

Location:

August 11, 2022

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Spartanburg CC – Tyger River Campus

Hybrid Meeting

Action Items:

- 1. RBC members should select an alternate from the same water use interest category if you have not already done so and inform the planning team.**

Meeting:

- Review of Meeting Objectives
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Comment Period
- Broad Scenic River Project
- Flow-Ecological Health Relationships
- Application of Flow-Ecological Health Relationships in the Edisto River Basin
- Discussion and Feedback on Draft Broad Basin Demand Projections
- Upcoming Meeting Schedule, Topics, and October Field Trip

Meeting Summary (August 11th)

Ken Tuck, Broad River Basin Council (RBC) Chair, called to order the August 11th meeting of the Broad RBC at 9:00 AM. The fifth meeting of the Broad RBC was held in-person and virtually via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Including the Broad RBC members and planning team, there were 48 people present at this RBC meeting in-person and online. Ken reviewed the meeting objectives and asked for motions to approve the agenda and minutes and summary documents from the previous meeting. The Broad RBC unanimously approved the RBC meeting agenda as well as the previous meeting minutes and summary. John Boyer held a public comment period with no comments received. An agency comment period was also held without any comments received.

The first major agenda item was a presentation by Bill Marshall of SCDNR entitled: *Broad Scenic River Project*. The presentation began with an overview of the SC Scenic Rivers Act (Sec 49-29-30, SC Code). Highlights included: provisions and directives of the Act, the purpose, approach, project areas, program results, and discussion of the Broad plan. Some of the river issues identified in the Broad Scenic River Management Plan (2003) included: land management &

development, fish & wildlife resources, water quality, recreational use & access, cultural resources, and safety & law enforcement.

Next, Brandon Peoples and Luke Bower presented *Flow-Ecological Health Relationships* in two parts. Brandon introduced the study and the partnership with SCDNR and SCDHEC to run analysis on the data both agencies have collected throughout SC. The project utilizes bio-assessment as an approach which uses aquatic organisms to learn about river health. The study can potentially inform water management decisions. Luke presented the statistical approach in part two of the presentation. Using the ELOHA approach, the study built a hydrologic foundation of streamflow and biological data, classified natural river types, determined flow-ecology relationships associated with each river type, and recommended water flow standards to achieve river condition goals. Eric Krueger then presented on the application of the study in the Edisto river basin: *Application of Flow-Ecological Health Relationships in the Edisto Basin*. The application in the Edisto river basin incorporated four flow-ecology metrics as performance measures of Edisto river water use scenarios: mean daily flow, base flow, duration of low flow, and timing of low flow. These metrics were selected based on relevance to water withdrawal and drought management, strength of relationship, distribution, and being readily calculable in SWAM (SC surface water model).

The last presentation was by Alex Pellett of SCDNR entitled: *Recap of Water Withdrawals and Projections*. Highlights of the presentation included: recaps on reported surface water withdrawals by category in 2021, the differences between forecasts and projections, equations to define the terms, drivers of demand where applicable, and draft demand projections for mining, golf courses, agricultural irrigation, thermoelectric, manufacturing, and public supply.

Finally, John Boyer reviewed the meeting schedule and topics for future meetings. Additionally, Ken Tuck led discussion regarding the upcoming Broad RBC field trip in October. The next meeting is September 8. The meeting location is to be determined.

The meeting concluded at 12:05 PM.

Summary: Tom Walker

Approved: 9/8/22