Vocabulary – Essential Standards 8.E. 1.2

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| **Word** | **Definition** |
| Nutrients | Substance such as nitrogen or phosphates that enable plants and algae to grow or fuel to help other living organisms grow. |
| Reservoir | An area that stores water |
| Minerals | Minerals that are in the ocean such as sodium, carbon dioxide, oil, gas, nitrogen, sulfur |
| Dissolved Gases | Many dissolved in the ocean. The main ones are nitrogen, oxygen and carbon dioxide. Ocean exchanges these with the atmosphere to keep a balance between the ocean and atmosphere |
| Estuaries | A coastal inlet or bay where fresh water from rivers mixes with salty ocean water |
| Marine Ecosystems | Largest of Earth's aquatic systems. They include oceans, salt marsh, and intertidal zones, estuaries and lagoons, mangroves and coral reefs, the deep sea and the sea floor. 2/3’s of the Earth’s surface |
| Upwelling | The movement of cold water upward from the deep ocean that is caused by wind. |
| Buffer Zones | Oceans are able to absorb excess acids from the shore to help keep them at a constant pH. |
| Shore Ecosystem | The area at the ocean’s edge where the aquatic and terrestrial organisms interact |
| Ocean Ecosystem | Many different ecosystems living within the ocean. |
| Deep ocean ecosystem | Ecosystem in the deepest part of the ocean |
| Vertical zonation patterns | Horizontal bands of species within an area |
| Microbes | An extremely small living thing that can only be seen with a microscope |

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