

## **GLOSSARY**

### **A**

#### **Accelerated erosion**

Erosion caused or increased by human activity, such as agriculture or construction, as opposed to naturally occurring erosion

#### **Applicant**

Responsible party applying for a permit.

#### **Apron**

On a golf course, the fairway area in front of and around a green

#### **Archaeology**

The scientific study of material remains (as fossil relics, artifacts, and monuments) of past human life and activities; remains of the culture of a people.

#### **Armor**

To protect; protective covering; shield

### **B**

#### **Backfill**

The process of filling a cavity with soil, gravel, rock, or other material

#### **Bank**

The part of the soil next to a stream, lake, or body of water where the soil elevation adjacent to the water is higher than the water level; also embankment

#### **Barrier**

A sand or gravel deposit in a streambed that is often exposed only during low water periods

#### **BMP**

Best Management Practice

#### **Berm**

A nearly horizontal part of the beach or backshore formed at the high water line by waves depositing material. Some beaches have no berms, others have one or several.

#### **Best Management Practices**

Structural, nonstructural, and managerial techniques recognized as the most effective and practical means to control non-point source pollutants, yet are compatible with the productive use of the resource to which they are applied.

**BFM**

Bonded Fiber Matrix

**Biodegradable**

Able to decompose when exposed to biological agents and soil chemicals

**Blanket**

Material placed on soil or a streambank to cover eroding soil

**Bluff**

A high, steep bank or cliff

**Buffer**

A small area of permanent vegetation bordering a field, stream, or lake or running through cropland, protecting the soil from wind and rain erosion, slowing water runoff, and trapping sediment and other pollutants

**Bulkhead**

A partition to retain or prevent sliding of the land, or to protect the upland against damage from wave action; also sea wall, retaining wall, revetment, or armor

**BWSR**

Board of Water and Soil Resources

**C**

**CA**

Certificate of Authority

**CAAPP**

Clean Air Act Permit Program

**CFR**

Code of Federal Regulations

**Channel**

A natural or artificial waterway

**Check dam**

A temporary dam across a swale or gully to reduce gully erosion, or placed bank to bank downstream from a headcut; often used in series

**Cistern**

An artificial reservoir (as an underground tank) for storing liquids and especially water (as rainwater).

## **Clay**

Cohesive soil whose individual particles are not visible to the unaided human eye (less than 0.002 mm in diameter). Clay can be molded into a ball that will not crumble.

## **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)**

The compilation of federal regulations. Each area of regulation is contained in a separate volume (e.g., environmental regulations are compiled in volume 40, or 40 CFR). Each volume contains up to several hundred parts.

## **Compaction**

The pressing together of soil particles into a more dense mass

## **CON**

Certificate of Need

## **Contractor**

Responsible party for construction and maintenance activity (Dairyland staff or consultant).

## **CPCN**

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

## **Critical habitat**

When a species is proposed for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act (Act), we must consider whether there are areas of habitat we believe are essential to the species' conservation. Those areas may be proposed for designation as "critical habitat."

## **CRM**

Cultural resource management

## **Curb inlet sediment barrier**

Temporary barrier constructed from concrete block and gravel or gravel-filled sandbags, designed to reduce sediment discharged into storm drains by ponding the runoff and allowing sediment to settle out

## **Cutbank**

The outside bank of a bend, often eroding and across the stream from a point bar

## **Cutoff**

A channel cut across the neck of a bend

## **D**

## **Dairyland**

Dairyland Power Cooperative

**Discharge**

The volume of water passing through a channel during a given time, usually measured in cubic feet per second

**Distressed streambank**

A bank experiencing erosion or failure

**DNR**

Department of Natural Resources

**DOC**

Department of Commerce

**DOT**

Department of Transportation

**Dredge material**

Soil that is excavated from a stream channel, lake, or other body of water

**Dust**

Particulate pollution from construction sites, unpaved roads, or other disturbed areas

**E**

**EA**

Environmental Assessment

**EIS**

Environmental Impact Statement

**Embankment**

The part of the soil next to a stream, lake, or body of water where the soil elevation adjacent to the water is higher than the water level; usually referred to as the bank

**EPA**

Environmental Protection Agency

**ER**

Environmental Report

**ERF**

PSC's electronic regulatory filing system

**Erosion control blanket**

Blanket made from straw, coir, excelsior, or synthetic material and enveloped in plastic or biodegradable netting. Used to stabilize disturbed or highly erosive soils while vegetation is

established. Temporary blankets made from biodegradable or photodegradable components last several months to a year, and permanent blankets (also called turf reinforcement mats) can last for several years.

