

Essential Fish Habitat Screening Form

SCDOT is submitting this information to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in anticipation of a Department of the Army permit for work within jurisdictional waters of the United States. Yes No

If NO, please explain: _____

Project: _____ County: _____

Anticipated Permit: _____ Permit Number, if applicable: _____ PCN: _____

+Projects authorized under individual permits (IPs) typically require more detailed analyses of the anticipated impacts of the proposed action and may require a full Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment.

Waterbody: _____

Anticipated Construction Start Date: _____ End Date: _____ In-Water Work Windows, if applicable:
to _____
to _____

Proposed Action and Impacts

Include descriptions of the proposed action; quantity and type of total permanent and temporary impacts (not just EFH); existing condition of habitat(s) within the project area according to the USACE SOP determination of wetlands credits; existing quality and type of EFH present; effects of project to species, EFH, HAPC and other relevant impacts to NMFS-trust resources; construction access and staging areas; pile driving/jetting methodologies; include work schedule and work moratoria, etc.. Attach additional information (e.g., descriptions, maps, design plans, bridge profiles) and sheets if/when necessary. Maps, plans, designs and other figures can be used to satisfy information requirements described above.

Habitat and Impacts (based on the most recent design available; including pilings/columns) Amount of impacts (in acres):

	Habitat Present:	Impacts:	Habitat Quality (Include description above):	Permanent	Temporary	Total
Estuarine emergent wetlands:						
Sub-/Intertidal non-vegetated flat:						
Tidal creek:						
Unconsolidated Bottom:						
Oyster/shell*:						
Coastal inlet*:						
Tidal palustrine wetlands:						
Tidal palustrine forested areas:						
Live/Hard bottom:						

*These general habitat types are designated as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPCs). SCDOT must conduct further analyses on the presence of, and impacts to, these (and other relevant) HAPCs and complete the *Habitat Areas of Particular Concern* section (page 3) of this document.

Total Impacts:

Fill*	
Clearing	
Shading	
Dredging	
TOTAL	*All fill, including bridge and/or pedestrian walkway pilings should be included here.

Describe all avoidance and minimization measures as well as conservation measures and best management practices (BMPs). Reference stormwater management, erosion control, sedimentation and turbidity control , and other pertinent documents/SOPs where appropriate.

Notes: Describe any restoration work and/or mitigation measures/plans (e.g. on-site removal of exisiting fill) - including monitoring plans.

SCDOT concludes: Adverse Effect on EFH: Yes No

Prepared by: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPCs) are subsets of EFH which are rare, particularly susceptible to human-induced degradation, especially ecologically important, or located in an environmentally stressed area. At the interface of NOAA trust resources and SCDOT projects, oyster reefs are the most common HAPC in South Carolina. Coastal inlets and other designated HAPCs are present in the state, but will rarely be encountered by SCDOT.

HAPC present: Oyster Reefs Coastal Inlets Other: _____

SCDOT/FHWA concludes HAPC Impacted: Yes No

HAPC Impacts (if applicable):	Amount of Impacts (in Acres):		
	Temporary	Permanent	Total
Oyster Reefs			
Coastal Inlets			
Other:			

For oyster reefs: Assess both qualitative and quantitative impacts. Check all that apply and quantify impacts into sub-categories.

	Shell (dead) accumulations ("shell hash")	Aggregations (living and dead)	Reefs (vener of living and dead organisms)
Impact Area (Acres or %):	_____	_____	_____

Provide detailed descriptions of impacts to oyster reefs. Provide descriptions of impacts to other HAPCs, if applicable.

Provide detailed descriptions of mitigation plans for impacts to oyster reefs, and other HAPCs, if applicable.