South Carolina Rivers Assessment of 1988 – Map Series

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The South Carolina Rivers Assessment was published in 1988 by the S.C. Water Resources Commission. A summary of the Rivers Assessment and its results is provided in this document beginning with an explanation presented below and followed by 17 pages of maps.

The Rivers Assessment was a statewide evaluation conducted from 1986 to 1988 to identify the significance of rivers and river segments for natural, economic, cultural, and recreational resource values in 14 resource categories. Over 70 individuals with diverse interests and expertise participated in the assessment. The participants divided into committees, developed evaluation criteria, and classified/ranked the rivers according to their significance to the various resource categories. Results of the evaluations as presented in the 1988 report include 16 statewide maps identifying rivers classified for each category as either Value Class 1 – Superior, Value Class 2 – Outstanding, Value Class 3 – Significant, or Value Class 4 – Unknown.

Here, in this document, the same map results provided in the 1988 report are presented in a revised map format for ease of access and review. Additionally, this document provides a composite map, titled "Conservation Value". The Conservation Value map overlays 11 resource categories related to conservation interests, and it presents cumulative numerical scores calculated by the overlay procedure wherein the original value classes were assigned as:

Superior = 3, Outstanding = 2, and Significant = 1. The resource categories combined in the Conservation Value map are inland fisheries, wildlife habitat, undeveloped rivers, natural features, recreational fishing, backcountry boating, flatwater boating, whitewater boating, historic and cultural, urban, and water quality.

































