

## 03050204-030

(*South Fork Edisto River*)

### General Description

Watershed 03050204-030 is located in Aiken, Barnwell, and Orangeburg Counties and consists primarily of the *South Fork Edisto River* and its tributaries from Shaw Creek to Dean Swamp Creek. The watershed occupies 77,490 acres of the Sandhills and Upper Coastal Plain regions of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Fuquay-Lakeland-Troup-Varina-Dothan series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.12 and the slope of the terrain averages 5%, with a range of 0-15%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 41.6% forested land, 28.5% agricultural land, 18.4% barren land, 10.7% forested wetland (swamp), 0.4% urban land, 0.3% water, and 0.1% nonforested wetland (marsh).

As a reach of the South Fork Edisto River, this watershed accepts the drainage from all streams entering the river upstream. This section of the South Fork Edisto River also accepts drainage from Burcalo Creek, Hunter Branch (Tylers Pond), Pond Branch (Buzzard Branch, Long Branch, Spring Branch), and Yarrow Branch. There are a total of 75.5 stream miles and 137.5 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW. Another natural resource is Aiken State Park, located near the top of the watershed.

### Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
E-595	BIO	FW	YARROW BRANCH AT SR 161
E-011*	W/INT	FW	SOUTH FORK EDISTO RIVER AT SC 39

\* THIS SITE IS LOCATED IN 03050204-050

*South Fork Edisto River (E-011)* – This site is located in 03050204-050 and was used to represent the water quality in this watershed. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen concentration. Although pH excursions were noted, they were typical of values seen in such systems and considered natural, not standards violations.

*Yarrow Branch (E-595)* - Aquatic life uses are fully supported based on macroinvertebrate community data.

*Aiken State Park Cabin Lake* - Cabin Lake was treated from 1992-1995 by the Water Resources Division of the SCDNR with aquatic herbicides in an attempt to control the aquatic plants that prevent access to the lake for fishing and boating. In addition, grass carp, a biological control agent, were introduced in 1992 at the stocking rate of 20 fish/vegetated acre for a total of 200 fish. These efforts have been successful and further treatments have not been necessary.

***Aiken State Park Swimming Lake*** -Swimming Lake was treated with herbicides from 1992-1995 by the SCDNR to provide access for swimming and boating. Grass carp were introduced to the swimming lake in 1993 at the stocking rate of 10 fish/vegetated acre for a total of 30 fish. These efforts have been successful and further treatments have not been necessary.

***Aiken State Park Childs Fishing Lake*** - Childs Fishing Lake was treated with herbicides in 1992, 1993, and 1994 by the SCDNR to provide access for bank fishing. Grass carp were also introduced to this lake in 1992. These efforts have been successful and further treatments have not been necessary.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes streams within this watershed (see advisory p.38).*

## **NPDES Program**

### ***Active NPDES Facilities***

There are currently no point source dischargers in this watershed.

## **Growth Potential**

There is a low potential for growth projected for this watershed, which contains the Town of Windsor and a portion of the Town of Williston. A rail line and U.S. 78 run along the western edge of the watershed through the Town of Windsor to the City of Aiken, and provide potential for industrial growth.