

Biological Subgroup Themes Definitions

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Themes based on **purpose of monitoring** (a process of measuring physical, chemical, and/or biological properties of an **environmental** medium, such as air, soil or water):

Regional ecosystem assessment – “an assessment or study of floral or faunal communities in a bioregion consistently associated with a particular combination of geology, landform, and soil” *adapted from* “study of vegetation communities in a bioregion consistently associated with a particular combination of geology, landform, and soil” (Sattler & Williams, 1999)

Trend analyses - the practice of collecting information and attempting to spot a pattern, or *trend*, in the information. In statistics, this often refers to techniques for extracting an underlying pattern of behavior in a [time series](#) which would otherwise be partly or nearly completely hidden by [noise](#). (Wikipedia)

Habitat assessment – the study of specific aspects of a habitat to understand its overall health and resilience. The evaluation of the relative habitat conditions available to a focal group of wildlife (Society of American Foresters, Encyclopedia of Forestry)

Regulatory- a system or practice to ensure compliance for an organization's permits to modify environmental conditions or features.

Research – the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions (Oxford Dictionary, 2015)

Potable water supply - water which is fit for consumption by humans and other animals. It is also called drinking water, in a reference to its intended use. (Wisegeek)

Resource management – the protection and use of natural resources at a specific level: e.g., regional, ecosystem, habitat, watershed, or population level.

Other – not covered by previous monitoring purposes.