



B&V Project 164139
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February 12, 2011

To: Upper Flint Water Planning Council

From: Kristin Rowles, GWPPC and Steve Simpson, Black & Veatch

cc: Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief, GA EPD

Subject: Meeting Summary: Council Meeting 9 on February 7, 2011

The council meeting was held on February 7, 2011, at the Weyerhaeuser Flint River Mill in Oglethorpe. The list of attendees is attached. In addition to these minutes, the presentations (slides) discussed in this meeting will be posted on the Upper Flint Council's web portal (<http://www.upperflint.org/>).

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Chase opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. Council member Randall Starling welcomed the Council to the Weyerhaeuser facility and provided the invocation. Randall then introduced Weyerhaeuser staff and reviewed Weyerhaeuser safety policies. Chairman Donald Chase stated that a quorum was not currently present, but was expected later during the meeting. Chairman Chase then reviewed the following upcoming Council schedule:

March/April 2011	Council Meeting 10
May 2, 2011	Recommended Plan to Georgia EPD
May-July 2011	Public Notice of Draft Plan
August 2011	Final Production of Adopted WDCP
September 20, 2011	Georgia EPD Approves Upper Flint Regional Water Development and Conservation Plan

The council approved the meeting summary from the last council meeting and the agenda for today's meeting by consensus.

Chairman Chase said he believed the Council was moving in the right direction and thanked everyone for stepping up when needed to help the council develop its plan. He also thanked those who attended the ACF Councils Joint Meeting on January 27, 2011. Council Vice-chair Dick Morrow said he was impressed that quite a number of folks from the council were at the joint meeting. Council member Cliff Arnett said that some of the council's concerns related to the Middle Chattahoochee plan have been addressed. He

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noted that Dr. Aris Georgakakos' (GA Tech) model results showed that alternative reservoir management schemes could lead to a more balanced outcome. A follow-up meeting with representatives of the three councils and Dr. Georgakakos would be helpful.

Kristin Rowles noted that the council now had a quorum. The Council then conducted an election for chair and vice-chair. There were nominations with seconds for both Donald Chase and Dick Morrow to continue in their current positions as chair and vice-chair, respectively. Donald Chase indicated that he would accept this continued responsibility if elected, and Dick Morrow indicated his assent as well. ***Donald Chase and Dick Morrow were elected chair and vice-chair, respectively, for calendar year 2011 by unanimous vote via written ballots.***

Council member Brant Keller asked what happens to the Council after the plan is accepted by EPD. Tim Cash noted that there are on-going discussions within EPD about the future of the Councils. Dick Morrow said that the water planning effort needs to continue. Council member Raines Jordan said the legislature needs to commit to the process and maybe we need to make a statement as a Council. Council member Cliff Arnett said such a letter is an excellent idea, and both GMA and ACCG need to be contacted so that they know the council's position. Cliff Arnett volunteered to contact ACCG and Dick Morrow volunteered to contact GMA. ***Chairman Chase said he would draft a letter on behalf of the Council that would state that this Council feels that continuing the regional planning process is of critical importance.*** Council member Frank Keller commented that other councils might want to send similar letters. ***Carbon copies of the council's letter can be sent to the other councils, the Metro District, GMA, and ACCG.***

Overview of Plan Revisions

Kristin Rowles noted the current draft of the plan is dated January 21, 2011. She said it includes sections 1-6 and part of section 7. She said that this draft of the plan addressed comments from EPD on the October 15, 2010 draft and decisions made by the council about the plan at the last council meeting (November). Kristin said that this meeting is the second to the last council meeting before the plan is submitted to EPD on May 2, 2011.

Council member Cliff Arnett asked how the appendices would be included in the final plan. Kristin said the appendices will be provided as supplemental materials on the council's web site. She said references with internet links to supplemental materials have replaced references to appendices. Arnett asked how long the materials would be available through the web site. Tim Cash said he thought they would always be a part of the permanent public file, but did not know how long the materials would be kept on the web site itself.

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Council member Brant Keller expressed concern that printing the materials for the water quality modeling results was difficult.

Section 1

Kristin said new text was provided for Sections 1.1 and 1.2 by EPD. She also noted that there was a modification of goal #4 (page 1-3) based on the council decision about this goal at November council meeting.

Section 2

Kristin said there were only minor text edits to this section. She said that a new map of the planning region is currently being produced for Section 2.

Section 3

Kristin said that information about water resources shared with neighboring councils has been added. There were also clarifications in the model discussion and changes to the chart formatting. She noted that the Council will discuss Section 3.2.1 in the Water Quantity report today

Section 4

Kristin said that new material was added to Section 4.4 Thermoelectric Power Production Water Demand Forecasts, and this section would be further discussed today. There were also changes to some of the charts.

