Ce document provient du site www.glossaire-eau.fr qui met à disposition du public des définitions et la traduction (en anglais et espagnol) de termes relatifs à l’eau et aux milieux aquatiques. Son objectif : faciliter la compréhension de ces termes par le plus grand nombre.

Ce site a été créé et est géré par l’Office International de l’Eau (OIEau), avec le soutien financier de l’Agence française pour la biodiversité (AFB).

**Titre** : Glossaire - Eau & Milieux Aquatiques  
**Résumé** : Ce document est un export des définitions diffusées par le Glossaire sur l’Eau et les Milieux Aquatiques.  
**Mots-clés** : glossaire, eau, milieu aquatique  
**Date** : 10/10/2020  
**Format** : PDF  
**Identifiant** : -  
**Langue** : en  
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Glossaire - Eau & Milieux Aquatiques

A

Aarhus Convention
Sens technique
Convention signed in Aarhus, Denmark, on 25 June 1998 under the auspices of the UN EconomicCommission for Europe (UNECE) dealing with access to information, public participation in the decision-making process and access to justice regarding environmental issues.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Documents de référence: Convention d'Aarhus
Translations: Convention d'Aarhus, Convenio de Aarhus.

Abstraction protection zone
Sens technique
Surface on which water seeps or streams to feed a water resource currently used for drinking water supply or likely to be used in the future, whose protection is an important issue, and where soil management methods are important to achieve the quality objectives set by the river basin management plan (SDAGE).
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Water and environmental management, Groundwater, Planning.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Abstraction supply zones. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZONE DE PROTECTION DES EAUX POTABLES.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 2009-967 du 3 août 2009 de programmation relative à la mise en œuvre du Grenelle de l'environnement
Translations: Zone de protection de l'aire d'alimentation du captage, Zona de protección de las áreas de alimentación de captaciones.

Abstraction supply zones
Sens technique
Area on which the water that soaks into the ground supplies the abstraction for drinking water.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry for the Agriculture
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drinking water abstraction, Abstraction protection zone. AIRE D’ALIMENTATION
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: DU CAPTAGE.
Documents de référence: Décret n° 2007-882 du 14 mai 2007 relatif à certaines zones soumises à contraintes environnementales et modifiant le code rural
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Aire d'alimentation de captage.

Abundance
Sens technique
Quantitative parameter for describing a population. The complete quantification of a fauna or flora population is usually impossible. By extension, it means a number of individuals in a given category: population, recruitment, stock, relative to a time or surface unit.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
**Abyssal plain**

**Sens commun**
Flat expanse that covers the bottom of the oceans, at the level of the abyssal floor at an average depth of 4.000 meters. The abyssal plain corresponds to 80% of the total ocean surface.  
**Source:** according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Continental slope, Continental shelf.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** abyssale.

**Accidental pollution**

**Sens commun**
As opposed to “chronic pollution”, it is a pollution characterized by unpredictability about: the time of the accident, the place of the accident, the type of pollutant, the amount spilled, the circumstances of the accident, the consequences of the accident.  
**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency  
**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Risk.  
**Translations:** Pollution accidentelle, Contaminación accidental.

**Acclimatised species**

**Sens commun**
Species that has managed to settle permanently in a geographical area that is not its own.  
**Source:** according to MNHN  
**Thématiques associées:** Species, Pressure, Invasive species.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Alien species. **Translations:** Espèce acclimatée.  
**accretion - see “Atterrissement”**

**Accumulated precipitation**

**Sens commun**
Accumulated precipitation height at a location over a given period.  
**Source:** according to METEO FRANCE  
**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Precipitation. **Translations:** Précipitations cumulées, Precipitaciones acumuladas.

**Acid rain**

**Sens technique**
Anthropogenic air pollutant which is dissolving in moist air and falling back in a liquid or solid form on plants, soils, water and minerals. It is called acid when its pH is less than 5.6. The main sources of these pollutants are: industry, thermal power stations, domestic heating and cars emitting sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides.  
**Source:** According to Ifremer  
**Thématiques associées:** Rain and snow, Substance and pollutant, Hydrology.  
**Translations:** Pluie acide, Lluvia ácida.  
**Act - see “Loi”**

**Activated sludge**

**Sens technique**
Biomass of microorganisms used for treating wastewater from their pollutants (mainly organic matter). Microorganisms are free, suspended in the wastewater, kept inside an aeration tank, and feed on the pollutants. Then, the separation of activated sludge and water occurs in a clarifier: a part of the sludge is put back into the aeration tanks, while the other part
(corresponding to the increase of stock) is discharged.

Source: According to FNDAE
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Microorganism, Wastewater treatment, Activated sludge filter. Directive
Translations: Boue activée.

Activated sludge filter

Sens commun
Biological wastewater treatment in which a mixture of wastewater and suspended organic matter is agitated and aerated. The activated sludge is then separated from the treated wastewater by secondary settling, and then returned to the aeration tank or eliminated in the form of residual sludge.
Source: According to CEN
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Active population

Synonymes: labour force. Sens commun
Population regrouping the employed (also called labour force) and unemployed people.
Source: According to INSEE
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Population active, Población activa.

Active substance

Sens commun
Molecule of natural or synthetic origin to which the pesticide effect is attributed.
Source: According to Ineris
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Substance active, Sustancia activa.

Adapted Global Biological Index

Sens technique
Index for assessing the biological quality of the water of a river through an analysis of macro invertebrates, adapted to the specificities of large and deep rivers, where the IBGN protocol (Standardized Global Biological Index) may not always be strictly respected.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Indice biológico global adaptado, Índice biológico global adaptado.

Additional monitoring

Sens technique
Control of surface waters, as part of the water status monitoring programme, listed in the Register of protected areas: intakes of drinking water intended for human consumption (more than 100 m³/day on the average), water bodies of species habitat and protection areas (which are included in the operational monitoring programme when they may not meet their environmental goals).
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Contrôle additionnel, Control adicional.
Administrative Basin Commission

Sens réglementaire
Commission established in each basin or group of basins, chaired by the basin coordinator prefect and composed of prefects of regions, prefects of departments (administrative divisions), heads of regional State centres in charge of environmental issues, the regional director for the environment who acts as basin delegatee and paymaster of the area where the basin committee has its home office, as well as the director of the water agency. The Administrative Basin Commission assists the basin coordinator prefect in the exercise of his powers. It is especially consulted on the draft river basin management plan, programme of measures and master plan for flood forecasting.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Documents de référence: Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau
Translations: Commission administrative de bassin, Comisión Administrativa de Cuenca.

Admissible/acceptable daily intake (ADI)

Sens technique
Amount of chemicals that a man or an animal can swallow per day, during his/its life, without any appreciable risk to his/its health. Values are especially established for food additives and pesticide residues whose presence in food meets technical requirements or that are necessary for the protection of plants.

Source: According to Ademe
Thématiques associées: Agriculture, Chemistry, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Dose journalière admissible, Dosis diaria admisible.

Adsorption

Sens commun
Penetration of a substance through a barrier for exchange with the organism.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Adsorption, Adsorción.

Affordability

Sens technique
Relative significance of the cost of public water supply and sanitation services (production, conveyance and distribution of drinking water; collection, conveyance and treatment of wastewater) in the available income of consumers. This criterion is to be taken into account, e.g. when defining an overall price policy for public water supply and sanitation services.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Environmental economics.
Translations: Caractère abordable, Carácter asequible.

AFNOR - see "Association Française de Normalisation"

Agenda 21

Sens commun
Action Plan for the 21st century focusing on sustainable development. Agenda 21 was adopted by the countries signatories of the Rio de Janeiro Declaration in June 1992. Its main functions are to alleviate poverty and social exclusion, to produce sustainable goods and services and to protect the environment.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Governance.
**Agglomeration**

**Sens technique**
In the technical sense, an urbanized area equipped with a community sanitation system consisting of one or several wastewater collecting systems (sewers) and one or more wastewater treatment plants, forming a coherent sewerage system. Under the meaning of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, an area where the population and/or economic activities are sufficiently concentrated to make it possible to collect urban wastewater for delivery to a wastewater treatment system or final discharge point. The general code of local governments plans to designate such an urban agglomeration as a sewerage agglomeration.

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency and Ministry for the Environment

**Translations:** Agglomération, Aglomeración.

**Aggregation bias**

**Sens technique**
Bias induced during an investigation, when the numbers of users of several sites are added while the overall improvement of environmental quality will not bring the same benefits at each site.

**Source:** According to Kenneth McConnell (economist)

**Translations:** Biais d'agrégation, Sesgo de agregación.

**Agri-environmental grants**

**Sens commun**
Financial accompanying measure, achieved within the framework of the agro environmental and climatic measures (MAEC), offered to farmers to encourage them to turn to an agriculture being more environment-friendly. This financial aid has to be approved by a regional committee, and its payment implies acting in accordance with a precise mission statement, in relation with the performed changes. Its amount is estimated through the calculation of the additional costs, or by the loss of income caused by the agro environmental practices.

**Source:** According to Alpes-de-Haute-Provence Chamber of Agriculture

**Translations:** Aide agro-environnementale.

**Agri-environmental measure**

**Sens technique**
Measure for taking greater account of the environment (water protection, etc) in agricultural practices, by encouraging: (i) farmers to limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides; (ii) the destocking of livestock to mitigate pollution by cattle effluent; (iii) farmers to adopt practices that improve the environmental quality of rural areas or the maintenance of abandoned lands; (iv) setting aside farmlands over 20 years for ecological purposes; the launching of Sustainable Development Plans (SDPs) on an experimental basis in 1993, to globalize agri-environmental aid and other development assistance. Agri-environmental measures (AEMs) result in aid or compensation granted to farmers, using farming practices respectful of the environment, in the form of a contractual agreement between the State, the EEC and the farmers for a 5 to 10 year period (or 20 years even).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Translations:** Mesure agri-environnementale, Medida agroambiental.

*Agricultural drought - see “Sécheresse édaphique”*
Agricultural pollution

Sens commun
Pollution resulting from agricultural activities. There are two types of agricultural pollution: point source pollution, which may be the consequence of accidental handling of products or pollution from livestock buildings; non-point source pollution, resulting from poor fertilisation practices or excessive phytosanitary treatments. Agricultural pollution can also result from poor land management and spatial and plot planning that no longer limits erosion or pollutant transfers on a catchment area scale.

Source: according to the Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Phytosanitary product. Translations: Pollution agricole, Contaminación agrícola.

Agroforestry

Sens commun
Agricultural practice for land use associating the planting of trees with crops or pastures.

Source: according to BRGM and AFB
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Agroforesterie.

Agronomy

Sens commun
Sciences and techniques that aim at understanding the relationships between crops, environments and agricultural techniques, and at improving agriculture.

Source: according to the French Association of Agronomy
Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.

Alevin

Sens commun
Young fish living on its yolk reserves or having not yet acquired its adult form.

Source: according to Larousse dictionary
Thématiques associées: Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hatching/Hatchery, Nursery area. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Alevín. Translations: Alevín.

Algaculture

Sens commun
Culture of algae (micro or macroalgae) potentially for the production of food (for human beings or animals), food supplements, fertilisers or other products.

Source: according to the mixed syndicate for the development of aquaculture and fishing in the Loire Region
Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture.

Algae
Sens commun
Unicellular or pluricellular photosynthetic organism usually living in an aquatic environment.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Species.

Algal bloom
Sens commun
Phenomenon of exceptional proliferation of algae.
Source: d'après Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.

Alien species
Sens commun
Any live specimen of a species, subspecies or lower taxon of animals, plants, fungi or micro-organisms introduced outside its natural range; it includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs or propagules of such species, as well as any hybrids, varieties or breeds that might survive and subsequently reproduce.
Source: according to the European Commission
Thématiques associées: Species, Pressure, Invasive species.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Espèce exotique, Especie exótica.

Allergen
Sens commun
A substance (very often a protein) alien to the human body and that can cause an allergy when it enters it (possible ways: ingestion, injection, inhalation...). Seafood (crustaceans, but also molluscs, often seashells and even fish, often scombridae and Gadidae) contain allergens to which some consumers are sensitive. There might be cross-reactivity between some allergens.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Translations: Allergène, Alérgeno.

Allis shad
Sens technique
Fish species belonging to the Clupeidae family (such as sardine and herring). The allis shad are among the anadromous species (i.e. which swim up rivers to spawn in the middle part of the rivers). As such, their populations have paid a heavy price to river development (dams without fish pass facilities, extraction of gravel changing the spawning, etc). Their presence is therefore a good indicator of the status of a river development. Two species of allis shad are present (and exploited) in French waters: the allis shad (Alosa Alosa) and twaite shad (Alosa fallax).
Alluvial forest

Sens commun

A regularly or exceptionally flooded forest ecosystem. It is a wooded strip along a watercourse whose width is greater than 10 metres. In areas flooded during 150 to 200 days per year, the alluvial forest is composed of permanent vegetation consisting of softwood and dominated by willows, alders. A hardwood forest, consisting of ash and elm trees, settles in the highest areas, flooded at least 50 days per year. These forest habitats are home to the newt, European beaver, the otter and many birds. Most of these habitats are of community interest.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Wetland.
Translations: Forêt alluviale, Bosque aluvial.

Alluvial plain

Sens commun

Plain formed by the deposition of sediments from upstream erosion.

Source: according to UNESCO
Translations: Plaine alluviale, Llanura aluvial.

Alluvial sheet

Sens technique

Volume of groundwater contained in alluvial soils, usually unconfined and often in relation with a watercourse.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.

Alluvial wetland

Sens commun

Located in the valley bottoms of rivers, an area including riverine habitats (islets, shingle beaches, river banks, etc) and alluvial water-dependent areas (flood-prone meadows, peat bogs, oxbows, riparian forests, alluvial forests, water dependent areas, etc) and wetland headwaters (including peatlands). Alluvial wetlands are biodiversity reservoirs and often habitats for the breeding or resting of many protected animal species. Their more or less long-term storage capacity prevents flood risk by reducing the intensity of floods and replenishes the flow at low-flow. Most of them are involved in recharging groundwater and cleaning wastewater. Wetlands have high landscape value. Through their many functions, they participate in the quantitative and qualitative management of water resources.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Wetland.
Translations: Zone humide alluviale, Humedal aluvial.

Alluviation - see "Atterrissement"

Alluvium

Sens commun

All materials (pebbles, gravel, sand) deposited by running water in floodplains, especially during floods.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations:
Alteration

Sens commun
Change in the status of an aquatic environment or a river system causing degradation. Alterations are defined by their nature (physical, ionic, organic, toxic, biological, etc.) and their effect (eutrophication, asphyxia, poisoning, change in populations, etc). In most cases these alterations are due to human activities, but they can also be natural.
Source: According to the Ministry of Sustainable Development
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Hydromorphology, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Altération, Alteración.

Altitude

Sens technique
Vertical elevation of a place or object relative to a basic level. Altitude is also a value that expresses a difference between a given point and an average level. On land, this level is usually the sea level (or “zero level”). Specifically, the altitude of the body of water is considered as average for natural water bodies and as normal operating level or normal water retention level (NR) for man-made water bodies. The normal level, as well as the average level, is defined as the usual level of the water line of the body of water. Unless levelling, the elevation of the water line or elevation of the water body is that of the closest altimeter indication obtained on site (landmark, etc.) or on a 1:25,000 map. The altitude is indicated by using the applicable local benchmark (French Surveying and Levelling and NGF), accurate to the metre. It can exceed 1,000 metres for water bodies in the mountains but can also be negative for stations located in areas below sea level.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Altitude, Altitud.

Altruistic value

Sens technique
Value corresponding to the willingness to preserve an environmental good that people of the current generation can enjoy.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Amenities

Sens technique
Services provided free of charge by nature or the environment to individuals, associated with notions of comfort, convenience, pleasure and knowledge related to a location. For example, the fact of living on the edge of an urban park or staying in a rural area brings benefits in terms of landscape quality, quietness, microclimate, etc.
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Ecological service.
Translations: Aménité, Amenidad.

Ammonification

Sens technique
Production of ammonia from organic nitrogen by bacteria or decomposer fungi.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bacteria. Translations: Ammonification, Amonificación.

Amphibian

Sens commun
Vertebrate animal that has the characteristic of starting its life in the water. At birth, an amphibian breathes through its gills, like
a fish. As an adult he now has lungs through which he can breathe freely, but he continues to absorb most of the oxygen he needs through the skin.

Source: according to Aquitaine Wildlife Observatory (AWO)
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fauna. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Amphibien, Anfíbio.
Amphibioc - see "Amphidrome"

Amphidromous
Synonymes: Amphibioc. Sens commun
Refers to fish that migrate from river waters to the sea or vice versa, once or several times during their lifetime. We can distinguish anadromous species that migrate up rivers to reproduce and catadromous species that most often live in fresh water and will reproduce at sea.
Source: according to Larousse dictionary and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Watercourse, Sea and ocean.

Anadromous
Sens commun
A migratory species that migrates from the sea to rivers to reproduce. One example is salmon.
Source: according to MNHN and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fish, Amphidromous, Catadrome. Translations: Anadrome, Anadromía.

Analysis
Sens technique
Methodical review allowing both to identify and quantify the different components of water, but also to evaluate its characteristics and state, according to specific criteria. This review is based on the following of specific protocols adapted to the various controlled parameters.
Source: according to IOWater
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Chemistry.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ANALYSE.
Translations: Analyse.

Analysis laboratory
Synonymes: analytical laboratory. Sens commun
Organization in charge of carrying out analyses or coordinating analyses made by subcontractors. The laboratories are stakeholders which generally act as providers under contracts (procurement). They produce data according to the specifications attached to the order.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Quality of the resource, Chemistry, Research and innovation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Electronic Data Interchange for laboratories, Analysis, Approved laboratory.
Translations: Laboratoire d’analyses, Laboratorio de análisis.
analytical laboratory - see "Laboratoire d’analyses"

Analyzed fraction
Sens technique
Component of the substrate/medium to be analyzed. Three broad categories of analyzed fractions were defined by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre): (i) rough or full substrate (e.g. the untreated
water” fraction analyzed from the “water” substrate); (ii) partial fractions (as classified by part of the same medium, e.g. for sediments: particles

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Data and information system.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: FRACTION ANALYSEE.
Translations: Fraction analysée, Fracción analizada.

Anastomosed

Sens technique
Describes a set of intersecting channels in a wide floodplain, or a delta, well endowed with all kinds of distributaries and cut-offs separated by shoals. The term, borrowed from the medical language, is used in hydrology only as an adjective: we indeed speak of an anastomosed river
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Anastomosé, Anastomosado.

Annual average residence time

Sens technique
Time needed to complete the theoretical water renewal of a body of water, on average, over a calendar year. The residence time of water, expressed in days, can be calculated by the following formula: total capacity / annual discharge of rivers that feed the body of water.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Temps de séjour moyen annuel, Tiempo de permanencia media anual.

Annual flow

Sens technique
Average flow over a year: it is most often obtained by adding the average daily water flows of the year and by dividing the result by the number of days in the year.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit annuel, Caudal anual.

Annual mean flow

Sens technique
Average flow over a year: it is most often obtained by adding the average daily flows of the year and by dividing the result by the number of days in the year.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit moyen annuel, Caudal medio anual.

Annual precipitation

Sens commun
Mean annual cumulative rainfall at a given location.
Source: according to METEO FRANCE
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Anthropization
Anthropocentric value

Sens technique
Value that can be instrumental and overlaps the concept of economic utilization or non-utilization value, or can be intrinsic and express the value of non-human species for themselves, but always with a subjective perspective because human beings define it (anthropogenic conception of the intrinsic value).

Source: According to Foundation for Research on Biodiversity
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Translations: Utilization value, Instrumental value, Non-utilization value.

Approved laboratory

Sens commun
Laboratory authorised by the Ministry in charge of the field in which it is competent. For example, the Ministry of Health approves laboratories carrying out analyses on the quality of water intended for human consumption (excluding natural mineral waters), swimming and bathing water (bathing with full amenities and other bathing). Another example is the Ministry of the Environment, which approves laboratories carrying out analyses in the field of water and aquatic environments under the Environment Code.

Source: according to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Environment
Thématiques associées: Quality of the resource, Chemistry, Research and innovation.

Translations: Laboratoire agréé, Laboratorio autorizado.

Aquaculture

Synonymes: fish farming. Sens commun
All activities related to marine plant cultivation and breeding of marine animals. The words "aquiculture" and even "mariculture" once used are regarded as obsolete synonyms. We distinguish inland aquaculture, which means all fish farming activities in freshwater and marine aquaculture, which means all sea farming activities in sea water. There are four types: shellfish culture (shellfish breeding), pisciculture (fish farming), the breeding of crustaceans and seaweed (algae culture).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

Translations: Aquaculture, Acuacultura.

Aquatic corridor

Sens technique
Corresponds to the continuum or ecological continuity formed by a watercourse, its water-dependent areas and tributaries from their headwaters to the sea. This network enables the movement of aquatic and semi-aquatic species (otter, beaver) necessary for the colonization of their habitat and the completion of their life cycle. It also helps to maintain the good physical functioning of rivers to transport sediment and convey fluid flows in the system. These mechanisms are essential to the creation of aquatic habitats of good hydro-morphological quality (alternations of flow facies) and necessary for the self-purifying function of the watercourse. At the regional level, the aquatic corridor appears uniformly (rivers). At the local level, it consists of many habitats: alluvial benches, floodplains, ox-bows, sills, pools.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Watercourse.

Translations: Corridor aquatique, Corredor acuático.
**Aquatic ecosystem**

*Sens commun*

Specific *ecosystem* of aquatic environments generally described by the living beings that are part of it, the nature of the bed and river banks, the characteristics of the catchment area, the hydraulic regime, and the physical-chemical characteristics of water.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecosystem, Biomarker. **Translations:** Ecosystème aquatique, Ecosistema acuático.

**Aquatic flora**

*Sens commun*

Plant species growing in aquatic environments.

**Source:** according to ADEME

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Flora.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Hydrophyte, Helophyte. **Documents de référence:** Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Flore aquatique, Flora acuática.

**Aquatic insect**

*Sens commun*

Articulated invertebrate animal which have the characteristic of breathing through trachea. Some insects have become aquatic (representing 3% of insects) but have retained this aerial breathing.

**Source:** according to INRA

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Fauna. **Documents de référence:** Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Insecte aquatique, Insecto acuático.

**Aquatic mammal**

*Sens commun*

Set of aquatic vertebrate animals which have the characteristic of being viviparous: the female lets the young grow in its belly, from which they get out alive. Marine mammals living in the oceans (cetaceans), as well as various freshwater species, such as the European otter, are aquatic mammals. Their mode of operation depends on the aquatic ecosystem where they live.

**Source:** according to Loire-Bretagne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Fauna. **Documents de référence:** Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Mammifère aquatique, Mamíferos acuáticos.

**Aqueduct**

*Sens commun*

Structure for conveying water from one location to another.

**Source:** according to the National Centre for Textual and Lexical Resources

**Translations:** Aqueduc, Acueducto.

**Aquifer**
Sens commun

Continuous or discontinuous geological formation, containing temporary or permanent water that can be mobilized. It consists of permeable rock (porous or fractured formation) able to provide water naturally or though exploitation (drainage, pumping).

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Groundwater sheet, Groundwater-fed river. TYPE DE MILIEU AQUIFERE.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:
Translations: Aquifère, Acuífero.

Aquifer decontamination

Sens commun

Action to remove pollution from groundwater. Water decontamination can use different approaches (physical, chemical or biological), in situ (directly underground) or ex situ (water pumping, treatment and reinjection).

Source: according to the University of Picardy
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Chemistry.
Translations: Décontamination de nappe, Descontaminación de capa.

Aquifer system

Sens technique

Set of aquifers constituting a hydrogeological unit. Its hydrodynamic characteristics give it a quasi-hydraulic independence (non-propagation of effects outside its limits). As such, it is an entity for the management of the underground water it contains.

Source: d'après Ministère chargé de l'environnement et AFB
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.

Aquifer vulnerability

Sens technique

Risk of infiltration of pollutants from the surface, through the soil and unsaturated zone. The vulnerability of aquifers is intrinsic: it depends on the topographic (ground slope), pedological (permeability), geological context (permeability, thickness). A confined aquifer, covered by a low permeability formation (often clays) is not very vulnerable as compared to an unconfined aquifer.

Source: according to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Groundwater sheet. Translations: Vulnérabilité de nappe, Vulnerabilidad de capa.

Arch dam

Sens technique

Dam with a complex design, which is thin and resistant to the hydraulic pressure by bracing the rocky sides of a valley. These
dams are particularly suitable for narrow valleys.

**Source:** according to the French Committee of Dams and Reservoirs

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Watercourse, Obstacle to flow. **Translations:** Barrage voute, Presa bóveda.

area - see "Zone côtière"

## Area for flood storage purpose

**Sens technique**

Natural or agricultural floodplain (not currently urbanized), that can be extended to floods whose occurrence is higher than the hundred-year flood, as part of a hydrogeomorphological approach. When local stakes require it (level of hazards, areas considered important, etc), floodplains, which, at the date of approval of the river basin management plan (SDAGE), are classified "to be urbanized" but are not yet highly urbanized, may be considered, for their part not yet urbanized, as areas for flood storage purpose.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

**Translations:** Zone à vocation d'expansion de crues, Zona de expansión de crecidas.

## Area with environmental restrictions

**Sens réglementaire**

Regulatory system resulting from the law on water and aquatic environments of 30 December 2006, intended to implement action plans for the protection of zones with environmental stakes, especially in aquatic environments (areas of drinking water intakes, wetlands, areas prone to soil erosion).

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Regulation, Water abstraction, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Protection zone. **Documents de référence:** Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Zone soumise à contrainte environnementale.

## Article 5 report

**Sens technique**

According to the Water Framework Directive (WFD), it means analyzing the whole basin or group of basins, focusing on three aspects: characteristics of the basin or group of basins, impacts of human activities on water status and economic analysis of water use. The assessment especially aims to prepare later the master plan for water development and management *(SDAGE)* and the *programme of measures* by assessing the risk of not achieving the environmental objectives for water bodies. The first assessments were adopted by the basin committees and approved by the basin coordinator prefects in 2004. They were updated in 2013 to prepare for the 2nd cycle management (2016-2021).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water Framework Directive, Management cycle. **Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau

Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

**Translations:** Etat des lieux, Informe de Situación.

## Artificial groundwater recharge

**Sens commun**

Man action of replenishing an aquifer. The artificial recharge of an aquifer can be used to regulate water resources by storing water, to treat wastewater or to recover aquifer drawdown (in volume or pressure) caused by pumping, but also to limit or prevent salt water intrusions into coastal aquifers to ensure the sustainability of their quality. It is carried out by infiltration from surface structures (basins, ditches) or by injection wells and boreholes.

**Source:** according to BRGM
Artificial rain
Sens technique
Rain caused by the disturbance of a microphysical equilibrium occurring in clouds. Artificial rain can be produced by seeding clouds, with the introduction of ice-forming nucleuses of silver iodide.
Source: National Association for the Study and Control of Weather Calamities

Artificial water body
Sens technique
A body of surface water created by human activities in an area that was previously dry. It can be for instance an artificial lake or canal. These water bodies are designated by the same criteria as heavily modified water bodies and must achieve the same objectives (good ecological potential and good chemical status), set out by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Artificialisation
Sens commun
Moving an environment or landscape from a relatively natural status to a man-made status.
Source: according to IFREMER

Assessment data
Sens technique
Data resulting from an assessment.
Source: According to AFB

Assessment operation
Sens technique
Set of observations of samples taken and/or analyses made during one or more days at a control point, for assessing a quality element.
Source: According to AFB

Assessment process
Sens technique
Implementation of a sequence of operations for assessing the status of water qualify on an **assessment site** according to one or more **quality elements** over a given period and in accordance with a given assessment profile.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Processus d'évaluation, Proceso de evaluación.

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**Assessment site**

**Sens technique**

Place on a **water body** regrouping **control points** where **control operations** are carried out over a given period to determine the quality of aquatic environments. The **assessment site** is the **entity** that gathers all relevant components required for a complete assessment of water status. For example, the assessment site can be: a station measuring the quality of surface water for bodies of water, the station measuring the quality of surface water in streams, the monitoring point for **littoral** waters, the well for **groundwater** quality.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Site d'évaluation, Sitio de evaluación.

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**Assigned flow**

**Sens technique**

According to the Water Act of 1992, "when hydraulic development works, other than those conceded or authorized and intended or resulting in the regulation of the **flow** of a non-State owned **watercourse** or for increasing its flow during **low-flow periods**, all or part of the artificial **discharge** can be assigned, by declaration of **public utility**, to some uses on a section of this watercourse and for a fixed period".

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Débit affecté, Caudal asignado.

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**Associated groundwater**

**Sens technique**

A **groundwater sheet** neighbouring a stream and whose hydraulic properties are closely related to those of the stream. The exploitation of such a sheet leads to a decrease in the low-flow of the river, either because the groundwater sheet provides less water to the stream, or because the river begins to feed the sheet.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Groundwater sheet. **Translations:** Nappe d'accompagnement, Capa de acompañamiento.

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**Associated station**

**Sens technique**

Differs depending on the type of the measuring station. For a twin-gauge station, the station associated with the "mother" station is the daughter station and vice versa. For a virtual station, the **associated stations** are those used to reconstruct the **flow rate**.

**Source:** According to SCHAPI

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Station associée, Estación asociada.

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**Athens Protocol**

**Sens technique**
Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources adopted on 17 May 1980 in Athens and entered into force on 17 June 1983. The Athens Protocol was modified by amendments adopted on 7 March 1996 in Syracuse. The agreement is now entitled “Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources and activities”.

**Source:** according to the Mixed Syndicate of the Etang de Berre

**Translations:** Protocole d'Athènes, Protocolo de Atenas.

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**Atlas**

**Sens technique**

Collection of geographical maps. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre), in particular, provides geo-referenced data (e.g. water bodies, measuring stations, river basin areas such as BD Carthage, regulatory zoning, etc) via an online service, known as Atlas, on the Sandre website.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Atlas, Atlas.

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**Atlas of flooded areas**

**Sens commun**

Mapping of the surface area flooded by a significant high water level that allows keeping record of the largest floods.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Atlas of floodplains. **Translations:** Atlas de zones inondées, Atlas de zonas inundadas.

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**Atlas of floodplains**

**Sens commun**

Mapping of the surface area that would be flooded by high water levels modelled for each frequency (10-year to 100-year floods) or determination by a hydro-geomorphologic method of homogeneous spatial units modelled for different types of floods. The Atlas of floodplains thus represent potential flood-prone areas having (or not) been flooded by a known high water level.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Atlas of flooded areas, Flood-storage area. **Translations:** Atlas de zones inondables, Atlas de zonas inundables.

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**Atmospheric pollution**

**Sens commun**

Environmental pollution by a chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere. For example, appliances used for combustion in homes, motor vehicles, industries and forest fires are frequent sources of air pollution.

**Source:** according to WHO

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Pollution atmosphérique, Contaminación atmosférica.

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**Atmospheric pressure**

**Sens commun**

Pressure exerted to any body, surrounded by the atmosphere, by the weight of the column of air situated above it. The average atmospheric pressure at sea level is 760 mm of mercury. This pressure decreases with altitude.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Translations:** Pression atmosphérique, Presión atmosférica.
Attribute

**Sens technique**

What is proper to a living organism or an object. An attribute (or properties) is information that characterizes an entity (or object). For example, the object “Wastewater treatment plant” is characterized by properties including its size, type, etc. Data dictionaries established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) include entities characterized by attributes. An attribute can be physically translated into a field of a *database.*

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Attribut, Atributo.

Auction system

**Sens technique**

Issue related to the valuation of a good/property in a contingent valuation, which can be considered in different ways. The first of them corresponds to a system of increasing or decreasing successive bids. Example: we propose an amount to the individual and, according to his response (acceptance or rejection), we propose a second amount (higher or lower), then a third amount, and so on. The criticisms made to this mechanism are for the most part linked to the fact that responses are highly dependent on the first offer.

**Source:** According to Robert Cameron Mitchell (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations:** Système d'enchère, Sistema de subasta.

Authorization

**Sens commun**

An administrative police act that authorizes an activity or development (*abstraction, discharge, work,* etc) by laying out the conditions for business or implementation and allowing the administration to closely monitor it. Please refer in particular to "procedure" and "nomenclature" decrees that set out the thresholds at which a *declaration* or *authorization* procedure is used. The authorization involves establishing a document on the *impact* on aquatic environments and *groundwater.*

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture, Watercourse, Groundwater, Governance, Industry.

**Translations:** Autorisation, Autorización.

Authorization or declaration subject to the Environmental Code

**Sens technique**

This term includes *declarations* and *authorizations* related to the Water Law, declarations and authorizations related to Classified Facilities for Environmental Protection (ICPE), authorizations for Inert Waste Storage Facilities (ISDI), etc. However, according to the principle of independence of the regulations, this term does not include authorizations or declarations under another code, the Urban Planning Code in particular.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Industry, Substance and pollutant, Risk.

**Translations:** Autorisation ou déclaration soumise au code de l'environnement, Autorización o declaración sujeta al Código del Medio Ambiente.

Available groundwater resource

**Sens technique**

Long-term average annual total *recharge* rate of the *groundwater* body to which is subtracted the long-term *annual flow* rate required to achieve the ecological *quality objectives* for associated *surface waters,* established in Article 4, in *order* to avoid any significant diminution in the *ecological status* of such waters and to avoid any significant damage to associated terrestrial *ecosystems.*
Average annual rainfall

Sens commun
Average rainfall over a year: it is obtained mostly by adding the average daily rainfalls of the year and dividing the result by the number of days in the year.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Climate, Rain and snow, Hydrology.
Translations: Pluviométrie moyenne annuelle, Pluviometría media anual.

Average depth

Sens technique
Average water depth in metres. The average depth of a body of water is calculated by dividing the volume by the surface area, both determined at the average elevation for a natural body of water, and at the normal operating elevation for an artificial body of water.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Profondeur moyenne, Profundidad media.

Average elevation

Sens technique
Usual average altitude of the water line of a natural body of water. The average elevation is calculated by regularly measuring the height of the water line of the water body using a scale, indexed on the geographic levelling in force or any other technical means (probe, sounding line or other) and on a given period (calendar year or other period). For lack of regular measurements, especially for smaller water bodies, the height of the water line, that was found when delimiting the surface hydrography of an object in the Carthage database, is sometimes used.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Cote moyenne, Cota media.

Avoided-cost method

Sens technique
Method for estimating the costs to be incurred should the studied environmental good be absent. For example, the disappearance of a wetland for flood control would result in an increased flood risk and therefore an increase in the damage caused.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Cost-based method. Translations: Méthode des coûts évités, Método de los costes evitados.

Backfilling

Sens commun
Work or the lifting of fill materials, generally intended to ensure the continuity of level for a structure.

Source: according to the National Centre for Textual and Lexical Resources
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Background noise

Sens technique

Representative ambient concentration of an element in a compound or in a substance in a given environment. It takes into account natural concentrations (natural geochemical background) and those possibly coming from anthropogenic sources other than the ones of the study site (e.g. non-point source pollution caused by fertilizers, heavy metals, etc).

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Bruit de fond, Ruido de fondo.

Bacteria

Sens technique

Extremely small unicellular prokaryotic microorganism, classified either in independent kingdom, neither animal nor plant, or classified with the fungi as Schizomycophita. Their form is highly variable, either living as saprophytes (soil, water, living organism), or as a parasite of humans, animals and plants.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Species.

Translations: Bactérie, Bacteria.

Bactericide

Sens commun

Substance, or property of a substance, that destroys bacteria. Some disinfectants and antibiotics are bactericidal.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Quality of the resource, Chemistry.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bacteria. Translations: Bactéricide, Bactericida.

Bacteriological pollution

Sens commun

Pollution containing bacteria of intestinal origin.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.

Translations: Pollution bactériologique, Contaminación bacteriológica.

Balanced and sustainable management of water resources

Sens réglementaire

According to the Water Act of 1992, it is a kind of management to ensure: the conservation of aquatic ecosystems, sites and wetlands; pollution control and recovery of water quality (etc); the development and protection of water resources; the use of water as an economic resource and distribution of that resource, and this to reconcile and meet different uses, activities or water-related work.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Concerted Management. Translations: Gestion équilibrée et durable de la ressource en eau, Gestión equilibrada y sostenible de los recursos hídricos.

Ballast

Sens commun

Large capacity water tank used on boats. It is to be filled or emptied to optimise navigation (buoyancy and stability control).

Source: according to Wikipedia
Ballast water

Sens commun

Water contained in large tanks that can correct the trim of the boat and its balance. Ballast water is a problem during the emptying of the tank (deballasting) because species living in one part of the world are released into another zone, creating ecological disturbances. With the growth of international trade, and especially transoceanic maritime transport, problems arise because of this contribution of living organisms foreign to the local environment. Now, biological and chemical treatment systems must treat these volumes of water to limit the exchange of invasive species.

Source: according to ASTEE

Bank

Sens commun

Edge of a river (not to be misunderstood with "shore", the seaside). We distinguish the right bank (looking in the direction of the river flow - from upstream to downstream), the right bank is on the right) from the left bank looking in the direction of a river flow (upstream to downstream), the left bank is on the left).

Source: According to Ifremer

Bankfull discharge bed

Sens technique

Limit beyond which the water spills into the floodplain. It corresponds to the high-flow (or morphogenetic flow). Calculating the width of the bankfull discharge bed is a convenient measurement unit to describe the relationship between the size of the watercourse and its morphology. The development of a bed model (straight, meandering, braided, "anastomosed") actually depends both on the valley slope and bankfull discharge, two factors that define the overall energy of the swollen river.

Source: According to AFB

Barcelona Convention

Sens technique

International Convention signed in 1976 and amended in 1995 to protect the marine and coastal environments of the Mediterranean Sea, while promoting regional and national plans contributing to sustainable development

Source: according to the European Union

Thématiques associées:

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Discharge. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Ballast.
Barrier beach

Sens commun
Sediment bar, mainly built by the waves, which is parallel or near the coastline and to which it is most often attached at one end. It separates the sea from a quieter coastal area, of the lagoon type, sheltered from the waves.

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017 and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydromorphology.
Contribut(e)eur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Cordon littoral.

Basel Convention

Sens technique
International Convention signed in 1989 and entered into force in 1992 to control the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal to protect human health and the environment.

Source: according to the European Union
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Convention de Bâle, Convenio de Basilea.

Baseline

Sens technique
Along the borders of a maritime State, it designates the broken line, defined by the Government, joining together the most advanced land areas. The limits of territorial waters (6 miles), the exclusive fishing zone (12 miles) and the Exclusive Economic Zone - EEZ (200 miles) are plotted from this line.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Ligne de base, Línea de base.

Baseline scenario

Sens technique
Set of assumptions to assess the trends in pressure evolution (and therefore the status of water bodies) in a management cycle. The baseline scenario assesses the future quality of aquatic environments and is obtained by extending the current equipment rationale and trends and by applying basic measures. It participates in assessing the risk of not achieving the environmental objectives (RNAEO) for water bodies in the assessment required by the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation.
Translations: Scénario d’évolution, Escenario de evolución.

Basic-stage flood

Sens réglementaire
A hundred-year flood or greater flood previously known if the latter is greater than the hundred-year flood (as defined in the circular of 24 January 1994).

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Crue de référence, Crecida de referencia.

Basin
Sens commun

Form indicating the overall configuration of the water body. It can be of the following types: "L", in the case of shallow lakes with thermal stratification of little extent and/or unstable (polymictic lakes) and a heavily dominant coastal zone; "P" in the case of deep lakes with a stable thermal stratification (monomictic or dimictic lakes) and a reduced coastal zone; "LP" in the case of lakes with both a stable stratified deep zone (monomictic or dimictic) and a wide coastal area, the basin can be symmetrical or asymmetrical.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Body of water.

Translations: Cuvette, Cubeta.

Basin Committee

Sens réglementaire

Assembly gathering different public or private stakeholders, acting in the field of water in a basin or group of basins. The basin committee is consulted on the opportunity of significant activities of common interest planned in the basin, more generally, on all issues related to the management of water and aquatic environments. It defines the orientations of the water agency's actions and participates in its financial decision-making. It approves the assessment and river basin management plan (SDAGE) and prepares the register of protected areas. It gives an opinion on the programme of measures and on the water status monitoring programme. It approves the land policy for safeguarding wetlands conducted by the Water Agency. It is consulted on the area and the time within which must be prepared or reviewed the Sub-basin management plans (SAGEs) and also gives an opinion on the planned SAGEs. It also gives its opinion on the draft classification of watercourses under Article L. 214-17 of the Environmental Code and the draft environmental objectives for the marine environment included in the action plans for the marine environment. It is an interested party in the implementation of the flood directive. The action area of the local public basin authorities is defined after consulting the basin committee, in particular. In continental France, a basin committee is made up of: representatives of General and Regional Councils as well as of municipalities or groups of municipalities competent in the field of water (40%), representatives of users of water and aquatic environments, socio-professional organizations, state-approved associations for environmental protection and consumer protection, representatives of fisheries and qualified people (up to 40%), representatives of the State and its public institutions concerned (up to 20%). The president is elected by the representatives of the first two groups. There are twelve basin committees in France

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Governance.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: COMITE DE BASSIN.

Documents de référence: Arrêté du 27 juin 2014 relatif à la représentation des usagers aux comités de bassin
Décret n° 2014-722 du 27 juin 2014 relatif aux comités de bassin
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau

Translations: Comité de bassin, Comité de Cuenca.

Basin Coordinator Prefect
Sens technique
Prefect of the region in which the basin committee has its home office. The Basin Coordinator Prefect facilitates and coordinates State policy regarding water law enforcement and water resources management in order to achieve unity and consistency in decentralized government actions on these issues in the regions and Departments concerned. He approves the river basin management plan (SDAGE) previously adopted by the Basin Committee. He issues and updates the programme of measures and the water status monitoring programme, after collaboration with the Basin Committee. He defines the preliminary flood risk assessment, the list of areas in which there is a significant risk of flooding as well as the maps of flood-prone areas and flood risks. He prepares and issues flood risk management plans in coordination with the updates of the river basin management plan (SDAGEs). He chairs the Administrative Commission of the Basin. He is assisted in his work by the basin delegatee.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Préfet coordonnateur de bassin, Prefecto coordinador de cuenca.

Basin delegatee
Sens technique
Position of the regional director in charge of the environment working at the side of the Basin Coordinator Prefect. He helps the basin coordinator prefect in his tasks, takes care of the secretariat of the Basin Administrative Commission, facilitates and coordinates the activities of the decentralized government services involved in water and provides advice and technical assistance to basin organizations. He is member of the River-basin district level. He is especially in charge, under the authority of the Basin Coordinator Prefect, of the following tasks: to contribute to the development, implementation and monitoring of the river basin management plan (SDAGE), the programme of measures, the water status monitoring programme and the water information system; to coordinate the actions required for water resources management and flood risk prevention; to ensure consistency, at the interregional level, in the implementation of water policy enforcement, in the protection of aquatic environments and fisheries; to follow up the action of the water agency, or, in the overseas departments, of the water office/board; to prepare the planning and distribution of decentralized credits from the Ministry for the Environment to interregional programmes involving the basin or group of basins.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Délégué de bassin, Delegado de cuenca.

Basin master plan for water data
Sens technique
Document describing for each hydrographical basin the multi actor collaboration and the means required to build the information system for water (SIE). The plan must approach the production, the collect and the availability of data. It is approved by the prefect, after the consultation of the basin comity, the SIE users comity and the permanent commission of the CNE.

Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: National framework for water data. Documents de référence: Arrêté du 26 juillet 2010 approuvant le schéma national des données sur l'eau
Translations: Schéma directeur de datos sobre el agua.

Basket of representative goods (and services to the end user)
Sens technique
Basket, built by the statistical institutes, to monitor change in price levels for a number of products, weighted by their share in consumption. Price monitoring is done by permanent survey and sample.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
**Bathing**

**Sens commun**

Action to go bathing, i.e. to get immersed in water, even without swimming. The "bathing areas" are monitored by the departmental office responsible for public health. Under Community Law (and French law), they are considered as "bathing waters".

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Risk, Health, Use, Leisure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bathing water.  
**Translations:** Baignade, Baño.

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**Bathing area**

**Sens technique**

Area where bathing is traditionally practiced by a large number of bathers, whether developed or not, and where there has not been a ban brought to the attention of the public, in accordance with Directive 76/160/EEC.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Health

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Health, Use, Leisure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bathing Water Directive, Protected area.  
**Translations:** ZONE EAUX DE BAIGNADE.

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**Bathing water**

**Sens commun**

Inland surface water or parts thereof (a body of water, etc), running or stagnant waters, and marine waters in which bathing is explicitly authorized by the competent authorities, in so far as they meet European standards, and is not prohibited and is traditionally practiced by a large number of bathers.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Health, Use, Leisure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bathing Water Directive.  
**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** EAUX DE LOISIRS / EAUX DE BAIGNADES.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2006/7/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 15 février 2006 concernant la gestion de la qualité des eaux de baignade et abrogeant la directive 76/160/CEE

Directive du Conseil du 8 décembre 1975 concernant la qualité des eaux de baignade (76/160/CEE)

**Translations:** Eaux de baignade, Aguas de baño.

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**Bathing Water Directive**

**Sens technique**

Directive 76/160/EEC of the Council of 8 December 1975 concerning the quality of bathing waters. It concerns the quality of bathing waters with the exception of water intended for therapeutic purposes and water for swimming pools. Member States shall set values of physico-chemical and microbiological parameters applicable to bathing waters listed in the Annex to the Directive. This directive was transcribed into French law by Decree of 12/19/1991, which also transcribes other directives (fish life, shellfish waters, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Health, Use, Leisure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bathing water, Bathing area, SISE-Bathing waters.  
**Documents de référence:** Directive 2006/7/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 15 février 2006 concernant la gestion de la qualité des eaux de baignade et abrogeant la directive 76/160/CEE

Directive du Conseil du 8 décembre 1975 concernant la qualité des eaux de baignade (76/160/CEE)

**Translations:** Directive Baignade, Directiva de Baño.
Bathymetry

Sens commun
Underwater equivalent of topography, i.e. description of the immersed relief through the study of the nature of the bottom of an aquatic environment and its depth. The results of these studies are drawn into bathymetric maps.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Bathymétrie, Batimetría.

Bay

Sens commun
Concavity in the coastline, usually widely open to the sea and with an order of magnitude of tens of kilometres. Beyond this order of magnitude, the term "Gulf" is used in the French language.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Baie, Bahía.

Bed

Synonymes: park. Sens commun
Maritime area of the foreshore conceded for shellfish farming activity. The duration of the concession is 35 years.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline.
Translations: Parc, Parque.
bed degradation - see "Incision du lit"
bedload - see "Charriage"

Behavioural health risk

Sens technique
Health risk associated with the bathing activity but not directly related to water quality.
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Risk, Health.
Translations: Risque sanitaire comportemental, Riesgo sanitario de conducta.

Benefit-transfer method

Sens technique
Method using the results of existing similar studies to estimate the value of an environmental good.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Ecological service.
Translations: Méthode des transferts de bénéfices, Método de las transferencias de beneficios.

Benthic

Sens commun
Adjective that describes the water-sediment interface (= water-lithosphere interface) of an aquatic ecosystem, regardless of its depth (the bottom of lakes or of rivers or of the sea). Also describes an organism living on the river bottom or sea bed (macroinvertebrates, for example).
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Translations: Benthique, Bentónico.
Benthic invertebrate

**Sens commun**
Organism which populates the bottom of rivers and lives on the surface in the interstices of the substrate. For a great part, they are larvae, insects, molluscs and worms.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Zoobenthos. **Translations:** Invertébré benthique, Invertebrado bentónico.

Benthic stage

**Sens technique**
Vertical stage of the marine benthic zone where ecological conditions, depending on the position in relation to sea level, are substantially constant or regularly vary between two critical levels delimiting the boundary of the stage. Benthic stages have characteristic populations and their boundaries are revealed by a change in these populations in the vicinity of critical levels indicating the limit conditions of the stages.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Translations:** Etage benthique, Estadio bentónico.

Benthic zone

**Sens commun**
Part of the aquatic environment corresponding to the bottom of a body of water, including the sediment surface and layer if there is any.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Zone benthique.

Benthophagous

**Sens commun**
Describes species feeding on organic matters on the bottom.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Translations:** Benthophage, Bentófago.

Benthos

**Sens commun**
All organisms found at the bottom or on the seabed. E.g. macro-algae are attached to the bottom, they are part of the benthos (unlike unicellular algae or micro-algae that float passively and are therefore part of the phytoplankton). Molluscs, crustaceans and worms are also part of the benthos, although their eggs are planktonic. It is the same with echinoderms.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Shoreline.

**Translations:** Benthos, Bentos.

Bequest value

**Sens technique**
Value associated with the willingness to preserve an environmental good for future generations.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Non-utilization value. **Translations:** Valeur de legs, Valor de legado.
Berm

Sens commun
In the context of public works: development of a slope at the foot of an hydraulic structure to protect it.
In the context of flood risk reduction: development that consists of a medium-full bed in order to increase the capacity of a watercourse and to reduce water levels during flooding.

Source: according to Syndicat Mixte Lot Dourdou
Thématiques associées: Development, Hydromorphology, Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Excavation, Bed. Translations: Risberme, Berma.

Berne Convention

Sens technique
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats signed in 1979 and entered into force in 1982. For the Member States of the European Union, the so-called Birds and Habitats Directives are the framework in which the provisions of the Berne Convention apply. The habitat requirements are met by the designation of protected areas, known as Natura 2000.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment
Thématiques associées: Governance, Species.
Translations: Convention de Berne, Convenio de Berna.

Biais informationnel ! Information bias

Sens technique
Bias induced during an investigation when the information on the goods to be assessed is insufficient, as the respondent does not give a correct estimate of his willingness to pay.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais informationnel, Sesgo informativo.

Bias

Sens technique
During an investigation, an approach or process which leads to errors in the results of a study. An unrepresentative sample, poor question wording or the influence of an investigator are, for example, sources of bias.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Biais, Sesgo.

Strategic bias, Investigator bias, Biais informationnel ! Information bias, Hypothetical bias, Inclusion bias, Sample bias, Self-selection bias, Aggregation bias.

Translations:

Bioaccumulation

Sens commun
Process by which a polluting substance found in a biotope penetrates and accumulates in all or part of a living organism and can become harmful. By extension, this word also designates the result of this process.

Source: according to CELF
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Substance. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Bioaccumulation.

Biocide
Sens technique
Source: According to the Environmental Code
Thématiques associées: Species, Chemistry.
Translations: Biocide, Biocida.

Biodegradability
Sens commun
Ability of substances to be broken down by living organisms into inorganic compounds.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Chemistry.
Translations: Biodégradabilité, Biodegradabilidad.

Biodiversity
Sens commun
Expression of the variety of life on the planet at all levels of organization. It includes micro-organisms, plant species and animal wildlife. There are also environments such as fresh waters, sea waters, forests, bogs, meadows, marshes, dunes, etc.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Translations: Diversité biologique, Diversidad biológica.
biofilter - see "Biofiltration"

Biogeographical region
Sens commun
Large area that has relatively homogeneous ecological conditions (including climate) with common characteristics in terms of group of species. Under the habitats, fauna and flora directive, the European Union has eleven terrestrial biogeographic regions and the seven marine biogeographical regions. France is affected by four terrestrial regions (Atlantic, Alpine, Continental and Mediterranean) and two marine regions (Atlantic and Mediterranean marine).
Source: d'après MNHN
Thématiques associées: Species.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Région biogéographique.

Bioindicator
Sens commun
A living species which, by its presence or absence, abundance or scarcity, allow to assess the degree of pollution of water or
air. (e.g.: lichens for the atmosphere, salmonids for rivers, etc.)

Source: d'après dictionnaire Larousse

Sens technique
Specie or group of species whose observed characteristics (occurrence, abundance, biomass, biological traits, etc.) provide an indication of the level of environmental degradation. A bioindicator is therefore subject to measures to indicate the presence or effects of pollutants and thus allows the quality of the environment in which it is collected to be assessed. It can be considered complementary (especially for the spatial distribution of pollution, the characterization of synergies, the gradual pollution, etc.) of networks of physicochemical measurements.

Source: d’après dictionnaire encyclopédique des sciences de la nature et de la biodiversité
Thématiques associées: Species, Quality of the resource.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Macro-invertebrate, Biomarker. Translations: Bioindicateur, Bioindicador.

Biological Corridor
Sens commun
All bodies, usually plants, in terrestrial or wetland environments allowing the dispersion of animals and plants between different habitats (forests, wetlands, etc.). Biological corridors play four roles: dispersion corridor for some species, habitat where the species complete their entire life cycle, shelter, home habitat even, which is a reservoir of colonizer individuals. In all cases, they are indispensable to the survival of the species.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Species, Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Body of water, Wetland.
Translations: Corridor biologique, Corredor biológico.

Biological cycle
Sens commun
Regularly repetitive succession of the same series of events in the existence of a living being, a breeding line or the whole of the living world.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Cycle biologique, Ciclo biológico.

Biological filter
Synonymes: biofilter. Sens commun
Process used for the wastewater treatment (by biofiltration) or to eliminate gaseous pollutants dissolved in the water, or to filter surface water in order to make it potable.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Biofiltration.

Biological index
Synonymes: biotic index. Sens technique
Summarizes the numbers of a species in a population found in all samples collected in this population.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Índice biológico, Índice biológico.

Biological oxygen demand
Sens technique

Amount of oxygen required to oxidize organic matter (biodegradable) with a biological process (oxidation of biodegradable organic matter by bacteria). The biological oxygen demand (BOD) is an index of water pollution that assesses the biodegradable fraction of the carbonaceous pollution load in wastewater, and is usually calculated after 5 days at 20°C and in darkness: it is then called BOD5.

Source: According to Kristian Benoit (naturalist)
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Species, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Demande biologique en oxygène, Demanda biológica de oxígeno.

Biological reservoir

Sens technique

According to section I-1° of Article L. 214-17 of the Environmental Code, it means a river, a part of river or canal that comprises one or more spawning or habitats of species of phytoplankton, macrophytes, phytobenthos, benthic invertebrate fauna or fish species, and that allows their distribution in one or more streams in the drainage basin.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Species.
Translations: Réservoir biologique, Reservorio biológico.

Biological sludge

Sens commun

Residual solids produced by biological wastewater treatment. Biological sludge is mainly composed of bacterial bodies and secretions.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

Biomagnification

Sens commun

Process by which the concentration of a substance in a biotope increases throughout a food chain. By extension, this word also designates the result of this process.

Source: according to CELF
Thématiques associées: Species, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Substance. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Bioamplificación.

Biomarker

Sens commun

A measurable biological parameter, an indicator of a biological process that can reveal the exposure to or effects of a contaminant. Biomarkers are used to make environmental assessments or health diagnoses.

Source: according to IRSTEA
Thématiques associées: Species, Substance and pollutant, Substance and pollutant.

Biomass

Sens technique

Total mass of all living species in a given ecosystem. Biomass can also designate a subset of this mass as the total mass of
living matter present at a given trophic level, or a family or a species in an ecosystem (total weight of matter of an individual, a group, an age group, a stock, a population, etc).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Translations:** Biomasse, Biomasa.

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## Biosphere

**Sens commun**

All living organisms on the planet.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Biosphère.

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## Biota

**Sens technique**

All living organisms (flora, fauna and fungi, and microorganisms such as bacteria, yeasts, microfungi ...) present in a habitat (natural or semi-natural) or biotope individual or a place or a particular region. Biota includes the description of the organization of species and species richness.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Aquatic ecosystem. **Translations:** Biote. biotic index - see "Indice biologique"

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## Biotope

**Sens technique**

Space characterized by climate, geographical, physical, morphological and geological factors, ... in constant or cyclic equilibrium and occupied by organisms that live in specific association (living communities). This is the non-living component (abiotic) of the ecosystem.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Watercourse, Shoreline, Body of water, Wetland.

**Translations:** Biotope, Biotopo.

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## Biotope protection order

**Sens technique**

Order established by the department prefect to implement measures to conserve biotopes such as ponds, marshes, swamps, heathland, dunes, groves, hedgerows, lawns and any natural formation not exploited by humans since these biotopes are necessary for reproduction, feeding, rest, survival of protected species. The biotope protection order is particularly adapted to deal with emergency situations of destruction or significant modification of an area.

**Source:** d’après DREAL Centre-Val de Loire

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Preservation, Environment and habitat, Public policy, Governance.

**Translations:** Arrêté de protection de biotope, Orden de Protección de Biotopos.

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## Bioturbation

**Sens commun**

Restructuring of soils or aquatic sediments by living organisms present in these environments, such as earthworms and mud worms.

**Source:** according to CELF

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Hydromorphology.
**Bivalve**

**Sens technique**
A filtering lamellibranch mollusc with a calcareous shell with two lateral valves (bivalve). Bivalve molluscs are separated into two classes: burrowing bivalves that live at the sediment surface or buried in it (carpetshells, cockles, clams), and non-burrowing bivalves that live attached to a hard substrate (oysters, mussels).

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Species, Shoreline.

**Translations:** Bivalve, Bivalvo.

**Black tide**

**Synonymes:** Oil spill. **Sens commun**
Massive pollution by hydrocarbons.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Marée noire, Marea negra.

**Blackwater**

**Sens commun**
Domestic wastewater from toilets, generated during the evacuation of faeces and urine and which, as a result, contains a high concentration of organic matter and micro-organisms.

**Source:** According to ANSES and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Septic tank, Domestic wastewater, Grey water. **Translations:** Eaux vannes, Aguas negras.

**Blue water**

**Sens commun**
Water coming from atmospheric precipitation that flows into rivers up to the sea, or that is collected from lakes, aquifers or reservoirs. Blue water is available for animal feed and, after treatment, for domestic human use.

**Source:** according to the Commission for Enrichment of the French Language

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Eau bleue.

**BOD capacity**

**Sens technique**
Total amount of oxidizable matters that a wastewater treatment plant must daily treat with some effectiveness. For biological treatment plants, the BOD capacity is, in most cases, limited by the oxygenation capacity, i.e. the amount of oxygen that can be introduced into the water to maintain the concentration of oxygen at a suitable level.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Capacité DBO, Capacidad DBO.

**Body of water**

**Synonymes:** water body. **Sens commun**
Inland body of surface freshwater, free standing water of natural or anthropogenic origin, with variable depth. It may have features of thermal stratification. The term "body of water" covers a number of situations commonly called lakes, reservoirs,
ponds, gravel pits, quarries or marshes. The definitions related to these different situations are numerous and often refer to uses.  
Source: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Body of water.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Pond, Natural eutrophic lake. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre**: 
MASSE D’EAU PLAN D’EAU.

**Documents de référence**: Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l’eau
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques

**Contributeur(s) de l’article**: AFB. **Translations**: Plan d’eau, Plano de agua.

### Bottled water

**Sens commun**

Kind of water including spring waters and mineral waters, having specific regulatory requirements defined by the Public Health Code.

**Source**: according to the Brittany Regional Health Agency (ARS)

**Thématiques associées**: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Health.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Spring water. **Translations**: Eau embouteillée, Agua embotellada.

### Brackish

**Sens commun**

Describes water made of a mixture of fresh water and sea water. Its salinity may vary, but is generally quite low (less than 30g/litre).

**Source**: According to Ifremer

**Translations**: Saumâtre, Salobre.

### Brackish water

**Sens commun**

Water that has less salts than seawater.

**Source**: according to UNESCO

**Thématiques associées**: Chemistry.

**Translations**: Eau saumâtre, Agua salobre.

### Braid

**Sens commun**

Shifting space of the low-water channel of a watercourse with several arms constantly changing.

**Source**: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations**: Tresse, Trenza.

### Braided river bed

**Sens technique**

Shifting space of the minor bed of a watercourse with several arms constantly changing.

