

## Lytles Fork & Eagle Creek headwaters watershed (051002-05-360)

**Geography.** The Lytles Fork & Eagle Creek headwaters watershed covers northern Scott County and adjoining edges of Owen and Grant Counties. The land is in the hills of the bluegrass subregion of the Bluegrass physiographic region, which is characterized by hilly terrain, very rapid surface runoff, and slow groundwater drainage. The watershed lies mainly above interbedded limestones and shales (>20% limestone, allowing groundwater flow where clay content is low enough). Some of the watershed lies above thick layers of easily dissolved limestone that form carbonate aquifers: groundwater flows through channels in the limestone, so caves and springs are common in regions with this geology.

**Waterways.** This watershed constitutes the headwaters region of Eagle Creek. Lytles Fork and Eagle Creek join just over the Scott County line in Owen County, at which point the Eagle Creek above Tenmile Creek watershed begins. Among the creeks that feed Lytles Fork are Griffith Branch, Hess Branch, Longlick Branch, and Little Indian Branch. Among the creeks that feed Eagle Creek in this watershed are Muddy Branch, Sharon Branch, Rogers Creek, West Fork Eagle Creek, East Fork Eagle Creek, Straight Fork, Hall Branch, Little Eagle Creek, Mile Run, and Rays Fork.

**Land and water use.** Land in the watershed is more than 50% agricultural and more than 40% rural and wooded. Ten businesses and organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

**Agency data assessment.** The assessed segment of Eagle Creek fully supports its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. The assessed segment of Lytles Fork only partially supports its designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. Habitat alteration contributes to 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>			
Low	High	Low	Low	Low	III

## Watershed Highlights

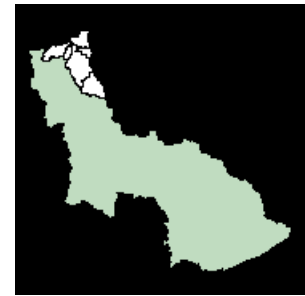
Watershed covers 119 square miles.

Sadieville discharges treated sewage into the watershed.

Aquatic life partially impaired by habitat alteration in

Lytles Fork from its mouth to Hess Branch (2nd priority TMDL 2002).

Livestock density is substantially higher than the basin average.




Eagle Creek Region



See the color map of this region on p. 139.

### 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 