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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	GRANT OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT
COUNTY OF CHARLESTON)	(Includes Transfer Fee Lien)

THIS GRANT OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT (hereinafter "Easement") is made effective as of the date of recording of this Easement in the Register of Deeds Office for Charleston County (the "Effective Date") by Ethelmae S. Boyd (hereinafter "Grantor"), having an address at 3368 Plow Ground Road, Johns Island, SC 29455 in favor of the Lowcountry Land Trust, Inc. (hereinafter "Grantee"), a South Carolina charitable corporation and a publicly supported corporation organized and operated under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations thereunder (hereinafter the "Code") and not a private foundation under Code §509, with a business address at 1362 Old Towne Road, Charleston, SC 29407.

WHEREAS, Grantor is the sole owner in fee simple of certain real property known as "Boyd Tract" containing approximately thirty-seven and four tenths (37.4) acres (TMS# 277-00-00-011 & 277-00-00-050) in Charleston County, South Carolina, more particularly described in Exhibit "A" and depicted on Exhibit "B" attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference (hereinafter the "Protected Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property possesses significant ecological and natural resources, open space and scenic value of great importance to Grantor, to Grantee and to the people of South Carolina and this nation, the protection of which will yield significant public benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is situated within the 800,000 acres of the Cooper, Ashley, Wando, and Stono Rivers (CAWS) Basin Focus Area featuring diverse ecosystems and a wealth of wildlife, all of which are the focus of a consortium of private landowners, conservation groups, and federal and state agencies working to protect and enhance the region's natural resources and traditional commercial, agricultural, and recreational uses; and

WHEREAS, the CAWS Basin Focus Area of South Carolina has suffered a noticeable loss in recent years of critical ecosystems, scenic property, island hummocks and small islands, wetlands, natural forests, wildlife habitat, prime farm land and timber land and other natural resources from increasingly industrial, commercial, and residential development; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the Protected Property lies within the Sea Islands, a sub-region of the CAWS Basin Focus Area, in which a focused conservation program is in effect, bringing local landowners together in an effort to preserve the landscape and its traditional rural uses, and which has over 29,000 acres of public and private protected lands; and; and

WHEREAS, the protection of this property furthers the policy embodied in the SC right-to-farm law (SC Code §46-45-10) which states in part "The policy of the State is to conserve, protect, and encourage the development and improvement of its agricultural land and facilities for the production of food and other agricultural products"; and

WHEREAS, the protection of this property furthers the policy embodied in the SC agricultural use special assessment (SC Code §12-43-220) which provides a preferential tax valuation for agricultural land in order for such lands to remain in productive agricultural uses; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of open space (including farm and forest land) is recognized by the Farmland Protection Policy Act, P.L. 97-98, 7 U.S.C. 4201, et seq., whose purpose is "to minimize the extent to which Federal programs and policies contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses, and to ensure that Federal programs are administered in a manner that, to the extent practicable, will be compatible with State, unit of local government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland"; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property contains approximately 13.51 acres of prime soils of statewide importance as designated by the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service; and

WHEREAS, the protection of this property is pursuant to the Charleston County Comprehensive Plan in which protecting the critical wetland and wildlife habitat, maintaining the rural character of the Protected Property, and limiting development as set forth herein accomplishes stated goals of the Plan, specifically, the Plan includes information, recommendations, and strategies to reenforce the Urban Growth Boundary, help manage growth, and strengthen the rural and urban/suburban character of areas in the county which include encouraging lower density development and protection of natural resources at the edge of the Urban Growth Boundary where the Protected Property is located; and

WHEREAS, the protection of this property is pursuant to the *Charleston County Comprehensive Greenbelt Plan* in which preserving views, protecting wildlife, and protecting community identity and character as set forth herein accomplishes stated goals of the *Greenbelt Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property is situated adjacent to and prominently visible by the public from Plow Ground Road, containing approximately 645 feet of frontage consisting primarily of forested road frontage which contributes to the scenic, natural, and rural character of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property contains a diversity of relatively natural habitats including mixed upland forest, forested wetlands, pastures and open areas all of which can support a variety of floral and faunal species; 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 and ground-nesting birds, waterfowl and other avian species, and also including feeding, breeding and resting areas for native small and large game and non-game mammals, as well as feeding and breeding areas for amphibians and reptiles; and

