



ENVIRONMENTAL RE-EVALUATION FORM

FHWA South Carolina

State File #	P041314	Fed Project #	P041314	Project ID	P041314	Route	I-526	County	Charleston
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Project Name/Description

I-526 Lowcountry Corridor Long Point Road Interchange Improvements

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are proposing improvements to the Interstate 526 (I-526) and Long Point Road interchange in the Town of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

1. DOCUMENT TYPE: ☐ EIS ☒ EA ☐ CE (non Programmatic) ☐ PCE (No FHWA Approval Required)

A. Other Actions Associated with the Project:

- ☐ Section 4(f) Evaluation
- ☒ Section 106 Compliance
- ☐ Wetland Finding/Section 404 Compliance
- ☒ T & E Species Biological Assessment
- ☐ None

2. DOCUMENT APPROVAL DATE:

08/22/2024

3. DATE(S) OF PRIOR RE-EVALUATIONS:

6/10/2025

4. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STAGE:

- ☐ Final Design
- ☒ ROW
- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Other, Specify

5. HAS DESIGN OR ROW CHANGED SINCE THE LAST APPROVAL?:

(if "NO" then Go To Item 7)

☐ YES ☒ NO

6. DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT PROJECT/DESIGN CHANGES:

Adjustments in right of way led to additional coordination with the SC SHPO. This coordination resulted in the modification of the previously approved MOA for data recovery. The data recovery plan was determined to not be required due to the avoidance and a no adverse effect determination to the resource of concern (38CH2683). NEPA commitments sourced from the MOA have been revised and updated to reflect new coordination agreement. As included in the previous re-evaluation, updates to NLEB mapping on the US Fish and Wildlife IPAC website have resulted in the site not being located within NLEB range thus eliminating the need for the commitment for clearing restrictions. The commitment was revised but not completely (see attached additional information for full description of changes). This re-evaluation addresses the complete commitment change.

7. HAVE THERE BEEN SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT OR HAVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES BEEN UPDATED SINCE THE LAST PROJECT APPROVAL?: (If "NO" to both Items 5 and 7, Go To Item 10)

☒ YES☐ NO

8. APPROVED DOCUMENT(S) RE-EVALUATION:

A. REVIEW OF EFFECTS: (Complete this section if "YES" to either Item 5 or Item 7)

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

CHANGE

REMARKS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Land Use | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 2. Community | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 3. Relocations | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 4. Churches/Institutions | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 5. Title VI/E.O. 12898 | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 6. Economic | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 7. Controversy | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 8. Other; Specify | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

CHANGE

REMARKS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1. Wetlands | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 2. Water Quality | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 3. Wild/Scenic Rivers | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 4. Farmland | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 5. T & E Species | ☒ YES | ☐ NO |
| 6. Floodplains | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 7. Other; Specify | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |

See Addendum #1

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

CHANGE

REMARKS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Noise | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 2. Air Quality | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 3. Energy/Mineral Resources | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 4. Construction/Utilities | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 5. UST's | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 6. Hazardous Waste Sites | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |
| 7. Other; Specify | ☐ YES | ☒ NO |

CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT	CHANGE	REMARKS
1. Historic Sites	☐ YES ☒ NO	
2. Archaeological Resources	☒ YES ☐ NO	see addendum #2
7. Other; Specify	☐ YES ☒ NO	

PERMITS	CHANGE	REMARKS
1. U.S. Coast Guard	☐ YES ☒ NO	
2. Forest Service/USACE/USFWS Land	☐ YES ☒ NO	
3. Section 404	☐ YES ☒ NO	In progress
4. Other; Specify	☐ YES ☒ NO	

Have the required permits been obtained? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If "YES" what is the expiration date?

***If permits have expired, permits will need updated and attached to re-evaluation.**

9. NEED FOR PUBLIC INVOLVMENT:

☒ A public hearing/public information meeting was held for the project on:

05/02/2023

☒ There have been no changes in project design or environmental effects which would require a public hearing [or additional public hearing if one has already been held] or public information meeting.

☐ The change(s) in project design and/or effects require(s) an additional public hearing/public information meeting. The meeting is scheduled for:

10. FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS:

☒ Based on the analysis contained in this re-evaluation, it has been determined that the change in project design and/or environmental effects would not significantly alter the conclusions reached in the approved environmental document and/or previous re-evaluation(s).

☐ There have been no changes in the design/ROW of this project nor have there been changes in project effects or the affected environment. Therefore, the conclusions reached in the approved environmental document and/or previous re-evaluation(s) remain valid.

Prepared By:

WILL MCGOLDRICK

Date:

Sep 30, 2025

For Non Programmatic CEs:

Concurred (FHWA):

A. Michael Dawson

Digitally signed by AARON MICHAEL DAWSON
Date: 2025.11.03 13:25:18 -05'00'

Date:

Nov 3, 2025

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT/DESIGN CHANGES:

Biological data was presented in Re-evaluation 1 (DATE approved) demonstrating the project location is not located in Northern Long Eared Bat range and the commitment was proposed to be revised. The revision occurred but still retained clearing restrictions. Those restrictions should have been removed as well and standard FWS re-consultation language included. This change is being implemented in this re-evaluation. Additional information supporting the update can be found in Addendum 1. The commitment language is revised as per below:

Previous: Consultation with USFWS will be reinitiated if/when new rule and listing designation goes into effect for any species. To the extent practicable, tree removal will not exceed what is required for project construction (Preferred Alternative alignment and temporary work areas). Tree-clearing restrictions would take place between April 1st through July 31st and December 15th through February 15th.

Currently proposed: Consultation with USFWS will be reinitiated if/when (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action may affect any listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner, which was not considered in this assessment; or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the identified action.

The design in the FONSI resulted in a projected adverse impact to an historic resource archaeological site identified as 38CH2683 by the SC SHPO. The adverse effect resulted in an MOA being drafted and agreed upon by the SC SHPO, FHWA, and SCDOT on January 5, 2023. Design considerations and changes resulted in the roadway alignment being shifted slightly which resulted in the avoidance of the site (see figure in Addendum 2). Additional coordination with the SC SHPO concluded with a no adverse effect to the site and SC SHPO agreeing to rescind the MOA in coordination with SCDOT agreeing to monitoring requirements during construction near the site (See Addendum 2). The existing MOA commitments are being revised to be in line with the updated monitoring requirements.

NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FORM
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT



Date: 09/29/2025



NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FORM



Project ID	P041314	County:	Charleston	District:	District 6	Doc Type:	FONSI Reevaluation	Total # of Commitments:	19
Project Name:		I-526/Long Point Road Interchange Improvements Project							

The Environmental Commitment **Contractor Responsible** measures listed below are to be included in the contract and must be implemented. It is the responsibility of the Program Manager to make sure the Environmental Commitment **South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) Responsible** measures are adhered to. If there are questions regarding the commitments listed, please contact:

CONTACT NAME:	Kit Scott, PE	PHONE:	(803) 737-1138
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Community - Transportation and Traffic	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.1	Responsibility:	Contractor
SCDOT and the contractor will coordinate with emergency service providers such as police, fire protection, and ambulance services prior to the start of construction to maintain access for emergency vehicles.				
				☐ Special Provision

Relocations	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.4	Responsibility:	SCDOT
The SCDOT will acquire all new right-of-way and process any relocations in compliance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.). The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that owners of real property to be acquired for Federal and federally-assisted projects are treated fairly and consistently, to encourage and expedite acquisition by agreements with such owner, to minimize litigation and relieve congestion in the courts, and to promote public confidence in Federal and federally-assisted land acquisition programs. Relocation resources would be made available to all eligible displaced residents, including tenants, without discrimination, consistent with the requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974.				
				☐ Special Provision

Air Quality	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.5	Responsibility:	Contractor
The contractor(s) will ensure particulate matter emissions will be minimized by using appropriate fugitive dust control measures. Construction-related Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSAT) emissions will be minimized to the maximum extent practicable. Provisions will be included in project plans and specifications requiring contractors to make every reasonable effort to minimize construction air quality impacts through abatement measures, as appropriate.				
The contractor(s) will ensure that all construction equipment is properly tuned and maintained. Idling time will be minimized to save fuel and reduce emissions. There will be no open burning of removed vegetation.				
				☐ Special Provision

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Noise	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.7	Responsibility:	SCDOT
SCDOT will inform local planning officials of future, generalized noise levels expected to occur in the project vicinity after FHWA has made a final decision on the environmental document.				
				☐ Special Provision

Noise	NEPA Doc Ref:	FONSI Chapter 4, Section 4.8; Reevaluation – Addendum Noise Barrier Technical Memo	Responsibility:	SCDOT
SCDOT will develop a public relations plan addressing notices to be sent to the public for updates and notifications regarding schedule, upcoming construction activities, and potential temporary impacts (e.g., noise, traffic shifts, etc.). The public relations plan will be used to prepare the public notices that will be used by SCDOT's communications office and other methods and means of notification as outlined in the public relations plan. Timeframes for notification and updates shall be included in the public relations plan and may require approval from the Resident Construction Engineer (RCE). The contractor shall follow SCDOT construction standard procedure as defined in SCDOT Construction Manual and Standards and Specifications. A total of four noise barriers were determined to be feasible and reasonable and recommended as mitigation of traffic noise for the Preferred Alternative. A detailed description of the noise barrier locations and/or noise abatement measures are presented in the Noise Analysis Report (Appendix E). Based on studies completed to date, SCDOT intends to install highway traffic noise abatement measures in the form of five noise barriers. These preliminary abatement measures are based upon preliminary design. The noise abatement walls are identified in the Noise Analysis Report are Noise Wall 1a/3/6/8 (located north of I-526 and west of Long Point Road between the Wando River bridge and Belle Hall Parkway); Noise Wall NW 2a/4 (located south of I-526 between the Wando River bridge and Ridge Road); Noise Wall 5a (located south of I-526 and west of Long Point Road between I-526 and Wando Park Boulevard); Noise Wall 9 (located south of I-526 and east of Long Point Road between Lone Tree Drive and the bridge at Hobcaw Creek); and Noise Wall 12 (located north of I-526 and east of Long Point Road between Long Point Road and the bridge at Hobcaw Creek). The noise barriers above were determined to be feasible and reasonable in the report and shall be constructed by the CONTRACTOR. A final confirmation of the configuration, placement and installation of the abatement measures will be made upon completion of the project's final design and final noise analysis completed by the CONTRACTOR. To minimize future traffic noise impacts on currently undeveloped lands of Type I projects, per 23 CFR 772.17 SCDOT shall inform local officials by providing a copy of the noise analysis within whose jurisdiction the proposed highway project is located.				
				☐ Special Provision

Water Quality	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Appendix K, Section 5.0	Responsibility:	SCDOT
The contractor will be required to minimize possible water quality impacts through implementation of best management practices (BMPs), reflecting policies contained in 23 CFR 650B and the Department's Supplemental Specification on Erosion Control Measures (latest edition) and Supplemental Technical Specifications on Seeding (latest edition). Other measures including seeding, silt fences, sediment basins, etc. as appropriate will be implemented during construction to minimize impacts to water quality.				
				☐ Special Provision

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Stormwater	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Appendix K, Section 4.2	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
Stormwater control measures, both during construction and post-construction, are required for SCDOT projects with land disturbance and/or constructed in the vicinity of 303(d), total maximum daily load (TMDL), outstanding resource water (ORW), tidal, and other sensitive waters in accordance with SCDOT's MS4 Permit. The selected contractor would be required to minimize potential stormwater impacts through implementation of construction BMPs, reflecting policies contained in 23 CFR 650 B and SCDOT's Supplemental Specifications on Seed and Erosion Control Measures (latest edition).				
				☐ Special Provision

Wetlands	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.9	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
The limits of any clearing, grading, or fill in wetlands will be delineated and shown on approved permitted plans by USACE and SCDES. SCDOT and the contractor will comply with all applicable permits and permit conditions for the placement of fill in wetlands. Compensatory mitigation would be required to offset unavoidable losses of Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) per USACE requirements.				
				☐ Special Provision

