

South Carolina Department of  
**Natural Resources**



Alvin A. Taylor

**Director**

Emily C. Cope

Deputy Director for

**Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries**

July 3, 2018

Horry County Planning Commission  
 Horry County Government & Justice Center  
 1201 Second Avenue  
 Conway, South Carolina, 29526

Dear Horry County Planning Commission,

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources would like to express concern regarding the proposed rezoning of 864.52 acres from SF10/CFA to SF6 along the northern boundary of Lewis Ocean Bay Heritage Preserve. The proposed rezoning seems to moving towards more aggressive development with its newly proposed zoning of SF6.

This particular land parcel shares a Carolina Bay (roughly a 50/50 split) with the Heritage Preserve. The SCDNR is concerned over changes in hydrology, altering of ecosystem services provided by the bay, and potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and rare species in close proximity. Urban interface density and proximity to the preserve also brings heightened wildfire risk into question.

Ultimately we would like more information regarding the future plans of this parcel and to be consulted as a result of having a 10,000 acre plus preserve next door that contains an intact critical ecosystem for many flora and fauna as well as provisions for outdoor recreation.

We respectfully request that the county works to ensure that activities on these neighboring properties do not negatively impact SCDNR properties. Please know that SCDNR stands ready to assist the county with any such endeavors to accommodate this request.

Sincerely,

Alicia Farrell

Regional Coordinator – Region 4

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources