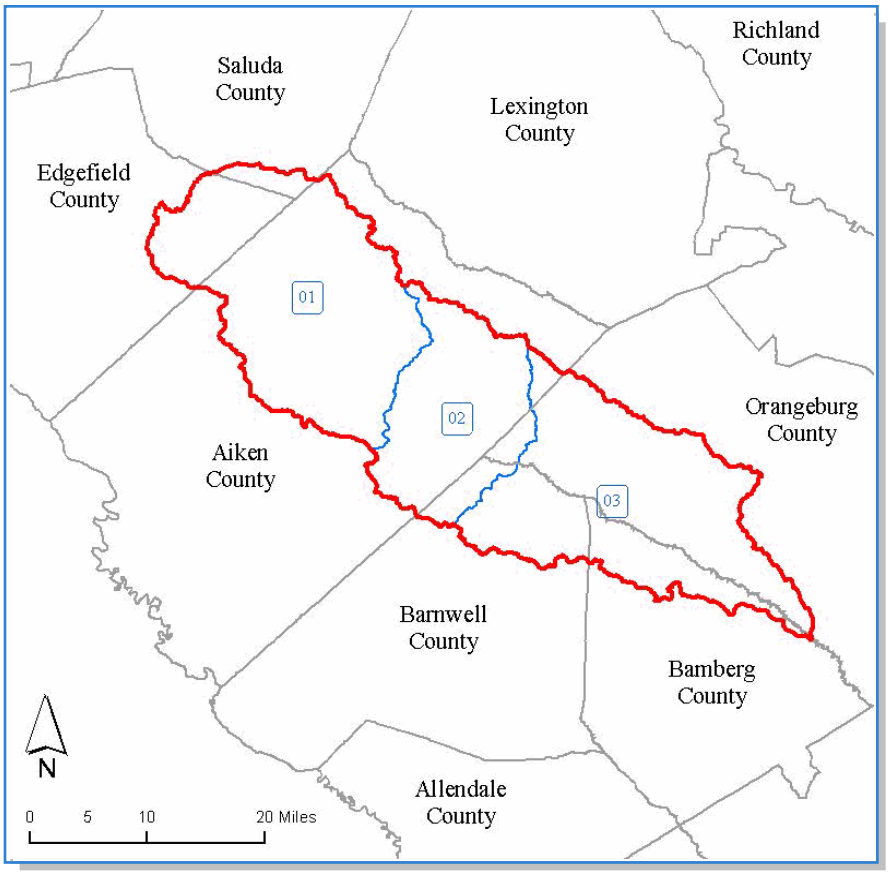
SOUTH FORK EDISTO Subbasin

August 31, 2007

An Assessment of the South Fork Edisto Subbasin

Hydrologic Unit Code (8 Digit): 03050204



WATERSHED (10-digit HUC)
(E.g., 01 = 0305020401)

- 01 Upper South Fork Edisto River
- 02 Middle South Fork Edisto River
- 03 Lower South Fork Edisto River

NRCS
Natural Resources
Conservation Service

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Watershed Description

The South Edisto River originates in the Sand Hills of South Carolina and drains approximately 866 square miles (555,000 acres). The larger tributaries of the South Edisto include Shaw Creek, Dean Swamp Creek, Goodland Creek, and Roberts Swamp Creek. The South Edisto River joins the North Fork Edisto River about 30 miles south of Orangeburg.

The South Edisto subbasin lies in the Southeastern Plains (65) and Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain (63) ecoregions (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.).

