

*Redacted for public  
release*

**Environmental Justice**

**Information on Minority, Low-Income, and Migrant Populations  
and Subsistence Living Activities in Region for Early Site  
Permitting at the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant**

**Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)**

Nicole Hill  
Tetra Tech, NUS (TTNUS)  
Aiken, SC

August 25, 2005

## **Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County**

As part of its Environmental Justice analysis, SNC identified the pathways by which the environmental impacts associated with operation of new nuclear units at the proposed ESP site could affect human populations. SNC then evaluated whether minority and low-income populations could be disproportionately affected by these impacts.

In effort to perform a comprehensive analysis, SNC accessed United States Census Bureau data detailing the sizes and locations of minority and low-income populations within the region surrounding the proposed ESP site. Additionally, SNC sought anecdotal evidence of minority, low-income, and migrant populations and subsistence-living activities (or the lack thereof) in the region. During July and August, 2005, SNC contacted local government officials and the staff of social welfare agencies concerning potentially disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income populations in the VEGP region. Information of interest includes the identification of minority, low-income, and migrant populations or locations of particular concern, and whether subsistence living conditions are evident locally. Geographical coverage focused on the region surrounding the VEGP site. Directly across the Savannah River from VEGP is the Savannah River Site, a 310-square mile government controlled facility that is closed to the public and has no residences.

Based on the majority of respondents, TTNUS found no unusual resource dependencies or practices, such as subsistence agriculture, hunting, or fishing through which the populations could be disproportionately adversely impacted by the operation of new nuclear units.

Attached are phone logs, detailing the communications between the government and social service agencies and TTNUS staff, which support this conclusion.

The following is a synopsis of their responses:

Anecdotal evidence from these interviews supports a conclusion that few, if any, subsistence living activities are known near the VEGP. Most agency representatives indicated that minority, low-income, and migrant populations are spread throughout the region. Some representatives felt that the more urban areas has higher concentrations of minority and low-income populations because of the availability of social services. Others felt that the more rural areas might have higher concentrations of minority and low-income populations because of the lack of availability of jobs and social services. One respondent felt that there was a concentrated minority population near the community of Gough, GA. Another respondent felt that the town of Sardis may have a larger-than-average low-income population.

In all cases, agency representatives reported that most low-income, minority, and migrant populations requiring assistance receive it through state and federal government programs, and/or community-based social service agencies. With the exception on one respondent, agency representatives stated that none of the gardening, fishing, and hunting activities that take place within the region provide all or even a substantial portion of local residents' food supplies. They reported that low-income families generally receive assistance and do the majority of their shopping in grocery stores and/or receive goods from churches, the food bank, and other aid organizations.

Respondents strongly felt that the non-commercial gardening, hunting, and fishing activities witnessed in these counties is predominantly recreational or leisure. Hunting occurs mainly on private land and in Georgia and South Carolina's Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). A selection of the main species hunted are deer, quail, turkey, and dove. Fishing generally takes place in the in the creeks and streams draining to the Savannah River, the Savannah River, and Clark's Hill Lake, a 71,000-acre lake 40 miles northwest of the VEGP. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, state agencies that monitor pollutants in Clark's Hill Lake, the Savannah River, and their tributaries, publish fish advisories for water bodies that are polluted with fish that should not be eaten. There is an advisory for portions of the Savannah River, including the reach adjacent to Burke County for selected types of fish. Contaminants include mercury, cesium-137, and strontium-90. Of those who do fish, many avoid eating the fish they catch because of these advisories. Recreational gardening is seen throughout the county.

With respect to migrant workers, most agency representatives suggested that there are very few in the region and that they do not live in distinct communities. If there are concentrations, it is felt that they would be in Edgefield and Burke Counties because of the farming that takes place in these counties. The balance of the migrant worker population is thought to be spread throughout the region. No agency representative felt that migrant workers engage in any subsistence living activities.

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-16-05 1:35 pm**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Burke County Health Department 706-554-3456

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

[REDACTED] most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter. Most farming is done as a business.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the county.

With respect to minorities [REDACTED] reports that the largest population of Health Department recipients is black, followed by white, followed by Hispanic, followed by Asian.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**


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Date/Time of Call: 8-18-05 11:30 am

Topic: Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

[REDACTED] I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most, if not all, hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However [REDACTED] as, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] also reported that there are a number of farmers and farming outfits (corn, cotton, and peanuts) in the county, but that the majority, if not all, of them engage in farming as a business. [REDACTED] was not aware of any farmers who were farming to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that there are a few migrant workers in the county, but feels that they are not living in any specific communities, that they are spread throughout the county.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility
None.	

