

DRAFT
May 5, 2010

Savannah-Upper Ogeechee (SUO) Regional Water Plan Table of Contents

Notes:

1. This draft represents a document incorporating comments and input by EPD staff, planning contractor (or PC) staff, and other consultant staff;
2. This table of contents represents the layout and organization for a 40 page document with associated appendices and technical attachments. The recommended number of pages for each chapter is provided in {brackets};
3. The target audiences for the plans are EPD, GEFA, the Councils and implementing entities;
4. Numbered sections and sub-sections reflect minimum plan content; asterisks (*) reflect required content that must be included somewhere in that section or sub-section, and bullets reflect suggested content; and
5. In cases where required content is required in the State Water Plan, the Section of the Plan is indicated.
6. Each sub-section includes writing responsibilities for the template in < >. PC = Planning Contractor. The template will still include the format for tables and figures as well as the major headings that are required, even for sections where the PC has the main writing responsibility to ensure statewide consistency.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY {5 pages}

A comprehensive overview of the Regional Water Plan that includes the major findings and recommendations.

1. INTRODUCTION {3 pages}

Overview of the background and purpose of the State Water Plan from a state-wide perspective. Includes the vision of the State Water Plan and how that related to the development of the WDCPs.

The majority of this section (1.1 – 1.3) will contain consistent background material developed by EPD and/or one consultant with region specific additional material developed by Councils and PCs.

1.1. The Significance of Water Resources in Georgia <EPD>

Outlines the overarching vision for sustainable water use in Georgia created in the State Water Plan.

1.2. Statewide Priorities <EPD>

Provides statewide overview of water issues and identifies interregional trends. Overview of priorities and requirements for Regional Water Plans from the State Water Plan. Includes a discussion of existing State laws or rules impacting water use.

1.3. State and Regional Water Planning Process <EPD>

Overview of the relationship between the State Water Plan and other plans, regulations, and agencies. Explain the Regional Water Planning process and formation. (Note: a list of Council members is provided in the Acknowledgement page.)

- * Outline the steps and meetings to coordinate with neighboring water planning regions (14.7.c.ii).

1.4. The SUO Regional Vision and Goals <PC>

A Region-specific section discussing Council formation, highlighting the governance structure, and presenting any responsibilities that are unique to the region.

- * Water quantity and quality management objectives (14.7.c.viii).

2. THE SUO WATER PLANNING REGION {4 pages}

Section 2 gives a general overview of the region's economy, population, land use, and municipalities, and provides an understanding of the unique characteristics within the water planning region.

- * Local Governments, Municipalities and Jurisdictions in Region (14.7.c.i).

2.1. History and Geography <PC>

Includes a description of municipal boundaries, watersheds, cities, water bodies, physiographic region, unique history or physical features.

2.2. Characteristics of Region <PC>

Provide a brief overview of current population and major employers and. Include discussion of special population considerations, such as those from universities or military bases. Overview existing land use including unique major land uses or physical features.

2.3. Local Policy Context <PC>

Includes discussion on existing rules that impact water use specific to the region. Describes important aspects of Comprehensive Planning and other policy in the region as it relates to water resources. Note: state regulations highlighted in Section 1.2.

3. WATER RESOURCES OF THE SUO REGION {5 pages}

Overview of the baseline resource assessment results.

3.1. Major Water Use in Region (14.7.c.iii) <PC>

Includes a summary of instream and offstream uses and users.

3.2. Resource Assessments (14.7.c.iv) <EPD to provide summary of methodology> <PC to provide region specific text>

Includes a brief overview of the resource assessment methodology. Note: A description of the resource assessment methodologies will be provided by EPD and/or a consultant. These methodology descriptions will be common for all plans. The bulk of the sub-section, however, will include a consolidated summary of each resource assessment completed by the PCs.

3.2.1. Surface Water Quality (Assimilative Capacity)

3.2.2. Surface Water Quantity

3.2.3. Groundwater Quantity/Quality

3.3. Ecosystem Conditions and Instream Uses <PC>

Include (where applicable) discussion on:

- 303(d) list and TMDLs (if not covered under section 3.2)
- Wildlife and Fisheries Resources (such as sport fisheries - public fishing areas and major reservoir and river fisheries)
- Nongame Wildlife (reference information from WRD and State Wildlife Action Plan or SWAP – species or habitats of concern in that region)
- Priority Conservation Areas and Activities
- Recreational Uses (unique/notable water-based recreational areas or recreational flow requirements or flow regimes)

4. FORECASTING FUTURE WATER RESOURCE NEEDS {6 pages}

Summary of the projections by time period with a brief summary of the projection methodology. Begin each sub-section with a brief description of methodology. NOTE: One summary methodology common to all Regional Water Plans will be provided by EPD and/or contractor with region-specific modifications as necessary.