**Erosion**

Removal of soil particles by wind and water

**ESA**

Endangered Species Act

**F**

**F**

Fahrenheit

**FAA**

Federal Aviation Administration

**FESOP**

Federally Enforced State Operating Permit

**Filter**

Layer of fabric, sand, gravel, or graded rock placed between the bank revetment or channel lining and soil for one or more of three purposes: to prevent the soil from moving through the revetment; to prevent the revetment from sinking into the soil; and to permit natural seepage from the streambank, thus preventing buildup of excessive groundwater pressure

**Floodplain**

Level land that may be submerged by floodwaters; a plain built up by stream deposition.

**FPPA**

Farmland Protection Policy Act

**G**

**Geotextile**

Textile made from synthetic fibers, usually nonbiodegradable. Geotextiles can be woven or nonwoven and have varying degrees of porosity. They are used as moisture barriers, for separation or reinforcement of soils, for filtration, and for drainage.

**Gravel**

Soil particles ranging from 1/5 inch to 3 inches in diameter

**Groundwater**

Water that moves through the subsurface soil and rocks

## **H**

### **HDPE**

High density polyethylene

### **HVTL**

High voltage transmission line

### **Hydric soils**

A soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.

### **Hydrophytic**

Adapted to live in or on water surfaces, for example hydrophytic plants.

### **Hydroseeding**

A method of seeding by mixing seed with water and fertilizer and then spraying the solution onto a seedbed

## **I**

### **ILCS**

Illinois Compiled Statutes

### **Impervious surface**

Hard ground cover that prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil and increases runoff, such as asphalt, concrete, rooftops

### **Infiltration**

The portion of rainfall or surface runoff that moves downward into the subsurface rock and soil

## **J**

## **K**

### **kV**

kilovolt

## **L**

### **LGU**

Local government unit

### **Loam**

An easily crumbled soil consisting of a mixture of clay, silt, and sand

## **M**

### **Marsh**

An area of soft, wet, or periodically submerged land, generally treeless and usually characterized by grasses and other low vegetation

### **MBTA**

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

### **MPCA**

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

### **Mulch**

Any material used to cover a soil surface to reduce evaporation or prevent erosion

## **N**

### **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**

Mandated by Congress under the Clean Water Act, a two-phased national program to address nonagricultural sources of stormwater discharge and prevent harmful pollutants from being washed into local water bodies by stormwater runoff

### **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service) under the U.S. Department of Agriculture

### **Navigable waters**

Waterways of sufficient depth and width to handle a specified traffic load

### **NFS**

National Forest Service

### **NHPA**

National Historic Preservation Act

### **NOI**

Notice of Intent

### **Nonpoint source pollution**

Pollution originating from diffuse sources

### **NOT**

Notice of Termination

### **Noxious weed**

Legally, a noxious weed is any plant designated by a Federal, State or county government as injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife or property.

**NPDES**

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

**NPK**

Nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium

**NRC**

National Response Center

**NRCS**

Natural Resource Conservation Service

**NRHP**

National Register of Historic Places

**NWR**

National Wildlife Refuge

**O**

**OSA**

Office of the State Archaeologist

**P**

**pH**

potential of hydrogen

**Piping**

Flow of groundwater through subsurface conduits in the bank

**Point-source pollution**

Direct pollution from industries and sewage; also called single-point-source pollution

**Project Manager**

Refers to the party (Dairyland staff or consultant) in charge of putting design plans together and approving changes to plan set.

**PSC**

Public Service Commission

**Psi**

Pounds per square inch

### **Public Land**

Refers to all publicly owned land and includes land owned by the state, county, civil town, or municipality.<sup>1</sup>

### **PUC**

Public Utilities Commission

### **PVC**

Polyvinyl chloride

### **R**

### **Revegetation**

Reestablishing vegetative cover on ground that has been disturbed, such as a construction site

### **Rock**

Soil particles greater than 3 inches in diameter

### **ROW**

Right-of-way

### **RUS**

Rural Utility Service

### **S**

### **Sand**

Soil particles ranging from 0.05 to 2.0 mm in diameter; individual particles are visible to the unaided human eye

### **SDR**

Standard Dimension Ration

### **Sediment**

Soil particles that have been transported away from their natural location by wind or water action

### **Sediment pollution**

The accumulation of soil particles on the channel bed and banks

### **Seedbed**

A specially prepared area that has been made suitable for the sowing and germination of plant seeds.

