



Points to Ponder

- **Forest conversion to agriculture or urban use consistently causes increased discharge, peak flow, and velocity in streams.**
- **Sediment and other substances often become more concentrated after forest conversion. If the conversion is to an urban use, the resulting additional increases in discharge and concentrations will produce even higher loads.**
- **Converting forest land to urban uses may decrease the supply of water available for human consumption and increase potential threats to human health.**
- **Increases in urbanization by 2060 in the Appalachians, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain will increase imperviousness and further reduce hydrologic stability and water quality indices in the headwaters of several major river basins along the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.**
- **Water stress will likely increase significantly by 2050 under climate change scenarios, largely because higher temperatures will result in more water loss by evapotranspiration and because of decreased precipitation in some areas.**

SC Forests and Water Advisory Committee

JULY 30, 2020

MEETING #2



Agenda



Introductions



Review and Announcements



Goals Discussion and Brainstorm



Review Goals



Next Steps

Introductions

Jill Miller
Executive Director
South Carolina Rural Water
Association

Guy Sabin
Vice President
South Carolina Forestry
Association

David Baize
Executive Director
SC American Water Works
Association

Steve Patterson
Director of Forestry Services
Center for Heirs' Property

Joe Mantua
General Manager
Beaufort Jasper Water and
Sewer

Doug Hughes
Weyerhaeuser
Sr. Manager Mitigation & Real
Estate Development

A group of people's hands are gathered around a table, looking at a large document or map. The image is a close-up, focusing on the hands and the document. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people and the table. The overall tone is professional and collaborative.

Review and Announcements

SC Forests and Water Advisory Committee Website

New Programs, Funding Opportunities, Research, other Initiatives

Review and Announcements

Mission Statement

“Provide SC with a consolidated leadership team that promotes the connection between healthy forests and safe and reliable drinking water through education, collaboration, and funding initiatives.”

Vision Statement

“South Carolina forested watersheds and drinking water resources that are healthy, safe, and reliable with collaborating stakeholders and funding opportunities promoting long-term stewardship.”

Feedback Themes

1. **Value of land** use to water quality and quantity
2. Targeted **education and outreach**
3. Increase opportunities for forest and water sector **partnerships**
4. **Funding** options for stakeholders

HEALTHY FORESTS = CLEAN WATER

Goals

- Southeastern forest watersheds are healthy
- Drinking water is safe and reliable
- Watershed stakeholders collaborate
- Private water utility owners with long-term ownership of forest watersheds

Funding

\$120,000
over 5 years

\$1.4 million
over 5 years

The Forest-Water connection

- Healthy, managed forests provide natural filtration of precipitation and storm runoff, resulting in cleaner water reaching drinking water treatment plants.
- Having healthy forests in key areas within a watershed can reduce sediment and contribute to reaching drinking water supplies, lowering treatment costs.
- Maintaining forests over the long term of a drinking water source watershed ensures a reliable drinking water for current and future generations.
- Healthy watersheds have many benefits including safe and reliable drinking water, forest resiliency, recreation, fish & wildlife, and strong economies and forest markets.

What we're doing

- Organizing forests and drinking water forums and follow-up workshops in each partner state.
- Creating collaborative state and watershed partnerships with forestry and drinking water agencies & associations, municipal water suppliers, planners, conservation and environmental groups, academia, & corporate partners such as Duke Energy, Weyerhaeuser, & International Paper.
- Creating field positions in Arkansas, Georgia and South Carolina to support the partnership.
- Working with partners to secure funds to help implement forest owner conservation and best management practices.
- Supporting efforts to encourage forest owners for managing and conserving forests that clean our drinking water.

Our state partners

Highlighted in green

Southeastern Partnership By The Numbers

2,000 partners
in 8 states and 7 priority watersheds

\$1.5 million
invested in 6 years by US Forest Service and US Endowment for Forestry and Communities

7 watersheds
assisted with watershed and forestland stewardship and funding

7 videos
produced demonstrating the forest-water connection and being viewed on YouTube
[Watch them here: YouTube](#)

15,000 acres
conserved in the Savannah River Watershed to benefit water quality and effectiveness

\$1.5 million+
funded from state partners in 5 years

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Fact Sheet

WELL MANAGED FORESTS SUPPLY WOOD & PAPER PRODUCTS, PROVIDE SHADE, STORE CARBON, CLEAN WATER, AND PURIFY THE AIR THAT WE USE EVERY DAY.

