# FLOODS

## SANTA CLARA RIVER
AND
## SESPE CREEK
VICINITY OF FILLMORE, CALIFORNIA

State Highway 23 bridge in
Fillmore during 1938 flood.

# FLOODS

ON THE

## SANTA CLARA RIVER

AND

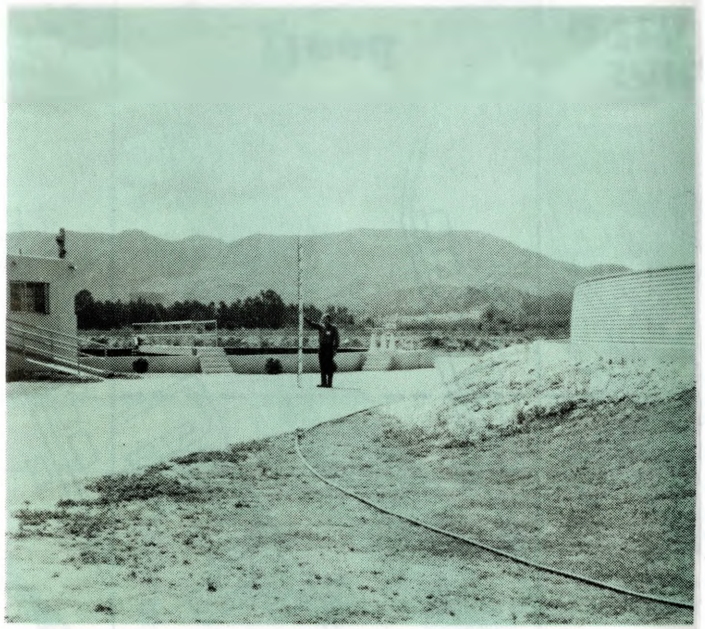
## SESPE CREEK

VICINITY OF FILLMORE, CALIFORNIA

This folder is an announcement of and supplement to the "Flood Plain Information (FPI) Report, Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek, Vicinity of Fillmore, California." The purpose of the report is to present the facts on flood potential and flood hazards on the Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek which will provide a sound basis for land use planning and for management decisions concerning flood plain utilization.

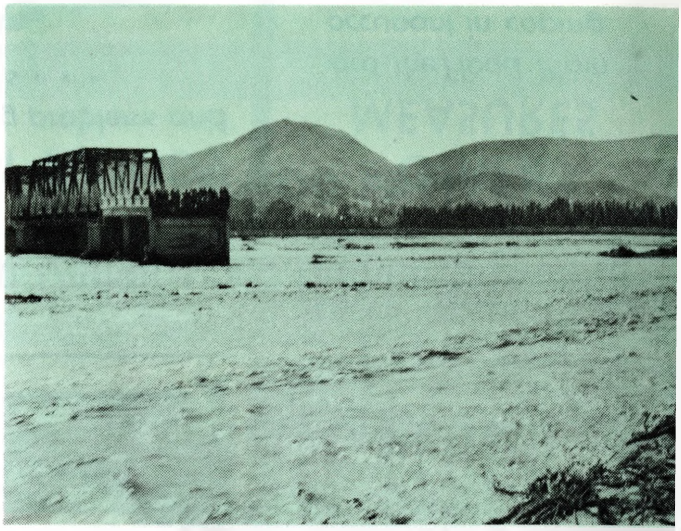
Although the City of Fillmore and other communities along the Santa Clara River have suffered extensive damage from major floods in the past, studies indicate that even larger floods can occur in the future. Emphasis is given to future floods in the FPI report. Maps, profiles, and cross sections have been included to illustrate the possible extent and severity of future floods.

Included in this folder are photographs showing possible future flood heights at the Fillmore sewage disposal plant. The flood height shown for a large flood, the Intermediate Regional Flood (IRF), has a chance of being equaled or exceeded once in 100 years on the average although it could occur in any year. Also indicated is the flood height that would be reached if a very large flood, the Standard Project Flood (SPF), should occur.

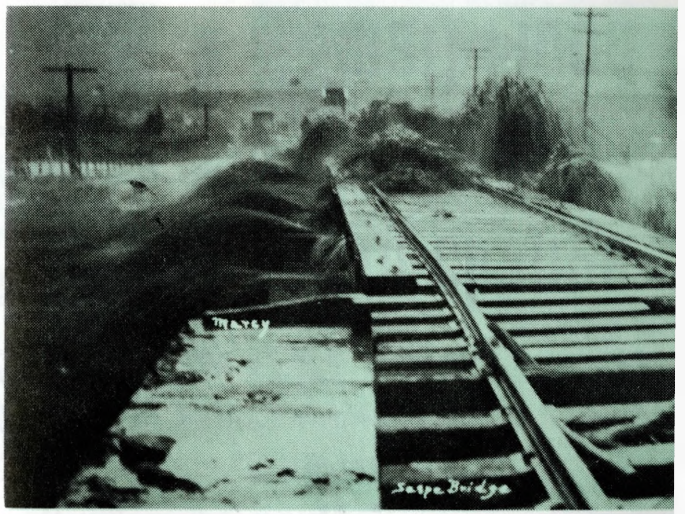



Future flood heights at the Fillmore sewage disposal plant.