Individual Permit	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.10	Responsibility:	SCDOT
Impacts to jurisdictional waters will be permitted under a Department of the Army Section 404 permit from the USACE. For impacts to freshwater wetlands, SCDOT plans to purchase credits from an USACE approved Mitigation Bank. The specific bank to purchase Salt Marsh credits for those impacts in the critical area has not been identified, however the Department commits to purchasing these credits from an USACE approved mitigation bank.				
				☐ Special Provision

Floodplains	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.11	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
The Engineer of Record will send a set of final plans and request for floodplain management compliance to Charleston County's Floodplain Administrator.				
				☐ Special Provision

Floodplains	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.11	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
Hydraulic and hydrologic studies will be completed by the contractor on the Preferred Alternative during the final design phase of the project. Bridge structures will be designed per FEMA standards. The project will be designed in an effort to meet "No-Rise" requirements. Pursuant to the FEMA certification, the project will be designed to allow for no more than 1-foot increase in flood elevations. In the event a "No-Rise" condition cannot be achieved, coordination with FEMA will require the preparation of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR)/Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) package for the encroachment.				
				☐ Special Provision

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Threatened and Endangered Species – All species	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.13; Appendix J; Re-evaluation 2	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
Consultation with USFWS will be reinitiated if/when (1) new information reveals impacts of this identified action may affect any listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered; (2) this action is subsequently modified in a manner, which was not considered in this assessment; or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the identified action.				
				☐ Special Provision

Migratory Bird Treaty Act	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.14	Responsibility:	Contractor
The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 USC § 703-711, states that it is unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture or kill; attempt to take, capture or kill; possess, offer to or sell, barter, purchase, deliver or cause to be shipped, exported, imported, transported, carried or received any migratory bird, part, nest, egg or product, manufactured or not. SCDOT will comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 in regard to the avoidance of taking of individual migratory birds and the destruction of their active nests. The contractor shall notify the RCE at least four (4) weeks prior to construction/demolition/maintenance of bridges and box culverts. The RCE will coordinate with SCDOT's Environmental Services Office (ESO), Compliance Division, to determine if there are any active birds using the structure. After coordination, it will be determined when construction/demolition/maintenance can begin. If a nest is observed that was not discovered after construction/demolition/maintenance has begun, the contractor will cease work and immediately notify the RCE, who will notify SCDOT's ESO Compliance Division. The ESO Compliance Division will determine the next course of action. The use of any deterrents by the contractor designed to prevent birds from nesting, shall be approved by the RCE with coordination from the ESO Compliance Division. The cost for any contractor provided deterrents will be provided at no additional cost to SCDOT.				
				☐ Special Provision

Essential Fish Habitat	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.17/Appendix K, Section 4.1	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
- Temporary silt/turbidity curtains will be installed prior to the commencement of in-water work, where practicable. The contractor will be required to utilize SCDOT BMPs for soil and erosion control during construction. - For construction activities associated with the two bridges over the unnamed tributary to Rathall Creek, which may include the widening of shoulders and bridge structures, no temporary or permanent piles will be placed in the channel of the creek. - The Contractor will be required to minimize impacts of siltation and erosion through implementation of BMPs. - SCDOT, FHWA, and the contractor will develop the mitigation plan in coordination with the appropriate resource agencies. A final mitigation plan will be developed for the 404/401 permit and will include consideration for impacts to essential fish habitat as part of that plan.				
				☐ Special Provision

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Hazardous Materials	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.18	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
SCDOT will avoid hazardous materials sites where practicable or sufficiently remediate so that the public will not be exposed to potential health risks. The contractor(s) will follow SCDOT's Standard Specifications, which include provisions to protect the health and safety of persons in the proximity of construction and staging sites. Lead and asbestos testing would be conducted prior to construction to ensure that materials are handled appropriately. If avoidance of hazardous materials is not a viable alternative and soils that appear to be contaminated are encountered during construction, SCDES will be informed immediately. Hazardous materials will be tested and removed and/or treated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and SCDES requirements. SCDES Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal compliance staff can be contacted at 803-898-0290.				
				☐ Special Provision

Hazardous Materials	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Appendix L, Section 6.3	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
Prior to right-of-way acquisition or construction activities, additional field investigations may be required at parcels of concern identified during the Hazardous Materials/Waste Survey. Seven parcels of concern were identified and recommended for further investigation prior to land disturbance or ROW activities. A Phase II Assessment will be required on the parcels of concern with the potential to be affected by activities within the project footprint. The list of parcels of concern and recommended soil and groundwater sampling are presented in the Hazardous Materials/Waste Survey (Appendix L). Sampling shall follow applicable SCDES environmental standard operating procedures. Any right-of-way acquisition or construction activities occurring on parcels not evaluated in the Hazardous Materials/Waste Survey must complete an analysis to determine potential for Hazardous Materials/Waste. This shall include a review of available state and federal environmental records to obtain information regarding any past or current hazardous waste disposal sites, reported petroleum or hazardous waste releases, listed hazardous waste generation, transportation, storage, or disposal facilities, listed solid waste disposal facilities, and other issues related to reported environmental contamination problems. If additional parcels of concern are identified, and are to be impacted, a Phase II Assessment will be needed.				
				☐ Special Provision

Cultural Resources	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.19	Responsibility:	Contractor
During construction, the contractor and subcontractors must notify their workers to watch for the presence of any prehistoric or historic remains, including but not limited to arrowheads, pottery, ceramics, flakes, bones, graves, gravestones, or brick concentrations. If any such remains are encountered, the RCE will be immediately notified and all work in the vicinity of the discovered materials and site work shall cease until the SCDOT Archaeologist directs otherwise. If unanticipated cultural materials (for example, large, intact artifacts or animal bones; large soils stains or patterns of soil stains; buried brick or stone structures; clusters of brick or stone) or human skeletal remains are discovered during construction activities, then the resident construction engineer (RCE) will be immediately notified and all work near the discovered materials will cease until an evaluation can be made by the SCDOT archaeologist in consultation with South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Catawba Indian Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office (CIN-THPO).				
				☐ Special Provision

