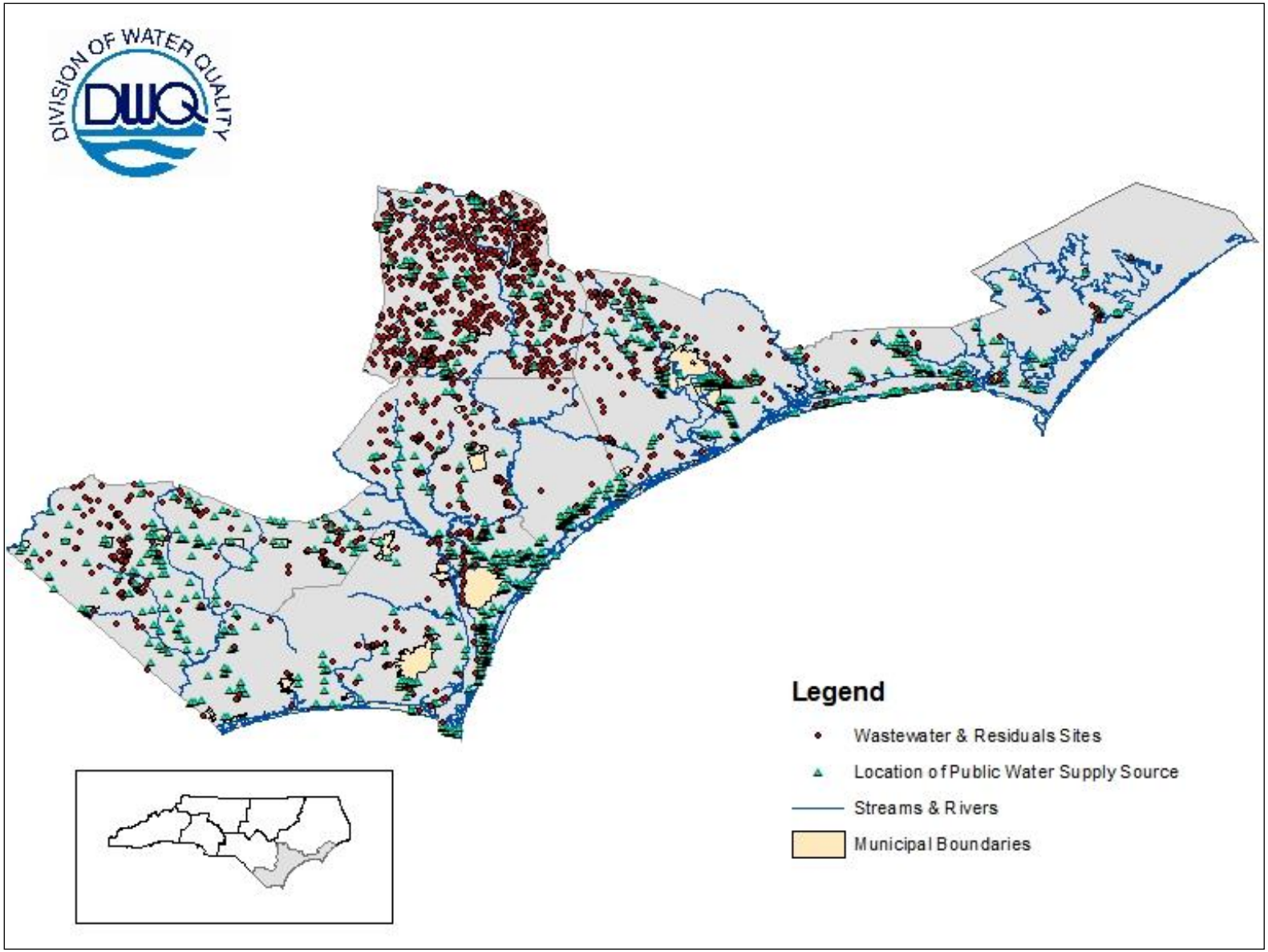
Wilmington Regional Office Division of Water Quality



PRIMARY PROGRAM FUNCTIONS OF THE WILMINGTON REGIONAL OFFICE - This region is located primarily in the southern coastal plain with high density populations and heavy tourism creating seasonal wastewater flow variablities. In addition, these heavily populated areas near the beaches do not have central sewer systems which result in specialized inspections and compliance oversight to protect the adjacent sensitive estuarine and coastal ecosystems.

Characteristics for Wilmington Regional Office

- Many outstanding resource waters and high quality waters with increased regulatory protection
- Rapid population growth (coastal area) results in stressed infrastructure and increased permitting demand
- Heavy tourism/water recreation: fishing, kayaking, swimming.
- Large military bases pose unique environmental challenges
- High density of swine farms require specialized inspection and compliance oversight
- Timber/logging industries present runoff and erosion issues
- High number of second home developments results in seasonal wastewater flow issues
- Hurricane/flood response area require preparations for and response to emergencies
- Salt water intrusion/depleting aquifers impacts quality and quantity of water resources
- Shallow water table is more easily impacted and is highly interconnected with surface water

Statistics for Wilmington Regional Office

- Number of Regional Office Staff: **24**
- Total High Quality/Outstanding Resource Watershed Square Miles: **813**
- Water Supply Watershed Square Miles: **24**
- Monitored Impaired Streams/Rivers: **29%**
- Monitored Impaired Lakes/Reservoirs: **0%**
- Monitored Impaired Saltwater Acres: **31%**
- Monitored Impaired Coastline Miles: **5%**
- Number of Water Quality Monitoring Sites: **51**
- Coalition Partnerships (number of monitoring sites)
  - Lower Cape Fear Basin Association (26)
- Population Relying on Groundwater for Drinking Water: **79%**
- Population Relying on Surface Water for Drinking Water: **21%**

Regional Data Elements Annual Averages	
Active Facilities	8,323
Permits Issued by Regional Office	1150
Permit Applications Reviewed in Regional Offices and Issued in Central Office	128
Compliance Inspections Conducted	1622
Notices of Violations Sent	298
Civil Penalties Assessed	88
Water Samples Collected	553
Complaints, Incidents, Emergency Response Calls	250

Permitted Facilities	
Number of Permitted Wastewater Treatment Plants	220
Number of Permitted NPDES Stormwater Facilities	329
Number of Permitted State Stormwater Facilities	6,968
Number of Permitted Single-Family Residences	170
Residuals Field Acres	8,281
Reuse Irrigation Acres	1,495
Surface Irrigation Wastewater Acres	5,167
Number of Permitted Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations	675