03040204-01

(Little Pee Dee River)

General Description

The South Carolina portion of 03040204-01 is located in Marlboro, Dillon, and Marion Counties and consists primarily of the ***Little Pee Dee River*** and its tributaries from its origin to Leith Creek. The watershed occupies 29,882 acres of the Upper Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 47.9% agricultural land, 25.6% forested wetland, 17.2% forested land, 6.6% urban land, 1.7% nonforested wetland, and 1.0% water.

This upper reach of the Little Pee Dee River accepts drainage from several tributaries that originate in North Carolina. Beaverdam Creek flows through McNairs Millpond and accepts drainage from Parker Branch, Marsnip Branch, McLaurins Millpond, and Panther Creek (Bear Creek) before merging with Gum Swamp to form Red Bluff Lake and the headwaters of the Little Pee Dee River. Reedy Branch enters the river next before converging with the Leith Creek Watershed. There are a total of 84.0 stream miles and 186.4 acres of lake waters, all classified FW.

Surface Water Quality

Station #	Type	Class	Description
PD-017A	W	FW	McLaurins Mill Pond SC 381
PD-306	W	FW	Panther Creek at US 15 outside of McColl
PD-016	W	FW	Panther Creek at S-35-27
PD-062	W	FW	Gum Swamp
PD-365	INT	FW	Little Pee Dee River at S-17-36

McLaurins Mill Pond (PD-017A) - This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen conditions. Although pH and dissolved oxygen excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported.

Panther Creek – There are two SCDHEC monitoring sites along Panther Creek. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen conditions. Although pH and dissolved oxygen excursions occurred at both sites, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported at both the upstream site ***(PD-306)*** and at the downstream site ***(PD-016)***.

Gum Swamp (PD-062) - This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH conditions. Although pH excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported.

Little Pee Dee River (PD-365) – This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH conditions. Although pH excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the **Little Pee Dee River** within this watershed (see advisory p.144).*

NPDES Program

Active NPDES Facilities

RECEIVING STREAM *FACILITY NAME*	*NPDES#* *TYPE*
GUM SWAMP TOWN OF MCCOLL/WWTF	SC0041963 MINOR DOMESTIC

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Land Disposal Activities

Landfill Facilities

LANDFILL NAME *FACILITY TYPE*	*PERMIT #* *STATUS*
ARROWHEAD COMPOSTING FACILITY COMPOSTING	352680-3001 INACTIVE

Groundwater Quantity

Portions of this watershed fall within the Pee Dee Capacity Use Area and large groundwater uses must be reported (see Capacity Use Program p.22).

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of McColl. McColl has water and sewer service in and immediately surrounding the town, which could encourage some growth.

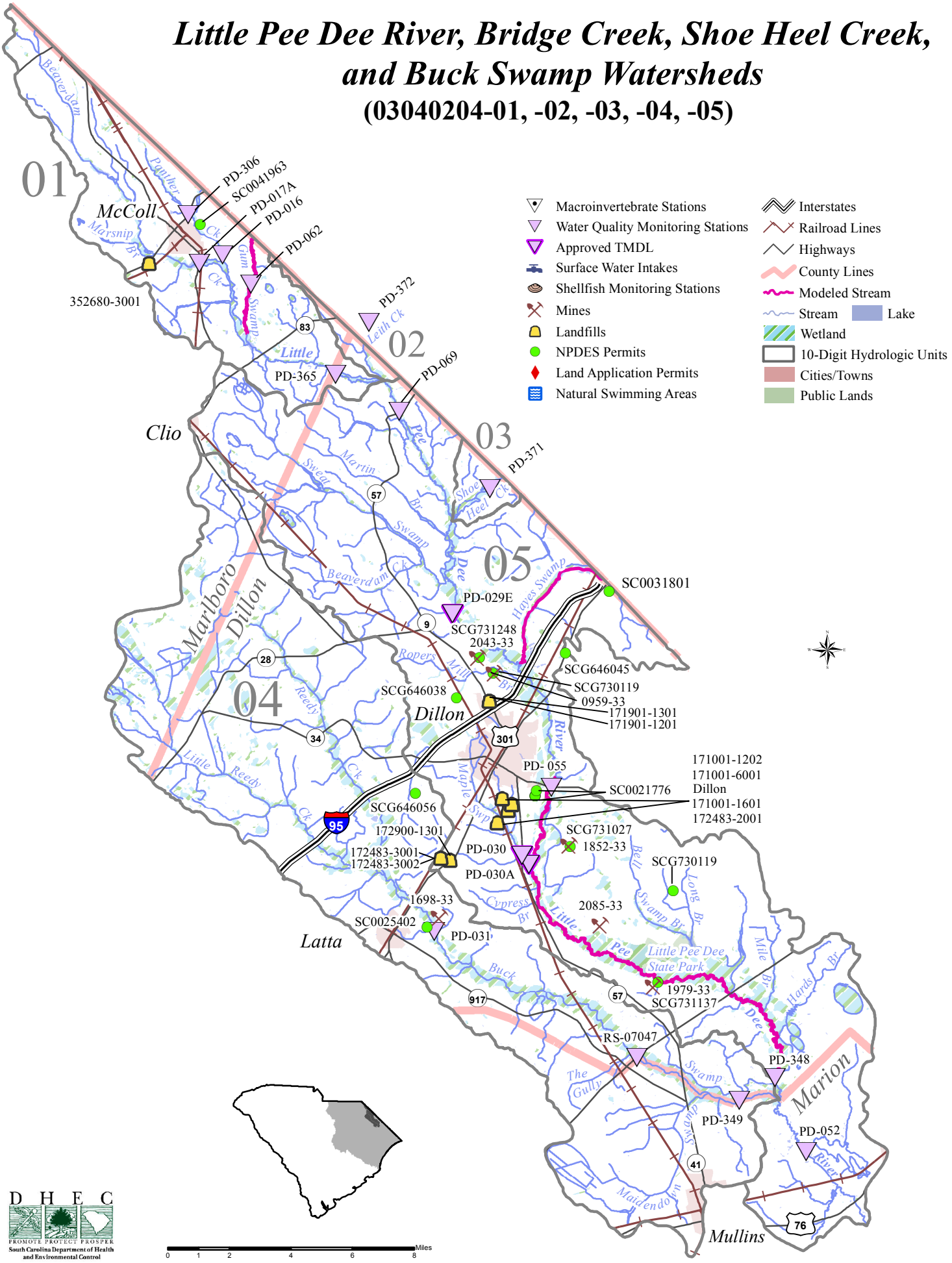
Special Projects

Interstate Fecal Coliform Bacteria TMDL Development and Implementation for the Upper Little Pee Dee River

The Pee Dee Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) along with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in both North and South Carolina have worked to develop and implement a fecal bacteria TMDL for the upper Little Pee Dee River Basin. The TMDL itself covers the watershed above SCDHEC's water quality monitoring station (PD-029E) and stretched into North Carolina. The implementation effort took place only in the South Carolina portions of Dillon and Marlboro counties. Before ending in Fall 2007, the RC&D and its partners repaired or replaced a large number of septic systems. Many of these systems were located adjacent to swamps draining to the river. By targeting these critical areas for septic repairs and by implementing other agricultural best management practices like vegetative buffers and exclusion fencing, this project is on track for showing water quality improvements. Early data suggest such improvements, but further continued monitoring is necessary to determine complete success.

Little Pee Dee River, Bridge Creek, Shoe Heel Creek, and Buck Swamp Watersheds

(03040204-01, -02, -03, -04, -05)



D H E C

PROMOTE PROTECT PROSPER

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control