Council member Cliff Arnett said he was concerned about the presentation of the model nodes. He thought that the study nodes as well as the planning nodes should be explained or indicated on the map. ***Kristin said that these nodes could be added to the new map in section 2, and the footnote on page 3-3 would be modified to reflect this change.***

Section 5

Kristin noted that there were minor text and references edits. There were also new water quality maps.

Section 6

Kristin noted that Section 6.1 was edited for clarity and length. The discussion of uncertainties was modified to add additional information on how those issues are currently being addressed and where to get more information.

She said one of the uncertainties will be discussed in Water Quantity Committee report. In Section 6.2, the following changes were made in Table 6-1:

- New categories
- Numbering of management practices
- Prioritization of management practices

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- Changes to Management Practices based on council decisions and EPD comments: DM2, DM5, DM6, SF4, SF5, RM1, WQ2

Following Table 6-1, Kristin said there were modifications in Section 6-2 to further explain the storage modeling run and the Council's selection of management practices vis-à-vis identified gaps and the Council's vision and goals.

Section 7

Kristin said there were changes to Section 7.4: Recommendations to the State. It is now categorized into information needs and water policy recommendations. She said that several of the items listed were new to this draft; she had culled them from meeting summaries to try to ensure that all recommendations were included. This section will also be reviewed later today. Kristin would like the council's feedback on whether this section is complete.

Kristin also noted that the remaining parts of Section 7 and the whole of Section 8 would be revised after this meeting.

Water Quantity Committee Report and Recommendations

Committee chair Cliff Arnett thanked committee members for attending the committee meeting on January 26, 2011. He said it has been an honor to work with such an outstanding group of people. A meeting summary of the last committee meeting is included as pages 24-28 of pre-meeting packet. During the committee meeting, members reviewed changes in the January 21st draft, discussed further plan revisions, and developed recommendations to Council for today's meeting.

He said the first recommendation was for the following new statement of the council's position on the model assumptions regarding withdrawals for reservoir filling in the upper part of the basin (see Section 3.2.1, page 3-4, paragraph 4):

The Council's position is that the modeling assumptions regarding withdrawals to fill upstream reservoirs do not reflect actual conditions, and as a result, the current assumptions result in an overestimation of flow shortfalls in the Flint River Basin. The Council recommends that future modeling to assess surface water flows in the Flint be preceded by an evaluation of actual withdrawals to fill reservoirs in the Upper Flint in order to support the development of improved assumptions about such withdrawals and more accurate modeling of surface water flows.

After some discussion the Council accepted by consensus this recommended language for insertion into the plan.

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The next recommendation concerned the 2nd bullet point on page 6-3 in Section 6.1. This item concerns the 2008 Biological Opinion on Woodruff Dam flow targets. The committee recommends the following changes:

- Change the 2nd sentence to read as follows: “The consultation will continue ongoing depth distribution data collection and analysis to determine the minimum flows needed in order to protect listed species.”
- Add a footnote referring to the statement of the Council’s position on this issue on page 7-12.

Council Vice-Chair Dick Morrow commented that these changes were suggested because of the committee’s concern that the previous language seemed to indicate that an increase of the target was needed. ***The Council accepted the committee’s recommendation by consensus.***

The next recommendation concerned Section 6.2 (page 6-10). The committee suggested adding the following statement:

Water conservation is a top priority management practice in this plan. The Upper Flint Water Council recognizes that water users have already invested in and implemented a substantial portfolio of conservation practices in the region. Their prior conservation efforts should be recognized and taken into account in the design of conservation programs and policies.

Council member Randall Starling said the committee wanted to credit users that have already implemented water conservation practices. Council member Brant Keller said this is a good point and that the City of Griffin has lost revenue through water conservation. Council member Lamar Perlis asked whether we should note particular industries. Starling said the committee had discussed this, but did not want to single out a particular industry. Brant noted that a similar statement is needed for the Water Quality section. Kristin said that we could come back to that in the Water Quality committee’s discussion.

The last sentence was modified as followed:

Their prior conservation efforts should be taken into account and given credit toward compliance in the design of conservation programs and policies.

The Council accepted the committee’s recommendation, as modified, by consensus.

The committee’s next recommendation concerned Section 7.4 (page 7-13). The committee recommended adding a Water Policy Recommendation to Section 7.4 as follows:

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Conservation policy and regulations should be designed to recognize and credit water users for conservation practices that they have already implemented and target consumptive over nonconsumptive uses as a priority for conservation. Additionally, conservation policy and regulations should be designed with an emphasis on cost-effectiveness as a key criterion.

Council member Randall Starling said he did not like the word “target” and suggested “give priority” as an alternative. It was also noted that existing conservation should not just be recognized but given credit. After some discussion, the recommendation was modified as followed:

Conservation policy and regulations should be designed to recognize and credit water users for conservation practices that they have already implemented. Conservation policies and regulation should give priority to consumptive over nonconsumptive uses as a priority for conservation. Additionally, conservation policy and regulations be designed with an emphasis on cost-effectiveness as a key criterion.