CLEAN WATER THAT WE USE EVERY DAY

SUPPORT ACTIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN THE LAKE WATERREE WATERSHED

sponsored by

Billboard

Clean water grows on these trees.

Okay, not technically, but forests do provide the cleanest water of any land use to keep drinking water safe and reliable.

SOUTHERN WATER SUPPLY

State & Private forests provide **44.3%** of the total water supply.

That's equal to **97.8 billion gallons** every year in the Southeast. That's enough water to fill a 100-gallon bathtub **24 TIMES** for the entire South.

SOUTHERN FORESTS

267 MILLION ACRES.

POPULATION SERVED

ALL FORESTS: **113 MILLION PEOPLE**

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTS: **57 MILLION PEOPLE**

FOREST WATERSHEDS: **56 MILLION PEOPLE**

THE CHALLENGE

Population is expected to increase from **38 million** in 2012 to **47 million** by 2060.

THE THREAT
UP TO 23 MILLION ACRES of our forests are expected to be converted to other uses by 2060.

HEALTHY FORESTS ARE CRITICAL TO DRINKING WATER

Healthy managed forests provide the cleanest water of any land use, and help keep drinking water safe, reliable, and affordable.

TO SIM THINGS UP:

HEALTHY FORESTS = CLEAN WATER = SAFETY

FOREST STEWARDSHIP AND BMPs

These practices, when used with watershed conservation, help to minimize pollution and degradation.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) can help protect and improve water quality.

DRINKING WATER DEPENDS ON HEALTHY FORESTS

Our investments in healthy forests today lead to higher quality drinking water in our communities tomorrow.

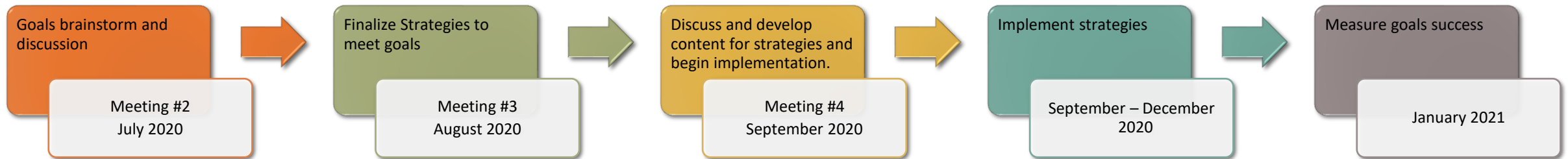
Contact for more information: [Watershed Stewardship and Forestland Stewardship](#)

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Infographic

**THE
FOREST
WATER
RELATIONSHIP**

Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

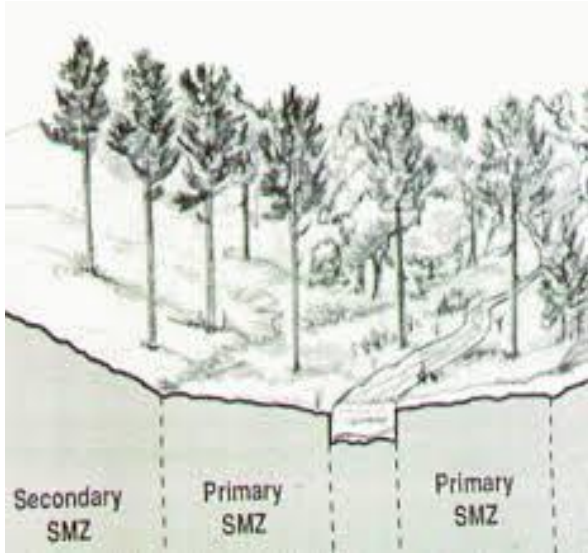
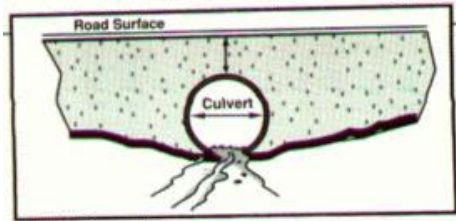


Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

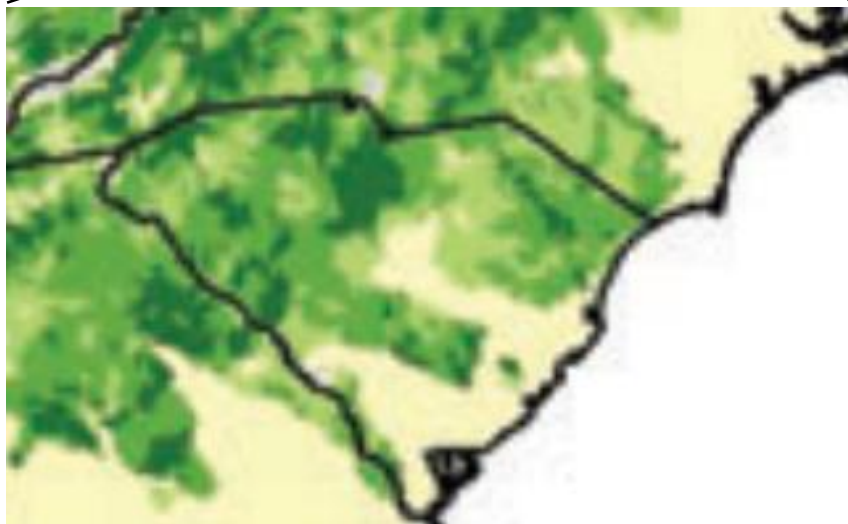
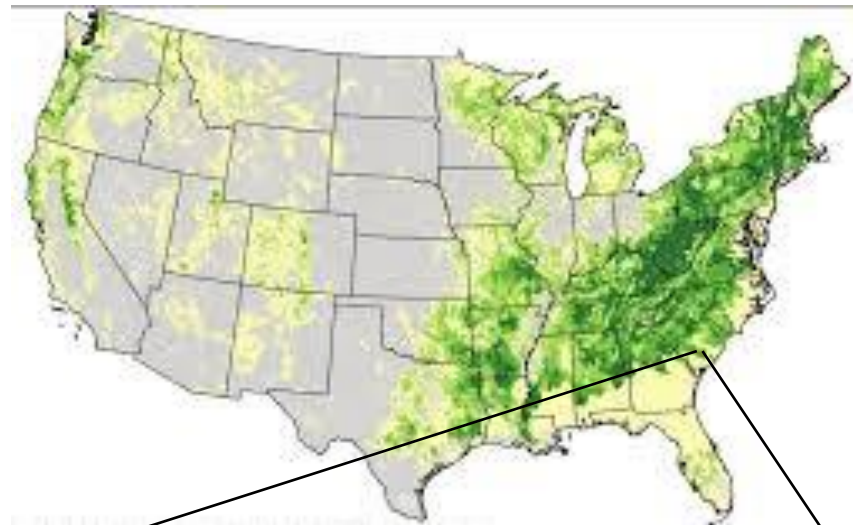
1. Enhance existing forestry BMPs

- Research on BMP effectiveness
- Locations in state where BMP implementation could be better
- Is BMP compliance high enough

How to measure success?



Goals Discussion and Brainstorm



2. **X% of forested landowners with Y acres or more in critical watersheds participate in a Forest Management Plan**

- Data/information needs
- New methods to incentive completing FMPs for forested landowners
- Other groups working on incentive-based initiatives

How to measure success?

Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

- 3. A) Form a collaboration of state water utilities and corporations to work with state legislature to ensure easements can be secured in critical watersheds**

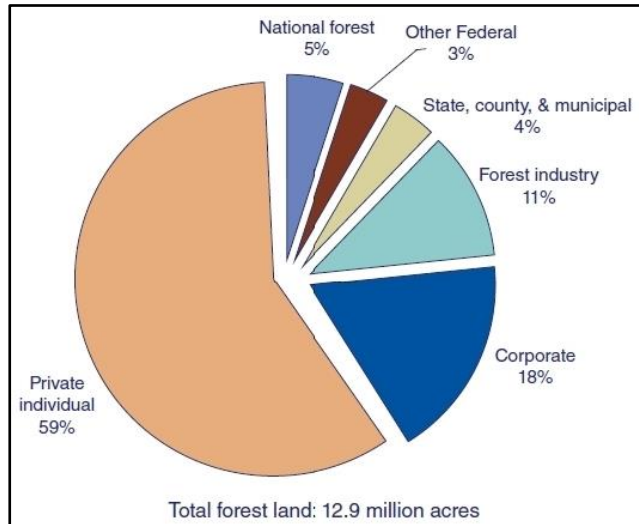
- B) Work to secure a minimum funding level for the state Conservation Bank**

How to measure success?

Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

Size of Forest Landholdings (acres)	Area		Owners	
	Acres (thousand)	Percent of Total	Number (thousand)	Percent of Total
1-9	413	5.70%	158	60.30%
10-19	425	5.80%	33	12.60%
20-49	1,030	14.10%	36	13.70%
50-99	1,114	15.30%	18	6.90%
100-199	1,203	16.50%	10	3.80%
200-499	1,483	20.30%	5	1.90%
500-999	706	9.70%	1	0.40%
1,000-4,999	777	10.60%	1	0.40%
5,000-9,999	91	1.20%	<1	0.00%
10,000+	58	0.80%	<1	0.00%
Total	7,300	100.00%	262	100.00%

Table 1: Size of Ownership of Forest Land in South Carolina



South Carolina's Statewide Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy

4. Work with legislature to ensure no net loss of X% forest cover in South Carolina watersheds

- ~66% forested cover in South Carolina
- Other organizations working on this goal???
- Partnership opportunities with utilities, corporations, other...

How to measure success?

Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

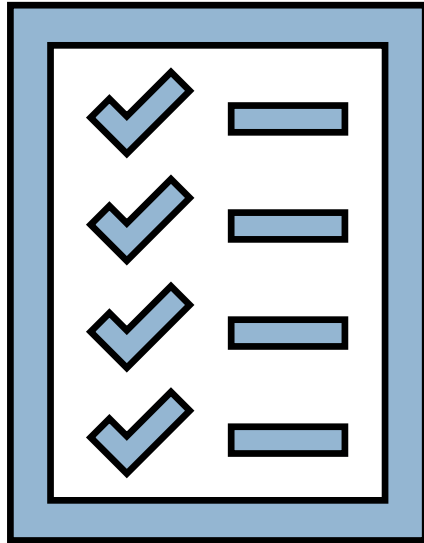
- 5. Facilitate at least one initiative identified in the SC Forestry Commission *Forest Action Plan***
 - Design specific trainings for forestry community
 - Future discussion needed?

A group of four business professionals are gathered around a table in a bright, modern office setting. One man in a dark suit is leaning over the table, pointing at a laptop screen. A man in a light blue shirt is seated on the left, looking towards the laptop. A woman in a grey top is seated in the center, looking at the laptop. A woman with curly hair in a light-colored top is seated on the right, holding a green pen. The background shows a blurred office environment with plants and windows.

Goals Discussion and Brainstorm

Other goal suggestions by the group

Goals Review



Enhance existing forestry BMPs

X% of forested landowners with Y acres or more in critical watersheds participate in a Forest Management Plan

A) Form a collaboration of state water utilities and corporations to work with state legislature to ensure easements are secured in critical watersheds

B) Work to secure a minimum funding level for the state Conservation Bank

Work with legislature to ensure no net loss of X% forest cover in South Carolina watersheds

Facilitate at least one initiative identified in the SC Forestry Commission *Forest Action Plan*

Other goal ideas

Next Steps



Thank You

James Kilgo

Watershed Protection Specialist

South Carolina Rural Water Association

james@scrwa.org

864-979-3101