LYNN W. LANCASTER CLERK OF COURT
LAURENS COUNTY, SC
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BK: D 1003 PG: 149 - 167



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) **COUNTY OF LAURENS** )

**GRANT OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT** 

THIS GRANT OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT is made this 20 17 December, 2010, by Hendricks Brothers, LLC (hereinafter "Grantor"), having an address of 26 Braddock Point, Columbia, SC 29206, in favor of the Upper Savannah Land Trust (hereinafter "Grantee").

WHEREAS, Grantor is the sole owner in fee simple of certain real property containing approximately One Hundred and Sixty Eight and Sixty Eight One Hundredths (168.68) acres, in Laurens County, South Carolina, more particularly described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference (hereinafter the "Protected Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is located in close proximity to other conservation easements held by the Upper Savannah Land Trust and other conservation oriented groups and helps to form a significant conservation area on The Saluda River that protects the rural nature and ecological values of the community.

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is situated on the Saluda River and is situated on and prominently visible by the public from the Saluda River, having over 3,484 feet of river frontage providing scenic views of forest, open fields, wetlands, and creek and river views; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property has a diversity of relatively natural habitats including evergreen upland forest, forested and non-forested wetlands including vast expanses of intact River bottoms, mixed upland forest, upland planted pine, open fields and open water, all of which can support a variety of floral and faunal species; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property contains forested and non-forested wetlands, which function to improve water quality by providing for nutrient uptake and sediment deposition from runoff draining from upstream lands, and also provide many wildlife habitat components such as breeding grounds, nesting sites and other critical habitat for a variety of fish and wildlife species as well as the unique habitat requirements of many threatened and endangered plants and animals; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property provides a diversity, quality, and combination of natural habitats significant to wildlife habitat functions including feeding, nesting and roosting areas for migratory songbirds, ground-nesting birds and waterfowl, and also including feeding, breeding and resting areas for native small and large game and non-game mammals; and

WHEREAS, the Saluda River has been designated among the United States most endangered Rivers and the protection of land adjacent and buffering its shores, such as the protected property is the most effective way to ensure water quality ecological integrity is protected.

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EASEMENT RECORDING FEES PRESENTED & RECORDED:

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12-23-2010 03:03 PM

12/29/2010 DATE

1003 BOOK 149 PAGE Sally Blancaster AUDITOR

WHEREAS, in particular, the Protected Property in its existing relatively natural condition contributes very little nonpoint source pollution to the adjacent creeks and waterways due to the marsh wetlands surrounding all watercourses that provide for nutrient uptake and sediment deposition as well as the low percentage of impervious surface that reduces sources of pollution and nutrient loading; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property possesses significant ecological and natural resources, water quality protection, open space and scenic value, and historic or cultural values (collectively the "Conservation Values") of great importance to **Grantor**, to **Grantee** and to the people of South Carolina and this nation; and

WHEREAS, the specific Conservation Values are summarized hereunder and documented in a report on file at the **Grantee**'s office and incorporated herein by this reference (hereinafter the "Baseline Documentation"), which consists of maps, reports and photographs, and the parties agree that the Baseline Documentation provides, collectively, an accurate representation of the Protected Property at the time of this grant and is intended to serve as an objective point of reference from which to monitor compliance with the terms of this grant; and

WHEREAS, Grantor believes that with the careful use of conservation easements, the resources, habitat, beauty and unique ecological character of the Protected Property can be protected in a manner that permits continuing private ownership of land and its subsequent use and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, Grantor intends to preserve and protect the Conservation Values in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, Grantor is willing to forego forever the right to fully exploit the financial potential of the Protected Property by encumbering the Protected Property with a conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, by act of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, as enacted in South Carolina Code Ann. (1976, as amended) (hereinafter the "SC Code") §27-8-10, et. seq. (The South Carolina Conservation Easement Act of 1991) (hereinafter the "Act"), South Carolina recognizes and authorizes the creation of conservation restrictions and easements; and as described in SC Code §27-8-20, also recognizes and authorizes **Grantee** to hold conservation easements; and

WHEREAS, Grantor and Grantee recognize the natural, scenic, aesthetic, and special character and opportunity for enhancement of the Protected Property, and have the common purpose of the conservation and protection in perpetuity of the Protected Property as "a relatively natural habitat of fish, wildlife or plants or similar ecosystem" as that phrase is used in Code §170(h)(4)(A)(ii), "open space (including farmland and forest land)" as that phrase is used in Code §170(h)(4)(A)(iii) and "an historically important land area or a certified historic structure" as that phrase is used in Code §170(h)(4)(A)(iv) and in the regulations promulgated thereunder by the United States Department of the Treasury (hereinafter "Treasury Regulations"). Grantor

