

# 1 GLOSSARY

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## 2 - A -

3 **Accretion** means the process of growing or increasing by the gradual accumulation  
4 of additional layers, such as layers of sediment.

5 **Adverse Impact** means an impact that can be measured or is tangible and has a  
6 reasonable likelihood of causing moderate or greater harm to ecological functions  
7 or processes or other elements of the shoreline environment.

8 **Aeolian** means produced by the wind.

9 **Agriculture** is the cultivation of animals, plants, fungi and other life forms for food,  
10 fiber, and other products used to sustain life.

11 **Alluvial Fan** means a fan-shaped deposit of sediment and organic debris formed  
12 where a stream flows or has flowed out of a mountainous upland onto a level plain  
13 or valley floor. Sediment is deposited because of a sudden change in sediment  
14 transport capacity (e.g., significant change in slope or confinement).

15 **Alluvium** is a general term for clay, silt, sand, gravel, or similar other  
16 unconsolidated materials, deposited during comparatively recent geologic time by a  
17 stream or other body of running water, as a sorted or semi-sorted sediment in the  
18 bed of the stream or on its floodplain or delta.

19 **Alteration** means any human-induced change in an existing condition. Alterations  
20 include, but are not limited to, grading, filling, channelizing, dredging, clearing  
21 (vegetation), draining, construction, compaction, excavation, or any other activity  
22 that changes the character of the area.

23 **AMSL** means above mean sea level.

24 **Anadromous Fish** means fish species that spend most of their life cycle in salt  
25 water, but return to fresh water to reproduce.

26 **Anticlinal** means occurring at right angles.

27 **Armoring** means the addition of structures or material along the shoreline to  
28 decrease the impact of waves and currents or to prevent the erosion of banks or  
29 bluffs.

30 **Associated Wetlands** means wetlands that are in proximity to and either influence  
31 or are influenced by a shoreline stream, lake or tidal water. This influence includes,  
32 but is not limited to, one or more of the following: periodic inundation, location  
33 within a floodplain, or hydraulic continuity (WAC 173-22-040).

1 **Avulsion** means a sudden change in course of a body of water such as a river.

2 - B -

3 **Bank** is the terrain alongside the bed of a river, creek, or stream.

4 **Base Flow** is the portion of streamflow that comes from "the sum of deep  
5 subsurface flow and delayed shallow subsurface flow."

6 **Basin** means the area drained by a river and its tributaries or a depressed area with  
7 no surface outlet.

8 **Benthic** is the ecological region at the lowest level of a body of water such as an  
9 ocean or a lake, including the sediment surface and some sub-surface layers.

10 **Biota** is the plant and animal life of a region.

11 **Boat Ramp** means an inclined slab, set of pads, rails, planks, or graded slope used  
12 for launching boats with trailers or occasionally by hand.

13 **BPA** means Bonneville Power Administration.

14 **Buffer** means the area adjacent to a shoreline and/or critical area that separates  
15 and protects the area from adverse impacts associated with adjacent land uses.

16 **Bulkhead** means a wall-like structure such as a revetment that is placed parallel to  
17 the shoreline (at or near the OHWM) primarily for retaining uplands and fills prone  
18 to sliding or sheet erosion and to protect uplands and fills from erosion by waves or  
19 currents.

20 - C -

21 **Candidate** means a species considered for listing as threatened or endangered  
22 under the Endangered Species Act, indicating that there is a possibility that the  
23 species has potential to be at risk of becoming threatened or endangered in the  
24 foreseeable future.

25 **CESRF** means Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility.

26 **cfs** means cubic feet per second.

27 **Channel Migration Zone** means the area along a river or stream within which the  
28 channel can reasonably be expected to migrate over time as a result of normally  
29 occurring processes. It encompasses the area of current and historic lateral stream  
30 channel movement that is subject to erosion, bank destabilization, rapid stream  
31 incision, and/or channel shifting, as well as adjacent areas that are susceptible to  
32 channel erosion.

- 1 **Channelization** means the straightening, relocation, deepening or lining of stream  
2 channels, including construction of continuous revetments or levees, for the  
3 purpose of preventing gradual, natural stream meander and progression.
- 4 **Climate** encompasses the statistics of temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure,  
5 wind, rainfall, atmospheric particle count and other meteorological elemental  
6 measurements in a given region over long periods of time.
- 7 **CMZ** means Channel Migration Zone.
- 8 **Comprehensive Plan** means the guiding policy document for all land use and  
9 development regulations in a defined area and for regional services throughout the  
10 area including transit, sewers, parks, trails and open space.
- 11 **Confined Aquifer** means an aquifer that has an overlying layer of impermeable  
12 material such as rock or clay, that prevents water from infiltrating to the aquifer  
13 directly through surface soils.
- 14 **Confluence** means a place of meeting of two or more streams; the point where a  
15 tributary joins the main stream.
- 16 **Conifer** cone-bearing seed plants with vascular tissue; all extant conifers are woody  
17 plants, the great majority being trees.
- 18 **Conservation** means the prudent management of rivers, streams, wetlands, wildlife  
19 and other environmental resources in order to preserve and protect them. This  
20 includes the careful use of natural resources to prevent depletion or harm to the  
21 environment.
- 22 **Contaminant** means any chemical, physical, biological, or radiological substance  
23 that does not occur naturally in groundwater, air, or soil or that occurs at  
24 concentrations greater than natural levels.
- 25 **County** means Kittitas County, Washington.
- 26 **CRBG** means Columbia River Basalt Group.
- 27 **Critical Aquifer Recharge Area or CARA** means an area designated by WAC 365-  
28 190-080(2) that is determined to have a critical recharging effect on aquifers (i.e.,  
29 maintain the quality and quantity of water) used for potable water as defined by  
30 WAC 365-190-030(2).
- 31 **Critical Areas** means the following areas designated in RCW 36.70.030: critical  
32 aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, geologically hazardous areas, frequently flooded  
33 areas, and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas.
- 34 **Critical Habitat** means habitat areas with which endangered, threatened, sensitive  
35 or monitored plant, fish, or wildlife species have a primary association (e.g., feeding,  
36 breeding, rearing of young, migrating). Such areas are identified herein with  
37 reference to lists, categories, and definitions promulgated by the Washington

