

MEANDERING INDEX: SINUOSITY

A river's **sinuosity** is the rivers tendency to move back and forth across the floodplain, in an S-shaped pattern, over time.

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a string to measure along the stream channel from point A to point B on each drawing. Apply the length of the string to the scale to determine the length of the stream channel. Using the same technique measure the length of the valley from point A to point B. Apply measurements to the formula:

$$\text{Meandering Index} = \frac{\text{Length of stream channel (A to B)}}{\text{Length of River Valley (A to B)}}$$

If the meandering index is greater than 1.3 the river meanders.

Name of the River	Meandering Index	Meander? (Yes No)
Big Muddy		
Little Muddy		