WHEREAS, in particular, the Protected Property in its existing relatively natural condition contributes very little, if any, nonpoint source pollution to Bohicket Creek and the North Edisto River, and other downstream tributaries due to the amount and quality of vegetation present, the limited amount of impervious surface, and the presence of forested wetlands which function to improve water quality by providing for nutrient uptake and sediment deposition from runoff draining from upstream lands; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property contains forested wetlands that 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, all of the above fauna in the list of threatened or endangered species and species of concern are listed as priority species for the South Carolina State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the protection of habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and landbirds, through conservation easements is a conservation strategy of the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative Implementation Plan, which is a multi-state/multi-partner (18 states and commonwealths and key federal and regional habitat conservation agencies and organizations) conservation planning and implementation effort through an integrated approach to protect, restore, and manage avian coastal plain habitats in the South Atlantic Region; and

WHEREAS, the Protected Property has been traditionally managed for wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational activities (including hunting and nature-based activities), agriculture, rural residential uses, and sustainable and environmentally sound forestry practices; and

WHEREAS, Lowcountry Land Trust, Inc. is a nationally-accredited land trust as determined by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission through a rigorous review process, such status being first awarded on August 16, 2012, with renewal status awarded on July 31, 2018, and March 5, 2024, indicating that it has met the highest national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands in perpetuity, and demonstrating strong ethical practices, fiscal accountability, responsible governance, and lasting stewardship of the lands it conserves; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Treas. Reg. Section 1.170A-14(g), the Conservation Values, as detailed in the Recitals above and outlined in Paragraph I below, 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 (including 2020 SCDNR infrared and ESRI World Imagery Hybrid aerials and on-site photographs taken by a representative of the **Grantee**), and the parties agree that the Baseline Documentation provides, collectively, an accurate representation of the Protected Property as of the Effective Date of this Easement and is intended to serve as an objective point of reference from which **Grantee** shall monitor and enforce compliance with the terms of this Easement; and

WHEREAS, **Grantor** believes that through this Easement, the natural 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 continued use and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, **Grantor** intends to preserve and protect the Conservation Values, as detailed in the Recitals above and outlined in Paragraph 1 below, <u>in perpetuity</u>; 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 this 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

WHEREAS, this Easement contains the conservation purposes pursuant to the Act, as outlined therein and stated below:

- (A) "retaining or protecting natural, scenic, or open-space aspects of real property";
- (B) "ensuring the availability of real property for agricultural, forest, recreational, educational, or open-space use";
- (C) "protecting natural resources";
- (D) "maintaining or enhancing air or water quality";

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 pursuant to Code §170(h) and in the regulations promulgated thereunder by the United States Department of the Treasury (hereinafter "Treasury Regulations") as follows:

- (I) Protection of a relatively natural habitat of fish, wildlife, or plants, or similar ecosystem within the meaning of Code \$170(h)(4)(A)(ii) which will yield a significant public benefit, including the protection of habitats and water quality and the public benefits described in the recitals to this Easement; and
- (II) Preservation of open space (including farmland and forest land) within the meaning of Code §170(h)(4)(A)(iii)(I) for the scenic enjoyment of the general public which will yield a significant public benefit, including the opportunities for scenic enjoyment and the public benefits described in the recitals to this Easement; and
- (III) Preservation of open space (including farmland and forest land) within the meaning of Code §170(h)(4)(A)(iii)(II) pursuant to clearly delineated Federal, state, or local governmental conservation policies which will yield a significant public benefit, including the policies and public benefits described in the recitals to this Easement; and

WHEREAS, **Grantor** and **Grantee** agree these purposes and requirements are accomplished by voluntarily placing perpetual restrictions upon the use of the Protected Property as set forth hereunder in the Easement 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

WHEREAS, the **Grantee** is a corporation of which its purposes and powers include one or more of the purposes set forth in SC Code §27-8-20(1); and **Grantee** is a holder of conservation easements as conservation easements are defined by the Act; and **Grantee** is a publicly supported, tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation organized and operated under Code §501(c)(3) dedicated to the preservation of the irreplaceable natural and historical resources of the South Carolina Lowcountry landscape by protecting significant lands, waters and vistas and is not a private foundation under Code §509; and **Grantee** represents that it has the commitment to protect the Purpose of this Easement (as defined below), and has the resources to enforce the restrictions of this Easement; and

