S-23-40 (Pace Bridge Road) Bridge Replacement over South Saluda River

Project ID: P041160

Project Description:

S-23-40 (Pace Bridge Road) Bridge Replacement over South Saluda River.

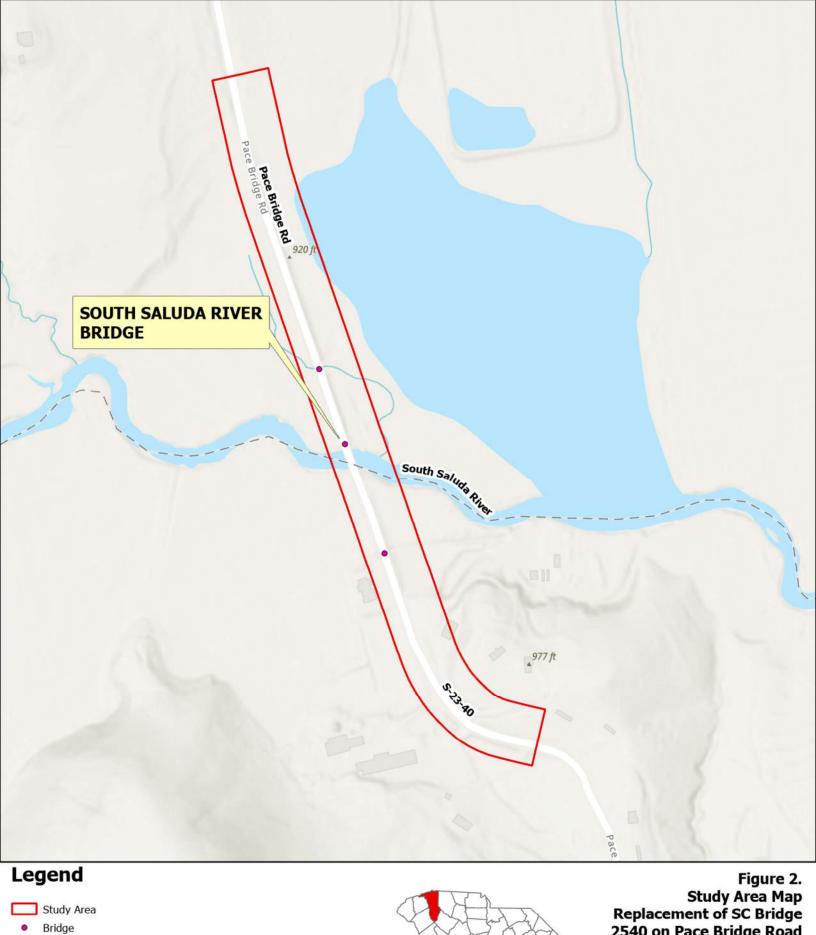
South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to replace the S-23-40 (Pace Bridge Road) Bridge over South Saluda River in Greenville County.

The purpose of this project is to correct the load restriction placed on the bridge and restore all components to good condition. The existing bridge is posted for load restrictions and has one or more components in poor condition. The bridge was built in 1957. According to the SCDOT Structure Inventory and Appraisal Report from August 2022, the bridge has a sufficiency rating of 23.5. An off-site detour may be utilized during construction. The bridge is currently closed to traffic.

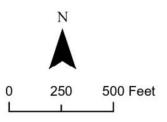
Field studies revealed no significant impacts or effects to resources within the project study area.







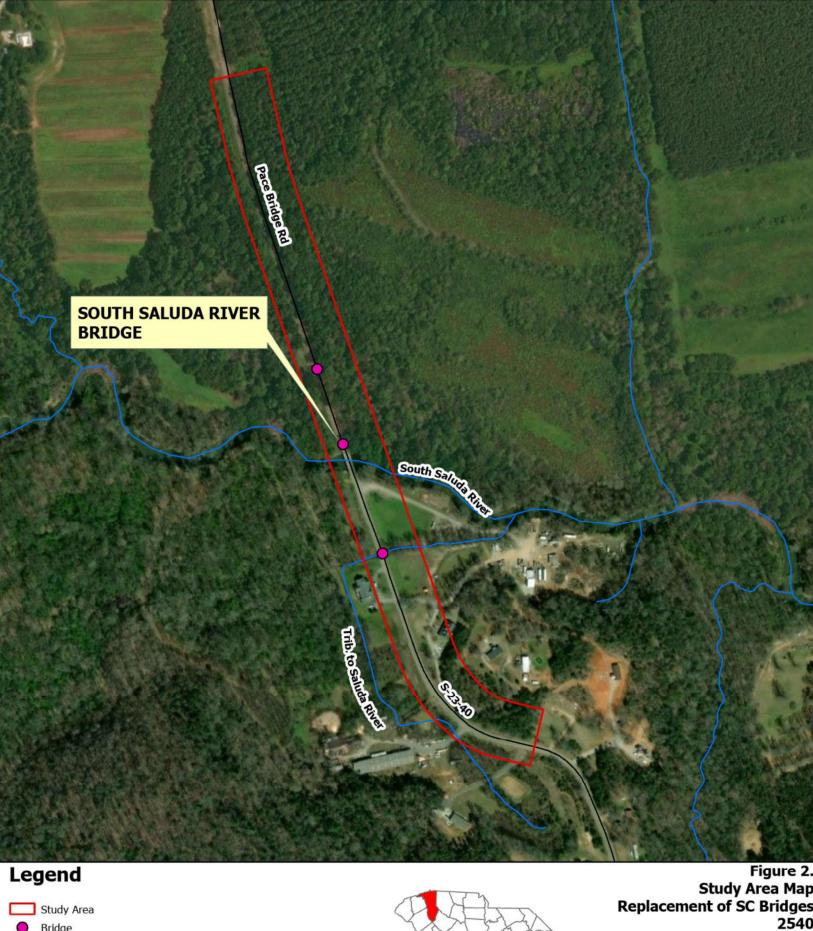
HNTB





Study Area Map Replacement of SC Bridge 2540 on Pace Bridge Road over South Saluda River in Greenville County, SC

Sources: SCDOT, ArcGIS ESRI Basemap. 2023.



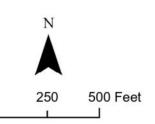


Stream

- Highway

Road







on Pace Bridge Road over South Saluda River in Greenville County, SC

Sources: SCDOT, ArcGIS ESRI Basemap. 2023.

S-40 Bridge Replacement Appendices

Appendix A: Cultural Resources Screening Reports

Appendix B: Natural Resources Technical Memorandum

Appendix C: Bridge Scope and Risk Assessment Form

Appendix D: Floodplain Checklist

Appendix E: Public Comments





Appendix A: Cultural Resources Screening Form





CULTURAL RESOURCE FIELD REPORT

SCDOT ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION



<u>TITLE</u>: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of Proposed Improvements to the S-23-40 Bridge over South Saluda River

DATE OF RESEARCH: 7/27/23 **ARCHAEOLOGIST:** Lauren Christian, MA, RPA

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN: Sean Stucker, MHP

COUNTY: Greenville and Pickens **PROJECT**: Closed and Load Restricted Bridge Replacements- Package 19

<u>F. A. No.:</u> <u>File No.</u> <u>PIN</u>: P041160

DESCRIPTION:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to replace various closed or load-restricted bridges including the S-23-40 (Pace Bridge Road) bridge over the South Saluda River in Greenville County, South Carolina. The river forms the boundary between Greenville and Pickens Counties. While there are three bridges along this stretch, it is the bridge over the river that is being replaced. The project area is defined as that area within 75 feet of either side of the proposed roadway centerline and extending 1,500 feet from the bridge. The archaeological survey covered the entire project area, while the architectural survey examined the Area of Potential Effects (APE), which was defined as all above-ground resources with sightlines to the bridge. This cultural resource survey was performed under contract with HNTB.

LOCATION:

The project area is located approximately 3.9 miles east of Slater-Marietta in northeastern Greenville County, South Carolina (Figure 1).

USGS QUADRANGLE: Cleveland, SC DATE: 2014 SCALE: 1:24000

UTM: NAD83 ZONE: 17N EASTING: 356656 NORTHING: 3875643

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

The project area is situated in the Blue Ridge physiographic region, which includes and extends above the Blue Ridge Escarpment and is characterized by metagranite mountains. The topography in the project area ranges from 940 feet above mean sea level (amsl) at the south terminus to 910 feet amsl in the vicinity of the South Saluda River. The surrounding landscape is undeveloped forest land north of the bridge and rural residential development south of the bridge. Vegetation in the northern portion consists of mixed pines and hardwoods with a moderately dense understory, while the southern portion consists of manicured lawns.

NEAREST RIVER/STREAM AND DISTANCE:

The project area is bisected by the South Saluda River (HUC 0305010902), which is a tributary of the Saluda River (HUC 03050109). These rivers confluence to the west of Travelers Rest, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of the project area.

SOIL TYPE:

Soils in the project area were formed from alluvium or residuum weathered from granite, gneiss, and/or diorite. The majority of the soils are somewhat poorly to poorly drained (59.4 percent), with 33.4 percent identified as well drained and 5.9 percent moderately well drained. By the early twentieth century, continuous row cropping destroyed soil nutrients, and large tracts of farmland were rendered unsuitable for cultivation. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NCRS) maps two soil types in the project area (17 percent) as eroded (Table 1; Figure 2).