The modified language was approved by consensus.

The next recommendation involved adding the following New Management Practice on page 6-7.

DM8: Create an awards program to recognized agricultural irrigators for exemplary implementation of best management practices for water conservation.
– *Program to be modeled after Georgia Forestry Commission awards program for BMP implementation.*

The council discussed this recommendation, and the discussion focused on whether to single out the Georgia Forestry Commission and the need to coordinate with existing Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission programs. It was suggested that the following bullet point be added:

- *This program should be coordinated with existing Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission programs.*

The council approved this recommendation, with the addition noted above, by consensus.

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The next recommendation concerned DM5 on page 6-6. At the last meeting, the council approved the addition of the following statement to the 2nd bullet point in the description of this management practice to address an EPD comment:

The Council acknowledges the need to improve drought prediction tools to support earlier notification and supports GAEPD efforts to develop better predictive tools.

To make the statement of the management practice consistent, it was necessary to also modify the language of the management practice as well. The following was suggested:

***DM5:** Use irrigation suspension only through implementation of the Flint River Drought Protection Act, only by voluntary means, with notification to farmers ~~in January~~ as early as possible, and only as a last resort when other options are not available to address severe flow depletions.*

The Council discussed this change. It was noted that early notification to farmers was critical, and if notification was not possible, early indications of the possibility of a drought declaration and auction would be helpful. Tim Cash (EPD) explained the difficulty of EPD making a drought declaration earlier than March 1 without better predictive tools given that an irrigation suspension auction could cost the state \$20-30 million. It was noted that March 1 is the statutory deadline for a drought declaration under the Flint River Drought Protection Act.

It was suggested that “as early as possible” be replaced with “before March 1 with possible”. ***The Council approved this recommendation, with this modification, by consensus.***

Two changes were recommended for page 7-12:

Change the 1st bullet point to read:

Improve resource assessment modeling through increased use of ~~observed~~ actual water use and resource conditions data

Change the 3rd bullet point to read:

Increase the number of surface water availability model planning nodes, as evaluation points, in the Flint River Basin to support more detailed geographic understanding of water resource conditions.

The Council accepted these recommended changes for page 7-12 by consensus.

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Water Quality Committee Report and Recommendations

Council member and committee chair Raines Jordan thanked the committee members for their work and said the committee had reviewed changes in Jan. 21st draft, discussed further plan revisions, developed recommendations to Council for today's meeting, and reviewed new modeling results.

Raines explained the committee's first recommendation; it concerned management practice WQ4 on page 6-10. In its comments, EPD had asked for more specificity on what additional water quality monitoring was recommended. To address this comment, the committee recommends replacing the existing management practice description with the following:

- *Develop a better information base on water quality conditions to support improved resource assessment in the future.*
- *Increase sampling sites in the riverine portion of the basin, where data was limited in the water quality resource assessment for this plan.*
- *Target wet and dry conditions samples to support evaluation of nonpoint source impacts.*
- *Increase parameters sampled at each sampling location as needed to improve water quality database and future assessments.*

During discussion, it was suggested that the committee modify the 2rd bullet point to read as follows:

- *Include more wet weather samples to support evaluation of nonpoint source impacts.*

The council approved this recommended change, as modified, by consensus.

Council member Brant Keller questioned whether the evaluation of use attainment should be approached differently in the state. He said some streams may not be able to support swimming. Some uses may not be attainable, and use designations and attainment evaluation should be re-evaluated and made more precise. Kristin suggested referring this issue back to the committee for further discussion and possible development of a recommendation to the council.

The committee's next recommendation concerned the 5th bullet point on page 7-12 in Section 7.4. The committee suggested modifying the bullet point as follows:

- *Assess baseline implementation of water conservation and water quality Best Management Practices by agricultural producers. The lack of information on current levels of implementation limits the ability of conduct effective regional*

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water planning. The Georgia Forestry Commission currently conducts a field survey program to evaluate the extent of BMP implementation by forestry operations. The results of this survey demonstrate a high level of BMP implementation in the forestry sector. For agriculture, a similar evaluation would document baseline levels of implementation, track implementation progress, and support future targeting of BMP programs.

The council discussed whether to include the focus on the Georgia Forestry Commission's program. It was suggested that it be highlighted as an example of one among other programs with a similar purpose. ***The council referred this language back to the committee for further discussion and revision.***

Kristin reminded the council that Brant Keller had suggested that language be added to the plan to recognize and credit existing water quality Best Management Practices. To address this request, she suggested language for Section 6.2 similar to that developed for water conservation practices (discussed above), as follows:

Water quality is another priority for the Council. The Council recognizes that a large investment has been made in the region in Best Management Practices that have been implemented by municipalities, agriculture, and forestry to protect and improve water quality. These prior efforts should be taken in to account and given credit toward compliance in the design of water quality programs and policies.