**Source**: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations**: Lit en tresse, Lecho en trenza.

### Breaking of a dike

**Sens commun**
Partial or total destruction of a dike. The causes of failure can be technical (defects in design, construction or materials, ageing of the structure), natural (following earthquakes, exceptional floods, a storm, a marine submersion, landslides, weakening by the burrows of animals) or human (not enough preliminary studies and project control, error of use, lack of monitoring and maintenance, malicious mischief).

Source: according to the Departmental Land Directorate (DDT) of Côtes-d'Armor

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Risk, Flood.

Translations: Rupture de dique, Rotura de dique.

Bridge

Sens commun

Structure linking two points separated by a stream, a valley or any other obstacle.

Source: according to the Robert dictionary and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Use, Housing and city.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Obstacle to flow. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Pont.

Brook

Sens commun

Small, shallow stream with moderate flow.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Watercourse.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Running water. Translations: Ruisseau, Arroyo.

Bryophyte

Sens commun

Aquatic moss that has the ability to accumulate metals and record pollution.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Species, Species.

Translations: Bryophyte, Briofita.

BSS code

Sens technique

National Code of Sub-Soil (BSS) assigned by the Office of Geological and Mining Research (BRGM) to underground structures
including water abstractions. Established according to the principle of positioning a point on a 1:50,000 geological map, the BSS code is of the following form: 08035X0398 / F. The characteristics that are associated with it (geographic coordinates, depth and geological profile) are then used to precisely locate each intake and identify the abstracted groundwater.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Groundwater.

Budget constraint

Sens commun
Constraint experienced by an individual or a household in terms of financial resources. The latter is limited by the income he receives, and therefore he cannot spend more.

Source: According to Hal Ronald Varian (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Contrainte budgétaire, Restricción presupuestaria.

Buffer zone

Sens commun
Strip of land between cultivated areas and a natural habitat, arranged to limit the effects of agriculture on this habitat (e.g. an area developed on the banks of a river to protect the riverine habitat and limit inputs of soil, nutrients and pesticides into the waterways).

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Development, Environment and habitat, Substance and pollutant, Use, Agriculture.
Documents de référence: établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau
Translations: Zone tampon, Zona colchón.

C

Calibration

Sens technique
Operation to establish the rating curve of a data acquisition device that does not provide a direct measure of the quantity sought.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Regulation, Chemistry, Research and innovation.
Translations: Etalonnage, Calibración.

Canal

Sens commun
Hydraulic structure fed by water withdrawals from watercourses or bodies of water and mainly intended for navigation, drainage, irrigation or flow regulation.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Use, Transport.
Translations: Canal, Canal.

CAP - see "Politique agricole commune "

Carbon cycle

**Sens commun**
Movement of carbon, in its various forms, between the natural reservoirs of the planet.
**Source:** according to AFB

**Sens technique**
Circulation and storage of carbon, in its various forms, between the Earth surface and interior, the atmosphere and biosphere. The main mechanisms of carbon exchange are photosynthesis, respiration and oxidation. A transfer takes place between living organisms, the atmosphere, the earth and water.
**Source:** according to FAO and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Biosphere, Photosynthesis. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Cycle du carbone, Ciclo del carbono.

Cartographic database

**Sens commun**
Cartographic database of the National Geographic Institute (IGN) covering the entire country. It is a description of the territory in digital form designed for a basic scale ranging from 1:50,000 to 1:100,000. Its decametric accuracy, and the complete and structured information it presents, give it a role of a national homogeneous repository, adapted to the needs of users of geographic information on a national, regional or departmental scale.
**Source:** Sandre

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.
**Translations:** Base de Données Cartographiques, Base de datos cartográficos.

Catadrome

**Sens commun**
A migratory species that migrates down rivers to breed at sea. An example is the European eel.
**Source:** according to MNHN and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Amphidromous, Anadromous, Migratory fish. **Translations:** Catadrome, Catódromo.

Catchment area

**Synonymes:** drainage basin.

**Sens technique**
Surface area feeding a watercourse or a body of water. The catchment area is defined as the area of water collecting up to an outlet: it is limited by a border within which all waters flow on the surface and underground to this outlet. Its boundaries are the watersheds (water divide - US).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Environment and habitat, Quantity of the resource, Hydrology.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** River basin head. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** BASSIN VERSANT.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Bassin versant, Cuenca vertiente.
**Cell**

*Sens commun*

Structural, functional and reproductive unit constituting all or part of a living being.

*Source*: According to AFB

*Thématiques associées*: Species.

*Translations*: Cellule, Célula.

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**Cetacean**

*Sens commun*

Aquatic mammal with front flippers and a horizontal caudal fin – the tail -. For example, whales, sperm whales and dolphins are cetaceans.

*Source*: according to the Robert dictionary

*Thématiques associées*: Species, Fauna, Sea and ocean.

*Autres termes utiles à la compréhension*: Aquatic mammal. *Contributeur(s) de l’article*: AFB. *Translations*: Cétacé.

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**channel deepening**

*Synonymes*: bed degradation. *Sens technique*

Designates a generalized depression in the bottom of a stream, resulting from regressive erosion or progressive erosion.

*Source*: According to Cemagref

*Thématiques associées*: Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Risk, Erosion.

*Translations*: Incision du lit, Incisión del lecho.

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**Channelization**

*Synonymes*: rectification, realignment. *Sens technique*

Horizontal realignment of the watercourse (shortening a portion of a meandering stream) to increase its discharge capacity by increasing flow velocity.

*Source*: According to AFB

*Thématiques associées*: Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Pressure, Artificialisation.

*Translations*: Rectification, Rectificación.

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**Charges/fees for non-point source pollution**

*Sens commun*

Amount of money paid by producers of plant protection products. This fee takes into account the level of toxicity and dangerousness of substances used in agricultural and gardening activities. It encourages users to choose less polluting products.

*Source*: according to the Water Agencies

*Thématiques associées*: Environmental economics, Financing, Substance and pollutant, Agriculture.


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**Charges/fees for obstacle on rivers**

*Sens commun*

Amount due by any owner of a structure that constitutes a continuous obstacle between the two banks of a watercourse (except for structures forming part of hydroelectric installations subject to the fee for water resource abstraction, or where the height difference is less than 5 m, or located on rivers whose average interannual flow is less than 0.3 m3/s at the right of the obstacle).

*Source*: according to the Ministry of the Environment, the Court of Auditors and Water Agencies

*Thématiques associées*: Environmental economics, Financing, Ecological service, Hydromorphology.

*Autres termes utiles à la compréhension*: Fee. *Translations*: Redevance pour obstacle sur les cours d’eau, Tasa por
obstáculo en los cursos de agua.

Charges/fees for pollution from domestic sources
Sens commun
Amount of money paid by all inhabitants of a community according to their water consumption. The individual actions of each inhabitant to reduce his own consumption (wastage control, leak detection…) may directly lower the amounts paid.

Source: according to the Water Agencies
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Water price, Environmental economics, Financing.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour pollution d'origine domestique, Tasa por contaminación de origen doméstico.

Charges/fees for pollution from non-domestic sources
Sens commun
Amount of money paid by the industrialists according to the volume of the discharged pollution. This fee aims to encourage companies and manufacturers to reduce their discharges. The charge rates are set according to the pollutant elements and can be modulated by zone, to take into account the status of the natural environment.

Source: according to the Water Agencies
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing, Substance and pollutant, Industry.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour pollution d'origine non domestique, Tasa por contaminación de origen no doméstico.

Charges/fees for sanitation
Sens commun
Amount of money paid by the users connected to a collective sanitation system, on their water bill. Users of an on-site sanitation facility must pay a special fee to finance the public on-site sanitation service costs.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment and Water Agencies
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Environmental economics, Financing.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour assainissement, Tasa por saneamiento.

Charges/fees for the protection of aquatic environments
Sens commun
Amount of money paid by fishermen at the issuing of the fishing license. It is levied by the departmental or interdepartmental federations of approved associations for fishing and the protection of aquatic environments, from approved associations of amateur fishermen with gear and nets and from approved associations of professional fishing in freshwater.

Source: according to the Water Agencies
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing, Ecological service, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour protection des milieux aquatiques, Tasa por protección de los medios acuáticos.

Charges/fees for water abstraction/withdrawal
Sens commun
Amount of money due for water withdrawals, regardless of the user (municipality, industry, farmer) according to specific thresholds. This fee usually has two components: one based on the amount of water withdrawn, the other on the amount of water consumed (i.e. taken and not returned to the natural environment).

Source: according to the Water Agencies and Court of Auditors
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing, Water abstraction.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour prélèvement, Tasa por extracción.

Charges/fees for water storage during low-water periods
Sens technique

Amount of money paid by people who store all or part of the volume flowing into a river during low water periods (provided that the capacity of the facility is greater than one million cubic meters). The amount of this fee depends on a rate and a basis, the latter being the volume of water stored during the low water period. The period and the rate are defined by the river basin authorities, according to the hydrological regime of the river.

Source: according to the Water Agencies

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing, Water abstraction.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fee. Translations: Redevance pour stockage d'eau en période d’étiage, Tasa por almacenamiento de agua en periodo de estiaje.

Chemical oxygen demand

Sens technique

Oxygen consumption by strong chemical oxidants to oxidize organic and inorganic substances in water. The chemical oxygen demand (COD) is used to assess the pollution load of wastewater.

Source: According to Kristian Benoit (naturalist)

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Substance and pollutant, Chemistry, Industry.

Translations: Demande chimique en oxygène, Demanda química de oxígeno.

Chemical status

Sens technique

Water quality assessment based on the concentrations of pollutants including priority substances in particular. The chemical status has two classes: good and poor. Good chemical status of surface water is achieved when the concentrations of pollutants do not exceed the environmental quality standards. Good chemical status of groundwater is reached when the concentrations of pollutants do not show any effect of salt water inflow, do not exceed the quality standards and do not prevent achieving the objectives for associated surface water.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.


Arrêté du 7 août 2015 modifiant l'arrêté du 25 janvier 2010 établissant le programme de surveillance de l'état des eaux en application de l'article R. 212-22 du code de l'environnement


Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

Translations: Etat chimique, Estado químico.

choice modelling method - see "Méthode d'expérience de choix"

Chronic pollution

Sens commun

As opposed to "accidental pollution", it is a permanent or episodic pollution, known or predictable, which can be highly variable over time.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Pollution chronique, Contaminación crónica.

Circalittoral zone

Sens technique

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau
Space between the limit of the infralittoral zone (lower limit of life for the majority of multicellular algae) and the depth at which photosynthesis becomes impossible due to the too low amount of light. The depth of the circalittoral zone, generally a hundred meters, depends on the more or less transparency of water. The plant species that develop there are the algae most tolerant to minimum amount of light, known as sciaphilous plants. The circalittoral zone has a low environmental variability, and its temperature varies little between seasons.

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Etage circalittoral.

Circular economy

Sens commun
Organisation of economic and social activities using production, consumption and exchange methods based on eco-design, repair, re-use and recycling, with a view to reducing the volume of the resources used and the damage caused to the environment.

Source: according to the services of the Prime Minister

Sens technique
Economic concept that fits into the framework of sustainable development and whose objective is to produce goods and services while limiting the consumption and wastage of raw materials, water and energy sources. It means using a new economy, which is circular and no longer linear, based on the principle of "closing the life cycle" of products, services, waste, materials, water and energy.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Risk, Industry.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water economy, Socioeconomics of water, Sustainable Development. Loi n°
Documents de référence: 2015-992 du 17 août 2015 relative à la transition énergétique pour la croissance verte
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Economie circulaire, Economia circular.

Classified flow rate

Sens technique
Statistics on characteristic flows. We can express the value of the classified flow not exceeded over n days per year on the average (DCNn) or the value of the classified flow exceeded over n days per year (DCXn).

Source: According to Cemagref

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit classé, Caudal clasificado.

Classified installation - see "Installation classée pour la protection de l'environnement"

Classified site

Sens technique
Natural or built-up area in which work that could affect the site requires a prefectural or ministerial authorization.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Industry.
Translations: Site classé, Sitio clasificado.

Classified watercourse (for the crossing of migratory fish)

Sens technique
Watercourses or part of rivers and canals entered into a list set by decree, after collaboration with the Departemental Councils made within six months after their seizin. Any new structure built on these watercourses must have a device ensuring adequate sediment transport and movement of migratory fish, and the operator has to take care of the operation and maintenance of this device. Existing structures shall comply with those provisions, without compensation, within a period of five years from the publication of a list of migratory species per basin or sub-basin set by the Minister for Freshwater Fishing, and if necessary, by the Minister for the Sea.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Cleaning

Sens commun

Cleanup of a polluted, silted or filled up area by removing unwanted materials to bring it back to a status close to the initial one considered as more advantageous.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Watercourse.

Translations: Curage, Limpieza.

Cleaning sludge

Sens commun

Sludge waste from the cleaning of wastewater systems.

Source: According to Ademe

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Translations: Boue de curage, Lodo de limpieza.

Climate change

Sens commun

Long lasting and measurable modification of the climate. According to the sources, the term climate change can encompass natural and anthropogenic changes (for IPCC, for example) or only changes related to human activity (according to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change).

Source: according to IPCC

Thématiques associées: Climate, Climate change.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Climatology. Translations: Changement climatique.

Climatology

Sens commun

Study of the action of meteorological phenomena on different parts of the planet, of their mutual reactions, of their temporal evolution, and of different climates.

Source: according to the Robert dictionary

Thématiques associées: Climate, Climate change, Rain and snow.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Climate change. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Climatologie.

Closed and bounded question

Sens technique

Interrogation method consisting in asking a first valuation question such as “Would you be willing to pay €10 for ...?” and a second in which the proposed amount depends on the answer to the first question: greater amount if the answer to the first question is “yes”, smaller otherwise. For the contingent valuation method, asking a closed bounded question may be tricky in a mail survey. The mail survey does not necessarily preclude such questioning but its use is usually not recommended.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Translations: Question fermée doublement bornée, Pregunta cerrada doblemente limitada.

CMR substance

Sens commun
Substance capable of having a specific toxic effect on the body: carcinogenic effect (C), mutagenic effect (M), toxic effect to reproduction (R), either by disrupting the function of reproduction, or by causing anomalies and malformations of the embryo.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Substance CMR, Sustancia CMR.

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**Coast**

**Sens commun**

Geomorphological entity marking the boundary between continents and oceans.

**Source:** according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Côte.

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**Coast line**

**Sens technique**

Developed length of the coast. The measurement of the **coast line** implies that a number of preliminary choices are made: taking the mainland surface *area*? Which zero to choose: that of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Navy (SHOM) or that of the National Geographic Institute (IGN)? Taking into account the high water *spring tide* mark? Keeping all the islands? What to do for estuaries?

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Translations:** Linéaire côtier, Lineal costero.

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**Coastal aquifer**

**Sens commun**

An *aquifer*, one of the limits of which is the *sea*. Therefore, the level of the aquifer is imposed by the sea level. It results that, if usually freshwater of *coastal aquifers flows* into the sea, salt water can enter into the aquifer depending on the load variations within the aquifer (natural status or overexploitation of coastal *groundwater*).

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Groundwater.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** TYPE DE MILIEU AQUIFERE.

**Translations:** Aquifère côtier, Acuífero costero.

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**Coastal fishing**

**Sens commun**

Fishing carried out by vessels absent from port more than 24 hours and 96 hours maximum.

**Source:** d'après Conseil régional de Poitou-Charentes

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Translations:** Pêche côtière, Pesca de bajura.

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**Coastal sedimentation**

**Sens commun**

The process by which the shore gains on the sea by sediment accumulation (sand, in particular), their volume exceeding the capacity of waves and currents to move them.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Hydromorphology.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Engraissement côtier.

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**Coastal waters**
Coastal zone

Sens commun
Surface waters located between the baseline used to measure the width of territorial waters and a distance of one nautical mile.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Shoreline.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Surface waters. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: MASSE D'EAU COTIERE.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau
Translations: Eaux côtières, Aguas costeras.

Coastline

Sens commun
Part of slow-flowing aquatic environments that extend from the shore to the limit of light penetration.

Source: according to AFB
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Continental shelf. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Zone littorale.

Code of a measuring station

Sens technique
Identifier of one measuring station managed by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre), issued by the Water Agencies for all the stations measuring water quality in their basin.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Code d'une station de mesure, Código de una estación de medición.

cohesive

Sens commun
Characteristic of soil with cohesion. Clays and silts are cohesive soils, sands and clean gravels (i.e. free of fine particles) are non-cohesive (or powdery).

Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Cohésif, Cohesivo.

Collecting rate

Sens technique
Amount of untreated pollution that reaches the entrance to the wastewater treatment plant. It is calculated by the ratio between the pollution entering the plant and untreated pollution.
Collecting system

Sens technique

Any system which, by measurement, observation or any other method, can acquire knowledge data on: aquatic environments, water resources and uses, pressures (and associated impacts) exercised on the environments and resources, and related economic data. It may be monitoring networks, surveys (water prices, economic activities), inventories (wetlands, lakes, flood-risk areas, protection perimeters ...), etc.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Translations: Data and information system, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Data collection. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: DISPOSITIF DE COLLECTE.

Collective sanitation

Synonyms: sewerage. Sens commun

A sanitation process including a public system for wastewater collecting and conveyance to a treatment plant.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Assainissement collectif, Saneamiento colectivo.

Combined approach

Sens technique

Combination of the definition of emission limit values (or the implementation of best available techniques or practices) with the setting of environmental targets and environmental quality standards (good status, etc). The definition of environmental objectives may result in stricter discharge conditions. This combined approach should be implemented no later than 2012.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Translations: Approche combinée, Enfoque combinado.

Combined sewer system

Sens commun

System discharging domestic wastewater and stormwater into the same sewers. The combined network adds the economic advantage (a sole system to build and manage) to simplicity (any connection error is excluded by definition), but requires the taking into account of abrupt changes in the flow of rainwater when designing and sizing collectors and treatment facilities.

Source: According to IOWater
Translations: Réseau unitaire, Red unitaria.

Combined system

Sens commun

A sanitation system made of a single system in which wastewater and stormwater are mixed and directed to the treatment plant when there is one. During rainy periods, a portion of the mixture (overflow) may be discharged by storm drains.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Système unitaire, Sistema unitario.
Combre

Sens commun
Wood, piles, cofferdam, dam, fixed gear in the river bed, designed to stop the fish, protect the river banks, fix alluvium in heap.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Combre, Combre.

Common agricultural policy (CAP)

Sigle: CAP. Sens commun
European politics initiated in 1957 and implemented in 1962 on the basis of an agreement between the members of the European Union, in order to guarantee a sufficient food supply for the population, while ensuring sustainable earnings to the farmers.

Source: According to European Commission
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Agri-environmental measure. Documents de référence: Règlement (UE) No 1306/2013 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 17 décembre 2013 relatif au financement, à la gestion et au suivi de la politique agricole commune
Translations: Politique agricole commune.

Common Implementation Strategy

Sens commun
Specific organization established to ensure coherence in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC in the Member States. It gathers the European Commission, State governments, experts, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and stakeholders. Several guidance documents were drafted within this framework.

Source: Thématiques associées: Regulation.
Translations: Stratégie commune de mise en œuvre, Estrategia común de aplicación.
compelling value - see "Valeur impérative"

Compensation cost

Sens technique
Additional cost incurred by a water user as a result of environmental degradation by another user.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Translations: Coût compensatoire, Coste compensatorio.

Competent authority

Sens réglementaire
Authority responsible for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) on the WFD basin scale (or district). In France, they are the Basin Coordinator Prefects and, for Corsica, the Corsican local authorities.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Governance.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: AUTORITE COMPETENTE COORDINATRICE.
Translations: Autorité compétente, La autoridad competente.

Compliance

Sens technique
Action to compare one thing with another. The National Service for Water Data and Common Reference Frames Management (Sandre) establishes compliances by comparing its specifications to the results produced by a database or software. In this
sense, the applicant (data producers, laboratories, software publishers, etc.) for compliance makes sure that the system applies Sandre specifications. Sandre gives a label when the compliance result is good.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** National Service for Water Data and Common Reference Frames Management.

### Compliance action

**Sens commun**

Action to change and improve the concerned facilities to comply with the regulations affecting them.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Drinking water, Risk, Industry.

**Translations:** Mise en conformité, Puesta en conformidad.

### Concentration

**Sens commun**

Proportion of a chemical substance dissolved in a solution.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Concentration, Concentración.

### Conceptual Data Model

**Sens technique**

Diagram showing the structure of the information system from the data viewpoint, i.e. the dependencies or relationships between the different data of the information system: a conceptual data model (CDM) formally describes the data that will be used by the information system. The basic concepts are: entity (or object or class), relationship or association, properties or attributes, identifier. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) develops data models in the data dictionary according to UML or Merise modelling.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Modèle Conceptuel de Données, Modelo conceptual de datos.

### Concerted Management

**Sens commun**

Approach to adopt decisions by involving the stakeholders concerned, including users, to solve a problem of water management.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Gestion concertée, Gestión concertada.

Integrated River Basin Management, Balanced and sustainable management of water resources.

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:**

### Concession

**Sens réglementaire**

Legal act regarding an agreement between the government or a local government and another public or private partner. There are several types of concessions: (i) the public service concession (method for the management of a public utility which consists in contractually entrust the management of the utility and the building of infrastructure to a dealer/concession owner acting at his own risk, and paid by billing the users of the service - (drinking water supply, sanitation, etc.), (ii) the public works concession (process for building public works characterized by the method used for the Contractor’s remuneration, to whom is
granted the right to exploit the work against payment for a specified time - (case of hydroelectric power plants with power at least equal to 4,500 kW); and (iii) the public domain concession (contract under administrative law granting to the beneficiary the right to use privately a more or less greater part of the public domain in return for remuneration).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Public service delegation. **Translations:** Concession, Concesión.

## Confined aquifer

**Sens technique**

Volume of groundwater at a pressure usually higher than the atmospheric pressure because isolated from the ground surface by an impermeable geological formation. An aquifer can have an unconfined section and a confined one. Confined aquifers are often deep or very deep (1,000 m or more).

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Groundwater sheet. **Translations:** Nappe captive, Capa cautiva.

## Confined groundwater

**Sens technique**

Fully saturated aquifer with a confined groundwater layer limited at its top by very low permeability formations preventing any significant flow.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** TYPE DE MILIEU AQUIFERE.

**Translations:** Aquifère captif, Acuífero cautivo.

## Conflict of use

**Sens commun**

Incipient disagreement between different users of the same environment, likely to have conflicting or competing interests.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Translations:** Conflit d’usage, Conflicto de uso.

## Connection contract

**Sens technique**

Convention by which the mayor specifies to an industrialist who wishes to connect to the communal sewer system the conditions to which this connection is authorized in accordance with Article L 35-8 of the Public Health Code.

**Source:** d’après Agence de l’eau Rhône-Méditerranée et Corse

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Regulation, Industry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Connection to a sewer. **Translations:** Convention de raccordement, Convenio de acometida.

## Connection to a sewer

**Sens commun**

All the private pipes, buried or not, located outside the house, between the sanitary (bathroom, toilet) or household appliances (sink, laundry tray...) and the junction manhole.

**Source:** according to the Artois-Picardy Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater, Sanitation. **Translations:** Raccordement à l’égout, Conexión al alcantarillado.
Consent to receive

**Sens technique**

Amount that the surveyed people are willing to accept to leave their environment deteriorating.

**Source:** According to Patrice Dumas (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations:** Consentement à recevoir, Disposición a recibir.

Conservation - see “Préservation”

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**Constructed wetland**

**Sens commun**

System which allows the purification of wastewater by plants mostly reeds: the phytopurification. This method consists in making wastewater flowing through submerged plants, which roots have a high purification power.

**Source:** According to IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater treatment, Secondary treatment. **Documents de référence:** Directive 91/271/CEE du Conseil, du 21 mai 1991, relative au traitement des eaux urbaines résiduaires

**Translations:** Filtre planté.

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**Contaminated soil**

**Sens commun**

Soil containing dangerous substances of exogenous origin at abnormally high levels, exceeding the contamination levels (thresholds set out in the simplified assessment grid of polluted sites established by the Ministry for the Environment).

Exceeding these thresholds requires further investigation.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Sol contaminé, Suelo contaminado.

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**Contamination**

**Sens commun**

Process by which a biotope - and (or) a population or an entire community - is exposed to a chemical or radioactive pollutant.

**Source:** According to François Ramade (ecologist)

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Non-point source pollution. **Translations:** Contamination, Contaminación.

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**Continental shelf**

**Sens commun**

Part of the continent below sea level, from the coastal zone up to 200 m deep. The continental shelf ends with the continental slope, which continues with a steep drop to the abyssal plains.

**Source:** according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Abyssal plain, Continental slope, Coastal zone. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Plateau continental.

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**Continental slope**

**Sens commun**

High elevation zone that leads from the edge of the continental shelf to the abyssal plain.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Abyssal plain, Continental shelf. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** continental.
Contingent valuation method

Sens technique
Method for measuring the increase in well-being generated by environmental improvement. The contingent valuation method is based on surveys. It consists in proposing respondents a hypothetical scenario to get them to declare the maximum amount they would be willing to pay for this environmental improvement.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Stated (or expressed) preference method, Bias. Translations: Méthode d'évaluation contingente, Método de valoración contingente.

Control operation

Sens technique
All on-site measurements, samples and/or analyses, which are performed at a control point for a specified period, in accordance with a control protocol, for assessing a quality element and producing observation data.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Regulation.
Translations: Opération de contrôle, Operación de control.

Control point

Sens technique
Space attached to the assessment site clearly identified and localized in which control operations are performed for one or more quality elements.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Public policy, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Point de contrôle, Punto de control.

Control variable

Sens technique
Variable used to control rivers, broadly imposed by geology and climate: e.g. liquid flow, solid flow, geometry of the valley (slope in particular), nature of the forest cover in the catchment area, particle sizes and mechanical properties of the river bed and banks materials, or vegetal cover of river banks.

Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Variable de contrôle, Variable de control.

Cooling water

Sens commun
Water used to absorb and transfer heat. There are usually two types of cooling waters: those used for electricity generation in thermal power plants and those used in other industrial processes.

Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Industry.
Translations: Eaux de refroidissement, Aguas de enfriamiento.

Corrected water level

Sens technique
Water level modified by the station manager using a theoretical correction curve that can correct a water level when a disturbing phenomenon occurs.
**Cost recovery**

**Sens technique**
According to this principle, the water users bear as much as possible the costs incurred by their water uses: investment, operating and depreciation costs, environmental costs, and even, if possible, the cost of the resource. This principle is called "cost recovery". On this principle, the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC sets two targets for Member States: by late 2004, the assessment should include the current level of recovery, distinguishing at least three economic sectors (industry, agriculture and households); by 2010, the taking into account of this principle, particularly through water pricing. The Directive requires transparency in the financing of water policy, but it does not set an obligation to full cost recovery on uses.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing, Ecological service.  
**Translations:** Récupération des coûts, Recuperación de costes.

**Cost-based method**

**Sens technique**
Method for assessing the value of an environmental good (or more often one of its functions) by using the costs that would be incurred if it were to disappear or its functioning impaired. There are several methods: the cost-replacement method, substitute-cost method, avoided-cost method, productivity-change method and cost-of-illness method.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.  
**Translations:** Méthode basée sur les coûts, Método basado en los costes.

**Cost-benefit analysis**

**Sens technique**
Analysis comparing the benefits to all the costs of a given project and of its alternatives, including the impacts that are not submitted to monetary flows (often regarding the environment). The "Cost-Benefit" analysis is a decision-making supporting tool providing objective evidence to the debate. Depending on the value of the benefit/cost ratio, the evaluated project is deemed profitable or not.

**Source:** According to OECD  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing, Ecological service.  
**Translations:** Analyse coûts - avantages, Análisis coste-beneficio.

**Cost-effectiveness analysis**

**Sens technique**
Analysis that identifies the various means and instruments to be developed to achieve a set target at lower cost. This analysis allows classifying the measures according to their effectiveness in achieving an environmental goal, but it does not provide answers about the relevance of a measure or a project as such.

**Source:** According to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.  
**Translations:** Analyse coûts - efficacité, Análisis coste-eficacia.

**Cost-of-illness method**

**Sens technique**
Method for assessing the cost of degradation of an environmental good. Degradation of an environmental good can lead to an increased death rate and an increase in health care costs: cost evaluation, including the definition of dose-response relations, allows estimating a degradation cost of the good studied.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment
Cost-replacement method

Sens technique
Method for assessing the cost incurred by the replacement of a destroyed environmental asset. Options may consider the cost of restoration or relocation. With this method, it is necessary to estimate the costs required to qualitatively and quantitatively restore biodiversity and to recover the services it provides.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Cost-based method. Translations: Méthode des coûts de remplacement, Método de los costes de reposición.

Cove

Sens commun
In Provence, means a recess from the coast, long and narrow with steep slopes generally made of hard limestone.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Translations: Calanque, Calanque.

Cover crops

Sens commun
The vegetation that covers the ground. The vegetation cover of a soil is an agri-environmental good practice which induces benefits, such as the mitigation of nitrogen pollution, soil protection and a greater biodiversity.

Source: According to Unesco

Thématiques associées: Species, Flora, Agriculture.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Crop rotations. Documents de référence: Décret n° 2011-1257 du 10 octobre 2011 relatif aux programmes d’actions à mettre en œuvre en vue de la protection des eaux contre la pollution par les nitrates d’origine agricole

Translations: Couverture végétale.

Crayfish (or crawfish) culture

Sens commun
Breeding crayfish.

Source: according to FAO

Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture.

Translations: Astaciculture, Astacicultura.

Crisis management

Sens commun
All the organisational processes, techniques and means used to prepare for a crisis, to cope with it and to mitigate its consequences. Crisis management includes alert, coordinated relief response and retrospective analysis of the sequence and effects of the first two phases.

Source: according to CELF

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Governance, Risk.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Flood forecasting. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Gestion de crise.
Critical low flow

Sens technique
Low flow value below which the supply of drinking water for essential needs for human and animal life, and for the survival of the species found in the environment, are endangered. At this low-flow level, all possible measures to restrict consumption and discharges must be taken (crisis plan).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Water and environmental management, Watercourse, Risk, Drought.
Translations: Débit de crise, Caudal de crise.

Critically endangered species

Sens commun
Refers to a taxa when the best available data indicate that it is facing a "extremely high" risk of extinction in the wild.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.
Translations: Espèce en danger critique d'extinction, Especie en peligro crítico de extinción.

Crop rotation

Sens commun
Technique used in agriculture and gardening that aims to maintain or improve soil fertility and increase yields. Crop rotation is when different crops follow each other in a certain order on the same plot, the same succession of crops being reproduced over time in regular cycles. The rotation can be two/three/four-year rotations, etc.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.
Translations: Rotation des cultures.

Crop rotation/ successive planting

Sens commun
Rotation and succession of crops on the same plot over time.
Source: according to BRGM and AFB
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Crop rotations. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Assolement.

Crop rotations

Sens commun
Periods between crop rotations, during which the soil is usually exposed and vulnerable to runoff, causing the migration of nitrates into water, but also accelerating its erosion and degrading its quality. Some crops, planted at this period (and called intercrops by extension) can reduce this problem.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Agriculture
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Cover crops, Runoff. Documents de référence: Décret n° 2011-1257 du 10 octobre 2011 relatif aux programmes d'actions à mettre en œuvre en vue de la protection des eaux contre la pollution par les nitrates d'origine agricole
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Interculture.

Cross dyke
**Cross-subsidy**

**Sens technique**
Term for financial transfers between categories of users of the same water and sanitation services. According to the Water Framework Directive, the main categories of users of water and sanitation services are households, industry and farmers.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.
**Translations:** Subvention croisée, Subvención cruzada.

**Crustacean**

**Sens commun**
Arthropods with a body made up of segments linked to each other by a joint membrane and wearing a pair of jointed appendix. They can be distinguished from other arthropods by the presence of two pairs of antennae. They live in freshwater, marine waters or in terrestrial environments. They can be mobile or fixed to a support.

**Source:** According to Ifremer
**Thématiques associées:** Species.
**Translations:** Crustacé.

**Crusting and surface sealing**

**Sens commun**
Soil disintegration under the action of raindrops and formation of a surface crust that reduces infiltration.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture.
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Battance.

**Cultural Service**

**Sens commun**
Non-material benefit that man can enjoy thanks to the ecosystems through reflection, recreation, aesthetics or cultural enrichment.

**Source:** According to Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.
**Translations:** Service culturel, Servicio cultural.

**Curage vieux fonds, vieux bords**

**Sens technique**
French expression used in old regulations and local practices that specify the conditions and frequency with which the cleaning obligation must be fulfilled by every riverside resident of a non-state-owned watercourse by article 98 of the Rural Code. It is a routine maintenance of the stream by the riverside resident or his rightful owner. Sometimes called "vifs fonds - vieux bords".

**Source:** According to the Rural Code
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse.
**Translations:** Curage vieux fonds, vieux bords, Limpieza vieux fonds, vieux bords («fondos viejos, bordes viejos»).
D

Daily exposure dose

Sens technique

(Internal or external) dose of substance received by the organism related to the weight of the individual and the number of exposure days (in the case of a non-carcinogenic substance) and to the number of days in a lifetime (in the case of a carcinogenic substance).

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Translations: Dose journalière d'exposition, Dosis diaria de exposición.

Daily mean flow

Sens technique

Ratio between the volume of the flow for a full day (0-24 hours) and the corresponding duration. This volume is calculated by using the record of instantaneous flow rates. If the flow is expressed in m3/s, the volume is calculated in m3 and the duration in sec.

Source: According to SCHAPI
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit moyen journalier, Caudal medio diario.

Daily rainfall

Sens commun

A 24-hour cumulative precipitation height at a given location.

Source: according to METEO FRANCE
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Dam

Sens commun

Structure that crosses more than the low-water channel of a permanent or intermittent watercourse or a thalweg. We can also say that it bars up a river catchment area. But a dam can be outside a watercourse. The reservoir it makes upstream is gravity fed by the river basin waters. The body of a dam can be made of earth, masonry, concrete, wood, metal, etc. There are several types of dams, according to their function: hydropower dam, reservoir dam, dam for pollution control, dam for navigation.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thèmes associés: Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Use, Energy.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: BARRAGE, OBSTACLE A L'ECOULEMENT.
Translations: Barrage, Presa.

Dam draining

Sens technique

Operation consisting in draining a dam reservoir for various reasons (maintenance, visit of the structure, regulation, etc.). Given its impacts on aquatic environments, it has to be authorised by a prefect’s order and preceded by an impact assessment study.

Source: according to IFREMER
Translations: Vidange de barrage, Vaciado de presa.

Dam release

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau 10/10/2020 - page 57/281
Sens technique
Operation to lower water level and increase outflow rates to discharge some of the sediment retained by a dam. A dam release consists in opening the gates, thus limiting the silting of the dam reservoir and the risk of flooding. This operation, although common in the management of harnessed rivers, can have adverse effects on the downstream environment (decrease of oxygen levels in water, obstruction of fish gills by suspended solids, etc.).
Source: according to ISTREA
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Hydromorphology, Hydrology.
Translations: Chasse de barrage, Desembalse.

Damage
Sens commun
Harm or injury to someone or material damage to something.
Source: according to the Larousse dictionary
Thématiques associées: Risk.
Translations: Dommage, Daño.

Dangerous substance
Sens commun
Persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substance, or considered, at an equivalent level, as questionable.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Substance dangereuse, Sustancia peligrosa.

Data
Sens technique
Elementary digital information, usually formatted in a special way and existing in various forms: numbers, texts on a sheet of paper, bits and bytes stored in electronic memory, photos, topographic, geological, aeronautical, marine, forestry, agricultural maps, etc.), satellite imagery.
Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Data bank, Dataset, Reusable data. Translations: Donnée, Dato.

Data bank
Sens technique
A set of elementary data coming from one or more collecting devices organized by computer processing. It can extract data and make them available to users. The elementary data collecting devices may be located in several data banks. In some cases the data bank may contain processed data.
Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: BANQUE DE DONNEES, Banque stockant les données du dispositif de collecte.
Translations: Banque de données, Banco de datos.
Data Catalogue

Sens technique
Record that indexes data through their metadata. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) provides metadata of geo-referenced datasets via an online service, known as the data catalogue hosted on GeoNetwork (http://www.sandre.eaufrance.fr/geonetwork).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Catalogue de données, Catálogo de datos.

Data collection

Sens technique
Process related to the transmission of data generated by different stakeholders and means to a storage device. Most often data collecting is made by the producer himself, who makes the data selection, formatting and transmission. Sometimes an intermediary collects data from one or more producers.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Collecting system. Translations: Collecte de données, Recopilación de datos.

Data Dictionary

Sens technique
Collection of words or phrases in one language presented in an agreed order and intended to provide information. Data dictionaries established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) are specification documents that describe and clarify the terminology and data for a particular field. They include entities (or objects) connected logically with others (the "Station" object is for example connected to the "sample point" object). They are used to design databases in particular. Several aspects of the data are processed: their meaning, essential rules for their drafting or codification, the list of values they can have, the person or persons or organizations who have the right to create, consult, modify or delete them, etc. A data dictionary is based on one or more sets of reference data and materialized by files in XSD and PDF formats.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.

Data producer

Sens technique
Entity responsible for the creation of data up to their validation. The data producer is in charge of controlling data and may also be responsible for their availability. It may appeal to third parties for the production of data but this must remain transparent and under its responsibility. Insofar as the producer "signs" the data, the mention of the producer's name must be associated with the data in any data exchange.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Producteur de données, Productor de datos.

Database

Sens technique
A structured set of files gathering information having common features and accessible by software. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) only manages databases made up of specification documents and reference datasets.
Database on thematic mapping of the Water Agencies

Sens technique
A set of geographic layers presenting hydrographic objects for the French territory. This includes cutting the territory into "hydrographic areas" (river basins) as well as watercourses and bodies of water, and the codification of these objects. The Carthage database (Database on thematic mapping of the Water Agencies) was developed by IGN, the Water Agencies and the Ministry for the Environment and is based on the hydrographic layer of the CARTO database. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) disseminates this geo-referenced dataset through its data catalogue and cartographic Atlas.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Body of water.
Translations: Base de Données sur la CARtographie THématique des AGences de l'Eau, Base de Datos de la Cartografía Temática de las Agencias del Agua.

Dataset
Sens technique
Homogeneous set of data in a structured file. A dataset in "Sandre format" is a file of data on professions/jobs according to an interchange scenario prepared by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre). It is materialized through a file in an XML or text format.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Data and information system.
Translations: Jeu de données, Conjunto de datos.

Deadwood
Sens commun
Material gathering isolated trunks, branches, entire trees or accumulations of plant debris of heterogeneous sizes. Deadwood is a key element for changing channel forms and therefore diversifying environments. It also plays an important role as medium and substrate for vegetation and microfauna, but it can create jams after a flood. It serves as a shelter for the green lizard, the fragile slow worm, the common toad and the midwife toad. Sometimes hanging in the trees after several seasons, it can also serve as shelters for carnivores like the stone marten or the genet.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology, Wetland.
Translations: Bois mort, Madera muerta.

Decarbonatation
Sens technique
Removal of some calcium and magnesium from water to achieve a compromise between the proper mineral balance of water
and the optimum level of hardness.

Source: according to IFREMER and the General Council of Seine-et-Marn

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Quality of the resource, Chemistry.

Translations: Décarbonatation, Descarbonación.

### Declaration

**Sens commun**

Police procedure demanding to individuals wishing to set up installations, structures, work and activities that have an impact on water and aquatic environments, to declare them above a certain level (limits of water withdrawals, discharges, size of fish farming enclosures, dredging, bed adjustment, etc). Beyond a higher level, these activities must receive an authorization.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Industry.

Translations: Déclaration, Declaración.

### Decree

**Sens commun**

Regulatory act signed either by the President of the Republic or by the Prime Minister. The decrees called "State Council decrees" can only be taken after collaboration with the Council of State. The decree is a statutory text issued by the executive power and intended to clarify the special terms and conditions for the application of a law passed by the parliament. It is most often complemented by implementation decrees.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Translations: Décret, Decreto.

### Deep Sea Fishing

**Sens commun**

Fishing activity carried out beyond a 400 m depth.

Source: According to CIEM

Thématiques associées: Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

Translations: Pêche profonde, Pesca de profundidad.

### Deep seepage

**Sens commun**

Passage abnormally used or created by water in a dike, a dam.

Source: According to CIEM

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Dam, Dike. Translations: Renard, Sifonamiento.

### Deep water

**Sens commun**

Term used to describe areas that are not naturally (shellfish farms) or artificially (ports) exposed at low tide.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Translations: Eaux profondes, Aguas profundas.

### Definition

**Sens technique**

Explanation of the meanings of a word or phrase of a lexicon. Data dictionaries established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) include a set of definitions.
Defluorination

Sens commun
Removal of the surplus of fluorine from water, to reach a concentration that does not expose anyone to dental or bone health risks.

Source: according to the Belgian Development Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Chemistry, Health.
Translations: Defluoration, Desfluoración.

Delta

Sens commun
A type of river mouth characterised by heavy siltation at an elevation very close to that of the water surface and forming a natural marshy plain.

Source: according to IFREMER
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Shoreline, Hydromorphology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Main river, Estuary. Translations: Delta, Delta.

Demand

Synonymes: resources balance. Sens technique
Balance made on a given basin or sub-basin for a specific period between, on the one hand, the available resources, owing to foreseeable water inputs or income over the same area for the time period taking into account the necessary functioning of aquatic ecosystems, and, on the other, the water demands, i.e. the volumes or water flows collected and consumed by various uses and required for the proper functioning of the environments.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Bilan demande / ressources, Balance demanda/recursos.

Demand function

Sens technique
Function that links the optimal choice (the requested amounts) to the different price values and income. Therefore the demand function for a good depends on the price of all goods and the income of the consumer.

Source: According to Hal Ronald Varian (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Fonction de demande, Función de demanda.

Demesnial water

Sens commun
Part of a river owned and maintained by a national governmental body. This maintenance can be delegated to the regions or departments.

Source: according to French private forestry
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Body of water.

Deminerlisation

Sens commun
Action to remove minerals and salts from water to produce demineralised water.
Denitrification

**Sens technique**

Nitrate (NO₃⁻) reduction to nitrogen gas (N₂) by bacteria in anoxic conditions. An anoxic medium has no dissolved oxygen. This phenomenon is different from the consumption of nitrates by plants.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Pressure, Substance and pollutant, Quality of the resource, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Dénitrification, Desnitrificación.

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**Departmental drinking water supply plan**

**Sens technique**

Planning document produced on the Department scale, usually under the guidance of the Departemental Council, taking stock of the situation of drinking water supply and proposing baseline scenarios for the purpose (among others) of securing quality and quantity.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

**Translations:** Schéma départemental de l'alimentation en eau potable, Plan Departamental de Suministro de Agua Potable.

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**Departmental fish conservation plan**

**Sens technique**

Departmental guidance document for public action in the management and conservation of aquatic environments and fish fauna. The Departmental fish conservation plan (SDVP) is approved by prefectural order after advice from the Departemental Council. It makes an assessment of river status and defines objectives and priority actions.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Translations:** Schéma départemental de vocation piscicole, Plan Departamental Piscícola.

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**Departmental Health Regulations**

**Sens technique**

Hygiene and safety regulations adopted by the prefect. The Departmental Health Regulations supplement the rules of the Code of Public health and specify how they are applied locally. There is a departmental health regulations model (= reference).

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Health.

**Translations:** Règlement sanitaire départemental, Reglamento Sanitario Departamental.

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**Departmental quality objectives map**

**Sens technique**

Map of rivers in a Department (administrative division) showing with colours (yellow, green, blue) the different levels of quality objectives to be achieved. The reference values of different parameters constituting these objectives are provided in a list appended to the card. These objectives are usually subject to a prefectural order established after dialogue.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Governance.

**Translations:** Carte départementale d'objectifs de qualité, Mapa Departamental de Objetivos de Calidad.
**Departmental quarry plan**

**Sens technique**

Document that defines the general terms for establishing quarries in the Departments. Established by the Law of 4 January 1993, it is drafted by the Departmental Quarry Commission and approved by prefectural order. The Departmental quarry plan (SDC) takes into account "the national economic interest, the resources and requirements of the Department and neighbouring Departments regarding equipment, the protection of landscapes, sites and sensitive natural environments, the need for sound spatial management, while enabling efficient use of untreated materials". The SDC must be compatible or made compatible, within three years, with the provisions of the river basin management plan (SDAGE) and of the sub-basin management plan (SAGE), when they exist.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology  
**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management.  
**Translations:** Schéma départemental des carrières, Plan Departamental de Canteras.

**Departmental record of major hazards**

**Sens technique**

Document prepared by the prefect at departmental level recording essential information on major natural and technological hazards in the Department, in accordance with Article R125-11 of the Environmental Code. The information, given to citizens on the major hazards which they face, includes a description of the risks and their likely consequences for people, property and the environment, as well as the presentation of safeguard measures planned to minimize their effects.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency  
**Thématiques associées:** Risk.  
**Translations:** Dossier départemental des risques majeurs, Expediente Departamental de Riegos Mayores.

**Dephosphorization**

**Sens technique**

Operation that consists in treating wastewater by reducing phosphate concentration. It can use physico-chemical and/or biological processes.

**Source:** According to Eurostat  
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.  
**Translations:** Déphosphoration, Desfosforación.

**Depollution**

**Synonymes:** remediation. **Sens commun**

Operation consisting in partly or entirely treating a polluted environment (soil, water, air) by eliminating or greatly reducing the polluting load in order to restore its functions and remediate it for use.

**Source:** According to BRGM  
**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Phyto-remediation.  
**Translations:** Dépollution, Descontaminación.

**Depth of runoff**

**Sens commun**

Amount of water measured on a level surface and expressed as height.

**Source:** according to IOWater

**Sens technique**

A flow rate value expressed in mm. The depth of runoff is obtained by dividing a runoff volume at a measuring station by the surface of the drainage basin at the station; it is most commonly expressed in mm, which allows comparing it to the rainfalls which cause it.

**Source:** according to SCHAPI
Desalination water

**Sens commun**
Total volume of water produced by desalination.
**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Shoreline.
**Translations:** Eaux de désalinisation, Aguas de desalinización.

Desertification

**Sens commun**
Decrease or disappearance of land due to soil erosion by wind or water.
**Source:** according to ADEME

**Thématiques associées:** Risk, Erosion, Drought.
**Translations:** Désertification, Desertificación.

desilting

**Synonymes:** desilting. **Sens commun**
Action by which a place is freed from the silt that fills it up (channel, port, etc) to restore its depth.
**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Dévasement, «Desencenagamiento».

Detection limit

**Sens technique**
Smallest value of a parameter to be analyzed in a sample that can be detected and considered different from the blank value (with a given probability), but not necessarily quantifiable. Two risks are taken into account: the alpha risk of considering this parameter present in the sample whereas its quantity is zero, the beta risk of considering a parameter as absent when its quantity is not zero.
**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.
**Translations:** Limite de détection, Límite de detección.

Determining species

**Sens commun**
Qualifies endangered, vulnerable, rare or remarkable species that meet the rankings established by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) or extracted from red books published nationally or regionally, but also nationally or regionally protected species, or subject to European or international regulations when they are of a real interest to national or regional heritage, as well as species that do not benefit from the protected status or are not included in red lists, but under specific ecological or biogeographical conditions, at a limit of an area or whose population is particularly outstanding.
**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Pressure.
**Translations:** Espèce déterminante, Especie determinante.

Detoxification
Sens commun

Elimination of toxins by an organism. This process is best known and applied for shellfish that have accumulated substances that are toxic to human beings (heavy metals, toxic phytoplankton, etc), which are put to "breathe" in water devoid of pollutants. By their own breathing, shellfish detoxify themselves. The human body also has biochemical detoxification processes to eliminate certain pollutants. Indeed, after their entry into organisms, pollutants undergo a biotransformation catalyzed by different enzymes, leading to an increase in the molecules solubility in water in order to facilitate their removal from the organism. The protein induction (in response to an "environmental stress") also plays a key role in the repair and/or removal of cellular proteins damaged by the xenobiotic.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Health.
Translations: Détoxication, Desintoxicación.

Developmental toxicity

Sens commun

Harmful effects on the individual in his growth stage which can result from exposure of one of both parents prior to conception, exposure during prenatal or postnatal growing stage up to sexual maturation.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Translations: Toxicité pour le développement, Toxicidad para el desarrollo.

Diadromous

Sens commun

Describes a species having part of its biological cycle at sea and another part in a river

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Translations: Amphihaline, Anfihalina.

Diadromous migratory fish

Sens commun

Species having part of their biological cycle in freshwater and the other part in saltwater.

Source: according to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fauna, Migratory fish. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Poisson migrateur amphihalin, Pez migratorio anfihalino.

Diatom

Sens commun

Microscopic brown algae with a siliceous skeleton.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Diatom Biotic Index. Translations: Diatomée, Diatomea.

Diatom Biotic Index

Sens technique

Index for assessing the biological quality of the water of a river through an analysis of benthic diatom flora.

Source: Thématiques associées: Species, Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Biological index, Diatom, Phytobenthos. Translations: Índice biológico diatómico.
Digested sludge

Sens technique
Also called anaerobic sludge, it results from a biological stabilisation process, reducing the amount of organic matter in the waste, through anaerobic digestion (absence of oxygen) in a digester.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater, Wastewater treatment.
Translations: Boue digérée, Fango digerido.

Dike

Sens commun
Structure in concrete, earth or rock, or a mere (compacted or not) earthen dike or levee for: channelling a stream and possibly protect its surroundings (floodplain) against flooding, and/or protect a defined objective, more or less specific (urban, industrial, agricultural) and sometimes surround it, and/or serve as a barrier for a water abstraction in the stream.
Source: According to Marcel Roche (hydrologist)
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Termes associés à des definitions du Sandre: DIGUE, OBSTACLE A L’ECOULEMENT.
Translations: Digue, Dique.

Dilution

Sens commun
Phenomenon whereby a fluid is dispersed in another fluid having a much larger volume. We speak, for example, about the dilution of polluted effluent.
Source: According to François Ramade (ecologist)
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Dilution, Dilución.

Direct management

Sens commun
Direct management (operation) of a public utility/service by the municipality or the public inter-municipal cooperation institution which is in charge of this utility/service.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Water and environmental management.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Public service delegation, Public water supply and sanitation services. Régie,
Translations: Concesión administrativa.

Directive

Sens commun
Legal act addressed to the Member States which sets targets without prescribing the means by which these objectives are to be achieved. Recipient States have an obligation as to the result but are left free as to what means are to be used to achieve it. At the initiative of the Commission, the Court of Justice of the European Communities may penalize States that do not meet their obligations.
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Directive, Directiva.
Translations:
Directive on the reuse of public sector information

Sens technique
Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament on the reuse of public sector information requiring that all public data, legally or de facto available, can be reused, including for commercial use.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Reusable data, Reuse of public data.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: TEXTE REGLEMENTAIRE.

Discharge

Sens commun
Action to throw, spill or allow one or any substance entering into surface water, groundwater or sea water. Discharges can be industrial, domestic (urban community, etc), agricultural (farming, etc). They can be point or non-point.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Discharge standard. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Rejet, Vertido.

Discharge authorisation

Sens technique
Administrative act decided by the community, owner of a sanitation facility, to authorise an exceptional water discharge. This authorisation is mandatory for any connection of an industrial effluent to a community sewerage network. It obligatorily sets the characteristics of the effluents to be complied with, the duration of the authorisation and the monitoring methods to be used.

Source: according to the Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Industry.

Discharge into a river

Sens commun
Discharge of effluents or pollutants into watercourses.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Discharge. Translations: Rejet en cours d’eau, Vertido en curso de agua.

Discharge into a sewer

Sens commun
Action to dispose of, discharge or allow the flow of runoff water (mainly from rainfall) and wastewater (produced by human activities) into the sewers of a city.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment and City of Paris
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Housing and city.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Discharge. Translations: Rejet en égout, Vertido en alcantarilla.

Discharge standard

Sens technique
Value constituting a legal reference that cannot be exceeded during a discharge into the environment.

Source: according to Downstream Seine Interdepartmental Water Syndicate
**Discharged pollution**

**Sens commun**

Difference between the pollution produced and the pollution eliminated. Also referred to as "net pollution."

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Discharge. **Translations:** Norme de rejet, Norma de vertido.

**Discharged water**

**Sens technique**

Amount of water (in m³) or of substances (in kg of BOD/day or comparable) added/leached into a river from a point or non-point source.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.

**Translations:** Eau rejetée, Agua vertida.

**Discrete goods**

**Sens technique**

Goods that are naturally expressed in discrete units (whole units). For example, we define the *demand* for automobiles by the actual number of vehicles required and not in terms of time of *use* of a vehicle (continuous value).

**Source:** According to Hal Ronald Varian (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Translations:** Bien discret, Bien discreto.

**Disinfection**

**Sens commun**

Destruction by chemical or physical processes of infectious germs which are outside the body, on the body surface. By extension, we speak of disinfection of water during the production of drinking water, i.e. the physico-chemical elimination of germs found in wastewater or sludge, at the entry to the drinking water production plant.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Chemistry, Health.

**Translations:** Désinfection, Desinfección.

**Dispersed pollution**

**Sens commun**

Pollution coming from several or many point sites. The dispersed pollution is all the more detrimental as the number of sites involved is high.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Pollution dispersée, Contaminación dispersa.

**Disposal at sea**

**Sens commun**

Discharge of effluents or pollutants into the sea.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Discharge, Ballast water. **Translations:** Rejet en mer, Vertido al mar.
Disproportionate cost

**Sens technique**

Refers to costs that justify derogation from the obligations imposed by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. The disproportionate costs are legitimized by the impact of the cost of work on water prices and economic activity, as compared to the economic value of environmental benefits and other expected advantages. The disproportion is considered on a case by case basis using criteria such as: the financial resources available in the area concerned by this measure and in the user group(s) who bear the cost (if it only concerns households, the disproportion limit is especially related to their ability to pay significantly more for water), and/or benefits of any kind expected from achieving good water status by 2015 (production of drinking water from groundwater without further treatment, restoration of wetlands involved in flood control, etc). If the basin stakeholders justify the cost of a measure as disproportionate, they are entitled to exemption. Spreading the financing of the measure until 2021 or 2027 even (instead of 2015) may be sufficient to make its cost acceptable.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing, Regulation.

**Translations:** Coût disproportionné, Coste desproportionado.

Dissolved organic matter

**Sens commun**

Dissolved organic molecule coming either from the degradation of dead organisms or from the excreta of living organisms (plankton).

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Matière organique dissoute, Materia orgánica disuelta.

Dissolved Oxygen

**Sens technique**

Parameter governing most of biological processes in aquatic ecosystems. The concentration of dissolved oxygen is the result of the following physical, chemical and biological factors: exchanges at the air-ocean interface; dissemination and mixing in the water body; use in chemical oxidation reactions (natural or anthropogenic); use by aquatic organisms for breathing (which includes bacterial degradation of organic matter in a broad sense) and for nitrification; in situ production by photosynthesis.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Oxygène dissous, Oxígeno disuelto.

Diversity index

**Sens technique**

Coefficient reflecting the degree of diversity of a community. The expression of the diversity index is based on two parameters: the number of species and number of individuals per species. There are many indexes but the most commonly used is that of Shannon and Weaver (1949). It expresses the relative importance of the number of abundant species in a given environment. Thus, the greater the proportion of rare species and that of abundant species smaller, the greater the diversity index is. The index is minimal when all individuals belong to the same species and is maximal when each individual represents a distinct species.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Translations:** Indice de diversidad, Índice de diversidad.

Document of objectives

**Sens technique**

Reference document, guidance and decision support for each Natura 2000 site based on a consensus-building process, the document of objectives (DOCOb) sets the appropriate management measures to be implemented to preserve or restore the species and habitats that have justified the site designation under Natura 2000.
**Domestic use of water**

*Sens commun*

Water abstraction and discharge exclusively intended for meeting the needs of individuals, owners or tenants of facilities, and of the persons ordinarily living in the same household, within the limits of the water quantities needed for human consumption, hygiene care, washing and the growing of plants and breeding of animals reserved for family consumption. Any abstraction lower than or equal to 40 m³/d is considered as a domestic use of water.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Environment and habitat, Use.

**Translations:** Usage domestique de l'eau, Uso doméstico del agua.

**Domestic wastewater**

*Sens commun*

Wastewater from residential settlements and services which come mainly from human activities and domestic uses.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Housing and city.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Urban wastewater, Wastewater, Blackwater, Grey water. **Translations:** Eaux usées domestiques, Aguas usadas domésticas.

**Domestic water**

*Sens commun*

Water used by human beings for their domestic needs (kitchen, toilets, bathrooms, etc).

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Use, Housing and city.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water utilization. **Translations:** Eau domestique, Agua doméstica.

**Domestic/indoor pollution**

*Sens commun*

Pollution resulting from wastewater discharged from households (showers, toilets, kitchen, etc.).

**Source:** according to the Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Pollution domestique, Contaminación doméstica.

**Downstream**

*Sens commun*

Part of a watercourse which, with respect to a given point, is located after this latter point in the direction of the water flow.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Aval, Aguas abajo.

**Downstream migration**

*Sens commun*
Action for migratory fish to go down a stream to return to their breeding or growing place.

Source: According to Rhone-Alps Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Species, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Dévalaison, Descenso hacia el mar.

Drainage

Sens commun
Natural or artificial removal, by gravity or by pumping, of surface water or groundwater.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Evaporation, Runoff, Infiltration. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Drainage,
Translations: Dénivellation, Drenaje.

Drainage basin - see "Bassin versant"

Drainage density

Sens commun
Ratio between the total length of the watercourse in a river basin and the surface area of the latter. Drainage density is expressed in km/km2.
Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Densité de drainage, Densidad de drenaje.

Drainage design rainfall

Sens technique
Artificial rain event, representative of the local rainfall and to which it is possible to associate recurrence intervals.
Source: according to the National Higher School of electrical engineering, electronics, computer science, hydraulics and telecommunication
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Drainage equipment

Sens commun
Equipment used to accelerate the natural or artificial evacuation, by gravity or by pumping, of surface or ground water.
Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drainage. Translations: Matériel de drainage, Material de drenaje.

Draining of a body of water

Sens technique
All operations for emptying a dam reservoir and body of water for various reasons (maintenance, inspection of structures, regulatory, etc). Due to its impacts on aquatic environments, draining is subject to the prefect's authorization order after completion of an impact assessment document.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Body of water.
Translations: Vidange de plan d'eau, Vaciado de planos de agua.
**Drawdown**

**Sens technique**
Lowering of the groundwater level at a given point by the extraction of water from the water table, the lowering of a water line of a stream in relation with groundwater or under the influence of earthworks, etc.

*Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB*

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.

**Translations:** Rabattement de nappe, Descenso del nivel de la capa acuífera.

**Dredging**

**Sens technique**
According to the SDAGE and Order of 22 September 1994, this means removing alluvial deposits accumulated on the riverbed. Indeed, Article 11 of the Decree of 22 September 1994 provides that the extraction of materials in the riverbed of watercourses and bodies of water crossed by streams is prohibited. If extraction of alluvial materials is necessary for duly justified maintenance, or for the development of a watercourse or a water body, then it is authorized because considered as dredging.

*Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency*

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Pressure, Water abstraction.

**Translations:** Dragage, Dragado.

**Drinking water**

**Sens commun**
Water suitable for consumption, as containing no pathogen. Water abstracted directly from the ground may not always be drunk as it is. It must be controlled and possibly purified before being supplied to users.

*Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency*

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Drinking water supply, Drinking water supply unit.

*Documents de référence:*
Décret n° 2001-1220 du 20 décembre 2001 relatif aux eaux destinées à la consommation humaine, à l'exclusion des eaux minérales naturelles
Directive 98/83/CE du Conseil du 3 novembre 1998 relative à la qualité des eaux destinées à la consommation humaine

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Eau potable, Agua potable.

