

Location:

May 26, 2021

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Clemson Edisto REC, Blackville, SC &

Zoom Virtual Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

- 1. RBC members to submit questions for discussion/decision regarding incorporating Flow-Ecology Metrics as performance measures of the Edisto River Basin for water planning scenarios by June 10, 2021 (2 weeks).**
- 2. RBC members that have yet to select an alternate need to provide 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**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda and February 17th Minutes and Summary Documents
- Public Comment Period
- Updates to State Water Planning Framework
- Clemson Agricultural Irrigation Research
- Flow-Stream Health Relationships Study

Meeting Summary (May 26th)

The Edisto RBC Facilitator, John Boyer, called the May 26th meeting of the Edisto RBC to order at 9:00 AM. The thirteenth 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 75 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. The meeting began with John Boyer reviewing the meeting objectives: to learn about updates to the State Water Planning Framework from Scott Harder, learning about Clemson Agricultural Irrigation research from Dr. Kendall Kirk, learning about the initial findings and considering proposed performance measures from Dr. Brandon Peoples and Dr. Luke Bower and Eric Krueger, and a membership discussion. The Edisto RBC approved the RBC meeting agenda and the February 17th minutes and summary. A public comment period was held with no comments received.

Scott Harder, SCDNR made a brief presentation on revisions to the State Water Planning Framework. Revisions were discussed, reviewed and approved by the PPAC. The baseline scenario has been replaced with a planning scenario which will be more effective for planning purposes.

Kendall Kirk of Clemson presented on some of his research and tools relating to Agricultural Irrigation. Kendall presented on several tools he has developed to improve agricultural irrigation practice. His topical outline included: center pivot mapping software, drip fertigation calculator, center pivot fertigation calculator, pivot irrigation assessment extension program, watermark soil moisture calculator, other Edisto REC water and irrigation related work.

Brandon Peoples, Luke Bower and Eric Krueger split time presenting several pieces of the Flow-Stream Health Relationships Study to the Edisto RBC. The study monitors instream conditions and water quality by measuring impacts on aquatic habitat. The objective of the study was to quantify relationships between key flow metrics and biotic response to inform flow standards for SC water systems. The study team proposes that the RBC incorporate 4 flow-ecology metrics as performance measures of Edisto River water use scenarios in Edisto River Basin Plan:

- Mean daily flow (MA1)
- Base Flow index (ML17)
- Duration of Low Flow (DL16)
- Timing of Low Flow (TL1).

The Edisto RBC is to consider discussion or decision questions over the next two weeks for further discussion and potential decision at the next Edisto RBC meeting.

John Boyer then led discussion relating to upcoming meetings and a proposed second field trip. John then led the membership discussion regarding a member who had left their interest category on the Edisto RBC and asked to be considered for another interest category. Primarily due to desired balanced representation considerations the member was voted off by supermajority of the Edisto RBC and a new member will be sought to apply for the empty seat on the Edisto RBC.

The next meeting of the Edisto RBC will be June 23, 2021 at the Clemson Edisto REC in Blackville, SC and on the Zoom platform (hybrid meeting).

The meeting concluded at 12:44 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: June 23, 2021