

North Carolina Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs): The Implications of Swine Waste for Freshwater Ecosystems

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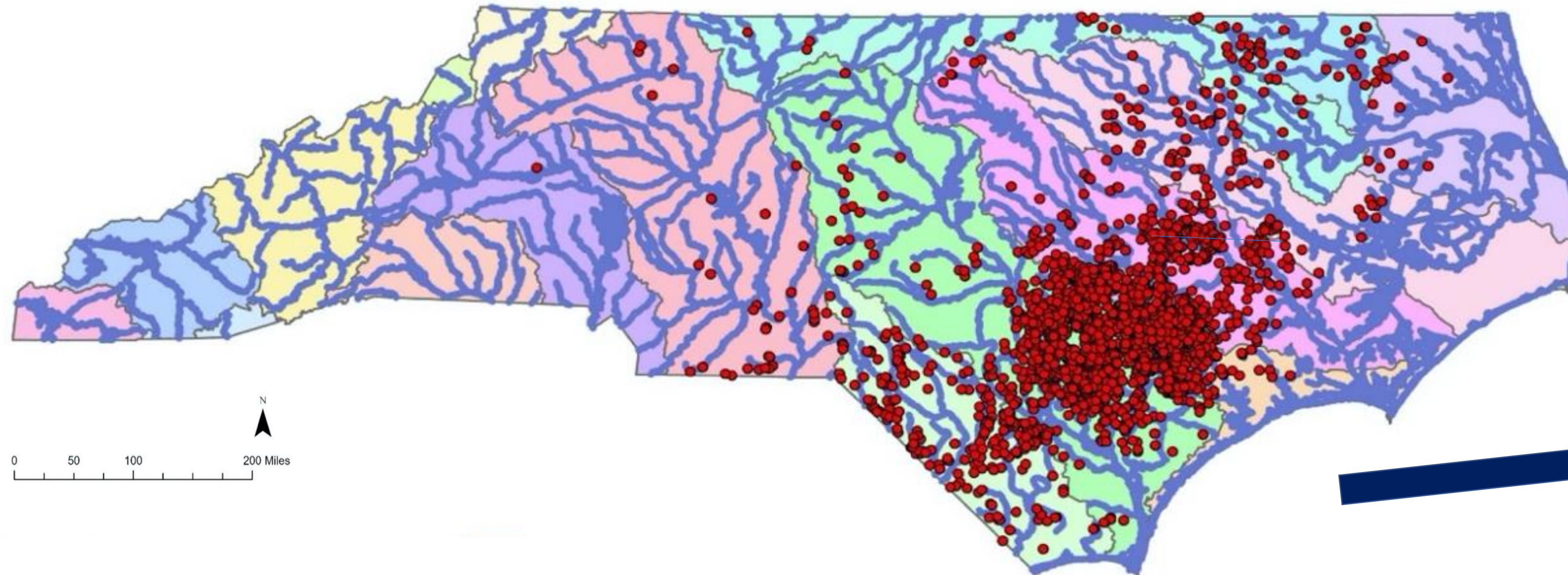
• Swine Animal Feeding Operations

— Rivers and Streams

North Carolina River Basins

Name

- Broad
- Cape Fear
- Catawba
- Chowan
- French Broad
- Hiwassee
- Little Tennessee
- Lumber
- Neuse
- New
- Pasquotank
- Roanoke
- Savannah
- Tar Pamlico
- Watauga
- White Oak
- Yadkin Pee Dee



- Water Pollution
- Air Pollution
- Contaminated Soil
- Antibiotic Resistance
- Biodiversity Loss

- Directed subsidies
- Loss of property value
- Environmental justice
- Human health

Hurricane Florence: An example of the effects of flooding waste lagoons

In Sept. 2018, Hurricane Florence flooded eastern North Carolina.

- 6 Swine lagoons breached
- 23 Swine lagoons inundated
- 31 Swine lagoons overflowed

This resulted in 7.3 million gallons of swine waste spilled into the Cape Fear, Neuse, and Tar-Pamlico Rivers.

Impacts:

- 5,500 Hogs perished in the flooding.
- Anoxia contributed to widespread fish kills.
- 14.9% of drinking wells contaminated with fecal coliform bacteria.



Possible solutions to address CAFO pollution on North Carolina freshwater ecosystems

- North Carolina Swine Buyout Program
- Relocation of swine farms
- Increased regulation and Enforcement
- Risk Mitigation
- Litigation

