



McClellan, Diane	East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission
McHugh, Jim	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
McKittrick, Ron	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Mealing, Henry	Kleinschmidt Associates
Murchison, Dan	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Pender, Joe	Logan Martin Lake Association
Piccolo, Sam	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Pierson, Malcolm	Alabama Power Company
Ramey, Walter R.	Alabama Power Company
Redmond, Jason	Alabama Power Company
Sailors, Jerry	Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association
Sheppard, Andrew R.	Alabama Power Company
Sherburn, Tom	Southern Outdoor Center
Sim, Bill	Alabama Power Company
Sligh, Dave	American Rivers
Smith, Sheila C.	Alabama Power Company
Strickland, Jon	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Taylor, Robert	Alabama Public Service Commission
Thaxton, Bert	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Thompson, Dan	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Wentzel, Beth	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Whatley, Dick	Logan Martin Lake Association
Young, Joe	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners Association

**Meeting Summary**

**Draft for Review \_\_\_\_\_ Final for Record  X**

# Meeting Summary

## General Structure of the Meeting Summary

This is the first meeting summary of the Coosa Relicensing Team meetings, held April 3, 2001, to be distributed for Team members' review and comment. It is important therefore, to become familiar with the general layout and content. The first page of each meeting summary will provide information on the meeting location, time and meeting attendees. The following pages summarize the activities, discussions, and action items covered during the meeting. As explained on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, this summary is not structured to be a transcript, but is prepared as an overall summary of ideas, comments, questions, actions, and statements. This summary is meant to reflect the general consensus of the group regarding issues discussed and issues raised as well as any other positions raised. The amount of detail included in the summary will vary, depending on the issue or topic. For example, the April 3<sup>rd</sup> summary is not lengthy since the majority of revisions of the issues statements, issue sheets and operating procedures are captured in a MS Word track change version attached in Attachments C, D and F.

All meeting summaries are in draft form for 14 days, during which time stakeholders are encouraged to provide comments. Meeting summaries will be finalized at the subsequent meeting. Comments on the format and content of the meeting summaries may also be provided to APC.

## Introduction, Proposed Team Structure and Responsibilities, and Issue Development Process

During the first session of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Coosa Relicensing Team Meeting the following items were discussed:

- Meeting Purpose and Agenda,
- Proposed Team Structure and Responsibilities; and
- Issue Development Process.

This portion of the meeting was primarily an information session that provided stakeholders with background of the structure, role, function, and composition of the Teams, a hierarchy of stakeholder participation, the issues identification process, and how issue statements and sheets are formed. Notes on these items were contained in the participant notebooks, which were distributed prior to the April 3, 2001 meeting.

## Breakout Sessions to Review Issue Statements

The meeting participants were then divided into four breakout sessions in which issue statements were reviewed. There were two breakout sessions each for ecological and recreation issues. Facilitators led each of the four groups through the review of the issue statements for the Coosa River. In general, the majority of comments on the issue statements focused on defining the study area (*i.e.*, identifying the geographic scope) and deciding how to address economic issues. There were also minor editorial changes recommended to the issue statements to improve the clarity of the issue. For some of the issues, the recommended revisions occurred on the Issue

Sheets (although issue sheets were not discussed in detail at this meeting). The revised issues statements and sheets are attached as Attachments C-D. All revisions to the issue statements are done in MS Word track changes for ease of review. The following summarizes specific discussions during the breakout sessions.

## **Coosa RecRAT Breakout**

There were six issue statements discussed in the two recreation breakout sessions. Questions were answered regarding the issue statements and general recreation issues/resources. The general discussion in the two breakout sessions is provided below. As noted, actual changes to the statements are reflected in the track change versions in Attachment C.

The following items were addressed before the specific issue statements were reviewed and discussed.

- Several questions were asked regarding the appropriate time for discussing specific lake related recreational issues. It was determined that these issues will be discussed later in the process and were generally captured on the issues sheets (under description or specific issues or requests).
- Representatives from several agencies discussed their respective role in the relicensing process and specific information about their agencies.
- A long-term land management, development and recreation plan—with comprehensive mapping was recommended — for each lake. These plans would allow APC to preserve land.
- The Recreation RATs ability to operate outside of APC and bring in other large property owners on a specific lake. Will participants have the right to bring these large landowners into the RATs and try to get them to agree on a land management program? It was explained that there are no mandates for property owners outside of the project boundary.
- The groups discussed how future recreation demand was to be anticipated. Several items were explained and further investigation of this issue will occur at later meetings. Some stakeholders expressed concern about a 50-year license term, given that future demands are unknown and current planning only extends ten years into the future. The process of the FERC “form-80” was explained including the re-evaluation of recreation resources every 6 years.
  
- **Other issues discussed to be added as new issue statements or incorporated into existing statement include:**
  - Coosa River Public Education
  - Cultural resources

## **Coosa EcoRAT Breakout**

Each breakout group (2) discussed 14 issue statements. Questions were answered regarding the issue statements and general ecological issues/resources. The general discussion associated with each is provided below. As noted above, actual changes to the statements are reflected in the track change versions in Attachment C-D of this document.

In general the following were addressed before the specific issue statements were reviewed.

- The group agreed that the list of issues appeared comprehensive.
- The facilitator noted that written comments on the issue sheets were welcome, and should be sent to Nancy Braswell at APC. Jim Crew (APC) asked that written comments refer to issue sheets.
- The group discussed the geographic scope of the issues, and the differences between the project boundary and the area of project impact. The facilitator noted that the definition of geographic scope for each issue was a decision to be determined by the team, and could vary from issue to issue.
- The group discussed the inclusion of “economical” in the issue descriptions. Several participants felt that at the outset all options should be considered and that economic considerations should come into play as a later filter when evaluating different alternatives. The group suggested a global change: deleting “economic” and “economical” from all issue statements and should instead go into the issue sheets.
- The group discussed water withdrawal permitting process. Currently, APC reviews—and can deny—permits for withdrawals from APC reservoirs, but does not review permits for upstream withdrawals.
- The group suggested including “sensitive species” along with threatened and endangered species.
- The group suggested striking references to “anadromous, catadromous, and diadromous species,” and instead referring to this group collectively as “migratory species.” Migratory will have to be defined later.
- The group discussed existing agency management goals. Carl Couret (United States Fish and Wildlife Service) and Jim McHugh (Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) were to provide more information.
- Another issue suggested: Siltation in the tributary creeks may inhibit fish passage.
- One stakeholder suggested that there be an energy conservation issue statement. This concept is captured in the Issue Statement entitled “Project Releases”.

## **Coosa Operating Procedures**

Operating procedures for the Teams were discussed in two breakout sessions (Coosa EcoRAT and RecRAT). The summary from these sessions is included below.

## **Relicensing Mission Statement**

- First sentence should be the essence of the statement. Some stakeholders discussed the length of the mission statement. Many felt that the statement was too long.
- Look at striking commitment statements
- Stakeholders should include APC
- There were lengthy discussions in both groups regarding the term of the license in the mission statement. Some participants suggested that the 50-year license term mentioned in the statement was too long, given APC’s ability to amend the license. Some participants suggested tying in adaptive management as part of a 50-year license. Ron McKittrick (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) explained that the length of the license term is based on construction, cost of enhancement measurements, and adaptive

management. While it may be APC's intent to pursue a 50-year license, Team members asked that the time frame be removed.

- Some participants suggested describing non-developmental and developmental resources in the mission statement. The group discussed developmental resources (power generation, system reliability, flood control) and non-developmental resources (ecological, recreation, etc.) and how this is the language used by FERC and contained in the Federal Power Act, as amended by the Electric Consumers Protection Act. Several participants felt that power generation and environmental enhancement should be balanced.
- The group discussed how to incorporate concerns about customer costs, system reliability, and economic feasibility.
- The group suggested adding language that captures the goal of reaching consensus about the licensing process.
- Add language regarding the structure and function of the CCRT and RATs.
- The revised mission statement is located in the revised operating procedures, Attachment F.
- The Ecological group discussed the RAT mission statement. See the revised language in Attachment F.

## Logistics of Meetings

The facilitator discussed with the group various meeting locations, time of meetings, and preferred meeting days. We also discussed preferences for using email and teleconferencing. A consensus was reached that the Ecological and Recreational RAT meetings would not be held concurrently to provide an opportunity for individuals serving on both RATs to participate at both meetings.

### Fall and future meetings

- Location
  - A general consensus was reached that future meetings should be held at a central location, generally in Birmingham but preferably on the outskirts of Birmingham. Specific meetings would occasionally be held on site or in various locations throughout the basin
  - Other suggested locations included the Clanton Water Course and the Shelby County Office
  - Suggested meeting times
    - Meeting time of noon-6
    - 9 AM to 1 PM seasonal.
    - Meeting should be 3 to 4 hours
- Timing of Meetings
  - When (frequency) – It was suggested that quarterly or six meetings a year would likely be the frequency of meetings for the RATs.
  - Other meetings related to participating on the Issue Action Groups may occur independent of the RAT meetings.
  - Timing – longer meetings

## **Ground Rules**

Meeting participants discussed the ground rules and added a ground rule regarding having adequate breaks during the meetings and another regarding the use of cell phones during meetings. It was agreed that everyone would turn off their phones unless they were required by their employer to have the cell phone on.

The meeting concluded at 3:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on May 2, 2001 at Southern Nuclear Inverness Center, located in Birmingham, AL.

## MEETING SUMMARY

**Project:** Coosa –Warrior Relicensing Team Meetings  
**Group Name:** Coosa EcoRAT and RecRAT  
**Site:** Coosa River Projects  
**Location:** APC Southern Nuclear Inverness Center, Birmingham  
**Date:** 5/02/01 **Time:** 8:30 AM to 4:00PM

### Attendees

**Name:** **Organization:**

Akridge, Mike	Alabama Power Company
Allinder, Pres	Alabama Department of Public Health
Austin, Duncan	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Bennett, Amy	Kleinschmidt Associates
Braswell, Nancy	Alabama Power Company
Campbell, Bill	EPRO Consulting
Carden, Lonnie	Coosa River Paddling Club
Catchings, Dan	Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
Cook, Stan	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Crew, Jim	Alabama Power Company
Dewberry, Shannon	Alabama Power Company
DiGennaro, Bruce	Kleinschmidt Associates
Duncan, Jeff	National Park Service
Dykes, William C.	Alabama Power Company
Eubanks, Mike	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Fargo, Kelly	Kleinschmidt Associates
Gidiere, Stephen	Balch & Bingham LLP
Greer, Don	Logan Martin Lake Association
Haynes, David	Wetumpka City Council
Hornsby, Jon	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Howard, Jim	Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation
Huffaker, Bob	Alabama Marine Police
Jackins, George	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Jackson, Jim	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Leppert, Patti	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Littlepage, Tom	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Lochamy, Jim	Alabama Power Company
Lovett, Barry	Alabama Power Company
Marshall, Preston	Coosa River Paddling Club
McKitrick, Ron	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

McLane, Brad	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Mealing, Henry	Kleinschmidt Associates
Moak, Jason	Kleinschmidt Associates
Murchison, Dan	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Pender, Joe	Logan Martin Lake Association
Piccolo, Sam	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Pierson, Malcolm	Alabama Power Company
Sailors, Jerry	Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association
Sherburn, Tom	Southern Outdoor Center
Sim, Bill	Alabama Power Company
Sligh, Dave	American Rivers
Smith, Sheila	Alabama Power Company
Strickland, Jon	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Thaxton, Bert	Lake Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Thompson, Dan	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Tignor, Danny G.	Alabama Power Company
Wentzel, Beth	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Woods, Diana	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Young, Joe	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners Association

**Meeting Summary**

**Draft for Review** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final for Record** **X**

# Meeting Summary

## Introduction

These notes reflect the highlights of the second meeting of the Coosa Ecological and Recreation RATs. Attachments referred to in this summary in parentheses were documents that were distributed in the May mailing. During this meeting, the primary focus was to reach consensus on the issue statements and to discuss the available information for each issue category (*e.g.*, CE12 - Wetlands). Presentations were provided by FERC and APC to educate Team Members on the FERC relicensing process and Coosa River operations.

During this time, some RAT Members expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of time between receiving and reviewing the May meeting packages prior to the actual meeting. Jim Crew of APC noted that the short time frame between the completion of the April meeting and the scheduled May meeting (approximately 3.5 weeks) and the extent of the revisions to multiple documents contributed to the time frame for distributing and reviewing the revised documents. After some discussion, APC stated that they would make every attempt to get the documents to RAT Members at least two weeks prior to the meetings.

The April Meeting Summary was reviewed and finalized during the meeting with no comments on the summary.

## Recreation RAT Meeting

### Review of Issue Statements and Sheets

The recreation issue statements were reviewed during this portion of the meeting. In general, the RAT Members agreed upon the issue statements. Several specific issues and revisions were discussed and will be added to the issue sheets. These revisions will be reflected in the June meeting package and will be reviewed during the June meeting. Also, several specific issues were raised and will be added to the issue sheets.

### Existing Information

This portion of the meeting involved a review of the compiled list of existing information (Attachment E) and a discussion of other available information. Team Members were asked if they were aware of other information that could be used for each of the issue sheets. In some cases, RAT Members volunteered to obtain the literature cites and documents. A literature citation for all additional information sources or documents discussed during this meeting will be added to the existing information list for each issue sheet.

### Presentation on Recreation Inventory

Bill Campbell and Heather Bunce (EPRO) presented the draft GIS recreation inventory database, a brief overview of the contents of the database, the various uses of the database, and the future uses of the database during the relicensing process. A request was made to explain the ultimate purpose of the database, the methods used to gather field data, and the progress made in building the database. EPRO will prepare a document explaining each of these areas. This

document will be provided in the June meeting package. In general, RAT Members agreed that this GIS database would be a useful tool throughout the relicensing process.