and Grantee agree these purposes can be accomplished by placing voluntary restrictions upon the use of the Protected Property and by providing for the transfer from the Grantor to the Grantee of affirmative rights for the protection of the Protected Property so as to be considered a "qualified conservation contribution" as such term is defined in Code §170(h) and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the Grantee is a corporation whose purposes and powers include one or more of the purposes set forth in SC Code §27-8-20(1) authorizing Grantee to be a holder of conservation easements as provided for by the Act; and, Grantee is a publicly supported, tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation organized and operated under Code §501(c)(3) and not a private foundation under Code §509 dedicated to the preservation of the irreplaceable natural and historical resources of the South Carolina Piedmont landscape by protecting significant lands, waters and vistas;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above and the mutual covenants, terms, conditions and restrictions contained herein, and pursuant to §§170(h) and 2031(c) of the Code and the laws of the State of South Carolina, the **Grantor** hereby voluntarily grants and conveys to **Grantee** a conservation easement in perpetuity over the Protected Property of the nature and character and to the extent hereinafter set forth (hereinafter the "Easement"). **Grantor** herein declares that the Protected Property shall be held, transferred, sold, conveyed and occupied subject to the covenants, conditions, restrictions and easements hereinafter set forth, which covenants, conditions, restrictions and easements shall be deemed to run with the land in perpetuity and to be a burden on the Protected Property in perpetuity.

- 1. <u>Purposes.</u> The purposes of this Easement (hereinafter the "Purposes") are as follows:
  - (A) To protect and preserve the Conservation Values; and
- (B) To prevent any use or activity that will significantly impair the Conservation Values, subject to the rights and privileges reserved below by **Grantor**; and
- (C) To allow the continuation of historic and traditional uses and activities as well as limited new uses that would not significantly impair or degrade the Conservation Values.
- 2. Rights of Grantee. Grantor hereby conveys the following rights to the Grantee:
- (A) <u>Right of Visual Access.</u> To have visual access to the Protected Property via frontage on the Saluda River, provided that such right shall not be construed to permit general public access over or upon the Protected Property;
- (B) Right to Monitor. To enter upon the Protected Property in a reasonable manner, and at reasonable times, in order to monitor compliance with the Easement and to further document natural and manmade features of the Protected Property; In addition, Owner hereby grants and conveys unto Trust, its successors and assigns, the easement and right of Trust and its agents to enter upon and inspect the Property, with access over and across the Property if necessary, for compliance with this Conservation Easement at any time and from time to time,

provided that Owner is first given notice of any such visit, at least seven (7) days in advance, except in cases of suspected or known violations of this Conservation Easement.

- (C) <u>Right to Prevent Inconsistent Uses.</u> To prevent **Grantor** or third parties from conducting any activity or use inconsistent with the Purposes;
- (D) <u>Right to Require Restoration.</u> To require **Grantor** or third parties to restore such Conservation Values that may be damaged by any uses or activities prohibited by this Easement, or any activity or use inconsistent with the Purposes; and
- (E) <u>Right of Discretionary Consent.</u> If, owing to unforeseen circumstances, any of the uses or activities prohibited under this Easement are deemed desirable by both the **Grantor** and the **Grantee**, the **Grantee** may, in its sole discretion, give permission for such activities, subject to such limitations as it deems necessary or desirable and provided that:
  - I. The activities will not adversely affect the qualification of this Easement as a "qualified conservation easement" under any applicable laws, including §§170(h) and 2031(c) of the Code or the Act.
  - II. The activities will not adversely affect the "tax exempt" status of the **Grantee** under any applicable laws, including §501(c) (3) of the Code and Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.
    - III. The activities will not adversely affect the Conservation Values.
  - IV. In no case shall the **Grantee** or **Grantor** have the right or power to agree to any activities that would result in the termination of this Easement.
- 3. <u>Definitions.</u> For the purposes of this Easement, **Grantor** and **Grantee** agree that those bold-faced terms that appear throughout this Easement shall be defined as follows:

Agricultural Activities shall be defined as activities directly related to the production of plant or animal products on the Protected Property, including crop production, raising cattle for sale, animal husbandry, floriculture and horticulture, in a manner that preserves the long-term productivity of the soil. Permitted activities shall not include **Feedlots**, intensive livestock production facilities or any type of large-scale operation where animals are confined.

Agricultural Structure shall be defined as any building designed or used in the conduct of permitted Agricultural Activities, not including any structure used as a dwelling for human beings.

Approval shall be defined as the prior written consent of the Grantee to permit Grantor to exercise certain rights described in Paragraphs 4 and 5, or to undertake any activity otherwise prohibited by this Easement. The rationale for requiring the Grantor to receive Approval prior to undertaking certain permitted and all prohibited activities is

to afford **Grantee** an adequate opportunity to evaluate the activities in question to ensure that they are designed and carried out in a manner that is not inconsistent with the Purposes of this Conservation Easement. **Approval** shall not be unreasonably withheld by the **Grantee**.

Building Height shall be measured, for the purposes of any permitted structure, from the ground or the legal building elevation within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (or successor agency) flood zone, whichever is greater, to the top of the highest structural component, excluding chimneys, antennas, weather vanes, and solar panels.

