Finish Development of Implementation Plan

Ashley Reid and John Boyer

Agenda Item 4

Implementation Plan – Proposed Objectives

Objective	Prioritization	Prioritization Justification
Objective 1. Improve water use efficiency to conserve water resources	No prioritization	
Objective 2. Communicate, coordinate, and promote findings and recommendations from the River Basin Plan		
Objective 3. Improve technical understanding of water resource management issues		
Objective 4. Protect water resources		
Objective 5. Improve drought management		
Objective 6. Promote engagement in the water planning process		

- Objectives should be ranked by importance and prioritized
- Each objective should include a justification describing its importance to water management in the basin

To assess the performance of and quality of actions taken by the RBC, the Framework proposes the development of progress metrics. A progress metric is a "benchmark used to monitor the success or failure of an action taken by an RBC".

Proposed Progress Metrics

1. Improve water use efficiency to conserve water resources

- **Metric 1a:** Water utilities establish a baseline water loss/leak detection measure and improvement is seen over 5 years in subsequent surveys.
- **Metric 1b:** Funding opportunities and technical assistance are identified and used to implement conservation strategies.

2. Communicate, coordinate, and promote findings and recommendations from the River Basin Plan

Metric 2a: The RBC has developed an engagement plan within one year following completion of the Plan.

Metric 2b: Outreach leads to local, legislative or federal actions, decisions, and funding that support implementation strategies and actions.

3. Improve technical understanding of water resource management issues

Metric 3a: Water quality issues and concerns in the basin are identified and a strategy to study approaches to address them is developed.

Metric 3b: USGS streamflow gages in the basin are maintained and increased, if SCDES recommends as such.

Metric 3c: The impact of potential, future land use changes on water resources quantity and streamflow characteristics is determined, and a method for prioritizing areas for land conservation is developed and applied.

Metric 3d: The financial impacts of sedimentation on reservoirs and water resources is identified. Results are communicated to local governments.

Metric 3e: All data necessary to support implementation actions and future areas of study is accessible and made available to the RBC and public.

4. Protect Water Resources

Metric 4a: The primary sources of sediment loading to reservoirs are identified.

Metric 4b: Measures are put in place by local governments to prevent sediment loading to reservoirs.

5. Improve drought management

Metric 5a: One hundred percent of public water supplier's drought management plans are updated within the last 5 years and submitted to the SCO for review.

Metric 5b: State funding is designated to complete Phase 2 of the USACE Comprehensive Study and Drought Plan Update.

6. Promote engagement in the water planning process

- **Metric 6a:** The RBCs continue beyond 2025 with a diverse, active and representative membership with 90 percent of seats filled.
- **Metric 6b:** Coordination occurs with groups that have existing education and outreach efforts focused on water conservation.
- **Metric 6c:** Collaboration has occurred with other RBCs, Georgia, the Georgia Regional Water Planning Councils, and the USACE. At least one meeting with each entity has occurred annually.