



# Discussion Selection and Prioritization of Water Management Strategies

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# Planning Framework Definitions

- **Surface Water Management Strategy** – a water management strategy proposed to eliminate a Surface Water Shortage, reduce a Surface Water Shortage, or generally increase Surface Water.
- **Groundwater Management Strategy** – a water management strategy proposed to address a Groundwater Area of Concern or Groundwater Shortage.
- **Groundwater Area of Concern** – an area in the Coastal Plain, designated by an RBC, where groundwater withdrawals from a specified aquifer are causing or are expected to cause unacceptable impacts to the resource or to the public health and well-being.

# Group Reports – Q1: Existing Strategies in the Basins

## Supply Side:

Reuse, reclaimed effluent for irrigation  
Stormwater collection in ponds, then used for golf course irrigation  
Conjunctive use (golf)  
Interconnections and regionalization of public supply systems  
Interbasin transfers (e.g., from Lower Savannah to Salkehatchie)  
Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)  
Onsite retention (impoundments for agriculture)  
USACE flow strategy and minimum releases  
Satellite leak detection programs  
Land management (to improve water quality)

## Demand Side:

Golf courses: Wetting agents, moisture sensors, irrigation system upgrades (to be more efficient)

Public Supply: Automatic Meter Reading (AMI/AMR), SCADA, public education, tiered rate structure during drought, pricing structures (Increasing block rates), building code requirements (e.g., utilities that get water from BJW&SA), education/outreach/communication, general conservation strategies

# Group Reports – Q2: Effectiveness of Existing Strategies

Reclaimed water is effective for HHPSD

Regionalization is effective in terms of technical and financial capacity

Effectiveness is often location specific and depends on financial capability

Outreach is not effective (relative to other issues, e.g. electric/energy)

More incentive is needed for water conservation

# Group Reports – Q3: Can Existing Strategies be Expanded

Where there is new construction, new golf courses, reclaimed water would be useful

Support and promote industrial growth – reclaimed water can help with that

All existing strategies can be expanded. Prioritizing them is important.

Hold to and enforce existing standards is important.

State funding is needed to expand strategies (e.g., replace aging infrastructure)

Groundwater barrier wall to prevent further saltwater migration/intrusion at the coast (e.g., HHPSD)

# Group Reports – Q4: What Strategies are Relevant in the Lower Savannah and Salkehatchie River basins and Should be Further Evaluated?

Ag is out in front. Continue to expand strategies being employed by Ag users

Public Water Supply – Encourage reuse; fix existing systems (leaks); Use methods like AMI/AMR with text messaging to more quickly stop leaks. Make consumer aware of drought and begin conservation earlier.

Conservation, not only during drought periods (employ methods to reduce overall consumption)

More state funding for water projects

Lobby for federal dollars

# Demand Side Strategies

## Important Considerations:

- Water users have different financial and technical resources.
- Not every strategy is applicable to every water user.
- Due to **uncertainty** of future water availability, it is becoming increasingly important to use water as efficiently as possible.
- Some strategies may be identified as part of an **adaptive management plan**. They are only recommended if certain risk triggers occur, or conditions change beyond what is expected.