**Hydrosphere: Stream Notes**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is water flowing downslope along Earth’s surface. Runoff may reach a stream, river, or lake, may evaporate or accumulate and eventually seep into the .
2. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is all the land in which water flows on or under into a major river. All of a river basin’s water ends up in one central river that heads towards an estuary or ocean.
3. We live in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ river basin.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a smaller area of land that drains into a wetland, lake, or small stream. Several watersheds make up a river basin.
5. A stream is a channel with permanent water flow. are streams that flows into other streams, increasing the size of the stream that it is joining. A large stream is called a
 , and all its tributaries make up a stream, or a .
6. A stream \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ forms as the moving water erodes a narrow pathway into rock, creating sediment. Stream \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are the ground bordering the stream on each side.
7. As a stream actively erodes its path through the sediment or rock, a \_\_\_\_\_-shaped channel develops. A stream erodes until it reaches its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , the elevation at which it enters another stream or body of water.
8. A stream carries its load in 3 ways:

 a. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-particles dissolved in water

 b. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-particles small enough to stay afloat in water.

 c. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-materials that are pushed along bottom of stream

Solution/dissolved load-

Suspension load-

Bed load-

1. A stream’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or gradient, decreases as it nears its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Sometimes, the water begins to erode the sides of the channel in such a way that the overall path of the stream starts to bend or wind. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a bend or curve in a stream channel caused by moving water.
2. Outside of curve – where heavy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occurs, water moves fastest. Inside of curve – where \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ occurs, water moves slowest



1. It is common for a stream to cut off a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and once again flow along a straighter path. The cut off meander becomes an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which eventually dries up. At the mouth of the stream, the gradient begins to flatten and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ becomes wide.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (slope) decreases, velocity decreases. In dry regions, a stream’s gradient may suddenly decrease causing the stream to drop its sediment at the base of a slope as a fan-shaped deposit called an *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*.
3. Streams lose velocity when they join \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bodies of quiet water. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the triangular deposit, usually consisting of silt and clay particles, that forms where a stream enters a large body of water, usually found in an .

Alluvial Fan

Delta

1. Excessive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, deposition of eroded particles in surface water, can affect the ecosystem balance within an estuary. What might cause excessive sedimentation?

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1. An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the area in which one or more rivers enter into the ocean, creating brackish water. It’s tidal mouth of a large river, where the of the ocean meets a large stream.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is any area, for at least part of the year, in which the soil is completely saturated or covered with a shallow layer of water. The area surrounding estuaries is typically going to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. What are three reasons to preserve estuaries?
4. What are three reasons to preserve wetlands?
5. Areas downstream, closest to the ocean, are susceptible to all pollutants that have passed through the river basin up to that point, affecting the water quality for coastal inhabitants. Where would the purest samples of water in NC be found?