

**Slope:** The angle or slant of a stream channel or land surface

**Alluvial Fan:** A fan-shaped landform deposited at the end of a steep canyon where the slope becomes flatter. Fans are usually found in arid regions, like Death Valley

**Flood:** A very heavy flow of water, which is greater than the normal flow of water and goes over the stream's normal channel

**Flash Flood:** Rises and falls rapidly with little or no advance warning, usually the result of very heavy rainfall over relatively small area. Flash floods can be caused by

sudden heavy rainfall, dam failure, or the thaw of an ice jam

**Levee:** An embankment along a stream that protects land from flooding. Levees can be natural or constructed.

**Dam:** A construction or wall across a river that holds back the water flowing

through the river, creating a reservoir or lake

**Floodplain:** The area around a river that is covered by water flowing over the riverbank during a flood