

majority of the lower-range values occur in and close to GSMNP. This shows that the areas with more human development and higher traffic volumes typically have higher noise values.

3.13 Hazardous Material and Waste Sites

Hazardous material and waste sites are regulated by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), as amended; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended; and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA). Hazardous waste is generally defined as any material that has or, when combined with other materials, will have a deleterious effect on humans or the natural environment. Characterized as reactive, toxic, infectious, flammable, explosive, corrosive, or radioactive, hazardous waste may be solid, sludge, liquid, or gas. Potential hazardous material and waste sites include service stations, landfills, dumps, pits, lagoons, salvage yards, and industrial sites, as well as above and underground storage tanks (AST and UST).

Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) was contracted to search the appropriate federal and state databases for facilities of potential concern that may be located within the study area. Figure 20 illustrates the approximate location of known hazardous material and waste sites within the study area. In addition to these sites, other potential hazardous material and waste sites may exist within the study area due to illegal dumping, lack of compliance with regulatory reporting practices, and limited regulatory data. It is likely that homes and businesses within the study area utilize tanks for heating fuel and farm equipment supply. Prior to its conversion into GSMNP, the development along what is now the northern shore of Fontana Lake consisted of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Although not documented, the use of ASTs and USTs likely occurred. Furthermore, mining operations were once active at such locations as Hazel Creek and Eagle Creek. The presence of hazardous material and waste sites related to these operations as well as the aforementioned land uses is unknown.

EDR identified 22 UST sites, 8 Facility Index System (FINDS) sites, 12 Incident Management Database (IMD) sites, four leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites, two State Trust Fund Database (LUST TRUST) sites, two North Carolina Hazardous Substance Disposal Site (NCHSDS) sites, one Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) site, one Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS) Large Quantity Generator (LQG) site, one RCRIS Small Quantity Generator (SQG) site, and one Mines Master Index File (MINES) site. EDR identified sites are shown in Table 37. The Map ID Number listed corresponds to the numbers on Figure 20. The sites listed below may no longer be in operation or may have

relocated; however, site identification continues to be important due to the possibility of remaining contaminants. It should be noted that the presence of hazardous materials at a certain location does not indicate that the location is a threat to public health. Furthermore, these sites were identified during a records search, which indicates that they are registered with the proper agencies.

Table 37
Hazardous Material and Waste Sites Identified by EDR

Map ID Number	Facility	Location	Database(s)
1	Alarka General Store	3091 Highway 19 South, Bryson City	UST
2	Almond Elementary School	10 Almond School Road, Bryson City	UST
3*	Amoco West End Food Stop #210	240 West Bessemer Street, Bryson City	IMD
4	Aztex #210	110 Highway 19 South, Bryson City	UST
5	Belk Department Store	107 Everett Street, Bryson City	UST
6	Bill Moody Funeral Home	285 Main Street, Bryson City	IMD, UST, LUST TRUST
7	Carolina Building Supply	100 Greenlee Street, Bryson City	IMD
8*	Consolidated Metco Bryson City (Conmet)	1821 Highway 19 South, Bryson City	FINDS, RCRIS-LOG
9	Edwards Amoco Service Station	2291 Highway 19 South, Bryson City	UST
10	Express Lane Market	US Highway 19, Bryson City	IMD
11	Federal Building	50 Main Street, Bryson City	RCRIS-SQG, FINDS
12	Fontana Motel	NC 28, Tuskegee	IMD
13	Fontana Peppertree	737 Welch Road, Bryson City	LUST TRUST, IMD, LUST
14	Fontana Texaco	Highway 28, Fontana Dam	IMD
15	Hot Spot #1102	1030 Main Street, Bryson City	UST

Table 37 (Continued)
Hazardous Waste Sites Identified by EDR

Map ID Number	Facility	Location	Database(s)
16	Hyatt Creek Exxon	Hyatt Road US 19 Bypass, Bryson City	LUST, UST
17	JC Cope	Highway 19 West, Bryson City	UST
18	JL Colville Construction Company	No address available	MINES
19	Johnsons Grocery	Highway 28 South, Fontana Dam	UST
20	Kirkland Creek Grocery	1755 East Main Street, Bryson City	UST
21	Lois King	5501 Highway 19 West, Bryson City	UST
22	Maness Manufacturing Company	80 & 81 Ramseur Street, Bryson City	FINDS
23	Midtown Shell Station	Main Street, Bryson City	IMD, LUST
24	Mountain Outdoor	7530 Highway 19 West, Bryson City	UST
25	Nantahala Food Mart	12121 Highway 19 West, Bryson City	IMD, LUST, UST
26	Nantahala Village	4 Highway 19 West, Bryson City	IMD
27	NCDOT (Division 14)	345 Toot Hollow Road, Bryson City	UST
28	Powell Industries-Smoky Cove	1019 Bryson Walk, Bryson City	FINDS
29	Powell Lumber & Kiln Inc./ Powell Industries, Inc.	1011 Bryson Walk, Bryson City	FINDS
30	Singer Furniture Division	1011 Bryson Walk, Bryson City	UST, NC HSDS
31	Smoky Mountain Tire Company	66 US 19 North, Bryson City	UST
32	Southern Concrete Materials (former Owens Concrete Company)	160 Slope Street, Bryson City	UST, FINDS
33	Swain County Bus Garage	344 Highway 19 North, Bryson City	UST
34	Swain County High School	1415 Fontana Road, Bryson City	UST

Table 37 (Continued)
Hazardous Waste Sites Identified by EDR

Map ID Number	Facility	Location	Database(s)
35*	Swain County Landfill	Buckner Branch Rd, Bryson City	CERCLIS, FINDS, NC HSDS
36	Swain County Sanitation	School House Road, Bryson City	IMD
37	Swain County Sheriff's Department	Everett Street & Main Street, Bryson City	FINDS
38	Swain County West Elementary	4142 Highway 19 West, Bryson City	UST
39	The Pit Stop	223 East Main Street, Bryson City	UST
40	Wallace Tube Company	Pine Street off Gibson Avenue, Bryson City	IMD
41	Wiggins 66 Station	315 Main Street, Bryson City	UST

* Indicates these sites are listed on both Table 37 and Table 38.

