

Sixmile Creek watershed (051002-05-330)

Geography. The Sixmile Creek watershed covers southeast Henry County and northeast Shelby County, with a sliver of Franklin County. The higher, western portion of the watershed is in the outer subregion of the Bluegrass physiographic region, which is characterized by undulating terrain, moderate to rapid surface runoff, and moderate rates of groundwater drainage. The lower, eastern portion of the watershed is in the hills of the bluegrass subregion, characterized by hilly terrain, very rapid surface runoff, and slow groundwater drainage. Parts of the watershed lie over interbedded shales and limestones (these are 20% limestone; water conduction is poor because of the clay content of the shale). Other areas lie over interbedded limestones and shales (>20% limestone, allowing groundwater flow where the clay content is low enough). Unconsolidated silts, sands, and gravels occur along the flood plain of the creek in Henry County.

Waterways. Sixmile Creek empties into the Kentucky River at Lockport. Among the creeks that feed it are Dutch Fork, Burger Fork, Indian Fork, Sweet Home Branch, Backbone Creek, Bantas Fork, Salt River, Little Sixmile Creek, Boyd Branch, Woodcocks Branch, Longs Branch, Joes Branch, and Hances Branch.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is about half agricultural and half rural and wooded. Three businesses and organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. Of the three assessed creek segments in this watershed, Bantas Fork only partially supports its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. Habitat alteration and siltation contribute 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 or www.uky.edu/WaterResources/Watersheds for the complete Assessment Report and Management Plan.

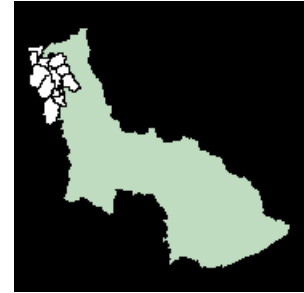
Watershed Restoration Ranking			Watershed Protection Rank	Overall Watershed Rank	Framework Mobilization Category
<i>Observed Impacts</i>	<i>Potential Impacts</i>	<i>Combined Rank</i>			
Low	High	Low	Low	Low	IV

Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 81 square miles.

Aquatic life partially impaired by sedimentation and habitat alteration in Bantas Fork (2nd priority TMDL 2002).

Livestock density is substantially higher than the basin average.



Lower Kentucky River



See the color map of this region on p. 137.

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

