Cedar Creek, Dugout Creek, and South Creek are independent streams. The topography necessarily has been generalized but probably was as intricate as the present topography.

Dugout Creek is higher than the other streams. The stream channel is in conglomerates deposited on pediment surfaces. A tributary of South Creek is cutting headward where the conglomerate of Dugout Creek abuts against the klippe. Extension headward of this tributary will capture Dugout Creek.

Cedar Creek is still flowing northwestward but tributaries are cutting headward along the north and south edges of the Cedar Creek conglomerates. A pediment is being developed along the southern tributary. South Creek has maintained its course but the tributary that formed during Stage 1 has captured Dugout Creek. The diversion of Dugout Creek caused aggradation along the tributary and its pediment.

Dry Wash has started to cut headward. A rare nature stream has eroded headward between Dry Wash and South Creek and a pediment is developing along it.

Cedar Creek has been diverted onto the pediment that was cut during Stage 2 and has aggraded in with conglomerates. A small stream is commencing to erode headward along the scarp at the north edge of the newly aggraded pediment, and the streams north of this abandoned course of Cedar Creek have cut further headward.

Dry Wash has cut through the high abandoned Stage 2 surficials of Dugout Creek and is eroding headward along the south edge of the pediment on which Cedar Creek flows.

Dugout Creek and the lower part of South Creek have been diverted a short distance further north and have aggregated the pediment cut they during Stage 2. A tributary of South Creek is eroding headward along the south edge of the gravel that was depoiteded by Dugout Creek during Stage 2.

Around the north and south sides of Steele Butte are deep valleys.

Cedar Creek has been diverted to the foot of the scarp at the north edge of the pediment which it aggregated during Stage 3. It is about to be diverted to the foot of the mountain by either Dry Wash or the stream north of Cedar Creek.

Dugout Creek has been diverted southward into the youthful valley of the South Creek tributary that developed during Stage 2.

South Creek has been diverted around the south side of Steele Butte.

DIAGRAMMATIC VIEWS AND SKETCH MAPS ILLUSTRATING DRAINAGE CHANGES ALONG THE WEST BASE OF MOUNT ELLEN