

## 13.0 ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY

### 13.1 ACRONYMS

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ADT	Average Daily Trips
AFY	Acre-feet per year
AICUZ	Air Installation Compatible Use Zone
AHC	Altered Hydraulic Conveyance
APCD	Air Pollution Control District
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
ARCA	Aquatic Resource Conservation Area
ARRP	Aquatic Restoration and Reserve Plan
AT&SF	Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Bikeway
BIOL	Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BP	Before Present
BWRF	Black Willow Riparian Forest
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
Cal-EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCC	Criteria Continuous Concentration
CCC	California Coastal Commission
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDP	Coastal Development Permit
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations

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CFS	Cubic Feet per Second
CGS	California Geologic Survey
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
CLORAVF	Canyon Live Oak Ravine Forest
CLOW	Coast Live Oak Woodland
CMS	Cubic Meters per Second
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COMM	Commercial and Sport Fishing
Corps	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CRA	Colorado River Aqueduct
CRHR	California Register of Historic Places
CRREL	Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (of the Corps of Engineers)
CSS	Coastal Sage Scrub
CTR	California Toxics Rule
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWRF	Cottonwood-Willow Riparian Forest
CZARA	Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DAMP	Drainage Area Management Plan
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
Department	California Department of Fish and Game
DoA	Department of Army
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMC	Event Mean Concentration
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EO	Executive Order
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERDC	Engineering Research and Development Center (of the Corps of Engineers)
ESA	Endangered Species Act

ESHA	Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas
EST	Estuarine Habitat
ET	Evapotranspiration
ETC	Eastern Transportation Corridor
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FGC	California Fish and Game Code
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FI	Floodplain Interaction
FSS	Floodplain Sage Scrub
FWS	Coastal Freshwater Marsh
GDP	General Development Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLA	Glen Lukos Associates
GPA	General Plan Amendment
GPP	Great Park Project
GWR	Groundwater Recharge
Hab	Habitat Integrity
HBP	Harbors, Beaches and Parks
HCD	State Department of Housing and community Development
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
Hyd	Hydrologic integrity
I	Interstate
IA	Implementation Agreement
IED	Import, Export, or Diversion of Surface Water
ILF	In-lieu Fee
IP	Individual Permit
IRWD	Irvine Ranch Water District
IVM	Integrated Vector Management
IWMD	Integrated Water Management Department
LAD	Los Angeles District (Corps of Engineers)
LAWD	Los Alisos Water District
LCWP	Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
LDB	Local Drainage Basins
LEDPA	Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative

LIPs	Local Implementation Plans
LLFA	Landscape Level Functional Assessment
LMP	Land Management Program
LOP	Letter of Permission
LRDP	Long Range Development Plan
MAF	Million Acre-Feet per Year
MAR	Marine Habitat
MCAS	Marine Corps Air Station
MEA	Master Environmental Assessment
MFI	Median Family Income
MFS	Mule Fat Scrub
mg/L	milligrams per liter
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
MLWA	Military Land Withdrawal Act
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPAH	Master Plan of Arterials and Highways
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
MSAA	Master Streambed Alteration Agreement
msl	mean sea level
MWD	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
MWDOC	Municipal Water District of Orange County
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen Oxide
NO <sub>2</sub>	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOC	Notice of Completion
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NPL	National Priority List
NPS	National Park Service
NPS Program	Nonpoint Source Pollution Program
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRDC	Natural Resources Defense Council
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NROC	Nature Reserve of Orange County
NTS	Natural Treatment System
NWP	Nationwide Permit
O <sub>3</sub>	Ozone
OCFA	Orange County Fire Authority
OCFCD	Orange County Flood Control District
OCHCA	Orange County Health Care Agency
OCRM	Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
OCTA	Orange County Transportation Authority
OCTAM	Orange County Transportation Analysis Model
OCVCD	Orange County Vector Control District
OCWD	Orange County Water District
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PA	Planning Area
PAR	Property Analysis Record
Pb	Lead
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PFRD	Public Facilities and Resources Department
PLD	Planning Level Delineation
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Particulate Matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns
PM <sub>10</sub>	Particulate Matter equal to or less than 10 microns
PSF	Perennialized Stream Flow
RARE	Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RDMD	Resources and Development Management Department
REC-1	Water Contact Recreation
REC-2	Non-Contact Water Recreation
RGL	Regulatory Guidance Letter

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RGP	Regional General Permit
RH	Riparian Herb
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Assessment
RMP	Regional Monitoring Program
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROCs	Reactive Organic Compounds
ROD	Record of Decision
RR	Riparian Reach
RRDB	Riparian Reach/Drainage Basin
RRLD	Riparian Reach/Local Drainage
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SAA	Streambed Alteration Agreement
SAMP	Special Area Management Plan
SAMS	Small Area Mitigation Site
SAWF	Southern Arroyo Willow Forest
SBWF	Southern Black Willow Forest
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SCSM	Southern Coastal Salt Marsh
SCLORF	Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest
SCRRA	Southern California Regional Rail Authority
SEWS	Sandbar Willow Scrub
SHEL	Shellfish Harvesting
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SIP	Standard Individual Permit
SJMMP	San Joaquin Marsh Mitigation Project
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulfur Dioxide
SOF	Statement of Findings
SLE	St. Louis encephalitis
SPWN	Spawning, Reproduction, and Development
SR	State Route
SSRW	Southern Sycamore Riparian Woodland
SWANCC	Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

SWP	State Water Project
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWR	Surface Water Retention
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
SWS	Southern Willow Scrub
TCA	Transportation Corridor Agencies
TCE	Primarily Trichloroethylene
TIC	The Irvine Company
TIN	Total Inorganic Nitrogen
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TN	Total Nitrogen
UCCE	University of California Cooperative Extension
UCI	University of California, Irvine
UCNRS	University of California Natural Reserve System
USACOE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UV	Ultraviolet
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WARM	Warm Freshwater Habitat
Watershed	San Diego Creek Watershed
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirement
WES	Waterways Experiment Station (of the Corps of Engineers)
WHR	Wildlife Habitat Relationships
WILD	Wildlife Habitat
WDRs	Waste Discharge Requirements
WoUS	Waters of the U.S.
WQ	Water Quality Integrity
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
WSAA	Watershed Streambed Alteration Agreement
ZC	Zone Change