1 Department of Fish and Wildlife as identified in WAC 232-12-011 or 232-12-014; in  
2 the Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) program of the Department of Fish and  
3 Wildlife; or by rules and regulations adopted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
4 National Marine Fisheries Service, or other agency with jurisdiction for such  
5 designations.

6 **CSIR** means Central Washington University's Center for Spatial Information and  
7 Research.

8 **Culvert** is a device used to channel water.

9 **- D -**

10 **Dam** means a barrier across a stream or river to confine or regulate flow or raise  
11 water levels for purposes such as flood or irrigation water storage, erosion control,  
12 power generation, or collection of sediment or debris.

13 **DDD** means dichloro-diphenyl-dichloroethane.

14 **DDE** means dichloro-diphenyldichloro-ethylene.

15 **DDT** means dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane.

16 **Degradation** as it pertains to riverine morphology means the lowering of a  
17 streambed due to such factors as increased scouring.

18 **Denitrification** means the conversion of nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ) to gaseous nitrogen ( $\text{N}_2$ ) by  
19 bacteria. In wetlands and riparian zones, denitrification can remove excess nitrogen  
20 resulting from agricultural runoff and residential fertilizers.

21 **Deposition** means the laying, placing, or accumulation of any material.

22 **Delta** means the landform at the mouth of a river.

23 **Detrital** as it pertains to geology is the adjective form of "detritus," which is loose  
24 rock or mineral material that is worn off or removed by mechanical means;  
25 especially fragmented material such as sand, silt, and clay that is derived from older  
26 rocks and moved from its place of origin.

27 **Development** means a use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of  
28 structures, dredging, drilling, dumping, filling; removal of any sand, gravel or  
29 minerals; bulkheading; driving of pilings; placing of obstructions; or any project of a  
30 permanent or temporary nature that interferes with the normal public use of the  
31 surface of the waters overlying lands subject to the Shoreline Management Act at  
32 any state of water level.

33 **Dike or Diking** means an artificial wall, embankment, ridge, or mound, usually of  
34 earth or rock fill, built around a relatively flat, low lying area to protect it from  
35 flooding.

1 **Dissolved Oxygen** means the amount of oxygen, in parts per million by weight,  
2 dissolved in water, generally expressed in milligrams per liter (mg/L).

3 **Distinct Population Segment** or **DPS** means a subgroup of a vertebrate species  
4 that is treated as a species for purposes of listing under the Endangered Species Act.  
5 It is required that the subgroup be separable from the remainder of and significant  
6 to the species to which it belongs.

7 **Dock** means all platform structures or anchored devices in or floating upon  
8 waterbodies to provide moorage for pleasure crafts or landing for water-dependent  
9 recreation, including but not limited to floats, swim floats, floatplane moorages, and  
10 water ski jumps. Launch ramps are excluded.

11 **Dredging** is the removal or excavation of bottom sediments and is carried out at  
12 least partly underwater.

13 - E -

14 **Ecological Functions** or **Shoreline Functions** means the work performed or role  
15 played by the physical, chemical, and biological processes that contribute to the  
16 maintenance of the aquatic and terrestrial environments that constitute the  
17 shoreline's natural ecosystem. See WAC 173-26-200 (2)(c). Functions include, but  
18 are not limited to, habitat diversity and food chain support for fish and wildlife,  
19 groundwater recharge and discharge, high primary productivity, low flow stream  
20 water contribution, sediment stabilization and erosion control, storm and  
21 floodwater attenuation and flood peak desynchronization, and water quality  
22 enhancement through biofiltration and retention of sediments, nutrients, and  
23 toxicants. These beneficial roles are not listed in order of priority.

24 **Ecology** means Washington State Department of Ecology.

25 **Ecoregion** is a large area of land or water containing geographically distinct  
26 assemblage of species and communities.

27 **Ecosystem** is a biological environment consisting of all the organisms living in a  
28 particular area, as well as all the nonliving, physical components of the environment  
29 with which the organisms interact, such as air, soil, water and sunlight.