## **Joint Recreation/Ecological RAT**

This joint meeting included:

- FERC process and FERC Website presentation by Ron McKittrick of FERC;
- Coosa River Hydro Operations presentation by Andy Sheppard of APC;
- Relicensing web site update by Shannon Dewberry of APC; and
- Review of the mission statement, ground rules and April meeting summary.

Ron's presentations provided background information on the FERC relicensing process and FERC website. Andy's presentation provided background information on the general operations of the Coosa River System. After these presentations, the RAT Members agreed that it would be beneficial to have other agencies and team members present information and mandates to the RATs during the lunch session. Shannon reported that the APC relicensing website would be available in June. It will include many documents, including all of the meeting summaries and RAT information.

There were no comments on the ground rules or the April Meeting Summary. Therefore, the Meeting Summary and ground rules are considered final. The mission statement was changed slightly to include an "e.g." within the parenthesis. This change will be noted in the revisions sent out for the June Meeting.

During this portion of the meeting, Dave Sligh recommended that the operating procedures be further discussed and elaborated on in the document and include a dispute resolution process. David offered to work with Kleinschmidt to put forth some language for the Team's consideration. Note that procedural items, such as the operating procedures are the responsibility of the CCRT and will be discussed and revised during the CCRT Meetings. If members of the RAT Teams would like to provide input to procedural items, they should try to attend the CCRT Meetings or provide written comments to CCRT Member.

## **Ecological RAT Meeting**

### **Review of the Issue Statements and Sheets**

The issue statements were reviewed during this portion of the meeting. In general, the content of the issue statements was agreed upon, but it was agreed that the structure of the statements should be changed from questions to statements. Carl Couret, USFWS, will work with Kleinschmidt and APC to revise the issue statements. Some RAT members recommended that an issue statement be added for "Energy Conservation". David Sligh and Jeff Duncan agreed to prepare an issue sheet for the Energy Conservation issue. These revisions will be reflected in the next meeting package and will be reviewed and discussed during the June meeting.

Also, there was a brief discussion of the scope of the issues. It was noted that although APC is not responsible for all of the issues on the Coosa it would still be beneficial to identify additional information during this relicensing. Local watershed organizations and other groups could use the information obtained from desktop and field studies. During the course of the

RAT Meetings and IAG groups, it will be necessary to identify and clearly delineate what is within APC's scope.

In addition the NEPA Scoping Meeting scheduled by FERC this fall was discussed. The FERC Scoping Meeting was described to the group. It was decided that the RAT Teams will form an IAG to provide input into the Scoping Meeting to make it as productive as possible. Volunteers for this IAG included David Sligh (American Rivers), Ron McKittrick (FERC), Diana Woods (EPA), Tom Littlepage, Mike Eubanks, and Jeff Duncan (USFS).

### **Existing Information**

This portion of the meeting involved a review of the compiled list of existing information (Attachment E) and a discussion of other available information. RAT Members were asked if they were aware of other information that could be used for each of the issue sheets. In some cases, RAT Members volunteered to obtain the literature cites and documents. A literature citation for all documents discussed during this meeting will be added to the existing information list for each issue sheet.

## MEETING SUMMARY

**Project:** Coosa –Warrior Relicensing Team Meetings

**Group Name:** Coosa Cooperative Relicensing Team (CCRT)

**Meeting Location:** APC Headquarters, Birmingham

**Date:** 6/20/01                      **Time:** 8:30 AM to 1:00PM

### Attendees

#### CCRT Members

Allen, Bob	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Carden, Lonnie	Southern Trails, Coosa River Paddling Club, American Whitewater
Guyse, Keith	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Haynes, David	Wetumpka City Council
Howard, Jim	Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation
Martens, Larry	Logan Martin Lake Association
Murchison, Dan	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Piccolo, Sam	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Redmond, Jason	Alabama Power Company
Sailors, Jerry	Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association
Thaxton, Bert	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Toth, Helen	Alabama Water Watch
Toth, Michael	Alabama Water Watch, Coosa River Basin Initiative
Whatley, Dick	Logan Martin Lake Association

#### WCRT and CCRT Members (These stakeholders serve on both Teams)

Akridge, Mike	Alabama Power Company
Allums, Rick	Alabama Power Company
Campbell, Bill	EPRO Consulting
Couret, Carl	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Crew, Jim	Alabama Power Company
Dewberry, Shannon R.	Alabama Power Company
DiGennaro, Bruce	Kleinschmidt Associates
Duncan, Jeff	National Park Service
Huffaker, Bob	Alabama Marine Police
Hutzel, Janet	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Kartalia, Steve	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Littlepage, Tom	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Lochamy, Jim	Alabama Power Company
Lovett, Barry	Alabama Power Company
McKittrick, Ron	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Mealing, Henry	Kleinschmidt Associates
Moore, Jim	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Pierson, Malcolm	Alabama Power Company
Schaeffer, Kelly	Kleinschmidt Associates
Sheppard, Andrew R.	Alabama Power Company
Sim, Bill	Alabama Power Company
Sligh, Dave	American Rivers
Smith, Sheila	Alabama Power Company
Strickland, Jon	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Terhaar, Monte	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Wentzel, Beth	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Woods, Diana	United States Environmental Protection Agency

### **WCRT Members**

Albright, Ray	United States Forest Service
Beason, Jim	Smith Lake Civic Association
Berry, Deb	Smith Lake Environmental Preservation Committee
Cline, Ray	Federation of Fly Fishers
Counts, Tom	United States Forest Service
Denson, Elrand	United States Forest Service
Eisenbarth, John	Trout Unlimited - Riverside Chapter
Eubanks, Mike	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Floyd, Keith	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Harley, Darryl	United States Forest Service
Hillhouse, Jim	Trout Unlimited
Hornsby, Jon	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Moss, Jerry	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Nicholson, Joe	United States Forest Service
Pulliam, Karen	United States Forest Service
White, Stephanie K.	Alabama Power Company

### **Other Attendees**

Bennett, Amy	Kleinschmidt Associates
Bowden, Matt	Balch & Bingham LLP
Bunce, Heather	EPRO Consulting
Garrett, Bill	Alabama Power Company
Glenn, Trey	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Hancock, James	Balch & Bingham LLP
Johnston, Dow	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Langsford, Scott	Alabama Power Company
Moak, Jason	Kleinschmidt Associates
Murphy, Michael	EPRO Consulting

**Meeting Summary**

**Draft for Review** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final for Record**  X

# Meeting Summary

## Introduction

These notes summarize the joint meeting of the Coosa Cooperative Relicensing Team (CCRT) and the Warrior Cooperative Relicensing Team (WCRT) (this was also the first official meeting of the CCRT). This meeting was divided into a morning joint session of the CCRT and the WCRT and an afternoon session for just the WCRT. The primary focus of the morning session was to review and reach consensus on the operating procedures and the communication plan, and to discuss the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The afternoon session was focused on review of the structure and function of the Issue Action Groups (IAGs) and discussion of the geographic scope for five specific issues (three ecological and two recreation). Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and Alabama Power Company (APC) provided lunchtime presentations to educate team members on ADEM's Clean Water Partnership, APC's Relicensing Website, and the status of water quality data and on-going APC field collections for summer 2001.

The June 20, 2001 meeting summary is in draft form for 14 days upon distribution, during which time CCRT and WCRT members are encouraged to provide comments. This meeting summary will be discussed and finalized at the September meeting.

## Joint CCRT/WCRT Meeting

A joint CCRT/WCRT meeting was held during the morning to review the operating procedures and communications plan and to discuss the NEPA scoping process, including the scoping documents and meeting arrangements. The meeting agenda was reviewed and the facilitator acknowledged new participants and asked if any observers were present. No observers were present for this meeting.

The facilitator distributed and discussed the June 11, 2001 letter from David Haynes (City of Wetumpka) to Mr. Mike Akridge (APC). David's concerns centered on receipt of the materials in a timely fashion and getting the materials sent to his correct address. Further, David noted that the mailings to stakeholders were not being distributed according to the Operating Procedures (OPs). The facilitator distributed David's letter to all WCRT and CCRT members at the meeting and then summarized the contents. The facilitator acknowledged that it might be unrealistic for APC to consolidate and prepare meeting summaries and get those distributed within two weeks of the meeting date. WCRT and CCRT members were asked for input on the process and asked to identify if other team members were not receiving their meeting information in a timely manner. No team members responded to the question, therefore it appeared that the difficulty with this mailing was an isolated incident. APC reiterated their intent of to keep the process open to all interested persons and their willingness to share information. APC requested stakeholders to call or email APC staff, specifically Jim Crew or Barry Lovett if any further problems occur. The facilitator stressed the importance of good communication throughout this lengthy process and the need to begin and continue communications at the phone, email, or face to face level.

Deb Berry (Smith Lake Environmental Preservation Committee) also expressed concern regarding the change in meeting dates for the WCRT. Deb commented that attendees at the May meeting who were not on the mailing list might show up on the wrong meeting date. This point was noted, and when possible subsequent meeting dates and locations will be determined at prior meetings – meeting dates will also be posted on the APC web site calendar. Due to input from stakeholders and logistical considerations (such as availability of meeting space), some future meeting dates may change. In cases such as this, all efforts will be made to contact all team members through meeting packages, email, telephone calls, and the website.

### ***Review of the Operating Procedures (OP)***

The next order of business was to discuss the revisions to the OPs and to reach consensus on the final procedures to be filed with FERC. The facilitator explained in detail how the OPs were modified, including general style and wording revisions, additions of the “parking lot” and “new stakeholder participation” text, the communication plan, and further clarification on dispute resolution and decision making processes. The facilitator pointed out that Dave Sligh (American Rivers) had sent recommended language to include in the OPs, most of which was incorporated into the revised OPs. In many cases, the wording of David’s suggestions were incorporated and where necessary the text was altered to fit the OPs. Dave’s remaining suggestions to the OPs that were not incorporated were noted and may be discussed in future meetings. Dave agreed with this approach and felt that the intent of his suggestions was successfully captured in the revised OPs.

General comments included several typos and inconsistencies in the OPs between the CCRT and WCRT mailing packages. These corrections will be made before submittal to FERC. The major changes to the OP were reviewed on an individual basis with the following results:

- ***Items Covered in the Operating Procedures – Page 1:*** Two additional major items were added to the Operating Procedures and were listed under this heading. The Team had no comments to these additions.
- ***Facilitation*** - Section 2.7 in the CCRT Procedures and Section 2.5 in the WCRT--At this time there was a brief discussion on the different numbering format of the WCRT and CCRT OPs. It was explained that the structure and content of the two documents is slightly different because of different team structures for the Coosa and Warrior River relicensing teams. Therefore, the content of the two documents will generally mirror each other, but the numbering will be slightly different.

Dave Sligh commented on the facilitation text and reiterated his reasoning behind the need for neutral facilitators and/or technical facilitators. Dave believes that although the facilitators are currently doing a good job, there may be a need in the future to retain “neutral facilitators” (in the event the Kleinschmidt facilitators take on an advocacy role for particular issues for APC). In order to address team members concerns, text will be added to include that anyone can raise this issue if it is felt that the facilitators are not being neutral or are not accomplishing their responsibilities (as outlined in the OPs). All issues with the facilitators should be discussed with either Jim Crew or Barry Lovett (APC). After the discussion, consensus was reached on this section.

- ***Agency Mandates and Responsibilities*** – Section 3.0 in both the Coosa and Warrior OPs– This section will be revised to exclude the reference to the list of laws and mandates per organization in the OPs. As an alternative, agencies and groups will present this information at designated meetings and a list will be available for distribution as a meeting handout.
- ***Communication*** – Section 2.8 in the CCRT and Section 2.6 in the WCRT OPs: Sam Piccolo suggested that in order to clarify representation, each organization should provide a list of their primary spokesperson and alternate(s). It is important for team members to be aware of each organization’s official spokesperson. In order to accommodate this request, a roster will be redistributed for the September meeting, including the designated alternate, where applicable.
- ***Meeting Locations and Schedule*** - Section 4.1 in both the CCRT and WCRT Ops: At this time, the dates of future meetings and the use of telephone conferencing was discussed. It was suggested and agreed that WCRT, CCRT, and Coosa RAT meetings would be scheduled three months in advance. During the September meetings, team members will work with the 2002 calendar to determine 2002 meeting schedules and locations. Scheduling IAG meetings will be handled differently. Due to the structure and function of the IAGs, meetings can not be scheduled three months in advance. The IAGs are generally comprised of only 5 to 7 members and are task-driven; therefore the logistics of meeting dates will be less difficult to work through. The additional text regarding the use of telephone conferencing was discussed. Consensus was reached on this section with no text changes.
- ***General Administrative Rules*** – Section 4.3 in both the CCRT and WCRT OPs: The “parking lot” and procedures for new team members were discussed at this time. There were no comments to these sections.
- ***Procedures for Making Recommendations*** – Section 6.0 in both the CCRT and WCRT OPs: The facilitator identified a typo in the last sentence of the last paragraph that will be changed to read “will NOT negate”. The facilitator also identified the additional language in this section, including a definition of consensus, which the Team pointed out had been left off the CCRT OPs. The facilitator noted that this was an oversight and that the consensus definition language would be included in the CCRT OPs, as it appears in the WCRT OPs. After some discussion on the definition of consensus, the Team reached consensus on this definition.

Dave Sligh discussed the wording of several bullets and emphasized that silence is not consensus. There was some discussion on this point since the facilitator noted that if the group was silent, it would reflect consensus. However, the facilitator emphasized that his/her role was to remind the group of the decision to be made, ask if there are questions or comments, and then ask if there is consensus. Finally, the facilitator should always clarify the decisions and any decisions should be reflected in the meeting summaries.

