Using the online database to visualize spatial and temporal water quality trends

⇒Use flood results to illustrate the new features







- Waccamaw River Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program
- River Gauging Monitoring Program

Community Outreach
Watershed & Stormwater
Issues
Waccamaw Riverkeeper

Educa

Syste

Contact Us

- Anache Pier, Myrtte Beach thear real-time
- 2nd Ave North Pier, Myrtle Beach (near real-time)
- Cherry Grove Pier, Myrtle Beach (near real-time)
 Long Bay Observing System (near real-time)

Water Quality on Campus

Coastal Carolina University Monitoring Program

http://www.coastal.edu/wwa/

Website Upgrades

Site-specific percentiles in stats summary table

Use in boxplots

Boxplots (plus old bar graphs)

Time trend graphs

- Show multiple sites (toggle)
- Show multiple parameters (toggle)

Rain trend graphs

Show cumulative & daily rain

Behind the scene

- Data entry tool
- User management tool for tracking retraining

Highlights

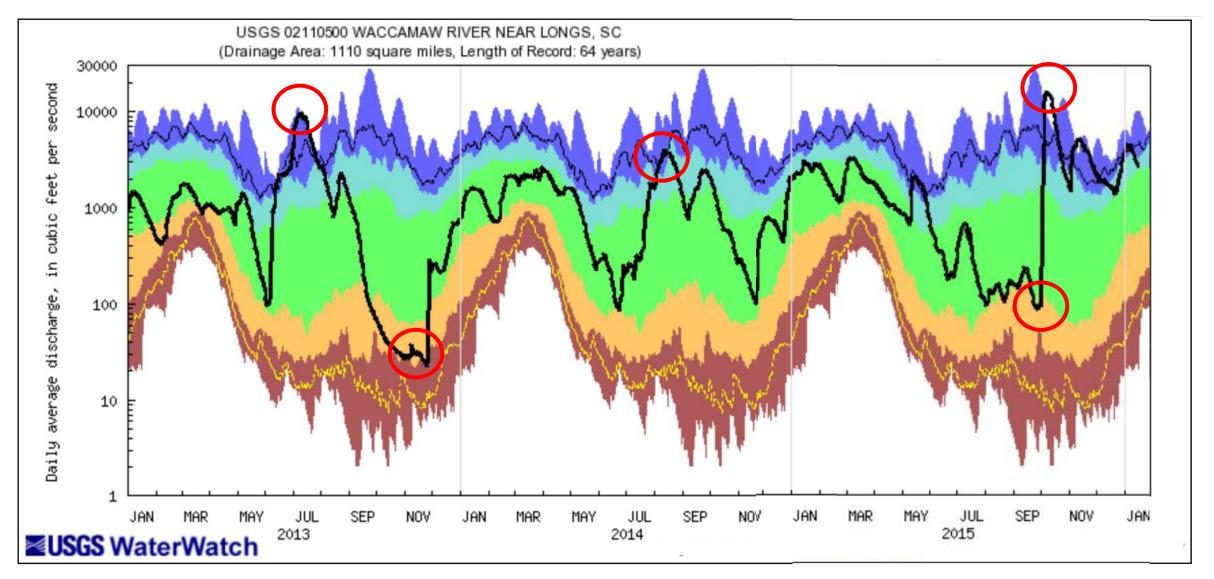
Drought -> Big Flood

- The usual: low conductivity, oxygen and pH
- VM monitoring during the flood.
- Fecal bacteria and turbidity: First dilution. Big burst of fecal bacteria during first week of November after another 4" rain.

Provisional reporting to support illicit discharge detection and eliminations

Two examples – turbidity in Sterritt
 Swamp and at Hagley





	Е	xplana	tion - Pe	ercentile	classes	S	
							_
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below Normal		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		11011

Since 2006

Historic Crests

- (1) 17.94 ft on 09/22/1999
- (2) 15.17 ft on 10/06/2015
- (3) 14.95 ft on 09/15/1996
- (4) 14.87 ft on 08/23/1981
- (5) 14.87 ft on 02/08/1998
- (6) 14.86 ft on 10/10/2015
- (7) 14.49 ft on 10/25/1999
- (8) 14.40 ft on 03/26/1983
- (9) 13.94 ft on 07/06/1961
- (10) 13.82 ft on 09/29/1955

Low Water Records for

Waccamaw River at Longs

- (1) 0.10 ft on 07/23/2011
- (2) 0.39 ft on 07/21/2002
- (3) 0.46 ft on 09/24/2010
- (4) 0.55 ft on 10/16/2007
- (5) 0.65 ft on 08/22/2007
- (6) 0.67 ft on 08/10/2007
- (7) 0.72 ft on 09/22/2009
- (8) 0.75 ft on 06/20/2008
- (9) 1.27 ft on 07/27/2010
- (10) 1.30 ft on 10/04/2009

DATA PRODUCTION FROM 10 YEARS

Site	Samplings	Measurements	Total	
Site	Sumplings	per sampling	independent	
Maple Street	93	11	1,023	
Canal Cove	93	11	1,023	
Big Creek	93	11	1,023	
LAWA Dam	93	11	1,023	
Babson's Lndg	60	11	660	
Pireway	60	11	660	
Hwy 9	226	11	2,486	
Reaves Ferry	217	11	2,387	
Murrells Lndg	1670	17	28,390	
Conway	226	11	2,486	
Pitch Landing	226	11	2,486	
Peachtree	189	11	2,079	
Enterprise	224	11	2,464	
Bucksport	227	11	2,497	
Wachesaw	228	11	2,508	
Hagley	224	11	2,464	
Sampit	220	11	2,420	
		Total =	58,079	

Dissolved salts

Low levels are measured as "Conductivity" or "TDS".

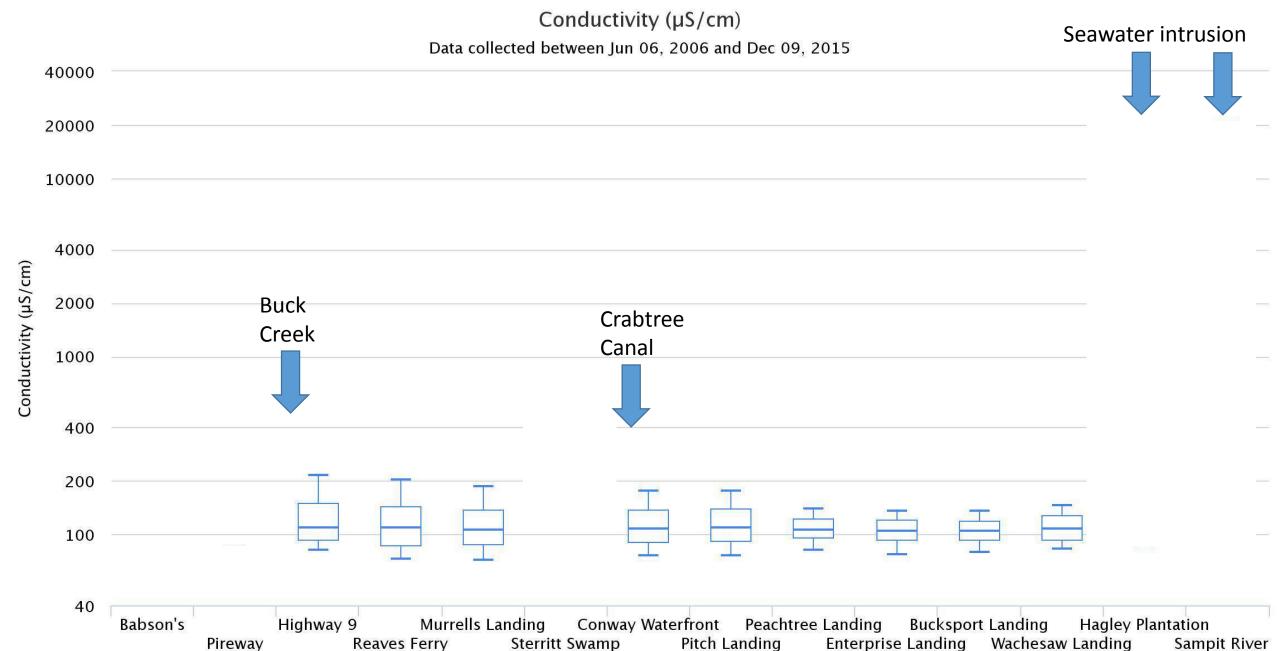
High levels are measured as "Salinity".

We use this as a water source tracer.

Groundwater has high salt levels

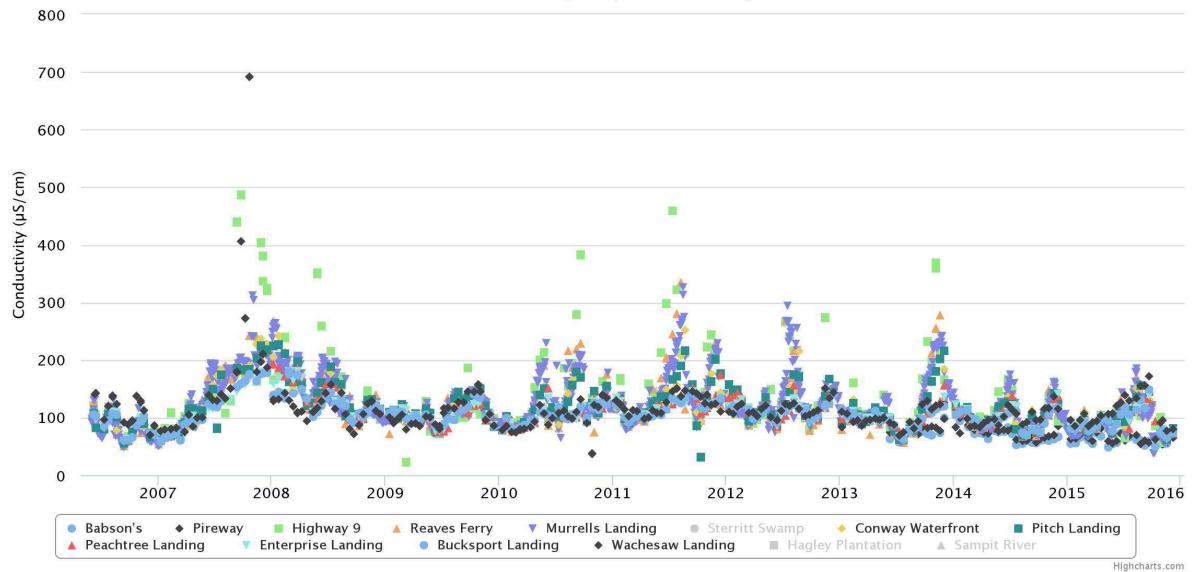
Rain water has very low salt levels

Polluted runoff can have high levels.



