

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Bear Creek

Bear Creek is a small stream in western South Dakota. It has formed a narrow flood plain and flows to the northwest in this view. This section of Bear Creek's valley is about 60 meters (200 feet) lower than the surrounding plain. The straight feature that stretches from O29 to T30 may indicate a fault line.

1. In what stage of maturity is Bear Creek? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Two small tributaries feed into Bear Creek from the east near D16. In what stage of maturity are these two streams? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Bear Creek is meandering within a narrow valley. During the next thousand years, will this valley tend to increase more in width or depth? Explain your reasoning. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. The land to the east and west of Bear Creek is quite flat. How does this affect the drainage of water after a heavy rainstorm? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you see any places where Bear Creek might have changed its course recently? Give the coordinates of at least one location. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Continued...)

6. A very tight meander at G19 appears to be on the verge of connecting two loops of Bear Creek. Make two drawings showing the shape of that part of the stream now and how it might look in fifty years.



now



in fifty years