



Georgia's
State Water Plan

**Middle Ocmulgee Water Planning Council
Council Meeting 10**

April 14, 2011

www.georgiawaterplanning.org

Draft Agenda

- **Committee Updates/319 Grant Recommendations**
- **Local Government and Utility Outreach Meetings Update**
- **Review of Significant Changes to Draft Plan**
- **Council Discussion: Future Council Role and Recommendations**
- **Local Elected Official and Public Comments**
- **Vote to Approve Draft Plan for Submittal to EPD**
- **Schedule for Completion/Wrap Up/Acknowledgement**

Committee Updates

319 Grant Recommendations

Committee Updates

- March 24 – Technical Subcommittee Meeting
- Attended by both Committee and Council members
- Reviewed Council comments in detail
- Obtained consensus-based responses for plan revision

319 Grant Recommendations

- January 2011: Council approved recommendation of Newton County Water and Sewerage Authority (NCWSA) project for Little River
- NCWSA completed application process on behalf of the Middle Ocmulgee Region with an endorsement letter from MOC chair

319 Grant Project Description

- Segments of Little River on 303(d) list: impaired based on fecal coliform and sediment standards
- Goal: Reduction of fecal coliform levels to below TMDL established in 2003
- Project Elements
 - Public education
 - Monitoring activities – pinpoint pollution sources
 - Implementation activities – through selected BMPs such as creation of environmental ordinances

Local Government and Utility Outreach Meetings Update

Local Government and Utility Outreach Meetings

- Purpose: Obtain initial input and feedback from local entities
 - February 24, 2011 – Jackson, Georgia
 - February 28, 2011 – Warner Robins, Georgia
- Attendees: Jackson (26), Warner Robins (24)

| Location | Public | Council Member | Committee Member | Staff | Total |
|---------------|--------|----------------|------------------|-------|-------|
| Jackson | 17 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 26 |
| Warner Robins | 13 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 24 |

Outreach Meeting Feedback Questions

- Do the Management Practices adequately articulate the actions expected while still allowing flexibility during local implementation?
- Is there a major water resource management issue that is not currently being addressed by the proposed MPs?
- Do the prioritization of Management Practice address the most important and pressing issues? Do you have any suggested changes?
- Are the time frames [initial (2011-2012), short-term (2013-2017) and long-term (beyond 2018) actions] proposed reasonable?
- What do you see being the biggest challenge facing successful implementation of the MPs?

Local Government and Utility Outreach Meetings

Summary of Comments

Written Comments Received: Jackson (yes), Warner Robins (none)

- Pressing issues change as growth/drought occurs; this is an ever changing process.
- Time frames proposed for initial, short term and long term actions are reasonable as long as the economy does not get worse.
- Funding and public buy in are the biggest challenges facing successful implementation of the management practices.
- Cost to implement and public education are the biggest challenges facing successful implementation of the management practices.
- Metro North Georgia discharges appear to be creating the majority of downstream communities' problems. Tighter guidelines for high density populations are needed.
- We have overdone the low flow water closets and the conservation showerheads. I believe there are bigger wastes out there than these.

Review of Significant Changes to Draft Plan

Significant Changes

- **Section 1 – No changes**
- **Section 2 – Larger figures (Figure 2-1, 2-2 and 2-3)**
- **Section 3 (See Revised – Handouts)**

Significant Changes

Section 3 (See Revised – Handouts)

3.2 Baseline Resource Assessments

Addressed EPD comments including

- Naming/Dating of Resource Assessments
- Definition of Terms (planning nodes, gap, shortage, instream flow needs)
- Including a basin map (Figure 3-6) with planning nodes

Significant Changes

Section 3 (See Revised – Handouts)

