

6.0 GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Anadromous	Fish species that breed in freshwater but mature in the ocean.
Area of potential effect	Area defined for purposes of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as that area where a project may potentially affect historic properties.
Baseline	Existing conditions for an environmental resource.
Bents	Supporting units of a bridge composed of columns or column-like members connected by a cap that distributes the load (weight of bridge above) on the unit.
Best management practices	Standard practices, generally used for construction, that avoid or minimize environmental disruption or impact.
Biota	Collective term for living things, including plants, animals, fungi, etc.
Coffer dams	In-water dams that temporarily exclude water from a given area (usually where construction is occurring).
Compensatory mitigation	Environmental restoration (such as wetlands restoration or creation) undertaken to offset project related environmental impacts.
coniferous	Cone-bearing trees, typically evergreen.
Culvert	A pipe carrying a waterway under fill.
Deciduous	Trees that lose their leaves on a seasonal basis; typically broadleaf trees.
Easement	A right held by one party to allow partial use of a given property (such as for access or drainage) granted by the owner of that property.
Emergent wetlands	Wetlands that are characterized by plants growing with their roots underwater and leaves extending above the water.
Ephemeral ponds	Depressions that have standing water during only part of the year.
Environmental Performance Standards	Measures developed specifically for the OTIA III bridge program that define the level of effect that a project may have on the environment so that the project may be covered under programmatic environmental permits.
Evapotranspiration	Movement of water through plants, taken up by plants as liquid water then given off as water vapor.
GIS	Geographic information systems, computerized systems to manage geographic data combining data bases and mapping.
High-flow refuge	Areas where juvenile or migrating fish find refuge during high river flows, such as backwater areas behind large logs or rocks.
Hydric soils	Soil that is saturated or flooded for long parts of the growing season.
Hydrophytic vegetation	Plants that grow in wet conditions, such as hydric soils.
Impervious area	Hard surfaces like roofs, roads, and parking lots that shed the rain that falls on them and do not let it absorb into the ground.
Key views	Views that are representative of the project area and are seen by different viewer groups.
Liquefaction	Conversion of cohesive, unconsolidated soil to a liquid state.
Migration corridors	Linear areas through which wildlife travels – can be on land (terrestrial) or in water (aquatic)
Mitigation	Efforts to offset the adverse environmental impacts of an action (e.g., restoring a habitat or wetland to offset impacts to the same or another habitat or wetland).
Non-attainment	When a region's air quality does not meet the regulatory standards, called the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, for one or more pollutants.
Non-point sources	Sources of pollution that are spatially spread out, such as overland runoff of water that enters a stream.
Off-channel habitat	Fish habitat that is not located in the main channel of a river or stream, such as seasonally flooded areas.
Pier	A structural member that supports a bridge.
Rearing	The feeding and growth of juvenile fish.

Term	Definition
Right-of-way	(1) A right (temporary or permanent) granted by a property owner to another to build, maintain and use a road, utility line or similar improvement over the owner's property, or (2) land owned for the purposes of transportation and related needs.
Riparian	Of, on, or relating to the banks of a river or other natural waterway, generally applied to "riparian ecosystems".
Rookery	A breeding place or colony of birds
Salmonid	Fish of the family Salmonidae, which includes salmon and steelhead
Sedimentation	The movement and settling of sediment particles.
Staging area	Areas used in construction to temporarily store and assemble equipment and materials.
Substrate	The material that forms the base of a river or stream, or in which vegetation grows.
Take (from the Endangered Species Act)	To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect a listed threatened or endangered species, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.
Upland	Terrestrial ecosystems located away from riparian zones, wetlands, and water bodies.