



CENTER FOR THE URBAN RIVER AT BECZAK

Estuary Model Vocabulary List

Geography: The study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere

State Line: The boundary between two states

Bridge: A human-made structure cross rivers and valleys

Tributary: A river or stream that flows into a bigger river or a lake

Freshwater Reservoir: A natural or human-made place where water is collected and stored to be used later

Topography: How natural and artificial features are arranged in an area

Estuary: Where a freshwater system meets a saltwater system

Brackish Water: A mixture of fresh and saltwater that can be found in an estuary

Saltwater: Water found in oceans that has a salt content higher than 34 parts per thousand (ppt)

Freshwater: Water that has basically no salt in it (salt content is nearly 0ppt)

Watershed: An area of land where all water drains toward the same place, usually a river, lake, or ocean

Tide: The gravitational influence of the moon that causes water to rise and fall around the earth

Current: The direction in which a body of water flows

Flooding: The covering or submerging of normally dry land with a large amount of water

Water Cycle: The cycle of processes by which water circulates between the Earth's oceans, atmospheres, and land

Precipitation: Rain, snow or hail that falls to the ground from clouds

Runoff: The draining away of water on land; sometimes collecting pollutants along the way

Pollution: The presence or introduction into the environment of a substance or thing that is harmful or has poisonous effects

Marshland: Land consisting of **marshes** (an area of low-lying land which is flooded in wet seasons or at high tide)