Feedlot shall be defined as any confined area or facility for feeding animals within which the land is not grazed or cropped at least annually (except small pens and corrals for temporarily holding and feeding individual or small groups of animals), or which is used to receive livestock that have been raised off the Protected Property for feeding and fattening for market.

Forest Management Plan shall be defined as a written plan subject to periodic updates, on file with the Grantee and agreed upon by both Grantor and Grantee, which outlines Forest Management Practices on the Protected Property.

Forest Management Practices shall be defined as the production, improvement and maintenance of forest lands for timber production, wildlife management, aesthetics or any other purpose. Forest Management Practices include silviculture practices, which are used to control the establishment, growth, composition, health, quality and utilization of forestlands for multiple-use purposes and include, but are not limited to, thinning, reforestation, prescribed fire or fire breaks.

Grantee shall be defined as the above-named §501(c) (3) South Carolina charitable corporation, designated as the holder of this Easement, and its successors and assigns.

Grantor shall be defined as the original donor of this Easement and his (or her, or their) personal representatives, heirs, successors, assigns, and subsequent owners.

Main House shall be defined as a detached, single-family dwelling constituting the primary residential use of, and to be occupied by the owner or permitted lessee of, the Protected Property or a Subdivided Tract.

**Notice** shall be defined as a written communication, prior to undertaking a permitted activity, as defined in Paragraph 19.

Related Outbuilding shall be defined as any auxiliary structure customarily used as an accessory to a private Residential Structure in the South Carolina Piedmont, not including any structure used as a permanent or temporary dwelling for human beings.

Residential Structure shall be defined as Main Houses.

Setback Line shall be designated by Grantee in the Baseline Documentation.

**Subdivided Tract** shall be defined as a separate transferable parcel of land having a unique identity according to Laurens County records.

Subdivision shall be defined as the creation of a Subdivided Tract after the date of this Easement.

**Superstructures** shall be defined as any structure that extends above the level of the walkway, pierhead or float of a dock, including railings and roofs.

- 4. Reserved Rights. Grantor reserves all the rights, uses and activities (collectively, the "Reserved Rights") inherent in fee simple ownership, including but in no way limited to those rights specifically expressed in subparagraphs A through K of this paragraph, subject to the specific Restrictions and Limitations of Paragraph 5, which are included to accomplish the Purposes enumerated in Paragraph 1. All Reserved Rights shall apply to the Protected Property in its entirety. In addition, the exercise of all Reserved Rights shall be in full accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, as well as in accordance with the Purposes.
- (A) <u>Fences.</u> Grantor has the right to construct maintain, repair, and/or replace fences on the Protected Property, provided that such construction, maintenance, repair, and/or replacement does not violate the Purpose of this Easement.
- (B) <u>Hunting, Fishing, and Shooting Sports.</u> Grantor retains the right for Grantor, Grantor's family members, partners, invitees, licensees, and lessees to hunt, trap and fish on the Protected Property (including those that lease or purchase hunting and/or fishing rights seasonally); the right to construct, maintain, repair, replace, and relocate duck blinds, deer and turkey stands, gates, skeet and shooting sports stands and wildlife observation platforms; the right of Grantor, Grantor's family members, partners, invitees, licensees, and lessees to participate in shooting sports thereon;
- (C) <u>Leases.</u> Grantor retains the right to lease or grant other less-than-fee interests in all or a portion of the Protected Property for any use permitted to the Grantor under this Easement, with income therefrom reserved to Grantor, provided that such lease or other interest is consistent with and subject to the terms of this Easement and is not of a nature or terms as to constitute an impermissible subdivision of the Protected Property.
- (D) <u>Landfill</u>. Grantor retains the right to have a landfill, on each permitted lot, not to exceed an aggregate one (1) acre, for the dumping of refuse and garbage generated solely and exclusively by activities on the Protected Property. Such disposal of refuse and garbage shall be conducted in a reasonably sanitary manner, provided that there shall be no dumping or deposit of toxic or hazardous substances or wastes. The location and design of the landfills shall be subject to Grantee's prior written approval, and such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. This

right is limited to the extent required for the interests conveyed by this Easement to qualify as a qualified conservation contribution under the Code.

