

# Internal Drainage District Boundary Review - Glossary

This document provides an overview and clarification of the terms used within the consultation documents for the Internal Drainage District Boundary Review consultation.

Term	Definition
Biodiversity	The variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems.
Catchment	An area of land where water collects when it rains, often bounded by hills.
Drainage channels	Ditches and watercourses within an IDD.
Internal Drainage District Advisory Group	A group of people who live and work within an IDD who provide NRW with expert advice to ensure high quality and appropriate service in the IDD.
FCERM	Flood and coastal erosion risk management.
Flood defence structure	Any permanent works constructed, operated or maintained by the regulator for the purposes of managing flood risk.
Groundwater flooding	Occurs when water levels in the ground rise above the natural surface. Low-lying areas underlain by permeable strata are particularly susceptible.
Hydrology	The study of water.
Internal Drainage District (IDD)	Areas of land where there is a particular need for drainage and water level management. IDDs are operated in accordance with the Land Drainage Act 1991.
Internal Drainage Board (IDB)	The Board that operates and manages the IDDs. In Wales, NRW's Board acts as the IDB for all IDDs.
Main river	A watercourse shown as such on a <a href="#">main river map</a> and includes any structure or appliance for controlling or regulating the flow of water into, in or out of the channel which: (a) is a structure or appliance situated in the channel or in any part of the banks of the channel; and (b) is not a structure or appliance vested in or controlled by an internal drainage board.
NRW	Natural Resources Wales. The NRW took over the functions of the Environment Agency in Wales on 1st April 2013.

NRW Board	Undertakes the role of Internal Drainage Board for all IDD's in Wales in addition to other duties.
Ordinary watercourses (OW)	All watercourses that are not designated Main River, and which are managed by Local Authorities or, where they exist, Internal Drainage Boards.
Reservoir	A natural or artificial lake where water is collected and stored until needed. Reservoirs can be used for irrigation, recreation, providing water supply for municipal needs, hydroelectric power or controlling water flow.
Risk management authorities (RMAs)	Organisations that have a key role in flood and coastal erosion risk management as defined by the Flood and Water Management Act. These are Natural Resources Wales, lead local flood authorities, internal drainage boards, water companies, and highways authorities.
River control works	Any structure or appliance used for measuring or regulating: (a) the level of water in a main river, (b) the flow of water in, into or out of, a main river, or (c) the drawing of water from, or the delivering of water into, a main river, and includes any sluices, flood gates, lashers, valves, paddles, penstocks, locks, weirs, dams, pumps, pumping machinery or pipes.
River flooding	Occurs when water levels in a channel overwhelm the capacity of the channel.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites that are protected by law to conserve their biodiversity or geology.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Areas designated under the EC Habitats Directive as best representing the range and variety within the European Union of habitats and non-bird species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Areas classified under the EC Birds Directive as the most important habitat for rare and migratory birds within the European Union.
Surface water flooding	Flooding from rainwater (including snow and other precipitation) which has not entered a watercourse, drainage system or public sewer.
Watercourse	All rivers, streams, ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dykes, sluices, sewers and passages through which water flows, except a public sewer.