

## South Fork of Quicksand Creek watershed (051002-01-130)

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**Geography.** The South Fork of Quicksand Creek watershed is in eastern Breathitt County. The land is in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field physiographic region, which is 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.** The South Fork of Quicksand Creek empties into Quicksand Creek just above its confluence with the North Fork Kentucky River close to Quicksand. Among the creeks that feed the South Fork of Quicksand are Smith Branch, Dumb Betty Branch, Spicewood Branch, and Twomile Fork.

**Land and water use.** Land in the watershed is mainly rural and wooded. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

**Agency data assessment.** The assessed creek segment in this watershed only partially supports its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. Siltation contributes to the impairment of the 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](http://kywatersheds.org) or [www.uky.edu/WaterResources/Watersheds](http://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	Low	High	IV

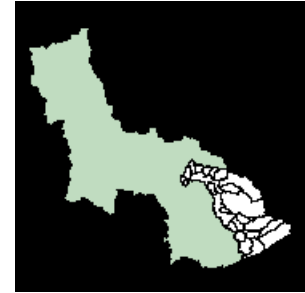
## Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 40 square miles.

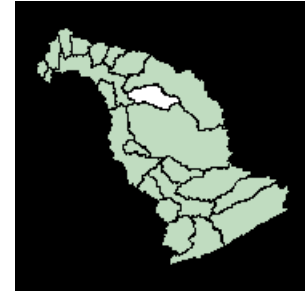
Part of source water protection zones 1, 2, and 3 for the Jackson water system.

Covered by TMDL program's North Fork pathogen report. Aquatic life partially impaired by sedimentation in South Fork Quicksand between Press Howard Fork and Quicksand Creek (2nd priority TMDL 2002).

Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 1 straight pipe in the watershed.











North Fork Region



See the color map of this region on p. 121.

### 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 