**Drinking water abstraction**

**Sens commun**
Device used for withdrawing water (spring, groundwater, river) for a given use.

*Source: According to Ifremer*

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Watercourse, Groundwater, Water abstraction, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Abstraction protection zone, Abstraction supply zones, Aquifer.

**Organe de capture et de dérivation d’eau:** CAPTAGE ET DE DERIVATION D’EAU.

**Translations:** Captage d’eau, Captación, drinking water production - see “Potabilisation de l’eau”

**Drinking water supply**

**Sens commun**
All facilities, services and activities which allow, by using untreated water, producing water which meets the drinking water standards in force, then distributed to consumers. We consider five distinct steps in this supply, abstraction, intakes, drinking water treatment, conveyance (transport and storage), and distribution to the consumer.

*Source: According to AFB*
Drinking water supply security

Sens commun

All internal measures of a supply unit (drinking water supply system) to supply users in critical or crisis situations (accidental pollution of the resource, etc): interconnections between systems, use of different water resources, etc. These emergency solutions to be implemented must be listed in the specialized emergency response plan developed by the departmental administration. By extension, it means being able to ensure drinking water supply to people in all circumstances.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Drinking water supply system

Sens commun

Part of the overall water supply system including pipes, tanks, pumping stations and other equipment through which water is supplied to users. This part begins at the exit of drinking water production plants and ends at the point of water delivery to the user. It does not include private pipes and accessories of buildings that bring water to the consumption points.

Source: According to the Ministries of the Environment and Health and AFB

Drinking water supply unit

Sens commun

A supply system wherein water quality is deemed to be homogeneous. A drinking water supply unit is managed by a single operator, owned by the same owner and belongs to a single administrative unit.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Driving force

Sens technique

Within the meaning of the DPSIR (Driving Forces - Pressures - State - Impacts - Responses) conceptual data model, economic stakeholders and related activities, not necessarily marketable (agriculture, population, industrial activity, recreational activities, etc) which are causing pressures on aquatic environments.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Drought
Sens commun
The normal or temporary status of the soil or environment, corresponding to a water shortage, over a significantly long period so that it causes impacts on natural or cultivated flora, wildlife or livestock.

Source: According to Wikipédia
Thématiques associées: Climate, Climate change, Hydrology, Risk, Drought.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drying up. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Sécheresse, Sequía.

Dry 5-year flow
Sens technique
Monthly flow with a 4/5 probability of being exceeded every year. It allows characterizing a calendar month with low hydraulicity.

Source: According to SCHAPI
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit quinquennal sec, Caudal quinquenal seco.

Dry marsh
Sens commun
Marsh protected from floods and tides by a network of dikes and levees.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Wetland.
Translations: Marais desséché, Pantano desecado.

Drying bed
Sens technique
Structure made of concrete whose floor is sealed by a tarpaulin or concrete slab, to dry sewage sludge. The sludge from the sewage treatment system is extracted directly from the clarifier and transferred after flocculation to the bed. After drying, the sludge is then raked manually, taken and stored.

Source: according to the General Council of Seine-et-Marne
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Sludge treatment. Translations: Lit de séchage, Lecho de secado.

Drying up
Sens commun
Gradual reduction of the water flow, until available resources are exhausted.

Source: according to IOWater
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drought. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Tarissement, Desecación.

Drying-out
Sens commun
Temporary drying out of a watercourse or of a river section.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Sens technique
As part of the monitoring carried out by the National Observatory of Low Water, a watercourse is considered in a dry period when the water is totally evaporated or infiltrated on more than 50% of the reporting station.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Low-flow level. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: OBSERVATION PROPRE A L'ECOULEMENT.

Documents de référence: Circulaire du 18 mai 2011 relative aux mesures exceptionnelles de limitation ou de suspension des usages de l'eau en période de sécheresse

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Assec, Desecación.

Dune

Sens commun
Mound of sand formed by coastal wind. A dune plays a significant role in protecting the lower coasts.

Source: according to IFREMER

Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Translations: Dune, Duna.

Earth dam

Sens commun
An embankment, formed of compact earth, built across the bed of a river to create a water reservoir. This is the simplest and oldest type of dam. Its slopes must be soft enough to ensure stability and the earth must be sufficiently impermeable (e.g. clay).

Source: according to the French Committee of Dams and Reservoirs

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Watercourse, Obstacle to flow. Translations: Barrage en terre, Presa de tierra.

Earth tide

Sens commun
Periodic motion of the earth's crust, caused by the tide-generating force due to the moon and the sun.

Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization

Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.

Translations: Marée terrestre, Marea terrestre.

Easement

Synonymes: servitude. Sens technique

Obligation or constraint related to the use of a property, site, and facility. Public utility easements may be established, by legal administrative way after public inquiry, to protect a common good (groundwater resource, natural park, etc), or users, e.g. by limiting access to or operation of a polluted site.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Industry.

Translations: Servitude, Servidumbre.
Easily usable water reserve

*Sens commun*
Amount of soil water below which a plant wilts. The irrigation doses are calculated from the *easily usable water reserve* (RFU) and we irrigate when the latter is exhausted. It is expressed in mm.

*Source:* According to the Ministry of Ecology
*Thématiques associées:* Hydrology.
*Translations:* Réserve en eau facilement utilisable, Reserva de agua fácilmente utilizable.

Eau blanche – milky water

*Sens commun*
Wastewater produced during the manufacture of paper or water from the cleaning of premises and equipment of milking parlours, dairies or cheese factories.

*Source:* according to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater
*Thématiques associées:* Agriculture, Industry.
*Contributeur(s) de l’article:* AFB. *Translations:* Eau blanche.

Echinoderm

*Sens commun*
Marine animal characterized by a fivefold radial symmetry, protected, depending on the species, by calcareous spikes or more or less developed calcite plates. Echinoderms include the starfishes, crinoid (sea daffodil), sea urchins, sea cucumbers and brittle stars. They have tubular "feet" and are able to move (very) slowly.

*Source:* According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater
*Thématiques associées:* Species, Shoreline, Sea and ocean, Fisheries and aquaculture.
*Translations:* Echinoderme, Equinodermo.

Eco-balance

*Sens technique*
Tool used for environmental impact assessments (resources and energy consumption, emissions into the air and water, wastes), taking into account the entire life cycle of products, from their manufacture to their final disposal. The eco-balance provides decision making support elements for public policies (choice of an enhancing process, criteria for eco-labelling of products, etc.) or for industrial purposes (choice of product design and improvement, for example).

*Source:* according to ADEME
*Thématiques associées:* Industry.
*Translations:* Ecobilan, Ecobalance.

Eco-citizenship

*Sens commun*
Individual or collective action to comply with the principles and rules to preserve the environment.

*Source:* according to the Larousse dictionary
*Translations:* Ecocitoyenneté, Ecociudadanía.

Eco-product

*Sens commun*
Product that causes less impact on the environment throughout its life cycle than other products of similar use. The concept of eco-product is thus relative.

*Source:* according to ADEME
*Translations:* Ecoproduit, Ecoproducto.
**Eco-tax**

*Sens commun*

Tax levied on a product, a service or an activity that is likely to be harmful to the environment.

**Source:** according to the services of the Prime Minister  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Polluter-pays principle.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** Ecotaxe, Ecotasa.

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**Ecological continuity**

*Sens commun*

For a river, to ensure the free movement of species (in particular fishes) and the smooth flow of sediments.

**Source:** according to Loire-Bretagne Water Agency and IOWater  
**Sens technique**

Is defined by the free circulation of biological species and good flow of natural river sediment transport. The concept of ecological continuity did not take sediment transport into account until the Water Act of 2006.

**Source:** according to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Watercourse.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Obstacle to flow, Watercourses fragmentation.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** Continuité écologique, Continuidad ecológica.

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**Ecological corridor**

*Sens technique*

Natural environment (land, water or air) for connection between areas of ecological interest, thus ensuring the movement, dispersion of species and allowing them to exploit these areas according to their needs and stabilize their populations in the best way possible. The "Grenelle for the Environment" requests to stop the loss of biodiversity, particularly by setting up a network of ecological corridors called "green belt" and "blue belt".

**Source:** according to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Species, Hydromorphology.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Green and Blue Habitat network.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** Corridor écologique, Corredor ecológico.

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**Ecological engineering**

*Sens commun*

Carrying out projects that, in their implementation and monitoring, apply the principles of ecological engineering and enable the resilience of ecosystems. Ecological engineering allows recovering natural environments, restoring degraded environments and optimising the functions provided by ecosystems.

**Source:** according to CELF  
**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Governance, Planning.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecological engineering, Resilience.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** Ingénierie écologique.
Ecological flow

Sens technique
Minimum flow required to achieve ecological quality goals for associated surface waters. The value of this flow varies for each country.

Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit écologique, Caudal ecológico.

Ecological integrity

Sens technique
Is known to be achieved for an ecosystem when its abiotic and biotic native components (plants, animals and other organisms) and processes (such as growth and reproduction) or the development of biogeological and natural cycles are intact (dunes or river banks, clearings and edges that are not fixed, etc). For English people, this concept is often called a "healthy ecosystem", that the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC refers to as "good ecological status" of aquatic ecosystems and river basins. In French-Speaking Europe, the concept of ecological integrity (or ecological landscape) also refers to the non-fragmentation of ecosystems by transport infrastructure (that hardly can be crossed by most species) or by "polluted" areas or man-made areas that are very hostile to fauna, flora, fungi, etc. There is "ecological integrity" when all components of the ecosystem are normally and functionally active and preserved.

Source: According to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Intégrité écologique, Integridad ecológica.

Ecological niche

Sens technique
The space originally occupied by a species in a biotope and all relationships of all kinds it has with the components of this environment and its other inhabitants.

Source: According to Ifremer
Translations: Niche écologique, Nicho ecológico.

Ecological potential

Sens technique
Goal to be achieved by 2015 for artificial water bodies and heavily modified water bodies in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. The ecological potential of an artificial or heavily modified water body is defined with reference to the most comparable type of surface water bodies. Compared to the values of quality elements for the most comparable type of surface water bodies, the values of good potential take into account the artificial or heavily modified characteristics of the water body. The ecological potential has four classes: good, moderate, poor and bad. Meanwhile the chemical objective remains unchanged.

Source: According to Seine-Normandy Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Potentiel écologique, Potencial ecológico.

Ecological service

Sens technique
Direct or indirect benefit that man obtains from nature. Ecosystems, and more generally biodiversity, support and provide many services, called ecological or ecosystem services, which are sometimes classified as common and/or public good, often vital or useful services to human beings, other species and economic activities. These services include the self-maintaining services, supply services, regulating services and cultural services.

Source: According to Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Ecological service.
Ecological status

Sens technique
Assessment of the structure and functioning of aquatic ecosystems associated with surface waters. It is based on criteria called quality elements which can be biological (presence of living plants and animals), hydro-morphological and physico-chemical. The ecological status has five classes: very good, good, fair, poor and bad. For each type of water body, it is characterized by a deviation from reference conditions (conditions representative of surface water which is not or very little influenced by human activity). The "very good" ecological status is defined by very small differences due to human activity compared to the reference conditions of the type of water body considered. The "good" ecological status is defined by small deviations due to human activity compared to the reference conditions of the type of water body considered. The limits of the good status class are established by inter-calibration.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Species, Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.


Translations: Etat écologique, Estado ecológico.

Ecology

Sens commun
Science of interactions between living organisms (including human beings) and the environment, and among living organisms themselves.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Translations: Ecologie, Ecología.

Econometric model used

Sens technique
Models used to analyze the influence of some data on a variable of interest.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Translations: Modèle économétrique utilisé, Modelo econométrico usado.

Economic analysis

Sens technique
Use of analytical methods and economic instruments to help define water management policies under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Indeed, the goal is to use the economy at several strong points of the WFD implementation: helping achieve environmental objectives - incentive overall price; at the assessment stage, to assess the economic importance of water uses in the district and estimate the level of cost recovery for services; to justify derogations to the target of good status (because of "disproportionate cost" of the necessary measures); when choosing measures to be implemented in the district and building the programme of measures (optimization of the programme by analyzing the cost and effectiveness of each measure).

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing, Regulation.

Translations: Analyse économique, Análisis económico.
Economic surplus

Sens technique
Difference between the *willingness to pay* the maximum price to acquire a property and the price of this property.

**Source:** According to Brigitte Desaigues (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations:** Surplus économique, Excedente económico.

Ecoregion

Sens commun
Geographical entity having homogenous geological, climatic and topographic characteristics, and therefore an assumed homogeneity of the ecological functioning. Conventionally used for terrestrial ecosystems and for understanding vegetation associations, ecoregions can be applied to aquatic ecosystems, this is called freshwater ecoregion.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** ECORÉGION POUR LES EAUX COTIERES ET DE TRANSITIONS, ECORÉGION POUR LES RIVIERES ET LES PLANS D’EAU.

**Translations:** Ecorégion, Ecorredión.

Ecosystem

Sens commun
All living beings (Living communities), non-living elements and climatic and geological conditions (biotope) that are related and interact with each other, and which constitute a basic functional unit in ecology. The ecosystem of an aquatic environment is generally described by: the living beings that are part of it, the nature of the bed and river banks, the characteristics of the catchment area, the hydraulic regime, and the physical-chemical characteristics of water.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Environment and habitat.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecosystème, Ecosistema.

Aquatic ecosystem, Living communities, Biotope, Resilience, Ecological engineering. **Translations:**

Ecotone

Sens commun
Transitional zone at the boundary between two ecosystems. These areas are of vital importance for biodiversity as they are very specific: the banks of a river, wetlands, forest edges constitute ecotones.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Ecotone, Ecotono.

Ecotoxicity

Sens commun
Ability of a substance, because of its toxicity, to produce harmful or troublesome effects on microorganisms, animals, plants or human beings via the environment.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Ecotoxicité, Ecotoxicidad.

Ecotoxicology

Sens commun
Science that studies the impact of chemicals on ecosystems. It takes into account the fate of substances in the environment.
(biotic and abiotic degradation phenomena) and other toxic effects, the ecotoxicity of substances and the mechanisms by which pollution occurs in the biosphere.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Microbial eco-toxicology. **Translations:** Ecotoxicologie, Ecotoxicología.

## Effective Infiltration

### Sens technique

Amount of infiltrated water (mainly rainfall) reaching down to the water table and contributing to feed the latter. Effective infiltration is sometimes expressed as a percentage of the amount of water received on the surface during the reference period.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Translations:** Infiltration efficace, Infiltración eficaz.

## Effective Rainfall

![Effective Rainfall Diagram](image)

### Sens technique

Difference between precipitation and actual evapotranspiration and expressed in mm. Effective rainfall can be calculated directly from climatic parameters and easily used available water (RFU). The water of effective rainfall is distributed to the ground surface into two fractions: runoff and infiltration.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Infiltration, Runoff. **Translations:** Précipitations efficaces, Lluvia eficaz.

## Effluent

### Sens commun

Wastewater or liquid waste discharged into the environment from a source of pollution whatsoever (industry, agriculture, shipping, operating or not, etc).

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Discharge. **Translations:** Effluent, Efluente.

## Elasticity of Demand with Respect to Price

### Sens technique

Percentage of variation in water consumption if we increase by 1% the price per m3. Generally, the elasticity of domestic water consumption is very low, because most uses (drinking water, hygiene, etc) are poorly compressible. In contrast, external consumption (watering, car washing, etc) is much more elastic (sharp drop in case of price increase) because it meets non-essential needs.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations:** Elasticité de la demande par rapport au prix, Elasticidad de la demanda en relación con el precio.
**Electric fishing**

*Sens commun*

Method used to evaluate the abundance of fish species in a portion of a stream and to precise the different populations. It consists in the creation of an electric current which attracts fish. Then, paralyzed by electricity, they rise to the surface, which helps their identification and counts. After a little while, fish are free to circulate in the stream again.

**Source:** According to Wikipedia et Val-de-Meurthe municipality communities

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Pêche électrique.

**Electrical conductivity**

*Sens technique*

Indirect indicator of the concentration of soluble ions ("mineral salts") in water, in relation with the environments it passes through and its residence time.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Conductivité électrique.

**Electronic Data Interchange**

*Sens technique*

Generic term defining an exchange of information on networks disseminating information from various sources according to specifications or standards.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Electronic Data Interchange for laboratories. **Translations:** Échange de Données Informatisé, Intercambio informatizado de datos.

**Electronic Data Interchange for laboratories**

*Sens technique*

Generic term defining the specification approach of the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) relating to the Electronic Data Interchange between sponsors and service providers (samplers and analytical laboratories) in the field of water.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Research and innovation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Electronic Data Interchange, Analysis laboratory. **Translations:** Echange de Données Informatisé pour LABOraatoire, Intercambio informatizado de datos para laboratorio.

**Elementary data**

*Sens technique*

In the modelling of information systems, data whose breakdown does not make sense (they cannot be obtained from other data). Elementary data can be raw (unqualified) or qualified data (which have already undergone various validation phases).

**Source:** According to the CERTA Network

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Donnée élémentaire, Dato elemental.

**Elevation of a water table/aquifer**

*Sens commun*

A level of groundwater

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Elevation of the piezometric record

Sens technique
Elevation defined either in NGF level (French levelling network) or in relative depth. The NGF level, established under the control of the National Geographic Institute (IGN), is the reference. NGF can indeed express altitudes in one and unique reference system, i.e. as compared to the same and unique fundamental point (or "origin-zero" or point zero). The "0" level is the average sea level in Marseilles. This point is used to determine the altitude of any other point. The elevation of the piezometric record can also be expressed in relative depth with respect to the benchmark of the water point. Each water point has indeed two main remarkable points: the benchmark of the water point (measurement benchmark as compared to the level of the groundwater at the water point - edge of the well casing, edge of a well, pontoon on a gravel pit, etc) and elevation references, which allow comparing measurements obtained at several water points to determine the status of the groundwater over the entire surface (three locations can be used as elevation reference: the upper lip of the base (edge), the soil around the water point (ground) or direct measurement benchmark - edge of the tube).

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.
Translations: Cote de la chronique piézométrique, Cota de la crónica piezométrica.

Eliminated pollution

Sens commun
For a wastewater treatment plant, the difference between treated pollution (measured input pollution) and residual pollution (measured output pollution). The pollution eliminated is determined by the Water Agencies through measurements or standard assessments in the peak month.

Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution éliminée, Contaminación eliminada.

Emergency preparedness plan

Synonymes: warning plan. Sens commun
Document for responding quickly and efficiently to a water hazard (accidental pollution, flood, drought, etc). The Prefect is responsible for the emergency preparedness plan.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Risk, Flood, Drought.
Translations: Plan d’alerte, Plan de Alerta.

Emergent substance

Sens technique
Substance gradually found in the environment when monitoring and analytical techniques are improving. Emerging pollutants currently found are: steroids, medicines (antibiotics, hormones), the degradation products of non-ionic detergents, disinfectants, phthalates, flame retardants, antioxidants, etc. They are characterized by their long-term effects on health, such as the development of cancer, due to their accumulation and persistence, even at very low doses.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.
**Emission control**

**Sens technique**
Arrangement requiring a specific emission limitation, e.g. an emission limit value, an authorization system or an emission permit.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Contrôle d'émission, Control de emisiones.

**Emission limit value**

**Sens technique**
Numerical value (concentration, flow, etc), the application of which may be imposed by regulation. A limit value is usually set for a substance, a given environment and a specified use (e.g. the maximum allowable concentration for drinking water). The mandatory value is a limit value.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Valeur limite d'émission, Valor límite de emisión.

**Endangered species**

**Sens commun**
Refers to a taxon when the best available evidence indicates that it faces a "very high" risk of extinction in the wild.

**Source:** d'après Conseil régional de Poitou-Charentes

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Pressure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Species. **Translations:** Espèce en danger, Especie en peligro.

**Endemic**

**Sens commun**
Refers to an organism or taxon with restricted and well defined geographical distribution.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Taxa. **Translations:** Espèce endémique, Endémico.

**Energy of a watercourse**

**Sens technique**
Kinetic energy of a moving water body. This energy is calculated as follows: specific gravity of water by flow rate Q (m3.s-1) X slope S. The potential energy (PE) of a stream is the energy of this flooding watercourse calculated for the bankfull flow rate (expressed in watt.m-1, where QPB is the bankfull flow). To compare streams of different sizes, we use the specific potential energy (EPS) calculated per unit of the stream width (bankfull width - expressed in watt.m-2).

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Energie d'un cours d'eau, Energía de un curso de agua.

**Enhancement**

**Sens technique**
Process that takes an active approach to disseminate information, usually at the end of any data processing and formatting activity, to make them more easily digestible by non-technical users.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
**Entity**

**Sens technique**
General idea, an abstraction that is considered a reality. An entity is the modelling of a real object, i.e. a "station", a "sample point", etc. Data dictionaries established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) include entities (or objects) and attributes (or properties) associated to definitions. An entity may, in particular, be physically translated into a table in a database.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater
**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.
**Translations:** Entité, Entidad.

**Environmental Assessment Method**

**Sens technique**
Method used for the assessment of environmental benefits and damage. There are several methods: the contingent valuation method (CVM), the hedonic pricing method, the travel-cost method, the protection-expenditure method.

**Source:** According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.
**Translations:** Méthode d'évaluation environnementale, Método de evaluación ambiental.

**Environmental audit**

**Sens technique**
Management instrument including a systematic, documented, periodic and objective assessment of the effectiveness of the organisation, management system and procedures in terms of environmental impact. An environmental audit can be carried out without a reference system, with a diagnostic purpose, or with a reference system, in order to check compliance with rules or standards.

**Source:** according to Cogiterra
**Thématiques associées:** Planning, Water and environmental management.
**Translations:** Audit environnemental, Auditoría medioambiental.

**Environmental compartment**

**Sens technique**
Component of the medium concerned by the investigation. The environmental compartments are, for example, water, sediment, aquatic moss, fish, etc. The environmental compartment does not correspond to the environmental compartment actually analyzed since it is generally a fraction of it which is analyzed (e.g., for the fish, the liver, or ... for water, the filtered water). We then speak about analyzed fraction.

**Source:** According to AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.
**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Support(s) suivi(s) par le dispositif de collecte, SUPPORT.
**Translations:** Support, Soporte.

**Environmental compensation**

**Sens commun**
A set of actions for the environment to counterbalance the damage caused by the implementation of a project, which could not be avoided or limited. Environmental compensation can consist of the protection of natural areas, the restoration, use or long-term management of natural habitats.

**Source:** according to CELF
**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Governance.
**Environmental contract**

**Sens technique**
Technical and financial agreement between partners for comprehensive, joint and sustainable management on the scale of a coherent hydrographic unit (usually a river, lake, bay or aquifer). With the sub-basin management plan (SAGE), the environmental contract is a relevant tool for the implementation of river basin management plans (SDAGEs) and programmes of measures approved in 2009 to take into account the objectives and provisions of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). It can be an operational application of a SAGE. It is a voluntary and joint five-year action plan with contractual and financial commitment (designation of the contracting authority, method for financing, work deadlines, etc). These contracts are signed by the concerned partners: departmental prefects, water agencies, local authorities (departmental councils, regional councils, municipalities, inter-municipal syndicates, etc) concerned.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Governance, Planning, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Contrat de milieu, Contrato de medio.

**Environmental cost**

**Sens technique**
Cost of damage to the environment and ecosystems and also indirectly to those who use them: degradation of the quality of water and soil, treatment costs for additional purification of drinking water imposed on communities, etc. Under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, we are interested in damage caused by water uses (withdrawals, discharges, developments, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Financing, Ecological service, Regulation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Environmental damage. **Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau

**Translations:** Coût environnemental, Coste ambiental.

**Environmental damage**

**Sens technique**
Measurable adverse change in a natural resource (protected species and natural habitats, water and soil) or deterioration of a service related to natural resources (functions performed by a natural resource for the benefit of another natural resource or of the public) which may directly or indirectly occur.

**Source:** According to the European Commission

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Environmental damage. **Translations:** Dommage environnemental, Daño ambiental.

**Environmental Economics**

**Sens technique**
Branch of the economics that deals, from a theoretical viewpoint, with the relationship between human societies and the environment, particularly in the context of environmental economic policies.

**Source:** According to Patrice Dumas (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Circular economy, Employment, Financing, Ecological service.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Socioeconomics of the environment. **Translations:** Economie de l'environnement, Economia del medio ambiente.
Environmental engineerin

**Sens commun**
Scientific, technical and practical knowledge to understand and improve interactions between human beings and natural environments.

**Source:** according to CELF

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecological engineering. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Génie de l'environnement.

evironmental hazard - see “Risque majeur”

Environmental Information

**Sens commun**
According to the law, it concerns a wide range of information on: environmental status; factors affecting environmental status (the sources of pollution or nuisance); administrative or individual measures and actions that may affect the environment, human health status and safety (including food) and the living conditions of people; cultural sites (provided that they are or may be affected by the environmental status) and reports on the implementation of environmental legislation, as well as cost-benefit analyses and other economic analyses. This information may be available in a written, visual or audio form, in electronic or paper versions: this includes emails, letters, reports and other documents, but also manuscripts, databases, GIS layers, photos, videos, etc.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Data and information system.

**Translations:** Information environnementale, Información ambiental.

Environmental objective

**Sens technique**
A goal required by the **Water Framework Directive (WFD).** The latter sets out four key **environmental objectives** that are: the non-deterioration of water bodies, the achievement of "good status" or "good potential" of water bodies by 2015, the reduction or elimination of pollution by "priority substances", and compliance with all standards by 2015 in protected areas. The targets for water bodies and objectives of reduction or elimination of priority substances are included in the river **basin management plans** (SDAGEs).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Objectif environnemental, Objetivo ambiental.

Environmental quality standard

**Sens technique**
Concentration of a pollutant in the natural environment that should not be exceeded, in order to protect human health and the environment. The environmental quality standard is involved in determining the **chemical status.**

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Regulation.


**Translations:** Norme de qualité environnementale, Norma de calidad ambiental.

Environmental risk analysis

**Sens technique**
Methodology for assessing the dangers of the dispersion of contaminants in different **environmental compartments** (air, water, sediments, living organisms).

**Source:** According to Ifremer
Environmental tax

Sens technique
Tax levied by the State to control pollution or the overexploitation of water resources. In the case of pollution, the environmental tax consists in imposing to the polluter a tax per unit of pollutant discharged (which is equal to the marginal cost of pollution abatement). A tax is economically more efficient than a standard because the effort to reduce pollution is naturally distributed at low cost.
Source: According to OECD
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing, Ecological service.
Translations: Taxe environnementale, Impuesto ambiental.

Equilibrium profile

Sens technique
Longitudinal profile of a river whose erosive power is not sufficient.
Source: According to MNHN
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Profil d'équilibre, Perfil de equilibrio.

Equitox

Sens technique
Amount of toxicity which, in 1 m³ of water, blocks 50% of the Daphnia (freshwater micro-crustaceans) found in water after 24 hours.
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Health.
Translations: Equitox, Equitox.

Equivalent depth of runoff

Sens technique
Value of the interannual flow converted into mm.
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Lame d'eau équivalente, Lámina de agua equivalente.

Erosion

Sens commun
All phenomena that remove materials from the surface of a rock or soil, most often by rain, wind and waves. It can be of physical, chemical or biological origin.
Source: According to Seine-Normandy Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Risk, Erosion.
Translations: Erosion, Erosión.

Erosion of river banks

Sens commun
Natural phenomenon, usually caused by the current, involved in the transport of sediment load and sediment recharge of streams. The erosion of river banks is causing migration of meanders, and ensures the dynamic functioning of the watercourse. However, there are unnatural kinds of erosion of a river bank: the trampling of the river bank by cattle (weakens the bank and removes vegetation); non-adapted planting on the bank (softwood and poplar); lairs of coypus and exotic crayfish (especially clarkia). These unnatural erosions of river banks have a serious impact on the functioning of the stream when it comes to an important linear.

**Source:** According to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Risk, Erosion.  
**Translations:** Erosion des berges, Erosión de las orillas.

### Estuary

![](image)

**Sens commun**

End and flared shaped section of a river where the sea inflows. It is a zone where fresh and marine waters are mixing. This mixture results in a very significant gradient of the physico-chemical properties of water which varies in space and time.

**Source:** According to Ifremer  
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Shoreline.  
**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Estuaire, Estuario.

### Eutrophication

![](image)

**Sens commun**

Excessive enrichment of rivers and water bodies by nutrients, mainly phosphorus and nitrogen, which constitute a true fertilizer for aquatic plants. It is characterized by excessive proliferation of plants whose decomposition causes a significant decrease in the oxygen content. It results, among other things, in a diminishing fauna and flora diversity and in disrupted uses (drinking water supply, recreational activities, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Body of water, Substance and pollutant.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Natural eutrophic lake. **Translations:** Eutrophisation, Eutrofización.

### Evaporation

![](image)

**Sens commun**

Progressive transformation of water, changing from fluid to gaseous state, thanks to an input of energy (heat, sun...).
Evapotranspiration

Sens commun

Quantity of water vapour coming, on the one hand, from the evaporation of water from soil, surface water, and wet vegetation, and, on the other, from plant transpiration. Evapotranspiration is an important component of the water cycle. It depends on meteorological parameters (sun rays, wind, temperature, etc) on soil characteristics (moisture, albedo, etc) and on vegetation. It is measured in water depth related to duration, for example in mm/day.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hydrological balance, Recharge. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB.
Translations: Evapotranspiration, Evapotranspiración.

Excavation

Sens commun

Action to remove soil or rubble to level or lower the soil.

Source: according to the National Centre for Textual and Lexical Resour
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Déblai, Desmonte.

Exclusive fishing zone

Sens technique

Area, 12 nautical miles wide from the baseline, in which vessels of the riparian country are basically the only ones having the right to fish.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Zone de pêche exclusive, Zona de pesca exclusiva.

Exemption

Sens technique

Postponement of the 2015 deadline to achieve "good status" of waters, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. The greatest postponement, set at 2027, must be justified by at least one of the following reasons: technical feasibility, natural conditions, disproportionate costs, force majeure events (for temporary exemptions) or the development of projects responding to reasons of public interest.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Report de délai, Ampliación de plazos.

Experience-based choice method

Synonymes: choice modelling method, Sens technique

Method consisting in assessing an environmental good and based on surveys, during which respondents are asked to choose among several composite scenarios. In each set of choices, two alternatives and a reference situation (status quo) are proposed. The respondent chooses a scenario within each set or class of scenarios. A statistical analysis is then used to assign a value to each attribute level of the good considered, and therefore, by summing them, to the good in its entirety.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Stated (or expressed) preference method, Bias. Translations: Méthode d'expérience de choix, Método de experiencia de elección.
Exploitation of aggregates

**Sens commun**
Action to exploit in the sense of making profits from aggregate extraction.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Industry.

**Translations:** Exploitation de granulats, Explotación de granulados.

External cost

**Sens technique**
Costs incurred by an activity at the expense of another activity, of an environment, etc, and uncompensated or not supported by those who generate them. Under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, we are interested in external environmental costs of services related to water use and more generally water-related activities (withdrawals, discharges, developments, etc); e.g. the costs of exploration and exploitation of new resources due to the pollution of previously exploited groundwater are actually and ultimately supported by the subscribers to drinking water supply services on the price per cubic metre. One of the great practices of environmental economy is to reintegrate externalities into market exchange, externalities are internalized. In other words, environmental degradation (pollution, overexploitation, etc) is included into the prices that otherwise is ignored.

**Source:** According to Patrice Dumas (economist)

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing, Ecological service, Regulation.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l’eau

**Translations:** Coût externe, Coste externo.

Externality

**Sens technique**
Situation in which the action of an economic agent affects, but this not being his purpose, the status of other agents, even though they are not involved: they have not been consulted and have not received (if the influence is negative) nor paid (if it is positive) any compensation. An externality can be positive or negative. It can be the result of an act of production or consumption.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Translations:** Externalité, Externalidad.

Extractable soil water

**Sens commun**
Quantity of water that the soil can hold and return immediately to the roots of plants. It is expressed in millimeters (mm).

**Source:** d’après Ministère chargé de l’environnement et AFB

**Sens technique**
The extractable soil water (RU) is the fraction of the soil water reserve available to the plant, or that which can be extracted by the plant through root suction. It is expressed in millimetres of water.

**Source:** d’après INRA

**Thématiques associées:** Soil, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Réserve utile, Reserva útil de suelo.

Extraction

**Sens commun**
Action to extract alluvial materials (pebbles, gravel, sand, etc) from river beds, valleys and terraces mainly for exploitation (economic activity) or maintenance of watercourses.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
**Extreme precipitation**

**Sens commun**
A term that characterises high intensity rainfall events occurring over a short period of time, and of low occurrence in both time and space.

**Source:** according to IRSTEA and METEO FRANCE

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Precipitation.  **Translations:** Précipitations extrêmes, Precipitaciones extremas.

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**F**

**Facies**

**Sens technique**
Morphodynamic unit of a stream having longitudinal homogeneity in the slope of the water surface and in the distribution of water levels, in the velocities of the flow and in the particle size of the substrate. The length of a facies can vary from one to several times the width of the wet bed. For example, we can mention three major types of contrasted facies: wet (relatively low slope, high water levels, low velocities); fast (high slope, high flow velocities, substrate mainly composed of large blocks); and flat (average slope, average and uniform velocities, water level rather low, symmetrical and regular cross profile, medium and homogeneous particle size).

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Faciès, Facies.

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**Facility**

**Synonymes:** installation.  **Sens commun**
Technical unit where one or several activities or processes are carried out.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Industry.

**Translations:** Installation, Instalación.

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**Falling tide**

**Sens commun**
Part of the tidal cycle between high tide and the next low tide, opposite to rising tide. Also referred to as "ebb" or "ebb tide."

**Source:** According to the International Hydrographic Organization

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Tide, Rising Tide.  **Translations:** Marée descendante, Marea descendente.

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**Fallow**

**Sens commun**
Temporary or permanent unuse of part of cultivated areas.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Use, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Integrated farming/agriculture.  **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. Jachère.

**Translations:**

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**Farm**
Sens commun
Place where an agricultural activity occurs (livestock or crops).

Source: according to IOWater

Sens technique
Economic and production unit that simultaneously meets three conditions: the unit has an agricultural activity, reaches or exceeds a certain dimension (surface area, number of animals, production...) and is under day-to-day and independent management.

Source: according to the Ministry of Agriculture

Sens réglementaire
According to European Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 concerning integrated statistics on agricultural holdings, an agricultural holding is an individual unit, from a technical and economic point of view, which has a management and carrying out economic activities in the field of agriculture, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006, falling within groups A.01.1, A.01.2, A.01.3, A.01.4, A.01.5 or the "maintenance of agricultural land under good agricultural and environmental conditions" of group A.01.6 on the economic territory of the Union, as a primary or secondary activity. For activities in class A.01.49, only the following activities are included: "breeding of semi-domestic animals or other live animals" (except for the breeding of insects) and "beekeeping and production of honey and beeswax."

Source: according to the European Parliament

Fauna

Synonyms: wildlife. Sens commun
All animal species that make a population or zoocoenosis. Also designates all animals specific to a region or to a given geological era.

Source: According to Ifremer

Fauna and flora habitats directive

Sens technique
Directive 92/43 / EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and fauna and flora, known DHFF Directive. It aims to contribute to the maintenance of biodiversity by defining a common framework for the conservation of natural habitats - terrestrial or aquatic - and wild species of plants and animals of community interest. It obliges members of states designate special areas of conservations (SACs) which must apply measures to maintain or restore a favorable conservation status. All the lists of selected sites, drawn up by each Member State constitute the Natura 2000 European network.

Source: According to the Ministry for the environment and AFB

Faunal list

Sens technique
Enumeration of each taxa present in one or more basic hydro-biological samples taken during the same sample operation.
Faunistic indicator group

Sens technique
Constitutive metrics of the Standardized Global Biological Index (IBGN), revealing the sensitivity of aquatic invertebrates to pollution (mainly organic).

Fee
Synonymes: Tax. Sens commun
Payment, made in exchange for an operation right, or for the right to use a service. The French Water Agencies collect fees from all users of water in response to the impact of their activities on aquatic environments. These charges, based on the "polluter pays" principle is also a financial resource dedicated to the preservation of water resources and aquatic environments. The fee rate calculation is performed annually by the River Basin committee, under control of the law.

Fertilisation
Synonymes: Input of matters (fertiliser) to maintain or increase the fertility of a soil.

Filtration plant
Synonymes: All equipment for treating and cleaning polluted water.

Fish
Synonymes: Aquatic vertebrate that breathes through gills and has both limbs represented by fins (pectoral and pelvic). Fish are usually...
Fish classification of watercourses

Sens réglementaire

Legal classification of a watercourse based on the dominant species and worthy of protection. In principle, the river is classified in the first category when the dominant group consists of salmonids (salmon, trout) and in the second category, when the dominant group is composed of cyprinids (carp, barbel,roach, etc.). This classification determines the fishing practices.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Species, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Catégorie piscicole des cours d'eau, Categoría piscícola de los cursos de agua.

fish farming - see "Aquaculture"
fish fauna - see "Ichtyofaune"

Fish population

Sens commun

Group of multispecies fish.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Watercourse, Shoreline, Species.
Translations: Peuplement piscicole, Población piscícola.

Fish species

Synonymes: fish fauna. Sens commun

All fish living in a geographical area or a specific habitat.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Translations: Ichtyofaune, Ictiofauna.

Fish stocking

Sens commun

Action to introduce or reintroduce farmed species, mostly in fresh waters, in order to enrich the fish stocks for recreational or professional fishing or to protect threatened species.

Source: according to Wikipédia
Thématiques associées: Species, Watercourse, Shoreline.
Translations: Repueuplement piscicole.

Fishery

Sens technique

Designates a fraction, one or more stocks in interaction with one or more fleets practicing one or more fishing activities.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Pêcherie, Pesquería.

Fishing effort

Sens technique
Measurements of all capture means used on a stock, for a determined time interval. The calculation of the fishing effort is as follows: surface of the net laying (expressed in m²) x fishing time (in hours).

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Effort de pêche, Esfuerzo de pesca.

Fishing effort unit

Sens commun
Fishing operation or set of operations of a fishing vessel for a given time (hours of trawling, number of trap/pot hauls per day, etc).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Unité d'effort de pêche, Unidad de esfuerzo de pesca.

Fishing mortality

Sens commun
Instantaneous rate of disappearance of individuals due to fishing.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Mortalité par pêche, Mortalidad por la pesca.

Fishing operation

Sens commun
All sampling actions in an aquatic environment, which are conducted on a measuring station and at a given moment, in order to know and follow the fish populations.

Source: d'après AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Water and environmental management, Public policy.
Translations: Opération de pêche, Operación de pesca.

Fishing season

Sens technique
Fishing operation (with netting) whose duration depends on the human resources and equipment used and on the surface and depth of the body of water. On-site measurements are performed to know the environmental conditions and to better estimate the fishing results. The fishing season includes all concepts and information considered stable during a sample campaign: one or more consecutive nights or days depending on the protocols, the size, depth and diversity of habitats in the body of water. It allows specifying the following pieces of information: the fishing protocol used (currently there are only two published protocols and therefore usable: (i) the vertical fishing nets used since the 1990s, (ii) the multi-mesh nets described in the prEN 14757/2003 standard currently being validated by CEN); the measurement network(s) involved in the season;; the person in charge of the season (mandatory); the contractor of the season and the person who made the fishing (service provider). From the modelling viewpoint, the fishing season can be compared to a biological sample on a body of water, except that it takes place over several netting sites.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ECHANTILLON, OPERATION DE PRELEVEMENT BIOLOGIQUE, PRELEVEMENT, TAXON.
Translations: Campagne de pêche, Campaña de pesca.

Fishing status

Sens technique
Status associated with water of a **body of water**, determining the rules to which the body of water is subjected to for its **use**: open or impounded water.

**Source**: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Species, Body of water.

**Translations**: Statut piscicole, Estatus piscícola.

## Fishway

**Sens technique**

Device located on a natural or artificial barrier (**dam**) that allows **migratory fish** to pass these barriers to access their spawning or feeding grounds. We distinguish devices for upstream **spawning runs** from those for **downstream migration**. Other crossing equipments are sometimes assimilated to fishways, e.g. fish elevators/lifts, special locks, etc.

**Source**: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Species, Water and environmental management, Hydromorphology, Environment and habitat, Watercourse, Public policy.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Dam, Spawning run, Fish, Downstream migration.  
**Translations**: Passe-à-poissons, Paso de peces.

## Fixed capital

**Sens technique**

All material means for production that are not destroyed during the production process. Their lifespan exceeds one year.

**Source**: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater

**Thématiques associées**: Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations**: Capital fixe, Capital fijo.

## Fixed capital consumption

**Sens technique**

Depreciation of fixed assets incurred during the given period as a result of normal wear and tear and foreseeable disuse. Note: obsolescence is the loss in value caused by a reduction in the level of desirability and usefulness of goods due to their outmode design and construction.

**Source**: According to Treasury Board of Canada

**Thématiques associées**: Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations**: Consommation de capital fixe, Consumo de capital fijo.

## Fixed cost

**Sens technique**

Part of the cost of production that does not vary with the quantity produced. The importance of **fixed costs** in the total cost of production depends on the structure of the production activity. For instance, fixed costs are paramount in network industries. In public water and **sanitation** utilities, fixed costs can represent up to 80% of the total costs.

**Source**: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Environmental economics, Financing.

**Translations**: Coût fixe, Coste fijo.
Fjord

Sens commun
Part of an ancient glacial valley invaded by the sea.
Source: according to IFREMER
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Fjord, Fiordo.

Flood

Sens commun
Phenomenon characterized by a more or less abrupt rise in the level of a watercourse, related to a flow growth. Flood is not always an overflow of the riverbed. Floods are also characterized by their return period: the five-year flood (frequency one year out of 5 - Return period 5), the ten-year flood (frequency one year out of 10 - Return period 10), the hundred-year flood (frequency, one year out of 100 - return period 100). Seasonal floods are natural phenomena. They are essential to maintaining the diversity of water systems and services provided by nature.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Flood forecasting, Flood control. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Crue,
Translations: Crecida.

Flood control

Sens technique
Action of limiting a peak flow, either by storage in a specific reservoir, or by expanding the flood plain.
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Flood. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Ecrêtement de crue, Regulación de crecidas.

Flood flow

Sens technique
For a given year: it is either the highest flash flood flow rate (QIX) or the highest daily flow rate (QJX). For several years, by using a sample including the highest number possible of annual flood flows, it is the value associated with different theoretical return periods (2, 5, 10 and 50 years in Hydro), determined by a statistic study. A confidence interval is calculated based on the number of available years, their homogeneity, the method used.
Source: According to SCHAPI
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit de crue, Caudal de crecida.

Flood forecasting

Sens technique
Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau
Analysis aiming to determine the expected flood characteristics: flow, level, time of onset and duration of these floods at different sites in the drainage basin. Modelling is used for this purpose. The forecasts are based on series of statistical analyses of historical floods and on the knowledge of flood storage areas.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Crisis management.  
**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** PREVISION.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.  
**Translations:** Prévision de crue, Previsión de crecidas.

## Flood forecasting service

**Sens technique**

Service in charge of predicting hazardous situations caused by heavy floods, in partnership with Météo-France. The flood forecasting Service (SPC) warns the Prefect in case of alarm and prepares the information to be disseminated to the mayors. The Civil Protection Service of the prefecture is in turn responsible for alerting the mayors by suitable means and providing them with the information developed by the flood forecasting service. It works in collaboration with the Departmental Fire and Rescue Service and the national police and gendarmerie. Flood forecasting encounters two possible situations. In the case of large plain rivers with slow flood regime, the flood event is no surprise even if it can be very long and cause considerable damage. Its high predictability (several hours to several days) allows time for preparedness. Conversely, flood warning in case of flash floods, fast and sometimes devastating, in small streams with steep slopes or located immediately downstream of mountains, is much more difficult due to the short time forecast (less than an hour).

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Climate, Rain and snow, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.  
**Translations:** Service de prévision des crues, Servicio de Previsión de Crecidas.

## Flood marker

**Sens commun**

A mark showing the historical floods of a river. Witness to the great past floods, flood markers allow to keep the memory of floods that time or trauma can sometimes erase. They come in different shapes (line or mark on stone, metal plate or sealed flat button, etc) and are found on different types of buildings (public or private buildings, wharves, piers of bridge, etc).

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Flood.  
**Translations:** Repère de crue, Referencia de crecida.

## Flood retention plain

**Sens commun**

Storage area to regulate high flows to prevent flooding.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Flood.  
**Translations:** Zone de rétention de crue, Zona de retención de crecida.

## Flood return period

**Sens technique**

Long-term average interval of time or number of years within which a flood of a given height will be equalled or exceeded, e.g. a flood with a 10-year return period has every year 1 out of 10 chances to occur (called 10-year flood). This is then called the flood reference 0.1.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.  
**Translations:** Période de retour d'une crue, Periodo de retorno de una crecida.

## Flood storage area
Sens technique
Natural or man-made space over which water is spreading when rivers overflow in their floodplain. The temporary storage of water reduces the overflow by increasing its flow time. This storage is part of the functioning of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Generally speaking, a flood storage area is meant for little or non-urbanized and little developed areas.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Flood. Translations: Zone d'expansion de crues, Zona de expansión de crecidas.

Flood travel
Sens commun
Travel of rising water levels from upstream to downstream of a watercourse.
Source: according to IRSTEA
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

Flood warning
Sens commun
Warning issued in advance by the departmental flood forecasting services. In the event of heavy rainfall or hydrological alert, a flood warning is sent to the Prefect, who then alerts the mayors of the catchment areas concerned.
Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Hydrology, Risk, Flood.

Flood-prone areas plan
Sens technique
Document that establishes a public easement affecting land use. It allows the administration to oppose any action or work likely to impede the free flow of water or the conservation or floodplains.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Planning, Risk, Flood.
Translations: Plan de Surface Submersible, Plan de Superficie Sumergible.

Flood-storage area
Sens commun
Area where overflows can spread in the floodplain and which plays a significant role in flood control. Mapping these flood-storage areas allows better land use management in the valleys.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Risk, Flood.
flooding - see "Inondation"
flooding date - see "Dernière année de mise en eau"

Floodplain
Sens commun
Maximum bed occupied by a stream in which water flows only temporarily when the minor bed overflows during very high-flow periods (especially in the largest historical flood). Its outer limits are determined by the largest historical flood. The floodplain of the river allows the storage of overflowing waters. There is also a mosaic of habitats for many species. These habitats are also called "water dependent habitats"
**Flora**

**Sens commun**
Plant species growing in a given geographical area or environment.

**Source:** According to ADEME
**Thématiques associées:** Species, Flora.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** biodiversity, Aquatic flora. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Flore, Flora.

**Floristic list**

**Sens technique**
Abundance of each taxa present in one or more basic hydro-biological samples taken during the same sample operation.

**Source:** According to AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Species, Flora, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.
**Translations:** Liste floristique, Lista florística.

**Flotation of sludge**

**Sens commun**
Sludge separation process based on differences in hydrophobicity of the surfaces of the particles to be separated. E.g. Flotation of sludge is used in mineralurgy to separate minerals from each other and in the treatment of wastewater to remove fats.

**Source:** According to ADEME
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
**Translations:** Flottation de boue, Flotación de fango.

**Flow**

**Sens commun**
Makes a fluid move along a preferential route.

**Source:** According to Ifremer
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Low-flow level. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** CAMPAGNE D'OBSEVRATIONS, OBSERVATION PROPRE A L'ECOULEMENT, STATION D'OBSERVATION DES ETIAGES. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Ecoulement, Flujo.

**Flow deficit**

**Sens technique**
Difference between the average water depth of rainfall in the basin and the equivalent depth of runoff. It can be considered, in a first approximation, as actual evapotranspiration.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Déficit d’écoulement, Déficit de escorrentía.

**Flow rate or flow or discharge**

**Sens technique**
Volume of water passing through a cross section of a watercourse per time unit. The flow rates of watercourses are expressed...
in m³/s with at least three significant figures (e.g. 1.92 m³/s, 19.2 m³/s, 192 m³/s) or, for small streams in l/s. The accuracy of a flow result depends on many factors: type of method used, careful measures, rigorous counting, influence of the ground. In hydrology, the term “flow rate or flow” is found in many expressions having a descriptive character: low water flow, fluid flow, morphogenetic flow, solid discharge rate or sediment discharge.

Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Débit, Caudal.

**Flow regime**

Sens technique
Way in which the fluid particles move together during a flow.
Source: according to the National Higher School of Hydrology
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Régime d’écoulement, Régimen de flujo.

**Fluvial dynamics**

Sens technique
Part of potamology (branch of hydrology that deals with rivers and their regime) which deals with the flow in watercourses and the impact on the bed material of the forces that it brings into play.
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Dynamique fluviale, Dinámica fluvial.

**Food web**

Sens technique
All connected food chains within an ecosystem. A food web refers to all the trophic relationships existing within a biocenosis between the various ecological categories of living beings constituting the latter (producers, consumers, decomposers). Food webs are affected by global changes, especially those related to climate change.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: biodiversity, Ecosystem, Aquatic ecosystem, Species. Translations: Réseau trophique.

**Foreshore**

Sens commun
Part of the shoreline exposed at low tide and covered at high tide.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Estran, Zona intermareal.

**Fossorial**

Sens commun
Describes a marine organism that lives and moves in the sediment, either for protection or for finding food.
Source: According to Ifremer
French Association for Standardization (AFNOR)

**Sigle:** AFNOR.  **Sens commun**

Association governed by the law of 1901, recognized by public utility, composed of nearly 2,500 member companies. Its mission is to lead and coordinate the standards development process and promote their application. AFNOR is the central core of the French standardization system.

**Source:** According to Organisation internationale de normalisation

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Association Française de Normalisation, Asociación Francesa de Normalización.

**frequency**

**Sens technique**

For a low-water flow lower or equal to a given value "a", the ratio between the number of observations made in a series of flows (usually monthly), where the flow remains below this value "a", and the total number of observations in this series (FEtiage = number of observations with Q ≤ a / total number of observations). For a flood flow rate greater than or equal to a given value "b", the frequency is the ratio between the number of observations made in a series of flows (usually monthly), where the flow exceeds this value "b", and the total number of observations in this series (FCrue = number of observations with Q ≥ b / total number of observations). These two limit values "a" and "b" are not identical. For the frequency to be reliable, the series must have at least 30 observations.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Fréquence d’analyse de sol, Fréquence d’analyse du produit.

**Translations:** Fréquence, Frecuencia.

**Fresh water**

**Sens commun**

Water whose low salt content makes it suitable for abstraction for various uses, especially for irrigation and human consumption. The limits of salt content between fresh, brackish and salt water are not rigorously set and may vary according to legislations. However, marine waters have a salt content generally ranging from 10 to 38 g/l depending on inflows of freshwater from rivers, but sometimes have much higher contents, such as the Dead Sea (up to 260 g/l).

**Source:** According to UNESCO

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water utilization, Water abstraction.  **Translations:** Eau douce, Agua dulce.

**Freshening**

**Sens technique**

Reduction of the salinity of sea water resulting either from a mixture of sea water with inland water or from rain.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Shoreline.

**Translations:** Dessalure, Desalinización.

**Freshwater Fish Directive**

**Sens réglementaire**

Directive 78/659/EEC of the Council of 18 July 1978 concerns the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to sustain fish populations. It concerns the quality of fresh waters and applies to those waters designated by the Member States as needing protection or improvement in order to sustain fish life; it does not apply to water used for intensive fish farming. Member States shall determine the values of the parameters applicable either to salmonid or cyprinid areas. This

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB, Ineris, website Europa.eu

**Freshwater limit**

**Sens commun**

Location in the watercourse where, at low tide and in a low-flow period, the salinity increases significantly due to the presence of sea water.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Shoreline.

**Translations:** Limite des eaux douces, Limite de las aguas dulces.

**Fungicide**

**Sens commun**

Pesticide used to control, repel or destroy fungi.

Source: according to Lenntech

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Agriculture, Chemistry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Phytosanitary product. **Translations:** Fongicide, Fungicida.

**Future area for drinking water supply**

**Sens commun**

Area which is not yet used for drinking water production but could be in the future.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

**Translations:** Zone future d'alimentation en eau potable, Zona futura de suministro de agua potable.

**G**

**Gabion**

**Sens commun**

Wire mesh cage to be filled with stones and pebbles for the protection of engineering structures or river banks.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Gabion, Gabión.

**Gastropod**

**Sens commun**

Creeping mollusc often having a spiral shell wherein its visceral mass is wound up and protected, and which moves by contraction of its broad single foot.

Source: According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater
Gauging

Sens commun
Determination of flow characteristics (velocity or flow rate) for a stream or headwaters.
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: JAUGEAGE.
Translations: Jaugeage, Aforo de caudales.

Generic Code of a watercourse

Sens technique
Identifier of a hydrographic structure, which can be a natural or developed watercourse, or a natural or developed section of a river, a man-made waterway (channel, etc), a body of water or a shoreline.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Data and information system.
Translations: Code générique d’un cours d’eau, Código genérico de un curso de agua.

Geocatalogue

Sens technique
Online service offered by the French government to allow individuals and organizations to find geospatial products and services produced by the French public administrations, local authorities and institutions. The Geocatalogue offers organizations the possibility to record and reference their organization, their data, their web services and their resources. The Geocatalogue is not exclusive and provides a link to other catalogues of spatial data. It meets the interoperability standards of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).
Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Géocatalogue, Geocatálogo.

Geographic coordinates

Sens technique
Latitude, longitude and elevation of a place. To specify a location on the surface of the planet, we can use a different system called "cartographic coordinates". To get a location on the Earth, it is necessary to use a geodetic system which gives the geographic coordinates found on maps. The latter can be expressed either in the form of longitude and latitude (called geographic coordinates), or of a planar representation on a map (called projection coordinates). Regulatory projection in continental France is a Lambert Conformal Conic Projection (NTF geodetic system).
Source: According to BRGM and AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Coordonnées géographiques, Coordenadas geográficas.

Geographic Information System

Sens technique
Information system (computerized and automated) that can process (capture, store, manipulate, manage, analyze, present) many geospatial data.
Source: According to Irstea
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Translations: Système d'information géographique, Sistema de información geográfica.
**Geolocation**

**Sens technique**
Action to locate an entity (structure, event, etc) in a given and more or less precise geographic reference frame: absolutely (longitude, latitude, altitude, or X, Y, Z) or relative (town, hydrographic area, aquifer system, river, water body, mileage point, etc) in a known geographical coordinates system.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Géolocalisation, Georreferenciación.

**Geomorphological functioning**

**Sens commun**
The functioning of streams according to different landforms and causes explaining it.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Fonctionnement géomorphologique, Funcionamiento geomorfológico.

**Geomorphology**

**Sens commun**
Science that studies the landforms and their mobility and dynamics. In hydrosystems, the analysis focuses on the geometry of the riverbed and on the causes of its spatial (from upstream to downstream) or time-slot transformations in connection with the modification of solid and liquid flows, the dynamics of riparian vegetation, human activities. It is therefore an interface and synthetic science that uses naturalistic and experimental data (including hydraulics and hydrology) and data from the humanities (history, agricultural economics, etc). River geomorphology: science that seeks to understand and describe the structure of the watercourse. It studies the shapes of rivers and the conditions of their formation. The geomorphological dynamics determine the ecological functioning of aquatic environments.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Géomorphologie, Geomorfología.

**Global Change**

**Sens commun**
Induced change in the dynamics of the biosphere by human activities, directly or not.

**Source:** d’après Agence de l'eau Rhin-Meuse

**Thématiques associées:** Climate, Climate change.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Climate change, Anthropization. **Translations:** Changement global, Cambio global.

**Global conservation status**

**Sens technique**
For a natural habitat, sum of the influences acting on a natural habitat and typical species that may affect its long-term natural distribution, structure and functions as well as the long-term survival of its typical species within the territory. For species, sum of the influences acting on the species concerned that may affect the long-term distribution and abundance of its populations within the territory.

**Source:** According to the European Commission

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Fauna and flora habitats directive. **Documents de référence:** Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages

**Translations:** Etat de conservation global.
Good status

Sens réglementaire

Goal to be achieved for all waters by 2015, according to the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, unless postponement or definition of a less strict target. The good status of surface water is achieved when both its ecological status and chemical status are at least "good". The good status of groundwater is achieved when both its quantitative status and chemical status are at least "good".

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water body, Quantitative status, Ecological status, Chemical status. Directive

Documents de référence: 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau

Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

Translations: Bon état, Buen estado.

Governance

Sens technique

Establishment of more flexible and ethical methods for control or regulation, based on an open and informed partnership between different stakeholders and interested parties, at both local and global levels. Water governance is the sharing of decision-making between the state, local elected representatives, citizens and private stakeholders.

Source: according to AFB and Agroparistech

Thématiques associées: Governance.

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Gouvernance, Gobernanza.

Grassy buffer zone

Sens technique

Grass strip bordering a plot, mainly located along rivers, which acts as a buffer zone by intercepting and filtering runoff water.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Watercourse, Pressure, Substance and pollutant, Use, Agriculture.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Buffer zone. Documents de référence: Loi n° 2010-788 du 12 juillet 2010 portant engagement national pour l'environnement

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Bande enherbée, Franjas enyerbadas.

Gravel pit

Sens commun

Artificial body of water originally created by gravel extraction and primarily fed by groundwater.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Body of water.

Translations: Gravière, Gravera.

Gravity dam

Sens technique

A rather old dam, made of a block of solid material (concrete or masonry) heavy enough to withstand the water pressure.

Source: according to the French Committee of Dams and Reservoirs

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Watercourse, Obstacle to flow. Translations: Barrage poids, Presa de gravedad.
Green algae

Sens commun
Chlorophyllous aquatic plant having no leaves, no roots, no vessels, no flowers, no seeds, whose main photosynthetic pigments are chlorophylls a and b. As the name suggests, they are usually green in color.

Source: d'après dictionnaire Larousse

Sens technique
Algae phylum whose sometimes exclusive major pigment is chlorophyll β, associated with carotene and xanthophyll. Their only reproductive organs are sporocysts and gametocysts. Their plastids elaborate starch as in the Phanerogamous. It includes three classes: Chlorophyceae, Zygothraceae and Charophyceae.

Source: d'après dictionnaire encyclopédique des sciences de la nature et de la biodiversité
Thématiques associées: Species, Watercourse, Shoreline, Substance and pollutant, Agriculture.
Translations: Algue verte.

Green and Blue Habitat network

Sens technique
Network consisting of terrestrial ecological ("green" habitat) and aquatic ("blue" habitat) continuities, especially identified in regional ecological coherence schemes (RECS). The green and blue habitats (GBH) contribute to the enabling conservation status of natural habitats and species and to the good ecological status of water bodies, as well as to maintain the services that biodiversity provides (water quality, pollination, flood prevention, improvement of the living environment, etc.). It extends to the transversal limit of the sea. The GBH is a tool of sustainable development and regional planning, with the master plans for water development and management (SDAGE). It is also a tool for preserving biodiversity, combined with all the other existing tools: protected areas, national parks, nature reserves, biotope protection decrees, Natura 2000, regional natural parks, national action plans for endangered species, etc.) under the 2011-2020 National Biodiversity Strategy.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Preservation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Loi n° 2009-967 du 3 août 2009 de programmation relative à la mise en œuvre River basin management plan, National Park, Regional natural park, Biotop protection order, Natura 2000, Regional ecological coherence scheme, Watercourses fragmentation.
Documents de référence: du Grenelle de l'environnement
Loi n° 2010-788 du 12 juillet 2010 portant engagement national pour l'environnement
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Trame verte et bleue, Trama verde y azul.

Green Gross Domestic Product

Sens technique
Measurement which subtracts from the usual gross domestic product (GDP) the decrease in the stock of natural resources (e.g. water resources). This accounting method would allow having better knowledge about whether an economic activity increases or lowers national wealth when it uses natural resources. However, economists believe that it could be difficult to establish this new indicator.

