**SUWANNEE-SATILLA REGION**

**BACKGROUND**

The 2004 Comprehensive State-wide Water Management Planning Act authorized the development of the State Water Plan. The State Water Plan, which was adopted by the General Assembly in 2008, calls for:

- the preparation of regional water plans;
- the establishment of ten regional water planning councils to prepare the plans; and,
- the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) with providing technical assistance to the councils including contractor support, guidance, resource assessments and forecasts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 2009-2011</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council Meetings</td>
<td>5 in 2009 / 4 in 2010 / 2 in 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Leadership</td>
<td>Darvin Eason, Chair and Grady M. Thompson, Vice Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorandum of Agreement</td>
<td>Executed with Department of Community Affairs and EPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision and Goals</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Involvement Plan</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subcommittees</td>
<td>Vision and Goals, Water and Wastewater Forecasting, Public Involvement Plan, Management Practices, Plan Drafting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Water Resource Assessments</td>
<td>EPD presented, January 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft Water and Wastewater Demand Forecasts</td>
<td>EPD presented, March-June 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management Practices</td>
<td>Select, evaluate, refine, finalize, June 2010-May 2, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Recommended Regional Water Plan</td>
<td>Submit to EPD, May 2, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address Public Comments</td>
<td>Review and revise based on public comments received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Recommended Regional Water Plan</td>
<td>Submit to EPD Director for adoption, September 30, 2011</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**KEY WATER RESOURCE ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED BY THE COUNCIL**

1. Gaps in surface water availability during drought conditions in the Suwannee and Satilla river basins
2. Wastewater assimilative capacity to accommodate future municipal and industrial wastewater needs throughout the region
3. Low dissolved oxygen reaches in the Suwannee, Satilla and Saint Mary’s river basins and other water quality issues
4. Development of groundwater and surface water resources to meet future needs
5. Protection of recreational and environmental resources in the region
KEY WATER FEATURES OF THE SUWANNEE-SATILLA REGION

CURRENT WATER DEMAND
TOTAL = 254 MGD

Note: There is no major thermoelectric water demand in the Suwannee-Satilla region.

PRODUCED: AUGUST 2010

SUWANNEE-SATILLA COUNCIL MEMBERS

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EARL BRICE Douglas, Coffee County
WILLIAM L. BRIM Tifton, Tift County
HANSON R. CARTER Nashville, Berrien County
CARROLL H. COARSEY Brookfield, Tift County
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JOE LEWIS Tifton, Tift County
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SCOTTY RAINES Sycamore, Turner County
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SEN. GREG GOGGANS (Ex-Officio)