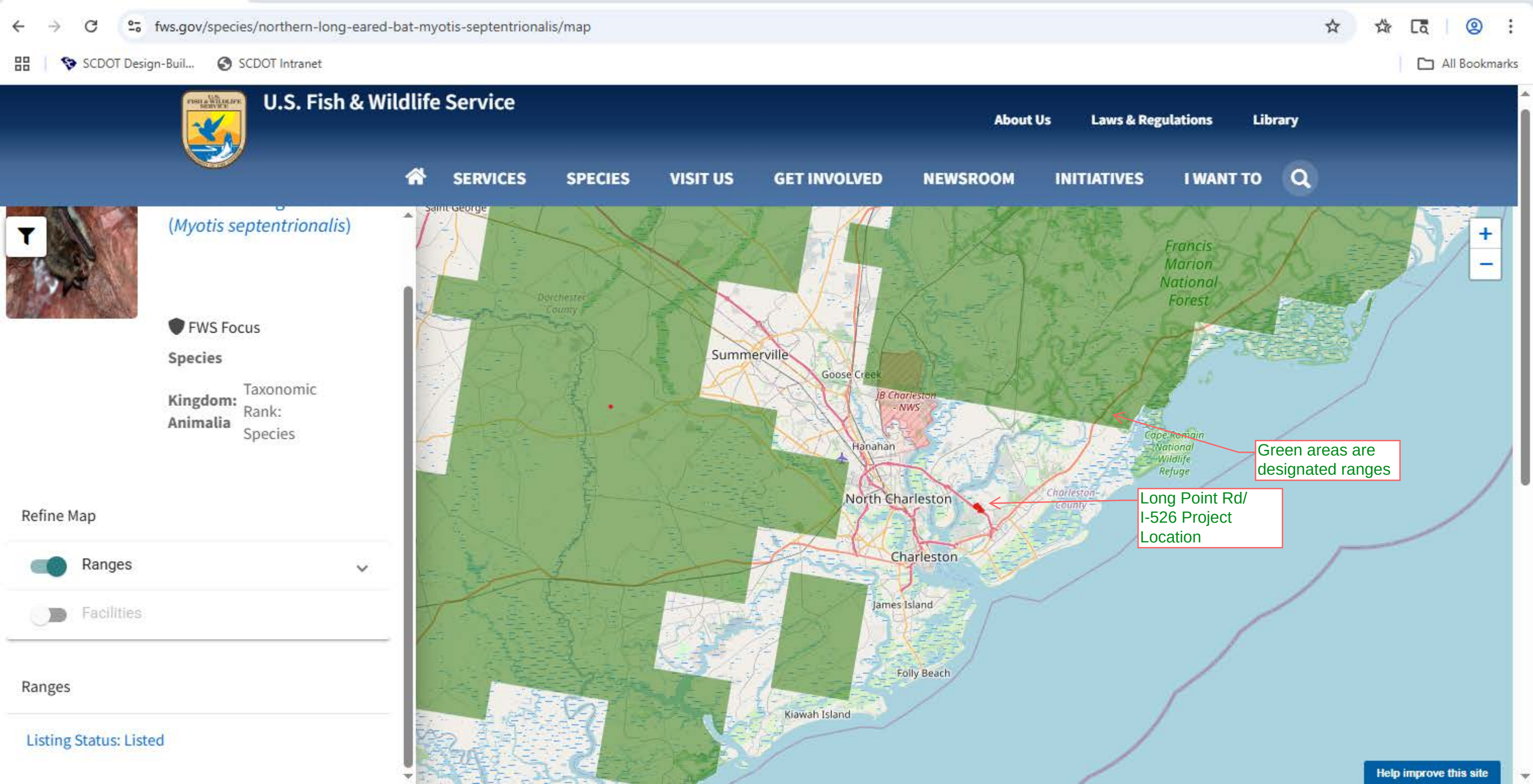
Cultural Resources	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Chapter 4, Section 4.19; Re-evaluation 2	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
The Preferred Alternative will result in a no adverse effect on the archaeological site 38CH2683. SCDOT and the contractor will comply with the Archaeological Monitoring Plan for 38CH2683 as approved on September 24, 2025.				
				☐ Special Provision

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

Cultural Resources - MOA	NEPA Doc Ref:	EA Appendix N; Re-evaluation 2	Responsibility:	SCDOT/Contractor
- Archaeological monitoring is recommended for all ground disturbing construction activities occurring adjacent to the site boundary. Planned construction activities that will require archaeological monitoring include clearing and grubbing of vegetation and ground surface grading associated with the installation of the noise barrier wall. - Archaeological monitoring must be performed by an individual who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for an archaeologist (36 CFR 61 and Federal Register 48:44738-44739) and who has experience in historical archaeology. A qualified archaeologist must be present during all excavation associated with the construction activities detailed above. - All ground disturbances associated with vegetation grubbing and surface grading adjacent to the site boundary should be examined by the monitor for cultural deposits. The monitoring effort must include daily observations and photographs, which should be recorded in a log that will be made available to the SCDOT archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). During monitoring, photographs should be taken of any archaeological deposits identified. - If potential cultural features are uncovered during the excavations, the monitor has the authority to immediately halt ground disturbance so that they can determine whether the remains are part of intact cultural deposits. If the deposits are not intact, a brief period (less than an hour) must be allowed for documentation before ground disturbance continues. If features are identified, work in this area will need to cease immediately and be buffered. - SCDOT will contact the SHPO within 24-48 business hours, providing a detailed description of the aforementioned archaeological feature and a recommendation as to whether the feature is associated with the eligible components of 38CH2683, with supporting documentation to our office for our concurrence. - Protocols should be provided for SHPO consultation and additional excavation steps and treatment measures as deemed necessary.				
				☐ Special Provision

ADDENDUM 1

T & E INFORMATION





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

South Carolina Ecological Services
176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, SC 29407-7558
Phone: (843) 727-4707 Fax: (843) 727-4218



In Reply Refer To:

08/21/2025 13:57:07 UTC

Project Code: 2022-0080540

Project Name: Long Point Road Interchange Improvements

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Marine Mammals

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

South Carolina Ecological Services
176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, SC 29407-7558
(843) 727-4707

