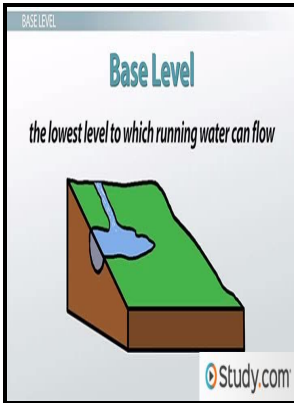


# Effects of Natural Stream Channel Changes on Streamflow Measurement.

## s.n - Climate Change Indicators: Streamflow



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## Climate Change Indicators: Streamflow

Changes in stream channels are often caused by erosion or deposition of streambed materials, seasonal vegetation growth, debris, or ice. USGS computers use these site-specific rating curves to convert the water-level data into information about the flow of the river. Approximately 117 million people—over one-third of the total U.

## Streams and Drainage Systems

However, as they grow, they use a lot of oxygen, and when they die and settle underwater, microorganisms decompose them. This series of photos shows common channel geometries.

## What is surface water and what affects its availability?

Along with nitrate, phosphate is also a component of many fertilizers, and when added in quantity to the water leads to over nutrification, increased algal growth, depleted oxygen, and death of other organisms. Although stage is valuable information for some purposes, most users of streamgage data are interested in streamflow or discharge—the amount of water flowing in the stream or river, commonly expressed in cubic feet per second or gallons per day.

## How Streamflow is Measured

Containment may be accomplished with artificial levees that prevent floodwaters from spreading across the floodplain; channelization that straightens and deepens a channel; retention basins that store floodwaters and release them slowly downstream; or a seawall that prevents storm surges from moving inland and upstream. Bacteria This is a very serious water pollution problem. Most animals are adapted to a narrow range of salinity and cannot live in water that is outside of that range.

## Natural Stream Processes

Alluvial features — Landforms created by rivers, such as floodplains. Geological Survey Interactive map that allows users to locate and trace the sources and sinks of all rivers and major streams in the United States.

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