

03040205-09

(Black River)

General Description

Watershed 03040205-09 is located in Williamsburg and Georgetown Counties and consists primarily of the lower **Black River** and its tributaries from the crossing of SC Hwy 30 to its confluence with the Great Pee Dee River. The watershed occupies 232,756 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone regions of South Carolina. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 46.0% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% nonforested wetland, 3.5% urban land, 1.6% water, and 0.2% barren land.

This section of the Black River accepts drainage from its upper reaches, together with Spring Branch, Spring Gully, Jumping Gully, Thompson Swamp, Birch Creek (Dobson Branch, Dobson Bay), and Gin Branch. Flat Swamp (Camp Pond Bay, Ricefield Bay, Alligator Bay, Log Branch) flows into Johnsons Swamp (Oakridge Bay, Mill Branch, Murray Swamp, Sportsman Pond), which in turn flows into Horse Pen Swamp before draining into the Black River downstream of Gin Branch. Further downstream, Big Dam Swamp (Roper Branch, Sleeper Branch, Cedar Patch Branch, Brightman Swamp) enters the river followed by Lester Creek, Puncheon Creek, and Indian Hut Swamp. Mill Grove Creek enters the river next followed by Lanes Creek, Choppee Creek (Stony Run Creek, Machine Bay), Boheck Creek, and Post Foot Branch. Carvers Bay drains into Big Branch (Millpond Branch), then flows into Carvers Bay Creek, which merges with Fardick Creek to form Peters Creek (Simmons Creek, Guinea Creek, Black Swamp) and drains into the river downstream of Post Foot Branch. Sixmile Creek (Gapway Bay, Greens Creek, Prince Creek, Crooked Branch, Inland Branch) enters the river next followed by Cottage Creek and Longwater Bay. There are a total of 354.3 stream miles, 213.8 acres of lake waters, and 763.3 acres of estuarine areas in this watershed. The Black River, upstream of the crossing of U.S. Hwy. 701 (just upstream of Sixmile Creek), is classified FW* (Dissolved Oxygen not less than 4.0 mg/l and pH between 5.0 and 8.5) and its tributaries are classified FW. Downstream of the crossing, the Black River and its tributaries are classified SA. Another natural resource in the watershed is the Black River Preserve north of the Town of Andrews. The Black River drains into the Great Pee Dee River.

Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
PD-359	W/INT	FW*	BLACK RIVER AT S-45-30
RS-07221	RS07	FW	INDIAN HUT SWAMP AT S-22-29, 5MI ESE OF ANDREWS
PD-170	W/INT	FW*	BLACK RIVER AT SC 51, 11.6MI NE OF ANDREWS
RS-10349	RS10	FW	LANES CREEK AT SC 51 JUST N OF OATLAND
PD-325	P/INT	SA	BLACK RIVER AT S-22-489 4 MI NE OF GEORGETOWN

Black River – There are three SCDHEC monitoring sites along this lowest section of the Black River, and recreational uses are fully supported at all sites. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low dissolved oxygen conditions. At the upstream site (**PD-359**), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand. A significant decreasing trend in total phosphorus concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. At the midstream site (**PD-170**), aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. In addition,

there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. At the downstream site (**PD-325**), aquatic life uses are not supported due to turbidity excursions, which are compounded by a significant increasing trend in turbidity. In addition, there is a significant increasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand. Although dissolved oxygen excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. There is a significant increasing trend in pH at this site.

Indian Hut Swamp (RS-07221) - Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low dissolved oxygen conditions. Although dissolved oxygen excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations.

Lanes Creek (RS-10349) – Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen conditions. Although excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the **Black River** within this watershed (see advisory p.75).*

Groundwater Quantity

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

NPDES Program

Active NPDES Facilities

<i>RECEIVING STREAM FACILITY NAME</i>	<i>NPDES# TYPE</i>
INDIAN HUT SWAMP TRIBUTARY STONE CONSTRUCTION CO./ANDREWS MINE	SCG730006 MINOR INDUSTRIAL
INDIAN HUT SWAMP TRIBUTARY SIMPSON LUMBER CO./GEORGETOWN OPERATIONS	SC0046582 MINOR INDUSTRIAL
JOHNSONS SWAMP TREBOL USA LLC	SC0001619 MINOR INDUSTRIAL

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Land Disposal Activities

Landfill Facilities

<i>LANDFILL NAME FACILITY TYPE</i>	<i>PERMIT # STATUS</i>
CM POWELL INDUSTRIAL	----- CLOSED

GEORGETOWN COUNTY COMPOSTING COMPOSTING	221001-3001 ACTIVE
GEORGETOWN COUNTY MUNICIPAL	221001-1102 ACTIVE
GEORGETOWN COUNTY LANDFILL MUNICIPAL	221001-1101 CLOSED
GEORGETOWN SUBTITLE D LANDFILL INDUSTRIAL	IWP-231 CLOSED
GEORGETOWN COUNTY C&D LANDFILL CONSTRUCTION	221001-1201 INACTIVE
GEORGETOWN COUNTY C&D LANDFILL CONSTRUCTION	221001-1202 ACTIVE

