



## APPENDIX J: List of State Protected Species

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



## CHARLESTON COUNTY

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME/STATUS	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SURVEY WINDOW/ TIME PERIOD	COMMENTS
<b>Amphibian</b>	Frosted flatwoods salamander (T, CH)	<i>Ambystoma cingulatum</i>	January 1-April 30	Larvae present in breeding ponds
<b>Amphibian</b>	Gopher frog (ARS)	<i>Lithobates capito</i>	Breeding: October-March	Call survey: February-April
<b>Bird</b>	American wood stork (T)	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	February 15-September 1	Nesting season
<b>Bird</b>	Bald eagle (BGEPA)	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	October 1-May 15	Nesting season
<b>Bird</b>	Black-capped petrel (ARS)	<i>Pterodroma hasitata</i>	April-October	Offshore water primarily
<b>Bird</b>	Eastern black rail (T)	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis</i>	April-June	Minimum of five surveys/survey point
<b>Bird</b>	Piping plover (T, CH)	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	July 15-May 1	Migration and wintering
<b>Bird</b>	Red-cockaded woodpecker (E)	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	March 1-July 31	Nesting season
<b>Bird</b>	Red knot (T)	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	August 1-May 31	Migration and wintering
<b>Bird</b>	Saltmarsh sparrow (ARS)	<i>Ammospiza caudacuta</i>	Fall/winter	Fall/winter surveys
<b>Fish</b>	Atlantic sturgeon* (E)	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus*</i>	February 1-April 30	Spawning migration
<b>Fish</b>	Shortnose sturgeon* (E)	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum*</i>	February 1-April 30	Spawning migration
<b>Insect</b>	Frosted elfin (ARS)	<i>Callophrys irus</i>	March - June	
<b>Insect</b>	Monarch butterfly (C)	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	August-December	Overwinter population departs; March-April
<b>Mammal</b>	Finback whale* (E)	<i>Balaenoptera physalus*</i>	November 1-April 30	Off the coast
<b>Mammal</b>	Humpback whale * (E)	<i>Megaptera novaengliae*</i>	January 1-March 31	Migration off the coast
<b>Mammal</b>	Northern long-eared bat (T)	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Year round	Winter surveys not as successful
<b>Mammal</b>	Right whale* (E)	<i>Balaena glacialis*</i>	November 1-April 30	Off the coast
<b>Mammal</b>	Sei whale* (E)	<i>Balaenoptera borealis*</i>		
<b>Mammal</b>	Sperm whale* (E)	<i>Physeter macrocephalus*</i>		
<b>Mammal</b>	Tri-colored bat (ARS)	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Year round	Found in mines and caves in the winter
<b>Mammal</b>	West Indian manatee (T)	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	May 1-November 15	In coastal waters

## CHARLESTON COUNTY

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME/STATUS	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SURVEY WINDOW/ TIME PERIOD	COMMENTS
Plant	American chaffseed (E)	<i>Schwalbea americana</i>	May-August	1-2 months after a fire
Plant	Boykin's lobelia (ARS)	<i>Lobelia boykinii</i>	May-July/August	
Plant	Canby's dropwort (E)	<i>Oxypolis canbyi</i>	Mid-July-September	
Plant	Ciliate-leaf tickseed (ARS)	<i>Coreopsis integrifolia</i>	August-November	
Plant	Pondberry (E)	<i>Lindera melissifolia</i>	February-March	
Plant	Seabeach amaranth (T)	<i>Amaranthus pumilus</i>	July-October	
Reptile	Eastern diamondback rattlesnake (ARS)	<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	Most of the year	Peak: April-November
Reptile	Green sea turtle ** (T)	<i>Chelonia mydas</i> **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
Reptile	Kemp's ridley sea turtle ** (E)	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i> **	May 1-October 31	In coastal waters
Reptile	Leatherback sea turtle ** (E)	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
Reptile	Loggerhead sea turtle ** (T, CH)	<i>Caretta caretta</i> **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
Reptile	Spotted turtle (ARS)	<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	February-mid April	

