

North Fork Kentucky River watershed near Chavies (051002-01-100)

Geography. The North Fork Kentucky River watershed near Chavies covers parts of northern Perry County and southern Breathitt 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. This watershed includes the section of the North Fork between the mouth of Big Creek (between Combs and Typo at the Daniel Boone Parkway) and the mouth of Troublesome Creek at Haddix. Among many creeks that feed it within this watershed are Big Willard Creek, Hurricane Branch, Campbell Creek, First Creek, Caney Creek, and Georges Branch. Water also flows into this watershed from the watersheds of North Fork near Hazard, Big Creek, and Grapevine Creek.

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

Agency data assessment. The assessed creek segment in this watershed does not support some or all of its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. A variety of activities contribute to the impairment of this stream. 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	Medium	High	Medium	High	IV

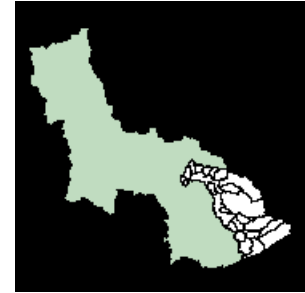
Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 94 square miles.

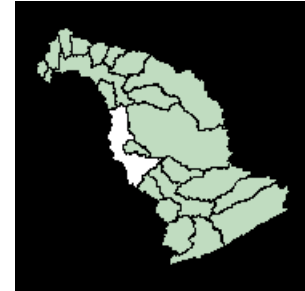
Part of source water protection zones 2 and 3 for Jackson's water system.

Covered by TMDL program's North Fork pathogen report. Aquatic life impaired by flow alteration and sedimentation in the entire length (4.5 miles) of Big Willard Creek (1st priority TMDL 2002).

Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 33 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 