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2022-0080540

Project Name: Long Point Road Interchange Improvements

Project Type: Road/Hwy - Maintenance/Modification

Project Description: Improvements to interchange at Long Point Rd and I-526

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@32.8446206,-79.87251357086546,14z>



Counties: Charleston County, South Carolina

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 12 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HK7HGH7DHFDMEZSD3ULHLSF5A/documents/generated/9721.pdf	Proposed Endangered
West Indian Manatee <i>Trichechus manatus</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. <i>This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements.</i> Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469	Threatened

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HK7HGH7DHFDMEZSD3ULHLSF5A/documents/generated/9786.pdf	Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Dryobates borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Green Sea Turtle <i>Chelonia mydas</i> Population: North Atlantic DPS There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6199	Threatened
Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle <i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Endangered

NAME	STATUS
There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5523	

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
American Chaffseed <i>Schwalbea americana</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1286 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HK7HGH7DHFDMEZSD3ULHLSF5A/documents/generated/9753.pdf	Endangered
Canby's Dropwort <i>Oxypolis canbyi</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7738 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HK7HGH7DHFDMEZSD3ULHLSF5A/documents/generated/9753.pdf	Endangered
Pondberry <i>Lindera melissifolia</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1279 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/HK7HGH7DHFDMEZSD3ULHLSF5A/documents/generated/9753.pdf	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ² and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

-
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your [project](#) area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the [National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines](#). You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/ activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#).

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an [incidental take permit](#) may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the [Do I Need A Permit Tool](#). For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information](#)

[on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31

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 (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

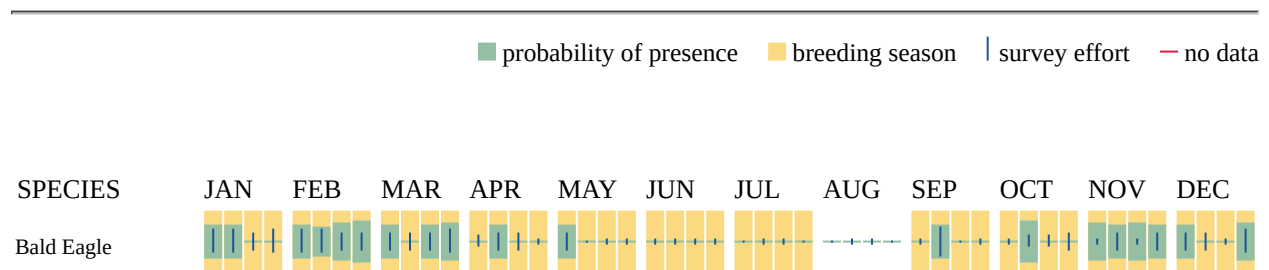
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

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



Non-BCC
Vulnerable

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://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 avoidance and minimization 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>

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) ¹ prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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
American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius paulus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9587	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 31
American Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus palliatus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8935	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Black Skimmer <i>Rynchops niger</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
Brown-headed Nuthatch <i>Sitta pusilla</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9427	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Chuck-will's-widow <i>Antrostomus carolinensis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9604	Breeds May 10 to Jul 10
Coastal (waynes) Black-throated Green Warbler <i>Setophaga virens waynei</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11879	Breeds May 1 to Aug 15
Eastern Whip-poor-will <i>Antrostomus vociferus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10678	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20
Grasshopper Sparrow <i>Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8329	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 20
Gull-billed Tern <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9501	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
King Rail <i>Rallus elegans</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8936	Breeds May 1 to Sep 5

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Least Tern <i>Sternula antillarum antillarum</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11919	Breeds Apr 25 to Sep 5
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Marbled Godwit <i>Limosa fedoa</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481	Breeds elsewhere
Painted Bunting <i>Passerina ciris</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9511	Breeds Apr 25 to Aug 15
Prairie Warbler <i>Setophaga discolor</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9513	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9439	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres morinella</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10633	Breeds elsewhere
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9478	Breeds elsewhere
Saltmarsh Sparrow <i>Ammodramus caudacuta</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9719	Breeds May 15 to Sep 5

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9603	Breeds elsewhere
Swallow-tailed Kite <i>Elanoides forficatus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30
Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11991	Breeds elsewhere
Willet <i>Tringa semipalmata</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5
Wilson's Plover <i>Charadrius wilsonia</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9722	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 20
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

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 (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