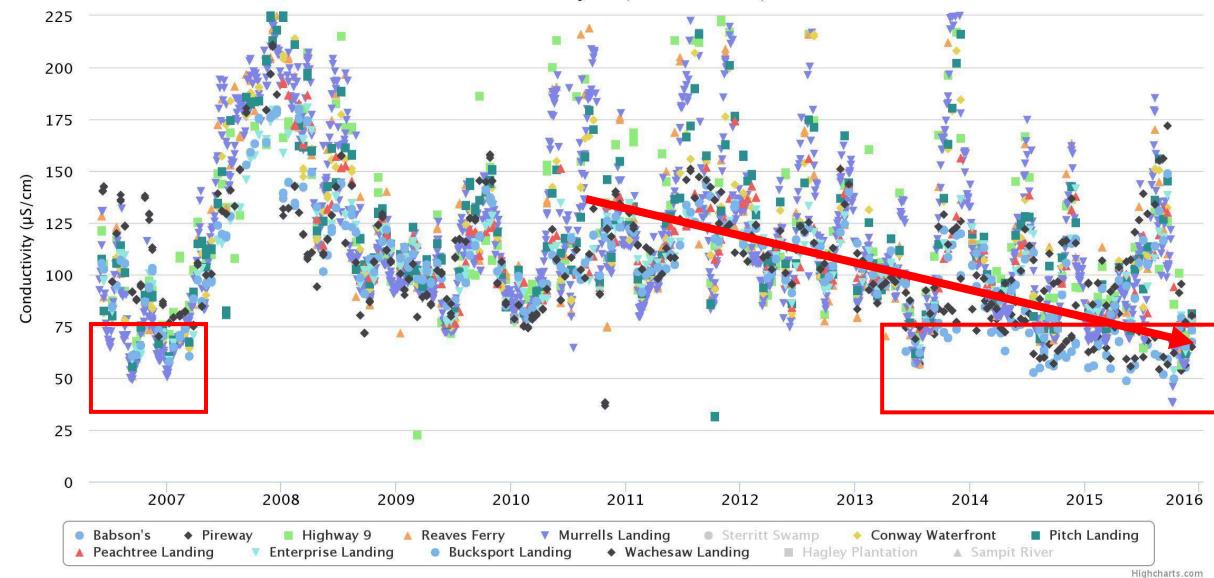
Conductivity (µS/cm)

Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



Conductivity (µS/cm)

Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



POLICYFORUM

CLIMATE CHANGE

Stationarity Is Dead: Whither Water Management?

P. C. D. Milly, 1* Julio Betancourt, 2 Malin Falkenmark, 3 Robert M. Hirsch, 4 Zbigniew W. Kundzewicz, 5 Dennis P. Lettenmaier, 6 Ronald J. Stouffer 7

ystems for management of water throughout the developed world have been designed and operated under the assumption of stationarity. Stationarity—the idea that natural systems fluctuate within an unchanging envelope of variability-is a foundational concept that permeates training and practice in water-resource engineering. It implies that any variable (e.g., annual streamflow or annual flood peak) has a time-invariant (or 1-year-periodic) probability density function (pdf), whose properties can be estimated from the instrument record. Under stationarity, pdf estimation errors are acknowledged, but have been assumed to be reducible by additional observations, more efficient estimators, or regional or paleohydrologic data. The pdfs, in turn, are used to evaluate and manage risks to water supplies, water-



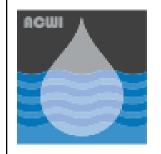
An uncertain future challenges water planners.

Climate change undermines a basic assumption that historically has facilitated management of water supplies, demands, and risks.

- Climate change will be accompanied by an increased frequency of extreme events.
- We can't predict the future from our historical past.
- An uncertain future is a challenge for water resource planners.

Kudo's to flood and rain sampling

- VM newsletter article national
- Went one better after Joaquin
- Important because of questions about high bacteria levels
 - Flooding of septic systems
 - Would this impact the main stem given high dilution?
 - Series of news articles
 - Initial dilution from first flood followed by burst of fecal bacteria in early November.
 - Second set of flooding is near record at Hagley



National Water Quality Monitoring Council

Working together for clean water



Volunteer Monitoring News

A news update for - and by - the volunteer monitoring community





Issue No. 3

March 2013

In this issue....

Special Topic

Preparing for Cataclysmic Weather Events (an interview) (p. 2)

Special Topic: Preparing for Cataclysmic Weather Events

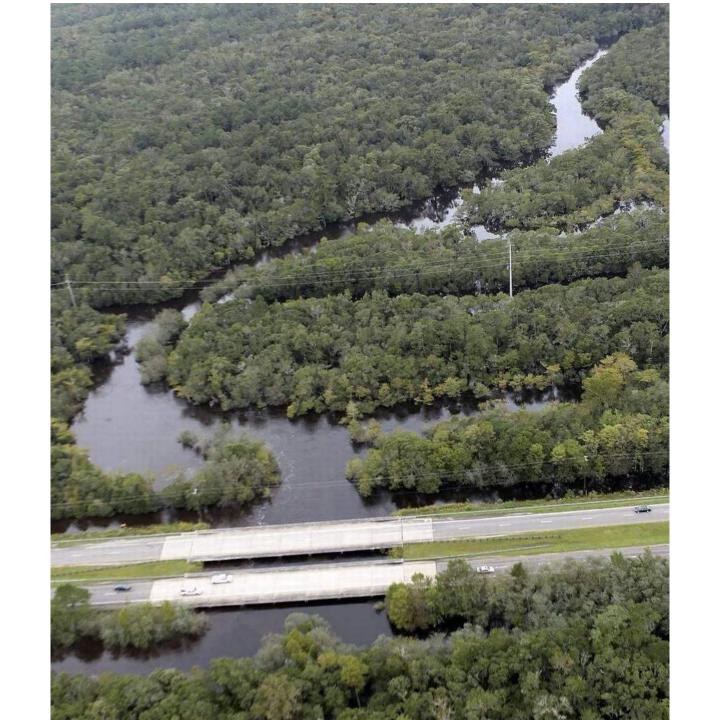
What follows is an abridged and paraphrased version of an interview VMN (Thomas Tisue) conducted by telephone with Prof. Susan Libes of Coastal Carolina University in late December 2012.

VolMonNews (VMN): In addition to your position as Professor of Marine Science, you also manage an extensive network of volunteers that monitors a large watershed extending from the Atlantic Coast back into the coastal plain. We understand that the focus of this effort is on point and nonpoint source inputs whose signatures include fecal indicator bacteria.

This focus must give added importance to monitoring in the wake of major, or even severe, precipitation events, even though those events often complicate operations and may put personnel and equipment at risk.

How do you prepare for dealing with such events in terms of training, risk management, and continuity of operations?

Hwy 9 on 10/6/15



CAROLINA COCORAHS

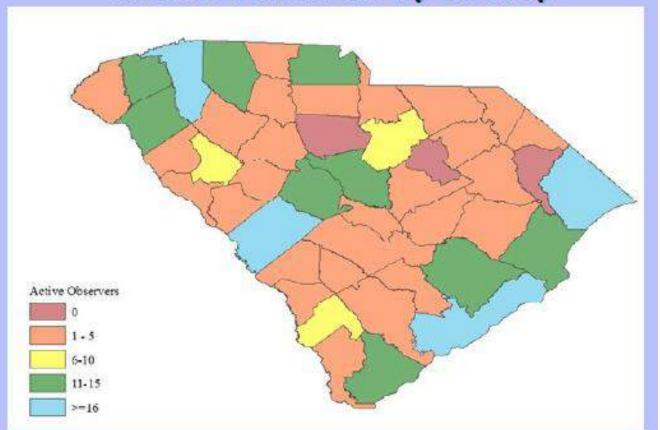


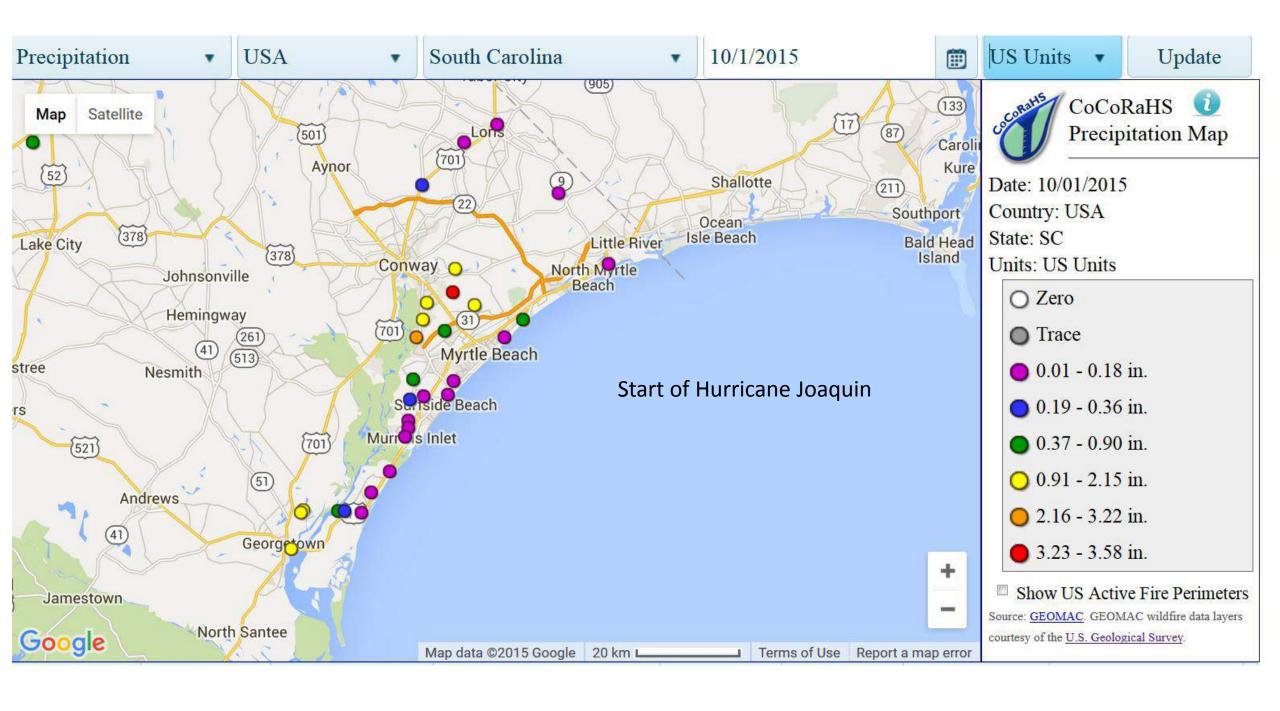
Special thanks to the observers who reached the milestone of reporting for five years!

111 observers in 2008-2013 40 observers in 2009-2014 314 total active observers

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network "CoCoRaHS-Because Every Drop Counts!"







National Weather Service Public Information Statement:

The following are unofficial observations of total rainfall between 12 AM on Friday October 2nd and 8 AM on Monday Oct 5.

```
GEORGETOWN COUNTY...
                      20.75
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            CO-OP OBSERVER
GEORGETOWN 4 SSW
GEORGETOWN 5 NNE
                      19.93
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
GEORGETOWN 5 NNE
                     19.72
                             800 AM 10/05
                                           COCORAHS
                      18.75
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
PAWLEY'S ISLAND 3 W 16.93
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
                      16.74
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
NORTH INLET WINYAH B 15.13
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            NERR
PAWLEY'S ISLAND 1 WN 14.92
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
PAWLEY'S ISLAND 6 NN 13.90
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
MURRELLS INLET 1 NNE 13.73
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
PAWLEY'S ISLAND 3 W 12.19
                              800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS
PAWLEY'S ISLAND 5 N 11.81
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
.HORRY COUNTY...
LONGS
                                            CO-OP OBSERVER
                             1015 AM 10/05
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH 1 21.24
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
MYRTLE BEACH 7 NNW
                      19.62
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
CONWAY 6 E
                      18.81
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
SOCCASTEE
                      17.80
                             1000 AM 10/05
                                            WEATHER SPOTTER
MYRTLE BEACH 8 WNW
                      17.40
                                            COCORAHS
                              800 AM 10/05
                      16.79
                                            COCORAHS
LONGS 1 NW
                              800 AM 10/05
MYRTLE BEACH 9 SW
                      16.76
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
MYRTLE BEACH 5 NE
                      16.64
                                            COCORAHS
                              800 AM 10/05
MYRTLE BEACH 9 WSW
                      16.48
                                            COCORAHS
                              800 AM 10/05
MYRTLE BEACH 5 WNW
                      16.45
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
MYRTLE BEACH 5 SW
                      15.80
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
NORTH MYRTLE BEACH
                      15.30
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            ASOS
MYRTLE BEACH 5 NNW
                      15.25
                                            COCORAHS
                              800 AM 10/05
MYRTLE BEACH 2 ENE
                      15.21
                                            COCORAHS
                              800 AM 10/05
                      14.79
CRABTREE SWAMP
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            USGS RAIN GAUGE
MURRELLS INLET 4 N
                                            COCORAHS
                      14.61
                              800 AM 10/05
MURRELLS INLET 2 N
                      14.05
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
SURFSIDE BEACH 1 ENE 13.22
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
MURRELLS INLET 4 NE
                     13.07
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
CONWAY 9 NNE
                      10.76
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
LORIS 3 WSW
                       9.04
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
GALIVANTS FERRY
                       8.92
                                            USGS RAIN GAUGE
                              800 AM 10/05
                                            COCORAHS
LORIS 1 ENE
                       8.92
                              800 AM 10/05
```

