



2025 Annual Accountability Report

**SC Conservation Bank
Agency Code: P400**

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| AGENCY NAME: | SC Conservation Bank | | |
| AGENCY CODE: | P400 | SECTION: | 053 |

AGENCY'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The SC Conservation Bank

Title 48 Chapter 59

S.C. Code of Laws Act 200

Mission statement:

To improve the quality of life in South Carolina through the conservation of significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks.

Objectives:

- Protect significant natural resource areas and wildlife habitats
- Protect water quality
- Maintain the State's forest lands
- Protect farmlands, especially family farms
- Protect and enhance the State's natural beauty
- Protect and enhance significant historical and archaeological sites
- Enhance public access for outdoor recreation and preserve traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, and other types of outdoor recreation
- To encourage cooperation and innovative partnerships among landowners, state agencies, municipalities, and non-profit organizations.



About the SC Conservation Bank

In 2000, work began on an effort to determine what lands in South Carolina were significant and how they could be protected and sustained. This effort resulted in the Land Legacy Initiative. This initiative was a grassroots effort that combined many individuals, groups, and businesses to identify barriers to land protection efforts and identify specific solutions to remove the barriers. Considerable time and effort were

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dedicated to studying how similar states were addressing robust growth. Several key themes emerged:

- To promote the well-being and quality of life in South Carolina, greenways, open space, and parks in urban areas must be preserved.
- Funding for the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, natural areas, historical sites, sites of unique ecological significance, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, open space, and urban parks is a critical need.
- The protection of open space is best accomplished in a voluntary manner between willing buyers and willing sellers to ensure that the State continues to enjoy the benefits of wildlife habitats, and healthy streams, rivers, bays, and estuaries; for recreation purposes, scientific studies, and aesthetic appreciation, and to maintain the State's position as an attractive location for visitors and new industry, and to preserve the opportunities for future generations to access and benefit from these outstanding natural and historical sites.

The Initiative determined that the State needed to establish an ongoing funding source to



acquire these real estate interests and that it was critical to encourage cooperation and innovative partnerships among landowners, state agencies, municipalities, and non-profit organizations to work together to meet these objectives. The South Carolina General Assembly, in a bipartisan effort, agreed passed the South Carolina Conservation Bank Act, introduced

by Representative Chip Campsen from Charleston. The Act was signed and ratified by the Governor in April 2002.

The Bank Board, which now consists of 11 members and 6 ex-officio members, was appointed and an Executive Director was hired. Two years were spent studying other states, setting board policy, and establishing the grant application process until fiscal year 2004-05 began. Funding began in July 2004 and since that time the Bank has actively pursued its mission.

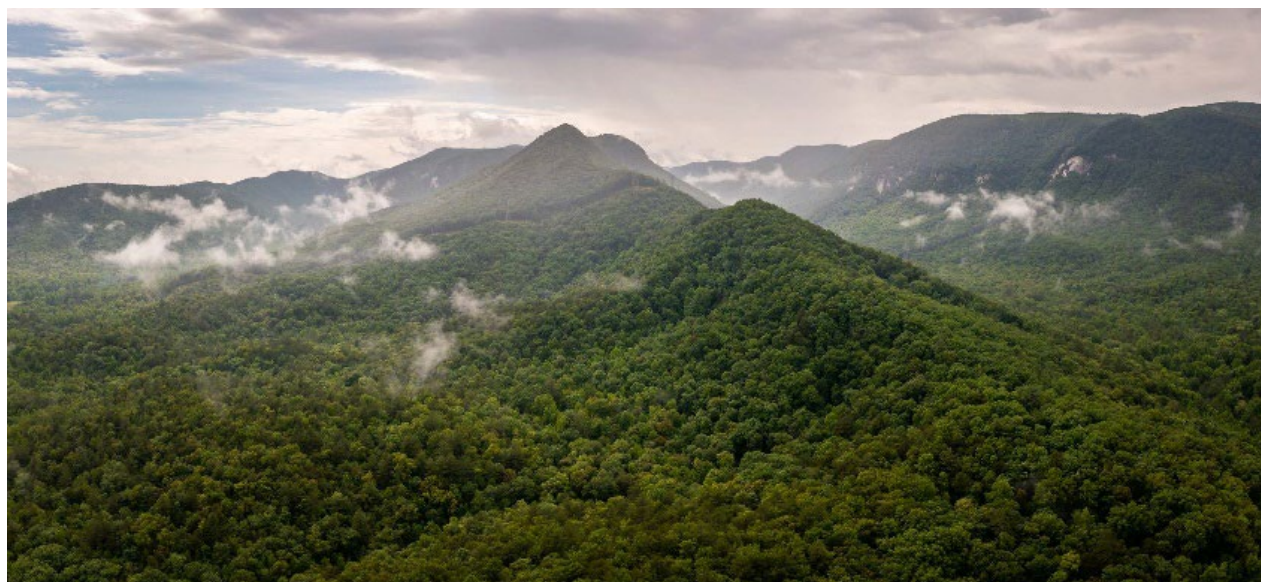
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| AGENCY NAME: | SC Conservation Bank | | |
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SC Conservation Bank Statistics

Through June 30, 2025, the SC Conservation Bank has protected 543 properties totaling nearly 412,000 acres across the state.

The Bank collaborates with landowners, other state agencies, local governments, and non-profit land trusts to help leverage Bank grants with other funds. During FY 2025, multiple partners made significant contributions through bargain sales and matching funds allowing SCCB to continue to leverage grant awards and bring more conservation dollars to South Carolina.

The Bank, through its competitive grant awards process and statutory authority to award funds to both qualified governmental and non-profit entities, is uniquely positioned to protect natural resource lands, wetlands, historical and archaeological properties, and urban parks throughout the state, and to attract federal dollars that dramatically leverage the State's contributions. The Bank will continue coordinate and collaborate with other resource agencies to maximize the most cost-effective options available for land acquisition with the greatest public benefit. Such collaboration ensures that land acquisitions support agency objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and the resource agency.



