

## DRAFT Attachment F – Glossary

Key terms in italics throughout the general order are defined here for clarification.

### 1. **Access Route Construction**

Construction, reconstruction, restoration, improvements and decommissioning of access roads, ancillary spurs, watercourse crossings, and erosion control structures for the purpose of accessing utility infrastructure. Includes vegetation management activities for the purpose of creating an access route.

### 2. **Access Routes**

Roads, ancillary spurs, and skid trails established for the purpose of accessing utility infrastructure.

### 3. **Access Route Decommission**

Decommission or abandonment activities that result in the stabilization and restoration to a more natural state of access routes in a location that is no longer intended for vehicle travel and implementing measures to effectively remove an existing road, or watercourse crossing from the permanent road network (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 – Transportation System). Decommissioning activities may include soil stabilization, watercourse crossing removal or stabilization, and restoration of the area's natural drainage patterns.

### 4. **Access Route Maintenance**

Activities that do not require substantial change to the road prism to maintain stable operating surfaces, functioning drainage facilities and structures, and stable cutbanks and fill slopes. Examples of road maintenance may include rocking a road surface; localized shaping or outsloping; installation and maintenance of rolling and critical dips; restoring functional capacity of inboard ditches, cross drains, or culverts; and repairing water bars.

### 5. **Class I watercourse or restorable Class I watercourse**

The standards of protection for a Class I Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone, or WLPZ, in watersheds with listed anadromous salmonids are articulated in Section 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] of the Forest Practice Rules and are identified as the "Anadromous Salmonid Protection Rules", or "ASP rules". The ASP rules apply within areas identified as the "Coastal Anadromy Zone", or "CAZ", which are those waterbodies that support populations of threatened or endangered anadromous salmonids such as coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), and steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

### 6. **Class II watercourse**

Watercourses where fish are always or seasonally present offsite within 1000 feet downstream, and/or watercourses which contain aquatic habitat for non-fish aquatic species. Class III watercourses that are tributary to Class I watercourses (hence within 1000 feet of a fish-bearing watercourse) are specifically excluded.

**7. Compatible Vegetation**

Plant species that, at maturity, will not grow to a height that encroaches the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, [California Public Utilities Commission General Order 95, Rule 35 and PRC 4293](https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/gos/GO95/go_95_rule_35.html)

([https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/gos/GO95/go\\_95\\_rule\\_35.html](https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/gos/GO95/go_95_rule_35.html)), and other regulatory clearance standards.

**8. Controllable Sediment Discharge Source (CSDS)**

A feature caused or affected by anthropogenic activity that has caused or threatens to cause discharge of sediment to receiving waters in a manner that negatively impacts water quality or beneficial uses, and is under Discharger ownership or control. A Controllable Sediment Discharge Source may be treated through planned project activities, routine maintenance, storm-proofing, emergency work, or as a stand-alone project.

**9. Emergency**

A sudden, unexpected occurrence, involving a clear and imminent danger, demanding immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss of, or damage to, life, health, property, or essential public services. "Emergency" includes such occurrences as fire, flood, earthquake, or other soil or geologic movements, as well as such occurrences as riot, accident, or sabotage (Ca. Pub. Res. Code § 21060.3).

**10. Erodibility K Factor**

The K factor is the soil erodibility factor used in the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE). The K factor represents the combination of detachability of the soil, runoff potential of the soil, and the transportability of the sediment eroded from the soil.

**11. Hazardous Material**

Any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment, including any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment (Health & Safety Code, Section 25501).

**12. Hydrologic Connection**

Hydrologic connectivity refers to the length or proportion of a road or road network that drains runoff directly to streams or other water bodies. Any road segment that has a continuous surface flow path to a natural stream channel during a 'design' runoff event is termed a hydrologically connected road or road reach. Connectivity usually occurs through road ditches, road surfaces, gullies, rolling dips, waterbars or other drainage structures or disturbed surfaces associated with roads.

