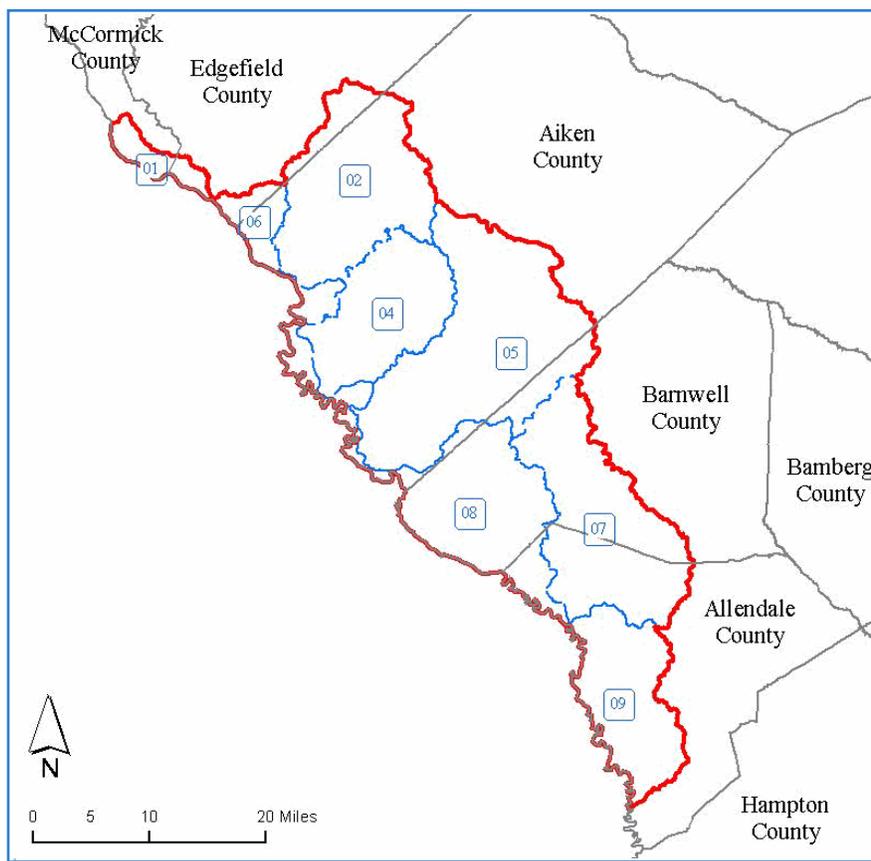


MIDDLE SAVANNAH Subbasin

August 31, 2007

An Assessment of the Middle Savannah Subbasin

Hydrologic Unit Code (8 Digit): 03060106



WATERSHED (10-digit HUC)
(E.g., 01 = 0306010601)

- 01 Kiokee Creek-Savannah River
- 02 Horse Creek
- 04 Hollow Creek
- 05 Upper Three Runs
- 06 Augusta Canal-Savannah River
- 07 Lower Three Runs
- 08 Steel Creek-Savannah River
- 09 Brier Creek-Savannah River

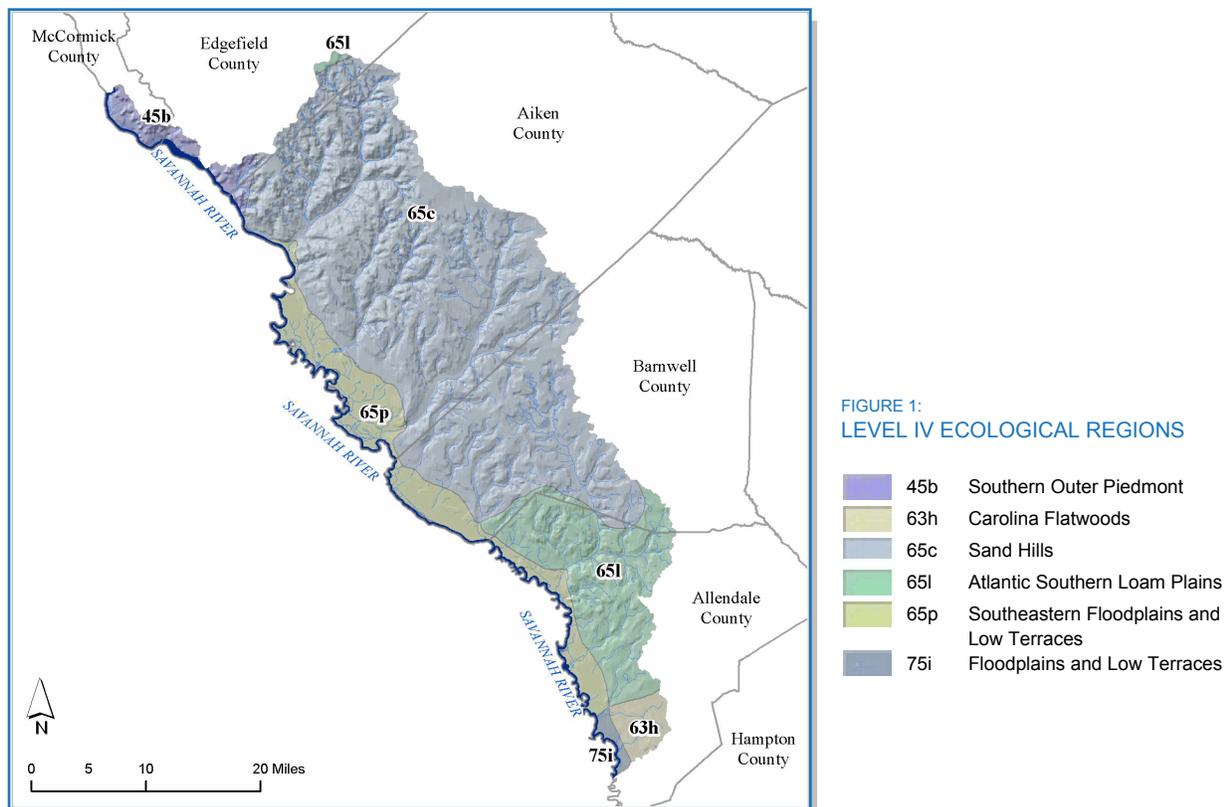


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Watershed Description

On the South Carolina side of the South Carolina-Georgia state line, the Middle Savannah subbasin receives water from the Upper Savannah and the Stevens Creek Subbasins via the Savannah River (at the outlet of Lake Thurmond) and Stevens Creek, respectively. Tributaries to the Savannah River in this subbasin include the Kiokee, Horse, Hollow, Steel and Brier Creeks and the Upper Three and Lower Three Runs. The Augusta Canal is also located in this subbasin in Georgia.