## 13.2 GLOSSARY

*(Most references within the terms below have been removed; see text in Draft EIS/EIR for references.)*

**Adaptive Management** - "Adaptive Management" shall mean a flexible, iterative approach to long-term aquatic resources management within the aquatic resource integrity areas that is directed over time by the results of ongoing monitoring activities and other information. Aquatic resource management techniques and specific objectives are regularly evaluated in light of monitoring results and other new information. These periodic evaluations are used over time to adapt both the management objectives and techniques to achieve overall management goals. This approach involves managing aquatic resources in aquatic resource integrity areas in a manner designed to maintain or improve ecosystem functions and values over the long term. Under Adaptive Management, appropriately managed aquatic areas have a greater likelihood of maintaining functions and values than a system that is unmanaged or ineffectively managed. Measures specified in the Strategic Mitigation Plan and Mitigation Coordination Program for managing lands in the aquatic resource integrity areas are based on an adaptive management model.

**Aquatic Resource Integrity Areas** – The “aquatic resource integrity areas” in the San Diego Creek Watershed are comprised of aquatic resources identified for their higher values related to ecological integrity, wildlife corridor values, sensitive species habitat, and other factors, as well as the adjacent upland areas of influence that drain into the aquatic resources. The aquatic resource integrity areas are the keystone of the SAMP Analytic Framework, permitting program, Strategic Mitigation Plan, and Mitigation Coordination Program.

**Alleleopathic (or allelopathic)** – The quality of a plant species to inhibit growth in another species of plant through the production and release of chemicals.

**Aquatic** - General reference to various water-oriented habitats such as rivers, streams, creeks, ponds, lakes, etc. These resources may be perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral in nature.

**Aquatic Resources** – “Aquatic Resources” shall mean the areas of Corps and the Department regulatory jurisdiction in the San Diego Creek Watershed pursuant to the Clean Water Act or California Fish and Game Code. For example, aquatic resources are all waters and water habitats including lakes, ponds, streams, rivers and adjoining riparian areas that they affect, as well as marshes, vernal pools, seeps, flats, and other wetlands.

**Buffer (area, zone, or habitat) or Vegetated Buffer** – A buffer is an intervening upland area or other form of barrier that separates aquatic resources from developed or disturbed areas and reduces the impacts on the aquatic resources that may result from human activities. The critical functions of a buffer associated with an aquatic system, include shading, input of organic debris and coarse sediments, uptake of nutrients, stabilization of banks, interception of fine sediments, storm flow attenuation during high water events, protection from disturbance by humans and domestic animals, maintenance of wildlife habitat, and room for variation of aquatic system boundaries over time due to hydrologic or climate effects. A vegetated buffer could be established by maintaining an existing vegetated area or planting native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants on land next to open waters. Mowed lawns are generally not considered vegetated buffers because they provide little or no aquatic habitat functions and values. The

establishment and maintenance of vegetated buffers may be given consideration as compensatory mitigation to offset requirements after replacement has been satisfied at a ratio of 1:1 and when buffers are incorporated in conjunction with the restoration, creation, enhancement, or preservation of aquatic habitats to ensure that activities authorized by the Corps and the Department's regulatory programs result in minimal adverse effects to the aquatic environment.

**CEQA** - "CEQA" shall mean the California Environmental Quality Act, California Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*

**CESA** - "CESA" shall mean the California Endangered Species Act, Fish and Game Code Section 2050 *et seq.*

**Channel** – A natural stream or river, or an artificial feature such as a ditch or canal that exhibits features of bed and bank, and conveys water primarily unidirectional and down gradient. The active stream channel is defined as the area inundated when the stream is at bankfull stage, which corresponds to the discharge at which most channel-forming processes occur.

**Clean Water Act** – The federal law that establishes standards and procedures for limiting the discharge of fill and pollutants into waters of the U.S.

**Compensatory Mitigation** – For purposes of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, compensatory mitigation is the restoration, creation, enhancement, or in exceptional circumstances, preservation of wetlands and/or other aquatic resources to compensate for unavoidable adverse impacts that remain after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.

**Conservation Easement** – Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 815-816, the term "conservation easement" means "any limitation in a deed, will, or other instrument in the form of an easement, restriction, covenant, or condition, which is or has been executed by or on behalf of the owner of the land subject to such easement and is binding upon successive owners of such land, and the purpose of which is to retain land predominantly in its natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested, or open-space condition" [Section 815.1]. Furthermore, only the following types of entities or organization may acquire and hold conservation easements:

(a) Tax-exempt nonprofit organization qualified under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and qualified to do business in this state which has as its primary purpose the preservation, protection, or enhancement of land in its natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested, or open-space condition or use.

(b) The state or any city, county, city and county, district, or other state or local governmental entity, if otherwise authorized to acquire and hold title to real property and if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. No local governmental entity may condition the issuance of an entitlement for use on the applicant's granting of a conservation easement pursuant to this chapter [Section 815.3].

**Conservation Guidelines** - "Conservation Guidelines" shall mean the management practices for the aquatic resource integrity areas described in Appendix 4 that complement the Strategic Mitigation Plan and Mitigation Coordination Program.

**Coordination Committee** - "Coordination Committee" shall mean a committee composed of the SAMP Participating Applicants and the Corps and Department that will oversee the implementation of the Mitigation Coordination Program.

**Corps Jurisdictional Activity** - "Corps Jurisdictional Activity" shall mean activities resulting in a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. subject to regulation under section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. Section 1344.

