

## **Attachment A. Glossary**

### **Accretion shoreform**

Areas of the marine shoreline where sediment is deposited either currently or has done so in the past. These areas generally have broad backshores, large accumulations of drift logs, and marsh or dune grass vegetation communities. They are frequently part of a lagoon/spit complex, and are also frequently found at stream mouths along the marine shorelines.

### **Agricultural Production District or APD**

Agricultural Production Districts are areas where the principal land use should be for agricultural purposes. Lands within Agricultural Production Districts should remain in parcels large enough for commercial agriculture.

### **Aquaculture**

The culture and/or farming of food fish, shellfish, and other aquatic plants and animals in fresh water, brackish water or salt water areas. Aquaculture practices may include but are not limited to hatching, seeding or planting, cultivating, feeding, raising, harvesting of planted crops or of natural crops so as to maintain an optimum yield, and processing of aquatic plants or animals.

### **Backwatering**

Backwatering is an effect where a body of water does not flow normally and is pooled up typically behind some feature. This can be caused by another body of water or by manmade structures that act like a dam against the other body of water.

### **Benthic index of biological integrity or BIBI**

A method of assessing the biological integrity or health of a stream by evaluating the assemblage of benthic macroinvertebrates present. The macroinvertebrates are collected using standard scientific protocol and are subsequently taxonomically identified and counted. This information is used to calculate ten metrics that represent biological indicators. The metrics measure a variety of ecological attributes including the number and diversity of macroinvertebrates, the presence of species that are tolerant or intolerant to pollution, their reproductive strategy, feeding ecology, and population structure. These metrics are combined to provide an "index" (the BIBI) that can be used to provide information regarding the general condition of a water body.

### **Benthic macroinvertebrates**

Animals with no backbone or internal skeleton that live on the bottom of lakes, ponds, wetlands, rivers, and streams. Examples include nymph stages of mayflies, dragonflies, damselflies, and caddisflies, as well as crayfish, snails, worms, and leeches.

### **Channel migration zone or CMZ**

Those areas within the lateral extent of likely stream channel movement that are subject to risk due to stream bank destabilization, rapid stream incision, stream bank erosion and shifts in the location of stream channels. As shown on King County's Channel Migration Zone maps, "channel migration zone" is the corridor that includes the present channel, the severe channel migration hazard area and the moderate channel migration hazard area. It does not include areas that lie behind an arterial road, a public road serving as a sole access route, a state or federal highway or a railroad. Thus areas that lie behind a lawfully established flood protection facility that is likely to be maintained by existing programs for public maintenance consistent with designation and classification criteria specified by public rule may be excluded. When a natural geologic feature affects channel migration, the channel migration zone width will

consider such natural constraints (adapted from King County's 2006 Executive Proposed Flood Hazard Management Plan).

**Combined sewer overflow or CSO**

Discharges of combined sewage and stormwater into water bodies during very wet or storm weather. These discharges occur to relieve the sewer system as it becomes overloaded with normal sewer flow and increased storm run-off. The term is also used to denote a pipe that discharges those overflows.

**Critical Areas Ordinance or CAO**

Critical areas include aquatic areas, wetlands, wildlife habitat, geologic hazard areas, flood hazard areas, and critical aquifer recharge areas in the unincorporated area. The King County's Critical Areas Ordinance (KCC Title 21A.24) is authorized under the WA Growth Management Act and is intended to protect public safety and the existing functions and values of critical areas.

**Cumulative impacts**

The impacts of development within the reasonably foreseeable future. Forecasting cumulative impacts within the shoreline jurisdiction is a part of the shoreline master program update.

**Data layer**

An electronic file containing data that is in the correct format for use in a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis.

**DAHP**

Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. A state agency which tracks and advocates for the preservation of Washington's irreplaceable historic and cultural resources such as significant buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts.

**DDES**

King County Department of Development and Environmental Services. DDES is a King County agency that issues building and land use permits for properties located in unincorporated King County. It also enforces county land use and building codes, staffs the King County Fire Marshal Division, and issues business licenses.