Inside are sketches illustrating the horizontal and vertical relationships of flooded areas and a flood area map from the report showing the extent of a Standard Project Flood.

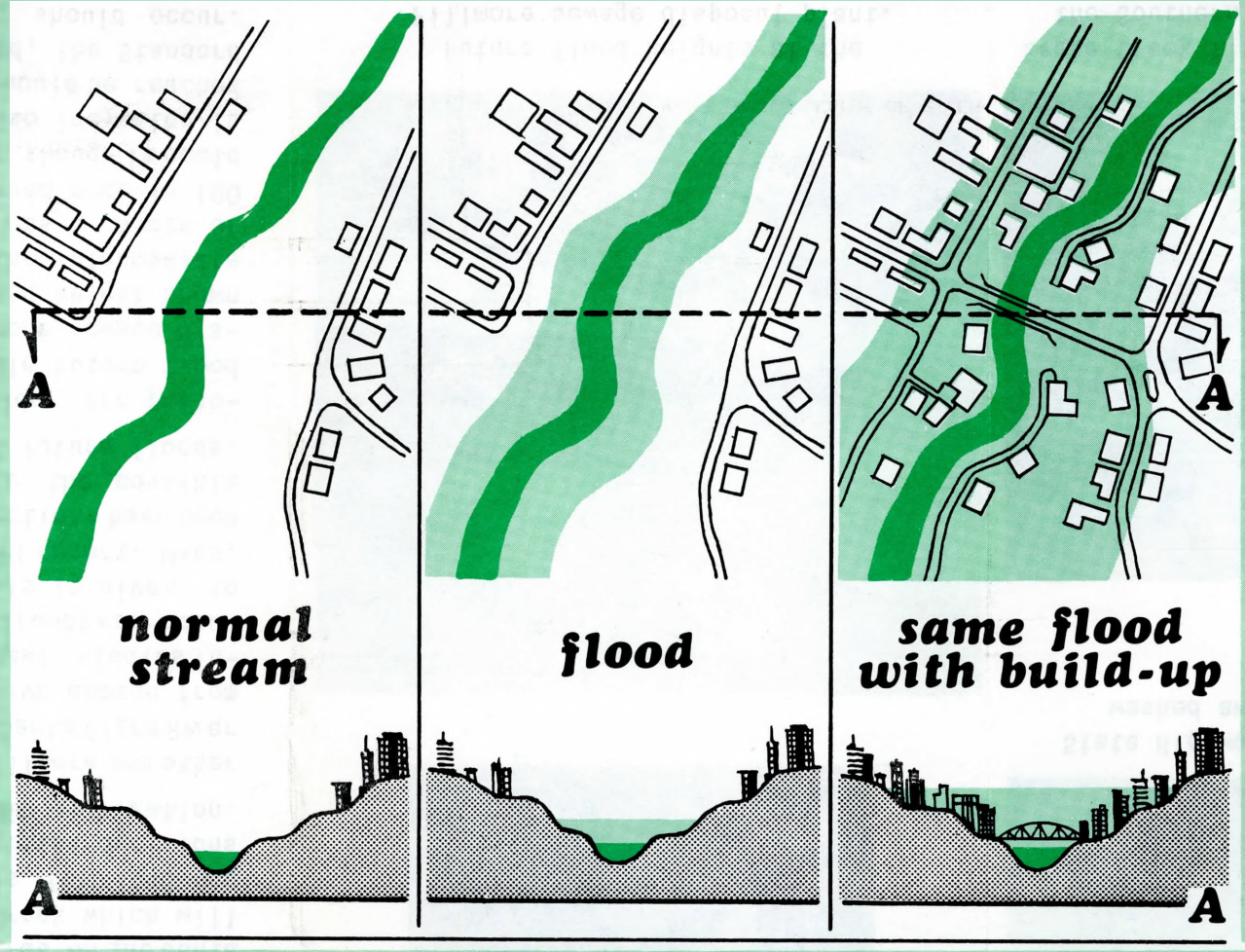


State Highway 23 bridge after it was washed away in the 1938 flood.