TtNUS representative:

Copy to:

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8/18/05; 10:50am**Topic:** Knowledge of/experience with people who use hunting and fishing licenses as a part of subsistence living

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

Stated that in [REDACTED] knowledge those that purchased hunting and fishing licenses did so for recreational purposes only, not to supplement food supplies. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] couldn't guess how many licenses [REDACTED] had sold and suggested I call the Natural Resources Department to find out as they keep records of all licenses sold. [REDACTED] did say, however, that [REDACTED] place was small and [REDACTED] didn't sell that many. [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] was busy and just gave [REDACTED] first name when asked before hanging up.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** August 16, 2005, 1:50pm

**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
[REDACTED]	Burke County Citizens Hunger
	Action Committee Pantry, member
	organization of the Golden Harvest Food
	Bank
	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I asked [REDACTED] about what the Burke County Citizens Hunger Action Committee (HAC) Pantry does, who its client base is, and whether in [REDACTED] estimation based on experience with their clients, if any of the clients depended on subsistence living – i.e., whether or not they received the majority of their food from hunting, farming or fishing.

The Burke County Citizens HAC Pantry, one of the member organizations of the Golden Harvest Food Bank, is located in Waynesboro, Georgia. The amount of food it distributes is dependent on the contributions it receives from the public, contributions either in the form of money for the purchase of food, or in the form of canned and dried goods. Distribution of food was done every Saturday, but funding was slow in forthcoming and currently is done once a month. The Burke County HAC Pantry operates out of part of an old elementary school donated to their organization from the Burke County. HAC serves 50-60 clients at their center, but usually the clients come without their children so HAC's total client base is actually two to three times bigger than the number seen at the distribution center.

The HAC Pantry provides its clients with a box of food based on the client's needs. In order to determine need and become a client of the HAC Pantry, potential clients must fill out applications from Golden Harvest Food Bank. Criteria such as family size and sources of other assistance determine the assistance clients receive from the HAC Pantry. For example, State Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food is exclusively for children and is only provided to clients with children.

Regarding subsistence living, it was the [REDACTED] opinion that none of the HAC Pantry clients survived strictly on subsistence hunting, fishing, farming or some combination thereof. All of HAC's clients are receive sort of fixed income/government assistance. Additionally [REDACTED] thought that some did miscellaneous odd jobs for additional cash income. [REDACTED] did, however, say that some do hunt and fish, and estimated that 40 percent, particularly the women, probably fished at one time or another. [REDACTED] gave no estimations beyond that.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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TtNUS representative:

Copy to:



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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-24-05 12:05 pm**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Burke County Department of Family and Childrens Services [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter. Most farming is done as a business.

[REDACTED] also reported that she has seen very few migrant workers in the county and that [REDACTED] agency has not had to deal with any.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that the area around the community of Gough, GA, seems to have a larger than average minority and low-income population.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-22-05 10:45 am**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Burke County Economic Development Authority/ Chamber of Commerce
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the county.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] believes that they are a large population and that they are spread throughout the county.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8/24/05, 9:55am**Topic:** Knowledge of/experience with people who use hunting, fishing and farming as a part of subsistence living; knowledge of/experience with migratory farm workers

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
[REDACTED]	Burke County Habitat for Humanity
	PO Box 404
	Waynesboro, GA 30830
	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

Burke County Habitat for Humanity is a "recent" affiliate of the parent non-profit Habitat for Humanity, only operating in the area for 7 years.

People requesting assistance from Habitat for Humanity must fill out application, present a need, and make payments (albeit they are minimal payments) for the non-profit's services. All the clients Burke County Habitat for Humanity works with are on social assistance and/or disabled, getting their groceries from stores. They did not know of any of their clients that hunted, fished or farmed for the majority of their food.

Additionally, while the group did know of migratory farm workers in the area, none had applied to Burke County Habitat for Humanity for their services.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-25-05 8:30 am**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Burke County Hospital

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

[REDACTED] hospital is to locate financing for low-income individuals and families who receive services at the hospital, so the majority of the people [REDACTED] serves are low-income.

