

Attachment C: Definitions and Acronyms

Basin Plan: Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region

Beneficial Uses of Water: Uses of water that benefit humans, aquatic ecosystems, and/or the environment. The North Coast Water Board identifies the specific beneficial uses of water that apply to each watershed and develops approaches to ensure those beneficial uses of water are protected against degradation of quality. Examples of beneficial uses include, but are not limited to, domestic, municipal, agricultural, and industrial supply; recreation; aesthetic enjoyments; navigation; Native American cultural use, subsistence fishing, and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources and preserves. Beneficial uses of waters of the state within the North Coast Region are listed in the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region

Chronic sources of sediment: features that continuously discharge sediment to streams over time, typically due to ongoing hydrologic connectivity between road surfaces and water bodies

Contractors: companies contracted with the North Coast Water Board to conduct on-the-ground road assessments to support landowners subject to this draft Order

Decommissioned roads: roads that have had all watercourse crossing fills completely removed and restored to a natural contour and have had the road surface permanently dispersed and disconnected from the stream network. Road decommissioning treatments may include decompaction and/or surface coverage with slash, woody debris, mulch, or similar materials

Episodic sources of sediment: sources of sediment that discharge to streams when road failures occur, for example, culvert or stream crossing failures

Hydrologic connectivity: the length or portion 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 typical 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

Low-volume road:¹ a transportation system or road typically constructed to manage, extract resources or otherwise develop rural or wildland areas. They are typically designed for low traffic levels (average less than 400 vehicles per day) but may also be designed to accommodate commercial loads

¹ As defined in [Weaver and Hagans, 2015: Handbook for Forest, Ranch and Rural Roads](https://www.resolutionmineeis.us/sites/default/files/references/keller-sherar-2003.pdf) (<https://www.resolutionmineeis.us/sites/default/files/references/keller-sherar-2003.pdf>).

Qualified Professional: a person with the appropriate training and/or licensing to prepare technical reports designed to prevent the discharge of waste into waters of the state and conduct road Assessments; Qualified Professionals must possess relevant experience in the evaluation of rural road design and erosional processes **and** hold one or more of the following credentials: (1) successful completion of the Ranch Water Quality Planning Short Course, (2) Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control, (3) Registered Professional Forester license, (4) Professional Geologist license, (5) Certified Engineering Geologist license, (6) Professional Civil Engineer license, or (7) other relevant credential(s) to be considered for approval by the Executive Officer

Road-related sediment discharge sites: any site or road length that is currently or has potential to discharge sediment to surface waters

Road use type: types of road uses relevant to Required Action [B.6.c](#) may include, but are not limited to: (1) permanent and maintained year-round, (2) permanent and maintained seasonal-use, (3) unmaintained, (4) abandoned, (5) decommissioned, (6) decadal timber rotation, (7) timber haul-road use, (8) off-road truck use, and (9) all-terrain vehicle only use

Rural road: a low-volume road generally located in forested and rangeland settings that serves residential, recreational, and resource management uses; rural roads are throughgoing and contiguous or have a terminal landing that allows for equipment or truck turnarounds;² rural roads include permanently maintained roads, seasonal use roads, and abandoned historic roads which may have not seen use for decades but still exist on the landscape and have sediment delivery potential; these roads have been constructed using natural materials such as native soil, gravel, or crushed rock, rather than asphalt or concrete;³ skid trails, which are temporary and discontinuous benches developed to yard or “skid” logs to mainline roads or landings are not considered rural roads for the purposes of this draft Order

TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load

Water Code: California Water Code

Waters of the state:⁴ any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state

² Absence of a terminal landing is often indicative of skid trails rather than rural roads.

³ Roads with unmaintained, degraded, and/or patchy asphalt or concrete that pose the risk of sediment delivery would be considered a rural road for the purposes of this draft Order.

⁴ As defined in the [State Water Resources Control Board’s State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Materials to Waters of the State](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/procedures.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/procedures.pdf).