**13. Hydrologic Disconnection**

The removal of direct routes of drainage or overland flow of access route runoff to a water of the state. The goal of hydrologic disconnection is to minimize sediment delivery and hydrologic change derived from road runoff being routed to a watercourse. Hydrologic disconnection is achieved by creating a road surface and drainage configuration that directs water to discharge from the road in a location where it is unlikely to directly flow into a watercourse.

**14. Outsloping**

Shaping the road surface to drain to the outside edge of the road.

**15. Precipitation Event**

Precipitation event is any weather pattern that results in precipitation (rain, snow, sleet, or hail).

**16. Project Activity**

Project Description (General Order section III), activities performed for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, response, and cleanup, and electric utility infrastructure operations and maintenance activities that are not directly related to wildfire mitigation but have the same potential effects on water quality as wildfire mitigation activities.

**17. Project Area**

The location where Project Activities occur, including storage areas and access routes.

**18. Rolling Dip**

Shallow, rounded dip in the road where road grade reverses for a short distance and surface runoff is directed in the dip or trough to the outside or inside of the road.

**19. Saturated Soils**

Soil and/or surface material pore spaces are filled with water to such an extent that runoff is likely to occur. Indicators of saturated soil conditions may include, but are not limited to: (1) areas of ponded water, (2) pumping of fines from the soil or access route surfacing material during the project, (3) loss of bearing strength resulting in the deflection of soil or access route surfaces under a load, such as the creation of wheel ruts, (4) spinning or churning of wheels or tracks that produces a wet slurry, or (5) inadequate traction without blading wet soil or surfacing materials.

**20. Seasonal Deactivation**

Temporary deactivation of a seasonal access route to prevent the active use of the road and disconnect surface drainage, install access route drainage features (e.g., waterbreaks, rolling dips, outsloping), stabilize soils, and prevent vehicle travel during the rainy season.

**21. Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Site**

A location where there are visible physical conditions to indicate soil erosion may occur, or sediment is currently discharged to watercourses or lakes in quantities that violate water quality objectives or result in significant individual or cumulative adverse impacts to the beneficial uses of water.

**22. Slash**

Branches, limbs, or bark and split products debris left on the ground as a result of vegetation management activities.

**23. Soil Borne Pathogens**

Are any nematodes, or any bacterial, protozoan, viral or fungal pathogens that can cause disease or death to native plants, agricultural crops or ornamental plants (e.g., *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of sudden oak death, and *P. lateralis*, the cause of Port Orford cedar root disease). The fungus that causes Valley Fever, *Coccidioides* spp., is not considered a soil borne pathogen in this order.

**24. Stabilized**

Exposed soils and unstable areas that have been treated in such a manner that there is low risk of such soils discharging to a water of the state via runoff, slumping, or wind erosion. Appropriate treatment varies and can include, but is not limited to: cover with mulch (e.g., weed-free straw, slash, woodchips); relocation of excess material to an area that is stable, well drained, isolated from waters of the state, and where wind exposure is limited; sloping back excess material to a stable angle; hydroseeding, seeding and/or planting; and/or temporary construction erosion control measures (e.g., fiber rolls, silt fences, erosion control blankets, tarps).

**25. Urban Area**

Urban areas represent densely developed territory, and encompass residential, commercial, and other nonresidential urban land uses. Each urban area must encompass at least 2,000 housing units or at least 5,000 people. (2020 U.S. Census Bureau).

**26. Vegetation Management Waste**

Debris generated by vegetation management including woodchips, slash, trimmings, prunings, bark, limbs, tree trunks, roots or stumps; sediment, rocks, sand, silt, clay, and other earthen materials; and any other organic or inorganic waste produced by vegetation management activities covered under this order.

**27. Waterbreak**

Shallow, drivable ditch excavated at an angle across a road or trail to drain surface runoff.