The subbasin is diverse with respect to ecoregion but most of the subbasin lies in the Southeastern Plains (65) ecoregion (Figure 1). In the north, a small part of the subbasin covers the Piedmont (45), while in the south, the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain (63) and Southern Coastal Plain (75) ecoregions also cover a small area of the subbasin (Figure 1). A brief description of the Level III ecoregions in this watershed is available in this document's appendix. A more detailed description of the Level III and Level IV Common Resource Areas (Ecological Regions) is available online (See Griffith *et al.* 2002 in References section.).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Land Use/Land Cover

Major urban areas in the subbasin are Augusta and Aiken in the north with New Ellenton as the only other urban cluster. The extreme north of the watershed is covered by the Sumter National Forest. The Savannah River Plant facilities cover a significant proportion of the subbasin (Figure 2). Most of the subbasin's farmland is in Aiken, Allendale and Barnwell counties with more land devoted to rowcrops in the latter two counties than in the former (Table 2).

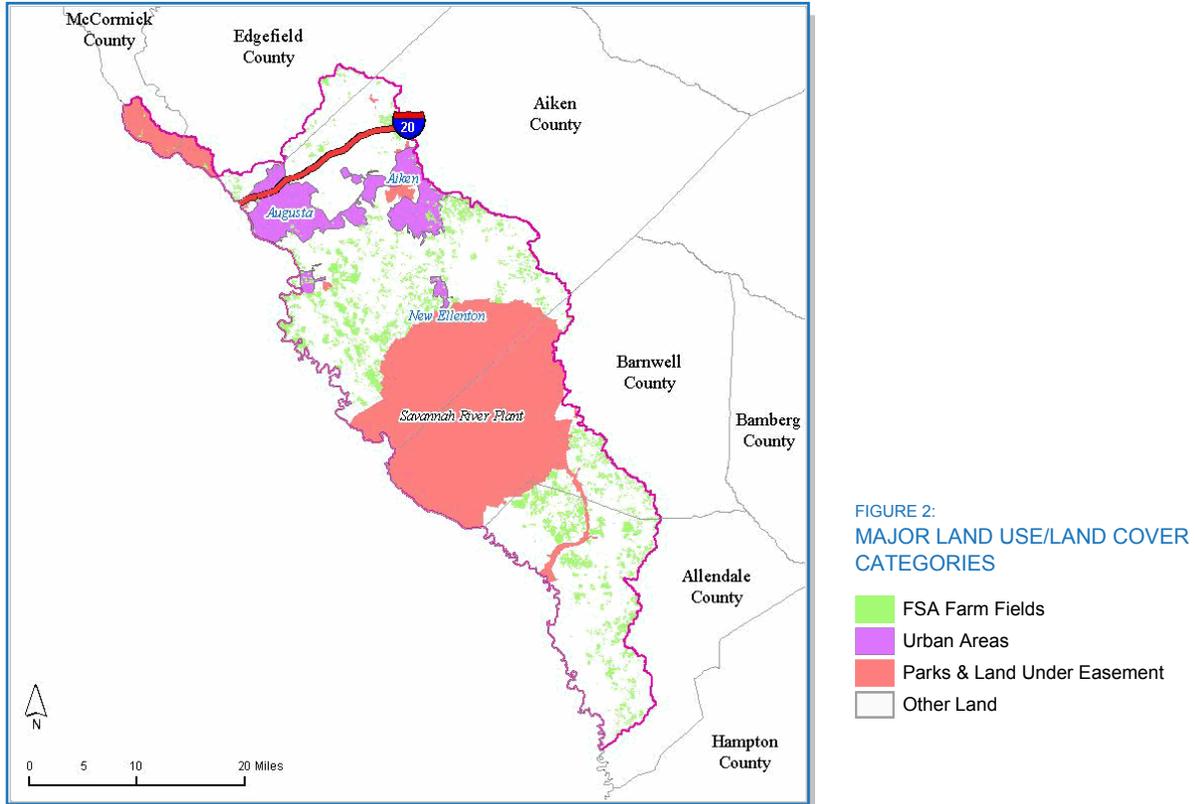


Table 1: MAJOR LAND USE/LAND COVER CATEGORIES

	Acres	% of Watershed
Watershed (Total)	652,735	-
Urban Area	47,777	7%
Parks/Land Under Easement (not NRCS)	211,917	32%
Farm Service Agency Designated Farm Fields	59,306	9%

Table 2: AGRICULTURAL LAND USE: FSA ACREAGE AND ESTIMATED FARM FIELD USE FROM THE 2002 AG CENSUS (NASS Whole County Data Used. Cropland includes: Field Crops, Orchards, and Specialty Crops.)

County	FSA Fields (Acres)	% Pasture (Estimated)	% Cropland (Estimated)	% Hayland (Estimated)
Aiken	32,934	22%	51%	27%
Allendale	18,352	6%	89%	5%
Barnwell	6,209	10%	81%	9%
Edgefield	1,659	21%	56%	24%
McCormick	152	56%	10%	33%

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary of Resource Concerns

The following is a summary of resource concerns for the watershed. Each resource concern has a more detailed analysis provided in its corresponding section.

Soils

Land capability limitations are dominated by droughtiness and, to a lesser extent, by erosion and wetness in this subbasin which consists of both Coastal Plain and Piedmont regions. Droughtiness is the key resource concern. Droughty, sandy soils in the Sand Hills occur in about 52% of the subbasin. Highly erodible and potentially highly erodible soils occur on uplands in both the Piedmont and Sand Hills. Hydric soils comprise 14% of land in the subbasin and partially hydric soils make up 5% of the subbasin and occur in riparian areas along the Savannah River and tributaries.

Water Quantity

Awaiting SCDNR's 2007 state water assessment.

Water Quality

Fecal coliform impairments. This is an EPA priority watershed

Plant Condition

Timber revenues exceed agricultural revenues in Allendale, Barnwell and McCormick Counties.

Fish, Wildlife, and Native Plants

According to SC DNR's "Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy: 2005 - 2010" (see SCDNR 2005 in References section), the following applies to this subbasin: Biologists have identified habitat protection as one of the most important actions to ensure the protection of South Carolina priority species. Loss and fragmentation of habitat have been identified as a major threat to many of the species listed as threatened and endangered in South Carolina.