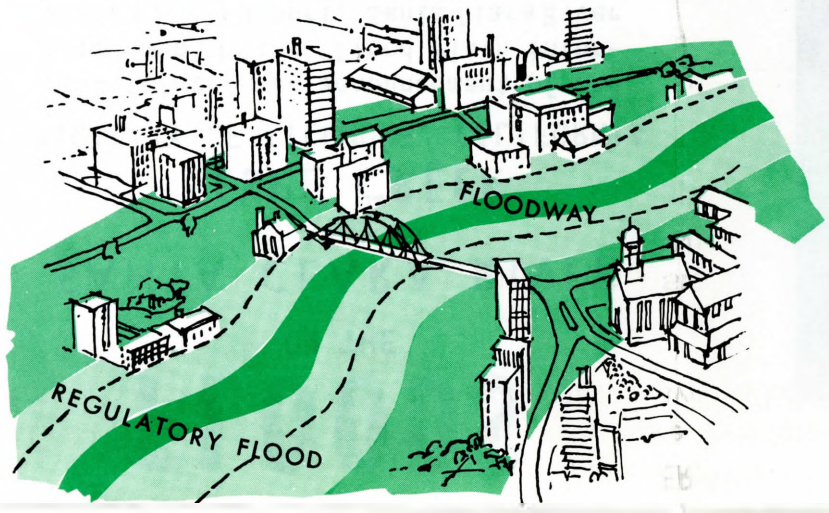
Sespe Creek floodwaters of 1914 battering the Southern Pacific railroad bridge.

**BUILDING** in the **FLOOD PLAIN** can make **FLOODS WIDER** and **DEEPER**




*this* **ENCROACHMENT** can change a Small Flood into a **MAJOR FLOOD**

## *TOOLS* of FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT for the reduction of Flood Damage and Human Suffering



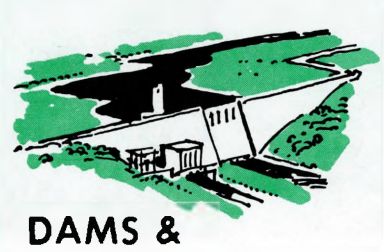

### MEASURES TO REDUCE *VULNERABILITY*

*TO FLOODS provide for a future with more freedom from flood damage, often at minor cost and with little adverse effect on the environment . . . . . .*

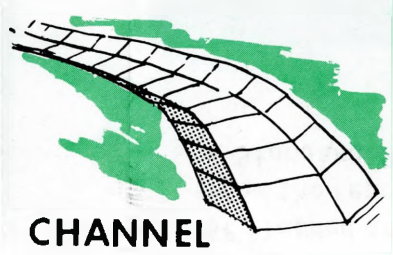
REGULATIONS
(ZONING, BUILDING CODES, SUBDIVISION)
• FLOOD PROOFING • RELOCATIONS •
• URBAN RENEWAL •

### MEASURES TO MODIFY FLOODS

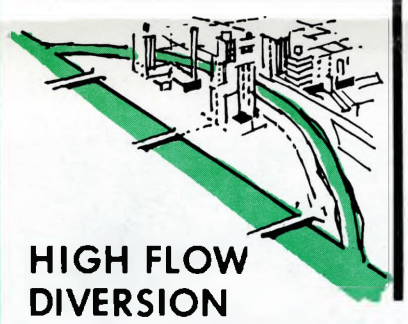
*are often required to alleviate existing problems and sometimes to forestall future problems . . .*