Source: According to Jean Gadrey (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Ecological service.
Translations: Produit Intérieur Brut vert, Producto interior bruto verde.

Green tide

Sens commun
Pollution caused by the stranding of large amounts of green algae (sea lettuces) on the beaches.
**Green water**

Sens commun

Water contained in the soil and available for plants.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Eau verte, Agua verde.

**Greenhouse effect**

Sens commun

Heating of the earth’s atmosphere caused by the presence of certain heat trapping gases (including water vapour, carbon dioxide and methane). These gases absorb radiation from the Earth, thereby delaying the energy loss of the atmospheric system to space. The greenhouse effect has been a natural atmospheric phenomenon for millions of years and keeps the Earth at a temperature sufficient for human beings to live.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Translations:** Effet de serre, Efecto invernadero.

**Grey water**

Sens commun

Domestic waste water from showers, baths, sinks and sinks, washing machines and dishwashers.

**Source:** according to ANSES and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater, Domestic wastewater, Sanitation, Blackwater. **Translations:** Eaux grises, Aguas grises.

**Grid**

**Synonymes:** screen. **Sens commun**

Fixed or mobile structure, situated downstream and/or upstream of a fish farm, preventing the free circulation of fish.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Obstacle to flow. **Translations:** Grille, Rejilla.

**Gross load of organic pollution**

**Sens technique**

For sanitation in an agglomeration, the sum of connected domestic pollution and industrial pollution. It is the daily pollution peak in dry weather. For industries, this pollution is determined by the water agencies using standard or measured coefficients, depending on the type of activity and the volume of activity. The gross load of organic pollution is defined by Article R2224-6 of the General Code of Local Authorities, such as the oxygen weight corresponding to the five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) calculated on the basis of the daily average load in the week during which occurred the highest load.
of pollutants in the year.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Charge brute de pollution organique, Carga bruta de contaminación orgánica.

Groundswell

Sens commun
Phenomenon where an internal wave reaching the coast causes a rise, sometimes very high (up to 2 m) and lasting long enough, of the instantaneous mean sea level.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.
Translations: Lame de fond, Oleada.

Groundwater

Sens commun
All waters beneath the surface of the ground in direct contact with the soil or subsoil and which pass sooner or later (day, month, year, century, millennium) through cracks and pores of the soil into saturated or unsaturated medium.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Groundwater.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Groundwater sheet. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: MASSE D’EAU SOUTERRAINE.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l’eau
Translations: Eaux souterraines, Aguas subterráneas.

Groundwater depletion

Sens technique
Permanent or temporary drop in the piezometric level of groundwater, due to a natural or artificial change in its recharge or abstraction.

Source: according to the Adour-Garonne Water Agency and BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.
Translations: Abaissement de nappe, Disminución de capa.

Groundwater Directive

Sens technique
Daughter Directive 2006/118/EC of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater from both a quantitative and qualitative point of view. It aims to establish criteria for assessing the good chemical status of groundwater. The definition of this good status is based, firstly, on the existence of Community quality standards (for nitrates, pesticides and biocides) and, secondly, on the identification of pollutants and their limit values characterizing groundwater bodies "at risk".

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Directive Eaux souterraines, Directiva de Aguas Subterráneas.

Groundwater Hydraulics

Sens technique
A branch of hydraulics that mathematically studies the natural gravity flow (of an aquifer) or the induced flow (by drainage or...
pumping, for example) of free groundwater in permeable media, under the effect of a hydraulic or pressure gradient.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Hydrology.

Translations: Hydraulique souterraine, Hidráulica subterránea.

Groundwater level rising

Sens commun

Rising of the groundwater level or of the piezometric surface due to a recharge after depletion.

Source: according to UNESCO

Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Groundwater.

Translations: Remontée de nappe, Subida de capa.

Groundwater protection

Sens technique

Set of regulations and measures taken to protect groundwater resources.

Source: according to the Regional Health Agency (ARS) of Languedoc-Roussillon

Thématiques associées: Groundwater.


Groundwater quality control

Sens technique

Checking groundwater quality as to its compliance with regulatory requirements or specific characteristics, and based on previously established procedures (sample methods, analytical, etc).

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Regulation, Groundwater.

Translations: Contrôle de la qualité des eaux souterraines, Control de calidad de las aguas subterráneas.

Groundwater recharge

Sens technique

According to the hydro-geological meaning, a water volume supplying an aquifer over a given time. Rainfalls are mainly recharging groundwater. Unconfined groundwaters are recharged rather fast at each rainfall event. The rise in water levels and rainfall events are observed on a piezometric curve. Groundwater recharge occurs just after the saturation of soil by water through the direct infiltration of rainwater at the outcrop zones. The recharge of a confined groundwater is on the contrary much slower. Precipitation events are not or hardly visible on the piezometric curve. The rise in levels depends on the distance from the outcrop (longer conveyance time in soil and rocks), on local exchanges between aquifers, etc.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.

Translations: Alimentation d'une nappe, Alimentación de una capa acuífera.

Groundwater restoration/remediation

Sens technique

Corrective action to improve the quality of groundwater.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Restoration, Groundwater.

Translations: Restauration de nappe, Restauración de capa.

Groundwater ridge
Groundwater divide. Line at zero flow (no flow) between two adjacent groundwater basins. On each side of this ridge, the values of the measured piezometry (see this term) are lower than those measured (or estimated) on the ridge.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.
Translations: Crête pièzométrique, Cresta piezométrica.

**Groundwater sheet**

![Groundwater sheet](image)

Sens technique

Water contained in a permeable portion of the completely soaked earth's crust, resulting from infiltration of water into the smaller interstices of the sub-soil and from its accumulation over an impermeable layer. Groundwater sheets form true underground rivers only in karstic grounds. Groundwater corresponding to water infiltrated into the soil is flowing through permeable rocks in the sub-soil and forms "reserves". Different types of groundwater sheets are distinguished according to various criteria which may be: geological (alluvial sheets - shallow porous media, sheets in fractured medium - carbonated or eruptive, sheets in karstic - carbonated soil, sheets in porous media - sandstone, sand) or hydrodynamic (alluvial sheets, unconfined groundwater or confined groundwater). A sheet can have an unconfined section and a confined one.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Groundwater.

Translations: Nappe souterraine, Capa de agua subterránea.

**Groundwater table**

Synonymes: water table. Sens technique

First sheet encountered while digging a well. It is usually unconfined, i.e. whose surface is at the atmospheric pressure. It may also be under pressure if the covering soil has a low permeability. When it is unconfined, it flows into an aquifer having an unsaturated zone close to ground level.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Groundwater.


**Groundwater-fed river**

Sens commun

Stream whose water comes mainly from the aquifer it drains.

Source: according to French National Committee of Hydrological Sciences

Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Watercourse, Groundwater.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Aquifer, Watercourse. Translations: Rivière phréatique, Río freático.

**Groundwater-river relationship**

Sens commun

Exchange of water in one direction or the other between groundwater and a watercourse. Depending on the level of the water
line, and of the seasons, groundwater feeds the river or is fed by the latter especially during floods. In the case of karstic aquifer, these relationships are significant and localized.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Translations:** Relation nappe rivière, Relación capa acuífera - río.

### Groundwater/river exchange

**Sens commun**

Exchange of water in one direction or the other between an aquifer and a river. Depending on the level of the water line, and on the season, groundwater feeds the river or is fed by it, particularly during floods. In the case of karst, these relationships are important and localised.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Watercourse, Groundwater.

**Translations:** Echange nappe rivière, Intercambio capa río.

### Guide value

**Sens technique**

A value which is often more stringent than the compelling value. The guide value is an objective that Member States should strive to achieve.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Regulation.

**Translations:** Valeur guide, Valor guía.

### Gulf

**Sens commun**

Large recess from the coast, often of the order of magnitude of hundreds of kilometres. Gulfs are often wide open to the sea.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Translations:** Golfe, Golfo.

### Habitat

**Sens technique**

Environment defined by specific abiotic and biotic factors in which a species lives at any stage of its life cycle. A natural habitat is distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic entirely natural or semi-natural.

**Source:** according to European Commission

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Hydromorphology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Habitat of community interest, Natural environment. ZONE D'HABITAT
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:
Documents de référence: Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages
Translations: Habitat, Hábitat.

Habitat of community interest

Sens commun
Endangered habitat or having a reduced range or constituting a remarkable example of characteristics specific to one or more of the biogeographical areas listed in Annex 1 of the habitats directive and for which some special areas of conservation (SACs) must be designated.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Species, Pressure.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Habitat d’intérêt communautaire, Hábitat de interés comunitario.

Halieutic

Sens commun
Qualifies activities related to fishing in all its forms, professional or recreational, in freshwater or marine areas.

Source: d’après OIEau
Translations: Halieutique, Haliéutica.

Hand fishing

Sens commun
It is an activity practiced along the shore for gathering fish without using a boat. Hand fishing can be either a recreational activity (we also speak of "sport fishing") or a professional activity (which mainly concerns bivalves).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Leisure, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Pêche à pied, Pesca a pie.

Hatching/Hatchery

Sens commun
Repopulation of fresh water by introducing fry, practiced by people for fishing or fish farming.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary
Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture, Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fish farming. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Alevinage, Acuicultura.

Hazard

Sens commun
Nature, occurrence, intensity and duration of a threatening phenomenon.

Source: According to SOeS

Thématiques associées: Climate, Climate change, Risk, Erosion, Flood, Drought.


### Hazard-prone area

**Sens commun**

Area exposed or that could be exposed to hazards or potentially dangerous events (flood, pollution, natural disaster, industrial accident) and where human, economic or environmental issues are involved.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment

Thématiques associées: Risk, Erosion, Flood, Drought.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Risk, Flood-storage area. Translations: Zone à risque, Zona de riesgo.

### Hazardous priority substances

**Sens technique**

Toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative priority substance whose discharge and loss into the environment should be stopped.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.


Translations: Substance prioritaire dangereuse, Sustancia prioritaria peligrosa.

### Hazardous Substance

**Sens commun**

Substance which, at certain concentrations in water, presents a risk to public health, animal health or living beings and ecosystems in general. Certain substances and their effects are relatively well identified (heavy metals, some micro-pollutants). For others, the risk to public health and ecosystems is difficult to assess, thus deeming it prudent to use the precautionary principle. We then speak of "toxic risk".

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.

Translations: Substance à risque, Sustancia de riesgo.

### Health classification

**Sens réglementaire**

Classification assigned to shellfish farming areas defined by prefectural order. The health classification is based on microbiological analyses (at least 26 values obtained over a year) and the analysis of contamination with heavy metals (lead, cadmium and mercury) of the shellfish present. It is given for each group of shellfish.

Source: According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Risk, Health.

Terres associés à des définitions du Sandre: CLASSEMENT PERMANENT DE LA ZONE CONCHYLICOLE.

Translations: Classement sanitaire, Clasificación sanitaria.

### Health risk
Sens technique
More or less likely danger or inconvenience (immediate or long-term) to which public health is exposed. The identification and analysis of risks related to a phenomenon (flooding, contamination, etc) usually allows predicting its impact on public health.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Risk, Flood, Health.
Translations: Risque sanitaire, Riesgo sanitario.

Heavy modified water body (HMWB)
Sens technique
A body of surface water which, as a result of physical alterations by human activity, is substantially changed in character. Due to these changes, the water body cannot achieve good status. If the activities cannot be questioned for technical or economic reasons, the water body can be designated as heavily modified and the objectives to be achieved, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, are then adjusted: it must achieve good ecological potential. The objective of good chemical status remains valid; a water body may be designated as heavily modified as a result of polluting discharges.
Source: Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Masse d’eau fortement modifiée, Masa de agua muy modificada.

Heavy metals
Sens commun
Metals with a density greater than 4.5 g/cm³ (Protocol on heavy metals of the Geneva Convention). Heavy metals are toxic elements and pollutants mainly in the form of organic compounds found in the food chain. These are lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, zinc, copper, chromium and nickel. They come from the combustion of coal, petroleum, household refuse ... and specific industrial processes.
Source: According to Ademe
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Métaux lourds, Metales pesados.

Hedonic pricing method
Sens technique
Method consisting in isolating the part related to environmental quality in real estate transactions. For example, the price of a property depends on its features, some of which are related to the quality of the environment.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Helophyte
Sens commun
It is a semi-aquatic plant whose leaves and flowers are emerged at least partly. The helophytic plant grows on the banks or the bottom of aquatic environments, when the water depth is sufficiently low and when the bottom and weak current allow the fixation of the roots. For example, the common reed is a helophytic species
Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Flora, Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hydrophyte, Aquatic flora. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Hélophyte.

Helsinki Convention
Sens technique
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Baltic Sea Area, signed in 1974 and entered into force in 1980. In 1992, the Helsinki Convention was replaced by a new one, which entered into force in 2000. It aims to prevent and control the pollution of transboundary rivers and international lakes through international cooperation.
Source: according to the European Union
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Convention d'Helsinki, Convenio de Helsinki.

Herbicide / weed killer
Sens commun
Pesticide used to control, repel or destroy unwanted plants.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Chemistry, Agriculture.

Heterogeneity of the low-flow channel
Synonymes: minor bed. Sens commun
Alternating of fast and slow flows, turbulence, changes in depth.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Hétérogénéité du lit mineur, Heterogeneidad del lecho menor.

High-flow
Sens commun
Flow, or relatively high level of water, and also the highest of the year, as measured by the water level or flow. During a period of high flow, the river takes its floodplain.
Source: according to the Ministry of Environment
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.

Historical pollution
Sens commun
As opposed to "new pollution", it is a pollution resulting from a human past activity.
Source: Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution historique, Contaminación histórica.

Homogeneous coastal zone
Sens technique
Coherent unit for coastline management which, like the catchment areas of rivers, is an optimal geographical working scale for an integrated approach to the management, restoration and use of the coastal fringe.
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Zone homogène littorale, Zona homogénea litoral.

Humus
Sens commun
Blackish matter composed of organic matter, resulting from the partial decomposition of plant debris, which is formed in the soil. The evolution of humus depends for a large part on the oxygenation of the environment. In an oxygenated environment, it
can produce sludge (more or less dependent on the underlying soil, its pH, and the nature of the foliage that feeds it); in a non-oxygenated environment, it can give more or less acid and anoxic peats.

Source: according to IFREMER
Translations: Humus, Humus.

Hydraulic equipment

Sens commun
Equipment or infrastructure used for the abstraction, storage, treatment, conveying or transfer of water.
Source: according to the Corsican Hydraulic Equipment Office
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Equipement hydraulique, Equipamiento hidráulico.

Hydraulicity

Sens technique
Ratio between the monthly (or annual) flow rate and its multiannual mean. Hydraulicity can simply compare the flow rate of a given year or month to one year or a month considered "normal".
Source: According to SCHAPI
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Hydraulicité, Hidraulicidad.

Hydraulics

Sens commun
A branch of fluid mechanics that deals with the flow of water (or other liquids) through pipes, open channels and other structures.
Source: according to UNESCO
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Hydraulique, Hidráulica.

Hydro-ecological area

Sens technique
Homogeneous area in terms of geology, topography and climate. This is one of the main criteria used in typology and delimitation of surface water bodies. Continental France can be divided into 21 major hydro-ecological areas.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation.
Translations: Hydroécorégion, Hidroecorregión.

Hydro-geological basin

Sens technique
Collecting area extending from an outlet or a set of outlets and with a border inside which are gathered the waters flowing underground to that outlet. The limit is the groundwater watershed.
Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Translations: Bassin hydrogéologique, Cuenca hidrogeológica.

Hydro-morphology

Sens commun
Study of the morphology and dynamics of rivers, including the evolution of longitudinal and cross profiles, and of the planimetric layout: capture, meanders, anastomosis, etc.
Hydrobiology

Sens commun
Science that studies the life of aquatic organisms.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.
Translations: Hydrobiologie, Hidrobiología.

Hydrodynamics

Sens commun
Branch of fluid mechanics which concerns the motion of fluids, whether liquid or gaseous. Hydrodynamics focuses on the properties of fluids, including velocity, viscosity, density, pressure, and temperature, as a function of space and time.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Watercourse, Shoreline, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Hydrodynamique, Hidrodinámica.

Hydroelectric potential

Sens commun
Development potential of electricity generation processes in hydropower plants.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Translations: Potentiel hydroélectrique, Potencial hidroeléctrico.

Hydroelectric turbine

Sens commun
Machine capable of producing mechanical energy from water and then converting it into electricity. The turbine is the main component of a hydropower plant.

Source: d’après AFB
Translations: Turbine hydroélectrique.

Hydrogeological domain

Sens technique
Reference spatial domain that may contain a wide variety of fields, from the view point of lithology of stratigraphy, in which aquifer systems may or may not be individualized. The hydrodynamic conditions at the boundary of a hydrogeological domain are not necessarily defined.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Translations: Domaine hydrogéologique, Dominio hidrogeológico.
Sens technique

Generic name that represents a group of aquifer systems and hydrogeological domains.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thèmes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Groundwater.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** ENTITE HYDROGEOLOIQUE.

**Translations:** Entité hidrogeológica.

### Hydrogeology

**Sens commun**

Groundwater science, included in the Earth sciences. Hydrogeology combines knowledge of the geological and hydrological conditions and physical laws governing the origin, presence, movements and properties of groundwater, as well as the application of this knowledge to human actions on groundwater, including their prospection, their capture and their protection.

**Source:** d’après BRGM

**Thèmes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Groundwater.

**Translations:** Hydrogéologie, Hidrogeología.

### Hydrographic area

**Sens technique**

The hydrographic division includes all four parts of the French territory hierarchized according to increasing drainage systems: Hydrographic Region (1st order), hydrographic Sector (2nd order), hydrographic Sub-sector (3rd order), hydrographic area (4th order). A sector is cut into a maximum of 10 sub-sectors and a sub-sector is cut into a maximum of 10 hydrographic areas.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thèmes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Watercourse, Data and information system.

**Translations:** Zone hydrographique, Zona hidrográfica.

### Hydrographic network

**Synonymes:** river network. **Sens commun**

All aquatic environments (bodies of water, watercourses, groundwater, wetlands, etc) found on a given territory; the term network explicitly referring to the physical and functional links between these environments.

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thèmes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** Watercourse, Groundwater, Body of water, Wetland.

**Translations:** Réseau hydrographique, Red hidrográfica.

### Hydrographic region

**Sens technique**

Part of a river basin, and the first order of the hydrographic division of the French territory. This division indeed includes all four parts of the French territory hierarchized according to increasing drainage systems: Hydrographic Region (1st order), hydrographic Sector (2nd order), hydrographic Sub-sector (3rd order), hydrographic area (4th order). A sector is cut into a
maximum of 10 sub-sectors and a sub-sector is cut into a maximum of 10 hydrographic areas.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Hydrology.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** REGION HYDROGRAPHIQUE.

**Translations:** Région hydrographique, Región hidrográfica.

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**Hydrographic sector**

**Sens technique**

Part of a *hydrographic region* and the second order of the hydrographic division of the French territory. This hydrographic division indeed includes all four parts of the French territory hierarchized according to increasing hydrographic areas: Hydrographic Region (1st order), hydrographic Sector (2nd order), *hydrographic Sub-sector* (3rd order), hydrographic area (4th order). A sector is divided into a maximum of 10 sub-sectors and a sub-sector is cut into a maximum of 10 hydrographic areas.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Data and information system.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** SECTEUR HYDROGRAPHIQUE.

**Translations:** Secteur hydrographique, Sector hidrográfico.

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**Hydrographic sub-sector**

**Sens technique**

Part of a *hydrographic sector* and the third order of the hydrographic division of the French territory. This hydrographic division indeed includes all four parts of the French territory hierarchized according to increasing *hydrographic areas:* Hydrographic Region (1st order), hydrographic Sector (2nd order), hydrographic Sub-sector (3rd order), hydrographic area (4th order). A sector is divided into a maximum of 10 sub-sectors and a sub-sector is cut into a maximum of 10 hydrographic areas.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Data and information system.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** SOUS-SECTEUR.

**Translations:** Sous-secteur hydrographique, Subsector hidrográfico.

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**Hydrography**

**Sens commun**

Study and description of rivers and bodies of water (*oceans, seas, lakes,* etc) that can be observed on the surface of the Earth. The term also refers to all streams of a given region, organized into river basins (*watersheds US*).

**Source:** According to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Hydrographie, Hidrografía.

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**Hydrological balance**

**Sens technique**

Accounting of the changes in water resources (stream flows, groundwater level, effective rainfall) of an area (for example a catchment area) based on meteorological, piezometric or hydrological information.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Groundwater, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Bilan hydrologique, Balance hidrológico.

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**Hydrological drought**

**Sens commun**

Type of drought affecting water levels in environments: lakes, rivers or groundwater show abnormally low levels. It depends on precipitation but also on the state of the soil affecting runoff and infiltration.

**Source:** according to Météo France
Hydrological gauging station

Sens technique
Measuring station located on streams with natural flow regime (including glacial or groundwater regimes). Watercourses, even strongly influenced, also fall into this category. Non-hydrological gauging stations are those located on rivers whose regime is totally artificial (irrigation canal, power canal, diversion canal, etc).

Source: According to SCHAPI

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Station à signification hydrologique, Estación de significación hidrológica.

Hydrological profile

Sens technique
Methodology, based on the study of stream flows, which allows assessing the water inflow that is specific to any section of the river.

Source: according to Michel Deshaies (geographer)

Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Watercourse.
Translations: Profil hydrologique, Perfil hidrológico.

Hydrological regime

Sens technique
All changes in the status and characteristics of an aquatic environment which regularly recur in time and space and go through cyclical variations, e.g. seasonal variations.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: REGIME.
Translations: Régime hydraulique, Régimen hidráulico.

hydrological year - see "Année hydrologique"

Hydrology

Sens commun
Study of the physical, chemical and biological properties of waters located on the surface of the Earth and under ground, especially in terms of their formation, movement, distribution in time and space and their interaction with the inert and living environment. Continental hydrology studies the streams, wetlands and bodies of water, groundwater and solid water bodies on land masses, while marine hydrology is identified with oceanography.

Source: According to Météo France

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Hydrologie, Hidrología.

Hydrolysis

Sens technique
Chemical reaction in which a chemical bond is broken. The reaction is induced by a water molecule.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Hydrolyse, Hidrólisis.

Hydrometric station

Sens technique
Measuring station at which data on water in rivers, bodies of water or reservoirs are obtained on one or more of the following elements: water depth, flow rate, sediment transport and deposit, water temperature and other physical properties of water, characteristics of ice cover and chemical properties of water.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Hydrology.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** STATION HYDROMETRIQUE.

**Translations:** Station hydrométrique, Estación hidrométrica.

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**Hydrometry**

**Sens commun**

Science that aims to measure the physical properties of water, especially the flow of surface water and groundwater.

**Source:** according to the Larousse dictionary

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Hydrométrie, Hidrometría.

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**Hydrophyte**

**Sens commun**

It is an aquatic plant whose leaves and flowers are submerged. The hydrophytic plant grows attached to the bottom of aquatic environments or floating freely in areas of low current. For example, watercress, water lilies or duckweeds are hydrophytic plants.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Flora, Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Helophyte, Aquatic flora. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Hydrophyte.

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**Hydropower**

**Sens commun**

Energy produced by the movement of water in all its forms (waterfall, watercourse, marine current, tide, wave). This movement can be directly used, e.g. with a watermill, or more commonly be converted, for example, into electricity in a hydroelectric plant.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Hydroelectric turbine, Marine turbine. **Translations:** Energía hidráulica.

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**Hydropower dam**

**Sens commun**

A structure built on a watercourse for creating a water reservoir to ensure a constant production of electricity. The impounded water of the reservoir is conveyed by pipes to the power plant.

**Source:** according to the French Committee of Dams and Reservoirs

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Use, Industry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Obstacle to flow, Hydropower plant. **Translations:** Barrage hydroélectrique, Presa hidroeléctrica.

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**Hydropower plant**

**Sens commun**

Facility that produces electricity by the force of moving water.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Sens technique**
Hydroelectric facility transforming hydraulic energy into electricity, whose power usually varies from a few kW to 4,500 kW.  
Source: according to IFREMER  
Thématiques associées: Quantity of the resource, Hydrology, Use, Industry.  
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hydropower dam, Hydroelectric turbine, Hydropower.  
Code de l'énergie  
LOI n° 2006-1537 du 7 décembre 2006 relative au secteur de l'énergie  
Contribueur(s) de l'article: AFB.  
Translations: Centrale hydroélectrique, Central hidroeléctrica.

Hydrosphere  
Sens commun  
All the world's waters, including oceans, seas, lakes and rivers, as well as groundwater and ice.  
Source: according to BRGM and AFB  
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Hydrology.  
Contribueur(s) de l'article: AFB.  
Translations: Hydrosphère.

Hydrosystem functioning  
Sens technique  
All physical and biological phenomena (water, erosion, etc), and their interactions within the river system or hydrosystem. Thus the great diversity of plant and animal communities (Living communities) is expressed only by river dynamics (alternating low and high-flow levels, deposits and erosion, etc). These phenomena are influenced by the different uses and can contribute to meet the latter.  
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology  
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.  
Translations: Fonctionnement des hydrosystèmes, Funcionamiento de los hidrosistemas.

Hydroxide sludge  
Sens technique  
Sediment resulting from the physico-chemical treatment of industrial wastewater. Hydroxide sludge, generated by surface treatment of metal parts, is considered to be hazardous.  
Source: according to the South-Pyrenean Waste Observatory  
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Industry.  
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater, Wastewater treatment.  
Translations: Boue hydroxyde, Fango hidróxido.

Hygrometry  
Sens commun  
The branch of meteorology that characterises the humidity of the air, i.e. the amount of water in gaseous form present in moist air (or in some other gas, in some industrial applications). Hygrometry does not take into account water present in liquid or solid form.  
Source: according to Wikipedia  
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.  
Translations: Hygrométrie, Higrometría.

Hyporheic zone  
Sens technique  
All water saturated sediments, located beneath and alongside a stream, containing a certain amount of surface water. If the stream flows over impermeable bedrock, it will not develop a hyporheic zone. The hyporheic zone may exclusively consist of surface water (case of streams perched above the alluvial groundwater) or characterized by a mixture of surface water and groundwater (when there are exchanges with groundwater). These different configurations are found along the same stream, basin headwaters have reduced or absent hyporheic zones unlike the alluvial plain. The hyporheic zone plays an important role in the self-purification of streams.
Hypothetical bias

**Sens technique**

Bias induced during an investigation, when in a situation of fictitious market the respondents have some difficulty in expressing their preferences. Indeed, in the field of the environment, the lack of reference will result in responses far from the choices they would make in a real situation.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bias. **Translations:** Biais hypothétique, Sesgo hipotético.

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**Ichthyoplankton**

**Sens commun**

All planktonic organisms consisting of fish eggs and larvae.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Translations:** Ichtyoplancton, Ictioplancton.

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**Identifier**

**Sens technique**

Specific attribute that uniquely identifies an object in a dataset. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces identifiers in the reference datasets. For example, the code of a measuring station is the identifier naming unequivocally that station.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Identifiant, Identificador.

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**Impact**

**Sens technique**

According to the DPSIR (Driving Forces - Pressures - State - Impacts - Responses) conceptual data model it means the consequences of pressures on the aquatic environment (e.g. increase in phosphorus concentrations, loss of biological diversity, fish death, increased frequency of certain human diseases, modification of some economic variables, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Impact, Impacto.

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**Impact assessment**

**Sens technique**

Study whose terms, requirements and name, depending of the project importance (impact assessment), are determined by the rules defined in the decrees (under the nature conservation law of 18 July 1976). The impact assessment identifies factors associated with a development project that may have greater or lesser effects on the environment, allowing assessing the consequences and identifying corrective measures. It is a necessary part of the application for an authorization to establish and operate planned facilities that must be recorded for public inquiry if necessary.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
Impact assessment document

Sens technique
According to the regulations and under the Water Act of 1992, a document showing, given the seasonal and climate variations, the impacts of the project on water resources, aquatic environments, flow, water level and quality, including runoff, and each of the elements mentioned in Article 2 of the Law of 3 January 1992 ... This document specifies, if applicable, the planned compensatory or remedial measures and the project's compatibility with the river basin management plan (SDAGE) or sub-basin management plan (SAGE) and the water quality objectives provided by the decree of 19 December 1991.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Translations: Document d’incidence, Documento de incidencia.

Important Bird Area

Sens commun
Area which is part of the scientific inventory developed under an international program of Birdlife International to identify the most favorable areas for the conservation of wild birds.

Source: According to French National museum of natural history

Sens technique
Area designated under the 1979 Birds Directive 79/409 / EEC. Areas of importance for the conservation of birds (IBAs) are sites that have been identified as important for certain bird species (breeding areas, seabirds), wintering or migration relay areas) during the scientific inventory program launched by the NGO Birdlife International. They don’t have a particular legal status. The most suitable sites for the conservation of the most endangered birds are classified totally or partially in Special Protection Areas (SPAs). The latter, associated with the Special Areas of Conservation constitute the network of Natura 2000 sites.

Source: According to Green and Blue Habitat network resource center

Sens réglementaire
Areas established pursuant to EEC Directive 79/409 on the protection of birds and their habitats. They have been delineated by the network of French ornithologists on the basis of the criteria proposed in a methodological note. After validation, they are designated to be designated Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Source: According to Legifrance
Thématiques associées: Species, Environment and habitat, Wetland, Regulation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Special protection area. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZONE DE PROTECTION DES OISEAUX.
Translations: Zona importante para la conservación de las aves.

Impoundment

Sens commun
Man-made body of water having a specific purpose: hydropower, replenishment of low-flow levels, irrigation, drinking water supply. Generally these bodies of water are characterized by an irregular depth, a variable level (fluctuation) and a homogeneous water body.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Body of water.
Translations: Lac de retenue, Retención.

Impoundment dam
Inclusion bias

Sens technique
Bias induced during an investigation when individuals report the same willingness to pay (WTP) for a particular environmental good (e.g. a section of river) and a broader one (e.g. all the rivers of the catchment area, or all the rivers in the Department). This confusion between geographic scales or between environmental issues (aquatic environments, biological diversity, air quality) is the inclusion bias.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais d'inclusion, Sesgo de inclusión.

Income effect

Sens technique
Influence of income on data. For example, the wealthiest people usually have a willingness to pay higher than the poorest.

Source: According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Effet revenu, Efecto ingreso.

Index

Sens technique
Characteristic constant of an ecosystem, obtained by applying a given algorithm to quantitative values specific to some factors of a biotope, a population or an entire community.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Indice, Índice.

Indicator species

Sens technique
Species used to characterize the functional ecological status of French streams: trout (brown trout) for salmonid habitats (usually cold mountain freshwaters or close to reliefs), pike for cyprinid habitats (slow lowland streams), and the grayling or white water cyprinids (barbel, dace, etc) for intermediate environments. These species are demanding and found in all natural environments with good status.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Flora, Water and environmental management, Public policy.
Translations: Espèce indicatrice, Especie indicadora.

Industrial fishing

Sens commun
Fishing activity whose catches are processed into flour (for the breeding of pigs and poultry mainly) but also into oil and other by-products.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Pêche minotière, Pesca industrial.
Industrial pollution

Sens commun
Pollution directly induced by industrial activity, when it introduces biological, physical (including radiation), chemical or organic allogenic factors, affecting more or less significantly the functioning of ecosystems.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thèmes associées: Substance and pollutant, Industry.
Translations: Pollution industrielle, Contaminación industrial.

Industrial risk

Sens technique
Technological risk related to an industrial facility. Industrial risks are either chronic (resulting from the different kinds of pollution likely to have an impact on the health of populations and on the environment, such as emissions of toxic metals, volatile organic compounds or carcinogenic substances), or accidental (attributable to the presence of dangerous products or processes, likely to cause an accident with serious immediate consequences for workers, residents, property and the environment).
Source: according to the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL) of Champagne-Ardenne
Thèmes associées: Risk, Industry.

Industrial wastewater

Sens commun
Water that is discharged or produced during industrial production processes and that has no immediate value to these processes. When there are water recycling systems, industrial wastewater corresponds to the volume of water ultimately released by these circuits. To meet the quality standards required for possible discharge into public sewers, it is understood that this water is treated on-site. For the purposes of this questionnaire, cooling waters are not considered as industrial wastewater. Sanitary wastewater and stormwater collected on industrial sites are also excluded from this category.
Source: According to Eurostat
Thèmes associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Industry.
Translations: Eaux usées industrielles, Aguas usadas industriales.

Industrial water

Sens commun
Water used in an industrial plant (process water, cooling water).
Source: According to BRGM
Thèmes associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Industry.

Infiltration

Sens commun
Amount of water passing through the soil surface. The infiltration phenomenon recharges groundwater and maintains the groundwater flow in permeable hydrogeological formations in the sub-soil. Compared with surface water flow, the groundwater flow can be slow, delayed and long-term (a few hours to several thousands of years).
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thèmes associées: Groundwater, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Runoff, Drainage, Evaporation. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Infiltration, Translations: Infiltración.
Unpolluted water, which is constantly found in public sewer systems. This water is of natural origin (spring catchment, groundwater drainage, ditches, flooding of systems or return/delivery pumping stations, etc), or artificial (fountains, drainage of buildings, cooling water, discharge from heat pump, water from air conditioning, etc). It has the disadvantage of diluting wastewater effluents and reducing the carrying capacity available in sewage systems and wastewater treatment plants.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Translations: Eaux claires parasites, Aguas claras parásitas.

**Inflow**

*Sens commun*

Phenomenon whereby the ocean waters are pushed to the coast, usually because of strong winds, and accumulate in a cove in the shoreline, causing an exceptional rise of sea level.

Source: According to Ifremer
Translations: Afux, Sobreelevación.

**Influenced flow**

*Sens technique*

Flow rate of a watercourse disturbed by human activities but in such a manner that flows keep their general characteristics.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Débit influencé, Caudal influído.

**Information**

*Sens technique*

Aggregated data for human use. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces information including in specification documents.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Translations: Information, Información.

**Information system**

*Sens technique*

All resources (organization, interested parties, procedures, computer systems) necessary for the collection, storage, processing and use of information. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) contributes to the development of the Water Information System (WIS).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Translations: Système d'information, Sistema de información.

**Infra littoral zone**

*Sens commun*

Part of the coastline always covered by the sea. It extends from the intertidal zone to the open sea, until the depth of the water becomes too great to allow the penetration of light.

Source: according to AFB

*Sens technique*

Space between the lowest tide limit (low water spring tide mark) and the limit compatible with the life of flowering sea plants (sea grasses) and multicellular algae, about a few tens of meters deep. This zone is colonised by organisms that require
continuous immersion.

**Source:** according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB.

**Translations:** Etage infralittoral, Nivel infralittoral.

## Infrastructure-asset management of public water and sanitation services

### Sens technique

The ability of a manager of a public water supply and sanitation service to know his technical assets (drinking water production plants, reservoirs, network systems, connections, etc), to plan the best investments, to provide the financial resources needed for the rehabilitation and replacement of structures and respond efficiently to his heritage, is at the core of the analysis of the economic sustainability of water services. Patrimonial management (property management, asset management) is a process whereby a public water utility can direct, control and optimize the supply, maintenance and decommissioning of assets related to infrastructure, including costs for specified performance during their life cycle.

**Source:** According to AFB, AgroParisTech and ASTEE

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Décret n° 2012-97 du 27 janvier 2012 relatif à la définition d’un descriptif détaillé des réseaux des services publics de l’eau et de l’assainissement et d’un plan d’actions pour la réduction des pertes d’eau du réseau de distribution d’eau potable

Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques

Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l’eau

**Translations:** Gestion patrimoniale des services publics d’eau et d’assainissement, Gestión patrimonial de los servicios públicos de agua y saneamiento.

## Inhaled concentration

### Sens commun

Concentration related to exposure by inhalation in an environment. It is expressed as mass (mg or µg) per unit of air volume (m3).

**Source:** According to WHO

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Concentration inhalée, Concentración inhalada.

## Inhibitor

### Sens technique

Inorganic or organic water pollutant of sufficient toxicity for inhibiting the development and/or activity of aquatic organisms. The measurement unit is equitox (eq) and kilo equitox (keq or ket).

**Source:** According to François Ramade (ecologist)

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Matière inhibitrice, Materia inhibidora.

## Initial status of the environment

### Sens commun

Status of a site and environments before the implementation of an industrial plant or a development.

**Source:** According to the Environmental Code

**Thématiques associées:** Industry.

**Translations:** Etat initial de l'environnement, Estado inicial del medio ambiente.

## Inland waters
Sens commun
All stagnant and running waters on the ground and all underground waters, and located upstream of the baseline used for the delimitation of territorial waters.
Source: According to AFB
Translations: Eaux intérieures, Aguas interiores.

Inland waterway
Sens commun
A harnessed river or canal open to traffic and waterways transport.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Translations: Voie navigable, Vía navegable.

Inlet
Sens commun
Opening by which a lagoon communicates with the sea.
Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Transitional waters, Lagoon. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Grau.
Translations:

INSPIRE Directive
Sens technique
Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament aiming to make available geographic information, which is appropriate, harmonized and of good quality, to assist in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of European environmental policy decisions. INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe) is a project launched by the European Commission and developed in collaboration with the Member States.
Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Directive INSPIRE, Directiva INSPIRE.
installation - see "Installation"

Installation subject to special environmental inspections
Synonymes: Classified installation. Sens technique
Installation defined in the “classified facility nomenclature” established by decree of the Council of State, based on the report of the Minister for classified facilities, after consulting the High Council of classified facilities. This decree requires these facilities to have an authorization or make a declaration depending on the severity of the hazards or disturbance that may be caused when they operate. Are subject to the provisions of the “classified facilities” law of 19 July 1976, the plants, workshops, warehouses, construction sites and generally facilities operated or owned by any natural or legal person, public or private, which may generate threats or disturbances either for the neighbourhood or for health, safety, public health, either for agriculture or for the protection of nature and the environment, or for the conservation of sites and monuments. The provisions of this law shall also apply to quarries according to Articles 1 and 4 of the Mining Code.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Industry, Substance and pollutant, Health.
Instrumental value

Sens technique
Value given to biodiversity for its ability to contribute to human well-being.
Source: According to Foundation for Research on Biodiversity
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Valeur instrumentale, Valor instrumental.

Integrated farming/agriculture

Sens technique
Agricultural practice that applies to the production that takes into account environmental protection, health and animal welfare. In France, the concept is regulated by public authorities (ministries in charge of agriculture and ecology) and the promotion is made by the FARRE network (forum of integrated farming respectful of the environment). Certification is awarded to farmers who respect the principles of sustainable agriculture.
Source: according to the Ministry of Agriculture
Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Sustainable fertilization, Sustainable irrigation. Translations: Agriculture raisonnée, Agricultura sostenible.

Integrated management

Sens commun
Management of some activities that integrates, from the design stage, all the ecological, economic and social factors linked to them. By assessing all its consequences for a given environment, it appears that integrated management contributes to saving time, space and means of production and reducing losses in terms of energy and natural resources.
Source: according to the Commission for Enrichment of the French Language
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Gestion intégrée.

Integrated River Basin Management

Sens technique
Management that implies, on a coherent hydrographic unit scale, firstly a consultation and organization of all stakeholders and the coordination of planning and management actions (sectoral policies, programming, etc), and secondly promoting synergy between the good functioning of aquatic ecosystems and the meeting of uses. Integrated management aims to optimize actions to achieve balanced management.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Concerted Management. Translations: Gestion intégrée de bassin versant, Gestión integrada de cuenca vertiente.

Inter-ministerial Mission for Water

Sens technique
According to the decree of 27 February 1987, this mission is entrusted to the Minister for the Environment and is composed of representatives of ministries responsible for water issues. The Inter-ministerial Mission for Water (MIE) reviews equipment
programmes, the allocation of resources and means and especially the appropriations allotted to the budget of the various ministries involved. It also reviews all draft laws, decrees, regulations, directives and circulars relating to water issues developed by the ministries concerned. The Inter-ministerial Mission also reviews the drafted directives addressed by the Minister for the Environment to coordinating bodies and Water Agencies. The MIE for instance reviewed 6 continental river basin management plan (SDAGEs) on 9 May 1996.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Mission interministérielle de l'eau, Misión Interministerial del Agua.

Inter-municipal cooperation public body

Sens technique
Grouping of municipalities for the purpose of implementing joint development projects within a solidarity area. These groupings are subject to common rules that are homogeneous and comparable to those of local authorities. Urban communities, agglomeration syndicate, agglomerations communities, new agglomeration syndicate, municipal syndicate and mixed syndicates are public institutions for inter-municipal cooperation.

Source: according to the Ministry of Local Government
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Etablissement public de coopération intercommunale, Establecimiento público de cooperación intermunicipal.

Inter-service Mission for Water

Sens technique
Coordinating body to increase the consistency of State actions under the authority of the prefects. The Inter-service Mission for Water (MISE) gathers the directors of major deconcentrated services and local public institutions [in particular: DREAL (regional directorate for the environment), DDTM (departmental directorate for lands and seas), DDCSPP (departmental directorate for social cohesion and protection of populations), Gendarmerie, ONEMA (national agency for water and aquatic environments), water agencies, ONCFS (national agency for hunting and wild life), Prefecture, DIRM (inter-regional directorate for the sea)] to discuss priorities and arrangements for the implementation of water policy and its connection with sectoral policies, ensuring the right combination with governing, financial and public engineering tools. The head of the MISE is the Departmental Director for Lands (DDT). The DREAL coordinates the MISEs at regional level.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Mission inter-services de l'eau, Misión Interservicios del Agua.

Interannual tidal range

Sens technique
Mean variation in the water level of a body of water (in metres given to the nearest decimetre), excluding flooding and drainage periods, for a year of normal operation. The calculation of an interannual tidal range is as follows: maximum level - minimum level observed.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Marnage interannuel, Amplitud interanual.

Intercalibration

Sens technique
Méthode visant à vérifier que les limites du bon état des milieux aquatiques sont comparables entre les différents États membres de l'Union européenne. L'intercalibration passe par la mise en commun et la comparaison des données scientifiques, puis l'harmonisation des seuils pour chaque élément de qualité.

Source: d'après Pôle relais Lagunes méditerranéennes
Thématiques associées: Regulation.
Translations: Intéralomonnage, Intercalibración.
Interchange scenario

**Sens technique**

Set of technical specifications that enable dialogue between people and computer systems. An interchange scenario established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) is a specification document that describes how to exchange data in a specific context. It is used to exchange data based on a format. This document details: semantics, mandatory and optional character, syntax, the exchanged data and the technical and organizational arrangements for the exchange. An interchange scenario is based on one or more data dictionaries and is materialized by files in XSD and PDF formats.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Specifications document. **Translations:** Scénario d’échange, Escenario de intercambio.

Interconnection of drinking water supply systems

**Sens commun**

It consists in reciprocally connecting different distribution units in order to ensure the continuity of supply as well as the qualitative and quantitative security of drinking water supply at each interconnected units.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Housing and city.

**Translations:** Interconnexion des réseaux d’alimentation en eau potable, Interconexión de las redes de suministro de agua potable.

Intermediate marsh

**Sens commun**

Marshes partially protected from flooding.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Wetland.

**Translations:** Marais intermédiaire, Pantano intermedio.

Intermittent pollution

**Sens commun**

Repetitive pollution non-continuously emitted over time (wet weather discharges, stormwater, non-continuous treated discharges, accidental pollution, etc).

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Pollution intermittente, Contaminación intermitente.

Intermittent river - see "Cours d'eau intermittent"

Intermittent watercourse

**Synonymes:** Intermittent river. **Sens commun**

Watercourse dried out part of the year.

**Source:** according to IRSTEA

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Cours d'eau intermittent, Curso de agua intermitente.

Internalization

**Sens technique**

Integration of external costs in economic flows. For example, the polluter-pays principle is a means to internalize external costs.
generated by the polluter and incurred by the other water users and the environment.

**Source:** According to CIRED and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Translations:** Internalisation, Internalización.

### International waters

**Sens commun**

Maritime space not belonging to a particular State. As such, it is not subject to any national jurisdiction and belongs to the international community. International waters account for two-thirds of the Earth’s oceanic surface.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Translations:** Eau internationale, Agua internacional.

### Interoperability

**Sens technique**

Capacity of a computer system, whose interfaces are fully known, to work with other existing or future computer systems and with unrestricted access or implementation. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces technical specifications and disseminates reference datasets that guarantee interoperability between water-related computer systems.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Interopérabilité, Interoperabilidad.

### Intrinsic value

**Sens technique**

A non-instrumental value which reflects the inherent value of an entity and which can be anthropocentric. The intrinsic value may also reflect the value that an entity has in itself and for its own sake, regardless of its usefulness to human beings. It then reflects a conception of biodiversity as an "end in itself", and gives man a moral responsibility to protect nature.

**Source:** According to Foundation for Research on Biodiversity

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Translations:** Valeur intrinsèque, Valor intrínseco.

### Invasive alien specy

**Sens commun**

Exotic species whose introduction by humans, voluntary or fortuitous, on a territory threatens ecosystems, natural habitats or native species with negative ecological, economic and health consequences.

**Source:** According to french Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition

**Sens technique**

Species, subspecies or lower rank taxon, introduced outside its natural range, past or present. Introduction or spread threatens biodiversity. The definition includes all parts, seeds, eggs or propagules of species of this type that could survive and reproduce.

**Source:** According to french national museum of natural history

**Sens réglementaire**

According to the European regulation n° 1143/2014, "an exotic species whose introduction or propagation proves to constitute a threat for the biodiversity and the associated ecosystem services, or to have harmful effects on the biodiversity and the said services".

**Source:** According to European Parliament and Council

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Regulation, Pressure, Invasive species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Alien species. **Documents de référence:** Règlement (UE) no 1143/2014 du...
Invasive species

Sens commun
A species that is indigenous or non-native to a given territory, proliferates and extends its range due to an increase in population density.

Source: according to MNHN
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Flora, Invasive species.

Invert

Sens commun
Part of a shallow stream with fast flow whose surface is heterogeneous and "broken" above gravel/pebbles or gravel substrates.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Radier, Fondo.

Investigative monitoring

Sens technique
Control, as part of the water status monitoring programme, designed to look for the pressure which causes an observed degradation. It is carried out when the reasons for any significant alteration of the environment are unknown, to determine the causes for a water body not meeting the environmental objectives (when operational control has not yet been established), or for monitoring accidental pollution.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Substance and pollutant, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Contrôle d'enquête, Control de investigación.

Investigator bias

Sens technique
Bias induced during an investigation when the respondent gives a higher value to his willingness to pay to please the investigator.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais lié à l'enquêteur, Sesgo ligado al encuestador.

Iron removal

Sens technique
Action to remove iron or its derivatives from a liquid.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Chemistry.
Translations: Déferrisation, Desferrización.

Irrigation
Sens commun

Spreading water on crops to promote and accelerate growth. Irrigation relies on the use of water pumped from the soil or from a watercourse, or even from bodies of water created for this purpose.

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017

Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.


Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations:

Irrigation equipment

Sens commun

Agricultural equipment used to provide water (and possibly other substances) to cultivated plants.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Agriculture.

Translations: Matériel d'irrigation, Material de irrigación.

Irrigation water

Sens commun

Water that is applied on the soil in order to increase its water content and provide for normal plant growth.

Source: According to Eurostat

Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.


Islet - see "Ilot"

ISO 9001 standard

Sens technique

Standard that describes the organizational requirements for a quality management system. Products of the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) have to comply with the ISO 9001 requirements.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Data and information system.


Isotope

Sens technique

Chemical element with the same atomic number (same number of protons) but different atomic masses (different number of neutrons). Isotopes can be stable or radioactive. The ratio between the amounts of the stable isotope and the radioactive isotope in water can be used to date the latter (example of C14 for the best known). Mass differences between isotopes can, for their part, explain the origin of a water sample: e.g. the content of rainwater in O18 with respect to O15 decreases with altitude.

Source: according to BRGM and AFB

Thématiques associées: Quality of the resource, Chemistry.

Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Isotope.

J

Juvenile

Sens commun

An animal too young to be able to reproduce.

Source: according to AFB
Karst

Sens technique

Aquifer in limestone ground whose behaviour is characterized by heterogeneity and compartmentalization of the reservoir that result in two types of functions: the conductive function resulting in rapid flow through interconnected karstic conduits (cracks widened by dissolution), which explains the high vulnerability to contamination of these aquifers and the travel speed of pollutants; and the capacitive function, mainly provided by micro-cracked and cracked areas with slower flow velocities and a storage capacity that may vary depending on the kind of limestone.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Karstic. Translations: Karst, Kárstico.

Karstic

Sens technique

Refers to a limestone geological formation in which chemical erosion dominates. More specifically, a karstic watercourse is a surface or subsurface natural waterway with permanent or intermittent flow crossing karstic grounds (made up of compact and soluble limestone) and that may suffer from losses or receive inputs from resurgences.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Karst. Translations: Karstique, Kárstico.

Karstic watercourse

Sens commun

Natural waterway with permanent or intermittent surface or ground water flow crossing cracked lands usually limestone (karstic area) that may suffer from losses or receive inputs from resurgences.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Watercourse, Karst. Translations: Cours d'eau karstique, Curso de agua kárstico.

Label

Sens technique

Label or brand of a product. At the end of the compliance test, the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) indicates whether a computer system is consistent or inconsistent with its specifications. If it is consistent, Sandre issues a certificate of compliance with a label. The applicant for compliance could use this label under conditions specified by the Sandre.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Compliance. Translations: Label, Sello.

Labour force - see "Population active"

Lagoon
Sens technique
A body of water, generally shallow, which runs along the sea from which it is separated by a narrow strip of land called the "littoral cord", and with which it is generally in communication through narrow passes silted during periods of low water. It is usually fed with fresh water from a watershed of its own. Exchanges with the sea often make its water more or less brackish depending on the season (by "inlets"). Lagoons are frequent on shores of seas without strong tides and with rich sedimentary inputs (for example, the Mediterranean, the Gulf of Guinea, the Gulf of Mexico, etc.).

Source: d'après CGSP
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Lagoon-based treatment systems
Sens commun
Natural purification process, which consists in passing the water through basins, slowly enough to let submerged plants achieving their purification role, before releasing the water in the nature. Indeed, the aquatic vegetation hosts some bacterial communities able to remove pollutants such as nitrates, phosphates...

Source: According to IOWater
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Land application of animal manure
Sens commun
The spreading of animal excreta on a surface, so as to fertilise it. In animal excreta, cattle effluents are largely dominant and are mainly in the form of manure. Slurry concerns part of the cattle effluent and almost all pig breeding. Poultry droppings, whose fertilising effect is powerful, can locally represent significant tonnages.

Source: according to IFREMER and ADEME
Thématiques associées: Use, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Spreading. Translations: Epandage de déjection animale, Esparcimiento de deyección animal.

Land application of sewage sludge
Sens technique
Action of spreading organic matter-laden wastewater over a surface, to treat it by percolation into the soil while feeding soils poor in organic matter.

Source: according to IFREMER
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Spreading. Translations: Epandage d'eau usée, Riego con agua residual.

Land cover
Synonymes: land use. Sens commun
Here it characterizes, according to the typology of the CORINE Land Cover base of the observation and statistics service (SoEoS) of the Ministry for the Environment, the surface of a river basin. This typology distinguishes five major types of land cover in particular: urbanized areas, agricultural areas, forests and semi-natural areas, wetlands and aquatic environments.

Source: According to AFB
Terme associé à des définitions du Sandre: Occupation de sol du bassin versant.
Translations: Occupation du sol, Ocupación del suelo.

Land or seamark
Sens commun
Designates a remarkable object situated on or near the shoreline and which sailors use to determine their position at sea.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thèmes associés: Shoreline.
Translations: Amer, Marca.

Land tenure status
Sens technique
Status associated with a body of water, determining the owner: maritime public domain, public waterways domain, State-owned property, local government (municipal, departmental, regional, mixed syndicate), public institution, association, group or company, private property or undetermined.
Source: According to AFB
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: STATUT FONCIER, Statut foncier de la zone humide.
Translations: Statut foncier, Estatus territorial.
land use - see “Occupation du sol”

Land Use Plan
Sens technique
A planning instrument which sets out the rules for land use in the municipality. The land use plan (POS) defines a zoning of the municipal territory governing all development and construction activities. It especially includes regulations and a zoning plan. The law on urban solidarity and renewal (SRU) of 13 December 2000 replaced the POS by local urbanisation plans (PLUs).
Source: According to Ifremer
Translations: Plan d’Occupation des Sols, Plan de Ocupación de Suelos.

Landscape adaptation
Sens commun
Modification of the landscape (relief, vegetation, etc.) of a geographical area to meet certain objectives, such as adaptation to climate change or integration of a building into the landscape.
Source: according to Réseau Ferrés de France (French railway network)
Translations: Adaptation paysagère, Adaptación paisajística.

Landscape integration
Sens commun
Landscaping (choice of colours, materials and architecture, planting of trees and flowerbeds for example) to integrate buildings and constructions in their environment.
Source: according to the Ardennes Chamber of Agriculture
Thèmes associées: Water and environmental management, Development.
Translations: Intégration paysagère, Integración paisajística.

Landscape restoration
Sens commun
Restructuring of an artificialised area, possibly a fallow land, in order to make it practicable and attractive for residents while integrating it into the landscape.
Source: according to ONF
Thèmes associées: Water and environmental management, Restoration, Environment and habitat, Pressure, Artificialisation.
Translations: Réhabilitation paysagère, Rehabilitación paisajística.
Last priming

**Synonyms**: flooding date. **Sens technique**

Date when the water body has reached its current statutory water level.

**Source**: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Body of water.

**Translations**: Dernière année de mise en eau, Último año de «puesta en agua».

Lateral continuity of rivers

**Sens commun**

Water flow from the ridges down to the valley floor.

**Source**: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées**: Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Watercourse.

**Translations**: Continuité latérale des cours d'eau, Continuidad lateral de los cursos de agua.

Latitude

**Sens commun**

Angular distance between a point (location) of the surface of the Earth situated north or south of the equator, which is the reference plane. The latitude varies between the value 0° at the equator and 90° at the poles (or 0 to 100 degrees).

**Source**: Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Longitude. **Translations**: Latitude, Latitud.

Law

**Synonyms**: Act. **Sens commun**

Written and overall rule passed by Parliament (National Assembly and Senate) according to the legislative procedure. The law may be adopted on the initiative of the parliament (we then speak of a "parliamentary bill") or the government ("government bill").

**Source**: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Local development plan. **Translations**: Loi, Ley.

Law enforcement (water, fisheries, classified facilities)

**Sens technique**

Regulatory activity exerted by the Prefect and characterized by a system of authorization or prior declaration designed to control and organize some activities or work with the aim of maintaining law and order.

**Source**: According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées**: Governance.

**Translations**: Police (de l'eau, de la pêche, des installations classées), Policía (de aguas, de pesca, de instalaciones clasificadas).

Law of 21 April 2004 on WFD transposition

**Sens réglementaire**

Law transposing the 2000 Water Framework Directive (WFD), which harmonises European regulations on water management and introduces the obligation to protect and restore the quality of water and aquatic environments in the European Union. Environmental objectives must be set for all aquatic environments (rivers, lakes, coastal waters - coastal and transitional waters - and groundwater) by 2015: achievement of good water status, no deterioration of resources and reduction or elimination of discharges of hazardous substances. The novelty of the concept of "good status" now relies on the proper functioning of aquatic environments taking into account all components of the environment: water, wildlife, flora and habitats.

**Source**: according to AFB

Law of 30 December 2006 on water and aquatic environments

Sens réglementaire

Law transposing, in particular, the objectives of the 2000 Water Framework Directive (WFD), which harmonises the European regulation on water management and introduces the obligation to protect and restore the quality of water and aquatic environments in the European Union. Environmental objectives must therefore be set for all aquatic environments (rivers, lakes, coastal waters - coastal and transitional waters - and groundwater) by 2015: achievement of good water status, no deterioration of resources and reduction or elimination of discharges of hazardous substances. The novelty of the concept of "good status" now relies on the proper functioning of aquatic environments taking into account all components of the environments: water, wildlife, flora and habitats. The 2006 Water and Aquatic Environments Act also improves the organisation of public water and sanitation services and modernises the organisation of freshwater fishing. It also contains numerous provisions on the organisation of water resources management - especially the strengthening of local management, the control of non-point source pollution, the recovery of the ecological quality of watercourses, the reinforcement of water police, etc.

Source: according to AFB


Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Loi du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques

Leasing

Sens réglementaire

Contract whereby the contractor undertakes to manage a public service at his own risks against remuneration paid by the subscribers to the service.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Drinking water.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Public service delegation, Public water supply and sanitation services.

Translations: Affermage, Arrendamiento.

Less stringent objective

Sens technique

If unable to achieve "good status" for waters (in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC) or when, on the basis of a cost-benefit analysis, the measures necessary to achieve the good status of aquatic environments have a disproportionate cost, an objective less stringent than good status can be defined. The difference between this objective and good status must be the smallest possible, focusing only on a limited number of criteria.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

Translations: Objectif moins strict, Objetivo menos riguroso.

Lethal concentration

Sens technique

Concentration of a toxic substance that causes the death of a percentage n in a given population, for a given time and in a given experiment (LCn). We speak of LC0 for the maximum tested concentration applied in a single dose and causing no death in the population of studied organisms during a given time. Finally we talk about LC50 for a concentration applied in a single dose and causing 50% mortality in the population of studied organisms for a given time.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.
Lethal dose

Sens technique
Maximum tested dose causing no mortality in the studied population of organisms during a given time, with single-dose administration (LD0). The dose causing a 50% (or n%) of deaths in the studied population of organisms during a given time, with single-dose administration, is rated LD50 (or LDn).

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Translations: Concentration létale, Concentración letal.

Levee

Sens commun
Earthen dike to contain a watercourse within specified limits.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Dike, Watercourse. Translations: Levée, Terraplén.

Lichen

Sens commun
Organism generated by symbiotic association between a mushroom (which brings water and mineral salts) and algae (which creates, by photosynthesis, different organic compounds that it yields in part to the mushroom). Lichens are able to withstand extreme weather conditions and are able to accumulate mineral compounds well beyond their own needs. As a result, they are often used as pollution indicators.

Source: according to IFREMER
Thématiques associées: Species, Species, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Lichen, Liquen.

Limnometric

Sens technique
Qualifies the measurement of water level (limnometric curve).

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Limnimétrique, Limnimétrico.

Limnology

Sens commun
Science that studies lakes and open ponds, including hydrological phenomena, in relation with the environment.

Source: according to UNESCO
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Limnologie, Limnología.

Liquid flow

Sens technique
Volume of water passing through a cross section of a watercourse per time unit. The flow rates of watercourses are expressed in m3/s with at least three significant figures (e.g. 1.92 m3/s, 19.2 m3/s, 192 m3/s) or for small streams in l/s. The national HYDRO database stores measurements of water levels coming from 3,500 measuring stations (including 2,400 that are currently in service) and used to calculate instantaneous, daily and monthly flow rates in a large number of French streams. Liquid flow and sediment discharge are the two main variables of river dynamics.
Sources: to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Débit liquide, Caudal líquido.

Listed site

Sens technique
Natural or built-up area in which work that may affect the site requires the advice of the architect of French buildings.
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Industry.
Translations: Site inscrit, Sitio inscrito.
Littoral - see "Littoral"

Living communities

Sens technique
All living organisms (animals and plants including microorganisms) that occupy a given ecosystem. This group of living organisms is characterized by a specific composition and by interdependence phenomena. It occupies an area known as biotope and with the latter makes an ecosystem. A biocenosis changes over time (pioneer phase, intermediate phase and equilibrium phase).
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Flora, Ecological continuity.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Ecosystem, Biomarker. Translations: Biocénose, Biocenosis.

