

AGENCY NAME:	SC CONSERVATION BANK		
AGENCY CODE:	P400	SECTION:	

Fiscal Year 2015-16 Accountability Report

SUBMISSION FORM

AGENCY MISSION	To improve the quality of life in South Carolina through the conservation of significant natural resource lands, wetlands, historical properties, archeological sites, and public and urban parks.
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AGENCY VISION	The SC Conservation Bank's vision is 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.
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Please state yes or no if the agency has any major or minor (internal or external) recommendations that would allow the agency to operate more effectively and efficiently.

RESTRUCTURING RECOMMENDATIONS:	N/A
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Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's accountability report.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Marvin N. Davant	803-917-0634	Marvin.davant@sccbanc.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Margie W. Rish	803-734-0360	Margie.rish@sccbanc.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2015-16 Accountability Report, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

AGENCY DIRECTOR (SIGN AND DATE):	
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	MARVIN N. DAVANT

BOARD/CMSN CHAIR (SIGN AND DATE):	
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	JAMES ROQUEMORE

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AGENCY’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2002 AND FUNDING BEGAN IN 2004. DURING THE TEN YEARS OF FUNDING THE CONSERVATION BANK HAS CONSERVED, PRESERVED AND PROTECTED OVER 287,966 ACRES OF SIGNIFICANT NATURAL RESOURCE LANDS, WETLANDS, HISTORICAL PROPERTIES, PARKS AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES. THE AVERAGE COST IN CONSERVING THESE SIGNIFICANT LANDS AVERAGES \$512 PER ACRE AND \$.17 ON THE DOLLAR COMPARED TO THE FAIR MARKET VALUE. THE CONSERVATION BANK HAS PROVIDED FUNDING FOR NUMEROUS PROJECTS THROUGHOUT 44 OF THE 46 COUNTIES WITHIN THE STATE. THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED THROUGH PARTNERSHIP EFFORTS BETWEEN THE CONSERVATION BANK AND NUMEROUS LAND TRUST ORGANIZATIONS, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, STATE AGENCIES AND PRIVATE CITIZENS.

THE FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE CONSERVATION BANK HAS HELPED CONSERVE THE FOLLOWING:

- I. FULL PUBLIC ACCESS
 - 1. 87,262 ACRES NOW AVAILABLE IN AVAILABLE FOR HUNTING, FISHING, OUTDOOR RECREATION WITH PUBLIC ACCESS.
 - 2. 11,007 ACRES NOW AVAILABLE IN URBAN PARKS;
 - 3. 667 ACRES NOW AVAILABLE IN HISTORIC SITES;

- II. LIMITED PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENTS: 95,634
 (WHICH INCLUDES 17,510 ACRES OF WORKING FAMILY FARMS WITH LIMITED PUBLIC ACCESS FOR ELEMENTARY & HIGH SCHOOL GROUPS; BOY SCOUTS & GIRL SCOUTS; AND COLLEGE PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.)

MANY OF THESE CONSERVATION BANK GRANTS HAVE PROVIDED PUBLIC HUNTING & FISHING ON PRIVATE LANDS INCLUDING YOUTH HUNT OPPORTUNITIES; WOUNDED WARRIOR’S HUNTS; PUBLIC CAMP SITES; EDUCATION AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES.

BANK GRANTS TO ALL APPLICANTS HAVE RESULTED IN LEVERAGING MATCHING FUNDS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES IN AN AMOUNT MORE THAN THE BANK ORIGINALLY PAID FOR THE GRANTS.

THE SC CONSERVATION BANK CONTINUES TO STRIVE TOWARD ACCOMPLISHING THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES AS SET FORTH IN OUR MISSION STATEMENT AS LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE.

- 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

