

Agenda

- Welcome Back
 - Myra Reece, Director, DHEC Environmental Affairs
- Stakeholder Introductions
- Concerns and Effects
 - Rob Devlin, Director, Water Monitoring, Assessment & Protection Division
- Facilitated Discussion
- Lunch
- Continued Discussion
- Summary and Adjourn

Surface Water Regulation Stakeholder Workgroup



Purpose: DHEC will convene and work with stakeholders to identify issues and work towards solutions to improve regulations and management of surface water in SC



Stakeholder workgroup timeline	Notice of Drafting Published	Monthly Stakeholder Meetings	Evaluate stakeholder recommendations
	Provide updates and opportunities for public comment		



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Defining the Problem

Purpose

How do we improve regulations and management of surface water in SC?

To maximize resource availability

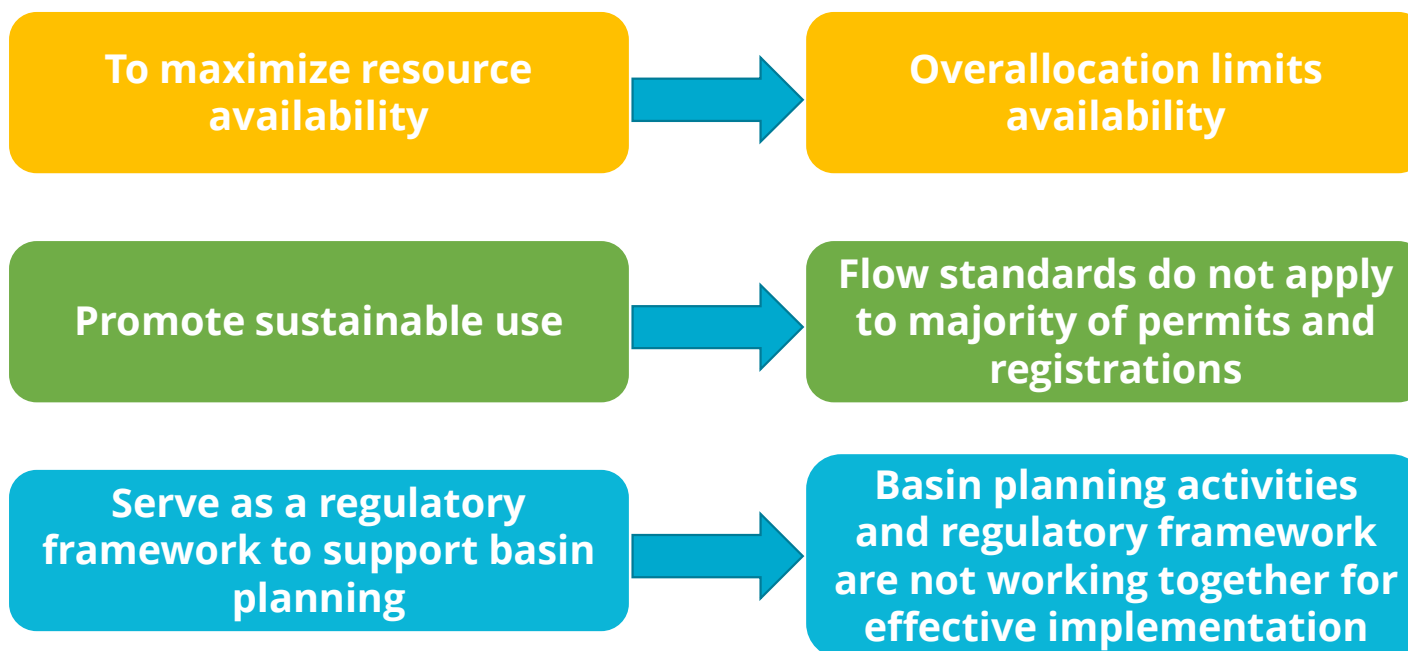
Promote sustainable use

Serve as a regulatory framework to support basin planning

Unintended Consequences

Goal

Consequence





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Concerns and Effects

Concerns and Effects - Immediate

Immediate Concerns	Effects
No authority to use reasonableness standards for evaluating agricultural registrations	Agricultural registration applications can request the entire safe yield of a stream/river regardless of the need
Safe yield calculation is the only requirement for obtaining an agricultural registration	Leads to partial or complete closing of the stream/river to any new registrations
EPA is reviewing the regulation as a flow standard	Could lead to new flow standard requirements for all users different than what is currently required

Discussion

- How could we best address these immediate concerns?
- What immediate concerns most impact you?
- Which ideas and actions would most improve regulations and management of surface water in SC?
 - Maximize resource availability
 - Promote sustainable use
 - Serve as regulatory framework

Concerns and Effects – Short Term

Short Term Concerns	Effects
94% of the withdrawers are not required to follow MIF protocol during low flow events (droughts) or for typical 20-30-40 requirements	There is no regulatory authority to require the reduction of withdrawal quantity during low flow events or droughts
Current regulations lack the tools to implement the river basin plans	DNR river basin plans may not be able to be fully implemented

Discussion

- How could we best address these short-term concerns?
- What short-term concerns most impact you?
- Which ideas and actions would most improve regulations and management of surface water in SC?
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Concerns and Effects – Long Term

Long Term Concerns	Effects
Permitted withdrawal limits are over allocated	Existing permits will tie up large amounts of water that is not needed and therefore the water will not be available to incoming potential withdrawers
Permits are issued for 30-50 years and cannot be reduced (even at renewal)	Existing permits that don't expire and cannot be reduced are essentially unregulated

Discussion

- How could we best address these long-term concerns?
- What long-term concerns most impact you?
- Which ideas and actions would most improve regulations and management of surface water in SC?
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Path Forward

Group Discussion

What needs to be done?

- What are your concerns at this point in the process?
- What changes do we think can or should be made to the regulation?
- How do we put solutions into action?

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Next Steps

- Your commitment and participation are important
- Public participation process
 - Encourage others to stay informed & provide comments on website
 - <https://scdhec.gov/surface-water-stakeholder-workgroup>
 - DHEC staff available to reach out to groups you represent
- Want to hold continued meetings as we go forward
- General Assembly in January (?)

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Next Steps