...HORRY COUNTY... LONGS 23.74 1015 AM 10/05 CO-OP OBSERVER NORTH MYRTLE BEACH 1 21.24 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MYRTLE BEACH 7 NNW 19.62 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS CONWAY 6 E 18.81 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS SOCCASTEE 17.80 1000 AM 10/05 WEATHER SPOTTER 17.40 MYRTLE BEACH 8 WNW 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS LONGS 1 NW 16.79 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS 16.76 MYRTLE BEACH 9 SW 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MYRTLE BEACH 5 NE 16.64 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MYRTLE BEACH 9 WSW 16.48 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS 16.45 800 AM 10/05 MYRTLE BEACH 5 WNW COCORAHS MYRTLE BEACH 5 SW 15.80 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS NORTH MYRTLE BEACH 15.30 800 AM 10/05 ASOS MYRTLE BEACH 5 NNW 15.25 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MYRTLE BEACH 2 ENE 15.21 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS CRABTREE SWAMP 14.79 800 AM 10/05 USGS RAIN GAUGE MURRELLS INLET 4 N 14.61 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MURRELLS INLET 2 N 14.05 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS SURFSIDE BEACH 1 ENE 13.22 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS MURRELLS INLET 4 NE 13.07 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS CONWAY 9 NNE 10.76 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS 800 AM 10/05 LORIS 3 WSW 9.04 COCORAHS GALIVANTS FERRY 8.92 800 AM 10/05 USGS RAIN GAUGE 8.92 LORIS 1 ENE 800 AM 10/05 COCORAHS





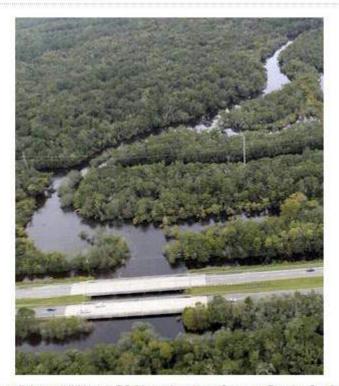
OCTOBER 16, 2015

Riverkeepers awaiting test results to determine bacteria levels in Waccamaw

Samples taken this week should be in early next week

River may contain high levels of bacteria or could be safe due to dilution

Health officials give cleanup safety advice











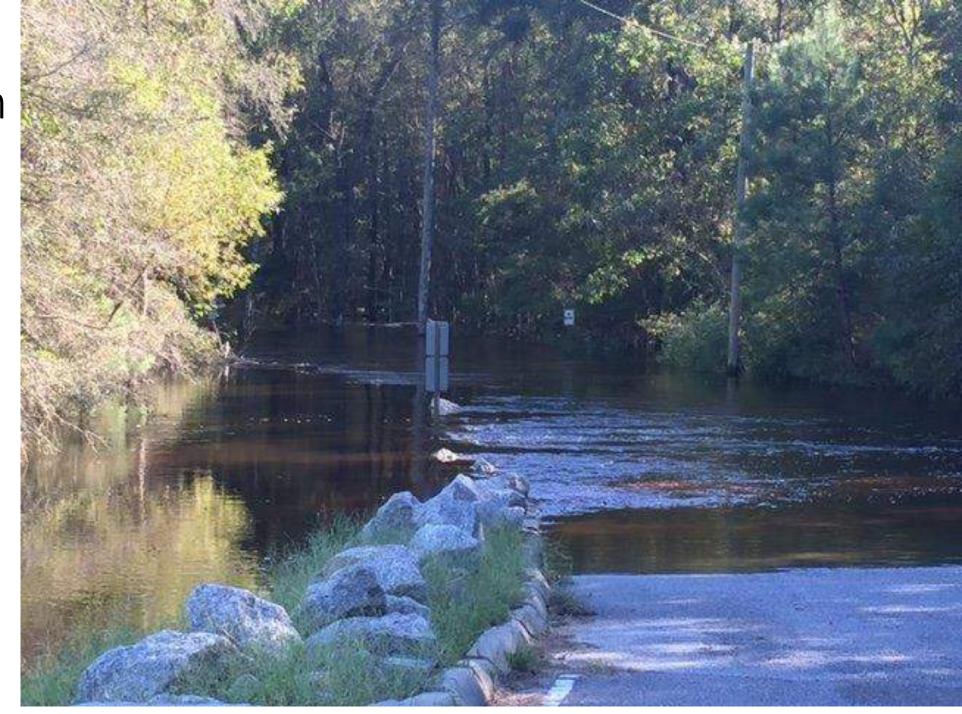
about 2 days ago High & Dry





The Waccamaw River swells beneath bridges on S.C. 9 in northern Horry County on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015. Janet

Hwy 9 10/08/15 from Kelly



Murrells Landing 10/8/16



Sterritt Swamp

From Grace... The water was algae free and all the litter that had been building up was flushed away. Oh, that's right....there is no "away".



Conway waterfront







From Dave Fuss 10/08/15

Horry County Admin Bldg



Pitch
Landing –
10/26/15

From Emma....
Still cant get to the dock but can drive all the way down to the site.



Peachtree Landing –



Team 4
Archie
Eric
Eliot
Mark
Don

Alternate sampling strategy on 10/14/15





We completed our testing from the Pontoon Boat about 12:30. No problems, testing went very well. Susan hit the nail on the head, all test were low, just about the levels you suspected.

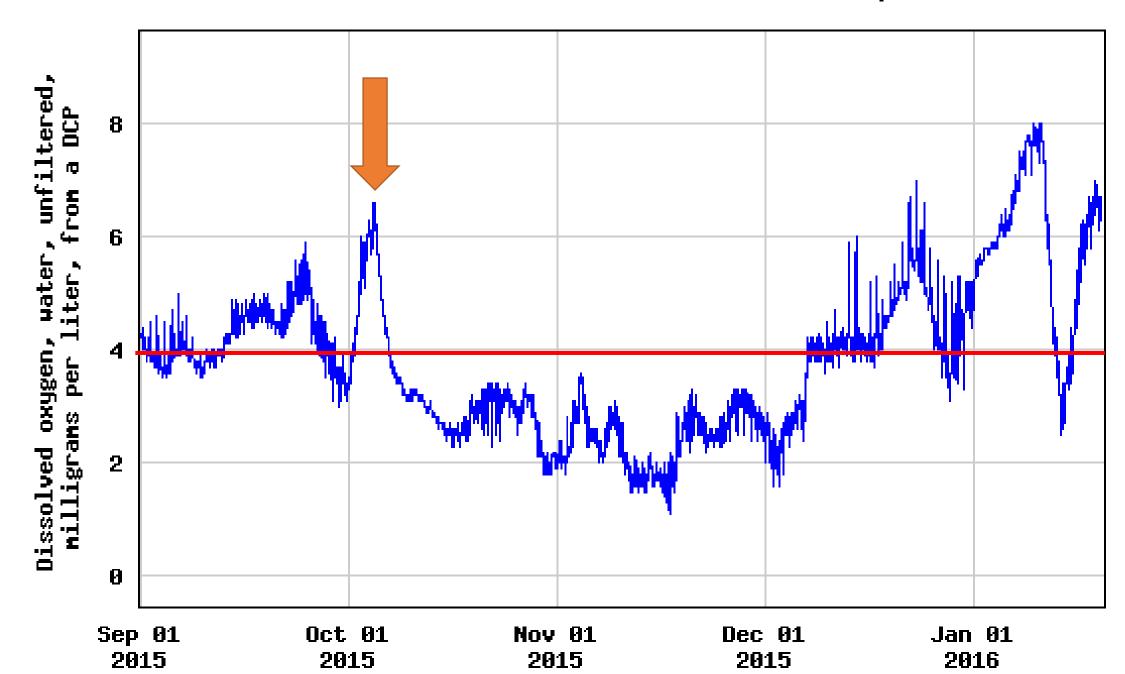
... there is much trash in the river although not as much large stuff as I expected

The influence of the Pee Dee river water coming through Bull Creek was amazing! Above Bull Creek, the water was flat, almost glassy with little or no wind. As soon as we passed Bull Creek on the way back down, the boat was moved all around by the eddies all over the river. We could see the effect heading up stream, but it was really awesome coming back down.

", We did see some fish mouth breathing near Peachtree. As I remember from my testing 40 years ago, when the DO drops below 2.0 mg/L, fish start having trouble. It was a interesting day.

Archie Biggs



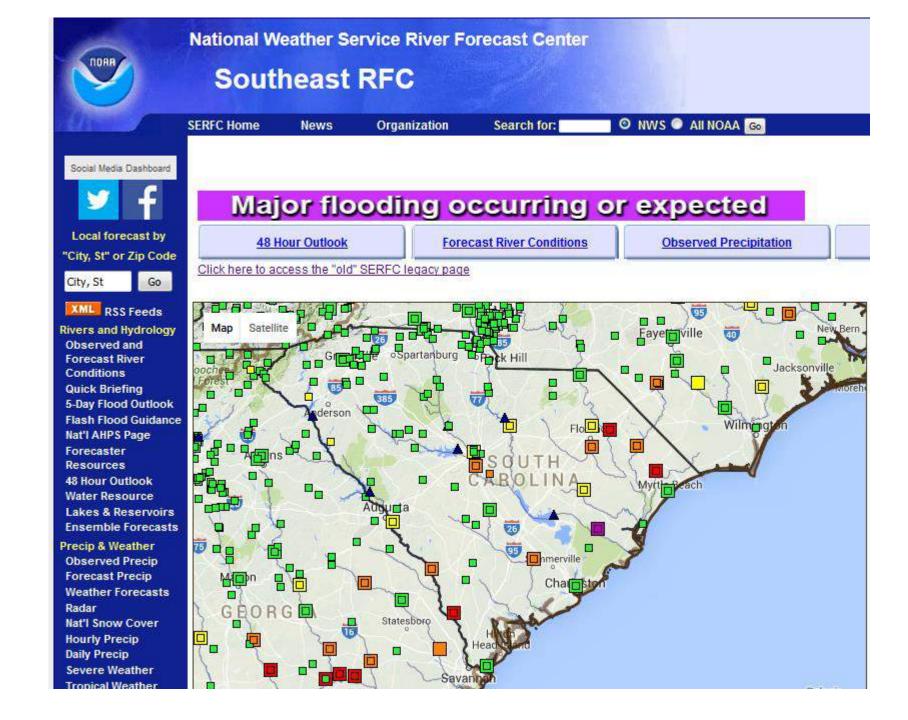


10/28/15 From Emma

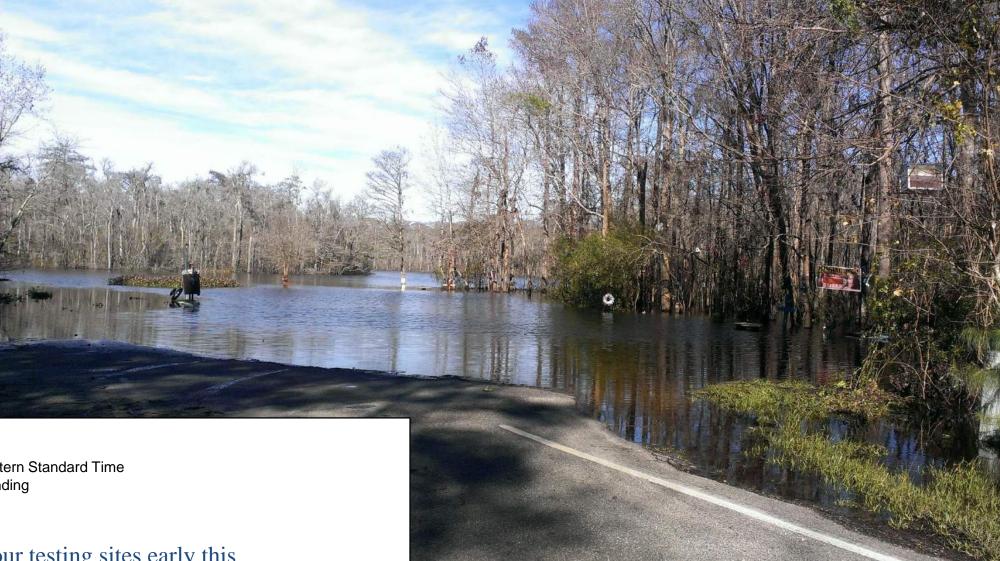
King tide at
East Bay
Landing,
Sampit
sampling site
yesterday
morning.