Local development plan

Sens technique
Established by the Law 2000-1028 of 13 December 2000 on urban solidarity and renewal (SRU), the Local development plan (SCOT) is the tool for designing and implementing inter-municipal planning. It is intended to serve as a frame of reference for various policies including housing, travels, business development, the environment, spatial planning. It ensures their consistency and the consistency of other urban planning documents (PLU, municipal maps, etc). The SCOTs must be compatible or made compatible, within three years, with the basic guidelines for sound water resources management and with the water quality and quantity objectives, determined by the river basin management plans (SDAGEs), as well as with the protection objectives defined by the sub-basin management plans (SAGEs).
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Translations: Schéma de cohérence territoriale, Plan de Coherencia Territorial.

Local urbanisation plan

Sens technique
Municipal urban planning document, created by the Law on Urban Solidarity and Renewal (SRU) of 13 December 2000 and replacing the land use plan, the local urbanisation plan (PLU) sets out rules for land use. It may also include operational urban planning projects such as the development of existing or new urban districts, public spaces or city entrances, etc. The PLUs must be compatible or made compatible, within three years, with the basic guidelines for sound water resources management and with the water quality and quantity objectives defined by the river basin management plans (SDAGEs) as well as with the protection objectives defined by the sub-basin management plans (SAGEs).
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Artificialisation, Use, Housing and city.
Documents de référence: Loi n° 2000-1208 du 13 décembre 2000 relative à la solidarité et au renouvellement urbains Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau
Translations: Plan Local d'Urbanisme, Plan Local de Urbanismo.
Local Water Commission

Sens réglementaire
Commission established by the prefect, responsible for developing collectively, reviewing and monitoring the implementation of the water development and management plan (SAGE). As the true decision-making entity of the SBMP, the Local Water Commission (LWC) organizes all aspects of the process, including the preparation of each step, validation of documents, settling of disputes, as well as monitoring implementation. Once the SBMP has been adopted, the LWC oversees the implementation of the recommendations and stipulations contained in the SBMP, as well as the execution of projects. The LWC is chaired by a local elected official and is made up of three voting groups, whose members are appointed by prefectural decision: local governments, their collective groups and local public entities (at least one-half of the all LWC members); users (farmers, industrial companies, etc.), land owners, professional organizations and the relevant associations (at least one quarter of all LWC members); the State and its public organizations (at most one-quarter of all LWC members).

Source: according to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Governance.
Documents de référence: Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau
Translations: Commission locale de l'eau, Comisión Local del Agua.

Lock

Sens commun
Chamber limited on both sides by side walls and, at the front and rear, by gates which allow passing between two different levels of water.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology, Body of water.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Obstacle to flow. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: OBSTACLE A L'ECOULEMENT.
Translations: Ecluse, Esclusa.

Lock full

Sens technique
Volume of water released from a hydraulic structure (opening of a sluice gate, harnessing water stored in a dam reservoir to rotate a turbine, etc), and resulting in sudden and artificial flow variations.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Eclusée, Esclusada.

Log jam

Synonymes: ice jam. Sens commun
Heterogeneous accumulation of dead wood shaped by the flow, hampering more or less the bed and against which drift wood and other waste can accumulate. Log jams occur at the end of each high water period. Log jams participate in the diversification of flows and habitats.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Embâcle, Barrera.

London Convention

Sens technique
Source: according to the Ministry of Agriculture
Thématiques associées: Governance, Substance and pollutant, Shoreline.
Long-term average real evapotranspiration

Sens commun

Average of actual evapotranspiration over a long period, calculated over a period of at least twenty consecutive years.

Source: According to Eurostat

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Translations: Evapotranspiration réelle moyenne à long terme, Evapotranspiración real media a largo plazo.

Longitude

Sens commun

Angular distance between a point (location) of the surface of the Earth and the plane of a meridian chosen as origin (Greenwich prime meridian). It is counted from 0 to 180 degrees to the West and from 0 to 180 degrees to the East.

Source: According to Ifremer

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Latitude. Translations: Longitude, Longitud.

Longitudinal continuity of rivers

Sens commun

Water flow from upstream to downstream.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Watercourse.

Translations: Continuité longitudinale des cours d'eau, Continuidad longitudinal de los cursos de agua.

Longitudinal profile

Sens technique

Profile that characterizes the slope of the watercourse or more generally the thalweg. This slope tends to decrease downstream (concave profile) and different river features are succeeding from upstream to downstream.

Source: According to IGN

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Translations: Profil en long, Perfil longitudinal.

Low water flow

Sens technique

Minimum stream flow calculated in a given time step during low water periods. For a given year, we will talk about: daily low water flow, low water flow on n consecutive days, monthly low flow - average daily flow in a low-flow month (QMNA). With several years of observation, the statistical processing of series of low flows allows calculating a low flow frequency. For example, the five-year low water flow (or QMNA 5) is a monthly flow that occurs on average once every five years. The QMNA 5 is the reference low water flow for the implementation of the water policy.

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.

Translations: Débit d'étiage, Caudal de estiaje.

Low water regulating flow

Sens technique

Value of the mean monthly flow at the nodal point (key management point) above which we consider that all uses (activities, abstractions, discharges, etc) made downstream of the nodal point are in equilibrium with the proper functioning of the aquatic environment. This is a structural goal, set out in SDAGEs, SAGEs and equivalent documents, taking into account the development of uses in a certain time horizon (10 years for the SDAGE). It can be given a margin of tolerance and modulated during the year depending on the regime (seasonality). The aim of this low-water regulating flow is achieved by controlling
authorizations for upstream abstractions, by mobilizing new resources and water saving programmes on the upstream side of the stream and by a better functioning of the hydrosystem.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology


Translations: Débit d'objectif d'étiage, Caudal de objetivo de estiaje.

Low-flow

Sens commun
Flow, or the lowest water level of the year, as measured by the water level or by the flow. During a period of low water, the river only takes a minor bed.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.


Low-flow channel

Sens technique
Part of the bed in which there is always water. It corresponds to the low-flow. Also referred to as "summer bed".

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Translations: Lit d'étiage, Lecho de estiaje.

Low-flow level

Sens commun
Period of lowest water levels in streams and groundwater (usually summer for rainfall regimes).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Sens technique
Exceptionally low flow period of a watercourse, or exacerbation of its low water (sometimes assimilated to low seasonal flows). Low water is therefore considered to be a limited period in the year when the flows drop lower than a statistically calculated threshold value, function of each stream.

Source: According to AFB


Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drying-out, Flow. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: CAMPAIGNE D'OBSERVATIONS, OBSERVATION PROPRE A L'ECOULEMENT, STATION D'OBSERVATION DES ETIAGES.

Documents de référence: Circulaire du 18 mai 2011 relative aux mesures exceptionnelles de limitation ou de suspension des usages de l'eau en période de sécheresse

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Etiage, Estiaje.

Low-flow period

Sens commun
Period when a low water flow is observed.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Translations: Période d'étiage, Periodo de estiaje.

Low-flow replenishment

Sens commun
Action to increase a stream flow rate during low water periods using a hydraulic structure (dam reservoir or transfer by gravity or by pumping, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Soutien d’étiage, Sostén de estiaje.

### M

**Macro-invertebrate**

**Sens commun**

Animal visible to the naked eye (ie larger than 0.5 mm) that does not have a skeleton, bone or cartilage.

**Source:** d’après Ministère de l’Écologie, du Développement durable et de l’Énergie

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bioindicator. **Translations:** Macro-invertébré.

**Macrophyte**

**Sens commun**

All aquatic or amphibious plants visible to the naked eye, or usually living in colonies visible to the naked eye.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Macrophyte biological index for rivers. **Translations:** Macrophyte, Macrófitas.

**Macrophyte biological index for rivers**

**Sens technique**

Index assessing the biological status of rivers based on macrophytes. Applicable to the inland parts of rivers, it essentially reflects the degree of tropism (feeding process of plant organs and tissues) related to ammonium and orthophosphate contents, as well as the most obvious organic pollution.

**Source:** according to the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL) of the Loire region

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Synthetic data, Macrophyte. **Translations:** Indice biológico macrofito en el río.

**Macroplankton**

**Sens commun**

Large plankton visible to the naked eye. Jellyfish and ctenophora are part of the macroplankton.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Phytoplankton, Zooplankton, Fauna, Flora. **Translations:** Macroplancton, Macroplancton.

**Macropollutants**

**Sens commun**

All the suspended material in water, organic matter or nutrients, such as nitrogen or phosphate. They may occur naturally in water but their concentration increases with human activities (wastewater discharge, agriculture...). In contrast to micropollutants, which are toxic even at low concentration, macropollutants requires higher content to cause bad effects.

**Source:** According to SOeS

**Thématiques associées:** Public policy, Pressure, Substance and pollutant, Quality of the resource, Chemistry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Micropollutant, Pollutant. **Translations:** Macropolluant.
Main river

**Synonymes:** main stream. **Sens commun**

A watercourse that flows out directly into the sea, whatever its importance.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Running water. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Fleuve, Rio.

main stream - see “Fleuve”

Major risk

**Synonymes:** environmental hazard. **Sens technique**

Risk which is characterized by both a low probability of occurrence and huge seriousness of a given event should it occurs (many casualties, extensive damage to property and the environment).

**Source:** According to SOeS

**Thématiques associées:** Risk, Flood.

**Translations:** Risque majeur, Riesgo mayor.

Mammal

**Sens commun**

A class of tetrapod, viviparous vertebrate animals, which are essentially characterized by the presence of udders, hairs, a four-cavity heart, a developed nervous and encephalic system, a constant internal temperature and pulmonary-type respiration.

**Source:** according to CNRTL

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna.

**Translations:** Mammifère, Mamífero.

Man made lake

**Sens commun**

Large expanse of water surrounded by land, created or enlarged by man, where it is enough that the depth, surface area or volume are sufficient to cause sediment deposit or stratification.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Body of water, Use.

**Translations:** Lac artificiel, Lago artificial.

Management Committee for migratory fish

**Sens technique**

Assembly gathering representatives of local authorities, the managing administration, fishing federations, users, concession owners, owners and scientists responsible for establishing a management plan for migratory fish, in freshwater and seawater. The management committee for migratory fish is in charge, among other things, of giving an opinion on the river basin.
management plan (SDAGE) and sub-basin management plans (SAGEs). Its members are nominated for five years by the Basin Coordinator Prefect, who is the president. There are now eight management committees in continental France, roughly corresponding to the major French river basins.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Governance.
Translations: Comité de gestion pour les poissons migrateurs, Comité de Gestión para los Peces Migradores.

Management cycle

Under the Water Framework Directive (WFD), it is a six-year management cycle (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2022-2027, etc) given for achieving environmental objectives. Within a planning rationale, in each basin or group of basins, assessments and a register of protected areas were made in 2004 and programmes for monitoring water status were established late 2006. On this basis, river basin management plan (SDAGES), which lay out objectives and their programmes of measures, which identify the key measures to be taken to achieve the SDAGE's goals, were adopted late 2009. SDAGEs and programmes of measures apply to the 2010-2015 management cycle. A progress report on the implementation of the programmes of measures must be drafted late 2012 to plan, whenever necessary, the additional measures required in cases of delays or difficulties. The next management cycle is being prepared by updating the assessments, which will take place by the end of 2013, in view of updating the SDAGES and their programmes of measures that will then apply to the 2016-2021 management cycle (the subsequent cycles being prepared in a similar way).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Governance.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Translations: Cycle de gestion, Ciclo de gestión.

Management plan

Planning document established in each district (or basin or group of basins), as required by the Water Framework Directive (WFD), which sets out environmental objectives to be achieved, particularly with regard to the ecological status and chemical status of surface water bodies as well as the quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater bodies. In France, the river basin management plan (SDAGE) includes the management plan required by the WFD. The SDAGEs were updated in late 2009 to incorporate the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. The management plan (or SDAGE) is implemented with a six-year management cycle (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2021-2027, etc). It is accompanied by a programme of measures that identifies the key measures to take to achieve the environmental objectives set out in the management plan.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Planning, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Plan de gestion, Plan de Gestión.

Mandatory

Synonymes: compelling value. Sens technique
Value set out by a directive. Member States cannot retain a value less stringent than this value but may set a stricter one.
Mangrove

**Sens commun**
Amphibious wooded area mainly consisting of mangrove trees found in muddy sediments of tropical coastlines.

**Translations**: Valeur impérative, Valor imperativo.

**Marine current**

**Sens commun**
Movement of an oceanic water body.

**Translations**: Courant marin, Corriente marina.

**Marine Environment Action Plan (PAMM)**

**Sens technique**
Planning document aiming to achieve the good ecological status of marine waters, adopted under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Each PAMM focuses on a marine sub region, a sea space that is homogeneous in terms of ecological functioning. It consists of five elements, reviewed every six years: initial assessment of the status of the marine sub-region, definition of the good ecological status to be achieved, environmental objectives to achieve good ecological status, monitoring programme for assessing the status of marine waters, a programme of measures including the actions to be implemented to meet the environmental objectives and thus achieve good ecological status. Adopted by the Coordinating Prefects of the Marine Sub-Regions, the PAMMs, during their implementation process, organise a consultation with the stakeholders of the maritime and coastal world, through the maritime councils of the sub-regions (CMF), as well as a public consultation. In metropolitan France, four sub-regions are covered by a PAMM: the Channel-North Sea, Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean Sea.

**Translations**: Plan d’action pour le milieu marin.

**Marine hydraulics**

**Sens technique**
A branch of hydraulics related to the marine and coastal environments, which deals with swells, currents, dispersion and water quality, sedimentology, seaworthiness and the keeping of ships at station, or the interaction between waves and structures.

Sens technique

Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing common framework and objectives for the protection and conservation of the marine environment by 2020. Member States shall assess the needs in the marine areas under their jurisdiction and develop their own strategies to achieve good ecological status of marine waters for which they are responsible. These strategies are designed to ensure the protection and restoration of European marine ecosystems and the ecological sustainability of economic activities linked to the marine environment.

Source: According to the European Commission

Marine turbine

Sens commun

Submerged turbine that uses the energy of marine currents, and sometimes fluvial, to produce electricity.

Source: according to CELF

Maritime lateral limit

Sens réglementaire

Line essentially distinguishing the public maritime domain (at its downstream part) from the public waterways domain (if the stream is state-owned) or from the private domain of riverside residents (at its upstream part). The maritime lateral limit is the real limit in the domestic law governing maritime activities, and is used as a reference to determine the "sea shore" communities according to the Coastal Law. Decree No. 2004-309 of 29 March 2004 on the procedure for delimitation of sea shore, foreshore, coastal relay, maritime lateral limit at the mouth of rivers and streams defines the procedure that should be applied.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Maritime port

Sens commun

Place where vessels can approach the coast and dock to unload their products and/or their passengers. There are natural harbours, but in most cases the port site has been built.

Source: According to Ifremer

Maritime transport/shipping

Sens commun

Mode of transporting goods or people by sea for the most part.
Marker

Sens technique
Semantic marker element of computer languages, it serves to define and structure data contained in a document. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces data dictionaries and exchange scenarios that are based on marked formats such as XML.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Balise, Etiqueta.

Marshes

Sens commun
All wetlands where the stagnant surface water body is usually shallow.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Wetland.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZONE HUMIDE.
Translations: Marais, Pantano.

Master plan for urban planning and development

Sens technique
Planning document with a regulatory purpose setting out basic guidelines for an agglomeration and harmonizing State programmes as well as those of local authorities, public institutions and services. The master plan for urban planning and development (SDAU) is thus a coherent framework for action for urban planning and the restructuring of urban areas. In the Urban Planning Code, the expression "the Master Plan for Urban Planning and Development" was replaced by the "Master plan".
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Development, Public policy, Governance, Use, Housing and city.
Translations: Schéma directeur d'aménagement et d'urbanisme, Esquema Director de Ordenación y Urbanismo.

Maximum allowable concentration

Sens commun
Maximum allowable concentration for a pollutant in a medium (air, water, soil) in a food or drink.
Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Risk.
Translations: Concentration maximale admissible, Concentración máxima admisible.

Maximum depth

Sens technique
Water level at the point of greatest depth at the average elevation for a natural body of water, and at the normal operating elevation for an artificial body of water.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Profondeur maximale, Profundidad máxima.

Meadow liable to flooding

Sens commun

Source: According to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Employment, Ecological service, Transport.
Translations: Transport maritime, Transporte marítimo.
An area of a river floodplain. The meadows liable to flooding are rich areas from a biological standpoint, many protected animal or plant species being found there. Depending on the richness of the soil and waterlogging duration, the hedge hyssop, the fritillaria meleagris or snake's head, protected species in France, are blooming. The flora is often accompanied by an animal population composed of amphibians, small mammals and especially many insects. Among the latter, butterflies of high value to biodiversity, such as the marsh fritillary, the Alcon blue and large copper, or grasshoppers such as the Stethophyma grossum or large marsh grasshopper, are only found in this type of environment. Many birds such as the common curlew, whinchat, corncrake, red-backed shrike, gray heron or little egret are breeding on these meadows. Areas remaining under water longer and connected to the river are also very good spawning areas for the reproduction of the pike and common frog. These grasslands also have a functional value in terms of flood absorption, filtration and water purification.

**Mean annual discharge**

Sens technique

Mean annual discharge calculated over a period of observation long enough to be representative of the measured or reconstructed flow rates. It is frequently referred to as inter-annual module or module. It allows characterizing the flow of a "mean" year.

**Source:** According to SCHAPI

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Débit annuel interannuel, Caudal anual interanual.

**Mean monthly discharge or flow**

Sens technique

Arithmetic mean of the monthly flow rates in a given month, calculated over a period long enough to be representative. It can characterize the mean flow in a given month.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Débit mensuel interannuel, Caudal mensual interanual.

**Meander**

Section between two successive turning points. On the outside of the curve (or extrados) the concave river bank is eroded, steep, and conducive to lateral erosion. On the inside of the curve (or intrados) the convex river bank is sloping gently, suitable for sedimentation of alluvial benches. There are two main types of meanders, incised meanders and free meanders, and an intermediate type, forced cut meanders.

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

**Translations:** Méandre, Meandro.
Meander cutoff

Sens commun
A cutoff that occurs when two knees of the same meander meet. The cutoff then causes the abandonment of the meander to form a new channel.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.
Translations: Coupure de méandre, Corte de meandro.

Measurement site

Sens technique
Characteristic and representative subspace of the measuring station clearly identified and located to perform repetitive measurements for having an in-depth knowledge of the environment at the location of the station. Measurement sites are also places on the station where the sampler will make, whenever possible, its samples or in situ measurements. A site is usually dedicated to a substrate: water, sediments, Bryophytes, etc. A substrate may be collected in several sites. Each measurement site can belong to one or more measurement networks and may be used once or more times by each of them for which the period or periods of belonging will be specified.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: SITE DE MESURE DU QUALITOMETRE, SITE DE MESURE DU PIEZOMETRE.
Translations: Site de mesure, Sitio de medición.

Meta collecting system

Sens technique
Collecting system corresponding to the grouping of a set of points with existing collecting devices. This group may for example correspond to the grouping of collecting devices located on the same territory, to a logical grouping of themes, to an operational goal, etc. Consistency of the meta device comes from common rules applicable to all associated collecting devices.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: Méta Dispositif de collecte.
Translations: Méta dispositivo de recopilación.

Metadata

Sens technique
Data describing a resource (the resource may be, for example, other data). Metadata provide information on the nature of data. Metadata that can be associated with a document are: its title, author, date of creation, etc. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces metadata associated with reference datasets and specification documents. For example, the geographic metadata disseminated by Sandre are based on ISO standard 19115, and document metadata use the Dublin Core.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Métadonnée, Metadato.

Metal pollution

Sens commun
Environmental contamination caused by the excessive amount of various metals, such as aluminium, arsenic, chromium, cobalt, copper, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, zinc, etc., or even of heavy metals such as cadmium, mercury or lead, that are more toxic than the previous ones.

Source: according to CNRS
**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Industry.

**Translations:** Pollution métallique, Contaminación metálica.

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**Meteoric water**

**Sens commun**

Water derived from atmospheric precipitations that has not yet reached the earth’s surface.

**Source:** according to CELF

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Runoff/rain water. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Eau météorique.

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**Meteorological drought**

**Sens commun**

A type of drought corresponding to a pronounced and prolonged deficit of precipitation.

**Source:** according to Météo France

**Thématiques associées:** Climate, Quantity of the resource, Risk, Drought.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Drought, Hydrological drought, Soil drought. **Translations:** Sécheresse météorologique, Sequía meteorológica.

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**Meteorology**

**Sens commun**

Science of the atmosphere.

**Source:** According to the International Hydrographic Organization

**Thématiques associées:** Climate.

**Translations:** Météorologie, Meteorología.

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**METOX**

**Sens technique**

Overall index calculated from the concentrations of metals and metalloids, weighted by multipliers based on their degree of toxicity, according to the AFNOR standards T 90-112, T & T 90-113 90-119 (in METOX/day for discharges). This index is determined by the water agencies to levy pollution taxes.

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** METOX, METOX.

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**Metrology**

**Sens commun**

Science that measures parameters with sensors. Metrology measures, for example, the speed of marine currents or the chemistry of water.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Thématiques associées:** Public policy, Water and environmental management, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Métrologie, Metrología.

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**Micro-irrigation**

**Sens commun**

A kind of irrigation in which water is supplied under low pressure near the foot of plants, using pipes pierced with small holes.

**Source:** according to the Larousse dictionary

**Thématiques associées:** Use, Agriculture.
Microbial eco-toxicology

Sens commun

Science that studies the ecological consequences of physical, chemical pollution or biological, regarding microbial communities, and the many functions they perform in ecosystems, as well as the role of microorganisms in the dynamics of pollutants (source, transfer, degradation, transformation). Microbial eco-toxicology (Ecotoxicomic) is an emerging science that responds to a strong political and societal demand in relation to environmental concerns (pollution removal, indicators of the status of an ecosystem) and public health.

Source: according to CNRS

Thématiques associées: Species, Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Ecotoxicologie Microbienne.

Microbiological quality

Sens commun

Water status characterized by a degree of presence of microorganisms (viruses, bacteria, protozoa, etc) capable of causing a more or less great health risk.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Species, Risk, Health.

Translations: Qualité microbiologique, Calidad microbiológica.

Microorganism

Sens commun

Microscopic organism (mainly bacteria and fungi) which is involved in the decomposition and biodegradation process.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Species.

Translations: Microorganisme, Microorganismo.

Microplankton

Sens commun

Plankton of very small size, invisible to the naked eye.

Source: according to IFREMER

Thématiques associées: Species, Species.


Micropollutant

Sens commun

Pollutant usually found with low concentrations in a given medium (of the order of a microgram (µg) milligram (mg) per litre or per kilogram), which may have a significant impact on uses and ecosystems.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Pollutant, Organic micropollutant, Mineral micropollutant, Macropollutants.

Translations: Micropolluant, Microcontaminante.

Middle sea fishing

Sens commun

Fishing carried out by vessels that are absent for more than 96 hours and do not belong to the deep-sea fishery (vessels likely
to be absent more than 20 days from their home base).

**Source:** d’après Conseil régional de Poitou-Charentes

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Middle sea fishing. **Translations:** Pêche au large, Pesca de altura.

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**Migration**

**Sens technique**

Movement of a group of individuals between two distinct habitats under the influence of periodic (climate, food and spawning) or accidental factors, and their return later to the place of departure. Most frequently, these movements are necessary for the fulfillment of the life cycle of the species: gamic migration (related to reproduction), ontogenetic migration (related to the movement of individuals during their growth), trophic migration (food-related behaviour).

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Translations:** Migration, Migración.

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**Migratory fish**

**Sens commun**

Fish that move periodically between their spawning and feeding grounds (home to the juveniles and adults). Some species live alternately in freshwater and seawater (diadromous fish), they are called “highly migratory species”.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Diadromous migratory fish, Fish. **Translations:** Poisson migrateur, Pez migratorio.

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**Mineral matter**

**Sens commun**

Non-organic matter made of solid components.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Organic matter. **Translations:** Matière minérale, Materia mineral.

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**Mineral micropollutant**

**Sens commun**

Mineral active product, mainly metals or metalloids, whose accumulation, even at low concentrations, affects the environment and organisms. The main mineral micro pollutants controlled (from both natural and anthropical occurrence) are cadmium, mercury, copper, chromium, zinc, nickel, lead, etc.

**Source:** According to Seine-Normandie Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Micropollutant, Organic micropollutant. **Translations:** Micropolluant minéral.

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**Mineral water**

**Sens commun**

Spring water whose composition in mineral elements allows a therapeutic use.

**Source:** According to Larousse dictionary

**Sens technique**

Microbiologically sound natural water from a groundwater table or underground deposit exploited from one or more natural or drilled emergences. It shows a stability of its essential characteristics, in particular composition (mineral content, trace elements, etc.) and temperature at emergence, which is not affected by the flow of the water taken. It is distinguished from
other waters intended for human consumption:

- by its nature (characterized by its content of minerals, trace elements or other constituents),
- by its original purity, both characteristics have been preserved intact due to the underground origin of this water which has been kept safe from any risk of pollution. These characteristics must have been assessed geologically and hydrogeologically, physically, chemically, microbiologically and, if necessary, pharmacologically, physiologically and clinically.

**Source:** According to SIGES Rhin-Meuse

### Sens réglementaire

According to the circular No. DGS / EA4 / 2008/30 of 31 January 2008 on the safety of mineral waters, mineral water is water with a set of characteristics that are likely to bring its health-promoting properties. It testifies, within the framework of the known natural fluctuations, of a stability of its essential characteristics, in particular of composition and temperature at the emergence, which is not affected by the flow of the water taken.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Health.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Drinking water, Spring water, Bottled water. **Translations:** Eau minérale, Agua mineral.

### Mineralisation

**Sens technique**

Process of chemical or biological degradation of soil organic matter into its basic chemical constituents.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Mineralisation.

### Minimum annual mean flow

**Sens technique**

Minimum annual mean flow calculated for n consecutive days. The VCN3 is used to characterize a situation of severe low water over a short period (3 days). The VCN30 gives information on the minimum resource over a month. Unlike low-flow (QMNA), it is calculated over a period of any 30 consecutive days. Using a sample of values of a parameter (e.g. VCN3), we calculate, for certain return periods, the statistic values of this parameter (e.g. biennial VCN3 or 2 years).

**Source:** According to SCHAPI

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Débit moyen minimal annuel, Caudal medio mínimo anual.

### Minimum flow

**Sens technique**

Value of the flow maintained downstream of a localized water intake (short-circuited stream, etc) under Article L-232-5 of the Rural Code. This article specifically refers to "structures to be built in the bed of a watercourse", and "devices" to be developed to maintain a certain flow rate. It requires letting pass a minimum flow guaranteeing the life, circulation and spawning of the species that inhabit these waters. This minimum discharge is at least equal to one tenth of the module (1:40 for facilities existing on 06/29/84) or to the inflow if it is lower. The minimum flow is often called, wrongly, reserved flow.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Débit minimal, Caudal minimo.

**minor bed - see “Hétérogénéité du lit mineur”**

### Mixed sludge

**Sens technique**
This sludge is usually a mixture of primary sludge and biological sludge.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Primary sludge, Biological sludge, Wastewater, Wastewater treatment. Boue

Translations: mixte, Fango mixto.

Mixture of water

Sens technique

Mixing occurring in bodies of water. These differ according to their characteristics of water mixture. There are thus: (i) dimictic lakes (which mix twice a year, with direct thermal stratification in the hot season and a reverse stratification when the lake freezes); (ii) meromictic lakes (characterized by a stable stratification of their deep waters); (iii) monomictic lakes (which mix once a year and can be divided into two categories: warm monomictic lakes - the water temperature at the surface and at the bottom does not fall below 4°C, and cold monomictic lakes - called polar, insofar as, in the hot season, the surface waters do not exceed 4°C); and (iv) polymictic lakes (which have an unstable thermal stratification, easily destroyed by wind, during summer).

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Body of water.

Translations: Mélange d'eau, Mezcla de agua.

Molluscs

Sens commun

Aquatic or terrestrial, non-segmented animal whose bilateral symmetry is sometimes altered. The body of a mollusc usually consists of a head, a visceral mass and a foot. The visceral mass is covered in whole or in part by a mantle, which secretes a calcareous shell.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Species.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fauna, shellfish. Translations: Mollusque, Molusco.

Monitoring network

Sens technique

A system for collecting data from several measuring stations having at least a targeting specific data (i.e. network for hydrometric measurements, piezometric measurement network) and which are carried out measurements or draw samples for later analysis. Each network meets common rules aimed at ensuring the consistency of observations, including the density and purpose of the measuring stations, the selection of compulsory parameters and the choice of measurement protocols, the determining of a periodicity to be complied with. All these rules are described in a protocol.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Monitoring site. Translations: Réseau de mesures, Red de medición.

Monitoring Programme

Sens technique

All provisions (location of monitoring sites, monitored quality elements, controlled parameters or groups of parameters, control frequencies, monitoring methods, etc) related to the monitoring of water status in a basin or group of basins under the Water Framework Directive, in order to establish a coherent and comprehensive picture of the status of these waters. This programme includes: (i) quantitative monitoring of rivers and water bodies; (ii) monitoring of the ecological status, chemical status and ecological potential of surface waters, as well as of the quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater; (iii) operational monitoring of surface water status and chemical status of groundwater; (iv) survey controls (for identifying the origin of the degradation of water status); (v) controls carried out in areas listed in the register of protected areas, including additional controls required for surface water abstraction areas and water bodies including habitat areas and protection zones for species. The monitoring programme is issued by the Basin Coordinator Prefect, after collaboration with the basin committee, and regularly updated. The monitoring programmes were stopped in late 2006 with a view to the establishment of
the first management cycle (2010-2015).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Planning, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Arrêté du 7 août 2015 modifiant l'arrêté du 25 janvier 2010 établissant le programme de surveillance de l'état des eaux en application de l'article R. 212-22 du code de l'environnement
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Programme de surveillance de l'état des eaux, Programa de Vigilancia del Estado de las Aguas.

Monitoring site

Sens technique
Station located on a hydrographic entity (river, lake, canal, etc), in which measurements or samples are made for physico-chemical, microbiological ... analyses to determine the quality of the aquatic environments in this area. It concerns a space in which it is possible to make measurements at different sites deemed consistent and representative of the station.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Station de mesure, Estación de medición.

Monthly discharge

Sens technique
Average flow rate during a month: it is most often obtained by adding the average daily rates of the month and by dividing the result by the number of days in the month.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit mensuel, Caudal mensual.

Monthly mean flow

Sens technique
Mean for a given month, of average daily flow rates.
Source: According to SCHAPI
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit moyen mensuel, Caudal medio mensual.

Monthly precipitation

Sens commun
Cumulative rainfall height at a location during a month.
Source: according to METEO FRANCE
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Morphogenetic flow

Sens technique
Full filling up of the riverbed. The bankfull discharge is responsible for the formation and dynamics of flow facies and morphological alterations of the watercourse. It is the liquid flow for which the transported sediment discharge is maximal. We thus speak of morphogenetic flow. For many streams the bankfull discharge is a 1 to 3 year flood.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Désbit morphogène, Caudal morfológico.

Morphology

Sens commun
Science that studies the characteristics, configuration and evolution of forms of grounds and rocks. The main elements that characterize it are: the cross section profile, longitudinal profile, meanderings, river styles, flow velocity, succession of facies, grain size variations, riparian corridor, and the relationship with the alluvial groundwater sheet.

Source: According to AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Morfología, Morfologie.

Moving watercourse

Sens commun
Watercourse having a strongly dynamic bed that can move naturally.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Cours d'eau mobile, Curso de agua móvil.

Mud flat

Sens commun
Range of loose sediments (mud) deposited in an estuary, on a sea shore, or on the sea bed.

Source: according to AFB

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Sediment, Slikken/Tidal flat, Wetland. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB.
Translations: Vasière.

Mudslide

Sens commun
Dramatic result of erosion (destruction of farmlands, flooding of roads, etc). The main consequences of a mudslide are the degradation of the agricultural potential of the soil and of the quality of rivers caused by increase in turbidity, transfer of heavy metals and pesticides.

Source: According to SOeS

Thématiques associées: Risk, Erosion, Agriculture.
Translations: Coulée boueuse, Colada detrítica.

Municipal information record on major hazards

Sens technique
Municipal information document on major hazards, prepared by the mayor, with the aim to describe the preventive measures taken by the municipality to reduce the effects of a major hazard for people and goods, to present the rescue organization,
and to provide the safety instructions to comply with.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Translations: Dossier d'information communal sur les risques majeurs, Expediente de Información Municipal sobre Riegos Mayores.

**Municipal map**

**Sens réglementaire**

Simplified urban planning document that a municipality can be provided with if it has no local urbanisation plan (PLU) or a document replacing it; the municipal map determines how the general rules of the national urban planning law can be applied, and is defined in Articles L. 124-1 and the following ones, of the urban planning code. It can affect part or the entire municipality territory. It can also be developed at the level of an inter-municipal structure. Municipal maps must be compatible or made compatible, within three years, with the basic guidelines of a sound water resources management and water quality and quantity objectives, defined by the river basin management plans (SDAGE) as well as with the protection goals defined by the sub-basin management plans (SAGEs).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées**: Governance, Risk.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Local development plan. **Translations**: Carte communale, Plano Municipal.

**Mussel bed**

**Sens commun**

Cylindrical pile, traditionally in oak, planted in a line on the bottom of the foreshore and used for breeding mussels attached to stakes or on wrapped around ropes.

Source: According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées**: Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline.

**Translations**: Bouchot, Estaca para viveros.

**Mussel farming**

**Sens commun**

Farming of filter-feeding molluscs of the family *Mytilidae* called "mussels", more often marine mussels (by distinction of freshwater mussels).

Source: d'après OIEau

**Thématiques associées**: Fauna, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension**: Shellfish farming, Aquaculture. **Translations**: Mytiliculture, Mitilicultura.

**N**

**NAF Code for the activity of an enterprise**

**Sens technique**

Identifier of the main activity of the self-employed worker or of the business enterprise among the activities listed in the Nomenclature of French Activities (NAF). Formerly APE code (from 1973 to 1992), since then the new NAF, this code is now composed as follows: e.g. "20.4Z" for the manufacture of wooden containers, "28.5A" for the treatment and coating of metals.
National Environmental Health Plan

Sens technique
National plan to address the concerns of the French people about the health consequences in the short and medium term of exposure to certain pollutants in their environment; the National Environmental Health Plan (PNSE) must integrate ecotoxicology and eco-epidemiology in conventional sanitary approaches. It covers the whole population and involves many stakeholders: Associations for Environmental Protection, Ministries of the Environment, Health, Labour, Agriculture, Economy, and many agencies and research teams.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Industry.
Translations: Code NAF d’activité d’une entreprise, Código NAF de actividad de una empresa (del francés Nomenclature d’activités Française).

National framework for water data

Sens technique
Tool for organizing, streamlining and sharing data between the various data producers on the entire French territory. The National framework for water data (SNDE) has governance mechanisms and devices for the production, storage, processing, use and dissemination of data and is based on common methodologies, a repository of shared data and a system for quality management. Regulations related to the SNDE are based on Decree No. 2009-1543 of 11 December 2009, Article R213-2 of the Environmental Code and a ministerial order applying this decree.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.

National Park

Sens commun
Remarkable area of the territory that has been classified as “National Park &nbsp;” because of its exceptional natural wealth, from the point of view of landscape quality and natural, historical or cultural heritage. The establishment of a national park requires a certification by the State. It usually generates specific regulations for the protection of fauna and flora.

Source: according to the Observatory of the Mediterranean Forest
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Preservation, Environment and habitat, Public policy.
Translations: Parc national, Parque nacional.

National Service for Water Data and Common Reference Frames Management

Sens technique
Network of organizations contributing to the Water Information System (WIS) in charge of building a common language for water data and homogenize the data exchanged between the various actors. The National Service for Water Data and Common Reference Frames Management (Sandre) has a central technical secretariat and data administrators in
organizations contributing to the water information system. Its role and organization are defined in the decree of 26 July 2010 approving the national plan for water data (SNDE).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater

**National Water Committee**

Advisory organization which reports to the Minister for the Environment, the National Water Committee's mission is to give its opinion on the geographical districts of basins or group of basins, on all development and water distribution projects having a national scope as well as major regional developments; on draft decrees on the protection of fish populations, on the water price billed to users and the quality of Public water supply and sanitation services (proposed by an advisory committee established within). The National Water Committee especially gives an opinion on the draft river basin management plans (SDAGEs) and programmes of measures. It is made up of: representatives of the State and its public institutions (including two basin coordinator prefects and two water agencies' directors), two members of the Parliament and two senators, two members of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, presidents of basin committees, representatives of local authorities, representatives of users, two Presidents of local water commissions (CLE) and qualified persons (whose number may not exceed eight).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Native species**

Species found inside its natural range, past or present, and its dispersal potential.

Source: according to AFB

**Natura 2000**

A network of European outstanding environments which are proposed by each Member State of the European Union and which correspond to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) under the European Directive of 21 May 1992 (known as "Flora Fauna Habitats" Directive) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the European Directive of 2 April 1979 (known as "Birds Directive"). These areas are identified in an effort to control the progressive deterioration of habitats and animal and plant species of Community interest. Each State must complement this list with appropriate management plans and an estimate of the amounts required under EU co-financing.

Source: According to Ifremer
Natural Area of Ecological, Faunistic or Floristic Interest

Sens commun
Natural Area of special Ecological, Faunistic or Floristic Interest (ZNIEFF) which is the subject of a national scientific inventory under the authority of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle/National Natural History Museum (MNHN) on behalf of the Ministry for the Environment. Two types are well identified: type I: areas of outstanding biological interest, areas of type II covering the large natural areas up to date, the ZNIEFF inventory concerns: wetlands, streams, marshes, bogs, moors, for example.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Preservation, Public policy.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZNIEFF.
Translations: Zone naturelle d'intérêt écologique, faunistique ou floristique, Zona natural de interés ecológico, faunístico o florístico.

Natural environment

Sens commun
A more or less vast and wild area, interesting from a biological, ecological or landscape viewpoint, and which requires appropriate protection measures. A natural environment consists of a multitude of intertwined habitats.

Source: according to the Calvados Mixed Syndicate of Coastal Natural Spaces
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Milieu naturel, Medio natural.

Natural eutrophic lake

Sens commun
Lake (body of water, pond, etc.) whose waters enriched with organic matter (containing nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium for example) are places of an algal and bacterial proliferation.

Source: according to Larousse dictionary
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Eutrophication. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Plan d’eau eutrophe, Plano de agua eutrófico.

Natural flow

Sens commun
Flow of a watercourse undisturbed by human activities (in the absence of any hydraulic structure in particular). A value is estimated only for monthly and annual flow rates.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit naturel, Caudal natural.

Natural geochemical background

Sens commun
Natural concentration of an element, a compound or a substance in a given environment, in the absence of any specific external input, such as human activity.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Translations: Fond géochimique naturel, Fondo geoquímico natural.
Natural monopoly

Sens technique
Situation in which the supplier is the only one to sell a given product or service to a multitude of buyers. A monopoly is called natural when production yields are increasing (especially because of fixed costs much higher than variable costs).

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Monopole naturel, Monopolio natural.

Natural mortality

Sens commun
Instantaneous rate of disappearance of individuals for reasons other than those due to fishing (old age, disease, predation).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Mortalité naturelle, Mortalidad natural.

Natural risk

Sens technique
Threat of a dangerous event caused by a natural phenomenon, called hazard, having damaging, unforeseen or badly prevented effects on developments, structures and people, the stakes being more or less serious, even catastrophic, according to their vulnerability. A natural risk is the confrontation between a hazard of natural origin and human, economic or environmental stakes.

Source: according to the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL) of the Loire region
Thématiques associées: Risk, Erosion, Flood, Drought.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Risk. Translations: Risque naturel, Riesgo natural.

Naturalized species

Sens technique
An introduced species that meets ecological conditions favourable to its sustainable establishment over time that can establish populations in an autonomous manner and integrated into the ecosystem.

Source: according to MNHN
Thématiques associées: Species, Fauna, Flora.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Species. Translations: Espèce naturalisée, Especie naturalizada.

Nature of the tidal range

Sens technique
The nature of the tidal range is different if the water level is influenced by a human control of the tidal range (dam or other structure affecting the water level) or if it is only influenced by natural factors (rainfall, evaporation).

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Nature du marnage, Naturaleza de la amplitud.

Nature reserve

Sens technique
Pursuant to Act No. 76-629 of 10 July 1976 (art. L.242-1 and following articles of the Rural Code), nature reserves are classified areas when conservation of fauna, flora, soil, water, mineral deposits and excavations and, in general, of the natural environment is of particular importance or when it is appropriate to avoid any man-made facility likely to deteriorate them. The classification may affect the public maritime domain and French territorial waters. Reserves could have been created before according to Article 8a of the Act of 2 May 1930 (Eider-IFEN).
Nautical meteorology

Sens commun

Marine meteorology when it concerns navigation. It essentially deals with sea conditions and forecast, visibility, wind, etc.

Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Climate, Shoreline.
Translations: Météorologie nautique, Meteorología náutica.

Nautical mile

Sens commun

Unit of length traditionally used in navigation, i.e. 1,852 m. Not to be mistaken with the mile, Anglo-Saxon measurement of length, i.e. 1,609 m.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Milé nautique, Milla náutica.

Navigation dam

Sens commun

A structure intended to ensure a sufficient and relatively horizontal water level to allow navigation. It can be fixed or mobile.

Source: according to Voies navigables de France (French Waterways)
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Obstacle to flow. Translations: Barrage de navigation.

Neap tide

Sens commun

Low tide occurring when the moon is close to the first and last quarter.

Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Marée de morte-eau, Marea de agua muerta.

Needle dam/weir

Sens commun

Dam consisting of a succession of solid frames (foldable metal frames) connected by a bridge and each supporting a movable part - the needle - which can be raised or lowered.

Source: according to Voies navigables de France (French Waterways)
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Obstacle to flow. Translations: Barrage à aiguille, Presa de aguja.

Net consumption

Sens commun

Fraction of a volume of surface or ground water, withdrawn and not returned to the aquatic environment (river or aquifer), i.e. not discharged after use (water used by plants and evapotranspiration, evaporation, etc.).

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Translations: Consommation nette, Consumo neto.
Net water withdrawal

Sens commun
Gross withdrawal to which the volume of returned water is subtracted.
Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Water abstraction.
Translations: Prélèvement net d'eau, Extracción neta de agua.

New pollution

Sens commun
As opposed to "historical pollution", it is a pollution that results from a recent human activity.
Source: Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution nouvelle, Contaminación nueva.

Nitrate removal

Sens technique
Action to remove nitrates by filtration through an ion exchange resin.
Source: according to the General Council of Seine-et-Marne
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Chemistry, Health.
Translations: Dénitratation, Desnitratación.

Nitrate-fixing intermediate crops

Sens commun
Specific cultivation, planted during the period between crops rotation, when bare ground is usually exposed. These selected crops are fast growing species (white mustard, radish, canola, phacelia, vetch, trefoil, etc.) allowing to fix the excess nitrogen that is still on the ground, in order to prevent it to migrate to the groundwater or to the streams, washed away by rain. These crops also have the benefit of reducing the soil erosion and enhancing biodiversity.

Source: According to the Chamber of Agriculture in french region the Center
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Nitrates.
Documents de référence: Décret n° 2011-1257 du 10 octobre 2011 relatif aux programmes d’actions à mettre en œuvre en vue de la protection des eaux contre la pollution par les nitrates d’origine agricole
Translations: Culture intermédiaire piège à nitrates .

Nitrate

Sens commun
Major nitrogen feeds for plant growth; they play a significant role as fertilizers. All natural waters normally contain nitrates at doses which vary with the season (about a few milligrams per litre). In many ground and surface waters, there is today an increase in the nitrate concentration from non-point (run-off of nitrates from inorganic or organic fertilizers that are not used by plants) or point sources (discharge of domestic, agricultural or industrial wastewater). The progressive nitrate enrichment of water can compromise the latter's use for drinking water production and leads, in some cases, to significant algae development. This eutrophication phenomenon is accentuated by the presence of phosphorus.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Nitrogen cycle, Nitrogen balance, Nitrate-fixing intermediate crops.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: PARAMETRE.
Documents de référence: Décret n° 2011-1257 du 10 octobre 2011 relatif aux programmes d’actions à mettre en œuvre en vue de la protection des eaux contre la pollution par les nitrates d’origine agricole
Décret n° 2012-676 du 7 mai 2012 relatif aux programmes d’actions régionaux en vue de la protection des eaux contre la
pollution par les nitrates d'origine agricole
Translations: Nitrates, Nitratos.

Nitrates Directive
Sens technique
Directive No. 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources, called "Nitrates Directive". It aims to reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further pollution of this kind. It includes: the designation of nitrate vulnerable zones; the establishment of one or more codes of good agricultural practice (CGAP) (use of nitrogen fertilizers and land management) implemented on a voluntary basis by farmers; the development of mandatory’s actions programs (yearly schedules limiting or forbidding manure spreading, limits to the amounts of nitrogen used, management of periods between crop rotations, etc.) for vulnerable zones and including the mandatory measures listed in the CGAP(s); the implementation of a monitoring programme regarding water quality with respect to nitrate concentrations and eutrophication levels.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Agriculture, Substance and pollutant.

Nitrification
Sens technique
First phase of the biological removal of nitrogen, especially in wastewater treatment plants. Nitrification is the treatment of wastewater which aims to transform ammonium (NH4+) into nitrate (NO3-).
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Nitrification, Nitrificación.

Nitrogen balance
Sens technique
Calculation allowing to highlight areas threatened by nitrogen pollution. The nitrogen balance aims to estimate the excess part on an area, evaluating the difference between the nitrogen inputs (mineral fertilization, animal waste, urban and industry inflows, atmospheric inputs) and the exports (consumption of plants, losses in gaseous form).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Agriculture and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Nitrates, Nitrogen surplus. Documents de référence: Décret n° 2011-1257 du 10 octobre 2011 relatif aux programmes d’actions à mettre en œuvre en vue de la protection des eaux contre la pollution par les nitrates d’origine agricole
Translations: Bilan azoté.

Nitrogen cycle
Sens commun

All of the processes and conversions of nitrogen, into different forms, in the atmosphere, the lithosphere, the hydrosphere and the biosphere (nitrous oxide, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, organic nitrogen).

Source: according to the Ministry of Environment
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Chemistry, Agriculture.

Nitrogen surplus

Sens commun

Excessive amount of Nitrogen brought to the crop, which is not used by the plant and stays on the ground after the harvest. The Nitrogen surplus can be calculated thanks to the nitrogen balance, which varies depending on the cultivation type and the agricultural practice.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Translations: Surplus azoté.

Nodal point

Sens technique

Key point for water management usually defined downstream of reference hydrographic units for sub-basin management plans (SAGEs) and/or within those units whose boundaries can be determined by the river basin management plans (SDAGEs). At these points, benchmark values for flow rates and quality can be defined according to the overall objectives selected for the unit. Their location is based on consistency criteria for a river basin, an ecosystem, hydrogeology and socio-economy.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Translations: Point nodal, Punto nodal.

Nomenclature

Sens technique

Set of codified and listed terms. Some attributes of data dictionaries developed by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) must take for possible values the codes defined in a nomenclature (list of possible values constituting a reference dataset). Each code is especially associated with a name and definition. A nomenclature is materialized by a file in XML format.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: NOMENCLATURE ACTIVITES FRANCAISE, NOMENCLATURE DES COMPETENCES DES INSTITUTIONS INTER COLLECTIVITES TERRITORIALES, NOMENCLATURE DES FONCTIONS DES
Nomenclature of classified facilities

Sens technique
A regulatory document for grading classified facilities in accordance with the decree of 20 May 1953 and its amendments, with Act No. 76/663 of 19 July 1976 and Decree No. 77/1133 of 21 September 1977.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Industry.
Translations: Nomenclature des installations classées, Nomenclatura de Instalaciones Clasificadas.

Non-anthropocentric value

Sens technique
Value that can be instrumental and express the interest of entities for themselves and for the grouping in which they are included, or can be intrinsic and reflect the inherent value of an entity, regardless of any assessor, which gives it the statute of objective value.

Source: According to Foundation for Research on Biodiversity
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Instrumental value, Intrinsic value. Translations: Valeur non anthropocentrée, Valor no antropocéntrico.

Non-demesnial water

Sens commun
Part of a river not owned by a national governmental body. Watercourses that are neither navigable nor floatable, brooks, torrents or small streams are considered to be private.

Source: according to French private forestry
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Body of water.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Public waterways domain. Translations: Eau non domaniale, Agua no demesnial.

Non-point source pollution

Sens commun
As opposed to "point source pollution", it is a pollution whose origins are usually known but for which it is impossible to geographically locate the discharges into the aquatic environments and aquifer systems. Agricultural practices on farmlands can be the source of "diffuse" pollution by draining pollutants into percolating or running waters.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Agriculture.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Contaminación difusa, Pollution diffuse.

Non-State-owned watercourse

Sens commun
A watercourse not classified as belonging to the Public Waterways Domain (DPF). The riparian owners, owners of half of the bed shall ensure its regular maintenance.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Cours d'eau non domanial, Curso de agua no demanial.

Non-utilization value

Sens technique

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau
Value given to the mere existence of a good or service by an agent who will not use it. The non-utilization value involves two components: the existence value and the value to others.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Patrimonial value, Bequest value, Altruistic value. **Translations:** Valeur de non usage, Valor de no uso.

## Normal operating water level

### Sens technique

Elevation of the water line of a man-made body of water under normal conditions of use of the structure that generates and regulates this water body (usually a dam). The normal operating water level is defined by the contracting authority under the regulations in force, especially to ensure the safety of the structure, but also by considering the use of the water body. We also use the term "retention normal water level" (RN).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Body of water.

**Translations:** Cote normale d'exploitation, Cota normal de explotación.

## Nuclear power plant

### Sens commun

A plant that generates electricity by using the heat released by the nuclear fuel. This heat heats water and produces steam which drives turbines and consequently alternators. In normal operation, a plant releases radioactive liquids and gas, which can be found in aquatic environments, after treatment of water used for cooling installations (demineralisation, chlorination). On the other hand, the water used in the cooling circuits is hot when it is discharged into the river or the sea, which again can alter the functioning of the ecosystems.

**Source:** according to AFB and the French Nuclear Energy Company

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Risk, Use, Energy, Industry.

**Translations:** Centrale nucléaire, Central nuclear.

## Nursery area

### Sens commun

Area where fry and juvenile fish of a mobile species gather to feed and develop. A nursery area can be used by several species.

**Source:** according to IFREMER and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Species, Species.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Nourricerie.

## Nutrient

### Sens commun

All inorganic compounds and ions necessary for the nutrition of living organisms.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Translations:** Nutriment, Nutriente.

## Observation data

### Sens technique

Data relating to a quality element or a parameter, produced by a control operation.

**Source:** According to AFB
**Obstacle to flow**

**Sens commun**
Any object or event obstructing the natural flow of a river. Obstacle to flow includes dams, sills, locks, etc, that affect the flow of water.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphy.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Dam, Grid, Lock, Sill, Ecological continuity, Watercourses fragmentation, Bridge, Navigation dam.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:**

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Obstacle à l’écoulement, Obstáculo al flujo.

**Ocean**

**Sens technique**
According to the hydrological meaning, a thin water layer that covers part of the Earth. In the geophysical sense, it means the areas where this water layer of several kilometres thick covers grounds where the crust is composed of basalt or related materials and not of continental materials (granites, etc). Therefore shelf seas or epicontinental seas are not part of the ocean in the geophysical sense.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Environment and habitat, Sea and ocean.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Tide, Sea, Hydrography, Hydrosphere. **Translations:** Océan, Océano.

**Oceanic current**

**Sens commun**
Imagery of the movement of ocean water generated by the effect of the rotation of the Earth. Some currents move on the surface, when the transported water is hot (as in the "Gulf Stream" in particular), or deep, when water is cold (e.g. the "Arctic and Antarctic" currents).

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Hydrology.

**Translations:** Courant planétaire, Corriente planetaria.

**Oceanography**

**Sens commun**
Study of the marine environment and ocean floor.

**Source:** according to the National Centre for Textual and Lexical Resources

**Thématiques associées:** Environment and habitat, Sea and ocean.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ocean. **Translations:** Océanographie, Oceanografía.

Oil spill - see "Marée noire"

**oligochaete**

**Sens commun**
Sediment-dwelling worm used to determine sediment quality or even the environmental contamination of the medium by micro-pollutants.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Oligochète, Oligoqueto.
On-site sanitation

Sens commun
All treatment processes that remove wastewater from an individual single-family home usually on the plot on which the house is built, without any wastewater conveyance. An extension (rarer) concerns the wastewater treatment of some neighbouring houses on private land. It is still on-site sanitation but it is regrouped. On the contrary, a group having a small collecting system and a treatment facility (spreading, filters, etc.) on community land is considered community sanitation. On-site sanitation is first defined as opposed to community sanitation.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Housing and city.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Assainissement non collectif, Saneamiento no colectivo.

Open data

Sens technique
Refers to a process that aims to make truly re-usable the data generated by an organization, allowing their free and open reuse by proposing them in formats that facilitate reuse.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Donnée ouverte, Dato abierto.

Open sea

Sens commun
Part of the sea where there is no more land marker.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Shoreline, Sea and ocean.
Translations: Large, Alta mar.

Operational monitoring

Sens technique
Control to establish, as part of the water status monitoring programme, the status of water bodies which are not fully guaranteed to achieve their environmental objectives, and assess the effectiveness of programmes of measures on them.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Contrôle opérationnel, Control operativo.

Operator of a classified facility

Sens réglementaire
Any individual or entity that operates a classified facility (holder of the authorization order), as well as the person who has or has been granted decisive economic power over it, in accordance with Law No. 76/663 of 19 July 1976 and Decree No. 77/1133 of 21 September 1977.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Governance, Industry.
Translations: Exploitant d'installation classée, Explotador de instalación clasificada.

Opportunity cost

Sens technique
Value of lost opportunities due to the choice of the resource allocation to an activity rather than to another when the resource is scarce. In the field of water, e.g. the value of irrigated maize (UK) / corn (US) that could be produced by the water of a
stream if the latter was not used for the production of drinking water or hydropower.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Translations:** Coût d'opportunité, Coste de oportunidad.

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### Option value

**Sens technique**

Use value given to the conservation of an asset for future use.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Utilization value. **Translations:** Valeur d’option, Valor de opción.

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### Order

**Sens commun**

Administrative decision of general interest (e.g. ministerial order of 29 February 1992 laying down a number of rules for all cattle farms subject to authorization) or individual (e.g. Prefect's order setting out the specific rules that the classified facility operated by Mr. X must comply with). Orders can be issued by ministers (ministerial or inter-ministerial orders), prefects (prefectural or prefect's orders) or mayors (municipal orders). The river basin management plan (SDAGE) is binding on the prefectoral and municipal orders.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Translations:** Arrêté, Orden.

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### Organic matter

**Sens commun**

Matter generated by living beings (plants, animals, mushrooms and other decomposers including micro-organisms).

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Mineral matter, Oxidizable material. **Translations:** Matière organique, Materia orgánica.

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### Organic micropollutant

**Sens commun**

Organic active ingredient, usually synthesized by the chemical industry, whose accumulation, even at low concentrations, can be toxic. The main organic micropollutants controlled are volatile organic compounds (VOC), hydrocarbons, and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB).

**Source:** According to Seine-Normandie Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Micropollutant, Mineral micropollutant. **Translations:** Micropolluant organique.

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### Orphan site

**Sens technique**

Polluted site for which the people responsible of the pollution are either not identified or found, or either insolvent or refuse to meet their responsibilities.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Industry, Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Site orphelin, Sitio huérfano.
Oslo Convention

Sens technique
International Convention signed in 1972 for the prevention of marine pollution by dumping from ships and aircraft. The Oslo Commission was responsible for administering the Oslo Convention; in 1992, it combined with the Paris Commission, before the new Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention) entered into force in 1998.

Source: according to OSPAR Commission
Thématiques associées: Governance, Substance and pollutant, Shoreline.
Translations: Convention d’Oslo, Convenio de Oslo.

OSPAR Convention

Sens technique

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Substance and pollutant.
Documents de référence: Convention OSPAR
Translations: Convention OSPAR, Convenio OSPAR.

Outcrop

Sens commun
Part of a geological layer visible on the surface.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Translations: Affleurement, Afloramiento.

Outlet

Sens commun
Stream which discharges to the downstream part of a river basin the waters of a lake or of any other wetland.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Wetland.
Translations: Exutoire, Exutorio.

Outstanding area

Sens technique
An environment to be considered at the highest degree in an (international, national, basin, local) ranking scale because of its patrimonial, ecological value. The notion of ranking with the “outstanding” term introduces concepts of value.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Natural Area of Ecological, Faunistic or Floristic Interest. Translations: Zone remarquable, Zona destacada.

Overfishing

Sens commun
Action of fishing too much of the natural production of a particular marine product.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Surpêche, Sobrepesca.
Oxbow lake

Sens commun
Part of an old meander or braid of a river. Oxbow lakes are more or less disconnected from the main channel due to the latter's displacement over time and to sedimentation mechanisms. Depending on their age, season and weather context, oxbow lakes can be with water or dry. These very rich evolutionary environments are favourable for breeding fish and some amphibians.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Bras mort, Brazo muerto.

Oxidizable material

Sens commun
Carbonaceous or nitrogenous organic matter (substance of biological origin). Oxidizable materials constitute the bulk of the biodegradable portion of the discharged organic pollution. The bacteria found in the medium use the oxygen dissolved in water to eliminate them. Significant discharges of organic matter can lead to significant losses in dissolved oxygen, thus disrupting the ecological balance of a watercourse.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Matière oxydable, Materia oxidable.

Oyster farming

Sens commun
Traditional breeding of oysters.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Ostréiculture, Ostricultura.

Parameter

Sens technique
Property of a medium or part of it which helps to assess its characteristics and/or quality and/or fitness to some uses. The parameter can firstly be of two types: quantitative and qualitative, and secondly of five kinds: physical, chemical, environmental, microbiological and hydrobiological.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Chemistry, Hydrobiology.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: PARAMETRE, PARAMETRE CHIMIQUE, PARAMETRE DE SYNTHESE, PARAMETRE ENVIRONNEMENTAL, PARAMETRE HYDROBIOLOGIQUE, PARAMETRE MICROBIOLOGIQUE, PARAMETRE PHYSIQUE.
Translations: Paramètre, Parámetro.

Parameter Group

Sens technique
Large family of parameters measured in water, whether it is a set of biological indexes or a set of physico-chemical parameters.
Source: According to AFB
Pareto optimality

Sens technique
Situation in which any improvement in the well-being of an individual (or a class of individuals) can only be achieved at the expense of another individual (or another class of individuals). The Pareto optimality is a situation where all the initial allocation has been shared. As such, it is a reference situation in the economic theory on resources management.

Source: According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Optimum de Pareto, Óptimo de Pareto.

Participatory sciences

Sens commun
Information collection programmes involving public participation in a scientific process. This participation is carried out in particular for the collection of field observations. An example is the Vigie-Nature participatory science programme founded by the National Museum of Natural History.

Source: according to Collectif national Sciences participatives - Biodiversité
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Sciences participatives, Ciencias participativas.

Particulate organic matter

Sens commun
Designates living or dead organic particles suspended in water.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Chemistry.
Translations: Matière organique particulaire, Materia orgánica particulada.

Patrimonial value

Sens technique
Non-utilization value of environmental assets, simply due to the fact that this heritage exists.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Payment card

Sens commun
A card proposed to surveyed people (in contingent valuation) giving several contribution amounts and on which they simply tick off the desired amount.

Source: According to Nathan
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Translations: Carte de paiement, Tarjeta de pago.

