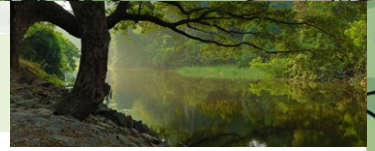


River Glossary

bank

The land at the side of a river.



confluence

The point where two rivers join together.



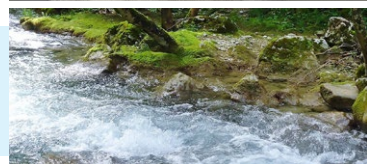
basin

An area of land drained by a river.



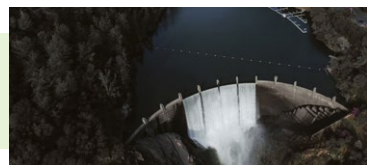
current

The strength and speed of the river.



dam

A barrier across a river that blocks flowing water.



delta

A wetland area formed when a river empties its water and sediment into the sea.



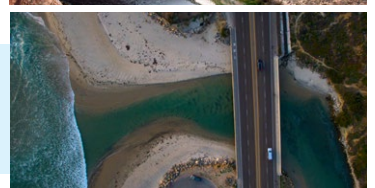
erosion

Where rocks and earth wear away, changing the shape of the land.



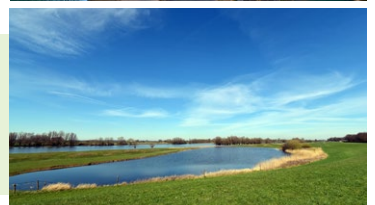
estuary

Where a river (fresh water) reaches the sea (salt water).



floodplain

The flat area around a river that often gets flooded when the level of water in the river is high.



gorge

A deep, narrow valley with steep sides, usually formed by a river cutting through hard rock.



lower course

The end of a river which flows more slowly.



meander

A curve or bend in a stream or river.



middle course

The middle of a river, which is usually wide and deep.



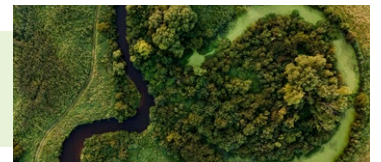
mouth

Where a river flows into a larger body of water.



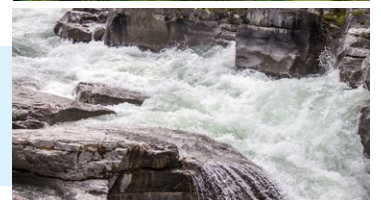
oxbow lake

A curved lake formed after a bend in a river is cut off.



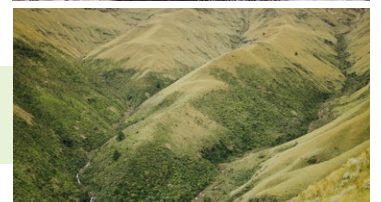
rapids

A fast-flowing and turbulent part of the river.



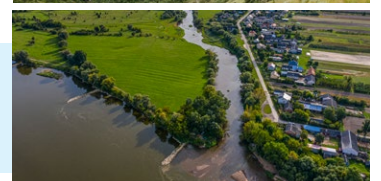
source

The origin of a stream or river.



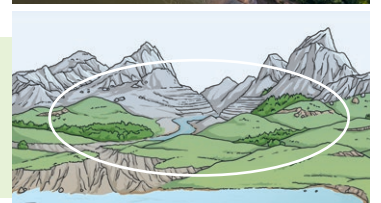
tributary

A smaller river or stream that flows into a larger stream or river.



upper course

The beginning of a river nearest the source, which is often steep and narrow.



waterfall

A steep fall or flow of water from a height.

