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TRI-STATE WATER GROUP FUNDS FINAL STEPS FOR WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

EUFULA, Ala. – June 26, 2014 – ACF Stakeholders, Inc. (ACFS) took a step closer to completing its Sustainable Water Management Plan, agreeing to spend the funds necessary to complete the technical modeling and continue drafting the final Plan.

The 56-member Governing Board directed its technical contractors – Black & Veatch, Atkins Global and the Georgia Water Resources Institute at Georgia Tech – to finish its work this summer with the goal of finalizing the Plan by late fall. The Sustainable Water Management Plan has been the organization’s goal since its creation nearly five years ago.

Governing Board members also received their first look at the opening chapters of the Plan during their two day meeting on June 24th and 25th at the Lakepoint Resort State Park in Eufaula, Ala. The Technical Oversight and Coordination Work Group, which is responsible for working most closely with the technical contractors in developing the draft, met in a closed session on June 25th and 26th.

“I am looking forward to unveiling this year a Sustainable Water Management Plan that balances the needs of all the interests and stakeholders that rely on the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river basin,” Board Chairman Jim McClatchey said. “Though much has been accomplished, there is still a lot of work that must be done. I am confident that we will get there.”

Since 2009, ACFS, a grassroots organization that represents the spectrum of water interests throughout the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) river basin, has been working toward a Sustainable Water Management Plan based on science, good data and consensus. The group has raised over \$1.6 million to accumulate and model the data necessary to develop a consensus-driven plan.

ACF Stakeholders, Inc. is a group of water users in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) river basin of Alabama, Florida and Georgia who are working together for sustainable water management.

The Governing Board is comprised of 56 individuals representing all aspects of the river basin's economic, agricultural, aquacultural, recreational and environmental concerns. Membership on the board is divided equally among the four ACF sub-basins and includes membership from Alabama, Florida and Georgia.