More high water in January 2016



1/11/16 Peachtree Landing



From: eliotjohnson@earthlink.net

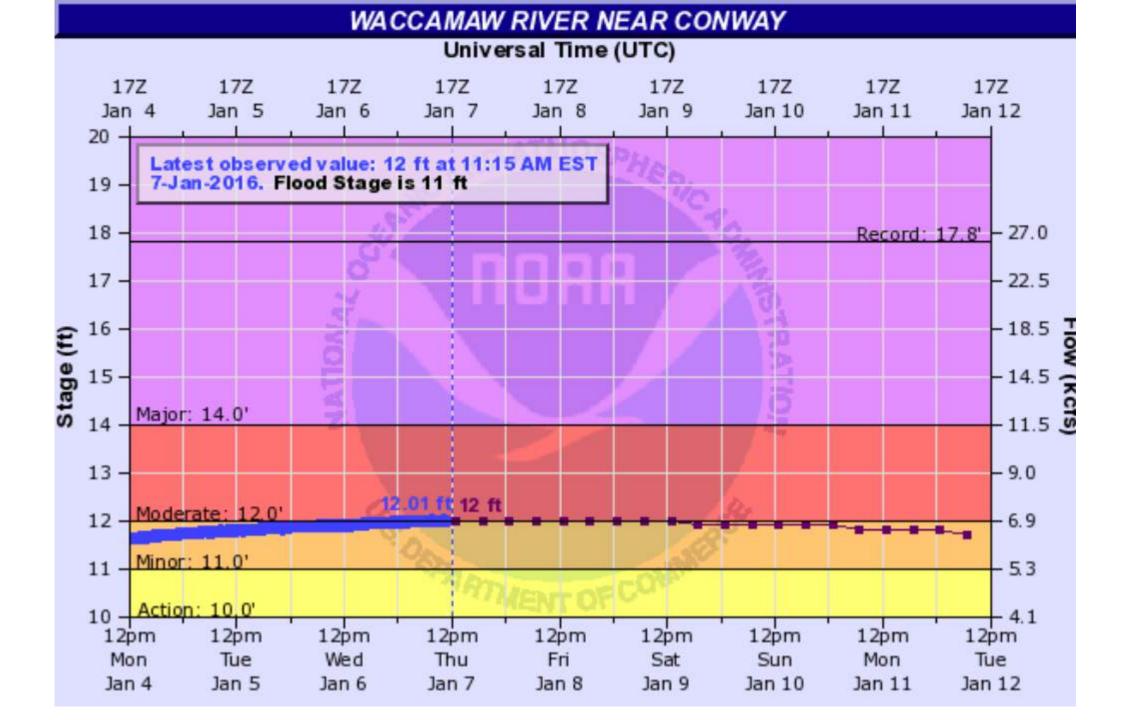
To: WAB3@aol.com

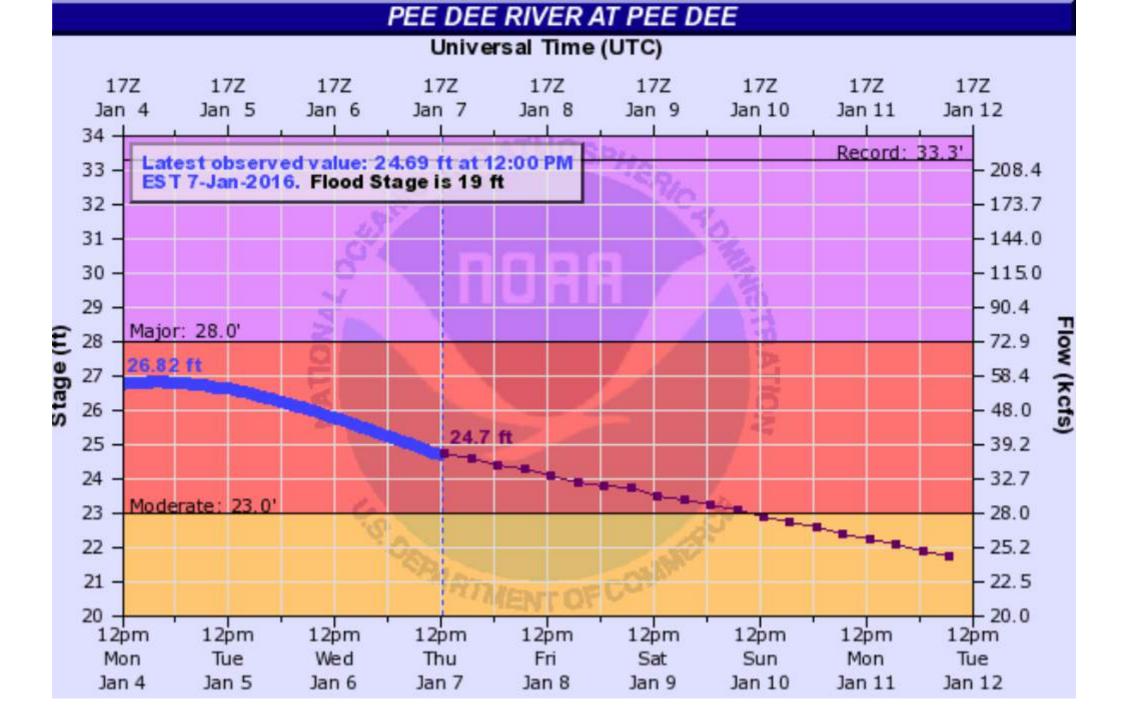
Sent: 1/11/2016 3:44:08 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

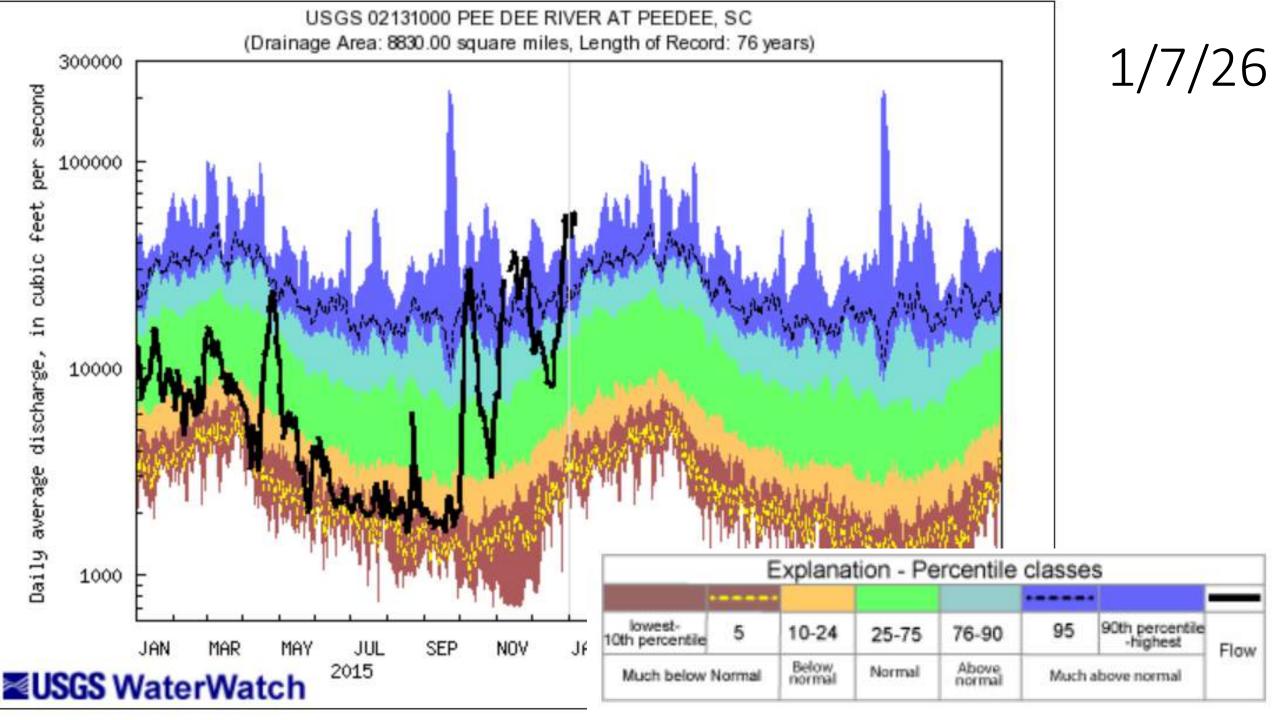
Subj: Status of WW, Ent & PT Landing

Archie,

I went out and toured our testing sites early this afternoon. Unbelievable!!! Enterprise is OK and the parking lot is not flooded. However, look at the attached photos of PT landing! WW, as you stated, is still completely flooded. WW, we can walk down the boat walkways and do our testing off the fuel dock. Enterprise is no problem. PT is a problem.

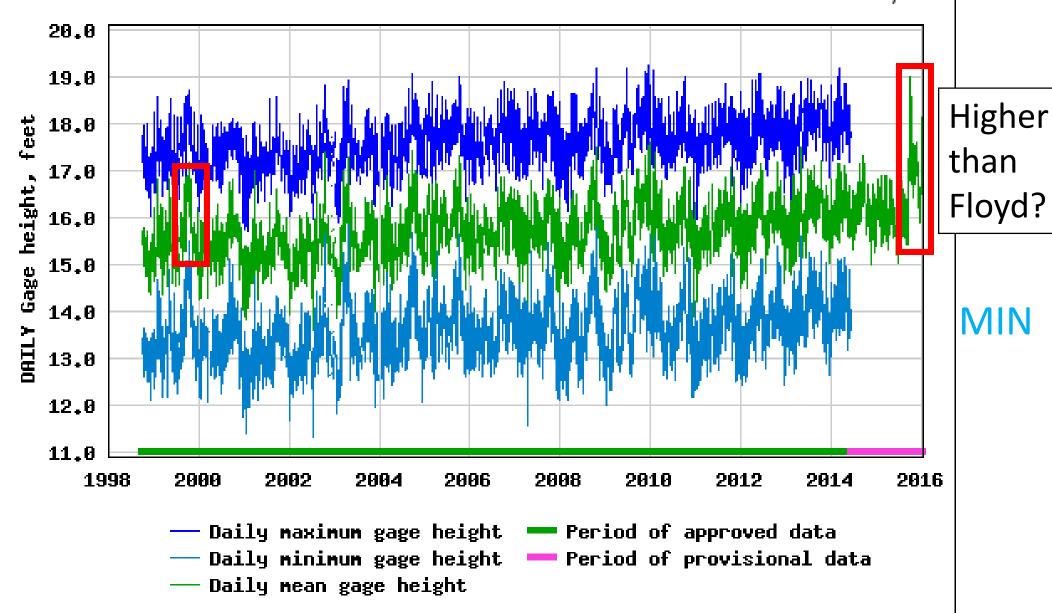






≥USGS

USGS 02110815 WACCAMAW R NR HAGLEY LAND. NR PAWLEYS ISLAND, SC



From: Erbland, John [mailto:jerbland@usgs.gov]