**Corps LOP** - "Corps LOP" shall mean the Letter of Permission procedures for the San Diego Creek Watershed that the Corps issued in a Special Public Notice concurrent with this SAMP and any finalization of or amendments thereto, included herein in Appendix C-1.

**Corps RGP** - "Corps RGP" shall mean the Regional General Permit for the San Diego Creek Watershed that the Corps issued in a Special Public Notice concurrent with this SAMP and any finalization of or amendments thereto, included herein in Appendix C-2.

**Creation** – The conversion of a persistent non-aquatic resource (i.e., terrestrial resource) to an aquatic resource. For the purpose of this plan, creation includes the conversion of sites that currently do not meet the definition of wetlands, even though these sites were wetlands prior to being permanently drained and/or covered by fill.

**Delineation** – A determination of the boundaries of a wetland or other aquatic site.

**Department Jurisdictional Activity** - "Department Jurisdictional Activity" shall mean any activity resulting in the alteration of those areas subject to the Department jurisdiction under Division 2, Chapter 6, of the FGC.

**Department WSAA Process** - "Department WSAA Process" shall mean the procedures established by the Department in conjunction with the SAMP for the San Diego Creek Watershed to provide for a Watershed-based approach to issuing Department Streambed Alteration Agreements (SAAs) and includes the use of one of three Department template SAAs for the Watershed, the Master Streambed Conditions List, and a comprehensive mitigation strategy, including a Mitigation Coordination Program. The Department issues its SAAs pursuant to Division 2, Chapter 6 of the FGC. Template SAAs for the Watershed are attached hereto at Appendix D.

**Discharge** - The placement of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. that may result in impacts to the aquatic system. Examples include the redeposition of material during excavation, mechanized land clearing, and ditching.

**Drainage Basin** – Area contributing to mainstem inflow from upstream of a riparian reach.

**Ecosystem Management** – A collaborative management approach that focuses on sustaining the integrity and biodiversity of ecological components, conditions, and functions in reconciliation with the promotion of economic opportunities.

**EIR** - "EIR" shall mean an Environmental Impact Report prepared pursuant to CEQA for the SAMP to address the Department's WSAA Process.

**EIS** - "EIS" shall mean an Environmental Impact Statement prepared pursuant to NEPA for the SAMP.

**EIS/EIR** - "EIS/EIR" shall mean a program-level environmental document for the San Diego Creek Watershed Special Area Management Plan/Watershed Streambed Alteration Agreement Process (SAMP/WSAA Process), prepared in compliance with the requirements of CEQA and NEPA.

**Eligible Activities** - "Eligible Activities" shall mean those activities that are consistent with the SAMP LOP procedures, RGP, and WSAA Process. Authorizations for other types of Corps and Department Jurisdictional Activities would require evaluation under the Corps SIP and Department SAA processes.

**Eligible Areas** - "Eligible Areas" shall mean those areas identified in the SAMP as being eligible for the permitting process described in the Corps LOP procedures and RGP and the Department WSAA Process.

**Enhancement** – Improving existing functions of a low quality or degraded aquatic resource or wetland.

**Ephemeral Stream** – An ephemeral stream has flowing water only during and for a short duration after precipitation events in a typical year. Ephemeral streambeds are located above the water table year-round. Groundwater is not a source of water for the stream. Runoff from rainfall is the primary source of water for stream flow.

**ESA** - "ESA" shall mean the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Section 1531 *et seq.*

**Fill Material** – "Fill material" shall mean material (including but not limited to rock, sand, and earth) that has the effect of: (i) Replacing any portion of water of the United States with dry land; or (ii) Changing the bottom elevation of any portion of a Water of the United States. The term fill material does not include discharges covered by proposed or final effluent limitations guidelines and standards under Sections 301, 304 or Section 306 of the Clean Water Act (see generally, 40 CFR Part 401), or discharges covered by an NPDES permit issued under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.

**Fish and Game Code** - "Fish and Game Code" shall mean the California Fish and Game Code.

**Flood Channel** – The term "flood channel" is used in the context of discussing the opportunities and constraints of restoring riparian areas. Hydrologists calculate the overall flood channel size, including channel, floodplain, and terraces needed to contain a major flood event. In most cases, the flood channel is likely to contain the 100-year flood, but local flood management criteria determine overall "flood channel" size. The term "floodplain" has been reserved for the area subject to inundation at the 50-year recurrence interval. However, larger magnitude floods may also inundate one or more terraces. In a

developed environment, protection of life and property requires that containment of floodwaters be a part of the design criteria for stream systems. Therefore, the design templates referred to herein and in ERDC's restoration plan (Appendix B-3) generally specify the number and height of terraces appropriate to sustain a riparian community characteristic of a particular geomorphic zone, based on reference data from streams in the basin and region. However, the range of terrace widths encountered in reference systems varied widely. Although the reference data provide general target ranges, hydrologists calculating the overall flood channel size must determine actual minimum terrace widths for restored systems. See also **Channel, Floodplain, Terrace, and Riparian Ecosystem.**

**Flood Control Facilities** – “Drainage and flood control facilities” including flood control channels, outfalls, culverts, retention/detention basins and sediment basins are located within or near jurisdictional waters. As the infrastructure component of a broader “flood management” program, flood control facilities are designed and constructed in accordance with applicable hydrologic design standards to prevent loss of life and reduce property damage caused by floods. Construction of permanent flood control structures generally requires soil excavation, removal, compaction, and sometimes concrete-lining and or placement of bank stabilization measures in channels. These construction activities can result in the following types of impacts: permanent loss of aquatic habitat from removal of riparian vegetation and replacement with concrete channel; temporary and permanent loss of upland habitat from temporary placement of dredged or fill material or permanent impacts of location of flood control basins; permanent alteration to channel hydrology from channel reconfiguration, concrete lining, changes in hydraulic flow characteristics, streambed and bank stabilization; and potential temporary impacts to water quality from uncontrolled sediment during construction. Maintenance typically involves periodic dredging of accumulated sediments in channels and basins as well as periodic removal of vegetation to restore the original basin and channel design capacity and configuration. Dredged material is typically placed in upland areas and proper sedimentation controls are used. Maintenance activities may also involve excavation of accumulated sediments in outfall and intake structures, culverts and other structural features of the conveyance system to maintain design capacity. For maintenance, impacts would generally be temporary including short-term loss of aquatic habitat and potential impacts to water quality from temporary soil disturbing activities.

