

# Falls Lake Rules Revisions

## Consensus Principles II

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Nancy Daly, Water Resources Program Manager

@wakegov



wakegov.com

# Overview

- Falls Lake Regulatory Requirements
- Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA)
- Rule Revision Process
- Staff Recommendation

# Falls Lake

- Provides drinking water for over 500,000 customers
- Minimizes downstream flooding
- Protects water quality downstream
- Provides habitat
- Provides regional recreational facility



# Falls Lake Regulatory Requirements

- Address impairment related to excess nutrients
- Attain and maintain water quality standards
- Protect designated uses
- Estimated Implementation Cost: **\$1.5 billion**



## Collaboration promoting innovative approaches to water quality planning and management.



- ❑ 770 sq mi
- ❑ 6 Counties
- ❑ 7 Municipalities
- ❑ South Granville Water and Sewer Authority
- ❑ Soil and Water Conservation Districts

# UNRBA Benefits

One Voice with NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ)

Collaboration on water quality improvements and Falls Lake Rules

Water quality improvements to date:

- Wastewater treatment plant retrofits
- Implement stormwater rules for new development
- Reductions in agricultural nutrient contributions





# Falls Lake Rule Timeline

Falls Lake Rules Adopted

UNRBA initiates Rules  
Reexamination



New Development  
Stormwater Rules Adopted



UNRBA Monitoring



Modeling



Wake BOC  
Approval of Interim  
Alternative  
Implementation  
Approach (IAIA)



**UNRBA  
Recommendations  
for Revised Rules**

State initiates Phase 2  
Rule Readoption Process



Rules Readoption



# Consensus Principles II

- Sixteen principles
- Guidance for development of revised rules
- Supporting details in [Concepts and Principles for Re-examination](#)





# Summary of Consensus Principles II

- Watershed health
- Project flexibility
- Best available science
- Adaptive management
- Watershed organization
- Investment based compliance



# Project Flexibility



# Staff Recommendation

That the Wake County Board of Commissioners endorse the UNRBA Consensus Principles II To Guide Revisions to the Falls Lake Rules.

# Next Steps

- **November 2023:**
  - Request BOC Approval of Consensus Principles II
  - Request UNRBA Board of Directors Approval
- **December 2023:**
  - Submit Consensus Principles and Recommendations to NCDEQ



# Questions?