



# Phase 1 Survey Results and Review of Progress Metrics

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*Agenda Item 4*

# Phase 1 Survey Results

(15 Responses)

2. Do you feel that you have an adequate understanding of how data, models, and other tools will be used to assess water availability, identify shortages, and explore surface water issues and concerns during Phase 2?

- Yes (10 Responses)
- *“Yes, I feel this has been very informative. When we get to making planning-level decisions I would appreciate those that live the day to day of some of these processes...to provide more of their opinion.”*
- *“Mostly, yes. SWAM Model training will be important and might be the biggest gap.”*
- *“More emphasis on Section 4 in the planning framework” (Methodologies for Evaluation Water Availability)*

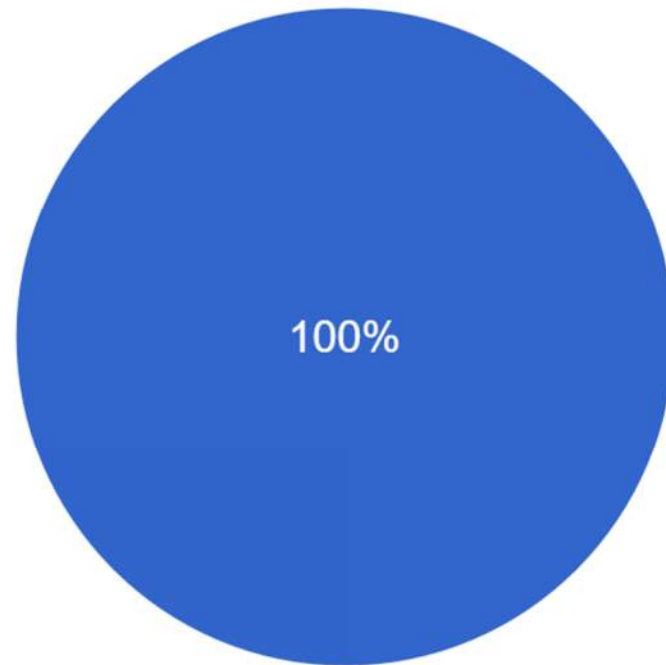
# Phase 1 Survey Results

2. Do you feel that you have an adequate understanding of how data, models, and other tools will be used to assess water availability, identify shortages, and explore surface water issues and concerns during Phase 2?

- *“...visual perception of water volume is very critical in the general view of water availability.”*
- *“I would like to hear more about specifics of the SC Water Withdrawal Law, to whom it applies and who is grandfathered , and the Safe Yield Working Group process and report. I would also like to hear more on agricultural programs related to water resource management, particularly from USDA and Clemson Ext.”*

# Phase 1 Survey Results

2. Do you feel that you have an adequate understanding of how data, models, and other tools will be used to assess water availability, identify shortages, and explore surface water issues and concerns during Phase 2?



15 Responses

- Yes, I generally understand how the data, models, and other tools will be used
- No, I need more details on how the data, models, and other tools will be used

# Phase 1 Survey Results

3. Based on the RBC meetings held to date, do you have any suggestions for the Facilitator or Planning Team to consider that might improve the meetings or planning process?

- *“There is a vast range of knowledge in the room. Therefore, you must start with the basics and bring everyone along together.”*
- Issues with being able to hear speakers at The Ridge/Laurens meeting space (multiple responses)
- Two responses suggesting more interactive portions of the meeting and allowing time for *“creative dialogue”*.
- *“We need a list of data gaps with quick explanations for why they exist and if there are solutions to improve upon those gaps.”*

# Phase 1 Survey Results

3. Based on the RBC meetings held to date, do you have any suggestions for the Facilitator or Planning Team to consider that might improve the meetings or planning process?

- *“I think it would be beneficial for facilitators to be more engaged and open to policy recommendations in this planning effort. ...there are significant omissions and misguided policies that currently govern water withdrawal in the state that is not sustainable nor scientifically based... these questions need to be more intentionally addressed. I hope that we are engaged and supported by facilitators in coming phases to make recommendations for our basin and for the state as a whole.”*
- *“Better outreach to the general public to inform them of this planning process and to encourage public comments”*

# Phase 1 Survey Results

4. If you have any other thoughts, concerns, or feedback on the Saluda River basin planning process, please provide them below.