Council members asked that "industry" be added to the list of sectors having implemented Best Management Practice. ***By consensus, the Council adopted this language for insertion into Section 6.2, with the addition of "industry" as noted.***

It was noted that Steve Simpson would report on the new water quality modeling results after lunch.

Plan Review Committee Report and Recommendations

The Plan Review Committee met on February 2nd. The committee discussed the January 21st draft and developed recommendation to the council for today's meeting. Kristin Rowles presented the committee's recommendations for the council.

In Table 6-1, Kristin explained that she had taken a first try at noting the priorities of the management practices in the January 21st draft. The priorities were rated as high, medium, and low and noted in the table by color coding (with a key in the table heading). Kristin said that in discussion with the committee, it was decided to change the priorities to high and normal priority (2 categories instead of 3). Kristin said that the assignment of priorities in the January 21st draft represented best guesses on her part and that she

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needed to collect input from the council to ensure that the assignments reflected their input. She distributed a hand-out on which members could mark their top three priority management practices. These worksheets would be used to discuss the assignment of priorities in the Plan Review Committee. She said that the committee had discussed that priorities should be based on the importance of a management practice to attaining the council's vision and goals and to addressing identified gaps. The prioritization worksheet was distributed and was collected after lunch.

Next, the committee's recommendation concerning the 1st bullet point under Water Policy Recommendations on page 7-13 in Section 7.4 was discussed. The committee suggested the following modified language:

- *The Council recommends that the General Assembly provide funding for continued planning by the regional water councils, as described in Section 14 of the Statewide Water Plan, in order to ensure continued progress toward state and regional water plan vision and goals. The Council also recommends that the General Assembly provide funding to support monitoring of plan implementation, data collection to support future planning, and continued refinement of water resource assessments used in the development of the regional water plans.*

The committee thought the addition of the reference to the Statewide Water Plan was important to note the previous approval of the regional water planning process as a continuing effort by the General Assembly and the Georgia Water Council. In discussion, it was suggested that the 2nd sentence be modified to read:

The Council also recommends that the General Assembly provide funding to support monitoring of plan implementation, data collection to support future planning by the regional water councils, and continued refinement of water resource assessments used in the development of the regional water plans.

The Council approved the committee's recommendation, with the additional modification to the second sentence noted above, by consensus.

The committee's next recommendation concerned the 3rd bullet point under Water Policy Recommendations on page 7-13 in Section 7.4. The committee suggested these modifications in order to recognize the recently adopted DNR rules on interbasin transfers and to clarify the council's position on interbasin transfers as applying to existing as well as future interbasin transfers. The following modified language was recommended by the committee:

- *The Council urges the Georgia General Assembly and other state policymakers not to preclude interbasin transfer as an option for future*

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water management in the region, as needed and following thorough scientific evaluation. Interbasin transfers of water exist in many places in Georgia at this time. The Council recognizes that interbasin transfers (existing and future) can play an important role in water resource management. Interbasin transfers of water can provide supply or flows to a receiving basin where water is needed. Rules recently adopted by the Georgia Board of Natural Resources in January 2011 will help to ensure that future permits for interbasin transfers are thoroughly evaluated.

The council members discussed interbasin transfers and the recently adopted DNR rules that apply to interbasin transfers. Council members also noted that at least one bill seeking to limit or ban interbasin transfers had been introduced this legislative session. It was noted that there are no guarantees that policy would not change on this issue in the future. Interbasin transfers have frequently been a topic of legislative bills in recent years. Chairman Chase said that interbasin transfers should not be opposed when they make sense. Members thought the new DNR rules would provide for more thorough evaluation of interbasin transfer requests in the future. ***Kristin said she would see if a summary of the new rules is available that could be sent to the council. The council adopted the recommended modification, as proposed, by consensus.***

Next, the committee's recommendation concerned the last bullet point under Water Policy Recommendations in Section 7.4 was discussed. The committee suggested the following modified language to emphasize that the recommendation related to resolution of the ACF tri-state water litigation:

- *The Council supports timely settlement of the interstate water litigation in the ACF. The Council recommends that the General Assembly and other state policymakers should consider the development of an interstate compact for the ACF Basin. If any regional management institutions are created in the Basin, they would need the capacity to operate as a part of that compact. The Council recognizes the examples of the Great Lakes Basin Compact, several of the Texas river basin compacts (i.e. Sabine River Compact Commission) and other successful stakeholder led water councils managing large river basins that cross geopolitical boundaries such as the Fraser River Basin Council (British Columbia, Canada). Collective legislative action involving Georgia, Alabama, and Florida would be needed to develop such a compact.*

The Council discussed the recommendation. Kristin said that she had imported this recommendation and the one above with slight modifications from the Middle Chattahoochee plan, after discussion of this issue at the last council meeting. The Council had asked Kristin to use the Middle Chattahoochee recommendations on this topic for develop draft lanaguage for their plan. She asked the council whether the part of

