



As shown on **Figure 3.1.9**, the profile of the channel slope becomes flatter progressing downstream. In the most general sense, incision dominates the steep, upper watershed and plan form adjustments are most common in the relatively flat lower watershed.

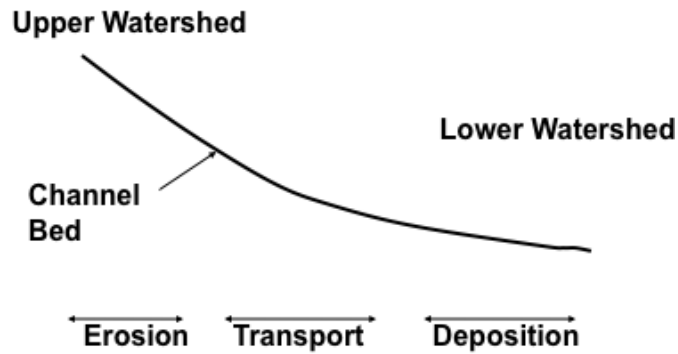


Figure 3.1.9. Sediment Transport Zones

Stream crossings such as bridges and culverts can also reset river formation, as shown on **Figure 3.1.10**. In developing areas, the characteristic profile shape of natural watersheds may be repeated after each hard crossing that influences transport of water and sediment. These obstructions may geomorphically isolate the reach.

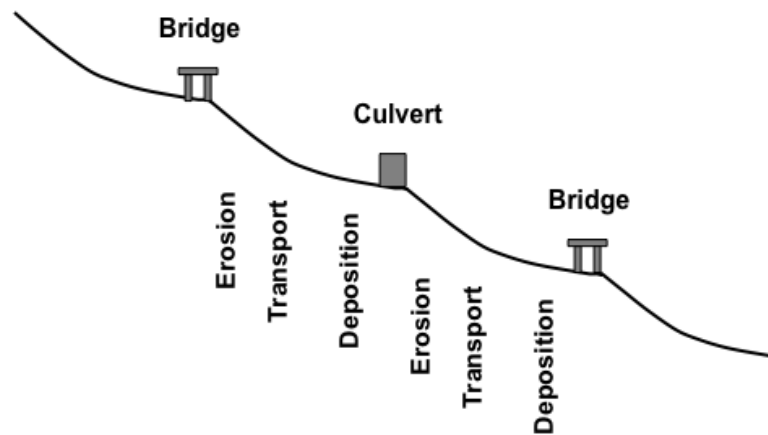


Figure 3.1.10. Geomorphologic Isolation by Infrastructure

### 3.1.7 Sediment Transport

Natural channels transport both water and sediment through the watershed. Sediment and water movement play parallel roles in flood and erosion control and in the performance of bridges and culverts. For this discussion, sediment includes large