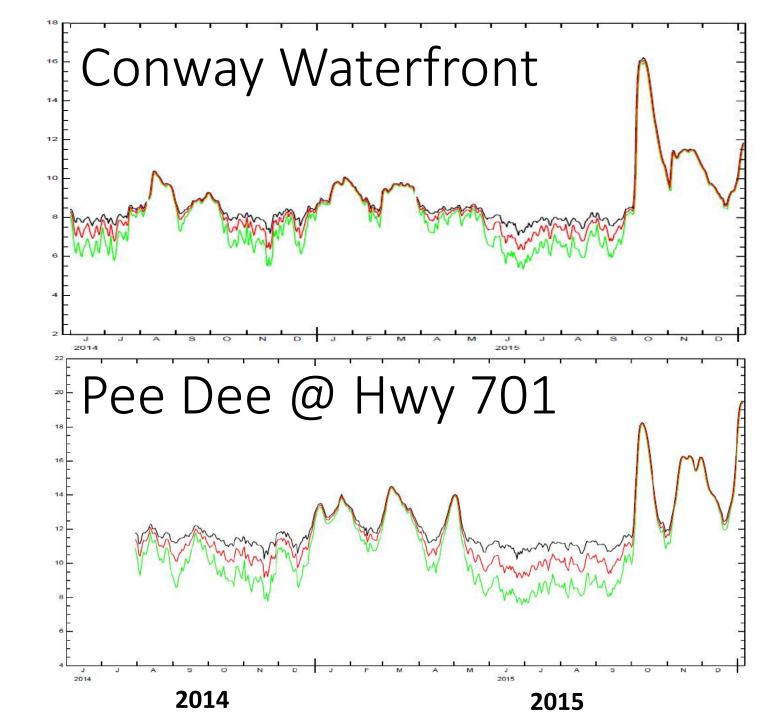
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 5:45 AM

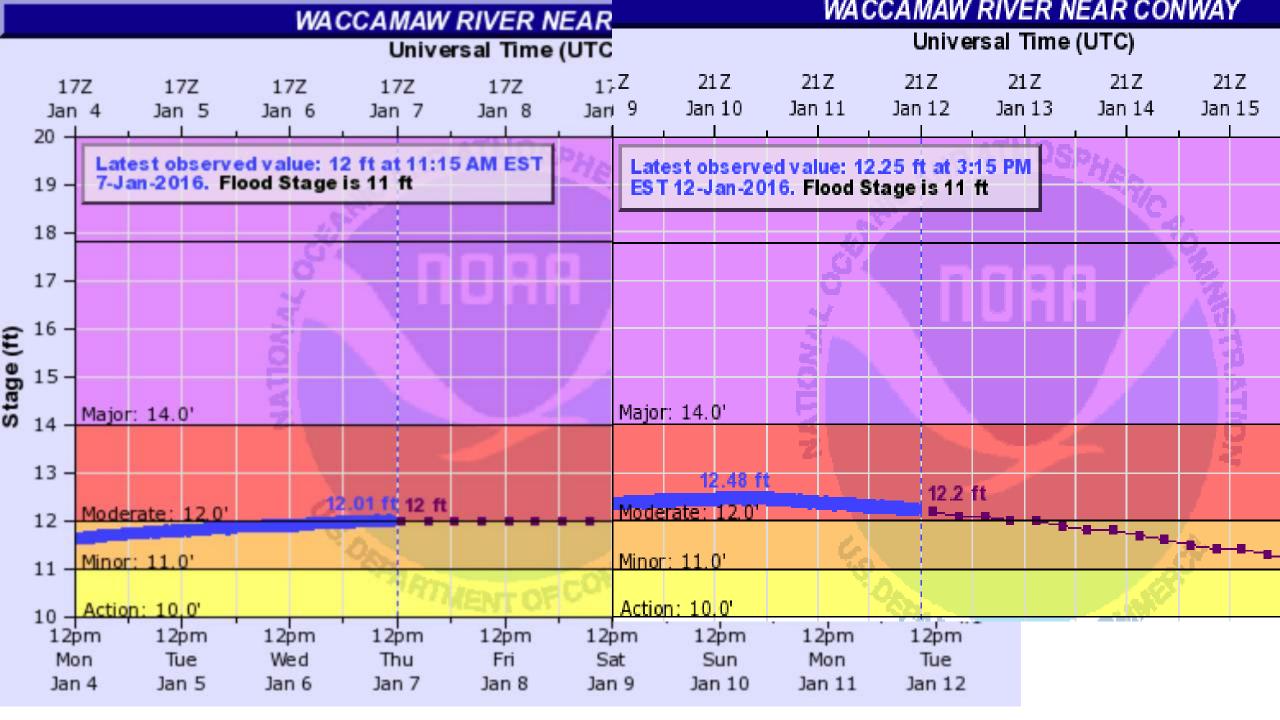
Subject: Re: High water at Hagley?

...My theory is that this flood event has lasted much longer and includes flooding on the Black River as well.. Floyd was somewhat contained in the Waccamaw basin. The Pee Dee's and Waccamaw have stayed high for 3+ months now. Floyd and other flood events came and went fairly quickly.

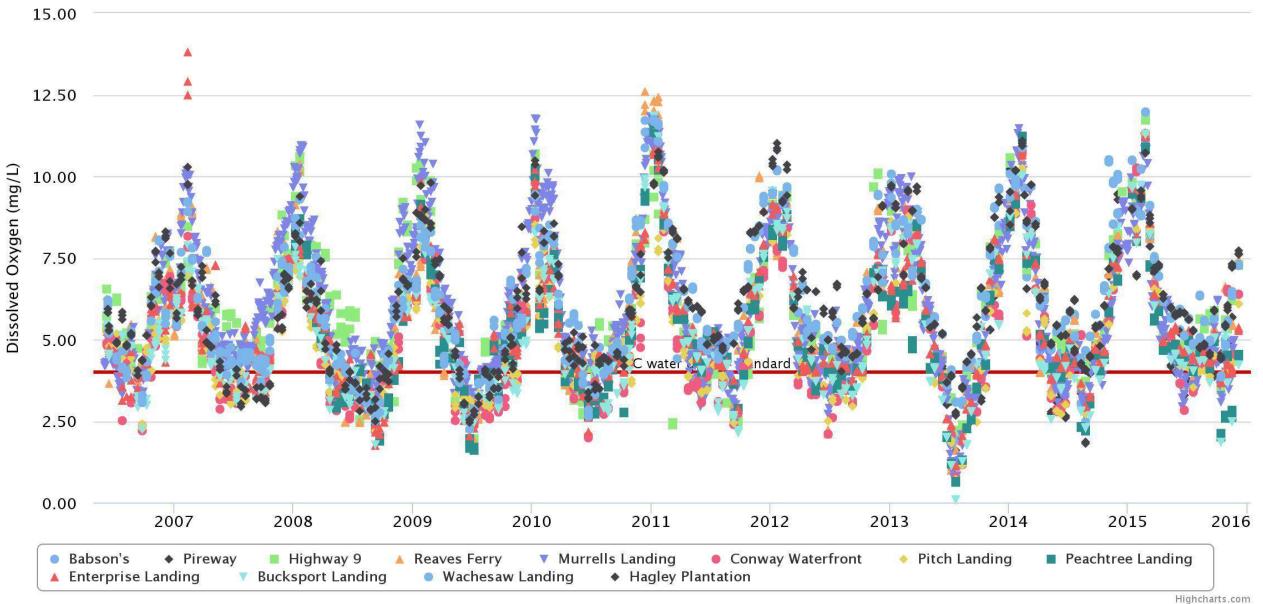
.... I did some digging and in our archives we have data before it was real time..e.g punch recorders. I found two historical peaks that were higher than this past October. Around March 10, 1989 a nor'easter blew for several days and the peak on Mar. 10 was 21.75 ft (highest ever). The peak for Hugo was 21.47 ft (Sep. 22, 1989). So to be factual, this October peak is the 3rd highest ever..but is the only peak associated with flooding. The peak from Floyd was 18.62 ft on Sep. 29, 1999 and the peak from Fran was 18.17 ft in Sep. 1996.

USGS Gage Heights





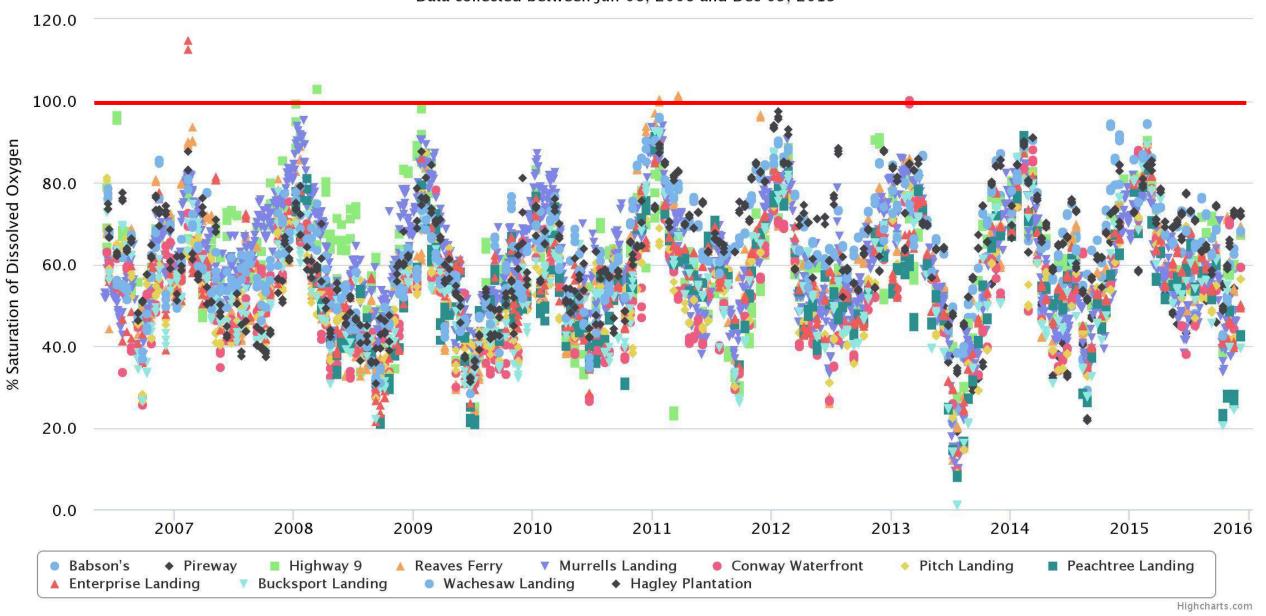
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



Usual seasonal cycle of low DO in summer, rising in winter. DO pretty high this past summer – we had a bit of drought. Interrupted this winter due to flood and unusually high temperatures

