee at Lagrange, Miss.

**People with shovels repairing a Mississippi levee, 1903.**

# Levees

- The power of water is strong.
- Look at these broken levees:



# Image sources



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Caption: An urbanized river cut off from its floodplain.



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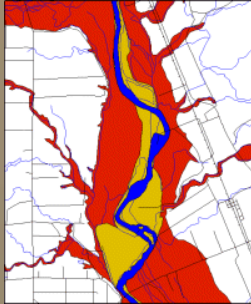
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Floodplain and meander history



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Repairing a Mississippi levee, 1903.



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