

31. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Biosolids – The accumulated treated residual product resulting from a domestic wastewater treatment works. Biosolids does not include grit or screenings from a wastewater treatment works, commercial or industrial sludges (regardless of whether the sludges are combined with domestic sewage), sludge generated during treatment of drinking water, or domestic or industrial septage. (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulations #61 and #64).

Collection System – A system of sewers used to collect wastewater and convey the wastewater by gravity or pressure flow to a common point.

Design Capacity – The rated capacity (capability) of a proposed treatment plant at which it can meet the preliminary effluent limitations assigned by the WQCD as developed in accordance with subsection 22.4(1)(b)(iii) or, for an interceptor sewer or lift station, the peak hourly flow that the facility is capable of conveying. For a proposed treatment plant, the proposed design capacity is comprised of two components, the hydraulic capacity and the organic loading capacity. The hydraulic capacity shall be given in gallons per day (gpd) or million gallons per day (MGD) that the proposed treatment plant is able to treat. The organic loading capacity shall be given in pounds or tons of 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) per day that the treatment plant is able to treat. The proposed design capacity will generally be expressed as a maximum monthly average or another capacity measure where deemed appropriate by the WQCD. For facilities also considered in accordance with the Guidelines on Individual Sewage Disposal Systems, the proposed design capacity shall be the average daily flow, at full occupancy, prior to the application of the 150 percent design flow factor required by those Guidelines. (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulation #22, Site Location and Design Approval Regulations)

Ecosystem – Dynamic assemblages or complexes of plant and/or animal communities that 1) occur together on the landscape; 2) are tied together by similar ecological processes, underlying abiotic environmental factors or gradients; and 3) form a readily identifiable unit on the ground. (Definition from <http://www.landscape.org/colorado/ecosystems/Ecosystems%20101/>)

Governmental Agencies – Departments, divisions, or other units of state government; special districts, water conservation districts, metropolitan water districts, conservancy districts, irrigation districts, municipal corporations, counties, cities and other political subdivisions; the United States or any agency thereof; and any agency, commission, or authority established pursuant to an interstate compact or agreement.

Groundwaters – Subsurface waters that are or can be brought to the surface of the ground or to surface waters through wells, springs, seeps, or other discharge areas.

Management Agency – Any public agency designated for wastewater management responsibilities in a certified areawide water quality management plan prepared under Section 208 of the federal Clean Water Act. Such designation shall be considered final only upon the agency’s acceptance of its responsibilities as outlined in the appropriate 208 Plan.

Nonpoint Source (NPS) – A diffused pollution source that is not regulated as a point source, including but not limited to sources that are often associated with agriculture, inactive or abandoned mining, or silviculture. Nonpoint source pollution does not emanate from a discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance (such as a single pipe) but generally results from land runoff, precipitation, atmospheric deposition, or percolation.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) – An absorption system of any size or flow or a system or facility for treating, neutralizing, stabilizing, or dispersing sewage generated in the vicinity, which system is not a part of or connected to a sewage treatment works. (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulation #43, Site Location and Design Approval Regulations)

Point Source – Any discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. “Point source” does not include irrigation return flow. (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulation #61)

Regional Project – A water quality management system that will combine and/or eliminate one or more existing treatment works or water quality management systems. An intergovernmental agreement or contract shall be signed, or a resolution adopted by the project participants of the regional project.

Silviculture – The entire lifecycle of a forest from its original seeding through growing, thinning, fertilization, and harvesting.

State Waters – Any and all surface and subsurface waters that are contained in or flow through this State, but does not include waters in sewage systems, waters in treatment works or disposal systems, waters in potable water distribution systems, and all water withdrawn for use until use and treatment have been completed. (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulations #22 and #61)

Water Quality Management Plan – The plan for managing the water quality, including consideration of the relationship of water quality to land and water resources and uses, on an areawide basis, for each planning area designated pursuant to Sections 208(a) and 303(e) and 319 of the federal Clean Water Act.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment Plant - An arrangement of devices and structures for treating, neutralizing, stabilizing, or disposing of domestic wastewater, industrial wastes, and biosolids. A domestic wastewater treatment plant is one type (or element) of domestic wastewater treatment works. The term "domestic wastewater treatment plant" does not include industrial wastewater treatment plants or complexes whose primary function is the treatment of industrial wastes, notwithstanding the fact that human wastes generated incidentally to the industrial process are treated therein (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulation #22, Site Location and Design Approval Regulations).

Domestic Wastewater Treatment Works - A system or facility for treating, neutralizing, stabilizing, or disposing of domestic wastewater which system or facility has a designed capacity to receive two thousand gallons of domestic wastewater per day or more. The term "domestic wastewater treatment works" also includes appurtenances to such system or facility such as outfall sewers and pumping stations and to equipment related to such appurtenances. The term "domestic wastewater treatment works" does not include industrial wastewater treatment plants or complexes whose primary function is the treatment of industrial wastes, notwithstanding the fact that human wastes generated incidentally to the industrial process are treated therein (Definition from CDPHE WQCC Regulation #22, Site Location and Design Approval Regulations).

Watershed - A geographical area in which activities may significantly impact a waterbody (or segment of concern) or an underlying aquifer. There are several considerations in defining the geographical scope of a watershed: hydrology, political boundaries, uses to be protected, nature of the water quality problem, manageability, available resources, and public interest.

Watershed Protection Approach-An integrated, holistic strategy to protect or attain the desired beneficial uses within a watershed, including protection of human health and aquatic ecosystems.