

# **Water Quality Assessment Summary**

## *Santee River Basin*

- Table 1. Fully Supported Sites – *Sites with No Impairments from 2004-2008***
- Table 2. Impaired Sites – *Partially Supported or Not Supported sites from 2004-2008***
- Table 3. Changes in Use Support Status - *Sites that Improved from 2004-2008***
- Table 4. Changes in Use Support Status - *Sites that Degraded from 2004-2008***

## TERMS USED IN TABLES

**AQUATIC LIFE USE SUPPORT (AL)** - The degree to which aquatic life is protected is assessed by comparing important water quality characteristics and the concentrations of potentially toxic pollutants with standards. Aquatic life use support is based on the percentage of standards excursions at a sampling site.

For **dissolved oxygen** and **pH**:

If the percentage of standard excursions is 10% or less, then uses are *fully supported*.

If the percentage of standard excursions is greater than 10% and less than or equal to 25%, then uses are *partially supported*.

If the percentage of standard excursions is greater than 25%, uses are *not supported* (see p.12 for further information).

For **toxins** (heavy metals, priority pollutants, chlorine, ammonia):

If the chronic or acute aquatic life standard for any individual toxicant is not exceeded more than once, uses are *fully supported*.

If the appropriate acute or chronic aquatic life standard is exceeded more than once (i.e.  $\geq 2$ ), but is less than or equal to 10% of the samples, uses are *partially supported*.

If the appropriate acute or chronic aquatic life standard is exceeded more than once (i.e.  $\geq 2$ ), and is greater than 10% of the samples, aquatic life uses are *not supported* (see p.12 for further information).

For **turbidity** and waters with **numeric total phosphorus, total nitrogen, and chlorophyll-a**:

If the percentage of standard excursions is 25% or less, then uses are *fully supported*.

If the percentage of standard excursions is greater than 25%, then uses are *not supported* (see p.13 for further information).

**RECREATIONAL USE SUPPORT (REC)** - The degree to which the swimmable goal of the Clean Water Act is attained (recreational use support) is based on the frequency of fecal coliform bacteria excursions, defined as greater than 400/100 ml for all surface water classes.

If 10% or less of the samples are greater than 400/100 ml, then recreational uses are said to be *fully supported*.

If the percentage of standards excursions is greater than 10% and less than or equal to 25%, then recreational uses are said to be *partially supported*.

If the percentage of standards excursions is greater than 25%, then recreational uses are said to be *nonsupported* (see p.14 for further information).

**Excursion** - The term excursion is used to describe a measurement that does not comply with the appropriate water quality standard.

**Table 1. Fully Supported Sites in the Santee Coastal Basin 2004-2008**

\* = Station not evaluated for Recreational Support; TD=TMDL Developed; TI=TMDL Implementation; Trend Data 1994-2008

Watershed	Waterbody Name	Station #	Improving Trends	Other Trends
03050209-01	Casino Creek	RO-056100		
		MD-266	Increasing Dissolved Oxygen	Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub>
	Little Papas Creek	RT-07048		
03050209-02	Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway	RO-07328		
		RO-08356		
		MD-069	Decreasing Total Nitrogen	Decreasing pH; Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub> , Turbidity
	Doe Hall Creek	RT-08080		
	Awendaw Creek	MD-250	Decreasing Fecal Coliform	
	Sewee Bay Tributary	RT-052094		
	Sewee Bay	MD-269		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub>
		RO-06312		
	Santee Pass	RT-042076		
	Toomer Creek	RO-046072		
	Deweese Creek Tributary	RT-042078		
	Hamlin Sound	MD-271		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub> , Fecal Coliform
	Seven Reaches	RT-06024		
	Conch Creek	RT-06008		

**Table 2. Impaired Sites in the Santee Coastal Basin 2004-2008**

REC=Recreational; AL=Aquatic Life; FS=Fully Supported Standards; PS=Partially Supported Standards; NS=Nonsupported Standards; \*=Station not evaluated for Recreational Support; TD=TMDL Developed; TI=TMDL Implementation; Trend Data 1994-2008

Watershed	Waterbody Name	Station #	Use	Status	Water Quality Indicator	Improving Trends	Other Trends
03050209-01	Alligator Creek	MD-265	AL	NS	Turbidity		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub> , Total Phosphorus, Fecal Coliform
03050209-02	AIWW	RO-07340	AL	NS	Ammonia		
	Jeremy Creek	MD-203	AL	NS	Dissolved Oxygen	Decreasing Total Phosphorus, Fecal Coliform	
	Five Fathom Creek	MD-267	AL	NS	Turbidity		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub> , Fecal Coliform
	Awendaw Creek	MD-268	AL	NS	Turbidity	Decreasing Fecal Coliform	Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub>
	Venning Creek	RT-07060	AL	NS	Turbidity		
	Bullyard Sound	MD-270	AL	NS	Ammonia		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub> , Fecal Coliform
	Hamlin Creek	MD-272	AL	NS	Copper		Increasing BOD <sub>5</sub>

### Table 3. Changes in Use Support Status

#### *Santee Coastal Basin Sites that Improved from 2004 to 2008*

REC= Recreational; AL=Aquatic Life; FS=Fully Supported Standards; PS=Partially Supported Standards; NS=Nonsupported Standards;  
 TD=TMDL Developed; TI=TMDL Implementation

Watershed	Waterbody Name	Station #	Use	Status		Water Quality Indicator	
				2004	2008	2004	2008
03050209-02	AIWW	MD-069	AL	NS	FS	Copper	
	Jeremy Creek	MD-203	REC	PS	FS	Fecal Coliform	
	Awendaw Creek	MD-250	REC	NS	FS	Fecal Coliform	

## Table 4. Changes in Use Support Status

### *Santee Coastal Basin Sites that Degraded from 2004 to 2008*

REC= Recreational; AL=Aquatic Life; FS=Fully Supported Standards; PS=Partially Supported Standards; NS=Nonsupported Standards;  
 TD=TMDL Developed; TI=TMDL Implementation

Watershed	Waterbody Name	Station #	Use	Status		Water Quality Indicator	
				2004	2008	2004	2008
03050209-01	Alligator Creek	MD-265	AL	FS	NS		Turbidity
03050209-02	Five Fathom Creek	MD-267	AL	FS	NS		Turbidity
	Awendaw Creek	MD-268	AL	FS	NS		Turbidity
	Bullyard Sound	MD-270	AL	FS	NS		Ammonia
	Hamlin Creek	MD-272	AL	FS	NS		Copper