

Location:

February 17, 2021

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Action Items:

1. RBC members that have yet to select an alternate need to provide an alternate from the same water use interest category.
2. RBC members are required to inform the Planning Team in advance of the RBC meeting if they will not be in attendance and if their alternate will be present.
3. Public Comments for call-ins at the RBC meeting are to be sent to Tom Walker tcwalke@clermson.edu

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda and January 27th Minutes and Summary Documents
- Public Comment Period
- Safe Yield Calculations
- Edisto River Basin Council and Water Availability
- Review Updated Surface Water Scenario Results

Meeting Summary (February 17th)

The Edisto RBC Facilitator, John Boyer, called the February 17th meeting of the Edisto RBC to order at 9:00 AM. The eleventh meeting of the Edisto RBC was held via Zoom virtual meetings due to Covid-19 meeting policies. Including the Edisto RBC members and planning team, there were 68 people present at this RBC meeting. The meeting began with John Boyer reviewing the meeting objectives: to learn about DHEC's Safe Yield calculations from Alex Butler, hear from Jason Thompson, RBC member, regarding the Edisto river basin and water availability, and review updated surface water scenario results. The Edisto RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the January 27th minutes and summary. A public comment period was held with no comments received.

Alex Butler, DHEC made a brief presentation on Safe Yield calculations used by DHEC. Alex presented current information regarding near full allocation of the Edisto River Basin. Due to several recent large registrations in the Edisto river basin, downstream users and safe yield calculations have been factored into final registration amounts. In certain parts of the basin, new agricultural users would need to go through the permitting process to secure a permit from DHEC instead of a registration.

Jason Thompson, RBC member, Charleston Water presented to the Edisto RBC about water availability in the Edisto river basin. Some of the highlights included river flow trends, availability and allocation, and recommendations based on available data. The key recommendation from this presentation was to use a median statistic which more closely reflects true availability. The mean statistic currently in use

can be skewed due to outliers. Discussion focused on what the recommendation means for the planning process in the Edisto and for forthcoming policy recommendations.

John Boyer then briefly updated the Edisto RBC on new surface water scenario results since the last meeting. The updated results reflect changes to scenarios, model output and a new unimpaired flow scenario. The scenarios were run with no surface water conditions. Setting surface water conditions will be discussed at a future RBC meeting.

The next meeting of the Edisto RBC will be tentatively held March 24th, 2021 on Zoom virtual meetings platform.

The meeting concluded at 12:06 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 5/26/2021