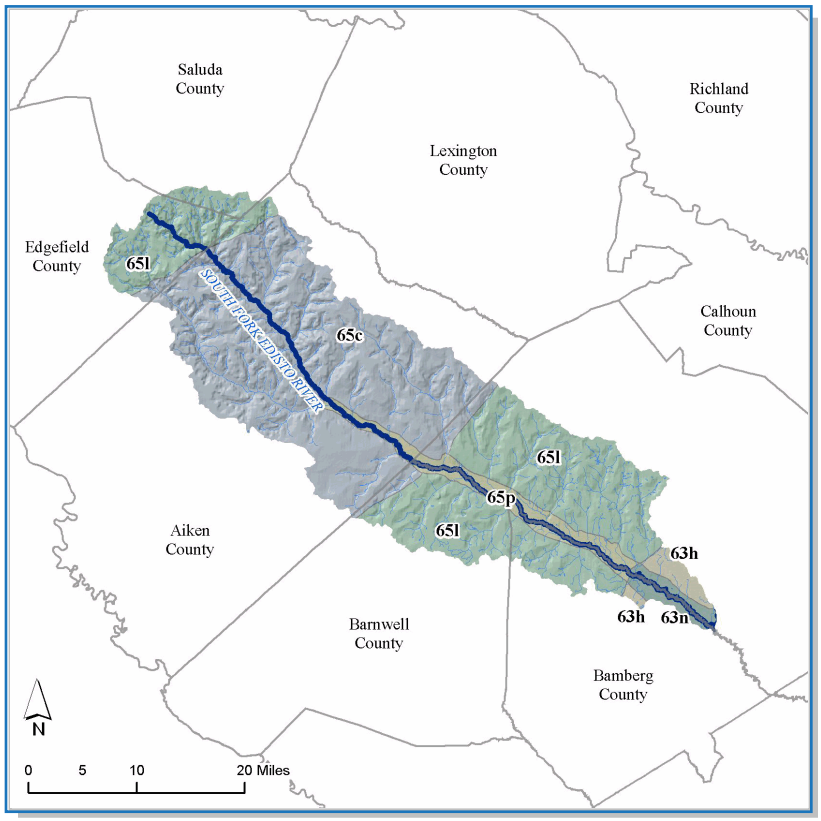


FIGURE 1:
LEVEL IV ECOLOGICAL REGIONS

63h	Carolina Flatwoods
63n	Mid-Atlantic Floodplains and Low Terraces
65c	Sand Hills
65l	Atlantic Southern Loam Plains
65p	Southeastern Floodplains and Low Terraces

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Land Use/Land Cover

The subbasin is largely rural. In terms of urbanized areas, only small parts of Aiken, Orangeburg, Bamberg and Denmark, SC, cover the subbasin.

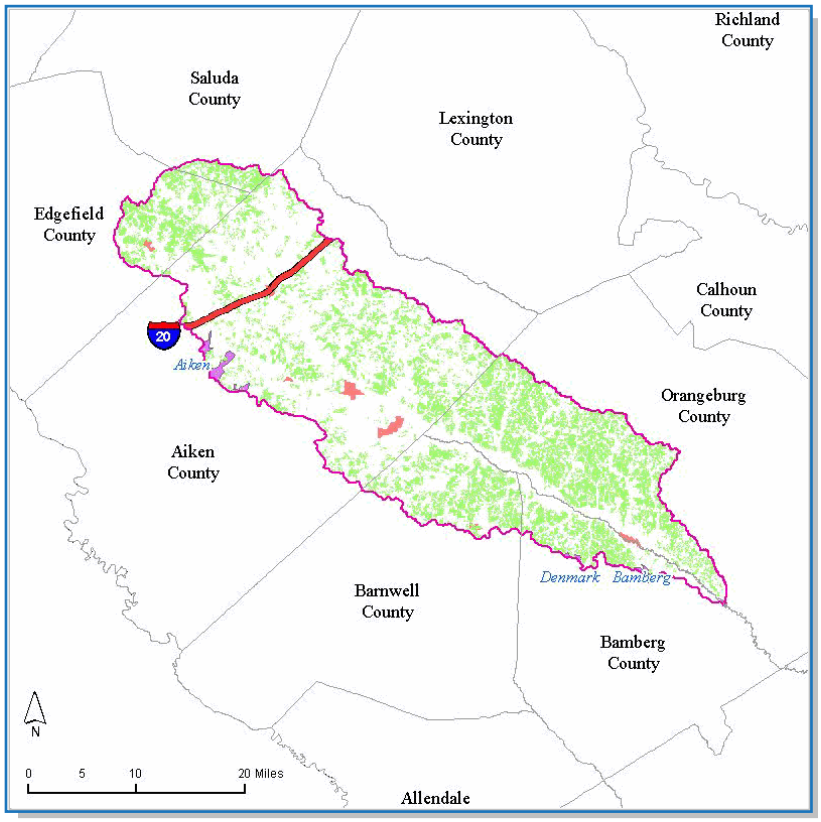


FIGURE 2:
MAJOR LAND USE/LAND COVER CATEGORIES

- FSA Farm Fields
- Urban Areas
- Parks & Land Under Easement
- Other Land

Table 1:
MAJOR LAND USE/LAND COVER CATEGORIES

	Acres	% of Watershed
Watershed (Total)	554,732	-
Urban Area	2,932	1%
Parks/Land Under Easement (not NRCS)	4,474	1%
Farm Service Agency Designated Farm Fields	171,748	31%

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	54,399	22%	51%	27%
Bamberg	12,987	11%	82%	7%
Barnwell	20,730	10%	81%	9%
Edgefield	17,839	21%	56%	24%
Orangeburg	60,739	7%	86%	7%
Saluda	5,054	39%	25%	36%

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 wetness and erosion in this subbasin. Droughtiness is the key resource concern. Droughty, sandy soils in the Sand Hills and Atlantic Southern Loam Plains occur in about 52% of the subbasin. Highly erodible soils (21%) and potentially highly erodible soils (21%) occur on sloping areas throughout the subbasin. Hydric soils or partially hydric soils comprise 18% of the subbasin.

