



Photograph 1 – Uplands
Facing West



Photograph 2 – Wetland 1
Facing West



Photograph 3 – Wetland 1
Facing West



Photograph 4 – Stream 1 (Twelve Mile Creek)
Facing Upstream



Photograph 5 – SC-183 Bridge
Facing West



Photograph 6 – Utility Right-of-way
Facing West



Photograph 7 – Uplands
Facing West



Photograph 8 –Stream 2
Facing Downstream



Photograph 9 – Wetland 2
Facing West

LEGEND

 Study Area




Photo Location

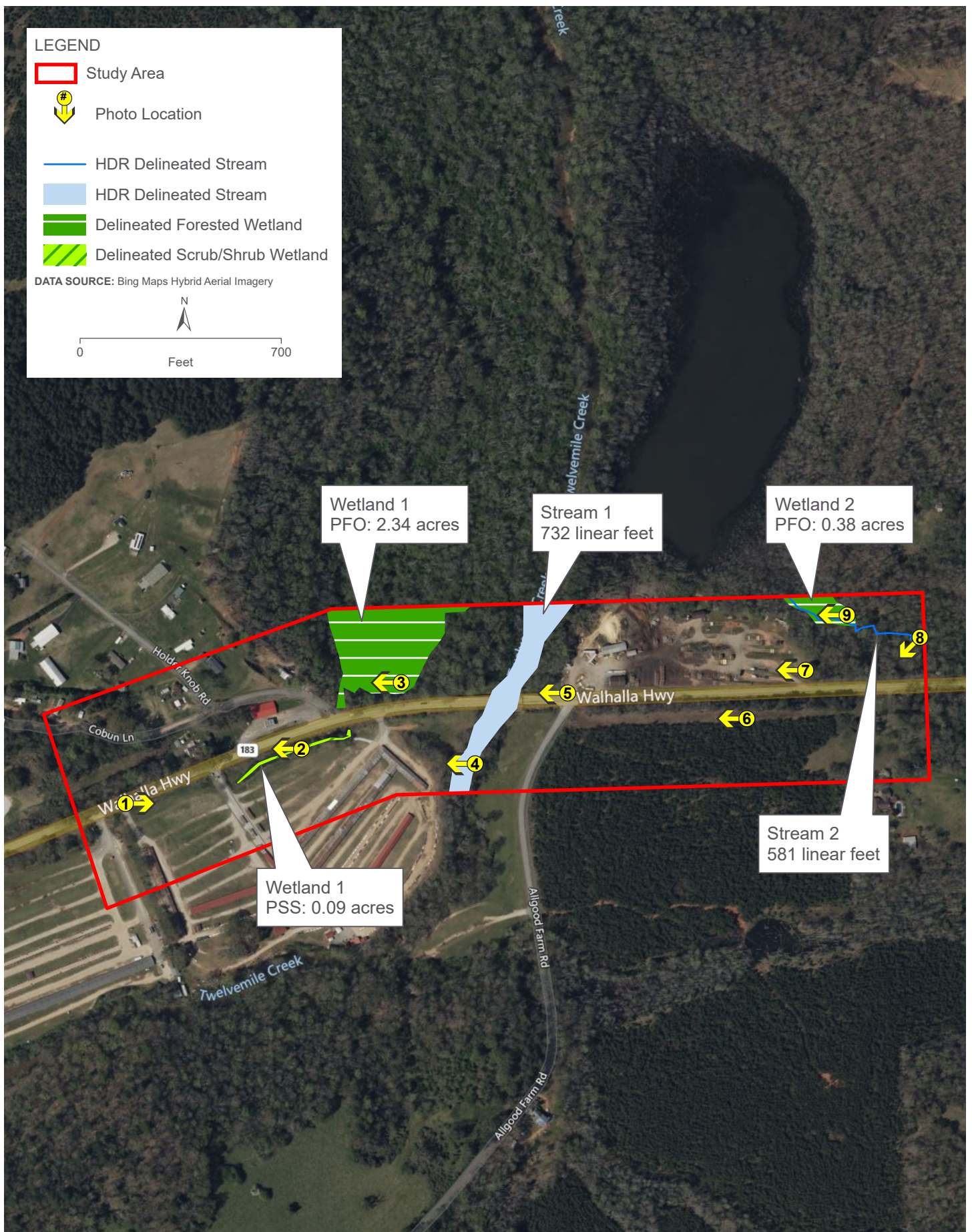
