



Georgia's
State Water Plan

Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Water Planning
Council

Meeting 4 – November 17, 2009

2009				
March	May	June	September	November
Kickoff Meeting	Council Meeting 1	Council Meeting 2	Council Meeting 3	Council Meeting 4
Training and Introduction: > State Water Plan and Council Development Overview - Dr. Carol Couch > 'A Vision for Georgia's Future' - Former US Representative and Altamaha Regional Council Member, Lindsay Thomas > Governor's Charge - Governor Sonny Perdue > Georgia Water Resources Overview - Dr. Jim Kundell > Regional Council Breakout Sessions	Training and Introduction: > Regional Visioning > Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) > Planning Process and Schedule > Regional Water Resources Overview > Forecasting (Population and Employment) > Election of Chair and Vice Chair	Continuation: > Regional Visioning > MOA (Execute) > Regional Water Resources Overview > Forecasting (Population and Employment) Introduction: > Resource Assessments > Forecasting (Agricultural Water Use)	Continuation: > Initial Regional Vision (Prepare) > MOA (Execute as needed) > Resource Assessments > Forecasting (Agricultural Water Use) > Regional Water Resources Overview Introduction: > Management Practice Training & Selection Criteria > Joint Meetings/Council Coordination (Preparation) > Forecasting (Municipal and Industrial Water and Wastewater)	Continuation: >Initial Regional Vision (Review and Refine As Needed) > Resource Assessments > Regional Water Resources Overview > Forecasting (Municipal and Industrial Water and Wastewater) > Management Practice Training & Selection Criteria > Joint Meetings/Council Coordination (Preparation) Introduction: > Forecasting (Energy Water Use) > Land Use Scenarios > Begin Drafting Initial Recommended Plan

We are here.

2010							
January	February - March	April	May - June	July - August	September	October	November
Joint Meetings	Council Meeting 5	Joint Meetings (As Needed)	Council Meeting 6	Joint Meetings (As Needed)	Council Meeting 7	Joint Meetings (As Needed)	Council Meeting 8
>Councils with shared water resources will meet to receive baseline resource assessments > EPD to announce and provide update on public notice, review, and comment period for baseline resource assessments (January through March 1, 2010)	Continuation: > Review Baseline Resource Assessments > Review Water / Wastewater Use Forecasts (1.Agricultural, 2. Municipal, 3. Industrial, 4. Energy) > Review Land Use Scenarios > Review Regional Vision (Refine As Needed) > Review and Refine Initial Recommended Plan > Joint Meetings/Council Coordination (Preparation) Introduction: > Gap Analysis > Select Initial Set of Management Practices	>Councils with shared water resources will meet to review preliminary future resource assessments and initial selection of management practices >Gap Analysis	Continuation: > Review Future Assessments > Review Water / Wastewater Use Forecasts (1.Agricultural, 2. Municipal, 3. Industrial, 4. Energy) > Review and Refine Management Practice Selection > Review Land Use Scenarios >Gap Analysis > Review Regional Vision (Refine As Needed) > Joint Meetings/Council Coordination (Preparation) Introduction: > Review and Refine Initial Recommended Plan	>Councils with shared water resources will meet to review refined future resource assessments and refined selection of management practices >Gap Analysis	Continuation: > Review Refined Future Assessments > Review Water / Wastewater Use Forecasts (1.Agricultural, 2. Municipal, 3. Industrial, 4. Energy) > Review and Refine Management Practice Selection > Review Land Use Scenarios > Gap Analysis > Review Regional Vision (Refine As Needed) > Review and Refine Initial Recommended Plan > Joint Meetings/Council Coordination (Preparation)	>Councils with shared water resources will meet to review refined future resource assessments and refined selection of management practices >Gap Analysis	Continuation: > Review Refined Future Assessments > Review Water / Wastewater Use Forecasts (1.Agricultural, 2. Municipal, 3. Industrial, 4. Energy) > Review and Refine Management Practice Selection > Review Land Use Scenarios > Gap Analysis > Review Regional Vision (Refine As Needed) > Review and Refine Initial Recommended Plan

2011	
January - March	April - June
Council Meeting 9	Council Meeting 10
>Council Submits Initial Recommended Plan to EPD by January 31, 2011 > 45-day Public Notice and Comment Period > EPD Reviews Initial Recommended Plans > EPD Advises Council of Necessary Changes > Council Reviews and Refines Initial Recommended Plan	> Council Reviews and Refines Initial Recommended Plan >Council Submits Final Recommended Plan to EPD By June 30, 2011



Council Meeting Four Objectives

1. Approve the Public Involvement Plan
2. Plan for Joint Meetings
3. Establish Council Vision and Goals
4. Continue agricultural, municipal, and industrial water forecasting discussion
5. Draft Water Development and Conservation Plan (WDCP) outline