**Depressional wetlands**

These wetlands occur in depression where elevations within the wetland are lower than the surrounding landscape. Water and shallow subsurface water flows toward the lowest point in the depression, which is not the outlet.

**Development**

A use consisting of the construction or exterior alteration of structures; dredging; drilling; dumping; filling; removal of any sand, gravel, or minerals; bulkheading; driving of piling; placing of obstructions; or any project of a permanent or temporary nature which interferes with the normal public use of the surface of the waters overlying lands subject to RCW 90.58 at any state of water level. Also see substantial development.

**Drift cell**

An independent segment of shoreline, based on analysis of sediment processes, along which littoral movements of sediments occur at noticeable rates depending on wave energy and currents. Each drift cell typically includes one or more sources of sediment, such as a feeder bluff or stream outlet that spills sediment onto a beach, a transport zone within which the sediment drifts along the shore and an accretion area; an example of an accretion area is a

sand spit where the drifted sediment material is deposited (from Puget Sound Action Team publication # OTH05-01).

### **Ecological functions**

How a given area or structure is used, such as for spawning, rearing, migration, refuge by fish or wildlife, or by people for commercial, residential, agricultural, recreational or cultural purposes or, as legally defined by WAC 173-26-020, "work performed or role played by the physical, chemical, and biological processes that contribute to the maintenance of the aquatic and terrestrial environments that constitute the shoreline's natural ecosystem." See definition of PSF.

### **Ecological process**

From Forman (1986) "an expenditure of energy (kinetic, biochemical, etc.) that results in a change in state" or, as legally defined by WAC 173-26-020, "the suite of naturally occurring physical and geologic processes of erosion, transport, and deposition; and specific chemical processes that shape landforms within a specific shoreline ecosystem and determine both the types of habitat and the associated ecological functions." See definition of PSF.

### **Ecological structure**

The spatial and temporal organization of ecological conditions (e.g., oxygen, temperature, biological communities) or materials (e.g., woody debris, substrates, species). Ecological structures directly link to ecological functions (see PSF).

### **Ecological restoration**

See Restoration.

### **Ecological value**

The magnitude of a given ecological function, typically expressed as worth to society or to a species' survival.

### **Ecology or WDOE**

Washington State Department of Ecology.

### **Ecosystem-wide processes**

The suite of naturally occurring physical and geologic processes of erosion, transport, and deposition; and specific chemical processes that shape landforms within a specific shoreline ecosystem and determine both the types of habitat and the associated ecological functions.

### **El Nino**

The term El Niño refers to the large-scale, ocean-atmosphere climate phenomenon linked to a periodic warming in sea-surface temperatures across the central and east-central equatorial Pacific Ocean. (According to NOAA.)

### **Eutrophication**

The physical, chemical, and biological changes associated with enrichment of a body of freshwater due to increases in nutrients from a variety of sources.

### **Eutrophic lakes**

Lakes in which algae make large populations and biovolumes, generally related to high nutrient supply, particularly phosphorus. Trophic state indicators above 50 are classified as eutrophic.

### **Extreme low tide**

The lowest line on the land reached by a receding tide.

**Feeder bluff**

Also known as sea cliffs and coastal bluffs, are bluffs along the marine shoreline that are actively contributing, or feeding, sediment to beaches. Bluff sediment is the primary source of beach sediment in Puget Sound, whereas rivers and streams are a secondary source (Keuler 1988).

**Flood plain**

This term is synonymous with "one hundred-year floodplain" and means that land area susceptible to inundation with a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The limit of this area shall be based upon flood ordinance regulation maps or a reasonable method which meets the objectives of the Shoreline Management Act.

**Floodway**

Those portions of the area of a river valley lying streamward from the outer limits of a watercourse upon which flood waters are carried during periods of flooding that occur with reasonable regularity, although not necessarily annually, said floodway being identified, under normal condition, by changes in surface soil conditions or changes in types or quality of vegetative ground cover condition. The floodway shall not include those lands that can reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by flood control devices maintained by or maintained under license from the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

**Forest Production District or FPD**

The Forest Production District (FPD) is a King County designation for forest lands of long term commercial significance as required by the Growth Management Act. Not all areas within the FPD are in timber production; for example some are in use as wilderness areas or parks.