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Working Agricultural Lands Preservation Act



On April 23, 2024, Governor Henry McMaster ceremonially signed H. 3951, the Working Agricultural Lands Preservation Act, on a beautiful Spring Day at Cottle Strawberry Farm in Hopkins, SC. The legislation provides an avenue of permanent protection to working farmland properties whose continued viability is essential to the long-term future of the economic sector of South Carolina. It creates an innovative tool in the toolbox to

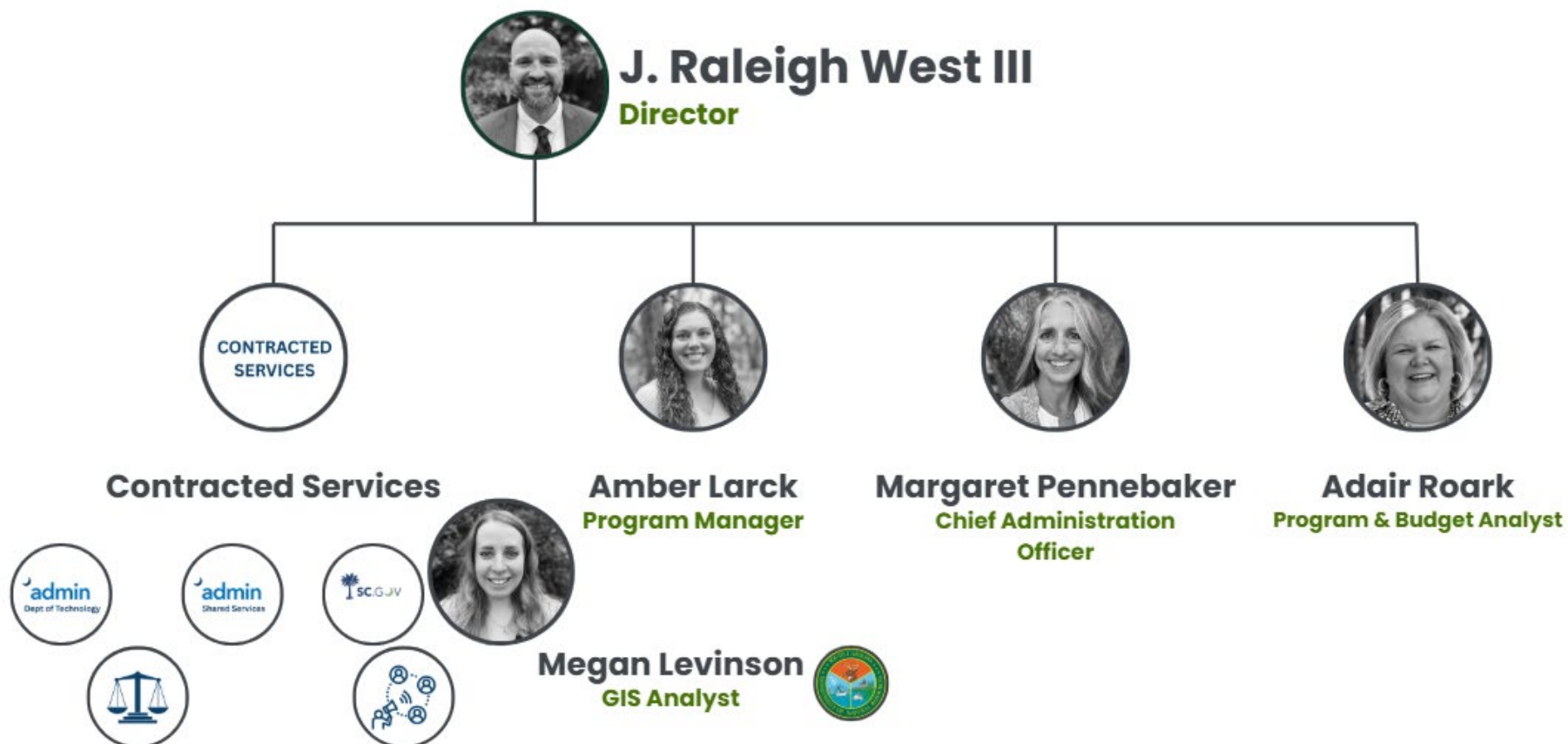
protect these farmlands, allow family commercial farms to stay in the family and be passed down to future generations of farmers, and ensures that the South Carolina agricultural industry is not lost to overdevelopment. The Act creates the Working Farmland Protection Fund which is housed at the Bank and is designed to help landowners who meet specific statutorily defined evaluation criteria preserve their working farms through voluntary conservation easements.

The Bank received a total of \$3 million in Appropriations for the Working Farmland Protection Fund for fiscal year 2025 and exhausted the fund after two funding cycles. These applications were evaluated by the Conservation Bank Board at its quarterly meetings throughout the year. The Working Ag Fund protected 1,767 acres across 6 counties.

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|--------------|----------------------------------|----------|----|
| AGENCY NAME: | South Carolina Conservation Bank | | |
| AGENCY CODE: | P400 | SECTION: | 53 |

Organizational Chart

SOUTH CAROLINA
CONSERVATION
BANK



2025

Reorganization and Compliance

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P400 - CONSERVATION BANK

Primary Contact

| First Name | Last Name | Role/Title | Email Address | Phone |
|------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Adair | Roark | Budget & Program Analyst | adair.roark@sccbanc.sc.gov | 803-608-7775 |

Secondary Contact

| First Name | Last Name | Role/Title | Email Address | Phone |
|------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Margaret | Pennebaker | Chief Administration Officer | Margaret.Pennebaker@sccbanc.sc.gov | 803-608-7807 |

Agency Mission

Adopted in:

2002

To improve the quality of life in South Carolina through the conservation of significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks.

Agency Vision

Adopted in:

2002

To improve the quality of life in South Carolina for current and future generations by conserving, preserving and protecting significant natural resource areas and wildlife habitats; water quality; forest lands; farmlands, especially family farms; significant historical and archaeological sites; enhance public access for outdoor recreation and preserve traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, and other types of outdoor recreation; and to encourage cooperation and innovative partnerships among private landowners, state agencies, municipalities, and non-profit organizations.