 HDR Delineated Stream

 HDR Delineated Stream

 Delineated Forested Wetland

 Delineated Scrub/Shrub Wetland

DATA SOURCE: Bing Maps Hybrid Aerial Imagery



SC-183 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER TWELVE MILE CREEK DELINEATED WATERS OF THE U.S.

Figure 4



South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Robert H. Boyles, Jr.
Director

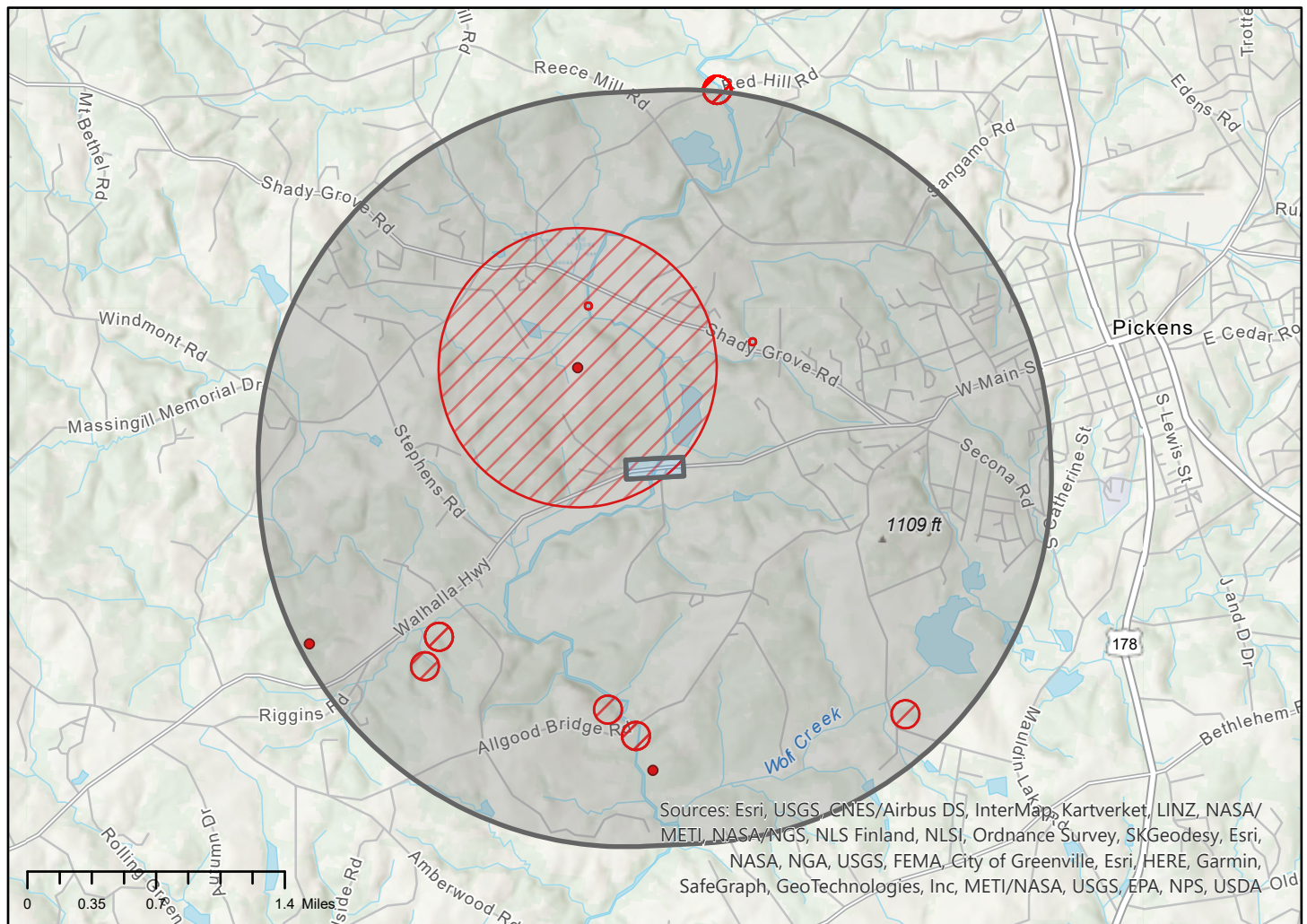
Emily C. Cope
Deputy Director for Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