**Note: There are no federally protected species found in this county in the crustacean and mollusk family categories.**

# South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

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



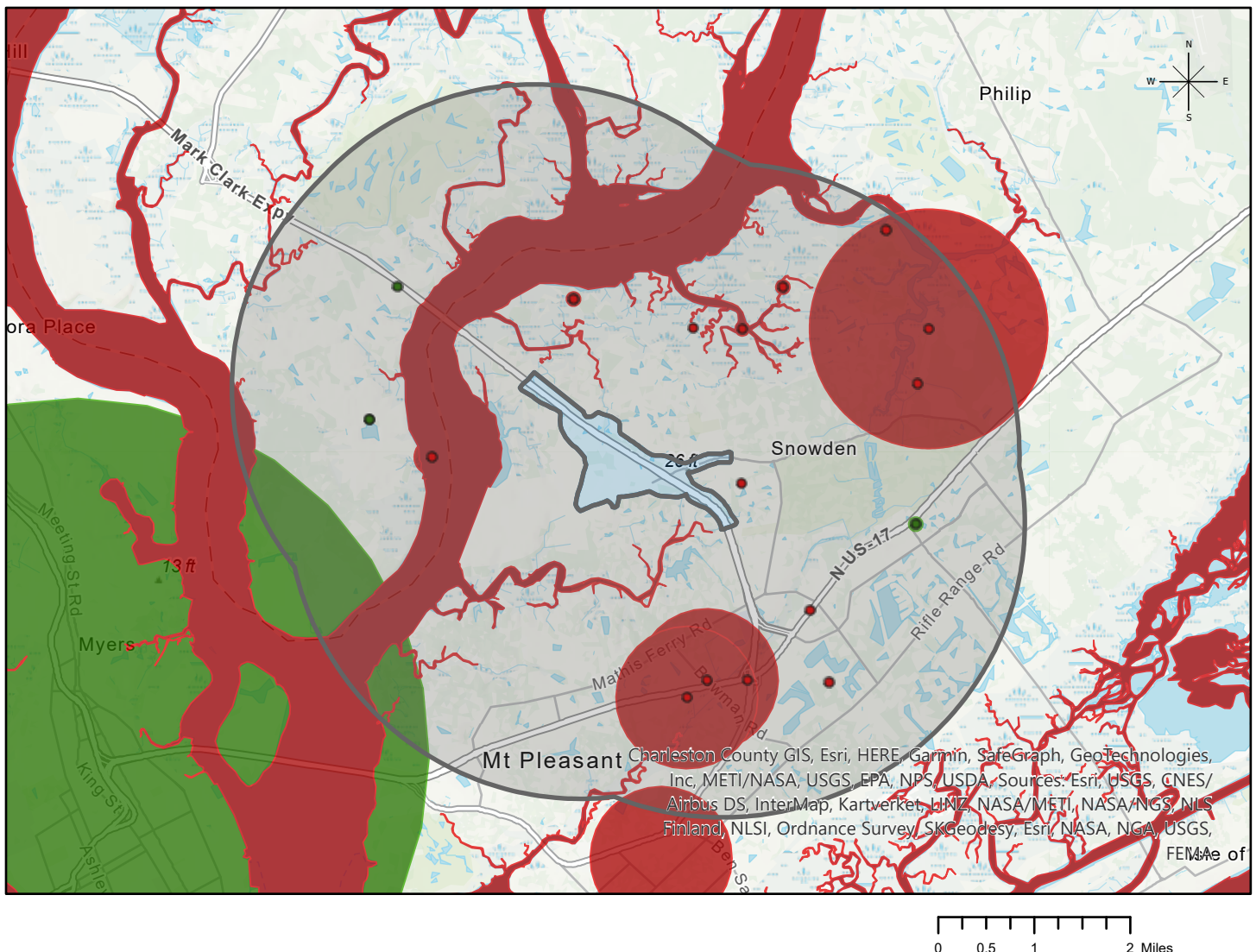
Robert H. Boyles, Jr.  
**Director**

Emily C. Cope  
Deputy Director for  
**Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries**

*Requested on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 by Gordon Murphy.*

Re: Request for Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation  
Gordon Murphy - Long Point Road Improvements  
Communication/Cell Tower  
Charleston 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 Charleston County, South Carolina. The following map depicts the project area and a 3 mile buffer surrounding:



# South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

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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 chosen project type
- E - Additional Information & Instructions for Submitting Observations 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](mailto:environmental@dnr.sc.gov) or by visiting [www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental](http://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](mailto:speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov) or by phone at 803-734-1396.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Lemeris, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