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] as, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] believes that one in ten of [REDACTED] service recipients are migrant workers and their families. [REDACTED] states that they do not live in cohesive communities and are spread throughout the county. [REDACTED] is not aware of any migrant workers that engage in subsistence-living activities. Most of [REDACTED] clientele have jobs.

[REDACTED] reports that the majority of [REDACTED] service recipients are also minorities.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

**TELEPHONE LOG****Date/Time of Call:** 8-17-05 10:20 am**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Burke County School District [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] reported that approximately 74 percent of the Burke County School District population qualifies for free or reduced lunches (Special Provision 2 program). [REDACTED] believes that Burke County contains a fairly large low-income population, as is evidenced by the size of the federally-funded Special Provision 2 program.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has seen very few children of migrant workers entering the school system. Children without birth certificates and social security cards cannot be served by the school system, so children of illegal aliens are not accounted for. [REDACTED] is aware of a small migrant population in Burke County, but is not aware of any subsistence activities taking place within those populations.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] provided the following data in an email:

"We have a total of 4,642 students, PreK through 12th grade. 3,152 (68%) are Black, 1,400 (31%) are White, and 46 (about 1%) are Hispanic. I also checked with [REDACTED] we have no migrant workers; all are now residents of county."

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

Hill, Nikki

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2005 11:42 AM  
To: hilln@ttnus.com  
Subject: Information of Burke County Schools

We have a total of 4,642 students, PreK through 12th grade. 3,152 (68%) are Black, 1,400 (31%) are White, and 46 (about 1%) are Hispanic. I also checked with [REDACTED] we have no migrant workers, all are now residents of county.

Hope this helps. Let me know if I can assist you further.

**TELEPHONE LOG****Date/Time of Call:** 8-23-05 11:00 am**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Citizens for Environmental Justice (CEJ) - [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

With respect to Burke County, the CEJ mainly receives and addresses complaints from residents about the VEGP and SRS.

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid or low-paying jobs. [REDACTED] reports that the agency encourages local residents in the region to obtain the Department of Health and Environmental Control's fish advisory list. This is list published by this state agency to warn residents about polluted water bodies where fishing and fish consumption is not advised.

Most farming is done as a business.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the County, but believes that the ones who do live there are spread out throughout the County.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that there are large minority populations, especially black, and that they are spread throughout the County.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

TtNUS representative:

Copy to:

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**TELEPHONE LOG**


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Date/Time of Call: 8-22-05 10:30 am

Topic: Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Family Connection Partnership-Burke County Communities in Schools
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby, however, [REDACTED] that some people may engage in subsistence-living activities in Burke County. [REDACTED] knows of some people who hunt, fish, raise limited livestock, and garden for the majority of their food, but believes that this population is decreasing with the increasing availability of social services. [REDACTED] believes that the overwhelming majority of low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs and do not engage in these activities.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has seen few migrant workers and that they and the minority and low-income populations are generally spread throughout the county. [REDACTED] states that the Hispanic population in the Burke County schools appears to be growing and the district is considering increasing its Spanish curriculum and bilingual communication. [REDACTED] believes that Sardis may be the only community that would have a larger-than-average low-income population.

With regard to the Savannah River, [REDACTED] felt that there would be some subsistence fishing there, but that the overwhelming majority of fishing is for sport/recreation.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

TtNUS representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Copy to:



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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-18-05 1:30 pm**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

[REDACTED] sells fishing and hunting licenses from the mall. I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the area, but there a number of farms.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] estimates that the majority of the Burke County's population is black and that they are spread throughout the county.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

**TELEPHONE LOG****Date/Time of Call:** 8-17-05

9:45 am

**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TtNUS
[REDACTED]	Golden Harvest Food Bank [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

Golden Harvest Food Bank  
3310 Commerce Drive ~ Augusta, GA 30909  
office 706.736.1199 ~ fax 706.261.1144

The Golden Harvest Food Bank is a non-profit organization. It is charitable food distribution center that provides grocery products to low-income populations through member agencies. The service area encompasses 25 counties within Georgia and South Carolina. The Food Bank's core activity is its distribution network to over 500 churches and other charitable organizations in the CSRA. Donated food is collected from national and local manufacturers and food drives. The Food Bank also purchases food from distributors or the USDA. Member agencies order and pick up the grocery products from two warehouses in Augusta and Aiken. The Food Bank's trucks deliver orders to every rural county once each month. Annual grocery distribution tops 8 million pounds.