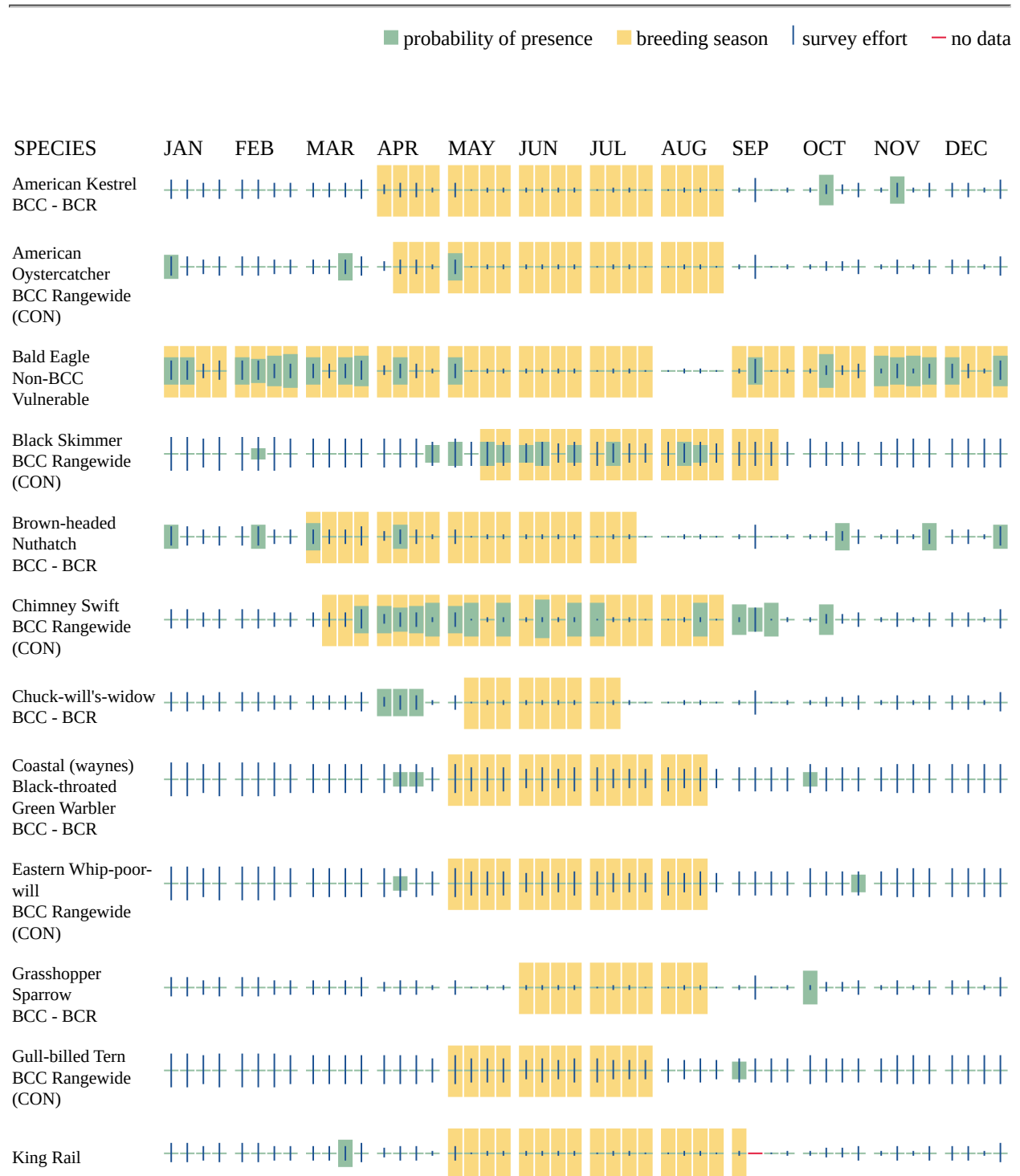
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

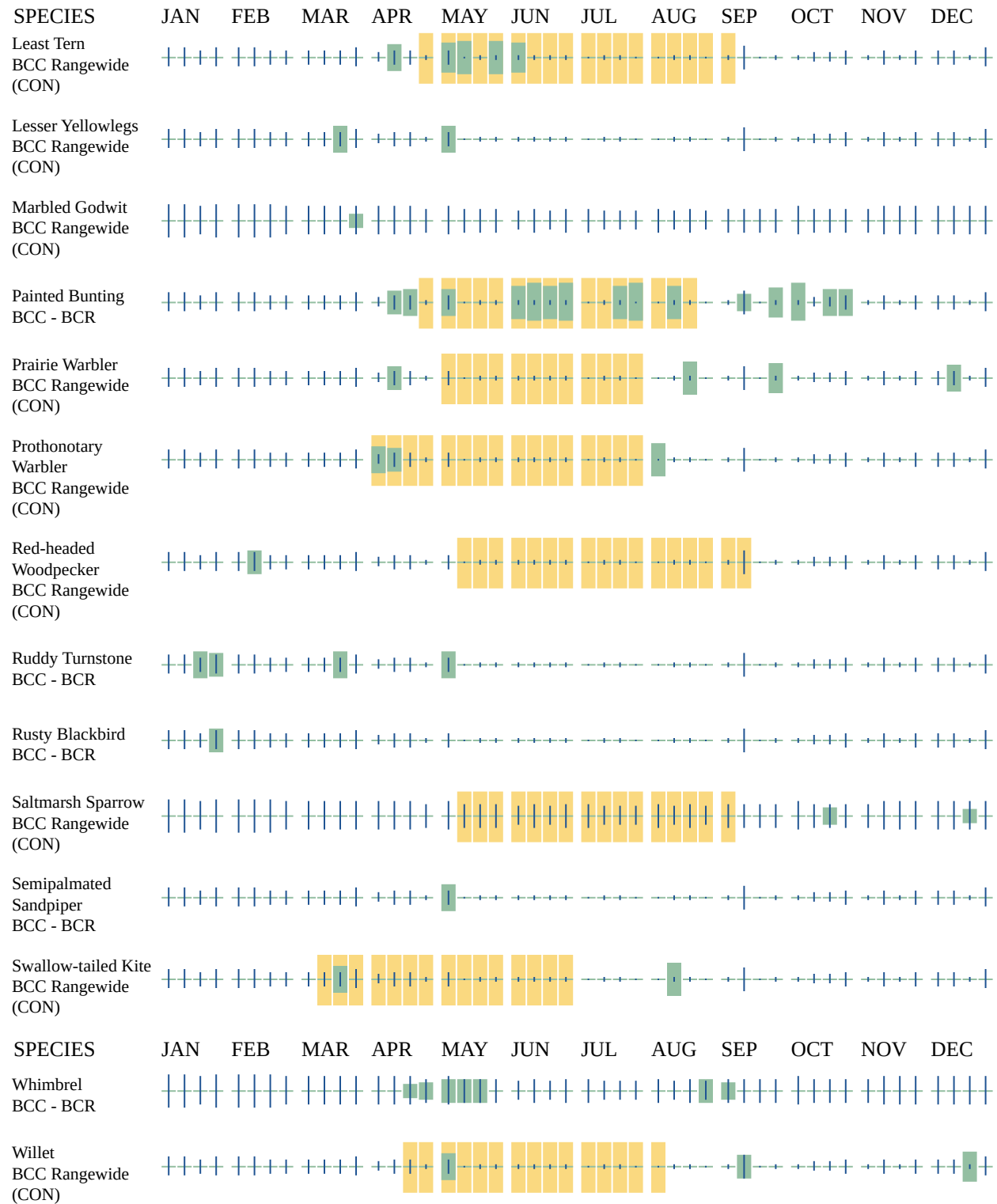
Survey Effort (|)

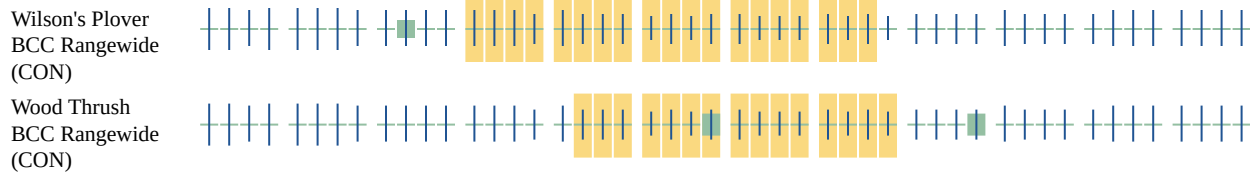
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

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



BCC Rangewide
(CON)



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://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 avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- 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>

MARINE MAMMALS

Marine mammals are protected under the [Marine Mammal Protection Act](#). Some are also protected under the Endangered Species Act¹ and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora².