30 **Ecosystem Processes** or **Ecosystem-wide Processes** means the suite of naturally  
31 occurring physical and geologic processes of erosion, transport, and deposition;  
32 they can include specific chemical processes that shape landforms within a specific  
33 shoreline ecosystem and determine both the types of habitat and the associated  
34 ecological functions.

35 **Ecotone** is a transitional area between different ecosystems.

1 **Embankment** means a linear structure, usually of earth or gravel, constructed to  
2 extend above the natural ground surface and designed to prevent water from  
3 overflowing a level tract of land.

4 **Emergent** means non-woody, erect wetland plant species that typically grow  
5 emerging from flooded areas and shallow marshes.

6 **Emergent Wetland** means a wetland with at least 30 percent of the surface area  
7 covered by erect, rooted, herbaceous vegetation as the uppermost vegetative strata.

8 **Endangered** as it relates to species or habitats means listed and protected under  
9 the Endangered Species Act, indicating that the described species is in danger of  
10 extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

11 **Enhancement** means actions performed within an existing degraded shoreline,  
12 critical area and/or buffer to intentionally increase or augment one or more  
13 functions or values of the existing area. Enhancement actions include, but are not  
14 limited to, increasing plant diversity and cover, increasing wildlife habitat and  
15 structural complexity (snags, woody debris), installing environmentally compatible  
16 erosion controls, or removing non-indigenous plant or animal species.

17 **Environment Designation** means a categorical classification of a land parcel that  
18 reflects the type of development that has or should take place in a given area.

19 **Erosion** means a process whereby wind, rain, water and other natural agents  
20 mobilize, transport, and deposit soil particles.

21 **ESA** means Environmental Science Associates.

22 **Escapement** means that portion of an anadromous fish population that escapes the  
23 commercial and recreational fisheries and reaches the freshwater spawning  
24 grounds.

25 **Evapotranspiration** is a term used to describe the sum of evaporation and plant  
26 transpiration from the Earth's land surface to atmosphere.

27 **Evolutionarily Significant Unit or ESU** means a population of organisms that is  
28 considered distinct for purposes of conservation. Delineating ESUs is important  
29 when considering conservation actions. This term can apply to any species,  
30 subspecies, geographic race, or population.

31 - F -

32 **FC or Fecal Coliform** means a group of bacteria that are commonly associated with  
33 feces produced by humans, mammals and birds and that can be found in untreated  
34 sewage water.

35 **FEMA** means Federal Emergency Management Agency.

36 **FERC** means Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

- 1 **Fill** means any solid or semi-solid material that when placed, changes the grade or  
2 elevation of the receiving site.
- 3 **Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas (FWHCA)** are areas important for  
4 maintaining species in suitable habitats within their natural geographic distribution  
5 so that fragmented populations are not created.
- 6 **Float** means a floating platform similar to a dock that is anchored or attached to  
7 pilings.
- 8 **Flood** or **Flooding** means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete  
9 inundation of normally dry land areas due to the overflow of inland waters and/or  
10 the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source.
- 11 **Floodplain** or **FEMA Floodplain** means all federally-designated lands along a river  
12 or stream that may be inundated by the base flood of a river or stream.
- 13 **Floodway** means the area, as identified in a master program, that either:
- 14 1. has been established in federal emergency management agency flood  
15 insurance rate maps or floodway maps, or
  - 16 2. those portions of a river valley lying streamward from the outer limits of a  
17 watercourse upon which flood waters are carried during periods of flooding  
18 that occur with reasonable regularity, although not necessarily annually
- 19 **Flow Regime** encompasses the following characteristics of stream flow and their  
20 interactions: magnitude, timing, frequency, duration, and rate of change.
- 21 **Fluvial** means of or pertaining to a river; a system that is influenced by a river or  
22 rivers.
- 23 **Food Web** is a map that depicts who eats whom in an ecological community.
- 24 **Forest Land** means all land that is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of  
25 timber and is not being actively used, developed, or converted in a manner that is  
26 incompatible with timber production.
- 27 **Forested Wetland** means a wetland that supports a forested canopy over more  
28 than 30 percent of the habitat area as defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
29 Classification System for wetlands.
- 30 **Frequently Flooded Areas** means lands in the floodplain subject to a one percent  
31 or greater chance of flooding in any given year and those lands that provide  
32 important flood storage, conveyance and attenuation functions, as determined by a  
33 local government in accordance with WAC 365-190-080(3). Classifications of  
34 frequently flooded areas include, at a minimum, the 100-year floodplain  
35 designations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Flood  
36 Insurance Program.

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**- G -**

2 **GDE** means groundwater dependent ecosystems.

3 **Geologically Hazardous Areas** means areas that, because of their susceptibility to  
4 erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events, pose unacceptable risks to  
5 public health and safety and may not be suited for commercial, residential, or  
6 industrial development.

7 **Glacial Outwash** means the stratified detritus (chiefly sand and gravel) removed  
8 from a glacier by meltwater streams and deposited in front of or beyond the  
9 terminal moraine or along the margin of an active glacier.

10 **Glacial Plain** is an extensive flat plain of glacial till that forms when a sheet of ice  
11 becomes detached from the main body of a glacier and melts in place depositing the  
12 sediments it carried.