**Flood Management** - “Flood management” refers to an integrated approach undertaken to reduce flood risks and may include floodplain management, planning and investments in flood projects, and improved management of infrastructure that balances public safety and environmental protection. Related are storm water quality and drainage management efforts. Some flood management activities are regulated by the Corps and/or the Department, while others (in non-jurisdictional areas) are not.

**Floodplain** – “Floodplain” shall mean the land adjacent to a stream or lake, built of alluvium and subject to repeated flooding. Technically, the floodplain is the valley floor level corresponding to the bankfull stage. However, there are various “floodplains” (e.g. 5-year, 10-year, etc.), which include surfaces inundated at flow depths or frequencies of interest in a particular situation. For the purposes of the SAMP and related studies, the floodplain corresponds to the “flood prone area.” This is the area flooded to twice the depth of the maximum channel depth at bankfull stage, which is usually assumed to correspond approximately to the 50-year floodplain. In coastal streams of southern California, the flood prone area usually includes most or all of the point bar deposits below the scarp rising to the lowest distinct terrace.

**Functional Assessment** - The process by which the capacity of a wetland to perform a function is measured. See also, **Functional Integrity**.

**Functional Integrity** – The Corps Waterways Experiment Station (WES) and the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL), as experts in aquatic resource delineation and wetland functional assessment, developed a tool to conduct a high precision, planning level delineation (i.e., the identification of aquatic resources) and a landscape level functional assessment (i.e., the characterization of aquatic resources). These tools were used to assess aquatic resources within the San Diego Creek Watershed, Orange County, California. As part of the functional assessment, the Corps assessed the following endpoints: hydrologic integrity, water quality integrity, and habitat integrity. **Hydrologic integrity** refers to the frequency, magnitude, and location of stream water flow and the interaction of the stream with the floodplains. **Water quality integrity** refers to the processing of nutrients and sediments within streams. **Habitat integrity** refers to the quality and quantity of habitat necessary to support functioning riparian systems. (See definitions below for additional information).

**Geomorphic** - A term referring to the shape of the land surface.

**Geomorphic Zone** – Five geomorphic zones were identified for the ERDC restoration plan based on topographic maps, the maps and descriptions provided in the county soil survey, and geologic maps and reports on Orange County and the region. A geomorphic zone was assigned to each riparian reach using aerial photography, baseline assessment data, and the knowledge of each riparian reach acquired during baseline assessment field sampling. Based on the typical, “natural” condition of each of the five geomorphic zones in terms of geomorphology, vegetation structure, and the typical current condition, the following geomorphic zones were identified: Geomorphic Zone 1 – Riparian areas in V-shaped valleys with predominantly bedrock control; Geomorphic Zone 2 Small floodplains and terrace fragments in mountain and foothill valleys, where meander belt formation is restricted by lateral impingement of alluvial fans and colluvium; Geomorphic Zone 3 – Meander belts in alluvium within broad mountain and foothill valleys, and through marine terraces; Geomorphic Zone 4: Broad alluvial fan deposits where mountain and foothill valleys open to the coastal plain, and marine terraces; and Geomorphic Zone 5: Riparian areas along larger streams of the coastal plain area.

**Great Park** - "Great Park" or Orange County Great Park shall mean those lands in the City of Irvine that were formerly part of the El Toro Marine Air Station and now planned for open space, restoration, or development by the City of Irvine, the Great Park Corporation and Heritage Fields, LLC.

**Habitat Integrity** – Riparian ecosystems with habitat integrity exhibit the quality and quantity of habitat necessary to support and maintain a balanced, integrated, adaptive biological system having the full range of characteristics, processes, and organisms at the site-specific, landscape, and watershed scales that historically characterized riparian ecosystems in the region. Several factors were considered in selecting indicators of habitat integrity, including the spatial extent and quality of riparian habitat, the “connectedness” of riparian habitats at the riparian reach and drainage basin scales, and the spatial extent and quality of upland habitat in the landscape adjacent to riparian ecosystems. Moreover, headwater streams provide unique habitats for aquatic biota. Small spring-fed headwater streams can serve as thermal refuges for fishes, serving as a refuge from freezing for stream fishes during winter and cool

refuges for young fishes during summer. Therefore, the elimination of headwater streams from the landscape increases the vulnerability for extinction of aquatic invertebrate, amphibian, and fish species, including federally listed threatened or endangered species.

The following five indicators were used to calculate the Habitat Integrity Index for each riparian reach: Area of Native Riparian Vegetation (Riparian Reach (RR) Scale); Riparian Corridor Continuity (RR Scale); Riparian Corridor Continuity (Riparian Reach/Drainage Basin (RRDB) Scale); Land Use/Land Cover at Riparian Ecosystem Boundary (Riparian Reach/Local Drainage (RRLD) Scale); and Land Use/Land Cover in 100m Buffer around the Riparian Ecosystem (RRDB Scale).

Also, see **Functional Integrity**.

**HCP** - "HCP" shall mean a Habitat Conservation Plan pursuant to Section 10 of ESA.

**Headwater Local Drainage Basins** – “Headwater local drainage basins” are local drainages of a particular reach with tributaries consisting of first order streams discharging to second order streams. The protection of the particular tributaries flowing into a reach would allow for the maintenance and/or restoration of riparian ecosystem integrity at the reach, sub-basin, and watershed scales.

