

## DEFINITIONS

*The following words help to unify the communities and provide consistency in conducting the work associated with this living document.*

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)** - measures intended to provide an on-the-ground, practical solution to diffuse pollution problems from all sources and sectors. They are technology and education based requirements in federal stormwater regulations that call for the implementation of controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable in municipal stormwater systems.

**Community Based Floodplain** – A floodplain modeled based on hydrological and hydraulic data, information and knowledge to predict current and/or future flood risks for an area.

**Comprehensive Plan**- a plan including recommendations for new and operating projects, primarily for Corps implementation, but in coordination with other agency efforts, and focusing on one or more Corps mission areas in Civil Works.

**Geographic Information Systems (GIS)** - a database of points, lines, shapes, and a set of attributes that are geospatially referenced and enable quality communication of the interrelationships of the data via visual aids, such as maps.

**Ecosystem Restoration**- the practice of restoring degraded significant ecosystem structure function and dynamic processes to a less degraded more natural condition; to improve or re-establish structural components and functions of natural areas; to mimic as closely as possible conditions which would occur in the area in the absence of human changes to landscape and hydrology. Considered one of several mission areas of Civil Works planning.

**Feasibility Study**- for the Corps of Engineers, this is a study lasting less than three years, when adequately funded, that uses a specific six step planning process to form projects composed of alternatives that are acceptable to the locals and the federal government to solve a problem. Also synonymous with Feasibility Planning Study.

**Flood Risk Management**- the shared practice among local communities, state and federal agencies of flood damage reduction that includes and extends beyond structural measures to include the proper management of all parts of watersheds to address flooding, to address opportunities for wider, shared, programmatic approaches and multi-purpose flood damage reduction projects, and to better clarify the level of risk associated with flood damage reduction measures.

**Non-Structural Measures**- measures that do not include physical or constructed components but rely sole on policies, maintenance practices, or management activities.

**Risk Communication**- integrating effective communication of risk and reliability concepts, alternatives levels of risk, and the associated consequences to the public and other stakeholders.

**Stakeholders**- those that have a stake in the outcome of a project; those that can provide vital input on issues that affect data, possible alternatives, and efforts of the project delivery team (PDT); stakeholders includes sponsors, constituents, residents, businesses, groups, agencies, cities, not-for-profit organizations, etc. and will all be respected even though external to the PDT; may become part of the PDT when the PDT agrees to accept them to be involved with a level of effort identified in a project's project management plan.

**Structural Measures**- measures that include physical alterations or constructed components as part of an alternative or plan.

**Water Quality**- a measure of the suitability of water for specific uses based on chemical, biological and physical characteristics. These characteristics are compared to standards and guidelines to determine if the water meets designated uses. Water quality is affected by both natural process as well as human activities, and a healthy environment supports a diverse community of organisms and protects public health.

**Watershed**- the area that collects and conveys rainfall to a common point along a stream or river. Synonymous with basin.