Table 1. Soils Mapped in the Project Area

Map Unit	Map Name	Drainage Class	Notes	Acres in Project Area	Percent of Project Area
Co	Chewacla soils	Somewhat Poorly Drained	Frequently flooded	3.0	19.6
Cw	Congaree fine sandy loam	Well Drained		1.8	11.8
HlD2	Hiwassee clay loam	Well Drained	6–15% slopes, eroded	0.1	0.7
HwE2	Hiwassee sandy loam	Well Drained 10–25% slopes, erode		2.5	16.3
PaF	Pacolet fine sandy loam	Well Drained	25–40% slopes	0.1	0.7
SrB	Starr loam	Well Drained	0–6% slopes	0.6	3.9
To	Toccoa soils	Moderately Well Drained		0.9	5.9
W	Water			0.2	1.3
Wd	Wehadkee soils	Poorly Drained		6.1	39.8
		15.3	100		

REFERENCE FOR SOILS INFORMATION:

USDA-NCRS Soi	1 Survey Div	ision. Custom	Soil Resource	Report	(websoilsurvey	.sc.egov.usda.gov)
CDD11 I CIGO DOI	I Dui ve y Div	ibion, Cubion.	Don Itobource	1 COPOIC	W COBOILD GLIVE	.50.0501.4544.5017

GROUND SURFACE VISIBILITY: 0% X 1-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76-100%

CURRENT VEGETATION:

The vegetation in the northern portion of the project area primarily consists of mixed pines and hardwoods with a moderately dense understory. This understory is very dense on either side of the bridge and along the transmission line that runs parallel to the road. Vegetation in the southern portion consists of manicured landscapes (Figures 3–5).

INVESTIGATION:

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

New South Associates, Inc. (NSA) conducted background research prior to fieldwork using the ArchSite GIS database maintained by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH). The background research identified two previous cultural resources surveys, two historic structures, and one archaeological site within the 0.5-mile search radius (Table 2, Figure 6). None of these resources are in the project area itself.

The first survey was conducted by Legacy Research Associates (Joy et al. 2005). This intensive survey covered almost the entirety of the project area, except for the northernmost 400 feet. As a result, no cultural resources were identified.

Brockington and Associates conducted the second survey in 2013. This survey was a county-wide recordation of historic architectural resources within Greenville County. Among the resources identified during this survey were Gray Gables (SHPO Site Number 3291) and Allison School (SHPO Site Number 3293), both of which are located on the south side of Pumpkintown Road, outside of the project area to the northwest. Both resources date to the early twentieth century, and neither was recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP (Owens et al. 2013).

Archaeological site 38GR0097 was recorded in 1982 to the northwest of the current project area during a survey for a proposed bridge replacement. The assemblage consists of a dense concentration of diagnostic bifaces and ceramic sherds that date the site to the Late Archaic period, as well as non-diagnostic tool fragments and lithic debitage. Based

on the type and concentrations of artifacts recovered, site 38GR0097 was interpreted as a habitation site. This site consisted of surface finds only, and no shovel testing or subsurface investigation was conducted when it was recorded. Site 38GR0097 was recommended as not eligible for the NRHP (Thomas 1982).

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

Site or SHPO Site No.	Type or Name/Address	Temporal Affiliation /Build Date	NRHP Recommendation	Reference
38GR0097	Diagnostic bifaces and ceramic sherds	Late Archaic period	Not Eligible	Thomas 1982
3291	Gray Gables/641 Pumpkintown Rd.	1908-1912	Not Eligible	Owens et al. 2013
3293	Allison School/641 Pumpkintown Rd.	Early 20th Century	Not Eligible	Owens et al. 2013

SURVEY RESULTS

Although surveyed almost in its entirety in 2005, the project area was revisited, primarily to determine if any architectural resources had reached 50 years of age since that time. The only area archaeologically surveyed was the northernmost 400 feet of the project area, while the previously surveyed portion was subjected to a walkthrough survey. No new cultural resources were identified, and the results of the fieldwork are discussed below.

ARCHAEOLOGY

The Phase I Archaeology Survey was conducted on July 27, 2023. Lauren Christian, MA, RPA, served as Field Director and was assisted in the field by Archaeological Technician John Tomko. The archaeological investigation included a pedestrian walkover of the entire project area and the excavation of shovel tests at 30-meter (100-foot) intervals at the northern end of the project area. Shovel tests were placed along a single transect parallel to either side of Pace Bridge Road. Soil profiles were recorded for all excavated shovel tests, and location data was recorded for all investigated shovel tests using handheld GPS instruments.

Eight shovel test locations were investigated across the northern 400 feet of the project area. Those on the west side of S-23-40 were located within a powerline corridor where exposed red clay subsoil could be seen. Along the east side of the road, red clay subsoil could be seen beneath the leaf litter, with the exception of ST 2 (Figure 7). The soil profile consisted of approximately 20 centimeters of dark brown (10YR 3/3) sandy loam Ap horizon overlying a dark reddish brown (5YR 3/3) sandy clay subsoil (Figure 8). No new or previously recorded archaeological sites were identified in the project area.

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY

The architectural survey was conducted on August 30, 2023, by Architectural Historian Sean Stucker, MHP. No newly recorded or previously surveyed architectural historic resources were identified within the APE. The bridge carrying S-23-40 over the South Saluda River, constructed in 1957, was not evaluated per the exemptions associated with the FHWA's Post-1945 Bridges Program Comment (U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration 2012). This bridge (FHWA Structure No. 02540) is of a common type, with a substructure comprised of prestressed concrete channel beams and wood piers that are set into the riverbed, a precast-concrete deck structure, and a bituminous decking surface (Svirsky 2024; Figure 9). Approximately 375 feet to the north is an overflow channel over which an associated bridge (FHWA Structure No. 02541) carries S-23-40 (Svirsky 2024). This bridge, also built in 1957, is of a similar type but with a slab structure in place of the channel beams (Figure 10a). It was also not assessed per the exemptions associated with the program comment. Finally, about 350 feet to the south is an overflow channel over which a third bridge (FHWA Structure No. 05605) carries S-23-40 (Svirsky 2024). Although this bridge was not built until 1969, it is of identical construction to its northern overflow counterpart, if one span shorter (Figure 10b). It too is exempt from assessment per the program comment.

REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The survey identified no archaeological sites or isolated finds, nor did it record any new or revisit any previously recorded architectural resources. The proposed project, as currently defined, would have no effects on historic properties.

SIGNATURE: Principal Investigator DATE: April 19, 2024

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND FIGURES

- Joy, Deborah, Steve Rankin, Jared Roberts, David Babineau, and Jay Stevens. 2005. Intensive Archaeological and Architectural Survey for the Replacement of Bridges over South Saluda River, Tributary of South Saluda River, and South Saluda River Overflow in Greenville and Pickens County, South Carolina. Legacy Research Associates, Inc., Durham, North Carolina.
- Owens, Sheldon, Ashley Pruitt, Cameron Sexton, and Patricia Stallings. 2013. *Greenville County, South Carolina Historic Resources Survey*. Brockington and Associates, Inc.
- Svirsky, Alexander. 2024. The National Bridge Inventory Database. *LTBP InfoBridge*. https://infobridge.fhwa.dot.gov/, accessed November 19, 2018.
- Thomas, G.L. 1982. 38GR0097 Site Form. SC AS Survey. South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Greenville County, South Carolina. South Carolina Department of Archives & History.
- U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. 2012. Program Comment for Actions
 Affecting Post-1945 Concrete and Steel Bridges. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington,
 D.C.

Figure 1: Project Location Map

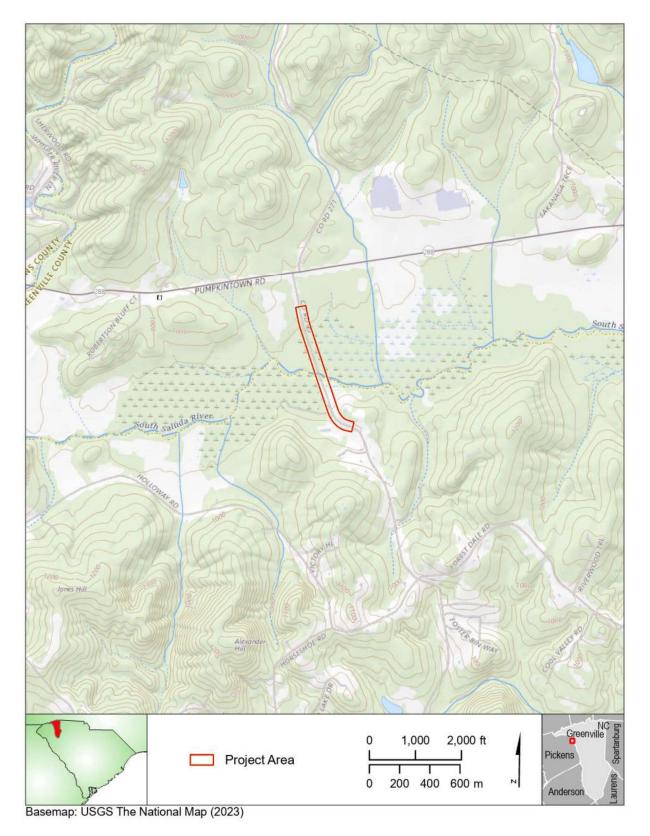
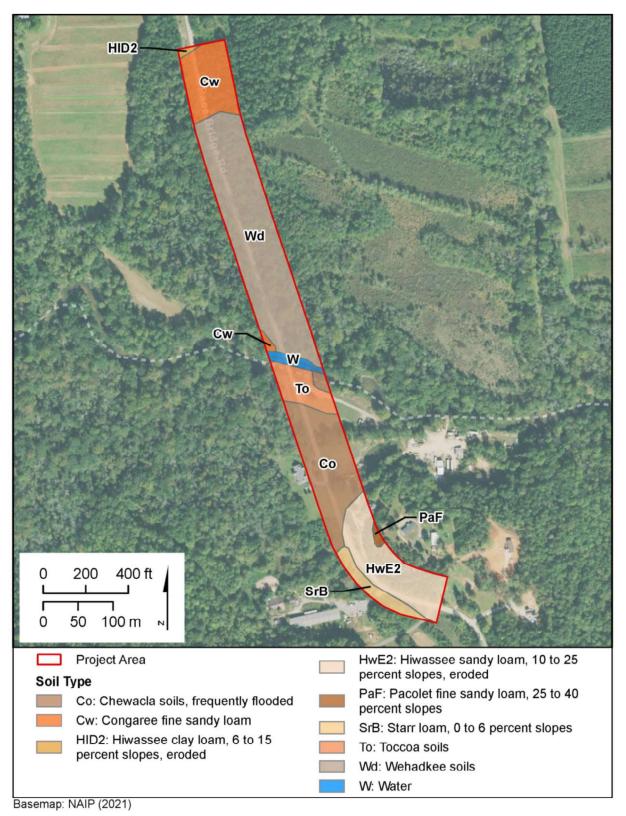


