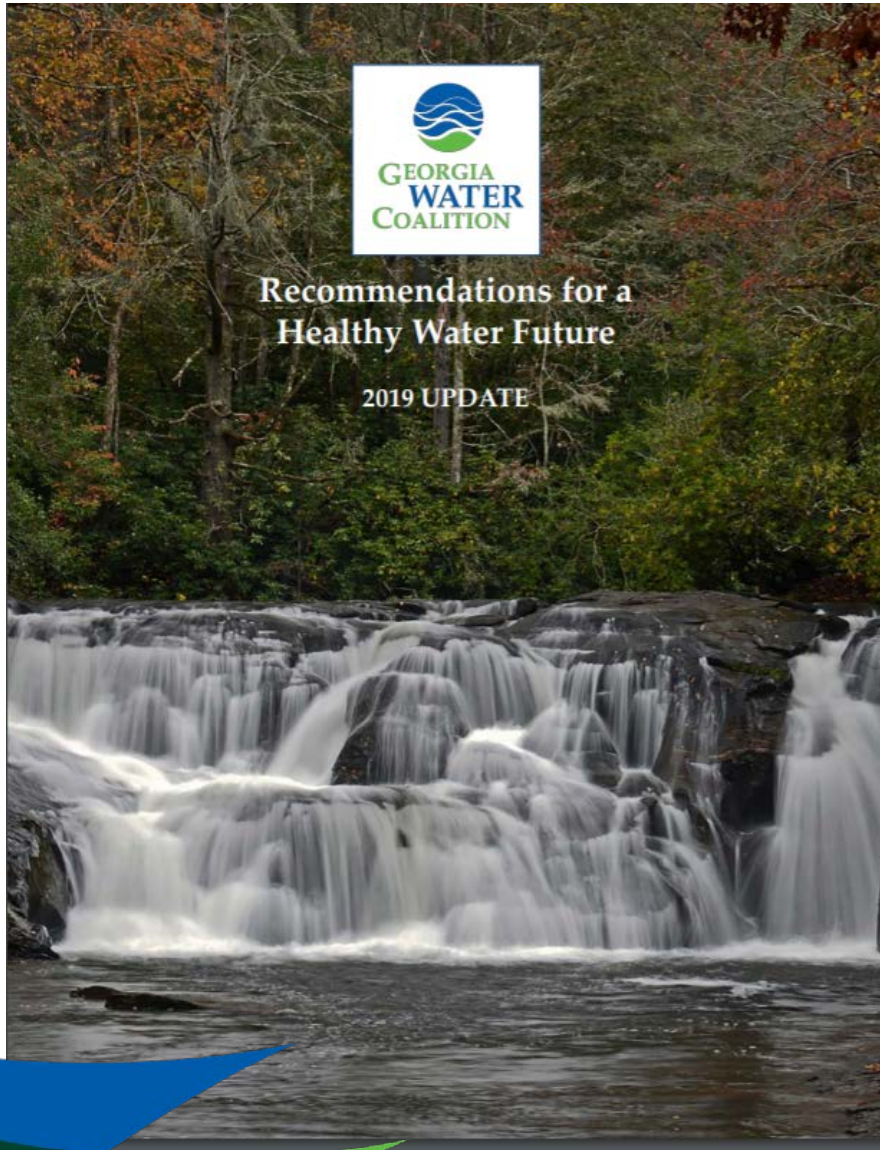




The What, When, Why, Where, and How of the Biennial Report Revision Process



GEORGIA
WATER
COALITION



What is the Biennial Report?

When do we revise it?

Why?



Where can you find the report?

<https://www.gawater.org/resources/biennial-reports>



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Smart water management is key to achieving sustainable growth, allowing economic development and conservation to exist side by side.

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[2019 Biennial Report](#) >

How do we revise the report?

New online process!

Step 1

- Fill out online form to suggest revisions and/or new policy recommendations

Step 2

- Review all proposed revisions and new recommendations via online survey
- State whether you agree, disagree, or request discussion

Step 3

- Discuss subset of proposed revisions and recommendations at fall membership meeting and vote on whether to adopt

Step 1: Online form

Access via link below or through link on GWC website (circled in red)

<https://forms.gle/bsGCks14H8zfLFHKA>



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Biennial Reports

Biennial Report Revision Process - Suggest revisions to the GWC's Biennial Report or offer new policy recommendations [here](#).



Step 1: Online form

What it looks like

Georgia Water Coalition - Biennial Report

Proposed revisions and new recommendations

* Required

Instructions

Before you begin, please have a copy of the most current biennial report in front of you, either in a separate window on your computer or a hard copy printed out. You will need to refer to it and copy language from it. Think about all the revisions or new recommendations you would like to make before answering the questions in this form.

What is your name and organization? *

Your answer _____

Filling out the online form

What to expect and how to prepare

Advanced preparation is recommended

Open the biennial report on your computer or print out a hard copy. You will need to refer to it when filling out the form. Review the report in advance to look for needed revisions or missing policy recommendations.

Information needed to fill out the form

- Your name and organization
- Page number and subsection of the language that needs revising
- A copy of the language that needs revising (copy and paste from report)
- The revised language or new policy recommendation---exactly how the language should appear in the next version of the report
- An explanation for why the GWC should adopt the revision or new recommendation
- Other groups (GWC and non-GWC members) working on this issue, if any



Example: revising language

Editing existing recommendations

- April Lipscomb, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Page 8, subsection d
- Existing language: “The state should prohibit any new dams or barriers along Georgia’s free-flowing river and stream segments.”
- Proposed new language: “The state should prohibit any new dams or barriers along Georgia’s free-flowing river and stream segments, with the exception of litter traps such as the Bandalong.”
- Explanation: Litter traps could be considered “barriers” and the GWC should support the use of those traps to get trash out of Georgia’s streams.



Example: new recommendation

Adding needed policy recommendations

- April Lipscomb, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Proposed policy recommendation: “The state should regulate PFAS in drinking water.”
- Explanation: PFAS are a hot issue right now, and we are seeing PFAS in drinking water supplies all over the country. These chemicals pose numerous health risks and should not be in our drinking water. PFAS are not currently regulated by the EPD, but they should be to keep our communities healthy.



Step 2: Filling out survey

Voting on proposed changes

- The GWC will compile all proposed revisions and new recommendations and send out a link to a survey
- For each proposal, you will have the option to check:
 - Yes, the GWC should adopt
 - No, the GWC should not adopt
 - Maybe, this topic needs discussion
- There will also be a space to offer alternative language that you believe may be needed in order for you to agree with the change.



Step 3: Discussion and voting

Final decisions

- For any proposed revisions or recommendations that receive all “Yes” votes, those changes will be deemed to have been adopted by consensus and will be in the next version of the biennial report. Changes with “No” votes will not be adopted b/c consensus was not reached.
- During the fall membership meeting, we will discuss:
 - Proposed changes that receive “maybe, needs discussion” votes, and
 - Proposed changes in which members offer alternative language.



Timeline for 2020 revision

*Dates subject to change but reflect current goals

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| June 30 | Deadline to submit online form to offer revisions and new recommendations during formal revision process |
| Aug. 14 | GWC will send link to survey to vote on all proposed revisions and recommendations |
| Sept. 30 | Deadline to submit survey to vote on proposed changes to the biennial report |
| Oct. 30 | GWC will inform members which topics will be discussed at the fall membership meeting so members can prepare |
| Fall mtg. | Discuss and vote on a subset of the proposed changes, as requested/needed based on survey |



Questions?

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