**Hydrogeomorphology** – “Hydrogeomorphology” refers to the interaction between the structural components and the physical, chemical, and biological processes of a stream as it flows through its watershed.

**Hydrologic Integrity** – Riparian ecosystems with high hydrologic integrity exhibit the range of frequency, magnitude, and temporal distribution of stream discharge, and surface and subsurface interaction between the stream channel, floodplain, and terraces, that historically characterized riparian ecosystems in the region. In the arid and semi-arid southwest, a natural riparian ecosystem exhibits seasonal intermittent, ephemeral, or low flow periods, with annual bankfull discharges superimposed on a background of episodic, and often catastrophic, larger magnitude floods that inundate historical terraces.

Additionally, headwater streams in particular provide hydrologic retention capacity, thereby mediating the flow of water throughout a watershed. Without flow retention, downstream portions of the watershed would experience increased frequency and intensity of flooding as well as lower base flows. In turn, increased frequency and intensity of flooding accelerates channel erosion downstream.

In selecting indicators to assess hydrologic integrity, two groups of characteristics and processes were considered. The first group focused on the factors that influence frequency, magnitude, and temporal distribution of *stream discharge*, and the second group focused on the factors that influenced the *hydrologic interaction* between the stream channel, floodplain, and historical terraces.

Direct measures of stream discharge are unavailable at the riparian reach scale in this Watershed. Consequently, several indicators were selected at the drainage basin scale with the assumption that an indirect estimate of deviation from reference condition can be made based on changes in specific characteristic and processes of a drainage basin such as interception, infiltration, evapotranspiration, percolation, groundwater flow, and surface water flow over land and in channels. Cultural alteration of

the drainage basin alters these characteristics and processes and consequently stream discharge. While it is difficult to quantify the exact nature of the relationship between specific drainage basin characteristics, as represented by the indicators, and stream discharge, in general, as cultural alteration of a watershed increases, so does the deviation from short and long-term historical patterns of frequency, magnitude, and distribution of stream discharge. Therefore, the following four indicators of hydrologic integrity were selected to reflect the degree of cultural alteration in a drainage basin with the potential to influence stream discharge: Altered Hydraulic Conveyance (RRDB Scale); Surface Water Retention (RRDB Scale); Perennialized Stream Flow (RRDB Scale); and Import, Export, or Diversion of Surface Water (RRDB Scale).

Frequency, magnitude, and distribution of stream discharge similar to the historical range of conditions do not alone ensure the hydrologic integrity of a riparian reach. Rather, hydrologic integrity also depends on maintaining the interaction between the stream channel, floodplain, and terraces of the riparian ecosystems through overbank and subsurface flows. This interaction is critical to the maintenance of riparian plant communities, sediment storage, carbon dynamics, biogeochemical processes, and other characteristics and processes of riparian ecosystems. Therefore, the following two indicators were selected to represent the degree of interaction between the stream channel and the floodplain: Altered Hydraulic Conveyance (RR Scale) described above; and Floodplain Interaction (RR Scale). Floodplain Interaction ( $FI_{RR}$ ) indicates of the degree to which the overbank hydrologic connection between the bank full channel and the active floodplain and terraces of the riparian ecosystem has been lost in a riparian reach. The lost connection could be a result of levees, channelization, or channel incision. Many of the characteristics and processes of riparian ecosystems are dependent on periodic hydrologic interaction between the stream channel and the floodplain. When the hydrologic connection is lost, the physical and biological characteristics of the riparian ecosystem become altered. Combined, the six-abovementioned indicators of stream discharge and hydrologic interaction were used to calculate the Hydrologic Integrity Index for each riparian reach.

Also, see **Functional Integrity**.

**In Perpetuity** – In the context of aquatic resource conservation, “in perpetuity” protection shall mean protection of conservation values for an indefinite period of time, or forever. For purposes of implementing agreements, the operational definition often is a 100-year term.

**Infrastructure** - "Infrastructure" shall mean all public and quasi-public service facilities and structures, including, but not limited to road crossings, landfills, flood control facilities, water transmission lines and facilities, electric utility lines and sewer facilities, and supplemental or appurtenant facilities to road crossings and flood control facilities, such as water quality features, swales, and basins.

**Intermittent Stream** – An intermittent stream has flowing water during certain times of the year, when groundwater provides water for stream flow. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

**Jurisdictional Wetlands** – Areas that meet the soil, vegetation, and hydrologic criteria described in the "Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual" (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and its interim regional supplement for the arid west region.

**Land Use Laws and Ordinances** – see **Local Land Use**.

**Level of Effort** – For the ERDC's restoration plan (Smith and Klimas, 2004), a scale estimating the level of effort that would be required to restore a riparian reach segment to the prescribed Restoration Template was developed. Based on the analysis of 50 riparian reaches within the Watershed, using aerial photography, baseline assessment data, knowledge of each riparian reach acquired during baseline assessment field sampling, and field verification, a level of effort value was assigned to each riparian reach segment. Level of effort was intended to serve as tool for planners based on the assumption that limited resources or potential sites would be available for restoration, or limited potential sites available to offset certain types of impacts. The level of effort scale represents a surrogate for the resources required, as no consideration of land purchase costs or similar issues are represented in these estimates. Unforeseen circumstances could dramatically alter the estimates. The following five categories of level of effort are listed: None, Light Planting, Heavy Planting, Light Earthwork, and Heavy Earthwork (for further detailed description, please consult the ERDC restoration plan):

**Local Drainage** – Area contributing to tributary, groundwater, and overland flow that directly enters the riparian reach.

**Local Land Use** – Local land use decisions are the responsibility of local government, which may control land use through Planning Laws, Financial/Property Ordinances, Subdivision Ordinances, Zoning Ordinances, and Building Ordinances. These legal mechanisms of land use allow for the prioritization and implementation of conservation objectives. Although through various programs, including the SAMP, state and federal agencies may provide technical and policy information to inform the local land use decisionmaking, control over local land use remains outside the authority of state and federal governments.

