

STREAM RESTORATION

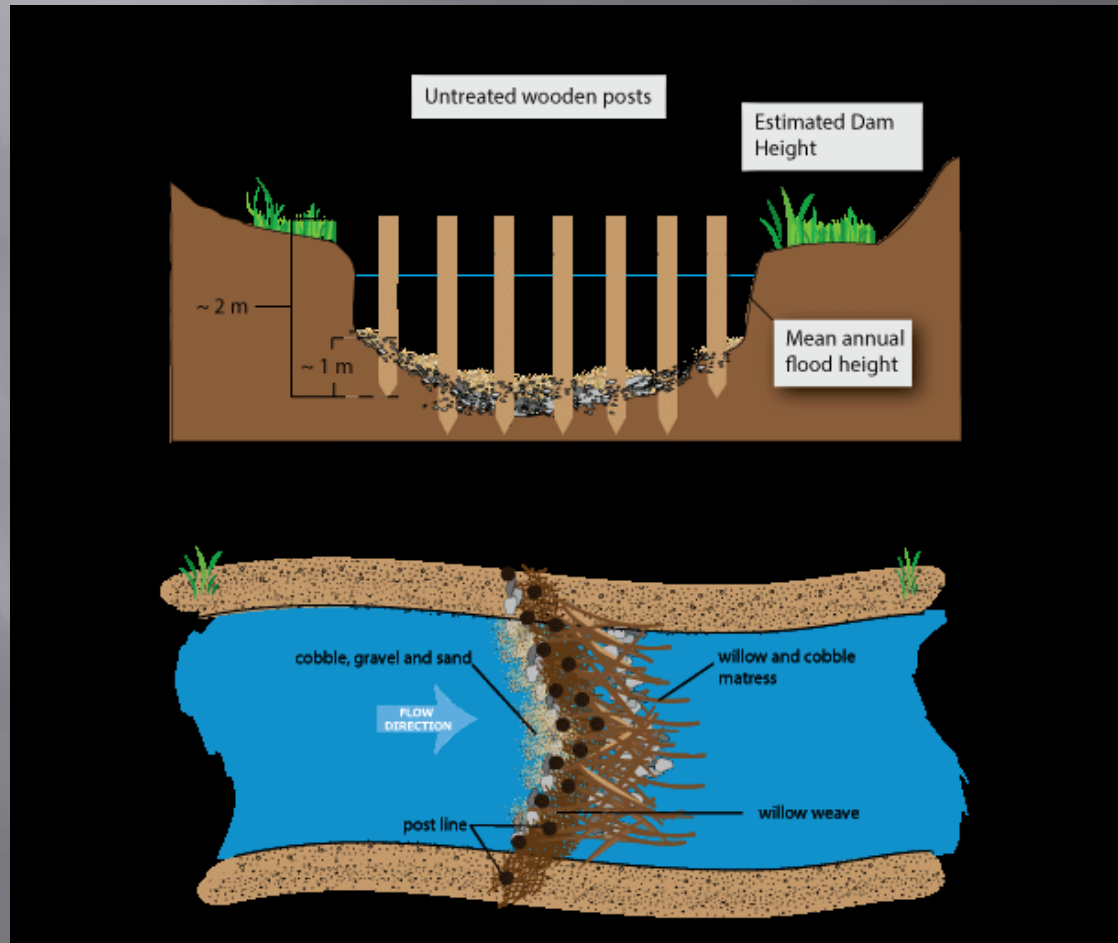
To permit or not to permit?

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Wyoming State Engineer's Office

Water Rights VS Restoration

- ▣ Disconnect between water rights and restoration efforts
- ▣ We have a duty to protect existing rights (within our statutory power)
- ▣ Every restoration technique is a unique situation

Beaver Dam Analogs



Impoundment?

- ▣ Typically permeable
- ▣ What is the beneficial use?
- ▣ What happens if beavers come back?

April 4 2018 Policy

- ▣ Max 10 BDAs on single application
- ▣ Wetlands Use
- ▣ Total capacity 20 acre feet
- ▣ Details of each BDA to be provided
- ▣ Lifetime of 10 years