Water Quantity
Awaiting SCDNR's 2007 state water assessment.

Water Quality
Relatively few impairments, namely fecal coliform, biological (benthic invertebrates), pH.

Plant Condition
The most prominent crops in the subbasin include peanuts, vegetables, and rye for grain and forage. Edgefield is the top producer of peaches in the state.

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
Aiken is one of the top counties in the state with respect to the equine industry. Confined livestock is limited mostly to poultry operations.

Economic and Social Factors
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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	46	-	54	100
Conservation Tillage	6,184	362	3,106	9,652
Erosion Control	4,512	2,919	1,867	9,298
Irrigation Water Management	1,794	2,160	1,360	5,314
Nutrient Management	6,321	1,554	1,697	9,572
Pest Management	5,955	1,282	1,913	9,150
Prescribed Grazing	590	32	553	1,174
Trees and Shrubs	873	820	209	1,902
Wetlands	531	-	941	1,472
Wildlife Habitat	1,426	1,236	568	3,230

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
Bamberg	16,128	288,949	-	-	1,966
Barnwell	7,823	263,909	-	-	162
Edgefield	2,360	46,975	-	-	-
Orangeburg	21,142	488,064	-	-	3,819
Saluda	4,003	82,820	100	-	46

Table 5:
APPROVED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)
(See SCDHEC 2007 (a) in Reference Section.) - SCDHEC Contact: Matt Carswell - (803) 898-3609

TMDL Document	Numberof Stations	Parameter of Concern	Status	WQMS ID Standard Attained
Roberts Swamp	1	Fecal Coliform	Completed & Approved	-
South Fork Edisto River	3	Fecal Coliform	Completed & Approved	-

Table 6:
OTHER PLANS, ASSESSMENTS, AND PROJECTS IN THE WATERSHED

Organization	Description	Contact	Telephone
NRCS	Conservation Security Program Priority Watershed (2005)	Craig Ellis	803-253-3930
USGS	Santee National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) project	Celeste A. Journey	803-750-6141
SCDHEC	Watershed Water Quality Assessment: Edisto River Basin (2004)	Carol Copeland	803-898-4203

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Other Watershed Considerations

The South Fork Edisto is a popular blackwater canoeing river.

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Soils

Droughtiness is the major concern occurring in about 52% of the area (Table 7) and occurs mostly in the sandy soils of the Sand Hills that comprise the middle portion of the subbasin (Figure 1). Low soil organic matter in these sandy soils is a soil health concern. Erosion is a resource concern throughout the subbasin (Figure 4). About 40% of the land is classified as highly or potentially highly erodible (Table 9) and occurs on sloping soils throughout the subbasin (Figure 4). About 20% of the land in this Coastal Plain subbasin has limitations due to wetness (Table 7). Most of the wetness is associated with hydric and partially soils along streams in riparian areas (Figure 5, Table 10). Almost 40% of the land in the South Fork Edisto subbasin is either prime farmland (20%) or statewide important farmland (20%) and occurs on upland areas in 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 (554,732 ac).

Land Capability Class 1	Acres	Percent
1 - Slight limitations	31,763	6%

	% Land by Subclass Limitation					
	Erosion (e)		Wetness(w)		Droughtiness (s)	
Land Capability Classes 2-8	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
2 - Moderate limitations	54,794	10%	16,178	3%	83,960	15%
3 - Severe limitations	13,970	3%	22,435	4%	104,623	19%
4 - Very severe limitations	45,300	8%	858	0%	47,904	9%
5 - No erosion hazard, but other limitations	-	-	17,279	3%	-	-
6 - Severe limitations; unsuitable for cultivation; limited to pasture, range, forest	2,567	0%	9,789	2%	48,254	9%
7 - Very severe limitations; unsuitable for cultivation; limited to grazing; forest, wildlife habitat	770	0%	38,198	7%	1,568	0%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Prime Farmland

