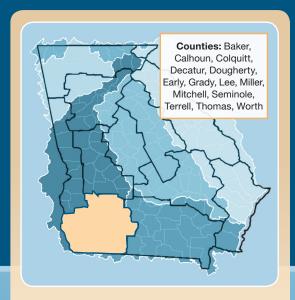
## LOWER FLINT-OCHLOCKONEE REGION

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Regional Water Plan was first adopted in 2011, and a revised plan was adopted in 2017. The Plan is the product of the work of the Lower Flint-Ochlockonee Regional Water Planning Council. The Regional Water Plan outlines strategies to meet water needs through 2050 and fulfill the Council's vision and goals for the water planning region. Major water resources in the water planning region include the Flint River Basin and the Clayton, Claiborne, and Upper Floridan Aquifers.



#### SUMMARY OF RESOURCE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

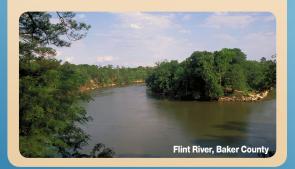
GROUNDWATER: Groundwater use (current and future) is below the sustainable yield range estimated by the resource assessment model for the Claiborne Aquifer and the Upper Floridan Aquifer in South Central Georgia. It is above the sustainable yield range estimated by the model for the Upper Floridan Aquifer in the Dougherty Plain. Aquifer use above the estimated sustainable yield range does not necessarily mean the aquifer is likely to be exhausted by use; management practices may be needed to meet long-term demands.

SURFACE WATER AVAILABILITY: The resource assessment model identified potential gaps (current and future) in surface water availability in the Flint River Basin at Bainbridge and in the lower portions of the Ochlockonee River Basin at Quincy and Concord.

SURFACE WATER QUALITY: Water quality model results indicated decreasing availability of assimilative capacity for dissolved oxygen in some areas of the Flint River Basin as treated wastewater discharges increase in the future. In other areas, expected improvements in wastewater treatment are projected to improve available assimilative capacity under future conditions.

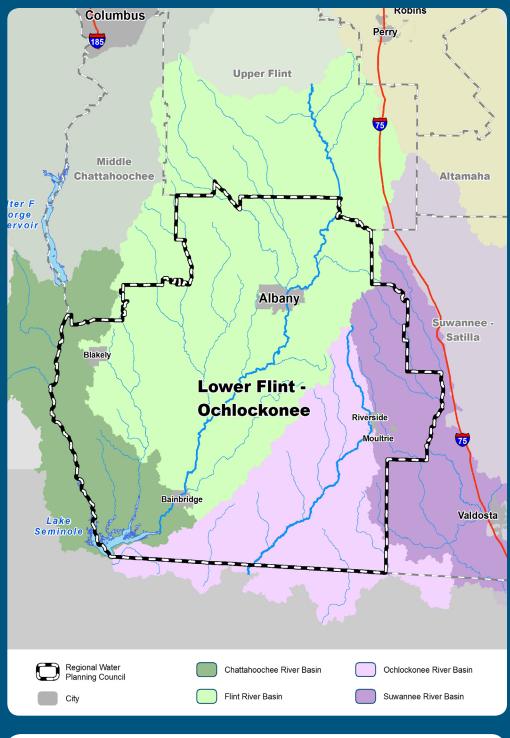
#### KEY WATER RESOURCE ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE COUNCIL IN THE 2017 PLAN

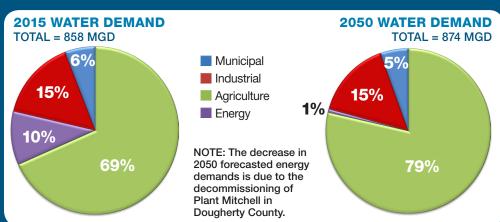
- Water demand and supply management to address potential gaps in water availability
- Regional economic activities that are dependent on water availability
- 3. Coordination with neighboring water planning councils
- 4. Targeted water quality issues





#### KEY WATER FEATURES OF THE LOWER FLINT-OCHLOCKONEE REGION





# MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY

The Plan outlines management practices and recommendations to fulfill the Council's vision and goals. The high priority management practices are listed below (see Plan for a detailed description of all management practices and recommendations).

#### **DEMAND MANAGEMENT**

Improve agricultural water use efficiency.

### SUPPLY MANAGEMENT AND FLOW AUGMENTATION

Evaluate storage options; replace surface water withdrawals with groundwater withdrawals where practical and not harmful to environmental resources.

#### **WATER QUALITY**

Improve enforcement of existing permits and regulations and implementation of existing plans and practices.

#### **INFORMATION NEEDS**

The Plan identifies information needs to improve regional water planning and recommends that the state develop additional information to support future water plan updates (see the Plan for more details).

## WATER POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Plan makes several recommendations regarding policies and programs to support plan implementation. The Plan also includes joint recommendations that the Council developed with neighboring regional water planning councils to address shared resources and concerns (see the Plan for more details).