Governor's Water Contingency Task Force

- Governor formed Water Contingency Task Force as part of overall response to Judge Magnuson's July ruling regarding Lake Lanier
- One of the strategies includes contingency planning, which is the focus of the task force (other actions include Appeal, Negotiations, Congressional Reauthorization, as directed by Judge Magnuson in ruling)
- Task Force comprised of over 80 business, environment, and government leaders; Coca-Cola Enterprises Chairman and CEO John Brock and Tim Lowe of Lowe Engineers are serving as co-chairs of the task force
- Met for first time on October 7th; will hold 2 more meetings and present recommendations before January 2010 legislative session
- Update from Council Chair or Participating Member of Task Force

Alan Barnes appointed new EPD Director



SONNY PERDUE
GOVERNOR

CHRIS CLARK
COMMISSIONER

Barnes Appointed to Serve as Georgia EPD Director

ATLANTA (October 28, 2009) – The Georgia Board of Natural Resources today appointed F. Allen Barnes as the Director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Barnes served as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 office in Atlanta. While at EPA, he worked with senior management and staff on compliance, permitting, enforcement and policy matters related to air and water pollution, and solid and hazardous waste management.

State Water Plan – Ongoing Commitment

Next steps:

- EPD will issue the preliminary results of the baseline resource assessments in mid-January.
- Water and wastewater forecasts have been under development throughout 2009.
- These efforts will allow regional leaders to have the best available information to identify the most appropriate water management practices for their regions.
- This information will support the creation of Water Development and Conservation Plans that will guide permitting in each region.

Council Meeting 3 Re-cap

- Review of draft agricultural water demand forecast (comments still welcome, formed subcommittee)
- Approval of MOA Documents
- Discussion of vision statement
- Review of Public Involvement Plan (Revised for consideration at Council Meeting 4)
- Overview of existing Flint Plan
- Introduction to resource assessments and planning guidance
- Review of municipal and industrial water demand forecast methodology
- Discussion of management practices and upcoming joint council meetings

Council Meeting 3 Evaluation Feedback

- Many respondents (61%) felt that the meeting provided ample explanation of the goals and timeframe of the regional water planning process and helped them understand their roles and responsibilities as council members, but 39% felt there could have been more discussion of the process.
- The council meeting was extremely useful for 44% of the respondents, and 56% of the respondents found it to be somewhat useful.
- About two-thirds of the respondents (69%) have used the regional council web site.

Council Meeting 3 Evaluation Feedback

Question <i>Council meeting rating for...</i>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total count
Completing the initial regional vision	6%	72%	22%	-	18
Planning for joint meetings	11%	56%	28%	6%	18
Overview and status update on the resource assessments	22%	67%	11%	-	18
The introduction of municipal and industrial water demand forecasting methodology	11%	56%	33%	-	18
The presentation of final agricultural forecasts	13%	33%	47%	7%	15
The introduction and overview of management practices	6%	67%	28%		18

Council Meeting 3 Evaluation Feedback

Question <i>Understanding of...</i>	Completely	Prett y well	Barely	Not at all	Total count
The purpose of the joint meetings	33%	56%	11%	-	18
The purpose of the resource assessments	22%	61%	17%	-	18
The purpose of the agricultural forecasts and how they were developed	22%	56%	22%	-	18
The purpose of the municipal and industrial water demand forecasts and how they will be developed	17%	61%	17%	6%	18
The purpose of the management practices and how they will be determined	22%	56%	22%	-	18

Vision Statement

Proposed by Vision Subcommittee:

The Lower Flint Ochlockonee Water Planning Council will manage water resources in a sustainable manner to support the region's economy, to protect public health and natural systems, and to enhance the quality of life for the region's citizens.

Goals

Proposed by Vision Subcommittee:

1. Ensure access to water resources for existing water users in the Lower Flint Ochlockonee region.
2. Sustain the Floridan Aquifer in a healthy condition that will continue to support the natural systems and economic activities of the Lower Flint Ochlockonee region.
3. Maintain the rural integrity of the Lower Flint Ochlockonee region.

Also consider guiding principles identified in the Joint Comprehensive Water Study report (with modifications to customize to this region)

Guiding Principles from the Joint Comprehensive Water Study

- 1. Effective water resources management protects public health, safety and welfare of Georgia's citizens.*
- 2. Water resources are managed in a sustainable manner so that current and future generations have access to adequate supplies of quality water that supports both human needs and natural systems.*
- 3. All citizens have a stewardship responsibility to conserve and protect the water resources of Georgia.*
- 4. Water management efforts recognize that economic prosperity and environmental quality are interdependent.*
- 5. Water quality and quantity and surface and ground water are interrelated and require integrated planning as well as reasonable and efficient use.*

Guiding Principles from the Joint Comprehensive Water Study

6. *A comprehensive and accessible database is developed to provide sound scientific and economic information upon which effective water management decisions can be based.*
7. *Water resource management encourages local/regional innovation, implementation, adaptability and responsibility for watershed and river basin management.*
8. *Sound water resources management involves meaningful participation, coordination and cooperation among interested and affected stakeholders and citizens as well as all levels of governmental and other entities managing and/or utilizing water.*
9. *Periodic revisions of the plan are required to incorporate new scientific and policy insights, as well as changing social, economic, cultural, and environmental factors.*