Domestic Animals

Grazing livestock populations are modest and confined livestock operations are restricted to one poultry operation.

Economic and Social Factors

-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Progress on Conservation

Table 3:

A SUMMARY OF NRCS APPLIED CONSERVATION TREATMENTS (ACRES)

(See Appendix for NRCS Conservation Practices used for Conservation Treatment Categories.)

(Applied practice data is reported on a fiscal year basis commencing on October 1st)

Conservation Treatments	2004	2005	2006	Total
Buffers and Filter Strips	-	-	-	-
Conservation Tillage	1,279	345	321	1,945
Erosion Control	1,065	431	686	2,182
Irrigation Water Management	-	-	-	-
Nutrient Management	1,145	327	151	1,623
Pest Management	1,270	402	151	1,823
Prescribed Grazing	18	-	-	18
Trees and Shrubs	918	-	-	918
Wetlands	606	-	-	606
Wildlife Habitat	1,453	121	-	1,574

Table 4:

LANDS REMOVED FROM PRODUCTION BY FARM BILL PROGRAMS (WHOLE COUNTY DATA SHOWN)

County	Conservation Reserve Program (ac) 2005	Conservation Reserve Program (ac) 1986 - 2005	Grassland Reserve Program (ac) 2005	Farmland & Ranch Protection Program (ac) 2005	Wetland Reserve Program (ac) 2005
Aiken	3,550	104,153	-	-	13
Allendale	8,345	199,899	-	-	2,328
Barnwell	7,823	263,909	-	-	162
Edgefield	2,360	46,975	-	-	-
McCormick	255	3,559	72	-	-

Table 5:

APPROVED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)

(See SCDHEC 2007 (a) in Reference Section.) - SCDHEC Contact: Matt Carswell - (803) 898-3609

TMDL Document	Number of Stations	Parameter of Concern	Status	WQMS ID Standard Attained
Hollow Creek	1	Fecal Coliform	Completed & Approved	-
Horse Creek	4	Fecal Coliform	Completed & Approved	SV-073, SV-350
Pretty Run Creek	1	Fecal Coliform	Completed & Approved	-

Table 6:

OTHER PLANS, ASSESSMENTS, AND PROJECTS IN THE WATERSHED

Organization	Description	Contact	Telephone
SCDHEC	Watershed Water Quality Assessment: Savannah River Basin (2003)	Richelle Tolton	803-898-4213

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Other Watershed Considerations

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Soils

The Middle Savannah subbasin contains two major land resource areas: the Piedmont, which makes up about 10% of the area in the upper subbasin in McCormick County, and the Coastal Plain comprising the remaining 90% of the subbasin. Droughtiness is a major concern in about 52% of the area (Table 7) and occurs mostly in the sandy soils of the Sand Hills in the middle portion of the subbasin (Figure 1). Low soil organic matter in these sandy soils is a soil health concern. About 20% of land in the subbasin has limitations due to wetness (Table 7). Almost all of the wetness occurs in soils in riparian areas along the Savannah River and tributaries (Figure 5, Table 10). Erosion is a major resource concern throughout the subbasin but especially in the Piedmont region (Figure 4). Nearly all of the acreage in the Piedmont portion of the subbasin and about 50% of the acreage in the Coastal Plain portion of the subbasin is highly erodible (Figure 4, Table 9). Only about 30% of the acreage in the Middle Savannah subbasin is either prime farmland (14%) or statewide important farmland (17%) and occurs throughout the subbasin (Figure 3, Table 8).

Table 7:
LAND CAPABILITY CLASSES (See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in References section.)

Percentages are based on the whole watershed (652,735 ac).

Land Capability Class 1	Acres		Percent			
1 - Slight limitations	15,794		2%			
% Land by Subclass Limitation						
	Erosion (e)		Wetness(w)		Droughtiness (s)	
Land Capability Classes 2-8	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
2 - Moderate limitations	56,252	9%	13,093	2%	85,989	13%
3 - Severe limitations	10,957	2%	48,577	7%	131,806	20%
4 - Very severe limitations	57,542	9%	8,983	1%	47,949	7%
5 - No erosion hazard, but other limitations	-	-	12,803	2%	-	-
6 - Severe limitations; unsuitable for cultivation; limited to pasture, range, forest	14,757	2%	24,185	4%	70,762	11%
7 - Very severe limitations; unsuitable for cultivation; limited to grazing; forest, wildlife habitat	9,562	1%	23,043	4%	4,773	1%
8 - Miscellaneous areas; limited to recreation, wildlife habitat, water supply	-	-	-	-	778	0%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Prime Farmland

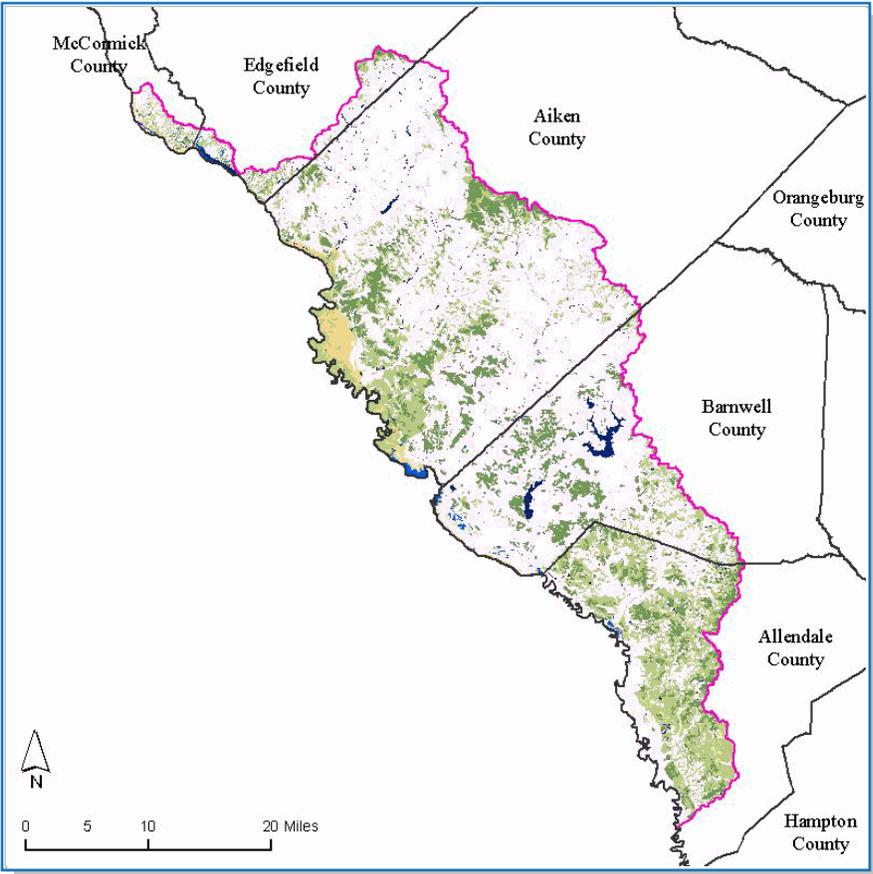


FIGURE 3:
PRIME FARMLAND
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in
References section.)