13 **Glacial Till** is unsorted glacial sediment.

14 **Glaciation** means having been covered with a glacier or subject to glacial epochs in  
15 the past.

16 **Gradient** means the degree of inclination, or rate of ascent or descent, of an inclined  
17 part of the earth's surface with respect to the horizontal; it is the steepness of a  
18 slope. It is expressed as a ratio (vertical to horizontal), a fraction (such as meters/  
19 kilometers or feet/miles), a percentage (of horizontal distance), or an angle (in  
20 degrees).

21 **Groundwater** means all the water that exists beneath the land surface or beneath  
22 the bed of any stream, lake or reservoir, or other body of surface water.

**- H -**

24 **Habitat** means the natural environment in which an organism normally lives or  
25 occurs.

26 **Hazardous Area** means any shoreline area which is hazardous for intensive human  
27 use or structural development due to inherent and/or predictable physical  
28 conditions such as, but not limited to, geologically hazardous areas, frequently  
29 flooded areas, and coastal high hazard areas.

30 **Headwater** means the source and upper part of a stream, especially of a large  
31 stream or river, including the upper drainage basin.

32 **Historic Site** means those sites that are eligible or listed on the Washington  
33 Heritage Register, National Register of Historic Places or any developed historic  
34 registry formally adopted by a local government.



1 **Hydraulics** is a topic in applied science and engineering dealing with the  
2 mechanical properties of liquids.

3 **Hydric Soil** means a soil that is saturated, flooded or ponded long enough during  
4 the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part. The presence  
5 of hydric soil shall be determined following the methods described in the  
6 Washington State Wetland Identification and Delineation Manual (RCW  
7 36.70A.175).

8 **Hydrology** means of or pertaining to the movement, distribution or quality of water  
9 on the earth.

10 **Hydromodification** means a human-made alteration to a streambank that changes  
11 or affects the natural flow of water through the channel/stream corridor. Bank  
12 armoring, levees, revetments and channelization are examples of  
13 hydromodifications.

14 **Hyporheic** refers to the saturated soil environment around a stream or river that  
15 exchanges water, nutrients, and organisms with surface waters.

16 - | -

17 **ICR** means Inventory and Characterization Report.

18 **Impairment** means damage that compromises or reduces the strength or quality of  
19 the item. It is commonly used as a classification of water under the Clean Water Act  
20 meaning poor water quality.

21 **Impervious Surface** means a hard surface area that either prevents or retards the  
22 entry of water into the soil mantle. Common impervious surfaces may include, but  
23 are not limited to, rooftops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or storage  
24 areas, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel roads, packed earthen materials, and oiled  
25 macadam or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of  
26 stormwater. Impervious surfaces do not include surfaces created through proven  
27 low impact development techniques.

28 **Industrial** refers to the production of an economic good (either material or a  
29 service) within an economy.

30 **Intermittent** refers to streams that flow during only part of the year (i.e., seasonal  
31 streams).

32 **Inundation** means spreading of water over land that is not normally submerged.

33 **Invasive Species** means a species that is (1) non-native (or alien) to a specific  
34 geographic area; and (2) whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or  
35 environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species can be plants,  
36 animals, and other organisms (e.g., microbes). Human actions are the primary  
37 means of invasive species introductions.

1 **Invertebrate** is an animal without a backbone.

2 - J -

3 **Juvenile Salmon** are immature salmon; fry.

4 - K -

5 **KRD** means Kittitas Reclamation District.

6 - L -

7 **Lacustrine** means pertaining to lakes.

8 **Lake** means a body of standing water in a depression of land or expanded part of a  
9 stream, of 20 acres or greater in total area. A lake is bounded by the OHWM, or  
10 where a stream enters the lake, the extension of the lake's OHWM within the stream.

11 **Landslide** is a general term covering a wide variety of mass movement landforms  
12 and processes involving the downslope transport, under gravitational influence, of  
13 soil and rock material en masse; it includes debris flows, debris avalanches,  
14 earthflows, mudflows, slumps, mudslides, rockslides, and rock falls.

15 **Landslide Hazard Areas** means areas that, due to a combination of site conditions  
16 like slope inclination and relative soil permeability, are susceptible to mass wasting.

17 **Large Woody Debris** or **LWD** means the large trees, sticks and branches that fall  
18 into streams and rivers. They can divert water and provide microhabitats for  
19 organisms.

20 **Limnetic** means relating to the pelagic or open part of a body of fresh water.

21 **Liquefaction** means a phenomenon in which the strength and stiffness of a soil is  
22 reduced by earthquake shaking or other rapid loading.

23 **Littoral** means relating to or located on a shoreline.

24 **Loess** means wind-blown soil deposits.

25 - M -

26 **MAF** means million acre-feet.

27 **Mean Annual Flow** means the average flow of a river or stream (measured in cubic  
28 feet per second) from measurements taken throughout the year. If available, flow  
29 data for the previous 10 years should be used in determining mean annual flow.

30 **Mesic** refers to a moderately moist area.

1 **Microclimate** is a local atmospheric zone where the climate differs from the  
2 surrounding area.

