

July 17, 2007
Public Hearing on Jordan Lake Rules
Town of Elon, NC

Hearing Officers:

My name is Ginger Booker. I am Assistant Director of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, 2216 West Meadowview Road, Greensboro. Our Council of Governments serves seven (7) counties and we have 45 member governments. Five (5) of our counties, Guilford, Rockingham, Caswell, Alamance and a small portion of Randolph are in the Haw River Subbasin of the Jordan Lake Watershed. The Haw River Subbasin comprises 80% of the Jordan Lake watershed (859,442 out of 1,079,025 acres), and 64% (684,855 out of 1,079,025 acres) of the Jordan Lake watershed is in our region. Affected local governments in our region include but are not limited to Greensboro, Guilford County, Caswell County, Rockingham County, Reidsville, Alamance County, Burlington, Graham, Mebane and Elon.

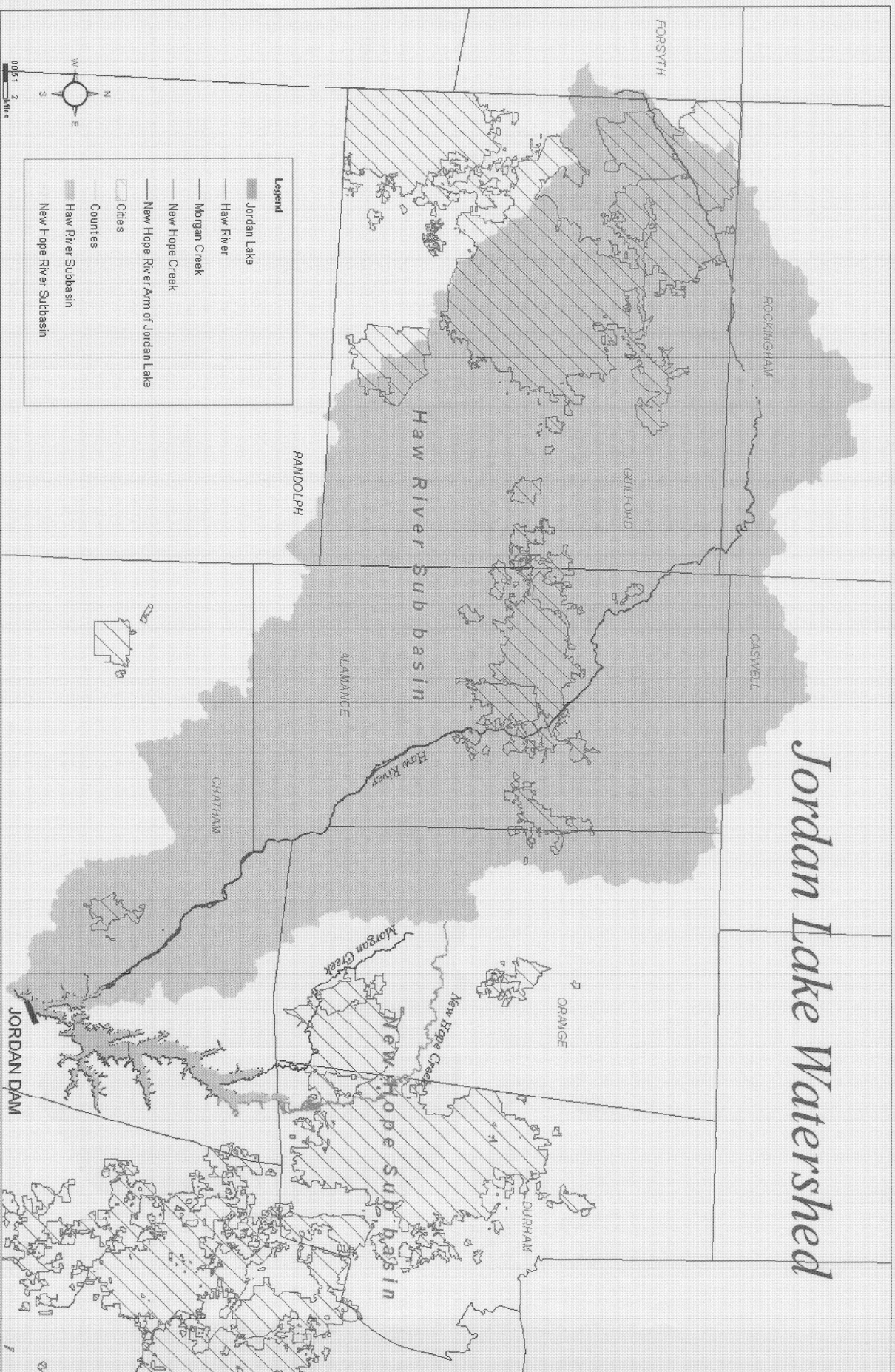
For more than two years we have been working with our Haw River Subbasin local governments to identify concerns and seek additional options as the Division of Water Quality developed the Jordan Lake rules. Not surprisingly, in June, the Board of our Piedmont Triad Council of Governments adopted a Resolution opposing the Jordan Lake rules as presently drafted. Our action is based on cost of implementation to local governments and taxpayers, documented concerns regarding data and hydrologic model used, and lack of predicable outcomes.

But our local government coalition decided that we would not be just naysayers. In recent months we have turned our attention to the positive task of developing alternatives for a nutrient management strategy that would improve water quality in the Jordan Lake basin while not placing an undue financial and economic burden on our region.

I am pleased to say that we are in the process of obtaining support for a proposal we will present to you in August, before the end of the public comment period. This proposal will recommend alternative solutions for a nutrient management strategy and a rational for these options.

Thank you, and we look forward to the opportunity for further conversation.

Jordan Lake Watershed



Piedmont Triad Council of Governments