Recommendations for reorganization requiring legislative change:

None

Agency intentions for other major reorganization to divisions, departments, or programs to allow the agency to operate more effectively and efficiently in the succeeding fiscal year:

None

Significant events related to the agency that occurred in FY2025

| Description of Event | Start | End | Agency Measures Impacted | Other Impacts |
|-------------------------------|----------|------|--|---|
| Issued first Working Ag Grant | November | June | Increase the number of acres of land in conservation | Increases the number of farm specific properties protected. |

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|--|-----|
| Reached 400,000 acres protected | July | June | Increase the number of acres of land in conservation | |
| Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 2-1-220, which requires submission of certain reports to the Legislative Services Agency for publication online and the State Library? (See also S.C. Code Ann. § 60-2-20). | | | | Yes |
| Reason agency is out of compliance: (if applicable) | | | | |
| Is the agency in compliance with various requirements to transfer its records, including electronic ones, to the Department of Archives and History? See the Public Records Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 30-1-10 through 30-1-180) and the South Carolina Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (S.C. Code Ann. § 26-6-10 through 26-10-210). | | | | Yes |
| Does the law allow the agency to promulgate regulations? | | | | Yes |
| Law number(s) which gives the agency the authority to promulgate regulations: | SC Code of Laws Section 48-59-70(M) | | | |
| Has the agency promulgated any regulations? | | | | No |
| Is the agency in compliance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-120 (J), which requires an agency to conduct a formal review of its regulations every five years? | | | | No |
| (End of Reorganization and Compliance Section) | | | | |

| <div><div>FY2025</div><div>Strategic Plan Results</div><div>as submitted for the Accountability Report by:</div><div>P400 - CONSERVATION BANK</div></div> <div><div>Goal 1</div><div>To establish sustainable amounts of diverse habitat reflecting the values of SC citizens</div></div> <div><div>Goal 2</div><div>To improve public awareness & understanding of resource management issues & increase opportunities to participate in the process.</div></div> <div><div>Goal 3</div><div>To develop and maintain effective support and planning systems to ensure efficient overall agency operations.</div></div> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------|---------|------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------|---|--|
| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Actual | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
| 1.1 Within the next 5 years improve the abundance & distribution of conserved propertiesState Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1 | Increase the number of acres of land in conservation | 359,159 | 415,000 | 411,504.78 | Count | equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of acres reported in applications approved by the Conservation Bank for land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | Make up of projects did not reach the acreage goal, even though the number or projects was significantly higher than goal and over 10,000 acres in approved projects at year end |
| 1.1.2 | Increase the number of conservation grants awarded | 486 | 525 | 543 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of applications approved by the Conservation Bank for land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 1.2 Within the next 5 years improve the abundance & distribution of conserved propertiesState Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2.1 | Increase the number of acres of public access land in conservation | 122,594 | 130,000 | 135,692 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of acres reported in applications approved by the Conservation Bank for public access land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications for conservation of public access land reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Actual | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|--|---|------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 1.2.2 | Increase the number of public access land conservation grants awarded | 204 | 210 | 225 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of applications approved by the Conservation Bank for public access land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 2.1 To develop and maintain effective and supportive partnerships that enable the bank and its partners to reach mutual conservation goals. State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Create a "Focus Area" and establish a focus group in an area of high growth pressure and/or high conservation priority. | 100% | 100% | 50% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Staff activity records | Conservation Bank internal master calendar | Increases the public awareness of the critical need to fund land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | Bank took a proactive role in several previously established focus areas |
| 2.2 General Assembly State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2.1 | Attend at least 10 meetings (virtual or in-person) for the purpose of informing members of the General Assembly as to the benefits of the conservation practices. | 10 | 10 | 11 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Staff activity records | Conservation Bank internal master calendar | Increases legislative awareness of the critical need to fund land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Assembly | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 2.2.2 | Develop and distribute an Annual Report to the Governor's office and each member of the General Assembly. | 172 | 172 | 172 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of recipients | Staff activity records | Annual Report distribution list | Increases legislative awareness of the critical need to fund land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | Governor and General Assembly | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.1 Design enhanced application and award criteria for the grant application process State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1 | Modify, debug and fine-tune online grant application as necessary to attract a large volume of high quality conservation proposals consistent with the Bank's mission. Implement online application component for the qualified Working Farmlands Protection Fund applicants. | 100% | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Grants Review Committee meetings and minutes | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Actual | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|---|--|------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---|--|---|--|-------------------------|---|-------|
| 3.1.2 | Update grant scoring and mapping data annually and as needed to ensure alignment with conservation priority goals. | 100% | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Grants Review Committee meetings and minutes | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 01000.010000.000 | |
| 3.1.3 | Hold meeting(s) as necessary with Board and stakeholders to inform and discuss grant application changes. | 2 | 4 | 4 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Board meeting notice and Agenda | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.2 Develop and maintain an Heir's Property conservation easement plan and program | | | | | | | | | | State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | |
| 3.2.1 | Hold meeting with the Center for Heir's Property Preservation to collaborate on conservation of heir's property. | 1 | 1 | 1 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Staff activity records | Agency Internal Records-meeting notes | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.2.2 | In collaboration with the Center for Heir's Property Preservation, identify opportunities to advance conservation of heirs property lands. | 1 | 1 | 1 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of times report is monitored and updated | Heir's Property report | Agency Internal Records-Heir's Property Report | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.3 Establish system to update Board and general public on the accomplishments of stakeholders | | | | | | | | | | State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | |
| 3.3.1 | Provide quarterly email updates to Board members | 4 | 4 | 4 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of updates | Board correspondence files | Agency Internal Records | Engages the Conservation Bank Board and other stakeholders in furthering the progress of land conservation efforts as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | Conservation Bank Board | 0100.010000.000 | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Actual | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|---|--|------|--------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|---|---|---------------------|--|-------|
| 3.3.2 | Update website within 30 business days when Board-approved land conservation grants are completed and finalized. | 100% | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Conservation Bank website | website activity logs | Engages the Conservation Bank Board and other stakeholders in furthering the progress of land conservation efforts as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.3.3 | Create Property Signage template for installation at existing public access projects and install initial test signage. | 6 | 8 | 33 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of signs | Staff activity records | Agency Internal Records | Increases the public awareness of the availability of public access conserved lands which is an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.4 To develop and effective and efficient Bank staff State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.4.1 | Each Conservation Bank employee will attend at least one career development opportunities | 4 | 4 | 5 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of completed professional development activities | Agency HR records | Agency Internal Records-Human Resources | Emphasizes employee growth, knowledge development and retention. | Employees | 0100.010000.000 | |

FY2026

Strategic Plan Development

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P400 - CONSERVATION BANK

- Goal 1To establish sustainable amounts of diverse habitat reflecting the values of SC citizens
- Goal 2To improve public awareness & understanding of resource management issues & increase opportunities to participate in the process.
- Goal 3To develop and maintain effective support and planning systems to ensure efficient overall agency operations.

