Edisto Basin Water-Demand Projections Update

Alex Pellett

Hydrologist S.C. Department of Natural Resources Land, Water and Conservation Division



Edisto River Basin Council – Meeting (Virtual) October 21st, 2020

Stakeholder Input Process



REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

Future Work



Routine updates:

- ✓ Update water use data to 2019.
- ✓ Update electricity projections from 2020 IRP.
- ✓ Update industry projections from 2020 EIA AEO.
- ✓ Use annual projections instead of step function interpolation for groundwater model input.
- Publish projections summary and detailed reports.

Recommended adjustments:

- Agriculture irrigated area in the highdemand scenario could grow faster.
- Consider using additive high-impact factor instead of multiplicative.
 - High-impact for public supply is low.
 - High-impact factor for agriculture is high in some cases.

Other Potential Enhancements

- Adjust projections by survey questions (privacy issue?).
- Re-send custom reports to permittees.
- Model return flows, discharges, and consumptive use.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Wastewater Reuse, De-watering.
- Efficiency Improvements.
- Public Supply
 - Service area population projections.
 - Distinguish different kinds of water use.
 - Consider impacts of outdoor use restrictions.
- Agriculture
 - Field-scale irrigation modelling.
 - Econometric modelling of different crops.
 - Constraints on irrigated area.

Scenarios



Business-as-usual Scenario

Water Demand = Driver * Rate * Seasonality

High-Demand Scenario

Water Demand = Driver * Rate * Seasonality * High Impact Factor Water Demand = (Driver * Rate * Seasonality) + High Impact Factor High Impact Factor is not used for groundwater model input.

High Impact Factor is calculated as:

Monthly 90th percentile impact of weather

- As described in the methodology report.
- Used for agriculture, and any water-use systems for which weather was found to have a significant impact on water demand.
- Seasonal 90th deviation from baseline median rate
 - Weather was not found to have a significant impact on all water-use systems.
 - Calculated this way, the High Impact Factor is "agnostic" to the cause of high demand.
 - Described in upcoming addendum to the methodology report.

Thermo-electric Electricity Demand





Thermo-electric Electricity Demand





Edisto Thermo-electric Results



August Draft

October Draft



- 2019 water use was lower than average over the baseline.
- The updated business-as-usual electricity demand projections are lower.
- The electricity projections now include a high-demand scenario.

Edisto Public Supply Results



August Draft

October Draft



- 2019 water use was slightly lower than some previous years, but the effect is negligible.
- Population projections were not modified.
- The additive high-impact factor provides a greater difference between the two scenarios in the short term.

Edisto Manufacturing Results



August Draft

October Draft



- The updated projections of economic production (from the 2020 US Annual Energy Outlook) are generally lower than the previous edition.
- The additive high-impact factor provides a greater difference between the two scenarios.
- Edisto manufacturing water use is almost entirely groundwater, so the high-demand scenario will be a bit less when input in to the groundwater model.

Edisto Agriculture Results



August Draft

October Draft



Reported agricultural water use in the Edisto basin continued to increase in 2019.

The additive high-impact factor increased the spread between the two scenarios.

Over 75% is groundwater demand. These plots represent results of the highdemand scenario including the monthly high-impact factor. It is not realistic to apply the monthly high-impact factor continuously over time, so the highdemand scenario input for the groundwater model will not be this high.

Future Work



Routine updates:

- ✓ Update water use data to 2019.
- ✓ Update electricity projections from 2020 IRP.
- ✓ Update industry projections from 2020 EIA AEO.
- ✓ Use annual projections instead of step function interpolation for groundwater model input.
- Publish projections summary and detailed reports.

Recommended adjustments:

- Agriculture irrigated area in the highdemand scenario could grow faster.
- Consider using additive high-impact factor instead of multiplicative.
 - High-impact for public supply is low.
 - High-impact factor for agriculture is high in some cases.

Other Potential Enhancements

- Adjust projections by survey questions (privacy issue?).
- Re-send custom reports to permittees.
- Model return flows, discharges, and consumptive use.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Wastewater Reuse, De-watering.
- Efficiency Improvements.
- Public Supply
 - Service area population projections.
 - Distinguish different kinds of water use.
 - Consider impacts of outdoor use restrictions.
- Agriculture
 - Field-scale irrigation modelling.
 - Econometric modelling of different crops.
 - Constraints on irrigated area.