Stillwater Creek watershed (051002-04-130)

**Geography.** The Stillwater Creek watershed is in central Wolfe County. The higher part of the watershed is in the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field physiographic region, which is characterized by mountainous terrain, rapid rates of surface runoff, and moderate rates of groundwater drainage. The lower part of the watershed is in the plateau area of the coal field region, characterized by rolling terrain, medium to rapid rates of surface runoff, and slow to medium 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. Parts of the watershed lie over sandstone aquifers.

**Waterways.** Stillwater Creek empties into the Red River in Wolfe County just east of the Daniel Boone National Forest and northeast of Campton. Among the creeks that feed it are Rockhouse Creek, Betts Branch, Buchanan Fork, Baptist Fork, Rocky Branch, and Laurel Fork.

**Land and water use.** Land in the watershed is about 80% rural and wooded and 20% agricultural. No businesses or 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 fully support their 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.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed Restoration Ranking</th>
<th>Watershed Protection Rank</th>
<th>Overall Watershed Rank</th>
<th>Framework Mobilization Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Observed Impacts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Potential Impacts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Combined Rank</strong></td>
<td><strong>Watershed Protection Rank</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**Watershed Highlights**

Watershed covers 32 square miles. Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 3 straight pipes or failing septic systems in the watershed.

See the color map of this region on p. 129.