Regarding decision making, the facilitator recommended that the Team attempt to reach consensus, as has been defined, rather than “voting” (one vote or say per organization) due to its tendency to polarize individuals or groups and promote

the feeling of “winning or losing”. Jon Strickland (ADECA) stated that caucusing would be an important tool for decision making and reaching consensus. This is noted and is appropriate at anytime during this relicensing process. Also, it was suggested that recommendations be placed in a different section in the meeting summary so all team members can easily review what was decided on at the meeting.

Consensus was reached on the OPs. Once the revisions are complete, APC will file the OPs with FERC. The final OPs will be distributed to the team members with the meeting summary (see Attachment B) and will be posted on the APC relicensing website.

### ***Review Communications Protocol***

The Communications Plan was then summarized. The plan was filed with FERC in September 2000 as part of APC’s request to use alternative procedures for this relicensing. The Communications Plan will be incorporated into the OPs and filed with FERC. Ron McKittrick of FERC discussed the docket and subdocket numbers for APC’s relicensing process in order to simplify information searches using FERC’s Record Information Management System (RIMS) and Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS). Ron will provide these numbers to the facilitator and they will be distributed (with instructions) to all team members. Ron also stated that he would like to give another presentation on the FERC website during the September meetings to show members how to use RIMS and CIPS.

### ***Discuss NEPA Scoping Documents and Meeting***

The facilitator provided a brief explanation of the NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) scoping process, including the history, definition of “human environment”, the process of public disclosure, and NEPA and FERC regulations. It was explained that the NEPA process for relicensing is FERC’s responsibility and all scoping documents and meetings will be prepared and conducted by FERC with APC team member input. The facilitator led the group through a discussion and prompted suggestions on how to best assist in the preparation of the NEPA documents and how to most efficiently conduct the Scoping Meeting(s). Considerations included developing a meeting time, location and format that would best serve the purpose of NEPA while remaining cognizant of team members’ time and resources.

Mike Eubanks (ACOE) suggested that a scoping brochure be prepared for a broad mailing and posting on the website. The scoping brochure may include questionnaires and team members should look at ACOE’s scoping brochure for the water allocation process as an example.

Elrand Denson (USFS) suggested that the APC relicensing team could use the Forest Service’s mailing list. He also proposed that the Forest Service and FERC coordinate together to satisfy both agencies’ NEPA requirements.

The facilitator briefly described three considerations for the NEPA scoping meetings: paper scoping, physical meetings, and the timing of site visits/public tours. Discussion followed. Dave Sligh and a few other team members were concerned about just using paper scoping because they felt strongly that the public should have a physical forum to discuss their issues. After additional discussion, team members reached consensus that there should be a NEPA scoping meeting and that APC and FERC should combine the scoping meeting with a team meeting to provide the most value to team members. It was suggested that the Scoping

meetings be held on the evening(s) following the team meetings. Ron McKitrick raised the issue of the logistics of the meetings and the level of effort dedicated to the meetings. The Team reached consensus on having two meetings, one for the Coosa and one for the Warrior. Regarding the scoping documents, Deb Berry suggested that the issue sheets be used for the basis of the documents. Team members noted that they'd already gone through the initial stages of scoping and that much of the work should not be repeated in order to continue making progress. The scoping documents will include a summary of the progress of the teams to date, schedule, issue sheets, and other details.

It was noted that the public process (meeting) would be beneficial to potentially increase representation and education of municipalities. The scoping meeting could be used to educate municipality representatives as well as the general public who've not been participating to date.

Site visits were the next component of the NEPA process to be discussed. The facilitator suggested that the group consider alternatives to the traditional method of visiting each hydro development during the NEPA scoping process, simply due to time and location logistics. Options discussed included meeting at each of the hydro developments over the course of the relicensing process, in conjunction with IAG meetings or other team meetings. Diana Woods (EPA) agreed that site visits should not be held in conjunction with the Scoping meetings. She felt that the site visits should be conducted as the issues are refined. Deb Berry suggested that WCRT meetings be held on site (Smith Lake). Elrand Denson offered to host a WCRT meeting at one of the Forest Service's sites on Smith Lake.

An IAG was formed to assist FERC and APC with the NEPA scoping. Volunteers included: Barry Lovett (APC), Jim Crew (APC), Elrand Denson (USFS), Dave Sligh (American Rivers), Ron McKitrick (FERC), Mike Eubanks (ACOE), Kelly Schaeffer (Kleinschmidt). This group will meet by telephone conference call and email to further discuss NEPA scoping.

#### ***Action Items from the Joint CCRT/WCRT Meeting***

- Revise the OPs and file, along with Communications Plan, to FERC—post on the APC website and distribute these documents in the September mailing package
- Draft the NEPA Scoping Documents for the September Meeting—get team members review and comments at the September meetings
- Identify dates and locations of meetings for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2002 (minimum), potentially including site visits
- Get a copy of the ACOE water allocation NEPA scoping brochure from ACOE's website or Mike Eubanks (ACOE)
- Schedule and conduct NEPA IAG meeting(s)

#### **Lunchtime presentations**

Jim Moore (ADEM), Shannon Dewberry (APC), Jim Lochamy (APC) and Bill Garrett (APC) presented lunchtime presentations to the WCRT and CCRT. Jim Moore presented information on ADEM's Clean Water Partnership. Shannon reported that the website is now online and provided instructions on how to use the site. Jim Lochamy and Bill Garrett discussed water quality collection efforts and APC's on-going environmental studies. Jon Strickland's presentation on the SCORP was postponed and will be included in a later meeting.

**Handouts distributed during the meeting**

- David Haynes' Letter

Please contact Barry Lovett or Jim Crew (APC) for additional copies of this document.

## MEETING SUMMARY

**Project:** Coosa Resource Advisory Team (RAT) Meetings  
**Group Name:** Coosa Eco RAT and Coosa Rec RAT  
**Location:** APC Headquarters, Birmingham  
**Date:** 6/21/01 **Time:** 8:30 AM to 4:00PM

### Attendees

Akridge, Mike	Alabama Power Company
Allison, Gene.	Alabama Power Company
Austin, James D.	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Bennett, Amy	Kleinschmidt Associates
Beumer, Johan	Trail of Legends Association Inc.
Blackburn, Jack	Neely Henry Lake Association
Bowden, Matt	Balch & Bingham LLP
Bunce, Heather	EPRO Consulting
Campbell, Bill	EPRO Consulting
Carden, Lonnie	American Whitewater, Coosa River Paddling Club, Southern Trails
Catchings, Dan	Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
Claybrook, Rick	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Coggins, Bill	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Cook, Stan	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Couret, Carl	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Craft, Larry	Alabama Power Company
Crew, Jim	Alabama Power Company
Dentici, Joe	Neely Henry Lake Association
DiGennaro, Bruce	Kleinschmidt Associates
Duncan, Jeff	National Park Service
Eubanks, Mike	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Garrett, Bill	Alabama Power Company
Greer, Don	Logan Martin Lake Association
Hancock, James	Balch & Bingham LLP
Haynes, David	Wetumpka City Council
Hornsby, Jon	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Howard, Jim	Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation
Huffaker, Bob	Alabama Marine Police
Hutzel, Janet	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Jackins, George	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Johnston, Dow	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Lankford, Scott	Alabama Power Company
Littlepage, Tom	Alabama Office of Water Resources
Lovett, Barry	Alabama Power Company
Kartalia, Steve	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Marshall, Preston	Coosa River Paddling Club

McClanahan, Sue	Neely Henry Lake Association
McClellan, Diane	East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission
McHugh, Jim	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
McKittrick, Ron	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Mealing, Henry	Kleinschmidt Associates
Moak, Jason	Kleinschmidt Associates
Moore, David	Weiss Lake Improvement Association
Pender, Joe	Logan Martin Lake Association
Phillips, Mike	Georgia Power Company
Pierson, Malcolm	Alabama Power Company
Redmond, Jason	Alabama Power Company
Sailors, Jerry	Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association
Schaeffer, Kelly	Kleinschmidt Associates
Sheppard, Andrew R.	Alabama Power Company
Sherburne, Tom	Southern Outdoor Center
Smith, Sheila	Alabama Power Company
Strickland, Jon	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
TerHaar, Monte	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Thaxton, Bert	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Thompson, Dan	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Tignor, Danny G.	Alabama Power Company
Trussell, Isabella	Logan Martin Lake Association
Wentzel, Beth	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Woods, Diana	United States Department of Environmental Protection
Young, Joe	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners Association

**Meeting Summary**

**Draft for Review** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final for Record**  X

# Meeting Summary

## Introduction

These notes reflect the highlights of the third meeting of the Coosa Eco and Rec RATs. During this meeting, the primary focus was to review the structure and function of the Issue Action Groups (IAGs), discuss geographic scope and discuss the issue sheets for five specific issues (three ecological and two recreation). Presentations were provided by Alabama Power Company (APC) to educate RAT members on the APC's Relicensing Website and existing water quality monitoring and other on-going environmental studies.

The May Meeting Summary was reviewed and finalized during the meeting with minor revisions to the attendees list.

The summary for the June 21, 2001 meeting is in draft form for 14 days upon distribution, during which time Coosa RAT members are encouraged to provide comments. This meeting summary will be discussed and finalized at the September meeting.

## Ecological RAT meeting

The first portion of the EcoRAT meeting included a review of the structure and function of the IAGs and discussion of the geographic scope. As stated above, the meeting summary was finalized with only minor revisions to the attendee list. The structure and function of the IAGs was discussed with no comments to the text. However, one team member expressed concern about the flow of information from an IAG to the EcoRAT and suggested that each IAG have a lead that would be responsible for updating the EcoRAT. The suggestion will be implemented upon forming the IAGs.

### *Discuss Geographic Scope*

The facilitator distributed a memo on geographic scope, which was developed to educate team members on the typical definition and application of the concept of geographic scope. A discussion of geographic scope ensued. Some team members expressed confusion on this topic and questioned the purpose of the memo. The facilitator explained that the purpose of providing a memo on geographic scope was to educate a variety of stakeholders with little to no experience on NEPA and the relicensing process and to provide those stakeholders with a basic understanding of what geographic scope is, how it's applied, and how we will be discussing it in this relicensing process.

As part of the discussion, team members asked if there would be a process for determining geographic scope as well as other NEPA activities. Jeff Duncan (NPS) provided a schematic illustrating the process that the Team would go through to work on an issue.

### *Discuss Ecological Issues*

Three ecological issues were discussed during the breakout session: E6 threatened and endangered species, E12 wetlands and E7 exotic species control. Henry Mealing (Kleinschmidt) distributed handouts containing threatened and endangered species lists, exotic species laws, and an issue sequencing diagram. These handouts were used throughout this session.

## ***CE6 – Threatened and Endangered Species***

Malcolm Pierson briefly summarized APC's recent and ongoing field studies pertaining to threatened and endangered species. One team member noted that we should use the existing Alabama Coosa Tallapoosa Water Allocation Study (ACT) information for addressing this issue. Another team member proposed a draft approach and list of tasks for the T&E IAG as follows:

1. Form an IAG
2. Review lists and come to agreement on a master species list
3. Review and summarize existing species distribution information
4. Develop a list of species impacted by the project

After discussion on this issue, the Team decided to form an IAG with the following members:

- Jim Crew (APC)
- Carl Couret (USFWS)
- Jon Hornsby (ADCNR)
- Malcolm Pierson (APC)
- Jeff Duncan (NPS)
- Mike Eubanks (ACOE)
- Henry Mealing (Kleinschmidt)
- Kelly Schaeffer (Kleinschmidt - as needed for facilitation)

## ***CE7 – Exotic Species***

Scott Langsford (APC) presented APC's aquatic plant and mosquito management plans and answered several questions regarding the mosquito control programs. He also noted that there is no formal aquatic plant management plan, only a contingency plan.

To address the exotic species issue, one team member suggested that the issue sheet be revised to reflect the following concern: "Should aquaculture of exotic species be allowed in the reservoirs?" Also, sources for additional information on exotic species were identified and will be distributed for review.

### ***Action Items***

- APC will provide a written description of the Aquatic Plant Management and Mosquito Control
- Obtain exotic species/aquatic plant management guidelines from ADCNR
- Develop complete exotic species lists
- Add statement to the issue sheet

## ***CE12 – Wetlands***

Team members discussed the various data available for wetlands and geographic scope. Bill Sim made a brief presentation on the status and availability of currently available wetlands maps. The Team identified additional sources of existing wetlands information. It was noted

that the ACT/ACF study has a lot of information on wetlands in the Coosa Basin. Diana Woods (EPA) will determine the type and amount of “land use” information that EPA has in the Basins program and will make it available for the Team to use.

The Team decided to form an IAG to address wetland issues at the Coosa Project. The following volunteered to serve on this IAG:

- Jon Hornsby (ADCNR)
- Mike Eubanks (ACOE)
- Bill Sim (APC)
- Dan Murchison (Lake Mitchell HOB0)
- Isabella Trussell (Logan Martin Lake Association)

### **Lunchtime Presentations**

During this time, Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt) Jim Lochamy (APC) and Bill Garrett (APC) presented information to the Coosa RATs. Jason reported that the website is now online and provided instructions on how to use the site. Jim and Bill presented information on the water chemistry data that APC is currently collecting and will continue to collect during 2001. Jon Strickland’s presentation on the SCORP was postponed and will be included in a later meeting. Also, during this time the May Meeting Summary was reviewed and a brief summary of the WCRT/CCRT meeting was discussed

### **RecRAT Team Meeting**

The RecRAT meeting was conducted in the afternoon. The first portion of the meeting included a review of the structure and function of the IAGs and discussion of the geographic scope. The structure and function of the IAGs was discussed and reviewed with no comments on the text. After this discussion, several team members noted that they would find it beneficial to have an acronyms and glossary distributed at the next meeting. These documents were originally distributed in the Initial Information Packages (IIPs).