Table 8:
PRIME FARMLAND

Prime Farmland Categories	Acres	Percent of Land
All areas are prime farmland	75,763	12%
Farmland of statewide importance	109,550	17%
Not prime farmland	449,779	69%
Prime farmland if drained	1,492	0%
Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	12,968	2%
Prime farmland if irrigated	0	0%
Prime farmland if irrigated and drained	0	0%
Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	2,802	0%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Highly Erodible Land

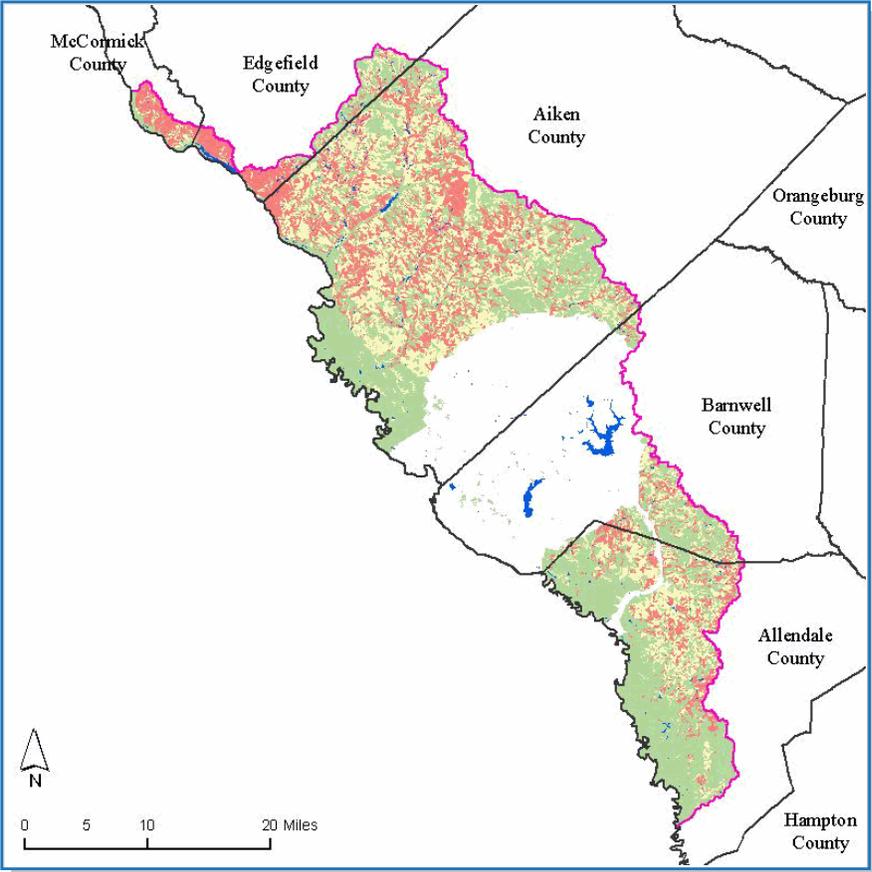


FIGURE 4:
HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in
References section.)

Table 9:
HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND

Highly Erodible Land Categories	Acres	Percent of Watershed
Highly erodible land	108,667	17%
Not highly erodible land	221,661	34%
Potentially highly erodible land	120,352	18%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Hydric Soils

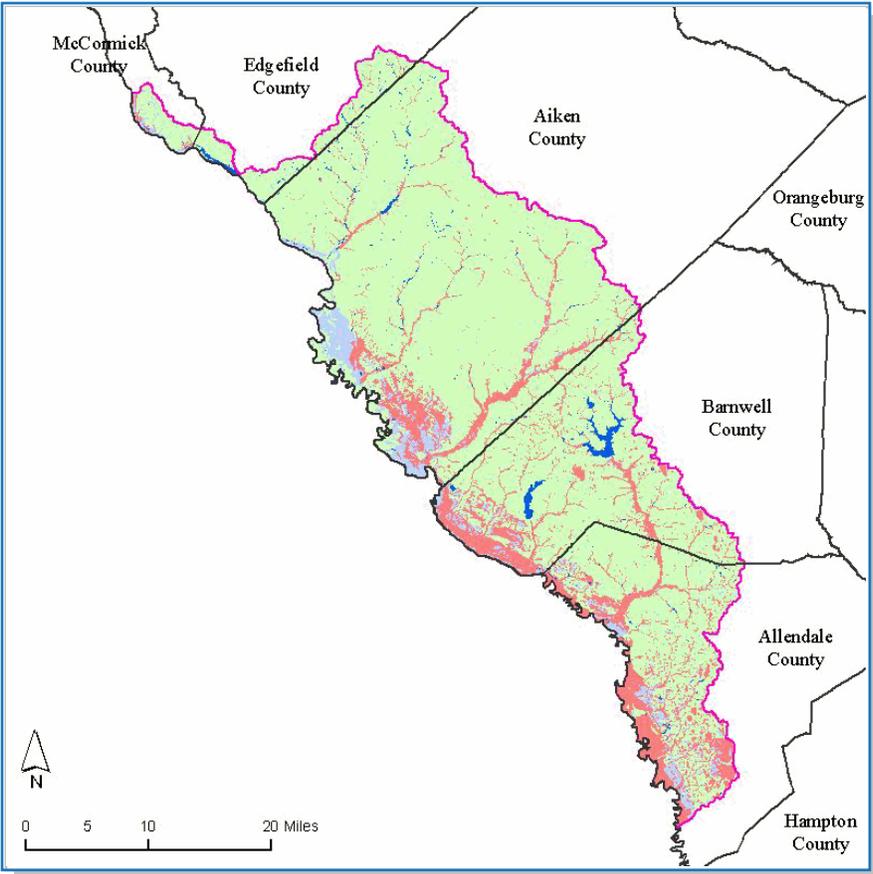


FIGURE 5:
HYDRIC SOILS
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in
References section.)