**Mitigation** – "Mitigation" shall mean all measures to avoid, minimize, reduce, or offset impacts of any activities resulting in impacts to Corps or the Department jurisdiction, including but not limited to: avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimizing impact by limiting the timing, degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; compensating for impacts as provided for in the Corps LOP and RGP and the Department WSAA Process.

**Mitigation Bank or Banking** – Use of a single site, suitable for wetlands enhancement, restoration, and/or creation, for the mitigation of impacts on wetlands that result from more than one project at other sites.

**Mitigation Framework** – A component of the SAMP regulatory program modifications for the Watershed includes an approach to mitigation that is informed by the SAMP Analytical Framework.

Mitigation, including avoidance and minimization of impacts as well as compensation is addressed under the SAMP mitigation framework. Both the Corps and the Department have agreed to a set of mitigation policies and to implement the SAMP Strategic Mitigation Plan as well as to promote a Mitigation Coordination Program to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of mitigation occurring within the Watershed.

**Mitigation Sequencing** – Provisions in the EPA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (40 CFR 230.10) and the 1990 Corps/EPA MOA requiring avoidance and minimization of adverse impacts on the aquatic environment before compensatory mitigation may be considered.

**Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)** – "NCCP" shall mean the Natural Community Conservation Planning program, specifically the Orange County Central-Coastal NCCP Subregional Plan, developed pursuant to the NCCP Act, FGC Section 2800 *et seq.* NCCP is a program of the Department that takes a broad-based ecosystem approach to planning for the protection and perpetuation of biological diversity. The NCCP process identifies and provides for the regional or area-wide protection of plants, animals, and their habitats, while allowing compatible and appropriate economic activity. The primary objective of the NCCP program is the conservation of natural communities at the ecosystem scale while accommodating compatible land uses.

**NCCP/HCP** - "NCCP/HCP" shall mean the plan for conservation in the Central/Coastal Subregion approved by the County, Department, and USFWS to meet the requirements of Section 7 and Section 10(a) under ESA, Sections 2081 and 2084 under CESA and Sections 2810, 2825(c), 2830 and 2835 under the NCCP Act.

**NEPA** - "NEPA" shall mean the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 4321 *et seq.* and the Corps implementing regulations at 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix B.

**NROC** - "NROC" shall mean the Nature Reserve of Orange County, the non-profit corporation established for the management of the Orange County Central-Coastal NCCP Reserve System.

**Open Water** – An area that, during a year with normal patterns of precipitation, has standing or flowing water for sufficient duration to establish an ordinary high water mark. Aquatic vegetation within the area of standing or flowing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered open waters. The term “open water” includes rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.

**Ordinary High Water Mark** – The Corps jurisdictional limits of streams are defined by using the "ordinary high water mark" (OHWM). The OHWM is defined at 33 CFR 328.3(e) as "... that line on the shore established by fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural lines impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of the soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding area". Additionally, seasonal wetlands, as described in the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual, are where "...water in a depression (is) ... sufficiently persistent to exhibit an ordinary high water mark or the presence of wetland characteristics." The regulated waters delineated in the PLD are intermittent streams, riverine, isolated wetland depressions, and coastal salt marshes. The

isolated depressions, coastal marshes, and parts of the riverine system were determined to be wetlands because they met the three-parameter criteria. The intermittent stream and some portions of the perennial streams were treated as waters of the U.S.

**Perennial Stream** – A perennial stream has flowing water year-round during a typical year. The water table is located above the streambed for most of the year. Groundwater is the primary source of water for stream flow. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

**Planned Activities** - "Planned Activities" shall mean development on land or interests in land owned or controlled by one or more of the SAMP Participating Applicants in the Eligible Areas, including development of communities and infrastructure, and anticipated activities allowed within the SAMP Eligible Areas as described in the Corps SAMP document.

**Potential Applicant** - "Potential Applicants" shall mean landowners, applicants, and local governments who have not actively participated in the formulation of SAMP.

**Preservation** – “Preservation” is the removal of a threat to, or preventing the decline of, aquatic resources by an action in or near those aquatic resources. This term includes activities commonly associated with the protection and maintenance of aquatic resources through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation does not result in a gain of aquatic resource area or functions.

**Re-establishment** – The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former aquatic resource. Re-establishment results in rebuilding a former aquatic resource and results in a gain in aquatic resource area.

**Rehabilitation** – The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions to a degraded aquatic resource. Rehabilitation results in a gain in aquatic resource function, but does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

**Restoration** – The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. To track net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

**Restoration Templates** – As presented in ERDC’s Restoration Plan (Smith and Klimas, 2004), restoration templates were assigned based on the potential to establish natural plant communities with composition, structure, and overall diversity characteristic of the geomorphic zone. Analyses of habitat requirements for animal species of concern in the region indicate that complex and diverse riparian plant communities are among the key determinants of habitat quality. In order to re-establish such natural conditions, it is assumed that floodplains, terraces, and adjacent uplands must be available for restoration and surfaces must be restored to appropriate height relative to bankfull stage to establish self-sustaining plant communities. The restoration plan estimated the ranges of appropriate values for the widths and heights of these surfaces based on reference data from the most intact reaches within southern California watersheds including the San Diego Creek Watershed, as well as the criteria for channel geometry from other studies. All templates include a zone of native upland vegetation as part of the overall riparian corridor, in addition to the riparian vegetation associated with the channel and terrace systems. The five

restoration templates are listed as follows: Natural Channel Template, Incised Channel Template, Constrained Channel Template, Engineered Channel Template, and Restoration Impractical. (for detailed information, please consult ERDC's restoration plan)

**Restrictive Covenant** – The purpose of a restrictive covenant is to ensure the restricted property (i.e. conservation or mitigation site(s)) would be retained in perpetuity in a natural condition and to prevent any use of the restricted property that would impair or interfere with the conservation values of the restricted property. Typically, the declarant (landowner/signatory) intends to confine the use of the restricted property to such activities, including without limitation, those involving the preservation and enhancement of native species and their habitat in a manner consistent with the habitat conservation purposes of the restrictive covenant.

