

FRANCIS MARION NATIONAL FOREST

Revised Land and Resource Management Plan

Administrative Change Additions to the Species of Conservation Concern

February 2018

The 2012 Planning Rule, issued by the Forest Service in April 2012, allows the USDA Forest Service to make non-substantive corrections or adjustments to the revised Forest Plan using a process called “Administrative Changes.” “Administrative changes” as defined by 36 CFR 219.13(c) in the 2012 Planning Rule is “...any change to a plan that is not a plan amendment or revision. Administrative changes include corrections of clerical errors to any part of the plan, conformance of the plan to new statutory or regulatory requirements, or other content in the plan (§219.7(f)).

Administrative Change

On September 21, 2017, the Regional Forester approved the addition of 3 species to the list of Species of Conservation Concern (SCCs) for the Francis Marion National Forest. These 3 species are being added to the list of SCCs that are identified in the Forest Plan in Appendix D, Table D-1.

The change to Table D-1 is shown below:

Forest Plan, Appendix D, Table D-1. List of at-risk species on the Francis Marion

Taxa	Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
Vascular Plant	<i>Agrimonia incisa</i>	Incised Groovebur	Species of Conservation Concern
Vascular Plant	<i>Plantago sparsiflora</i>	Pineland Plantain	Species of Conservation Concern
Vascular Plant	<i>Sageretia minutiflora</i>	Small-flowered Buckthorn	Species of Conservation Concern

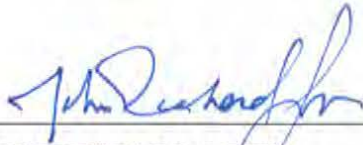
This Administrative Change is in accordance with 36 CFR 219.13(c). This action does not constitute a change to plan components as defined by 36 CFR 219.7(e), and is a change to “Other content in the plan” (36 CFR 219.7(f)).

By adding these species to the Forest’s list of SCCs, it was determined that it would be advantageous to also update some of the applicable Tables found in the FEIS to the Revised Forest Plan. These updates to the FEIS are summarized in the Attachment to this Administrative Change.

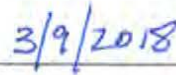
An analysis was also undertaken to determine if these additions to the Forest’s list of SCCs would require an amendment to the Forest Plan. An amendment to the Forest Plan would be needed if additional plan components were needed to provide the ecological conditions necessary to maintain a viable population of each of these additional species

of conservation concern. The analysis determined that the existing direction in the plan did provide for the ecological conditions necessary for these species, and that no additional plan components were needed. The results of that analysis, and a description of the applicable existing plan components that address the ecological conditions needed for these species is summarized in the update to Table E-46 of the FEIS to the Forest Plan, which is also shown in the Attachment to this Administrative Change.

This "Administrative Change – Additions to the Species of Conservation Concern", is effective upon signature and being posted online. Administrative changes are not subject to the objection process (36 CFR 219.50).



JOHN RICHARD LINT
Forest Supervisor
Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests



Date

Attachment to the Administrative Change – Additions to the Species of Conservation Concern, Revised Land Management Plan, Francis Marion National Forest

The following information is added to the FEIS, Chapter 3, Section 3.3.3, Species of Conservation Concern:

p.183, Table 3-32. Species of conservation concern associated with mesic to wet pine savannas

Species Group	Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Documented Occurrences
Vascular Plant	<i>Plantago sparsiflora</i>	Pineland Plantain	

p.188, Table 3-36. Species of Conservation Concern associated with upland pine ecosystems

Species Group	Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Documented Occurrences
Vascular Plant	<i>Agrimonia incisa</i>	Incised Groovebur	

A new sub-section to Section 3.3.3:

Species of Conservation Concern associated with Maritime Forests and Salt Marsh

Threats to the species in this group include sea level rise, non-native invasive species, and the potential for recreational impacts. The species listed below in this group was a sensitive species in the 1996 revised forest plan. This species has declined since 1996. Objective O-14 in the 1996 Forest Plan stated to “Identify and maintain existing acreage in... southern Atlantic maritime forest and Objective 13 to “Maintain or expand existing proposed, endangered, threatened, and sensitive species”. Small-flowered buckthorn occurs on shell mounds imbedded within maritime forests. The species in this group can be linked to the desired condition and key characteristics associated with maritime forests and salt marsh. Potential habitat for this species is estimated to occur on 1,200 acres based on ecological mapping. Sewee Shell Mound is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Species Group	Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Documented Occurrences
Maritime Forests and Salt Marsh	<i>Sageretia minutiflora</i>	Small-flowered Buckthorn	1