- Agriculture; Animal Husbandry. Grantor retains the right to engage in not-forprofit and for-profit agricultural, farming and aquacultural activities provided the same is conducted in a manner consistent with the Purpose of this Easement, and the right to locate, construct, and maintain watering facilities and ponds. Permitted agricultural activity must be consistent with the maintenance and enhancement of soil composition, structure, and productivity, and may not result in pollution or degradation of any waters or have a detrimental effect upon fish or wildlife, their natural habitat, or upon the natural ecosystem and its process. The Grantor retains the right to place and encumber the property with agricultural easements as may be necessary from time to time to meet its agricultural objectives. The Grantor reserves the right to participate in any conservation-directed agricultural contracts, programs, or leases offered by any private entity or governmental entity - including, but not limited to, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Interior, the State, or any branch thereof - and to enter into the Conservation Reserve Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, or any other state or federal program existing now, or created in the future, for any activity or use permitted in this Easement. The right to engage in for-profit and not-for-profit raising and marketing of cows, horses and other domesticated animals on the Protected Property, provided, the same is conducted in a manner consistent with the Purpose of this Easement.
- (F) <u>Agrichemicals.</u> Grantor retains the right to use agrichemicals, including, but not limited to, fertilizers, biocides, herbicides, and rodenticides, but only in those amounts and with that frequency of application constituting the minimum necessary to accomplish reasonable agricultural and residential activities permitted by the terms of this Easement and in accordance with label instructions. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, no use of agrichemicals will be made if such use would result in (i) unlawful contamination of any source of water or (ii) any significant impairment of any natural ecosystem or process on the Protected Property.
- (G) <u>Borrow Pits.</u> Grantor retains the right to have one (1) borrow pit, not to exceed two (2) acres, on each permit lot, to provide required fill material for non-commercial use solely and exclusively on the Protected Property, such as for repairing roads, and not for the purpose of resale. This right, and any right to extract or remove minerals, is limited to the extent required under Section 170(h) (5) (B) of the Code for the interest conveyed by this Easement to qualify as a qualified conservation contribution.
- (H) <u>Paths and Trails.</u> Grantor retains the right to construct and maintain footpaths, equestrian trails, boardwalks, tent camping sites and wildlife observations platforms, along with appropriate signage for education, directions or safety.
- (I) <u>Campsites.</u> Grantor retains the right to construct educational and recreational group camping sites, platforms, tents and canvas or similar material walled structures.
- (J) <u>Ecological Research.</u> Grantor retains the right to install forest or other ecological research equipment, experimental areas, perform studies in wetlands, pine plantations and natural or planted forests of hardwood or mixed species that could include, but is not limited

to, weed control, fertilization, installation of weather stations, installation of towers for raising instrumentation above the canopy, and excavation of root systems.

- (K) <u>Consistent Uses.</u> Grantor has the right to engage in any an all acts or uses not expressly prohibited herein that are not inconsistent with the Purposes of this Easement.
- 5. <u>Restrictions and Limitations.</u> **Grantor** will not perform or permit, or will perform or permit, as specified below, the following acts or uses (hereinafter the "Prohibited Uses") on, over or under the Protected Property:
- (A) Subdivision. The Protected Property is currently composed of Two (2) tracts. . Neither tract shall be subdivided. The **Grantor** shall not indirectly subdivide all or any part of the Protected Property through the allocation of property rights among partners, shareholders or members of any successor entity, the creation of a horizontal property regime, leasing or any other means.
- (B) <u>Structural Limitations.</u> The construction, enlargement and replacement of **Residential Structures** and all other structures are subject to the following limitations:
  - I. Residential Structures shall be limited to Two (2) total Main Houses with one (1) Main House allowable on Parcel A, and One (1) Main House allowable on Parcel B.
  - III. Related Outbuildings and Agricultural Structures shall be permitted, provided that they do not impair the conservation values of the property.
  - IV. Other than permitted **Residential Structures**, no other structure on the Protected Property shall be used as a temporary or permanent dwelling for human beings.
  - V. <u>Docks.</u> Each Parcel may be permitted One (1) dock providing access to the Saluda River, provided each shall be restricted to primarily natural or non-reflective materials.
  - VI. <u>Boat Ramp.</u> One (1) boat-launching ramp providing access to the Saluda River may be constructed, maintained, repaired, improved, or replaced on each parcel, provided it shall be limited to a maximum width of twelve (12) feet.
  - VII. <u>Towers</u>. There shall be no towers on the Protected Property, except (i) one, and one only, radio, microwave, broadcast, communication or cellular tower shall be allowed on each parcel, provided said tower does not exceed three hundred feet (300') in height; and (ii) windmills of a type typically used on farms used to provide water to livestock.

Notwithstanding the above, **Grantor** retains the right to construct, maintain, and improve wildlife observation towers (and/or shooting range towers.