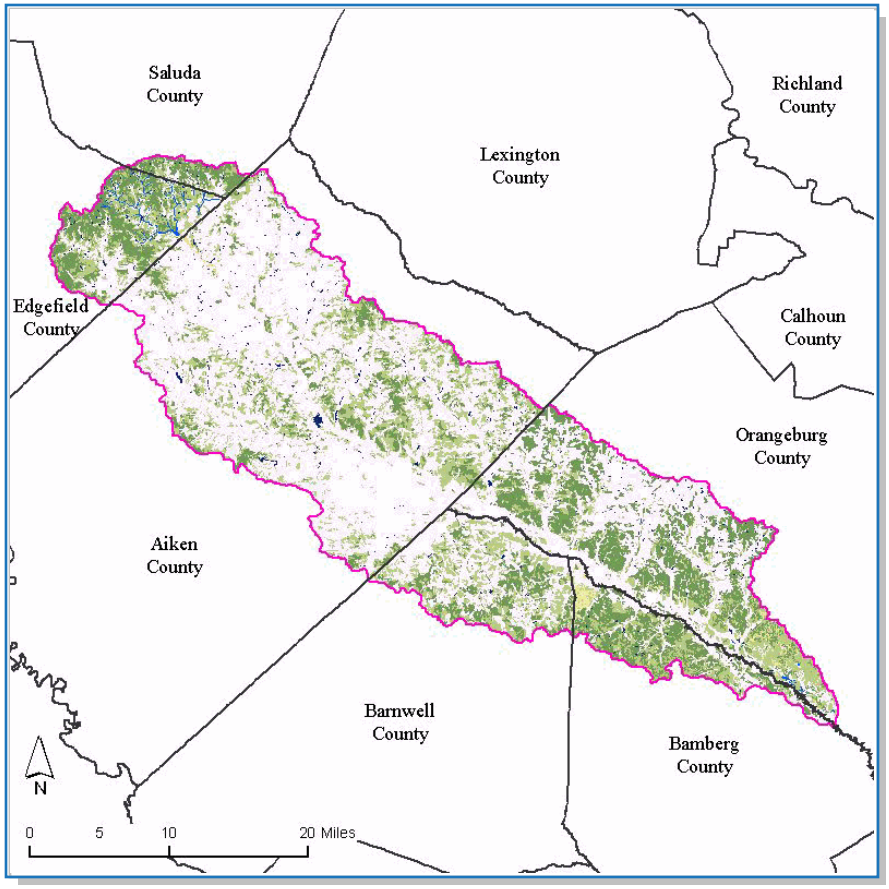

FIGURE 3:
PRIME FARMLAND
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in References section.)

Table 8:
PRIME FARMLAND

Prime Farmland Categories	Acres	Percent of Land
All areas are prime farmland	106,355	19%
Farmland of statewide importance	108,757	20%
Not prime farmland	334,555	60%
Prime farmland if drained	2,998	1%
Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	389	0%
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	1,679	0%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Highly Erodible Land

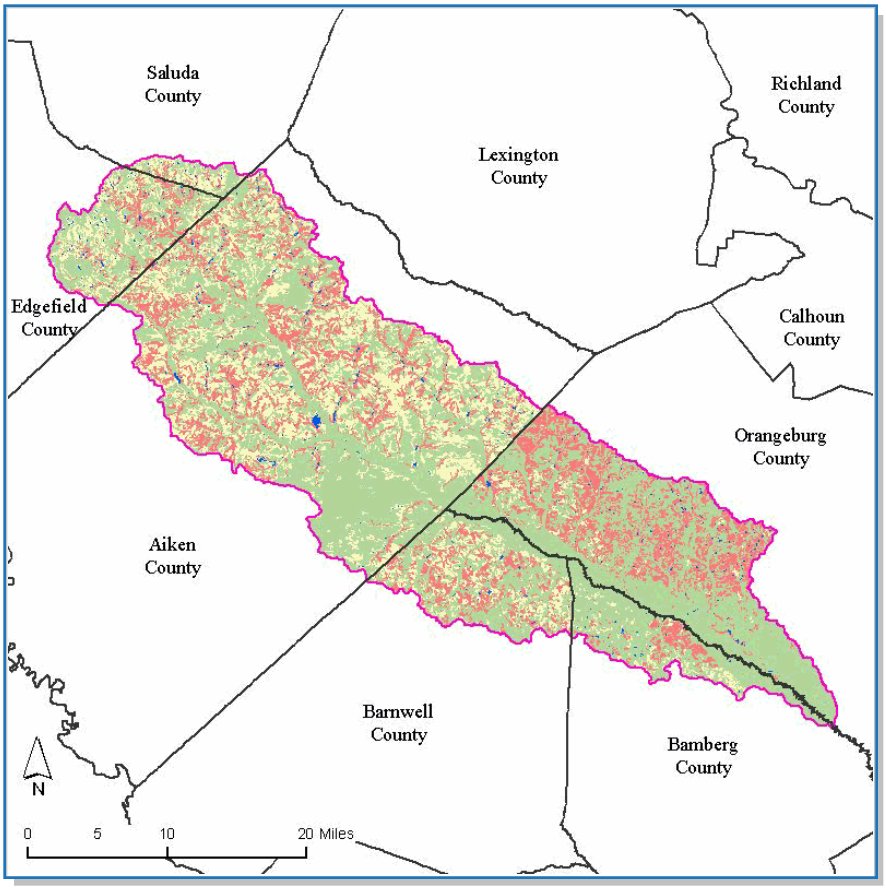

FIGURE 4:
HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in References section.)