Figure 2: Soils in the Project Area



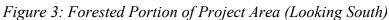




Figure 4: Dense Understory along Transmission Line in Project Area (Looking South)



Figure 5: Manicured Lawn in Southern Portion of Project Area (Looking North)



Figure 6: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Map

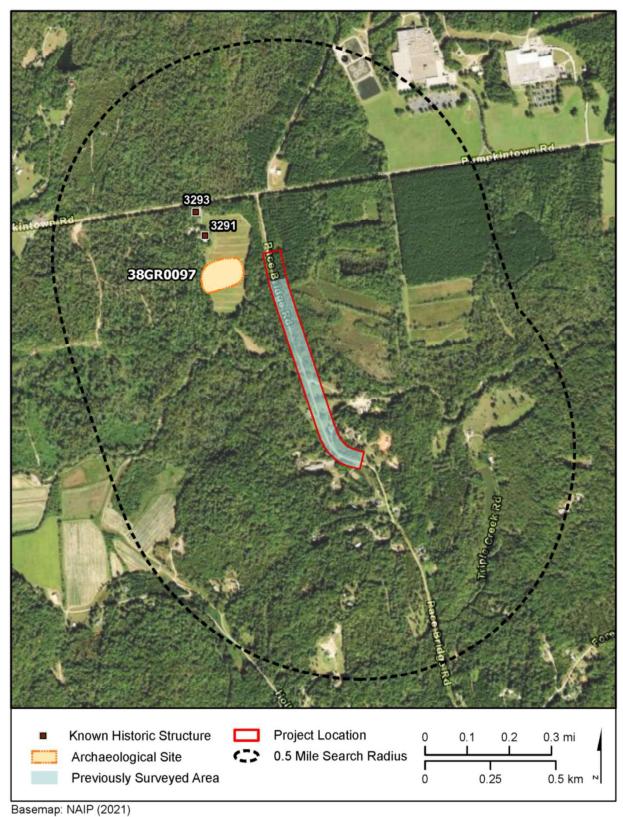
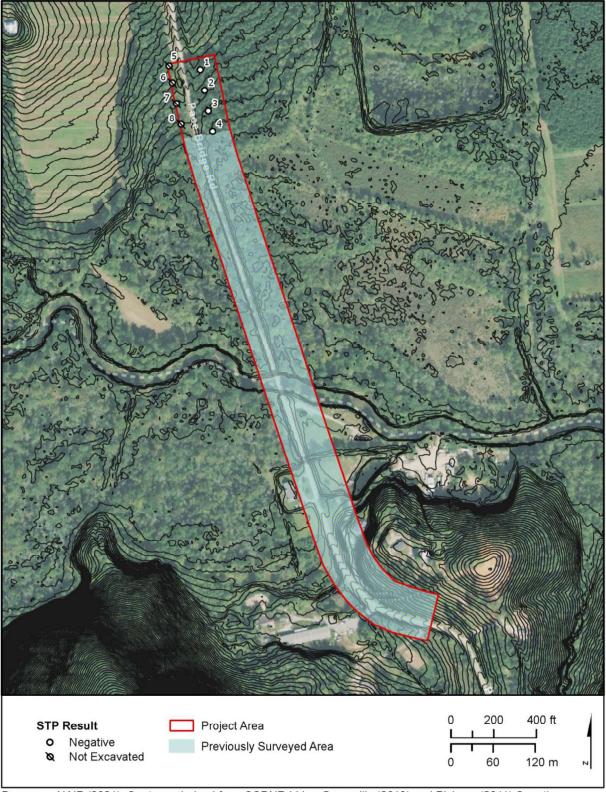


Figure 7: Shovel Tests Results Map



Basemap: NAIP (2021), Contours derived from SCDNR Lidar: Greenville (2013) and Pickens (2011) Counties

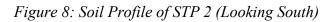




Figure 9: S-23-40 Bridge over South Saluda River, Built in 1957 and Not Assessed



a. Bridge Structure, Looking Northeast



b. Bridge Structure Detail, Looking Northeast

Figure 10: S-23-40 Bridges over South Saluda River Overflow Channels, Not Assessed



a. Northern Overflow Bridge (Built 1957), Looking Southeast



b. Southern Overflow Bridge (Built 1969), Looking Southwest

Appendix B: Natural Resources Technical Memorandum





Natural Resources Technical Memorandum

S-40 Bridge Replacements over South Saluda River (SSR) and SSR Overflow, and S-26 Bridge Replacement over Trib to SSR

SCDOT Project ID: P041160



Introduction

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to replace three (3) bridges on Pace Bridge Road (S-40/S-26) and improve the roadway approaches to the bridges. The bridges include the S-40 bridges over the South Saluda River (SSR) and the SSR Overflow, and the S-26 bridge over a tributary to the SSR. The project is approximately 7.75 miles northwest of the City of Travelers Rest in Greenville County and Pickens counties, South Carolina. Furthermore, the project is located in the Saluda River Watershed (03050109 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code) and the 45a Southern Inner Piedmont Level IV Ecoregion. Please see Attachment A, Figure 1 for a Site Location Map.

A Project Study Area (PSA) has been established, based on preliminary design, to encompass all potential impacts of the project. The PSA encompasses an area approximately 15.30 acres in size and approximately 3,000 feet (0.57 mile) in total length, generally centered on South Saluda River in either direction. Furthermore, the PSA is 225 feet in total width, generally centered on the centerline of Pace Bridge Road.

Robbins & DeWitt conducted a desktop analysis, scientific literature review, and field surveys for natural resources associated with the proposed bridge replacements. This technical memorandum provides a summary of methods and findings related to natural resources and potential project related impacts. Attached to this memorandum are supporting figures, a SCDOT Permit Determination Form, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Watershed and Water Quality Information Report, and a biological evaluation for federally protected species.

Desktop Analysis Methods

A desktop analysis was completed as part of an initial evaluation of the PSA to identify key environmental resources to be considered for permitting and/or avoidance and minimization by the design team. The potential resources identified in the desktop evaluation were field verified by Robbins & DeWitt to ensure that critical regulatory items would not be adversely impacted by the project. The following resources were consulted during the desktop analysis:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Map Service Center (https://msc.fema.gov/portal)
- SCDHEC Watershed Atlas (https://gis.dhec.sc.gov/watersheds)
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) and South Carolina Natural Heritage Program (SCNHP) (https://schtportal.dnr.sc.gov/portal/apps/sites/#/natural-heritage-program)
- SCDNR Digital Elevation Mapping (DEM) and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) (https://www.dnr.sc.gov/GIS/lidar.html)
- SCDNR Open Source Geospatial Data (https://data-scdnr.opendata.arcgis.com/)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS) (https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/)
- USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/)
- USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) (http://www.fws.gov/wetlands)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) (http://nhd.usgs.gov/)
- USGS Topographic Quadrangle Maps (1:24,000-scale) Cleveland, SC Quadrangle

Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.

After completing the desktop analysis, Robbins & DeWitt performed field reviews to determine the boundaries of jurisdictional waters of the U.S., including wetlands, in the PSA. Field reviews were conducted on July 13 and December 27, 2023. A summary of jurisdictional features identified in the PSA is provided in Tables 1 through 3.

Table 1 - Summary of Delineated Wetlands in the Project Study Area

Wetland	Latitude	Longitude	Area (acre)
Wetland A	35.009521	-82.569326	0.02
Wetland B	35.009806	-82.569708	0.03
Wetland CC	35.013955	-82.571147	3.79
Wetland DD	35.011807	-82.570604	0.36
Wetland EE	35.010393	-82.570005	0.22
Total	4.42 acres		

Table 2 - Summary of Delineated Streams in the Project Study Area

Non-Wetland Feature	Latitude	Longitude	Centerline Length (feet)	Area (acre)
Stream A	35.009475	-82.569305	71	0.01
Stream B	35.012290	-82.570452	270	0.46
Stream C	35.011351	-82.570051	230	0.06
Total			571 feet	0.53 acres

Table 3 - Summary of Non-Wetland Waters in the Project Study Area

Wetland	Latitude	Longitude	Area (acre)
Pond A	35.009569	-82.569486	0.08
Total			0.08 acre

Permitting Considerations

Based on the conceptual bridge design, impacts to jurisdictional waters may occur during construction but are expected to remain below the SCDOT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Permit impact thresholds.

The USACE Charleston District has identified the South Saluda River as part of the USACE Section 408 program. Coordination with the USACE Section 408 office will be required for the project. It is anticipated that the project will be designed to avoid alterations to the channel that would impair or reduce conveyance or functionality. The Contractor shall provide a bridge plan and profile depicting the final bridge design to the Section 408 USACE Charleston District office for review and concurrence prior to construction.

A completed SCDOT Permit Determination Form and SCDHEC Watershed and Water Quality Information Report are provided in Attachment B.

Federally Protected Species

Environmental scientists performed literature and field reviews to determine the likelihood of protected species within the PSA and the potential for project-related impacts. Field reviews were conducted on July 13 and December 27, 2023, and February 20, 2024. The SCDNR South Carolina Natural Heritage Species Viewer was also reviewed to determine the presence of known populations of protected species within the vicinity of the project. Based on the literature and field reviews it is determined that the proposed project will have a biological conclusion of 'no effect' on federally protected species. A Biological Evaluation is provided in Attachment C.

