03050111-040

(Tawcaw Creek)

General Description

Watershed 03050111-040 is located in Clarendon County and consists primarily of ***Tawcaw Creek*** and its tributaries. The watershed occupies 26,471 acres of the Upper Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Noboco-Bonneau-Cantey-Paxville series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.17 and the slope of the terrain averages 3%, with a range of 0-10%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 36.4% agricultural land, 34.8% forested land, 16.8% scrub/shrub land, 6.8% water, 4.1% forested wetland, 0.8% barren land, 0.2% nonforested wetland, and 0.1% urban land.

Tawcaw Creek accepts the drainage from Little Tawcaw Creek and Penn Branch before flowing into Lake Marion. There are a total of 53.3 stream miles and 1,785.3 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW. The Santee National Wildlife Refuge is an additional natural resource in the watershed.

Surface Water Quality

Station #	Type	Class	Description
ST-018/SC-018	S/INT/SC	FW	TAWCAW CREEK AT S-14-127 3.2 MI S OF SUMMERTON
SC-017	SC	FW	MID LAKE MARION AT TAWCAW CREEK EMBAYMENT
SC-036	SC	FW	MID LAKE MARION AT MOUTH OF TAWCAW CREEK

Tawcaw Creek (ST-018/SC-018) – Aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. There is also a significant increasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. Recreational uses are not supported due to fecal coliform bacteria excursions.

Tawcaw Creek Arm of Lake Marion – There are two SCPSA monitoring sites in the Tawcaw Creek arm of the lake (SC-017, SC-036), and aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported at both sites. SC-036 is mapped in 03050111-010. Aquatic macrophytes have proliferated and public access has been restricted in Taw Caw Creek due to shallow depth and high nutrient levels. To abate aquatic plant growth in this area of the lake, aquatic herbicides have been applied several times since 1989. Aquatic herbicide has been applied more recently (1999-2004) to reduce problem plant populations and to reduce impacts to public accesses, recreational uses, irrigation withdrawals, navigation, and water quality.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes portions of Lake Marion within this watershed (see advisory p.39).

Nonpoint Source Management Program

Land Disposal Activities

Landfill Facilities

LANDFILL NAME	***PERMIT #***
FACILITY TYPE	***STATUS***
OLD SUMMERTON LANDFILL	------
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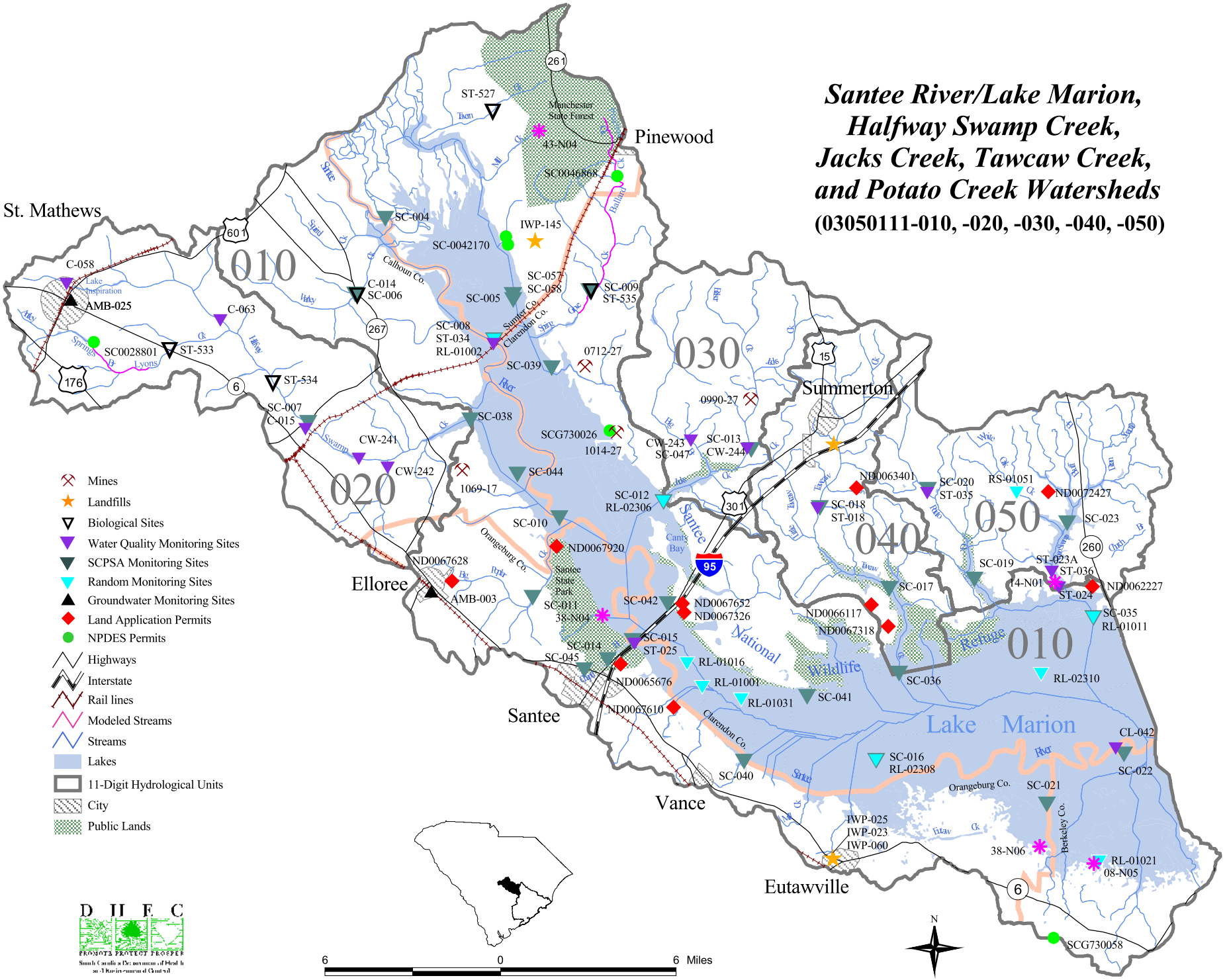
Land Application Sites

LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM	***ND#***
FACILITY NAME	***TYPE***
SPRAYFIELD	ND0063401
TOWN OF SUMMERTON	DOMESTIC
SPRAYFIELD	ND0067318
GOAT ISLAND W&S	DOMESTIC
SPRAY IRRIGATION	ND0066117
SIGFIELD/FOXBORO GOLF COURSE	DOMESTIC

Growth Potential

There is a low to moderate potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Summerton and a small portion of lakeshore.

Santee River/Lake Marion, Halfway Swamp Creek, Jacks Creek, Tawcaw Creek, and Potato Creek Watersheds

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