

Glossary

To help readers more fully understand this Environmental Impact Statement, we have used bold type for technical and scientific terms, as well as plain English terms used differently in this context, the first time each appears in the text. This Glossary provides a full definition of each of those terms. In some cases, the definition of the term also appears in a highlighted box near the first occurrence of the term in the text.

TERM

DEFINITION

7Q10

The 7-day average low stream flow over a 10-year period.

8-hour ozone standard

A national ambient air quality standard for ground-level ozone, the primary constituent of smog. The standard is set at 0.08 parts per million and is measured as the 3-year average of an annual 4th-highest daily maximum 8-hour ozone concentration.

A-weighted decibel (dBA)

A frequency-weighted noise unit that is widely used for traffic and industrial noise measurements. The A-weighted decibel scale approximates the frequency response of the human ear and thus correlates well with loudness.

Alluvial

Relating to, composed of, or found in the clay, silt, sand, gravel, or similar detritus material deposited by running water.

Anadromous fish

Fish that spend most of their lives in salt water but migrate into freshwater tributaries to spawn (e.g., Gulf sturgeon and Alabama shad).

Anhydrite

A mineral, anhydrous calcium sulfate (chemical formula CaSO_4), occurring naturally in salt deposits. Anhydrite is much less soluble than salt, so anhydrite solids must be removed from brine before the brine can be disposed of in the ocean or injected into underground wells.

Aquifer

A body of rock or soil that is capable of transmitting groundwater and yielding usable quantities of water to wells or springs.

Base flood

A flood that has a 1 percent chance of occurrence in any given year (also known as a 100-year flood).

Basement fault

The fault that displaces basement rocks (metamorphic and igneous rocks underlying the sedimentary rocks) and originated prior to deposition of overlying sedimentary rocks. Such faults may or may not extend upward into overlying strata, depending upon their history of rejuvenation.

Bathymetry

The measurement of water depths in oceans, seas, and lakes.

Benthic

Of, relating to, or occurring at the bottom of a body of water.

Berm

A horizontal, narrow ledge at the bottom or top of an embankment used to stabilize the slope by intercepting sliding earth.

TERM	DEFINITION
Borehole	A hole made by drilling into the ground to study stratification, to release underground pressures, or to construct a production well, a disposal well, or a storage cavern in salt rock.
Brine	Water with a salt concentration greater than 35 parts per thousand. Sea water has a similar average concentration. In comparison, discharged brine has a typical concentration of 263 parts per thousand.
Brine pond	Lined pond where brine is disposed and impounded so that solids and contaminants, such as oil, can settle.
Bulkhead	Retaining walls designed to hold or prevent the sliding of soil caused by erosion and wave action.
Caliper	An instrument used to measure the diameter of a drill hole to determine the hardness or softness of the individual rocks.
Caliper pig	An electronic device that moves through the inside of a pipeline to determine by acoustical means the thickness of the pipeline wall.
Candidate species	Plants and animals native to the United States for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service has sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threats to justify proposing addition to the threatened and endangered species list, but cannot do so immediately because other species have a higher priority for listing. The Services determine the relative listing priority of candidate species in accordance with general listing priority guidelines published in the <i>Federal Register</i> . (See endangered species and threatened species.)
Canopy	Overhanging plants shading the surface below them (such as large trees).
Caprock	A layer of rock that is often found covering some or all of a salt dome. Caprock is chemically derived rock composed of anhydrite and other insoluble components of the salt that remain when the salt is washed away by groundwater and other forces.
Casing	Steel pipe used in oil wells to seal off fluids from the borehole and to prevent the walls of the hole from sloughing off or caving. There may be several strings of casing in a well, one inside the other.
Cavern	An underground chamber or cavity created in a salt dome by solution mining and used for storing the petroleum.
Clay	Soil consisting of inorganic material, the grains of which have diameters smaller than 0.005 millimeters.
Concentric cased wells	Concentric cased wells are two wells, one located within the other. The two wells are separated by an inner casing and an outer casing, and the casings form two concentric rings.