PO Box 167
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 734-1396
speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov

Requested on Monday, August 29, 2022 by Blake Hartshorn.

Re: Request for Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation
SCDOT - S-183 Bridge Replacement over Twelve Mile - Bridge - Pickens County, South Carolina

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) has received your request for threatened and endangered species consultation of the above named project in Pickens County, South Carolina. The following map depicts the project area and a 2 mile buffer surrounding:



Live Life Outdoors



www.dnr.sc.gov



1000 Assembly St. P.O. Box 167 Columbia, S.C. 29202



803-734-3886

Equal Opportunity Agency



South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Robert H. Boyles, Jr.
Director

Emily C. Cope
Deputy Director for Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

This report includes the following items:

- A - A report for species which intersect the project area
- B - A report for species which intersect the buffer around the project area
- C - A list of best management practices relevant to species near to or within the project area
- D - A list of best management practices relevant to the project type
- E - Instructions to submit new species observation records to the SC Natural Heritage Program

Please be advised:

The contents of this report, including all tables, maps, recommendations, and various other text, are produced as a direct result of the information a user provides at the time of submission. The SCDNR assumes that all information submitted by the user represents the project scope as proposed, and recommends that additional reports be requested should the scope deviate from how the project was initially represented to the SCDNR.

The technical comments outlined in this report are submitted to speak to the general impacts of the activities as described through inquiry by parties outside the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. These technical comments are submitted as guidance to be considered and are not submitted as final agency comments that might be related to any unspecified local, state or federal permit, certification or license applications that may be needed by any applicant or their contractors, consultants or agents presently under review or not yet made available for public review. In accordance with its policy 600.01, Comments on Projects Under Department Review, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, reserves the right to comment on any permit, certification or license application that may be published by any regulatory agency which may incorporate, directly or by reference, these technical comments.

Interested parties are to understand that SCDNR may provide a final agency position to regulatory agencies if any local, state or federal permit, certification or license applications may be needed by any applicant or their contractors, consultants or agents. For further information regarding comments and input from SCDNR on your project, please contact our Office of Environmental Programs by emailing environmental@dnr.sc.gov or by visiting www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, requests for formal letters of concurrence with regards to federally listed species should be directed to the USFWS.

Should you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact our office by email at speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov or by phone at 803-734-1396.

Sincerely,

Joseph Lemeris, Jr.
Heritage Trust Program
SC Department of Natural Resources

Live Life Outdoors

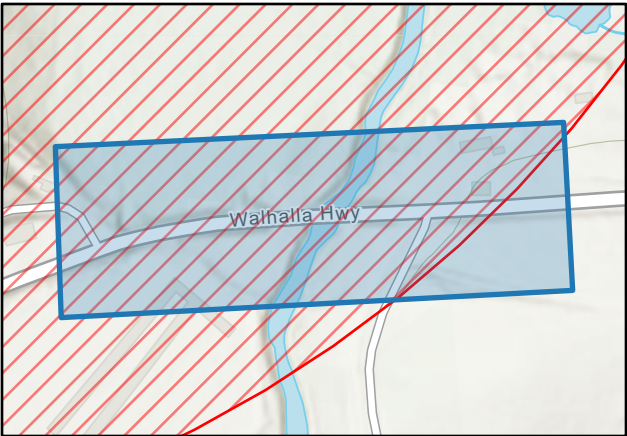


A. Project Area - Species Report

There are 1 tracked species records found within the project foot print. The following table outlines occurrences found within the project footprint (if any), sorted by listing status and species name. Please keep in mind that this information is derived from existing databases and do not assume that it is complete. Areas not yet inventoried may contain significant species or communities. You can find more information about global and state rank status definitions by visiting Natureserve's web page. Please note that certain sensitive species found on site may be listed in this table but are not represented on the map. Please contact speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions related to sensitive species found within the project area.



