

Braiding: River (Fluvial) depositional feature

This example is from Ballysadare Estuary, Co. Sligo. It is marked with a Number 1 on the map of Ireland below. This image was collected by INFOMAR using bathymetric (measuring water depths) imagery.

The image shows braiding along the old stage of the river as it enters the sea. The different colours on the image below indicate varying depths of water across the river channel. As the river slowed it deposited its load (material carried by the river) along the river bed.

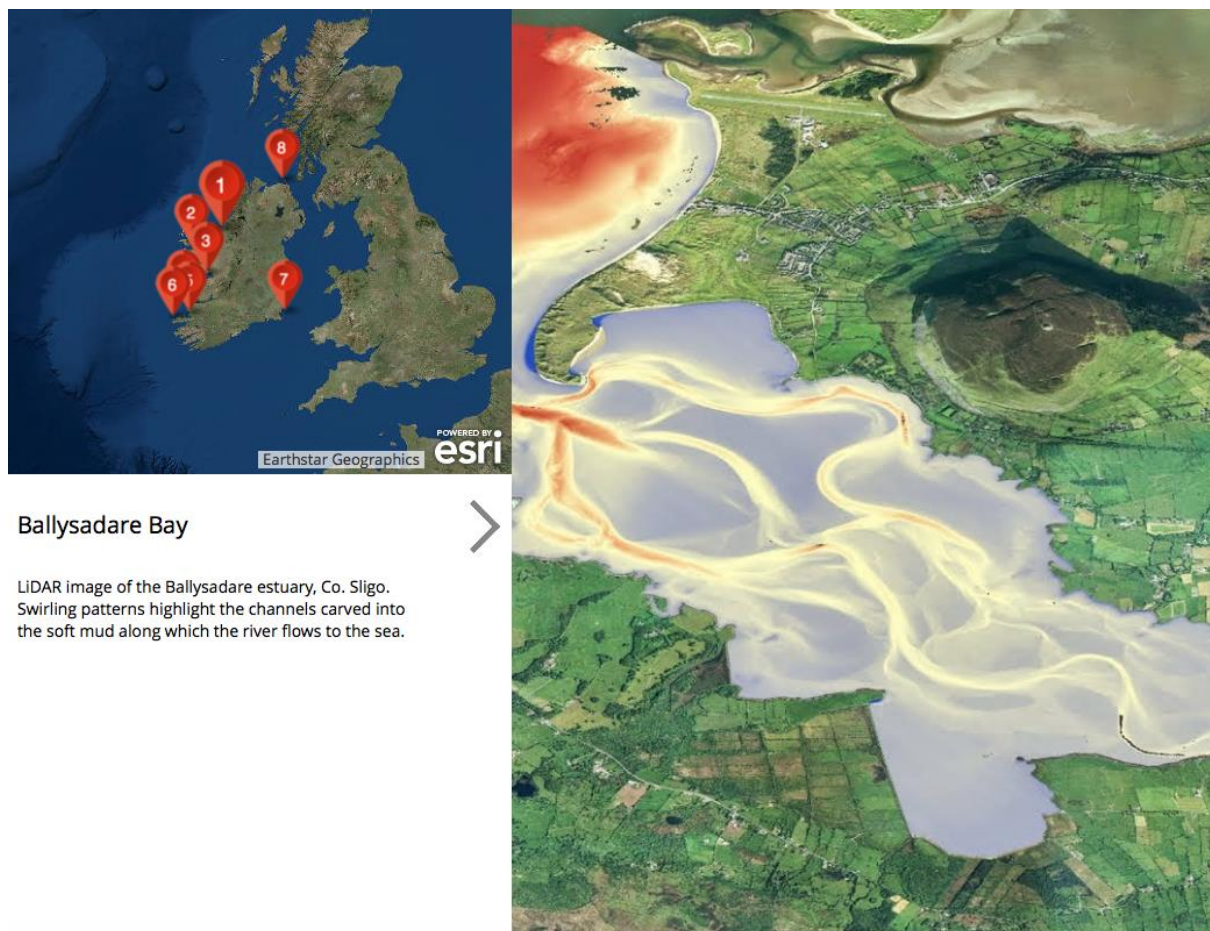
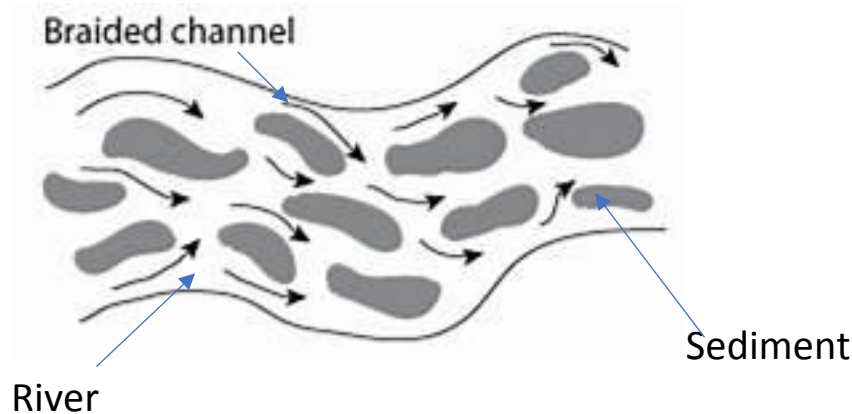


Image taken from INFOMAR Story Map

<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapTour/index.html?appid=d2c9b1436b5e48c9846b4602a0d2dce4>

Formation:

Some rivers have broken up into lots of small channels that continually split and join as sediment builds up on the riverbed. These are called braided rivers. Braided rivers are usually wide but shallow and often slow moving. They form on land that is fairly flat and where the river bank is easily eroded. Another famous example of a braided river is the Brahmaputra river in Bangladesh.



Answer the following questions:

1. From what section of your geography course does this material link to?

2. What different types of sources did you examine on braided rivers today?

3. Did you try to ask geographical questions of the information such as Who? What? Why? How? When? Where?

4. What other physical features are created by fluvial deposition?

5. What geographical skills have you used today?

6. Write down one piece of new information that you have learned from today's work?



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