Upper Flint Water Quality Committee Report
CM10: April 14, 2011

UF Water Quality Committee

- Raines Jordan, Chair
- Beth English
- Harold Fallin
- Frank Keller
- Brant Keller
- Bill Sawyer
- Joel Wood

Committee Meetings

- March 7th: Meeting summary in pre-meeting packet (pages 34-41)
- April 7th: Meeting summary – hand-out
- Reviewed new model results
- Discussed outstanding issues and finalizing draft plan
- Discussed Two Rivers 319 Grant proposal
- Developed recommendations to Council for today's meeting

Section 7.4

Modify language under Information Needs regarding survey on baseline agricultural BMP implementation (5th bullet point, page 7-15), issue referred back to committee at last Council meeting:

Conduct a comprehensive assessment of baseline implementation of water conservation and water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs) by agricultural producers. The Council recognizes that state and federal agencies have existing programs that measure BMP implementation, but at this time, a comprehensive baseline assessment is lacking. A comprehensive field survey of BMP implementation, such as the one conducted periodically by the forestry industry, would support estimation of potential benefits of future implementation, tracking of implementation progress, and BMP prioritization.

Committee recommends adoption of this revision (as presented in April 7th review draft)

Section 7.4

Modify the introductory paragraph under Information Needs as follows:

Fulfillment of the following information needs would support improved water resources management and future water planning. Implementation of research and assessments to fill these needs will require funding (state, federal, other). Implementing agencies are not indicated here; if funding is identified, qualified researchers from state universities, institutions, and agencies, as well as private sector firms, can fulfill these information needs. As new information becomes available, it should be incorporated into future cycles of this regional water planning process, and the resource assessment models should be modified to reflect up-to-date information as it is developed.

Committee recommends adoption of this revision (as presented in April 7th review draft)

Section 7.4

Add a new bullet point under Information Needs regarding use designation:

Evaluate the use designations assigned to stream reaches in the Upper Flint region as a part of the Triennial Review of Georgia Water Quality Standards. This review is intended to ensure that water quality performance criteria reflect actual conditions, in terms of both use and quality.

Committee recommends adoption of this revision (as presented in April 7th review draft)

Section 3.3.2

- Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) submitted comments on former Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 (page 47-49 of pre-meeting packet)
- Referred to Water Quality Committee by Plan Review Committee
- Page 3-12 reflects revisions recommended by the committee to address DWR comments
- List on page 48 of pre-meeting packet will be added to supplemental documents to the plan
- Committee recommends adoption of these revisions (as presented in April 7th review draft)

Nutrient Modeling

- Page 3-10: Add the following as new 3rd paragraph under Nutrient Modeling:

  "The Council received the lake and watershed model results late in the planning process, but in its review of the models and their results, the Council had several concerns about the model assumptions and inputs. See Section 7.4 for a recommendation related to the Council's concerns about the lake and watershed models."
- Add the same paragraph on page 5-4 after 2nd paragraph in Section 5.3
- Add the following as a new information item in Section 7.4:

  "The Council recommends a peer review of the lake and watershed water quality assessment models to better understand the methodology as it relates to the output and calibration. Pending the review, the council recommends that the model outputs not be utilized for setting water quality standards in-stream or for any other regulatory purposes including point source permitting in the region."
- Committee recommends adoption of these revisions (These are modifications to the April 7th review draft.)

319 Grant Proposal from Two Rivers RC&D

- Summary of proposal on pages 39-41 of pre-meeting packet
- Proposal is eligible for set-aside pool of 319 funds (nonpoint source grants) for Council identified proposals
- Committee recommends that Council send letter of support for this proposal (This is necessary for proposal to be eligible for special funding pool.)