Pedology

Sens commun
Science whose purpose is the study of soils, their formation and their evolution, particularly in an agricultural context.
Pelagic

Sens commun
As opposed to "benthic", it describes organisms and processes occurring in the ocean (open water) and not close to the bottom.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species, Shoreline.
Translations: Pélagique, Pelágico.

Pelagic zone

Sens commun
Part of slow-flowing aquatic environments, where the bottom is too deep to allow plants to grow.

Source: d'après OIEau
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Zone pélagique.

perched groundwater

Sens technique
Volume of groundwater in an impermeable basin, and at all times with an altitude higher than the surface of a watercourse.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.

Permanent grassland

Sens commun
All natural meadows, pastures, grazing lands and productive moors.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Agriculture.
Translations: Surface Toujours en Herbe, Superficie siempre enyerbada.

Permeability

Sens commun
Property of a porous solid to let water through.

Source: according to the French Dictionary of Surface Hydrology

Sens technique
Property of a body, a solid - especially a soil, a rock - to be penetrated and crossed by a fluid, water in particular, under the effect of a potential gradient. A parameter expressing quantitatively this property, with respect to the characteristics of the fluid, water in particular: flow that can pass through a unit section of the solid considered, under the effect of a hydraulic load gradient unit, under determined conditions of pressure and temperature (homogeneous size at a speed, noted K).

Source: According to the hydrologie.org website and Jean Margat, January 1999
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Aquifer, Aquifer system, Infiltration, Soil moisture index. Perméabilité,
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Permeabilidad.

Phosphate removal

Sens technique

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau
10/10/2020 - page 181/281
Specific (physico-chemical or biological) treatment of wastewater which aims to reduce its phosphate concentration.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Déphosphatation, Desfosfatación.

### Phosphates

**Sens technique**

Organophosphorus compounds derived from phosphoric acid. Phosphates are used in agriculture as fertilisers. Emissions of large quantities of phosphates are released into the environment by mining. Phosphates have a lot of effects on organisms. Indeed, increasing phosphorus levels in surface water increases the growth of phosphate-dependent organisms, such as algae and duckweed. Water then becomes rather unliveable for other organisms. This phenomenon is called eutrophication.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Chemistry, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Eutrophication, Grassy buffer zone, Lagoon-based treatment systems.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Phosphates.

### Phosphorus cycle

**Sens commun**

All exchanges and transformations of phosphorus in the different components of the environment. Unlike many other biogeochemical cycles, the phosphorus cycle has no impact on the atmosphere.

**Source:** According to Wikipedia and Lenntech

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Cycle du phosphate, Ciclo del fósforo.

### Photosynthesis

**Sens commun**

The ability of plants to consume carbon dioxide from the air, to assimilate carbon compounds and to release oxygen.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Carbon cycle, Flora. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Photosynthèse, Fotosíntesis.

### Phycotoxin

**Sens commun**

Toxic substance secreted by certain species of phytoplankton.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Phycotoxine, Ficotoxina.

### Physical Data Model

**Sens technique**

Graphical representation of tables in a database and the relationships between them. In this sense, it is the structuring design of a database.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Modèle physique de données, Modelo físico de datos.

### Physico-chemical

**Sens commun**
Physical and chemical characteristics of water. Inside a water analysis, the observed parameters are quite numerous, and all of these allow to determine the physical-chemical water quality, which determines the maintenance of river biodiversity. These parameters could be for example, temperature, turbidity, concentration of organic matter, mineral, nitrogen, etc.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Quality of the resource, Physico-chemical.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Parameter. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** OPERATION DE PRELEVEMENT PHYSICO-CHIMIQUE ET MICROBIOLOGIQUE.

**Translations:** Physico-chimie.

### Phyto-purification

**Sens commun**

Techniques using natural processes combining "plants, soil, microorganisms" in an artificially created ecosystem, especially for wastewater treatment.

**Source:** according to Runying Wang (ecologist)

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater treatment. **Translations:** Phytoépuration, Fitodepuración.

### Phyto-remediation

**Sens commun**

Remediation of soil or water with plants that degrade certain pollutants or concentrate them before their removal for treatment elsewhere.

**Source:** according to CELF

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Depollution. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Phytoréhabilitation.

### Phytobenthos

**Sens technique**

All luminescent algae and cyanobacteria that live on the substrate (rather than in the water column).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Translations:** Phytobenthos, Fitobentos.

### Phytoplankton

**Sens commun**

Set of microscopic plant organisms that live in suspension in water (algae ...). Phytoplankton is the first link in the food chain in the marine ecosystem. There are approximately 4,000 phytoplankton species worldwide. Some of them can proliferate significantly by forming red, brown or green waters, other species are toxic but most of them are completely harmless.

**Source:** d’après AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Macroplankton. **Translations:** Phytoplankton, Fitoplancton.

### Phytosanitary product

**Sens technique**

Plant protection products. There may be some confusion with pesticides, which are phytosanitary products, but only intended to fight against organisms considered harmful. Phytosanitary products are used in large quantities in various ranges of application: firstly agriculture, but also roads (maintenance of roads and railways) and various private uses (gardening, treatment of facilities, etc). In fact phytosanitary products style the same products as pesticides, but they are then used for
agriculture and crop protection. The phytosanitary products include many classes of products such as insecticides (which kill insects), fungicides (which eliminate fungi), herbicides (weeding), nematicides (which kill nematodes and earthworms), rodenticides (used to get rid of various rodents such as rats, mice, field mice, garden dormice, etc).

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Chemistry, Agriculture.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Grassy buffer zone, Buffer zone, Non-point source pollution, Spreading.


Translations: Produit phytosanitaire, Fitosanitario.

Piezometer

Sens technique

In the strict sense, a device used for measuring the pressure head at a given point in an aquifer system, which indicates the pressure at that point, by allowing the observation or recording of an unconfined water level or a pressure. The piezometer concept was extended to all man-made (wells, wells, gravel pits, etc) or natural structures (sinkholes, caves, etc) that allow access to groundwater. We then rather speak of non-operated well which allows measurement of the groundwater level at a given point of the water table. This level which varies with the groundwater exploitation provides information about the production capacity of the aquifer.

Source: Thématiques associées: Groundwater.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Piezometry, Piezometric level. PIEZOMETRE.

Terminología asociada a las definiciones del Sandre: Piezómetro, Piezometro.

Translations: Piézomètre, Piezómetro.

Piezometric depression

Sens commun

Temporary lowering or not of the groundwater level due to natural or artificial changes (withdrawal, decrease in recharge, connexion between the aquifers).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.

Translations: Affaissement piézométrique, Abatimiento piezométrico.

Piezometric level

Sens technique

Level reached by water at one point and at a given time in a pipe reaching the groundwater sheet. The piezometric level can be transferred to a piezometric map. Some non-operated wells are used to measure this level, they are piezometers or observation wells. This level corresponds to the groundwater pressure; it is usually indicated in NGF metres (French Surveying and Levelling). When this level is above ground level, the groundwater is called artesian: water is gushing out. The piezometric maps established with all measured data give a graphical representation of the groundwater surface and can track its evolution over time and identify its direction of flow.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.


Piezometric record
**Sens technique**

The piezometric record is the collecting of the evolutions in time of the monitored groundwater level or piezometric level (see piezometric level). It consists of measurements that link the water level to a given date. Depending on the variability of groundwater level, the measurements are more or less close in time. The measurements obtained are positive or negative with respect to the measurement benchmark: they are positive when the groundwater level is below the benchmark measurement (the most common cases) and negative in the opposite case (artesian wells). Artesian: a well is artesian when the water is gushing. A record is represented by a curve which is time-slotted to be stored in a succession of points, each point representing a groundwater level at any given time. Points are linked to each other by means of a code that indicates whether a point is related to the preceding point in time. If the point is not related, it is then the initial point of a new part of the record. The presence of an initial point also characterizes the lack of information on the groundwater level for the period that separates it from the previous point.

Source: According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** CHRONIQUE PIEZOMETRIQUE.

**Translations:** Chronique piezométrique, Crónica piezométrica.

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**Piezometry**

**Sens commun**

Depth of the water level in the soil.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.

**Translations:** Piézométrie, Piezometría.

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**Plankton**

**Sens commun**

All plants (phytoplankton) or animals (zooplankton) of very variable sizes and belonging to a variety of groups, that are living in suspension in water and whose more or less passive movements are determined by currents.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Translations:** Plancton, Plancton.

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**Pluviometry**

**Sens commun**

Study of precipitations, their nature (rain, snow, soft hail, fog), their distribution and the techniques used for their measurement. Rainfall, with the distribution of Earth’s temperature, conditions terrestrial climates, the nature and functioning of ecosystems and their primary productivity. It is one of the factors conditioning the development of human societies.

Source: according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Climate, Climate change, Rain and snow, Hydrology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Precipitation. **Translations:** Pluviométrie, Pluviometría.

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**Point of compliance**

**Sens technique**

Place for the quality control of an environment where the applicable requirements for a particular purpose must be checked.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Point source pollution

Sens commun
As opposed to "non-point source pollution", it is a pollution from an identified site, e.g. an effluent discharge point.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution ponctuelle, Contaminación puntual.

Polder

Sens commun
Coastal marshes which are diked, drained and reclaimed.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Wetland.
Translations: Polder, Pólder.

Pollutant

Sens commun
Substance or process of physical, chemical or biological nature introduced by man that may contaminate various terrestrial, limnic or marine ecosystems. The pollutant is a substance found in different biotopes at a higher concentration, or in some cases, at a concentration different from its usual one. We distinguish primary pollutants (directly discharged into the natural environment) from secondary pollutants (derived from reactions on the first ones)

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Micropollutant, Macropollutants. Translations: Polluant, Contaminante.

Pollutant transfer

Sens commun
Migration of a polluting substance within an environment or between different environments. Pollutant transfer is influenced by many factors, such as the intrinsic chemical properties of pollutants and the nature of the environment in which they are.

Source: according to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Transfert de polluant, Transferencia de contaminante.

Polluted site

Sens commun
Site where the soil or subsoil or groundwater has been polluted by former waste deposits or by the infiltration of pollutants; this pollution being likely to cause a nuisance or a permanent risk to people or the environment. This kind of pollution is often caused by old basic waste disposal practices, but also by leaks or incidental or accidental spraying of chemicals.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Site pollué, Sitio contaminado.

Polluter-pays principle

Sens technique
Principle established in the Environmental Code, whereby the costs arising from measures to prevent, reduce and control environmental pollution must be borne by the polluter.

Source: According to the Environmental Code
Pollution

Sens commun

Deterioration of the environment by chemical, physical or organic substances that cannot (or cannot anymore) be eliminated naturally by the ecosystem. Pollution is mainly caused by human activity. It is the result of the introduction into the environment of an artificial substance which is non-degradable or which exceeds the limit amount tolerated by the environment. Pollution may contribute to or cause: a threat to human health, deterioration of biological resources, ecosystems or property, a hindrance to a legitimate use of the environment. An adjective is often associated with the term "pollution", so we speak about: historical pollution, new pollution, residual pollution, chronic pollution, non-point source pollution, dispersed pollution, point source pollution, accidental pollution, toxic pollution, etc.

Source: According to Ademe

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Pollution, Contaminación.

Pollution basin

Sens technique

Storm basin intended to retain the pollution of the first waters during periods of heavy rain.

Source: according to FNDAE

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Substance and pollutant.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Storm drain. Translations: Bassin de pollution, Cuenca de contaminación.

Pollution index

Sens technique

Arbitrary function of the concentration of one or more pollutants which is a measure of the potential harmfulness of pollution.

Source: d’après BRGM

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant, Chemistry.

Translations: Indice de pollution, Índice de contaminación.

Pollution removal yield

Sens technique

Ratio between removed pollution and produced pollution. The pollution removal yield represents the effectiveness of the sewerage system of an agglomeration. It is equal to the multiplication of the treatment plant yield by the collecting rate.

Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

Translations: Taux de dépollution, Tasa de descontaminación.

Pollution rights market

Sens technique

Market of tradable permits that entitle a stakeholder (company, individual, etc) to discharge pollutants or withdraw a resource. The State sets a target of environmental quality and distributes or allocates the corresponding number of rights. These rights can then be bought and sold between stakeholders, a polluter cannot discharge more pollutants than its permits allow.

Source: According to Philippe Bontems (economist)

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.

Translations: Marché de droits à polluer, Mercado de derechos de emisión.

pollution shift - see "Déplacement de pollution"
Pollution transfer

Synonyms: pollution shift. Sens commun

Reducing an environmental impact at one stage of the life cycle to create or worsen another problem at another stage of the life cycle and/or another impact. This finally leads to transferring the problems or creating new ones.

Source: According to Ademe

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Déplacement de pollution, Desplazamiento de contaminación.

POLMAR Plan

Sens technique

Regulatory and operational framework for action in case of accidental pollution of the sea, to coordinate human resources and mobilize control means. The POLMAR plan was implemented in 1978 (Circular of the Prime Minister) after the Amoco Cadiz disaster. A circular from the Prime Minister dated 17 December 1997 confirmed the existence of two types of action (two components): the POLMAR/SEA plan which is triggered by the maritime prefects and deals with interventions at sea, and the POLMAR/LAND plan which is triggered by the prefects of the Departments concerned by coastal pollution. The prefect of the defence action area coordinates the whole system (land and sea). The physical preparation of the plan (setting up technical means and financial resources as well as staff qualification) is the responsibility of the Ministry of Public Works and of its decentralized services. The effectiveness of the POLMAR Plan is based on: storage and intervention centres (13 in total, including 8 in continental France and 5 overseas) distributed along the coast and in which equipment is stored and maintained to be made available to the prefects when needed (floating barriers, skimmers, oil-recovery vessels, pumps, high-pressure cleaners, etc); men prepared to intervene (trained) by regular simulation exercises; Departmental POLMAR plans regularly reviewed. In 2004 (Act of 13 August 2004) the POLMAR plan was renamed ORSEC-SEA Plan.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Plan POLMAR, Plan POLMAR.

Polychlorinated biphenyls

Sens technique

Family of synthetic organochlorine compounds with high molecular weight and C10H (10-n) Clₙ chemical formula. Industrially produced since 1930, polychlorinated biphenyls, better known by their acronym PCBs, have been widely used as additives in paints, inks and dry fillings for wall coverings, and were gradually prohibited. The fate of PCBs in the environment is explained by their physico-chemical properties: they are persistent, lipophilic and semi-volatile compounds. They do not show acute toxicity. However, chronic exposure to low doses can cause various dysfunctions observed on laboratory animals.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Polychlorobiphenyles, Policlorobifenilos.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon

Sens technique

Group of more than 100 different organic compounds consisting of several benzene rings. Some of them are persistent and carcinogenic. The polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, better known by the acronym PAH, are generally formed during the incomplete combustion of coal, oil, gas, waste or other organic substances.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Industry, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Hydrocarbure aromatique polycyclique, Hidrocarburo aromático policíclico.

Pond

Sens commun

A body of water of natural or artificial origin, with shallow depth and without stable thermal stratification. It is fed mainly by its catchment area, and is usually characterized by high plant growth and animal productivity (fish, amphibians, reptiles, resident...
and migratory birds, etc).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Body of water.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Body of water, Standing water. **Translations:** Etang, Estanque.

### Pond with brackish water

**Sens commun**

Natural body of water occurring in more or less direct connection with the sea and inland waters, which gives it a salinity approximately between 2 and 20°/°.

**Source:** According to Rhône-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Body of water, Wetland.

**Translations:** Etang d'eau saumâtre, Estanque de agua salobre.

### Population

**Sens commun**

In the hialeutic sense, a group of individuals that actually reproduce (or have the physical possibility to) among themselves and thus pass on their inherited traits to their offspring. This group is relatively isolated from other similar reproduction units. In some cases, because of the complexity of identifying individuals in the group, it may be acceptable to restrict the term by associating to it the name of the geographical area of the studied group.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species.

**Translations:** Population, Población.

### Population equivalent (pop.eq)

**Sens technique**

Assessment unit of organic pollution found in water representing the quality of organic matter discharged per day per capita. This measurement unit can easily compare the flow of pollutants. Among the parameters characterizing pollution, the pollution treated in wastewater treatment plants is quantified by the population equivalent. The population equivalent is defined by Article R2224-6 of the General Code of Local Authorities, as the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of 60 g of oxygen per day.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater treatment plant, Biological oxygen demand. **Translations:** Equivalent habitant, Habitante equivalente.

### Potential Hydrogen

**Sens commun**

Index to express the degree of acidity or alkalinity of a matter. A potential hydrogen (pH) is said "neutral" when it is equal to 7, "acid" when it is less than 7 and "alkaline" (or basic) when it is greater than 7. For drinking water, it must be greater than 6.5 units. Below this limit, the water is aggressive, with a corrosive effect on pipes, which may lead to the dissolution of toxic metals such as lead. The pH should be less than 9, the limit above which the water is too alkaline.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Potentiel hydrogène, Potencial hidrógeno.

### Precautionary principle

**Sens technique**

Usually refers to caution in action. More specifically it is a constitutional principle, included in the Environmental Charter (Article 5): "When the occurrence of any damage, although uncertain in current scientific knowledge, may be so serious and
irreversible for the environment, public authorities shall, by application of the precautionary principle and in their areas of responsibilities, develop procedures for risk assessment and take provisional and proportionate measures to preclude the occurrence of the damage”.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Risk, Erosion, Flood.

**Translations:** Principe de précaution, Principio de precaución.

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**Precipitation**

**Sens commun**

Total volume of atmospheric precipitation, whether in the solid or liquid state (rain, snow, hail, fog, frost, dew, etc), usually measured by meteorological or hydrological institutes.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Climate, Rain and snow, Hydrology.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Artificial rain, Drainage design rainfall. **Translations:** Précipitations, Precipitaciones.

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**Prefect’s classification order**

**Sens réglementaire**

Decision issued by the local competent authority (the prefect), intended for classifying mollusc farming areas according to their overall level of contamination. This health classification has a direct impact on the allowed use of the shells coming from those: direct human consumption or consumption after purification, relaying or suitable treatment.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Governance, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Arrêté préfectoral de classement, Orden de Clasificación de la Prefectura.

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**Prefect’s management order**

**Sens réglementaire**

Decision issued by the local competent authority (the Prefect), limited in time, to restrict or prohibit the use of shells from an area, because of proven specific microbiological, phycotoxin or chemical contamination.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Governance, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Arrêté préfectoral de gestion, Orden de Gestión de la Prefectura.

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**Preservation**

**Synonymes:** conservation. **Sens commun**

Operation for raising awareness, for the protection or appropriate management of lands threatened by latent human pressure.

This can be achieved by biotope protection orders, the purchase of lands on an extended alluvial plain or in a potential river mobility area, contracts with farmers for extensive farming on riparian lands, the definition of "buffer" zones, etc.

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Préservation, Preservación.

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**Pressure**

**Sens technique**

According to the DPSIR (Driving Forces - Pressures - State - Impacts - Responses) conceptual data model, the development of human activity which may affect aquatic environments. It may be discharges, water withdrawals, artificialization of aquatic environments, fish catches, etc.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Pressure.

**Translations:** Pression, Presión.
Pricing
Sens technique
Policy to condition water use to the payment of a price. The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC calls on Member States to ensure that by 2010 pricing policies encourage users to use water efficiently to avoid wastage.
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: TARIFICATION DES DONNEES.
Translations: Tarification, Tarificación.

Primary sludge
Sens technique
It includes settleable solids removed during primary wastewater treatment in clarifiers. Primary sludge is rich in mineral matter.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Primary treatment
Sens technique
Treatment of (urban) wastewater by a physical and/or chemical process involving the settling of suspended solids, or any other process to reduce by 20% at least the BOD5 of the incoming wastewater before discharge and by 50% at least the total suspended solids in the incoming wastewater.
Source: Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: TYPE DE TRAITEMENT D'EAUX USEES.
Translations: Traitement primaire, Tratamiento primario.

Primary/green sludge
Sens commun
Sludge resulting from the primary treatment by clarifier.
Source: according to the eco-enterprise development centre
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Priority action area
Sens technique
Area determined by the river basin management plan (SDAGE) in which special depollution efforts should be made. The work undertaken in these areas can benefit from aid subsidized rates from the water agencies to accelerate quality recovery. The priority action may involve various substances: nitrogen, pesticides, etc.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Planning, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Zone d'action prioritaire, Zona de acción prioritaria.

Priority habitat
Sens commun
Endangered habitat on the European territory of the Member States and for the conservation of which the EU has special responsibility. Priority habitats are indicated by an asterisk in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Priority species

Sens commun

Endangered species on the European territory of the Member States and for the conservation of which the EU has a special responsibility. Priority species are indicated by an *** in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Thématiques associées: Species, Pressure.

Translations: Espèce prioritaire, Especie prioritaria.

Priority substance

Sens réglementaire

Toxic substance, whose emissions and losses into the environment must be reduced, in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. As planned in the Directive, a first list of substances or families of priority substances was defined by Decision No 2455/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2001 and was included in Annex X. These priority substances were selected according to the risk they pose to aquatic ecosystems: toxicity, persistence, bioaccumulation, carcinogenicity potential, presence in the aquatic environment, production and use.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Regulation, Risk, Health.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hazardous priority substances, Environmental quality standard.

Documents de référence: 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l’eau


Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Substance prioritaire, Sustancia prioritaria.

Private cost

Sens technique

Part of the social cost paid by the economic agent that generates it. The private cost is an internal cost.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.

Translations: Coût privé, Coste privado.

Processed data

Sens technique

Data inferred from other data using a sophisticated method to facilitate the understanding of what is observed (e.g. a collecting rate, the average yield of a wastewater treatment plant, etc). The goal is to make them usable for a given or understandable need for a specific audience (processed data can be an indicator).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Data and information system.

Translations: Donnée élaborée, Dato elaborado.

Produced wastewater

Sens technique

Amount of polluted water obtained by adding waste or heat (expressed in cubic metres - m³) and of substances (pollution in...
kg of BOD/day or comparable) added to the wastewater. These waters can be discharged after domestic use (wastewater from bathrooms, toilets, kitchens, etc), or industrial use.

Source: According to Eurostat

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Eaux usées produites, Aguas usadas producidas.

**Productivity-change method**

Sens technique

Method for assessing the value of an environmental good. When the latter is degraded, its production function may be affected: the loss of value of the good can then be measured in terms of productivity change induced by its degradation.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Cost-based method. Translations: Méthode du changement de productivité, Método del cambio de productividad.

**Profession/job object**

Sens technique

Set of homogeneous pieces of information from a professional viewpoint. A profession object is a shared concept in a data dictionary prepared by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Objet métier, Objeto profesional.

**Programme of measures**

Sens technique

Document prepared for the basin or group of basins and for the duration of a six-year management cycle (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2022-2027, etc), which identifies the key measures to be implemented for achieving the objectives defined in the river basin management plan (SDAGE), including the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Measures are concrete actions with a timetable, a contracting authority and a financial assessment. They can be regulatory, financial or contractual. The programme of measures includes: (i) the "basic measures", which are the minimum requirements to meet and which correspond to the implementation of the water-related directives (Directive on Urban Wastewater Treatment, Nitrates Directive, Directive on Bathing Waters, etc), to the activities of water law enforcement and to the systems for water billing and the management of water taxes levied by the water agencies, and the functioning of action plans mainly on the “Grenelle” catchment areas of water intakes; and (ii) the "complementary measures", which are the measures to be taken in addition to the basic measures to achieve the objectives defined in the SDAGE. The programme of measures is issued by the Basin Coordinator Prefect after collaboration with the basin committee. It is prepared at the same time as the SDAGE, objectives and measures being defined iteratively, and the subject of similar consultation procedures and local dialogue. The River-basin district level is the technical body in charge of drafting the elements of the programme of measures.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Regulation, Planning, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.


Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques

Translations: Programme de mesures, Programa de Medidas.

**Progressive erosion**

Sens commun

Mechanism of sinking the riverbed propagating itself downstream. The starting point of progressive erosion is an action, often human, causing a deficit of alluvial materials (construction of a dam or a sill, abstraction of alluvium from the riverbed).
Protected area

Sens technique

Area designated as requiring special protection under the European directives. A register is established on a river basin scale identifying various protected areas: vulnerable areas ("Nitrate" Directive), sensitive zones ("Urban Wastewater Treatment" Directive), areas designated under the "Habitats" Directive and "Birds" Directive as bathing areas, shellfish areas, categories of streams (Directive 78/659/EEC). The register of protected areas has been established in the assessment of the different basins and will be updated regularly.

Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Risk, Erosion.
Translations: Erosion progressive, Erosión progresiva.

Protected species

Sens commun

Plant or animal species benefiting from a legal protection status for reasons of scientific interest or the need to preserve the biological heritage.

Source: according to AFB and IUCN
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Translations: Espèce protégée, Especie protegida.

Protection zone

Synonymes: protected area boundary. Sens technique

Boundary of the statutorily reserved space around water intakes used for drinking water supply, after consulting a licensed hydrogeologist. Craft, agricultural and industrial activities, and buildings are prohibited or regulated to preserve water resources by avoiding chronic or accidental pollution. We can statutorily distinguish three areas: (i) the immediate protection area where constraints are strong (potential prohibition of activities); (ii) the close protection area where activities are limited, and (iii) the distant protection area to ensure the sustainability of the resource.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Groundwater.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: PERIMETRE DE PROTECTION REGLEMENTAIRE.
Abstraction supply zones, Drinking water abstraction, Abstraction protection zone, Groundwater protection.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZONE, ZONE PROTEGEE CONCERNANT LES ESPECES AQUATIQUES PRESENTANT UN INTERET ECONOMIQUE, ZONE PROTEGEE CONTRE LES INONDATIONS.
Translations: Périmètre de protection de captage, Perímetro de protección.

Protection-expense method

Sens technique

Method for assessing pollution costs by the expenses made by households to protect themselves from environmental degradation: purchase of softeners, bottled water, etc.

Source: According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Revealed preference method. Translations: Méthode des dépenses de protection, Método de los gastos de protección.

Protest zero
Reject by respondents of the scenarios proposed during enquiries for contingent valuation. Some individuals may indeed declare a zero willingness to pay (protest zeros), while they are in favour of the proposed project. It is also possible to distinguish between "protest zeros" and "true zeros" during the investigation. The "protest zeros" are generally excluded from the analysis.

Source: According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Zéro de protestation, Cero de protesta.

Provisional classification

Health classification of a shellfish farming area, based on results whose number does not establish a permanent classification, but allows a reliable assessment of the level of contamination. The provisional classification is replaced by a permanent classification when the number of required analyses is available.

Source: According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Risk, Health.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: CLASSEMENT TEMPORAIRE DE LA ZONE CONCHYLICOLE.
Translations: Classement provisioire, Clasificación provisional.

Proximity catchment area

Terrestrial part of the coastal area whose influence on the water quality of the marine part is the strongest. This part is the smallest sub-area of the natural cachtment area.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.
Translations: Bassin versant de proximité, Cuenca vertiente de proximidad.

Pruning

The process of cutting off, in a selective manner, branches from a tree to orient or limit its growth.

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Elagage.

Public drinking water fountain

Fountain belonging to the municipal public domain, under municipal management.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service, Use, Housing and city.
Translations: Fontaine publique, Fuente pública.

public goods

Goods or services whose use is non-rival and non-exclusive. Non-rivalry means that consumption of goods/services by one individual does not prevent their consumption by another individual. Non-exclusive means that all individuals have free access to the goods/services.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Bien public, Bien público.
Public inquiry

Sens commun

Administrative procedure by which a public body (the State, a town hall, a local authority...) invites the public to give its opinion on a development project. Opinions are collected by an Investigating Commissioner, who then issues a reasoned opinion. This opinion is then used to carry out an impact assessment study. Public inquiries are by definition available to the public and always modifiable by associations and other public groups during the consultation period.

Source: according to IFREMER


Public participation

Sens commun

Approach, planned by the Water Framework Directive (WFD), for the public involvement in its implementation process. For each basin or group of basins, it includes public consultations carried out over six months on: the timetable and work programme for the preparation or updating of the river basin management plan (SDAGE); the provisional summary of important issues, as well as the planned SDAGEs and programmes of measures. This public participation is developed in six-year management cycles (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2022-2027, etc).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thèmes associées: Regulation, Planning, Water and environmental management.

Transitions: Participación pública.

Public river-basin territorial agency

Sens technique

Group of local authorities established, at a watershed or a group of sub-watersheds scale, in order to facilitate the flood prevention, the defense against the sea, the management of water resources, and the preservation and management of wetlands. When a Sub-basin Management Plan has been set up, the Public river-basin territorial agency contributes to its monitoring and development. It ensures also the consistency of the management project of the Public water management and development agency.

Source: according to Legifrance

Thèmes associées: Water and environmental management, Governance.

Documents de référence: Arrêté du 7 février 2005 relatif à la délimitation du périmètre d'intervention de l'établissement public territorial de bassin

Loi n° 2010-788 du 12 juillet 2010 portant engagement national pour l'environnement

Translations: Etablissement public territorial de bassin.

Public service delegation

Sens technique

Contract by which a corporate body under public law entrusts the management of a public utility for which it is responsible to a public or private operator, whose remuneration is substantially linked to the result of the utility operation. The delegatee may possibly be responsible for building structures or for purchasing properties necessary for the utility. The fundamental difference between a public market and a public service delegation results from the method of payment chosen. For a public market, payment is made by the public buyer. For a public service delegation, remuneration derives from the operation of the utility, done at the delegatee's own risk.

Source: According to the Ministry of Economy

Thèmes associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Drinking water, Public service.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Leasing, Concession, Direct management, Sanitation contract. Translations: Délégation de service public, Delegación de servicio público.

Public utility

Sens technique
General interest under which the State gives advantages (recognition of public utility) or imposes obligations or constraints (public utility easement, expropriation for public utility).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Utilité publique, Utilidad pública.

**Public utility declaration**

*Sens commun*

Administrative act recognizing the public utility character of an operation planned by a public corporation or on its behalf, after obtaining the population’s opinion through a public inquiry. The public utility declaration (DUP) is a prerequisite to expropriation (for public use) that would become necessary for pursuing the operation.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Translations: Déclaration d'utilité publique, Declaración de utilidad pública.

**Public water management and development agency**

*Sens commun*

Group of local authorities in charge of the local management project and of the territorial water coordination, at the watershed scale. The Public water management and development agency has to ensure flood prevention as well as non-state-owned rivers management.

Source: according to Legifrance
Translations: Etablissement public d’aménagement et de gestion des eaux.

**Public water supply and sanitation services**

*Sens technique*

Municipal public utility in charge of conveying drinking water to the consumer's tap and collecting and treating wastewater and stormwater before returning them to the natural environment. The 30,000 French public water supply and sanitation services are also in charge of the relations with the consumer: information, demand management, billing, etc. The "drinking water supply" service includes the abstraction of water from the natural environment, its potabilization and supply. The "sanitation" service includes the collection, conveyance and treatment of wastewater and the disposal or reuse of sludge produced during treatment processes.

Source: According to the Ministries of the Environment and Health and AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Drinking water, Water price, Public service, Environmental economics, Governance.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau
Translations: Service public d'eau et d'assainissement, Servicio Público de Agua y Saneamiento.

**Public waterways domain**

*Sens commun*

Domain consisting of rivers and lakes belonging to the State, local authorities or their groupings, and classified in their public domain fluvial. The delimitation of state watercourses is determined by decree in Council of State.
Pump

Device for rising up, back flowing or compressing fluids.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Use.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater treatment plant, Sludge, Primary/green sludge.

Translations: Pompe, Bomba.

Purification

Action to clean (safe water) by removing impurities. Process to reduce or eliminate pollutants in water. A wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) is a facility in which wastewater is treated. The treatment can also be natural although slower (self-purification).

Source: According to Ifremer and the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater treatment plant, Sludge, Primary/green sludge.

Translations: Epuration, Depuración.

Qualified data

Elementary data that have undergone various validation phases, during which the data usability or reliability has been qualified. The qualification level thus allows a user to relativize the interpretation that he can make of these data.

Source: According to the CERTA Network

Thématiques associées: Data and information system.

Translations: Donnée qualifiée, Dato calificado.

Qualitometer

Station measuring groundwater quality at a water abstraction point where samples are taken for physico-chemical and bacteriological analyses ... to determine water quality.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Groundwater, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

Terres associées à des définitions du Sandre: QUALITOMETRE.

Translations: Qualitomètre, Cualitometro.

Quality Control

Set of technical and operational rules and procedures that ensure compliance of the actions carried out at different stages of the operation, in order to guarantee the results, all this being managed by a Quality Assurance System.

Source: According to BRGM

Thématiques associées: Data and information system.

Translations: Contrôle qualité, Control de calidad.

Source: d'après Ministère chargé de l'environnement

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Watercourse, Body of water.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Demesnial water, Non-demesnial water.

Documents de référence: Code général de la propriété des personnes publiques

Translations: Domaine public fluvial, Dominio público fluvial.

Source: d’après Ministère chargé de l’environnement

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Watercourse, Body of water.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Demesnial water, Non-demesnial water.

Documents de référence: Code général de la propriété des personnes publiques

Translations: Domaine public fluvial, Dominio público fluvial.
**Quality element**

**Sens technique**
Partial view of the water status, which gives rise to control operations, the results of which are used by an assessment to determine quality indicators. The quality element is described by a parameter or set of parameters (parameter group). The list of quality elements is defined in Annex 5 of the Water Framework Directive, to assess the ecological status* of surface waters. They include biological quality elements (i.e. fauna - fish, crustaceans - and flora - e.g. algae), hydromorphological quality elements, (i.e. discharge, bank condition, width of the river bed, continuity of flow, etc.) and general physical-chemical (temperature, oxygen, nutrients, etc.) and chemical quality elements (various substances).

**Source:** According to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Prevention, Public policy, Regulation.  
**Translations:** Elément de qualité, Elemento de calidad.

**Quality objective**

**Sens technique**
Quality level set for a section of a river at a definite time, so that it can fulfil priority functions (drinking water, bathing water, fish life, ecological balance, etc). It is now translated into a list of values not to be exceeded for a number of parameters.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management.  
**Translations:** Objectif de qualité, Objetivo de calidad.

**Quantification minimum**

**Sens technique**
Value corresponding to the quantification threshold, i.e. the value below which the laboratory is unable to accurately determine the amount of the parameter looked for. The quantification minimum is the smallest value at which there is a measurement result with sufficient accuracy.

**Source:** According to AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.  
**Translations:** Limite de quantification, Límite de cuantificación.

**Quantitative balance of a groundwater body**

**Sens technique**
Said to be reached when the average annual rate of long-term abstraction does not exceed the available resource of the groundwater body.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency  
**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Groundwater.  
**Translations:** Équilibre quantitatif d'une masse d'eau souterraine, Equilibrio cuantitativo de una masa de agua subterránea.

**Quantitative status**

**Sens technique**
Estimate of the balance between, on the one hand, abstractions and needs related to supply inputs to surface water, and on the other, the natural recharge of groundwater. The quantitative status has two classes: good and poor. Good quantitative status of groundwater is achieved when abstractions do not exceed the turnover capacity of the available resource, taking into account the necessary supply inputs to surface water ecosystems, directly dependent sites and wetlands.

**Source:** According to BRGM  
**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.  
**Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau  
Quantity objective

Sens technique
Value (flow rate of streams, groundwater level, reserve storage, etc) necessary for the quantitative management of the resource. The quantity goals are set to achieve a satisfactory balance between the demands of human activities and the requirements of aquatic environments on the one hand; and the surface and groundwater resources that can be mobilized, on the other. At nodal points, these values are the low-flow target flow (DOE) and the useful flow in high-flow periods. They can also be piezometric levels defined at specific points.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Quantity of the resource, Piezometry.
Translations: Objetif de quantité, Objetivo de cantidad.

Quarry

Sens commun
Deposit of minerals defined by opposition to mines that are subject to specific legislation. Quarries concern construction materials, rock paving, etc. They can be on the surface or underground, alluvial or massive rock.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Carrière, Cantera.

Rainwater pollution

Sens commun
Pollution of rainwater. If rainwater is naturally polluted (drops of water can only reach a sufficient size to fall to the ground when there are solid particles in the atmosphere to initiate the nucleation process, part of the urban air pollutants is therefore driven to the ground during rainy periods), the pollutant concentrations are however extremely low, and in most situations, rainwater is of drinking water quality when it reaches the ground. The most common limiting factor is pH (acid rain), but this acidity is very quickly buffered by the materials on which water flows or passes through.

Source: according to Greater Lyon Urban Community
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution pluviale, Contaminación pluvial.

Ramsar area

Sens technique
Protected area under the Ramsar convention. This intergovernmental treaty signed on 2 February 1971 in Ramsar (Iran) and ratified by France in 1986, deals with Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitats.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Wetland.
Translations: Zone Ramsar, Zona Ramsar.

RAMSAR Convention
Sens technique

Intergovernmental treaty signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971 to be used as a framework for national actions and international cooperation for the conservation and sound use of wetlands and of their resources.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wetland. Documents de référence: Convention de Ramsar

Translations: Convention de RAMSAR, Convenio de RAMSAR.

Rank of a watercourse

Sens technique

Expression of the length and size of a watercourse, depending on the tributaries (number and size) it collects downstream from its headwaters. Rank allows comparing streams of the same size in a homogeneous physiographic unit.

Source: According to Cemagref

Thématiques associées: Watercourse.

Translations: Rang d'un cours d'eau, Orden de un curso de agua.

Raw data

Sens technique

Elementary data coming from a measurement (meter index, water depth at a gauging station, etc), that have not yet been validated, or organized in a database, nor interpreted.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

lermatiques associées: Data and information system.

Translations: Donnée brute, Dato bruto.

Re-meandering

Sens commun

Technique of lengthening the layout and reducing the slope of a river to make its morphology more sinuous and thus restore its hydrobiological functions.

Source: according to CELF

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Quality of the resource, Hydrobiology.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Shifting of the bed. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations:

Reméandrage.

Reach

Sens commun

Section of a stream of a few hundred metres to several kilometres. A reach change can be defined by the confluence of a tributary, changes in the morphology of the bed or of the valley or by changes in riverside vegetation, these variables reflecting changes in hydrology, chemical composition of water and disturbance regime.

Source: According to Cemagref

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: TRONCON ELEMENTAIRE DE MASSE D’EAU COURS D’EAU, TRONCON DE DIGUE, TRONCON D’ENTITE EN RELATION AVEC UNE ENTITE HYDROGEOLOGIQUE, TRONCON HYDROGRAPHIQUE (circulaire), TRONCON HYDROGRAPHIQUE ELEMENTAIRE, TRONCON DE VIGILANCE SITE HYDRO.

Translations: Tronçon, Tramo.

realignment - see "Rectification"

Recharge

Sens technique

Total volume of external water added to the saturation zone of an aquifer.

Source: According to Eurostat
**Recurrence**

**Sens commun**

Means the return of a phenomenon, an event. The return period is the average time interval between two returns of the same phenomenon. It is generally defined with respect to the frequency.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Récurrence, Recurrencia.

**Recycled water**

**Sens technique**

Water that has been subjected to wastewater treatment and delivered to a user as recovered wastewater. This is the direct supply of treated effluents to the user. Wastewater discharged into a watercourse and used downstream is not taken into consideration, nor is recycling within industrial sites.

**Source:** d’après Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Eau recyclée, Agua reciclada.

**Red mud**

**Sens commun**

Sludge generated by bauxite processing in the manufacture of alumina and aluminium. Its colour comes from the iron oxides it contains. Red mud is highly alkaline and contains heavy metals. It is usually stored in basins, where it is dried by evaporation, or discharged at sea.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Industry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater, Wastewater treatment. **Translations:** Boue rouge, Fango rojo.

**Reference data**

**Sens technique**

The data most shared in an information system (e.g. the identifiers of the various entities, whether gauging stations on rivers, water abstractions, etc). The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) distributes the reference data sets of the Water Information System (WIS).

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Donnée de référence, Dato de referencia.

**Reference data bank**

**Sens technique**

National data bank, either centralized or decentralized, managed by an identified stakeholder on behalf of the stakeholders involved in the Water Information System (WIS) and single recognized source for a type of validated data, a type of use and at a certain validation level

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Data and information system.

**Translations:** Banque de référence, Banco de referencia.
Reference dataset

Sens technique
A set of homogeneous reference data which are codified and listed. The reference datasets established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) are regularly evolving alphanumeric or geographic data. Alphanumeric data are lists of codes (e.g. codes of parameters such as chlorine demand (1397), methods, stakeholders, classifications, measuring stations, etc). Geographic data are geo-located objects (e.g. water bodies, measuring stations, hydrographic areas, regulatory zoning, etc). Each object is associated with a list of additional information (code/identifier, name, location, etc).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Translations: Jeu de données de référence, Conjunto de datos de referencia.

Reference frame

Sens technique
Specifications and structured set of pieces of information used for the implementation of an information system, providing a common framework for several applications. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces specification documents and datasets constituting the reference frame for the data of the Water Information System (WIS).

Source: According to Commission of IT and electronic components
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.
Translations: Référentiel, Sistema de referencia.

Reference Network

Sens technique
Network of measuring stations for defining reference conditions for the monitoring of water bodies.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Réseau de référence, Red de referencia.

Reference or basic low water flow

Sens technique
Legal reference flow, defined as the monthly low-flow recurring every five years (or frequency of 1/5, i.e. occurring one year in five), known by the acronym QMNA S (frequency 1/5).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit d'étiage de référence, Caudal de estiaje de referencia.

Reference site

Sens technique
Site on a body of water or a river selected for the good quality of the aquatic ecosystem which gives a reference for characterizing the quality of other bodies of water or rivers.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Site de référence, Sitio de referencia.

Regional ecological coherence scheme

Sens technique
Framework Document elaborated in each metropolitan area, by the Regional Council and the regional prefect, in association with local stakeholders, locally developed the green and blue infrastructure. The Regional Ecological Coherence Scheme (SRCE) is to identify biodiversity reservoirs and ecological corridors that link them. It includes an action plan to ensure the preservation and restore ecological continuity identified while taking into account land use planning issues and human activities. The SRCE must also be compatible with the planning documents, such as territorial coherence schemes (SCoTs) and local urban planning schemes (PLUs).

**Source:** according to IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Water and environmental management, Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Environment and habitat.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecological continuity, Green and Blue Habitat network.

**Documents de référence:** janvier 2014 portant adoption des orientations nationales pour la préservation et la remise en bon état des continuités écologiques

Loi n° 2009-967 du 3 août 2009 de programmation relative à la mise en œuvre du Grenelle de l'environnement

Loi n° 2010-1563 du 16 décembre 2010 de réforme des collectivités territoriales

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Schéma régional de cohérence écologique , Esquema regional de coherencia ecológica.

### Regional natural park

**Sens commun**

A vast area where the community stakeholders look for a development respectful of the natural balances, and sometimes a solution for maintaining declining traditional activities. A regional natural park (RNP) is usually managed by a public inter-municipal cooperation organisation, an open mixed syndicate whose board of directors is composed of elected representatives of the member communities (municipalities, departments, regions) and sometimes socio-economic partners. PNRs are classified for a 12-year renewable period.

**Source:** according to the Observatory of the Mediterranean Forest

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management, Preservation, Environment and habitat, Public policy.

**Translations:** Parc naturel régional, Parque natural regional.

### Regional Phytosanitary Group

**Sens technique**

Working Group established under the Prefect’s authority in each region, with the aim of implementing actions to reduce water pollution by pesticides, based on the approach (analysis, action plan, assessment) recommended by the orientation committee for farming practices respectful of the environment (CORPEN).

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture, Chemistry, Governance, Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Phytosanitary product. **Translations:** Groupe régional phytosanitaire, Grupo regional fitosanitario.

### Regionalized operational action plan

**Sens technique**

Document prepared by an Inter-service Mission for Water (MISE), the regionalized operational action plan (PAOT) plans the field actions to be carried out to implement the programme of measures and thus reach the targets set out in the river basin management plan (SDAGE). The information found in the PAOT has elements useful for the implementation of the actions and their follow-up: identification of the contracting authority of the action, member of the pilot MISE, identification of the water bodies involved, deadlines for implementation, financing items, governing component if any, etc.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Plan d’actions opérationnel territorialisé, Plan de Acción Operativo Territorializado.

### Register of protected areas

**Sens technique**

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l’Office International de l’Eau
Register established on a river basin scale identifying areas designated as requiring special protection under the Community legislation in force: **vulnerable areas** ("nitrates" Directive), sensitive zones ("Urban Wastewater Treatment" Directive), areas designated under the "Natura 2000" directive, etc. The deadline for establishing the register of **protected areas** was December 2004. This register should then be regularly updated.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Pressure.  
**Translations:** Registre des zones protégées, Registro de zonas protegidas.

### Regulated flow

*Sens technique*

Flow resulting from human action and thus being completely disrupted: transfers from one basin to another through developed natural and/or artificial water systems.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Water and environmental management, Hydrology.  
**Translations:** Débit contrôlé, Caudal controlado.

### Regulating service

*Sens commun*

Service obtained from the regulating processes of ecosystems, such as climate regulation, the water regulating processes (aquifer recharge or flood control), purification of water or disease regulation. Regulating services are processes that channel natural phenomena and have a positive impact on human well-being: e.g. protection against natural disasters, mitigation of water and air pollution, etc.

**Source:** According to Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)  
**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecological service. **Translations:** Service de régulation, Servicio de regulación.

**Regulation of rivers** - see "Régularisation des cours d'eau"

### Regulatory shellfish group

*Sens technique*

Group of shellfish intended for human consumption, defined by the Ministerial Decree of 21 May 1999 concerning the safety classification and the monitoring of production areas and relaying areas for live shellfish. There are three groups in which the different species were regrouped according to their physiology: "GP1" the group designating gastropods (whelks, etc), echinoderms (sea urchins) and tunicates (sea squirts); "GP2" the group designating burrowing bivalves, i.e. the filtering bivalves whose habitat is made of sediments (clams, cockles, etc); “GP3” the group designating non-burrowing bivalves, i.e. the filtering bivalves whose habitat is located outside sediments (oysters, mussels, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater  
**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Health.  
**Translations:** Groupe réglementaire de coquillages, Grupo reglamentario de moluscos de concha.

### Rehabilitation

*Sens commun*

Act of repairing damaged or blocked functions of an ecosystem by using heavier solutions to restore the ecosystem to its dynamic path and recover a high level of resilience.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  
**Translations:** Réhabilitation, Rehabilitación.

### Rehabilitation of a network/system

*Sens commun*

Rehabilitation of a network of drinking water supply, sanitation or of degraded industrial fluid. The rehabilitation of a network
contributes to restore optimal conditions for its exploitation
Source: According to the Auxiliary Society of Water Suppliers
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Public service.
Translations: Réhabilitation de réseau, Rehabilitación de red.

Rehabilitation of a polluted site
Sens commun
Set of operations (rehabilitation, pollution abatement, containment, elimination of waste, institutional controls, etc) carried out to make a site suitable for a given use.
Source: According to Ademe
Thématiques associées: Industry, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Réhabilitation d'un site pollué, Rehabilitación de un sitio contaminado.

Relaying area
Sens technique
Area with adequate safety where live shellfish are transferred to be left under the control of the inspection service, for the time necessary to reduce contamination to an acceptable level for human consumption (order of 21 May 21 1999).
Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Health, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Zone de reparcage, Zona de reinstalación.
remediation - see "Dépollution"

Remote Sensing
Sens commun
All sciences and techniques used for the remote sensing (without direct contact) of objects and for determining their characteristics (physical, biological, etc).
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Télédétection, Teledetección.

Removal efficiency
Sens technique
For a wastewater treatment plant, ratio between removed pollution and treated pollution, calculated on the oxidizable materials entering the plant.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Translations: Rendement d'épuration, Rendimiento de depuración.

Reporting
Sens technique
Act of reporting on the implementation of the European directives and international conventions (implementation report) or giving the required information on environmental status and pressures on the environment. In the case of the water framework directive 2000/60/EC, at each implementation stage (WFD river basin delimitation, characterization, monitoring programme, management plan), each Member State transmits a report to the European Commission.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation.
Translations: Rapportage, Informe.

Reproductive toxicity
Sens commun
Adverse effects on male and female reproductive systems that may result from exposure to environmental agents. Toxicity may be expressed as an alteration of the reproductive organs, the endocrine system or affecting the outcome of pregnancy. These effects may affect the onset of puberty, the production and transport of gametes, the reproductive cycle, sexual behaviour, fertility, pregnancy, parturition, lactation, development, etc.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Health.

**Translations:** Toxicité pour la reproduction, Toxicidad para la reproducción.

### Reserved flow

**Sens technique**

Minimum flow possibly increased with the authorized withdrawals on the influenced section. It is expressed in the specifications and water regulations in particular. Often mistakenly used instead of minimum flow.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology, Water abstraction.

**Translations:** Débit réservé, Caudal reservado.

### Reserved watercourse

**Sens réglementaire**

A watercourse for which, under the Act of 16 October 1919, amended by the Act of July 1980 on energy savings and the use of heat and the law of June 1984 on freshwater fishing, no authorization or concession is given for new hydraulic works. For structures existing on the enactment date of the law of 15 July 1980, the renewal of the concession or authorization may be granted provided that the dam height is not changed. The list of reserved watercourses is set by decree in the Council of State.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Species, Water and environmental management.

**Translations:** Cours d’eau réservé, Curso de agua reservado.

### Reservoir of biodiversity

**Sens commun**

Area with a particularly rich biodiversity, in which species find enabling conditions to develop, disperse and potentially colonise other areas.

**Source:** according to CELF

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** biodiversity. **Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Réservoir de biodiversité.

### Reshaping

**Sens technique**

Modification and homogenization of the longitudinal profile of the river (slope), always to increase its discharge capacity. Reshaping consists in equalizing the slope of the stream, changing the zoning of the longitudinal profile. This operation requires the removal of riparian vegetation and log jams from the bed (Gross and Dutartre, in Legal & al 2000).

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Reprofilage, Reperfilado.

### Residual pollution

**Sens commun**

Quantity or concentration of pollutants remaining in a given environment after rehabilitation.

**Source:** Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.

**Translations:** Pollution résiduelle, Contaminación residual.
Resilience
Sens commun
The ability of an ecosystem to withstand and survive alterations or disturbances affecting its structure or functioning, and eventually find a new balance.
Source: according to CELF
Thématiques associées: Species, Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Environment and habitat, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Ecosystem, Ecological engineering. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB.
Translations: Résilience.

Resource cost
Sens technique
Value of lost opportunities due to the choice of the resource allocation to an activity rather than to another when the resource is scarce. This is the difference in benefits between the alternative that generates the greatest benefits and the alternative chosen.
Source: According to François Etner (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing.
Translations: Coût de la ressource, Coste de recurso.
resources balance - see “Bilan demande / ressources”

Response variable
Sens technique
Degree of freedom available to the river to perform its basic functions, i.e. carry the liquid flow and sediment load. They are geometrical parameters (width, depth, bottom slope, amplitude and length of the meanders), size of transported sediments, current velocity.
Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Translations: Variable de réponse, Variable de respuesta.

Restoration
Sens commun
Action of enabling the return to the previous status of an ecosystem degraded by neglect, or the purposive control of human action.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Ecological engineering, Restoration, Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

Resurgence
Sens commun
Reappearance above ground of water infiltrated in limestone rock in the form of a spring.
Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Karstic watercourse. Translations: Résurgence, Resurgencia.

Retention
Sens technique
Process to keep data in a database from which it is easy to extract them through queries. Databases can be centralized at the national level (reference databases) or at basin level, or shared through multiple websites, according to a single data model.
Retention basin

Sens technique
A storm management basin for the temporary storage of runoff water to protect homes and structures during periods of heavy rain.

Source: according to the Intermunicipal Sanitation Syndicate of the Enghien-les-Bains region
Thématiques associées: Rain and snow, Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Risk, Flood.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Storm drain. Translations: Bassin de retenue, Cuenca de retención.

Returned water

Sens commun
Water withdrawn from a freshwater spring and discharged into freshwaters without use or prior to its use, mainly in mining or construction activities. Discharges into the sea are not considered.

Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Industry.
Translations: Eau restituée, Agua restituida.

Reusable data

Sens technique
Under Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament, they are public data legally or de facto available or reusable, including for commercial use.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.

Reuse of public data

Sens technique
Refers to any use of public data outside their use by public services. This reuse can target commercial use.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Data and information system.

Revealed preference method

Sens technique
Method for assessing the value of an environmental good (or one of its functions) using an existing substitute market. There are several methods: the hedonic pricing method, travel-cost method and the protection-expenditure method.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Méthode des préférences révélées, Método de las preferencias reveladas.

Revegetation

Sens commun
All operations to cover a space with vegetation, grass, shrubs or trees.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Revitalization

Sens commun
Repair or restoration of a watercourse or part thereof, so as to improve the ecological (biological, chemical and geomorphological) properties of living organisms.

Source: According to Bernard Lachat (biologist)
Thématiques associées: Watercourse.
Translations: Revitalisation, Revitalización.

Revitalization of an environment

Sens commun
Action to rehabilitate a more or less artificialized environment to its original and natural status. By trying to rehabilitate all the physical characteristics of the environment (e.g. meanders recovered in an improved river), revitalization aims to recover all the initial potentials of the environment in terms of biological diversity, self-cleaning capacity, etc. Most ambitious than restoration, revitalization aims to globally recreate the ecological functioning and biodiversity of the bed, river banks, flows, etc. of a river degraded by hydraulic work or other human activities.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Restoration, Hydromorphology, Pressure, Artificialisation.
Translations: Renaturation d'un milieu, Renaturalización de un medio.

Right of access to information

Sens technique
According to the law, this means the right of any person, whether or not a French citizen, to ask a public utility to consult or obtain a copy of documents or information held by the said public utility. The right of access concerns administrative documents and environmental information. This measure intends to improve the transparency of public utilities.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: INSPIRE Directive. Translations: Droit d'accès à l'information, Derecho de acceso a la información.

Right to water

Sens commun
The right to be provided an adequate, physically accessible and affordable supply of safe water of acceptable quality for personal and domestic use. An adequate amount of safe water is needed to prevent mortality from dehydration and to reduce the risk of waterborne disease transmission as well as for consumption, cooking and personal and domestic hygiene.

Source: according to the World Water Council
Thématiques associées: Health.
Translations: Droit à l'eau, Derecho al agua.

Rio Convention

Sens technique
Agreement signed on 5 June at the Earth Summit in Rio on Biological Diversity (CBD). The main objective of the Convention on Biological Diversity is to maintain "variability in the number of living organisms". Other advanced goals include regulating access to genetic resources and the equitable distribution between host countries and operators of the benefits coming from these resources.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Translations: Convention de Rio, Convenio de Río.
Riparian

**Synonymes:** riverine vegetation. **Sens commun**
Vegetation that grows on the rivers banks or bodies of water located in the border zone between land and water (ecotones). It consists of special populations because of the presence of water during periods of varying length (willow, alder, ash-tree at the edge, maple and elm at higher height, pedunculate oak, hornbeam on the top of the river banks). We distinguish: afforestation of river banks - stream-side trees (usually managed under river maintenance programmes) located close to the minor bed, from the alluvial forest that extends more broadly in the floodplain. The nature of the riparian vegetation is closely related to surface and subsurface flows. It acts upon the geometry of the bed, on river bank stability, water quality, aquatic life, plant and animal biodiversity.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Ripisylve, Ripisilva.

Riparian corridor

**Sens technique**
Strip of natural vegetation located along a river, and which differs from the surrounding matrix, including the river bank, the floodplain and part of the alluvial terraces. The presence of a stream or wood is not enough to make corridors. It is their conduction function that defines them. At the regional level, the riparian corridor appears to be a relatively uniform area (line of trees). At the local level, sedimentary and hydrological constraints provide variability of conditions resulting in a mosaic of habitats. The corridor is a transition zone between the water system and terrestrial system. Thus, biodiversity is extremely rich: productivity (plant and animal), heterogeneity (from the structure of the vegetation - grass, shrub, tree - to the habitat diversity), dynamic (flooding, regeneration capacity, etc) connection (upstream-downstream, lateral, regional) are the key words that define the riparian corridor.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Corridor rivulaire, Corredor ribereño.

Rising Tide

**Sens commun**
Part of the tidal cycle between low tide and the high tide that follows. Opposite to falling tide. Also referred to as “flood” or “flood tide”.

**Source:** According to the International Hydrographic Organization
**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.
**Translations:** Marée montante, Marea ascendente.

Risk

**Sens technique**
Measuring the effects of a hazard in an area. Risk significance therefore depends on the hazard but also on exposed challenges (populations, property and the environment) and on their vulnerability. There is no risk when the area exposed to a hazard is devoid of human, material and environmental challenges.

**Source:** According to SOeS
**Thématiques associées:** Risk, Erosion, Flood, Drought.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Vulnerability, Hazard, Hazardous Substance, Hazard-prone area, Industrial risk.
Risk Exposure Plan

Sens technique
Plan for delimiting, at municipal or inter-municipal level, areas exposed to predictable natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, avalanches or ground movements. The Risk Exposure Plan (REP) sets out the appropriate measures to prevent risks and minimize their consequences or make them bearable, both with respect to goods and to activities either being implemented or planned. It especially should determine the steps to prevent hindering the flow of water and restricting floodplains in a harmful way. The REP is a prevention document with particular purpose established at the initiative of the Prefect. The REP can be used as plan for the prevention of foreseeable natural risks (PPR) under the Act of 2 February 1995 on the strengthening of environmental protection.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Translations: Plan d’Exposition aux Risques, Plan de Exposición a Riesgos.

Risk of not achieving good status

Sens technique
Risk that, in 2015, the water bodies of a given area will not achieve the objectives set by the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Source: according to the Artois-Picardy Water Agency

Translations: Risque de non atteinte du bon état, Riesgo de no consecución del buen estado.

Risk prevention

Sens commun
Anticipation of phenomena that may cause or aggravate health, economic or environmental problems. Risk prevention aims to eliminate or reduce the probability of occurrence of hazardous phenomena at the origin of the risk.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Translations: Prévention de risque, Prevención de riesgo.

Risk Prevention Plan

Sens technique
Prevention document aimed at controlling urbanization in areas exposed to a hazard. Established by the State, the risk prevention plans (PPRs) are public utility easements and must be appended to the Local urbanisation plans (PLUs) of the municipalities concerned. The PPRs help delineate areas within which requirements may be imposed on buildings and land use. The natural risk prevention Plans (PPRs) pursuant to Law No. 95-101 of 2 February 1995, define exclusion areas (red zones) and prescription areas (blue zones). The technological risk prevention Plans (PPRTs) were established by Law No. 2003-699 of 30 July 2003. These plans apply to business activities considered potentially dangerous.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB


Risk related to flood-prone areas

Sens technique
Injury to life, health or damage that may occur in floodplains. In those, we can distinguish several levels of risk depending on the severity of damage to be feared, taking into account the flooding height, flow velocity (for the flooding considered) and the vulnerability of exposed sites.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
River bank

Sens commun

Permanent edge of a watercourse, located above the normal water level. The river bank is characterized by its cross-sectional shape (gently sloping bank, steep bank), its composition (sand, marl), its vegetation (herbaceous, shrub. Frequently subject to overflow and erosion from the stream, the banks are habitats for many species. They allow the passage of discrete animals like water rat, muskrat, water shrew or the Pyrenean desman. Some changes in the water level allow boulders to appear and form excellent perches for the dipper. Sand martins enjoy the banks to do their nest. Crawfish, fish and macroinvertebrates use shelters on the banks to hide, breed or feed.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Grassy buffer zone. Translations: Berge, Orilla.

River bank protection

Sens commun

Action to reduce any type of erosion of the river banks. Depending on the objective and hydraulic forces acting on the bank, various methods can be used, from plant engineering to heavier constructions (masonry/concrete/rock revetment, gabions, piling, etc).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.

River basin (UK)

Synonymes: watershed (US). Sens technique

According to the Carthage database repository, a large catchment area (river basin) divided into several hydrographic regions, themselves divided into hydrographic sectors, hydrographic subsectors and hydrographic areas.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Bassin hydrographique, Cuenca hidrográfica.

