To provide more detailed descriptions of the State’s water resources, the Water Assessment divides South Carolina into four major drainage basins (the Pee Dee, Santee, ACE, and Savannah River basins), which are subdivided into a total of fifteen subbasins. For each of these fifteen major watersheds, the Water Assessment describes surface-water hydrology, development, and quality; ground-water availability, quality, and problems; and water use.

A “Special Topics” chapter reviews a variety of water-related issues facing South Carolina, including:
- hydroelectric power and FERC relicensing of hydropower projects
- instream flow requirements
- river conservation and watershed management planning
- aquifer storage and recovery projects in South Carolina
- saltwater contamination of coastal aquifers
- aquatic nuisance species
- unique wetland areas throughout South Carolina
- interbasin transfers of water

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