Table 9:
HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND

Highly Erodible Land Categories	Acres	Percent of Watershed
Highly erodible land	117,510	21%
Not highly erodible land	317,062	57%
Potentially highly erodible land	115,265	21%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Hydric Soils

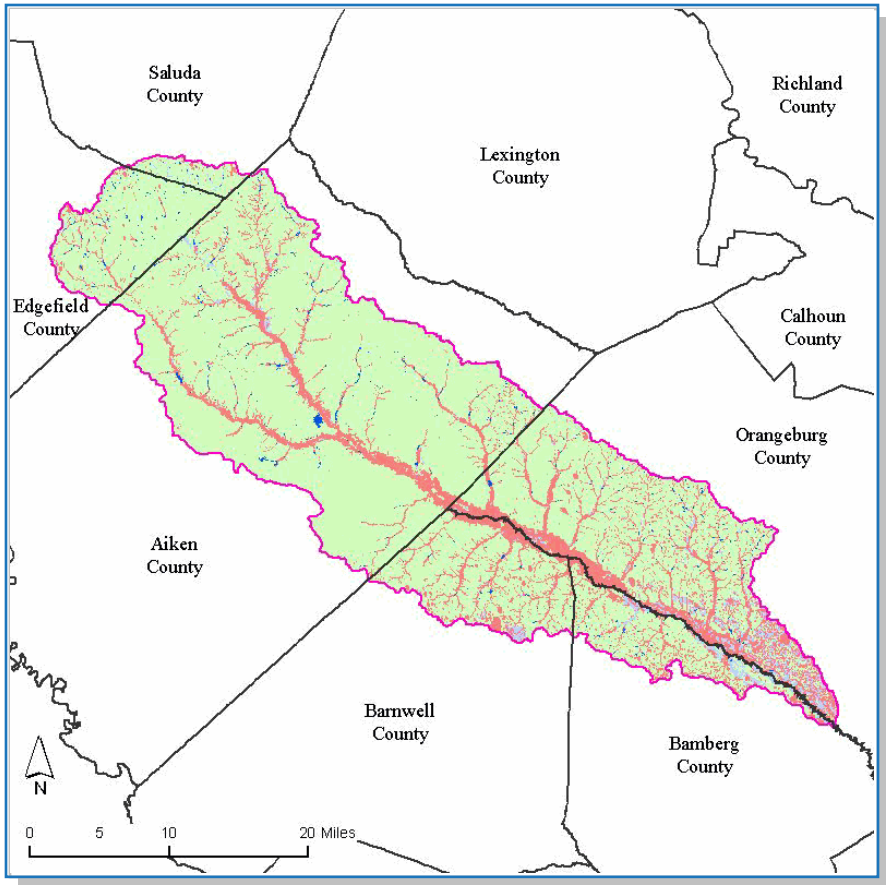

FIGURE 5:
HYDRIC SOILS
(See NRCS 2007 [a] and [b] in References section.)

Table 10:
HYDRIC SOILS

Hydric Soils Categories	Acres	Percent of Watershed
All Hydric	83,701	15%
Not Hydric	457,039	82%
Partially Hydric	13,992	3%

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Water Quantity

Almost all of the watershed is located in the SCDHEC Notice of Intent (NOI) area but there are no *apparent* water quantity limitations. Irrigation demand in Orangeburg, Barnwell, and Bamberg counties is higher than the demand in other counties. Presumably, the irrigation demand arises from the primary cropland located in the Southern Atlantic Loam plains (Figure 1). Another agricultural use for water is for watering confined and pastured livestock (confined and grazing) watering. While this use is less intensive than for irrigation, it is typically more widespread.