DAMS & RESERVOIRS



CHANNEL ENLARGEMENT



HIGH FLOW DIVERSION

LEVEES

### OTHER MEASURES

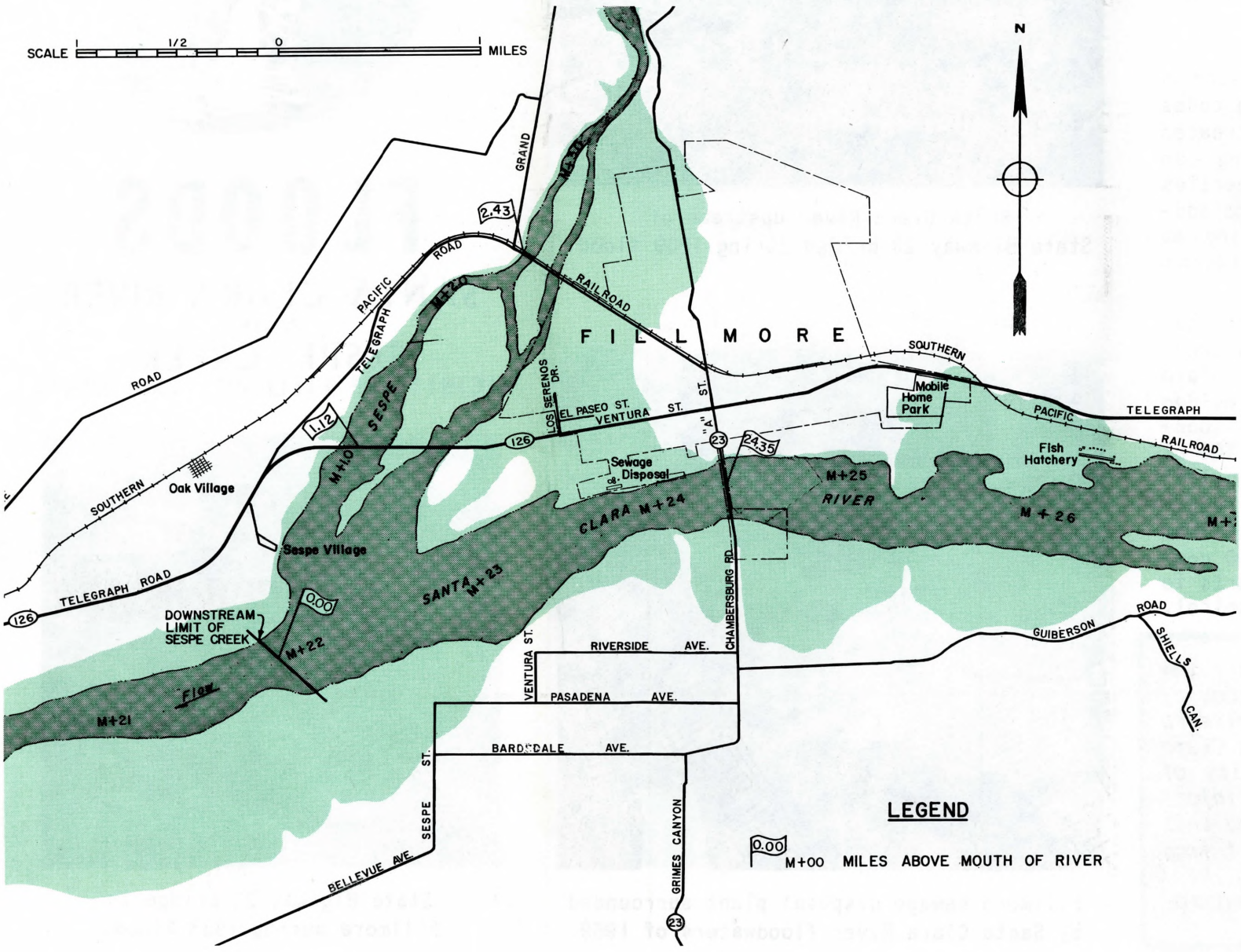
*aid the Flood Plain occupant in coping with floods . . .*

*EDUCATION*

*TAX ADJUSTMENTS*

*FLOOD INSURANCE*

*WARNING & EMERGENCY PLANS*




### FLOOD PATTERNS

FOR

FILLMORE, [redacted]
CALIFORNIA

## LEGEND

**approximate limits of overflow**

NATURAL CHANNEL LIMITS

STANDARD PROJECT FLOOD (SPF)

*PROFILES* in the *Flood Plain Information Report* show flood elevations for the entire study area

# ACTION IS NEEDED

The flood plains of the Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek in the City of Fillmore are highly developed but there are open areas upstream and downstream of Fillmore. With new growth and continuous expansion in the study area, these flood plains will come under heavy pressure for development. The devastating effects of flooding will continue to increase unless action is taken.

Effective regulatory measures such as zoning ordinances and building codes can be designed to prevent increased flood damages. Flood proofing can reduce potential damages to properties already subject to flooding, and additional works to modify flooding can also be a part of the long-run solution.

The Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek flood plains are not the only areas with flooding problems. Flood plain information has already been provided for many of several thousand flood-plagued communities. Nearly 400 of those having FPI reports by mid 1971 have adopted or strengthened regulations, while 700 others have them under study. An additional 600 communities have used FPI reports to establish interim land use control.

*This folder has been prepared for the Board of Supervisors of Ventura County by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers from data in the report "Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek, Vicinity of Fillmore, California, Flood Plain Information." Copies of the report and this folder are available upon request from the Ventura County Flood Control District, 597 East Main Street, Ventura, California 93001.*

Santa Clara River upstream of State Highway 23 bridge during 1969 flood.

Fillmore sewage disposal plant surrounded by Santa Clara River floodwaters of 1969.