**GIS**

Geographic Information System. A computer package designed to store and analyze geographically specific data. In other words, all the data contained within the system is tied to a specific spot on the planet that can be retrieved and compared. Analytical procedures can be programmed and carried out within the GIS framework.

**Groundwater**

Groundwater is the water beneath the surface that often collects between soil and rock – it reappears on the surface through wells and springs.

**Guidelines**

Those standards adopted to implement the policy of RCW 90.58 for regulation of use of the shorelines of the state prior to adoption of master programs. Such standards shall also provide criteria to local governments and the department of Ecology in developing master programs.

**HRI**

King County Historic Resources Inventory

**Hyporheic functions**

The work or role played by the hyporheic zone (see below) including providing for water storage and purification, rearing, migration and refuge habitat for select benthic invertebrates, down and up-welling providing flows for substrate dwelling organism and for egg incubation for some fishes, notably salmon and trout.

**Hyporheic Zone**

The area under or beside a stream channel of floodplain that contributes water to the stream.

The source of hyporheic water can be from the channel itself or the water percolating to the stream from the surroundings.

**Impervious surface**

A hard surface area which either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil mantle as under natural conditions prior to development; and/or a hard surface area which causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural conditions prior to development.

Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, roof tops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or storage areas, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel roads, packed earthen materials, and oiled, macadam, or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of surface and storm water runoff.

**KCC**

King County Code

**King County Historic Preservation Program or KCHPP**

The goal is to identify, preserve and protect significant historic and archaeological properties in order to promote community, economic, and cultural development. Learn more from King County's [Office of Business Relations and Economic Development - Historic Preservation.](#)

**Large Woody Debris or LWD**

A term used for non-living wood large enough to provide habitat or modify water movement when deposited along shorelines or in water bodies such as streams, rivers, and lakes. Read the [large woody debris](#) Web page for more information.

**Limiting Nutrient**

An essential nutrient that is available naturally in small amounts and controls the rate of growth of an organism. Increased amounts of these nutrients from human alterations can greatly increase the organism's impacts on the ecosystem.

**Mesotrophic Lakes**

Lakes in which algae make populations intermediate in size between eutrophic and oligotrophic lakes. Trophic state indicators between 40 and 50 are classified as mesotrophic. See definition of trophic state indicators.

**Oligotrophic Lakes**

Lakes in which the water is nutrient poor and which, as a result, have little algal production. Trophic state indicators below 40 are classified as oligotrophic. See definition of trophic state indicators.

**Ordinary high water mark or OHWM**

The elevation along the shoreline of a waterbody at which water persists for a long enough time each year to leave a permanent mark, affect soil characteristics, and affect the species of plants that can survive in that location. See the discussion in section 1 and the Washington State legal definition.

**Over Water Structure or OWS**

Structures that are built over the water such as docks and piers.

**Photosynthesis**

The production of organic matter (carbohydrates) from inorganic carbon and water, utilizing the energy of the sun.

**Pixels - also called cells or grid cells**

An individual row-column intersect of a raster. It is can be thought of as single box within a larger grid composed of many cells/pixels (see raster). The size of a pixel can be defined to practically any size, dependent on the needs and precision of the analysis.

**Priority habitat**

A habitat type with unique or significant value to one or more species. An area classified and mapped as priority habitat must have one or more of the following attributes:

- Comparatively high fish or wildlife density;
- Comparatively high fish or wildlife species diversity;
- Fish spawning habitat;
- Important wildlife habitat;
- Important fish or wildlife seasonal range;
- Important fish or wildlife movement corridor;
- Rearing and foraging habitat;
- Important marine mammal haul-out;
- Refugia habitat;
- Limited availability;
- High vulnerability to habitat alteration;
- Unique or dependent species; or
- Shellfish bed

A priority habitat may be described by a unique vegetation type or by a dominant plant species that is of primary importance to fish and wildlife (such as oak woodlands or eelgrass meadows). A priority habitat may also be described by a successional stage (such as, old growth and mature forests). Alternatively, a priority habitat may consist of a specific habitat element (such as a consolidated marine/estuarine shoreline, talus slopes, caves, snags) of key value to fish and wildlife. A priority habitat may contain priority and/or non-priority fish and wildlife.