**Riparian Ecosystem (also Riparian, Riparian Zone, Riparian Vegetation)** – Riparian areas typically border rivers and streams such that the riparian zone usually is defined as the area that lies along a stream channel. The term “riparian zone” implies some interaction with the channel (e.g., inputs of organic material), but the definition used for this and related studies, is based primarily on proximity and may include upland vegetation growing on a high terrace or overhanging a channel from the top of a cut bank as well as species that occur only in association with watercourses. In the technical reports prepared in support of the SAMP (Smith, 2000; Lichvar et al., 2000), the term "riparian vegetation" is reserved for the latter group of plants, such as sycamores, willows, and mulefat. Riparian areas are particularly important because they link and integrate across landscapes by serving as corridors through which water, materials, and organisms move. In arid regions, riparian areas are critical to maintaining regional biodiversity because they provide habitat for a disproportionately large number of species in spite of their limited areal extent. Riparian areas typically include a zone of frequent flooding (bankfull), that is regulated under existing federal and state law, as well as a less frequently flooded transition zone between these areas regulated under state law and adjacent uplands (active floodplain to floodplain terrace). These transition zones vary in regulated statute from jurisdictional waters (including wetlands) to uplands even though they contribute greatly to the habitat, hydrologic, and biogeochemical functions performed by riparian areas. For the purposes of the SAMP, including the WSAA Process, and in the related studies, the Corps and the Department identified and assessed, and proposed management that should focus on the bankfull channel and transition zone, together as a “functional” riparian ecosystem. However, regulatory processes will remain applicable to jurisdictional areas.

**Riparian Reach** – A unit of assessment used for the LLFA of riparian ecosystems conducted by the Corps that represents the segment of the main stem, bankfull stream channel and adjacent riparian ecosystem considered relatively homogenous with respect to geology, geomorphology, channel morphology, substrate type, vegetation communities, and cultural alteration.

**Ruderal** – Ruderal plant communities occur in areas of disturbances such as along roads, trails, parking lots, and other areas subjected to ongoing or past disturbances (e.g., vehicle activities, mountain bikes, mowing, etc.). Ruderal communities of native and exotic weedy species become established after a disturbance has taken place. Although ruderal communities may be successional in nature and give way to the native communities when the stressor is removed, some introduced weedy species become established and the site may never return to its original state without intervening restoration activities.

**SAMP** - "SAMP" or "Special Area Management Plan" shall mean the plan and associated regulatory and mitigation program established by the Corps pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. section 1344, for the San Diego Creek Watershed to provide for a watershed-based approach to issuing Corps permits, the Department's template SAAs for the Watershed, and a coordinated, comprehensive mitigation strategy, including the Strategic Mitigation Plan, and Mitigation Coordination Program.

**Section 404 Permit** – The permit issued by the Corps under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for authorizing the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands; also known as Corps permit, fill permit, Department of the Army permit, DA permit, individual permit, 404 permit.

**Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines** – Substantive regulations in 40 CFR Part 230.40, promulgated in accordance with Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act, that provide the standards for unacceptable adverse impacts on waters of the U.S., including wetlands, used to determine whether a Section 404 permit should be issued. Generally, discharges of fill are allowed under the Guidelines only if no other environmentally less damaging practicable alternative is available, no significant degradation of the waters, no jeopardy to threatened and endangered species, and if appropriate and practicable steps have been taken in sequence to avoid, minimize, and compensate adverse impacts on the aquatic ecosystem.

**Stream Order** – Strahler stream order refers to a stream numbering method in which the smallest, terminal stream segments receive a designation of first order or "1". A stream segment downstream from the confluence of two first order stream segments receives a designation of second order or "2". A stream segment downstream from the confluence of two second order stream segments receives a designation of third order or "3", and so on. In all cases, stream order increases only when two stream segments of equal order join.

**Streambed or stream bed** – For the SAMP, the term streambed refers to riverine aquatic resources located within the bed, bank, and channel geomorphic features. A streambed may include all or a portion of the riparian zone. Streambeds are a sub-set of aquatic resources, and may overlap with Corps jurisdiction located within the OHWM. Streambed resources include perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral drainages that display a bed, bank, and channel. The Corps defines "stream bed" in terms of its jurisdiction: the substrate of the stream channel between the ordinary high water marks, where the substrate may be bedrock or inorganic particles that range in size from clay to boulders. Wetlands contiguous to the stream bed, but outside of the OHWM, are not considered part of the stream bed. The Department defines "streambed" as the land beneath a stream and its outermost banks, whereby the streambed includes that portion of a stream channel directly beneath its waters and extends laterally beneath the banks where subsurface hydrologic connectivity exists between the stream and the surrounding land.

**Subbasin** – see **Local Drainage** and **Drainage Basin**.

**Terraces** – Terraces are usually defined as former floodplains, although they also include flat surfaces carved by flowing waters, or the wave-cut surfaces of the marine terraces. For the purposes of the SAMP technical studies, terraces (excluding marine deposits) are alluvial features originally deposited as

floodplains, but which under baseline conditions are situated outside the 50-year flood zone (i.e., the flood prone area). There may be multiple terraces associated with some stream reaches, usually identifiable as distinct steps along the channel, but sometimes the lowest terrace is contiguous with the floodplain, and is identifiable only with measurements based on the bankfull stage.

