

Lotts Creek watershed (051002-01-080)

Geography. The Lotts Creek watershed straddles the boundary between central Knott and Perry Counties. 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. Lotts Creek empties into the North Fork Kentucky River north of Hazard. Among the creeks that feed it are Youngs Branch, Elk Fork, Trace Branch, and Darb Fork. Upper Second Creek is also included in this watershed.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is nearly all rural and wooded. Five businesses and organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. The assessed creek segments in this watershed include one 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>			
High	Low	High	Medium	High	IV

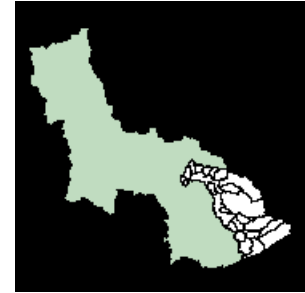
Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 34 square miles.

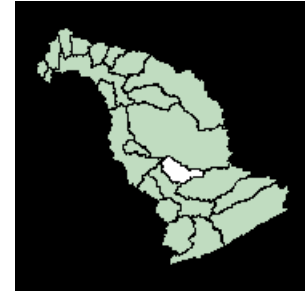
Aquatic life in Lotts Creek is partially impaired by stream modification and sedimentation between Trace Fork and Elk Fork (2nd priority TMDL 2002).

In 2000, the geometric mean of 3 fecal coliform samples taken by Watershed Watch from Lotts Creek at the 550 bridge exceeded 2,500 col/100 mls.

Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 126 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

