

Location:

February 12, 2025

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Meeting No. 18 (Hybrid Format)

Starr – Iva Water District Office

Action Items:

1. RBC to send in pictures of the basin for the plan
2. Tom W to check on video of Savannah River Basin from Intelligent River

Decisions:

1. The USRBC adopted 11 process metrics. (September 2023)
2. Upper Savannah RBC Vision Statement: A resilient US River Basin that collaboratively, sustainably, and equitably manages and balances human and ecological needs. (September 2023)
3. US RBC Goals: 1. Within 24 months, develop water use strategies, policies, and legislative recommendations for the Upper Savannah River Basin in order to:
 - a. Ensure water resources are maintained to support current and future human and ecosystem needs.
 - b. Improve the resiliency of the water resources and help minimize disruptions within the basin.
 - c. Promote balance between development, industry, and economic growth in areas with adequate water resources.
 - d. Advocate for responsible land use practices.
 - e. Identify funding sources.
2. Develop and implement an education and communication plan to promote the strategies, policies, and recommendations developed for the Upper Savannah River Basin.
3. Enhance collaboration between all stakeholders and water interest groups, including Georgia and the Lower Savannah-Salkehatchie River Basin. (September 2023)
4. The USRBC elected a Chair (Jill Miller) and Vice Chair (Jeff Phillips). (November 2023)

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment Period
- January Meeting Review
- Review of Draft Chapters
- Review of Executive Summary and Possible Fact Sheet
- Discuss Public Meeting Presentation
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Meeting Summary (February 12th)

Jill Miller, USRBC Chair, called the February 12th meeting of the Upper Savannah RBC to order at 10:01 AM. The eighteenth meeting of the Upper Savannah RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Upper Savannah RBC members and planning team, there were 32 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. Jill discussed the agenda for the meeting. The Upper Savannah RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the minutes and summary documents from January. A public comment and agency comment period was held with no comments received. Ashley Reid reviewed the January meeting highlights. Announcements included RBC membership which was discussed with two members having missed several meetings, the upcoming Drought Tabletop Exercise, WaterSC, and the Surface Water Legislative Committee.

John Boyer and Ashley Reid reviewed draft chapters 1, 7, 8, 9, and 10 with the RBC members. Discussion from those chapters included clarification on a surface water withdrawal recommendation, groundwater supply, and data centers. Next, John led the review and discussion of the Executive Summary and the possibility of creating a fact sheet. John reminded the RBC members of the upcoming meeting schedule to finish the plan. For the draft plan public meeting, John reviewed the process of presenting the draft plan to the public and worked with the RBC to identify RBC members to present specific parts of the plan at the meeting.

The meeting concluded with Ashley Reid and John Boyer discussing the next Upper Savannah RBC meeting which will be held virtually. The next meeting will be held on March 12, 2025.

The meeting concluded at 11:38 AM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 3/12/25