Floodplains

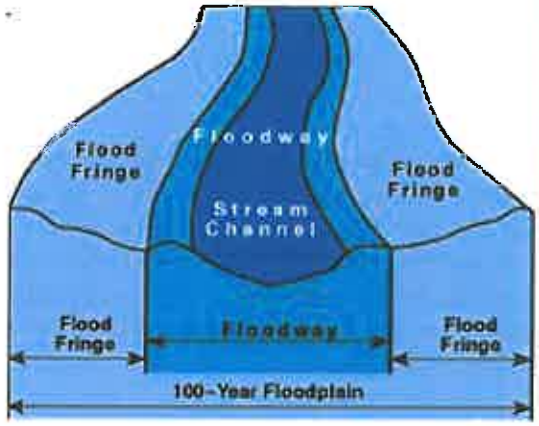

Photo Source: CDOT

01-0020-11

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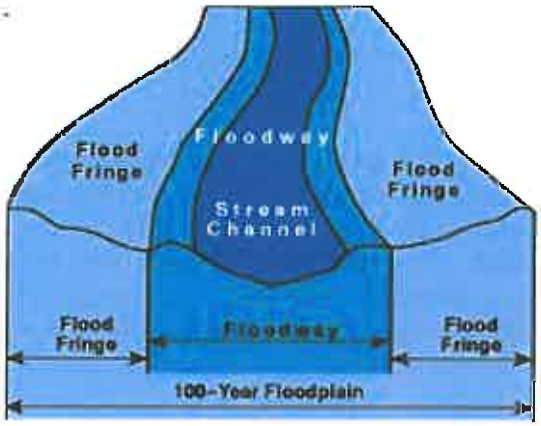

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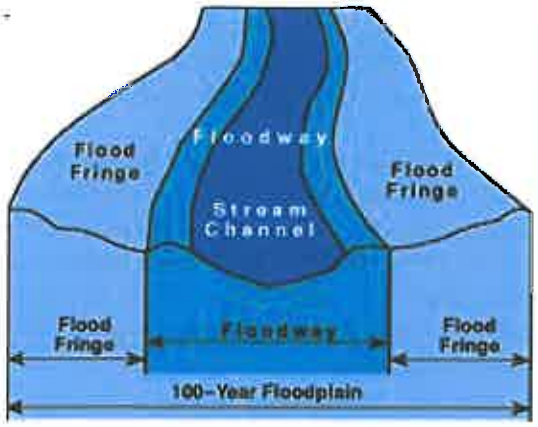

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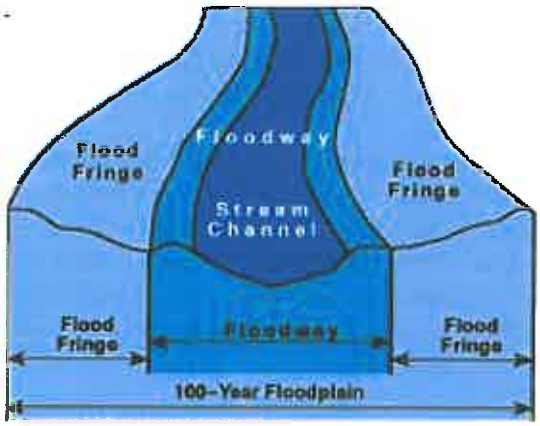

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Floodplains

Floodplain impacts are one of the many considerations taken into account in the development and environmental analysis of CDOT transportation projects. A floodplain is the lowland adjacent to a water body such as a river, creek, stream or lake. This area will be inundated with water occasionally, depending upon the amount of precipitation that falls in its surrounding watershed. The area located within the 100-year floodplain is that which has a 1% chance of being flooded in a given year.

Development that encroaches into a floodplain has the potential to modify the floodplain and thus put other property at risk of flooding. Under Presidential Executive Order 11988, all federal-aid projects must make diligent efforts to avoid adverse effects to floodplains and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values of floodplains.

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