Table 10:
HYDRIC SOILS

Hydric Soils Categories	Acres	Percent of Watershed
All Hydric	90,266	14%
Not Hydric	529,515	81%
Partially Hydric	32,572	5%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Water Quantity

Several major lakes are located along the river, all of which are man-made reservoirs. These include Strom Thurmond Lake, Russell Lake, Lake Hartwell, and Lake Keowee. None of these lakes exist below the fall line, however.

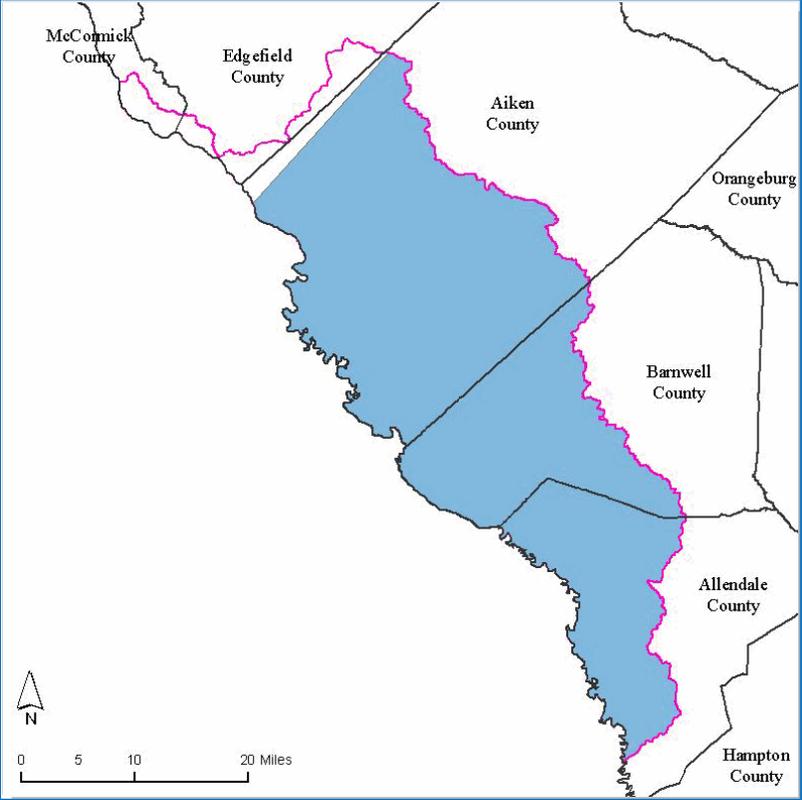


FIGURE 6:
WATERSHED RELATIVE TO CAPACITY
USE AREAS, NOTICE OF INTENT
AREAS, AND CONES OF DEPRESSION

Table 11:
CAPACITY USE, NOTICE OF INTENT, AND CONES OF DEPRESSION AREA IN WATERSHED
(See SCDHEC 2007 [c] and SCDNR 2004 in References Section.)

Area	Percent of Watershed
 % Watershed in Cone of Depression and Capacity Use (CU) Area	0%
 % Watershed in SCDHEC Capacity Use (CU) Area	0%
 % Watershed in SCDHEC Notice of Intent (NOI) Area	92%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Water Quantity Cont.

Table 12:
INDICATORS OF IRRIGATION WATER USAGE (WHOLE COUNTY DATA ARE USED)
(See NASS 2002 and SCDNR 2004 in References Section)

County	Total Irrigated Water Used MGD	Total NASS Cropland (ac)	Cropland Under Irrigation (ac)	Percent Cropland Under Irrigation	Water Use Gal/Ac/Day for Irrigated Land
Aiken	5.85	56,872	1,799	3.2	3,252
Allendale	14.94	50,933	7,889	15.5	1,894
Barnwell	16.46	35,458	1,313	3.7	12,536
Edgefield	7.33	25,960	5,304	20.4	1,382
McCormick	1.34	5,430	15	0.3	89,333

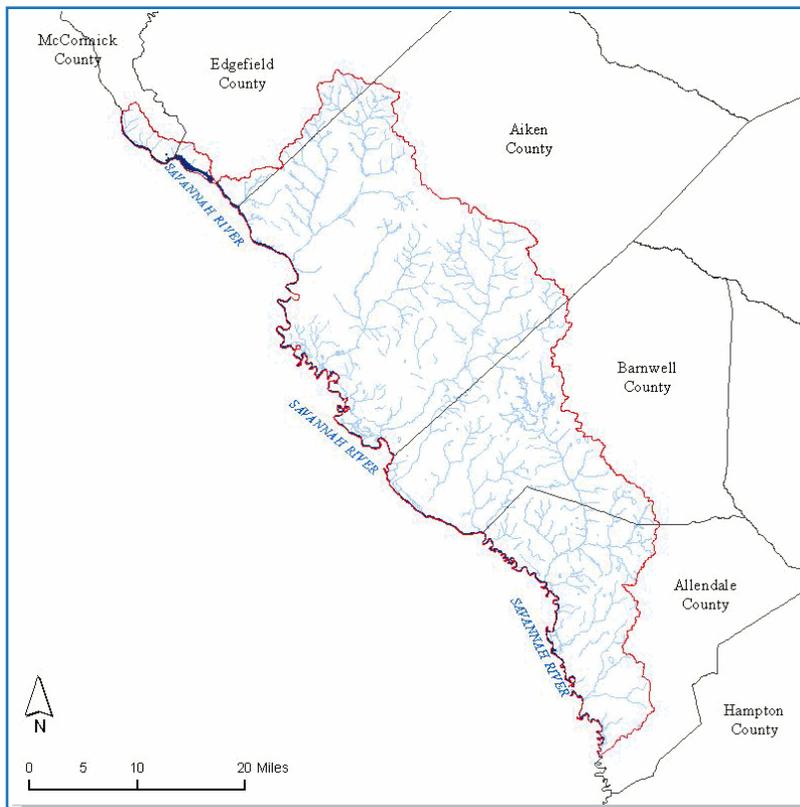


FIGURE 7:
NRCS ASSISTED FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES IN WATERSHED

- Flood Control Structure
- Main River
- Hydrography

Table 13:
NRCS IMPLEMENTED FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES

Number of Structures (in Watershed)	Maximum Storage (AcFt)	Number of Structures by Hazard Class			
		High	Low	Significant	Unclassified
0	-	0	0	0	0

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Water Quality

The number of surface water quality impairments is shown in Table 15 resulting in a "303(d)" listing of that Water Quality Monitoring Site (WQMS). Table 5 indicates what progress has been made to address surface water quality through the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process. Once a TMDL plan is approved, the WQMS is removed from the 303(d) list even though the standard may not have been attained. Note that standards for total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and chlorophyll-a only exist for lakes; therefore, no stream in the state can be listed for any of these three parameters.