- (C) <u>Buffers</u>. In order to provide an aesthetic and ecological transition zone between permitted structures and waterways, there shall be no **Impervious Surface**, structures (other than fencing and gates, permitted docks or boat ramp), nor new roads (other than those necessary to access permitted docks and boat ramp) on that portion of the Protected Property within one hundred (100) feet of the **Setback Line** adjacent to the Saluda River.
- (D) <u>Industrial Uses.</u> There shall be no industrial uses, activities, or structures. No right of passage across or upon the Protected Property shall be allowed or granted if that right of passage is used in conjunction with any industrial uses or activities.
- (E) <u>Commercial Uses.</u> There shall be no commercial uses, activities or structures, other than home-based business, Agricultural Activity and those uses specifically permitted under this Section 5, without prior **Approval** by the **Grantee**. No right of passage across or upon the Protected Property shall be allowed or granted if that right of passage is used in conjunction with any commercial uses or activities not permitted in this Easement.
- (F) <u>Services.</u> Construction of water wells, septic systems, and utility services, is limited to serve the allowed uses in Paragraph 5, subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Fuel storage tanks are limited to above ground liquid fuel storage tanks and/or underground gas fuel (not liquid) storage tanks to serve the allowed uses in Paragraph 5, subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- (G) Roads. Roads shall be limited to those required to facilitate the uses permitted by this Easement, provided Grantor shall use existing roads wherever possible and provided there shall be no paving of any road with non-permeable materials except each lot created under Section 5 (A) above may construct one (1) paved driveway each. Maintenance of roads and roadside ditches shall be limited to standard practices for non-paved roads. Roads temporarily constructed or widened to allow for permitted Forestry Management Practices shall be allowed to return to their former size and state after this use.
- (H) <u>Landscaping</u>. Landscaping shall be limited to the management of vegetation associated with the uses provided for in Paragraph 5, including but not limited to, mowing, pruning, trimming, and gardening.
- (I) <u>Signs.</u> Signs shall be placed so as to minimally impact the scenic view as seen from any public roadway or waterway.
- (J) Archeological and Paleontological Digs; Artifacts and Fossils. Any archeological or paleontological site shall, upon completion of any excavation, be returned to, or as close as possible to, it's previous state, unless the site is to be maintained in an excavated condition for interpretive purposes related to education. All artifacts or fossils located on the Protected Property must be preserved and retained on the Protected Property or contributed to a recognized and accredited museum or educational institution. The sale of artifacts or fossils is prohibited, except for sale of items of a financial nature, such as coins or gold or silver bars or other forms of current or historical legal tender.

- (K) <u>Forestry Uses.</u> Commercial Forestry Uses are allowable on the protected property, subject to the buffer requirements of Section 5 (C). Notwithstanding the above, **Grantor** reserves the right to cut any tree, in accordance with applicable county, state, and federal regulations, when it is necessary to salvage timber damaged by natural causes, when cutting is necessary to prevent further such damage or personal injury, or when a permitted structure is in danger.
- (L) Agricultural Uses. Agricultural Activities are restricted to the scientifically based practices, currently in use at the time of the implementation of such activities, recommended by the South Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, the United States Natural Resources Conservation Service, their successors or other entities. Grantor and Grantee recognize that changes in agricultural technologies, including accepted management practices, may result in an evolution of Agricultural Activities. Such evolution shall be permitted so long as it is consistent with the Purposes.
- (M) <u>Pond(s)</u>. Enlargement of existing Pond(s) and construction of new Pond(s) shall be in compliance with all applicable local, state and federal statutes and regulations. The sale of soil, sand, gravel or other materials produced in connection with the enlargement or construction of Pond(s) is strictly prohibited, as in accordance with Paragraph 5(Q) Mining and Paragraph 5(F) Commercial Uses. All proposed activities must comply with the Purposes as outlined in Paragraph 1.
- (N) Impoundment(s). Grantor reserves the right to create, improve, repair, replace or maintain new or existing and/or historic wetland impoundments, green tree reservoirs, dikes, ditches and water control structures, subject to all applicable local, state and federal statutes and regulations. Impoundments are recognized by the Grantor and Grantee as beneficial to waterfowl and other wetland dependent plants and animals. It is specifically recognized that a flood easement exists on a portion of the property as indicated in Attachment A.
- (O) <u>Mining</u>. Mining and recovery of any oil, gas or minerals is permitted, provided, they are restricted to extraction methods in accordance with Code §170(h) (5) (B) prohibiting surface mining and the requirement that, following the mining activity, the site is returned to, or as closely as possible to, it's previous state.
- (P) <u>Topography and Hydrology.</u> There shall be no alteration of the topography or hydrology, unless otherwise provided for in Paragraph 5.
- (Q) <u>Refuse.</u> There shall be no placing of refuse, vehicle bodies or parts, or junk not generated on the Protected Property.
- 6. <u>Third Party Activities.</u> The **Grantor** shall keep the **Grantee** reasonably informed as to activities being conducted on the Protected Property which are within the scope of this Easement and as to the identity of any third parties who are conducting or managing such activities. The **Grantor** shall ensure that all third parties who are conducting activities relating to permitted uses of the Protected Property are fully and properly informed as to the restrictions and covenants

contained within this Easement which relate to such uses, including without limitation, the provisions of this Paragraph and of Paragraphs 4 and 5.