Mining Activities

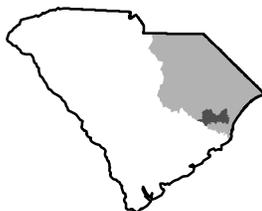
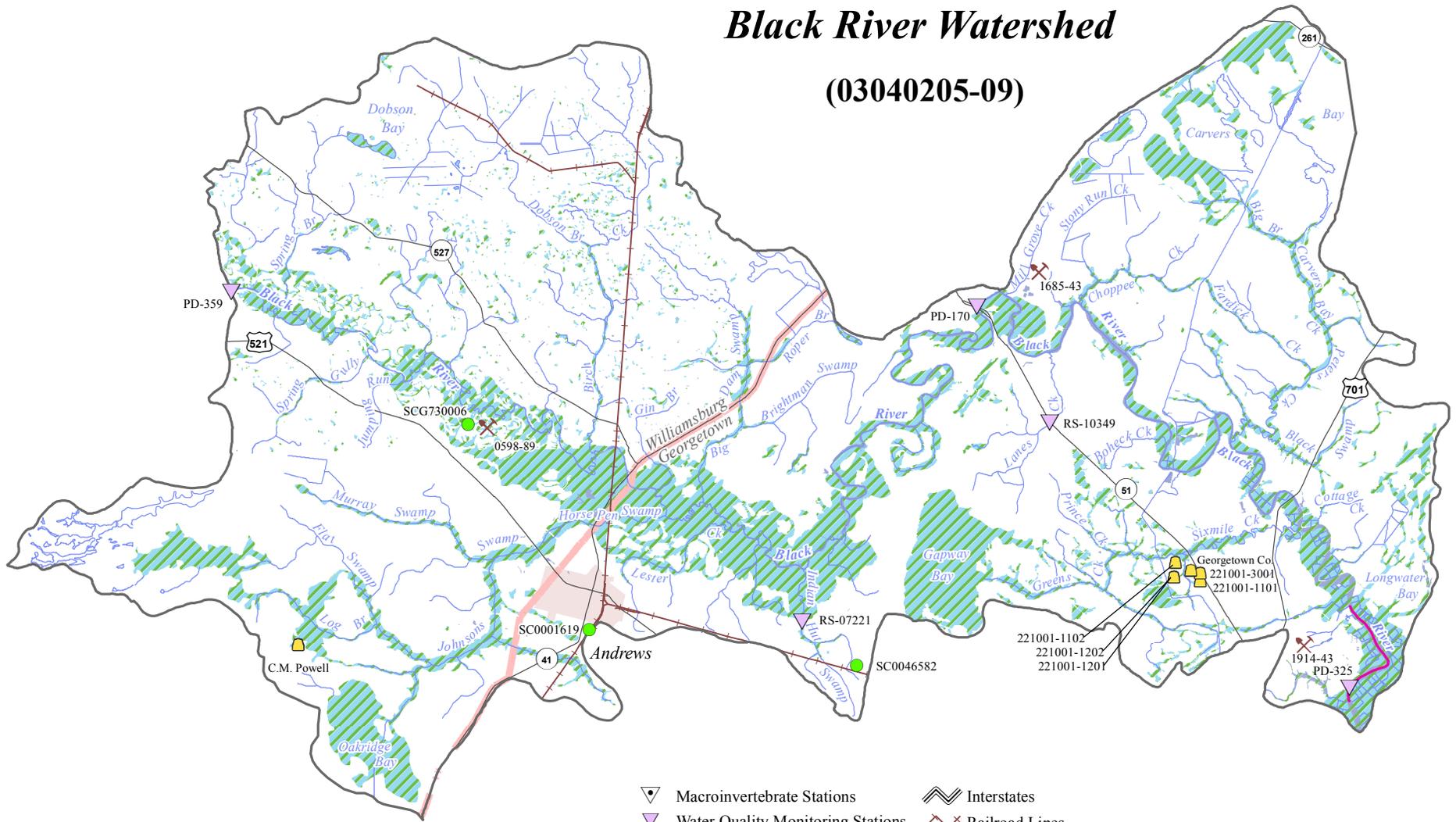
<i>MINING COMPANY</i> <i>MINE NAME</i>	<i>PERMIT #</i> <i>MINERAL</i>
STONE CONSTRUCTION CO. ANDREWS MINE	0598-89 SAND
C-PIN INVESTMENTS, INC. C-PIN MINE	1685-43 SAND/CLAY

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. Andrews has both water and sewer infrastructure and a rail line, which should allow low to moderate growth. Outside of the Andrews area, the watershed is rural with mostly agricultural and timberland uses. Water is available along most roads in the area, and sewer has been installed in the Plantersville area.

Black River Watershed

(03040205-09)



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| Macroinvertebrate Stations | Interstates |
| Water Quality Monitoring Stations | Railroad Lines |
| Approved TMDL | Highways |
| Surface Water Intakes | County Lines |
| Shellfish Monitoring Stations | Modeled Stream |
| Mines | Stream |
| Landfills | Lake |
| NPDES Permits | Wetland |
| Land Application Permits | 10-Digit Hydrologic Units |
| Natural Swimming Areas | Cities/Towns |
| | Public Lands |

