Location:
November 10, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Spartanburg CC – Tyger River Campus
Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

1. **RBC members should select an alternate from the same water use interest category if you have not already done so and inform the planning team.**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment Period
- September Meeting Review and October Field Trip Highlights
- Phase 1 RBC Survey Results
- Recommendations for Assessing Flow-Ecological Health Relationships
- Surface Water Availability Modeling – Results of Planning Scenarios
- Discussion of Next Steps
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule, Topics, and October Field Trip

Meeting Summary (November 10th)

Ken Tuck, Broad River Basin Council (RBC) Chair, called to order the November 10th meeting of the Broad RBC at 9:02 AM. The seventh 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 39 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 and quizzed the RBC on items from the September RBC meeting and presented brief highlights of the October field trip to Spartanburg Water and Cooley Farms. John also presented RBC survey results from the first phase of the Broad River Basin planning process.

The first major agenda item was a presentation from Luke Bower (USGS) entitled: *Recommendations for Assessing Flow-Ecological Health Relationships in the Broad Basin Part 1*.

Luke Bower introduced the framework that the project team used for their research. The ecological limits of hydrologic alteration (ELOHA) framework was selected by the project team. The project team used this framework to build a hydrologic foundation of streamflow and biological data, classify natural river types, determine flow-ecology relationships associated within each river type, and recommend water flow standards to achieve river condition goals. The major findings of the presentation were that there were many relationships, all components of the flow regime are important, and these relationships differ between stream classes.

Eric Krueger (TNC) had a follow-up presentation entitled: *Recommendations for Assessing Flow-Ecological Health Relationships in the Broad Basin Part 2*. Eric presented the project group's proposal for the Broad River Basin to incorporate 5 flow-ecology metrics as performance measures of Broad River water use scenarios: Mean Daily Flow, Duration of High Flow, Frequency of High Flow, Duration of Low Flow, and Timing of Low Flow. These specific metrics were chosen based on relevance to water withdrawal and drought management, strength of relationship, distribution, and are readily calculable in SWAM. This proposal enables the RBC to evaluate the actual impact on the basin's health and compare multiple scenarios quickly. After some questions and answers and discussion of the proposal, a motion and was made to allow the project team to move forward with their proposal which was unanimously approved.

Decision: Motion to move to proceed with using the instream flow performance recommendations and risk ranges that were included in our handout with SWAM modeling to develop additional information about the impacts of various flow levels. Frank Eskridge made the motion 1st and Karen Kustafik 2nd seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

The next agenda item was a presentation from John Boyer with support from Kirk Westphal and Tim Cox (CDM Smith). The presentation was entitled: *Surface Water Availability Modeling Results of Planning Scenarios*. The Broad RBC is entering phase two of the planning process which requires the RBC to identify and quantify shortages, select surface water conditions, reaches of interest, and groundwater areas of concern. Surface water scenarios (current use, permitted and registered use, moderate water demand projection, and high water demand projection) were highlighted and preliminary model runs were presented to the RBC. The preliminary results were as follows: current use scenario presented no simulated shortages, moderate demand scenario 2070 presented shortages in Greer (WS) and at the Mid Carolina golf course, the high demand scenario presented shortages for Greer (WS), Mid Carolina golf course, Gaffney (WS), York (WS), SJWD (WS), Pebble Creek golf course, and Fox Run golf course, and the permitted and registered scenario presented shortages for the previous seven mentioned users and also included Spartanburg (WS), Fisher Bros (IR), Woodruff-Roebuck (WS), Clinton (WS), and Winnsboro (WS). John also discussed simulated flows at strategic nodes.

John then presented some considerations for the Broad RBC moving forward. The considerations included: requests for additional scenarios, revising or adding to current selected strategic nodes, frequency of simulated flows dropping below Minimum Instream Flows, hydropower needs, safe yield evaluation of lakes other than Bowen and Blalock. Other considerations for the RBC were: the establishment of a Surface Water Subcommittee, future establishment of reaches of interest, and future establishment of a surface water condition. The next steps in phase two are to continue reviewing preliminary modeling scenario results, calculate safe yield for Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock, select locations to apply flow-ecology metrics and evaluate in SWAM, and any other actions the RBC identified.

The meeting concluded with a review of the meeting schedule and topics for future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for December 8th.

The meeting concluded at 12:32 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 12/8/2022