



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2013

TO: **Nicole Rowan**
CDM Smith

FROM: **Kent Thornton, Christina Laurin, Linda Johnson**
FTN Associates, Ltd.

SUBJECT: Arkansas State Water Plan, Water Quality sub-group call summary, June 17, 2013
FTN No. R03015-0003-001

Participants:

Nicole Rowan, CDM Smith
Ed Swaim and Tony Ramick, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
Kent Thornton, Christina Laurin, and Linda Johnson, FTN Associates, Ltd.
Charolette Bowie, NRCS
Darcia Routh, Arkansas Department of Health (for Lyle Godfrey)
Bob Morgan, Beaver Water District
Andrew Sharpley, University of Arkansas
Lance McAvoy, Fort Smith Water Utility

Call was initiated at 9:30 am on Monday June 17, 2013 and participants identified themselves. The purpose of the call was to get feedback on the methodology presented at the April 26 Water Supply Availability meeting. This call was focused on surface water quality. The USGS is working on the ground water quality. A summary of the approach was given:

- The water quality update will not be a detailed water quality analysis of all the data available
- It is intended to provide an overview of current status of water quality statewide and by Planning Region
- It will update water quality information since the 1990 State Water Plan and analyze water quality trends over the last 30 years
- Sources of information include:
 - o ADEQ's 2008 303(d) list and 305(b) report will serve as the foundation for surface water quality (streams and lakes)
 - o TMDL studies completed prior to 2013

- ANRC non-point source priority watershed information and SWAT model summaries
- Arkansas Department of Health Source Water Assessment and Protection Programs
- EPA statewide Wadeable Stream Assessment
- Special studies by
 - ADEQ
 - Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission
 - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
 - USACE
 - USGS
 - others
- NRCS program priorities
- Watershed Management Plans

Approach:

- Describe the current conditions and trends for those sites:
 - With a 30-year period of record,
 - Co-located with surface water quantity sites (map available in the current Water Supply White Paper, Figure 5 – we will send out the map with the gage numbers for the gages to be considered),
- Other studies identified by work group members from the timeframe between 1982 and the end of 2012, that address a period of 10 years or more will be considered for inclusion.
- Will look at changes in methodology (measurement, criteria, regulations, treatment, assessment) that affected how water quality is assessed and reported.
- Will identify emerging issues over the next 5 years and over the planning horizon for the Water Plan (2050) (e.g., new minerals bill passed in 2013 legislative session).
- Time frame – need to have information from the sub-group members by the end of June.
- The sub-group will have an opportunity to review the draft paper that results from this effort before it goes out to the public for review.

Action Items:

- FTN will send out a template to use for summarizing data from agencies and other sources and a map showing the surface water gages being used, before June 21.
- Sub-group members will supply summaries of water quality studies, using the template, to FTN by 8 July. (End of June was stated on the call, but a template will be sent to individuals, so additional time is allocated).
- Information and data will be compiled and a draft report completed by the end of July.
- Sub-group review and comment on this draft and suggestions for additional studies.
- Contact Nicole Rowan, CDM, with any questions.

cc:

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