



Comments on Draft River Basin Plan Chapters 5 and 6

Chapters 5 Comments

Comparison of Water Resource Availability and Water Demand

Rebecca's Comment:

- **Melanie made a brief comment during our October meeting about Safe Yield only being discussed within the context of reservoirs. I was wondering, and this might be more general feedback/an area to discuss openly with the RBC, but should safe yield be looked at on rivers and streams as well? Should this have been factored into the model or should we maybe propose in one of our recommendations that this is an area for study during future phases?**

Chapters 5 Comments

Comparison of Water Resource Availability and Water Demand

Rebecca's Comment:

- **The Reclaimed Water Programs as a water management strategy, specifically the "other water quality considerations". This part of the table is highlighted green for good reason because I agree that reclaimed water provides many benefits to water quantity and in some cases, quality. However, PFAS, as noted in this table, is notably negative. Therefore, is it appropriate for it to be classified as green? Should this be broken up to speak to the positive impacts of this management strategy, but not making PFAS seem to be a benefit because it is currently green?**

Color Coding for Assigning Expected Effects in Table 6-3.

Potential Moderate/High Adverse Effect	Potential Low Adverse Effect	Likely Neutral Effect (either no effect, or offsetting effects)	Potential Low Positive Effect	Potential Moderate/High Positive Effect
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Table 6-3 (continued). Water management strategy feasibility assessment.

Water Management Strategy	Strategy Type	Consistency with Regulations	Reliability of Water Source	Environmental Impacts and Benefits ¹	Socioeconomic Effects	Potential Interstate or Interbasin Effects	Other Water Quality Considerations
Demand-Side Municipal Practices							
Leak Detection and Water Loss Control	Demand-side - Municipal	Consistent	Strategy reduces demand and extends supply, increasing water source reliability for other demands.	Impacts: None anticipated.	Cost of program implementation could result in rate increase, no impact, or potential rate decrease, depending on circumstances.	No anticipated effects	No anticipated impacts.
Time-of-Day Watering Limit	Demand-side - Municipal	Consistent	Strategy reduces demand and extends supply, increasing water source reliability for other demands.	Impacts: None anticipated.	The need to hire implementation and compliance staff would contribute to rate increase.	No anticipated effects	No anticipated impacts.
Reclaimed Water Programs/ Water Reuse and Recycling (a demand- and supply-side strategy)	Demand-side - Municipal	SCDHEC regulates reclaimed wastewater systems for irrigation use with public contact; there are no laws or regulations pertaining to indirect potable reuse or direct potable reuse.	Strategy reduces demand and extends supply, increasing water source reliability for other demands.	Impacts: Low to moderate anticipated impacts: Depending on the extent of reclaim demand, reduced discharge from wastewater treatment facilities may reduce low-flow levels. Benefits: Depending on the extent of reclaim demand, reduced discharge from wastewater treatment facilities may result in improved receiving water quality.	Moderate anticipated effects - Higher initial water bills to finance a reclaimed water program may be offset by long-term savings from postponing the need for new supplies and raw water treatment facilities. The need to hire operations staff could contribute to rate increase.	No anticipated effects	See Environmental Benefits
							Need to match end use with quality of reclaimed water. Consider emerging contaminants of concern (e.g., PFAS and microplastics).