



Discussion and development of policy, legislative, and regulatory recommendations



Recommendation Topics to Consider

- **Reasonable Use**
- **Grandfathered vs. new users**
- **Treat all users the same or distinguish by use**
- **Planning and implementation funding**
- **Alignment with River Basin Plans**
- **Other topics?**

Green, Yellow, Red Bucket Approach

- Recommendation needing only minor revision(s)
- Clear RBC consensus



- Not full RBC support
- May revisit to see if consensus can be achieved with revisions
- May move to green if RBC majority approve and there is desire to a keep



- Minimal RBC support
- No clear path to consensus or majority
- Drop



RBCs Most Common/Similar Recommendations

- **Improve the current laws that allow for regulation of water use so that they are effective and enforceable.** The current water law, which grandfathers most water users, needs to be improved to support effective management of the state's water resources.
- **The South Carolina Surface Water Withdrawal, Permitting, Use, and Reporting Act should allow for reasonable use criteria to be applied to all surface water withdrawals, like those that currently exist for groundwater withdrawals.**

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



RBCs Most Common/Similar Recommendations

- **Water law and implementing regulations should not distinguish between registrations and permits.** All water users that withdraw above the identified threshold should be required to apply for a water withdrawal permit. Current law allows for agricultural surface water users and all groundwater users withdrawing water outside of CUAs to register their water use rather than apply for permits. **[B and E]**



Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



RBCs Most Common/Similar Recommendations

- **Continue State water planning activities including river basin planning.**



South Carolina is growing rapidly, water demand is continuing to increase...resource is finite...


The above idea for a recommendations was approved by consensus but left for final wordsmithing. An option for the RBC to consider for final approval is:

Recognizing that South Carolina is growing is growing rapidly, the demand for water is increasing, and water resources are finite, water planning at the river basin and state level should continue.

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



RBCs Most Common/Similar Recommendations

-  The South Carolina Legislature should establish a grant program to help water users implement the actions and strategies identified in the **legislatively-approved State Water Plan**. One example is Georgia's Regional Water Plan Seed Grant Program which supports and incentivizes local governments and other water users as they undertake their Regional Water Plan implementation responsibilities. **[US and PD]**

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



RBCs Most Common/Similar Recommendations

-  The water withdrawal permitting process should specifically assess the permit application's alignment with the legislatively-approved State Water Plan.

RBC discussion topics to further consider and possible develop recommendations around:

- Desire to develop a rec to develop focusing on basin planning with GA (Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council)
- Is their value in distinction between small Ag and big Ag for planning and permitting?

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



Other Notable Edisto and Pee Dee Recommendations

- The Surface Water Withdrawal, Permitting, Use, and Reporting Regulations should use 80 percent of median annual daily flows instead of 80 percent of mean annual daily flows to determine safe yield at a withdrawal point. [E]
- The Surface Water Withdrawal, Permitting, Use, and Reporting regulations should use median annual daily flows instead of mean annual daily flows to determine seasonal minimum instream flows at a withdrawal point. [E]
- A cost share program should be developed to drill deeper wells into aquifer units with less development pressure [PD].

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus



Saluda Recommendations Still Being Discussed (but appear to lack consensus)

- Require permits statewide for all existing and new water withdrawals over 3 MGM, including those before 2011 and all registered users. All users must be evaluated for reasonableness and must meet minimum instream flow (MIF) requirements.
- Remove “safe yield” (SY) entirely as a metric in the SC water withdrawal law and implementing regulations.
- Revise minimum instream flow (MIF) standards based on best available science to adequately protect designated uses and recognize regional differences.

Key: US = Upper Savannah RBC; B = Broad RBC; PD = Pee Dee RBC; E = Edisto RBC
Edisto recommendations were by majority, not consensus

