

The Ribbon of Green

Change in Riparian Vegetation in the Southwestern United States

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Principal photography by Dominic Oldershaw

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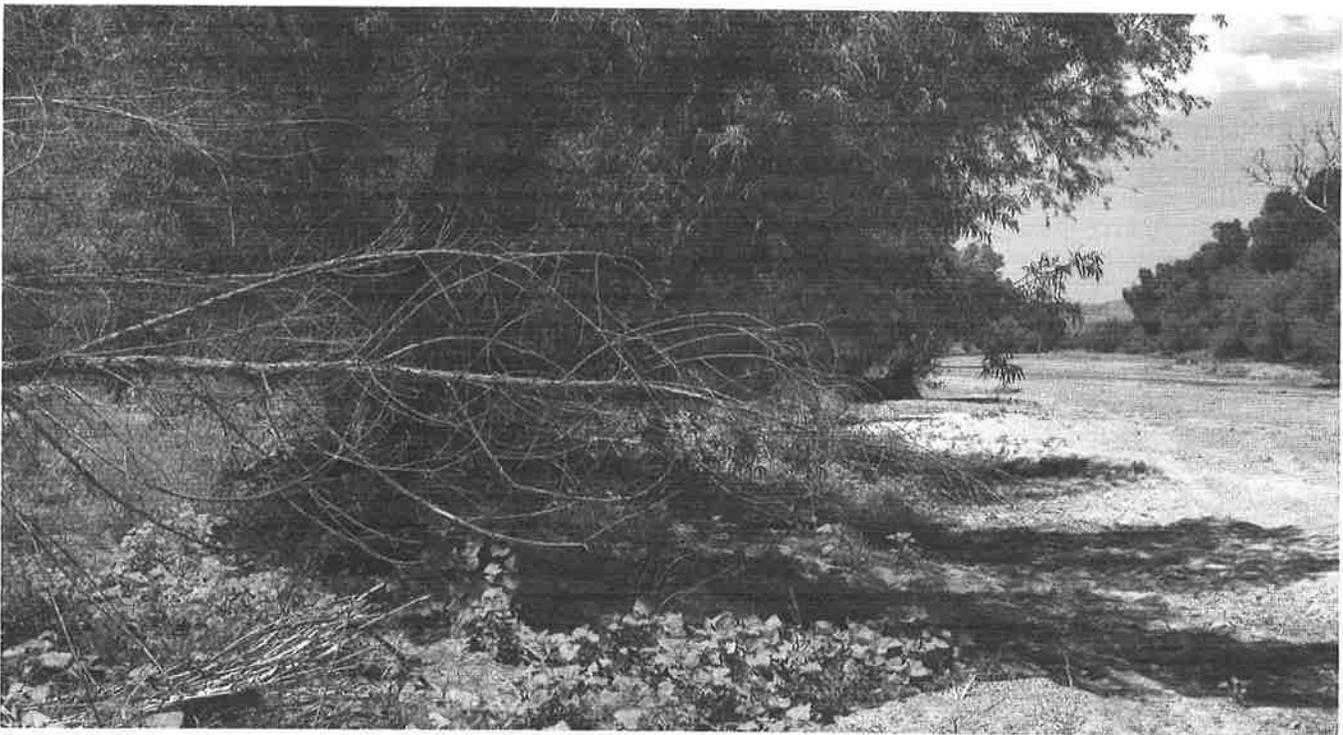
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A



B

Figure 21.5 Photographs of the Santa Cruz River near Nogales, Arizona.

A. (November 24, 1930.) This downstream view, one of three photographs taken in the early 1930s showing this general perspective, shows the stilling well and cableway at the gaging station on the Santa Cruz River near Nogales. Frémont cottonwood and black willow appear along the river in the distance. The vegetation on the hillside behind the cableway tower consists of mesquite and catclaw. (W. E. Dickinson 875, courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey.)

B. (May 21, 2001.) Riparian vegetation has increased in this reach despite the devastating floods of 1977 and 1983. Black willow blocks most of the downstream view, and cottonwood and black willow are more numerous along the right bank (*right side*), despite the appearance of one dead cottonwood on the extreme right. (D. Oldershaw, Stake 3781.)