

N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program

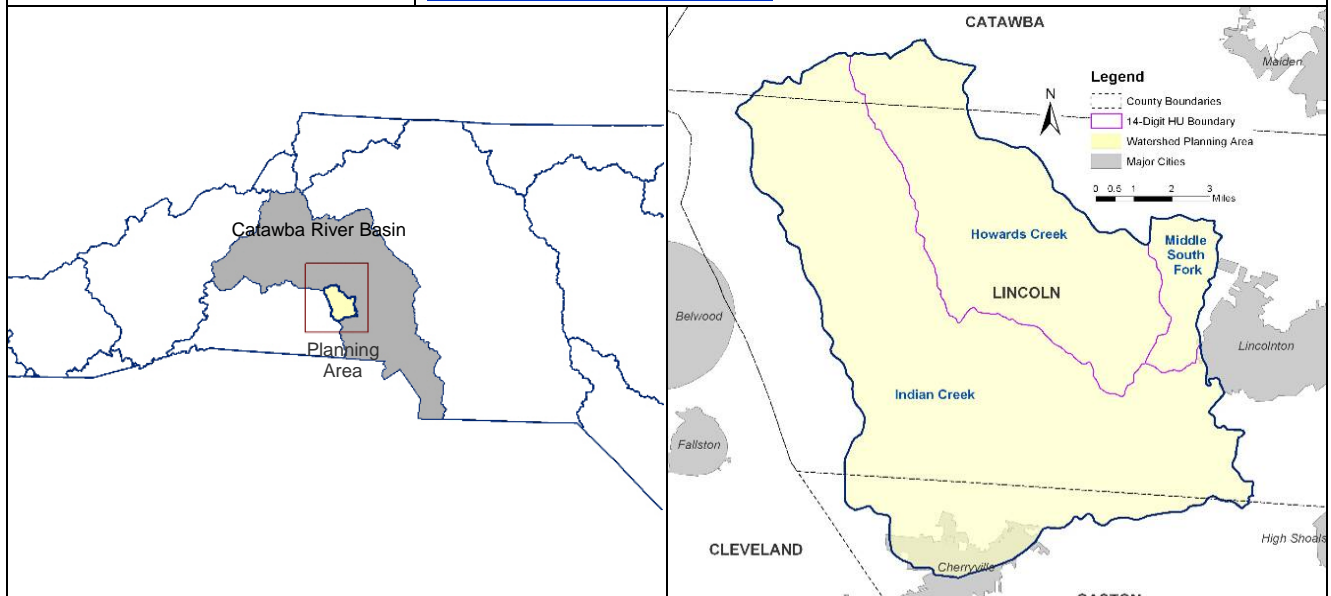


Restoring... Enhancing... Protecting Our State

INDIAN CREEK AND HOWARDS CREEK LOCAL WATERSHED PLAN

FACT SHEET

Location:	West of the City of Lincoln (primarily in Lincoln County)
River Basin:	Catawba River Basin's South Fork
Cataloging Unit:	03050102
14-digit Hydrologic Units:	03050102040030, 03050102040040 and 03050102050010
Counties:	Lincoln, Catawba, and Gaston
Watershed Area:	114 sq. miles total: Indian Creek 75 mi ² , Howard's Creek 34 mi ² , Middle South Fork 5 mi ²
EEP Contacts:	Planning: Hal Bryson (828) 450-9408 Hal.Bryson@ncdenr.gov Project Management: Paul Wiesner (828) 273-1673 Paul.Wiesner@ncdenr.gov
Participants:	Lincoln & Gaston County Staff, SWCD, Carolina Land & Lakes RC&D, NC Source Water Protection Program, NC Rural Water Association, Catawba Lands Conservancy; State and Federal Resource Agencies, including NC DWQ and NC DOT.
Supporting Consultant:	ENTRIX Inc. [Alan Moore (919) 239-8905; amoore@entrix.com]
Project Website:	http://www.nceep.net/services/lwps/Indian_Howards_Creek/INDIAN_HOWARD_CREEKS.html



Project Overview

Indian, Howards, and Middle South Fork Hydrologic Units are a part of the South Fork of the Catawba River Basin. The three watersheds are contiguous and cover portions of Lincoln, Catawba and Gaston County. The watersheds are largely rural, with a mix of forest and farms and suburban development. Drinking water intakes for the cities of Cherryville and Lincoln are located within the watershed planning area. Lower Indian Creek has been identified by NC Division of Water Quality as having impaired biology and is on the 303(d) list of impaired waters.



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Project Schedule

Beginning in early 2008, EEP partnered with area resource professionals, the NC DWQ, and other local stakeholders to develop a local watershed plan (LWP) that would address challenges related to drinking water protection, stormwater runoff, habitat degradation and rural preservation within the LWP study area. The LWP study proceeded through three phases: preliminary watershed characterization; detailed assessment of watershed conditions; and development of the final Project Atlas and Watershed Management Plan. The final Watershed Management Plan was completed in September 2010.

LWP Reports

Phase I - [Preliminary Findings \(6.5 MB\)](#)

Phase II - [Detailed Assessment Report \(9 MB\)](#)

Phase III - [Watershed Management Plan \(4 MB\)](#)

The Lincoln County Commissioners provided a formal endorsement of the final Plan in the summer of 2010. A long-term advisory team to oversee the implementation of key recommendations within the Plan, the Local Watershed Advisory Committee (LWAC), has been established as a sub-committee within the Lincoln Natural Resources Committee (LNRC) and began holding quarterly meetings in July 2010. Among other objectives, the LWAC hopes to develop a local watershed education program. LWAC members have also used the LWP initiative to leverage funding from the 319 program for the design, construction and monitoring of a stormwater wetland at West Lincoln High School.

Project materials -- including meeting notes, maps, and reports -- can be downloaded from the project [website](#).



Figure 1. Local Watershed Plan Area Detail.