

03040206-10
(Waccamaw River)

General Description

Watershed 03040206-10 is located in Georgetown and Horry Counties and consists primarily of the *Waccamaw River* and its tributaries from Socastee Creek (AIWW) to Winyah Bay. The watershed occupies 55,599 acres of the Coastal Zone region of South Carolina. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 31.3% forested wetland, 21.5% forested land, 21.1% urban land, 12.6% nonforested wetland, 10.8% water, 2.1% agricultural land, and 0.6% barren land.

This lowest section of the Waccamaw River accepts drainage from its upper reaches, together with Oatbed Creek, Seven Prongs, Peach Creek, Old River (Nimrod Creek), Clark Creek, Big Swamp, Old Dock Creek (Righthand Creek), and Silvers Creek. Bull Creek enters the river next followed by Prince Creek (Fisherman Creek), Vaux Creek, Silver Creek, Collins Creek, Cow House Creek, and Black Creek (White Creek). Sandhole Creek (Ruinsville Creek, Crane Creek) enters the river next followed by Springfield Creek, Brookgreen Creek (Still Creek), Pawleys Creek, Oatland Creek, Waverly Creek, Butler Creek, Schooner Creek, Caledonia Creek (Duncan Creek), and Jericho Creek. The Waccamaw River drains into the Great Pee Dee River in the headwaters of Winyah Bay. There are a total of 117.5 stream miles, 581.6 acres of lake waters, and 3,493.6 acres of estuarine areas in this watershed. The Waccamaw River and this reach of the AIWW is classified FW* (dissolved oxygen not less than 4.0 mg/l and pH between 5.0 and 8.5) from the top of the watershed to the river's confluence with Thoroughfare Creek. The tributaries along this portion of the river are classified FW. Downstream of the confluence to Winyah Bay (SB), the river and the AIWW are classified SA* (dissolved oxygen not less than 4.0 mg/l) and their tributaries are classified SA.

Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
MD-146	W	FW*	WACCAMAW RIVER & AIWW 1 MI BELOW JCT, BUCKSPORT LANDING
MD-137	W	FW*	WACCAMAW RIVER NEAR MOUTH OF BULL CREEK AT CHANNEL MARKER 50
MD-138	SPRP	FW*	WACCAMAW RIVER AT CHANNEL MARKER 57
MD-142	INT	SA*	WACCAMAW RIVER DOWNSTREAM OF BUTLER ISLAND AT MARKER 86
RO-09364	INT	SB	WACCAMAW R. AT CONFL. OF PEE DEE AND SAMPIT RIVERS AT WINYAH BAY

Waccamaw River – There are five SCDHEC monitoring sites along this section of the Waccamaw River and recreational uses are fully supported at all sites. At the furthest upstream site (*MD-146*), aquatic life uses are fully supported. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. Further downstream (*MD-137*), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there is a significant increasing trend in turbidity. At the next site downstream (*MD-138*), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and turbidity. Significant increasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and decreasing trends in total phosphorus concentration suggest improving conditions for these parameters. Further downstream (*MD-142*), aquatic life uses are fully supported. There is a significant increasing trend in pH at this site. At the furthest downstream site (*RO-09364*), aquatic life uses are fully supported.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes the Waccamaw River and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway within this watershed (see advisory p.115).

NPDES Program

Active NPDES Facilities

<i>RECEIVING STREAM FACILITY NAME</i>	<i>NPDES# TYPE</i>
WACCAMAW RIVER GSW&SA/SCHWARTZ PLANT	SC0037753 MAJOR DOMESTIC
BULL CREEK GSW&SA/SCHWARTZ PLANT	SC0037753 MAJOR DOMESTIC
WACCAMAW RIVER GCW&SD/MURRELLS INLET WWTP	SC0040959 MAJOR DOMESTIC
WACCAMAW RIVER GSW&SA/BUCKSPORT WWTP	SC0040886 MINOR DOMESTIC
WACCAMAW RIVER GCW&SD/PAWLEYS AREA WWTP	SC0039951 MAJOR DOMESTIC
WACCAMAW RIVER GCW&SD/DEBORDIEU COLONY WWTP ALT. DISCHARGE	SC0048984 MINOR MUNICIPAL
WACCAMAW RIVER TRIBUTARY AO HARDEE & SON/HWY 707 MAY MINE	SCG731291 MINOR INDUSTRIAL

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

<i>RECEIVING STREAM MUNICIPALITY RESPONSIBLE PARTY IMPLEMENTING PARTY</i>	<i>NPDES# MS4 PHASE MS4 SIZE</i>
WACCAMAW RIVER UNINCORPORATED AREAS HORRY COUNTY HORRY COUNTY	SCR035104 PHASE II SMALL MS4
WACCAMAW RIVER UNINCORPORATED AREAS GEORGETOWN COUNTY GEORGETOWN COUNTY	SCR034301 PHASE II SMALL MS4

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Land Disposal Activities

Landfill Facilities

<i>LANDFILL NAME FACILITY TYPE</i>	<i>PERMIT # STATUS</i>
ROMMIE GRAY COMPOSTING FACILITY COMPOSTING	222638-3001 INACTIVE

Land Application Sites

*LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM
FACILITY NAME*

*ND#
TYPE*

SPRAYFIELD
GSW&SA BULL CREEK WTP

ND0069892
DOMESTIC

Mining Activities

*MINING COMPANY
MINE NAME*

*PERMIT #
MINERAL*

BROWN MOORE & PATRICK LLC
POND ROAD MINE

1701-43
SAND/CLAY

BROWN MOORE & PATRICK LLC
B, M, & P SANDPIT MINE

1574-51
SAND

Water Quantity

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

*WATER USER
STREAM*

*REGULATED CAPACITY (MGD)
PUMPING CAPACITY (MGD)*

GEORGETOWN COUNTY W&S
WACCAMAW RIVER

8.29
12.23

Growth Potential

There is a high potential for residential and commercial growth in this watershed, which contains portions of the Towns of Bucksport, Surfside Beach, and Murrells Inlet. The area is developed with many residential and resort communities. The area west of the AIWW is accessible only by boat and is not expecting significant growth. Water infrastructure is located throughout most of the watershed, and sewer is currently located in the northern tip as well as in many of the newer developments throughout the region. Most areas of the Waccamaw Neck now have sewer services. Along with resort and residential developments, commercial uses and two large tracts of semi-public land are located along the U.S. Hwy 17 corridor.

