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ENVI.2010 - Principles of Earth & Environmental Systems I

Study Questions X

Streams and Ground Water

1. Why does stream velocity generally increase downstream, despite a decrease in stream gradient?

2. Compare and contrast meandering and braided streams. What are the factors that determine if a stream shows a braided or meandering pattern?

3. Name and describe the three ways in which material is transported by a stream.

4. Explain the occurrence of alluvial fans and deltas on the basis of the standard stream discharge equation.

5. What is the water table.

6. Define porosity and permeability. Why are these important in terms of the movement of ground water?

7. What is an artesian system?

8. Define and explain karst topography.

9. Explain how springs are formed.

10. When the US Geological Survey conducted its pump test at the Woburn toxic waste site there was a decrease in the flow of the Aberjona River. Explain why this occurred.