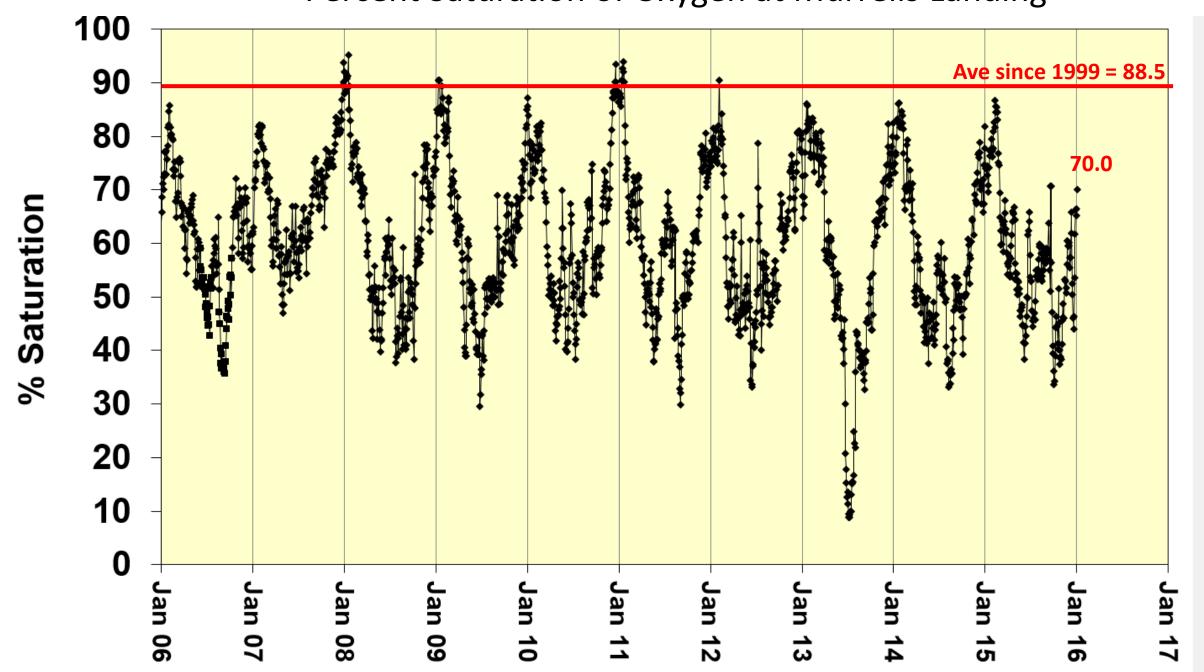
% Saturation of Dissolved Oxygen

Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



We should be at about 90% saturation by now.

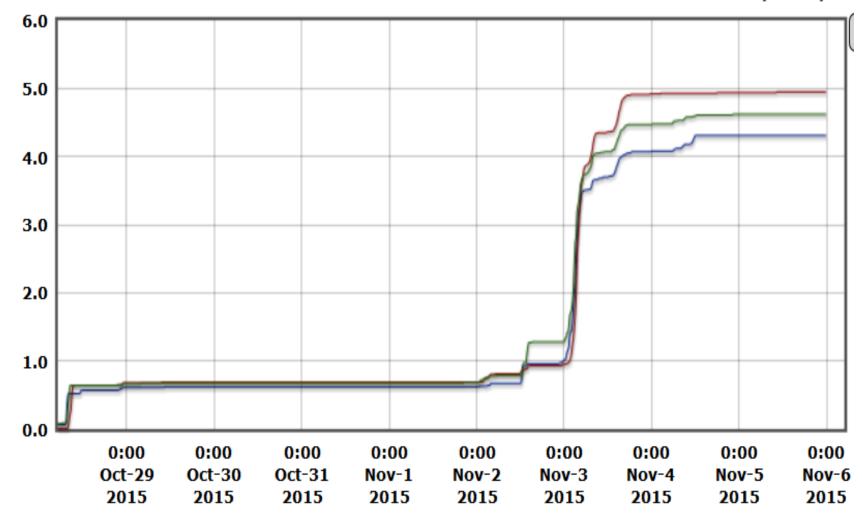
Percent Saturation of Oxygen at Murrells Landing



Around 4" rain fell on 11/3/15. We sampled on 11/4/15.

USGS 02110400 BUCK CREEK NEAR LONGS, SC USGS 02110550 WACCAMAW RIVER ABOVE CONWAY, SC USGS 02110701 CRABTREE SWAMP AT CONWAY, SC

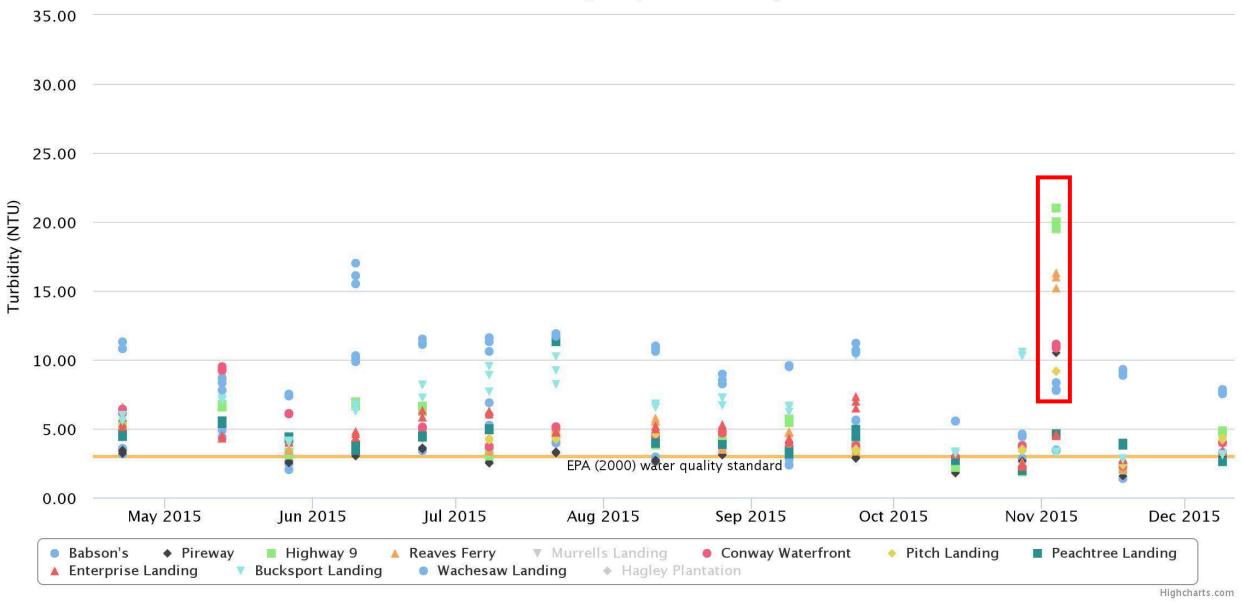




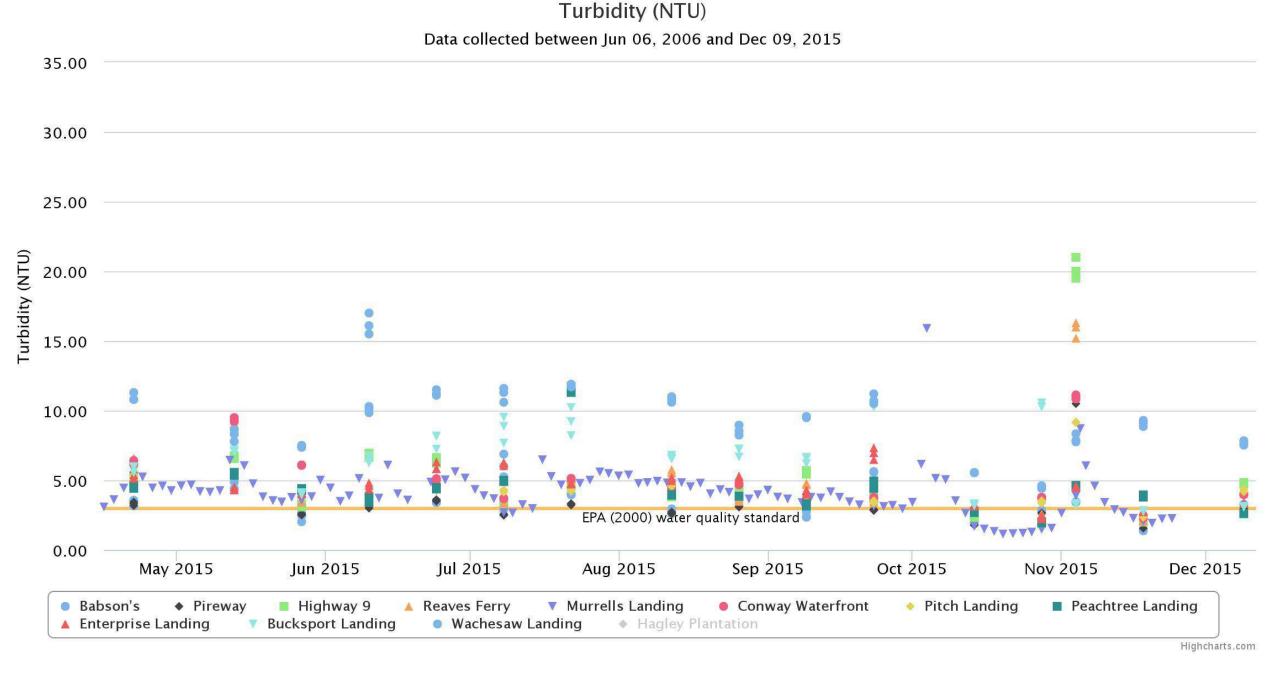
Sterritt Swamp on 10/4/15



Turbidity (NTU) Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



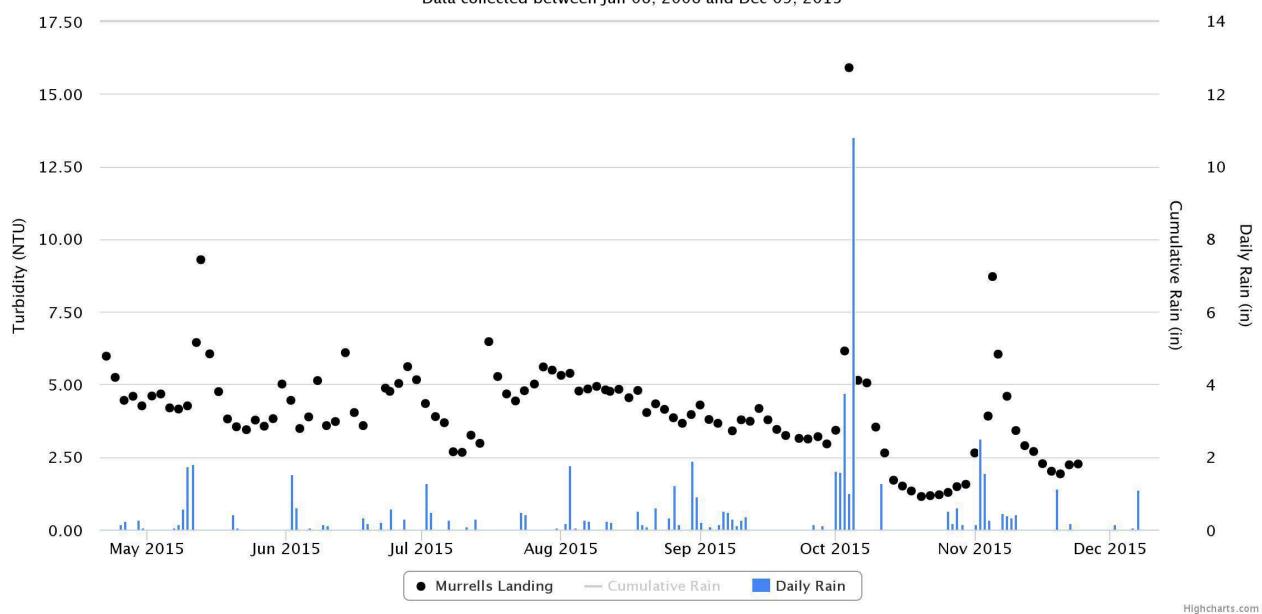
High turbidity after first Nov sampling event.

