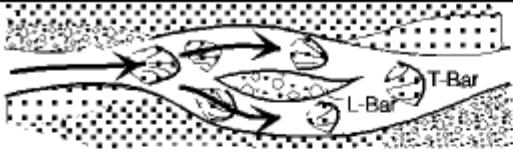
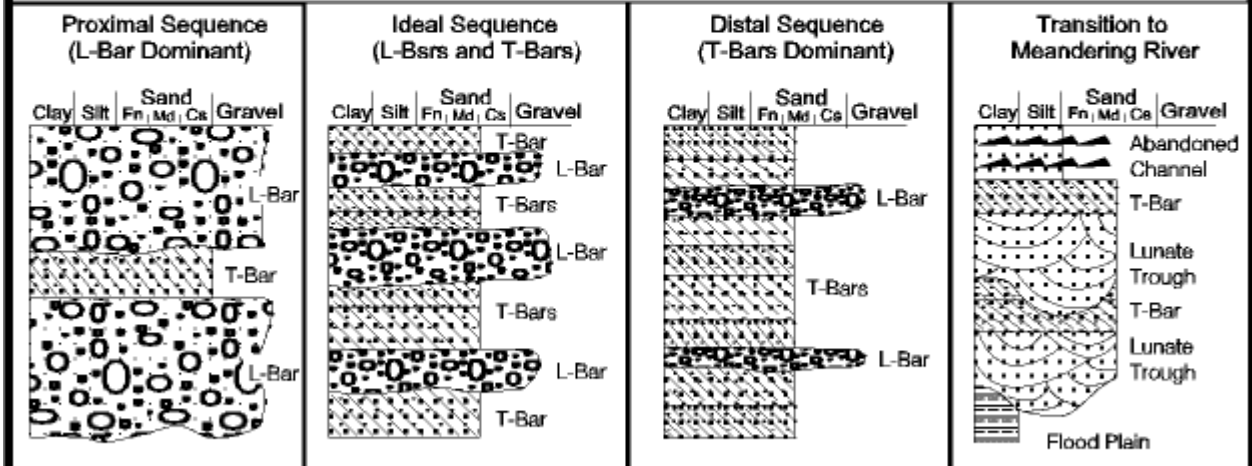


THE BRAIDED RIVER - Bar and T-Bar Sequences



Areal view of braided river

Braided rivers have "flashy discharge"; that is, water level goes up and down on a daily scale. They are braided because sediment transported during high water is deposited (as L-Bars) during low water in the channel center forcing the channel to split, or braid, around the bar. In time the entire valley is braided; braided rivers have no separate flood plain.



L-Bar = "Longitudinal Bar"; gravel deposited in a channel center. T-Bar = "Transverse Bar"; large planar cross-bedded sands; T-Bars are not large scale ripples but distinct bed forms.



A braided river, Animas river, Silverton Colorado.