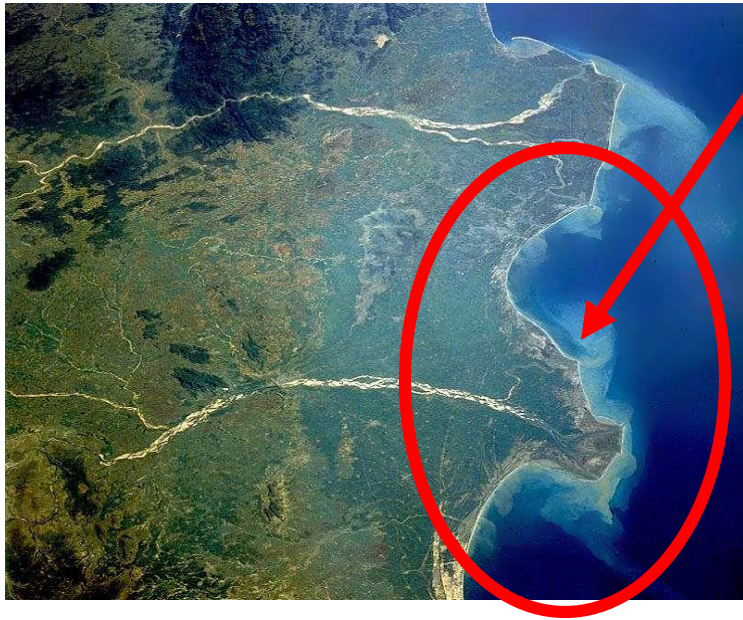


# River Deltas

- 1.3.4 Explain how deltas are formed. (k)
- 1.3.5 Contrast the terms arcuate delta, digitate delta, and estuarine delta. (k)

# Delta (P.32)



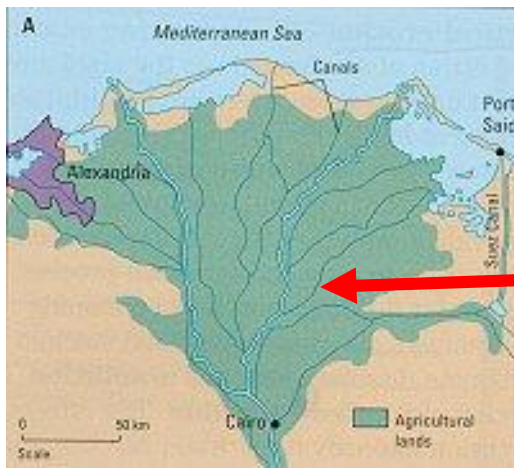
**Delta =**

- low lying area at mouth of river
- formed by deposition of silt
- deposition occurs because river slows as it enters ocean or lake

# River Deltas

- There are three types:
  - arcuate
  - digitate
  - estuarine

# 1) Arcuate Delta (P. 32)



- Named from Latin word for “*curved in the shape of a bow*”.
  - Fan shaped
  - Example: Nile Delta
- p. 32









## 2) Digitate Delta



- From Latin for *finger*
- Delta with long fingers of sediment reaching into the sea
- Example: Mississippi Delta







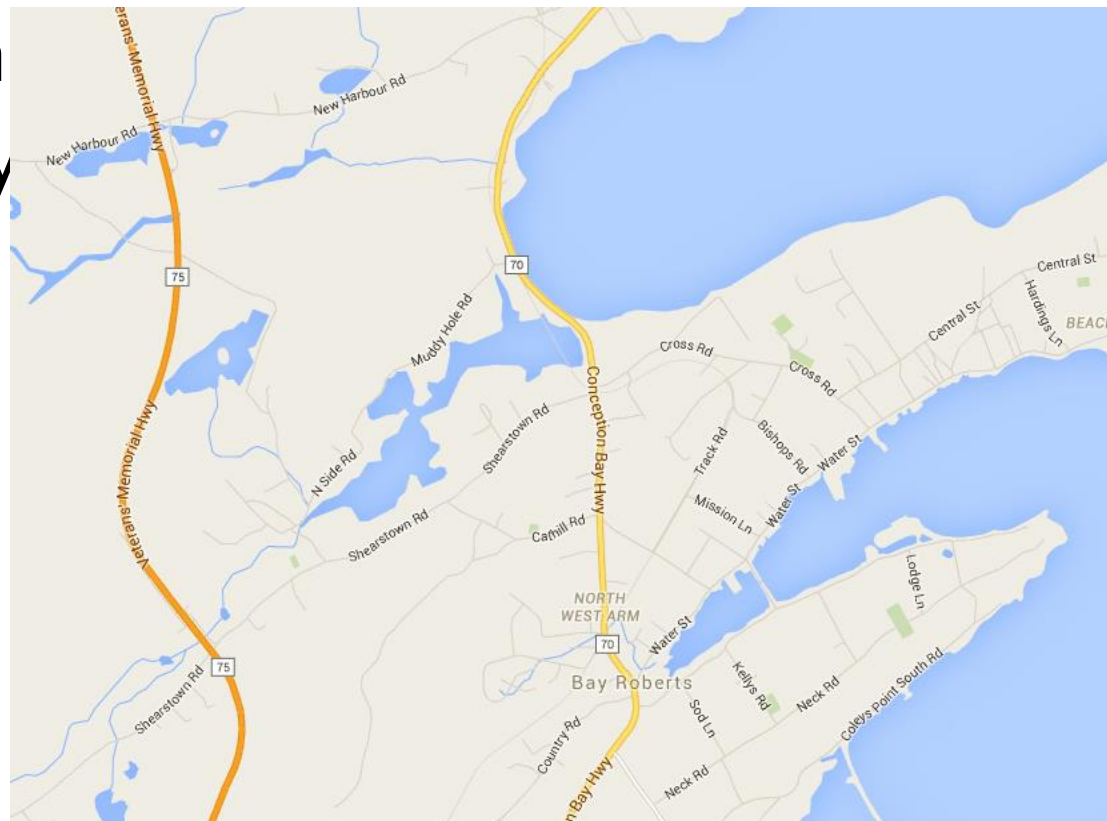
### 3) Estuarine Delta p. 32



- Formed when river runs into bay or estuary
- Tidal mud flats form which can be seen at low tide
- Sediment deposited from river outflow and from tidal inflow

# 3) Estuarine Delta p. 32

- Example: Spaniard's Bay Estuary
- During low tide the land between the highway and the beach is a narrow strip of land that you can walk across.



the

# Delta: Similarities & Differences

## Similarities

- Arcuate & digitate both flow into open ocean
- All three allow river water to flow out
- All have channels or distributaries cut into them by the river

## Differences

- Estuarine empties into a bay whereas other 2 empty into open water
- Three different shapes



**To the right is a satellite photo of the Amazon Delta, notice the tidal flats or islands that cover and uncover with the tide**





**This picture below shows a small estuarine delta in Notre Dame Bay, NL**

