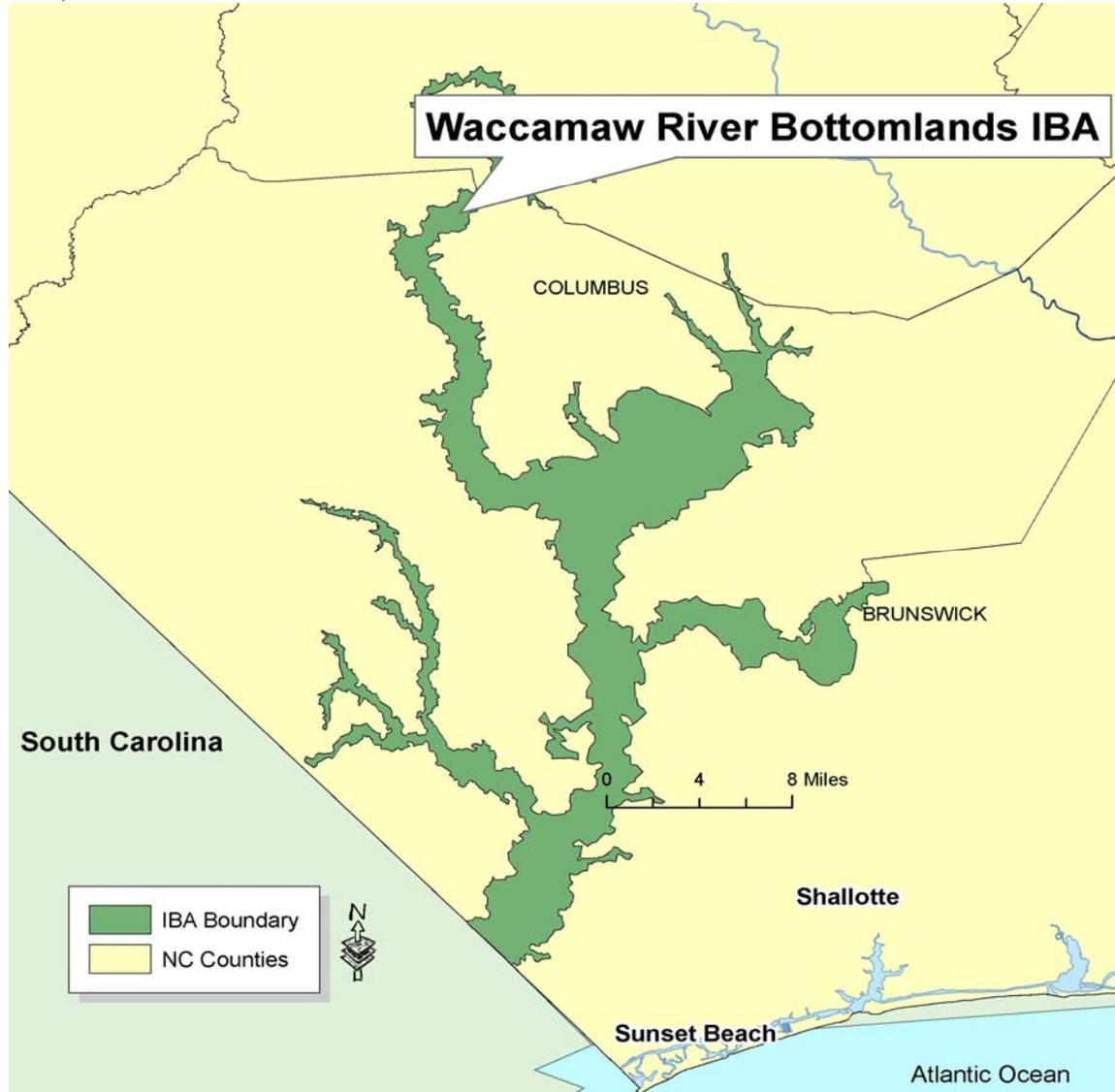


Waccamaw River Bottomlands

Location: Brunswick and Columbus Counties

Total Size: 49,737.0 ha (122,850.4 acres)



Site Description: The Waccamaw River Bottomlands IBA begins in the Red Hull Swamp area, north of Lake Waccamaw and Whiteville, and continues south including the bottomlands associated with Lake Waccamaw and the Waccamaw River to the South Carolina line. This is an extensive area of bottomland hardwood forest and cypress-gum swamp forest. As with most North Carolina forests, much of the Waccamaw River bottomland forests were logged in the early half of the 20th Century. Nevertheless, this site is one of the largest areas of bottomland forest in North Carolina and is critical to North Carolina birds.

Habitats: Bottomland hardwood forest, cypress-tupelo-gum swamp forest, blackwater river, lake

Land Use: wildlife conservation, other conservation, hunting, fishing, recreation

Primary Threats: Introduced species, logging

Protection Status: This site includes the Lake Waccamaw State Park, which encompasses 10,446 acres. The majority of the IBA is in private holdings.

Conservation Issues: The forest habitat along the Waccamaw River is critical to birds, thus maintaining the integrity of the forest is essential. Surveys of landbirds, waterbirds and waterfowl during breeding, migration and winter and lacking and needed.

Birds: Very little quantitative data exists for birds in the Waccamaw River bottomlands, but it is widely agreed upon that the site provides excellent habitat for breeding and migrating songbirds and migratory waterfowl. White ibises from Battery Island travel to the Waccamaw River swamps to forage during the nesting season. The bottomland hardwood forest and cypress-tupelo-gum swamp forest are extensive and excellent examples of these habitat types (Criteria NC4).

Key Bird Species

Criteria		Season	Number
2b	Wood Duck	all	--
2b	Prothonotary Warbler	B	--
2b	Northern Parula	B	--
3a	Yellow-throated Warbler	B	--
3a	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	B	--
2b	Hooded Warbler	B	--
3a	Barred Owl	all	--
3a	Pileated Woodpecker	all	--
3ei	White Ibis	spring-summer (NB)	1,500

B=Breeding FM=Fall Migration SM=Spring Migration W=Winter NB=non-breeding