

## Glossary of Important Terms

- **Agriculture:** the production of crops, livestock, and poultry
- **Anthropogenic:** changes that are caused by human activity; usually used to refer to changes in the environment—opposite of natural changes
- **Channelize:** to pave the bed of a river with concrete for the purpose of speeding up river flow
- **Dam:** a barrier to obstruct the flow of water
- **Deposition:** the process by which pieces of the surface of the earth are deposited by water, glaciers, winds, waves, etc.
- **Drought:** periods where there is little to no rainfall; droughts have a tremendous effect on agricultural production in an area
- **Ecosystem services:** functions of the environment that are beneficial to humans (e.g. oxygen from trees, water filtration in wetlands)
- **Erosion:** the process by which the surface of the earth is worn away by the action of water, glaciers, winds, waves, etc.
- **Habitation:** a place in the environment where people or animals can live
- **Heterogeneous landscape:** composed of different kinds of land cover and species of plants and animals; in the model, areas of a similar color would likely actually contain different types of agriculture, transportation, or natural areas
- **Homogeneous landscape:** land cover is the same throughout the landscape; to simplify the model, treat each land cover type as homogeneous

- **Land use:** the human use of land; involves changing the natural environment to suit the needs of humans
- **Levee:** an embankment that prevents a river from flooding an area
- **Meteorology:** the science that deals with the phenomena of the atmosphere, especially weather and weather conditions
- **Model:** a simplified representation of actual things or phenomena
- **Precipitation:** condensed water that falls from the sky; examples include: rain, snow, hail
- **Storm water runoff:** water that enters the environment during rain or snow events
- **Transportation:** the ways humans move themselves or goods from one place to another