

# **Appendix V**

## **Hiwassee River Basin Summary of Public Comment**

Public Comment Summary	DWQ Comments	Location in Plan
Development, especially at higher elevations. Also improperly constructed access roads associated with the new development.	The plan provides details about erosion/sedimentation laws and enforcement, as well as requirements, recommendations and contact information for agencies, developers and local programs. Recommendations for proper road grade and drainage control structures are also provided.	Section A, Part 4.2 Section A, Part 4.3 Appendix VI
Old septic systems that might be failing, new ones that might be improperly installed or in marginal areas/soils, and vast number of systems being installed.	Elevated fecal coliform concentrations (an indicator of pathogens typical in wastewater) have been observed in some part of the basin. Discussion and recommendations to address these concerns are provided.	Section A, Part 4.5 Section A, Part 3.3.5
Increased flow from more impervious surfaces.	No local governments are currently required to obtain a permit for stormwater in the basin, however general recommendations are provided and local planning for development is encouraged.	Section A, Part 4.3
Lack of general education about water quality issues.	DWQ workshops are intended to provide some level of general education about water quality issues. In addition, a document called <i>A Citizen's Guide to Water Quality Management in North Carolina</i> is available from DWQ. The Planning Branch is also developing a guide targeted towards homeowners and aimed at reducing quantity and improving the quality of stormwater. Unfortunately, DWQ does not currently have resources to do more face-to-face education than what is currently being done through the Basinwide Planning Program.	Section A, Part 1.6 Section A, Chapter 4
Water quality contamination from an old landfill near Andrews in the Valley River watershed.	DWQ has conducted biological monitoring upstream and downstream of this landfill in the past and staff do not suspect a problem with pollution of the Valley River from this source.	Appendix II – Tables Section B, Part 2.2.1
Streambank erosion.	In addition, to previous comments regarding sedimentation and development, the plan discusses several initiatives designed to identify and correct problems with streambank erosion	Section A, Part 4.2 Section C
Shooting Creek watershed (primarily streambank erosion/loss of riparian vegetation).	The plan discusses Shooting Creek as a water where impacts have been observed. DWQ will attempt to sample the watershed more intensively during the next round of biological sampling.	Section B, Part 1.5.1

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Sedimentation and development in the Blair Creek and Hyatt Mill Creek watersheds.	DWQ did not sample either of these streams in 1999, however data were collected by TVA. The plan discusses Blair and Hyatt Mill Creeks as streams where impacts have been observed.	Section B, Part 1.5.4 Section A, Part 3.4
Mining in Valley River and its tributaries.	DWQ is working with DLR to address reported impacts associated with unpermitted instream mining activities.	Section A, Part 4.4
More sampling of Valley River tributaries is needed.	DWQ is working with the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition to sample additional tributaries within the Valley River watershed prior to the next cycle of basinwide sampling. Also, the Coalition recently received a CWMTF grant for the Valley River.	Section B, Part 2.2.1 Section C, Part 1.5.1
Absentee landowners often make BMP implementation and education difficult.	DWQ will support local agencies in trying to reach out to absentee landowners.	
Nottely River watershed	The plan discusses Nottely River as a water where impacts from flow fluctuation and low dissolved oxygen have been observed.	Section B, Part 2.5.1 Section A, Part 3.4
Hiwassee River below Mission dam in terms of the operation of the dam.	DWQ is involved with relicensing efforts in the Hiwassee River basin and will work to obtain the least possible water impact upon relicensing of the Mission project.	Section A, Part 2.9.2
Low dissolved oxygen, sedimentation and nutrients in Lake Chatuge and tributary embayments.	DWQ and TVA monitored Lake Chatuge over the past five years and will continue to do so. In addition, DWQ supports the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition's more in-depth study of the watershed.	Section A, Part 3.3.4 Section A, Part 3.4 Section B, Part 1.5.3 Section C, Part 1.5.1
Need for more enforcement of current regulations as they relate to sediment control.	Comments with regard to state or local sediment/erosion control programs have been passed on to the appropriate governing program. DWQ is working to provide these programs with better information about how turbidity standards can be met.	Section A, Part 4.2.1 Section C, Part 1.5.1 Appendix VI
Need for more presence from the US Corp of Engineers to handle permits and enforcement.	Comment will be passed on US Corp of Engineers staff in Asheville.	