

(c) Commission. The Alabama Historical Commission acting as the custodian of cultural resources for the State of Alabama

(d) Conservation. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources acting as the custodian for the bottoms of the rivers, lakes, bays, and the Gulf of Mexico belonging to the State of Alabama.

(e) Contract/Permit. Issued by the Commission pursuant to Alabama Act 00-595 and these regulations by which the applicant may conduct explorations, identifications, and/or excavations.

(f) Contractor/Permittee. Any individual, company, corporation, private or public institution determined by the Commission to be appropriately qualified, that has applied for and received a permit or contract from the Commission to begin exploration or excavation activities in state-owned waters.

(g) Cultural Resources. All abandoned shipwrecks or remains of those ships including debris fields, all underwater archaeological sites, treasures, artifacts, treasure troves, or other cultural artifacts and materials, whether or not associated with any shipwreck or site, that are contained in or on submerged lands belonging to the State of Alabama and the sea within the jurisdiction of the State, and that have remained unclaimed for more than 50 years, excluding sunken logs, cants, and timber resources of any other type not associated as part of a shipping vessel or archaeological site, and are eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage.

(h) Excavation. The study and intentional removal from the surface of or within submerged land belonging to the State by accepted scientific methods, of any objects recognized as cultural resources.

(i) Exploring. The recreational or sport diving to view the State of Alabama's submerged bottom lands or to examine submerged cultural resources where not specifically prohibited.

(j) Search. The systematic examination by actual scientific survey of an area of submerged land belonging to the State for the purpose of locating and recognizing cultural resources.

(k) Submerged Lands. Lands under navigable waterways owned or controlled by the State of Alabama.

(l) Treasure Trove. Any gold bullion, gold