



# September RBC Meeting Review

# River Basin Planning Process Recommendations

## Recommendations about **increasing engagement**:

- **RBCs should develop and implement an engagement plan to improve awareness and build support for the recommendations, actions, and strategies identified in the River Basin Plan.** The engagement plan should:
  - Identify target audiences. Early engagement with elected officials is important. Engagement with groups outside of the “water” space should also be considered. The Association of Counties and SC Manufacturers Association may be a worthwhile target audience.
  - Identify the means and methods for engagement. For example, digital methods including social media may be especially effective with certain audiences.
  - Leverage existing mechanisms like the joint SCAWWA/WEASC *Public Information Officers Committee* and other water advocacy groups to help with messaging.

RBCs should consider the formation of subcommittees to lead the engagement effort. Additional subcommittees may be formed for engagement with elected officials or other specific groups.



# River Basin Planning Process Recommendations

Recommendations about **RBC composition, recruitment, meetings, and collaboration:**

- **Elected officials should be invited and considered to participate on the RBCs as part of the Local Government water interest category.** The Local Government water interest category is one of the least represented categories, and having elected officials participate in the process would add a new voice.
- **SCDES should develop a strategy for maintaining membership and sustaining the RBCs** At least annually, SCDES should review the interest category representation of each RBC and attempt to identify individuals to represent missing or under-represented interest categories. Manufacturing is an interest category that is not well represented but may be important.



# River Basin Planning Process Recommendations

Recommendations about **RBC composition, recruitment, meetings, and collaboration:**

- **Following development of the initial River Basin Plans, the RBCs should work with SCDES to identify the scope of future RBC activities and help develop funding needs and requests.**
- **Future water planning efforts should consider increased collaboration between all of South Carolina's RBCs.** At least one or two statewide RBC meetings should be held annually. Consideration should also be given to annual meetings between NC, SC, and GA regional water planning groups which share their water resources.