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|----------------------|--|---------|---------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|---|-------------------------|--|---------------------|---|-------|
| 1.1 | Within the next 5 years improve the abundance & distribution of conserved properties | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1 | Increase the number of acres of land in conservation | 411,505 | 436,505 | Count | equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of acres reported in applications approved by the Conservation Bank for land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 1.1.2 | Increase the number of conservation grants awarded | 543 | 583 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of applications approved by the Conservation Bank for land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 1.2 | Within the next 5 years improve the abundance & distribution of conserved properties | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|--|---|---------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|---|-------|
| 1.2.1 | Increase the number of acres of public access land in conservation | 135,692 | 143,692 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of acres reported in applications approved by the Conservation Bank for public access land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications for conservation of public access land reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 1.2.2 | Increase the number of public access land conservation grants awarded | 225 | 230 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Count of applications approved by the Conservation Bank for public access land conservation grants | Based on the number of applications reviewed and approved by the SC Conservation Bank Board | Agency Internal Records | Promotes the critical need for land conservation efforts by funding the preservation of, and public access to, wildlife habitats, outstanding natural areas, sites of unique ecological significance, historical sites, forestlands, farmlands, watersheds, and open space, and urban parklands as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.030000X000 | |
| 2.1 General Assembly State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Attend at least 10 meetings (virtual or in-person) for the purpose of informing members of the General Assembly as to the benefits of the conservation practices. | 11 | 12 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Staff activity records | Conservation Bank internal master calendar | Increases legislative awareness of the critical need to fund land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Assembly | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 2.1.2 | Develop and distribute an Annual Report to the Governor's office and each member of the General Assembly. | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete of General Assembly, Governors Office | Staff activity records | Annual Report distribution list | Increases legislative awareness of the critical need to fund land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | Governor and General Assembly | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.1 Design enhanced application and award criteria for the grant application process State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|---|--|------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---|--|--|--|---------------------|---|-------|
| 3.1.1 | Modify, debug and fine-tune online grant application as necessary to attract a large volume of high quality conservation proposals consistent with the Bank's mission. | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Grants Review Committee meetings and minutes | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.1.2 | Update grant scoring and mapping data annually and as needed to ensure alignment with conservation priority goals. | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Grants Review Committee meetings and minutes | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 01000.010000.000 | |
| 3.1.3 | Hold meeting(s) as necessary with Board and stakeholders to inform and discuss conservation goals | 2 | 2 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Board meeting notice and Agenda | Agency Internal Records | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.2 Develop and maintain an Heir's Property conservation easement plan and program State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1 | Hold meeting with the Center for Heir's Property Preservation to collaborate on conservation of heir's property. | 1 | 1 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of meetings | Staff activity records | Agency Internal Records-meeting notes | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.2.2 | In collaboration with the Center for Heir's Property Preservation, identify opportunities to advance conservation of heirs property lands. | 1 | 1 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of times report is monitored and updated | Heir's Property report | Agency Internal Records-Heir's Property Report | Increases the quality of land conservation projects which is vital in addressing the critical need of land conservation as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.3 Establish system to update Board and general public on the accomplishments of stakeholders State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Perf. Measure Number | Description | Base | Target | Value Type | Desired Outcome | Time Applicable | Calculation Method | Data Source | Data Location | Stakeholder Need Satisfied | Primary Stakeholder | State Funded Program Number Responsible | Notes |
|----------------------|--|------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|-------|
| 3.3.1 | Provide quarterly email updates to Board members | | 3 | 4 Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of updates | Board correspondence files | Agency Internal Records | Engages the Conservation Bank Board and other stakeholders in furthering the progress of land conservation efforts as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | Conservation Bank Board | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.3.2 | Update website within 30 business days when Board-approved land conservation grants are completed and finalized. | 100% | 100% | Percent complete | Complete | State Fiscal Year | Percent complete as determined by the agency | Conservation Bank website | website activity logs | Engages the Conservation Bank Board and other stakeholders in furthering the progress of land conservation efforts as an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.3.3 | Distribute partner signage to conservation easement and fee simple properties | 33 | 150 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of signs | Staff activity records | Agency Internal Records | Increases the public awareness of the availability of public access conserved lands which is an essential element in the orderly development of the State. | General Public | 0100.010000.000 | |
| 3.4 | To develop and effective and efficient Bank staff | | | | | State Objective: Government and Citizens | | | | | | | |
| 3.4.1 | Each Conservation Bank employee will attend at least one career development opportunities | 5 | 4 | Count | Equal to or greater than | State Fiscal Year | Number of completed professional development activities | Agency HR records | Agency Internal Records-Human Resources | Emphasizes employee growth, knowledge development and retention. | Employees | 0100.010000.000 | |

2025

Budget Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P400 - CONSERVATION BANK

| State Funded Program No. | State Funded Program Title | Description of State Funded Program | (Actual) General | (Actual) Other | (Actual) Federal | (Actual) Total | (Projected) General | (Projected) Other | (Projected) Federal | (Projected) Total |
|--------------------------|--|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 0100.010000.000 | Administration Director, Classified Positions, Other Operating | General operating expenses and grant awards under the Bank's grants program to improve the quality of life in South Carolina by conserving significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks | \$ 582,157.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 582,157.00 | \$ 822,061.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 822,061.00 |
| 9500.050000.000 | State Employer Contributions Includes allocations | Employee fringe benefits | \$ 156,011.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 156,011.00 | \$ 178,963.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 178,963.00 |
| 0100.010000.000 | Administration Reimbursements | General operating expenses and grant awards under the Bank's grants program to improve the quality of life in South Carolina by conserving significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks | \$ - | \$ 7,169,950.00 | \$ - | \$ 7,169,950.00 | \$ - | \$ 574,428.00 | \$ - | \$ 574,428.00 |
| 0100.010000.000 | Administration SCOR Grants Approved individually by JBRC and then EBO issues one-time approval | General operating expenses and grant awards under the Bank's grants program to improve the quality of life in South Carolina by conserving significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks | \$ - | \$ 27,400,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 27,400,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| 0100.030000X000 | Conservation Bank Trust Conservation Projects DNR \$4M | Grant awards under the Bank's Conservation Grants program to improve the quality of life in South Carolina by conserving significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parksgrants program | \$ 15,719,096.42 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 15,719,096.42 | \$ 21,854,903.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 21,854,903.00 |
| 0106.150000X000 | Savannah Harbor Extension Project Authority | Authorization to establish a fund separate and distinct from the General Trust Fund for the purpose of collecting, holding and administering monies, arising from the SHEP settlement agreement. | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 4,700,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 4,700,000.00 |
| 0107.200000X000 | Working Ag Land Grant | Grant awards under the Working Farmland Protection Fund for the purpose of providing permanent protection to working farmland properties whose continued availability to commercial agricultural businesses is essential to the long-term future of the economic sector. | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 4,000,000.00 |
| 0118.100000X000 | National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Federal | Authorization to award grants from the NCWCG program to protect, restore and enhance coastal wetland ecosystems and associated uplands. | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |

| State Funded Program No. | State Funded Program Title | Description of State Funded Program | (Actual) General | (Actual) Other | (Actual) Federal | (Actual) Total | (Projected) General | (Projected) Other | (Projected) Federal | (Projected) Total |
|--------------------------|--|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 9836.020000X000 | Conservation Grants | Grant awards under the Bank's Conservation Grants program to improve the quality of life in South Carolina by conserving significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and urban parks. | \$ - | \$ 5,880,518.58 | \$ - | \$ 5,880,518.58 | \$ - | \$ 41,000,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 41,000,000.00 |
| 9840.030000X000 | Working Ag Land Grant | Grant awards under the Working Farmland Protection Fund for the purpose of providing permanent protection to working farmland properties whose continued availability to commercial agricultural businesses is essential to the long-term future of the economic sector. | \$ - | \$ 902,500.00 | \$ - | \$ 902,500.00 | \$ - | \$ 8,097,500.00 | \$ - | \$ 8,097,500.00 |
| NEW - Unknown | State Resource Agency Strategic Land Acquisition | Grant awards under the Proviso 117.164 for the purchase of property with the final takeout being one of the State's Resource Agencies | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 20,000,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 20,000,000.00 |

| 2025 | | <u>Legal Data</u> as submitted for the Accountability Report by: P400 - CONSERVATION BANK | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
| SC Code §48-59-100 | State | Statute | Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an easement acquired in whole or in part with trust funds must provide for public access consistent with the uses permitted by the terms of the easement. | Requires a manner of delivery | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-110 | State | Statute | Establishes trust fund use restrictions, and allows and establishes policies for board to award additional grant funds to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, or the South Carolina Forestry Commission for the acquisition of fee simple title to land to which the public will have full access. The additional funds must be used only for improvements that create or enhance wildlife habitats. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-120 | State | Statute | Repeal and amendment requirements | Not related to agency deliverable | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-130 | State | Statute | The provisions of this chapter must not be construed to eliminate or unreasonably restrict hunting, fishing, farming, forestry, timber management, or wildlife habitat management, as regulated by the laws of this State, upon lands for which interests in lands are obtained pursuant to this chapter. These and other traditional and compatible activities may be conducted, where appropriate, upon lands preserved with trust funds. | Requires a manner of delivery | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-140 | State | Statute | Establishes statutory parameters governing the purchase a conservation easements with trust funds. | Requires a manner of delivery | | No Change |

| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------|--|---|---|----------------------------|
| SC Code §48-59-20 | State | Statute | Established the purpose for enacting the SC Conservation Bank Act and including an ongoing funding source to acquire interests in land from willing sellers through cooperation and innovative partnerships among landowners, state agencies, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-30 | State | Statute | Definitions | Not related to agency deliverable | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-40 (A-C) | State | Statute | Establishes guidelines for Board member appointments, terms, and qualifications | Not related to agency deliverable | This section was amended on 03/11/2024 to increase the Board to a seventeen members by adding the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Transportation as additional ex officio members. | Amended |
| SC Code §48-59-40 (D) | State | Statute | Establishes parameters for Board member recusal from voting when a conflict of interest arises | Requires a service | Board members may not vote on any action affecting or providing funding for the acquisition on interests in land. | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-40 (E) | State | Statute | Board meetings | Board, commission, or committee on which someone from our agency must/may serve | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-40 (F) | State | Statute | Board member personal liability | Not related to agency deliverable | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-50 (A-B) | State | Statute | Establishes and directs the Bank's powers and duties in carrying out the purpose of the Conservation Bank Act | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |

| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------|---|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| SC Code §48-59-50 (C) | State | Statute | The Bank is authorized to hire an Executive Director with the advice and consent of the Senate, to hire staff, to contractor services and to enter into cooperative agreements with other state agencies | Requires a service | Hiring of Executive Director, staff, contract services, cooperative agreements with other state agencies | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-50 (D) | State | Statute | Establishes the trust fund as the funding source for bank operating expenses | Not related to agency deliverable | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-50 (E) | State | Statute | Stipulates that fund awards cannot be made unless the funds are in the trust fund at the time of the award; provides for certain exceptions for awards for extraordinary conservation opportunities | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-60 | State | Statute | Statutorily establishes the South Carolina Conservation Bank Trust Fund as separate and distinct from all other funds in the State Treasury for the purpose of receiving and holding revenues of the bank. Earnings on the trust fund are retained in the trust fund and unexpended trust fund revenues are carried forward in the trust fund from one fiscal year to the next. | Funding agency deliverable(s) | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-70 | State | Statute | Trust fund grants or loans for land interests; application; conservation criteria. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-80 | State | Statute | Statutorily establishes that interests in lands must be held by eligible trust fund recipients and addresses mortgages, insurance and rights of fee simple title owners. The Bank must be named as an insured on a title insurance policy acceptable to the board and obtained by the loan recipient for loans it makes to eligible trust fund recipients. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §48-59-90 | State | Statute | Funds from the trust fund may not be used to acquire interests in lands or other interests in real property through the exercise of any power of eminent domain or condemnation proceeding. | Requires a manner of delivery | | No Change |

| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|--|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| SC Act 224 of 2018 | State | Statute | To amend section 48-59-30, code of laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to South Carolina conservation bank definitions, so as to redefine the term eligible trust fund recipient; to amend section 48-59-40, relating to the board of the South Carolina conservation bank, so as to establish certain requirements for members of the board; to amend section 48-59-50, relating to the powers and duties of the South Carolina conservation bank, so as to require the bank to collaborate and advise on mitigation efforts when requested, to authorize the bank to develop conservation criteria to advance support federal, state, and local conservation goals, to provider certain restrictions on who may serve as executive director, and to prohibit the award of a grant or loan unless the funds are presently available in the trust fund; to amend section 48-59-70, relating to grants or loans for land interests, so as to expand the conservation criteria to include the value of the proposal for access to the public, to require a detailed statement of applicable fees and costs of the acquisition of the interest in the land on the application, to require the establishment of a grant review committee, and establish certain application requirements; to amend section 48-59-110, relating to use restrictions on trust funds, so as to authorize the bank to award additional grant funds to certain agencies for the acquisition of fee simple title to land and to establish application and reporting requirements; to repeal section 12-24-95 and 12-24-97, both relating to the portion of the deed recording fee credited to the South Carolina conservation bank trust fund; to repeal section 27-8-120, relating to the repeal of the South Carolina conservation bank; to repeal section 48-59-75, relating to the restriction of deed recording fees to the trust fund and to repeal sections 3, 4, 5, and 7 of act 200 of 2002 relating to the requirement to periodically reauthorize the South Carolina conservation bank trust fund. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| SC Code §12-24-95 | State | Statute | Statutorily directs the SCCB to receive twenty-five cents of every dollar thirty cents from the deed stamp recording fee for the purpose of accepting and reviewing land conservation easements and making grants and loans to qualified public and private entities to acquire interests in real property for the purpose of improving the quality of life in SC by permanently preserving & protecting farmlands, forestlands, wetlands, openlands, historic sites, archaeological sites, urban parks & natural resources. | Distribute funding to another entity | HISTORY: Former Section, titled State deed recording fee credited to South Carolina Conservation Bank Trust Fund, had the following history: 2002 Act No. 200, Section 3, eff April 10, 2002. Repealed by 2018 Act No. 224, Section 6.A, eff July 1, 2018. | No Change |
| SC Code §12-24-97 | State | Statute | Establishes when the SCCB started receiving funding; how long they would receive funding and if the SCCB Act is repealed where the funding would be redirected | Distribute funding to another entity | HISTORY: Former Section, titled Starting date for transfers on which fee based, had the following history: 2002 Act No. 200, Section 4, eff April 10, 2002. Repealed by 2018 Act No. 224, Section 6.A, eff July 1, 2018 | No Change |

| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
|---|--------------|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SC Code §48-59-10 | State | Statute | Established & statutorily required to accept & review land conservation easements and make grants and loans to qualified public and private entities to acquire interests in real property for the purpose of improving the quality of life in SC by permanently protecting farmlands, forestlands, wetlands, openlands, urban parks, historic sites and natural resources. | Distribute funding to another entity | | No Change |
| FY24 General Appropriations Act Proviso 53.1 | State | FY22-23 Proviso | 53.1. (CB: Trust Program Carry Forward) The Conservation Bank may carry forward any unexpended funds allocated to the Conservation Bank Trust Program from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year to be used for the same purpose. | Funding agency deliverable(s) | | No Change |
| FY24 General Appropriations Act Proviso 53.2 | State | FY23-24 Proviso | 53.2. (CB: General Fund Carry Forward) Of the funds appropriated in the prior fiscal year to the Conservation Bank for administration, unexpended funds may be carried forward to the current fiscal year and expended for the same purposes. | Funding agency deliverable(s) | | No Change |
| FY24 General Appropriations Act Proviso 117.171 | State | FY23-24 Proviso | 117.171. (GP: Land Acquisitions) Prior to entering into contracts to utilize funds appropriated or authorized by the General Assembly to acquire interests in land for natural resource protection and rural land preservation, including conservation easements, the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, Office of Resilience, and Forestry Commission (Resource Agencies) shall coordinate and collaborate with the SC Conservation Bank to maximize the most cost effective options available for the acquisition with the greatest public benefit. The Conservation Bank shall coordinate with the Resource Agency to ensure that the funds are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | Requires a manner of delivery | See amended Proviso and number below | Amended |
| SC Code §48-59-150 (A) | State | Statute | Establishes the Working Farmland Protection Fund for the purpose of providing permanent protection to working farmland properties whose continued availability to commercial agricultural businesses is essential to the long-term future of the economic sector. Balances in the fund must be retained and carried forward annually and interest earned on balances in the fund must be credited to the fund. | Requires a service | | Added |
| SC Code §48-59-150 (B-C) | State | Statute | Sets forth appropriate use of the fund and sets criteria by which grant applications to the fund are considered, evaluated, and awarded | Funding agency deliverable(s) | | Added |

| Law number | Jurisdiction | Type | Description | Purpose the law serves: | Notes: | Changes made during FY2025 |
|---|--------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| FY26 General Appropriations Act Proviso 117.164 | State | FY25-26 Proviso | <p>117.164. (GP: Land Acquisitions) (A) Prior to entering into contracts to utilize funds appropriated or authorized by the General Assembly to acquire interests in land for natural resource protection and rural land preservation, including conservation easements (Land Protection Projects), the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, the Office of Resilience, the Forestry Commission, and the SC Conservation Bank</p> <p>(Resource Agencies) shall coordinate and collaborate with each other to maximize the most cost effective options available for the acquisition with the greatest public benefit. The Resource Agencies shall coordinate with each other to ensure that the funds are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, and do not substantially encroach upon another agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Resource Agencies.</p> <p>(B) In addition to the requirements set forth above, collaboration and coordination shall include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(1) quarterly collaboration and planning meetings to coordinate on projects and ensure compliance with this proviso;</p> <p>(2) consideration of easement versus acquisition strategies for a proposed project;</p> <p>(3) consideration of a proposed project's importance in terms of natural conservation, historic resource protection, flood mitigation, agricultural resource protection, or other applicable co-benefits;</p> <p>(4) consideration of public access; and</p> <p>(5) consideration of funding sources for the potential project.</p> | Requires a manner of delivery | Proviso amended and number amended from FY23-24 117.171 | Amended |