7. Grantee's Remedies. If Grantee determines that Grantor is in violation of the terms of this Easement or that a violation is threatened, the Grantee shall notify the Grantor of the violation (hereinafter, "First Notice") and request voluntary compliance. In the event that voluntary compliance is not agreed upon within ninety (90) days of receipt of First Notice, the Grantee shall give written notice to Grantor of such violation (hereinafter, "Second Notice") and demand corrective action sufficient to cure the violation and, where the violation involves injury to the Protected Property resulting from any use or activity inconsistent with the Purposes, to restore the portion of the Protected Property so injured.

If Grantor fails to cure the violation within sixty (60) days after receipt of Second Notice thereof from Grantee (or under circumstances where the violation cannot reasonably be cured within a sixty (60) day period, if Grantor shall fail to begin curing such violation within said sixty (60) day period, or fail to continue diligently to cure such violation until finally cured), Grantee may bring an action at law or in equity in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Easement, to enjoin the violation ex parte as necessary, by temporary or permanent injunction, to recover any damages to which it may be entitled for violation of the terms of this Easement, including damages for the loss of the Conservation Values, and to require the restoration of the Protected Property to the condition that existed prior to any such injury. Without limiting Grantor's liability therefore, Grantee, in its sole discretion, may either apply any damages recovered to the cost of undertaking any corrective action on the Protected Property or may apply any damages recovered towards activities relating to monitoring and enforcing compliance with the terms of this Easement and other similar conservation easements.

If Grantee, in its sole but reasonable discretion, determines that circumstances require immediate action to prevent or mitigate significant damage to the Conservation Values, Grantee may pursue its legal and equitable remedies under this Paragraph without prior notice to Grantor or without waiting for the period provided for cure to expire.

Grantee's rights under this Paragraph apply equally in the event of either actual or threatened violations of the terms of this Easement. Grantor agrees that if Grantee's remedies at law for any violation of the terms of this Easement are inadequate, the Grantee shall be entitled to seek the injunctive relief described in this Paragraph, both prohibitive and mandatory in addition to such other relief to which Grantee may be entitled, including specific performance of the terms of this Easement, without the necessity of proving either actual damages or the inadequacy of otherwise available legal remedies. Grantee's remedies described in this Paragraph shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to all remedies now or hereafter existing at law or in equity.

8. <u>Costs of Enforcement.</u> If **Grantee** prevails in any action to enforce the terms of this Easement, any costs incurred by **Grantee** in enforcing the terms of this Easement against **Grantor**, including without limitation, costs of suit and reasonable attorneys' fees, and any reasonable costs of restoration necessitated by **Grantor**'s violation of the terms of this Easement, shall be borne by **Grantor**. If **Grantor** prevails in any action to enforce the terms of this

Easement, any costs incurred by **Grantor**, including **Grantor**'s cost of the suit (which includes reasonable attorney's fees) shall be borne by **Grantee**.

- 9. Grantee's Discretion. Enforcement of the terms of this Easement shall be at the reasonable discretion of the Grantee, and any forbearance by Grantee to exercise its rights under this Easement in the event of any breach of any terms of this Easement by Grantor shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver by Grantee of such term or of any subsequent breach of the same or any other term of this Easement or of any of Grantee's rights under this Easement. No delay or omission by Grantee in the exercise of any right or remedy upon any breach by Grantor shall impair such right or remedy or be construed as a waiver.
- 10. <u>Grantor's Environmental Warranty</u>. The Grantor warrants that it has no knowledge of a release or threatened release of hazardous substances or wastes on the Protected Property and promises to defend and indemnify the Grantee against all litigation, claims, demands, penalties, and damages, including reasonable attorney's fees, arising from breach of this warranty.
- 11. Acts Beyond Grantor's Control. Nothing contained in this Easement shall be construed to entitle Grantee to bring any action against Grantor for any injury to or change in the Protected Property resulting from causes beyond Grantor's control, including, without limitation, trespass by third parties, fire, hurricane, flood, storm and earth movement, or from any prudent action taken by Grantor under emergency conditions to prevent, abate or mitigate significant injury to the Protected Property resulting from such causes.
- 12. <u>Access.</u> No right of public access to any portion of the Protected Property is conveyed by this Easement, except as expressly provided herein.
- 13. <u>Costs, Liabilities, and Taxes.</u> Grantor retains all responsibilities and shall bear all costs and liabilities of any kind related to the ownership, operation, upkeep and maintenance of the Protected Property, including, but not limited to, clean up or remediation costs due to chemical contamination and the maintenance of general liability insurance coverage.

Each party agrees to release, hold harmless, defend and indemnify the other from any and all liabilities including, but not limited to, injury, losses, damages, judgments, costs, expenses and fees that the indemnified party may suffer or incur as a result of or arising out of the activities of the indemnifying party on the Protected Property.