Migratory Birds

Certain bird species are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. The USFWS IPaC online database was reviewed for information pertaining to migratory bird species. Migratory birds were not observed nesting on the existing South Saluda River (SSR) bridge, but migratory bird nests were observed on the SSR Overflow bridge and the Trib to SSR bridge.

Vegetation

Land use in the PSA includes silviculture/managed woodlands, natural forested floodplains, and residential housing. The only natural community observed within the PSA consists of bottomland hardwoods. Refer to the Biotic Communities section in Attachment C for a detailed description of vegetation observed in the PSA.

Soils

According to the (USDA-NRCS) Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) data, eight Soil Map Units (SMU) and water (W) are mapped within the PSA. Each SMU IS included in Table 3 below.

Table 4 - Soil Map Units (SMU) in the Project Study Area

SMU	SMU Name	Area (acres)	Percentage of PSA
Cw	Congaree fine sandy loam	1.8	11.7%
HID2	Hiwassee clay loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	0.1	0.4%
Wd	Wehadkee soils	6.1	39.8%
Со	Chewacla soils, frequently flooded	3.0	19.3%

HwE2	Hiwassee sandy loam, 10 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	2.5	16.5%
PaF	Pacolet fine sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	0.1	0.5%
SrB	Starr loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	0.6	4.2%
То	Toccoa soils	0.9	6.0%
W	Water	0.2	0.16%

If you have any questions, or if Robbins & DeWitt can be of additional assistance, please feel free to contact Matt DeWitt at (864) 201-8446 or matt.dewitt@robbins-dewitt.com.