**Priority species**

A species requiring protective measures and/or management guidelines to ensure their persistence at genetically viable population levels.

Priority species are those that meet any of the following four criteria:

- Criterion 1. State-listed or state proposed species. State-listed species are those native fish and wildlife species legally designated as endangered (WAC 232-12-014), threatened (WAC 232-12-011), or sensitive (WAC 232-12-011). State proposed species

are those fish and wildlife species that will be reviewed by the department of fish and wildlife (POL-M-6001) for possible listing as endangered, threatened, or sensitive according to the process and criteria defined in [WAC 232-12-297](#).

- Criterion 2. Vulnerable aggregations. Vulnerable aggregations include those species or groups of animals susceptible to significant population declines, within a specific area or statewide, by virtue of their inclination to congregate. Examples include heron colonies, seabird concentrations, and marine mammal congregations.
- Criterion 3. Species of recreational, commercial, and/or tribal importance. Native and nonnative fish, shellfish, and wildlife species of recreational or commercial importance and recognized species used for tribal ceremonial and subsistence purposes that are vulnerable to habitat loss or degradation.
- Criterion 4. Species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act as either proposed, threatened, or endangered.

### **Process-Structure-Function or PSF**

The three elements in an ecological system that interact to produce value, which is defined as benefits to people and other organisms. In general, the flow of impacts goes from process through structure to function, but there can be feedback loops between each part. See the discussion in the introduction of section 2 and the accompanying figure.

### **Public Benefit Rating System or PBRs**

The Public Benefit Rating System (PBRs) and the Timber Land programs provide incentives to encourage landowners to voluntarily conserve and protect land resources, open space and timber. In return for preserving and managing resources, the land is assessed at a value consistent with its "current use" rather than the "highest and best use." Learn more from [King County's Public Benefit Rating System & Timber Land Programs](#) Web site.

### **Raster**

A data format that stores positional (horizontal) location information in a row-column (Cartesian) structure, which is a highly efficient data storage, access, and manipulation format. In other words it is a bunch of squares back to back each with its own data value.

### **Raster-based analysis**

A computer model based on raster data. GIS models can be created in several formats. All of the GIS data used in the shoreline characterization model was converted to raster based data for use in the analysis.

### **Reach**

Length of shoreline defined by common, linked or interrelated physical, chemical or biological conditions.

### **Restoration**

The reestablishment or upgrading of impaired ecological shoreline processes or functions. This may be accomplished through measures including but not limited to revegetation, removal of intrusive shoreline structures and removal or treatment of toxic materials. Restoration does not imply a requirement for returning the shoreline area to aboriginal or pre-European settlement conditions.

### **Revised Code of Washington State Law or RCW**

A codification of current statutes in effect in Washington State as enacted and amended.

**Sample bias**

Unintentional error caused by non-random selection of data, which may not reflect the actual distribution of the items and may affect projections based on the results. In the case of archeological and historical sites in King County, bias may have occurred because of the heavy reliance on data from large government and development projects that trigger the requirement for cataloguing such areas and properties as part of the process before starting work.

**Seiche**

Seiches are a series of cycling standing waves (sloshing water) generated in an enclosed or partially enclosed body of water, either by wind force or earth movements.

**Shapefile**

Files that contain a set of points, arcs (lines), or polygons (or features) that hold tabular data and a spatial location that can be projected in ArcView software.

**Shorelands or shoreland areas**

Those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the provisions of RCW 90.58; the same to be designated as to location by the department of ecology. Any county or city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year-flood plain to be included in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land extending landward two hundred feet.

**Shoreline Characterization Analysis or SCA**

Also called Alterations Analysis. The set of GIS analytical instructions created to characterize the level of alteration to shorelines within King County. This set is composed of sub-analyses that characterize the alterations for up to ten different ecological processes operating along shorelines. Each sub-analysis has a scoring system that evaluates the level of alteration on a scale of zero to four, with zero being the most altered and four being the least altered.

