Shoshone Falls on the Snake River, Idaho

From: http://www.biggercamera.com/category/stray-dogs/
COLUMBIA PLATEAU
AND
SNAKE RIVER PLAIN
LARGE IGNEOUS PROVINCES

TYPICAL MANTLE CONVECTION

From http://bprc.osu.edu/education/rr/plate_tectonics/mantle_convection_cell.gif
Wave cut terraces demonstrate the height of Lake Bonneville in Utah
Lake Bonneville shoreline terraces

From: http://scienceblogs.com/eruptions/2010/08/back_from_the_field_and_into_a.php
Width of Snake River Canyon carved by catastrophic flood waters
Now-dry alcoves at Blue Lakes carved by catastrophic flood flow
Flood debris from carving canyons and alcoves

John Wesley Powell's
first expedition down
the Colorado River

From: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/canyon/maps/index.html
“....the approach to the Shoshone. You ride upon a waste, - the pale earth stretched in desolation. Suddenly you stand upon a brink, as if the earth had yawned. Black walls flank the abyss. Deep in the bed a great river fights its way through labyrinths of blackened ruins, and plunges in foaming whiteness over a cliff of lava. You turn from the brink as from a frightful glimpse of the Inferno.”
“Sweeping catastrophism is an error of the past. Radical uniformitarianism, however, persists, and probably controls the faith of a majority of geologists and biologists.”

Clarence King address at Yale, 1877