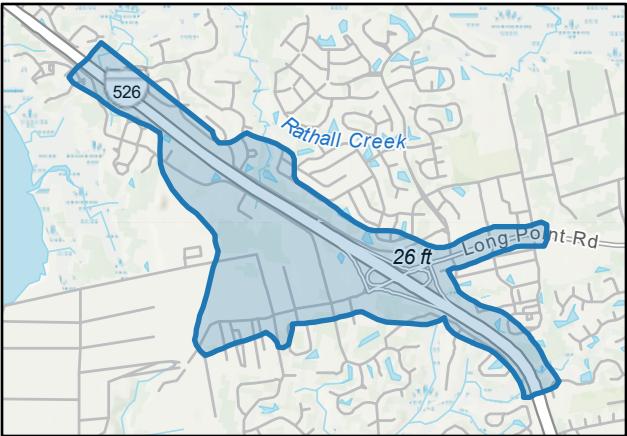
Joseph Lemeris, Jr.  
Heritage Trust Program  
SC Department of Natural Resources

# 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](mailto:speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov) should you have further questions related to sensitive species found within the project area.



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



Scientific Name	Common Name	G Rank	S Rank	Fed. Status	State Status	SWAP Priority	Last Obs. Date
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hog-nosed Snake	G2	S1S2	Not Applicable	ST: State Threatened	Highest	1911-05

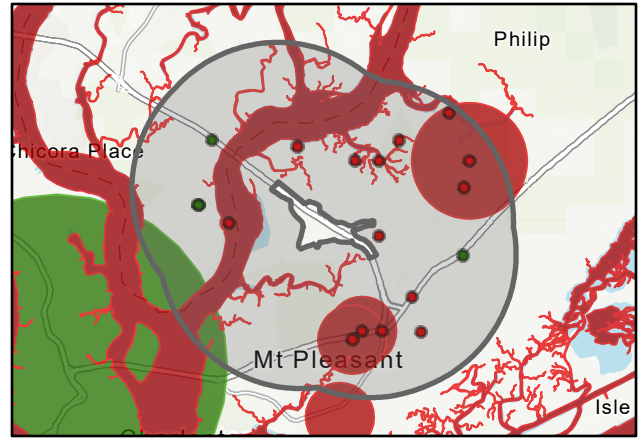


## B. Buffer Area - Species Report (1 of 2)

The following table outlines rare, threatened or endangered species found within 3 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, Charleston County GIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

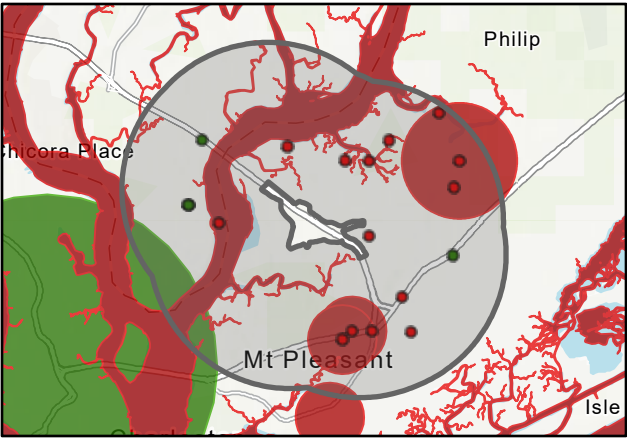
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## B. Buffer Area - Species Report (2 of 2)

The following table outlines rare, threatened or endangered species found within 3 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, Charleston County GIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA



Scientific Name	Common Name	G Rank	S Rank	Fed. Status	State Status	SWAP Priority	Last Obs. Date
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2021-06-07
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2018-09-05
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2018-06-25
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2018-05-17
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2017-03-29
<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamond-backed Terrapin	G4	S3	Not Applicable	R: Regulated	High	2016-06-18
<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hog-nosed Snake	G2	S1S2	Not Applicable	ST: State Threatened	Highest	1911-05

