

Definitions guide

1. **Ecological Diversity:** The variety of species, functions, and interactions, e.g., the number of species in the ecosystem.
2. **Variability:** Fluctuations in space and time, e.g., the range of flow rates for the river.
3. **Groundwater depletion:** Long term declines in the level of groundwater due to sustained overuse
4. **Modularity:** The degree to which different parts of the river basin function independently, e.g., river flow rate is independent of deer population growth rate.
5. **Slow variables:** Parts of the watershed that change at a very low rate/over long time periods, e.g., soil health.
6. **Innovation:** The creation of new technology, ideas, institutions, and rules based on learning and experimentation, e.g., creation of new precision irrigation technology.
7. **Overlap in governance:** Multiple government institutions share responsibilities, e.g., federal and state agencies are both responsible for the management of endangered species.
8. **Ecosystem services:** Flows of goods and services from ecosystems that provide some (often unpriced) benefit to society, e.g., drinking water, recreation on rivers.