14. Extinguishment, Condemnation and Fair Market Value. If circumstances arise in the future that render all of the Purposes impossible to accomplish, this Easement can only be terminated or extinguished, whether in whole or in part, by judicial proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction, then as required by Sec.1.170A-14(g)(6) of the IRS regulations, the **Grantee** in the event of any sale, exchange, or involuntary conversion of the Protected Property is entitled to a percentage of the gross sale proceeds, minus any amount attributable to the value of improvements made after the date of this grant and allowed under the Conservation Easement, which amount shall be reserved to **Grantor**, equal to the ratio of the appraised value of the Conservation Easement to the unrestricted fair market value of the Protected Property established as of the date donated.

If all or a part of the Protected Property is taken by exercise of the power of eminent domain, **Grantor** and **Grantee** shall be respectively entitled to compensation in accordance with applicable law.

For the purpose of the above Paragraphs, the parties hereto stipulate that the Easement and the restricted fee interest in the Protected Property each represent a percentage interest in the fair market value of the Protected Property. The percentage interests shall be determined by the ratio of the value of the Easement to the value of the Protected Property, without reduction for the value of the Easement. All such proceeds received by **Grantee** shall be used in a manner consistent with the conservation purposes of this grant. This provision is not intended to violate the provision required by Code §170(h) (2) (C) that requires the Easement to be granted in perpetuity.

Limitations on Amendment. If unforeseen circumstances arise, including any change or modification to state or federal laws or regulations especially as they relate to the Code, under which an amendment to, or modification of, this Easement would be appropriate to clarify any ambiguities or to maintain or enhance the Conservation Values, Grantor and Grantee may, by mutual written agreement, jointly amend this Easement; provided that no amendment shall be allowed that will adversely affect the eligibility of this Easement as a "qualified conservation easement" under any applicable laws, including §§170(h) and 2031(c) of the Code. amendment shall be allowed which would adversely affect the "tax exempt" status of the Grantee under any applicable laws, including §501(c) (3) of the Code and Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder. Any such amendment shall be consistent with the purposes of this Easement, shall not affect its perpetual duration, shall not permit additional development or improvements to be constructed on the Protected Property other than development or improvements permitted by this Easement on its effective date, and shall not permit any impairment of the Conservation Values. Grantor and Grantee agree to a reasonable consideration of any such proposed amendment, however, neither Grantor nor Grantee shall be bound to agree to any amendment. Any such amendment shall be recorded in the official land records of Laurens County, South Carolina.

- 16. Assignment. The benefits of this Easement shall not be assignable by the Grantee, except (i) if as a condition of any assignment, the Grantee requires that the terms and conditions of this Easement continue to be carried out in full as provided herein, (ii) the assignee has a commitment to protect the Purposes and the resources to enforce the restrictions contained herein, and (iii) if the assignee, at the time of assignment, qualifies under §170(h) of the Code, and applicable Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, and under State of South Carolina law as an eligible donee to receive this Easement directly. In the event that Grantee ceases to exist or exists but no longer as a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation, qualified under §\$501(c) (3) and 170(h) (3) and not a private foundation under §509(a) of the Code, then this Easement shall be assigned to Upstate Forever. The Grantee shall not assign this Easement to a governmental entity without the prior written consent of the Grantor except as provided in this paragraph.
- 17. <u>Transfers.</u> **Grantor** agrees to incorporate by reference the terms of this Easement in any deed or other legal instrument by which **Grantor** transfers any interest in all or a portion of the Protected Property, including, without limitation, a leasehold interest. The **Grantor** shall give the **Grantee Notice** of any change of possession, ownership or control of the Protected Property within thirty (30) days of such change, including without limitation notice of any transfer, lease, or sale of all or a part of the Protected Property. The failure of **Grantor** to perform any act required by this paragraph shall not impair the validity of this Easement or limit its enforceability in any way.
- 18. <u>Subordination</u>. No provisions of this Easement should be construed as impairing the ability of Grantor to use this Property as collateral for subsequent borrowing, provided however, that all subsequent liens shall be subservient to the conditions of this easement.
- 19. <u>Communication.</u> All **Notices**, demands, requests, consents, **Approvals**, offers, statements, and other instruments or communications required or permitted to be given hereunder (individually or collectively "Correspondence") shall be deemed sufficiently given or rendered only if in writing delivered personally, sent by a nationally recognized overnight courier or sent by United States Postal Service first class certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

If to **Grantor**: J. Christian Hendricks P.O. Box 7773 Columbia, SC 29202

If to **Grantee**: Upper Savannah Land Trust P.O. Box 918 Laurens, SC 29648

or to such other person or place as a party may designate by Correspondence as aforesaid. Correspondence by mail or overnight courier service shall be deemed given on the date of receipt as shown on the return receipt, or receipt or records of the courier service, as the case may be. In the event any such Correspondence is mailed via the United States Postal Service or shipped by

overnight delivery service to a party in accordance with this Section 19 and is returned to the sender as undeliverable, then such Correspondence shall be deemed to have been delivered or received on the third day following the deposit of such Correspondence in the United States Mail or the delivery of such Correspondence to the overnight delivery service.

