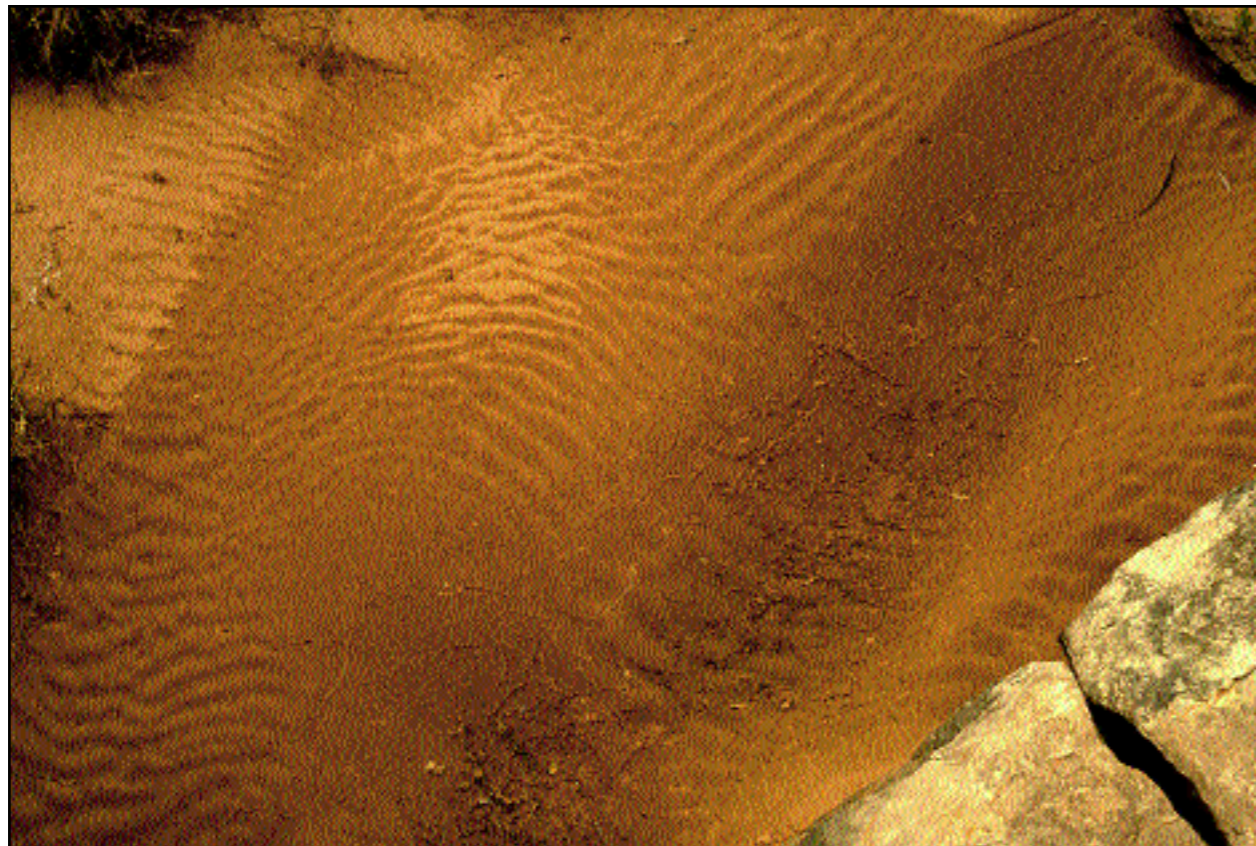


Tectonic Basin by Ned Kahn

A miniature earthquake creates shifting patterns in sand.

Try this:

- Look inside the basin and watch the sand shift and flow.



What's going on?

Just as the vibrations of an earthquake can cause seemingly solid ground to flow like a liquid, the vibrating surface of this basin causes the sand to flow. The vibrations create tiny spaces in between each particle of sand, allowing them to slide easily past one another. The sand streams rhythmically away from the areas where the vibrations are most violent, swelling into dunes where the vibrations are more gentle.