

HB 345 Testimony Graphics: Feb 6, 2007
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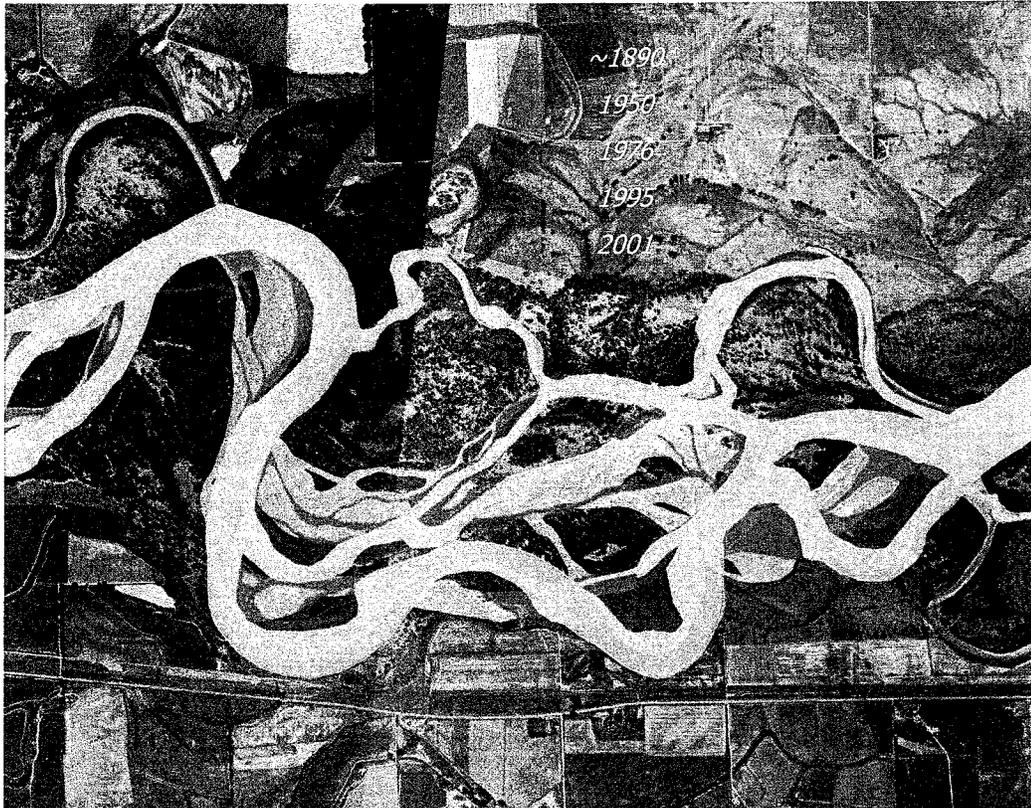


FIGURE 1 Yellowstone River, Rosebud County: 100 years of channel locations (2001 in light green). Channel shifting is associated with regeneration of riparian forests and healthy habitat. High hazard areas extends beyond existing channel banks, where the river is prone to dramatic shifts during high water.



FIGURE 2. Home claimed by Yellowstone River, 1996. This house is well above the 100-year floodplain.



FIGURE 3. Yellowstone River, Park County: Jan 2007 Ice Jam that extended out beyond the river banks onto the floodplain.

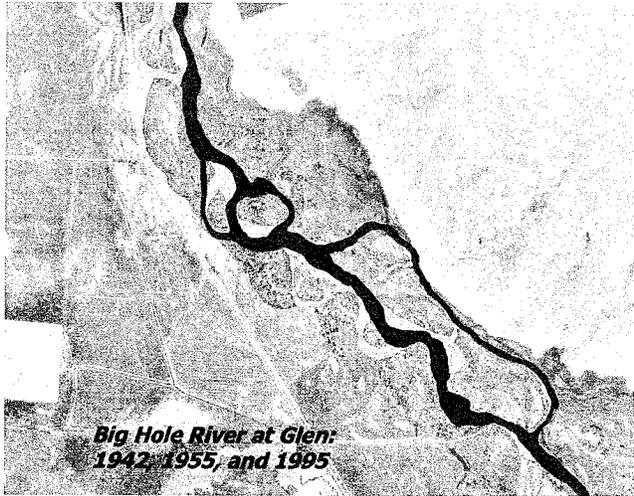


FIGURE 4a. Big Hole River near Glen: 50 years of channel location

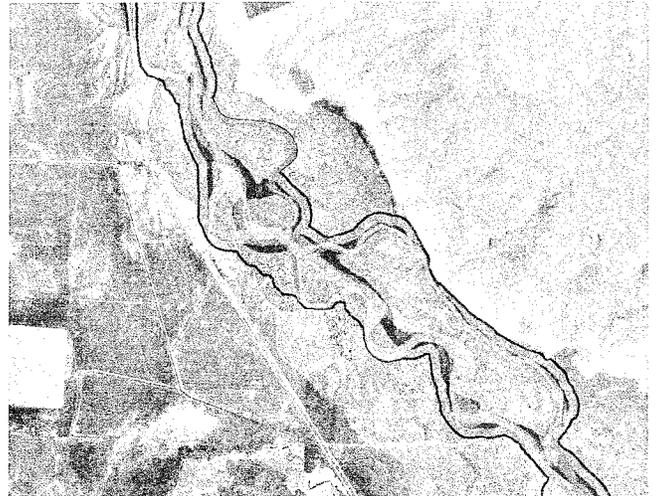


FIGURE 4b. Big Hole River near Glen: Hazard Corridor that includes historic channel locations, and extends well beyond the current channel banks.



FIGURE 5. Madison River Jan 2007: New channel in ballfields due to ice formation on river.



FIGURE 6. Bitterroot River bank armor: Protecting personal investment.

Some Implications of Developing Near Montana's Rivers

Increased taxpayer liability

- Demonstrated risk to human health and property

Degradation of River Function

- Costly construction of bank armoring to protect investments
 - ⇒ "Locking" the location of a river
 - ⇒ Loss of river adjustability to future conditions
 - ⇒ Loss of habitat formation/sustainability

Increased taxpayer liability

- Precedence for long-term government funding to restore function