

Vision & Goals

draft vision statement October 20, 2009, revised November 3, 2009

Our vision is that our descendants have safe, clean and abundant water to meet their needs in the Middle Chattahoochee Region; seeking to accomplish that through reasonable efforts in cooperation, education, and preservation.

Our goals are as follows:

Political - The plan will provide the technical basis to help resolve the disputes between the border states and Atlanta Metro over water allocation.

Uncertainties – The plan will provide guidance for effective policies and appropriate actions during drought, economic uncertainty, regulatory or political influences, and affects of climate change.

Reservoir Purposes – The Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) river system of reservoirs inclusive of West Point, W.F. George, Andrews, Woodruff, are unique assets within the region. The management of these reservoirs and their stated purposes (hydropower, navigation, water quality, water supply, flood control, fish and wildlife, recreation and cooling water for nuclear and coal fired power plants) are vital to the region. The plan will recommend adjustments to the management directives and the stated purposes of this reservoir system in order to achieve a balance of future water requirements within the region.

Land Use Changes – The plan will acknowledge the increasing tax value of land and resulting trends: increasing urbanization, fewer natural forests, and decreasing agricultural land. However the plan will seek to encourage agricultural land and forest land conservation by providing for their water requirements.

Water Balance – The plan will provide a better understanding of water balance and consumptive use and clearly define returns to surface water, the need for storage, and provide guidance for the increasing trend for groundwater usage.

Population – The plan will address the water needs for an increasing [resident] population as well the increased transient population at such locations as Fort Benning.

Atlanta – The plan will seek to define downstream water quality and downstream water quantity goals for returns-to-the-river from Metro Atlanta, that are required to maintain water quality and water quantity in the Middle Chattahoochee basin.

Conservation / Green – The plan will encourage forest, agriculture and open land and habitat preservation. It will also encourage alternative energy sources, water conservation, and increased protection of habitat and natural resources.