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

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. It is the purpose (hereinafter the "Purpose") of this Easement to ensure that the current scenic and natural condition of the Protected Property will be retained forever for conservation purposes, and to prevent any use of the Protected Property that will significantly impair or interfere with the Conservation Values (detailed in the Recitals above, outlined below and in the Baseline Documentation) and the Protected Property's natural resources and associated ecosystems. The Conservation Values of the Protected Property include the following:
 - 1) Preservation of open space for the sustainable agricultural and/or forestry uses traditionally undertaken at the Protected Property,
 - 2) Protection of relatively natural habitat and biological diversity,
 - 3) Preservation of scenic views of the Protected Property from Plow Ground Road,
 - Preservation or enhancement of downstream water quality associated with Bohicket Creek and the North Edisto River.

The protection of these Conservation Values by stewardship, enforcement, and monitoring in perpetuity is set forth in this Easement.

The protection of the Conservation Values will ensure that the Protected Property will be retained in perpetuity predominantly in its relatively natural and scenic condition for conservation purposes and to prevent any use of the Protected Property that would significantly impair or interfere with the Conservation Values of the Protected Property, while allowing for limited low-impact rural residential, recreational, agricultural, forestry, and other open-space uses of the Protected Property that are compatible with and not destructive of those Conservation Values. It is the intent of the parties that Grantor will not perform, nor knowingly allow others to perform, any act on or affecting the Protected Property that is inconsistent with the Purpose of this Easement. Grantor understands that nothing in this Easement relieves Grantor of any obligation or restriction on the use of the Protected Property imposed by law.

- 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, provided that such right shall not be construed to permit general public access over or upon the Protected Property;
- (B) <u>Right to Monitor.</u> To enter upon the Protected Property in a reasonable manner, at reasonable times, with reasonable notice, in order to monitor compliance with this Easement and to further document natural and manmade features of the Protected Property. The **Grantee** shall limit entry to annual visits (after completion of the

Baseline Documentation) unless the **Grantee** has reason to believe there is a violation of the terms of this Easement. **Grantee** shall not unreasonably interfere with **Grantor**'s quiet use and enjoyment of the Protected Property;

- (C) <u>Right to Prevent Inconsistent Uses.</u> To prevent **Grantor** or third parties from conducting any activity or use inconsistent with the Purpose;
- (D) . <u>Right to Require Restoration.</u> To require **Grantor** to restore any Conservation Values damaged by any uses or activities prohibited by this Easement, or any activity or use inconsistent with the Purpose to include third party activities.
- 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:

Accessory Dwelling Units shall be defined as any building having sleeping quarters and sanitary facilities, and may have cooking facilities, which provide temporary or permanent habitation, and are located outside a **Designated Building Area**. and shall be limited to one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet of heated and cooled space.

Agricultural Activities shall be defined as activities directly related to the production of plant or animal products on the Protected Property, including crop production, animal husbandry, equine activities, 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 nor any type of large-scale operation where animals are unnecessarily confined to maximize intensive large-scale production; however, non-intensive small-scale farming and/or agricultural uses for the benefit of Grantor, Grantor's family or local agriculture shall be allowed, which may include fences, pens, and similar containment methods. Notwithstanding the above, aquaculture and/or mariculture activities must have Approval.