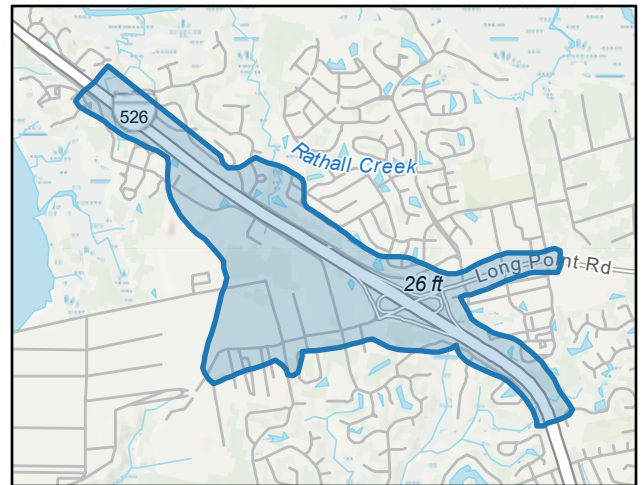


## C. Species Best Management Practices (1 of 2)

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](mailto:speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov) should you have questions with regard to the data provided.



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



One or more occurrences of state listed species are found within or near to your project area. Please note that take of these species are prohibited under S.C. Code of Laws §50-15-30.

The SCDNR recommends that water construction-related activities such as dredging or piling installation be avoided during the months of February through April to limit disturbance to american shad, hickory shad, or blueback herring migrations that occur during this time.

To reduce potential construction-related impacts to the manatee to discountable and insignificant levels, the US Fish & Wildlife Service recommends implementing the following Standard Manatee Construction Conditions to all projects affecting the coastal waters of South Carolina (1 of 2):

- The permittee shall instruct all personnel associated with the project of the potential presence of manatees and the need to avoid collisions with manatees. All construction personnel must monitor water-related activities for the presence of manatee(s) during May 1 - November 15. Construction personnel are requested to monitor outside of that timeframe as manatees may be in the area before or after the above dates.
- The permittee shall advise all construction personnel that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees which are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- Any siltation barriers used during the project shall be made of material in which manatees cannot become entangled and must be properly secured, and regularly monitored to avoid manatee entrapment.
- All vessels associated with the project shall operate at "no wake/idle" speeds at all times while in the construction area and while in water where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. All vessels will follow routes of deep water whenever possible.

To reduce potential construction-related impacts to the manatee to discountable and insignificant levels, the US Fish & Wildlife Service recommends implementing the following Standard Manatee Construction Conditions to all projects affecting the coastal waters of South Carolina (2 of 2):

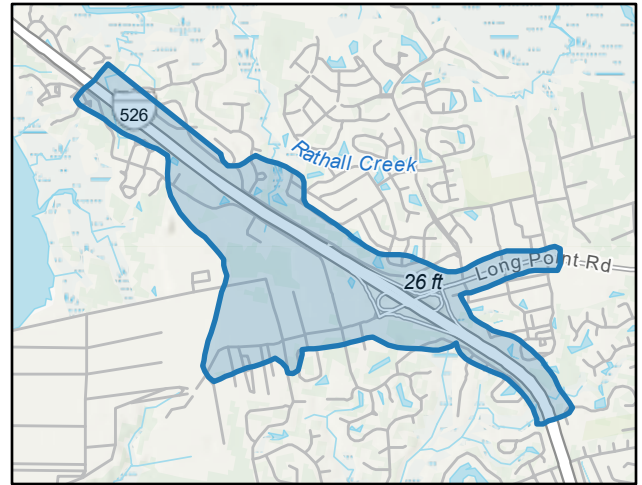
- If manatee(s) are seen within 100 yards of the active construction area all appropriate precautions shall be implemented to ensure protection of the manatee. These precautions shall include the operation of all moving equipment no closer than 50 feet to a manatee. Operation of any equipment closer than 50 feet to a manatee shall necessitate immediate shutdown of that equipment. Activities will not resume until the manatee(s) has departed the project area of its own volition.
- The permittee understands and agrees that all in-water lines (rope, chain, and cable, including the lines to secure turbidity curtains) must be stiff, taut, and non-looping. Examples of such lines are heavy metal chains or heavy cables that do not readily loop and tangle. Flexible in-water lines, such as nylon rope or any lines that could loop or tangle, must be enclosed in a plastic or rubber sleeve/tube to add rigidity and prevent the line from looping and tangling. In all instances, no excess line is allowed in the water. Where appropriate in water wires, cables, should be fitted with PVC sleeve from the surface to the bottom to prevent any potential scraping of the passing manatees.
- Any collision with and/or injury to a manatee shall be reported immediately to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contacts: Melanie Olds, South Carolina Manatee Lead, Charleston Field Office, at 843-727-4707 ext. 205; or Terri Calleson, Manatee Recovery Coordinator, North Florida Field Office, at 904-731-3286.