3.3 Ecosystem Conditions and Instream Uses

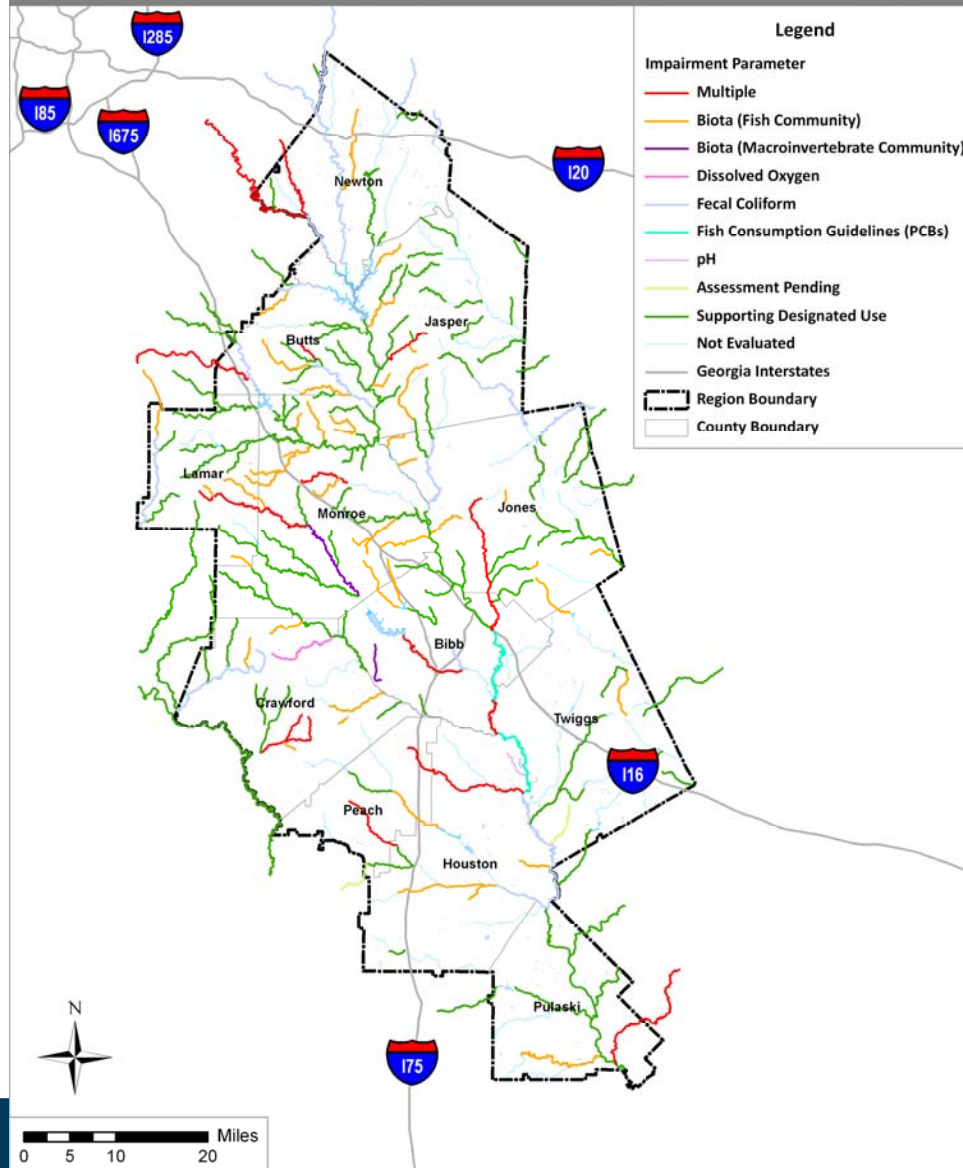
Addressed Council and WRD comments

- Revised Figure 3-6 (now 3-7)
- Included major addition in Section 3.3.3

Section 4 - No changes

Middle Ocmulgee Region Water Plan

Figure 3-7: Middle Ocmulgee Region Impaired Waters



Source: GIS Data Set (state-wide version) for Georgia's 2008 Integrated 305(b)/303(d) [EPD September 2008]
<http://www.gaepd.org/Documents/305b.html>

Significant Changes

Section 5

5.1 Groundwater Availability Comparison

- Updated according to revised yield of Cretaceous Aquifer (No gap)
- Updated with new Figure 5-1 instead of a table

Significant Changes

Section 5

5.2 Surface Water Availability Comparison

- Figure 5-2: Updated energy demand – demand in Lumber City nodes instead of Jackson node
- Tables 5-2 & 5-3: Replaced with updated data and added a column indicating the year the permitted capacity is expected to be exceeded by forecasts

Significant Changes

Section 5

5.3 Surface Water Quality Comparison

- 5.3.2 - Added wording suggested by Technical Subcommittee on model assumptions
- 5.3.3 - Added a new sub-section summarizing existing stream impairment

Significant Changes

5.4 Summary of Potential Water Resources Issues

- New subsection - 5.4.2 Resource Assessment Concerns
 - Planning node concerns
 - Different flow values used for surface water availability and quality RAs
 - Instream flow analyses - No alternative instream flow analyses for Middle Ocmulgee Region (EPD only provided analyses for unregulated nodes in other regions)
- Suggestion – County Level Summary Table (added)

