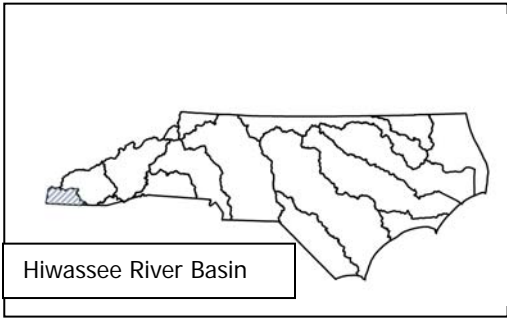
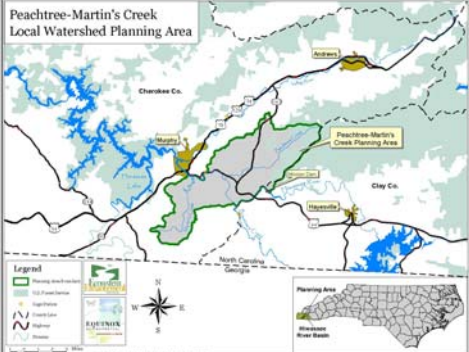


# N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program



*Restoring... Enhancing... Protecting Our State*

## PEACHTREE-MARTINS CREEK LOCAL WATERSHED PLAN Fact Sheet

<b>Location:</b>	Near Murphy, NC
<b>River Basin:</b>	Hiwassee
<b>Cataloging Unit:</b>	06020002
<b>14-digit Hydrologic Units:</b>	06020002090020, 06020002100040, 06020002100050, 06020002170010
<b>Counties:</b>	Cherokee, Clay
<b>Watershed Area</b>	39 square miles
<b>Planning Contact:</b>	Andrea Leslie - Ecosystem Enhancement Program (828) 337-3455 or <a href="mailto:Andrea.Leslie@ncdenr.gov">Andrea.Leslie@ncdenr.gov</a>
<b>Participants:</b>	Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition, Tennessee Valley Authority, Local Advisory Committee
<b>Contractor Hired for Watershed Assessment</b>	Equinox Environmental Consultation and Design, Inc. Contact: Jim Blose at (828) 253-6856 or <a href="mailto:jim@equinoxenvironmental.com">jim@equinoxenvironmental.com</a>
 	

### Project Overview

The Peachtree-Martins Creek watershed is a 39 mi<sup>2</sup> area near Murphy, including Martins Creek, Peachtree Creek, Slow Creek, and Mission Branch. Land use is a mix of pasture, forest, and residential land. Development pressure on agricultural and forested land is increasing, as growth from the Atlanta metro area expands. This local watershed plan, completed in 2007, expanded on watershed restoration work performed by the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition and natural resource agencies.

The watershed team consisted of staff of EEP, Equinox Environmental, Division of Water Quality, and the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition. They performed intensive field assessment and landowner outreach activities, carrying out recommendations named by a local advisory committee. The Tennessee Valley Authority developed new land use and riparian buffer datasets from low altitude aerial photography and produced an Integrated Pollutant Source Identification database in March 2006.

Present stressors identified that limit stream integrity are lack of riparian vegetation, channel modification, excess nutrients and sediments, fecal bacterial contamination, stormwater pollutants and velocities, groundwater



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contamination, and sediment inputs from a local quarry. Future stressors from new development were modeled given various development scenarios and land management policies.

Management strategies to address both present and future stressors were identified. Sixteen stream restoration projects and seven preservation projects were identified for EEP's consideration.

### **Plan Implementation**

EEP staff have two stream restoration projects in design in the Martins Creek subwatershed, an area prioritized by the local advisory team for project implementation. The Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition is implementing various plan recommendations, including stormwater management and continued landowner education.

### **PEACHTREE-MARTINS CREEK LOCAL WATERSHED PLANNING DOCUMENTS:**

[Preliminary Findings and Recommendations Report](#)

[PFRR Appendices A, B, C, F](#)

[PFRR Appendix D](#)

[PFRR Appendix E](#)

[Watershed Assessment Report](#)

[DWO Water Quality Study](#)

[Watershed Management Plan](#)

[Findings and Recommendations Summary](#)

Planning documents and much more information are available on the Peachtree-Martins Creek Local Watershed Plan website at <http://www.hrwc.net/peachtreemartinslwp.htm>