River basin head

Sens commun

The most upstream area of a watershed territory. The river basin head is the land where the small streams close to springs flow through.

Source: according to IOWater

Sens technique

Upstream portion of the catchment areas and by extension the upstream section of rivers which, in hilly areas in particular, are often less exposed to anthropogenic pressures than the downstream parts (but still very fragile) and from this point of view are reference sections to be preserved.
River basin management plan

Sens technique
Planning document for water management, established for each basin or group of basins, which sets out basic guidelines to achieve sound and sustainable water resources management, determines the objectives for water bodies and plans the necessary provisions to achieve the environmental objectives, to prevent the deterioration of water status and give fundamental orientations. The SDAGEs, approved for the first time in 1996 under the Water Act of 1992, have been updated in late 2009 to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). They now include management plans under this Directive. The SDAGE is developed and adopted by the basin committee and approved by the Basin Coordinator Prefect. The River-basin district level is the technical body in charge of drafting the constitutive elements of the SDAGE. It is established for a six-year management cycle (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2022-2027, etc) and is accompanied by a programme of measures that identifies key actions to achieve the defined objectives. Programmes and administrative decisions in the field of water as well as departmental quarry plans (SDC) must be compatible or made compatible with the provisions of the SDAGE. The Local development plans (SCOTs), local urbanisation plans (PLUs) and municipal maps must be compatible or made compatible, within three years, with the fundamental orientations and quality and quantity objectives defined by the SDAGE.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Water and environmental management, Planning, Water and environmental management.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Schéma directeur d’aménagement et de gestion des eaux, Esquema Director de Ordenación y Gestión de las Aguas.

River diversion

Sens commun
Temporary or definitive man-made change in the layout of a watercourse by totally or partially diverting the water flow.
Source: according to AFB and Réseau ferré de France (French railway network)
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Dérivation de cours d'eau, Derivación de curso de agua.

River Fish Index

Sens technique
Index for assessing the biological quality of the water of a river through an analysis of fish populations.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Indice Poissons Rivière, Índice de peces de río.

River free space

Sens technique

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l’Office International de l’Eau
Area of the floodplain in which river channels enable lateral translations allowing mobilizing sediments and the functioning of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Espace de liberté d'un cours d'eau, Espacio de libertad de un curso de agua.

### River hydraulics

**Sens technique**

Branch of Hydraulics which mainly deals with the free surface flow of water in natural or artificial streams (e.g. canals). River hydraulics is necessary for the design, development and construction of hydraulic structures, such as dikes, sills and weirs.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia
**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Hydrology.
**Translations:** Hydraulique fluviale, Hidráulica fluvial.

### River hydrodynamics

**Sens technique**

Science that studies the physical behaviour of a fluid consisting of water and the materials it contains. This is an application of hydrodynamics to streams; it is a branch of fluid mechanics. It helps to understand the stream evolutionary process: action of the fluid on bed materials, flow characteristics, dissipation of the stream energy when transporting these materials.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
**Translations:** Hydrodynamique des cours d'eau, Hidrodinámica de los cursos de agua.

### River improvement

**Sens technique**

Action on a river for recovering the entire bed and river banks of the watercourse to achieve the priority goal of increasing the hydraulic capacity of the targeted segment. This implies flow acceleration and therefore an increased flood risk downstream. It is a major process that deeply changes the cross-section and most often the longitudinal profile of the river, resulting in an entirely modified environment: removal of vegetation on the river banks, destruction of fish habitats, etc.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Pressure, Artificialisation.
**Translations:** Recalibrage, Recalibración de cursos de agua.

### River maintenance

**Sens commun**

Set of regular activities to keep the potentiality of the ecosystem (biotope, habitat and reproduction of species, water flow, river bank protection works, water filtration), to meet local uses (navigation, recreational activities, fishing, landscape, etc) and to protect structures and urban areas.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Water and environmental management.
**Translations:** Entretien des cours d'eau, Mantenimiento de los cursos de agua.

### River mobility area

**Sens technique**

Area of the floodplain within which the riverbed can move in accordance with the decree of 24/01/2001 relating to the exploitation of quarries. The river is a dynamic system, moving in space and time: it constantly adjusts to fluctuations in the liquid flow. These adjustments result in lateral translations allowing the mobilization of sediments and the functioning of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The mobility area corresponds to the "shifting" of the riverbed: i.e. the area of potential location of windings or braids. Mountain streams are normally recognized as having very small mobility areas on both sides of the
riverbed; this area increases when further away from the headwaters, to become very large when it corresponds to the floodplains of major rivers. Geological maps show the routes of floodplains and are useful for defining the mobility area of streams. We also talk about river free space.

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Translations:** Espace de mobilité d'un cours d'eau, Espacio de movilidad de un curso de agua.

### River module

**Sens technique**

Multi-year mean flow at a point in a stream. The module is assessed by the average annual discharge over a period of observation long enough to be representative of the measured or reconstructed flow rates.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Translations:** Module d'un cours d'eau, Módulo de un curso de agua.

### River morphology

**Sens commun**

Study of the shape of rivers.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Translations:** Morphologie fluviale, Morfología fluvial.

river network - see "Réseau hydrographique"

### River syndicate

**Sens commun**

Syndicate of local authorities (municipalities, departments) geographically competent over a valley or a substantial portion thereof, whose purpose is to conduct all actions concerning the management of a river and of its tributaries (cleaning, habitat restoration, maintenance, facilitation of local politics on this issue, etc.).

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Translations:** Syndicat de rivière, Sindicato de Río.

### River training

**Synonymes:** Regulation of rivers. **Sens commun**

Action to establish and/or manage a set of facilities on the river or in the river basin to reduce variations in the hydrological regime of a river (significant low-flow, flash flood, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Translations:** Régularisation des cours d'eau, Regularización de los cursos de agua.

### River-basin district level

**Sens technique**

Technical body gathering the basin delegated DREAL (regional directorate for the environment, development and housing), the water agency and the National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments. The river-basin district level is responsible for proposing the technical content of the draft master plan for water development and management (SDAGE) to the basin committee and preparing draft programmes of measures and monitoring programmes on behalf of the Basin Coordinator Prefect, all these documents being drafted in accordance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Translations:** Secretariat technique de bassin, Secretaría Técnica de Cuenca.
Rotating biological contactor

Synonymes: Rotating biological filter. Sens technique

Biological treatment process at fixed culture on carriages. These rotating biological contactors (RBC), generally polystyrene, measure 2 to 3 m in diameter and rotate about a horizontal axis by being partly immersed. Sludges, putrescible very produced by this system are removed by a secondary clarifier.

Source: according to Recyconsult
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Disque biologique.
Rotating biological filter - see "Disque biologique"

Run-off

Sens commun

Water driving substances attached to fine particles through the soil. Nitrates and some pesticides in particular (or their degradation by-products) can reach groundwater and affect its quality up to making water unfit for consumption.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Agriculture, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Lessivage, Lixiviación.

Running water

Sens commun

Surface water moving more or less rapidly depending on the flow, the relief, or on the bottom roughness. For example, streams and rivers are running water.

Source: according to Regional Council of New Aquitaine and FNE
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Standing water. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Eaux courantes, Agua corriente.

Runoff

Sens commun

Part of atmospheric precipitation (rain, snow) which flows on the ground surface and drainage basin slopes.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Runoff/rain water, Evaporation, Infiltration, Drainage. Ruissellement, Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Eau de ruissellement, Agua de escorrentía.

Runoff water

Sens commun

Rainwater flowing on the ground.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Climate, Rain and snow, Drinking water and sanitation.
Translations: Eau de ruissellement, Agua de escorrentía.

Runoff/rain water
Sens commun
Water which, after reaching the ground or a surface, runs on the receiving surfaces. Runoff water usually comes from rain
water, but also from snow melt, hail or ice falling or forming naturally on a property, and infiltration water.

Source: according to the water data partners' network of Poitou-Charentes

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Meteoric water. Translations: Eau pluviale, Agua pluvial.

Safe making

Synonymes: safety improvement. Sens commun

Action to eliminate or reduce an immediate risk to an acceptable level (e.g. through removal or disposal of hazardous products
and wastes from a site, by prohibiting or limiting access to the site, or by eliminating the risks of fire and explosion, etc).

Source: According to BRGM


Translations: Mise en sécurité, Puesta en seguridad.

safety improvement - see "Mise en sécurité"

SAGE boundary

Sens technique

Geographical boundary for the scope of a sub-basin management plan (SAGE). This scope is a sub-basin, a group of sub-
basins corresponding to a consistent hydrographic unit or aquifer system. If the boundary is defined by the river basin
management plan (SDAGE), it can be delimited by prefectural order. Otherwise, the planned boundary is transmitted for
review to the regional councils, departemental councils and municipalities whose territories are entirely or partly located within
the boundary as well as local public basin authorities, basin committee and the basin coordinator prefect involved. It is then the
prefect's decision.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.

Translations: Périmètre du SAGE, Perímetro del SAGE.

SAGE Reference Unit

Sens technique

Sub-basin or group of sub-basins whose boundaries can be determined by the river basin management plan (SDAGE). This is
the reference unit for delimiting the boundaries of the sub-basin management plan (SAGE) based on criteria of hydrographic,
ecosystemic, hydrological and socio-economic coherence (drainage basin).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.

Translations: Unité de référence SAGE, Unidad de referencia SAGE.

Salmon/Trout farming

Sens commun

Salmonid farming (mainly trout and salmon). Fragile and very demanding, salmonids prefer fresh, pure and oxygen-rich
waters. Salmon-trout farming requires a lot of technicality and a permanent control to ensure the good health and the optimal
comfort of the fish. The production sites (basins) are mostly located on the river upstream of the catchment area or in the
headwaters. Salmon farming is a branch of fish farming, which is practiced in both fresh and salt water.

Source: according to the Association for the Development of Aquaculture and Professional Fishing

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

Translations: Salmoniculture, Salmonicultura.
Salmonid

Sens commun
Family of fish including salmon, trout and chars.
Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Species.

Salt marsh

Sens commun
Coastal area used for producing sea salt by natural evaporation.
Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management, Development, Environment and habitat, Shoreline.
Translations: Marais salant, Salina.

Salt water demarcation line

Sens technique
Boundary between seawater and river water. The salt water demarcation line is, in estuaries, the boundary between the areas in which regulations are applied on sea fishing and on river fishing. The salt water demarcation line in rivers, streams and canals is determined by the decrees of 4 July 1853 (for the North Sea, the Channel, and the Atlantic Ocean) and 19 November 1859 (for the Mediterranean Sea). It is determined after analysis of water salinity at several points. The Decree 75-293 regulates fishing on the public maritime domain and on the part of State-owned waterways located downstream of the salt water demarcation line. This limit is used in the regulation when it comes to dealing with living species.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Limite de salure des eaux, Límite de salinidad de las aguas.

Salt wedge

Sens technique
Part of a coastal aquifer invaded by salt water (usually sea water) between the bottom of the aquifer and a freshwater-saltwater interface, the salt water wedge being under fresh water. The appearance of a salt wedge, beyond a natural low penetration position, is most often the result of overexploitation of the aquifer.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Groundwater.
Translations: Biseau salé, Cuña salada.

Saltwater intrusion

Sens commun
Phenomenon in which a body of saltwater penetrates into a freshwater body whether surface water or groundwater bodies.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Intrusion saline, Intrusión salina.

Sample

Synonymes: withdrawal, abstraction. Sens commun
In the strict sense, it is taking a sample (sampling) for analysis or testing. More generally, water withdrawals include all abstractions related to activities generated by agriculture, industry (including energy), drinking water supply, or others (authorized spring of mineral water, production of artificial snow). In this case, the withdrawals are grouped into 3 subtypes corresponding to the affected environment: surface water withdrawals, groundwater abstractions, seawater withdrawals.
Sample bias

Sens technique

Bias induced during an investigation, when the sample is not representative of the people who are supposed to be beneficiaries (investigations limited to cities, for example).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais d'échantillonnage, Sesgo de muestreo.

Sampling

Sens technique

A method used to choose a sample of something from others.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary
Translations: Echantillonnage, Muestreo.

Sampling point

Sens commun

Place of collection of water samples for analysis.

Source: according to AFBl
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Point de prélèvement, Punto de extracción.

Sanctuary

Sens commun

Protected area where a threatened animal species (reserve) lives. It has recently been provided with a management plan.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Sanctuaire, Santuario.

Sandre Format

Sens technique

Template of a file or of one datum for interchange between the various water stakeholders. The data dictionaries and interchange scenarios established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) are based on file formats including XML and Text (frame and simplified pattern).

Source: According to AFBl and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Format Sandre, Formato SANDRE.

Sanitary control of water

Sens technique

Control of all waters intended for use and having an impact on public health (drinking water, bathing, watering, etc), which checks their compliance with regulatory requirements in terms of consumption or human and animal hygiene (WHO standards,
etc). The sample locations and analytical reference methods used for this control are determined by the national competent authorities (Ministries for Health, Agriculture, etc).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Health.

**Translations:** Contrôle sanitaire des eaux, Control sanitario de las aguas.

### Sanitation

**Synonymes:** Sewage system. Sens commun

All structures built by man to channel rainwater and wastewater within a city. Most of these structures are pipelines/sewers connected to each other underground. The sewer system is one of the elements constituting the sewerage system.

**Source:** Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Public service.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater treatment plant, Connection to a sewer. SYSTEME DE COLLECTE.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:**

**Translations:** Réseau d'assainissement, Red de saneamiento.

### Sanitation contract

**Sens technique**

Multi-year contract signed by various stakeholders (a municipality, a wastewater treatment syndicate, a water agency, etc.) to specify the nature, cost and duration of the planned sanitation work to meet essential technical and financial development in the long term.

**Source:** according to the Mulhouse Multipurpose Syndicate

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Public service.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Public service delegation. **Translations:** Contrat d'assainissement, Contrato de saneamiento.

### Sanitation programme

**Sens technique**

According to the Decree of 3 June 1994 on urban waste water, it is a programme to be developed by each municipality whose territory is entirely or partly included in an agglomeration producing a gross load of organic pollution greater than 120 kilograms per day. This programme includes an assessment of the existing sewerage system and an indication of the objectives and means to develop to achieve the objectives of reducing the flow of pollutants and comply with the obligations set out in the aforementioned decree.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Programme d’assainissement, Programa de Saneamiento.

### Sanitation regulations

**Sens technique**

Guidance and arbitration tool prepared by the municipality, which defines the conditions for connecting users to the sewerage system and the existing - or to be established - relations between the operator of this utility and domestic and industrial users. For non-domestic connections, the limit values of flows and acceptable concentrations of compounds, the list of undesirable compounds, the appraisal process, etc, are determined.

**Source:** According to ADEME

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Regulation.

**Translations:** Règlement d'assainissement, Reglamento de Saneamiento.

### Saturation limit

**Sens technique**

Value above which the laboratory is unable to accurately determine the quantity of the parameter looked for.

**Source:** According to AFB
Scales

Sens commun

Horny or bony plates arranged in overlapping rows on the body of the fish, the free rear end of a scale covering the front end attached to the scale behind it. In a number of species, the scales are thickened and form true bony plates. For others, however, they are minor (eels). Fish of a given species keep the same number of scales all their life. Aging does not cause an increase in the number of scales, but the growth of the scales themselves. The scales cover the entire body of the fish (except fins). They are fully covered by a very thin and fragile skin.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Species.

Translations: Ecailles, Escamas.

Scarification

Sens technique

Mechanically loosening soil by trenching without turnover.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Agriculture.

Translations: Scarification, Escarificación.

Schorre/Salt marsh

Sens commun

Upper part of a coastal marsh, consisting of solid mud, covered with grass and submerged at high tides.

Source: according to the Robert dictionary

Sens technique

Coastal area corresponding to the upper part of the midlittoral zone and the lower part of the infralittoral zone. The schorre is generally a marsh and colonised by halophytic plants. It is covered only at high tides.

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017

Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Shoreline, Wetland.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Transitional waters, Slikken/Tidal flat. ZONE HUMIDE.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Schorre, Marisma salina.

SCI - see "Site d'importance communautaire"

Scouring

Sens commun

Deep hole dug in the bed by water. Natural or man-made attack action at the base of a natural slope, an escarpment, a cliff, a wall or a rockfill that carries away the least resistant materials on which it rests or which protect it.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Translations: Affouillement, Socavación.
Sea

Sens commun

All salt waters covering the submerged part of the Earth. Is opposite to earth. The enclosed inland bodies of water, even salted (Caspian Sea, Dead Sea, Aral Sea), despite their name, are not considered as belonging to the sea.

Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization

Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Sea and ocean.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: MER / OCEAN.

Translations: Mer, Mar.

Sea development plan

Sens technique

Guidance document for part of the territory which is a geographical and marine unit. It has related, competing or complementary interests as regards coastal protection, exploitation and development. Sea development plans (SMVM), established by the Coastal Law 86/2 of 3 January 1986, must be approved by decree of the Council of State.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Translations: Schéma de mise en valeur de la mer, Plan de Puesta en Valor del Mar.

Sea inlet

Sens commun

Refers to a long and narrow body of sea water enclosed between lands.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Shoreline.

Translations: Bras de mer, Brazo de mar.

Seasonal pollution

Sens commun

Pollution occurring seasonally, mainly as a result of specific human activities (road salting in winter, soil improvement, tourism...).

Source: according to the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL) of Rhône-Alpes

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Pollution saisonnière, Contaminación estacional.

Seawater

Sens commun

Water from oceans and seas, characterised by having higher salinity and density than freshwater.

Source: according to the Adour-Garonne Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Sea and ocean.

Translations: Eau de mer, Agua de mar.

Secondary inflow water

Sens commun

Little or not polluted water entering the sewer system. It greatly disturbs the operation of wastewater treatment plants.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Substance and pollutant.

Translations: Eau parasite, Agua parásita.

Secondary treatment
Sens technique

Treatment of (urban) wastewater which treats carbon suspended solids more advanced than primary treatment, according to a process by a process usually involving a biological treatment with secondary settlement or any other process resulting in a BOD reduction of at least 70% and COD of at least 75%. This treatment is required for agglomerations of over 2000 population equivalents.

Source: according to the Ministry of Environment and Wikipedia and European Commission
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: TYPE DE TRAITEMENT D'EAUX USEES.
Rotating biological contactor, Biological filter, Constructed wetland, Lagoon-based treatment systems, Trickling filter.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: Translations: Traitement secondaire, Tratamiento secundario.

Sediment

Sens commun

Continental or marine deposit, which comes from alteration or disintegration of rocks and is transported by rivers, glaciers or winds. Sediments are differentiated by their mineralogical nature and size.

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017 and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Alluvium. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Sédiment.

Sediment discharge

Sens commun

Mass of solids passing through a given cross section of a watercourse per time unit. The sediment discharge includes dissolved matters, suspended solids and riverbed materials. These materials are moved in the riverbed according to different transport laws: thrust, suspension, saltation. Sediment discharge and liquid flow are the two main variables of river dynamics.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Débit solide, Caudal sólido.

Sediment transport

Sens commun

Sediment transport (particles, clay, silt, sand, gravel, etc) in rivers can be done either by suspension in water, or by moving on the bed bottom due to the tractive forces linked to the current.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Transport solide, Transporte sólido.

Sedimentary basin

Sens commun

Portion of the Earth’s crust on which has been deposited, or still is depositing, many layers of sediment, produced by the alteration of preexisting rocks. Over time, significant accumulation of sediments causes the depression of the deposition zone, and allows the addition of new layers, creating a sedimentary basin.

Source: according to CNRS
Thématiques associées: Groundwater, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Bassin sédimentaire.

see wastewater or effluent

Sens commun
Designates wastewater.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Eaux résiduaires, Aguas residuales.

Self-contained sanitation system

Sens commun
Private individual system to evacuate domestic or other waste waters where there is no collecting system of municipal waste water or where the latter is not justified either because it does not affect the environment, or because the cost would be excessive.

Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Système autonome, Sistema autónomo.

Self-maintaining service

Sens technique
Service necessary for producing all the other services (regulation, supply, cultural services), their disturbance only affecting man indirectly or in the long term.

Source: According to Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Service d'auto-entretien, Servicio de automantenimiento.

Self-monitoring

Sens technique
Monitoring of effluent discharges (flow rates, concentrations) from a facility or a sanitation system by the facility itself or by the manager(s) of the sanitation system. The procedures for such monitoring are set by the decree of 22 December 1994 for collective wastewater treatment plants.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Autosurveillance, Autovigilancia.

Self-monitoring system

Sens commun
Self-monitoring system generally required by law, to check the operation or impact of installations (e.g. wastewater-treatment plants, industrial sites, etc.). Generally speaking, it addresses the assessment water quality at the output of installations classified for environmental protection, and the control of wastewater-treatment plants and sanitation networks.

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Collecting system. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: DISPOSITIF DE COLLECTE.
Translations: Dispositif d'autosurveillance.

Self-purification

Sens technique
All biological, chemical or physical processes enabling an ecosystem (river, water body, sea and ocean, etc.) to transform the substances, most often organic, that it produces or which are brought up from the outside. Organisms living in aquatic environments play a significant role in this process (bacteria, protozoa, algae, fish, etc). Self-purification is limited: if discharges concentrated in organic matters exceed a certain threshold, the natural self-purification capacity is exceeded and pollution persists. Moreover, the presence of toxic substances can inhibit the phenomenon of self-purification.
Self-selection bias

Sens technique
Bias induced during an investigation when individuals, who feel involved or whose visit at a site is higher, have a higher probability of being interviewed (particularly with regard to investigations conducted face-to-face on recreational sites).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thèmes associés: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais d'auto-sélection, Sesgo de autoselección.

Semantic

Sens commun
What is related to the sense (of a word, a text) or to a purpose (an action, an organization).

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thèmes associés: Data and information system.
Translations: Sémantique, Semántica.

Sensitive zone

Sens technique
According to the urban wastewater treatment Directive 91/271/EC, it means a river basin, whose water bodies, significant on the basin scale, are particularly sensitive to pollution. They especially include those which are subject to eutrophication and in which discharges of phosphorus, nitrogen, or both substances, must be reduced. Maps of sensitive zones were issued by the Minister responsible for the environment and are updated at least every 4 years under the conditions planned for their development.

Source: According to AFB
Thèmes associés: Substance and pollutant.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ZONE SENSIBLE.
Translations: Zone sensible, Zona sensible.

Sensitivity analysis

Sens technique
Method for assessing the robustness of the outcome of an economic analysis depending on variations in some parameters or assumptions.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thèmes associés: Environmental economics.
Translations: Analyse de sensibilité, Análisis de sensibilidad.

Separate sewer system

Sens technique
A system separating the collecting of domestic sewage in a sewer system and stormwater in another. The separate sewer system has the advantage of avoiding the risk of sewage overflowing into the environment when it rains. It allows better control of the pollution flow and concentration and adapting the capacity of wastewater treatment plants.

Source: According to IOWater
Thèmes associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Separate system

Sens commun
A sanitation system formed by two separate systems, one for wastewater and one for stormwater. This is a common system since the 1970s, only the wastewater system is connected to the treatment plant, the stormwater system usually discharging its waters into a watercourse.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Rain and snow, Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Système séparatif, Sistemas separativo.

Separated collecting

Sens technique
Collecting of separated domestic sewage in a system and stormwater in another. Separated collection has the advantage of avoiding the risk of sewage overflow into the environment when it rains. It allows better control of the pollution flow and concentration and better adapting the capacity of the wastewater treatment plants.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Rain and snow, Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Collecte séparative, Recogida separativa.
Domestic wastewater, Runoff/rain water, Sanitation, Storm drain, Combined sewer system. Translations:

Septic tank

Sens commun
Structure for on-site sanitation of individual dwellings. The watertight septic tank receives wastewater (kitchen, bathroom) and black water (toilet). It ensures, by anaerobic fermentation (with no oxygen), an early treatment that will continue into the soil by the disposal bed that consists of a network of drains.

Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Housing and city.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Fosse septique, Fosa séptica.

Service associated with water use

Sens technique
Service that covers, for households, or any other economic activity: the abstraction, impoundment, storage, treatment and supply of surface water and groundwater, as well as the collecting and wastewater treatment facilities that subsequently discharge into surface waters.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Ecological service.
Translations: Service lié à l'utilisation de l'eau, Servicio ligado a la utilización del agua.

Service Oriented Architecture

Sens technique
Application architecture model using loose coupling connections between various software components accessible via web services.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Service Oriented Architecture, Service Oriented Architecture.
servitude - see “Servitude”

Sewage farm

Sens technique
An area receiving, through a network of buried pipes, the clarified waters coming out of an all-water pit and having enabling conditions for the purification and drainage of the treated wastewater towards the deeper layers of the subsoil.

**Source:** according to Alpes Géo Conseil

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Groundwater.

**Translations:** Champ d'épandage, Terreno de decantación.

### Sewer

**Sens commun**

Waterproof underground pipe that collects wastewater from an urban area and evacuates it to a treatment plant before its discharge into the natural environment. The term “direct to sewer” is false: not everything can be discharged into the sewers (solvents, white spirit, etc) at the risk of disrupting the orderly operation of the wastewater treatment plant.

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Egout, Alcantarilla.

**sewerage - see "Assainissement collectif"**

### Sewerage scheme

**Sens technique**

All plans and texts that describe, on the basis of sanitation zoning (collective sewerage areas, on-site sanitation areas, storm drainage areas), the physical organization of sanitation facilities in a community (sewage systems and treatment plants).

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Schéma d'assainissement, Plan de Saneamiento.

**Sewerage system - see "Réseau d'assainissement"**

### Shadow price value

**Sens technique**

Amounts that the Ministry for the Environment recommends to routinely use to quantify the value of non-market environmental services provided by aquatic environments, as profits from the preservation or restoration of aquatic environments or as damage related to their degradation.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Water and environmental management, Preservation, Restoration.

**Translations:** Valeur tutélaire, Valor tutelar.

### Shellfish

**Sens commun**

Usually refers to a mollusc, generally from the sea, bearing a shell (shell-forming). At the regulatory level (health regulations), the term “shellfish” refers to the following marine animals: bivalve molluscs (filter feeder), gastropod molluscs, sea urchins (echinoderms) and sea squirts (tunicates).

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Fauna, Shoreline, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Translations:** Coquillage, Molusco de concha.

### Shellfish farming

**Sens commun**

Traditional shellfish farming, mainly oysters (oyster farming) and mussels (mussel breeding).

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Translations:** Conchyliculture, Conquilicultura.
Shellfish growing area

**Sens commun**
Production or fishing area for live *shellfish*, regrouping all places of capture, breeding and professional fishing by hand. Recreational activities are not affected by this administrative division.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** ZONE CONCHYLICOLE.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2006/113/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 12 décembre 2006 relative à la qualité requise des eaux conchylicoles

**Translations:** Zone conchylicole, Zona conquinilcola.

Shellfish production area

**Sens commun**
Area where professional practices of fishing and/or farming juvenile or adult *shellfish* are taking place with the ultimate goal to sale and market them for human consumption.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Documents de référence:** Décret n° 94-340 du 28 avril 1994 relatif aux conditions sanitaires de production et de mise sur le marché des coquillages vivants

**Translations:** Zone de production conchylicole, Zona de producción conquinilcola.

Shellfish production areas

**Sens technique**
Areas classified into four groups (A to D) depending on the extent of microbiological contamination and pollution, resulting from the presence of toxic or harmful compounds of natural origin or released into the environment, that could have a negative effect on human health or on the taste of the *shellfish*. The safety classification of the areas defined by precise geographical boundaries is set out by order of the Departmental Prefect on proposal from the Departmental Director of Maritime Affairs after collaboration with the Departmental Director of Health and Social Affairs. In case of temporary contamination of an area and depending on the nature and level of pollution, the prefect, on proposal from the Director of Veterinary Services, and after collaboration with the Departmental Director of Health and Social Affairs, may either give more stringent terms and conditions for its use or suspend some or all kinds of activities. These decisions shall immediately be transmitted to the services, municipalities or professional organizations concerned.

**Source:** According to the Environmental Code

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Substance and pollutant, Health, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Translations:** Zones de production conchylicole, Zona de producción conquinilcola.

Shellfish Waters Directive

**Sens technique**
Directive 79/923/EEC of the Council of 30 October 1979 concerning the quality required of *shellfish* waters. It concerns the quality of shellfish waters and applies to those coastal and brackish waters designated by the Member States as needing protection or improvement in order to support shellfish life and growth (bivalve and gastropod molluscs) and thus to contribute to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible to human beings. Member States shall determine the values of parameters applicable to shellfish waters and which are listed in the Annex to this Directive. This directive was transcribed into French law by Decree of 12/19/1991, which also transcribed other directives (bathing waters, fish life, etc). Directive 2006/113/EC of 12 December 2006 concerning the quality required of shellfish waters replaced Directive 79/923/EEC without changing fundamental provisions. Article 22 of the Water Framework Directive plans the repeal of the Directive on the quality required of shellfish waters as of 22 December 2013. This directive indeed includes the requirements for the quality of shellfish waters among its provisions on analysis and protection of river basins.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment, Ineris and AFB, Ineris

**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Substance and pollutant, Health, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un
Shifting of the bed

Sens technique
Lateral movements of the minor riverbed within the boundaries of the floodplain or delta of the watercourse and which create the free space of the watercourse.

Source: d’après Ministère chargé de l’environnement et AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Watercourse.

Shore

Sens commun
Seaside (not to be misunderstood with "river bank", edge of a river).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Rivage, Ribera.

Shoreline

Synonymes: littoral. Sens commun
For some people, it is a belt between land areas and constantly submerged areas. For others, the littoral is limited to the coastline, to the foreshore, or otherwise extends to all lands which are influenced by the presence of the sea. From a legal standpoint, the shoreline includes all natural sites by the sea whose particular situation gives them an exceptional quality which deserves to be protected.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Littoral, Litoral.

Short-term exposure limit value

Sens technique
Concentration expressed in cm3/m3 (ppm) and in mg/m3 to protect workers against acute effects or effects of a momentary exposure that is estimated to be adverse in the long term (exposure lasting 15 minutes at most). These values are used in France for the protection of workers’ health and safety against the risks related to exposure to chemical agents at the workplace.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Health.
Translations: Valeur limite d'exposition à court terme, Valor limite de exposición a corto plazo.

Sill

Sens technique
Structure located in the minor bed of a watercourse to fill an excessive bed depression caused by the extraction of materials or by a structure for example. It can be a low structure normally submerged, built for various purposes, possibly to stabilize the water level/flow rate ratio in a stream at a station, or the top of a dike or of any other structure, or of a natural levee, on which water can flow when it reaches a sufficient level.

Source: According to Marcel Roche (hydrologist)
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Obstacle to flow. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: SEUIL EN
Silting

Sens technique
Deposit of fine sediments made of rock particles and silt or clay. Siltation is a form of sedimentation with mud. Streams carry a few million cubic meters of sediment each year. Their deposit causes the silting of these rivers, canals, and bodies of water. This quite natural phenomenon is accentuated by a flat topography, low flows, erosion processes, as well as industrial and urban discharges.

**Source:** according to AFB and INRA

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Envasement, Encenagamiento.

Silting up

**Synonymes:** accretion, alluviation.

Sens technique
Piles of earth, sand, gravel, pebbles brought by water and created by a decrease in flow velocity. This phenomenon is generated by the plant growth cycle that brings every year a litter layer (up to several tons per year). Much of this litter is very slowly changed into mineral salts by bacteria and microscopic fungi. Sediment inputs and vegetable deposits from outside add to the filling of the marsh thus acting as a biogeochemical buffer for the drainage basins.

**Source:** According to Forum of Atlantic Marshes

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Atterrissement, Aterramiento.

Single joint management body

Sens technique
Joint organisation for the quantitative management of the water resource withdrawn for agricultural use. The single joint management body (OUGC) exercises its prerogatives on an area determined according to a hydrological (or hydrogeological) logic and not according to administrative limits. OUGCs may be groups of irrigators, owners of irrigated or irrigable land, a chamber of agriculture, a local authority or a private legal body.

**Source:** according to FNE

**Thématiques associées:** Water abstraction.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water abstraction. **Documents de référence:** Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

**Translations:** Organisme unique de gestion collective, Organismo único de gestión colectiva.

Sinuosity

Sens commun
Ratio between the developed river length in a valley and the length of the valley itself.

**Source:** According to Cemagref

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Translations:** Sinuosité, Sinuosidad.
**SIREN code of an organization**

**Sens technique**
Identifier assigned by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) at the creation of a company (or in the declaration of existence of self-employed workers, artists and authors). The SIREN code consists of 9 digits.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thèmes associées:** Data and information system.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** SIRET code of an organization. **Translations:** Système d'identification du répertoire des entreprises, Código SIREN (Identificación tributaria) de un organismo.

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**SIRET code of an organization**

**Sens technique**
Geographic identifier given when establishing a company; made up of 14 digits (corresponding to 9-digits of the SIREN code followed by 5-digits of NIC). So there may be several SIRETs (Identification System of the Directory of Institutions) for a single SIREN code if the company has several branches.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thèmes associées:** Data and information system.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** SIREN code of an organization. **Translations:** CODE ALTERNATIF.

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**SISE-Bathing waters**

**Sens commun**
Information system of the Ministry for Health and of its regional and departmental services to organize the storage of sanitary information on the quality of bathing waters (sea, bodies of water and rivers).

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thèmes associées:** Data and information system, Health, Use, Leasure.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Bathing water, Bathing Water Directive, Information system. **Translations:** Système d'information sur les eaux de baignade, SISE-Baignades (Sistema de Información sobre la Salud Ambiental - Baño).

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**SISE-Water**

**Sens technique**
Information system of the Ministry for Health and of its regional and departmental services to organize the storage of sanitary information on waters.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thèmes associées:** Data and information system, Health.

**Translations:** SISE-Eaux, SISE-Eaux (Sistema de Información sobre la Salud Ambiental - Aguas).

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**Site of community importance (SCI)**

**Sigle:** SCI

On the basis of proposals from Member States, sites of community importance are selected by the European Commission to integrate the **Natura 2000** network, under the habitats, fauna and flora directive. The list of names of those sites is adopted by
the European Commission for each biogeographical region. These sites are then designated special areas of conservation by ministerial decree.

Source: According to MNHN
Thématiques associées: Species, Wetland.
Documents de référence: naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Site d’importance communautaire.

Slikken/Tidal flat

Sens technique

Part of the coastal ecosystems located in the intertidal zone and consists of mudflats uncovered at low tide.
Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017 and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Shoreline.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations:

Sludge

Sens commun

Mixture of water and solid matters, separated by physical or biological processes, resulting from wastewater treatment.
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency and Ademe
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Purification, Spreading of sludge, Primary/green sludge. PRODUIT
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: D’EPANDAGE.
Documents de référence: Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l’eau
Translations: Boue d'épuration, Lodo de depuración.

sludge composting

Sens technique

Aerobic biological stabilisation process (without the presence of oxygen) of sewage sludge.
Source: according to ADEME
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater, Sludge treatment. Translations: Compostage de boue, Compostaje de fango.

Sludge conditioning

Sens technique

Change of the characteristics of sewage sludge by physical or chemical processes to facilitate the separation of solids and liquids.
Source: according to Recyconsult
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Conditionnement de boue, Acondicionamiento de fango.

Sludge dewatering

Ce document provient du site Glossaire, site de l'Office International de l'Eau 10/10/2020 - page 233/281
Sens technique
Process used for treating sewage sludge, changing it from a liquid state to a more or less solid state. Sludge dewatering reduces its volume.
Source: according to Recyconsult
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Sludge. Translations: Déshydratation de boue, Deshidratación de fango.

**Sludge filtration**

Sens commun
Process for the mechanical dewatering of extracted sewage sludge at the clarifier outlet. Sludge filtration can be done by filter press or filter bag.
Source: according to the General Council of Seine-et-Marne
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Filtration de boue, Filtración de fango.

**Sludge incineration**

Sens technique
Heat treatment of sewage sludge used as an energy source. Incineration is preferred when sludge composting or land application cannot be considered.
Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment and SIAAP
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Use, Energy.

**Sludge recovery**

Sens commun
Enhancement of the useful agronomic properties of sludge, especially in agricultural activities (application of dewatered sludge on arable land in particular). However, sludge recovery must not affect soil quality and agricultural production.
Source: according to ADEME and the Ministry of the Environment
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation.

**Sludge recycling**

Sens commun
Reuse of sewage sludge, especially in agriculture (composting, land application) or in industry (cement, for example).
Source: according to the eco-enterprise development centre
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Use, Agriculture, Industry.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Sludge treatment. Translations: Recyclage des boues, Reciclaje de los fangos.

**Sludge settling**

Sens technique
Separation of active sludge and treated water obtained by sedimentation in a clarifier or secondary clarifier. Good settleability of the sludge is essential for the process to be efficient and reliable.
Source: according to FNDAE
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Décantation de boue, Decantación de fango.

**Sludge stabilisation**
Sens commun
Step in the treatment of sewage sludge to reduce its fermentation capacity, so as to reduce or eliminate bad odours.
**Source:** according to ADEME
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Sludge treatment. **Translations:** Stabilisation des boues, Estabilización de los fangos.

Sludge storage

Sens commun
Storage of sludge at sewage treatment plants before its land application.
**Source:** according to the Loire-Brittany Water Agency
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Sludge treatment. **Translations:** Stockage des boues, Almacenamiento de los fangos.

Sludge thickening

Sens technique
Increasing the dry matter content of the sludge without modifying the liquid nature of the sludge. The thickening of sludge can be done merely by gravity in a concentrator or by mechanical means (dripping, flotation or centrifugation).
**Source:** according to ADEME
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater treatment. **Translations:** Epaisissement de boue, Espesamiento de fango.

Sludge treatment

Sens commun
All processes intended to render sewage sludge in compliance with environmental standards, land use regulations or other applicable quality standards for recycling or reuse. Primary, secondary and tertiary treatment is usually distinguished. These treatments not only reduce the volume of residues, but also stabilize and transform them into environmentally acceptable components and useful by-products. Tertiary treatment includes, for example, chemical conditioning, disinfection, pressure filtration, vacuum filtration, centrifugation and incineration. It is possible to classify wastewater treatment and sludge treatment in different categories, namely secondary treatment for wastewater and tertiary treatment for sewage sludge.
**Source:** d’après Eurostat
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Sludge incineration, Sludge recycling. **Translations:** Traitement des boues, Tratamiento de lodos.

slurry/liquid manure

Sens commun
Mixture of farm animal excreta containing a large quantity of water, kept in covered pits to then serve as fertiliser.
**Source:** according to the Larousse dictionary and IOWater
**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture, Substance and pollutant.
**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Lisier, Purín.

Small island

**Synonymes:** Islet. **Sens commun**
Slitted up area where the vegetation has exceeded the pioneer stage. **Species** that develop there secure the slitted up area so that flooding cannot move it away. The islands and islets are refuges for plants and animals.
**Source:** According to AFB
Small/micro hydropower plant

Sens commun
Hydropower facility converting hydropower into electrical energy whose power varies from a few kW to 4,500 kW (concession limit stated by decree of the Council of State). The term "micro" used in everyday language does not account for the importance of the production unit (turbinated volume, operating height).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Industry.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Hydroelectric potential. Translations: Microcentrale hydroélectrique, Microcentral hidroeléctrica.

Snow melt

Sens commun
Transformation of snow into liquid water.

Source: according to UNESCO

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.

Translations: Fonte de neige, Deshielo.

Snowmaking

Sens commun
Technique used for producing snow by projecting, into a negative temperature air, tiny droplets of water that will freeze before falling back to the ground.

Source: according to METEO FRANCE and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Use, Leasure.

Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Enneigement artificiel.

Social cost

Sens technique
All costs imposed by an activity to the society as a whole. The social cost includes private costs and external costs.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.

Translations: Coût social, Coste social.

Socioeconomics of the environment

Sens commun
Discipline studying environmental management taking into account phenomena and economic and sociological facts.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Employment, Financing.


Socioeconomics of water

Sens commun
Discipline studying water management from the combined economic and sociological points of view. The socioeconomics of water contributes to identify priority issues concerning water and aquatic environments as well as their prioritisation with regard to the development of the local economy and the environmental realities of the area concerned.

Source: according to the Loire-Brittany Water Agency
Software

Sens technique
Set of computer programmes which allows data processing. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) exceptionally or experimentally develops software applying its specifications such as EDILABO Excel sheet or allowing its information management and dissemination.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater

Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Research and innovation.
Translations: Logiciel, Software.

Soil decontamination

Sens commun
Action to extract or destroy all or part of the pollutants present in a soil.

Source: according to Wikipedia

Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Décontamination du sol, Descontaminación del suelo.

Soil drought

Synonyms: Agricultural drought. Sens commun
A type of drought characterized by a water deficit in the surface soils (between 1 and 2 m deep), sufficient to alter the good development of vegetation.

Source: according to Météo France

Thématiques associées: Climate, Risk, Drought.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drought, Meteorological drought. Translations: Sécheresse édaphique, Secuencia del suelo.

Soil erosion

Sens commun
Thinning of the topsoil of a field as a result of the natural erosive forces of water and wind, or as a result of agricultural activities such as tillage. Soil erosion lowers the productivity of the land and contributes to the pollution of adjacent rivers, wetlands and lakes.

Source: according to Ontario Ministry of Agriculture

Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology, Substance and pollutant, Risk, Erosion, Agriculture.
Translations: Erosion du sol, Erosión del suelo.

Soil moisture index

Sens technique
Assessing the amount of water available in a soil, as compared to its optimal reserve (useful reserve). When the soil moisture index (SWI) is close to 1, the soil is wet (greater than 1, the SWI indicates that the soil tends to saturation). Conversely, when it tends to 0, the soil is under water stress (less than 0, it indicates that the soil is very dry).

Source: according to AFB

Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Extractable soil water. Translations: Indice d'humidité des sols, Índice de humedad de los suelos.

sound - see "Détroit"
SPA - see "Zone de protection spéciale"

Spawning

Sens commun
A place for the reproduction of fish, amphibians, molluscs and crustaceans (they lay their eggs there). Gravel bars, oxbows, alluvial forests, floodplains, tree roots are the spawning. Each species, according to its reproductive strategy, is breeding in a particular habitat.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydromorphology.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: FRAYERE INVENTORIEE.
Translations: Frayère, Desovadero.

Spawning biomass

Sens technique
Weight of sexually mature animals actually participating in breeding. It is expressed as the total weight of females and sometimes by the weight of sexual matter (gonad, sex products, etc).

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Biomasse féconde, Biomasa fecunda.

Spawning run

Sens commun
Action of migratory fish going up a river to reach its spawning or growth area.

Source: According to Rhone-Alps Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Species, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Montaison, Remonte.

Special area of conservation

Sens commun
Marine and terrestrial sites that include natural habitats or species of wild fauna and flora considered to be of Community interest, and whose rarity, vulnerability or specificity justify the implementation of conservation measures, in accordance with the European Habitats Directive.

Source: according to European Commission and IOWater

Sens réglementaire
According to European Directive 92/43/EEC; ‘a site of Community importance designated by the Member States by a regulatory, administrative and/or contractual act in which the conservation measures necessary to maintain or restore, in a favourable conservation status, the natural habitats and/or populations of the species for which the site is designated are applied’.

Source: According to European Commission
Thématiques associées: Species, Environment and habitat.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Fauna and flora habitats directive, Natura 2000, Global conservation status.
Documents de référence: Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages
Translations: Zone spéciale de conservation, Zona especial de conservación.

Special protection area (SPA)
**Sigle:** SPA.

**Sens technique**

Area recognized by the European Communities, by the directive of 25 April 1979, as useful for the protection of birds. This directive is replaced by the directive 2009/147/CE (more generally called “Birds” directive). Many special protection areas (SPAs) are encompassed in important bird areas (IBAs) and have the same boundaries as the old maritime hunting reserves. These areas are part of the Natura 2000 network.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Wetland.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Habitat of community interest, Fauna and flora habitats directive. ZONE DE PROTECTION SPECIALE.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2009/147/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 30 novembre 2009 concernant la conservation des oiseaux sauvages

Directive 92/43/CEE du Conseil du 21 mai 1992 concernant la conservation des habitats naturels ainsi que de la faune et de la flore sauvages

**Translations:** Zone de protection spéciale, Zona de protección especial.

**Species**

**Sens commun**

All individuals which share similar morphological and physiological hereditary characteristics and are able to breed individuals among themselves. Species that look alike but unable to breed among themselves belong to the same genus.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Pressure, Invasive species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Espèce, Especie.

Native species, Alien species, Endemic, Juvenile, Nursery area, Helophyte, Hydrophyte, Reservoir of biodiversity, Topsoil removal, Species of community interest.

**Translations:**

**Species classification**

**Sens commun**

Science aiming to create and advance the classification of living beings. The classification of species is a logical system that establishes a particular kinship with other species that are close or far away owing to the various species characteristics of their own. The system in force since Linnaeus (1758) is a system of binomial nomenclature (generic name + specific name), written in Latin.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Translations:** Classification des espèces, Clasificación de las especies.

**Species of community interest**

**Sens réglementaire**

Endangered or vulnerable or rare or endemic species (i.e. living on a well-defined territory) listed either in Annex II of fauna and flora habitats directive, then special areas of conservation have to be designated, or in Annexes IV or V of the fauna and flora habitats directive, and for which protective measures must be implemented on the whole territory.

**Source:** According to MNHN
Species richness

Sens commun
Number of different species identified in one sample, describing the biodiversity of an area.

Source: according to Ifremer and AFB

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: biodiversity, Species. Translations: Richesse spécifique.

Specific abstraction

Sens technique
System designed to remove pollution at source. It comprises a kind of wraparound intake roughly connected to a polluted air exhaust system (blowing - suction).

Source: According to Ademe


Specific flow

Sens technique
Flow per surface unit of the drainage basin usually expressed in litres/seconde/km2. It allows making comparison between watercourses in different river basins.

Source: According to SCHAPI


Specific power of a river

Sens technique
Power calculated as the product of the slope and flow rate that characterizes the dynamic potential of the river. The adjustment capacity of the river is largely a function of the specific power.

Source: According to Seine-Normandy Water Agency

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Watercourse, Hydromorphology. Translations: Puissance spécifique d'un cours d'eau, Potencia específica de un curso de agua.

Specific Response Plan

Sens technique
Document that defines the measures to take for dealing with a major crisis (accidental pollution or catastrophic event), and which aims at planning rescue, organizing the flow of information between the services concerned, informing the public with the necessary instructions, delimiting possible evacuation areas, etc. The Specific Response Plan (PPI) provides an update of a number of maps and inventories (list of water abstraction areas, water intakes, etc.). The circular of 18 February 1985 indicates the measures needed to develop such a plan. The Specific Response Plans (PPIs), based on types of possible accidents and pre-set scenarios (including industrial risks), describe the measures imposed on the polluter, and that the latter should take before the intervention of the police authority. We often speak of "departmental action plan" (attached to the departmental ORSEC plan).

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Substance and pollutant, Risk, Flood.
Specifications document

Sens technique

Written document giving specific details about something. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) produces a set of specifications including data dictionaries, exchange scenarios and technical scenarios.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Document de spécification, Documento de especificación.

Sport fishing

Sens technique

Fishing whose product is intended for exclusive consumption by the fisherman and his family and cannot be peddled, exhibited or sold. Sport fishing regroups boat fishing (fishing from a boat, also called recreational or pleasure fishing, - which also includes big-game fishing also called offshore sport fishing), hand fishing, shore fishing, and finally underwater fishing. It is practiced either from ships or boats other than those having a permit and a crew for fishing, or by swimming or diving, or walking on the public maritime domain and on the part of rivers or channels where the water is salty. [...] For sport fishing, the use of any breathing equipment, whether self-contained or not, which allows a person to breath underwater without returning to the surface, is prohibited. [...] Sport fishing can be prohibited either for some protected species, or depending on the size of commercial species, on the fishing methods used, on fishing areas and seasons, on fishing bans and stoppages
Source: According to Bruno Drouot (economist)
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Use, Fisheries and aquaculture.
Translations: Pêche amateur, Pesca no profesional.

Spreadable sludge

Sens commun

Sludge with features allowing it to be spread or applied on agricultural land as far as it is relevant for feeding crops and where it meets quality and precise rules.
Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Spreading of sludge. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: PRODUIT D’EPANDAGE.
Translations: Boue épandable, Lodo esparcible.

Spreading

Sens commun

The act of spreading a solid or liquid matter onto a surface (manure, soil improvement, fertilizers, pesticides, sludge, etc).
Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Use, Agriculture.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Phytosanitary product, Non-point source pollution, Spreading of sludge.
Translations: Epandage, Esparcimiento.

Spreading equipment

Sens commun
Agricultural equipment used to spread various products on an agricultural surface.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia
**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture
**Translations:** Matériel d’épandage, Material de esparcimiento.

## Spreading of sludge

**Sens commun**

An operation that consists in spreading sludge (wastewater sludge, cleaning sludge, etc) onto the surface of the soil, to start its biological degradation by micro-organisms found in the soil and/or its use by flora or crops present on this land. Regulations set out the rules for the application of sludge from wastewater treatment plants. The spreading of sludge is subject to authorization or declaration.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB, Ademe
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Use, Agriculture.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Spreadable sludge, Sludge.
**Documents de référence:** Décret n° 2007-397 du 22 mars 2007 relatif à la partie réglementaire du code de l’environnement
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques
**Translations:** Epandage des boues, Esparcimiento de lodos.

## Spring

**Sens commun**

Water that comes naturally out of the ground, or by metonymy the point where this water rushes out. The spring is often the headwaters of a watercourse, but springs can feed ponds or lakes or flow directly into the sea, or produce water that disappears again into the ground.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia
**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.
**Translations:** Source, Fuente.

## Spring tide

**Sens commun**

High tide occurring at the times of full moon and new moon.

**Source:** According to the International Hydrographic Organization
**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline.
**Translations:** Marée de vive-eau, Marea de agua viva.

## Spring water

**Sens réglementaire**

According to the Decree 89-369 of 6 June 1989, microbiologically safe water coming from the ground and protected against the risk of pollution, fit for human consumption without further treatment or any other addition than a separation of its unstable elements and sedimentation of suspended solids by settling or filtration, and (or) an addition of carbon dioxide. It must be authorized by the prefecture.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Health.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Mineral water. **Documents de référence:** Code de la santé publique
**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Eau de source, Agua de manantial.

## Spur

**Sens technique**
Structure built in a stream at a certain angle to shape the bed. **Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** OBSTACLE À L’ECOULEMENT. **Translations:** Epi, Espigón.

**staff gauge**

**Synonymes:** water level gauge. **Sens commun**

Graduated scale on which the water level in a reservoir, a stream,... may be directly read. **Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Escelle limnimétrique, Escala limnimétrica.

**Stagnant water**

**Sens commun**

Still water in parts of a river, lake or other aquatic environment. **Source:** according to UNESCO

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Eau stagnante, Agua estancada.

**standard**

**Sens commun**

Rule defined and adopted by an organization, that is officially in charge of this task, for defining criteria (definitions and thresholds/limits) to be met by the manufactured products. In France, the organization which performs this function is the French Association for Standardization (AFNOR). It publishes N.F. standards (French standard). At the international level, a similar role is provided by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). **Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Industry.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** French Association for Standardization. **Translations:** Norme, Norma.

**Standardization**

**Sens technique**

Activity for data specification or standardization even. It relies on data dictionaries. The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) carries out standardization work to develop specification documents. **Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Research and innovation.

**Translations:** Standardisation, Estandarización.

**Standardized Global Biological Index**

**Sens technique**

Index for assessing the biological quality of the water of a river through an analysis of macro invertebrates. The value of this index depends on both the quality of the physical environment (bottom structure, habitat diversity, river bank status, etc) and water quality. **Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Biological index, Faunistic indicator group. **Translations:** Indice biologique global normalisé, Indice biológico global normalizado.
Standing water

Sens commun
Surface water in which there is little or no flow. For example, lakes or ponds are standing water.

Source: according to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Running water. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Eaux dormantes, Agua estancada.

State-owned watercourse

Sens commun
A watercourse being part, with the State-owned lakes, of the Public Waterways Domain (DPF). We distinguish: (i) the State-owned watercourses listed on the nomenclature of waterways (the Minister for Transport is responsible for their management: the State shall take care of the maintenance of these waterways and navigation structures for allowing navigation; (ii) the State-owned watercourses removed from the nomenclature of waterways, but kept in the DPF (the Ministry for the Environment is responsible for their management: the State is required to do the necessary work to maintain the natural flow capacity of these watercourses); (iii) the State-owned watercourses conceded by the State to local authorities for their maintenance and use.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Translations: Cours d'eau domanial, Curso de agua demanial.

Stated (or expressed) preference method

Sens technique
Method for assessing the value of an environmental good (or one of its functions) using a fictitious substitute market, which overcomes the lack of a real market in which would be set the price of the environmental good. There are several methods, including the contingent valuation method and experience-based choice method.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Méthode des préférences déclarées, Método de las preferencias declaradas.

Storm drain

Sens technique
A system fitted to a combined sewer system or a partially separate system or a wastewater treatment plant that eliminates excess flow from the system.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Discharge, Combined sewer system. CARACTERISTIQUES GENERALES DES TERMES ASSOCIÉS A DES DÉFINITIONS DU SANDRE: DEVERSOIRS D'ORAGE.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Déversoir d'orage, Tanque de tormenta.

Stormwater drainage from waterproofed surfaces

Sens commun
All the techniques and facilities for controlling stormwater flow and water runoff by retention or infiltration or for taking care of the collection, possible storage and, if necessary, the stormwater and runoff-water treatment when the pollution they bring to the aquatic environment may seriously impair the effectiveness of sanitation systems. Indeed, rainwater by running off on waterproofed surfaces (roofs, roads, storage areas, etc), may carry pollutants (organic matters, heavy metals, hydrocarbons, etc).

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Stormwater overflow

Sens commun
Runoff driving matters accumulated on waterproofed surfaces of a farm (loafing sheds/pens, herd crossing areas, manure storage areas, etc), when no arrangement is made to collect these flows.

Source: According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Rain and snow, Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Runoff, Discharge. Translations: Rejet de temps de pluie, Vertido en época de lluvias.

Strahler rank

Sens technique
It refers to the method used for determining the rank of a watercourse, a method commonly chosen because it is simple to implement. In this method, two sections of the same order which join form a higher order section, while a segment that receives a lower order segment keeps the same order.

Source: According to Cemagref
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Rang de confluence de Strahler, Orden de confluencia de Strahler.

Strait

Synonymes: sound. Sens commun
Narrowing of an arm of the sea (sea inlet) between two land masses that only leaves a relatively narrow passage between them.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Détroit, Estrecho.

Strategic bias

Sens technique
Bias induced during an investigation, when respondents think they can influence the final decision, so they overstate their willingness to pay. Some people may also give a lower value in thinking that others will pay for them (stowaway phenomenon). In fact, these people have no interest to reveal their true preferences, if to hide them gives them a greater advantage.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Bias. Translations: Biais stratégique, Sesgo estratégico.

Structured data

Sens technique
Data whose meaning has been functionally defined in detail as well as the rules for their creation (including possible values in some cases). Data dictionaries established by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) include structured data.
Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Donnée structurée, Dato estructurado.

Sub-basin management plan
Sens technique

Established for a sub-basin, a group of sub-basins, corresponding to a consistent river basin or aquifer system, the sub-basin management plan (SAGE) sets out the general objectives and provisions to meet the principle of sound and sustainable water resources management, aquatic environment conservancy and protection of fish heritage. It must be compatible with the river basin management plan (SDAGE) or made compatible within three years with the SDAGE updating. It is established by a local water commission (CLE) and is approved by the prefect. The SAGE includes a sustainable development and management plan for water resources and aquatic environments (PAGD - with which administrative decisions in the field of water must be compatible or made compatible) and a regulation (binding, as well as its associated cartographic documents, on any public or private person for the building of any facility, structure, work or activity referred to in Article L. 214-2 of the Environmental Code). Local development plan (SCOT), local urbanisation plan (PLU) and municipality maps must be compatible or made compatible within three years with the protection objectives defined by the SAGE.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Local Water Commission. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: SCHEMA D'AMENAGEMENT ET DE GESTION DES EAUX.

Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau

Translations: Schéma d'aménagement et de gestion des eaux, Plan de Ordenación y Gestión de las Aguas.

Substance

Sens commun

Matter characterized by its specific properties.

Source: According to Ifremer

Thématiques associées: Chemistry.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: SUBSTANCE CHIMIQUE.

Hazardous Substance, Dangerous substance, Priority substance, Hazardous priority substances, Biomagnification, Bioaccumulation.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:

Translations: Substance, Sustancia.

Substitute-cost method

Sens technique

Method for assessing the costs to be borne to address the lack of the studied environmental good by the use of artificial means. For example, a reduction in the self-cleaning functions of a wetland would lead to build additional wastewater treatment plants or resize existing plants.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment

Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.


substrate

Sens commun

Any material used to be a physical carrier for organisms.

Source: Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: SUBSTRAT.

Translations: Substrat, Sustrato.

Sulphur cycle
Sens commun
All exchanges and transformations of sulphur in the different components of the environment.

Source: According to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Species, Chemistry.
Translations: Cycle du soufre, Cicle del azufre.

Supply service

Sens technique
Product directly obtained from the ecosystem, such as food, timber, energies, biochemical or genetic resources, medicinal, ornamental and fresh water resources.

Source: According to Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Service d’approvisionnement, Servicio de abastecimiento.

Surf cleaning

Sens commun
Beach cleaning consisting of moving hydrocarbon-contaminated coastal sediments into the surf zone for their natural washing by the waves. The pollutant, which agglutinates on the surface behind the sediments, is then recovered with catching nets.

Source: according to the Commission for Enrichment of the French Language
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Nettoyage par le ressac.

Surface Water (Untreated Water) Directive

Sens technique
Directive 75/440/EEC of 16 June 1975 concerning the required quality of surface water intended for the production of drinking water in the Member States. It sets out the requirements that help to ensure that the surface freshwater used or intended to be used in food production meets certain standards and is adequately treated before being distributed. Groundwater, brackish waters or water intended for groundwater recharge are not concerned by this Directive. This directive was transcribed into French law by Decree of 12/19/1991, which also transcribed other directives (bathing water, fish life, shellfish waters, etc). This Directive was repealed on 22 December 2007 by article 22 of the Water Framework Directive. But some articles of the French Code of Public Health still refer to the untreated water Directive (Galet, 2009).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Directive 75/440/CEE du Conseil du 16 juin 1975 concernant la qualité requise des eaux superficielles destinées à la production d’eau alimentaire dans les États membres
Translations: Directive Eaux brutes, Directiva de Aguas Brutas.

Surface waters

Sens commun
All waters flowing or stagnant on the surface of the earth (lithosphere). Surface waters include inland waters (rivers, lakes, canals, reservoirs), with the exception of groundwater, and coastal and transitional waters.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Regulation, Body of water.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Transitional waters, Coastal waters, Body of water, Watercourse. MASSE D’EAU
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: DE SURFACE.
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l’eau et les milieux aquatiques
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Eau de surface, Aguas superficiales.
Surveillance monitoring

**Sens technique**
Control aiming to assess, as part of the water status monitoring programme, the overall status of water and (long-term) evolution trends of the river basin, these changes being either natural or caused by human activities.

**Source:** According to AFB
**Thématiques associées:** Regulation, Public policy, Water and environmental management, Public policy, Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Monitoring Programme. **Documents de référence:** Arrêté du 27 juillet 2015 modifiant l'arrêté du 25 janvier 2010 relatif aux méthodes et critères d'évaluation de l'état écologique, de l'état chimique et du potentiel écologique des eaux de surface
Arrêté du 7 août 2015 modifiant l'arrêté du 25 janvier 2010 établissant le programme de surveillance de l'état des eaux en application de l'article R. 212-22 du code de l'environnement

**Translations:** Contrôle de surveillance, Control de vigilancia.

Suspended solid (SS)

**Sens commun**
Solid inorganic or organic particle suspended in water. The water appears cloudy and colourful.

**Source:** According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Substance and pollutant.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** PARAMETRE.