The fecal coliform concern will be addressed through ongoing TMDLs (Table 5, Table 15).

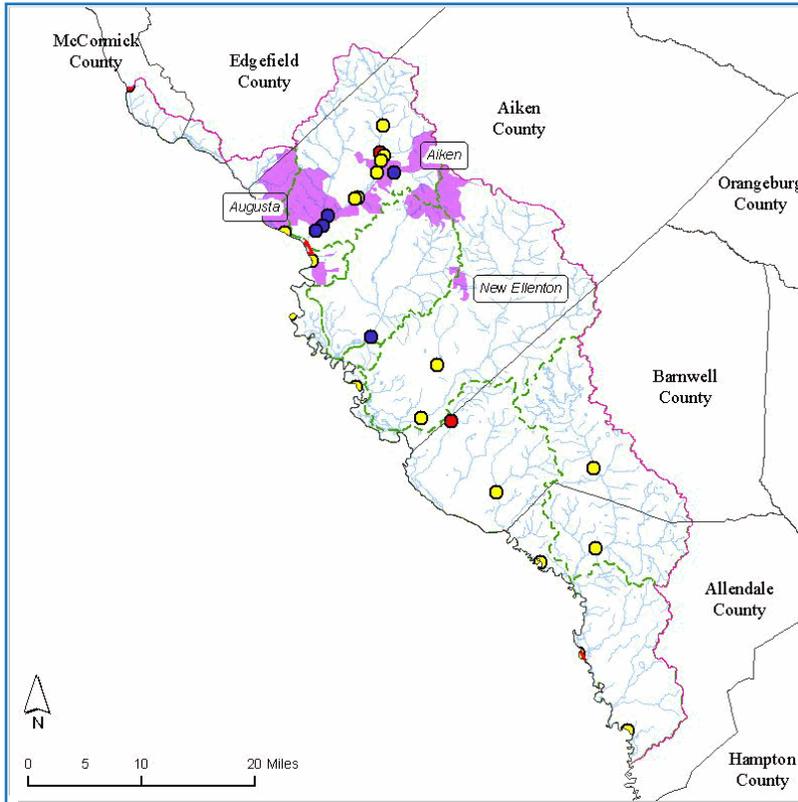


Table 14:
WATER QUALITY MONITORING SITES

Permanent Water Quality Monitoring Sites (WQMS)	25
Random Water Quality Monitoring Sites (WQMS)	8

FIGURE 8:
PERMANENT WATER QUALITY MONITORING SITES

- WQMS (No Impairment)
- WQMS (303d Listed)
- WQMS (Approved TMDL)
- ▲ Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Hydrography
- Hydrologic Unit Code 10 Boundary

Table 15:
NUMBER OF MONITORING SITES SHOWING SURFACE WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENTS
(See SCDHEC 2006 in References for the state 303(d) list.)

Recreational Use Standard		Fish Tissue Standard		Shellfish Harvest Standard	
Parameter	Impairments	Parameter	Impairments	Parameter	Impairments
Fecal Coliform	1	Mercury	9	Fecal Coliform	NA
		PCB's	0		
Aquatic Life Use Standard					
Parameter	Impairments	Parameter	Impairments	Parameter	Impairments
Biological	2	Dissolved Oxygen	0	Total Phosphorus	0
Chlorophyll A	0	Ammonia Nitrogen	0	pH	1
Chromium	0	Nickel	0	Turbidity	0
Copper	0	Total Nitrogen	0	Zinc	0

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Plant Condition

Plants of Economic Importance

Plants of economic importance are shown in Table 16. The crops shown in this table are from NASS data where the top five crops, by acres, in each county are displayed. The timber statistics (see Clemson Extension Forest Services 2003 in References) indicate the relative importance of the timber industry within the state and the importance of the timber industry compared to agriculture within the county.

Native Plant Species

According to SC DNR's "Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy: 2005 - 2010" (see SCDNR 2005 in References section), the following applies to this subbasin: the Piedmont ecoregion plant community historically consisted of oak and hickory-dominated forest with associated tree species varying by slope and soil moisture. This was the primary potential vegetation type in the Piedmont. Due to land disturbances however, today the majority of these sites exist mostly in closed canopy pine-dominated forests.

In the sandhills, plants are a complex of xeric pine and pine-hardwood forest types adapted to sandy soils, typically found fluvial sand ridges. Historically, a canopy of longleaf pine and a sub canopy of turkey oak prevail, this was interspersed with scrub oak species and scrub-shrub cover. Management that includes burning encourages the development of longleaf pine-wiregrass communities.

Coastal Plain upland areas consist of forests dominated by hardwoods, primarily with oaks and hickories, and typically on fire-suppressed upland slopes near river floodplains or between rivers and tributaries. Vegetation composition is similar to oak-hickory forest in the Piedmont, where it is a major vegetation type. Representative canopy trees are: white oak (*Quercus alba*), black oak (*Quercus velutina*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*), mockernut hickory (*Carya tomentosa*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*).

In the river bottoms on the coastal plains, one frequently finds hardwood-dominated woodlands with moist soils that are usually associated with major river floodplains and creeks. Characteristic trees include: sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*), willow oak (*Quercus phellos*), laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*), cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*) and American holly (*Ilex opaca*).

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Table 16:

WHOLE COUNTY DATA OF PLANTS OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE IN SUBBASIN

(See: USDA NASS 2002 & Clemson University Forest Extension Services 2003 in References section)

Plant	Counties
All Cotton	Allendale, Barnwell, Aiken
All Wheat for grain	Allendale, Aiken
Corn for grain	Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	McCormick, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield, Aiken
Oats	McCormick, Edgefield
Peaches	Edgefield
Peanuts	Barnwell
Pecans	McCormick
Rye for grain	Edgefield
Soybeans	Barnwell, Aiken, Allendale, Edgefield
Timber, Top 10 Rank in SC	McCormick
Timber Revenues Exceed Ag. Revenues	McCormick, Allendale, Barnwell

Table 17:

FEDERALLY LISTED THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PLANT SPECIES IN WATERSHED

(See USFW 2006 in References section.)