Middle Ocmulgee Region Water Plan

Table 5-3: Summary of Potential Water Resources Issues by County^{1, 2}

| County | Municipal Water Infrastructure Need ³ | Municipal Wastewater Infrastructure Need ³ | Water Quality - Assimilative Capacity Issues ⁴ | Existing Impaired Streams ⁵ |
|---------------|--|---|---|--|
| <i>Source</i> | <i>Table 5-1</i> | <i>Table 5-2</i> | <i>Figure 5-3</i> | <i>Figure 3-6</i> |
| Bibb | | | Yes | Yes |
| Butts | | Yes | | Yes |
| Crawford | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Houston | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Jasper | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Jones | | Yes | | Yes |
| Lamar | | Yes | | Yes |
| Monroe | | | | Yes |
| Newton | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Peach | | | Yes | Yes |
| Pulaski | | | Yes | Yes |
| Twiggs | | | | Yes |

Notes:

- 1) "Yes" indicates a predicted shortage in the indicated county.
- 2) No surface water or groundwater availability shortage is predicted for the Middle Ocmulgee Region for the 40-year planning period
- 3) Infrastructure need is based on the comparison of permitted municipal capacity versus 2050 forecasted demand
- 4) Treatment upgrade may be required in these counties based on EPD's Water Quality Resource Assessment (July 2010)
- 5) Impaired streams based on 2008 303(d) list published by EPD

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Significant Changes

Section 6

- Combined Table 6-1 (priority) and Table 6-2 (Additional) management practices into **ONE** table (Table 6-1)
- Water Quality MPs: Moved up three MPs (WQ9, 10 & 11) to **priority** practices, renamed one (WQ8), and added one (WQ21) to strengthen MPs for improving impaired streams
 - WQ8 (reworded) – Adopt Ordinances and/or Incentive Programs to Protect Sensitive Land
 - WQ9 – Encourage TMDL Implementation
 - WQ10 – Develop/Implement Watershed Assessment/Protection Plan Measures
 - WQ11 – Implement Watershed Improvement Projects
 - WQ21 (new) - Encourage Forest and Dirt Road BMPs in “Additional MPs”

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Significant Changes

Section 6

- Other MP changes
 - Deleted WS3 – that was meant to address Cretaceous Aquifer gap (determined not to exist)
 - Clarified WS2 – to focus on impacts of Metro Atlanta area discharges and added research on emerging contaminants

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Significant Changes Section 7

- Revised Table 7-1 and 7-2 to reflect changes in Section 6 (Table 6-1)
- Revised Table 7-3:
 - Strengthened recommendations on instream flow policy
 - Adaptive management and instream flow strategy for proposed reservoirs
 - Additional planning nodes on major unregulated streams
 - Deletion of recommendations related to Cretaceous aquifer monitoring
 - Further research on emerging contaminants

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Significant Changes

Section 8

- Updated Table 8-1 to reflect changes from Table 6-1, particularly WQ 9, 10 & 11 – benchmarks, measurement tools and time period
- Section 8.3 – minor editorial changes

Draft Executive Summary

- **Length** – Current length 5 pages, (other Councils' range from 7–10 pages)
- **Style** - Big picture or with more details

Council Discussion

Future Council Role and Recommendations

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Future Council Role Discussions

Current Council Term through February 2012

Which Organization will serve as clearing house of information and coordinator for ongoing Regional Water Plan activities?

- EPD, DCA, Regional Commissions, other suggestions?

Future Council Continuity

- Other councils have suggested re-appointment of one-third (or 6-9) original council members to the next council to provide continuity between plan updates
- When to re-appoint? 18 months prior to RWP update

Future Council Role Discussions (Continued)

Current Council Term through February 2012

Future Meetings

1. Addressing comments and finalizing recommended draft – **Aug/Sep 2011**
2. Tracking implementation, addressing potential issues or questions regarding implementation or plan amendments.
 - Hold meetings as needed? biennial?
 - Other frequency suggestions?

Approved Regional Plan

The Director of Georgia EPD is charged with the review of recommended WDCPs as outlined in the State Water Plan, and subsequent approval.