#### ***Discuss Geographic Scope***

The facilitator distributed a memo on geographic scope, which was developed to educate team members on the typical definition and application of the concept of geographic scope. As a result of the EcoRAT meeting earlier, the facilitator distributed and discussed a schematic illustration of the process that the Team may go through in developing a geographic scope for each issue.

#### ***Discuss Recreation Issues***

The Team discussed two recreation issues during this meeting: recreation facilities and public education. Handouts containing a numbered list of all specific recreation issues on the CR1 issue sheet and a table of public education and outreach and general questions were distributed to team members. Several team members questioned why CR1 and CR8 were being discussed first raised issue sequencing. The facilitator explained that issues are selected on several criteria, including, but not limited to, ease of resolution and the amount of time needed to resolve the issue. It was explained that CR8 was a relatively straightforward issue to tackle and

was a good training tool for the IAG groups. The CR1 issue will also provide necessary background information for other recreation issues and may take some time to resolve. Several team members suggested that for the next RecRAT meeting the issues be sequenced with an approximate time frame for addressing each. A draft of the recreation issue sequencing will be provided in materials sent prior to the September meeting. The following were points of discussion during the RecRAT meeting:

- At this time the Lay Lake stump/tree issue was raised. This issue was placed on the parking lot until FERC rules on the Lay Public Safety Plan.
- Land use was raised as an issue. The inventory of undeveloped land and conservation easements was discussed. Jeff Duncan (NPS) suggested that by knowing undeveloped lands outside of the project boundary, the Team can place the project lands in context relative to the watershed. Several team members would like to work the idea of conservation easements onto one of the issue sheets. This issue was placed on the parking lot.
- One team member suggested that an inventory of undeveloped project lands be conducted for identifying potential recreation or conservation areas. Low impact activities, such as hiking, were thought as potential uses for these lands. The ownership of lands was also discussed at this time. This issue was placed on the parking lot.
- The meeting then moved toward discussion of facilities on each of the Coosa reservoirs. Weiss was briefly discussed; however, the Team decided on a different approach for examining each reservoir. Several action items resulted from this discussion.
  - APC will provide a summary of public access areas around the lakes, including shoreline frontage, public vs. private access facilities, project boundary, private and public lands
  - Start developing the recreation plan
- HOBO input to the recreation management plan was raised and the Team decided to define a procedure for HOBOs to provide interests (future) of the lakes. One team member suggested that this list could be turned into questions for the team members to address.
- APC will provide the Team with examples of recreation management plans that have been filed with FERC for the Team's review. In the plan, APC would identify areas where they have control and/or input.
- The geographic scope for each reservoir was discussed and then expanded to encompass the overall approach to this issue. It was suggested that this approach be outlined before the Team addresses the specifics. Some discussion at this time concerned the determination of the carrying capacity of the lakes (areas of congestion), regulations, identification of public vs. private areas, composition of use activities, and population predictions. To partially address these comments, Ron McKittrick reiterated that the recreation opportunities and use is revisited at intervals for FERC requirements and recreation plan requirements (every six years). One team member suggested that the overall approach could be to do an inventory, identify data gaps and then ask what questions need to be addressed. The approach will be worked through in a pilot project for Mitchell Lake.
- The pilot IAG for Mitchell Lake will be formed over the summer. This group will work together to layout the design/framework for which the Team can use to address other issues at all of the Coosa lakes. Members of this IAG include:

- Barry Lovett or other APC representative
- Jim Howard (Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation)
- Bill Campbell (EPRO)
- George Jackins (Lake Mitchell HOBO)
- Joe Pender (Logan Martin Lake Association)
- Joe Young (Jordan HOBO)
- Marine Police (Joe Young suggested Bill Huffaker; Dan Thompson is the point of contact for the ADCNR)
- Johan Beumer (Trail of Legends, Inc.)
- Bruce DiGennaro (Kleinschmidt – as needed for facilitator)

### ***CR8 – Public Education***

The public education issue sheet was discussed at this time. The facilitator distributed a table of items that were fit into education, public outreach, and question categories.

The facilitator suggested that the questions, if possible, be briefly answered and those answers handed out to the Team at the September meeting. Some of these questions will require input from team members. Shannon Dewberry (APC) was volunteered to organize this effort. Team members agreed with this approach.

It was then suggested that all public education and public outreach programs be identified and inventoried. Shannon will begin by performing an inventory on all APC programs. The RecRAT needs to identify other programs (state, county, private, etc.), to ultimately identify gaps in public education and outreach. Barry Lovett (APC) briefly presented three of APC's programs as examples to the Team ("Renew the Coosa"; Habitat Enhancement – Christmas Tree Program; and Energy Conservation). Barry noted that the success of APC programs is dependent on the participation of other clubs/organizations/volunteers. All team members are to provide contact names and/or program descriptions to Shannon.

#### ***Action Items***

- Prepare answers to questions raised at workshops
- Develop an inventory of existing education and public outreach programs (APC and other entities)
- Shannon will contact Tom Littlepage to obtain Pete Conroy's telephone number in order to get information from the Governor's Commission on Environmental Education.
- Work with the Coosa EcoRAT on this issue

#### **Handouts distributed during the Coosa RAT meetings:**

- Geographic Scope white paper
- APC Aquatic Plant and Mosquito Management Program
- Statewide list of threatened, endangered, and sensitive species
- Alabama's exotic species control laws
- Issue-sequencing diagram for environmental issues

- R1 recreation issue handout
- R8 recreation issue handout

Please contact Barry Lovett or Jim Crew (APC) for additional copies of these documents.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session**

**Meeting Summary  
September 11 and 12, 2001**

Due to the tragic events that our nation experienced on September 11, 2001, the meetings on September 11th and 12th were cancelled.

## Coosa EcoRAT and WCRT Team Meeting

### Meeting Notes & Summary: APC Corporate Headquarters January 29, 2002

Final 04-01-02

Warrior and Coosa Relicensing Projects Combined

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#### Meeting Attendees:

##### **Team Members:**

James Austin	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR
Dan Catchings	ADCNR
Stan Cook	ADCNR
Tom Counts	USFS
Carl Couret	USFWS
Jim Crew	APC
Elrand Denson	USFS
Jeff Duncan	NPS
John Eisenbarth	Trout Unlimited
Darryl Harley	USFS
Jon Hornsby	ADCNR
Ron McKittrick	FERC
Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt
Jim Moore	ADEM
Jerry Moss	ADCNR
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association
Alan Peebles	APC
Malcom Pierson	APC
Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Andy Sheppard	APC
Bill Sim	APC
Danny Tignor	APC
Isabella Trussell	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association

##### **Other Attendees:**

John Ammons	Jim Courington
Jason Moak	Nick Nichols
Christy Nix	John Peconom

#### Action Items

- Prepare and distribute meeting notes and summary to team members.  
Jim Crew Due - February 20, 2002
- Reconvene and develop remaining work tasks.  
E12 IAG Members Due - February
- Review and comment on meeting notes  
All Team Members Due - March 1, 2002
- Postpone IAG activities until requested by WCRT, EcoRAT and/or other IAGs.  
E6 IAG Team Members Due - Ongoing

#### Meeting Notes

*These notes summarize the major items discussed during the meeting and are not intended to serve as a transcript or analysis of the meeting.*

## Coosa EcoRAT and WCRT Team Meeting

### Meeting Notes & Summary: APC Corporate Headquarters January 29, 2002

**Welcome & Review of Last Meeting** - Kelly Schaeffer reviewed the agenda, welcomed back team members, and thanked them for their continued participation in this process. Kelly reminded the participants that this relicensing process is designed so that these two groups meet on an infrequent basis to discuss IAG progress and other larger relicensing issues.

**Status of IAG Progress: E8 & E10** - Since all Team members were also present at the morning's IAG meetings, the two teams felt that it was not necessary to review the progress of these two IAGs.

**IAG E6 & E12 Closure Documents** - Kelly explained that IAGs will periodically complete their tasks and then have to wait for other IAGs to "catch up" before moving forward. During this "catch up" time, IAGs will experience periods of inactivity. IAGs will "close" during these periods until they are given new tasks by the WCRT, EcoRAT and/or other IAGs.

The E6 TE&S Species IAG reported that they had successfully completed the development of a database containing Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive species information for the Warrior, Coosa, and Alabama River basins. The IAG informed the group that they had also implemented a study of the flattened musk turtle, and established a group of specialists to assist other IAGs with TE&S issues as they move forward in this relicensing process.

The E6 IAG recommended the following actions:

1. The TE&S database will be available to other IAGs.
2. Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt) will maintain the TE&S database during the relicensing process. Jason will update the database and provide information to IAGs as requested.
3. Reconvene the E6 IAG to determine effects of project alternatives and recommendations on TE&S species. .

The E12 Wetlands IAG also reported that they had completed their goals and met its responsibilities. However, after a discussion of the IAG's progress, the EcoRAT and WCRT determined that the group had not sufficiently completed its work tasks. The EcoRAT and WCRT provided several comments and suggestions for the E12 IAG to consider and recommended that the IAG not be closed at this time. The E12 Wetlands group will meet on February 14, 2002 to discuss and resolve the outstanding issues identified by the EcoRAT and WCRT. The main topics for discussion will be, a public education plan, PM&E measures, and use of the wetlands database.

**New IAGs (E1, E2, E3 & E11)** - New IAGs are being formed to study and resolve several ecological issues including, Point & Non-Point Source Pollution (E1), Erosion & Siltation (E2), Water Quality in Lake, Rivers & Tributaries (E3) and Entrainment/Impingement (E11). After reviewing each new IAG Issue Statement, volunteers were requested to serve on these new groups. The new IAGs will finalize their memberships at their first meeting.

#### **E1 P&NPS Pollution**

Volunteers:

Elrand Denson	Isabella Trussell
Dan Murchison	Jay Edwards
Tom Counts	Jim Moore
Jerry Moss	John Hornsby
Vic Payne	Bill Sim
Jim Crew	Kelly Schaeffer
Carl Couret	Henry Mealing

#### **E2 Erosion**

Volunteers:

Jon Hornsby	Dan Catchings
Elrand Denson	John Eisenbarth
Dan Murchison	Jim Moore
Bill Sim	Kelly Schaeffer
Jim Crew	Carl Couret

## Coosa EcoRAT and WCRT Team Meeting

### Meeting Notes & Summary: APC Corporate Headquarters January 29, 2002

Henry Mealing

#### **E3 Water Quality**

Volunteers:

John Hornsby  
Isabella Trussell  
ADEM (TBD)  
Keith Floyd  
John Eisenbarth  
Henry Mealing  
Bill Sim

Tom Counts  
Jay Edwards  
Carl Couret  
Jim Moore  
Jim McIndoe  
Jim Crew

#### **E11 Entrainment**

Volunteers:

Bill Sim  
Carl Couret  
Stan Cook  
Kelly Schaeffer

Malcolm Pierson  
Sara Chubb  
Jim Crew  
Henry Mealing

#### **Conclusion and Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Coosa EcoRAT and WCRT will be announced and materials will be supplied two weeks in advance.

Team documents and materials are posted on the Internet at [www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro).

## Joint WCRT, CCRT, EcoRAT and RecRAT Meeting

### Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 13, 2002

Final 01-03

#### Warrior and Coosa Relicensing Projects Combined

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#### Meeting Attendees

Mike Akridge	Alabama Power	Bob Allen	USACOE
Rick Allums	Alabama Power	James Austin	Lake Mitchell
Jim Bain	Lake Martin Res. Assoc.	Jim Beason	Smith LCA
Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Deb Berry	SLEPC
Johan Beumer	Tola	Keith Bryant	Alabama Power
Hap Bryant	NHLA	Bill Campbell	EPRO
Lonnie Carden	CRPC	Dan Catchings	ADCNR
Liz Conley	Alabama Power	C.T. Conn	NHLA
Stan Cook	ADCNR	Jim Copeland	NHLA
Tom Counts	USFS	Carl Couret	USFWS
Jim Crew	Alabama Power	Dave Cunningham	LLHobo
Lynn Cunningham	LLHobo	Elrand Denson	USFS
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bill Dillahunty	Alabama Power
John Eisenbarth	TU	John Eisenbarth II	
Mike Eubanks	USACOE	Jim Hancock	Balch & Bingham
Bob Huffaker	Marine Police	Keith Floyd	ADCNR
Joel Gardner	USFS	Jeff Garner	ADCNR
Don Green	LMLPA	Daryl Harley	USFS
Patric Harper	USFWS	Jon Hornsby	ADCNR
Janet Hutzell	FERC	George Jackins	LMHoBo
Viki Jenkins	Alabama Power	Chuck Jensen	LLHoBo
Patti Leppert	FERC	Jim Lochamy	Alabama Power
Barry Lovett	Alabama Power	Larry Martens	LMLPA
Charles Mauldin	Alabama Power	Pam McDaniel	Alabama Power
Amy McDonald	Alabama Power	Jim McHugh	ADCNR
Diana McLemore	ADECA OWR	Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt
Jerry Moss	ADCNR	Dan Murchison	LMHoBo
Abner Patton	Malcolm Pirnie	John Peconom	Kleinschmidt
Alan Peeples	Alabama Power	Joe Pender	LMLA
Malcolm Pierson	Alabama Power	Walter Ramey	Alabama Power
Jason Redmond	Alabama Power	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Heather Seiders	EPRO	Andy Sheppard	Alabama Power
Bill Sim	Alabama Power	Sheila Smith	Alabama Power
Bert Thaxton	LLHobo	Dan Thompson	ADCNR
Ralph Thompson	USFWS	Danny Tignor	Alabama Power
Isabella Trussell	LMLPA	Dick Whatley	LMLPA
Stephanie White	Alabama Power	Roger Yeargan	Alabama Power
Joe Young	LJHoBo		



## **Joint WCRT, CCRT, EcoRAT and RecRAT Meeting**

**Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 13, 2002**

### **Meeting Notes**

*These notes summarize the major items discussed during the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcript or analysis of the meeting.*

Jim Crew and Barry Lovett welcomed the meeting attendees and thanked them for their continued participation in this relicensing process. They reviewed meeting materials sent in advance via email and they also highlighted the day's agenda.