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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Date/Time of Call: 8/18/05; 11:15 am

Topic: Knowledge of/experience with people who use hunting and fishing licenses as a part of subsistence living

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

Stated that in [REDACTED] knowledge, those that purchased hunting and fishing licenses did so for recreational purposes only, not out of a necessity to supplement food supplies, although [REDACTED] thought that some did eat the animals and fish they caught.

[REDACTED] said that the store was small and sold only a few licenses, but had no idea how many licenses they had sold.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

TtNUS representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Copy to:

**TELEPHONE LOG**

Date/Time of Call: 8-22-05 10:00 am

Topic: Subsistence Living Activities in Burke County with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] sells [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] hunting and fishing licenses [REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

[REDACTED] sells fishing and hunting licenses [REDACTED]. I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the county.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

TtNUS representative:

Copy to:

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8/18/05; 11:30 am**Topic:** Knowledge of/experience with people who use hunting and fishing licenses as a part of subsistence living

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in Burke County, based on [REDACTED] experience living there and selling hunting and fishing licenses to the county's residents.

Stated that in [REDACTED] knowledge, those that purchased hunting and fishing licenses did so for recreational purposes only, not out of a necessity to supplement food supplies, although she thought that some did eat the animals and fish they caught.

[REDACTED] stated that over the course of a year, [REDACTED] probably sold over 1,000 hunting and fishing licenses as hunting and fishing are very popular pursuits in the area.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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Date/Time of Call: 8-30-05 2:05 pm

Topic: Subsistence Living Activities in the Region with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Aiken County Department of Social Services – [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in the region.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter. Most farming is done commercially, however, [REDACTED] believes that some farms could be used for subsistence living only. Again, however, [REDACTED] has not personally seen any evidence of this.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has not seen many migrant workers in Aiken County, but knows of migrant populations in Edgefield County, where more farming occurs. Edgefield County is a large producer of peaches and kiwi fruit. Aiken County DSS assists the migrant workers who are either US citizens, have green cards, or have children that are US citizens. [REDACTED] does report seeing, in their office, illegal aliens, but has to refuse them services. [REDACTED] reports that [REDACTED] does not know where they live in the area or how they acquire their food.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that they are spread throughout the region. The southeast has a large black population, in comparison to the remainder of the United States. Therefore, the black population is located throughout Georgia and South Carolina.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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TtNUS representative:

Copy to:

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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Date/Time of Call: 8-30-05 12:15 pm

Topic: Subsistence Living Activities in the Region with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Aiken County Health Department
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in the region.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter. Most farming is done as a business.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] had not seen many migrant workers in the county. [REDACTED] reported that there appears to be a trend where the migrant workers come here for work, like the area, and decide to stay. [REDACTED] is unaware of any migrant populations that engage in subsistence-living activities. Most migrant workers have jobs

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that the largest population of Health Department recipients is black, followed by white, followed by Hispanic, followed by Asian.

[REDACTED] believes that the city of Aiken has the largest concentration of minorities and low-income people in Aiken County.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**

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**TELEPHONE LOG**

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**Date/Time of Call:** 8-30-05

12:20 pm

**Topic:** Subsistence Living Activities in the Region with Respect to Environmental Justice Concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Aiken-Lexington-Barnwell Community Action Commission - [REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in the region.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] knows of only three individuals that engage in these activities to subsist and they live on the north side of the city of Aiken.

[REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. Low-income families are spread throughout the region, however, most Section 8 housing is located in more urban areas and many low-income families live in these homes and developments. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid.

Most farming is done commercially, however, [REDACTED] believes that some farms could be used for subsistence living only.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has not seen many migrant workers in Aiken County, but knows of migrant populations in Edgefield and Saluda Counties where more commercial farming occurs. Edgefield County is a large producer of peaches and kiwi fruit.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that they are spread throughout the region.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

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**TtNUS representative:****Copy to:**



**TELEPHONE LOG**

Date/Time of Call: 8-17-05 9:45 am

Topic: Subsistence living activities in the region with respect to Environmental Justice concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	Salvation Army 1384 Greene St. Augusta, GA 30901
	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in the region.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

[REDACTED] stated that the Salvation Army generally provides shelters and clothing to the homeless and soup lines for the hungry.

