



Planning Framework Overview

Saluda River Basin Council – Meeting #2, April 19th, 2023

Scott Harder
Hydrology Section Chief
SC Department of Natural Resources

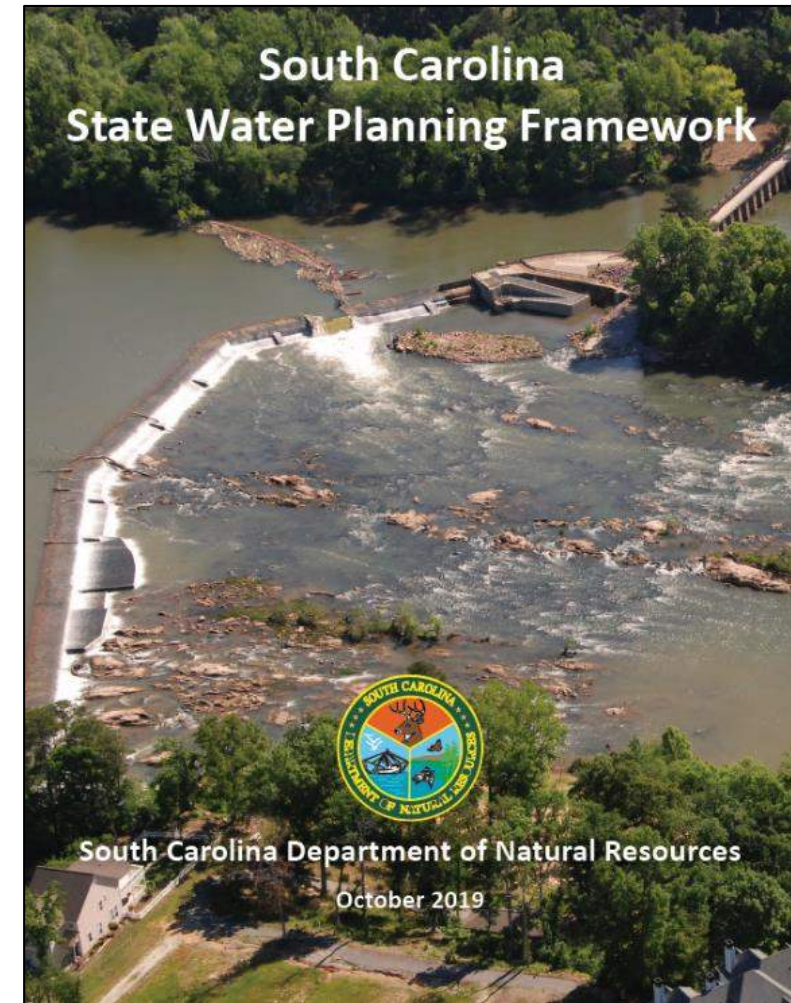


Agenda Item 4

Contents of Planning Framework

Sections:

1. Executive Summary
 2. Introduction
 3. River Basin Planning Process
 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws



Planning Framework is available for review and download at:

<https://hydrology.dnr.sc.gov/water-planning-framework.html>



Section 2. Introduction



Describes:

- Purpose and importance of state and river basin planning.
- Role of State Water Planning Process Advisory Committee (PPAC).
- Guiding principles.
- Regulatory framework.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
 - 2. Introduction**
 3. River Basin Planning Process
 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws

Much of this information was presented at the first Council meeting.

Section 3. River Basin Planning Process



Describes:

- How the River Basin Plan will be developed.
- The roles and responsibilities of:
 - River Basin Councils
 - State and Federal Agencies
 - Contractors
 - PPAC
- Stakeholder/public participation.
- Coordination with other planning bodies and committees.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
 2. Introduction
 - 3. River Basin Planning Process**
 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws

Section 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability



- Describes:
 - Hydrologic models used to evaluate water availability.
 - Four scenarios for RBC evaluation.
 - Approach to evaluating water management strategies.
- Defines:
 - Surface and Groundwater Availability.
 - Surface and Groundwater Shortage, etc.

A future RBC meeting will cover this section in more detail.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
 2. Introduction
 3. River Basin Planning Process
 - 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability**
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws

Section 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability



- Based, in part, on methodologies used in Texas for evaluating water availability.
- Provides consistency – designates a common set of definitions and processes to use across the State.

Big Picture – this is a gap analysis; the RBC will be determining where and when demand exceeds supply under varying demand scenarios and deciding how to manage water to close the gaps.

