

N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program



Restoring... Enhancing... Protecting Our State

FRANKLIN TO FONTANA LOCAL WATERSHED PLAN

Fact Sheet

Location: River Basin: Cataloging Unit: 14-digit Hydrologic Units: Counties:	Near Franklin, NC Little Tennessee 06010202 06010202040010, 06010202040020, 06010202040030, 06010202040040, 06010202060010 Macon, Swain
Watershed Area	154 square miles
Planning Contact:	Andrea Leslie - Ecosystem Enhancement Program (828) 337-3455 or Andrea.Leslie@ncdenr.gov
Participants:	Advisory Committee made up of Local Citizens, Little Tennessee Watershed Association, Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, Macon County, Natural Heritage Program, more.....
Contractor Hired for Watershed Assessment:	Equinox Environmental Consultation and Design, Inc. Contact: Andy Brown at (828) 253-6856 or andy@equinoxenvironmental.com

Project Overview

The Franklin to Fontana watershed is a 154 mi² area near Franklin that encompasses the Little Tennessee River watershed between Lake Emory and Lake Fontana. This area is of great ecological and cultural significance, and it includes a 23-mile free-flowing stretch of the Little Tennessee River that hosts a highly diverse aquatic community, including a number of rare, threatened, and endangered fish and mussels. The area includes Cowee, Burningtown, Iotla, Watauga, Brush, and Tellico Creeks. This primarily rural watershed is a mix of pasture, forest, and residential land, but there is notable development pressure on existing agricultural and forested land.

This project builds on water quality monitoring work performed by the Little Tennessee Watershed Association, Tennessee Valley Authority, and the Division of Water Quality; key monitoring objectives will be set by an advisory committee composed of local citizens and local, state, and federal natural resource and planning professionals.



Project Schedule

This project will stretch between summer of 2008 and winter of 2010. An initial characterization of the watershed (see report on next page) was completed in January 2009. Intensive watershed monitoring and analysis will take place in 2008 and 2009, and a watershed management plan and project atlas will be available in the fall of 2010.

FRANKLIN TO FONTANA LOCAL WATERSHED PLANNING DOCUMENTS:

Preliminary Findings and Recommendations Report

(Report can be accessed as one 15 mb document or as three 5-6 mb sections)

[Entire report](#) (15 mb)

[Part 1](#) (5 mb)

[Part 2](#) (6 mb)

[Part 3](#) (5 mb)

[Appendices](#) (1 mb)

[Supporting documents, part 1](#) (NCDWQ Summary of water quality data, Summary of 2008 benthic monitoring) (4 mb)

[Supporting documents, part 2](#) (Methods used for land cover data, riparian condition data, and field assessment) (4 mb)