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. Most farming is done commercially.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has not seen many migrant workers in the region and sees few to none in their shelters. [REDACTED] does not know where they live or how they acquire food.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that they are spread throughout the region.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

**TtNUS representative:**

Copy to:

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**TELEPHONE LOG**


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Date/Time of Call: 8-31-05

12:15 pm

Topic: Subsistence living activities in the region with respect to Environmental Justice concerns

Personnel Involved in Call	Company/Organization
N. Hill	TTNUS
[REDACTED]	United Way of the CSRA (Central Savannah River Area)
[REDACTED]	630 Ellis Street
[REDACTED]	Augusta, GA 30901
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**Summary of Conversation:**

I inquired about the prevalence of subsistence-living activities and the existence of minority and low-income and migrant populations in the region.

[REDACTED] responded with the following:

To [REDACTED] knowledge, most hunting, fishing, and gardening is done for sport or as a hobby. [REDACTED] is not aware of any communities or individuals that engage in these activities to subsist. [REDACTED] believes that most low-income populations receive financial assistance (money, food stamps, Medicaid) from the government and other community-based programs. If any hunting, fishing, or gardening is done, it is either done, purely for hobby/sport, or to supplement government aid. However, [REDACTED] has, personally, seen no evidence of the latter. Most farming is done commercially.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED] has not seen many migrant workers in the region, but believes that there are migrant populations in Edgefield and Burke Counties, where more farming occurs. Edgefield County is a large producer of peaches and kiwi fruit. Salvation Army assists a few migrant workers and generally sees them on a seasonal basis. [REDACTED] reports that [REDACTED] does not know how they acquire their food. She also said that the United Way has seen fewer migrant workers this past year than in years past.

With respect to minorities, [REDACTED] reports that there are small pockets of populations in the more rural counties and spread throughout the more urban counties. In Richmond County, [REDACTED] believes that there are greater concentrations in the 30901 and 30906 zip codes.

Actions Items from Call	Responsibility

TtNUS representative:

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S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control

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## South Carolina Fish Consumption Advisories

[Introduction](#)

[Frequently Asked  
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[Information for Women  
& Children Under 14](#)

[2005 Advisor](#)

### Waterbodies with No Advisories

DHEC has tested additional waterbodies in South Carolina. The data collected show that the fish are safe and so DHEC has not issued an advisory for these waterbodies. This means it is safe to eat fish as often as you like from the following waterbodies:

ACE Basin	Ashley River (downstream of U.S. Hwy 17)
Broad River	Broadway Lake
Catawba River	Cape Romain
Charleston Harbor	Cedar Creek Reservoir
Edisto River (downstream of U.S. Hwy. 17)	Combahee River (downstream of U.S. Hwy. 17)
Lake Blalock	Fishing Creek Reservoir
Lake Cooley	Lake Bowen
Lake Greenwood	Lake Cunningham
Lake J.A. Robinson (Greenville County)	Lake J. Strom Thurmond (Clarks Hill Lake)
Lake Monticello	Lake Keowee
Lake Monticello Sub-Impoundment	Lake Murray
Lake Prestwood	Lake Rabon
Lake Russell	Lake Secession
Lake Wateree	Lake Wylie
Little River	Lower Wando River
Middle Tyger River	Muddy Bay
North Tyger River	Parr Reservoir
Port Royal Sound	Winyah Bay

Dolphin (Mahi Mahi) and Spanish Mackerel are safe to eat anywhere along SC's coast.

[Back to Advisory Map](#)



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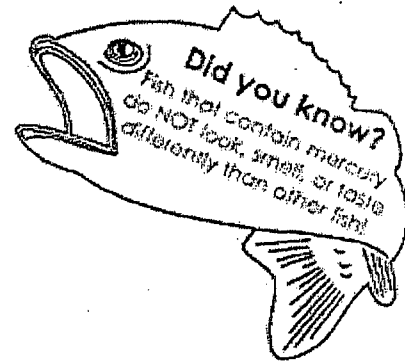
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**Water Home**


[Introduction](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Information for Women & Children Under 14](#)
[2005 Advisory](#)

### Frequently Asked Questions

- [Why should I eat fish?](#)
- [What is an advisory?](#)
- [Why do we have advisories?](#)
- [Why are some fish not safe?](#)
- [How can I reduce the health risks from contaminated fish?](#)
- [How much is one meal of fish?](#)
- [What about shellfish?](#)
- [What about the fish that I buy instead of catch?](#)
- [Where can I get more information?](#)



### Why should I eat fish?

Eat smart! Fish is an excellent low-fat food and a great source of protein, vitamins and minerals. Fish contain omega-3 fatty acids and oils that are hard to get from other types of food. Eating fish can help children develop properly and even boost the health of adults. In fact, eating fish regularly can reduce your chances of having a stroke or a heart attack. To get all the benefits from fish, experts say that you eat at least two meals of fish each week. And since fish is quick and easy to prepare, why not start enjoying it today?