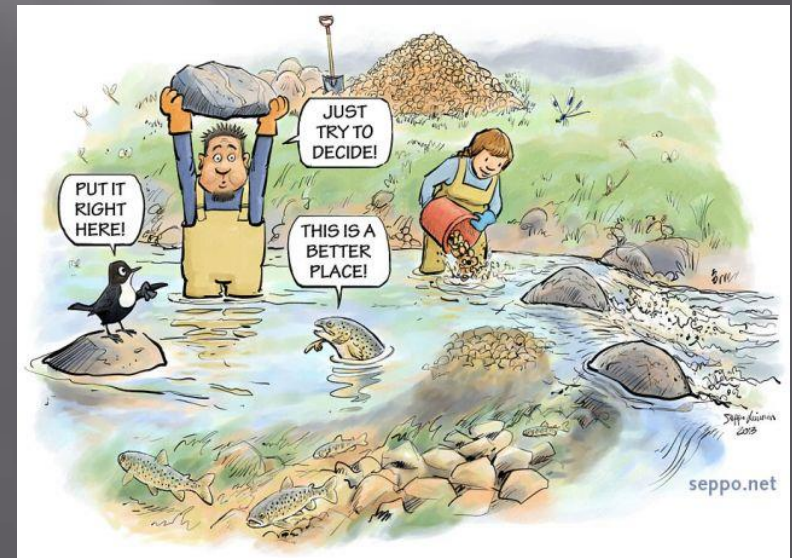
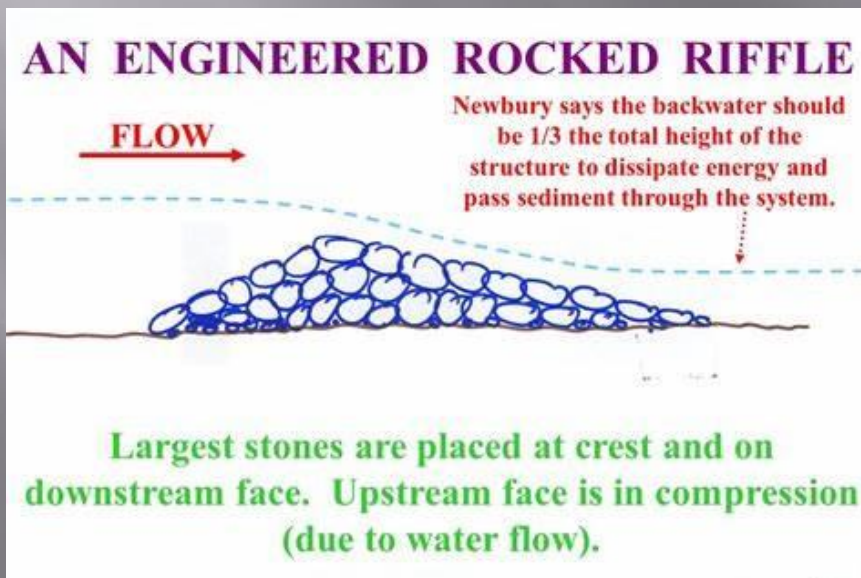
Instream Flow

Biological Restoration

- ▣ Biological/Feasibility Studies
- ▣ Analysis of existing rights
- ▣ POB and POE

Boulder Clusters and Rock Riffles

- ▣ Cover for fish
- ▣ Restore meanders when properly placed
- ▣ Deflect flows from eroding banks

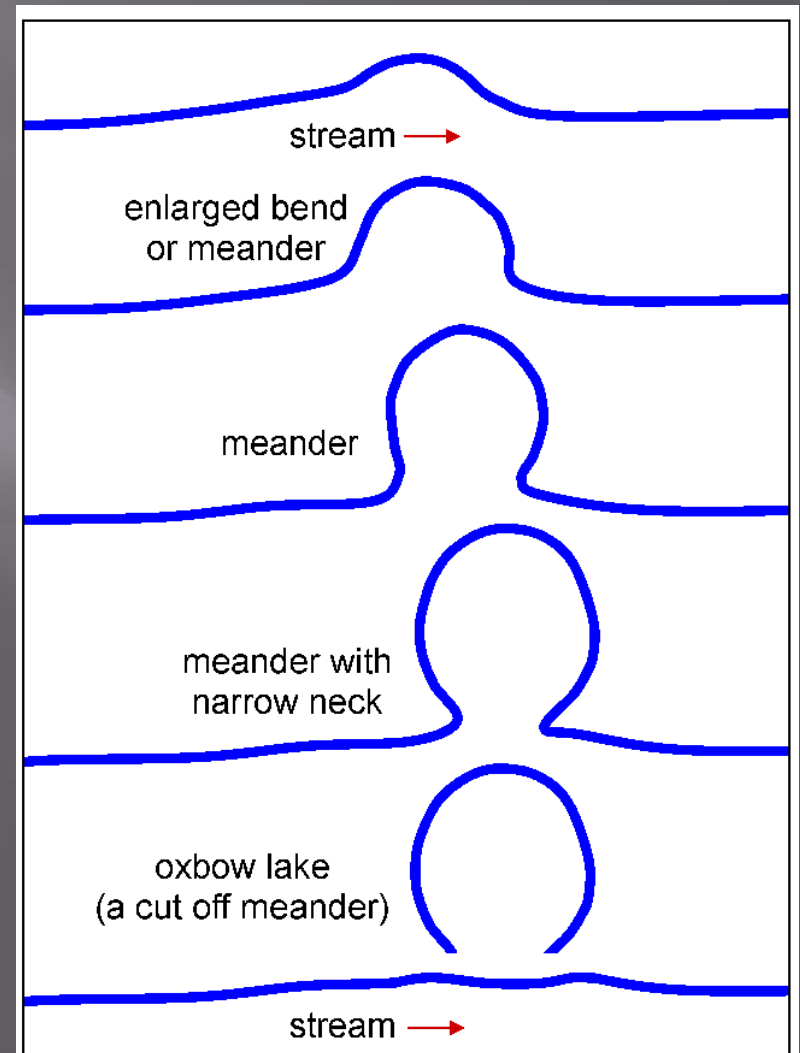


Require a Right?

- ▣ Not storing or diverting water
- ▣ Beneficial use
- ▣ BUT do they have an effect on existing rights?
- ▣ Should we be involved? Civil issue?

Reactivating an Oxbow

- ▣ Is it natural or are we diverting water?
- ▣ Million variables but in general
- ▣ How does it affect down stream appropriators



Efforts Highly Variable

- ▣ Deflectors
- ▣ Cross Vanes
- ▣ Step Pools
- ▣ Engineered Log Jams
- ▣ Bank Stabilization

Do we permit Restoration Efforts?

Depends

▣ Basics:

1. Impounding or diverting?
2. Use?
3. Abandonable?

▣ Complex:

1. Does this effect downstream appropriators?
2. Is this within the jurisdiction of the State Engineer's Office?
3. Logical way of permitting the facility

Water Rights AND Restoration

- ▣ Be proactive
- ▣ Clear and concise policies
- ▣ Steal YOUR ideas
(I will give you credit, probably)

Questions?