3 **Migration (salmonid)** means the systematic movement of a salmon population  
4 from their natal freshwater streams, out to the open ocean, and back to the same  
5 stream where they hatched.

6 **Mitigation** means individual actions that may include a combination of the  
7 following measures, listed in order of preference:

- 8 • Avoiding an impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of  
9 actions;
- 10 • Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of an action and  
11 its implementation;
- 12 • Rectifying impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected  
13 environment;
- 14 • Reducing or eliminating an impact over time by preservation and  
15 maintenance operations during the life of the action;
- 16 • Compensating for an impact by replacing or providing substitute  
17 resources or environments; and
- 18 • Monitoring the mitigation and taking remedial action when necessary.

19 **Mooring** means the location where a vessel can fasten to a fixed object such as a  
20 pier or quay, or to a floating object such as an anchor buoy.

21 **Moraine** is any glacially formed accumulation of unconsolidated glacial debris (soil  
22 and rock) which can occur in currently glaciated and formerly glaciated regions,  
23 such as those areas acted upon by a past glacial maximum.

24 **Mouth** is a part of a stream where it pours into another stream, river, lake,  
25 reservoir, sea, or ocean.

26 - N -

27 **Natal** means relating to the time or place of birth.

28 **Native Vegetation** means plant species that are indigenous and historically found  
29 in the local area.

30 **NFIP** means National Flood Insurance Program.

31 **Non-point Source** means a diffuse source of contaminants, without a single point of  
32 origin, introduced into a receiving stream.

33 **Nutrient Cycling** is a pathway by which a chemical element or molecule moves  
34 through both biotic (biosphere) and abiotic (lithosphere, atmosphere, and  
35 hydrosphere) compartments of Earth.

1 **Nutrient Loading** is the increased nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) loading to  
2 waterbodies that leads to degraded water quality and ecosystem health.

3 - O -

4 **OCPs** means organochlorine pesticides.

5 **Oligotrophic** means low in nutrients.

6 **Open Space** means any parcel or area of land or water not covered by structures,  
7 hard surfacing, parking areas and other impervious surfaces except for pedestrian  
8 or bicycle pathways, or sites dedicated for active or passive recreation, visual  
9 enjoyment or critical area development buffers.

10 **Ordinary High Water Mark** or **OHWM** means that mark that will be found by  
11 examining the bed and banks of a lake or stream and ascertaining where the  
12 presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all  
13 ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the  
14 abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as  
15 it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with  
16 approved development. In any area where the OHWM cannot be found, the OHWM  
17 adjoining fresh water shall be the line of mean high water. For braided streams, the  
18 OHWM is found on the banks forming the outer limits of the depression within  
19 which the braiding occurs.

20 **ORV** means off-road vehicle.

21 **Overwater Structure** means any manmade structure that hangs over a surface  
22 water body such as a dock, deck, bridge, or building.

23 - P -

24 **Palustrine** means wetlands that include inland marshes and swamps as well as  
25 bogs, fens, tundra and floodplains. Palustrine systems include any inland wetland  
26 which lacks flowing water, contains ocean-derived salts in concentrations of less  
27 than 0.05%, and is non-tidal.

28 **Pathogen** is a microbe or microorganism such as a virus, bacterium, prion, or  
29 fungus that causes disease in its animal or plant host.

30 **PBDEs** means polybrominated diphenyl ethers.

31 **PCBs** means polychlorinated biphenyls.

32 **Perennial** refers to a stream or river that flows year-round.

33 **Physiography** is one of the two major subfields of geography.

- 1 **Pilings** means either wood, reinforced concrete or steel cylinders that are driven  
2 deep and embedded into the ground to serve as an intrinsic part of a deep  
3 foundation for a structure.
- 4 **Point Source** means a stationary location or fixed facility from which contaminants  
5 are discharged; it is a single identifiable source of contamination.
- 6 **Pool / riffle** means an area of stream or river habitat, which is seemingly stagnant  
7 at the surface but in reality, water is flowing downstream. A riffle is an area where  
8 the water flows through the channel at a higher velocity due to a moderate gradient.
- 9 **Precipitation** is rain, sleet, hail, snow and other forms of water falling from the sky.
- 10 **Pre-contact Materials** means archeological items that originated prior to European  
11 contact.
- 12 **Preservation** means actions taken to ensure the permanent protection of existing,  
13 ecologically, culturally, or historically important areas, structures, or species that a  
14 local government has deemed worthy of long-term protection.
- 15 **Primary Production** is the production of organic compounds from atmospheric or  
16 aquatic carbon dioxide, principally through the process of photosynthesis.
- 17 **Priority Habitat** means a habitat type with a unique or significant value to one or  
18 more species. An area classified and mapped as priority habitat must have one or  
19 more of the following attributes: comparatively high fish or wildlife densities;  
20 comparatively high fish or wildlife species diversity; fish spawning habitat;  
21 important wildlife habitat; important fish or wildlife seasonal range; important fish  
22 or wildlife movement corridors; rearing and foraging habitat; refuge; limited  
23 availability; high vulnerability to habitat alteration; unique or dependent species; or  
24 shellfish beds. A priority habitat may be described by its unique vegetation type or  
25 by a dominant plant species that is of primary importance to fish and wildlife (such  
26 as oak woodlands or eelgrass meadows). A priority habitat may also be described by  
27 a successional stage (such as old growth and mature forests). Alternatively, a  
28 priority habitat may consist of a specific habitat element (such as talus slopes, caves,  
29 snags) of key value to fish and wildlife. A priority habitat may contain priority  
30 and/or non-priority fish and wildlife (WAC 173-26-020(24)).
- 31 **Priority Species** means wildlife species of concern due to their population status  
32 and their sensitivity to habitat alteration, as defined by the Washington Department  
33 of Fish and Wildlife.
- 34 **Protection** means the practice of conserving and guarding valued resources in  
35 order to preserve and ensure their existence in the future.
- 36 **Public Access** means the public's right to get to and use the State's public waters,  
37 the water/land interface and associated shoreline area. It includes physical access  
38 that is either lateral (areas paralleling the shore) or perpendicular (an easement or

