



October RBC Meeting Review

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RBC-Adopted Technical Recommendations





 Reducing sediment loading to reservoirs through:

- The implementation of infiltration, riparian buffers, land use planning, setbacks, minimizing streambank erosion, scour, and sources of sedimentation to reservoirs.
- Studies to better identify sources of sediment load to reservoirs
- Further incentivize the establishment of riparian buffers, streambank restoration, and other practices that reduce sediment load to streams and reservoirs.
- Develop and incentivize green infrastructure/stormwater ordinances
- Strengthen penalties for non-compliance of stormwater ordinances







 Study impacts of changing land use on streamflow characteristics (magnitude of flows, timing of flows, flashiness, etc)

 Develop a strategy to identify and prioritize properties that could impact quantity and quality of water. Develop and fund county conservation and mitigation banks for land conservation. Collaborate with SC Conservation Bank and Land Trusts to conserve those properties

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-  Identify the financial impacts of increased sedimentation on reservoirs and water resources and communicate the results to local governments to demonstrate the value of riparian buffers, sedimentation and erosion control measures, and other policies and controls that reduce sediment generation and transport.
-  The RBC recommends that as part of the comprehensive planning process that each local jurisdiction across the state consult the Resilience Plan developed by the South Carolina Office of Resilience, local Hazard Mitigation Plans, and the associated river basin plan(s) developed by the RBCs for inclusion within the resilience element as required by the South Carolina Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act as amended in 2020. Encourage land use regulations and corresponding ordinances be adjusted to support the resilience element.
-  Advocate for the development of local ordinances such as riparian buffers and tree ordinances for new development.
-  While the RBC should maintain its focus on the assessment of water quantity, future planning efforts should include evaluation of surface water quality, including bacteria, nutrient loading and sedimentation, which is important to maintaining affordable public water supplies and the ecological health of the streams, rivers, and lakes

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-  Use of the River Basin Plan to highlight areas where water is more abundant and amenable to growth.
-  Amend the building permitting process in counties and municipalities to require developers work with water utilities to ensure adequate water availability.
-  In future planning phases, the RBC recommends understanding the potential impacts of private and community/commercial wells, and how they may affect surface water (especially during droughts) and/or better characterize growth potential.
-  Data Usage and Acquisition: compile the data obtained from established credible systems in alignment with RBC goals for utilization across the State before creating new systems, databases, or monitoring stations. Historic data, and new data when developed, needs to be publicly accessible and in a consistent, standardized, format that supports public comprehension. [Use existing data first!]
-  Update models to consider future uncertainties (changing weather patterns, population growth, development scenarios, etc.).
-  Fund and establish of a mesoscale network of weather and climate monitoring stations.