**Shoreline functions**

The work performed or role played by the physical, chemical, and biological processes that contribute to the maintenance of the aquatic and terrestrial environments that constitute the shoreline's natural ecosystem. Also referred to as ecological functions.

**Shoreline Management Act or SMA**

In 1972, Washington State (State) voters approved the Shoreline Management Act. The Act has three broad policy goals (RCW 90.58.020): to encourage water-dependent uses, protect shoreline natural resources and promote public access. The State is responsible for adopting guidelines for local Shoreline Master Programs, reviewing and adopting local Programs, and reviewing shoreline development permits and variances for approval. The Act requires counties and cities to develop plans and adopt regulations to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state's shorelines.

**Shorelines of Statewide Significance**

The following shorelines of the state:

1. Those areas of Puget Sound and adjacent salt waters and the Strait of Juan de Fuca between the ordinary high water mark and the line of extreme low tide as follows: (A) Nisqually Delta – from DeWolf Bight to Tatsolo Point, (B) Birch Bay – from Point



Whitehorn to Birch Point, (C) Hood Canal – from Tala Point to Foulweather Bluff, (D) Skagit Bay and adjacent area – from Brown Point to Yokeko Point, and (E) Padilla Bay – from March Point to William Point;

2. Those areas of Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca and adjacent salt waters north to the Canadian line and lying seaward from the line of extreme low tide;
3. Those lakes, whether natural, artificial, or a combination thereof, with a surface acreage of one thousand acres or more measured at the ordinary high water mark;
4. Those natural rivers or segments thereof as follows: (A) Any west of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a point where the mean annual flow is measured at one thousand cubic feet per second or more, (B) Any east of the crest of the Cascade range downstream of a point where the annual flow is measured at two hundred cubic feet per second or more, or those portions of rivers east of the crest of the Cascade range downstream from the first three hundred square miles of drainage area, whichever is longer;
5. Those shorelands associated with the water bodies above;

### **Shorelines, Shoreline jurisdiction, or Shorelines of the State**

Shorelines of the State in King County, as defined by the Washington State Shoreline Management Act, include all marine shorelines, lakes greater than 20 acres, and rivers and streams with a minimum of 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) mean annual flow. The shoreline jurisdiction includes these water bodies and shorelands. See 'Shorelands' for a definition.

### **Shoreline Master Program**

The existing comprehensive shoreline management program for King County – including use regulations and shoreline jurisdiction, designation and planning maps – developed in accordance with RCW 90.58.020 and WAC 173-26.

### **Shoreline Master Program Guidelines**

The Shoreline Management Act gives the Washington Department of Ecology authority to adopt Shoreline Master Program Guidelines (WAC 173-26; Guidelines) that local governments must follow when adopting and updating their Shoreline Master Programs. Ecology substantially updated the Guidelines in 2003. The 2003 Guidelines include new requirements designed to ensure that local Shoreline Master Programs do not result in a net loss of current and potential ecological functions necessary to sustain shoreline natural resources. The Guidelines require local governments to plan for restoration of ecological functions where they have been impaired (WAC 173-26-201(2)(a)) and public access to shorelines.

### **Shoreline Uses**

The Shoreline Master Program Guidelines define priority shoreline uses as follows:

#### *Water dependent*

A use or portion of a use which cannot exist in a location that is not adjacent to the water but is dependent on the water by reason of the intrinsic nature of its operations. Examples of water-dependent uses include ship cargo terminal loading areas, fishing, ferry and passenger terminals, barge loading facilities, ship building and dry docking, marinas, aquaculture, float plane facilities, surface water intake, and sewer outfalls.

#### *Water related*

A use or portion of a use which is not intrinsically dependent on a waterfront location but whose

economic viability is dependent upon or substantially benefited by a shoreline location because: (a) the use has a functional requirement for a shoreline location such as the arrival or shipment of materials by water or the need for large quantities of water; or, (b) the use provides a necessary service supportive of the water-dependent uses and the proximity of the use to its customers makes its services less expensive and/or more convenient.