Respectfully Submitted

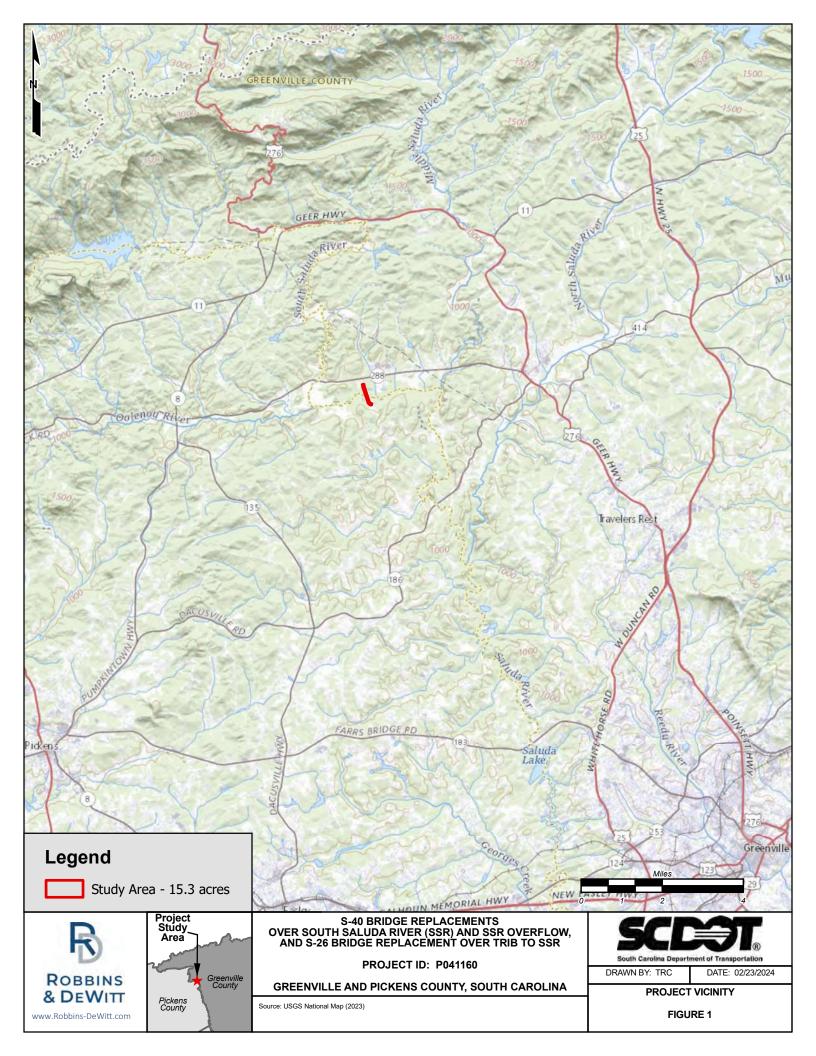
Matt DeWitt, AICP

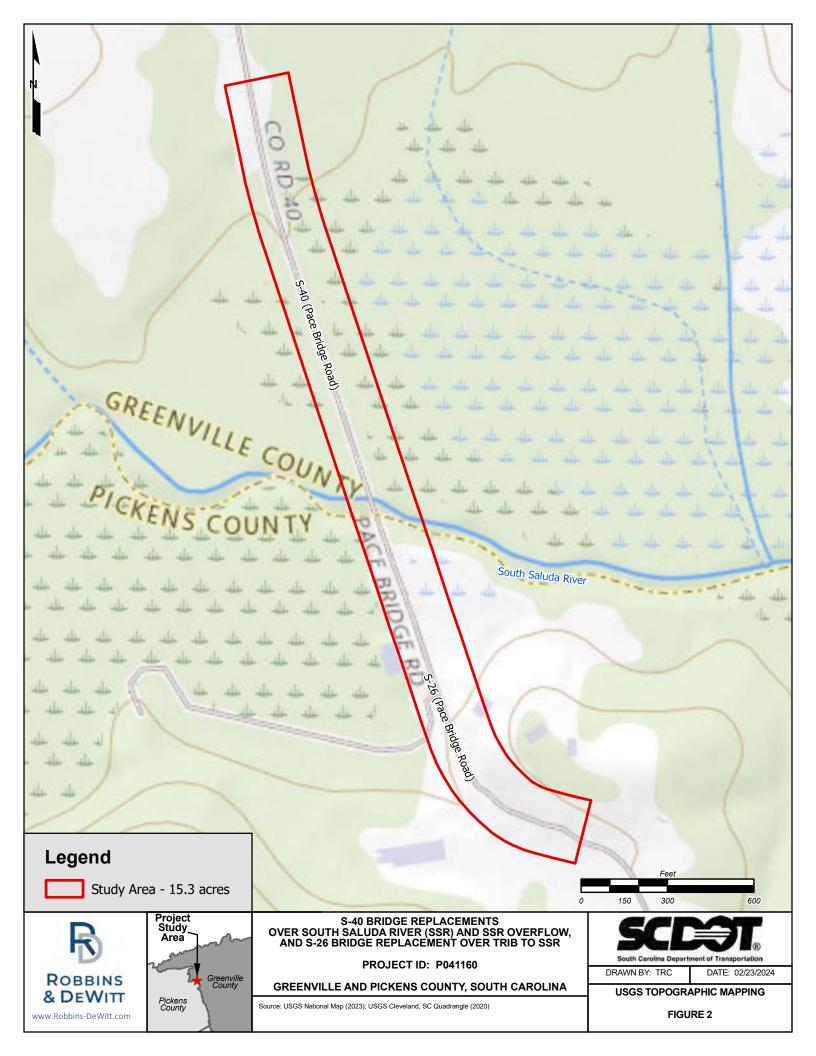
Robbins & DeWitt, LLC

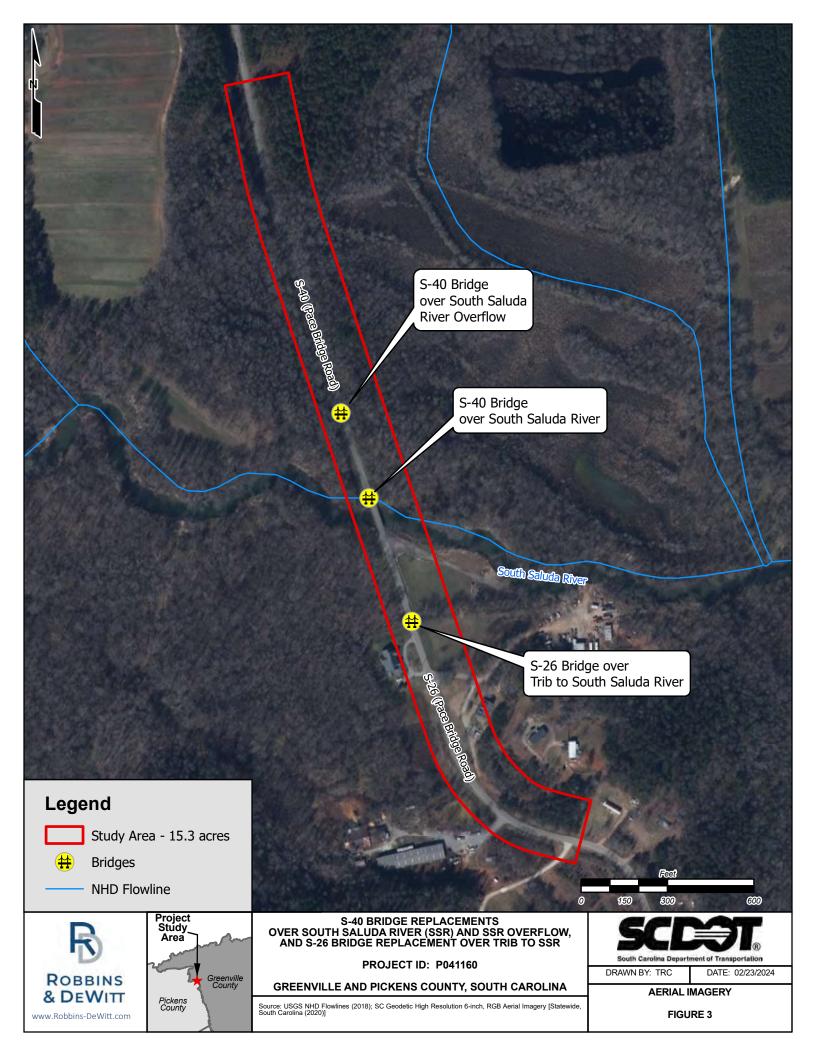
Attachment A

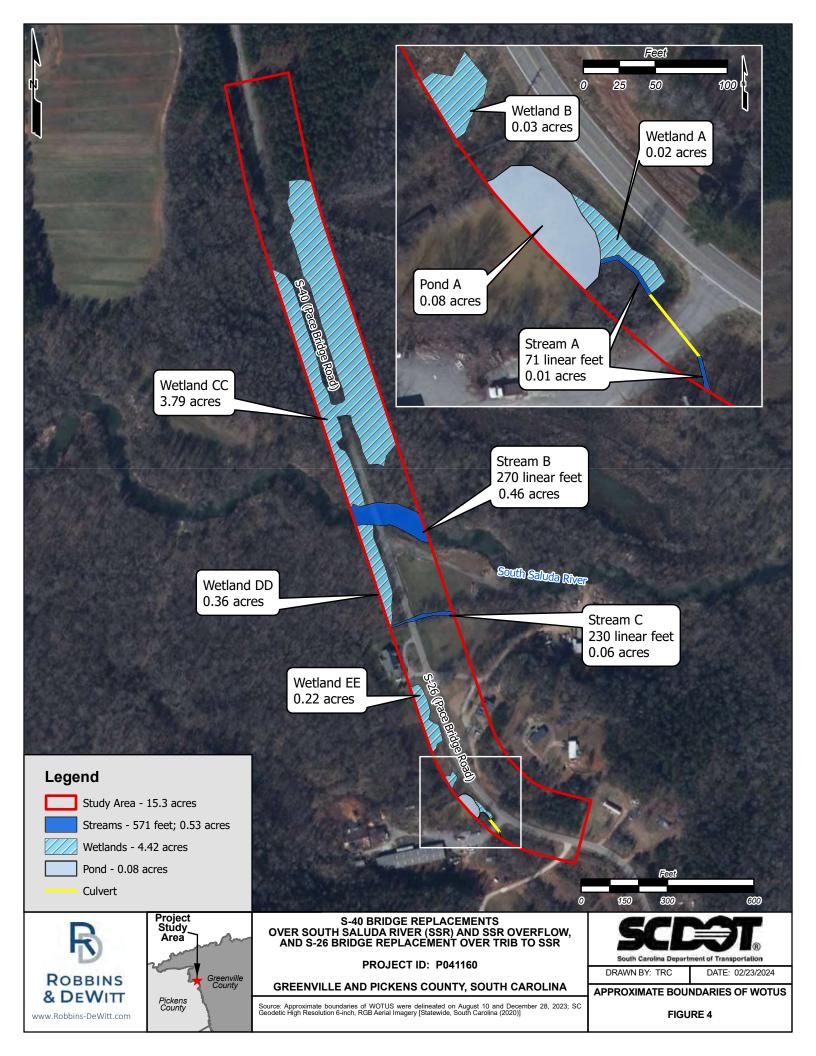
Figures











Attachment B

SCDOT Permit Determination Form & Water Quality Information Report



PERMIT DETERMINATION

Date: 10/19/2023	Project ID: P041160
From:Matt DeWitt	_Company:Robbins and DeWitt
Contact Info (phone and/or email): matt.dewitt	@robbins-dewitt.com
Permit Manager: Will McGoldrick - Alternative	e Delivery Coordinator
Project Name: S-40 over S Saluda River	
County: Greenville	(Optional) Structure #:
CITUDAL A DE A	
STUDY AREA: Does there appear to be WOTUS in the	study area? • YES O NO
PERMIT TYPE:	
It has been determined that no permit is re	equired because:
The following permit(s) is/are necessary:	ha project will peed)
(Please check which type(s) of permit t USACE Permit GP ✓ IP	NWP NWP
OCRM Permit Individual CAP	CAP GP
	SCG SCG
-	
408 PROJECT INFO:	
Is it within a 408 Project: • YES	O NO
408 Project Name	Saluda River (North, South, and Middle Fork)
MITIGATION:	
Mitigation Bank: • YES • N	0
Mitigation Bank N	ame: Saluda Mitigation Bank, Corley Mill
Comments:	
	t recently available information at the time. This change if the design of the project is modified.
-	att DeWatt Nov 29, 2023
	st, SCDOT/Consultant Date

Revised 04/2024



Watershed and Water Quality Information

General Information

Applicant Name: SCDOT

Address: 126 PACE BRIDGE RD, MARIETTA, SC, 29661

MS4 Designation: Not in designated area

Within Coastal Critical Area: No

Waterbody Name: SOUTH SALUDA RIVER

Permit Type: Construction

Latitude/Longitude: 35.012383 / -82.570665

Monitoring Station: S-103

Water Classification (Provisional): FW

Entered Waterbody Name:

Parameter Description

NH3N Ammonia CD Cadmium CR Chromium CU Copper HG Mercury NI Nickel PΒ ΖN DO Dissolved Oxygen Lead Zinc PH рΗ **TURBIDITY** Turbidity ECOLL

PH pH TURBIDITY Turbidity ECOLI Escherichia coli (Freshwaters)
FC Fecal Coliform (Shellfish) BIO Macroinvertebrates (Bio) TP (Lakes) Phosphorus

FC Fecal Coliform (Shellfish) BIO Macroinvertebrates (Bio) TP (Lakes) Phosphorus
TN (Lakes) Nitrogen CHLA (Lakes) Chlorophyll a ENTERO Enterococcus (Coastal Waters)

HGF Mercury (Fish Tissue) PCB PCB (Fish)

Impaired Status (downstream sites)

Station	NH3N	CD	CR	CU	HG	NI	PB	ZN	DO	PH	TURBIDITY	ECOLI	FC	ВЮ	TP	TN	CHLA	ENTERO	HGF	PCB	l
S-103	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	InTN	Х	N	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	ı

F = Standards full supported N = Standards not supported A = Assessed at upstream station X = Parameter not assessed at station WnTN = Within TMDL, parameter not supported InTN = In TMDL, parameter not supported

WnTF = Within TMDL, parameter full supported InTF = In TMDL, parameter full supported

Parameters to be addressed (those not supporting standards)

ECOLI - Escherichia coli (Freshwaters)

BIO - Macroinvertebrates (Bio)

Fish Consumption Advisory

Waters of Concern (WOC)

TMDL Information - TMDL Parameters to be addressed

In TMDL Watershed: Yes TMDL Site: S-103
TMDL Report No: 023-04
TMDL Parameter: Fecal

TMDL Document Link: https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/docs/HomeAndEnvironment/Docs/tmdl usaluda fc.pdf

Report Date: October 19, 2023

Attachment C

Biological Evaluation - Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act



Introduction

The proposed project consists of replacing three (3) bridges on Pace Bridge Road (S-40/S-26) and improvements to the roadway approaches to the bridges. The bridges include the S-40 bridges over the South Saluda River (SSR) and the SSR Overflow, and the S-26 bridge over a tributary to the SSR. The project corridor is located in Greenville and Pickens counties, South Carolina.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), a field survey was conducted within the Project Study Area (PSA) for the project. A Resource List was obtained from the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) in January 2024 and updated in April 2024, to detail protected species under USFWS jurisdiction that are known or expected to be in or near the project area. Table 1 below includes the species that appear on the IPaC resource list.

Federally Protected Species

Species with the federal classification of Endangered (E) or Threatened (T) or Threatened due to Similarity of Appearance (T [S/A]) are protected under the ESA of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Although Section 7 of the ESA does not provide protections for Candidate species, they are listed in Table 1 in the event of a status changes prior to completion of the project. Additionally, species that are proposed for listing are not subject to Section 7 compliance until the time they are formally listed. The bald eagle is protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) and is included in this evaluation.

Table 1: Threatened and Endangered Species

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	Protection Status
Bird	Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	BGEPA
Mammal	Northern Long-eared Bat	Myotis septentrionalis	Endangered
Mammal	Tricolored Bat	Perimyotis sublavus	Proposed Endangered
Reptile	Bog Turtle	Glyptemys muhlenbergii	Similar in Appearance to Threatened
Insects	Monarch Butterfly	Danaus Plexippus	Candidate
Flowering Plant	Bunched Arrowhead	Sagittaria fasciculata	Endangered
Flowering Plant	Dwarf-flowered Heartleaf	Hexastylis naniflora	Threatened
Flowering Plant	Mountain Sweet Pitcher- plant	Sarracenia rubra ssp. Jonesii	Endangered
Flowering Plant	Small Whorled Pogonia	Isotria medeloides	Threatened
Flowering Plant	Smooth Coneflower	Echinacea laevigata	Threatened
Flowering Plant	Swamp Pink	Helonias bullata	Threatened
Flowering Plant	White Fringeless Orchid	Platanthera integrilabia	Threatened
Lichen	Rock Gnome Lichen	Gymnoderma lineare	Endangered

Methodology

Environmental scientists performed literature and field reviews to determine the likelihood of protected species within the PSA and the potential for project-related impacts. Field reviews were conducted on July 13 and December 27, 2023, and February 20, 2024. The SCDNR South Carolina Natural Heritage Species Viewer was also reviewed to determine the presence of known populations of protected species within the vicinity of the project.

Biotic Communities

Land use in the PSA includes silviculture/managed woodlands, natural forested floodplains, and residential housing. The only natural community observed within the PSA consists of bottomland hardwoods.

Bottomland hardwoods of the Piedmont are quite variable from one site to another. Most bottomland hardwoods have been logged to some degree and have moist soils associated with major river floodplains. Characteristic tree species observed in the PSA include Liquidambar styraciflua (sweetgum), Pinus taeda (loblolly pine), Quercus nigra (water oak), Carpinus caroliniana (American hornbeam), and Betula nigra (river birch). Groundcover species observed include Arundinaria gigantea (river cane), Rubus (blackberry), Aureolaria ssp. (false foxglove), Sherardia arvensis (blue fieldmadder), Chaerophyllum ssp. (chervil), Geranium carolinianum (Carolina geranium), and various species of Poa (grasses) along the roadway fill slopes.