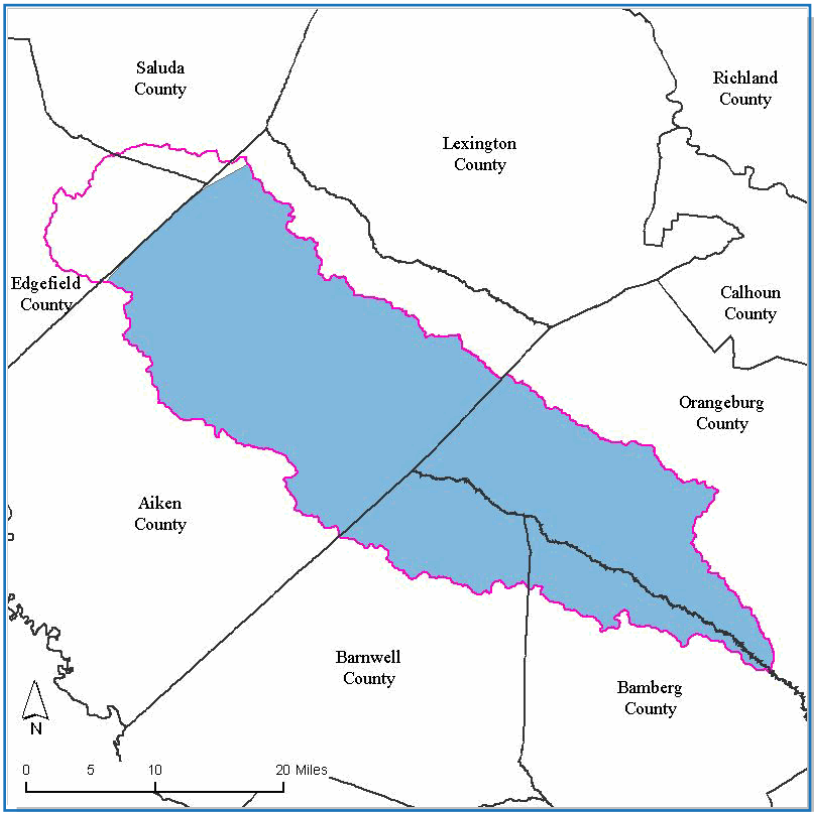

FIGURE 6:
WATERSHED RELATIVE TO CAPACITY USE AREAS, NOTICE OF INTENT AREAS, AND CONES OF DEPRESSION

Table 11:
CAPACITY USE, NOTICE OF INTENT, AND CONES OF DEPRESSION AREA IN WATERSHED
(See SCDHEC 2007 [c] and SCDNR 2004 in Refrerences 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	91%

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
Bamberg	12.94	47,622	4,754	10.0	2,722
Barnwell	16.46	35,458	1,313	3.7	12,536
Edgefield	7.33	25,960	5,304	20.4	1,382
Orangeburg	47.60	156,637	16,808	10.7	2,832
Saluda	6.07	45,374	3,504	7.7	1,732

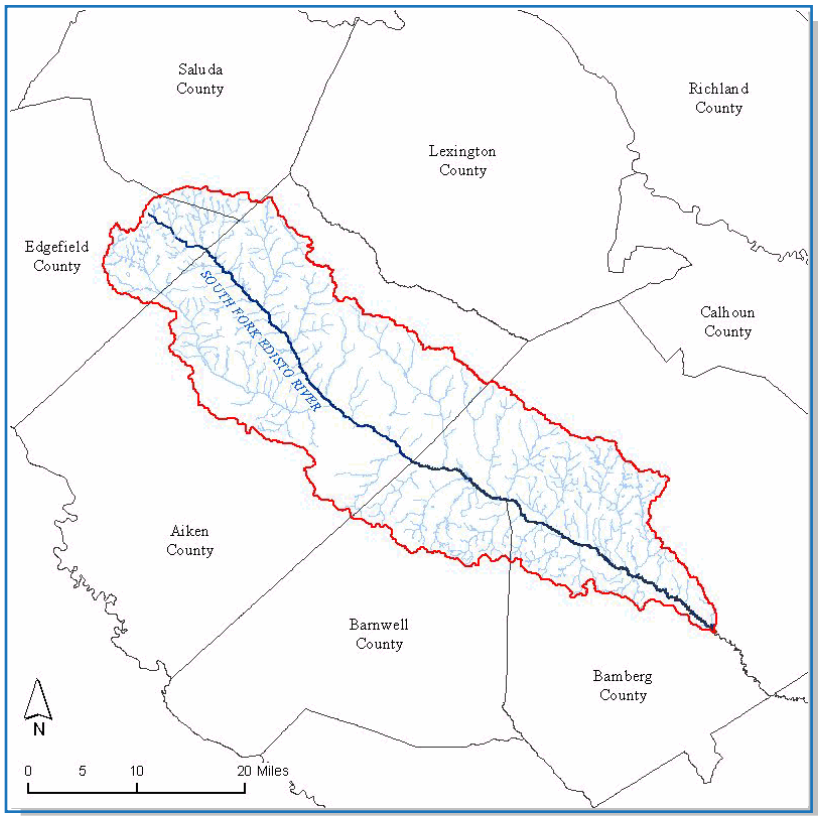

FIGURE 7:
NRCS ASSISTED FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES IN WATERSHED

- 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).