### **Issue Action Group Updates**

Since the last Joint Team Meetings, the Recreation and Ecological IAGs have successfully continued their efforts to address relicensing issues. According to Barry Lovett, Recreation IAGs on the Weiss, Henry, Logan Martin, Lay, Mitchell, Jordan/Bouldin and Smith project developments have been busily working through their standard processes to address recreation issues. Ecological IAGs encompassing: point and non-point source pollution, erosion and siltation, water quality, lake level fluctuations, project releases, entrainment and wetlands issues have continued to meet and make progress in addressing ecological concerns in both the Warrior and Coosa project boundaries. The efforts of both these IAG groups were documented and presented to meeting participants in a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation which, is available for review on APC's hydro relicensing website.

### **Shoreline Management Plan**

Alabama Power formally initiated discussions regarding the proposed Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). The SMP is a combined effort between ecological and recreation relicensing interests to address the SMP issue statement, "Management and enforcement of shoreline development to protect public safety, access, aesthetics, terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and other resource values." As presented at the meeting and according to FERC an SMP is "A comprehensive plan to manage the multiple resources and uses of the project's shorelines in a manner that is consistent with license requirements and project purposes and addresses the needs of the public." The SMP is a tool that IAGs can use to consolidate and incorporate their consensus based recommendations.

Resource issues addressed in the SMP include but are not limited to, public and private shoreline facilities, water uses and quality, wetlands, cultural and historic sites, land use and aesthetics, threatened and endangered species, fisheries, public safety, recreation access, soils and erosion as well as terrestrial and aquatic habitats.

APC reviewed its existing shoreline permitting process and outlined the proposed Shoreline Management Plan. The proposed SMP includes:

- Introduction
- Goal and Objectives

## **Joint WCRT, CCRT, EcoRAT and RecRAT Meeting**

### **Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 13, 2002**

- Shoreline Management Policies
- Reservoir Specific Issues
- Implementation and Review
- Appendix A – Glossary of Terms
- Appendix B – Reservoirs Maps/Classifications
- Appendix C – Detailed Permit Guidelines

The WCRT and CCRT agreed to address this issue at this time in future Joint WCRT and CCRT meetings. Comments on the SMP outline are due to Barry Lovett by December 2, 2002. Patti Leppert of the FERC informed meeting participants that they have available on their website for public use a guidance manual to assist in the development of SMPs.

The SMP PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at APC's hydro relicensing website.

### **Modeling IAG**

Andy Sheppard provided an overview of Modeling Group activities and how the group fits into the relicensing process.

The Modeling IAG formed in May 2002 is an assemblage of individuals from Federal and State regulatory agencies with modeling expertise and experience designed to help IAGs address resource issues through the use of highly technical computer models.

The Modeling Request Process includes:

- Request initiated in IAG & sent to Modeling Group
- Modeling Group reviews, clarifies, makes model run(s)
- Results sent back to IAG for discussion
- Run(s) sent to CCRT or WCRT for final determination
- Run(s) included in EA & License Application

Additional information on Andy's presentation can be found online at APC's hydro relicensing website.

### **Relicensing Team Structure**

Relicensing stakeholders have always agreed to explore opportunities to improve the relicensing process. After reviewing the structure of this relicensing process and as a part of this effort to continually adjust and improve, APC proposed that the EcoRat and RecRAT teams, having served their original purposes be consolidated back into the WCRT and CCRT groups with these larger resource teams assuming all the remaining responsibilities and duties of the RATs. The general consensus among meeting participants was that this was acceptable and should help increase the efficiency of the process.

### **General Administrative Items**

## **Joint WCRT, CCRT, EcoRAT and RecRAT Meeting**

**Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 13, 2002**

### *2003 Calendar*

Potential 2003 meeting dates were presented to meeting participants for their review and comments.

### *Project Upgrades*

Planned capital improvements to several of APC's hydro facilities have been put on hold.

### *Stakeholder Contact Information*

Alabama Power is in the process of updating the relicensing stakeholder database and asked that all participants review their contact information and make changes as necessary. APC will generate a revised stakeholder list illustrating level of participation on IAGs and other cooperative relicensing efforts.

Alabama Power, as a sign of appreciation for outstanding stakeholder participation in the relicensing process over the past year gave each meeting attendee an Alabama Power, Powered by Nature fleece sweatshirt.

## **Conclusion**

The next Joint WCRT and CCRT Meeting will be scheduled by Alabama Power after consulting with both Warrior and Coosa Resource Team members. APC will distribute all meeting materials via email in advance of the next meeting.

IAG documents and materials are posted on the Internet at [www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro).

## General Ecological Meeting

### Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 14, 2002

Final 01-03

#### Warrior and Coosa Relicensing Projects Combined

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#### Meeting Attendees

Mike Akridge	Alabama Power	Bob Allen	USACOE
Rick Allums	Alabama Power	Hap Bryant	NHLA
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	Sara Lee Chubb	USFS
Randy Comer	USACOE	Stan Cook	ADCNR
Tom Counts	USFS	Carl Couret	USFWS
Jim Crew	Alabama Power	Dave Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO
Lynn Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	Elrand Denson	USFS
John Eisenbarth	TU	John Eisenbarth II	
Mike Eubanks	USACOE	Jim Hancock	Balch & Bingham
Keith Floyd	ADCNR	Joel Gardner	USFS
Jeff Garner	ADCNR	Daryl Harley	USFS
Patric Harper	USFWS	Jon Hornsby	ADCNR
Chuck Jensen	Lay Lake HOBO	Barry Lovett	Alabama Power
Pam McDaniel	Alabama Power	Jim McHugh	ADCNR
Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt	Scott Mettee	AL Geol. Survey
Jerry Moss	ADCNR	Dan Murchison	Mitchell HOBO
John Peconom	Kleinschmidt	Alan Peeples	Alabama Power
Malcolm Pierson	Alabama Power	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Andy Sheppard	Alabama Power	Bill Sim	Alabama Power
Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake HOBO	Dan Thompson	ADCNR
Ralph Thompson	USFWS	Danny Tignor	Alabama Power
Isabella Trussell	LMLPA	Roger Yeargan	Alabama Power

#### Action Items

- Draft and distribute November 14, 2002 General Ecological Meeting notes summary.  
Jim Crew Due – November 25, 2002
- Review the USFWS Alabama River Fish Passage proposal and provide comments to USACOE, FWS and APC.  
All Meeting Attendees Due – November 29, 2002
- Post the E7 Issue Report and PowerPoint presentation to APC's hydro relicensing website.  
Jim Crew Due – November 29, 2002
- Review and Comment on the E7 Issue Report.  
All Meeting Attendees Due – December 6, 2002

## General Ecological Meeting

### Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 14, 2002

Final 01-03

- Finalize E7 Issue Report and prepare recommendations to the WCRT and the CCRT.  
Jim Crew Due – December 16, 2002

### Agreements & Resolutions

- 1) General Ecological Meeting attendees agreed to address the issue of habitat fragmentation at the WCRT and CCRT level at this time as opposed to forming an IAG. Though at a later time, an IAG or Working Group may be necessary to address this issue.

### Meeting Notes

*These notes summarize the major items discussed during the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcript or analysis of the meeting.*

### **General Ecological Meeting**

APC requested that ecologically oriented stakeholders of the WCRT and the CCRT convene in a general meeting to discuss two ecological issues: E9 Habitat Fragmentation and E7 Exotic Species and Aquatic Plant Management Program.

### **E9 Habitat Fragmentation**

The E9 Habitat Fragmentation issue is comprised of two parts on each project system: 1) habitat fragmentation of the Coosa and Warrior Rivers associated with the presence of the project dams and 2) habitat fragmentation between tributaries of the Warrior and Coosa projects associated with the presence of the reservoirs. Meeting attendees agreed to focus on habitat fragmentation between project reservoirs before addressing habitat fragmentation within project reservoirs.

The E9 Issue Statements for the Coosa and Warrior Rivers:

Coosa – “Effect of habitat fragmentation of the rivers and tributaries within the project study area related to the construction and operation of the Weiss, Henry, Logan Martin, Lay, Mitchell, Bouldin and Jordan reservoirs on the aquatic resources of the project study area.”

Warrior – “Effect of habitat fragmentation of the rivers and tributaries within the project study area related to the construction of Smith Dam and the operation of Smith and Bankhead reservoirs on the aquatic resources of the project study area.”

Federal law and FERC regulations provide a major responsibility for upstream and downstream fish passage in river systems to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). To help frame the habitat fragmentation issue within this

## General Ecological Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 14, 2002**

Final 01-03

relicensing process, APC asked the USFWS to provide stakeholders with background information on fish passage and USFWS goals for the issue.

#### *United States Fish and Wildlife Service*

Carl Couret (USFWS) presented an overview of the USFWS's mission, role and responsibilities in hydropower relicensing, the statutes governing their authority including Section 18 of the Federal Power Act, their mitigation policy, and their resource issues of concern. Carl also expressed the USFWS's desire to reconnect fragmented habitat in the Alabama River to benefit the state's many fish species.

#### *Geological Survey of Alabama (Geological Survey of AL)*

Dr. Scott Mettee (GSA) has been tracking fish movements in the Alabama River system since 1995. Dr. Mettee presented his work on fish movements including study parameters, the characteristics of target species, fish passage obstructions, observation methods, and results achieved.

Based on observed fish movements in the Alabama River system, Dr. Mettee was able to draw the following conclusions:

- 1) Blue Sucker, Paddlefish and other riverine fish species move upstream of Claiborne Lock and Dam provided the spillway is inundated by spring floods
- 2) fish cannot move past Millers Ferry unless the gated spillway is inundated and,
- 3) fish species inhabiting the Alabama River are effectively isolated into two distinct populations, one above Millers Ferry and one below.

#### *United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)*

Several ACOE navigation dams on the Alabama River serve as obstacles to fish migration. Mike Eubanks (ACOE) informed attendees that based on restoration plans prepared in 2000 and 2002 and in partnership with the World Wildlife Fund, the ACOE is looking into potential fish passage alternatives at the Clairborne Lock and Dam. An ACOE study team has been gathering information about fish passage issues by visiting facilities in the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Northeast regions. This team is also reviewing fish passage plans and studies and consulting with nationally known fish passage professionals.

Mike presented the details of several potential fish passage alternatives under consideration for Clairborne Lock and Dam, including engineering designs, modification costs and overall benefits and risks to migrating fish species.

#### *USFWS Alabama River Proposal*

Carl Couret summarized his presentation as well as those of the GSA and the ACOE and informed meeting participants that all three presentations were designed to provide background information and justification for the USFWS's fish passage proposal.

The USFWS, under the Federal Power Act, has a legal mandate to regulate private dams in order to manage resident, anadromous and catadromous fish species, but has no authority over ACOE facilities. Recognizing that this relicensing process is beginning to develop potential solutions,

## **General Ecological Meeting**

### **Meeting Summary: APC Headquarters – Birmingham, AL – November 14, 2002**

Final 01-03

the USFWS proposed that at this time, addressing fish passage issues on the Alabama River is a higher priority and would be more beneficial to fish species than addressing fish passage issues on the Coosa River. The Alabama River, located below the Fall Line, contains a lot of important fish habitat, has significant existing aquatic resources. The USFWS believes that with a combination of public and private funding the aquatic resources of the Alabama River may be significantly restored, improving the health of aquatic life within its banks.

The USFWS suggested that APC could help with this effort by committing restoration funds and political capital to help this process along. Alabama River stakeholders, including APC, could potentially develop an agreement that could be worked into APC's new FERC license.

Meeting participants were asked to consider all the information presented and submit comments to APC, USFWS and the ACOE as appropriate.

### **E7 Exotic Species and Aquatic Plant Management Program**

The E7 issue statement:

“Effectiveness of the existing programs for controlling exotic, nuisance aquatic vegetation and vectors (mosquitoes).”

Henry Mealing and Scott Lankford reviewed the E7 Issue Report which highlights APC's exotic species, aquatic plant management and mosquito control programs. An “issue report” was prepared to address concerns regarding these programs and provide interested stakeholders with background information on these efforts.

Based on stakeholder comments, the E7 Issue Report will be revised and a recommendation to use this information in APC's applicant prepared environmental assessment will be submitted to the WCRT and CCRT at their next meeting.

### **Conclusion**

Presentations provided by the USFWS, GSA, ACOE, and APC are available for review and download from APC's hydro relicensing website.

The next General Ecological Meeting will be scheduled by APC after consulting with WCRT and CCRT members. APC will distribute all meeting materials via email in advance of the next meeting.

IAG documents and materials are posted on the Internet at [www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro).