Results

The SCDNR South Carolina Natural Heritage Species Viewer does not identify any protected species within the PSA or within a one-mile radius of the PSA.

Field reviews of the PSA found no suitable habitat for bald eagle, bog turtle, bunched arrowhead, dwarfflowered heartleaf, mountain sweet pitcherplant, small whorled pagonia, smooth coneflower, swamp pink, white fringeless orchid, or rock gnome lichen.

According to the IPaC Resource List, the northern long-eared bat only needs to be considered if the project includes wind turbine operations. As the project is limited to roadway and bridge construction, an effect determination is not included.

Suitable habitat for tricolored bat exists in the PSA. Roosting habitat exists under the existing S-40 and S-26 bridges and in cavities and crevices of trees within the PSA. A structure survey of the existing bridges found no evidence of bat roosting. Additionally, a visual inspection and borescope review of cavities and crevices in trees within the PSA did not indicate the presence of any bat species. A Structures Survey Data Sheet and Habitat Assessment Data Sheet are included in Attachment D.

Conclusions

Based on the literature and field reviews, it is determined that the proposed project will have a biological conclusion of 'no effect' on federally protected species.

If there is a change in listing for the tricolored bat, coordination with USFWS will be required to assess potential project impacts.

If you have any questions, or if Robbins & DeWitt can be of additional assistance, please feel free to contact Matt DeWitt at (864) 201-8446 or matt.dewitt@robbins-dewitt.com.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt DeWitt, AICP Robbins & DeWitt, LLC

Attachment D

Biological Evaluation Attachments



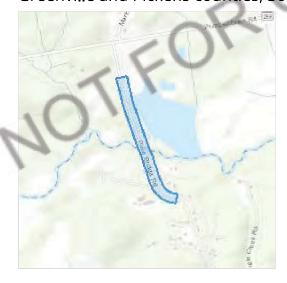
IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to astrust 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

Greenville and Pickens counties, South Carolina



Local office

South Carolina Ecological Services

\((843) 727-4707

(843) 727-4218

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



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 species and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact<u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for<u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

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

2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, 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 Myotis septentrionalis

Endangered

Wherever found

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

• This species only needs to be considered if the project includes wind turbine operations.

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045

Tricolored Bat Perimyotis subflavus

Proposed Endangered

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515

Reptiles

NAME STATUS

Bog Turtle Glyptemys muhlenbergii

SAT

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6962

Insects

NAME STATUS

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus

Candidate

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

Flowering Plants

NAME STATUS

Bunched Arrowhead Sagittaria fasciculata

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1720

Threatened

Endangered

Dwarf-flowered Heartleaf Hexastylis naniflora

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2458

Endangered

ON

Mountain Sweet Pitcher-plant Sarracenia rubra ssp. jonesii

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4283

Threatened Small Whorled Pogonia Isotria medeoloides

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1890

Smooth Coneflower Echinacea laevigata **Threatened**

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

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

Swamp Pink Helonias bullata **Threatened**

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4333

White Fringeless Orchid Platanthera integrilabia **Threatened**

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1889

Lichens

NAME STATUS

Rock Gnome Lichen Gymnoderma lineare

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3933

Endangered

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.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Bald & Golden Eagles

There are no documented cases of eagles being present at this location. However, if you believe eagles may be using your site, please reach out to the local Fish and Wildlife Service office.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Managementhttps://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds
 https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC
 https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the vian Knowledge Network (AKN) The AKN data is based on a growing collection of urvey, 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). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFW<u>Sirds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> 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 vian Knowledge Network (AKN). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of urvey, 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 Lagle 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 Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool

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 <u>Eagle Act</u> should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Adtand the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitat³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Actof 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management<u>https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-man</u>agement
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birdshttps://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

N I A N 4 F

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concerr(BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQbelow. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be foundelow.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Chimney Swift Chaetura pelagica	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) thro	oughout its
range in the continental USA and Alaska.	13-
C ()	
Kentucky Warbler Geothlypis formosa	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 20
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) thro	oughout its
range in the continental USA and Alaska.	
- FO	
Wood Thrush Hylocichla mustelina	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) thro	oughout its
range in the continental USA and Alaska.	-

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles" specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence(■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- 1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- 3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort(|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

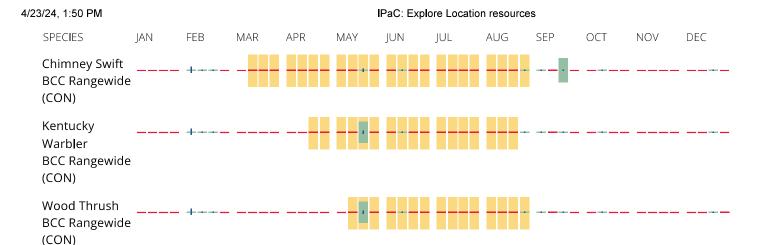
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



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 list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFW<u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> 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 thevian 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 tagle 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 <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator</u> (<u>RAIL</u>) <u>Too</u>l

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 <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u> This data is derived from a growing collection o<u>furvey</u>, <u>banding</u>, 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 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 or migrating in my 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 query your location using the AIL Tool and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. 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 <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (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 <u>Eagle Act</u> 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 ortheast 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 Shelpfroject 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 <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegelor Pam Loring</u>.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need tobtain 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.

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed in undergo a 'Compatibility and individed. 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 (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> 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 loca<u>U.S. Army Corps of</u> **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 EMERGENT WETLAND

PEM1A

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

PFO1A

FRESHWATER POND

PUBHh

RIVERINE

R2UBH

TATION A full description for each wetland code can be found at the lational Wetlands Inventory website

NOTE: This initial screening does not replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

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 tuberficid 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 NOT FOR CONSULTATION programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.



STRUCTURES SURVEY DATA SHEET

Investigator Names(s): A.CH	ANDLER, R.CH	ANDLER				
Date: 2023-07-13, 2024-02-20						
Lat Long/w3w: 35.01247, -82.5707 [S-40 OVER S SALUDA RIVER]						
Project Name: S-40 (PACE BI	RIDGE RD) OVI	ER S SALU	DA RIVER AN	ND OVERFLOW,	,	
S-26 OVER TRIB TO S SALUD	A RIVER					
SCDOT Structure ID: 02540,	02541, 05605		SCDOT Pro	ject No.: P0411	160	
Structure Type:					Underdeck Material:	
☐ Parallel Box Beam		☐ Steel	I-Beam	TIT	⊠ Concrete	
☐ Pre-Stressed Girder	RHHH	☐ Flat S	Slab / Box		☐ Corrugated Steel	
☐ Cast in Place —	THEFT	☐ Trape	ezoidal Box		☐ Other:	
	0000	⊠ Othe	r: CHANNEL	BEAM		
Bridge Note: 02540 (S-40 O	/ER S SALUDA	RIVER)				
☐ Culvert - Box						
☐ Culvert - Pipe/Round						
Culvert Note:						
Structure Type:					Underdeck Material:	
☐ Parallel Box Beam		☐ Steel	I-Beam	TTT	⊠ Concrete	
☐ Pre-Stressed Girder	MANA		Slab / Box	Table	☐ Corrugated Steel	
☐ Cast in Place ——			ezoidal Box		☐ Other:	
		☐ Othe				
Bridge Note: 02541 (S-40 O	/FR SALUDA O					
☐ Culvert - Box			- /			
☐ Culvert - Pipe/Round						
Culvert Note:						
- Carrer (Coto)						
Structure Type:					Underdeck Material:	
☐ Parallel Box Beam		☐ Steel	I-Beam	TTT	☐ Concrete	
☐ Pre-Stressed Girder	NNN		Slab / Box		☐ Corrugated Steel	
☐ Cast in Place			ezoidal Box	Establish and S	Other:	
Cast III Flace		☐ Othe			□ Otilei.	
Bridge Note: 05605 (S-26 O	/ER TRIR TO SA					
☐ Culvert - Box	VENTIND TO 3/	ALODA IVI	v 🗀 ()			
☐ Culvert - Pipe/Round						
Culvert Note:						
Cuivert Note.						

Road Type:							
☐ Interstate		☐ US Highway			⊠ State F	Road	☐ County Road
				5	S-40 / S-26		
Surrounding Habitat	(check	all that apply):				
⊠ Residential		icultural	☐ Com	mei	rcial	☐ Pine Forest	☐ Grassland
⊠ Riparian	⊠ We	tland	⊠ Mixe	ed F	orest	☐ Bottomland	Hardwood
☐ Other:					•		-
Conditions Under Bri	dge (cl	neck all that a	pply):				
⊠ Bare		☐ Concrete			⊠ Din Da	n	M. Flowing Water
Ground/Sediment				'	⊠ Rip Ra _l	Ρ	☑ Flowing Water
☐ Standing Water		☑ Open Veget not obstructing fl				Vegetation uct flight path)	☐ Two Lanes
☐ Four (+) Lanes		☐ Unpaved Ro		Ī	 □ Railroa		☐ Other:
Bats Present:							
☐ YES				[⊠ NO		
Bat Indicators (check	all tha	t apply):					
☐ Visual	☐ Sm		☐ Sour	nd		☐ Staining	☐ Guano
Species Present:	_						
☐ Big brown (<i>Eptesia</i>							otis septentrionalis)
☐ Brazilian free-taile	<u> </u>		nsis)			yellow (<i>Lasiurus</i>	
☐ Eastern red (<i>Lasiu</i>		•			· ·		Corynorhinus rafinesquii)
☐ Eastern small-foot						red (<i>Lasionycter</i>	
Evening (<i>Nycticeiu</i>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Southeastern (<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>)			
☐ Gray (Myotis grise				Seminole (<i>Lasiurus seminolus</i>)			
☐ Hoary (Lasiurus cinereus)				☐ Tri-colored (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>)			
☐ Little brown (<i>Myo</i>	tis lucij	fugus)		×ι	UNKNOW	′N	
Roost Description (if	known						
☐ Day Roost		☐ Nursery Roo	ost] [☐ Night f	Roost	□ UNKNOWN
Number of Roosts:							
Roost Design (check	all that	apply):					
☐ Crack/Crevice/Exp	ansion	Joint: Under	Bridge		☐ Crac	k/Crevice/Expar	nsion Joint: Top of Bridge
☐ Plugged Drain		☐ Under/A Bridge Struc	_	n	☐ Rail		☐ Other:

Human Disturbance or Tr	raffic Under Bridge or at	Structure?		
☐ High	⊠ Low		☐ None	2
Areas Inspected (check a	ll that apply):			
☐ Vertical Surfaces on I-	Beams 🛮 🗵 Vertical Su	irfaces between Cond	crete End	l Walls and Bridge Deck
	☑ Rough Surfaces	⊠ Guardrails		□ Cervices
☐ Other:				
Areas NOT Inspected bed	cause of Safety or Inacce	ssibility:		
Evidence of Migratory Bi	rds Using the Structure?			
		□NO		
Additional Information:				
Road is currently closed.				



Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: A. Chandler

S-40 over S Saluda River



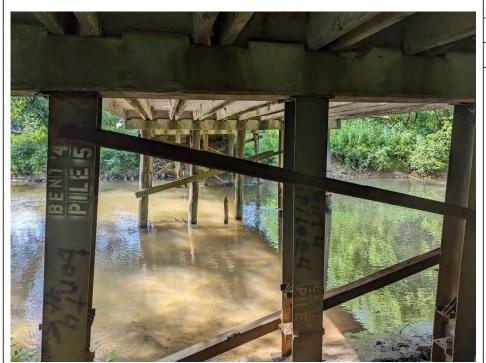
Photograph 2

Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: A. Chandler

Underneath S-40 over S Saluda River





Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: A. Chandler

Underneath S-40 over S Saluda River



Photograph 4

Date: 2024-02-20

Taken by: A. Chandler

S-40 over Saluda Overflow



Date: 2024-02-20

Taken by: A. Chandler

Underneath S-40 over Saluda Overflow



Photograph 6

Date: 2024-02-20

Taken by: A. Chandler

Underneath S-26 over Trib to Saluda River

BAT HABITAT ASSESSMENT DATA SHEET

Project Name: S-40 (PACE BRIDGE RD) OVER S SALUDA RIVER AND

OVERFLOW, S-26 OVER TRIB TO S SALUDA RIVER

County: GREENVILLE, PICKENS

Lat Long: 35.01247, -82.5707 [S-40 OVER S SALUDA RIVER]

Surveyor: A. CHANDLER, R. CHANDLER

Date: 2023-07-13, 2024-02-20

Brief Project Description

Project Area			
	Total Acres	Forest Acres	Open Acres
Project	15.3	7.61	7.69
Proposed Tree	Completely Cleared	Partially Cleared (Will Leave Trees)	Preserve Acres – No Clearing
Removal	0.50 (anticipated)		7.11 (anticipated)

Vegetation Cover Types	
Pre-Project	Post-Project
Forested	Forested
Maintained right-of-way	Maintained right-of-way

Landscape within 5-mile Radius

Flight corridors to other forested areas?

Describe Adjacent Properties (e.g., forested, grassland, commercial or residential development, water sources)

Forested, residential development, S Saluda River, overflow, tributary to river

Proximity to Public Land

What is the distance from the project area to forested public lands (e.g., national or state forests, national or state parks, conservation areas, wildlife management areas)?

Sample Site Descripti	on
Sample Site No. (s):	Project Study Area (15.3 acres)

Stream Type	Ephemeral	Intermitte	ent	Perennial
(# and length)		71 lf		230 lf
				270 lf
Pools/Ponds	0.08 ac	Open and	l accessible to	bats?
(# and size)		Yes		
Wetland	Permanent		Seasonal	
(approx. acres)	3.79, 0.36, 0.22, 0.03, 0.	02		
Describe existing condition	on of water sources:			
Forest Resources at Samp				
Closure/Density	Canopy (> 50')	Midstory	•	Understory (< 20')
	2 (11-20%)	3	(21-40%)	3 (21-40%)
Dominant Species of	River birch, water oak			
Mature Trees				
Exfoliating Bark (%)	5%			
Size Composition of	Small (3-8 in)	Med (9-1	5 in)	Large (> 15 in)
Live Trees (%)	4 (41-60%)	3	(21-40%)	1 (1-10%)
No. of Suitable Snags	2%			
Standing dead trees with exfolia	ating bark, cracks, crevices, or hollo	ws. Snags without	these characteris	tics are not considered suitab
1 = 1	-10%, 2 = 11-20%, 3 = 21-40	%, 4 = 41-60%,	, 5 = 61-80%, 6	5 = 81-100%
	FOR NORTHERN LONG-EAR	ED BATS?	YES	
IS THE HABITAT SUITABLE		_		
	EOR TRI-COLORED BATS2		VES	
	FOR TRI-COLORED BATS?	_	YES	
	FOR TRI-COLORED BATS?	-	YES	

Attach aerial photo of project site with all forested areas labeled and a general description of the habitat.

 $Photographic \ Documentation: \ habit at shots \ at \ edge \ and \ interior \ from \ multiple \ locations; \ understory/midstory/canopy; \ examples \ of \ potential$ suitable snags and live trees; water sources



Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: M. DeWitt

Forested wetland



Photograph 2

Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: M. DeWitt



Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: A. Chandler

S Saluda River



Photograph 4

Date: 2023-07-13

Taken by: A. Chandler

S-40/S-26 roadway and utilities



Date: 2024-02-20

Taken by: A. Chandler

North bank of S Saluda River, east of S-40



Photograph 6

Date: 2024-02-20

Taken by: A. Chandler

Forested wetland at overflow

Appendix C: Bridge Scope and Risk Assessment Form





COUNTY:	Greenville					ATE:	07/15/2024
ROAD #:	S-23-40	-	STREA	M CROSSING	South S	aluda	River
Purpose 8	Need for the						
	River in Greenv the bridge and r	ille County. The estore all compo	purpose onents to g	e S-23-40 (Pace Bi f this project is to o good condition. The ents in poor condition	orrect the loa existing brid	ad rest ge is p	riction placed on posted for load
I. FEMA	Acknowledge	ement					
ls	this project loc	ated in a regu	ılated FE	EMA Floodway?	Y	'es	No
Pa	nel Number:	45045C0200	<u>E</u>	Effective Date:	08/18/20)14	_(See Attached)
II. FEMA	Floodmap Inv	estigation/					
FE 	Passes unde	r the existing with the existing	low chor	N/A illustrated elevation. Inord elevation. Inord elevation. Inord elevation elevation		ing 1	00 year flood:
III. No Ris	se/CLOMR Pro	eliminary Dete	erminatio	n			
√	_	quirements. A		his project may hydraulic analy			
	Justification:	The prelimina US or DS of t		e model shows ct area.	a "No-Rise	" with	no increases
				his project may tailed hydraulic		CLOM	IR/LOMR.
	Justification:						

IV. Preliminary Bridge Assessment

A. Locate Existing Plans File No. NA Sheet No. NA (See Attached) a. Bridge Plans Yes No File No. Sheet No. (See Attached) b. Road Plans Yes No B. Historical Highwater Data Gage No. Results: a. USGS Gage Yes No b. SCDOT/USGS Documented Highwater Elevations Yes Results: No c. Existing Plans **Yes** See Above No V. Field Review A. Existing Bridge Length: 120 ft. Width: 26 ft. Max. span Length: 30 ft. Alignment: ✓ Tangent Curved Bridge Skewed: Yes No Angle: End Abutment Type: RC Caps with Timber Piles Riprap on End Fills: Yes No Condition: Some misplaced riprap Superstructure Type: Concrete Deck on RC Caps Substructure Type: Timber Piles Utilities Present: Yes √ No Describe: Debris Accumulation on Bridge: Percent Blocked Horizontally: 0 % Percent Blocked Vertically: Hydraulic Problems: Yes ✓ No Describe: Existing bridge over tops in 100-yr storm event based off FEMA map.

V.	Field	Review (cont.)
		ydraulic Features Scour Present: ☑Yes ☑No Location: <u>piles at bent 2</u>
	b. c. d. e.	Distance from Low Steel to Normal Water Elev.: 10.7 ft. Distance from F.G. to High Water Elevation: 2.2 ft.
	f.	Channel Banks Stable: ✓ Yes
	g.	Soil Type: <u>gravel/cobble</u>
	h.	Exposed Rock: Yes No Location:
	i.	Give Description and Location of any structures or other property that could be damaged due to additional backwater. House located nearby, but will not be impacted. No structures will be impacted by additional backwater.
		xisting Roadway Geometry Can the existing roadway be closed for an On-Alignment Bridge Replacement ✓ Yes □ No Describe:
		Existing road is temporarily closed.
		If "yes", does the existing vertical and horizontal curves meet the proposed design speed criteria?
		Existing horizontal alignment has been retained with an adjustment to vertical curve.
		If "No", will the proposed bridge be: Staged Constructed Replaced on New Alignment

VI. Field Review (cont.)

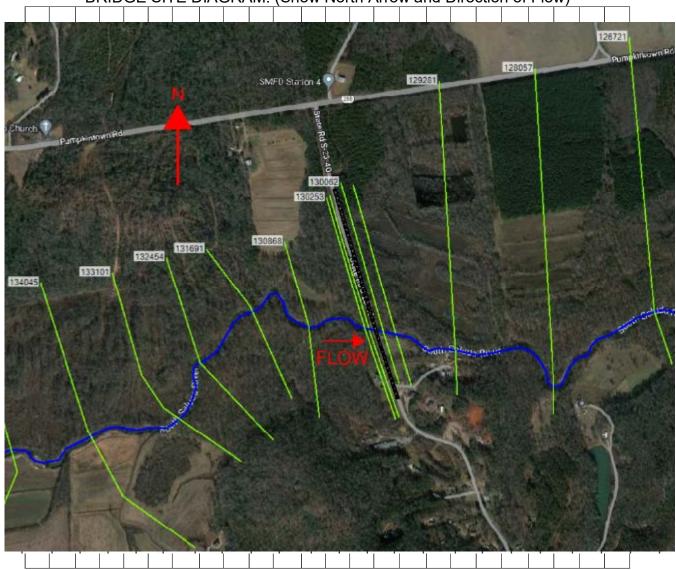
A. Proposed Bridge Recommendation:

Length: TBD ft. Width: 36 ft. Elevation: TBD ft.