1 public corridor to the shore), and/or visual access facilitated by scenic roads and  
2 overlooks, viewing towers and other public sites or facilities.

3 - R -

4 **Ravine** means a small, narrow, deep depression, smaller than a gorge or a canyon  
5 but larger than a gully; it is usually carved by running water.

6 **Reach** means a segment of shoreline and associated planning area that is mapped  
7 and described as a unit (for purposes of inventorying conditions) due to  
8 homogenous (similar) characteristics that include land use and/or natural  
9 environment characteristics.

10 **Recharge** means the process involved in the absorption and addition of water from  
11 the unsaturated zone to groundwater.

12 **Reclamation** means U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

13 **Recreation** means an experience or activity in which an individual engages for  
14 personal enjoyment and health. Most shore-based recreation is outdoor recreation  
15 such as: fishing, hunting, clamming, beach combing, and rock climbing; various  
16 forms of boating, swimming, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, camping,  
17 picnicking, watching or recording activities such as photography, painting, bird  
18 watching or viewing of water or shorelines, nature study and related activities.

19 **Reestablishment** as it pertains to natural resources means measures taken to  
20 intentionally restore an altered or damaged natural feature or process including:

- 21 • Active steps taken to restore damaged wetlands, streams, protected habitat,  
22 and/or their buffers to the functioning condition that existed prior to an  
23 unauthorized alteration;
- 24 • Actions performed to reestablish structural and functional characteristics of  
25 the critical area that have been lost by alteration, past management activities,  
26 or other events; and
- 27 • Restoration of wetland functions and values on a site where wetlands  
28 previous existed, but are no longer present due to lack of water or hydric  
29 soils.

30 **Refuge** means a place that provides shelter or protection from danger or distress.

31 **Resident Fish** means a fish species that completes all stages of its life cycle within  
32 fresh water and frequently within a local area.

33 **Residential Development** means buildings, earth modifications, subdivision and  
34 use of land primarily for human residence including, but not limited to, single-family  
35 and multifamily dwellings, mobile homes and mobile home parks, boarding homes,  
36 family daycare homes, adult family homes, retirement and convalescent homes,  
37 together with accessory uses common to normal residential use. Camping sites or

1 clubs, recreational vehicle parks, motels, hotels and other transient housing are not  
2 included in this definition.

3 **Restore, Restoration or Ecological Restoration** means the reestablishment or  
4 upgrading of impaired ecological processes or functions. This may be accomplished  
5 through measures including, but not limited to, revegetation, removal of intrusive  
6 structures and removal or treatment of toxic materials. Restoration does not imply a  
7 requirement for returning ecological processes, functions or areas to aboriginal or  
8 pre-European settlement conditions.

9 **Retention** means the portion of rainfall that does not escape a drainage basin as  
10 surface runoff; some of the water is retained in local soils and aquifers.

11 **Riprap** means dense, hard, angular rock that can be used for revetments or other  
12 flood control works.

13 **Riparian Corridor or Riparian Zone** means the area adjacent to a waterbody  
14 (stream or lake) that contains vegetation that influences the aquatic ecosystem,  
15 nearshore area and/or fish and wildlife habitat by providing shade, fine or large  
16 woody material, nutrients, organic debris, sediment filtration, and terrestrial insects  
17 (prey production). Riparian areas include those portions of terrestrial ecosystems  
18 that significantly influence exchanges of energy and matter with aquatic ecosystems  
19 (i.e., zone of influence). Riparian zones provide important wildlife habitat. They  
20 provide sites for foraging, breeding and nesting; cover to escape predators or  
21 weather; and corridors that connect different parts of a watershed for dispersal and  
22 migration.

23 **Riparian Vegetation** means vegetation that tolerates and/or requires moist  
24 conditions and periodic free flowing water, thus creating a transitional zone  
25 between aquatic and terrestrial habitats which provides cover, shade and food  
26 sources for aquatic and terrestrial insects for fish species. Riparian vegetation and  
27 root systems stabilize streambanks, attenuate high water flows, provide wildlife  
28 habitat and travel corridors, and provide a source of limbs and other woody debris  
29 to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, which, in turn, stabilize streambeds.

30 **RM or River Mile** means the distance measured from the mouth of a river, traveling  
31 upstream.