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003

Final 05-15-03

#### Warrior and Coosa Relicensing Projects Combined

#### List of Attendees

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Jerry Moss	ADCNR	Brad McLane	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Stan Cook	ADCNR	Adam Snyder	Alabama Rivers Alliance
Joe Addison	ADCNR	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Keith Floyd	ADCNR	Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	Jason Moak	Kleinschmidt
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt
Keith Guyse	ADCNR	Ron McKittrick	FERC
Jim McHugh	ADCNR	Heather Seiders	E/PRO
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	Bill Campbell	E/PRO
Jessica Dent	ADECA	Jack Blackburn	Neely Henry Lake Association
Jim Crew	APC	Dick Whatley	Neely Henry Lake Association
Jim Lochamy	APC	Don Greer	Neely Henry Lake Association
Walter Ramey	APC	William Copeland	Neely Henry Lake Association
Tom Cooper	APC	Hap Bryant	Neely Henry Lake Association
Rick Allums	APC	John Eisenbarth	Trout Unlimited
Sheila Smith	APC	Ray Cline	Federation of Fly Fishers/Trout Unlimited
Stephanie White	APC	Jim Beason	Smith Lake Civic Association
Keith Bryant	APC	Deb Berry	Smith Lake Environmental Preservation Committee
Charles Mauldin	APC	Patric Harper	USFWS
Gala Wheat	APC	Ralph Thompson	USFWS
Willard Bowers	APC	Elrand Denson	USFS
Alan Peeples	APC	Sarah Chubb	USFS
Ashley McVicar	APC	Darryl Harley	USFS
Roger Yeargan	APC	Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Malcolm Pierson	APC	George Jackins	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Bill Sim	APC	James D. Austin	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Darrin DeLoach	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	Isabella Trussell	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association
Chuck Jensen	Lay Lake HOBO	Larry Martens	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association
Dave Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	Bob Huffaker	Marine Police
Lynn Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Federation
Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake HOBO	Jeff Duncan	NPS
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO	Lonnie Carden	American Whitewater, CRPC, Southern Trails



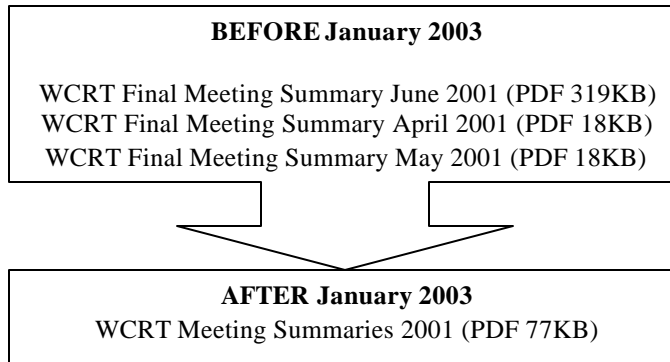
## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003

Coosa: [http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI\\_coosa.asp](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI_coosa.asp)  
Warrior: [http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI\\_warrior.asp](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI_warrior.asp)

Jason also noted that in an effort to reduce the number of hyperlinks on the website, individual WCRT and CCRT meeting notes and mailouts for 2001 have been consolidated into single files.

#### **EXAMPLE:**



### **Ecological and Recreation IAG Recommendations**

#### *Ecological Recommendations*

Henry Mealing presented several issue recommendations to the WCRT and CCRT. Henry noted that accepting these IAG recommendations does not preclude further action and consideration of additional aspects of certain issues by those IAGs.

#### E1 – Point Source and Non-point Source Pollution

##### Recommendations:

1. The IAG recommends that APC use the Coosa Basin Assessment, the Warrior Basin Assessment, the ADEM 303(d) list, and the NPDES information for developing the Coosa and Warrior Environmental Assessments. Additional information identified by the IAG will also be used in this effort.
2. The IAG recommends that APC continue to stay involved with the Clean Water Partnership (CWP) process.
3. The IAG recommends that APC share technical data with the CWP.
4. The IAG recommends that APC coordinate with ADEM and ADECA to cooperate on public education efforts at the state and local levels.
5. The IAG recommends that APC incorporate ADEM and ADECA public education information into their Shoreline Management Plan.
6. The IAG recommends that this IAG consolidate its efforts with those of the E3 IAG.

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003**

#### Discussion:

Members of the WCRT and CCRT generally agreed with the recommendations. One team member suggested that NPDES permit violations be discussed with ADEM and added to the Shoreline Management Plan if possible. It was agreed that permit violations be included on the next meeting agenda of the E3 group and that APC will contact ADEM personnel to encourage them to participate in that meeting. (Note: E1 and E3 now combined).

#### E6 – Threatened and Endangered Species

##### Recommendations:

1. Make the TE&S Species database available to other IAGs within the relicensing process.
2. Reconvene the E6 IAG should TE&S Species need further analysis as to the effects of project alternatives and recommendations.

#### Discussion:

Members of the WCRT and CCRT generally agreed with the recommendations. There was a suggestion by one team member to consider TE&S species outside the project boundary. The FWS recommended omitting “should” in the second recommendation above to reflect the need to consult with the FWS on TE&S species under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The recommendation will be revised to the following:

2. Reconvene the E6 IAG to further analyze the effects of project alternatives and recommendations on TE&S species.

APC will begin drafting the TE&S species existing environment section of the Environmental Assessment. The existing environment section characterizes the TE&S species within project boundaries. One team member suggested adding the following language to follow “boundaries”: “as well as consider populations affected by the project.”

#### E7 – Exotic Species and Aquatic Plant Management Programs

##### Recommendations:

1. Alabama Power will continue to administer its Aquatic Plant Management and Mosquito Control programs on the Coosa and Warrior Projects as described in the E7 Issue Report.
2. Alabama Power will use the E7 Issue Report to prepare relevant sections of the Environmental Assessments for the Coosa and Warrior Projects.

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003**

3. Alabama Power will include the E7 Issue Report as part of the Shoreline Management Plans for the Coosa and Warrior Projects.

#### Discussion:

Members of the WCRT and CCRT generally agreed with the recommendations. Some members expressed a desire that APC expressly prohibit aquaculture in its reservoirs. There was agreement that APC will work with the ADCNR to revise the Exotic species control section of the report to reference newly revised state regulations and to specifically reference control of aquaculture on the lakes.

#### E12 – Wetlands

#### Recommendations:

1. The E12 IAG recommends that APC provide protection for wetlands located within the project boundaries of the Warrior and Coosa hydroelectric projects. Specifically, APC should:
  - a. Incorporate the wetlands database into APC's GIS database as a tool for administering the Shoreline Management Plan.
  - b. Continue to cooperate with the ACOE wetland permitting process for developments that impact jurisdictional wetlands.
  - c. As part of the Shoreline Management Plan, APC will investigate guidelines to protect riparian zones located within the project boundary.
2. The E12 IAG recommends that the R8 IAG identify existing material or programs that can be used to provide public education on wetlands and determine if additional education materials/programs should be developed. This effort should include:
  - a. Providing the E12 IAG Public Education Outline to the R8 IAG to provide direction,
  - b. 1 to 2 members of the E12 IAG working with the R8 IAG.

#### Discussion:

Members of the CCRT and WCRT generally agreed with the recommendations. Henry noted that the E12 Public Education outline and October 23, 2002 meeting notes were inadvertently omitted from the recommendations package, but will be included in the final version on the website. Some members suggested using "riparian zones & wetlands" when referring to shoreline areas to be protected. On the item "c" above, several team members indicated a desire to have the IAG consider some method of protecting wetlands on APC-owned lands outside of the project boundary and that methods for protection be included in the shoreline management plan.

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003**

#### *Recreation Recommendations*

##### Lake Cleanups

###### Recommendation:

“A general statement will be put in the project recreation plans that states that Alabama Power Company will continue to help promote and assist lake reservoir groups and other stakeholders in their efforts to remove trash and litter from APC reservoirs, as long as volunteer participation remains reasonable.”

###### Discussion:

Members of the WCRT and CCRT generally agreed with the recommendation. A couple of team members did not initially understand why APC was opposed to being mandated by the license to assist in the lake clean-ups. Barry Lovett explained that APC is concerned that such a mandate would ruin the spirit of environmental stewardship and volunteerism which spawned and has sustained the lake clean-ups since their inception as citizen-based effort. Several IAG members expressed a strong desire to not mandate APC's involvement in the lake clean up and that the existing APC support was appreciated. Some questioned the need for the "...as long as volunteer participation remains reasonable" phrase in the recommendation. After some discussion, it was agreed that this phrase would be deleted from the final version of the recommendation. The recommendation will read as follows:

“A general statement will be put in the project recreation plans that states that Alabama Power Company will continue to help promote and assist lake reservoir groups and other stakeholders in their efforts to remove trash and litter from APC reservoirs.”

##### Woody Debris

###### Recommendation:

“A general statement will be put in the project recreation plans that states that Alabama Power Company in coordination with Lake Associations, and the Marine Police Division will periodically monitor and review the amount, location and origin of woody debris on APC reservoirs. Should an inspection lead the Marine Police Division to conclude that a significant public safety issue might exist because of APC's practice of releasing woody debris and trash accumulations from its dam trash racks downstream, APC will, at the request of the Marine Police Division, reopen this issue for discussion and resolution. Similarly, should the Alabama Department of Environmental Management conclude that a significant water quality issue might exist for the abovementioned reason, APC will, at the request of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, reopen this issue for discussion and resolution.”

###### Discussion:

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama January 22, 2003**

Bruce DiGennaro noted that this recommendation only pertains to the Coosa River projects, since this is not an issue on the Warrior (Smith Project). Some members expressed an interest in the development of an implementation plan to monitor the woody debris situation including a contact person in the event a HOB0 and/or agency representative notes woody debris. It was noted that this issue may be folded into the broader discussions of Public Safety (R2). One meeting participant did not agree with the woody debris recommendation and suggested that the IAG members reconsider the recommendation. However, while not unanimous, there was general consensus on the recommendation.

#### *General Comments on the Recommendations Process*

Bruce asked the team members for suggestions on how the recommendations process could be improved. Suggestions included the following:

- Present more background on the discussions that led to the recommendations in order to reduce uncertainty and to clarify how decisions were reached
- Make clear who is on the CCRT and WCRT and who they represent when making comments on proposed recommendations.

Other comments raised by team members included a desire to have a thorough alternatives analysis. Also, it was noted that APC would need to, at some point, present all the recommendations to the CCRT/WCRT for “balancing” and to allow team members an opportunity to view and analyze the recommendations as a “package”.

#### **Shoreline Management Plan**

Bruce reviewed the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) outline and noted that few comments were received. Some members provided comments on the Land Classification scheme, indicating that the Sensitive Resources category (Class 5) may need to include sub-categories that delineate between various levels of allowable development. Others noted that the scheme should include a cultural and historic resources class.

#### *Existing Permitting Program*

Walter Ramey and Sheila Smith (APC) presented APC’s existing shoreline use permitting program. Copies of permit applications and guidelines for individual reservoirs were made available to those in attendance. Rather than reproduce the presentation in this meeting summary, a copy of the presentation will be placed on the hydro relicensing website on the Coosa and Warrior Team Information pages under the Special Presentations heading at the following addresses:

Coosa: [http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI\\_coosa.asp](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI_coosa.asp)  
Warrior: [http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI\\_warrior.asp](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro/RTI_warrior.asp)

## **WCRT & CCRT Meeting**

**Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama  
January 22, 2003**

### *Next Steps – Shoreline Management Plan*

Members of the CCRT and WCRT agreed that an IAG(s) should be formed to address the SMP issues. Some members suggested that initial SMP IAG efforts remain broad, focusing on policies and the definition of future responsibilities. Subsequent, narrower discussions of policies and practices on individual reservoirs should be handled by the individual IAGs that were formed to address recreation management issues on each reservoir.

### **Conclusion**

WCRT and CCRT documents and materials are posted on the Internet at [www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro).

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama June 19, 2003

Final 08-01-03

#### Warrior and Coosa Relicensing Projects Combined

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#### List of Attendees

Attendee	Organization	Attendee	Organization
Joe Addison	ADCNR	Darryl Harley	USFS
Mike Akridge	APC	Jon Hornsby	ADCNR
Bob Allen	USACOE	Amber Houston	USACOE
Gene Allison	APC	Marci Jackson	USACOE
Rick Allums	APC	Viki Jenkins	APC
Harlon Baker	APC	Chuck Jensen	Lay Lake HOBO
Jim Beason	Smith Lake Civic Association	Patti Leppert	FERC
Deb Berry	Smith Lake Env. Pres. Comm.	Jim Lochamy	APC
Bill Campbell	EPRO	Barry Lovett	APC
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	Larry Martens	LMLPA
Allison Cochran	USFS	Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt
Stan Cook	ADCNR	Jim Moore	ADEM
William J. Copeland	NHLA	Jerry Moss	ADCNR
Tom Counts	USFS	Ashley McVicar	APC
Jim Crew	APC	Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Tony Crump	USFS	John Peconom	Kleinschmidt
Pat DeMotte	LMLPA	Alan Peebles	APC
Elrand Denson	USFS	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Heather Seiders	EPRO
Leslie Durham	ADECA	Sheila Smith	APC
John Eisenbarth	Trout Unlimited	Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake HOBO
Keith B. Floyd	ADCNR	Dan Thompson	ADCNR
Stephen Gidiere	BALCH & BINGHAM	Isabella Trussell	LMLPA
Don Greer	LMLPA	Stephanie White	APC
Keith Guyse	ADCNR	Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO
Jim Hancock	BALCH & BINGHAM		

#### Action Items

- Distribute the DRAFT Shoreline Management Plan Outline via email to the WCRT and the CCRT.  
APC Staff Due – June 25, 2003
- Comments on the E4 Water Quantity, Use & Withdrawals Issue Report should be sent to Jim Crew.  
WCRT & CCRT Members Due – July 18, 2003
- Draft meeting notes summary and distribute to the WCRT and the CCRT.  
APC Staff Due – July 25, 2003

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama June 19, 2003**

- Comments on the DRAFT Shoreline Management Plan Outline should be sent to Bruce DiGennaro and Barry Lovett.  
WCRT & CCRT Members Due – July 25, 2003
- Distribute the E5 Toxins Issue Report to the WCRT and the CCRT for their review.  
APC Staff Due – September 01, 2003

### **Meeting Notes**

*These notes summarize the major items discussed during the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcript or analysis of the meeting.*

### **Relicensing Process Update**

Kelly Schaeffer summarized the progress made to address relicensing issues. This process has utilized Issue Action Groups (IAG) to address most relicensing issues and the larger WCRT and CCRT groups to address other resource issues. Using a bar chart to graphically illustrate this progress (attached at the bottom of this summary), Kelly informed the two groups that some relicensing issues are almost completed and that others still need work. Kelly also pointed out we are just over half-way through this relicensing process which will end in June 2005 when APC files the Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessments (APEA) and License Applications (LA) for the Warrior and Coosa River Hydroelectric Projects with FERC.