The Director will either:

- 1. Adopt the recommended WDCP as submitted**
- 2. Advise the regional water planning council of necessary changes to make the plan approvable**
- 3. Adopt a recommended WDCP with conditions**

Vote to Approve Plan

For Submittal to EPD

(by May 2nd, 2011)

**EPD Website Refresher
and
Comment Collection Tool**

Middle Ocmulgee Region



Georgia's State Water Plan

MIDDLE OCMULGEE REGION

The goal of [Middle Ocmulgee's Water Development & Conservation Plan](#) is to support the region's economy, protect the public health and natural systems, and enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

OUR PLAN

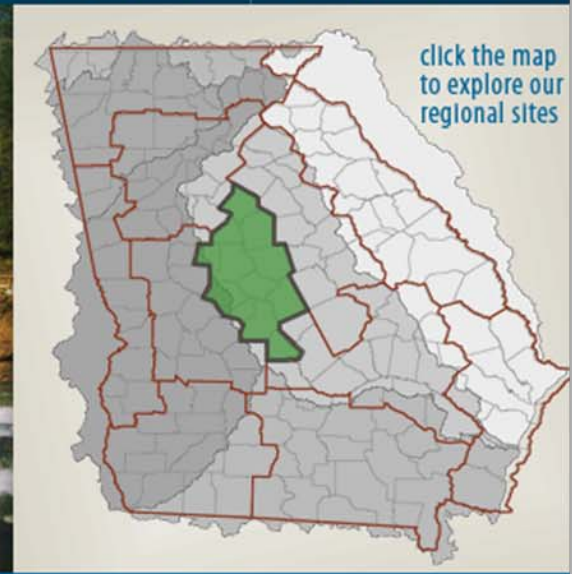
RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS

FORECASTING

STATE WATER PLAN



High Falls State Park



click the map to explore our regional sites

RECENT NEWS

[Overview of Judge Magnuson's July 17, 2009 Ruling](#)

PUBLIC MEETINGS

[Council Meeting #3](#)



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Public Comment

Formal Comment Period: May 9th to June 23rd, 2011 (45-day)

4 Ways to Submit Comments:

Online Tool via EPD Comment Collection Center:

www.gaepdcommentcenter.org

Email (EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us)

Fax: 404-651-5778, or

Mail to EPD

**Link to Comment Center also will be available on
Regional Water Planning website www.GeorgiaWaterPlanning.org**

Schedule for Completion
Wrap Up
Acknowledgement

Suggested Milestones to Completion

- Final Draft sent to Council /Committee? (*April 20, 2011*)
- Council to submit Initial Recommended Regional Water Plan to EPD – no later than *May 2nd, 2011*
- EPD to provide public notice for 45-day public comment period
- no later than *May 9th, 2011*
- Council to review and revise regional water plan based on public review comments and EPD comments – pending on public comment notice date *July and August, 2011*
- Council meeting to discuss comments (as needed)? *August 2011*
- Council to review Final Draft – no later than *September 9th, 2011*
- Submit Final Recommended Regional Water Plan to the Director for EPD Adoption - no later than *September 30th, 2011*
- ***Council modifications to dates?***

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Thank You!

Adopted Vision and Goals

Adopted Vision

as adopted by the Council 9.10.09

The Middle Ocmulgee Water Council will work so that our water resource, both surface and subsurface, is of exceptional quality and quantity for the well being and prosperity of all that will follow. Our plan will consider the resource's natural integrity, wise conservation and prudent management for continuing economic development and enhanced quality of life for all the region's citizens.

Adopted Goals

as adopted by the Council 9.22.10

1. Maximize existing water supply sources to the extent practicable.
2. Support the protection of natural stream integrity and the recreation it provides.
3. Promote sufficient water supply for the region.
4. Promote efficient use of water.
5. Promote properly managed wastewater discharges and beneficial reuse.
6. Support the reduction of non-point source pollution by advocating better land management practices.
7. Support planning and management of water resources to maintain a healthy economy and ensure a high quality of life and to protect our natural resources.

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| Georgia Guidelines for Reclaimed Water Systems | Guidance for Appendix J of the Georgia Plumbing Code | 4/6/2011 | 4/7/2011 |

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Tool Allows EPD to:

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- Enable searching, sorting, and tracking of comments as they are received,
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- Enable tracking of comment response and actions taken.

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- <http://www.gaepdcommentcenter.org>
- Regional Water Plans will be released here on May 9, 2011
- *Link will also be available from*
www.georgiawaterplanning.org

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In Table S-3, column "c", net groundwater consumption is mentioned, but how this value was estimated is never described.

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