

**APPENDIX B**  
**Glossary**

ALLUVIUM	Material, such as sand, silt, or clay, deposited on land by streams.
AQUIFER	A formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains enough saturated permeable material to yield significant quantities of water.
ARTESIAN AQUIFER	An aquifer which is bounded above and below by formations of impermeable material or relatively impermeable material.
BEDROCK	The solid rock that underlies the soil and other unconsolidated material or that is exposed at the surface.
CONFINING UNIT	A body of impermeable material stratigraphically adjacent to one or more aquifers. Its hydraulic conductivity may range from nearly zero to some value distinctly lower than that of the aquifer.
CONVEYANCE SYSTEM	A surface water transport system that may include rivers, streams, man-made channels, grass waterways, storm water sewers, culverts and other man-made control structures.
DRIFT (GLACIAL)	Rock material transported by glacial ice or material deposited by streams from glaciers.
EUTROPHIC	A condition where a body of water has reduced level of dissolved oxygen producing an increased level of plant life. A water body with a Trophic State Index from 51 to 70.
FLOOD PLAIN	A nearly level alluvial plain that borders a river or stream and is subject to flooding unless protected artificially.
GEOMORPHOLOGY	The geologic study of the configuration and evolution of landforms.
HYDRAULIC	Involving, moved, or operated by a fluid, especially water, under pressure.
HYDROGRAPH	A plot of streamflow against time.
HYDROLOGIC BOUNDARY	The boundary defining watershed or subwatershed units.
HYDROLOGY	The science concerned with waters of the earth, their occurrence, distribution, and circulation; their physical and chemical properties; and their reaction to the environment.
HYPEREUTROPHIC	The most severe eutrophic condition where the Trophic State Index is greater than 70.
ISSUE	A water resource-related problem or concern within the watershed.

## INDEX

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LANDFORM	A landscape type formed as a result of variance in natural processes, such as glacial erosion and deposition, and water and wind erosion.
LOESS	Fine-grained material, predominantly of silt-sized particles, deposited by wind.
MEAN	Average. The sum of the magnitudes of all items of a set, divided by the items.
MESOTROPHIC	A trophic status defined as having a trophic state index from 41 to 50.
MORaine	An accumulation of earth, stones, and other debris deposited by a glacier. Some types are terminal, lateral, medial, and ground.
MORAINIC	Of or concerned with moraines.
100-YEAR FLOOD PLAIN	That flood plain associated with a storm that has a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded during any year (100-year recurrence interval). Usually calculated assuming a rainfall event of 24 hours in duration.
OLIGOTROPHIC	The lowest level of eutrophication that includes Trophic State Index values of 40 or less.
ORDINARY HIGH WATER LEVEL (OHWL)	The natural ordinary high water level that may have been affected by a man-made outlet structure.
ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK (OHWM)	The boundary of protected waters as defined in Minnesota Statutes.
OUTWASH	Stratified sand and gravel produced by glaciers and carried, sorted, and deposited by glacial melt water.
OUTWASH PLAIN	A landform of mainly sandy or coarse textured material of glaciofluvial origin. An outwash plain is commonly smooth; where pitted, it is generally low in relief.
NATURAL ORDINARY HIGH WATER (NOHW)	The natural upper limit of the lake basin as evidenced by vegetational and physical features found on the banks of the lake. These features identify where the presence and action of water has been maintained for a sufficient length of time to leave recoverable evidence.
PARENT MATERIAL	The unconsolidated organic and mineral material in which soil forms.
PERMEABILITY	The quality for the soil that enables water to move downward through the profile. Measured in inches per hour.
NVGD	National Vertical Geodetic Datum. The nationwide reference surface for elevations.

PHYSIOGRAPHY	Physical geography. The study of the structure and phenomena of the earth's surface especially in its current aspects including land formation, climate, currents, and distribution of flora and fauna.
PIEZOMETRIC SURFACE	The potentiometric surface.
POLICY	General statement regarding the position of the WMO with respect to an issue. Basically will the WMO take an active role in the issue?
POTENTIOMETRIC LEVEL	A surface water which represents the static head. In relation to an aquifer, the potentiometric surface is defined by the level to which the water will rise in tightly cased wells.
PROTECTED WATERS AND WETLANDS	Those waters of the state identified as Public Waters or Wetlands under Minnesota Statutes. Generally, all lakes and Type III, IV and V wetlands as identified in the department of Interior Circular 39, Wetlands of the United States, 1971. Public wetlands are generally those 10 or more acres in size in unincorporated areas, or 2.5 or more acres in size in incorporated areas.
SOIL ASSOCIATION	A group of soils geographically associated in a characteristic repeating pattern defined and delineated as a single map unit.
STRATEGY	Specific statement regarding the nature and level of effort the Commission will undertake or assign to the local units of government to undertake, to address an issue.
SUBWATERSHED	A minor drainage unit and a hydrologic component of a watershed.
SURFICIAL MATERIAL	Unconsolidated deposits of variable content and texture that overlie the bedrock surface. Major textural categories include alluvium, terraced sands and gravels, loess, till and outwash.
TILL	Unsorted, nonstratified glacial drift consisting of clay, silt, sand, and boulders transported and deposited by glacial ice.
TILL PLAIN	An extensive flat to undulating area underlain by glacial till.
TROPHIC STATE INDEX	A numeric index for lakes that rates the water quality of the lakes from a scale of 0 to 100 based on algal biomass. The index number can be calculated from any of several parameters, including secchi disc transparency, chlorophyll, and total phosphorus.

WATERSHED

All lands which are enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage divide and lie upslope from a specified outlet point.

WATER TABLE AQUIFER

An aquifer where the ground water is in direct vertical contact with the atmosphere. A condition where the top of the ground water is the top of the water table.