Map Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, City of Greenville, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies,



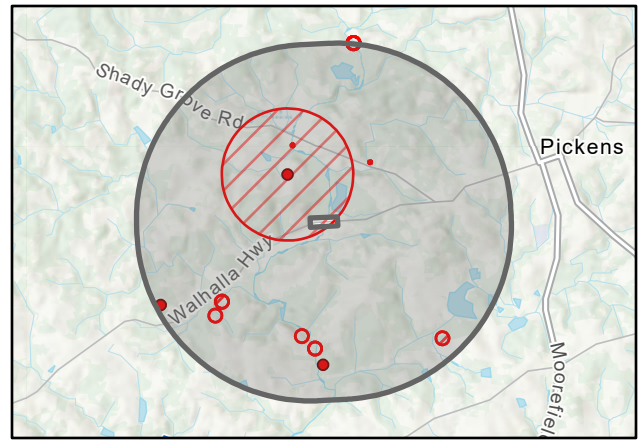
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	SWAP Priority	Last Obs. Date
Eastern Spotted Skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1950-01-02

B. Buffer Area - Species Report

The following table outlines rare, threatened or endangered species found within 2 miles of the project footprint, arranged in order of protection status and species name. Please keep in mind that this information is derived from existing databases and do not assume that it is complete. Areas not yet inventoried may contain significant species or communities. You can find more information about global and state rank status definitions by visiting NatureServe's web page. Please note that certain sensitive species found within the buffer area may be listed in this table but are not represented on the map.



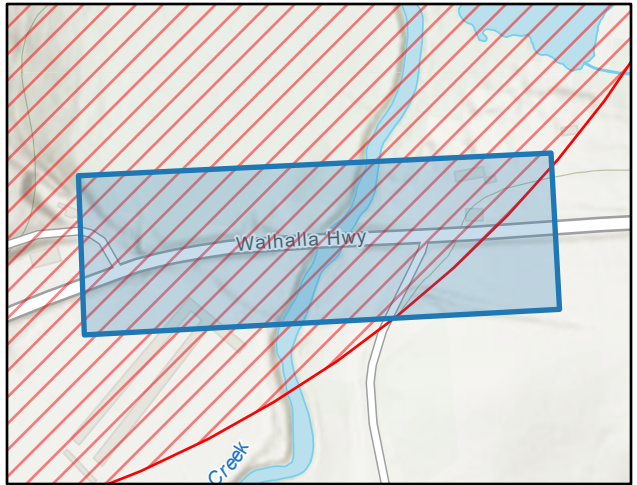
Map Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, City of Greenville, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA



Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	SWAP Priority	Last Obs. Date
Banded Darter	<i>Etheostoma zonale</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1962-07-10
Bartram's Bass	<i>Micropterus sp. 1 (Savannah)</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Highest	1962-07-21
Brazilian Free-tailed Bat	<i>Tadarida brasiliensis</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1990
Chauga Crayfish	<i>Cambarus chaugaensis</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Highest	1983-03-19
Eastern Red Bat	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Highest	1990
Eastern Spotted Skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1950-01-02
Evening Bat	<i>Nycticeius humeralis</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	1990
Flat Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus platycephalus</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	2016-06-29
Mirror Shiner	<i>Notropis spectrunculus</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1962-07-21
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	High	2008-05-07
Rosyface Chub	<i>Hybopsis rubrifrons</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	2016-06-29
Seminole Bat	<i>Lasiurus seminolus</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Highest	1990
Snail Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus brunneus</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	2016-06-29
Tennessee Shiner	<i>Notropis leuciodus</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1962-07-10
Turquoise Darter	<i>Etheostoma inscriptum</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	High	2016-06-29
Warpaint Shiner	<i>Luxilus coccogenis</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1962-07-10
Whitetail Shiner	<i>Cyprinella galactura</i>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Moderate	1962-07-10