TERM	DEFINITION
Creep	In engineering usage, creep is any general, slow displacement under load.
Critical habitat	Habitat essential to the conservation of an endangered or threatened species that has been designated so by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service following the procedures outlined in the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR Part 424). The lists of critical habitats can be found in 50 CFR 17.95 (fish and wildlife), 50 CFR 17.96 (plants), and 50 CFR 226 (marine species).
Crustaceans	A class of aquatic invertebrate organisms with a hard external skeleton.
Day Night Average Noise Level	A 24-hour average of noise levels.
Decibel (db)	A unit for expressing the relative intensity of sounds on a logarithmic scale from zero (the average least perceptible sound) to about 130 (the average level at which sound causes pain to humans).
Design value	A pollutant concentration, based on ambient measurement, which describes the air quality status of a given area. Areas in which the design value exceeds the NAAQS may result in a nonattainment designation for the area.
Diffuser	The structure at the end of a pipeline that disperses an effluent discharge into a receiving water body by the action of jet dilution through a series of ports.
Drawdown	The process of removing oil from a storage cavern by displacing the oil with water or brine.
Drilling mud	A mixture of clays, chemicals, and water that is pumped down a drill pipe to lubricate and cool the drilling bit, to flush out the cuttings, and to stabilize the sides of a hole being drilled.
Easement	An easement is a right held by one party to make specific, limited use of land owned by another party. An easement is granted by the owner of the property for the convenience or ease of the party using the property. Common easements include the right to pass across the property or the right to construct a pipeline under the land or a power line over the land.
Ecoregion	A region containing relatively similar ecological systems as determined by variations in climate, vegetation, and landform.
Ecosystem	A community of organisms and their physical environment interacting as an ecological unit.

TERM

DEFINITION

Endangered species	Plants or animals that are in danger of extinction through all or a significant portion of their habitat ranges and that have been listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service following the procedures outlined in the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR Part 424). The lists of endangered species can be found in 50 CFR 17.11 (wildlife), 50 CFR 17.12 (plants), and 50 CFR 222.23(a) (marine organisms). The states considered in this EIS also list species as endangered.
Entrainment	The incidental trapping of fish and other aquatic organisms within part of an intake structure during periods of intake water withdrawal.
Estuarine system	Deep water habitats and adjacent tidal wetlands that are usually semi-enclosed by land but have open, partly obstructed, or sporadic access to the open ocean. Ocean water is at least occasionally diluted by freshwater runoff from the land, and their interplay results in a nutrient trap making the estuarine system more productive than either freshwater or marine systems.
Estuary	A semi-enclosed coastal body of water which has a free connection with the open sea and within which seawater is measurably diluted with fresh water.
Floodplains	The lowlands and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters with the flood-prone areas of offshore islands. Floodplains include, at a minimum, that area with at least a 1-percent chance of being inundated by a flood in any given year.
Fluvial deltaic	Produced by the action of a stream or river and in the typical form of the Greek letter delta.
Grubbing	Clearing of land by digging up roots or stumps.
Headcutting	A process of streambed degradation triggered by a disturbance of loose streambed substrate.
Historic property	As defined in 36 CFR 800.16 of the National Historic Preservation Act, "historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meets the National Register criteria."
Hydrostatic test	Test of strength and leak-resistance of a vessel, pipe, or other hollow equipment using internal pressurization with a test liquid.
Impingement	The trapping of fish and other aquatic organisms on the outer part of an intake structure or against a screening device during periods of intake water withdrawal.