| 2025 | | Services Data as submitted for the Accountability Report by: P400 - CONSERVATION BANK | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| Description of Service | Description of Direct Customer | Customer Name | Others Impacted by Service | Division or major organizational unit providing the service. | Description of division or major organizational unit providing the service. | Primary negative impact if service not provided. | Changes made to services during FY2025 | Summary of changes to services |
| Includes all agency support for budgeting and finance activities | Vendors, Grant Recipients, General Assembly, EBO, DOA, Agency Employees, Treasurer's Office, Comptroller General | | General Public | Operations -Finance | | The agency could not operate at sufficient capacity or effectiveness in the fulfillment of its mission. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| Increase stakeholder and public awareness of the benefits of land conservation | SC Governor, General Assembly, and citizens | | | Operations-Communications | | The agency could not operate at sufficient capacity or effectiveness in the fulfillment of its mission. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| Established to accept, review, award and administer funding applications by eligible entities to acquire interests in real estate for the purpose of improving the quality of life in SC by permanently conserving, preserving & protecting farmlands, forestlands, wetlands, openlands, urban parks, historic sites archaeological sites & natural resources | A qualified entity defined in the Conservation Bank Act as a state agency (SCDNR, SCPRT, or SC Forestry Commission), municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. | Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | General Public | Grant Administration | The Bank oversees and authorizes grants for the purpose of facilitating real estate transactions for conservation purposes. The Bank Director and staff administer grant funds and ensure compliance with the stated purposes of the grant award. | Limited protection of significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical and archaeological properties and urban parks throughout the state, and reduce leverage opportunities. | No Change | |
| Submit application to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the NCWCG program and administer funds accordingly. | Eligible entities are eligible trust fund recipient as defined by the SCCB Act to include state agencies, municipalities, and non-profit land trusts. | Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | USFWS, General Public | Grant Administration | Governor Henry McMaster designated the South Carolina Conservation Bank as eligible applications of the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants program. With approvals by the Bank Board and Director, staff submits applications and due diligence to the federal program and manages the grant reporting. | Lessened financial leverage | No Change | |
| Working Farmland Protection Fund | A qualified entity defined in The Conservation Bank Act as a state agency (SCDNR, SCPRT, or SC Forestry Commission), municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. | Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | General Public | Grant Administration | The Bank Board approves grants for this purpose. The Bank Director and Staff is responsible for overseeing and distribution of grant funds to conserve working farmland properties. | Limit protection of working farmland properties whose continued availability to commercial agricultural businesses is essential to the long-term future of the economic sector. | Add | First year administering Working Ag Grants |
| Savannah Harbord Expansion Plan (SHEP) Settlement Fund | A qualified entity defined in The Conservation Bank Act as a state agency (SCDNR, SCPRT, or SC Forestry Commission), municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. | Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | General Public | Grant Administration | The Bank Board approves grants for this purpose. The Bank Director and Staff is responsible for overseeing and distribution of grant funds to conserve properties within the Savannah River Basin. | Limit protection of properties within the Savannah River Basin. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| When requested, collaborate and advise on mitigation efforts between state agencies and other parties to help ensure that mitigation efforts are consistent with the purposes set forth in the Bank's enabling statute. | SCDOC is a state agency charged with helping to grow new and existing business by assisting with the location of new sites and building approving grants for community development and infrastructure improvement. | SC Department of Commerce | General Public | Conservation Planning | Upon request, the Agency Head collaborates and advises on mitigation efforts between state agencies and other parties to help ensure that mitigation efforts are consistent with the purposes set for in the South Carolina Conservation Bank Act. | Absent this service, maximum conservation values and mitigation expediency would not be achieved. | No Change | No Change |

| Description of Service | Description of Direct Customer | Customer Name | Others Impacted by Service | Division or major organizational unit providing the service. | Description of division or major organizational unit providing the service. | Primary negative impact if service not provided. | Changes made to services during FY2025 | Summary of changes to services |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Coordination and Collaboration Proviso | State Resource Agencies (Department of Natural Resources, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, Office of Resilience, and Forestry Commission) | Resource Agencies | General Public | Conservation Planning | Proviso 117.171 of FY 24-25 Appropriations Bill requires Resource Agencies to collaborate with the Bank prior to entering into contract to utilize funds appropriated or authorized by the General Assembly to acquire interest in land for natural resource protection and rural land preservation, including conservation easements. | Potentially reduced transparency and coordination with State land acquisitions, including the provision of a unified source of financial information pertaining to the underlying real estate transaction. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| Statewide Conservation Priorities Map | General Assembly | General Assembly | General Public, Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | Conservation Planning | The Bank has a MOU with SCDNR to share a GIS analyst position for the purpose of creating and maintaining this statewide conservation map. The Bank Board has created a Technical Advisory Committee to integrate the goals, plans, objectives, and initiatives. | More subjective/self-reporting scoring metrics instead of objective data driven ranking criteria. No clear direction for the Bank and eligible applicants. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| Provide administrative support to agency personnel for payroll and health benefits. Provide and support technology needed to fulfill the Agency's mission through the Shared Services Agreement with the SC Department of Administration's Division of Technology Operations. | Agency employees | Agency employees | | Operations-HR & IT | | The agency could not operate at sufficient capacity or effectiveness in the fulfillment of its mission. | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |
| Maintain, review and manage post closing to include monitoring reports and signage | A qualified entity defined in the Conservation Bank Act as a state agency (SCDNR, SCPRT, or SC Forestry Commission), municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. | Eligible Trust Fund Recipient | | Grant Administration | | | Add | Added after reviewing services during LOC process and identifying additional services provided |

| 2025 | | Partnerships Data as submitted for the Accountability Report by: P400 - CONSERVATION BANK | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Type of Partner Entity | Name of Partner Entity | Description of Partnership | Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year |
| Non-Governmental Organization | Non-profit Organizations | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. | No Change |
| State Government | SC Department of Commerce | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |
| State Government | SC Dept of Natural Resources | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |

| Type of Partner Entity | Name of Partner Entity | Description of Partnership | Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| State Government | SC Forestry Commission | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |
| Non-Governmental Organization | SC Land Trust Network | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. | No Change |
| State Government | SC Parks Recreation & Tourism | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |
| Federal Government | SC Soil & Water Conservation Districts | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. | No Change |

| Type of Partner Entity | Name of Partner Entity | Description of Partnership | Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Federal Government | US Fish and Wildlife Service | To administer NCWCG program grant funds for projects to protect, restore and enhance coastal wetland ecosystems and associated uplands. | No Change |
| State Government | SC Office of Resilience | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |
| State Government | SC Agriculture Commission | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency's objectives, the State's broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |

| Type of Partner Entity | Name of Partner Entity | Description of Partnership | Change to the partnership during the past fiscal year |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| State Government | SC Department of Transportation | To work in conjunction with the entity to identify and provide funding within budgetary limitations for the conservation of significant lands contributing important public benefits to the environment, the economy and improvement of the quality of life in SC statewide. Further, to coordinate and collaborate with the Agency to ensure that funds used for land acquisition are used for projects that support the agency’s objectives, the State’s broader conservation objectives, and that demonstrate a satisfactory degree of financial leverage, partnerships, and other indicators of quality as determined by the Bank and Resource Agency. | No Change |