The following information is added to the FEIS, Appendix E - Ecosystems and Species Diversity Report:

FEIS, Appendix E, Table E-4. Add:

Species Group		Ecosystems	
Maritime and Salt Marsh Associates		Maritime Forests	1,200 acres

FEIS, Appendix E, Table E-46, At-Risk Species and associated ecological conditions and forest plan components. Add:

Species	Ecological Conditions	Coarse-filter Components		Fine Filter Components		
		Desired Conditions	Objectives and Management Strategies	Desired Conditions	Objectives and Management Strategies	Standards and Guidelines
Pineland Plantain <i>Plantago sparsiflora</i>	Marl Mesic to Wet Pine Savannas and Flatwoods	DC-ECO-3 Wet Pine Savanna and Flatwoods	OBJ-ECO-2 Frequent Prescribed Fire for Ecosystem Maintenance of Restoration OBJ-ECO-3. Upland Longleaf and Wet Pine Savannas	DC-SCC-5. Mesic to Wet Pine Savanna and Flatwoods Associates	OBJ-SCC-3. At-Risk Species OBJ-MUB-6. Comprehensive Roads Planning and Maintenance	S26, S29, S34, S35, S36, S37, S39, S40, S41, G40, G41
Incised Groovebur <i>Agrimonia incisa</i>	Upland Pine Woodlands	DC-ECO-2 Upland Longleaf and Loblolly Pine Woodlands	OBJ-ECO-2 Frequent Prescribed Fire for Ecosystem Maintenance of Restoration OBJ-ECO-3. Upland Longleaf and Wet Pine Savannas	DC-SCC-7. Upland Pine Woodland Associates	OBJ-SCC-3. At-Risk Species	S41, G32,
Small-flowered Buckthorn, <i>Sageretia minutiflora</i>	Shell Mounds within Maritime Forests	DC-ECO-9. Maritime Forests and Salt Marsh.	OBJ-ECO-6. Oak, Mesic Hardwood, and Maritime Forests	DC-SCC-12. Rare Plant Communities DC-RIZ-Coastal-S-3. Rare Plant Communities DC-THR-3. Response to Rising Sea Level and Salt-water Intrusion and Influx	OBJ-SCC-3. At-Risk Species	S26, S29, S34, S35, S36, S37, S39, S40, S41, G40, G41

**File Code:** 2670**Date:** September 21, 2017**Route To:****Subject:** Revised Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) for the Francis Marion National Forest**To:** Forest Supervisor, Francis Marion National Forest

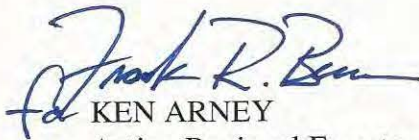
Your review of the 25 species identified in the resolution for the objection filed by the Defenders of Wildlife against the Francis Marion National Forest Land Management Plan as possible SCC has been received.

The Forest has followed the procedures in Forest Service Handbook 1909.12_21.22b in reviewing these species, and submitted a recommendation to add three species as SCC, along with supporting rationale for the recommendation to include or not include each species.

We concur with your recommendation and identified the following three species as SCC for the Francis Marion National Forest.

- tiny-leaved buckthorn, *Sageretia minutiflora*
- incised groovebur, *Agrimonia incisa*
- pineland plantain, *Plantago sparsiflora*

Enclosed is the revised list of the seventy SCC for your Forest. If you have questions, please contact Duke Rankin, Region 8 Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species Program Manager, at 404-347-3981 or via email at drankin@fs.fed.us.