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the recommendation regarding an inter-state compact met their interests. It was suggested that if an compact were developed, the regional councils would need to be parties to that compact and not just having “the capacity to operate as a part of that compact.” While some liked the specific examples of other inter-state compacts, others did not want to specifically endorse those compacts. ***It was decided to refer this recommendation back to the Plan Review Committee for further discussion and the development of a recommendation for the council.***

Next, the committee presented for consideration three joint recommendations from the joint council meeting on January 27, 2011:

- *The Upper Flint, Lower Flint-Ochlockonee, and Middle Chattahoochee Councils recognize the critical need for more storage in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) System and recommend that a plan for additional storage be developed and implemented and that it consider the following options: better utilization of existing storage in the Chattahoochee, new storage in the Flint, and enhancement of existing storage capacity.*
- *The Upper Flint, Lower Flint-Ochlockonee, and Middle Chattahoochee Councils urge GAEPD and those involved in the resource assessment modeling to improve upon existing models for future regional water planning by making greater use of actual and current data on water use and conditions and by developing assumptions that more closely approximate actual conditions.*
- *The Upper Flint, Lower Flint-Ochlockonee, and Middle Chattahoochee Councils request that state and federal agencies reevaluate the scientific justification for the minimum flow requirements at Woodruff Dam that are intended to maintain healthy aquatic ecosystems.*

The Council members asked that the word “options” be deleted after “following” from the 1st recommendation. Some expressed concern that these recommendations would be viewed as more important than the council’s other recommendations, but it was noted that these are important. Several suggestions were made regarding how these recommendations are presented. It was suggested that the overlap of these recommendations with the Council’s own recommendations be described and that it be noted that the Council’s recommendations supersede these recommendations. It was also suggested that the presentation of the recommendation be revised so that the names of all three councils are not repeated at the beginning of each recommendation. ***Kristin will develop introductory language to the recommendations based on these suggestions. By consensus, the council approved these three joint recommendations, with the modification noted above regarding the word “options”.***

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The committee's last recommendation concerned management practice SF5 on page 6-10. The committee recommended adding the following statement to the management practice description:

- *A full range of storage options should be evaluated, including (but not limited to) increasing the capacity of existing reservoirs and creating new off-stem reservoirs.*

Dick Morrow explained that the committee did not want to create a perception that the council was only advocating for a mainstem reservoir, and therefore added the examples of increasing the capacity of existing reservoirs and building new off-stem reservoirs. The Council discussed this recommendation extensively. Some were very concerned that the council was not taking on the issue directly enough. They felt all options should be considered, including a mainstem reservoir, and they did not believe that this modification reflected that view. Council members noted that this was a difficult decision, but that the council should not shy away from it because it was difficult. ***It was agreed that in place of the above recommended language, the following will be added: "A full range of storage and reservoir options should be evaluated." The council adopted this change by consensus.***

Lunch

Over lunch, the council had a presentation on Weyerhaeuser operations and environmental programs from Vice President Bob Williams.

Water Quality Modeling Update

Steve Simpson provided an update concerning the water quality modeling. Steve reminded the council that the surface water quality modeling is about modeling the assimilative capacity of the waterbodies. The assimilative capacity is the ability of the waterbodies to receive pollution without violating water quality standards.

