



# Development of Policy, Legislative, and Regulatory Recommendations

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# Policy, Legislative, or Regulatory Recommendations

Policy, legislative, or regulatory recommendations may include, but are not limited to:

- **Modifications to existing state or local laws, regulations, or ordinances**
- **New state or local laws, regulations, or ordinances**
- **Ideas for recurring funding for water planning work**
- **Restructuring existing groups or agencies**

# Policy, Legislative, or Regulatory Recommendations

## Recommendations identified by the Broad RBC:

- The South Carolina Surface Water Withdrawal, Permitting, Use, and Reporting Act should allow for reasonable use criteria to be applied to all surface water withdrawals, like those that currently exist for groundwater withdrawals.
- Laws that allow for regulation of water use need to be enforceable to be effective. The current water law, which grandfathers most water users, can be improved to support effective management of the state's water resources.
- Water law and implementing regulations should not distinguish between registrations and permits. All water users that withdraw above the identified threshold should be required to apply for a water withdrawal permit.
- The Broad RBC or the PPAC should develop a model riparian buffer ordinance for local jurisdictions to consider.
- The water withdrawal permitting process should specifically assess the permit application's alignment with the current River Basin Plan, particularly regarding proposed withdrawals, returns, resource conservation, and drought response.

