

**Title:** Lessons Learned from the demise of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Compact and subsequent litigation

**Abstract:** The Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) basin is a 20,000 square mile basin in the southeast United States. In 1998 the States of Alabama, Florida and Georgia entered into an Interstate Compact to define how the waters of the basin will be used into the future. This Compact was notable because: 1) it represented the first Interstate Compact since the passage of the major federal environmental laws and the first in the southeastern United States, and 2) it was instigated by water shortages in a humid region.

In 2003, the ACF Compact was terminated after multiple extensions of the agreement deadline and the arena for addressing water management problems in the basin shifted from the negotiation table to the courtroom. This talk will focus on reasons for the termination of the Compact, subsequent legal actions and decisions since the termination of the Compact and lessons learned from this.