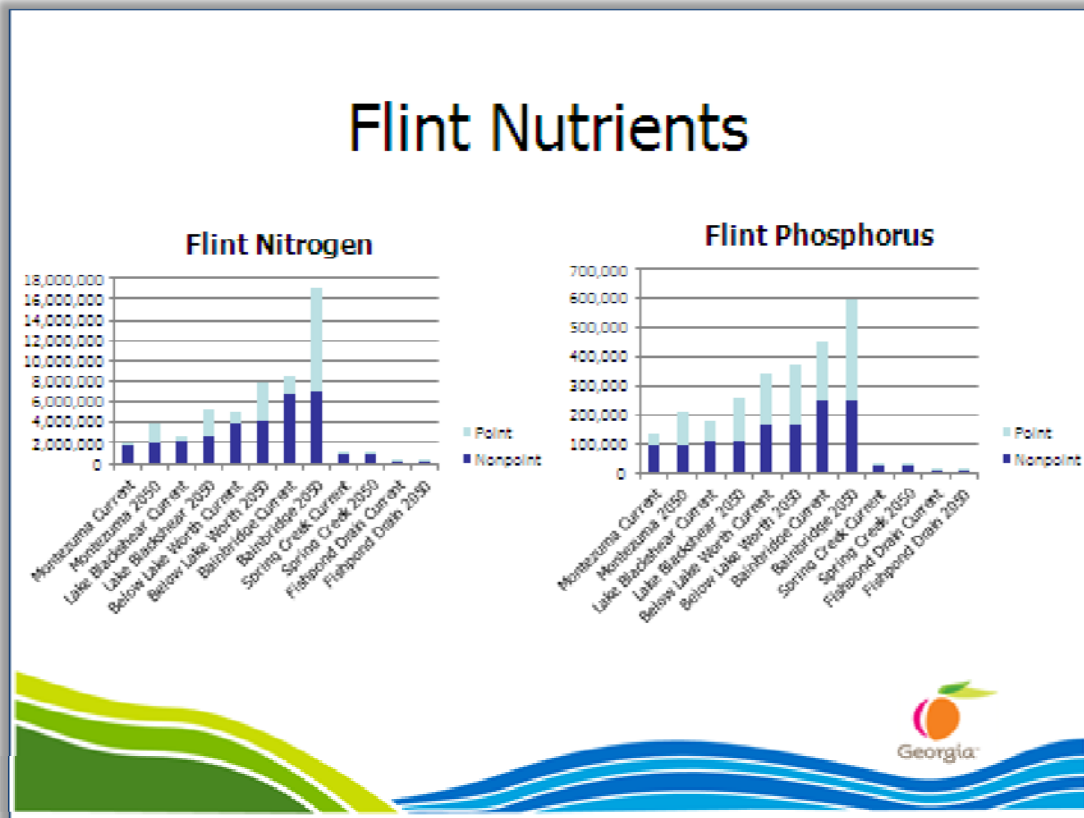
Steve explained that the dissolved oxygen (DO) models are run at "critical conditions" (low flow, high temperature) with permitted discharges. He noted that the watershed models account for both wastewater discharges and storm water runoff from various land uses. Lake models look at the impacts of nutrients. Steve said that models in general identify "unacceptable impacts" as not meeting state standards for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, chlorophyll a, etc. Steve explained modeling deliverables included the following:

- Lake Modeling
 - Lanier
 - West Point
 - Walter F. George
 - Seminole
 - Blackshear
- Watershed
 - Lanier
 - Chattahoochee
 - Flint
- Dissolved Oxygen
 - Chattahoochee
 - Flint
 - Tallapoosa
 - Ochlockonee
- Hydrodynamic
 - Middle Chattahoochee
 - Lower Chattahoochee
 - Flint

Steve said the results from the modeling can be a bit overwhelming. There are many calculated numeric results at over 40 summation points in the Flint basin. Steve said for this presentation, a few key locations will be highlighted, including:

- Montezuma
- Lake Blackshear
- Below Lake Worth
- Bainbridge
- Spring Creek
- Fish Pond Drain

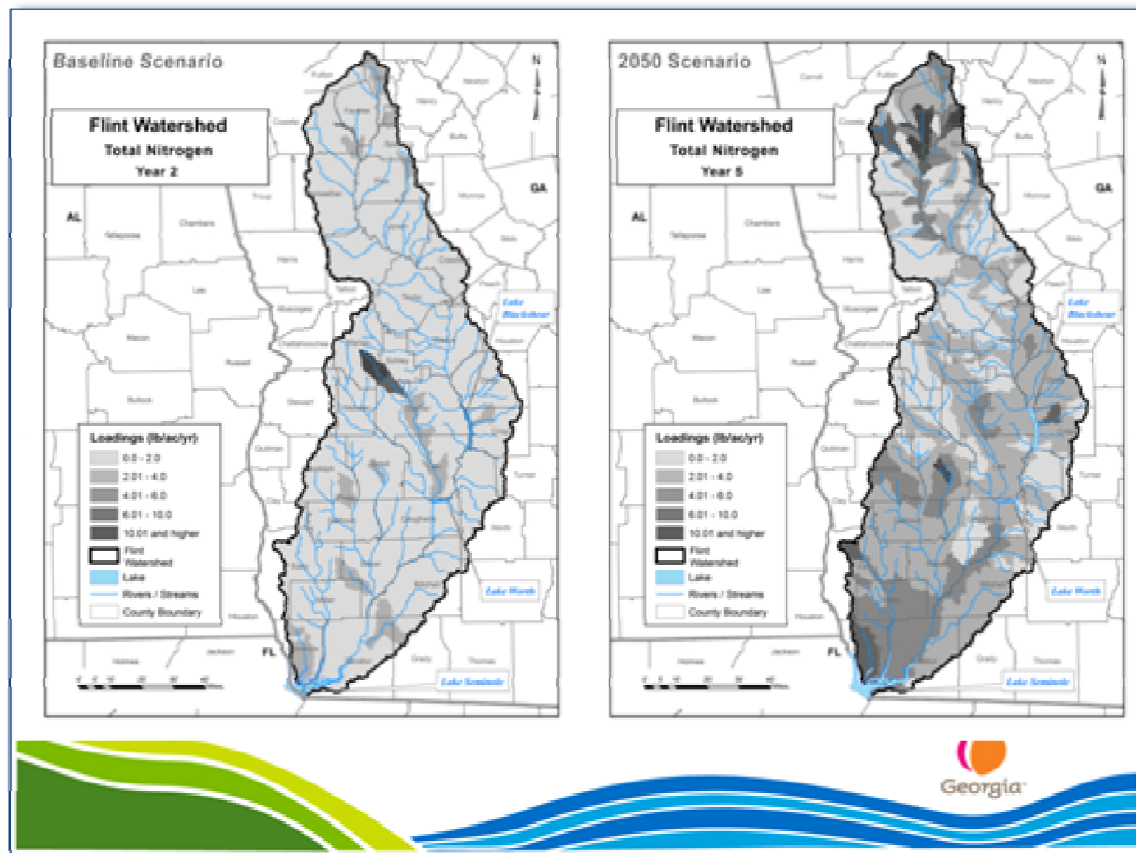
Steve discussed the following graphs which show the contributions from point and non-point sources in pounds per year. Nitrogen and phosphorus trends are somewhat similar.