32 **Rootwad** is the lower trunk and root fan of a large tree.

33 **Runoff** means surface waters that flow overland during rain events and storms.

34 - S -

35 **Salmon or Salmonid** is the common name for several species of fish of the family  
36 *Salmonidae*. The family includes salmon, trout, and char. Pacific salmon species are  
37 anadromous; they are born in fresh water, migrate to the ocean, then return to fresh

1 water to reproduce. Some species of sockeye and rainbow and cutthroat trout have  
2 nonanadromous populations.

3 **Scrub-shrub Wetland** means a class of wetland that is in a transition to becoming a  
4 forested wetland. It can have a variety of water regimes and is typified by a mix of  
5 woody and shrublike vegetation less than 20 feet tall.

6 **Sediment Transport** is the movement and carrying away of sediment by natural  
7 agents, especially the conveyance by stream.

8 **Serpentine Soils** are an uncommon type of soil found in mountainous areas. They  
9 are rocky soils with unique chemical concentrations that are not conducive to the  
10 growth of most plants. Certain plants are specially adapted to grow in serpentine  
11 areas.

12 **Shoreline Environment Designation** is a mechanism identifying specific shoreline  
13 areas for regulatory purposes as specified in WAC 173-26-211. Examples of  
14 designations include: Shoreline Residential, Rural Conservancy, Urban Conservancy,  
15 Natural, and Aquatic.

16 **Shoreline Modification** means any human activity that changes the structure,  
17 hydrology, habitat, and/or functions of a shoreline. Bulkheads, piers, docks,  
18 shoreline stabilization systems, berms, and dikes are all examples of shoreline  
19 modifications.

20 **Shoreline Planning** means to integrate the land use patterns, physical and  
21 biological characterizations, and relevant regulations and policies to help managers  
22 delineate and categorize development opportunities for a shoreline.

23 **Shoreline Stabilization** is structural or non-structural modifications to the existing  
24 shoreline intended to reduce or prevent erosion of uplands or beaches. They are  
25 generally located parallel to the shoreline at or near the OHWM.

26 **Shorelands or Shoreland Areas** mean those lands extending landward for 200 feet  
27 in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the OHWM; floodways and  
28 contiguous floodplain areas landward 200 feet from such floodways; and all  
29 wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes and tidal waters which  
30 are subject to the provisions of Chapter 90.58 RCW.

31 **Shorelines** are all of the water areas of the state as defined in RCW 90.58.030,  
32 including reservoirs and their associated shorelands, together with the lands  
33 underlying them except:

- 34
- 35 • Shorelines of statewide significance;
  - 36 • Shorelines on segments of streams upstream of a point where the mean  
37 annual flow is 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) or less and the wetlands  
38 associated with such upstream segments; and
  - 39 • Shorelines on lakes less than 20 acres in size and wetlands associated with  
such small lakes.



- 1 **Shoreline Jurisdiction** means all shorelines of the state and shorelands.
- 2 **Shorelines of Statewide Significance** means the shorelines identified in RCW  
3 90.58.030 which because of their elevated status require the optimum  
4 implementation of the Shoreline Management Act's policies.
- 5 **Shorelines of the State** means the total of all "shorelines" and "shorelines of  
6 statewide significance" within the state subject to the Shoreline Management Act  
7 and its implementing mechanism, the Shoreline Master Program.
- 8 **Sinuosity** is a measure of deviation of a path between two points from the shortest  
9 possible path.
- 10 **Site** means a defined area that can include a parcel or combination of contiguous  
11 parcels, or right-of-way under the applicant's ownership.
- 12 **Slope** means the inclined surface of any part of the earth's surface, delineated by  
13 establishing its toe and top and measured by averaging the inclination over at least  
14 10 feet of vertical relief.
- 15 **SMA** means Shoreline Management Act.
- 16 **Smolt** means a young salmon or sea trout, about two years old, that is at the stage of  
17 development where it assumes the silvery color of the adult and is ready to migrate  
18 to the sea.
- 19 **SMP** means Shoreline Master Program
- 20 **Spalling** means breaking off in fragments.
- 21 **Spatial** is the boundless, three-dimensional extent in which objects and events  
22 occur and have relative position and direction.
- 23 **Spawn** is the eggs of aquatic animals.
- 24 **Spring** means a place where groundwater flows naturally from a rock or the soil  
25 onto the land surface or into a surface waterbody.
- 26 **State Priority Habitat and Species** are habitats and species considered to be  
27 priorities for conservation and management. Priority habitats are habitat types or  
28 elements with unique or significant value to a diverse assemblage of species.  
29 Priority species require protective measures for their survival due to their  
30 population status, sensitivity to habitat alteration, and/or recreational, commercial,  
31 or tribal importance.
- 32 **Stormwater** means water that accumulates on land as a result of storms and can  
33 include runoff from urban areas such as roads and roofs.
- 34 **Streams** are those areas where surface waters produce a defined channel or bed. A  
35 defined channel or bed is an area that demonstrates clear evidence of the annual  
36 passage of water and includes, but is not limited to, bedrock channels, gravel beds,  
37 sand and silt beds, and defined channel swales. The channel or bed need not contain

1 water year-round. This definition includes drainage ditches or other artificial  
2 watercourses where natural streams existed prior to human alteration, and/or the  
3 waterway is used by anadromous or resident salmonid or other fish populations.

