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## Glossary

### GLOSSARY

**Built Environment** – Artificially created fixed elements, such as buildings, structures, devices, and surfaces, that together create the physical character of an area.

**Critically Imperiled Species (WV)** – Five or fewer documented occurrences, or very few remaining individuals within the state.

**Disadvantaged Populations** – Minority and low-income populations.

**Ecologically Critical Area** – An area with one or more of the following environmental characteristics: (1) steep slopes; (2) floodplain; (3) soils classified as having high water tables; (4) soils classified as highly erodible, subject to erosion, or highly acidic; (5) land incapable of meeting percolation requirements; (6) land formally used for landfill operation or hazardous industrial use; (7) fault areas; (8) stream corridors; (9) estuaries; (10) mature stands of native vegetation; (11) aquifer recharge and discharge areas; (12) wetlands and wetland transition areas; and (13) habitats of endangered species.

**Flood Hazard Area** – The floodplain consisting of the floodway and the flood fringe area. The area subject to inundation by a flood that has a one percent or greater chance of being equaled or exceeded during any given year (100-year flood).

**Flood Fringe Area** – The portion of the flood hazard area outside the floodway based on the total area inundated during a base flood, plus 25 percent of a base flood discharge.

**Floodplain** – The channel and the relatively flat area adjoining the channel of a natural stream or river that has been or may be covered by floodwaters.

**Floodway** – The channel of a natural stream or river and portions of the floodplain adjoining the channel, which are reasonably required to carry and discharge the floodwater.

**Hazardous Material** – Any substance or material that, by reason of its toxic, caustic, corrosive, abrasive, or otherwise injurious properties, may be detrimental or deleterious to the health of any such person handling or otherwise coming into contact with such material or substance.

**High Quality Streams** – Streams that provide significant or irreplaceable fish, wildlife and recreational resources.

**Imperiled Species (WV)** – Six to 20 documented occurrences, or few remaining individuals within the state.

**Index of Watershed Indicators (IWI)** – National index developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to characterize the condition and vulnerability of water resources.

**Infrastructure** – Facilities and service needed to sustain industry, residential, commercial, and all other land use activities.

## Glossary

**Per Capita Income** – The mean or average income received by individuals; that is, *total personal income* divided by the total number of people. *Total Personal Income* is defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis as all income received by persons, including earnings, property income and transfer payments.

**Prime Farmland** – Land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber and oilseed crops.

**Physiographic Province** – Distinctive landscape region based on differences in topography and subsurface geology.

**Rural Historic Landscape** – A geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activities, occupancy or intervention, and that possess a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features.

**Surface Mining** – A process of recovering ore or fuel deposits by mechanically scraping away the overhanging rock and strata. Also known as strip mining.

**Unemployment Rate** – The incidence of unemployment in the nation, region or city; that is, the number of people within the *civilian labor force* currently unemployed and seeking employment divided by the total *civilian labor force*. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines *civilian labor force* as all persons in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed; that is, those persons over the age of 16 years, not on active duty in the Armed Forces, and not inmates of any institution.

**Unique Natural Feature** – A part of the natural environment that is rare or not duplicated in the community or region.

**Visually Sensitive Resources** – Resources that are visually important for historic, architectural, recreational or community associations.

**Watershed** – The drainage basin, catchment, or other area of land that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common outlet at some point along a stream channel.

**Wetland** – An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

**Woodland** – Land covered with woody vegetation.

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