## C. Species Best Management Practices (2 of 2)

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](mailto:speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov) should you have questions with regard to the data provided.



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



The spotted turtle is a state-threatened species and a federal At-Risk species (ARS). If spotted turtles are found to occur on the proposed site, please note the following:

- Prior to habitat disturbance in the proposed work area, the areas of impact be completely surveyed by individuals qualified to identify this species and its habitat;
- It is unlawful for any person to take, possess, transport, import, export, process, sell, offer for sale, ship, or receive for shipment any spotted turtle without a permit from the department;
- Spotted turtles may be allowed to be relocated into areas of suitable habitat, management, and conservation status; however, any plans for relocation should be submitted for review to SCDNR with a detailed description and images of the current and future habitat and proposed work plan and methodologies as it pertains to a relocation project.

An active bald eagle nest(s) is known to occur within or near to your project area. Surveys during the nesting season (October through May) to rule out nests in the project area are advised to avoid negative impacts to bald eagles. Eagle nests may occur in areas which have not yet been surveyed where suitable habitat is present, as the SCDNR does not survey every nest every year. Bald eagles are a state listed threatened species and are federally protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. If bald eagle nests are found to be within 660 feet of the project area, please consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines to ensure that impacts are avoided to this species before proceeding with any construction activities.. <https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationalbaldeaglenmanagementguidelines.pdf>

An occurrence of southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*) is known to exist within or near the project area. This state threatened species is often associated with open pine habitats. Southern hognose snakes are most active and vulnerable above ground during the spring (March-April) and fall (September-early November). The SCDNR recommends activities during these times are minimized, especially the use of heavy equipment, to reduce impacts to highly fossorial species underground from soil compaction and crushing. If the southern hognose snake is found within the project footprint, efforts must be made to avoid any negative impacts or take of the species. No southern hognose snake may be removed from the project site without first obtaining a permit from SCDNR.

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.

In the interest of preserving plant diversity, the South Carolina Plant Conservation Alliance performs native plant rescues in order to protect and preserve our diversity of native plants. If you are interested in assisting with this important endeavor please contact Mrs. April Punsalan at (843) 727-4707 ext. 218, or by email: [scpca@lists.fws.gov](mailto:scpca@lists.fws.gov) before any development occurs onsite. There may be plants of interest on the project site that the Alliance would like to preserve.

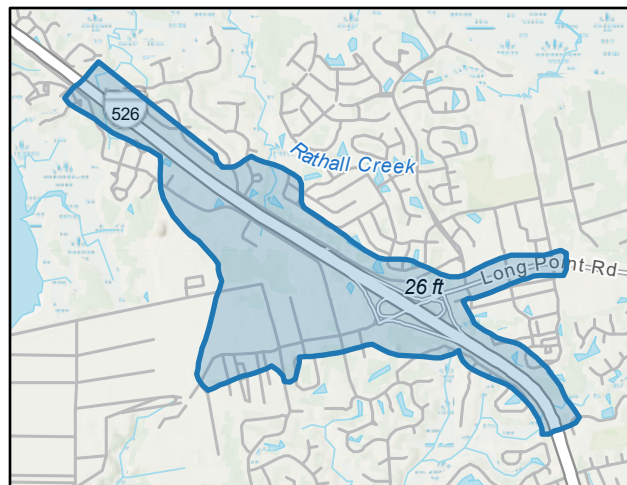
Species in the above table with SWAP priorities of High, Highest or Moderate are designated as having conservation priority under the South Carolina State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). SWAP species are those species of greatest conservation need not traditionally covered under any federal funded programs. 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](mailto:environmental@dnr.sc.gov) should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.



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Our records indicate one or more parcels within your project area may be associated with a conservation easement. We recommend you inquire with the appropriate County to receive a copy of the recorded deed and plat before moving forward with any alterations to the project site.

Review of available data, National Wetlands Inventory and hydric soils, indicate that wetlands 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 wetlands 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](http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory). Additionally, a 401 Water Quality Certification may also be required from the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control. For more information, please visit their website at <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/water-quality-certification-section-401-clean-water-act>.