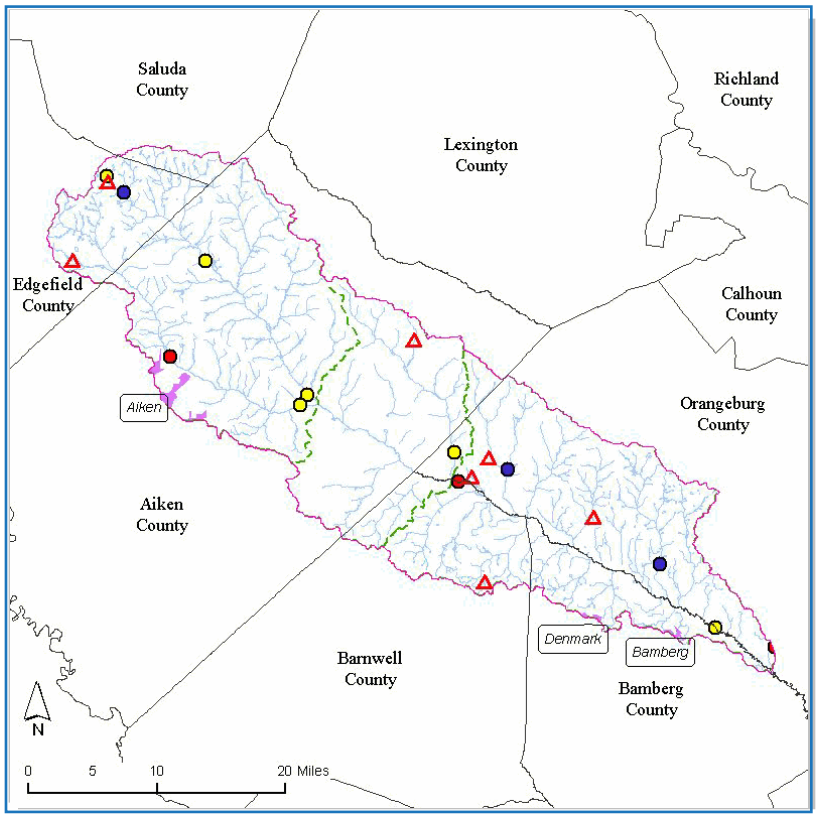

Table 14:
WATER QUALITY MONITORING SITES

Permanent Water Quality Monitoring Sites (WQMS)	11
Random Water Quality Monitoring Sites (WQMS)	5

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

Parameter	Impairments
Fecal Coliform	1

Fish Tissue Standard

Parameter	Impairments
Mercury	5
PCB's	0

Shellfish Harvest Standard

Parameter	Impairments
Fecal Coliform	NA

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	2
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.

The most prominent crops in the subbasin include peanuts, vegetables, rye for grain and forage, and peaches, with Edgefield being the top peach producer in the state.

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: 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.

The South Fork Edisto is a typical blackwater stream where hardwood forests on narrow floodplains on tributary streams exist, supporting variants of bottomland hardwood and cypress-tupelo swamps. In the headwaters, and the wet flats immediately above the floodplain, pocosinlike shrub thickets, and (under suitable fire conditions) pure stands of Atlantic white cedar occur.

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 (*Pinustaeda*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*).

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	Aiken, Bamberg, Orangeburg, Barnwell
All Vegetables harvested	Bamberg
All Wheat for grain	Orangeburg, Aiken, Saluda
Corn for grain	Orangeburg, Barnwell, Bamberg, Aiken, Saluda
Corn for silage	Saluda
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	Aiken, Saluda, Orangeburg, Barnwell, Bamberg, Edgefield
Oats	Edgefield
Peaches	Edgefield, Saluda
Peanuts	Barnwell
Rye for grain	Edgefield
Soybeans	Orangeburg, Bamberg, Aiken, Barnwell, Edgefield
Timber Revenues Exceed Ag. Revenues	Barnwell

Table 17:
FEDERALLY LISTED THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PLANT SPECIES IN WATERSHED
(See USFW 2006 in References section.)

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

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	*Mycteria americana*	Endangered
Flatwoods salamander	*Ambystoma cingulatum*	Threatened
Red-cockaded woodpecker	*Picoides borealis*	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	*Acipenser brevirostrum*	Endangered
Carolina heelsplitter	*Lasmigona decorata*	Endangered

RESOURCE CONCERNS

Domestic Animals

Grazing animal populations are varied across the subbasin, but are overall modest (Table 20). Note that Saluda County, which ranks high in cow/calf production (Table 20), only contributes to about 3% of the subbasin's farmland (Tables 1, 2). Aiken is second in the state with respect to horse and pony production. Confined livestock operations are dominated by poultry operations. Two swine operations and a single dairy operation make up the remainder of the confined operations in the subbasin. (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
Bamberg	7,487	5,374	29
Barnwell	4,186	3,628	28
Edgefield	9,507	5,403	20
Orangeburg	16,735	11,360	10
Saluda	26,667	17,782	2