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Next, Steve showed selected nutrient modeling results on maps of the basin. For the Flint watershed, Steve said that, in general, nonpoint sources currently contribute more nutrients than point sources. Future increases in nutrient loads will come from nonpoint contributions from changing land uses and significant increases in point source contributions.



Steve then summarized Lake Blackshear modeling results. He said that no nutrient standards were yet established for the lake. Phosphorus loading into lake is primarily from nonpoint sources. Lake Seminole results are similar. Seminole also has not nutrient standards yet established. Phosphorus loading to Lake Seminole is primarily from nonpoint sources. Future phosphorus increases in Seminole will be primarily point source related.

Steve summarized the proposed Florida nutrient standards and presented some potential Council considerations, including:

- Dissolved Oxygen
 - Increased flow will require increased treatment
- Lake and Watershed Modeling

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- Modeling indicates types of management practices that might be most effective in reducing nutrients
- Relative contribution of point & nonpoint sources of nutrients
- Variability in results from year to year
- Comparison with existing water quality standards
- Future Considerations
 - Expanded data collection
 - Modeling tool improvements for future updates
 - Florida nutrient standards potential impacts

Council member Brant Keller expressed concern about the Florida phosphorus standard. Council member Cliff Arnett said the Council needs a target; the modeling results do not identify any clear issues for the next ten years. He said the council may need to define short term objectives versus long-term objectives. Steve Simpson commented that there is still uncertainty regarding what the Florida nutrient standards will be after the current litigation. There is also still uncertainty regarding how U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will manage ACF lakes in the future. Council member Brant Keller said it would be hard to identify a nutrient target. He said that the Council does not have enough information to do recommend anything dramatic without clearly knowing what the target is.

Council member Cliff Arnett commented that use attainment could not be assessed based on these results. Council member Brant Keller said that nonpoint sources will be important in the future. Council member Raines Jordan said that more water quality monitoring is recommended by the council and it should be a priority. Cliff Arnett said that the results do not indicate a problem, but only show a change in condition. In closing, Steve Simpson said that the results and the council's recommendations related to the results would be discussed at the next water quality committee meeting.

Energy Forecasts Follow-up Discussion

Kristin reminded the council that they had a presentation at the last council meeting on energy section water demand forecasts. She noted that the region currently does not have any thermoelectric electricity production, but it does have hydroelectric production at Lake Blackshear. She reviewed the statewide forecasts for energy demands and related water demands.

For the region, she provided the following summary statistics:

UPPER FLINT REGIONAL ENERGY DEMAND		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2050</u>

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OPB Population_UFL	245,827	401,059
Calculated Population Based Energy Demand_UFL (GWh)	4370	6,723
Installed Generating Capacity in the Upper Flint Region (GWh)	114	114
Note: Installed generating capacity for the Upper Flint Region includes Lake Blackshear Dam operated by the Crisp County Power Commission. Estimate represents an over-inflated value of actual achievable annual energy production (= 13 MW x 365 x 24 / 1,000 = 114 GWh)		

Kristin reminded the council that for the statewide energy demand forecasts, the location of additional capacity (beyond 2020) was not specified because it was unknown. It was estimated that this additional capacity would require consumptive water use of 170-189 mgd. She asked if the council would like to address the unallocated capacity in its plan. Members noted concern with additional water consumption in the region given the downstream gap and noted that power generation capacity would best be suited to areas that do not have surface water availability concerns. Dick Morrow said that a transition to electric car use could greatly increase the demand for electricity production in the state. *The council referred the development of wording regarding the council's position for the energy section (Section 4.4) to the Water Quantity committee. The committee will ask council member Mike Donnelly to participate in the discussion.*

Shared Resources Discussion

Kristin said that there was a need for discussion of nodes shared with the Suwannee-Satilla Council in the small area of overlap with the Suwannee Basin. Information to support this discussion is being developed, and it will be discussed at the next council meeting.

