

Glossary of HRVA terms

Space weather: A disturbance or fluctuation in the earth's magnetic field, associated with solar flares. The impact may include disruption of electrical grids, communications systems, navigation equipment, and satellite operations. Resource operations, including surveying, drilling, and pipelines, may also be negatively affected.

Sinkholes and land subsidence: The sinking or caving-in of the ground.

Submarine slides: Underwater landslides that happens on a lake bed or ocean floor. They occur when large amounts of mud, sand, or rock suddenly move down a slope. They can damage underwater cables, pipelines, and even cause damaging waves.

Liquefaction: The transformation that occurs when earthquake shaking (or other disturbance) causes a saturated granular soil to lose its strength and behave like a liquid, and can be one of the major causes of damage during an earthquake.

Seiche: When solid ground temporarily behaves like a liquid due to earth movement, such as an earthquake. This happens when water-saturated soil (like sand or silt) loses its strength and stiffness. Buildings and structures can sink, tilt, or collapse because the ground no longer supports them.

Storm surge: Abnormal rise in water levels attributed to intense wind storms, such as cyclones, typhoons, hurricanes that can push the water onto coastlines and cause flooding.

Major Planned Event (MPE): any planned event whose nature, expected attendee level, duration, or location challenges the normal response capability of a community and requires special planning by one or more agencies to mitigate impact to public health and safety. Examples include concerts, festivals, sports games, political rallies, parades, or public celebrations.