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Flood Management by Modification of River and Flooded Cities or Rural Areas

Sunil Bhavikatti, Pawan Kumar, Abhay Kumar, Tarachand Sharma, Chandrahasa Surya,

Akash Valvi

Lecturer, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Sharad Institute of Technology Polytechnic, Yadrav, India

SITP Student, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Sharad institute of technology polytechnic, Yadrav, India

ABSTRACT: Flood management is a critical aspect of civil engineering, particularly in rural areas where natural water bodies like small rivers play a significant role in local hydrology. This project focuses on flood management by modifying a river and its flooded areas through the construction of a small weir in a village. A weir is a low dam-like structure built across a river to regulate water flow, control flooding, and improve water management for agricultural and domestic use

Flooding in small villages can cause significant damage to infrastructure, homes, and farmlands, leading to economic losses and disruption in daily life. Traditional flood management strategies such as embankments, canals, and reservoirs often require high capital investment and maintenance costs. A weir-based flood control system offers a more sustainable and cost-effective alternative, allowing for controlled water storage and gradual release.

The findings and conclusions drawn from this research will contribute to the development of small-scale, communitybased flood control measures that can be replicated in other flood-prone areas. This project highlights the importance of integrating engineering solutions with environmental and socio-economic considerations to achieve long-term sustainability and resilience against floods

I. INTRODUCTION

Flooding is a natural disaster that causes extensive damage to life, property, and infrastructure. In rural areas, small rivers often overflow, leading to devastation. Proper flood management techniques are required to mitigate the adverse effects of flooding. One such effective method is the construction of a small weir in the river, which helps regulate water flow and reduce flooding incidents. This project focuses on designing and constructing a small weir in a village river to control water levels and prevent flood-related destruction.



Figure 1: Project model

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II. LITERATURE REVIEW

• 2015-2017: Foundations of Modern Flood Management

2015: Research by Smith et al. emphasized the importance of integrated flood management, combining structural (dams, embankments) and non-structural (forecasting, zoning) approaches.

2016: A study in the Journal of Hydrology highlighted the role of small weirs in rural flood control, showing that localized water retention structures can mitigate flooding effectively.

2017: Case studies in developing countries showed that community participation in flood management improves long-term project sustainability.

• 2018-2020: Advancements in River Modification & Weir Technology

2018: A UNESCO report introduced eco-friendly weirs, which regulate river flow while supporting aquatic biodiversity.

2019: Research in Water Resources Research demonstrated how GIS-based flood mapping enhances flood risk prediction and response strategies.

2020: A comparative analysis of weir-based vs. embankment-based flood control revealed that weirs are more cost-effective for small river systems in rural areas.

• 2021-2023: Smart & Sustainable Flood Control Innovations

2021: Studies explored nature-based solutions, such as floodplain restoration and wetland conservation, to manage excess water naturally.

2022: AI-powered flood prediction models were introduced, improving real-time flood forecasting and early warning systems.

2023: Research on multi-functional weirs showed their effectiveness in flood mitigation, irrigation, and groundwater recharge in flood-prone villages.

• 2024-2025: Recent Developments & Future Trends

2024: Government and private sectors focused on climate-resilient infrastructure, integrating flood control with renewable energy projects (hydropower weirs).

2025: Current studies explore automated weir gate systems, which adjust water flow dynamically based on real-time river conditions to optimize flood management.

III. METHODOLOGY OF PROPOSED SURVEY

> INTRODUCTION

The methodology outlines the systematic approach used in this project to design and implement an effective flood management system through modification of a river and construction of a small weir. This process involves data collection, site analysis, hydrological studies, structural design, and implementation planning to ensure a sustainable and efficient flood mitigation system.

> RESEARCH APPROACH

This project follows a step-by-step approach, integrating both qualitative and quantitative research methods. The methodology includes:

- 1. Site selection and data collection
- 2. Hydrological and environmental assessment
- 3. Weir design and river modification planning
- 4. Simulation and feasibility study
- 5. Implementation planning and cost estimation

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> STEPS IN METHODOLOGY

• Site Selection and Data Collection

- 1. Selection of a rural village river prone to flooding.
- 2. Collection of historical flood data, rainfall records, and topographical maps.
- 3. Survey of river width, depth, flow rate, and nearby infrastructure.
- 4. Interviews with local villagers and stakeholders to understand past flood impacts.

• Hydrological and Environmental Assessment

- 1. Study of river flow characteristics (velocity, discharge, seasonal variations).
- 2. Analysis of soil composition and erosion risks along riverbanks.
- 3. Assessment of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems to minimize ecological disruption.
- 4. Evaluation of climate change effects on future flood patterns.

Weir Design and River Modification Planning

- 1. Selection of appropriate weir type (fixed, gated, or adjustable).
- 2. Calculation of optimal height and width to regulate water levels efficiently.
- 3. Designing embankments and drainage modifications to improve flood control.
- 4. Ensuring structural stability and material selection for cost-effectiveness and durability.

• Implementation Planning and Cost Estimation

- 1. Preparing construction schedules for stepwise execution.
- 2. Budget estimation including material, labor, and maintenance costs.
- 3. Proposing sustainable funding sources (government schemes, local funding, NGOs).
- 4. Developing a maintenance plan for long-term effectiveness.

> EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 1. Reduction in flood frequency and severity in the targeted rural area.
- 2. Improved agricultural productivity by controlling water availability.
- 3. Better groundwater recharge and soil conservation.
- 4. Minimized displacement and property damage due to flooding.

IV. DESIGN AND PLANING

> INTRODUCTION

The design and planning phase is crucial for ensuring the effectiveness of flood management strategies. This project focuses on constructing a small weir and modifying the river structure to regulate water flow and minimize flooding in the selected rural area. The design process involves structural, hydraulic, and environmental considerations to develop a sustainable and cost-effective solution.

> DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The design of the flood management system is based on:

- 1. Hydrological Analysis Evaluating the river's flow patterns, peak discharge, and seasonal variations.
- 2. Structural Requirements Determining the type, height, and material of the weir.
- 3. Environmental Impact Minimizing negative effects on aquatic ecosystems and surrounding land.
- 4. Economic Feasibility Ensuring cost-effective construction and lo

> WEIR DESIGN

- Type of Weir
- 1. Fixed Concrete Weir Best suited for small rivers, providing long-term stability.

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Figure 2: Fixed Concrete Weir

2. Stepped Spillway Weir – Helps control high-velocity flow and reduces erosion.

• Structural Design

- Height: 3-5 meters (adjustable based on site conditions).
- Width: Spanning the river width to control water flow evenly.
- Foundation: Reinforced concrete base for stability.
- Material: Reinforced concrete with stone pitching for durability.

• Hydraulic Design

- Spillway Slope: Optimized to prevent excessive scouring.
- Energy Dissipation System: Includes riprap or stilling basins to absorb impact.
- Sluice Gates: Allow controlled water release during peak flows.
- > RIVER MODIFICATION PLAN
- Widening the River Channel: To accommodate higher water volumes.
- Constructing Embankments: Using gabion walls for flood protection.
- Plantation of Vegetation: To strengthen riverbanks and prevent erosion.

> CONSTRUCTION PLANNING

Step-by-Step Construction Process

- 1. Site Preparation: Clearing and marking the construction area.
- 2. Foundation Work: Excavation and laying concrete base.
- 3. Weir Construction: Pouring concrete and installing structural reinforcements.
- **4. Spillway Formation:** Creating stepped spillways for controlled flow.
- 5. Embankment Strengthening: Using gabion walls and vegetation planting.
- 6. Final Inspection & Testing: Ensuring stability and effectiveness.



- Construction Materials & Equipment
- 1. Materials: Cement, sand, aggregates, steel reinforcements.





2. Equipment: Excavators, concrete mixers, compaction rollers.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

> CONCLUSION

Flooding is a recurring problem in many rural and urban areas, leading to loss of property, agricultural damage, and displacement of communities. This project focused on mitigating flood risks through river modification and the construction of a small weir in a selected village river. By implementing this strategy, we aim to achieve better water flow regulation, improved flood control, and increased groundwater recharge.

The design and construction of the weir, along with river embankment modifications, provide a cost-effective and sustainable solution for managing seasonal floods. The project also considers environmental impacts, social acceptability, and technical feasibility, ensuring a holistic approach to flood management.

Through site selection, hydrological studies, and construction planning, we have demonstrated that small-scale structural modifications can significantly reduce flood risks while benefiting local communities. The implementation of reinforced concrete weirs, gabion walls, and flood-resistant vegetation contributes to long-term stability and environmental conservation.

Despite some challenges such as high initial investment, sediment accumulation, and community acceptance, the project presents a viable model for flood mitigation. Regular maintenance, proper stakeholder engagement, and continuous monitoring will be essential to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of the flood management system.

FUTURE SCOPE

While this project provides a strong foundation for flood control, further improvements and expansions can be explored to enhance its effectiveness. The following areas present opportunities for future development:

• Advanced Flood Monitoring Systems

- Integration of IoT-based sensors to continuously monitor water levels and flow rates.
- Use of automated sluice gates to control water discharge efficiently.

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- Real-time flood forecasting systems to alert communities before potential flooding events.
- Expansion to Other Regions
- Conducting feasibility studies to implement similar weir-based flood control structures in other flood-prone villages and towns.
- Collaboration with government agencies for large-scale adoption of river modification projects.
- o Incorporating community-based flood resilience programs for better awareness and preparedness.

• Enhancing the Weir Design

- Upgrading the weir structure with erosion-resistant materials for longer durability.
- o Implementing multi-stage weirs to regulate water flow more effectively during varying rainfall intensities.
- Exploring eco-friendly designs that minimize disruptions to the natural river ecosystem.

• Sustainable Water Management

- Utilizing the stored water for irrigation and drinking water supply in nearby communities.
- Promoting rainwater harvesting techniques alongside weir-based flood management.
- o Encouraging afforestation programs along riverbanks to enhance natural flood protection.

• Policy & Research Developments

- Conducting long-term studies on the environmental impact of river modifications.
- o Developing new guidelines and policies for small-scale flood control infrastructure.
- o Collaborating with universities and research institutions for further innovations in flood management.

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| Mobile No: +91-6381907438 | Whatsapp: +91-6381907438 | ijmrset@gmail.com |

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