**Third-Party Mitigation Program** - “Third-Party” mitigation occurs in circumstances where a permittee provides acreage equivalent funds to an approved third party instead of either completing project-specific mitigation or purchasing credits from a mitigation bank approved under the Banking Guidance, which was jointly prepared by the Department of the Army (Corps), the Department of the Interior (USFWS), the EPA, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (National Marine Fisheries Service) (2000). Third-party mitigation must be approved in advance by the Corps and the Department.

**Upland Area of Influence** - An upland area of influence is represented as a drainage basin or local drainage area (i.e., the subwatershed unit of land that drains to a particular stream reach through surface flows); it includes any vegetated buffer to the stream. Both the local drainage area and drainage basin of a riparian reach extend beyond the boundaries of the Corps and the Department’s jurisdictions. However, the local drainage and drainage basins constitute the upland areas of influence of aquatic resources by directly contributing flows over the uplands into the riparian reach, and thereby affecting the hydrologic, water quality, and habitat integrity of the receiving aquatic resources.

**Vegetated Buffer** – see **Buffer**

**Water Quality Integrity** – Water quality integrity was defined as exhibiting a range of pollutant loading, including nutrients, pesticides, hydrocarbons, and sediments that are similar to those that historically characterized riparian ecosystems in the region. Assessing changes in the range of loading in each pollutant category can be determined directly by comparing data for current loading with data describing historical loading, when such data are available. While there are historical and recent monitoring data available for a limited number of stations in the Watershed, little or no loading data are available at the riparian reach scale. Consequently, the assessment of water quality integrity was based on indicators of drainage basin and riparian reach characteristics that have been shown to influence water quality integrity. Three groups of factors were considered in selecting indicators for the water quality integrity endpoint. The focus of the first group of factors was on whether or not the changes in *land use* in the drainage basin had the potential to increase sources of pollution compared to the reference condition. The second group focused on whether or not the stream channel *pollutant transport system* had changed in relation to reference condition in terms of frequency, magnitude, and temporal distribution of stream flow. The third group focused on whether or not changes in land use in the areas adjacent to the stream, or the loss of a hydrologic connection between the stream channel and the floodplain had decreased the likelihood of *pollutant elimination*, i.e., being physically captured or biogeochemically processed, as compared to reference condition.

To reflect the condition of *land use* in the drainage basin, one composite indicator of water quality, Land Use/Land Cover in Drainage Basin (LULC<sub>RRDB</sub>), was selected. Land use / land cover (LULC) indicates the way in which a tract of land is utilized, has been developed, or the class of vegetation.

Four sub-indicators were used to measure the LULC indicator. Each of the sub-indices were measured as the percent of the drainage basin of a riparian reach with LULC types with the potential to increase the nutrient, pesticide, hydrocarbon, or sediment loading in downstream surface waters. Using the ArcView GIS themes of riparian reach and LULC themes, the area of a drainage basin occupied by each LULC was determined for each sub-indicator. The area of LULC types with the potential to increase pollutants, hydrocarbons, nutrients, and sediment were then summed across the drainage basin and divided by the total drainage basin area to determine the sub-indicator value. The four sub-indicator values were averaged to determine the LULC indicator value.

Additionally, five indicators were selected to reflect the condition of the stream system that transports pollutants. These indicators used to assess hydrologic integrity with the exception of Floodplain Interaction and included the following indicators: Altered Hydraulic Conveyance (RRDB Scale), Altered Hydraulic Conveyance (RR Scale), Surface Water Retention (RRDB Scale), Perennialized Stream Flow (RRDB Scale), and Import, Export, or Diversion of Surface Water (RRDB Scale).

The following three indicators of water quality were selected to reflect the condition of riparian ecosystem with respect to its ability to physically capture and biogeochemically process pollutants, and thus eliminating pollutants from the system: Floodplain Interaction (RR Scale); Sediment Regime (RR Scale); and Area of Native Riparian Vegetation (RR Scale).

These nine indicators were used to calculate the Water Quality Integrity Index for each riparian reach.

Also, see **Functional Integrity**.

**Waterbody** - For purposes of the SAMP, a waterbody is a jurisdictional Water of the U.S. that, during a year with normal patterns of precipitation, has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an OHWM or other indicators of jurisdiction can be determined, as well as any wetland area (see 33 CFR 328.3(b)). If a jurisdictional wetland is adjacent--meaning bordering, contiguous, or neighboring--to a jurisdictional waterbody displaying an OHWM or other indicators of jurisdiction, that waterbody and its adjacent wetlands are considered together as a single aquatic unit (see 33 CFR 328.4(c)(2)). Examples of "waterbodies" include streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

**Waters of the State** – Consistent with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, "waters of the state" means any surface water or groundwater within the boundaries of the State of California, including saline waters and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral rivers and streams. (See Water Code Section 13050(e).)

**Waters of the United States** -- "Waters of the United States" or "waters of the U.S." are waterbodies that are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. It is the broadest category of regulated water bodies and includes wetlands along with non-wetland habitats, such as streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, bays, and oceans.

**Watershed** – A hydrologically defined geographical area that drains to a major waterbody such as a river, lake, or creek, which is usually the waterbody for which the watershed is named.

**Watershed Approach** – EPA defines the watershed approach as a framework used to coordinate environmental management efforts of the private and public sectors to address the priority problems within a hydrologically defined geographic area that considers ground and surface water flows. As applied to the SAMP, the target is to develop regulatory tools using a watershed approach to improve the Corps and the Department's contribution to riparian ecosystem management within the ongoing broader watershed management efforts.

**Wetland(s)** – Areas inundated or saturated by surface 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.

**WSAA Process** - "Watershed Streambed Alteration Agreement Process" or "WSAA Process" shall mean the procedures established by the Department in conjunction with the SAMP for the San Diego Creek Watershed to provide for a watershed-based approach to issuing Department Streambed Alteration Agreements per FGC Section 1600 *et seq.* and includes the use of one of three Department template SAAs for the Watershed, a SAA Templates Master Conditions List, and a mitigation framework including a Mitigation Coordination Program.