TERM	DEFINITION
In-migration	The movement of people into a given geographic area.
Invertebrate	An animal lacking a backbone and internal skeleton.
Level equivalents (Leq)	Level of noise (in decibels) averaged over a specified period of time.
Laydown yard	Storage area for equipment and materials to be used for maintenance or construction.
Lithic scatter	A distribution of cultural items that consists primarily of lithic (i.e., stone) material. The scatter may include formed tools such as points or knives, or it may contain only chipping debris from tool-making activities.
Marsh	A transitional land-water area with more or less continuously waterlogged soil characterized by aquatic and grass-like vegetation, but without an accumulation of peat.
Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	A metropolitan statistical area is an area containing a recognized population nucleus (such as a city) and adjacent communities (sometimes considered suburbs) that have a high degree of integration with that nucleus. One of the major purposes in defining MSAs is to provide a nationally consistent definition for collecting, tabulating, and publishing federal statistics for a set of geographical areas.
Midden soil	Soil that has been changed by long-term human occupation; it typically contains bits of charcoal and other organic materials derived from human use. Midden soil is often darker in color and has a looser texture than surrounding soils. Archaeologists consider midden soil as evidence that a site was used for long-term residence or revisited regularly over many years, rather than reflecting short-term activities.
Normal fault	A fault in which the hanging wall has apparently gone down with relation to the footwall.
Oil blanket	A quantity of oil that is used during the development of storage caverns in salt domes. The oil is injected into the cavern, where it floats on top of the water used during solution mining and blankets the cavern roof, thereby preventing the water from dissolving salt at the top of the cavern.
Overhang	The part of the salt that projects out laterally from the top of a salt dome and is like the cap of a mushroom.
Overstory	The tallest spatially dominant species in a forest; usually composed of coniferous or deciduous tree species.
Palustrine	Of, pertaining to, or living in, a marsh or swamp; marshy.

TERM	DEFINITION
Palustrine wetland	All non-tidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, or persistent emergent vegetation. Includes wetlands traditionally called marshes, swamps, or bogs.
Particulate matter	Any material suspended in the air in the form of minute solid particles or liquid droplets, especially when considered as an atmospheric pollutant. A number following denotes the upper limit of the diameter of particles included. Thus, PM10 includes only those particles equal to or less than 10 micrometers (0.0004 inch) in diameter; PM2.5 includes only those particles equal to or less than 2.5 micrometers (0.0001 inch) in diameter.
Perennial plant	A plant with a lifespan of two or more years.
Permeability	Capacity for transmitting a fluid a given distance through an interval of time.
Piercement	A dome or anticlinal fold in which a mobile plastic core (i.e., salt) has ruptured the more brittle overlying rock. Also known as a diapir, dipiric fold, piercement dome, or piercing fold.
Pig	A cylindrical device (3- to 7-feet long) inserted in a pipeline for the purpose of sweeping the line clean of water, rust, or other foreign matter.
Pigging	In pigging operations, inspection and cleaning devices called pigs are sent through pipelines to check the condition of pipelines and clean them. Caliper pigging is used to determine the thickness of pipeline walls.
Phytoplankton	Passively floating or weakly mobile, microscopic aquatic plants.
Plug	To fill a well's borehole with cement or other impervious matter to prevent the flow of water, gas, or oil from one strata to another when a well is abandoned; to place a permanent obstruction at the junction of a saline water body and pipeline ROW to prevent salt water intrusion into fresh water or to prevent the formation of new water courses.
Proclamation Boundary	An area where the Forest Service may purchase land from willing sellers to expand the forest without further Congressional authorization.
Radial Fault	A fault belonging to a system that radiates from a point.
Raw water	Raw water is fresh surface water or salt water that is supplied to a site from a substantial water source.
Right-of-way (ROW)	The right held by one person over another person's land for a specific use; rights of tenants are excluded. The strip of land for which permission has been granted to build and maintain a linear structure, such as a road, railroad, pipeline, or transmission line.

