Update on Surface Water Assessments in Alabama

There has been a significant focus over the past year on the need for comprehensive assessments of the water availability of the surface and groundwater resources of Alabama. This presentation will focus on an overview of the efforts and status towards a comprehensive assessment of the surface waters of Alabama.

Based on the direction from Governor Robert Bentley, the Alabama Office of Water Resources (OWR) is continuing to develop a number of initiatives to conduct more detailed assessments of the availability of water and the water usage in individual watersheds occurring today and in the future. These efforts include: a review of the methodologies and tools being developed; a discussion of the efforts to develop water availability and demand summaries and forecasts for individual watersheds; a comparison of water demands to streamflows within the watersheds; the identification of where additional analysis is needed; and what future enhancements to these tools and methodologies are planned.

The focus of this presentation will also provide conference attendees information on how the information from these surface water assessments can be integrated into on-going efforts to improve water resource management programs and policies in Alabama.

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