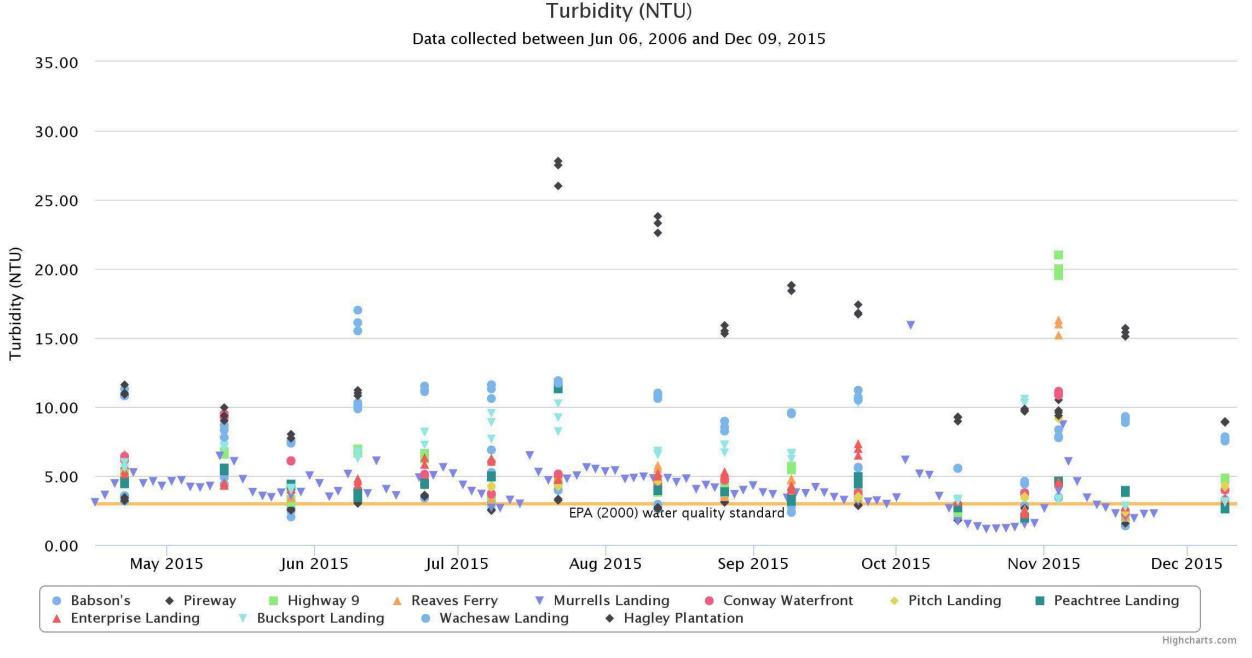


ML record shows this occurred over a number of days. Driven by rain as shown in next slide

Turbidity (NTU) for Murrells Landing

Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015

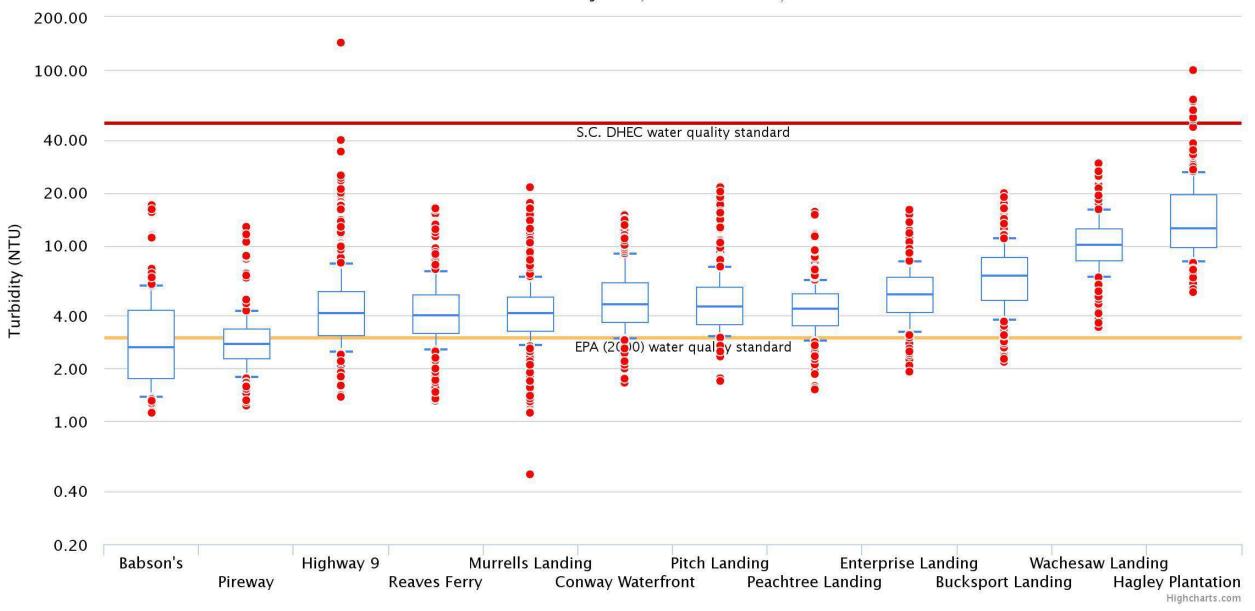


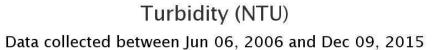


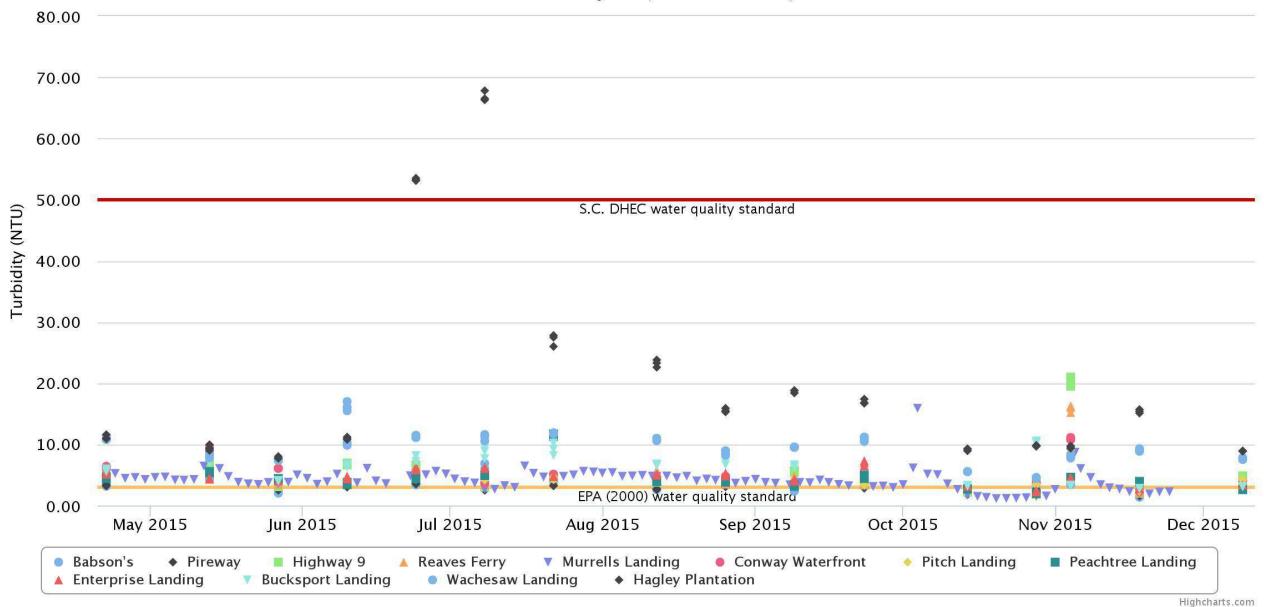
HG generally has higher turbidity due to influence of Pee Dee, but we've been seeing issues above DHEC standards. Report from Emma later

Turbidity (NTU)

Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



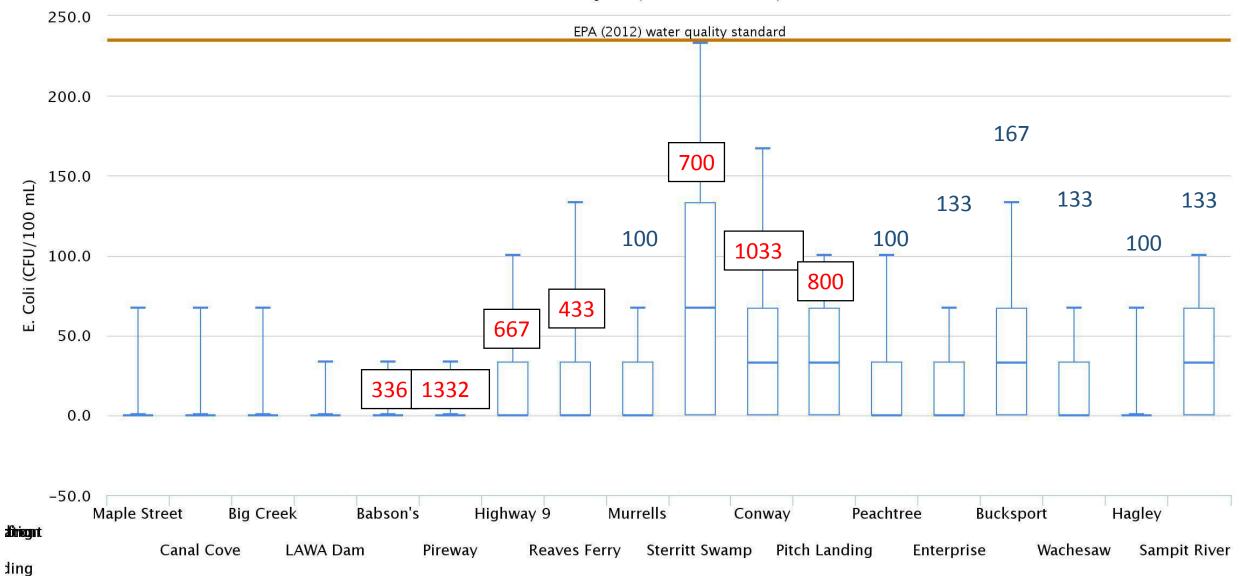




	E.coli (RG: MPN/100 mL) (VM: CFU/100 mL)		
Site	River Gaging 11/5/15	Vol. Mon. (11/4/15)	%RPD (VM-RG)
Babson's Lndg, NC		366	
Pireway, NC		1332	
Buck Creek	687		
Highway 9	517	667	25%
Reaves Ferry	345	433	23%
Murrells Lndg		100	
Sterritt Swamp		700	
Crabtree	980		
Conway	326	1033	104%
Pitch Landing		800	
Bucksport	118	100	-16%
Peachtree Lndg		133	
Enterprise Lndg		167	
Wachesaw Lndg		133	
Hagley	186	100	-60%
Gallivants Ferry	365		
Sampit		133	

E. Coli (CFU/100 mL)

Data collected between Jul 01, 2009 and Dec 09, 2015





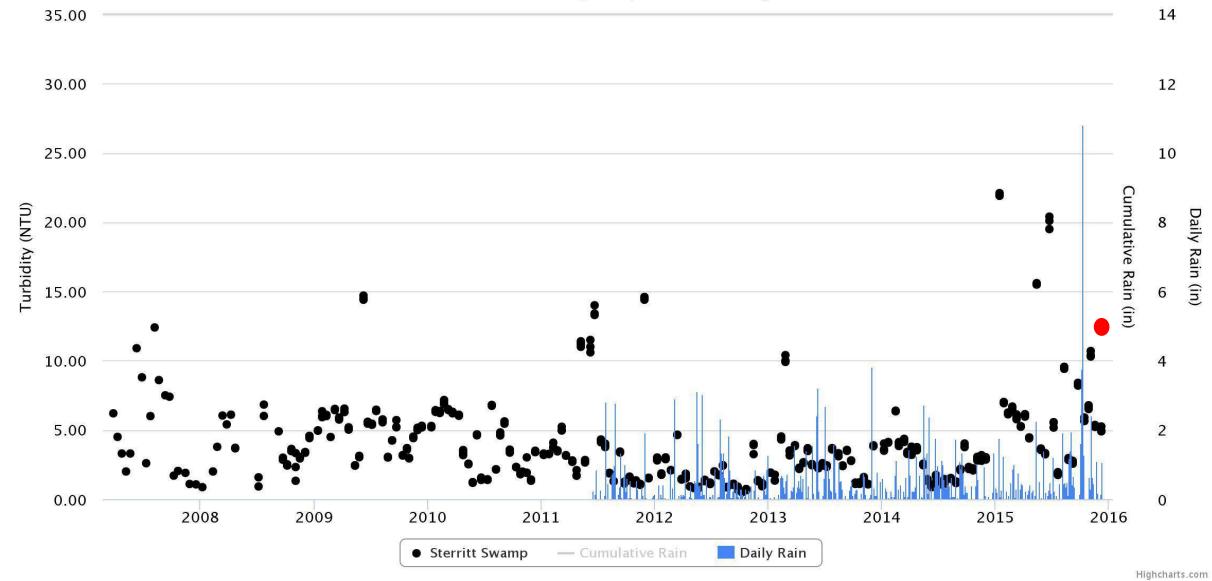
What about those percentiles?

