

**03040202-05**  
*(Lynches River)*

**General Description**

Watershed 03040202-05 is located in Chesterfield, and Kershaw, Darlington, Lee, Florence, and Sumter Counties consists primarily of the *Lynches River* and its tributaries from the Little Lynches River to Sparrow Swamp. The watershed occupies 126,915 acres of the Sandhills and the Upper and Lower Coastal Plain regions of South Carolina. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 36.2% agricultural land, 33.6% forested wetland, 24.0% forested land, 4.7% urban land, 1.2% nonforested wetland, and 0.3% water.

This portion of the Lynches River accepts drainage from its upper reaches, together with Turkey Creek, Merchants Mill Creek, and Bells Branch. The river then accepts drainage from Cousar Branch near the City of Bishopville and Lee State Park followed by Mill Branch, another Mill Branch, Rose Branch, and Back Swamp. Further downstream, Back Swamp drains into the river followed by Polecat Branch (Mill Bay). The Lynches River County Park is located near the confluence of the Lynches River and Sparrow Swamp. The portion of the river from the park upstream to U.S. 15 crossing is designated as a scenic river. There are a total of 246.5 stream miles and 159.3 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW.

**Surface Water Quality**

| <u>Station #</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Description</u>                                   |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| PD-080           | W           | FW           | LYNCHES RIVER AT S-28-15 4.5 MI SE BETHUNE           |
| PD-071           | W           | FW           | LYNCHES RIVER AT US 15/SC 34                         |
| PD-112           | W           | FW           | COUSAR BRANCH 1/4 MI BELOW BISHOPVILLE FINISHING CO. |
| PD-364           | SPRP/BIO    | FW           | LYNCHES RIVER AT US 401                              |
| PD-319           | W           | FW           | LYNCHES RIVER AT SC 403                              |
| PD-093           | INT         | FW           | LYNCHES RIVER AT S-21-55                             |

*Lynches River* - There are five SCDHEC monitoring sites along this section of the Lynches River. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen conditions. Although pH excursions occurred at the two upstream sites, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. At the furthest upstream site (**PD-080**), aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported. There is a significant decreasing trend in pH. Further downstream (**PD-071**), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there are significant decreasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand. Recreational uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria.

Although pH and dissolved oxygen excursions occurred at the next two sites, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Aquatic life uses were fully supported at station **PD-364** based on macroinvertebrate community data; however, there are significant decreasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and total phosphorus concentration. Recreational uses are partially supported and there is a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria. At the next site downstream (**PD-319**), aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported; however, there is a

significant increasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand. At the furthest downstream site (**PD-093**), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there are significant decreasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand, total nitrogen concentration, and total phosphorus concentration. Although dissolved oxygen excursions occurred at this site, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Recreational uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria.

**Cousar Branch (PD-112)** - Aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there are significant decreasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and increasing trends turbidity. There is a significant decreasing trend in pH. Although pH and dissolved oxygen excursions occurred at this site, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. Recreational uses are not supported due to fecal coliform bacteria excursions.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the **Lynches River** within this watershed (see advisory p.39).*

## **NPDES Program**

### **Active NPDES Facilities**

| <b>RECEIVING STREAM<br/>FACILITY NAME</b>                         | <b>NPDES#<br/>TYPE</b>        |
|---|-------------------------------|
| LYNCHES RIVER<br>CITY OF BISHOPVILLE WWTP                         | SC0035378<br>MAJOR DOMESTIC   |
| LYNCHES RIVER<br>TOWN OF LYNCHBURG WWTP                           | SC0042676<br>MINOR DOMESTIC   |
| LYNCHES RIVER<br>TOWN OF LAMAR WWTP                               | SC0043702<br>MINOR DOMESTIC   |
| LYNCHES RIVER TRIBUTARY<br>SOUTHEASTERN SAND LLC/PRESTRESS MINE 2 | SCG730713<br>MINOR INDUSTRIAL |
| LYNCHES RIVER TRIBUTARY<br>TOWN OF LYNCHBURG WTP                  | SCG646035<br>MINOR DOMESTIC   |

### **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)**

| <b>RECEIVING STREAM<br/>MUNICIPALITY<br/>RESPONSIBLE PARTY<br/>IMPLEMENTING PARTY</b> | <b>NPDES#<br/>MS4 PHASE<br/>MS4 SIZE</b> |
|---|--|
| LYNCHES RIVER<br>UNINCORPORATED AREAS<br>FLORENCE COUNTY<br>FLORENCE COUNTY           | SCR034102<br>PHASE II<br>SMALL MS4       |

## Nonpoint Source Management Program

### *Land Disposal Activities*

#### **Landfill Facilities**

| <i>LANDFILL NAME</i> | <i>PERMIT #</i> |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| <i>FACILITY TYPE</i> | <i>STATUS</i>   |
| LEE COUNTY LANDFILL  | 311001-1101     |
| MUNICIPAL            | CLOSED          |

#### **Land Application Sites**

| <i>LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM</i> | <i>PERMIT #</i> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>FACILITY NAME</i>           | <i>TYPE</i>     |
| SPRAYFIELD                     | ND0000671       |
| FOUNTAINS LANDROMAT            | DOMESTIC        |

### *Mining Activities*

| <i>MINING COMPANY</i> | <i>PERMIT #</i> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <i>MINE NAME</i>      | <i>MINERAL</i>  |
| SC PRESTRESS CORP.    | 1212-41         |
| PRESTRESS MINE        | SAND            |