TERM	DEFINITION
Rip rapping	Rip rapping is the process by which rocks or other materials (rip rap) are placed along the banks of a body of water to prevent erosion.
Riverine	Relating to, formed by, or resembling a river.
Rock salt formation	See salt dome.
Salinization	To treat or impregnate with salt.
Salt dome	A subsurface geologic structure consisting of a vertical cylinder of salt that may be anywhere from 0.5 to 6 miles (1 to 10 kilometers) across and up to 20,000 feet (6,100 meters) deep. Domes are formed when salt from buried salt pans flows upward due to its buoyancy.
Scrub-shrub	Areas dominated by woody vegetation less than 6 meters (20 feet) tall, which includes true shrubs and young trees.
Seismic	Related to the activity of naturally or artificially induced earthquakes or earth vibrations, where the seismic waves are the elastic waves produced by these vibrations.
Shear zone	A tabular area of rock that has been crushed and broken into fragments by many parallel fractures resulting from shear strain; often becomes a channel for underground fluids and the seat of ore deposition.
Shell middens	A subtype of midden soil that has been altered by human occupation. Shell midden includes large amounts of fragmented mollusk shell mixed with charcoal and other organic materials derived from human use. Archaeologists interpret shell midden sites as the result of long-term residence or regular reuse, where the debris from a shellfish-rich diet has become part of the site.
Shell scatters	Distributions of cultural material that consist primarily of shell fragments. Shell scatters do not contain the visibly and texturally different soil of shell middens, and they are interpreted as the result of short-term use or use for only a single activity (such as shellfish harvesting) rather than residence.
Silt	Soil consisting of inorganic material, the grains of which have diameters between 0.0625 mm and 0.2 mm.
Skimmer	A self-propelled, boat-like oil spill clean-up device that removes spilled oil from the surface of a water body into a tank.
Soil liquefaction	Process that occurs when saturated sediments are shaken by an earthquake. The soil can lose its strength and cause the collapse of structures with foundations in the sediment.
Solution mining	The process of creating space in rock salt by dissolving the salt with injected water and removing the resultant brine.

TERM

DEFINITION

Special status species	State and federally listed threatened, endangered, and candidate species; marine mammals; migratory birds; federally managed fisheries; and Forest Service’s Regional Forester Sensitive Species.
Spoil	Dirt or rock that has been removed from its original location, destroying the composition of the soil in the process.
Spud barge	A flat-decked floating structure that has devices similar to legs, called spuds, which are lowered from underneath the barge and pushed into the waterway floor to anchor the structure in place.
Stratigraphic	Dealing with the origin, composition, distribution, and succession of geological strata.
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)	Underwater aquatic rooted plants.
Subsidence	The geological sinking or downward settling of an area on the Earth’s surface, resulting in the formation of a depression.
Sump	The space below the bottom end of a well pipe where liquid collects.
Surfactant	A soluble compound that reduces the surface tension of liquids, or reduces interfacial tension between two liquids or a liquid and a solid.
Sweeping Velocity	The velocity of the water flowing parallel and adjacent to the RWI screen surface.
Tank farm	A facility that temporarily stores petroleum in large tanks connected to a pipeline.
Threatened species	Any plants or animals that are likely to become endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their habitat ranges and which have been listed as threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service following the procedures set out in the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR Part 424). (See endangered species.) The lists of threatened species can be found at 50 CFR 17.11 (wildlife), 17.12 (plants), and 227.4 (marine organisms). The states considered in this EIS also list species as threatened.
Understory	Low-lying vegetation growing beneath the overstory of a forest; usually composed of herbaceous plants, shrubs, and small saplings.
Uplands	Generally dry land that is different from lowlands, marsh, swamp, and wetlands.
Volatile organic compound (VOC)	Any organic compound that participates in atmospheric photochemical reactions; also a nationally regulated air pollutant.

TERM

DEFINITION

Wetlands

An area that is inundated by surface water or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated- or seasonally saturated-soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas (e.g., sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflow areas, mudflats, and natural ponds).

Zooplankton

Passively floating or weakly mobile microscopic aquatic animals.

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