In response to a question from Isabella Trussell regarding toxins issues, APC relicensing staff stated that IAGs are formed on an as needed basis. Some issues are being addressed at the WCRT and CCRT level because detailed IAG analyses are not required for all the relicensing issues. "Issue Reports" have been presented to the WCRT and the CCRT as the first step in addressing specific relicensing issues.

### **APC Water Withdrawals Presentation**

Alan Peeples presented a summary of, the E4 Water Quantity, Use and Withdrawals Issue Report. This report included APC's water withdrawals policies, FERC required project releases, and drought planning. Copies of Alan's presentation can be found on APC's relicensing website.

Alan discussed the challenges APC faces managing their part of Alabama's water resources. The pending ACT agreement (which may have an effect on APC's policies), existing minimum flow requirements, reservoir uses and water withdrawals all need to be taken into consideration when managing APC assets.

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Headquarters, Birmingham, Alabama June 19, 2003**

Individual homeowners may be withdrawing water from the system; however, these minor withdrawals are not managed through APC's water withdrawal permit system at this time.

FERC, through its Standard Land Use license article, has granted APC the authority to permit certain types of water withdrawals. APC may approve water withdrawals up to 1-million-gallons-per-day (mgd). Proposed water withdrawals over 1-mgd must be approved by FERC. APC's water withdrawal permit system outlines the specific steps involved in obtaining a water withdrawal permit. In addition to FERC regulation, water withdrawal permits also require a Certificate of Beneficial Use from the Alabama Office of Water Resources.

#### *Compensation*

Prior to 1989, APC rate payers were subsidizing water withdrawals; however, due to this inequity and supply concerns exacerbated by drought conditions, APC developed the existing compensation methodology.

The three main components of APC's compensation methodology are lost energy, water storage and reservation:

- Water withdrawals remove water that would otherwise be used for hydroelectric generation. This lost energy must be made up from another generation resources. The lost energy and the cost to replace it is calculated and included in the compensation methodology.
- APC project reservoirs provide water storage. This storage is also reflected and accounted for in APC's compensation methodology.
- The reservation fee is designed to help withdrawers plan for future needs. Water is at a cost, reserved for future uses.

Also considered in the water withdrawal permit decision process and the compensation methodology is returned water. The location of the water return and the quality of the return are both considered in these combined processes.

The desired results of the compensation methodology are expected to:

- recover generation losses,
- encourage consideration of alternative generation resources, and
- promote water conservation.

#### *Required Project Releases*

In addition to permitted water withdrawals and power production, the Warrior and Coosa Hydroelectric Projects provide recreational, navigational and ecological enhancement flows through controlled water releases.

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The Jordan Development is the only APC development on the Warrior/Coosa system that has specific mandatory minimum flow requirements for ecological and recreational uses. Flows released from Jordan Dam enhance downstream water quality and water-based recreation activities including fishing, boating, swimming, canoeing, and kayaking. The E4 Issue Report includes a copy of the specific release schedule.

Other required project releases are designed to maintain downstream commercial navigation. Specific release requirements are different for each river system due to basin size, hydrology and project design. Additional information on these releases can also be found in the E4 Issue Report.

#### *Drought Operations*

Prolonged droughts can seriously impair hydroelectric operations. The most significant ecological impact resulting from drought conditions is impaired water quality. Other ecological impacts associated with drought conditions include elevated water temperature, loss of riparian vegetation, lowered dissolved oxygen levels, and stranding of aquatic organisms. At each storage reservoir, a drought contingency operating guideline curve has been established. These curves were proposed by the State of Alabama with input from APC, and are a part of the ACT Compact process. Each drought contingency curve reaches a high point on June 1st, coinciding with the highest water level reached during the spring of the 1988 drought and the lower end of the curve is 2-3 feet below the normal winter level.

#### **Shoreline Management Plan Presentation**

Bruce DiGennaro began the discussion on the Draft Shoreline Management Plan Outline, which was prepared by Kleinschmidt, and noted that it takes into consideration other FERC approved shoreline management plans from throughout the country and stakeholder comments that were received after the November 2002 and January 2003 shoreline management plan discussions. Kleinschmidt's revised outline was distributed to meeting participants for their review. As previously discussed by the group, the purpose of the SMP is to provide direction and guidance for future shoreline activities on APC shoreline properties as well as other properties within APC's FERC approved project boundaries, specifically the traditional shoreline edge.

#### *Overall Process*

Bruce reviewed the overall process in which reservoir specific shoreline management plans will be completed and presented a two-tiered approach to developing the shoreline management plans that consists of 1) all reservoirs and 2) reservoir specific.

All reservoirs will share some of the same SMP components:

- general background information,

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- a shared Shoreline Conservation Policy,
- Best Management Practices (BMPs); and
- a land use classification system.

Reservoir specific components of the SMP include:

- lake Vision Statement,
- designated shoreline lands, and
- resource specific protection and enhancement measures and considerations.

Bill Campbell stated that land classifications and designations will be based in part on aerial interpretations and that this intensive GIS effort will work to identify shoreline characteristics as far back as 500-ft from the project boundary, though the SMP itself will only apply within the project boundary.

#### *Revised Outline*

Kleinschmidt made several changes to the Draft Shoreline Management Plan Outline specifically in *Section 3-Existing Shoreline Uses* and *Section 4-Shoreline Management Program*. Kleinschmidt added text to Section 3 to better clarify existing shoreline uses and how they will be managed under this plan. Section 4 includes several sub-sections which were revised based on stakeholder comments. Changes to these sections are highlighted below:

- Section 4.1-Shoreline Conservation Policy

This overarching policy promotes regulatory and voluntary management cooperation between stakeholders, identifies the immediate shoreline edge and the project boundary as the applicable areas managed under this plan, and specifies the shoreline classification system and best management practices.

- Section 4.2-Land Classification System

This system designates shoreline lands for future management purposes into five classes: 1) APC Project Operations, 2) Developed Recreation, 3) Multiple Use Lands, 4) Sensitive Resources/Natural Undeveloped Lands and 5) National Forest Lands. In the Draft Shoreline Management Plan Outline, each classification also includes an additional description of specific properties that should be designated under each classification.

- Section 4.3-Best Management Practices

The BMPs proposed in the revised outline are designed to help protect valuable shoreline resources. The BMPS focus on buffer zones, vegetation management, water quality and property development and were developed based on other SMPs as well as other conservation efforts from throughout the country.

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- Section 4.4-APC Lake Shore Use Permitting Program

Additional text was added to this section to better clarify APC's Lake Shore Use Permitting Program.

#### *“Break-Out” Groups*

After reviewing the changes, meeting attendees were divided into three smaller “break-out” groups to discuss specifics of the revised outline. The “break-out” groups individually discussed the Draft Shoreline Management Plan Outline and then came back together and shared the results of their discussions. The following bullets summarize the discussions that each group put forward when they came back together:

#### Break Out Group 1

- The structure of Section 4 is good
- Modify BMPs to create compliance incentives
- Consider the cumulative effects of shoreline activities when permitting uses
- Public education will be a very important component of this plan
- Habitat enhancements should be evaluated for incorporation into this plan
- Development restrictions might be a good tool
- Effective monitoring and enforcement will be essential
- A permit fee program should be instituted
- Conservation policy was ok

#### Break Out Group 2

- Work with the Clean Water Partnership on BMPs
- Need to better define SMP boundaries specifically at Smith Lake
- Lake aesthetics need to be emphasized
- Establish commercial and residential BMPs
- Emphasize the importance of BMPs
- Ensure that state and federal agencies are included in the permit process where applicable
- Make some distinctions between sea walls and rip-rap
- Consider mitigation measures
- Work with the R8 Public Education IAG to focus on public education efforts
- Consider incorporating the internet into application, monitoring and enforcement of the SMP
- Consistency check SMP with reservoir Vision Statements
- Solicit more resource agency input on BMPs

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#### Break Out Group 3

- The description of the SMP could be improved and FERC guidelines should be included
- A strong public education effort is necessary
- Construction BMPs
- A shoreline use fee permit program should be started
- Continued consultation and stakeholder cooperation
- Address water quality specifically relating to septic tanks
- Address trash *i.e.* fishing jugs, shoreline litter and tires
- Explore bonding developers so that they adhere to SMP guidelines
- Consider development restrictions
- Address cumulative effects of sea walls
- A strong enforcement program is necessary
- Include wetlands into SMP protections

Bruce DiGennaro agreed to consider all these comments as well as those made over the next month into the next draft of the Shoreline Management Plan Outline.

#### Conclusion

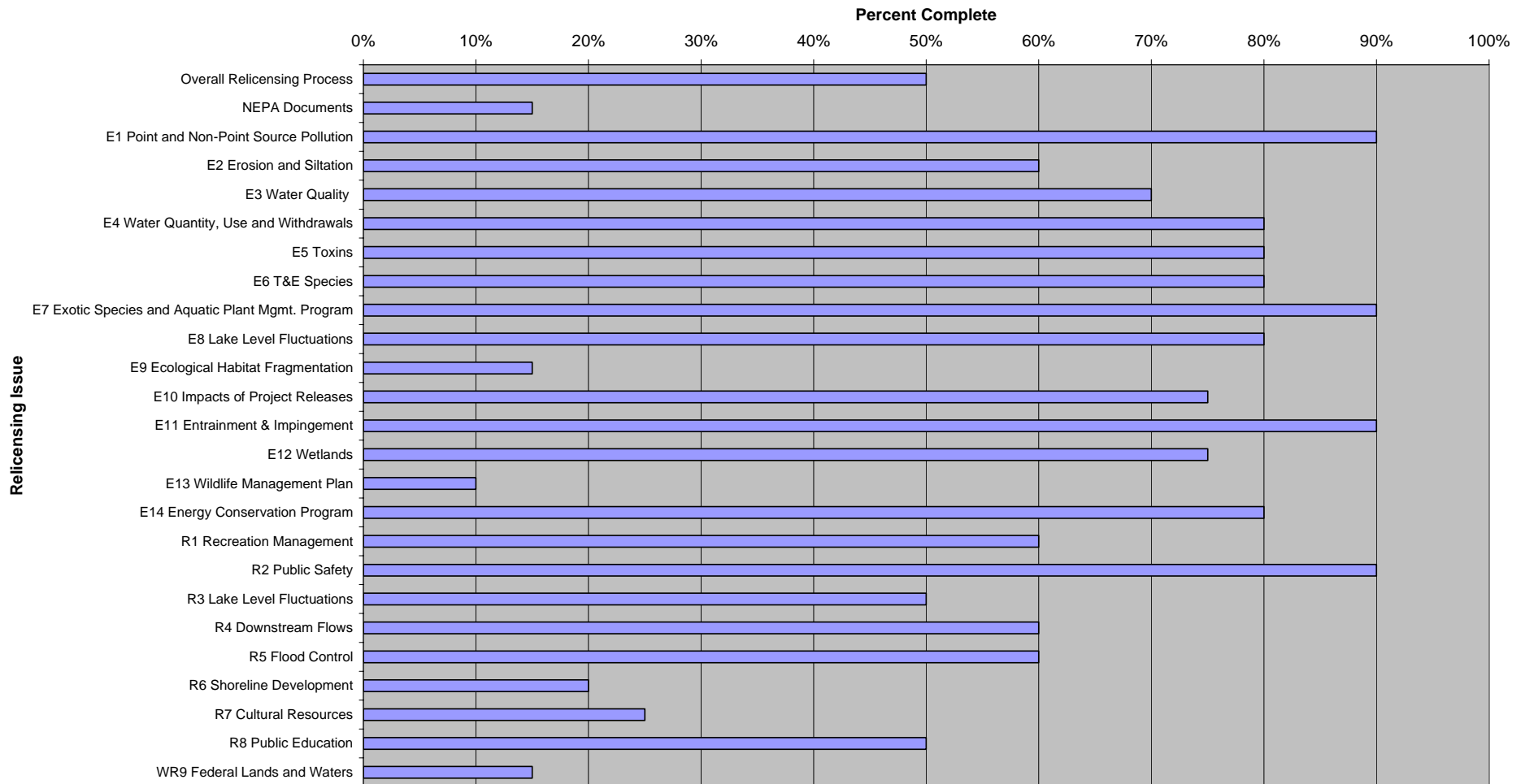
July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> as well as August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> have been identified as potential dates for future relicensing meetings.

The E4 Water Withdrawals PowerPoint Presentation, the Shoreline Management PowerPoint Presentation, and all other WCRT and CCRT meeting notes summaries and materials are posted on the Internet at [www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro](http://www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro).