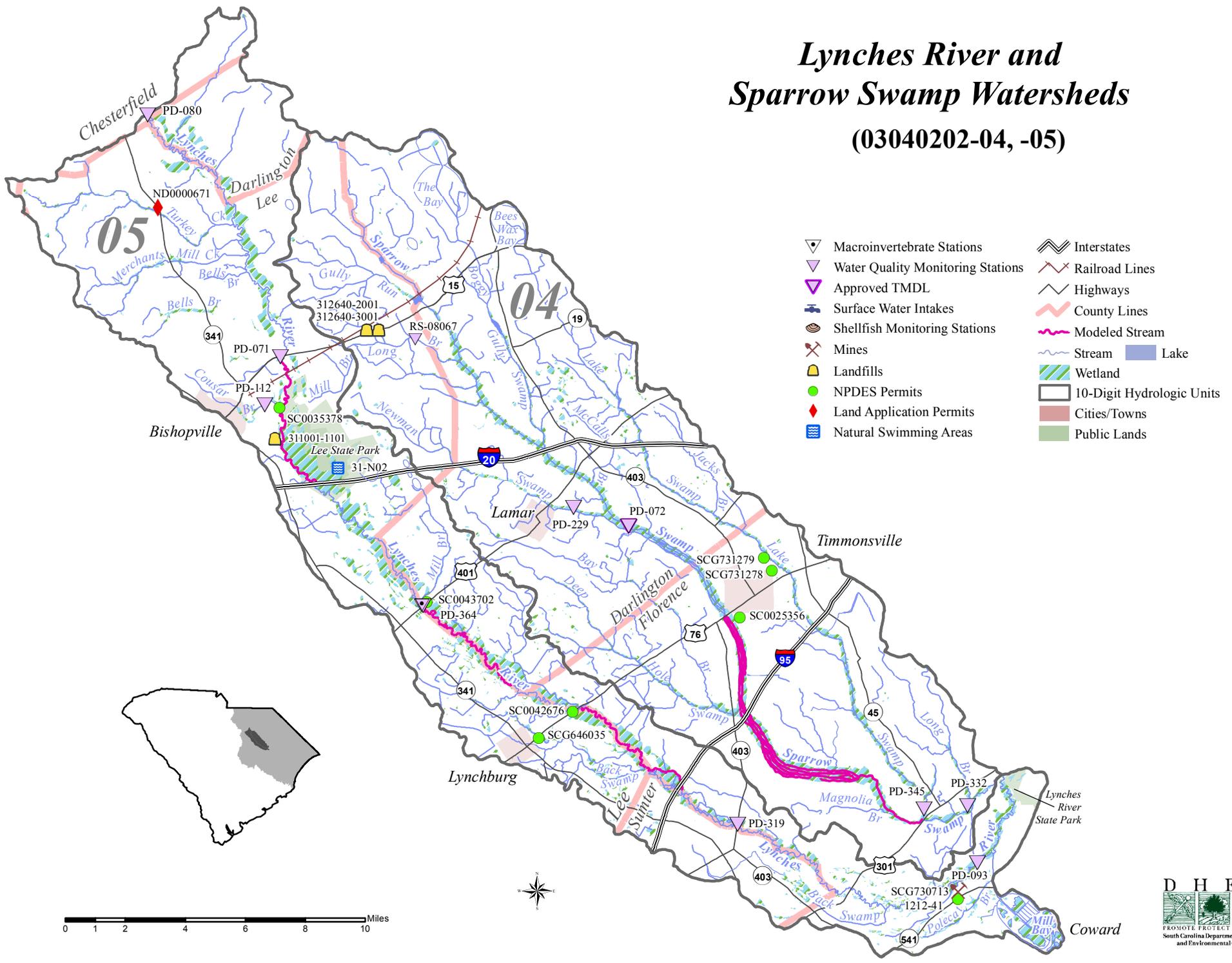
## **Groundwater Quantity**

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 to moderate potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Lynchburg and portions of the City of Bishopville and the Town of Cartersville. U.S. Hwy. 76 and a rail line cross the watershed south of Lynchburg connecting the Cities of Sumter and Florence. Interstates I-20 and I-95 also cross the watershed and some growth may be seen around the interchanges. An additional source of future growth is the Lee Correctional Institution. The Darlington County Water and Sewer Authority has extended water lines into the area east of the Lynches River to the Florence County line, which should precipitate residential growth, but no significant commercial or industrial growth. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and timberland uses.

# Lynches River and Sparrow Swamp Watersheds (03040202-04, -05)



- ▽ Macroinvertebrate Stations
- ▽ Water Quality Monitoring Stations
- ▽ Approved TMDL
- ☒ Surface Water Intakes
- ☒ Shellfish Monitoring Stations
- ⚡ Mines
- 🗑️ Landfills
- NPDES Permits
- ♦ Land Application Permits
- 🏊 Natural Swimming Areas
- ⚡ Interstates
- 🚂 Railroad Lines
- 🛣️ Highways
- 🗺️ County Lines
- 🌊 Modeled Stream
- 🌊 Stream
- 🟦 Lake
- 🌿 Wetland
- 📏 10-Digit Hydrologic Units
- 🏘️ Cities/Towns
- 🌳 Public Lands