
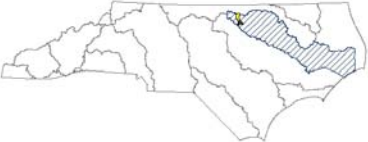



N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program



Restoring... Enhancing... Protecting Our State

FISHING CREEK LOCAL WATERSHED PLAN FACT SHEET

Location:	Near Oxford, NC
River Basin:	Tar-Pamlico
Cataloging Unit:	03020101
14-digit Hydrologic Units:	03020101020010, 03020101030010, 03020101030020
Counties:	Granville (~93%), Vance (~5%), Franklin (~2%)
Watershed Area	69.7 square miles
Planning Contact:	Rob Breeding, (919) 733-5311, rob.breeding@ncdenr.gov
Potential Participants:	Granville County, City of Oxford, Tar River Land Conservancy (TRLC), Pamlico Tar Foundation, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), NC Division of Water Quality (DWQ), NC Division of Forestry, NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP), Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF)
Watershed Consultants:	W. K. Dickson & Co., Inc.
Stakeholder Facilitators:	Watershed Education for Communities and Officials (WECO, NCSU)
 <p>Fishing Creek in the Tar-Pamlico Basin in NC.</p>  	

Project Overview

This planning study focuses on streams in three hydrologic units (HUs), the largest of which encompasses the City of Oxford, NC. These HUs were chosen for multiple reasons. At the outset of this planning effort, three Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects were planned for development around Oxford. Fishing Creek is the major tributary of the Tar River running through the study area and is considered impaired due to its poor aquatic insect community. It was placed on the NC 303(d) list of state waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution by the Division of Water Quality (DWQ). The Oxford wastewater treatment plant is situated just south of the city in the headwaters of Fishing Creek.

Most of the land surrounding Oxford is pastureland and low-density residential area interspersed with some cropland. The land adjacent to the length of Fishing Creek is similar in character with slightly more cropland as it approaches the Tar River in the south. Most of the Tar River running through the study area is designated a Significant Natural Heritage Area by the NC Natural Heritage Program. Waters in this watershed provide important habitat for rare aquatic and wetland species including mussels and plants. The Tar River Land Conservancy maintains two significant easements along the Tar River within the study area. The study area provides a balance of potential restoration and preservation opportunities, as well as opportunities for innovative projects to enhance other watershed functions.

LOCAL WATERSHED PLAN AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

Pre-Planning Support Documents:

[Summary of Findings and Recommendations for the Fishing Creek Local Watershed Plan
Tar-Pamlico River Basin Watershed Restoration Plan \(2004\)](#)

Phase I:

[Watershed Situation Assessment](#)

[Subwatershed Delineation](#)

[Windshield Surveys](#)

[Mussel Study](#)

[Interactive ArcIMS Website](#)

[Aquatic Insect and Fish Study](#)

[DRAFT Toxicity Assessment Report](#)

[Water Quality Summary](#)

[Subwatershed Prioritization](#)

[Monitoring Plan](#)

Phase II:

[Water Quality Study](#)

[DRAFT Watershed Characterization Report](#)

[Hatchers Run Special Study](#)

[Wetland Assessment Report](#)

Phase III:

[Watershed Restoration Opportunities Report](#)

[Watershed Restoration Atlas](#)

Stakeholder Support:

[Newsletters & Presentations](#)

Estimated Project Schedule:

- March 2005—HU selection completed & Phase I data collection initiated
- May 2005—Stakeholders identified and invited to participate
- May 2005—Biological Sampling initiated
- May 2005—Water quality data summary completed
- June 2005—First Stakeholder meeting held
- Summer 2005—Phase II monitoring plan completed
- December 2007—Monitoring completed
- May 2008—Preliminary findings report
- February 2009—Round I of project proposals due
- Fall 2009—DRAFT Recommendations report and atlas
- Summer 2010—Watershed Coordination and Project Implementation begins