- * Forecasts of 10-, 20-, 30-, 40- year population expectations, water demands, wastewater returns, land surface types and distribution, and employment characteristics (14.7.c.v).

4.1. Municipal Forecasts <EPD to provide summary of methodology> <PC to provide region specific text>

- Population Projections
- Water Forecasts
- Wastewater Forecasts

4.2. Industrial Forecasts <EPD to provide summary of methodology> <PC to provide region specific text>

- Employment Projections
- Water Forecasts
- Wastewater Forecasts

4.3. Agriculture Forecasts <EPD to provide summary of methodology> <PC to provide region specific text>

- Agricultural Crop Irrigation
- Other Commodity Sectors
- Results

4.4. Thermoelectric Power Forecasts <EPD to provide summary of methodology> <PC to provide region specific text>

- Results

4.5. Total Water Demand Forecasts <PC>

Provides a summary of the total water and wastewater demand for the water planning region.

- Water Overall Results
- Wastewater Overall Results

5. COMPARISON OF AVAILABLE WATER RESOURCE CAPACITIES AND FUTURE NEEDS {3 pages}

Outlines the process for comparing resource capacities and any identified future water use challenges that influence the selection of water management practices.

- * Forecasted uses of water bodies for water supply, wastewater discharge, and stormwater flows for each forecast period (14.7.c.vi).
- * Comparison of the forecasts with the resource assessments (14.7.c.vii).

5.1. Groundwater Availability Comparisons <PC>

5.2. Surface Water Availability Comparisons <PC>

5.3. Surface Water Quality Comparisons (Assimilative Capacity) <PC>

6. ADDRESSING WATER NEEDS AND REGIONAL GOALS {6 pages}

Describes the selection of water management practices that address any gaps identified during the resource comparisons with a focus on sustainable water use.

6.1. Identifying Water Management Practices <PC>

- Existing Plans and Practices
- Selection of Management Practices and Evaluation Criteria
- Coordination Between Regions
- * Challenges and uncertainties in water planning – includes proposals for addressing data and information needs (14.7.c.xi).

6.2. Selected Water Management Practices for the SUO Region <PC>

Description/final list of selected water management practices and their implications (14.7.c.ix). Management practices may include recommendations for future data collection efforts (14.7.c.xi).

6.2.1. Near-term Water Management Practices

6.2.2. Long-term Water Management Practices

6.2.3. Interregional Implications of Selected Management Practices

6.3. Fiscal Implications <PC>

Planning level costs of the selected water management practices as well as funding sources and options (14.7.c.xiv).

7. IMPLEMENTING WATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES {6 pages}

Summary of the water management practices and long-term implementation within the water planning region.

7.1. Implementation Responsibility <EPD to provide common responsibilities (EPD, GEFA, etc.)> <PC to provide region specific text>

Overall summary of permittees and GEFA grant/loan recipients who are responsible for implementation of water management practices.

7.2. Implementation Schedules <PC>

Summary of the water management practices, timeframe for implementation (near-term and long-term), areas of the water planning region where the water management practice applies, and the specific permittees responsible for implementation.

7.3. Alignment with Other Plans <EPD to provide common text> <PC to provide region specific text>

Overall comparison of consistencies and differences between the Regional Water Plan and other regional and local plans (14.7.c.x).

7.4. Recommendations to State <PC>

Recommendations for actions by the State that support implementation of the Regional Water Plan (14.7.c.xiii). Recommendations may include those related to future data collection (14.7.c.xi).

8. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRESS {2 pages} <EPD to provide common text> <PC to provide region specific text>

8.1. TBD Benchmarks (14.7.c.xii)

8.2. TBD

8.3. TBD

Bibliography <PC>

Possible Supporting State Water Plan Documents or TM's <PC>

1. Population and Employment Forecasts
2. Implementation Details
3. Public Participation

4. Coordination with Partnering Agencies
 - a. DCA
 - b. State Wildlife Action Plan
5. Process of Water Development and Conservation Plan Development [TM]
6. Visioning and Goal Setting Process [TM]
7. Forecasting Methodology [TM]
8. Gap Analysis [TM]
9. Management Practice Selection Process [TM]
10. Process for Benchmark Selection [TM]