

Chapter 5 - White Oak River Subbasin 03-05-05 Includes Core Sound and Atlantic Ocean

5.1 Water Quality Overview

Subbasin 03-05-05 at a Glance

Land and Water Area (sq. mi.)

Total area:	52
Land area:	8
Water area:	44

Population Statistics

1990 Est. Pop.:	2,575 people
Pop. Density:	0 person/mi ²

Land Cover (%)

Forest/Wetland:	14
Surface Water:	84
Urban:	0.2
Cultivated Crop:	0
Pasture/ Managed Herbaceous:	2

Water Area:

Stream Miles:	0
Estuarine Acres:	21,975
Coastal Miles:	43
Shellfish Harvest Acres:	21,975

This subbasin includes the eastern side of Core Sound and the southern side of Back Sound in Carteret County. The entire subbasin is estuarine. The land within this subbasin, Shackleford Banks, Cape Lookout and Core Banks, is part of the Cape Lookout National Seashore and is nearly undeveloped. A map of this subbasin including water quality sampling locations is presented in Figure B-9. Use support ratings for monitored waters are presented in Table B-8.

There are very few permanent residences in this subbasin, and water quality is very good.

All of the waters in this subbasin are Class SA, and 20,094 acres are classified as ORW.

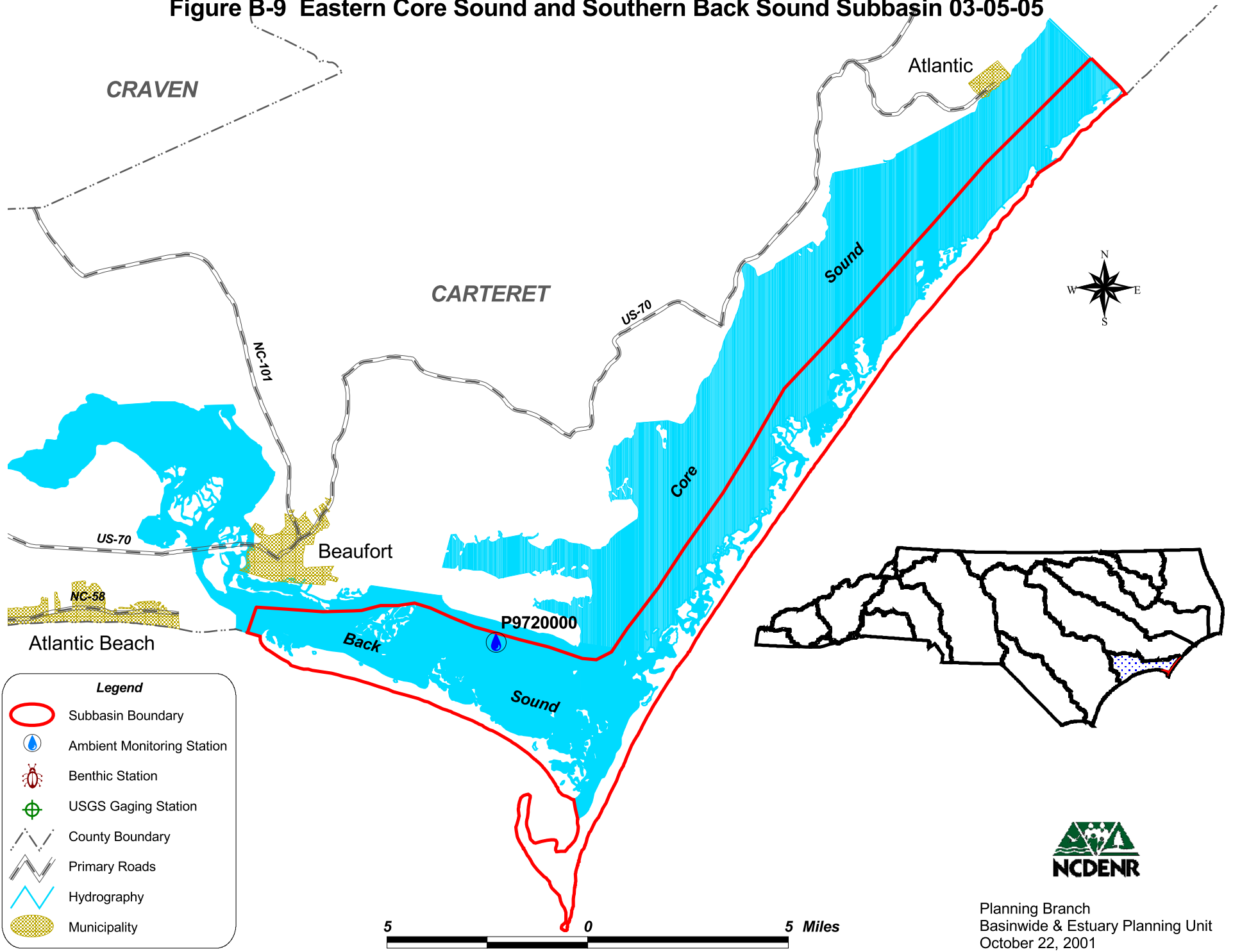
For more information, refer to the *White Oak River Basinwide Assessment Report* (June 2000) or contact Environmental Sciences Branch at (919) 733-9960 or visit the web site at <http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/>.

Table B-8 Use Support Ratings for Monitored Waters in Subbasin 03-05-05









Use Support Category	Use Support Ratings				
	FS	PS	NS	NR	Total
Aquatic Life and Secondary Recreation	21,975 ac	0	0	43 coastal mi.*	21,975 ac
Fish Consumption	0	43 coastal mi.*	0	0	43 coastal mi.*
Primary Recreation	21,975 ac 43 coastal mi.*	0	0		21,975 ac 43 coastal mi.*
Shellfish Harvesting	21,975 ac	0	0	0	21,975 ac

* Refers to miles along Atlantic coastline.

Figure B-9 Eastern Core Sound and Southern Back Sound Subbasin 03-05-05



Legend

-  Subbasin Boundary
-  Ambient Monitoring Station
-  Benthic Station
-  USGS Gaging Station
-  County Boundary
-  Primary Roads
-  Hydrography
-  Municipality



Planning Branch
 Basinwide & Estuary Planning Unit
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5.2 Status and Recommendations for Previously Impaired Waters

There were no impaired waters in this subbasin in the 1997 plan.

5.3 Status and Recommendations for Newly Impaired Waters

All waters in this subbasin are currently partially supporting (PS) on an evaluated basis for the fish consumption use support category because of a statewide fish consumption advisory for bowfin. There are no bowfin in this subbasin as all the waters are estuarine. Fish tissue samples were not collected in this subbasin. Forty-three miles of Atlantic coastline are currently partially supporting (PS) the fish consumption use support category because of a consumption advisory for king mackerel. Refer to page 61 for more information on this issue. There are no other newly impaired waters in this subbasin.

5.4 Impaired Class SA Waters

All the waters in the subbasin are DEH SS classified as approved and currently rated fully supporting. Refer to page 49 for DEH SS growing area criteria. Data for making use support determinations were provided by DEH SS (refer to page 40). The differences in acreage estimates between years are not necessarily related to changes in water quality, but to different methods of estimating acreage and changes in use support methodology. Refer to Appendix III for use support methodology and a complete listing of individual monitored waters.

5.5 303(d) Listed Waters

Forty-three miles of Atlantic coastline are on the year 2000 303(d) list because of a consumption advisory for king mackerel.