Watershed Protection and Restoration

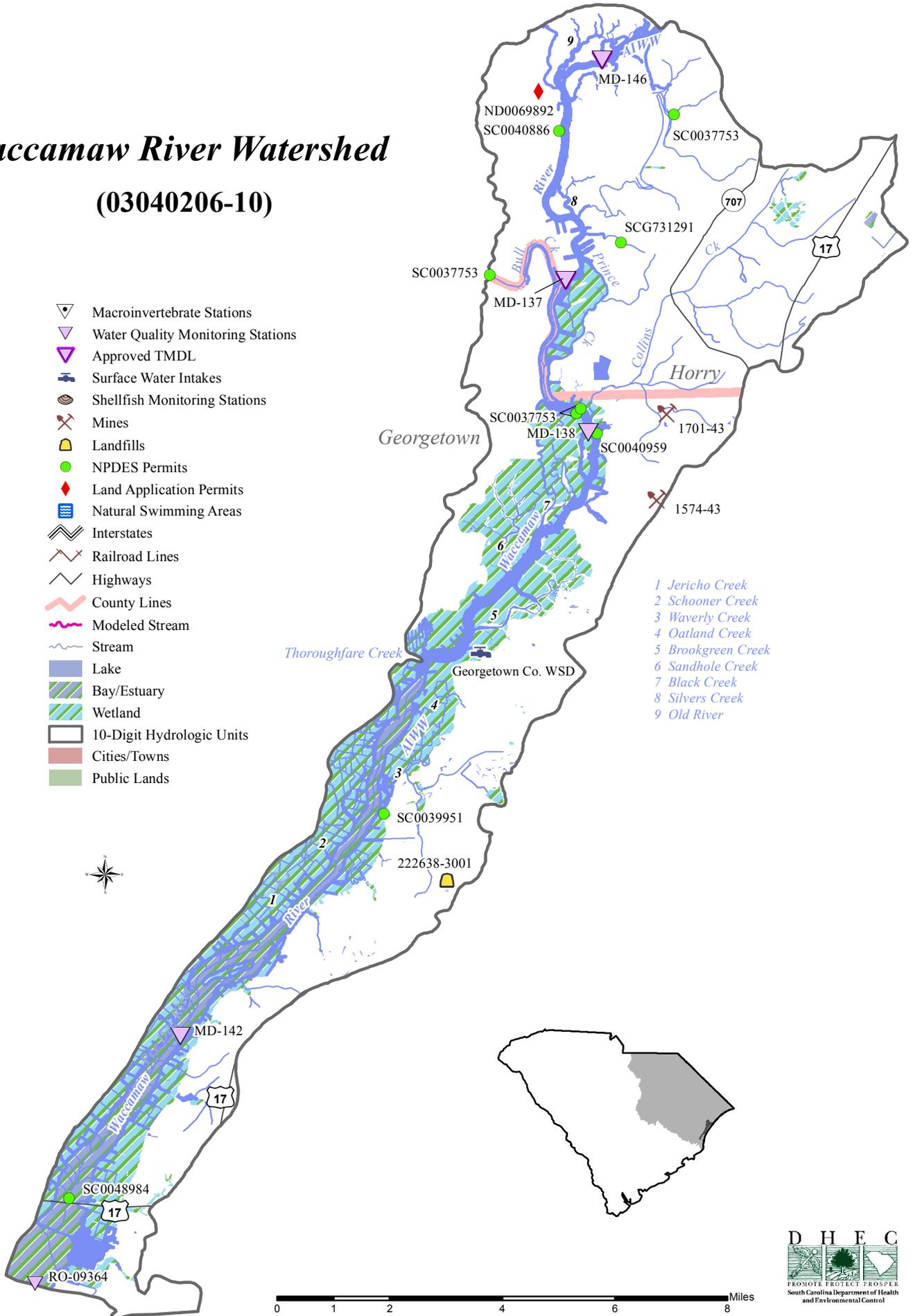
Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

A total maximum daily load (TMDL) for oxygen demanding substances has been developed for the main stem of the Waccamaw River and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) in watersheds 02040206-09, 03040206-10, and 03040208-03. The TMDL addresses 12 separate monitoring stations on the State's 1998 303(d) list of impaired waters. The TMDL, based on a maximum 0.1 mg/l deficit allowed in waters that do not meet applicable dissolved oxygen standards due to natural conditions, will result in a decrease of approximately 63% in the permitted oxygen demanding load discharged to the system. The decreased loadings are being implemented through the NPDES permitting system with new, more restrictive limits becoming final at the conclusion of appropriate compliance schedules.

Waccamaw River Watershed

(03040206-10)

-  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
-  Bay/Estuary
-  Wetland
-  10-Digit Hydrologic Units
-  Cities/Towns
-  Public Lands



- 1 Jericho Creek
- 2 Schooner Creek
- 3 Waverly Creek
- 4 Outland Creek
- 5 Brookgreen Creek
- 6 Sandhole Creek
- 7 Black Creek
- 8 Silvers Creek
- 9 Old River