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Relict trillium	<i>Trillium reliquum</i>	Endangered
Smooth coneflower	<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	Endangered
Pondberry	<i>Lindera melissifolia</i>	Endangered
Piedmont bishop-weed	<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>	Endangered
Georgia aster	<i>Aster georgianus</i>	Supported Proposals to List
Canby's dropwort	<i>Oxypolis canbyi</i>	Endangered
American chaffseed	<i>Schwalbea americana</i>	Endangered
Miccosukee gooseberry	<i>Ribes echinellum</i>	Threatened

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Fish and Wildlife

For additional information, the SC Department of Natural Resources has completed a "Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy: 2005 - 2010" (see SCDNR 2005 in References section).

In 2005, mercury advisories were issued for 57 water bodies in South Carolina. Higher concentrations of mercury in fish tissue tend to occur in the Coastal Plain of South Carolina with relatively lower concentrations (and therefore fewer advisories) in the Piedmont. For more details on fish advisories, please refer to the SCDHEC fish advisory website at:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/fish/>

Table 18:

FEDERALLY LISTED THREATENED AND ENDANGERED WILDLIFE SPECIES IN WATERSHED

(See USFW 2006 in References section.)

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Endangered
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Endangered

Table 19:

FEDERALLY LISTED THREATENED AND ENDANGERED AQUATIC SPECIES IN WATERSHED

(See USFW 2006 in References section.)

Common Name	Latin Name	Status
Shortnose sturgeon	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Endangered
Carolina heelsplitter	<i>Lasmigona decorata</i>	Endangered, Critical Habitat

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Domestic Animals

Grazing livestock populations are modest (Table 20) and confined livestock operations are restricted to one poultry operation (Figure 9, Table 21).

Table 20:
WHOLE COUNTY GRAZING ANIMAL POPULATION DATA FROM 2002 AG. CENSUS
 (See NASS 2002 in References section. "D" in table = "Cannot be disclosed".)

County	Cows/Calves	Grazing/Forage (ac)	County Rank in State
Aiken	10,634	12,712	18
Allendale	6,604	3,239	13
Barnwell	4,186	3,628	28
Edgefield	9,507	5,403	20
McCormick	3,527	3,062	(D)

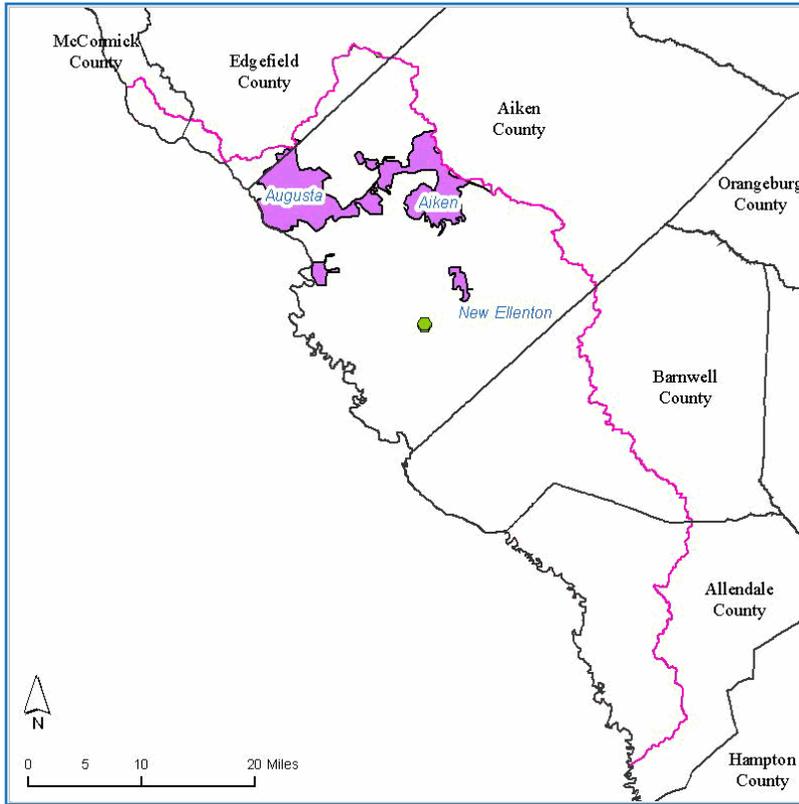


Table 21:
CONFINED ANIMAL POPULATION [As given by SCDHEC] (Au = Animal Unit = 1,000 lbs)

Beef Live Weight (Au)	-
Dairy Live Weight (Au)	-
Horse Live Weight (Au)	-
Poultry Live Weight (Au)	438
Swine Live Weight (Au)	-
Turkey Live Weight (Au)	-

FIGURE 9:
TYPE AND SIZE OF CONFINED ANIMAL OPERATION

Permit Design Count (Live Weight AU)	Symbol	Animal Type
0 - 163	■	Beef
164-372	▲	Dairy
373 - 680	●	Other
681 - 1360	⊕	Poultry
1361 - 7076	★	Swine
	★	Turkey

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL FACTORS

The number of full-time farmers is *higher* than the state average of 47% and farm sizes are *larger* than the state average of 197 ac (Table 22); both parameters suggest above average levels of participation in conservation programs. Farm sizes have, however, *decreased* by an estimated 10% between 1997 and 2002 a little lower than the 13% across the state for the same period. Loss of cropland between 1997 and 2002 is estimated at 9%, a little higher than the SC average cropland loss of 8%.



The relative importance of crop and livestock commodity groups in the watershed is shown in Tables 24 and 25; a *qualitative* indication of the relative importance of timber is provided on Table 16.