C. Species Best Management Practices (1 of 1)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to species of concern which may be found on or near to the project area. Please contact speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions with regard to survey methods, consultation, or other species-related concerns.



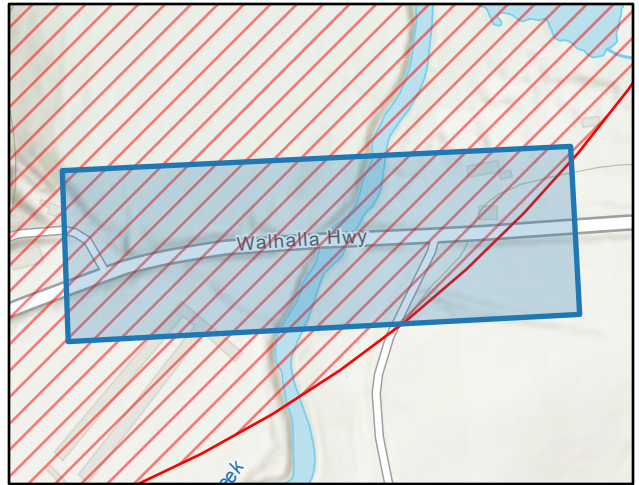
Map Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, City of Greenville, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies,

Cavity- and tree-roosting bat species including the federally threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), state-endangered Rafinesque's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii*), and the federally at-risk tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) have been known to occur in the county of the proposed site. As a conservation measure, it is recommended that any tree clearing activities be conducted during the inactive season for Northern long-eared bat (November 15th through March 31st) to avoid negative impacts to the species. If any of the above species are found on-site, please contact the USFWS and SCDNR.

Species in the above table with SWAP priorities of High, Highest or Moderate are designated as having conservation priority under the South Carolina State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). SWAP species are those species of greatest conservation need not traditionally covered under any federal funded programs. Species are listed in the SWAP because they are rare or designated as at-risk due to knowledge deficiencies; species common in South Carolina but listed rare or declining elsewhere; or species that serve as indicators of detrimental environmental conditions. SCDNR recommends that appropriate measures should be taken to minimize or avoid impacts to the aforementioned species of concern.

D. Project Best Management Practices (1 of 2)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to natural resources within or surrounding the project area. Please contact our Office of Environmental Programs at environmental@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.



Map Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps Contributors, City of Greenville, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies,

If this project is associated with the Federal Government and the project area is or once was used as farmland, we recommend that consultation occur with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) per the Farmland Protection Policy Act; areas of the site are classified as prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance.

