## Moving Science Forward: USGS Combines Southeast Region Water Science Centers as of October 1, 2014

The U.S. Geological Survey Southeast Region is consolidating its Water Science Centers to minimize costs and provide opportunities for expanded scientific expertise to assist with local questions about the water resources in your area. After the consolidations, cooperators will have the same access to USGS scientists, data, and cooperative funding.

As of October 1, 2014, the Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee Water Science Centers will become the Lower Mississippi Gulf Water Science Center led by W. Scott Gain based in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina Water Science Centers will become the South Atlantic Water Science Center led by Eric Strom based in Columbia, South Carolina.

The Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center has already been consolidated, and is led by Rafael "Willie" Rodriguez based in Lutz, Florida.

The new center directors and their staff will work with you in the development of cooperative agreements, memorandums of understanding, and memorandums of agreement.

Although leadership may have changed, you will still be seeing some of the same faces. Each state will continue to have an active USGS presence in support of the research and monitoring throughout the southeast. With these consolidations, USGS will be better able to meet your needs and address large-scale regional water issues, and improve the management of the stream-gaging network in the Southeast Region.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call one of these USGS officials:

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