[back to questions](#)

### What is an advisory?

Fish consumption advisories help you fish smart! Advisories give you information to help you decide where to fish, which fish to keep, and how much fish to eat. An advisory will list a lake, stream, or river and will list the types of fish that are unsafe in that area. Advisories have been issued by DHEC in South Carolina since 1976.

Many lakes, streams, and rivers in South Carolina do not have advisories. These waterbodies are shown in dark gray on the map. Also, not all types of fish are unsafe where there is an advisory. There are often fish listed that have "no restrictions." This means that it is okay to eat those fish as often as you like.

Remember that fishing smart also means fishing legally. You will need a valid SC fishing license in order to fish in all public lakes, rivers, and streams. Visit [Department of Natural Resources \(DNR's\) Website](#) **EX: DHEC** to find out where to buy a license or to order one online.

[back to questions](#)

### Why do we have advisories?

To make sure that the fish you catch are safe to eat, DHEC tests fish from lakes, rivers, streams, estuaries, and offshore waters all over South Carolina. Some saltwater fish samples are collected by both DHEC and DNR. All samples are tested for chemicals to see if any of the fish are contaminated.

In South Carolina, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and radioisotopes have been found in some fish. DHEC looks closely at the data and then issues fish consumption advisories where contaminated fish have been found. The danger from these contaminants is only in the fish. This means you can still enjoy water activities like boating, skiing, swimming, and even recreational fishing.

[back to questions](#)

### Why are some fish not safe?

Harmful materials can get into our environment in many ways. These materials end up in lakes, rivers, and streams where they can contaminate plants and animals, like fish, that live in the water. Contaminants get into fish through the plants and animals that they eat. Some of these chemicals absorb directly into the body of a fish. Older and larger fish have eaten more and been in the water longer, so there may be more contaminants in their bodies. When you eat these fish, the contaminants get into your body too.

Your body naturally removes small amounts of these materials. Health problems may happen when there are too many harmful chemicals in the body. Babies and children are more at risk because their bodies are still developing. Women who are pregnant, may become pregnant, or are nursing should be very careful about the fish that they eat. These women should not eat any fish where there is an advisory.

Mercury, PCBs, and radioisotopes are the main contaminants in South Carolina. Let's take a closer look at each one of these.

**Mercury** is an element that is found naturally in the environment. Burning coal and other fossil fuels adds the most mercury to the environment. But things like factories and even the burning of trash can increase the mercury in the environment, too. Mercury in the air is brought back to the earth by rain, snow, and sleet and ends up in our lakes and rivers.

Mercury in a mother's body can harm her unborn baby. Brain damage, blindness, seizures and other problems can occur in the baby. Children who take in mercury after they are born can be harmed, too. They can have digestive problems, kidney damage and problems with their nervous systems. Health problems due to mercury in children and unborn babies cannot always be fixed. Pregnant women, women planning to become pregnant, infants, and children under 14 should

not eat any fish containing mercury.

In adults, mercury can make your mouth, hands, or feet tingle or feel numb. It can also cause vision or hearing problems. If you have any of these symptoms, please see your doctor. All of these problems in adults can usually be corrected if a person stops eating fish that contain high levels of mercury.

**PCBs** (polychlorinated biphenyls) are a group of man-made compounds. PCBs do not burn easily and are good insulators. In the past they were often used as fluids for electrical transformers and in products like cutting oils and carbonless copy paper. The manufacture of PCBs was stopped in 1976, but they are still a problem because PCBs do not break down easily in the environment. They can remain in the soil at the bottom of a lake or stream for many years.

PCBs build up over time in the fatty parts of fish and then get into us when we eat the fish. PCBs may cause lower birth weight, smaller infant head size, and shorter pregnancies. If pregnant women eat fish containing PCBs, their babies may suffer developmental problems and learning disabilities.

