Location:
January 12, 2023
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Harbison Environmental Education Center – Harbison State Forest
5600 Broad River Rd, Columbia, SC 29212
Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. **CDM Smith to look at results regarding why Spartanburg Water safe yield is higher versus projected High Demand shortage.**
2. **RBC members to think through strategies to implement to reach demand-side reduction goals.**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda, Minutes, and Summary
- Public Comment Period
- December RBC Meeting Review
- Flow-ecology Risk in the Broad Basin
- Full Allocation Scenario Safe Yield of Spartanburg Water System Reservoirs
- Modeling Drought Management Plan Strategies
- Timing of High Demand Scenario Shortages and Discussion of Demand-side Water Management Strategies
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule, Topics, and Review of Meeting

Meeting Summary (January 12th)

Ken Tuck, Broad River Basin Council (RBC) Chair, called to order the January 12th meeting of the Broad RBC at 9:05 AM. The ninth meeting of the Broad RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Broad RBC members and planning team, there were 40 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. Ken reviewed the meeting objectives and asked for motions to approve the agenda and minutes and summary documents from the previous meeting. The Broad RBC unanimously approved the RBC meeting agenda as well as the previous meeting minutes and summary. John Boyer held a public comment period with no comments received. An agency comment period was also held without any comments received. John Boyer reviewed the December RBC meeting.

The first major agenda item was a presentation by Luke Bower, Joe Murzek, and Brandon Peoples entitled: *Flow-fish Richness Relationships* which was a continuation of presentations previously presented to the RBC related to flow-ecology relationships and risks in the Broad River Basin. The major takeaways for the RBC to consider included how to use these relationships: defining biological response limits and predicting responses. The working group presented biological response limits in low, medium, and high risk categories related to fish species richness and mean daily flow. Four flow-ecology metrics were considered: mean daily flow, timing of low flow, high flow pulse count, and high flow pulse duration which were chosen based on: relevance to water withdrawal and drought management, strength of relationship, distribution, and calculable from SWAM output. After presenting model run results the presentation concluded with limitations of the study and how it could be used by the RBC.

The next agenda item was a presentation from John Boyer which summarized the results of the Spartanburg Water system reservoirs safe yield under the full allocation scenario. John provided a definition of current reservoir safe yield and referenced the Planning Framework which called for calculation of the unallocated reservoir safe yield. Safe yield data was calculated and presented for the entire three-reservoir system but also included data for Lake Bowen and Municipal Reservoir #1 combined and Lake Blalock individually.

John Boyer then provided an update on modeling drought management plans. John reviewed current surface water users with drought management plans and associated drought phase triggers. The modeled drought triggers were modeled in SWAM and presented to the RBC which displayed 2070 high demand shortages or no shortages for individual water users with drought management plans.

The final topic of the RBC meeting focused on the timing of high demand scenario shortages and discussion of demand-side strategies for evaluation. John presented results of the high demand scenario for 2070 and the year the shortage first appears for impacted users and timing associated with modeled shortages. John revisited guiding principle #4 that River Basin Plans should utilize effective supply and demand strategies and associated talking points. The Planning Framework prescribed an adaptive management approach in determining water management strategies and John discussed existing supply-side and demand-side strategies in the Broad Basin. John then asked the RBC members to consider expanding existing demand-side strategies and to determine which demand-side strategies are relevant and considered for evaluation in the Broad.

The meeting concluded with a review of the meeting schedule and topics for future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9th and will be held at Spartanburg Community College – Tyger River Campus.

The meeting concluded at 11:54 AM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 2/9/23