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.

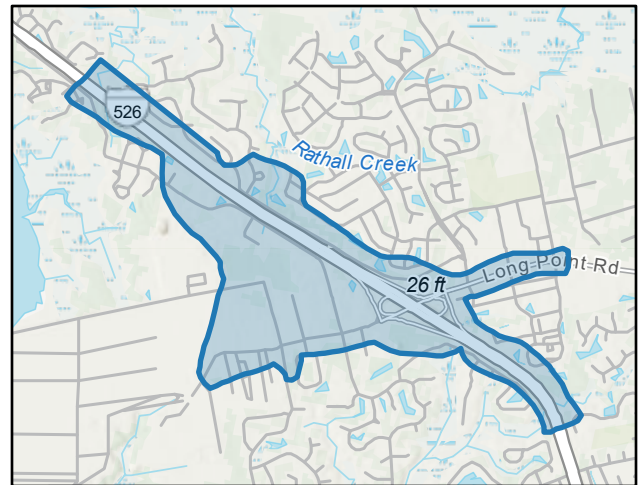
- All necessary measures must be taken to prevent oil, tar, trash and other pollutants from entering the adjacent offsite areas/wetlands/ water.
- Once the project is initiated, it must be carried to completion in an expeditious manner to minimize the period of disturbance to the environment.
- Upon 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>

## 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](mailto:environmental@dnr.sc.gov) should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.



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



- 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.

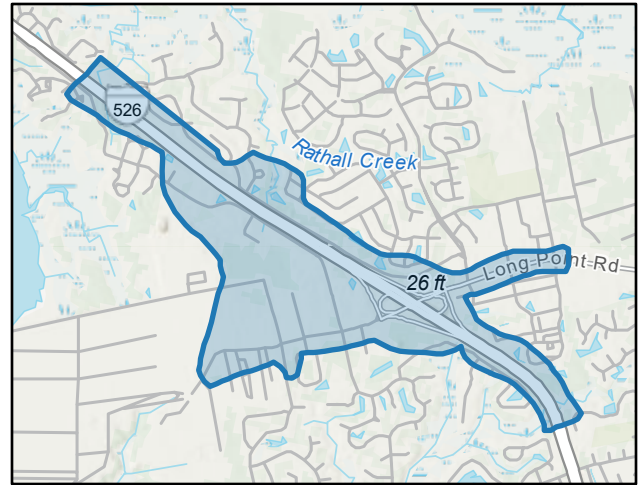
- Maintenance clearing or mowing of rights-of-way should not occur between April 15 and August 1 of a given year to avoid nesting season for a majority of migratory birds. The mower deck should be set no lower than 6 inches high so native herbaceous vegetation will not be damaged.
- The SCDNR recommends you follow the current guidelines outlined in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning (<https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/usfwscommtowerguidance.pdf>.)
- Pertinent suggestions discussed in the guidelines that effect birds include using flashing lights only, not situating the tower near wetlands, reducing or eliminating tension wires which are impact hazards, and that vegetation removal be done outside of the nesting season to avoid mortality to eggs and chicks. Migrating bats such as hoary bats sometimes do hit wires and tall structures so reducing guy wires or using a lattice instead per these guidelines might help. Additional tower guidelines for federally protected Northern long-eared bat conservation can be found in the Federal Communications Commission's Tower Construction Guidance for Protection of Northern Long-Eared Bat Under the Endangered Species Act (<https://www.fcc.gov/document/tower-guidance-northern-long-eared-bat>.)
- Your project boundary lies within a coastal county in South Carolina which means you may also need a Coastal Zone Consistency Certification for your project from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control. For more information, visit: <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/ocean-coastal-management/beach-management/coastal-permits/coastal-zone>
- If your project could affect coastal waters, tidelands, beaches and beach/dune systems, you may also need a critical area permit from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control. For more information, visit: <https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/ocean-coastal-management/beach-management/coastal-permits/critical-1>



## E. Additional Information & Instructions for Submitting 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.

Map Credits: Charleston County GIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, Sources: Esri, USGS, CNES/Airbus DS, InterMap, Kartverket, LINZ, NASA/METI, NASA/NGS, NLS Finland, NLSI, Ordnance Survey, SKGeodesy, Esri, NASA, NSA, USGS, FEMA



### 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](https://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.