Planning framework:

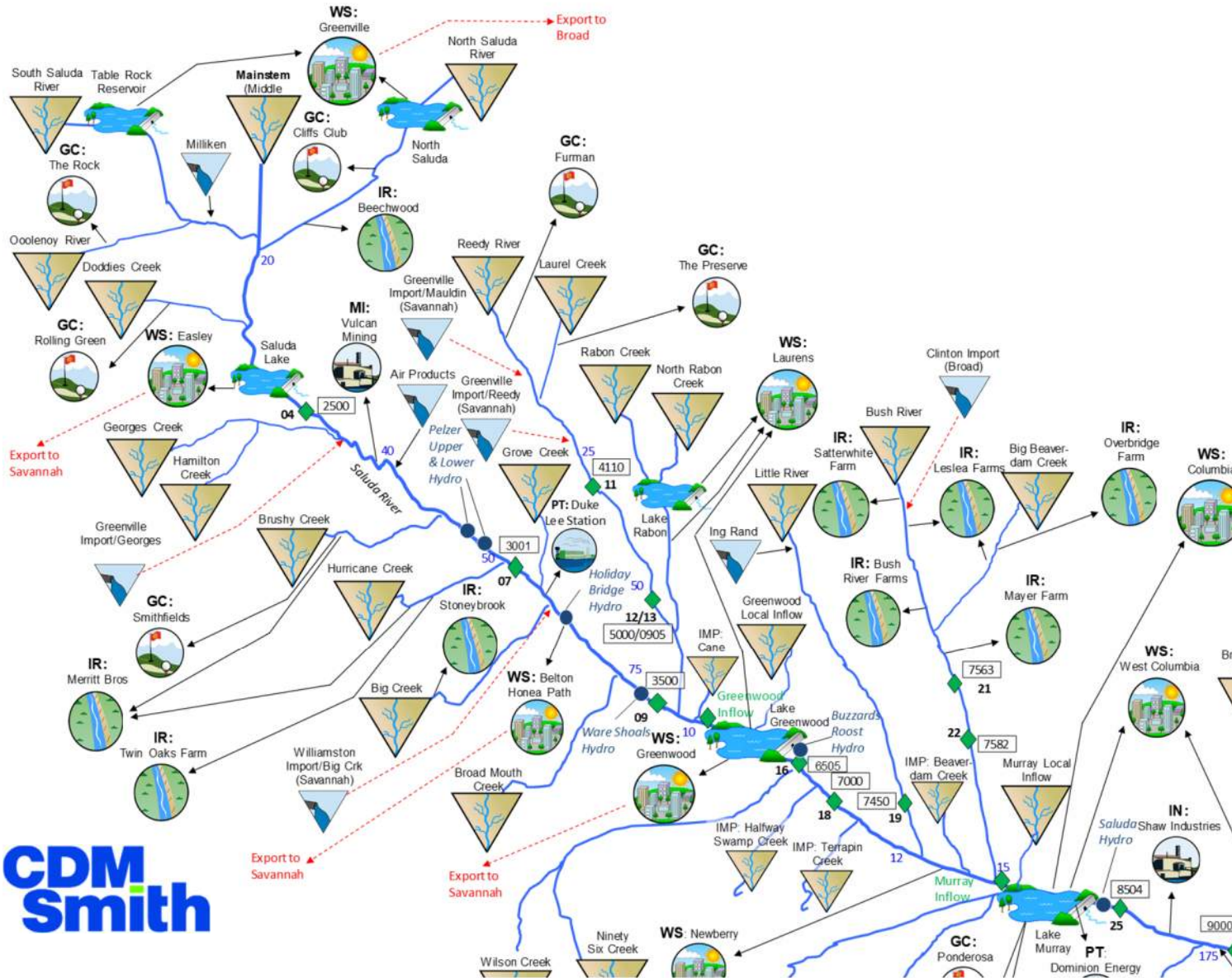
1. Executive Summary
 2. Introduction
 3. River Basin Planning Process
 - 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability**
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws

Surface Water Demand Scenarios



- Four scenarios to be reviewed by each River Basin Council:
 1. Current Surface Water Use
 2. Permitted and Registered Water Use Scenario
 3. Moderate Water-Demand Projection
 4. High Water-Demand Projection
- Scenarios focus on “water demand” side as opposed to “water supply” side.
- Additional water demand scenarios can be recommended by the RBC:
 - Based on different assumptions used in existing projections (more aggressive growth rates, for example).
 - New water-demand projection scenarios must be submitted to SCDNR in writing by the RBC for consideration.

Saluda Surface Water Model (SWAM)



Model is a decision-making tool used to assess water availability and management strategies, and will support the development of River Basin Plans

<https://hydrology.dnr.sc.gov/surface-water-models.html>



Technical Advisory Committees

- Planning Framework calls for permanent Groundwater and Surface Water Technical Advisory Committees (TACs).
- Purpose: to provide the State agencies and River Basin Councils with technical assistance and support during the development of River Basin Plans and the new State Water Plan.
 - Advise state agencies on any new data, model revisions or extensions, and alternative modeling platforms that could be used for planning purposes.
 - Approve the use of supplemental modeling platforms in the planning process.
 - Advise RBCs on model scenarios and assist in the interpretation of modeling results.
- Primarily serves as a “reactive” body as opposed to “proactive”.
 - TACs respond to technical questions/issues that arise in the planning process as needed.

