# March Meeting Highlights

*Agenda Item 3*

# Agriculture Overview – Dr. Nathan Smith

- Forestland makes up nearly **40, 55, or 70%** of the state's total land area.

- Forestry is **first, third, or fifth** among manufacturing industries in the state with a total economic impact of around $17 billion annually.

- In 2022, approximately **27, 47, or 77** percent of the nearly 37,000 acres of corn grown in the counties of the Lower Savannah and Salkehatchie Basin were irrigated.

# Aquatic Saltwater Resources of the Lower Savannah River and Salkehatchie River Basin – Dr. Joey Ballenger

- **True or False:** Results of Trammel net surveys suggest that when seasonal freshwater inflows change substantially, or you have more extreme variability in water flows across the years, you likely will have outsized impacts on abundance of certain species but not others.

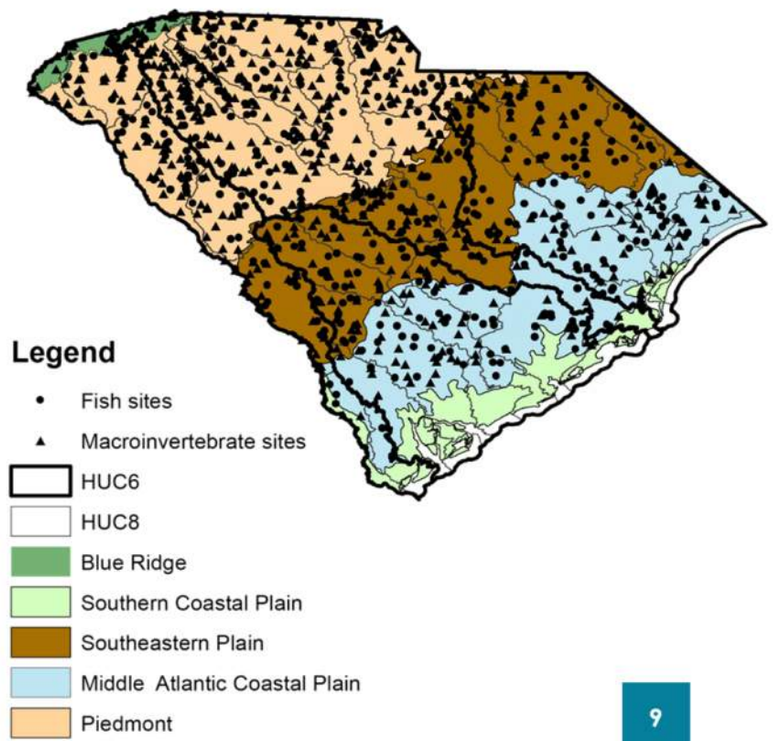
- **True or False** The lowest annual mortality rate of oysters occurred in 2015 and was associated with Hurricane Joaquin that led to abrupt salinity changes in many coastal estuaries with large freshwater inflows.

# Flow Ecology Relationships – Drs. Luke Bower and Brandon Peoples

- **True or False** Ecoregions and stream classes are not important when considering and developing relationships between fish and changes in the flow regime.

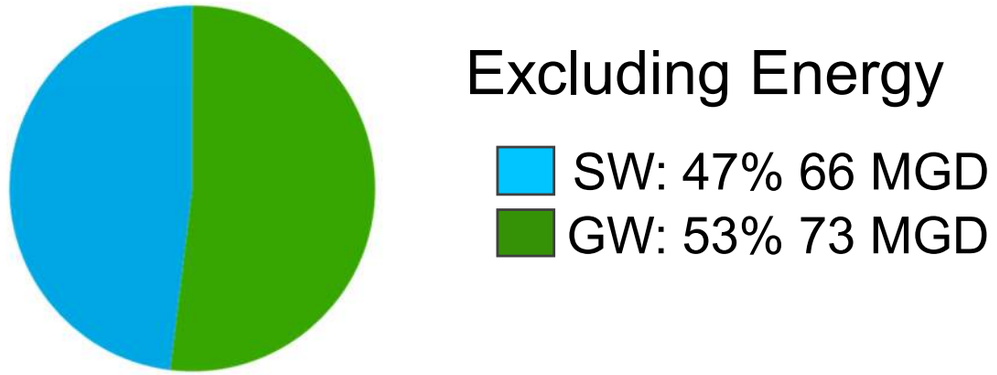
- **Which step is not part of the process to identify and select flow ecology relationships:**

  A. Build a hydrologic foundation of streamflow and biological data
  B. Classify natural river types
  C. Identify and remove impacts that are strictly associated with water quality changes
  D. Model and select flow ecology relationships

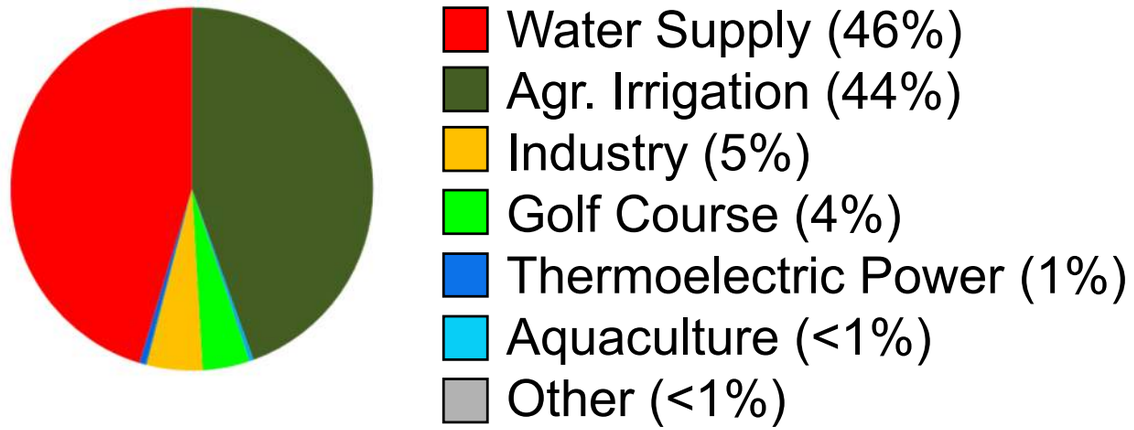


# Water Use in the Lower Savannah-Salkehatchie River Basin – Alexis Modzelesky

- Excluding water withdrawals for energy, was more **groundwater** or **surface water** withdrawn from the Lower Savannah-Salkehatchie River Basins in 2022?




- **True or False**: Most groundwater withdrawn in the two basins is used for agriculture and industry.



# Lower Savannah-Salkehatchie Water-Demand Projections – Dr. Laljeet Sangha

- **True or False** Change in per capita water use is the primary driver when projecting water demands for the public water supply sector.

- **True or False:** Water demand models are calibrated for each water user, with water withdrawal data from 2012-2021.

- The ***Moderate Water Demand Scenario*** calibration and projections are based on a water users historical, **median or maximum** water demand for each month.

- The ***High Water Demand Scenario*** calibration and projections are based on a water users historical, **75 percentile or maximum** water demand for each month.