## WCRT & CCRT Meeting

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#### Warrior and Coosa Issue Status Update



## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Company Headquarters June 10, 2004

#### List of Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Adam Snyder	Alabama Rivers Alliance	Jerry Moss	ADCNR
Albert Read	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	Jerry Sailors	Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association
Andy Sheppard	APC	Jim Beason	Smith Lake Civic Association
April Hall	Alabama Rivers Alliance	Jim Crew	APC
Barry Lovett	APC	Jim Howard	AL BASS Federation
Bert Jones	Smith Lake Homeowner	Joe Addison	ADCNR
Bill Campbell	E/Pro Consulting	Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO
Bill O'Brien	WLIA	John Peconom	Kleinschmidt
Charles Dixon	Neely Henry Lake Association	Keith Bryant	APC
Chuck Shirch	APC	Keith Floyd	ADCNR
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	Keith Guyse	ADCNR
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
Danny Tignor	APC	Larry Martens	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association
Dave Anderson	Kleinschmidt	Lonnie Carden	American Whitewater/Coosa River Paddling Club/Southern Trails, Inc.
David Brock	APC	Lynn Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO
Deb Berry	Smith Lake Environmental Preservation Committee	Malcolm Pierson	APC
Dick Whatley	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	Rick Allums	APC
Don Greer	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	Rick Claybrook	ADCNR
Duncan Austin	Lake Mitchell HOBO	Roger Yeargan	APC
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell HOBO	Ron McKitrick	FERC
Hap Bryant	Neely Henry Lake Association	Scott Promer	Malcolm Pirnie Inc.
Harlom Baker	APC	Shiela Smith	APC
Heather Seiders	E/Pro Consulting	Stan Cook	ADCNR
Isabella Trussell	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	Steven Burns	Balch & Bingham
Jason Moak	Kleinschmidt	Viki Jenkins	APC
Jason Redmond	APC	Woody Snell	Lake Jordan HOBO
Jeff Powell	USFWS	Yawanna McDonald	Malcolm Pirnie Inc.

#### Action Items

- Comments on proposal spreadsheet to Jim Crew and Barry Lovett via email or phone (June 28<sup>th</sup>; Stakeholders)
- Check website to make sure that relevant correspondence is available (APC)

## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Company Headquarters June 10, 2004**

#### **Meeting Notes**

Barry Lovett kicked off the meeting by introducing Kelly Schaeffer and noting Ron McKittrick from FERC was in attendance. Barry also announced that John Peconom has accepted a position with FERC in the Washington, DC office and will be working on oil/gas pipelines in his new position. Barry also commented that what was presented in the meeting is not new material; it is merely a compilation of existing information. Barry requested that attendees try to keep their comments to an overview level at this meeting and that details could be discussed at a later time.

#### **NEPA Process and Presentation of Relicensing Proposals to Date**

Kelly began the presentation by noting the importance of the timeline for the remainder of the relicensing process; there is only one year left before filing the applications and Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessments (APEA) with FERC. She reiterated Barry's earlier comment by stressing that APC does not want comments on the proposal today, but stakeholders would be provided with a comment period on the documents handed out at the meeting.

Kelly then introduced the APEA and described the contents of the environmental or "NEPA"<sup>1</sup> document. She outlined the process for distributing the preliminary draft APEA (in the fall of 2004) to the stakeholders and providing a 90 day comment period, during which time a meeting will be held at APC to receive general comments on the APEA (late fall 2004). During this comment period, all comments must be submitted in writing--emails will not suffice as formal comments to the APEA. Kelly also informed the attendees about the purpose of the APEA, pointing out that it is a FERC document that will be used by FERC staff in preparing their Environmental Assessment (EA) and for making decisions on the final terms and conditions to be included in the new licenses issued by FERC.

Kelly then reviewed the table that contained all the proposals for relicensing received to date. She stressed that the proposals were developed in the individual IAGs, and that the majority of the proposals are a result of consensus from the respective IAG. She did note that resolution of some issues is still ongoing and will continue to be negotiated until the end of the year. Stan Cook noted that there are several ecological issues where discussions have not even started; Jim Crew and Kelly will find out what these issues are and work on resolving them in a timely manner.

The take home message from the presentation is about the alternatives that must be considered in the APEA. While the proposed alternative should not be new to the persons involved with that issue, there could be disagreement with the proposal. Where there is disagreement, and a clear alternative has been presented, all of the alternatives (including the no action alternative) will be compared and analyzed in the APEA. There was some discussion regarding baseline conditions versus the no-action alternative. Kelly explained that the no action alternative is the alternative

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<sup>1</sup> NEPA refers to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### **Meeting Summary: Alabama Power Company Headquarters June 10, 2004**

where FERC would issue the new license with the same conditions as the existing license (i.e., no change). As discussed with the stakeholders, this would be virtually unheard of at the FERC and would not likely occur since APC is proposing changes in their new licenses. Kelly also stressed that even if stakeholders are not sure whether their idea is a “recommendation” or an “action alternative,” it’s important that stakeholders make APC aware of it so that it may be analyzed in the APEA. Comments, recommendations, and alternatives will be documented and made available to all CCRT/WCRT members. Mere disagreements with a proposal may be noted; however, there is a difference between opposition/disagreement to a proposal and presenting an alternative. If a stakeholder simply disagrees, there will be no analysis of their disagreement unless they provide an “alternative” solution. Again, these alternatives and recommendations should have been discussed and vetted through the IAGs.

April Hall noted that some of the correspondence, meeting notes, and presentations are missing from the relicensing website. These issues were noted and will be addressed as quickly as possible.

After lunch, Ron McKitrick gave a brief presentation on the APEA from FERC’s viewpoint. FERC is very interested in reviewing brief, summary documents. FERC does not want to see a “copy and paste” from the study results. They want the study summarized in the body of the document and attached as an appendix so finding reference materials can be expedited. Ron also discussed that if the CCRT/WCRT was going to prepare draft license articles, it would be important to keep the articles also brief, building in flexibility. He noted specifically that if the license article was getting well over the “standard” paragraph or page size limit traditionally seen from FERC, then FERC would likely revise the articles to the point where they would be completely different than what the stakeholders had presented to FERC.

Following Ron’s discussion, Kelly then briefly highlighted some of the major proposals and action alternatives and reiterated that comments are due on June 28, 2004 to Jim Crew (JFCREW@southernco.com) and Barry Lovett (BKLOVETT@southernco.com). Comments will be accepted via email or U.S. postal service. The next document stakeholders will see will be the preliminary draft APEAs and draft license applications in the early fall 2004.

## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### Meeting Summary: Hilton Hotel, Birmingham, AL December 8, 2004

#### List of Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
A.J. (Jim) Woodrow	Lake Mitchell HOBO	Jim Hancock	Balch & Bingham
Adam Snyder	Alabama Rivers Alliance	Jim Lochamy	APC
Alan Peebles	APC	Jim Moore	Kleinschmidt
Andy Sheppard	APC	Joe Addison	ADCNR
April Hall	Alabama Rivers Alliance	Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO
Ashley McVicar	APC	John Morris	APC
Barry Lovett	APC	Johnye Woodrow	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Bill Campbell	E/PRO	Jon Hornsby	ADCNR
Bill O'Brien	WLIA	Judy Takats	World Wildlife Fund
Bill Thrasher	NHLA	Keith B. Floyd	ADCNR
Charles A. Dixon	NHLA	Keith Bryant	APC
Charles Stover	APC	Keith Guyse	ADCNR
Chris Greene	ADCNR	Larry Martens	LMLPA
Chuck Shirah	APC	Len Simmons	APC
Connie Thrasher	NHLA	Linda Dixon	NHLA
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	Lynn Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HOBO	Lynn Sisk	ADEM
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	Malcolm Pierson	APC
Darryl Harley	USFS	Mike Akridge	APC
Dave Anderson	Kleinschmidt	Pam McDaniel	APC
David Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	Patric Harper	USFWS
David Haynes	City of Wetumpka	Rick Allums	APC
Deb Berry	SLEPC	Rick Claybrook	ADCNR
Dick Whatley	LMLPA	Ron McKitrick	FERC
Don Greer	LMLPA	Sam Piccolo	Lake Mitchell HOBO
Don Whorton	Elmore County	Shad Ellis	WLIA
E. Eisenbarth	Federation of Fly Fishers	Shane Boring	Kleinschmidt
Elrand Denson	USFS	Shirley Bryant	NHLA
Gary B. Trachtman	Malcolm Pirnie	Stan Cook	ADCNR
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell HOBO	Viki Jenkins	APC
Hap Bryant	NHLA	Walter Ramey	APC
Heather Seiders	E/PRO	Woody Snell	Lake Jordan HOBO
Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt	Yawanna McDonald	Malcolm Pirnie
Isabella Trussell	LMLPA		
J. Duncan Austin	Lake Mitchell HOBO		
J. Eisenbarth	Trout Unlimited		
Jeff Powell	USFWS		
Jeff Wood	Balch & Bingham		
Jerry Moss	ADCNR		
Jim Beason	SLCA		
Jim Copeland	NHLA		
Jim Crew	APC		

## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### **Meeting Summary: Hilton Hotel, Birmingham, AL December 8, 2004**

#### **Action Items**

- Comments on preliminary draft APEAs and draft license applications due to APC and FERC by March 10, 2005 (Stakeholders)
- APC to provide revised Shoreline Management Plan maps to appropriate stakeholders by January 31, 2005

#### **Meeting Notes**

Barry Lovett gave an overview of the meeting goals and what would be covered during the presentation. Hard copies of the Coosa and Warrior Draft License Applications and preliminary draft Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessments (APEA) were handed out prior to the presentation. Barry indicated that APC is applying for a 50 year license as part of the application, which is consistent with their request throughout the process. He also noted that Kelly Schaeffer could not be in attendance, and that Henry Mealing would lead the discussion of the applications and APEAs.

The presentation provided a brief overview of the material that is included in the license applications. Henry reviewed the general contents of each license exhibit. He noted that Exhibit E is not included in the license applications because APC has prepared APEAs in place of Exhibit E. Henry also noted that Exhibit D (Costs & Financing) will be presented in the final applications submitted to FERC in July 2005, since APC is still working on some settlement agreements and associated cost information.

After reviewing the license applications, Henry went through each section of the APEA. The general purpose of the APEA is to analyze the effects of APC's proposed action and other action alternatives submitted by stakeholders. The document provides FERC with a summary document from which they can write their own Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement. This FERC document will then be used by the Commission to issue the new license. Henry also noted that APC's proposed action is the result of the five years of public input, and that for the most part, this action is the result of a stakeholder-driven consensus-based approach to the relicensing process. Henry stated that APC is seeking constructive criticism on the documents.

Jim Crew made a short presentation on the Shoreline Management Plans. He noted that a hard copy of the SMPs were provided to stakeholders as an appendix to the APEAs and that these latest versions addressed or incorporated a majority of stakeholder comments to the previous versions. He also explained that in performing research for the SMP maps, APC discovered some additional lands that it owns around the Weiss, Neely Henry, Logan Martin, and Lay Reservoirs. The exact delineation of the ownership boundary varies from reservoir to reservoir and "steps up" on each reservoir going upstream. As a result of the additional ownership, APC will be able to implement the required BMPs on these lands, which should benefit the resources.

## CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session

### **Meeting Summary: Hilton Hotel, Birmingham, AL December 8, 2004**

Jim noted that it is a difficult concept to explain verbally, but should make more sense when the revised SMP maps are distributed at the end of January 2005.

Ron McKitrick (FERC) gave a short presentation on what will happen after the license applications and APEAs are submitted to FERC in July 2005. He explained that once this occurs, FERC controls the process and will public notice the documents and have a specified formal comment period. This comment period will be the final opportunity for stakeholders to express their satisfaction and/or concerns with the final proposal submitted by APC. In response to a question, Ron explained that FERC will not project the effects of APC's proposal over a fifty year period, as any effects projected to this time frame would be speculative at best. He also went over the process for becoming an intervener, which is a formal status that a stakeholder can request once the application is submitted to FERC.

After Ron's presentation, several stakeholders had questions about the process. Ron was asked if the current political landscape can affect the Commission's decisions. He commented that the Commissioner's are appointed by the President, and that they serve five year terms. Ron was also asked about license terms and if there are any trends in the length of a new license. He replied that there are not trends in license periods and that licenses are typically issued for periods of 30, 40, or 50 years. The 30 year license is commonly issued when there is no significant capital investment proposed for mitigation and enhancement measures. The 40 year license is typically issued when there is "moderate" capital investment proposed. The 50 year license is usually issued when a licensee commits to a substantial capital investment in the projects over the life of the license. Of course, these terms are relative and can often have different meanings to different utilities (i.e., what may be a moderate expenditure for APC would be a significant expenditure for a smaller utility).

Ron was also asked about additional information requests (AIRs) and when they could be submitted. Since APC is using the Alternative Licensing Process, stakeholders cannot submit formal additional study requests. However, additional information can be requested in the comments to the application. FERC will make the final decision if the issue can be resolved with the information presented, and if not, the FERC will submit a formal AIR to APC.

Jim and Henry then went over the timeline for the remaining months before the final applications are submitted to FERC. APC will continue to work towards resolution of those issues that are outstanding and will meet on an individual basis with stakeholders that would like to discuss their opinion of the application and/or APEA.

Finally, Jim wrapped up the meeting by announcing that there will be one more plenary session for the CCRT and WCRT in July or August 2005 to celebrate everyone's hard work on the relicensing of APC's Coosa and Warrior projects.

**CCRT/WCRT Plenary Session**

**Meeting Summary: Hilton Hotel, Birmingham, AL  
December 8, 2004**

**Next Steps**

Stakeholders must present their comments to APC in writing by March 10, 2005 at the following address:

Mr. R.M. Akridge  
Alabama Power Company  
600 North 18th Street  
Birmingham, AL 35291

Stakeholders must also present their comments, either in writing or electronically, to the FERC at the following address:

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary,  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

In both cases, the comments must have the project name (Warrior River Hydroelectric Project or Coosa River Hydroelectric Project), project number (2165 or 2146, respectively), and the following header: "Preliminary Comments, Preliminary Recommendations, Preliminary Terms and Conditions, or Preliminary Prescriptions."

Substantive/technical comments should reference the specific section of the respective document.

Editorial comments should be done on photocopied pages and attached to the comment letter.