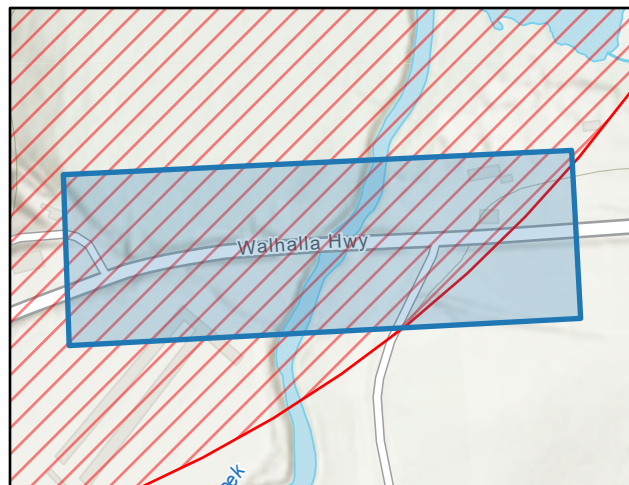
- All necessary measures must be taken to prevent oil, tar, trash and other pollutants from entering the adjacent offsite areas/wetlands/ water.
 - Once the project is initiated, it must be carried to completion in an expeditious manner to minimize the period of disturbance to the environment.
 - Upon project completion, all disturbed areas must be permanently stabilized with vegetative cover (preferable), riprap or other erosion control methods as appropriate.
 - The project must be in compliance with any applicable floodplain, stormwater, land disturbance, shoreline management guidance or riparian buffer ordinances.
 - Prior to beginning any land disturbing activity, appropriate erosion and siltation control measures (e.g. silt fences or barriers) must be in place and maintained in a functioning capacity until the area is permanently stabilized.
 - Materials used for erosion control (e.g., hay bales or straw mulch) will be certified as weed free by the supplier.
 - Inspecting and ensuring the maintenance of temporary erosion control measures at least:
 - a. on a daily basis in areas of active construction or equipment operation;
 - b. on a weekly basis in areas with no construction or equipment operation; and
 - c. within 24 hours of each 0.5 inch of rainfall.
 - Ensuring the repair of all ineffective temporary erosion control measures within 24 hours of identification, or as soon as conditions allow if compliance with this time frame would result in greater environmental impacts.
 - Land disturbing activities must avoid encroachment into any wetland areas (outside the permitted impact area). Wetlands that are unavoidably impacted must be appropriately mitigated.
 - Your project may require a Stormwater Permit from the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control, please visit <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/stormwater>
-
- If clearing must occur, riparian vegetation within wetlands and waters of the U.S. must be conducted manually and low growing, woody vegetation and shrubs must be left intact to maintain bank stability and reduce erosion.
 - Construction activities must avoid and minimize, to the greatest extent practicable, disturbance of woody shoreline vegetation within the project area. Removal of vegetation should be limited to only what is necessary for construction of the proposed structures.
 - Where necessary to remove vegetation, supplemental plantings should be installed following completion of the project. These plantings should consist of appropriate native species for this ecoregion.

D. Project Best Management Practices (2 of 2)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to natural resources within or surrounding the project area. Please contact our Office of Environmental Programs at environmental@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.



Map Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri Community Maps
Contributors, City of Greenville, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies,



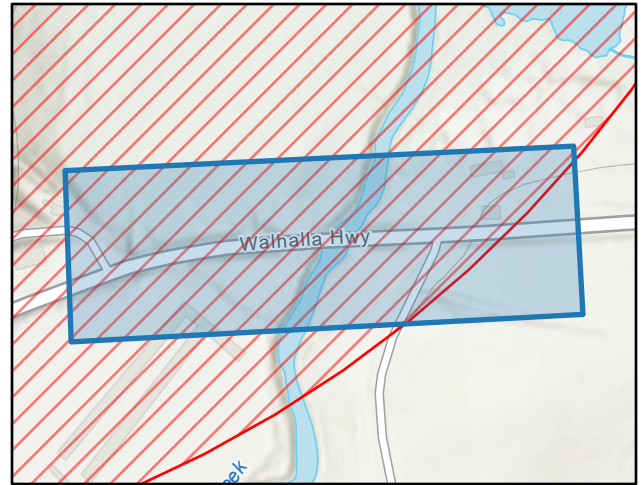
- Review of available data, National Hydrography Dataset, indicates that streams or waters of the United States are present within your project area. These areas may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as well as a compensatory mitigation plan. SCDNR advises that you consult with the USACE Regulatory to determine if jurisdictional waters are present and if a permit and mitigation is required for any activities impacting these areas. For more information, please visit their website at www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory. Additionally, a 401 Water Quality Certification or a State Navigable Waters permit may also be required from the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control. For more information, please visit the following websites:
 - <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/water-quality-certification-section-401-clean-water-act>
 - <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/navigable-waters>
- Excavation/Construction activities must not occur during fish spawning season from March through June due to its negative impacts on eggs and reproduction activities.
- If clearing must occur, riparian vegetation within wetlands and waters of the U.S. must be conducted manually and low growing, woody vegetation and shrubs must be left intact to maintain bank stability and reduce erosion.
- Construction activities must avoid and minimize, to the greatest extent practicable, disturbance of woody shoreline vegetation within the project area. Removal of vegetation should be limited to only what is necessary for construction of the proposed structures.
- Where necessary to remove vegetation, supplemental plantings should be installed following completion of the project. These plantings should consist of appropriate native species for this ecoregion.

