



**LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION. INC**

**WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS  
for  
GEORGIA and SOUTH CAROLINA**

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**A Position Paper of the Lake Hartwell Association  
November 16, 2004**

The Georgia and South Carolina Legislatures are formulating guidelines to plan how the states will manage their water resources in the future. It is important that our Senators and Representatives, as well as our civic leaders, understand that their constituents want clean water that is available to everyone - for our farms, businesses, and homes. Water should be managed for all the people of the states, not just special interests. The Lake Hartwell Association Officers and Board of Directors will strive to inform and discuss the following points with their legislators and civic leaders and urges its members to do the same.

**THE LAKE HARTWELL ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THE FOLLOWING:**

- The surface and ground waters of the South Carolina and Georgia should continue to be a public resource and should be managed in the public interest and in a sustainable manner by the states to protect natural systems and meet human and economic needs. To further clarify, water resources should not be considered a commodity to be sold to state, national or international corporations for the purpose of making a profit;
- Water management must be guided by a comprehensive state water management plan, developed by a lead agency with a dedicated planning staff, in coordination with other agencies and with the participation of all interested citizens;
- Effective water management requires regional water planning, based on watersheds, river basins and aquifers, that is tied to implementation including an adaptive management process;
- Regulation of interbasin transfers must be strengthened to reflect scientific knowledge, respect natural systems, and protect the basins of origin and receipt; and
- Any legislation that is passed by the General Assemblies of either South Carolina or Georgia should reflect the above points.

Note: The Lake Hartwell Association (LHA) wishes to acknowledge the work and recommendations of the Georgia Water Coalition (GWC) of which LHA is a founding member. Excerpts from several GWC documents were used to help formulate this position.

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