Agricultural Structure shall be defined as any building designed to be used or currently used in conjunction with permitted Agricultural Activities or Forest Management Practices, 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 permitted through Discretionary Consent as described in Paragraph 9, and as defined in Paragraph 21. The rationale for requiring the Grantor to obtain Approval is to afford Grantee an adequate opportunity to evaluate the proposed activities to confirm if they are designed and will be carried out in a manner that is not inconsistent with the Purpose of this Easement. Grantor shall include in the written Approval request information identifying the proposed site or activity with reasonable specificity, evidencing conformity with the requirements of the applicable paragraphs under which the right is reserved hereunder, a timetable for the planned exercise of such right, and, when applicable, evidencing conformity with existing land use regulations. When Approval from Grantee to Grantor of Grantor's exercise of certain reserved rights is specifically required by the provisions of this Easement, Grantor agrees to notify Grantee in writing not less than 45 days prior to the exercise of any such right. When Grantee's Approval is required, Grantee shall grant or withhold its Approval in writing within 45 days of receipt of Grantor's written request therefor. In the case of withholding of Approval, Grantee shall notify Grantor in writing with reasonable specificity of the reasons for withholding of Approval, and the conditions, if any, on which Approval might otherwise be given. Failure of Grantee to respond in writing within such 45 days shall be deemed to constitute denial by Grantee of any such request submitted for Approval. A deemed denial shall be treated by all parties as procedural, rather than substantive, and Grantor may re-submit the request for Approval without prejudice. Approval shall be at the sole discretion of the Grantee and shall be provided if the activity is not inconsistent with the Purpose of this Easement and shall not be unreasonably withheld. Approval does not relieve Grantor of the obligation to obtain all other necessary permits, consents, and other approvals.

Best Management Practices shall be the Best Management Practices of the South Carolina Forestry Commission or its successor agency, which the parties acknowledge are not required by law but are required by this Easement.

Building Height shall be measured, for the purposes of any permitted structure, from ground elevation 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 and weather vanes.

Designated Building Area (or DBA) shall be defined as those six (6) areas (of which a maximum of only three (3) may be selected by Grantor), each configured as approximately one (1) acre as depicted on Exhibit "B" and specifically defined with GPS coordinates in the Baseline Documentation, designated for the siting of Residential Structures and Related Outbuildings. The location and configuration of any structure, including Residential Structures, within each Designated Building Area shall be at the Grantor's discretion, subject to Notice and all other terms of this Easement.

Feedlot shall be defined as any confined area or facility for feeding livestock for commercial purposes, or within which the land is not grazed or cropped at least annually, 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 or when deemed appropriate by Grantee which outlines Forest Management Practices on the Protected Property. The Forest Management Plan shall be compatible with the terms of this Easement, shall not significantly impair or degrade any of the Conservation Values of the Protected Property at the property level, and shall utilize Best Management Practices.

Forest Management Practices shall be defined as the production, improvement, and maintenance of forest lands for timber production and commercial harvesting, wildlife management, aesthetics, or any other purpose. Forest Management Practices include silvicultural 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, harvesting, thinning, reforestation, competition control, prescribed fire or fire breaks. Forest Management Practices shall be compatible with the terms of this Easement, shall not significantly impair or degrade any of the Conservation Values of the Protected Property at the property level, and shall be conducted utilizing Best Management Practices.

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, their or its) personal representatives, heirs, successors, assigns, and subsequent owners of record.

Impervious Surface shall be defined as a hard surface area which either prevents or significantly retards the entry of water into the soil mantle at a rate significantly lower than that present under natural conditions prior to development. Impervious Surfaces can include, but are not limited to, roof tops, walkways, patios and decking, enclosed and unenclosed porches, paved driveways, paved parking lots, covered storage areas, concrete or asphalt paving, swimming pools, or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of surface and stormwater runoff. Impervious Surface specifically excludes ground surfaces covered with sand, gravel, shell sand, crushed stone, or other similar traditional permeable materials. The use, installation, and/or introduction of new products and/or technologies for pervious surfaces (those surfaces which allow for the direct percolation of water into the soil surface), requires prior Approval from the Grantee. Approval will be case by case and all requests for the use, installation, and/or introduction of such new products and/or technologies must be accompanied by the appropriate research, data, and information on the material for Grantee to accurately evaluate the proposed product and/or technology.

Notice shall be defined as a written communication, not a request for Approval, prior to undertaking a permitted activity, as defined in Paragraph 21. When Notice from Grantor to Grantee of Grantor's exercise of certain reserved rights is specifically required by the provisions of this Easement, Grantor agrees to notify Grantee in writing not less than 45 days prior to the exercise of any such right. The Notice shall describe the nature, scope, location, timetable, and any other material aspect of the proposed activity in sufficient detail to permit Grantee to monitor such activity.