- 20. <u>Recordation.</u> **Grantee** shall record this instrument in timely fashion in the RMC Office for Laurens County, South Carolina, and may re-record it at any time as may be required to preserve its rights in this Easement.
- 21. <u>Effective Date.</u> **Grantor** and **Grantee** intend that the restrictions arising hereunder take effect on the day and year this Easement is recorded in the RMC Office for Laurens County, South Carolina; after all required signatures have been affixed hereto.
- 22. <u>Controlling Law.</u> The interpretation and performance of this Easement shall be governed by the laws of South Carolina.
- 23. <u>Liberal Construction</u>. Any general rule of construction to the contrary notwithstanding, this Easement shall be liberally construed in favor of the grant to uphold the Purposes. If any provision in this instrument is found to be ambiguous, an interpretation consistent with the Purposes that would render the provision valid should be favored over any interpretation that would render it invalid.
- 24. <u>Severability.</u> If any provision of this Easement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid, the remainder of the provisions of this Easement shall not be affected thereby.
- 25. <u>Baseline Documentation</u>. **Grantee** acknowledges, by its acceptance of the Easement, that Grantor's historical and present uses of the Property are compatible with the Purposes of the Easement. To establish a present condition of the Conservation Values so as to be able to properly monitor future uses of the Property and insure compliance with the terms hereof, Grantee has prepared or caused to be prepared the Baseline Documentation. The Baseline Documentation shall be used to assist in establishing the condition of the Property as of the date of this Easement the **Grantee** reserves the right to supplement and record notice of the supplemental Baseline Documentation prior to December 31, 2010. Grantor and Grantee acknowledge and agree that in the event a controversy arises with respect to the nature and extent of Grantor's historical and present use of the physical condition of the Property subject to the Easement as of the date hereof, the parties may look beyond the Baseline Documentation, if necessary, to other relevant or material documents, surveys, reports, and other evidence showing conditions at the time of execution of this Easement to assist in the resolution of the controversy.
- 26. Entire Agreement. The covenants, terms, conditions and restrictions of this Easement shall be binding upon, and inure to, the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective personal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns and shall continue as a servitude running in perpetuity with the Protected Property. All terms used in this Easement, regardless of the number or gender in which they are used, shall be deemed and construed to include any other number, singular or plural, and any other gender, masculine, feminine, or

neuter, as the context or sense of this Easement, any Section, Subsection, or clause herein may require as if such terms had been fully and properly written in such number or gender.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto Grantee forever.

By execution of this Easement, the **Grantee** accepts this Easement and the rights and obligations recited herein.

GRANTOR HEREBY WARRANTS and represents that, except for land lying below the mean high water mark, as to which title is not warranted, the Grantor is seized of the Protected Property in fee simple and has good right to grant and convey this Easement, that the Protected Property is free and clear of any and all encumbrances, except existing easements of record and prescriptive easements, if any, and that the Grantee shall have the use of and enjoy all of the benefits derived from and arising out of this Easement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor and Grantee have set their hands to multiple duplicate original copies of this Easement under seal on the day and year first above written.

## SIGNITURES ON FOLLOWING PAGES

WITNESSES:	W	717	ľN	ES	SE	S
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**GRANTOR:** 

Hendricks Brothers, LLC
J. Christian Hendricks

Its Sole Member

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

COUNTY OF LAWES

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged this 20 day of <u>December</u>, 2010, before me the undersigned Notary, and I do hereby certify that the above named <u>Chuthan Hernauls</u>. personally appeared before me and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing instrument.

(Signature of Notary)

Notary Public for the State of South Carolina

My commission expires: 1/19/11

WITNESSES:	GRANTEE:
Jama Betn Brooks Jamas - Thell	By: ZB. adam &  Its: TREASURER
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  COUNTY OF Greenwood)	ACKNOWLEDGMENT
before me the undersigned Notary, and I do	knowledged this 23 day of <u>December</u> , 2010 hereby certify that the above named duly authorized before me and acknowledged the due execution of
Notary Public for the State of South Carolin My commission expires: 9-17-11	(Signature of Notary)

## **EXHIBIT A**

## **Property Description**

Parcel A. All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land, with all improvement thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Laurens, State of South Carolina, being shown and designated as "Tract A" containing 107.63 acres more or less as shown on a plat of survey thereof, prepared for Hendricks Brothers, LLC., by Glenn Associates Surveying, Inc. dated February, 21 2008 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Laurens County, South Carolina in Plat Book PC A557, at Page 8-8.

## Laurens County, South Carolina Tax Map # 116-00-00-005

Parcel B. All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land, with all improvement thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Laurens, State of South Carolina, being shown and designated as "Tract B" containing 60..73 acres more or less as shown on a plat of survey thereof, prepared for Hendricks Brothers ,LLC., by Glenn Associates Surveying, Inc. dated February 21, 2008 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Laurens County, South Carolina in Plat Book PC A557, at Page 9-9.

Laurens County, South Carolina Tax Map # 116-00-00-002