**Translations:** Matière en suspension, Materia en suspensión.

Sustainable Development

**Sens commun**
Development that strives to meet the current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. For such a purpose, modes of production and consumption must respect the human or natural environment and allow all the inhabitants of the Earth to meet their basic needs: food, shelter, clothing, education, working, living in a healthy environment. Applied to the economy, it has three dimensions: economic (efficiency, profitability), social (social responsibility) and environmental (environmental impact).

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Translations:** Développement durable, Desarrollo sostenible.

Sustainable fertilization

**Sens technique**
Fertilization method adapting the dosage of fertilizers to the real needs of crops. This method of fertilization integrates environmental objectives, particularly those relating to the preservation and restoration of the quality of water and soil. For example, for nitrates, this consists in carefully determining the quantity and the methods of spreading them on a plot in anticipation of crop needs, in order to limit the risks of water pollution by migration of surpluses.

**Source:** d'après OIEau

**Thématiques associées:** Substance and pollutant, Use, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Integrated farming/agriculture. **Translations:** Fertilisation raisonnée, Fertilización razonada.

Sustainable irrigation

**Sens commun**
Irrigation method that make of good use of irrigation water with calculated inputs to ensure optimal agricultural production. It aims to avoid wasting and draining substances that may be polluting due to excess water.

**Source:** d'après Ministère en charge de l'environnement et AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Use, Agriculture.
Swamp

Sens commun
Spongy land, saturated with water, where marshes extend, and which is difficult to access because of a dense aquatic vegetation.

Source: d’après CNRTL
Thématiques associées: Wetland,
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Delta. Translations: Marécage, Pantanal.

Swell

Sens technique
Periodic oscillation of sea level. Swell occurs sporadically, depending on unequal pressures and friction of the wind, and is generated by these differences in pressure. It is formed by the wind far away from the observation area, and has a substantially sinusoidal oscillation profile, thus very regular, and spreads over long distances, unlike the waves.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wave. Translations: Houle, Mar de fondo.

Symbiosis

Sens technique
Lasting or constant association needed and having mutual benefits between two living organisms. There are different types of symbioses.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Symbiose, Simbiosis.

Synthetic data

Sens technique
Raw or processed data that have been analyzed and calculated to obtain more concise information. For this purpose, these data can be regrouped according to geographical, time and/or professional criteria (e.g. the average yield of wastewater treatment plants per Department, the annual production of sludge per tank, etc).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Biomarker. Translations: Donnée synthétique, Dato sintético.

Target species

Sens commun
Species on which the fisherman, a priori, decided to focus his fishing activity and for which he has prepared suitable equipment.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Espèce cible, Especie objetivo.

Taxa

Sens technique
Each hierarchical level used in biological classifications to regroup species with common features: class, order, family, genus, species, etc.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Species.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Species, Taxonomic variety. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: TAXON.
Translations: Taxon, Taxón.

Taxonomic variety

Sens technique
Constitutive metric for calculating the Standardized Global Biological Index (IBGN). It is the total number of taxa collected in a sample, whether represented by 1 or n individuals.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Species.

Technical scenario

Sens technique
Set of technical specifications that describe the interface (questions and answers) of a web service. A scenario prepared by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) is a specification document that describes the procedures for the exchange of data of a web service based on a format. It is especially used for showing the data stored in databases via Internet. A technical scenario is based on one or more interchange scenarios and is materialized by files in WSDL and PDF formats.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Data and information system.
Translations: Scénario technique, Escenario técnico.

Technical Water Committee

Sens réglementaire
Committee established by Decree 87-154 of 27/02/1987, with a regional scope, including representatives of the governmental departments concerned, but also of the services of the Water Agency and of the National Agency for Water and Aquatic Environments (ONEMA), and involving, when appropriate, representatives of local authorities, users, associations for environmental protection and qualified individuals. The meetings of the technical water committee (CTE) should allow an exchange of information on actions planned and taken and proceed to the study of regional water issues. They are chaired by the prefect of the concerned region.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Comité technique de l'eau, Comité Técnico del Agua.

Territorial sea

Sens commun
Sovereign base area of a coastal state of 12 miles width (at most) from its baselines.

Source: d'après Organisation Hydrographique Internationale
Territorial waters

Sens commun
Adjacent sea belt on which a coastal State exercises its sovereignty beyond its territory and inland waters (maximum width: 12 nautical miles or 22.2 km from the baseline).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Eaux territoriales, Aguas territoriales.

Test dataset

Sens technique
Homogeneous set of data based on specifications. A test dataset provided by the National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) is a set of data on professions/jobs produced by the Sandre as an example.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Translations: Jeu de données de test, Conjunto de datos de prueba.

Thalweg

Synonyms: valley line. Sens commun
Is defined by opposition to the ridge line (or "topographic divide" or "watershed"). The space between two thalwegs is called "interfluve". Bottom line of a valley. In a drained valley, the thalweg is the bed of the watercourse.

Source: According to Seine-Normandy Water Agency
Translations: Talweg, Vaguada.

Thermal drying of sludge

Sens commun
Process used during the drying step of sewage sludge. Thermal drying allows the almost complete elimination of water (about 95% dryness) by energy input.

Source: according to ADEME and the Seine-Normandy Water Agency
Translations: Séchage thermique des boues, Secado térmico de los fangos.

Thermal stratification

Sens commun
Existence of layers of water at different temperatures, which do not mix, in a voluminous body of water (such as a lake)

Source: according to IFREMER
Translations: Stratification thermique.

Thermalism

Sens commun
All social, hospital, medical facilities, etc. implemented for the therapeutic use of spring water.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Health. 
Translations: Thermalisme, Termalismo.

Thermocline

Sens technique
Transition zone between two bodies of water with different temperatures and mixing with difficulty.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Thermal stratification. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Thermocline, Termoclina.

Threatened species

Sens commun
Species listed in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which can belong to species that are critically endangered, endangered species or vulnerable species.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Species, Pressure.
Translations: Espèce menacée, Especie amenazada.

Threshold value

Sens technique
Limit value beyond which a physical, chemical or biological phenomenon can cause a given effect.
Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Valeur seuil, Valor umbral.

Tidal coefficient

Sens technique
Ratio, in a given place, of the mean tidal range in spring tides. This number, expressed in hundredths, is applied to the tides on French coasts. It allows an approximate prediction of High and Low Tides. Tides whose coefficient is greater than 85 are called "spring tides" and those whose value is less than 55 are "neap tides". The concept of tidal coefficient is rarely used outside of France.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.
Translations: Coefficient de marée, Coeficiente de marea.

Tidal current

Sens commun
Current caused by the movement of water volumes during the tidal cycle.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology.
Translations: Courant de marée, Corriente de marea.

Tidal frequency

Sens technique
Frequency at which the water line of the body of water is changing altitude.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Fréquence de marage, Frecuencia de marea.
Tidal marsh
Sens commun
Flat and wet coastal area, poorly drained and often flooded at high water. It is found in river mouths, deep bays and behind barrier beaches.
Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Wetland.
Translations: Marais maritime, Marisma.

Tidal movement
Sens commun
Circulation of sea water masses, including vertical displacements due to the tide and horizontal displacements due to tidal currents.
Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Mouvement de marée, Movimiento de marea.

Tidal power
Sens commun
Tidal energy that can be captured by using the tidal currents to turn wheels or turbines. Example from the Middle Ages include existing tidal mills, but also the Rance tidal power plant in Ille-et-Vilaine.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology, Use, Energy.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Energie marémotrice, Energía mareomotriz.

Tidal range
Sens technique
Change in water level as a function of periods of high or low-flow in a body of water, or of the level of high tide and low sea water level. It is measured in metres between two dates.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Shoreline, Hydrology, Body of water.
Translations: Marnage, Amplitud.

Tidal reach
Sens commun
Name of Celtic origin denoting a kind of river mouth intermediary between the ria (which suffered from no backfill) and the estuary whose geometry was altered by the filling of the banks.
Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Translations: Aber, Aber.

Tide
Sens commun
Multi-periodic change of the sea level, the main part of which is the astronomical tide. Wave phenomenon caused by the gravitational attraction of the sun and the moon, which affects the surface of the oceans and seas.
Source: According to the International Hydrographic Organization
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Slikken/Tidal flat. Translations: Marée, Marea.
Tide mark

Sens technique

Refers to the extreme limit reached by the sea in a given day. The lowest tide mark is the limit of continuously submerged lands. It is distant more than 100 metres from the high-flow mark (otherwise it is not entered) and outside estuaries (where an arbitrary line closing the estuary is entered instead of the lowest tide mark). In the case of islands only emerged at low tide, it is entered if it delimits a zone with a surface area greater than or equal to 4 hectares. The high-flow mark is the boundary of the land never covered by the sea. Continuity is ensured in the entire Carthage database (reference dataset on hydrography). In the case of islands, it is entered only if it delimits a zone with a surface greater than or equal to 1 hectare.

Source: According to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Shoreline.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: LAISSE DES EAUX.
Translations: Laisse, Línea.

Tolerable daily intake (TDI)

Sens commun

Estimate of the amount of a substance found in food or drinking water, expressed as a function of body weight (mg/kg or mg/kg body weight), that can be daily ingested over a lifetime without appreciable health risk.

Source: According to Ademe
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Risk, Health.
Translations: Dose journalière tolérable, Dosis diaria tolerable.

Topsoil removal

Sens commun

An ecological soil restoration technique consisting in removing a surface layer to reduce its organic content and thus enable the installation of pioneer species, plant or animal. Topsoil removal is a technique that is especially applied to nutrient-poor environments, such as natural lawns and heaths. Topsoil removal is distinguished from soil stripping, which is practiced more deeply and for the purpose of pollution removal.

Source: according to CELF
Thématiques associées: Species, Water and environmental management, Restoration.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Restoration, Species. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Etrépage.

Torrent

Sens commun

Generic name of a mountain stream, or located in a hilly area, fast-flowing, or violent to very violent, functioning irregularly depending on rainfall (especially during thunderstorms).

Source: according to the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Biodiversity and Nature Conservation of 2017
Thématiques associées: Watercourse.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Running water. Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB. Translations: Torrent.

Torrential hydraulics

Sens technique

Branch of hydraulics relating to flows in areas with steep slopes.

Source: according to Water torrents & mountain rivers
Thématiques associées: Hydrology, Watercourse.
Translations: Hydraulique torrentielle, Hidráulica torrencial.

Total economic value
Sens technique

Aggregation of the utilization values and non-utilization values of a good or a service.

Source: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Translations: Valeur économique totale, Valor económico total.

Total water consumption

Sens commun

Total volume of water that has been abstracted and may not be used for a variety of reasons: evaporation, transpiration and integration into products consumed by humans or livestock, direct discharge into the sea or other withdrawals from freshwater resources. Water losses, due to leak during transport between the abstraction point and the place of use or between various places of use, are not taken into account.

Source: According to Eurostat
Translations: Consommation totale d'eau, Consumo total de agua.

Total water cost

Sens technique

Total cost of water, including environmental cost, the cost of the resource and the cost of service.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Circular economy, Financing, Ecological service.
Translations: Coût complet de l'eau, Coste completo del agua.

Towpath

Sens commun

Path located along the bank of a navigable waterway to allow teams to cable-tow a boat travelling in the open channel.

Source: According to Ifremer
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Chemin de halage, Camino de sirga.

Toxic pollution

Sens commun

Pollution by toxic substances which may, depending on their content, seriously and/or on a long-term basis, affect living organisms. These substances can lead to a deferred or immediate death, to reproductive disorders, or significant disruption of biological functions (e.g. reproductive disorders). The main toxic substances encountered in the environment during chronic or acute pollution are generally heavy metals (lead, mercury, cadmium, zinc, etc), halogens (chlorine, bromine, fluorine, iodine), complex organic molecules of synthetic (pesticides, etc) or natural origin (hydrocarbons).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Pollution toxique, Contaminación tóxica.
**Toxic substances**

*Sens commun*

Substances that could cause serious problems in a living organism and possibly cause death (see toxic pollution).

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Toxiques, Tóxicos.

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**Toxicity**

*Sens commun*

Result of an action, more or less harmful to a living organism, which chemicals can exert when coming into contact with the latter. We talk about toxic substance when, after entering the organism, by any means whatsoever (at an appropriate dose given once or several times at very short intervals, or repeated small doses over a long time), it causes, immediately or after a more or less long latency period, transient or permanent disorders of one or more functions of the organism up to their complete removal and death of the organism (called lethal toxicity). Acute toxicity (causing death or serious physiological disorders immediately or shortly after exposure) should be distinguished from subacute (at lower doses, effects which occur in the short term on target organisms and which are sometimes reversible) or from chronic toxicity (causing long-term irreversible effects by continuous absorption of small doses of pollutants, or cumulative effects).

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Toxicité, Toxicidad.

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**Toxicity reference value (TRV)**

*Sens technique*

Generic name regrouping all types of toxicological indexes that establish a relationship between dose and effect (toxic with threshold effect or threshold dose) or between a dose and the probability of any effect (toxic without threshold effect). The VTRs are established by international organizations (World Health Organization, for example) or national institutions (High Council for Public Health in France, etc).

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Health.

**Translations:** Valeur toxicologique de référence, Valor toxicológico de referencia.

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**Toxicology**

*Sens commun*

Science that focuses on the identification and study of substances that can harm living organisms.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Toxicologie, Toxicología.

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**Trace element**

*Sens commun*

Refers to elements that can be found in very small quantities.

**Source:** According to Rhine-Meuse Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Element trace, Elemento traza.

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**Traceability**

*Sens commun*

Ability to tracking, through all stages of production, transformation and distribution, a foodstuff, an animal feed, a food-producing animal or a substance intended to be, or expected to be, incorporated into a foodstuff or a food.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry, Risk, Health.

**Translations:** Traceabilité, Traceabilidad.
Transaction cost

Sens technique
Cost of an economic exchange, specifically a market transaction. It can be direct (exchange commission) or indirect (cost of exploration, time passed and efforts made to negotiate and check the transaction, etc).

Source: According to Ronald Coase (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Translations: Coût de transaction, Coste de transacción.

Transfer time

Sens commun
Time required by a molecule or a volume of water, to go through a system (a watershed, an aquifer, a hydrographic network, a soil...).

Source: According to INRA
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Infiltration. Translations: Temps de transfert.

Transformation scenario

Sens commun
Set of technical indications that can convert a computer format into another specific format. A transformation scenario, established by the French National Service for Water Data and Common Reference Frames Management (SANDRE), is a specification document that describes how to convert data in a specific context. This document details: the semantics, the obligatory and optional nature, the syntax, the data and the technical and organisational rules of the transformation. A transformation scenario is based on an exchange scenario and is converted into XLT and PDF format files

Source: according to SANDRE
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Interchange scenario. Translations: Scénario de transformation, Escenario de transformación.

Transitional waters

Sens commun
Surface waters located in the vicinity of river mouths, which are partly saline because of their proximity to littoral waters but which are substantially influenced by freshwater inflows.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Regulation, Shoreline.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Inlet, Slikken/Tidal flat, Schorre/Salt marsh. MASSE D'EAU DE TRANSITION.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques
Translations: Eaux de transition, Aguas de transición.

Transparency

Sens commun
For a dam, it is an operation to limit sediment accumulation in the reservoir by restoring sediment transport in the river during floods. Operations of this type are generally planned in water regulations or in operating rules approved by the prefect. If this is
not the case, they can be introduced into water regulations or operating rules by prefectural order.

Source: According to the Ministry of Ecology
Thématiques associées: Chemistry.
Translations: Transparence, Transparencia.

Travel-cost method

Sens technique
Method for estimating the maximum entry right that visitors of a site would be willing to pay to continue visiting this site. It is based on the idea that travel expenses incurred by individuals to visit a site represent their willingness to pay to visit this site. The travel cost is a measure of the visit unit.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Transport.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Revealed preference method. Translations: Méthode des coûts de transport, Método de los costes de transporte.

Treated wastewater

Sens technique
Wastewater discharged from a wastewater treatment plant (also called effluent). Treatment facilities include urban wastewater treatment plants, other wastewater treatment plants and on-site sanitation facilities.

Source: According to Eurostat
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Translations: Eaux usées traitées, Aguas usadas tratadas.

Treatment line

Sens commun

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Public service.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Wastewater treatment. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: FILIERE DE TRAITEMENT.
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Filière de traitement.

Tributary

Sens commun
A tributary is a stream that flows into a larger river in a place called confluence.

Source: according to the Larousse dictionary and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Main stream, Watercourse. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Affluent.

Trickling filter

Sens technique
Aerobic biological wastewater treatment reactor in which the bacterial purifying biomass is placed on an inert support, forming a biofilm (fixed bed). Wastewater is uniformly distributed on the surface and flow downwards with the gravity, through the pores of the filter. Thus, bacteria can degrade the carbon pollution and a part of the nitrogen one. The natural air ventilation carries to the bacteria, all the oxygen they need to eliminate the pollution.

Source: According to Seine-et-Marne Departemental Council
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
**Tsunami**

**Sens commun**

Violent swell of the sea caused by sudden underwater tectonic disturbances: earthquake, underwater collapse, etc. The waves thus generated propagate at high speed (several hundred km/h) with wavelengths of several kilometres and can have amplitudes of several tens of metres, causing major damage to the coastline they strike.

**Source:** According to Ifremer

**Thématiques associées:** Shoreline, Risk, Erosion, Flood.

**Translations:** Raz de marée, Crecida sísmica.

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**Tunicate**

**Sens commun**

Marine invertebrate animal which surrounds itself with a cellulosic protective tunic at adulthood.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Agriculture and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Fisheries and aquaculture, Shoreline, Species.

**Translations:** Tunicier, Tunicado.

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**Turbidity**

**Sens commun**

Nature of turbid water, whose lack of transparency is due to the presence of suspended particles.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.

**Translations:** Turbidité, Turbidez.

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**Typology**

**Sens technique**

Determination of the characteristics in a set of data to distinguish types, systems, etc.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Typologie, Tipología.

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**Unconfined aquifer**

**Sens technique**

Aquifer with a free surface and unsaturated zone.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** TYPE DE MILIEU AQUIFERE.

**Translations:** Aquifère libre, Acuífero libre.

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**Unconfined groundwater**

**Sens technique**

Volume of groundwater whose surface is free, i.e. at atmospheric pressure. The surface of an unconfined groundwater fluctuates freely without any constraint. These aquifers are often shallow.

**Source:** According to BRGM
**Underground dam**

**Sens technique**

A groundwater impoundment structure built across underground water channels. The underground dams are built in the subsoil. They store water in geological formations, retain groundwater and require pumping facilities to make water usable.

**Source:** according to the Japanese Ministry of the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Watercourse, Groundwater.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Watercourse, Obstacle to flow. **Translations:** Barrage souterrain, Presa subterránea.

**Underground disposal**

**Sens commun**

Discharge of effluents or pollutants on the ground or infiltration into the subsoil.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of the Environment and BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater, Substance and pollutant.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Discharge. **Translations:** Rejet en sous-sol, Vertido al subsuelo.

**Underground river**

**Sens commun**

Stream passing through a very large cavity (e.g. a cave or a cavern) or a set of large communicating cavities.

**Source:** according to UNESCO

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Groundwater.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Aquifer, Watercourse. **Translations:** Rivière souterraine, Río subterráneo.

**Unified Modelling Language**

**Sens technique**

UML is a standard notation for modelling professional data.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Unified Modelling Language, Unified Modelling Language.

**Unsaturated zone**

**Sens commun**

Subsurface zone not completely saturated with water (coexistence of water and air in the interstices of the rock) above the surface of an unconfined aquifer and where flows are vertical.

**Source:** according to BRGM and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Groundwater sheet. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Zone non saturée.

**Untreated wastewater/sewage**

**Sens commun**

Wastewater discharged into the natural environment without any treatment.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Eaux usées non traitées, Aguas usadas no tratadas.
Untreated water

Sens commun
Surface or ground waters as they occur in the natural environment before being treated for use. These are untreated wastewaters.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation.

Up-dating/up-grading

Sens technique
A mathematical operation that compares economic values spreading over time by adjusting the future value of a property to the current value. The update allows the analysis to take into account the costs or benefits that will materialize in the future. Note: The choice of an up-date rate (coefficient used to bring a future value back to a present value) has an influence on the result. In 2005, the General Planning Commission proposed revising the up-dating rate of public investments.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Actualisation, Actualización.

Upstream

Sens commun
Part of a watercourse which, with respect to a given point, is located between this latter point and the watercourse hearwaters.

Source: According to Adour-Garonne Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydromorphology.
Translations: Amont, Aguas arriba.

Urban planning Document

Sens technique
Guidance document of legal value that allows scheduling urban planning in a given area (municipality, agglomeration). The two main documents are the Land Use Plan (POS) and the Master Plan for Urban Planning and Development (SDAU).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment
Thématiques associées: Water and environmental management.
Translations: Document d’urbanisme, Figura de planeamiento.

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

Sens technique
Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment. It concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors. Its purpose is to protect the environment against the adverse effects of the above-mentioned wastewater discharges. For this purpose, it defines the obligations of local authorities regarding the collecting and treatment of urban waste water and the terms and procedures for agglomerations with more than 2,000 population equivalents. The municipalities involved must, in particular:
- draft sanitation programmes determining areas with collective sewerage and those with on-site sanitation (non-collective);
- prepare a sanitation programme based on the objective of pollutant flow reduction set by prefectural order for each agglomeration previously delimited by a prefectural order; build the equipment needed at certain deadlines. This directive was transcribed into French law by the Decree of 3 January 1994.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Regulation, Substance and pollutant, Use.
Urban wastewater

Sens commun

Domestic wastewater or a mixture of domestic sewage and industrial wastewater and/or runoff water.

Source: According to Eurostat

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Use, Housing and city.

Translations: Eaux usées urbaines, Aguas usadas urbanas.

Urban wastewater collecting system

Sens commun

All facilities for the collecting and treatment of urban wastewater. These systems are often managed by public authorities or semi-public associations.

Source: According to Eurostat

Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Housing and city.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: SYSTEME DE COLLECTE.

Translations: Système de collecte des eaux usées urbaines, Sistema de recogida de las aguas usadas urbanas.

Usable Agricultural Area

Sens commun

Surface including field crops, permanent grassland areas, permanent crops (vineyards, orchards, etc), fallow lands, family gardens and orchards. The usable agricultural area does not include the grounds of buildings and yards, moors and unproductive wastelands, poplar plantations, thickets, woods and forests of the farm, as well as non-agricultural areas.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

Thématiques associées: Agriculture.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Surface Agricole Utile, Superficie agrícola útil.

Agriculture, Integrated farming/agriculture, Agri-environmental grants, Farm, Agricultural pollution. Translations: use - see "Utilisation de l'eau"

Use restriction

Sens réglementaire

Exceeded limits lead to restrictions of use and water withdrawal, to cope with a shortage of water resources during low water periods. Restriction measures are defined locally by the prefects. Generally, measures to limit withdrawals are progressive (depending on the thresholds defined for vigilance, alert, quick reaction alert or crisis) and adapted to different uses (domestic, agricultural, industrial).

Source: according to the Ministry of the Environment

Thématiques associées: Water abstraction.

Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water use. Translations: Restriction d'usage, Restricción de uso.

Useful flood flow

Sens technique

Flood flows essential to the life of the watercourse and its water dependent areas, and having no unacceptable effects (especially on living settlements). Small floods have a fundamental role in the dynamics of environmental recovery, they should not be removed nor the environments be protected from them.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.

Translations: Débit de crue utile, Caudal de crecida útil.

Utilization value
Sens technique
Value assigned to a good or service by an agent on the basis of the usefulness he derives from it. The utilization value involves two components: the actual utilization value and the option value attached to a possible use later on.
*Source*: According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées**: Environmental economics.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Option value, Water use. **Translations**: Valeur d'usage, Valor de uso.

V

**Valley**

*Sens commun*
Elongated and more or less flared depression dug by a stream or a glacier.
*Source*: according to the Larousse dictionary

**Contributeur(s) de l'article**: AFB. **Translations**: Vallée.

valley line - see "Talweg"

**Valve/Gate**

*Sens commun*
Movable device for stopping or leaving free passage to water. For example: gates are used by dams or locks, valves in hydropower plants.
*Source*: according to the Larousse dictionary

**Contributeur(s) de l'article**: AFB. **Translations**: Vanne, Compuerta.

**Variable cost**

*Sens technique*
Part of the cost of production which varies with the level of production. For example, the purchase costs of raw materials are variable costs that increase when the volume of activity or production increases.
*Source*: According to AFB

**Thématiques associées**: Environmental economics, Financing.
**Translations**: Coût variable, Coste variable.

**Vegetated discharge area**

*Sens technique*
Space developed between the wastewater treatment plant and the receiving environment of treated wastewater discharges (it is not part of the wastewater treatment plant). The vegetated discharge areas (VDA) are characterised by the use of plants (mostly aquatic but possibly also terrestrial) and their planting close to the treatment plant, in the space remaining after the building of this plant. The VDA is not a wetland as there is no "long presence of natural water". It is also not a grass strip, specific to the mitigation of non-point source pollution (pesticides, fertilisers, sediments, etc.), especially in agriculture.
*Source*: according to AFB and IRSTEA

**Contributeur(s) de l'article**: AFB. **Translations**: Zone de rejet végétalisée.

Documents de référence: Arrêté du 22 juin 2007 relatif à la collecte, au transport et au traitement des eaux usées
Décret n° 2005-378 du 20 avril 2005 relatif au programme national d’action contre la pollution des milieux aquatiques par certaines substances dangereuses
Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

This document is from the Glossaire site of the International Water Office.
Vertebrate

Thématiques associées: Species. 
Translations: Vertébré, Vertebrado.

Viaduct

Sens commun
Large road or rail bridge, usually consisting of several bays and crossing at high elevation a valley.
Source: according to the National Centre for Textual and Lexical Resources
Translations: Viaduc, Viaducto.

Virtual water – see water footprint

Translations: Eau virtuelle, Agua virtual.

Vulnerability

Sens technique
Fragility and susceptibility when facing a given hazard or a given pressure.
Source: According to SOeS
Thématiques associées: Risk, Erosion, Flood, Drought.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Risk, Hazard. 
Translations: Vulnérabilité, Vulnerabilidad.

Vulnerable area

Sens technique
According to the Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 called "nitrates", it means an area designated as vulnerable especially considering the characteristics of land and water as well as all available data on the nitrate concentration in water. 
Areas that feed waters are defined as: either affected by pollution (groundwater and surface freshwaters, especially those used for the abstraction of water intended for human consumption, whose nitrate concentration exceeds 50 milligrams per litre, and estuarine, coastal and marine waters and surface freshwaters which have undergone eutrophication that can be countered effectively by reducing nitrogen inputs); or threatened by pollution (groundwater and surface freshwaters, in particular those used for the abstraction of water intended for human consumption, whose nitrate concentration is between 40 and 50 milligrams per litre and shows a rising trend, and estuarine, coastal and marine waters and surface freshwaters whose main characteristics show a tendency to eutrophication that can be countered effectively by reducing nitrogen inputs). After consultation with the Basin * Committee, the basin * coordinator prefect decides the delimitation of vulnerable areas.
Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Substance and pollutant.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Nitrates Directive. 
Translations: Zone vulnérable, Zona vulnerable.

Vulnerable species

Sens commun
Species whose entry into the category of endangered species is considered likely in the near future in case of persistent factors that are the cause of the threat.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Species, Pressure.
Translations: Espèce vulnérable, Especie vulnerable.
Wader

Sens commun
Refers to a species, usually birds, which lives in the mud and swamps.
Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Species.
Translations: Limicole, Limícola.

Warning level (or threshold) flow

Sens technique
"Threshold" value of the flow that triggers the first restrictions for some activities. These measures are taken at the initiative of the prefectural authority in connection with a crisis cell and in accordance with a crisis plan. Below this threshold, one of the functions (or activities) is compromised. To partially restore this function, it is necessary to limit temporarily another: withdrawal or discharge (first restriction measures). In case of the situation worsening, additional restriction measures are gradually taken to avoid falling below the crisis discharge.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Translations: Débit seuil d'alerte, Caudal umbral de alerta.
warning plan - see "Plan d'alerte"

Waste

Sens réglementaire
In the meaning of the law of July 15, 1975, any residue resulting from a process of production, transformation or use, any substance, material, product or more generally any movable asset abandoned, or that its holder intends to abandon.
Source: d'après Agence de l'eau Rhône-Méditerranée et Corse
Thématiques associées: Pressure, Waste.
Documents de référence: Loi n° 75-633 du 15 juillet 1975 relative à l'élimination des déchets et à la récupération des matériaux
Translations: Déchet, Desecho.

Wastewater

Sens commun
Water that has been used by man. We usually distinguish wastewater from domestic, industrial or agricultural origin. These waters are discharged into the natural environment directly or through collecting systems with or without treatment. We also talk of sewage or effluent.
Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Eaux usées, Aguas usadas.
Contributeur(s) de l’article: AFB, Translations:

Wastewater heat recovery unit

Sens commun
Exchanger used to partially recover the thermal energy of wastewater.
Source: according to CELF
Wastewater re-use

**Sens commun**
Use of wastewater, in agriculture for example, after passing through the treatment plant, instead of being discharged into watercourses, bodies of water or coastal waters. This re-use allows, on the one hand, mobilising an additional water resource and, on the other, protecting the water receiving the treated wastewater.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Wastewater. **Translations:** Réutilisation de l'eau, Reutilización del agua.

Wastewater treatment

**Sens technique**
All processes to make wastewater comply with environmental standards in force or with other quality standards for recycling or reuse. We usually distinguish the primary, secondary and tertiary treatments. To calculate the total volume of treated wastewater, we should only take into account the type of most advanced treatment used for these waters.

**Source:** Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Treatment line. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** FILIERE DE TRAITEMENT, TYPE DE TRAITEMENT D'EAUX USEES.


**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Traitement des eaux usées, Tratamiento de aguas usadas.

Wastewater treatment plant

**Sens commun**
All equipment for treating and cleaning waste water.

**Source:** According to Kristian Benoit (naturalist)

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation.

**Translations:** Usine d'épuration, Planta de depuración.

Water abstraction

**Sens commun**
Extraction of fresh water from a groundwater source or surface, permanently or temporarily, and conveyed to the place of use. Water abstractions include all activities related levies generated by agriculture, industry (including energy), the supply of drinking water, or other (mineral spring authorized, production artificial snow).

**Source:** according to AFB, IOWater, SoS and OCDE

**Thématiques associées:** Watercourse, Groundwater, Regulation, Pressure, Water abstraction, Hydrology, Use, Agriculture.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water resource. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** OUVRAGE DE PRELEVEMENT, POINT DE PRELEVEMENT D'EAU (quantitatif), POINT DE PRELEVEMENT D'EAU DE SURFACE CONTINENTALE, POINT DE PRELEVEMENT D'EAU LITTORALE, POINT DE PRELEVEMENT D'EAU SOUTERRAINE, PRELEVEMENT AEP, PRELEVEMENT D'EAU SOUTERRAINE.

**Documents de référence:** Directive 2000/60/CE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 23 octobre 2000 établissant un cadre pour une politique communautaire dans le domaine de l'eau

**Lois n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques**

**Translations:** Prélèvement d'eau.

Water aeration

This document is from the Glossaire site of the International Water Office.
**Sens commun**

Bringing water and air in close contact to remove all dissolved gases (especially those responsible for bad odours) from water and introducing oxygen to oxidise certain compounds such as iron and manganese to prevent corrosion).  

**Source:** according to WHO  

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Quality of the resource, Chemistry.  

**Translations:** Aération de l'eau, Aireación del agua.

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**Water Agency**

**Sens technique**

State Public institution of an administrative nature supervised by the Minister in charge of the environment. In a river basin or group of basins, the water agency is implementing the river basin management plan (SDAGE) and the sub-basin management plans (SAGEs), by enabling efficient and sound management of water resources and aquatic environments, drinking water supply, flood control and sustainable development of economic activities. Moreover, it applies a land policy for the protection of wetlands approved by the basin committee. Its resources mainly come from the levy of taxes on water abstraction and pollution. The water agency provides financial support to actions of common interest which contribute to the sound management of water resources and aquatic environments, such as pollution removal, quantitative management or restoration of the resource and development of aquatic environments. The water agency is part of the River-basin district level and takes care of the secretariat of the basin committee.  

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  

**Thématiques associées:** Governance.  

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water Board.  

**Documents de référence:** Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques  

Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau  

**Translations:** Agence de l'eau, Agencia del Agua (Francia) – del Francés, Agence de l'Eau.

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**Water allocation area**

**Sens technique**

Area including the basins, sub-basins, fractions of sub-river basins and aquifer systems defined in the Decree of 29 April 1994. Water allocation areas (ZRE) are areas where a failure, other than exceptional, to reconcile resources to needs is detected. They are defined to facilitate the reconciliation of interests of different water users. Limits for authorization and declaration of the nomenclature decree are more stringent. In each Department concerned, a list of communities included in a water allocation area is recorded by a prefectural order. For information, these areas are found in the Adour-Garonne basin (5 sub-basins and 6 fractions of sub-basins), in the Loire-Brittany basin (7 sub-basins), and in the Rhone-Mediterranean-Corsica basin (2 sub-basins).  

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB  

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.  

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** ZONE DE REPARTITION DES EAUX.  

**Translations:** Zone de répartition des eaux, Zona de reparto de las aguas.

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**Water balance**

**Sens technique**

Ratio between inflows to (e.g. precipitation, runoff, capillary rise) and outflows (e.g. transpiration or evaporation) from a given system over a given time interval, which gives the variation in water storage. The water balance allows knowing the soil water storage capacity, potentially usable for different purposes (agriculture or other).  

**Source:** according to INRA and Aquitaine Chamber of Agriculture  

**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture.  

**Translations:** Bilan hydrique, Balance hídrico.

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**Water Board**

**Sens commun**

A Local public institution located overseas, similar to the water agencies in continental France, which is responsible for
facilitating the various activities of common interest in the management of water and aquatic environments to help achieving the objectives of the river basin management plans (SDAGEs). There is currently a water board in the Réunion, Martinique, Guadeloupe and Guyana. Since Mayotte became a Department, there are thoughts of creating a water board.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment

**Thématiques associées:** Water and environmental management.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water Agency. **Documents de référence:** Loi n° 2000-1207 du 13 décembre 2000 d'orientation pour l'outre-mer

Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques

**Translations:** Office de l'eau, Oficina del Agua.

water body - see "Plan d'eau"

## Water column

**Sens commun**

Volume of water between the bottom and the surface of a sea, ocean, river or lake.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Sens technique**

Concept used in ecology for aquatic and marine environments to describe the physical (temperature, salinity, penetration of light) and chemical characteristics (pH, dissolved oxygen content, nutrients, trace metals...) of seawater, at different depths, for a given geographical point. The water column extends from the water surface to the bottom of rivers.

**Source:** according to IFREMER

**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecology. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Colonne d'eau, Columna de agua.

## Water conveyance system

**Sens commun**

Set of techniques to bring water from its spring to consumption sites.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

**Translations:** Adduction d'eau, Abastecimiento de agua.

## Water corrosivity

**Sens commun**

Qualifies water which can dissolve scale and limestone. Corrosive water contributes to the corrosion of metallic pipes and equipment. It can cause the dissolution of metals (nickel, iron, copper, lead, cadmium...) and in this case induce health risks.

**Source:** according to the Alsace Regional Health Agency (ARS)

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Chemistry.

**Translations:** Agressivité de l'eau, Agresividad del agua.

## Water cycle


**Sens commun**

All water exchanges and transformations in the various components of the environment. The big water cycle (or natural cycle) describes the exchanges in the whole ecosystem, the small water cycle (or anthropogenic cycle), describes the circulation of water in a man-made network.

**Source:** according to the Water Agencies and AFB  
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation.  
**Translations:** Cycle de l'eau, Ciclo del agua.

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**Water deficit**

**Sens technique**

Cumulative difference between potential evapotranspiration (soil evaporation and transpiration from vegetation) and precipitation during a certain period in which the precipitation is the smaller of the two.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council  
**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology, Risk, Drought.  
**Translations:** Déficit hydrique, Déficit hídrico.

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**Water desalination**

**Sens commun**

Process used to obtain freshwater from brackish or salt water.

**Source:** according to Wikipedia  
**Thématiques associées:** Chemistry.  
**Translations:** Dessalement de l'eau, Desalinización del agua.  
water divide (US) - see "Ligne de partage des eaux"

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**Water economy**

**Sens technique**

A branch of the economy that theoretically deals with the relations between human societies and water, especially in economic policies relating to water, its consumption, use and pricing.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of Ecology  
**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Water price, Environmental economics, Financing.  
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Socioeconomics of water.  
**Translations:** Economie de l'eau, Economía del agua.

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**Water filtration**

**Sens commun**

A method used for passing water through a bed of filter material to improve its quality.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Sens technique**

Removal of suspended solids from a fluid (according to their particle size). Gravity or pressure filtration can be carried out through a porous wall (screen, membrane) or through a granular material (sand, anthracite, gravel and other materials used in biofiltration). One distinguishes screening (0.15-2.5 mm), micro-screening (25-150 µm), microfiltration (1-100 µm), ultrafiltration (1 - 0.1 µm) or nanofiltration (10 - 100 nm) depending on the size of the retained particles or the pores of the device.
Water Footprint

Sens commun

Volume of water used at all stages of the production chain of a product (installation, goods or service). The water footprint is also its "virtual water content". For example, to produce a cup of coffee you require a total of 140 litres of water; for one pound of beef you need 16 m³ (16,000 litres). In the end, the water footprint is the total volume of water (expressed in litres or m³) directly and indirectly used in an activity and those that are related, including the water used in the supply chain.

Source: According to SIAAP and IOWater

Water Framework Directive

Sens technique

Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, commonly known as the Water Framework Directive (WFD). It sets out environmental objectives and deadlines to improve the ecological and chemical status of surface water bodies as well as the quantitative status and chemical status of groundwater bodies. Some water bodies created by human activity or having their characteristics fundamentally modified by human activity, may be designated respectively as artificial water bodies (AWB) or heavily modified water bodies (HMWB). In this case, their characteristics and ecological functioning are described by an ecological potential. The WFD especially sets the general goal to achieve "good status" or "good potential" of water bodies by 2015, and establishes a planning process for this purpose. Following six-year management cycles (2010-2015, 2016-2021, 2022-2027, etc) and in each basin or group of basins, an assessment should be made, a monitoring programme should be defined, public participation should be ensured in the development of a timetable, work programme and provisional summary of important issues, as well as draft management plans (which are included in a SDAGE) and programmes of measures. In a rationale of sustainable development, economic concerns have been explicitly taken into account in the Directive. Thus, there are exemptions to achieving good status and good potential by 2015, which can be justified by disproportionate costs in particular. Moreover, the measures taken in relation to water pricing and cost recovery for water services must be reported.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

Water Information System

Sens technique

Information system designed to meet the needs of stakeholders (including the general public) regarding public environmental information in the field of water. It collects, store and disseminates data and indicators on water, aquatic environments and on their uses. Its entry point is the www.eaufrance.fr portal. His technical management is entrusted to the national office for water and aquatic environments (Onema) under the authority of the Ecology ministry. The national framework for water data...
National framework for water data. (NFWD) stipulates the role and responsibilities of each data producer as well as the components making up WIS-FR. It is based on the common language set up by Sandre, now the French national service for water data and common repositories management.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system, Data and information system.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** National framework for water data. **Documents de référence:** Arrêté du 26 juillet 2010 approuvant le schéma national des données sur l'eau

Décret n° 2009-1543 du 11 décembre 2009 relatif au référentiel technique prévu par l'article R. 213-12-2 du code de l'environnement

**Translations:** Système d'information sur l'eau, Sistema de Información francés sobre el agua.

## Water Information System for Europe (WISE)

**Sens technique**

European information system designed to meet the needs of the European Commission regarding public environmental information in the field of water. It collects data coming from reports made by the Member States, enters them into a database and disseminates them. Its entry point is www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Water Information System for Europe, Water Information System for Europe.

## Water jobs

**Sens commun**

Employment specifically related to the water sector, whether to monitor and maintain the environment, manage the resource, supply drinking water or treat wastewater. There are many water jobs: hydrologists, chemists, hydrant men, water treatment jobs, etc.

**Source:** according to the Ministry of the Environment and AFB

**Translations:** Métier de l'eau, Profesión del agua.

## Water Law of 16 December 1964

**Sens réglementaire**

It aims to cope with the evolution of demography, industrial development and the growing pollution problems they generate, the first law enabling institutional, financial and technical conditions for global and decentralised water resources management. It thus establishes a management logic according to major river basins (and not according to an administrative logic); sets up, in each basin, a basin committee in charge of drafting the water management policy, and a water agency (or financial basin agency), in charge of implementing this policy; and establishes a National Water Committee (NWC), an advisory body for the Prime Minister. The law of 16 December 1964 imposes, with its goal of pollution control, the making of a national inventory to establish the degree of pollution (INP) of surface water and the definition of objectives for quality improvement. It has been repealed for codification in the environment code.

**Source:** according to AFB

**Documents de référence:** Loi n° 64-1245 du 16 décembre 1964 relative au régime et à la répartition des eaux et à la lutte contre leur pollution

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Loi sur l'eau du 16 décembre 1964.

## Water Law of 3 January 1992

**Sens réglementaire**

Law making the necessary amendments to the legislative framework to implement the numerous European directives for defining the quality standards that water must meet for certain uses (drinking water, bathing water, fish-breeding water, shellfish waters). One of the strengths of the law of 3 January 1992 is the introduction of two new global water resources planning systems: master plans for water development and management (SDAGE) for each of the major French river basins, and water management and management plans (SAGE) developed on a more local scale. Contrary to the 1964 law, the 1992 law does not imply any obligation to monitor environments but it reinforces the principles of protection of aquatic ecosystems.
and consultation between water users and stakeholders. The evolution of knowledge is also making it clear that the
assessment of river quality must be done by considering the different components of the environment (water and substrate)
and the organisms that live in it.

**Source:** according to AFB

résiduaires
à partir de sources agricoles
Directive du Conseil du 8 décembre 1975 concernant la qualité des eaux de baignade (76/160/CEE)
Directive 86/278/CEE du Conseil du 12 juin 1986 relative à la protection de l'environnement et notamment des sols, lors de
l'utilisation des boues d'épuration en agriculture
Loi n° 64-1245 du 16 décembre 1964 relative au régime et à la répartition des eaux et à la lutte contre leur pollution
Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Loi sur l'eau du 3 janvier 1992.

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### Water leak

**Sens commun**

Unplanned water flow from a pipe, through a narrow or hidden slot.

**Source:** according to IOwater and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Yield of a network/system. **Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:**

Fuite d'eau.

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### Water level

**Sens commun**

Level of a free water surface above a reference plane (vertical distance between the surface of a river, a body of water, a
reservoir (or an observation well for groundwater) and zero on the gauge.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.

**Translations:** Niveau d'eau, Nivel de agua.

water level gauge - see "Echelle limnimétrique"

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### Water loss

**Sens technique**

Water volume lost during its conveyance between the abstraction point and a point of use (due to leak or evaporation) or
between the place of use and a place of reuse.

**Source:** According to Eurostat

**Translations:** Perte d'eau, Pérdida de agua.

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### Water meter

**Sens technique**

Device measuring water consumption. The water meter gives the volume of the water, used and invoiced, in cubic meters. Its
regular reading helps monitor consumption and detect leaks.

**Source:** according to the Ile-de-France Water Syndicate

**Translations:** Compteur d'eau, Contador de agua.

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### Water neutralisation

**Sens commun**

Process to reduce the pH of water (by acidification or alkalisation) to a value determined according to the needs.

**Source:** according to ADEME
Water odour

Sens commun
Odour that emerges from water, usually due to a multitude of different molecules, in very low concentrations, mixed with the air that is breathed. For example, open sewers, discharges from an organic chemical industry (pharmacies, insecticides), wastewater treatment, intensive livestock farming (pigs, cattle, poultry or other) or land application (slurries, sewage sludge) can be a source of olfactory nuisance.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Agriculture, Industry.
Translations: Odeur de l'eau, Olor del agua.

Water point

Synonymes: waterhole. Sens technique
Natural (spring) or artificial access (drilling, drain, well, etc) to groundwater. Each water point has a national code (BSS code) and is located by geographic coordinates through a projection system. It is also defined by the following additional pieces of information: a name or label, an altitude, an address (locality), a location map.

Source: According to BRGM
Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Groundwater.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: BSS code. Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: POINT D’EAU.
Translations: Point d'eau, Punto de agua.

Water pollution

Sens commun
Pollution of water degrading its intrinsic qualities, disrupting aquatic life and making its use dangerous for human beings and animals. This contamination results from the presence of pollutants in sufficient quantity to be harmful.

Source: according to ADEME
Thématiques associées: Pressure, Substance and pollutant.
Translations: Contamination de l'eau, Contaminación del agua.

Water pressure

Sens commun
Value representing the force applied by water on a surface. We distinguish the hydrostatic pressure, exerted by water at rest, from the dynamic pressure, linked to a movement of water.

Source: according to UNESCO
Thématiques associées: Hydrology.
Translations: Pression de l'eau, Presión del agua.

Water purification

Synonymes: drinking water production. Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.
Translations: Potabilisation de l'eau, Potabilización del agua.

Water regulations

Sens technique
Regulations that govern the operation of dams and hydraulic systems in general. Since 1995, they have been approved by the prefecture and established after public inquiry. They give rules for the management of structures (minimum flow, reserved flow, water release, etc). Regarding structures for the replenishment of low-water flow (in normal and crisis situation), they must determine how water resources will be shared between water abstractions and the flow rate maintained in streams.
Water release by a dam

Sens commun
Controlled evacuation of part of the water of a dam reservoir (low-flow period, security, energy production, etc.).

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Use, Energy.
Translations: Lâchure de barrage, Desembalse.

Water reservoir/tank

Sens commun
A structure for the storage of water taken from the natural environment before its supply to a system. Water reservoirs are a buffer between water supply and demand.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.
Translations: Réservoir d'eau, Depósito de agua.

Water resource

Sens commun
Potential source of water supply to meet water needs related to some human activities. This resource can be artificial – e.g. a channel - or natural – e.g. a river or an ocean.

Source: according to AFB and IOWater
Thématiques associées: Water abstraction.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water use, Water utilization, Water abstraction. ENTITE HYDROGEOLOGIQUE, ENTITE HYDROGRAPHIQUE.
Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre: ENTITE HYDROGEOLOGIQUE.
Translations: Ressource en eau, Recurso hídrico.

Water salinity

Sens commun
Amount of salts dissolved in water.

Source: according to Wikipedia
Thématiques associées: Quality of the resource, Chemistry.
Translations: Salinité de l'eau, Salinidad del agua.

Water saving

Sens commun
All the actions taken to control wastage of water, from its abstraction up to its use. One of the goals of water saving is efficient water use.

Source: according to the Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics.
Translations: Economie d'eau, Ahorro de agua.

Water self cleaning/ water assimilative capacity

Sens commun
Biological process by which water in natural environments (rivers, wetlands, lakes, etc.) cleans itself when the amount of pollutants discharged into it is not too significant. Self-cleaning is the result of the action of organisms living in water.
Water sharing

Sens réglementaire
Concept covering the issue of distributing water withdrawals to meet different uses (domestic, agricultural, industrial...), an especially tricky subject in case of shortage.

Source: according to IRSTEA
Thématiques associées: Water abstraction.

Water softening

Sens commun
It is a technique to remove minerals that cause water hardness, especially calcium and magnesium.

Source: according to IOWater
Sens technique
A technique consisting in exchanging the calcium and magnesium ions, which are not very soluble and which react with the carbonates of water to form limestone, with the sodium ions which are perfectly soluble in water. This operation is named "ion exchange".

Source: According to UAE
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Quality of the resource, Chemistry.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water hardness. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Adoucissement de l'eau, Ablandamiento del agua.

Water stakeholder

Sens commun
Private or public person or entity, either general or specialised practitioner, able to practice on variable scales (a community, a department, at national or European level, etc.), acting in one of the water-related fields (risks, pollution control, sanitation, etc.).

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Governance.
Translations: Acteur de l'eau, Actor del agua.
water table - see "Nappe phréatique"

Water taste

Sens commun
Water Characteristic (such as smell or appearance) dependent on the chemical substances it contains.

Source: according to the Journal of Water Sciences
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.
Translations: Goût de l'eau, Sabor del agua.

Water tower

Sens commun
A tower with an elevated high-capacity tank used to store drinking water and then convey it by gravity pipes.

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Drinking water. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Château
Water treatment sludge

**Sens commun**

Sludge resulting from the treatment of water.

**Source:** according to the Seine-Normandy Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Drinking water and sanitation, Sanitation, Drinking water.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water purification, Wastewater, Wastewater treatment. **Translations:** Boue de potabilisation, Fango de potabilización.

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Water use

**Sens commun**

Utilization of water by human beings (domestic, industrial, agricultural, recreational, cultural uses of drinking water).

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Water abstraction, Use, Agriculture, Energy, Housing and city, Industry, Leasure, Fisheries and aquaculture, Transport.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water utilization, Water resource. **Translations:** Usage de l'eau, Uso del agua.

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Water utilization

**Synonymes:** use, Sens commun

All services and activities having a significant impact on water status. Services related to the use of water are water uses characterized by the existence of structures for abstraction, storage, treatment or discharge. They have a fixed asset.

**Source:** According to the Ministry of Ecology

**Thématiques associées:** Water abstraction, Hydrology, Use, Agriculture, Energy, Housing and city, Industry, Leasure, Fisheries and aquaculture, Transport.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Water use, Irrigation water, Industrial water, Domestic water, Water resource. **Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:** OUVRAGE DE PRELEVEMENT. **Documents de référence:** Loi n° 2006-1772 du 30 décembre 2006 sur l'eau et les milieux aquatiques Loi n° 92-3 du 3 janvier 1992 sur l'eau **Translations:** Utilisation de l'eau, Utilización del agua.

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Water year

**Synonymes:** hydrological year. Sens technique

A 12-month period that begins after the usual month of the lowest waters. Depending on local weather patterns, the water year may begin on dates different from the regular calendar, but in France, it usually starts in September.

**Source:** According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council

**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology. **Translations:** Année hydrologique, Año hidrológico.

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Water-borne disease

**Sens commun**

Disease caused by ingestion or contact with unsafe water.

**Source:** according to Lenntech

**Thématiques associées:** Health. **Translations:** Maladie hydrique, Enfermedad hídrica.

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Water-dependent area

**Sens technique**
Set of alluvial wetlands permanently or temporarily related with the current environment by either surface or underground connections: islands, alluvial bars, ox-bows, flood meadows, alluvial and riverine forests, springs and underground rivers. These spaces are important transition zones between the terrestrial and aquatic environments. They offer a wide variety of habitats, in which fauna and flora communities (insects, fish, amphibians, birds, and mammals) are distributed according to the level of land flooding. Water dependent areas have a key role in the life cycle of species and especially in fish spawning. Depending on the concerned species and their nature, they are breeding grounds, migration resting or feeding areas. Amphibians and reptiles are represented as much as birds. The marsh frog, the European or South tree frog, the ringneck snake gather with the moorhen, the little grebe or dabchick, the kingfisher and sometimes the grey heron.

**Source:** According to AFB

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Wetland.

**Translations:** Annexe hydraulique, Anejo hidráulico.

**Water-related activity**

**Sens commun**

Economic activity that uses water and services related to water use.

**Source:** According to the Ministry for the Environment and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Circular economy, Ecological service, Use.

**Translations:** Activité liée à l'eau, Actividad ligada al agua.

**Watercourse**

**Sens commun**

Legally characterized by the permanence of its bed, the natural character of the stream or its normal water flow (e.g. a channel offering the river, in the collective interest, an additional outlet or replacing the natural bed) and an adequate supply, not limited to discharges or stormwater (the existence of a spring is required).

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Environment and habitat, Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Surface waters, Running water. COURS D'EAU, ENTITE HYDROGRAPHIQUE.

**Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:**

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Cours d'eau, Curso de agua.

**Watercourses fragmentation**

**Sens technique**

Fragmentation of a watercourse into several fragments, due to natural or artificial obstacles (i.e. sills, dams, weirs, etc), which may lead to a disruption into the ecological continuity, preventing the free movement of species or the smooth sediments flow.

**Source:** according to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Hydromorphology, Ecological continuity, Watercourse.

**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Ecological continuity, Obstacle to flow, Green and Blue Habitat network.

**Contributeur(s) de l'article:** AFB. **Translations:** Fragmentation des cours d'eau, Fragmentación de cursos de agua.

**waterhole - see “Point d'eau”**

**Watershed (UK)**

**Synonmues:** water divide (US). **Sens commun**

Line on either side of which the water flows towards one or the other of two juxtaposed river basins.

**Source:** According to Ifremer
**Thématiques associées:** Hydrology.
**Translations:** Ligne de partage des eaux, Línea de división de las aguas.

wetland (US) - see "Bassin hydrographique"

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**Waterways transport**

**Sens commun**

Mode of transporting goods or people through the national and international waterways networks.

**Source:** according to the National Chamber of Inland Navigation

**Thématiques associées:** Environmental economics, Ecological service, Watercourse, Transport.

**Translations:** Transport fluvial, Transporte fluvial.

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**Wave**

**Sens commun**

Periodic oscillation of sea level. The wave occurs sporadically, depending on the uneven pressures and on the wind friction that these differences in pressure generate. Waves (or chops), formed by the local wind, are random and, therefore, their action on the shore is negligible on the average.

**Source:** According to Rhone-Mediterranean and Corsica Water Agency

**Thématiques associées:** Environment and habitat, Shoreline, Sea and ocean.

**Translations:** Vague, Ola.

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**Web service**

**Sens technique**

Technology that enables applications to interact remotely via the Internet regardless of the platforms and languages on which they are based (see interoperability). The National Service for Water Data and Reference-dataset Management (Sandre) specifies web services by technical scenarios and disseminates its reference datasets by web services.

**Source:** According to AFB and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Data and information system.

**Translations:** Service web, Servicio web.

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**Weed control**

**Sens commun**

Use of mechanical means (tillage, hoeing, weeding) or chemical treatments (weed killers) to eliminate unwanted plant species.

**Source:** according to the Larousse dictionary and IOWater

**Thématiques associées:** Agriculture.

**Contributeur(s) de l’article:** AFB. **Translations:** Désherbage.

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**Well field**

**Sens technique**

Area encompassing several structures for groundwater abstraction from the same water table.

**Source:** According to BRGM

**Thématiques associées:** Groundwater, Water abstraction.

**Translations:** Champ captant, Campo de captación.

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**Wet 5-year flow**

**Sens technique**

Monthly flow with a 1/5 probability of being exceeded every year. It allows characterizing a calendar month with high hydraulicity.

**Source:** According to SCHAPI
Wet marsh

Sens commun
Marsh or area that can be flooded at high-flow or by water silting in the rainy season.

Source: According to Poitou-Charentes Regional Council
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit quinquennal humide, Caudal quinquenal húmedo.

Wetland

Sens commun
Natural environment marked by the temporary or permanent presence of water, hosting a specific flora and fauna. Examples include a marsh, bog, pond, pond, pond, estuary, etc.

Source: according to AFB and IOWater

Sens technique
An area where water, whether fresh, salty or brackish, is the main factor controlling the natural environment and the associated animal and plant life. Wetlands are fed by stream flow and/or rising water tables and are shaped by the alternation of high and low water levels. Examples include streams, peat bogs, ponds, ponds, ponds, banks, floodplains, salt meadows, mudflats, coastal marshes, estuaries. These areas are transition spaces between land and water (they are ecotones). The vegetation present has a marked hygrophilic character (which absorbs water). Like all these types of particular spaces, it has a strong biological potential (specific fauna and flora) and have a role in regulating flow and improving water quality.

Source: according to AFB

Sens réglementaire
There are several regulatory definitions of the term "Wetland" depending on the text:

- According to article L211-1 of the Environmental Code, "wetlands are defined as "land, whether or not exploited, usually flooded or gorged with fresh, salty or brackish water on a permanent or temporary basis; vegetation, where it exists, is dominated by hygrophilic plants for at least part of the year".
- According to article R.211-108 of the Environmental Code, which specifies article L211-1: the criteria to be used to define a wetland are related to the morphology of the soil related to the prolonged presence of water of natural origin and the possible presence of hygrophilic plants, in the absence of hygrophilic vegetation, the morphology of the soil is sufficient to define a wetland, the delimitation of wetlands is carried out using flood or groundwater levels, or the frequencies and amplitudes of the tides.
- According to Article 1.1 of the RAMSAR Convention, a wetland is "an area of marshes, fens, peatlands or natural or artificial, permanent or temporary waters, where the water is stagnant or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine waters whose depth at low tide does not exceed 6 metres".

Source: according to the Environmental Code

Thématiques associées: Environment and habitat, Wetland.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: ZONE HUMIDE.
RAMSAR Convention, Marshes, Pond, Meadow liable to flooding, Ramsar area, Area with environmental restrictions, Mud flat, Pond.

Termes associés à des définitions du Sandre:
Documents de référence: Convention de Ramsar
Code de l'environnement
Décret n° 2007-135 du 30 janvier 2007 précisant les critères de définition et de délimitation des zones humides figurant à l'article L. 211-1 du code de l'environnement
Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Zone humide, Humedal.

WHO standard
Sens commun
Value recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) for the protection of public health, but which is not a mandatory limit value. The WHO standards are intended to serve as guiding principles for the development of national standards which, in turn, take into account the local environmental, social, economic and cultural conditions.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Chemistry, Health.
Translations: Norme OMS, Norma OMS (Organización Mundial de la Salud).

wildlife - see “Faune”

Willingness to pay
Sens technique
Amount that the surveyed people are willing to pay to avoid the degradation of an environmental good or for its improvement. Willingness to pay (WTP) is an expression in Euros of the difference in wellbeing (or satisfaction) associated with the deterioration / improvement of the environment.

Source: According to Patrice Dumas (economist)
Thématiques associées: Environmental economics, Financing.
Translations: Consentement à payer, Disposición a pagar.

WISE code
Sens technique
Identifier of a measuring station, compatible with the Water information System for Europe (WISE), used in the reporting of monitoring programmes to the European Commission.

Source: According to AFB
Thématiques associées: Data and information system, Public policy, Water and environmental management.
Translations: Code WISE, Código WISE.
withdrawal - see “Prélèvement”

X

X-year monthly discharge
Sens technique
Frequency flow rate obtained by statistical processing of a series of monthly low-water flow rates. We talk about a monthly flow rate recurring every year, every five years, or every ten years, etc.

Source: According to the Ministry for the Environment and AFB
Thématiques associées: Watercourse, Hydrology.
Translations: Débit mensuel de récurrence x année, Caudal mensual de recurrencia de x años.

Y

Yield of a network/system
Sens technique
Volume of water consumed by users (private, industrial and other) and the public utility (for the management of the drinking water system) in relation with the volume of drinking water introduced into the supply system.

Source: according to AFB
Thématiques associées: Drinking water and sanitation, Drinking water, Public service.
Autres termes utiles à la compréhension: Water leak. Contributeur(s) de l'article: AFB. Translations: Rendement de réseau, Rendimiento de red.
Z

**Zoobenthos**

*Sens commun*
All animal organisms from the benthos.

**Source:** According to Ifremer
**Thématiques associées:** Species, Species.
**Translations:** Zoobenthos, Zoobentos.

**Zooplankton**

*Sens commun*
Animal plankton. It feeds directly or indirectly on phytoplankton.

**Source:** Thématiques associées: Species.
**Autres termes utiles à la compréhension:** Macroplankton. **Translations:** Zooplancton, Zooplancton.