The responsibilities for the protection, conservation, and management of marine mammals are shared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [responsible for otters, walruses, polar bears, manatees, and dugongs] and NOAA Fisheries³ [responsible for seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins, and porpoises]. Marine mammals under the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list; for additional information on those species please visit the [Marine Mammals](#) page of the NOAA Fisheries website.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the take of marine mammals and further coordination may be necessary for project evaluation. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office shown.

-
1. The [Endangered Species Act](#) (ESA) of 1973.
 2. The [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora](#) (CITES) is a treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild.
 3. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

NAME

West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus*

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469>

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: South Carolina Department of Transportation

Name: William McGoldrick

Address: 955 Park St

City: Columbia

State: SC

Zip: 29202

Email: mcgoldriwr@scdot.org

Phone: 8037361236

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Name: Aaron Dawson

Email: aaron.dawson@dot.gov

ADDENDUM 2

UPDATED 106 COORDINATION



South Carolina
Department of Transportation

Environmental Services Office
803-737-1395 | 803-737-1394 Fax

September 23, 2025

Ms. Mary Sherrer
Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects
State Historic Preservation Office
SC Department of Archives & History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

RE: I-526 and Long Point Road Interchange Improvements Project, Charleston County, South Carolina

Revised Determination of Effect to 38CH2683

SCDOT Project #: P041314

Dear Ms. Sherrer:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has proposed improvements to the Interstate 526 (I-526) and S-10-97 (Long Point Road) interchange located in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The improvements address deficiencies and concerns identified during the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) East Planning and Environmental Linkage Study. These deficiencies include congestion during peak traffic hours, insufficient ramp capacity, inadequate ramp design for high truck volumes, and traffic weaving conditions. The project area extends 1.5 miles along Long Point Road from the South Carolina Ports Authority Wando Welch Terminal to Egypt Road and 2.17 miles along I-526 between the marshes of Horlbeck and Rathall Creeks. An intensive cultural resources survey was completed for the project in 2022 (Baluha and Dantuma 2022). The project area served as the archaeological area of potential effect (APE), while the architectural APE included the project area and a 300-foot viewshed buffer around the project area.

The 2022 survey identified three previously recorded architectural resources (SHPO Site No. 2046, 7802, and the Snowden Historic District) and 15 previously recorded archaeological sites (38CH0315, 38CH0316, 38CH0329, 38CH0330, 38CH0331, 38CH0332, 38CH0334, 38CH0353, 38CH0414, 38CH0415, 38CH0417, 38CH0417, 38CH0422, 38CH1236, and 38CH1672) within the APE. The survey also recorded four new architectural resources (SHPO Site No. 2406.01, 7818, 8532, and 8553.01) and two new archaeological sites (38CH2682 and 38CH2683). The majority of these resources were determined not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Snowden Historic District is eligible for inclusion on the NRHP but was located outside of the proposed project footprint. It was determined that the project would have **no adverse effect** on the district. Archaeological site 38CH2683, the remains of the early to mid-twentieth century African American Long Point School, was recommended eligible for inclusion on the NRHP.

Preliminary project plans available during the initial consultation indicated that the southwestern portion of 38CH2683 would be impacted by the purchase of new ROW for the construction of redesigned onramps for I-526, causing an adverse effect to the site. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), SCDOT, and the South Carolina State Historic



Preservation Office (SHPO) outlining stipulations for mitigation of the adverse effect to 38CH2683 was executed on January 5, 2023. However, the design of the interchange improvement has changed significantly since the execution of the MOA, necessitating a reassessment of project effects on 38CH2683.

The proposed construction footprint of the redesigned I-526 onramps has shifted to the south and there are no longer plans to acquire any new ROW from the boundaries of 38CH2683 (see Attachment 1). A small amount of new ROW (approximately 2-3 feet) will be acquired just outside of the southern site boundary, but all construction occurring adjacent to the site will occur within the existing SCDOT ROW and will consist of minimal ground disturbing activities. Proposed improvements adjacent to the southern boundary of the site include the construction of a noise barrier wall which would require clearing of vegetation and possible regrading within the ROW boundary. The existing sidewalk will likely be torn out and reconstructed to match the new curb and gutter line and elevations. The existing fence along the southern boundary of 38CH2683 would be relocated as necessary for access and construction and re-installed along the new SCDOT ROW line for the property owner. Any clearing and grubbing necessary for the noise barrier and associated roadwork would be within the proposed ROW. If the fence is relocated, it is not anticipated that grubbing would be needed for that activity, but vegetation would likely need to be cut for installation purposes.

Although the construction will not enter the site boundary, archaeological monitoring is proposed during any potential ground disturbing construction activities occurring adjacent to the site. A proposed monitoring plan is enclosed with this letter (Attachment 2). In addition to monitoring, the site boundaries will be marked on all construction plans. The site will be further protected by the installation of an orange temporary barrier fence (TBF) along the site boundary. The TBF will include signage designating the site as an environmentally sensitive area. No ground disturbing activities may take place within the boundary of the site, and project equipment and personnel will be prohibited from entering the site boundary.

Given these design changes and planned protective measures, the Department proposes that as currently designed, the project will have **no adverse effect** on 38CH2683. Due to this change in effect, we propose that the existing MOA is no longer necessary and should be terminated. This letter serves as written notification of the termination, per Stipulation VII of the MOA.

