

**Location:**

August 18, 2021

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Clemson Edisto REC, Blackville, SC &

Zoom Virtual Hybrid Meeting

**Action Items:**

- 1. RBC members should come prepared to continue discussion regarding surface water issues in the basin and identification of reaches of interest and setting surface water conditions.**
- 2. RBC members currently without an alternate are reminded to select an alternate from the same water use interest category.**
- 3. RBC members are required to inform the Planning Team in advance of the RBC meeting if they will not be in attendance and if their alternate will be present.**
- 4. Public Comments for call-ins at the RBC meeting are to be sent to Tom Walker [tcwalke@clemson.edu](mailto:tcwalke@clemson.edu)**

**Meeting:**

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda and June 23<sup>rd</sup> Minutes and Summary Documents
- Public Comment Period
- Introduction of new Edisto RBC member
- July Field trip summary
- Review and summary of water surface modelling results for all scenarios
- Comparison of performance measures including Flow-biological Health results
- Discussion of surface water issues
- Upcoming RBC schedule

**Meeting Summary (August 18<sup>th</sup>)**

The Edisto RBC Facilitator, John Boyer, called the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Edisto RBC to order at 9:00 AM. The fourteenth meeting of the Edisto RBC was held in-person at the Clemson Edisto Research and Education Center (REC) in Blackville, SC and via Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Edisto RBC members and planning team, there were 47 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. The meeting began with John Boyer reviewing the meeting objectives: to review surface water modeling results, discuss surface water issues, and review the proposed RBC schedule for the remainder of the year. Furthermore, John Boyer invited Dr. Jeff. Allen to brief the RBC on the new temporary mask requirements of Clemson

University. The Edisto RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the June 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes and summary. A public comment period was held with no comments received.

John Boyer introduced a new member of the RBC, Alan Mehrzad, Assistant Manager, Bamberg Board of Public Works, representing the Water and Sewer Utilities interest group. He also displayed pictures from the July 2021 South Fork Edisto canoe trip and noted that the event was successful with a visit to the Charleston Water Intake.

The next agenda item was a presentation on Surface Water Modeling Results. Leading the presentation, John Boyer supported by Eric Krueger, Brandon Peoples, and Luke Bower explained the results of the Surface Water Modeling and the Flow Biological-Health Study. The results were presented in the following scenarios: Unimpaired (naturalized flow), Current Use, Full Allocation, 2070 Business as Usual, and 2070 High Demand. Following the presentations, members were invited to discuss Reaches of Interest and Surface Water Conditions. Members were requested to determine what the Edisto RBC should address for the next phase of planning with identified issues and management strategies.

Also, the Edisto RBC discussed the flow-ecology metrics as performance measures of the Edisto River water use scenarios in the Edisto River Basin Plan following the presentation by Luke Bower and Eric Krueger. The four flow-ecology metrics were Mean Daily Flow, Base Flow Index, Duration of Low Flow, and Timing of Low Flow. Following the presentations, the members of the Edisto RBC were invited to propose additional data, analysis, and model requirements that would facilitate planning. Another challenge presented to the Edisto RBC was to determine if it is appropriate to set Surface Water Conditions for the Edisto River Basin and where?

Discussing the issues in the Edisto River Basin from the models, the members expressed concerns about issues such as low flows at the lower parts of the basin, the sustainability and ecological health of the entire system, and defining desired outcomes of the Edisto RBC plan. Thereafter, the members of the Edisto RBC agreed on the need to capture Reaches of Interest that address specific issues bearing in mind the need to define scope. The members discussed what could be classified as Reaches of interest or not and how to address the locations where there are shortages and agreed to continue the discussion looking at managed strategies for the primary locations where there are shortages.

The Edisto RBC resolved to continue the discussion on Reaches of interest and surface water modeling results in the next meeting. Also, the council plans to review the Groundwater model covering the results of at least two scenarios.

Finally, John Boyer informed the members of the Edisto RBC that from now to the end of the year, the goal is to conclude the surface water portion, understanding groundwater availability,

reviewing the results of all the scenarios, and move into the identifying and evaluating management strategies phase. Consequently, the Edisto RBC required longer meeting times. The next meeting of the Edisto RBC will be held September 15, 2021, on the Zoom platform. The meeting will be scheduled to run from 9am to 2pm with a lunch break. The remaining meeting dates for 2021 of the Edisto RBC will be on October 20, November 17, and December 15.

The meeting concluded at 12:05 PM.

Summary: Chikezie Isiguzo & Tom Walker

Approved: September 15, 2021