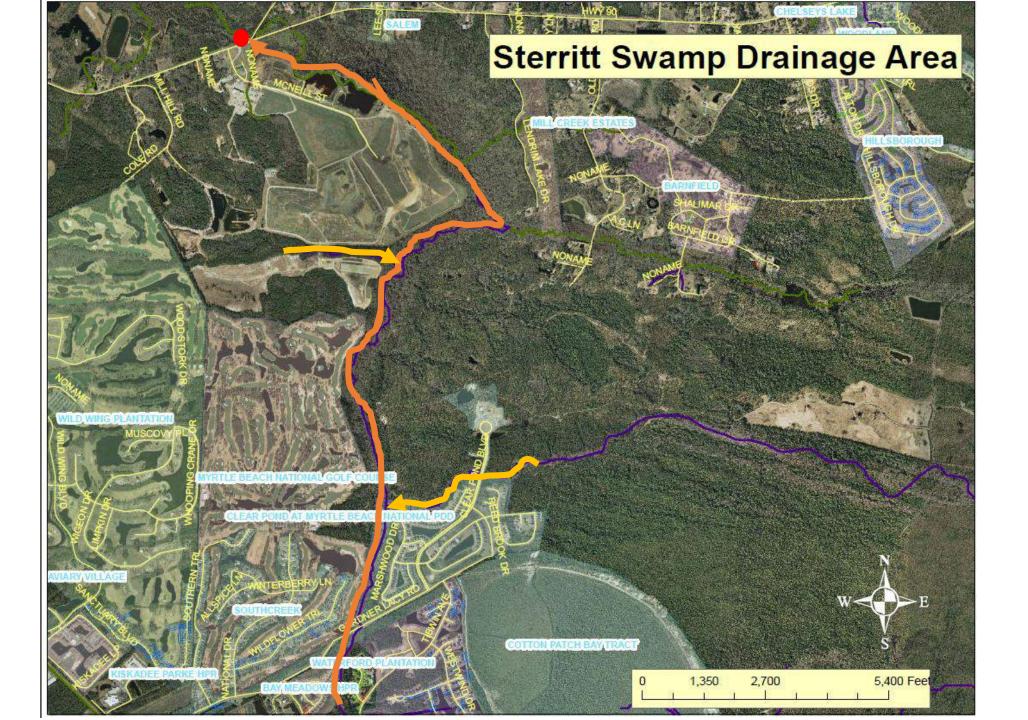
We update them annually
Use on the long term (box plots)
Use in the field
Use in provisional reports

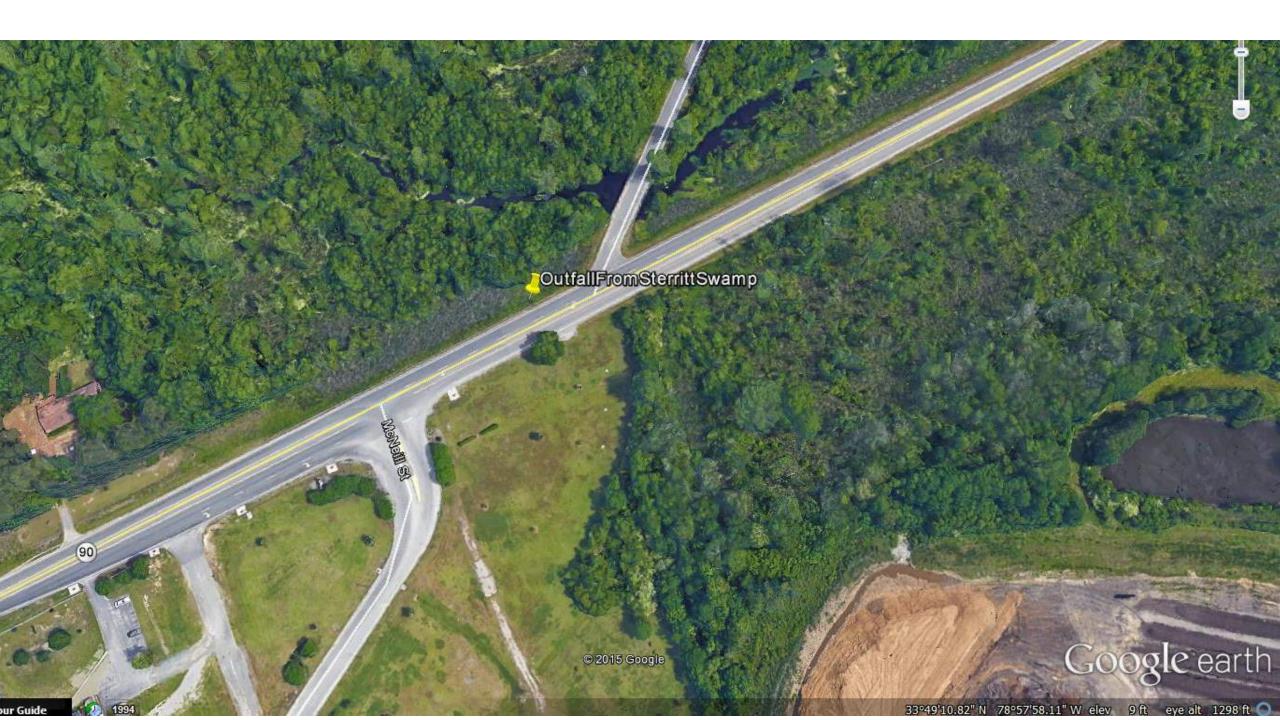
Also compare to regulatory water quality standards

Turbidity (NTU) for Sterritt Swamp

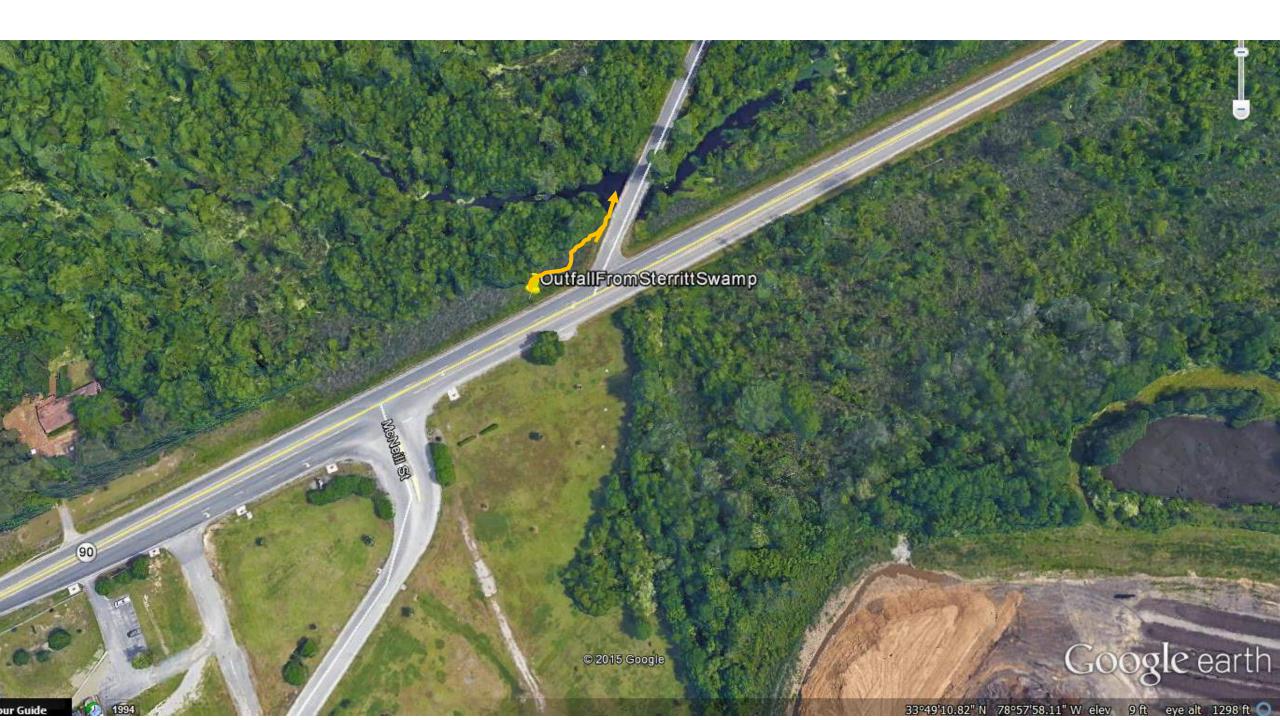
Data collected between Jun 06, 2006 and Dec 09, 2015



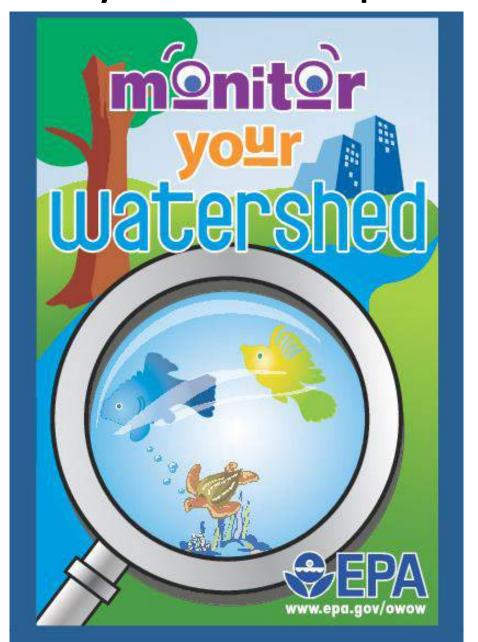








Why we need to keep at it.











LOCAL

DECEMBER 8, 2013

Nearly 500 acres of Conway area land being marked for conservation

After years of legwork, deal finally set to close this month About half of the property will go to the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge; the other parcel will go to the city

City officials want land to hold walking trails



The Nature Conservancy wants to acquire this 494-acre traction either side of the Main Street bridge close to downtown Conway. The group's plan is to convert the land into a series of hiking trails and use it for conservation purposes. The city supports the mission. Charles State—calate@thesunnews.com



BY CHARLES D. PERRY openyi@thesunnews.com



Nearly 500 acres across the water from Conway's River Walk will soon be marked for conservation.

The for

The forests and wetlands are being purchased by the Nature Conservancy, an international organization dedicated to protecting key lands and waters. Maria Whitehead, the Conservancy's Winvah Bay/Pee Dee project director, told Conway City Council this week







Fire At St. Paul's In Conway



Gov. John Kasich Responds To Trump



Kasich At Crown Reef



Behind the Scenes at Brookgreen Gardens Nights of a Thousand Candles



http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article4 8614285.html