

Location:

April 20, 2022
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Clemson Edisto REC
Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. John Boyer to poll 2-year Edisto RBC members to confirm willingness to stay on the council until plan completion.
2. Edisto RBC to review and provide feedback on the memo distributed by John Boyer: *Feasibility of Surface Water Management Strategies*.
3. USGS to run adjusted model scenarios as requested in the RBC meeting.
4. Edisto RBC to consider ideas they could support for setting surface water conditions.

Decisions:

1. **Majority decision: Edisto RBC recommends establishing areas of groundwater concern in regions where groundwater data and/or groundwater modeling predict water levels drop below the top of the aquifers. 17 – Yes and 3 – No majority vote. (3/16)**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda and March 16th Minutes and Summary Documents
- Public and Agency Comment Periods
- Old business/New business Discussion
- Update on Edisto River Basin Plan Chapters
- Groundwater Management Strategies, Monitoring and Conditions
- Surface Water Management Strategies and Conditions
- Upcoming RBC agenda and schedule

Meeting Summary (April 20th)

The Edisto RBC Chair, Hank Stallworth, called the April 20th meeting of the Edisto RBC to order at 9:01 AM. The twenty-second meeting of the Edisto RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Edisto RBC members and planning team, there were 44 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. The meeting began with Hank Stallworth discussing the agenda items for the meeting. The Edisto RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the March 16th minutes and summary documents. A public comment

period was held with no comments received. An agency public comment period was held with no comments received.

Old and new business began with discussion regarding debris collecting in the Edisto River and options available to make it navigable. Additional discussion focused on an attendance issue for one Edisto RBC member. After some discussion the removal of the Edisto RBC member was put to a vote with unanimous approval and the Edisto RBC member was removed from the council. Final discussion focused on 2-year appointees of the Edisto RBC and their willingness to stay on until the plan is complete.

John Boyer introduced the first major agenda item regarding the writing of the Edisto River Basin Plan. The second through fourth chapters of the Edisto river basin plan are currently being drafted but are not yet ready for subcommittee review.

The next agenda item focused on groundwater management strategies, monitoring and conditions. Three objectives were presented for RBC groundwater management recommendations: consider potential recommendations for groundwater management strategies, review existing monitoring networks and consider recommendations for enhanced monitoring, and consider potential recommendations for groundwater conditions. Discussion primarily centered around modeling scenarios regarding efficiency gains, land use and groundwater recharge rates. USGS planning team members were asked to run several scenarios using the groundwater flow model for the next meeting. Following that part of the discussion, enhanced monitoring capabilities and regional groundwater modeling in groundwater areas of concern were recommended. Discussion of potential recommendations for groundwater conditions moved more toward a focus on desired future conditions instead of specific recommendations on conditions.

Finally, the RBC meeting moved to a discussion on the feasibility of specific strategies distributed in a memo prior to the meeting. The RBC is expected to review and provide feedback to the planning team and prepare for adoption of the portfolio of strategies. The rest of the meeting focused on discussion of the proposed incremental low flow strategy which was introduced previously. The discussion on low flow strategy and surface water conditions will continue at a future meeting.

The meeting concluded with John Boyer discussing items for the next meeting. The RBC meeting was adjourned. The next Edisto RBC meeting will be held May 18, 2022 and will be a longer meeting.

The meeting concluded at 1:16 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: May 18, 2022