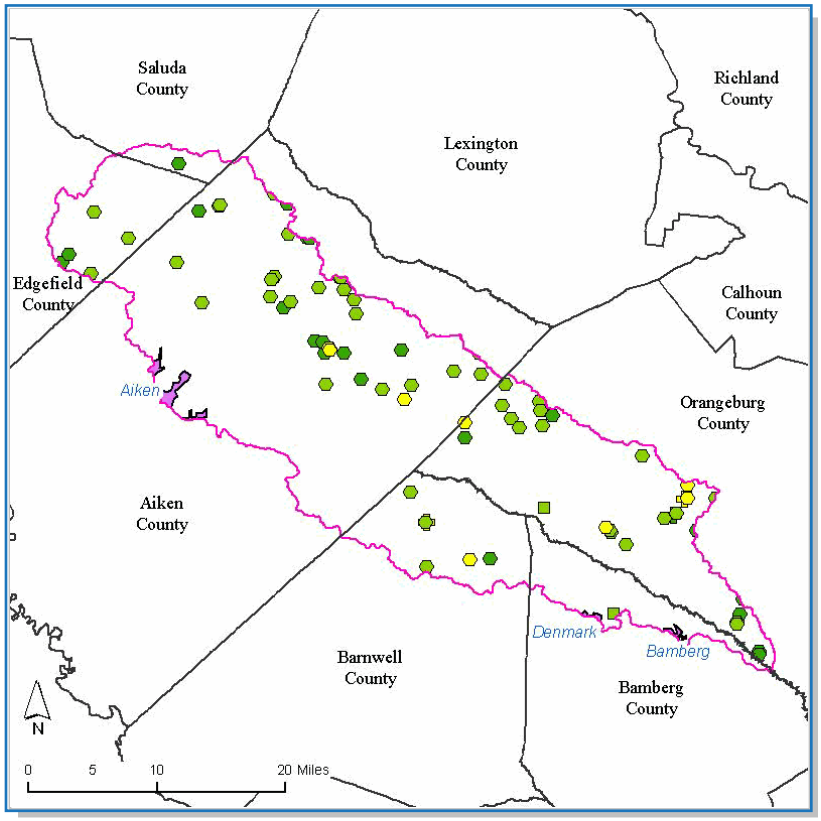

Table 21:
CONFINED ANIMAL POPULATION [As given by SCDHEC] (Au = Animal Unit = 1,000 lbs)

Beef Live Weight (Au)	-
Dariy Live Weight (Au)	630
Horse Live Weight (Au)	-
Poultry Live Weight (Au)	14,975
Swine Live Weight (Au)	1,058
Turkey Live Weight (Au)	-

FIGURE 9:
TYPE AND SIZE OF CONFINED ANIMAL OPERATION

Permit Design Count (Live Weight AU)
- 0 - 163
- 164-372
- 373 - 680
- 681 - 1360
- 1361 - 7076

- Beef
- Dairy
- Other
- Poultry
- Swine
- Turkey

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL FACTORS

The number of full-time farmers is the same as state average% and farm sizes are *larger* than the state average of 197 ac (Table 22), suggesting above average levels of participation in conservation programs. Farm sizes decreased by an estimated 13% between 1997 and 2002, the same as the state average for the same period. Loss of cropland between 1997 and 2002 is estimated at 7%, just lower 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
Bamberg	340	47%	43%	310
Barnwell	370	44%	31%	230
Edgefield	325	45%	27%	229
Orangeburg	968	45%	32%	283
Saluda	574	54%	25%	186
Weighted Avg*	**757**	**47%**	**28%**	**230**

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
Bamberg	15,061	10,206	4,855	269
Barnwell	7,068	4,694	2,374	284
Edgefield	48,554	44,560	3,994	250
Orangeburg	69,128	32,355	36,773	727
Saluda	64,038	5,511	58,527	401
Weighted Avg*	**49,168**	**19,869**	**29,299**	**581**

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
Bamberg	22	19	-	5	6	20	(D)	(D)	(D)
Barnwell	32	20	-	14	14	(D)	27	(D)	5
Edgefield	1	28	-	(D)	17	(D)	(D)	(D)	13
Orangeburg	5	1	-	7	9	10	5	1	1
Saluda	30	33	-	(D)	(D)	3	35	12	23

* 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
Bamberg	29	(D)	29	4	17	28	(D)
Barnwell	36	32	28	-	25	22	21
Edgefield	31	33	20	10	40	(D)	17
Orangeburg	12	14	10	2	4	(D)	4
Saluda	3	4	2	6	(D)	25	(D)

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APPENDIX

Level III Common Resource Area (Ecological Region) Descriptions

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.

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.