2025

Reports Data

as submitted for the Accountability Report by:

P400 - CONSERVATION BANK

| Report Name | Law Number (if applicable) | Summary of information requested in the report | Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year | Reporting Frequency | Type of entity/entities | Method to access the report | Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online) | Changes to this report during the past fiscal year | Explanation why a report wasn't submitted |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|---------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Agency Accountability Report | §1-1-810 | The report "must contain the agency's or department's mission, objectives to accomplish the mission, and performance measures that show the degree to which objectives are being met." Agencies must "identify key program area descriptions and expenditures and link these to key financial and performance results measures." | September 2024 | Annually | Governor or Lt. Governor AND Legislative entity or entities | Provided to LSA for posting online | Adair Roark (adair.roark@sccbanc.sc.gov); or Margaret Pennebaker (margaret.pennebaker@sccbanc.sc.gov) | No Change | |
| Annual Report | §48-59-50(3) | Submitted to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and General Assembly | January 2024 | Annually | Legislative entity or entities | Available on agency's website | https://www.sccbanc.sc.gov/annual-reports | No Change | |
| GAAP Report - Master Checklist Reporting Package | | Provides CG's Office of various financial reports to be submitted annually | July 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| GAAP Report - Operating Leases | | Provides CG's Office with financial report of all agency operating leases | July 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| GAAP Reporting - Fund Balance | | Provides CG's Office with all funds that activity during the fiscal year | August 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| GAAP Reporting - Subsequent Events | | Provides CG's Office with notice of any changes that may have occurred once all annual financial reporting has been completed | November 2024 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| Infosec & Privacy Survey | | Provides annual IT security reporting to DIS | September 2024 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact info@sccbanc.sc.gov for access | No Change | |
| IT Data Collection Workbook | | Provides annual IT data/planning to DTO | July 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact info@sccbanc.sc.gov for access | No Change | |

| Report Name | Law Number (if applicable) | Summary of information requested in the report | Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year | Reporting Frequency | Type of entity/entities | Method to access the report | Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online) | Changes to this report during the past fiscal year | Explanation why a report wasn't submitted |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| Minority Business Enterprise Utilization Plan | | Provides OSMBCC annual report of utilization of small & minority businesses in procurement related matters | July 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| Payroll Report | | Report to SAF of updated employee info for Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage | August 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact info@sccbank.sc.gov for access | No Change | |
| State Financial Audit | §48-59-50(4) | Provides annual financial reporting to State Auditor | October 2024 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Available on another website | http://osa.sc.gov/reports/ | No Change | |
| Tort Liability Report | | Report to IRF for tort liability insurance coverage | December 2024 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact info@sccbank.sc.gov for access | Amend | |
| Telecommuting Report | SC Code § 8-11-15(B) | Annual report on the agency's utilization of telecommuting to the Division of State Human Resources in accordance with the state's telecommuting guidelines, | August of 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact info@sccbank.sc.gov for access | No Change | |
| GAAP Reporting - Accounts Payable (3.12) | | Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) require the State to report accruals of liabilities. The form(s) in this reporting package focus on accounts payable, accrued expenses (non-payroll related), and contracts retentions. | September of 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |
| GAAP Reporting - Capital Assets (3.08) | | The Comptroller General's Office is utilizing this reporting package to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the information reported in SCEIS and to collect certain information related to capital assets which may not be captured in the SCEIS Asset Module or the SCEIS General Ledger. | September of 2025 | Annually | South Carolina state agency or agencies | Electronic copy available upon request | contact DOA | No Change | |

| Report Name | Law Number (if applicable) | Summary of information requested in the report | Date of most recent submission DURING the past fiscal year | Reporting Frequency | Type of entity/entities | Method to access the report | Direct access hyperlink or agency contact (if not provided to LSA for posting online) | Changes to this report during the past fiscal year | Explanation why a report wasn't submitted |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Conservation Priority Model | §48-59-50(B)(5) | Develop conservation criteria to be used, in addition to the criteria set forth in Section 48-59- 70(D), that advance and support federal, state, and local conservation goals, plans, objectives, and initiatives. In order to assist in the development of conservation criteria, the bank must coordinate with the appropriate groups to integrate the goals, plans, objectives, and initiatives, as well as land use patterns, into a statewide conservation map. | July 2024 | Annually | Legislative entity or entities | Available on SC Conservation Bank website | https://www.sccbanc.sc.gov/sccb-statewide-priorities | Add | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----|
| AGENCY NAME: | South Carolina Conservation Bank | | |
| AGENCY CODE: | P400 | SECTION: | 53 |

2025 Accountability Report

SUBMISSION FORM

I have reviewed and approved the data submitted by the agency in the following templates:

- Data Template
 - Reorganization and Compliance
 - FY2025 Strategic Plan Results
 - FY2026 Strategic Plan Development
 - Legal
 - Services
 - Partnerships
 - Report or Review
 - Budget
- Discussion Template
- Organizational Template

I have reviewed and approved the financial report summarizing the agency's budget and actual expenditures, as entered by the agency into the South Carolina Enterprise Information System.

The information submitted is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

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| AGENCY DIRECTOR <i>(SIGN AND DATE):</i> <i>(TYPE/PRINT NAME):</i> | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center; flex-grow: 1;"> SIGNATURE ON FILE </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> Signature Received: 09/12/2025 </div> </div> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <div style="text-align: center;"> J. Raleigh West III </div> |
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|---|---|
| BOARD/CMSN CHAIR <i>(SIGN AND DATE):</i> <i>(TYPE/PRINT NAME):</i> | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center; flex-grow: 1;"> SIGNATURE ON FILE </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> Signature Received: 09/12/2025 </div> </div> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <div style="text-align: center;"> Michael G. McShane </div> |
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