Review of Outstanding issues/Plan to Finalize WDCP May 2nd Submittal

Kristin asked the council if there were outstanding issues that would require discussion prior to finalization of the plan for May 2.

Vice-Chair Dick Morrow described a new engineering study by Griffin to dredge and raise one of the city's existing reservoirs. He said they would be pursuing state funds from GEFA for this project. He asked the Council if they would be willing to support this project. Chairman Chase said that while he supports the effort, he thought it may be in the Council's best interest to get the plan worked out and submitted before we endorse a specific project.

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Kristin reviewed a list of outstanding issues identified at today's meeting, and she identified which committees would address each issue:

Water Quality Committee: New modeling results, Use Attainment Discussion (for Section 7.4 recommendations), Georgia Forestry Commission wording (Section 7.4)

Water Quantity Committee: Shared resources discussion with Suwannee-Satilla, wording for energy section (Section 4.4)

Plan Review Committee: Wording for interstate issues recommendation (Section 7.4), management practices prioritization, review of sections 7 & 8

Kristin noted that the Division of Wildlife Resources was expected to turn in comments related to Section 3 of the plan. She would share these comments with the appropriate committee for consideration and discussion.

Kristin asked the council whether they had any issues to add to the above list. They did not.

Kristin discussed with the council the schedule from today to May 2, when the plan is due to EPD for release to public comment. One more council meeting will be held before May 2, and Kristin suggested that the council meeting be held in mid-April. After that meeting, final revisions can be made to the plan. The council can be given an opportunity to review final revisions by e-mail, and the Plan Review Committee can address any last-minute issues during that time.

Given that schedule for a council meeting, Kristin sketched out the following schedule for committee meetings:

Week of February 28th: Distribution of new draft plan; Water Quality Committee meeting

Week of March 14th: Plan Review, Water Quantity, and Water Quality Committee meetings

Week of March 28th: Committee meetings as needed

Week of April 11th/18th: Council meeting

Week of April 25th: Plan Review Committee meeting (if needed)

May 2, 2011: Submittal of Plan to EPD

After May 2, 2011, Kristin said that there will be a public comment period to review the draft regional plans from all of the councils. Tim Cash said that the length of the comment period was not yet known, but it would likely be 30-60 days. He said that EPD was working on an online tool that will be used to collect the public comments.

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Kristin asked the Council if they would like to have the changes marked in the next draft. They said that they would like only the changes made after today to be marked.

Local Elected Officials and Public Comments

There were no local elected officials or members of the public that signed up to address the council.

Wrap-Up

The Council selected the week of April 11th or April 19th to have Council Meeting 10. Lake Blackshear was suggested as a location. Kristin said she would send a scheduling survey to select the council meeting date, and she will look into the meeting location. Council members expressed an interest in holding a celebration at the next council meeting if possible.

A meeting evaluation was distributed, and the council meeting was adjourned.

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Attachment 1:

**Upper Flint Water Planning Council
Council Meeting Attendance – February 7, 2011**

Council Members

Clifford Arnett
Hays Arnold
Michael Bowens
Gene Brunson
Donald Chase
Raines Jordan
Frank Keller
Brant Keller

Buddy Leger
Dick Morrow
Lamar Perlis
Gary Powell
Jim Reid
Charles Rucks
Bill Sawyer
Randall Starling

Council Members Not In Attendance

Greg Barineau
Mike Beres
Tommy Burnsed
William Culpepper
Mike Donnelly
Beth English

Harold Fallin
Eddie Freeman
Jack Holbrook
George Hooks
Terrell Hudson
Lynmore James

Planning Contractors

Robert Osborne, B&V
Kristin Rowles, GWPPC

Steve Simpson, B&V
Mark Masters, GWPPC

Georgia EPD

Tim Cash, Assistant Branch Chief
Bill Morris

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UPPER FLINT WATER COUNCIL

Meeting #9, February 7, 2011

Name	Organization
Stephen Simpson	Black & Veatch
Robert Osborne	Black & Veatch
Kristin Rowles	GWPP
Bill Sawyer	Pike County -
Buddy Lagan	CRISP COUNTY
LARRY PERLIS	GA. COMM. COMMERCE
GARY POWELL	MARION COUNTY
Cliff Arnett	Columbus Water Works
Douglas Chase	Macon County
Alvin John	
Jimmy Evans	GADWR
Nancy Jones	Meriwether County
Joel Wood	Rate/Service Consultant
Charles Rucks	Farm Bureau
MICHELLE BOWEN	Water Council
Bruce Kenna	GMPRII
Dick Mann	GRII
Lance Benfrow	RVRC
Mark Masters	GWJPC
Doug Wilson	"
Steve PROUD	Thomaston
FRANK KELLER	Meriwether Co
Geese Gruber	Taylor d/d
Patie Paisley	Cit Oversey
Ken Murphree	GR

Upper Flint- Water Planning Region

