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Mr. Philip M. Wolf
Biologist-Environmental Resources Team
Planning Branch
29A Hagood Ave.
Charleston, SC 29403
Philip.M.Wolf@usace.army.mil

Subject: **PAS Union Study**

Dear Mr. Wolf:

On behalf of the South Carolina Native Plant Society (SCNPS), I submit the following comment in objection to the creation of the lake proposed on the Tyger River, PAS Union Study.

SCNPS members have conducted a preliminary botanical inventory of plants and plant communities that would be inundated by the lake under consideration. Our survey was not comprehensive enough to capture all of the plant species and communities that would be destroyed by damming the Tyger River as proposed, but what we have documented clearly indicates that the botanical diversity and quality here is exceptionally high. The area that would be destroyed includes some of the best remaining remnants of Piedmont slopes and bottomlands; perhaps the very best that remain on protected, public, property in South Carolina. The abundance of species, including a number of rare and endangered plants, will be provided by Dr. Charles Horn in a separate document. This area undoubtedly offers our best opportunity to preserve and study what remains of those Piedmont systems in South Carolina. It cannot be sacrificed.

I request that this project be dropped from consideration on the basis that the resulting destruction of remnant Piedmont ecosystems would constitute an unacceptable loss of South Carolina's Natural Heritage.

Your attention to my request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

John A. Brubaker, Chairman
Issues Committee
South Carolina Native Plant Society