Per the terms of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on October 6, 2017, the Department is providing this information on behalf of the FHWA. It is requested that you review the enclosed material, and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence in the Department's findings. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Shepherd
Chief Archaeologist

Enclosures: Monitoring Plan



I (~~do~~) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Mary Sheu Date: 9/24/25

ec: Aaron Dawson, FHWA
LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Brett Barnes, Eastern Shawnee

cc: Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation



Attachment 1: Map showing proposed project plans in relation to 38CH2683





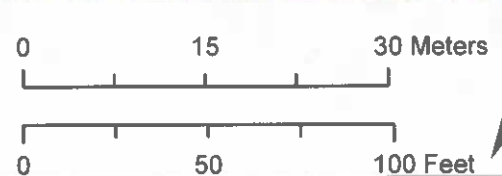
38CH2683

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Existing ROW | Proposed Sidewalk |
| Proposed New ROW | Proposed Noise Wall |
| Proposed Construction Limits | 38CH2683 Boundary from Survey Data |
| Proposed Final Travel Way | 38CH2683 Boundary from ArchSite |



I-526 at Long Point Rd Interchange Improvement

PIN: 41314 County: Charleston
Date: 08/08/2025



Attachment 2: Proposed Monitoring Plan for 38CH2683

Post Office Box 191
955 Park Street, Room 115
Columbia, SC 29202-0191



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Archaeological Monitoring Plan for 38CH2683

Site Background

Site 38CH2683 is a multi-component artifact scatter and former school site located northeast of the Interstate 526 and Long Point Road interchange, approximately 270 feet west of Belle Hall Parkway. The site measures 50x100 meters and contains a pre-contact ceramic and shell artifact scatter as well as multiple historic period components dating to the eighteenth to nineteenth century, early to mid-twentieth century, and mid to late twentieth century. The former location of the Long Point School, an African American school constructed in 1904, is located in the south-central portion of the site. The school stood at the site until 2021 when the building was relocated to the nearby Snowden Community Center. The site was documented by Brockington and Associates (Brockington) in 2022 but was also investigated by a field school associated with the College of Charleston prior to Brockington's visit (Baluha and Dantuma 2022). Brockington recommended the area of the site associated with the Long Point School and a potential earlier eighteenth to nineteenth century enslaved settlement as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and D for its data potential and association with African American Gullah-Geechee culture and Segregation-era schools. SHPO concurred with this recommendation on November 10, 2022.

Identified cultural features at the site include concrete foundations, building rubble piles, brick foundations, and a concrete septic tank (Figure 1). However, the eastern concrete foundation, rubble piles, and a septic tank are remnants of a 1992 residence that was formerly present at the site and does not contribute to its eligibility. Possible features associated with the Long Point School include the brick foundations and the western concrete foundation. Twenty-eight historic period artifacts were recovered by Brockington and include an asphalt shingle fragment, window glass, an iron staple, a wire nail, aqua plate glass, green and clear container glass, coal, and unidentifiable iron fragments. A complete list of features and artifacts identified by the College of Charleston field school is not available, but colonoware was an artifact type reportedly recovered.

Archaeological Monitoring Requirements

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has proposed improvements to the Interstate 526 (I-526) and S-10-97 (Long Point Road) interchange located in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The improvements will address identified deficiencies with the intersection, including congestion during peak traffic hours, insufficient ramp capacity, inadequate ramp design for high truck volumes, and traffic weaving conditions. Construction activities for the

interchange project are not expected to directly impact site 38CH2683. No new right-of-way (ROW) will be acquired from within the delineated site boundary, which primarily follows an existing fence line, but construction is planned just south of the boundary (Figure 2). At this location the project proposes to construct a noise barrier wall which would require clearing of vegetation and possible regrading within the proposed ROW boundary. The existing sidewalk, located between the current fence line and the roadway, will likely be torn out and reconstructed to match the new curb and gutter line and elevations. The existing fence would be relocated as necessary for access/construction and re-installed along the SCDOT ROW for the property owner.

Although construction activities for the I-526 and Long Point Rd interchange project are not planned within the delineated boundary of 38CH2683, archaeological monitoring has been recommended for all ground disturbing construction activities occurring adjacent to the site boundary. Planned construction activities that will require archaeological monitoring include clearing and grubbing of vegetation and ground surface grading associated with the installation of the noise barrier wall. Archaeological monitoring must be performed by an individual who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for an archaeologist (36 CFR 61 and Federal Register 48:44738-44739) and who has experience in historical archaeology. A qualified archaeologist must be present during all excavation associated with the construction activities detailed above.

All ground disturbances associated with vegetation grubbing and surface grading adjacent to the site boundary should be examined by the monitor for cultural deposits. The monitoring effort must include daily observations and photographs, which should be recorded in a log that will be made available to the SCDOT archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). During monitoring, photographs should be taken of any archaeological deposits identified. If potential cultural features are uncovered during the excavations, the monitor has the authority to immediately halt ground disturbance so that they can determine whether the remains are part of intact cultural deposits. If the deposits are not intact, a brief period (less than an hour) must be allowed for documentation before ground disturbance continues. If features are identified, work in this area will need to cease immediately and be buffered. SCDOT will contact the SHPO within 24-48 business hours, providing a detailed description of the aforementioned archaeological feature and a recommendation as to whether the feature is associated with the eligible components of 38CH2683, with supporting documentation to our office for our concurrence. Protocols should be provided for SHPO consultation and additional excavation steps and treatment measures as deemed necessary.

It is not anticipated that burials will be discovered at the site. However, if human remains are encountered, all excavations in the vicinity of the uncovered remains should immediately cease. SCDOT, the SHPO, and the local coroner will be notified of the discovery immediately. No human

remains should be removed from their context and efforts should be made to protect the remains until consultation with the appropriate parties occurs and decisions made on their treatment. Ground disturbing activities will not continue until SCDOT grants permission to resume.

References

Baluha, David and Chelsea Dantuma

2022 *Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the I-26 and Long Point Road Interchange Improvements Project, Charleston County, South Carolina*. Brockington and Associates, Inc. Charleston, South Carolina