

Carr Fork watershed (051002-01-070)

Geography. The Carr Fork watershed covers southern Knott County and east central Perry County, with a corner of Letcher County. The land is in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field physiographic region, characterized by mountainous terrain, rapid surface runoff, and moderate rates of groundwater drainage. The watershed is underlain by coals, sandstones, and shales: this geology is generally conducive to productive wells, although water quality may be low for wells that draw from coal layers.

Waterways. Carr Fork empties into the North Fork Kentucky River to the south of Hazard (junction of Rte. 7 and Rte. 15). Among the creeks that feed it are Little Carr Fork, Montgomery Creek, Reynolds Branch, and Yellow Creek.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is nearly all rural and wooded. The surface waters of the watershed supply the drinking water for Carr Creek State Resort Park. Eight businesses and organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. The assessed waterways in this watershed include one (Carr Fork Lake) that only partially supports some or all of its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. See the 2000 Assessment Report or 2000 305(b) list and the 2002 303(d) list of impaired streams for full details.

Kentucky River Basin Management Plan, 2002. Information is from the first basin cycle (1997-2002), including the 1998-1999 monitoring effort and the 2000 Assessment Report. See kywatersheds.org or www.uky.edu/WaterResources/Watersheds for the complete Assessment Report and Management Plan.

Watershed Restoration Ranking			Watershed Protection Rank	Overall Watershed Rank	Framework Mobilization Category
<i>Observed Impacts</i>	<i>Potential Impacts</i>	<i>Combined Rank</i>			
Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	IV

Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 86 square miles.

Part of source water protection zones 2 and 3 for Hazard's water system.

Vicco discharges treated sewage into the watershed.

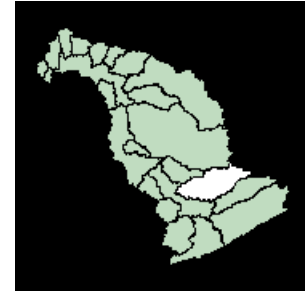
Covered by TMDL program's North Fork pathogen report.

Carr Fork Lake only partially supports aquatic life [2000 305(b)] and secondary contact recreation [boating and fishing; 1996 303(d) and 2000 305(b)] because of suspended sediment, organic enrichment, and low oxygen.

Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 86 straight pipes or failing septic systems in the watershed.











North Fork Region



See the color map of this region on p. 119.

LEGEND

- Area of this watershed 
- Sewage plants 
- Public water supplies 
- Other water withdrawals 
- Locks & dams 
- Cities and towns 
- Rivers and larger streams 
- Smaller streams 
- County borders 