4 **Structural Complexity** is considered to be a measure of the number of different  
5 attributes present and the relative abundance of each of these attributes.

6 **Structural Downfold** means a folded geologic structure that is concave upward  
7 formed by tectonic processes. Also known as a syncline.

8 **Substrate** means the underlying bed layer that makes up the bottom of a lake or  
9 stream, frequently composed of rock, gravel, sand, organic material, or a  
10 combination of these materials.

## 11 - T -

12 **Terminus** is an extreme point or element.

13 **Terrestrial** refers to things related to land or the planet Earth.

14 **Threatened** means listed and protected under the federal Endangered Species Act,  
15 indicating that the described species is likely to become endangered in the  
16 foreseeable future.

17 **TMDL** means Total Maximum Daily Load.

18 **303(d) list** comprises those waters that are in the polluted water category, for  
19 which beneficial uses— such as drinking, recreation, aquatic habitat, and industrial  
20 use – are impaired by pollution.

21 **Top** means the top of a slope; or the highest point of contact above a landslide  
22 hazard area.

23 **Topography** is the study of Earth's surface shape and features.

24 **Total Maximum Daily Load** or **TMDL** is a calculation of the maximum amount of a  
25 pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet established water quality  
26 standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. Water quality  
27 standards are set by States, Territories, and Tribes. They identify the uses for each  
28 waterbody, for example, drinking water supply, contact recreation (swimming), and  
29 aquatic life support (fishing), and the scientific criteria to support that use. A TMDL  
30 is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and  
31 non-point sources.

32 **Tributary** means a stream feeding, joining, or flowing into a larger stream or into a  
33 lake.

34 **TWSA** means Total Water Supply Available.

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- U -

1  
2 **UGA** means urban growth area.

3 **Unconfined Aquifer** means an aquifer that receives infiltration directly through the  
4 overlying soil.

5 **Unconsolidated Material** means loosely arranged, not stratified.

6 **Upland** means dry lands landward of OHWM.

7 **Urban Growth Area (UGA)** means a local government's regulatory measure for  
8 delineating an area for urban growth over a period of time. Land within UGA  
9 boundaries is made available for urban levels of development, while land outside  
10 the UGA remains primarily for rural farming, forestry, or low-density residential  
11 development.

12 **Utilities** means all lines and facilities used to distribute, collect, transmit, or control  
13 electrical power, natural gas, petroleum products, information  
14 (telecommunications), water, and sewage.

- V -

15  
16 **VHG** means vertical hydraulic gradient.

- W -

17  
18 **WAC** means Washington Administrative Code.

19 **Water-Dependent Use** means a use that requires direct access to the water to  
20 accomplish its primary function. In other words, a use or portion of a use, which  
21 cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water and which is dependent  
22 on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations. Examples include  
23 commercial fishing, marinas, aquaculture, shipbuilding yard, ferry terminal.

24 **Water-Enjoyment Use** means a use that does not require access to the water, but is  
25 enhanced by a waterfront location, such as a restaurant or aquarium. This includes  
26 uses that facilitate public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the  
27 use; or uses that provide for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline  
28 for a substantial number of people. The use must be open to the general public and  
29 the shoreline-oriented space within the project must be devoted to the specific  
30 aspects of the use that foster shoreline enjoyment.

31 **Water-Related Use** means a use that does not require direct access to the water,  
32 but provides goods or services associated with water-dependent uses (e.g., boater  
33 supply, kayak rental). In other words, a use or portion of a use which is not

1 intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location but whose economic viability is  
2 dependent upon a waterfront location because:

3 (a) The use has a functional requirement for a waterfront location such as the  
4 arrival or shipment of materials by water or the need for large quantities of  
5 water; or

6 (b) The use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent  
7 uses and the proximity of the use to its customers makes its services less  
8 expensive and/or more convenient.

9 **Waterbody** means a body of still or flowing water, identified at its outer limits by  
10 the OHWM.

11 **Water Quality** means the characteristics of water, including flow or amount and  
12 related physical, chemical, aesthetic, recreation-related, and biological  
13 characteristics.

14 **Watershed** means a geographic region within which water drains into a particular  
15 river, stream or body of water.

16 **Watershed Processes** are the movement of water, sediment, nutrients, pathogens,  
17 toxic, compounds, and wood through the landscape.

18 **WDFW** means Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

19 **Wetlands** means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or  
20 groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under  
21 normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for  
22 life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs  
23 and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally  
24 created from non-wetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage  
25 ditches, grass lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment  
26 facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities or those wetlands created after July  
27 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road,  
28 street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally  
29 created from non-wetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.

30 **Windthrow** means a natural process by which trees are uprooted or sustain severe  
31 trunk damage by the wind.

32 **WRIA** means Water Resource Inventory Area and refers to watersheds within the  
33 State of Washington.

34 **WSDOT** means Washington State Department of Transportation.

35 - Y -

36 **YRBWEP** means Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project.