- *“...the emphasize on quantity vs quality could be stressed more.”*
- *“One item that we have barely touched is interbasin discussion. The Saluda has both gains and loses. As Greenville County grows, how much more water will be transferred to the Broad River basin?”*
- *“I think that there is an opportunity to consider land use changes as part of this planning effort or at least at a minimum present land cover conversion trends by sub basin.”*

# Phase 1 Survey Results

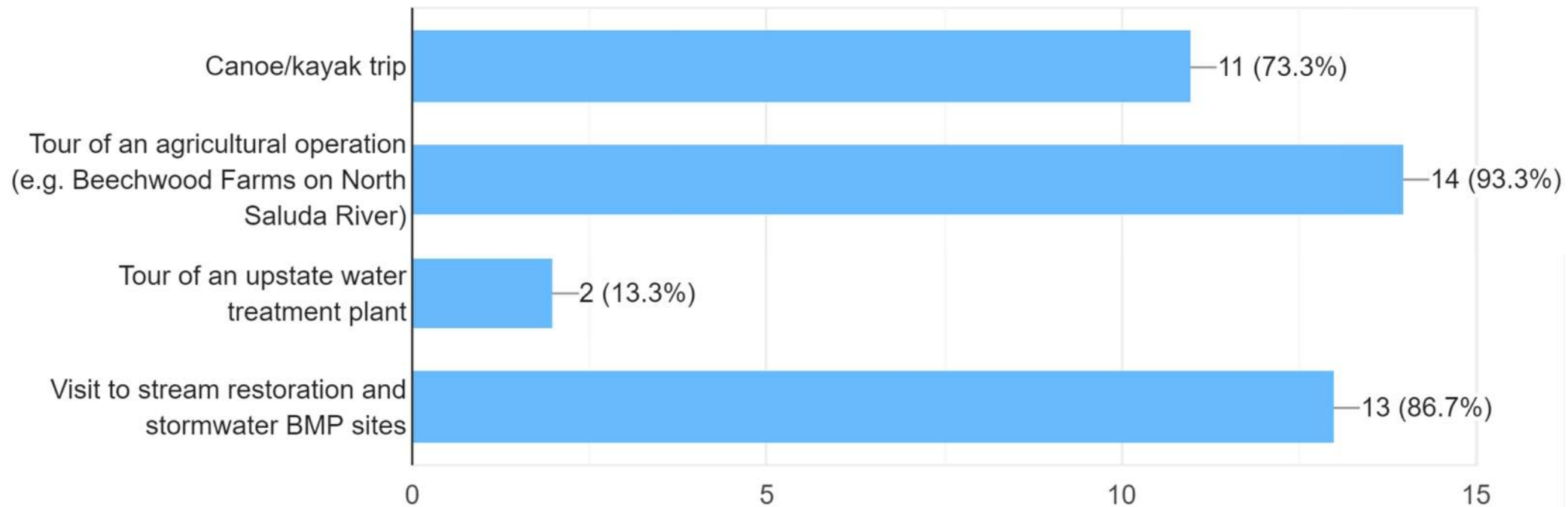
4. If you have any other thoughts, concerns, or feedback on the Saluda River basin planning process, please provide them below.

- *“It might be a good idea to have examples of what other basin planning groups have accomplished”*
- *“...would it be worth inviting state decision-makers, perhaps towards the end of our planning, to inform them of what we are doing and general recommendations of the plan, to include any legislative recommendations?”*



# Phase 1 Survey Results

5. The Saluda Planning Team is considering options for a field trip in the upper portion of the basin, instead of a regular RBC meeting on Wednesday, October 18th. Some options being considered are listed below. Check all that are of interest to you.



## Process Metrics:

1. The process to select RBC members is well documented, transparent, and reflects broad-based outreach.
2. RBCs develop a River Basin Plan By March of 2025.
3. RBC meetings adhere to timelines.
4. River Basin Plans are actionable, logical, and address or prevent challenges with a level of detail to be cost-accountable.

## Process Metrics (continued)...

5. Information used and generated during the planning process is shared openly, publicly, and is easily accessible.
6. RBC meeting agendas are focused and promote efficient and productive meetings.
7. RBC members can effectively consider, digest, and understand technical information through presentations, discussion, group learning and self-study.
8. Decisions are guided by best available science.

## Process Metrics (continued)...

9. Information is presented in an unbiased manner.
10. RBC members are provided equal opportunity to be heard and express their interests, ideas and concerns.
11. The use and outcomes of models and other tools to assess water availability and evaluate strategies are appropriately documented.