For more economic and farm information from the 2002 Agricultural Census, more detailed reports for all South Carolina counties can be found at:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census02/profiles/sc/index.htm>

Table 22:
2002 FARM CENSUS DATA (WHOLE COUNTY DATA SHOWN) (SC average farm size = 197 ac)

County	Total Number of Farms	% Full Time Farmers	% Farms > 180 (ac)	Average Farm Size (ac)
Aiken	929	50%	19%	155
Allendale	156	46%	51%	690
Barnwell	370	44%	31%	230
Edgefield	325	45%	27%	229
McCormick	97	38%	34%	240
Weighted Avg*	615	48%	30%	331

Table 23:
2002 FARM CENSUS ECONOMIC DATA (WHOLE COUNTY DATA SHOWN) (Results in \$1,000)

County	Market Value of Ag Products Sold	Market Value of Crops Sold	Market Value of Livestock, Poultry, and Their Products	Farms with sales < \$10,000
Aiken	50,450	7,949	42,501	732
Allendale	10,379	8,326	2,053	125
Barnwell	7,068	4,694	2,374	284
Edgefield	48,554	44,560	3,994	250
McCormick	1,530	132	1,397	76
Weighted Avg*	33,633	8,839	24,794	485



Table 24:
VALUE OF CROP COMMODITY GROUPS - COUNTY RANK IN STATE
(See NASS 2002 in References section. "D" in table = "Cannot be disclosed".)

County	Value of All Crops	Grains & Oilseeds	Tobacco	All Cotton	Vegetables & Melons	Fruits, Nuts, & Berries	Nursery, Etc.	Christmas Trees & Woody Crops	Hay & other Crops
Aiken	27	23	-	13	15	(D)	(D)	(D)	4
Allendale	24	9	-	15	10	(D)	-	-	(D)
Barnwell	32	20	-	14	14	(D)	27	(D)	5
Edgefield	1	28	-	(D)	17	(D)	(D)	(D)	13
McCormick	46	(D)	-	-	(D)	42	(D)	(D)	46

* Weighted averages are estimated based on agricultural land use area.

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL FACTORS

Table 25:

VALUE OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY COMMODITY GROUPS - RANK IN STATE

(See NASS 2002 in References section. "D" in table = "Cannot be disclosed".)

County	Value of						
	Livestock, poultry	Poultry, Eggs	Cattle & Calves	Milk & Dairy	Hogs & Pigs	Sheep & Goats	Horses, etc.
Aiken	10	9	18	24	21	4	1
Allendale	38	(D)	13	-	(D)	(D)	18
Barnwell	36	32	28	-	25	22	21
Edgefield	31	33	20	10	40	(D)	17
McCormick	41	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	34	44

REFERENCES

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APPENDIX

Level III Common Resource Area (Ecological Region) Descriptions

Piedmont (45)

The Piedmont is an erosional terrain with some hills; the soils are generally finer-textured than those found in coastal plain regions with less sand and more clay. Piedmont soils are moderately to severely eroded; most of this region is now in planted pine or has reverted to successional pine and hardwood woodlands, with some pasture; spreading urban- and suburbanization is apparent. The Piedmont of South Carolina is divided into five level IV ecoregions: Southern Inner Piedmont (45a), Southern Outer Piedmont (45b), Carolina Slate Belt (45c), Triassic Basins (45g) and Kings Mountain (45i).

Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain (63)

The Middle Atlantic Coastal consists of low elevation, flat plains, with many swamps, marshes, and estuaries. Forest cover in the region, once dominated by longleaf pine in the Carolinas, is now mostly loblolly and some shortleaf pine, with patches of oak, gum, and cypress near major streams. Pine plantations for pulpwood and lumber are typical, with some areas of cropland. In South Carolina, the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain is divided into three level IV ecoregions Carolinian Barrier Islands and Coastal Marshes (63g), Carolina Flatwoods (63h), Mid-Atlantic Floodplains and Low Terraces (63n).

Southeastern Plains (65)

The Southeastern Plains are irregular with broad interstream areas have a mosaic of cropland, pasture, woodland, and forest. In the past centuries, human activities (logging, agriculture and fire suppression) removed almost all of the longleaf pine forests. Elevations and relief are greater than in the Southern Coastal Plain (75), but generally less than in much of the Piedmont (45). The ecoregion has been divided into three level IV ecoregions within South Carolina: Sand Hills (65c), Atlantic Southern Loam Plains (65l), and Southeastern Floodplains and Low Terraces (65p). Note: The Atlantic Southern Loam Plains (65l) is a major agricultural zone, with deep, well-drained soils, and is characterized by high percentages of cropland.

Southern Coastal Plain (75)

The Southern Coastal Plain extends from South Carolina and Georgia through much of central Florida, and further along the Gulf coast. It is a heterogeneous region also containing barrier islands, coastal lagoons, marshes, and swampy lowlands along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. The South Carolina portion of the Southern Coastal Plain contains two level IV ecoregions: Floodplains and Terraces (75i), and Sea Islands/Coastal Marsh (75j).

NRCS Conservation Practices used for Conservation Treatment Categories in Table 3

Report Category	Practice Codes
Buffer and Filter Strips	332, 391, 393, 412
Conservation Tillage	324, 329, 329A, 329B, 344, 484
Erosion Control	327, 328, 330, 340, 342, 561, 585, 586
Irrigation Water Management	441, 449
Nutrient Management	590
Pest Management	595
Prescribed Grazing	528, 528A
Trees and Shrubs	490, 612, 655, 656, 66
Wetlands	657, 658, 659
Wildlife Habitat	644, 645

APPENDIX

Hydrologic Unit Numbering System

In 2005, the NRCS in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the U.S. Forest Service updated the South Carolina part of the USGS standard hydrologic unit map series. The report, "Development of a 10- and 12- Digit Hydrologic Unit Code Numbering System for South Carolina, 2005", describes and defines those efforts. The following is from the Abstract contained in that report: "A hydrologic unit map showing the subbasins, watersheds, and subwatersheds of South Carolina was developed to represent 8-, 10-, and 12-digit hydrologic unit codes, respectively. The 10- and 12-digit hydrologic unit codes replace the 11- and 14-digit hydrologic unit codes developed in a previous investigation. Additionally, substantial changes were made to the 8-digit subbasins in the South Carolina Coastal Plain. These modifications include the creation of four new subbasins and the renumbering of existing subbasins." The report may be obtained at http://www.sc.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/HUC_report.pdf. See Table 2 in the report for a cross-reference of old to new 8-digit HUC.

This subbasin profile uses the new HUC 8 numbering system with its modified and newly created subbasins. The NRCS reports implemented practices by 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code. All NRCS reported Conservation Practices were reported using the older numbering system. 2005 and 2006 data were converted to the new HUC 8 numbering system through the Latitude and Longitude data reported with the applied practice. The use of these differing numbering systems has resulted in some NRCS implemented practices being credited in this report to an 8-digit HUC as reported by the NRCS but not correctly credited in the new numbering system. Likewise, the newly created 8-digit HUC will not be credited with the 2004 applied practices.