KEN ARNEY
Acting Regional Forester

Enclosure

cc: Robert Trujillo, Peter Gaulke, Paul Arndt, Duke Rankin



Species of Conservation Concern

Francis Marion National Forest

August 25, 2017

Taxonomic Group	Subgroup	Species	Common Name
Amphibian	Frog	<i>Lithobates capito</i>	Gopher Frog
Amphibian	Siren	<i>Pseudobranchius striatus</i>	Dwarf Siren
Aquatic	Eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American eel
Bird	Bird	<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow
Bird	Bird	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	American Swallow-tailed Kite
Bird	Bird	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle
Insect	Butterfly	<i>Amblyscirtes alternata</i>	Dusky roadside skipper
Insect	Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch Butterfly
Insect	Butterfly	<i>Euphyes berryi</i>	Berry's Skipper
Insect	Butterfly	<i>Zale perculata</i>	Okfenokee Zale Moth
Mammal	Bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat
Mammal	Bat	<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>	Southeastern myotis
Reptile	Snake	<i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake
Reptile	Snake	<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake
Reptile	Turtle	<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	Spotted Turtle
Vascular Plant	Aquatic	<i>Utricularia macrorhiza</i>	Greater Bladderwort
Vascular Plant	Aquatic	<i>Myriophyllum laxum</i>	Piedmont Water-milfoil
Vascular Plant	Fern	<i>Asplenium resiliens</i>	Black-stem Spleenwort
Vascular Plant	Fern	<i>Burmanningia biflora</i>	Northern Bluethread
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Agalinis aphylla</i>	Coastal Plain False-foxglove
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Agrimonia incisa</i>	Incised Groovebur
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Asclepia pedicellata</i>	Savanna Milkweed
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Coreopsis integrifolia</i>	Chipola Dye-flower
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Eryngium aquaticum var. ravenelii</i>	Ravenel's Eryngo
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Eupatorium anomalum</i>	Florida Thorough-wort
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Helenium pinnatifidum</i>	Southeastern Sneezeweed
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Lachnocaulon minus</i>	Small's Bogbutton
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Lobelia boykinii</i>	Boykin's Lobelia
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Ludwigia lanceolata</i>	Lance-leaf Seedbox
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Lysimachia hybrida</i>	Lance-leaf Loosestrife
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Lysimachia loomisii</i>	Loomis' Loosestrife
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Macbridea caroliniana</i>	Carolina Birds-in-a Nest
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Plantago sparsiflora</i>	Pineland Plantain
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Ruellia strepens</i>	Limestone Petunia
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Xyris brevifolia</i>	Short-leaved Yellow-eyed Grass
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Xyris difformis var. floridana</i>	Florida Yellow-eyed Grass
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Xyris flabelliformis</i>	Savannah Yellow-eyed Grass
Vascular Plant	Forb	<i>Xyris stricta</i>	Pineland Yellow-eyed Grass
Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Andropogon gyrans var. stenophyllus</i>	Elliott's Bluestem
Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Andropogon mohrii</i>	Mohr's Bluestem
Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Anthraenantia rufo</i>	Purple Silkyscale

Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Sporobolus curtissii</i>	Pineland Dropseed
Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Sporobolus pinetorum</i>	Carolina Dropseed
Vascular Plant	Grass	<i>Tridens chapmanii</i>	Chapman's Redtop
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Calopogon barbatus</i>	Bearded Grass-pink
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Calopogon multiflorus</i>	Many-flower Grass-pink
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Listera australis</i>	Southern Twayblade
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Platanthera integra</i>	Yellow Fringeless Orchid
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Ponthieva racemosa</i>	Shadow-witch Orchid
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Pteroglossaspis ecristata</i>	Crestless Plume Orchid
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Spiranthes laciniata</i>	Lace-lip Ladies'-tresses
Vascular Plant	Orchid	<i>Triphora trianthophora</i>	Threebirds Orchid
Vascular Plant	Rush	<i>Cladium mariscoides</i>	Twig-rush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Carex basiantha</i>	Widow Sedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Carex crus-corvi</i>	Ravenfoot Sedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Carex elliotii</i>	Elliott's Sedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Carex granularis</i>	Meadow Sedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>	Tussock Sedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Chasmanthium nitidum</i>	Shiny Spikegrass
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora breviseta</i>	Short-bristle Baldrush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora globularis</i> var. <i>pinetorum</i>	Beakrush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora harperi</i>	Harper Beakrush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora oligantha</i>	Few-flowered Beaked-rush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora pleiantha</i>	Brown Beaked-rush
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora scirpoides</i>	Long-beaked Beaksedge
Vascular Plant	Sedge	<i>Rhynchospora stenophylla</i>	Chapman Beakrush
Vascular Plant	Shrub	<i>Sageretia minutiflora</i>	Tiny-leaved Buckthorn
Vascular Plant	Tree	<i>Carya myristiciformis</i>	Nutmeg Hickory
Vascular Plant	Tree	<i>Quercus similis</i>	Bottom-land Post Oak
Vascular Plant	Vine	<i>Matelea flavidula</i>	Carolina Milkvine
N = 70			