Water-related uses include manufacturing of ship parts large enough that transportation becomes a significant factor in the product's cost, professional services serving primarily water-dependent uses, and storage of water-transported foods. Other examples of water-related uses include the warehousing of goods transported by water, seafood processing plants, hydroelectric generating plants, gravel storage when transported by barge, oil refineries where transport is by tanker, and upland log storage for water-borne transportation.

#### *Water enjoyment*

A recreational use or other use that facilitates public access to the shoreline as a primary characteristic of the use; or a use that provides for recreational use or aesthetic enjoyment of the shoreline for a substantial number of people as a general characteristic of the use and which through location, design, and operation ensures the public's ability to enjoy the physical and aesthetic qualities of the shoreline. In order to qualify as a water-enjoyment use, the use must be available to the general public and the shoreline-oriented space within the project must be devoted to the specific aspects of the use that fosters shoreline enjoyment. Primary water-enjoyment uses may include, but are not limited to: Parks with activities enhanced by proximity to the water; Piers and other over water improvements that include substantial public access to shorelines of the state; Restaurants that directly incorporate visual access to and enjoyment of the water; Museums with an orientation to shoreline topics; Aquariums; and Resorts that directly incorporate access to and enjoyment of the water.

#### *Water-oriented*

A use that is water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment, or a combination of such uses.

#### *Non-water-oriented*

Those uses that are not water-dependent, water-related, or water-enjoyment.

### **SSHIAP**

Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory Program, a collaboration between WDFW (Washington Department of Fisheries and Wildlife) and NWIFC (Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission).

### **Substantial development**

Any development of which the total cost or fair market value exceeds five thousand dollars, or any development which materially interferes with the normal public use of the water or shorelines of the state. This dollar threshold must be adjusted for inflation by the office of financial management every five years, beginning July 1, 2007, based upon changes in the consumer price index during that time period.

There is a lengthy list of activities that are not considered substantial developments for the purpose of RCW 90.58. See the code definition of Substantial Development for this list of exclusions.

Also see Development.

**Substrates**

The base on which an organism lives.

**Total Impervious Area or TIA**

The total area within in a defined area (such as a catchment basin) that is covered by non-pervious, non-infiltrating, constructed surfaces, i.e. surfaces that do not allow rain water to seep into the ground. Examples of such surfaces include asphalt, concrete, and buildings.

**Trophic State**

A term used to describe the productivity of a lake ecosystem classifying it as one of three increasing categories based on algal biomass: oligotrophic, mesotrophic, or eutrophic. Since algal populations can be difficult and expensive to measure accurately, trophic state indicators are calculated as proxies on the basis of total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and secchi transparency measurements. The relationships were first proposed in 1977 and have been extensively tested since then.

**Tsunami**

An ocean wave produced by geological changes that displace water, such as from sub-marine earthquakes, landslides, or volcanic eruptions. These waves may reach enormous dimensions and can have sufficient energy to travel across entire oceans.

**Washington State Administrative Code or WAC**

A document that lays out how state agencies shall organize and adopt state rules and regulations. WACs and rules and regulations refer to agency guidelines adopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

**Water Quality**

The physical characteristics of water, including water quantity, hydrological, physical, chemical, aesthetic, recreation-related, and biological characteristics. Where used in RCW 90.58, the term "water quantity" refers only to development and uses regulated under RCW 90.58 and affecting water quantity, such as impermeable surfaces and storm water handling practices. Water quantity, for purposes of this chapter, does not mean the withdrawal of ground water or diversion of surface water pursuant to RCW 90.03.250 through 90.03.340.

**WDFW**

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. A state agency that is charged with managing fish and wildlife species based on the best available science and the scientific process that generates new information for informed, future decision making. View the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Web site - Who We Are.

**WDNR**

Washington State Department of Natural Resources. A state agency that is charged with managing and protecting the public lands of Washington State.

**Wetlands**

Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were

unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.

See depressional wetland.

**Water Resource Inventory Area or WRIA**

Water Resource Inventory Areas were formalized under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-500-040 and authorized under the Water Resources Act of 1971, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.54. The Washington Department of Ecology was given responsibility for the development and management of these administrative and planning boundaries. The WRIA boundaries were used in Washington to develop recovery plans for salmonids listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.