Currently, the only fish consumption advisories in South Carolina due to PCB contamination are for Lake Hartwell and its connected waters. You can reduce your exposure to PCBs by the way you prepare the fish. PCBs are found in the fatty parts of fish. By cleaning or cooking fish to reduce fat, you can also reduce the amount of contaminants you eat. [Click here](#) for the Lake Hartwell PCB advisory and information on how to cook and clean your fish. You should still follow the DHEC's advice even if you clean and cook the fish the right way.

**Radioisotopes** are radioactive forms of an element. They can occur naturally occurring or be man-made. Some fish in part of the Savannah River contain the radioisotopes cesium-137 and strontium-90. The levels of radioisotopes found in these fish are low and have decreased over time. If you follow the advisory for the [Savannah River](#), the added health risk from these elements is very low.

[back to questions](#)

#### **How can I reduce the health risks from contaminated fish?**

You can reduce the health risks from eating any type fish by following these tips:

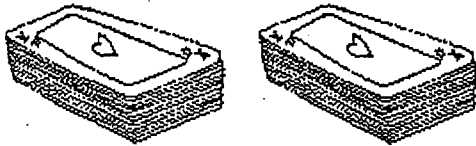
- Eat the amount of fish recommended by the [fish consumption advisories](#).
- Eat fish from lakes and rivers that do *not* have advisories.
- Eat smaller fish and smaller amounts of fish.
- Eat different types of fish instead of just one type.
- Clean and cook your fish the right way.
- Enjoy fishing by catching then releasing the fish instead of eating them.  
[Click here to find out more on Catch and Release fishing.](#)

Remember: You cannot remove mercury by any special cleaning or cooking methods. This is because mercury is stored in the meat of the fish and not the in the fat or skin. PCBs can be reduced by cooking and cleaning the fish in a certain way. [Click here](#) to learn how to prepare fish with PCBs.

[back to questions](#)

### How much is one meal of fish?

South Carolina's advisories are based on one meal of fish. One meal is a half-pound or 8 ounces of fish. This is the weight of the fish BEFORE you cook it. Eight ounces of raw fish is about the size of two decks of playing cards.



[back to questions](#)

### What about shellfish?

DHEC regularly tests the water in South Carolina's shellfish growing areas for bacteria. This ensures that the oysters, clams, and mussels you collect meet health standards and are safe to eat. DHEC will close a shellfish bed if the health standards are not met or if conditions have changed to make the shellfish unsafe. A closed shellfish bed means that it is not only unsafe to eat what you might find, but it is also illegal to gather shellfish in that area.

Visit DHEC's [shellfish website](#) to find out more and to see the status of individual areas. You can also call DHEC for more information: for Horry and Georgetown Counties, call (843) 238-4378; for Charleston County, call (843) 740-1590; for Beaufort and Colleton Counties, call (843) 846-1030.

[back to questions](#)

### What about fish that I buy instead of catch?

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have issued a national mercury advisory for fish that you buy or catch. This includes fresh, frozen, and canned fish that you buy in a store or restaurant. The advisory, issued in March 2004, says that women who are pregnant, may become pregnant, or are nursing, and children under 14 should not eat any king mackerel, shark, swordfish or tilefish. Information on this advisory can be found on [DHEC's FDA's web site](#) or [DHEC's EPA's website](#). You can also call FDA, toll-free, at 1-888-SAFEFOOD for more information.

[back to questions](#)

### Where can I get more information?

For more information on fish consumption advisories, or to request a copy of the advisories or other material, call DHEC toll-free at 1-888-849-7241.

For more information on fishing and SC's Rules and Regulations for fishing and boating, call DNR at (803) 734-3886 or visit [DNR's website](#) [DHEC](#). DNR also has a toll-free fishing information hotline, 1-800-ASK-FISH. Call the hotline to hear the latest fishing reports and to find public landings or where to buy fishing licenses. Kids can visit [www.screelkids.com](#) [DHEC](#) for information on a free fishing program to earn rewards.