Section 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents



- Provides a detailed description of the “*minimum requirements*” for each Chapter.
- RBCs should generally adhere to this organization structure.
- Some discretion to include additional information not explicitly stated in the Planning Framework.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. River Basin Planning Process
4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability

5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents

6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws



Section 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Description of the Basin
3. Water Resources of the Basin
4. Current and Projected Water Demand
5. Comparison of Water Resource Availability and Water Demand
6. Water Management Strategies
7. Water Management Strategy Recommendations
8. Drought Response
9. Policy, Legislative, Regulatory, Technical and Planning Process Recommendations
10. River Basin Plan Implementation



Section 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation

- Four Phases of Plan Development:
 - Phase 1 – orientation, administrative aspects, background information.
 - Phase 2 – technical analyses used to assess water availability.
 - Phase 3 – analysis of water management strategies.
 - Phase 4 – preparation of draft and final River Basin Plans incorporating final water management strategies and other recommendations.
- RBC responsible for submitting progress reports after each major phase.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
 2. Introduction
 3. River Basin Planning Process
 4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability
 5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
 - 6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation**
 7. River Basin Plan Implementation
 8. State Water Plan
- Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws



Section 7. River Basin Plan Implementation

- River Basin Plans are not intended to be static documents.
- The River Basin Plan is required to have a 5-year **Implementation Plan** (Chapter 10 of the River Basin Plan):
 - Objectives – based on recommended water management strategies and other recommendations.
 - Schedule.
 - Budget.
- RBCs are required to meet annually (between successive iterations of river basin planning) but frequency dependent on objectives and available funding.
- Implementation challenges/considerations:
 - Funding.
 - Broader stakeholder buy-in.
 - No regulatory authority.



Section 8. State Water Plan

- Contingent upon completion of 8 River Basin Plans.
- Major content includes:
 - A summary of legislative, policy, process, and program recommendations regarding the State's water resources documented in the River Basin Plans.
 - A summary of each River Basin Plan's water availability analyses and conclusions.
 - An evaluation of statewide trends in water use and availability.

Planning framework:

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. River Basin Planning Process
4. Methodologies for Evaluating Water Availability
5. River Basin Plan Table of Contents
6. River Basin Planning Process Implementation
7. River Basin Plan Implementation

8. State Water Plan

Appendix: River Basin Council Bylaws

SCDNR Hydrology Website



Water Planning

The SCDNR Hydrology Section is responsible for formulating and establishing a comprehensive water resources policy for the State of South Carolina.

Public Notice: SCDNR will host two public meetings in Anderson, SC on April 10th and in McCormick, SC on April 11th to kick-off river basin planning activities in the Upper Savannah basin. Meeting dates, locations, and agendas can be found on the [Upper Savannah Basin Planning website](#).

Public Notice: SCDNR is accepting public comments on the [draft Edisto River Basin Plan](#). Public comments on the draft plan will be accepted through March 17th, 2023. The draft plan, along with comment submission instructions, can be found on the [Edisto River Basin Plan website](#).

[Water Planning Overview](#) | [South Carolina State Water Planning Framework](#) | [River Basin Planning](#)

Water Planning News | **Hydrology Calendar**

- [Next Pee Dee River Basin Council Meeting Scheduled for March 28th, 2023](#)
- [Public Meetings Scheduled for April 10th and 11th to Kick-off Upper](#)

Upcoming events

- [Saluda River Basin Council Meeting #1](#)

<https://hydrology.dnr.sc.gov/water-planning.html>

Saluda Basin Planning

Activities and reports on water planning in the Saluda River basin.

Overview

River basin planning activities in the Saluda basin were recently initiated under the guidance of the [South Carolina State Water Planning Framework](#). Two public meetings were held on November 1st in Columbia, SC and on November 3rd in Greenville, SC to kick-off planning activities (presentations given at each meeting can be accessed on the [meetings page](#)). An overview of the South Carolina State Water Planning Framework was provided to the basin's stakeholders and applications to serve on the Saluda River Basin Council were solicited. River Basin Council members were appointed by SCDNR in February 2023 (see the [council page](#) for a list of members). Formal Council meetings will begin in March 2023, and meeting agendas, presentations, recordings, and summaries can be accessed [here](#). Please visit this website for periodic updates and new information regarding Saluda river basin planning activities.

The first Saluda River Basin Council meeting is scheduled for March 22nd, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (draft agenda).

The Council will meet in-person at The Ridge in the City of Laurens ([301 Exchange Dr., Laurens, SC 29360](#)). The meeting may be attended virtually as well. Please contact Scott Harder (harders@dnr.sc.gov) for virtual meeting access information.

[Saluda Basin Planning Meetings](#) | [Saluda River Basin Council](#) | [Saluda SWAM Model Access](#)

Saluda Planning News | **Hydrology Calendar**

- [First Saluda River Basin Council Meeting Scheduled for March 22nd, 2023](#)

Upcoming events

- [Saluda River Basin Council Meeting #1](#)

<https://hydrology.dnr.sc.gov/saluda-basin-planning.html>

Site will host:

- Announcements/Calendar of Events
- Access to water planning documents – Planning Framework, technical reports
- RBC meeting materials – agendas, presentations, recordings