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<sup>1</sup> Wisconsin Historical Society. *Public Land Permit Form and Guidelines*. 2006.  
<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/archaeology/osa/public-lands.asp> Retrieved July 14, 2006.

### **Sensitive resource**

Aquifers that require the strongest level of protection.

### **Shelterbelt**

Windbreak, is usually made up of one or more rows of trees or shrubs planted in such a manner as to provide shelter from the wind and to prevent soil from erosion.

### **Sheet flow**

Flow that occurs overland in places where there are no defined channels, the flood water spreads out over a large area at a uniform depth. This also referred to as overland flow.

### **Shore**

The narrow strip of land in immediate contact with the sea, or other body of water, including the zone between high and low water lines. A shore of unconsolidated material is usually called a beach.

### **Silt fence**

Temporary sediment barrier consisting of filter fabric, sometimes backed with wire mesh, attached to supporting posts and partially buried

### **Silt**

Noncohesive soil whose individual particles are not visible to the unaided human eye (0.002 to 0.05 mm). Silt will crumble when rolled into a ball.

### **Sod**

Plugs, squares, or strips of turf with the adhering soil

### **Soil**

Soil finer than sand but coarser than clay, but not so fine that it can remain suspended in water for long periods. The grain size is considered to be less than 0.0625 mm.

### **Soil horizon**

Layer of soil developed in response to localized chemical and physical processes resulting from the activities of soil organisms, addition of organic matter, precipitation, and water percolation through the layer.

### **SPCC**

Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure

### **Streambed**

The bottom of a channel, creek, river, stream, or other body of water

### **Storm drain**

A drainage system to collect stormwater runoff, separate from the sanitary sewer or wastewater system

### **Straw bale**

Temporary barriers made of straw bales are sometimes installed across a slope or around the perimeter of a construction site to intercept and detain sediment transported by runoff

### **Streambank**

The side slopes of a channel between which the streamflow is normally confined

### **Surface runoff**

The portion of rainfall that moves over the ground toward a lower elevation and does not infiltrate the soil

### **Swale**

A natural landscape feature or a human-created one that is designed to slow and capture runoff by spreading it horizontally across the landscape, facilitating its infiltration into the soil.

### **SWPPP**

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

### **T**

### **T&E**

Threatened and endangered

### **Thatch**

A layer of organic material between the crown of the plant and the true soil surface

### **Tillage**

The practice of producing a rough soil surface to maintain surface residue, conserve soil moisture, and reduce wind erosion; also conservation tillage

### **Tiller**

A plant that produces a new plant at the base of the parent plant

### **Toe (toe slope)**

The break in slope at the foot of a bank where the bank meets the bed

### **Topography**

The physical features of a geographic area, such as those represented on a map, taken collectively; especially, the relief and contours of the land.

### **U**

### **UAP**

Utility Accommodation Plan

### **U.S.**

United States

## **USACE**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

## **USC**

U.S. Code

## **USDA**

U.S. Department of Agriculture

## **USFWS**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## **V**

## **V:H**

Vertical:horizontal

## **W**

### **Water erosion**

Removal of soil particles by water; the three types are sheet erosion, rill erosion, and gully erosion

### **Watershed**

An area confined by drainage divides usually having only one streamflow outlet. In the UK the term "watershed" refers to what in the U.S. is called the drainage divide, and the term "catchment" refers to what in the U.S. is called a watershed.

## **WCA**

Wetland Conservation Act

## **WPDES**

Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System

## **Western**

Formed in 1991, a corporation in which more than 220 members buy and sell electricity under a standardized contract. Operating and executive committees run the organization, but each member gets to vote on any changes in operating procedures. Action is taken by consensus of 90 percent of the voting members. Regulated and approved by FERC.

## **Wetlands**

Swampy or marshy areas where water stands at or near the ground surface, forming a habitat for different types of plants and wildlife. Wetlands can act as reservoirs for flood control, taking in excess water from urban streams during rainy seasons.

## Wind erosion

Removal of soil particles by wind, causing dryness and deterioration of soil structure; occurs most frequently in flat, dry areas covered by sands and loamy soils.