[back to questions](#)



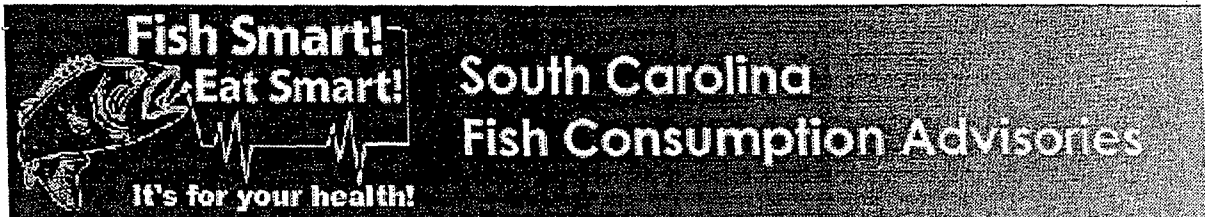
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## Savannah River

*Some data for the Savannah River was provided by the  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources.*

*Some fish also contain the radioisotopes cesium-137 and strontium-90.*

### From Lake J. Strom Thurmond to Stevens Creek

#### No Restrictions

All Species of Fish

### From Stevens Creek in Edgefield County to SC Hwy 119 in Jasper County

#### DO NOT EAT ANY

Bowfin (Mudfish)

#### One meal per week

Largemouth Bass

Spotted Sucker

**No Restrictions**

Black Crappie	Bluegill
Chain Pickerel	Channel Catfish
Redbreast Sunfish	Redear Sunfish
Warmouth	Yellow Perch

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**From SC Hwy 119 in Jasper County to U.S. Hwy 17****DO NOT EAT ANY**

Bowfin (Mudfish)

**One meal per month**

Largemouth Bass

**One meal per week**

Black Crappie	Bluegill
Channel Catfish	Redbreast Sunfish
White Catfish	

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**Downstream of U.S. Hwy 17****One meal per week**

Channel Catfish	Largemouth Bass
White Catfish	

**No Restrictions**

Red Drum

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US Army Corps  
of Engineers

Welcome to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District

## J. Strom Thurmond Dam & Lake

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[Recreation](#)
[Natural Resources](#)

### Did You Know?

The three Corps managed lakes on the Savannah River - Hartwell, Richard B. Russell, and J. Strom Thurmond - are responsible for maintaining water supply and water quality needs of the Savannah River from below Thurmond Dam all the way to Savannah, Georgia and the Atlantic Ocean.

For More Did You Know Facts go [HERE!](#)

**J. Strom Thurmond  
Dam and Lake**  
Route 1, Box 12  
Clarks Hill, SC 29821

**Phone Numbers**  
864-333-1100  
or toll free at  
1-800-533-3478

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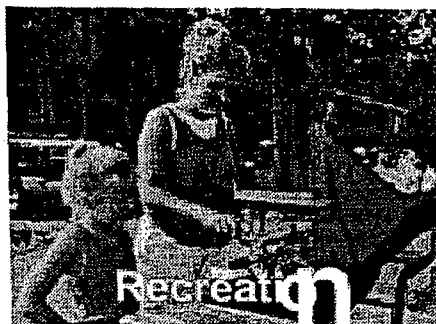
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September 1, 2005

## Welcome to J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake



Thurmond Lake is one of the southeast's largest and most popular public recreation lakes. Built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers between 1946 and 1954 as part of a flood control, hydropower, and navigation project, authorized purposes now include recreation, water quality, water supply, and

fish and wildlife management. Each year, millions off people utilize the many public parks, marinas, and campgrounds conveniently located around the lake to pursue a variety of outdoor recreational experiences -making Thurmond one of the 10 most visited Corps lakes in the nation.

Thurmond Lake is a man-made lake bordering Georgia and South Carolina on the Savannah, Broad, and Little Rivers. The lake is created by Thurmond Dam located on the Savannah River twenty-two miles above Augusta Georgia and 239.5 miles above the mouth of the Savannah River. The lake extends 39.4 miles up the Savannah River, 29 miles up the Little River, and 6.5 miles up the Broad River in Georgia, and 17 Miles up the Little River in South Carolina, at normal pool elevation, Thurmond Lake comprises nearly 71,100 acres of water with a shoreline of 1200 miles.

Click to: [Read more about J. Strom Thurmond Lake](#)

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**NewsFlash!**

**5th Annual Middle School Eco-Meet  
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**US Army Corps  
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Savannah District



- For event details click here

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### National Recreation Reservation Service

Click Here for Reservations or More Info,  
or call toll free: 1-877-444-6777

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Clarks Hill, SC 29821

**Phone Numbers**  
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or toll free at  
1-800-533-3478



**The impression you leave  
lasts a lifetime.**

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**CESAS-OP-SR**

**(912) 652-5056**

**Savannah, GA**

**larry.e.dixon@sas02.usace.army.mil**



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**Larry (Chi)**

August 2005

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