Key:

LUST: The Leaking Underground Storage Tank Incident Reports

UST: The Underground Storage Tank Database

FINDS: The Facility Index System contains both facility information and "pointers" to other sources of information that contain more detail.

RCRIS-SQG: The Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System includes selected information on sites that generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the RCRA. The sites included in this database are small quantity generators (SQG).

RCRIS-LQG: The Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System includes selected information on sites that generate, transport, store, treat, and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the RCRA. The sites included in this database are large quantity generators (LQG).

IMD: The Incident Management Database lists groundwater and/or soil contamination incidents. The information is obtained from the NCDENR.

LUST TRUST: The State Trust Fund Database contains information about claims against the State Trust Funds for reimbursements for expenses incurred while remediating LUSTs.

MINES: The Mines Master Index File data is obtained from the Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration.

CERCLIS: The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System contains data on potentially hazardous waste sites pursuant to the CERCLA.

NC HSDS: The Hazardous Substance Disposal Site database includes the locations of uncontrolled and unregulated hazardous waste sites.

In addition to Internet research, a field reconnaissance survey was conducted in June 2003 to field check orphan sites identified by EDR. Orphan sites is a term used by EDR and refers to those facilities that cannot be mapped due to poor or inadequate address information. Most of the orphan sites were determined to be outside the study area. Of the 74 orphan sites, five were identified within the study area during the field reconnaissance survey and Internet research. The five located sites actually represent 15 of the orphan sites, due to variations and duplications in the federal and state databases. For example, the Swain County Landfill was listed three times due to name and address variations. In addition, Fontana Dam was listed several times due to multiple incidents. Table 38 lists the identified orphan sites, also shown in Figure 20. The Map ID Number listed corresponds to the numbers on Figure 20.

Table 38
Hazardous Material and Waste Sites (Orphan Sites)

Map ID Number	Facility	Location	Database(s)
3*	Amoco West End Food Shop #210/West End Amoco #210	Highway 19 West	LUST, LUST TRUST
42	Fontana Dam	Highway 28	ERNS
43	Former Marks Exxon	131 Highway 19 North, Bryson City	LUST
8*	Gichner Shelter Systems (is now Conmet)	1821 Highway 19 South, Bryson City	IMD
35*	Swain County Landfill	Buckner Branch Road, Bryson City	OLI, SHWS

* Indicates these sites are listed on both Table 37 and Table 38.

Key:

ERNS: The Emergency Response Notification System records and stores information on reported releases of oil and hazardous substances.

OLI: The Old Landfill Inventory list old landfill sites. The information is obtained from the NCDENR.

SHWS: The Inactive Hazardous Sites Inventory is the state's equivalent to CERCLIS.

3.13.1.1 Landfills

The Swain County Landfill, now closed to municipal waste, is located on Buckner Branch Road. The facility continues to accept construction demolition debris and runs a recycling

facility. Municipal waste for the county is taken to the EBCI transfer station, on the Cherokee Indian Reservation east of the study area. The waste is then hauled to Palmetto Landfill in South Carolina. The transfer station can handle 300 tons of waste per day.

3.14 Utilities

3.14.1 GSMNP

Facilities within GSMNP that require utilities are concentrated around developed areas such as the visitor centers and the campgrounds. No utilities are provided within the study area portion of the park. However, a power transmission line servicing Fontana Dam traverses the western portion of the study area within GSMNP's boundary. Due to the park's size and the fact that it encompasses portions of two states and five counties, electricity providers and water and sewer services vary throughout the park. Five electricity providers service the park. Water and sewer service includes wells, septic tanks, municipal providers, and on-site sewage treatment facilities.

3.14.2 TVA's Fontana Reservoir

The original authorized purposes of Fontana Reservoir, operated by the TVA, were for flood control, navigation, and power generation. Water supply, water quality, power plant cooling, and recreation are also supported by the operation of Fontana Reservoir. The Tennessee Valley Public Power Association, Inc. (TVPPA) is the non-profit, regional service organization that represents the interests of consumer-owned electric utilities operating within the TVA service area. Members of the TVPPA include both municipal and electric cooperatives, and they serve more than 8.5 million customers in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina (although not within the study area) (<http://www.tvppa.com/> 2003).

Fontana Reservoir provides 300 MW of electrical generating capacity and 583,000 acre-feet (774,383 ha-m) of flood storage capacity. It also plays an important role in operation of downstream hydro plants operated by Tapoco and the TVA, and in providing summer cooling water for downstream nuclear plants at Watts Bar, Sequoyah, and Browns Ferry. It is the largest tributary reservoir in terms of generating capacity and one of the most important tributary reservoirs in the operation of TVA's integrated river management system.

Because of its large flood storage capacity and protected watershed, which prevents sedimentation, the lifetime of the reservoir is estimated to exceed 100 years. With appropriate maintenance, Fontana Dam should be able to operate almost indefinitely. Water