Your project area includes a FEMA special flood hazard area and may require a permit from the County National Floodplain Insurance Program Manager before impacts occur to aquatic resources and the associated floodplains on site. Please refer to <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/water/flood/documents/nfipadmindirectory.pdf> to find your appropriate contact information.

E. Instructions for Submitting Species Observations

The SC Natural Heritage Dataset relies on continuous monitoring and surveying for species of concern throughout the state. Any records of species of concern found within this project area would greatly benefit the quality and comprehensiveness of the statewide dataset for rare, threatened and endangered species. Below are instructions for how to download the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form through the Survey123 App.

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Conservation Ranks & SWAP Priority Status

The SC Natural Heritage Program assigns S Ranks for species tracked within the state of South Carolina based on ranking methodology developed by NatureServe and its state program network. For information conservation rank definitions, please visit <https://explorer.natureserve.org/AboutTheData/Statuses>

The SCDNR maintains and updates its State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) every 10 years. This plan categorizes species of concern by Moderate, High, and Highest Priority. Please visit <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/swap/index.html> for more information about the SC SWAP.

Instructions for accessing the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form

For use in a browser (on your desktop/PC):

- 1) Follow <https://bit.ly/scht-reporting-form>
- 2) Select 'Open in browser'
- 3) The form will open and you can begin entering data!

This method of access will also work on a browser on a mobile device, but only when connected to the internet. To use the form in the field without relying on data/internet access, follow the steps below.

For use on a smartphone or tablet using the field app:

- 1) Download the Survey123 App from the Google Play store or the Apple Store. This app is free to download. Allow the app to use your location.
- 2) No need to sign in. However, you will need to provide the app with our Heritage Trust GIS portal web address. You will only need to do this once: (this is a known bug with ESRI's software, and future releases of the form should not require the below steps. Bear with us in the meantime!).
 - a. Tap 'Sign in'
 - b. Tap the settings (gear symbol) in the upper right corner
 - c. Tap 'Add Portal'
 - d. After the 'https://', type schtportal.dnr.sc.gov/portal
 - e. Tap 'Add Portal'
 - f. Tap the back-arrow icon (upper left corner) twice to return to the main sign in page.
- 3) Use the camera app (or other QR Reader app) to scan the QR code on this page from your smartphone or tablet. Click on the 'Open in the Survey123 field app'. This will prompt a window to allow Survey123 to download the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form. Select 'Open.'
- 4) The form will automatically open in Survey123, and you can begin entering data! This form will stay loaded in the app on your device until you manually delete it, and you can submit as many records as you like.



IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

Location

Pickens County, South Carolina



Local office

South Carolina Ecological Services

☎ (843) 727-4707

📅 (843) 727-4218

176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, SC 29407-7558

<http://www.fws.gov/charleston/>

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

-
1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Reptiles

NAME	STATUS
Bog Turtle <i>Glyptemys muhlenbergii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6962	SAT

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Dwarf-flowered Heartleaf <i>Hexastylis naniflora</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2458	Threatened
Mountain Sweet Pitcher-plant <i>Sarracenia rubra</i> ssp. <i>jonesii</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4283	Endangered

Smooth Coneflower *Echinacea laevigata*

Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3473>

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
<https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

THERE ARE NO MIGRATORY BIRDS OF CONSERVATION CONCERN EXPECTED TO OCCUR AT THIS LOCATION.

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin

Islands);

2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn

more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

[PFO1A](#)

RIVERINE

[R2UBH](#)

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the [National Wetlands Inventory website](#)

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.