Span Arangement: TBD

Notes: To be determined.

BRIDGE SITE DIAGRAM: (Show North Arrow and Direction of Flow)



Performed By: Richard Hinton, PE



South Carolina Department of Transportation Location and Hydraulic Design of Encroachments on Floodplains Checklist

23 CFR 650, this regulation shall apply to all encroachments and to all actions which affect base floodplains, except for repairs made with emergency funds. Note: These studies shall be summarized in the environmental review documents prepared pursuant to 23 CFR 771.

 PROJECT DESCRIP 	TION
-------------------------------------	------

SCDOT proposes to replace bridge crossing the South Saluda River along S-23-40 (Pace Bridge Road) in Greenville County.

- A. Narrative Describing Purpose and Need for Project
 - a. Relevant Project History:
 - b. General Project Description and Nature of Work (attach Location and Project Map):
 - c. Major Issues and Concerns:

The purpose of this project is to correct the load restriction placed on the bridge and restore all components to good condition. The existing bridge is posted for load restrictions and has one or more components in poor condition. Roadway improvements are based on the proposed new structure.

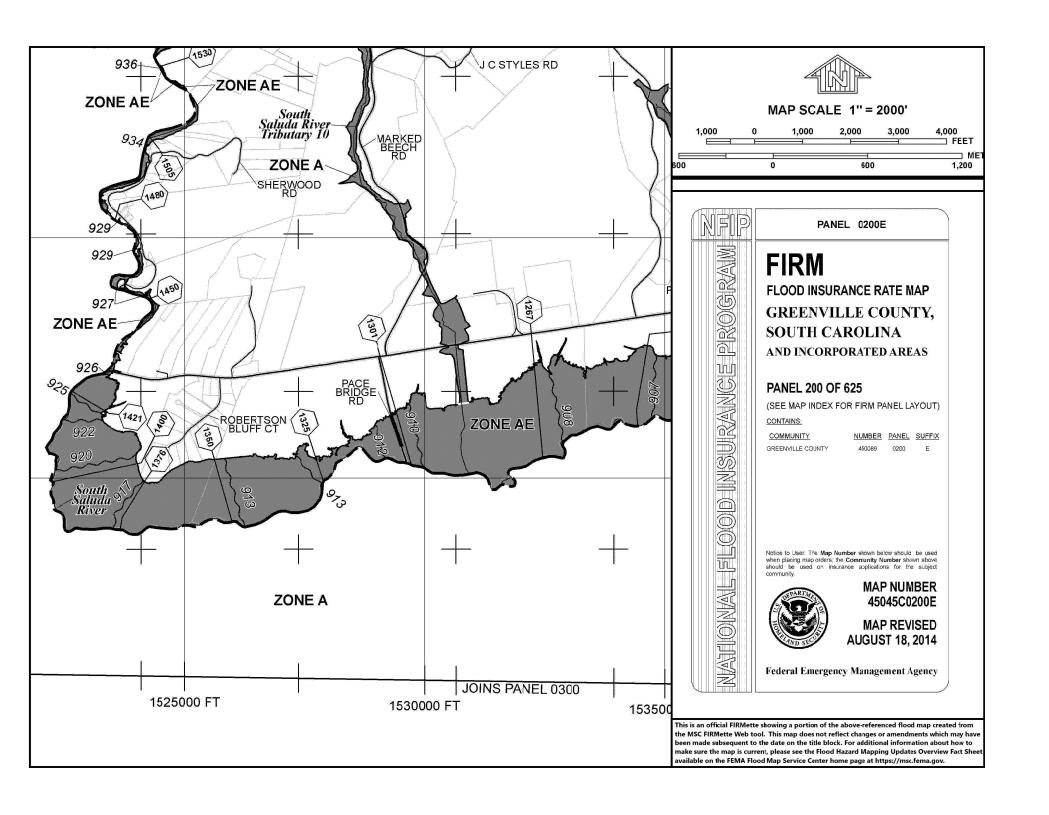
The project crosses the South Saluda River which is shown on the Flood Insurance Map (FIRM) Panel 45045C0200E. The project is located within a FEMA Limited Detailed study area. The project is not expected to be a significant or longitudinal encroachment as defined under 23 CFR 650A, nor is it expected to have an environmental impact on the base flood elevation.

B.	Are there any floodplain(s) regulated by FEMA located in the project area? Yes No
C.	Will the placing of fill occur within a 100-year floodplain? Yes No No No No No No No No No N
D.	Will the existing profile grade be raised within the floodplain?
	The proposed bridge will need to be raised to accommodate the thickness of the new bridge and meeting freeboard requirements.
E.	If applicable, please discuss the practicability of alternatives to any longitudinal encroachments.
	N/A

F. Please include a discussion of the following: commensurate with the significance of the risk or environmental impact for all alternatives containing encroachments and those actions which would support base floodplain development:

		Risks are minimal. The project will replace the existing bridge with a larger bridge opening and it will not impact the BFE's along the floodplain.			
	b.	What are the impacts on the natural and beneficial floodplain values?			
		The project is not expected to impact the floodplain values, as the hydraulics will be retained/improved.			
	C.	What measures were used to minimize floodplain impacts associated with the action?			
		A reduction in the number of piers and lengthening the bridge.			
	d.	Were any measures used to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial floodplain values impacted by the action?			
		N/A discuss the practicability of alternatives to any significant encroachments or any support of attible floodplain development.			
Т	The im	npacts are not significant encroachments and would not result in a ve impact to the base flood elevations nor potential development.			
de m	Were local, state, and federal water resources and floodplain management agencies consulted to determine if the proposed highway action is consistent with existing watershed and floodplain management programs and to obtain current information on development and proposed actions in the affected? Please include agency documentation.				
re	All analysis were performed in accordance with SCDOT, FEMA, and local regulations. As the project progresses to final design, the hydraulic modeling will be updated based on the final bridge layout.				
SCDOT I	Hydraı	alic Engineer Date			

a. What are the risks associated with implementation of the action?





Full Name	City	Comment	Response
John Shaluly	Greenville	Yes. Thank you for updating the infrastructure! Fix them all!	*does not wish to receive response*
Amy Brissey	Pickens	I believe before closing other roads, the bridges that are not complete in Pickens County need to be completed. Hester Store Rd has been closed for about 2 years. This makes travel to Greenville lengthened consuming more time and fuel. Also, if these bridges can't be completed in a timely manner then maybe someone can organize the work being done ahead of the project to reduce the time they will be out.	Amy Brissey, Thank you for your comment on the proposed bridge projects in Package 19 in Greenville and Pickens counties. While the bridge on Hester Store Road, the Doddies Creek Bridge, is not included in Package 19 it has been identified for replacement by SCDOT. SCDOT is working to address closed and load restricted bridges across the state to restore all bridge components to good condition. While we understand this can be an inconvenience during closures, construction, and detours this is done to increase safety. For more information on that project please reach call SCDOT at 1-855-GO-SCDOT.
Jackson Hurst	Kennesaw, GA	I approve and support SCDOT's Closed and Load Restricted Bridge Package 19 Project. The aspect that I love about SCDOT's Closed and Load Restricted Bridge Package 19 Project is that the 8 bridges will be replaced.	Jackson Hurst, Thank you for your comment on the proposed bridge projects in Package 19 in Greenville and Pickens counties. Your feedback on the proposed project has been reviewed and logged in the project record. We appreciate your interest and feedback on the proposed project.

From: To: Cc: Subject: Date: Puts, nichaet r.
Ambrissey@amail.com
McSoldrick, Will; Nicole Weirich
SCDOT Bridge Package 19 - Public Comment Response
Friday, August 30, 2024 7:40:56 AM
image001.ong

Attach

External Email: Use caution when clicking on links, replying, or opening attachments.

Amy Brissey,

Thank you for your comment on the proposed bridge projects in Package 19 in Greenville and Pickens counties. While the bridge on Hester Store Road, the Doddies Creek Bridge, is not included in Package 19 it has been identified for replacement by SCDOT. SCDOT is working to address closed and load restricted bridges across the state to restore all bridge components to good condition. While we understand this can be an inconvenience during closures, construction and detours this is done to increase safety. For more information on that project please reach call SCDOT at 1-855-GO-SCDOT.

Thank you,



955 Park Street, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202-0191

Pitts, Michael E, ghostlightmater@yahoo.com McGoldrick, Will; Nicole Weirich SCDOT Bridge Package 19 - Public Comment Response Friday, August 30, 2024 7:43:14 AM jmage001.ong From: To: Cc: Subject: Date: Attachm

External Email: Use caution when clicking on links, replying, or opening attachments.

Jackson Hurst,

Thank you for your comment on the proposed bridge projects in Package 19 in Greenville and Pickens counties. Your feedback on the proposed project has been reviewed and logged in the project record. We appreciate your interest and feedback on the proposed project.

Thank you,



Michael E. Pitts, P.E., Assoc. DBIA
Alternative Delivery Program Manager

0 803.737.2566 M 803.413.9316 E pittsme@scdot.org Facilitating SUCCESS 955 Park Street, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202-0191