Policy on Pond Enlargement and Construction shall be defined as the written policy of the Lowcountry Land Trust (Grantee), which may from time to time be amended and/or modified, pursuant to which Approval is either granted or denied for the enlargement and construction of pond(s); provided, however, any pond enlargement and construction shall not be inconsistent with any provision of this Easement and shall be consistent with the Purpose of this Easement.

Recreational Structure shall be defined as any building designed or used in conjunction with recreational activities on the Protected Property, and shall not include any structure used as a permanent or temporary **Residential Structure**.

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

Request for Approval shall be defined as a written request by **Grantor** for **Approval** by **Grantee** of a defined activity proposed by the **Grantor**.

Residential Structure shall be defined as any dwelling having sleeping quarters, sanitary facilities, and cooking facilities, all three of which must be present, which constitutes temporary or permanent residential use or occupancy on the Protected Property by the Grantor, permitted lessee, and guests or employees of the Grantor or permitted lessee. Accessory Dwelling Units, as defined above, are a subset of Residential Structures.

Significant Tree shall be defined as live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*), southern magnolias (*Magnolia grandiflora*), and bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) having a diameter at breast height of eighteen (18) inches or greater.

Subdivided Tract shall be defined as a legally divided, transferable parcel of land having a unique tax identification number according to Charleston County real property tax records.

Subdivision shall be defined as the permitted creation of a **Subdivided Tract** after the Effective Date of this Easement.

Water Line shall be defined as the edge of a waterway or waterbody which is either the critical line as defined by the Bureau of Coastal Management, S.C. Department of Environmental Services, or if no critical line has been established, the mean high water line as defined by the Army Corps of Engineers or established by a surveyor employing the regulatory standards then in effect for its determination. If the critical line or the mean high water line cannot be established or are no longer used to define the edge of a waterway or waterbody, then the comparable defining line as defined by successor entities of the above named agencies shall be used.

Wetlands shall be defined as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions," as stated in the United States Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987, or as amended).

4. Reserved Rights. Grantor reserves all the rights, uses, and activities (collectively, the "Reserved Rights") inherent in fee simple ownership of the Protected Property in its entirety, subject to the specific Restrictions and

Limitations of Paragraph 5, which are included to accomplish the Purpose of this Easement stated in Paragraph 1. The **Grantor** shall have the right to all manner of access to and personal use and enjoyment of the grounds of the Protected Property, and the right to undertake activities reasonably necessary to carry out the rights reserved to **Grantor**. 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 Purpose of this Easement stated in Paragraph 1.

- 5. <u>Restrictions and Limitations.</u> **Grantor** will not perform or permit, or will perform or permit only as specified below, the following acts or uses on, over, or under the Protected Property:
- (A) <u>Subdivision</u>. The Protected Property is currently composed of two (2) tax parcels, which are Charleston County TMS #s 277-00-00-011 and 277-00-00-050. **Subdivision** is limited to the reconfiguration and division of the Protected Property into a maximum of three (3) **Subdivided Tracts**. **Grantor** covenants and agrees that the entire Protected Property shall consist of no more than three (3) **Subdivided Tracts** held by no more than three (3) separate owners. The configuration of each such **Subdivided Tract** shall be at the **Grantor**'s discretion. **Grantor** shall quantitatively allocate Reserved Rights among such **Subdivided Tracts** at the time of each **Subdivision** with such allocation being specifically described and noted in the deed transferring ownership of any **Subdivided Tract**, specifically quantitative Reserved Rights including allowances for **Impervious Surface**, **Residential Structures**, Docks, Boat Ramps, Boardwalks, Ponds, or any other Reserved Rights as applicable within this Easement. **Grantor** shall give **Notice** to **Grantee** of any **Subdivision** or reconfiguration of a **Subdivided Tract**. Following a reconfiguration of a **Subdivided Tract**, the **Grantor** may, at any time, abandon or modify such reconfiguration and reconfigure the Protected Property into three (3) or fewer **Subdivided Tracts**.

The **Grantor** shall not indirectly or practically divide 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing limitation, **Grantor** will not be prohibited from the following activities, so long as any use by a third party is made subject to the limitations set forth in this Easement: (a) leasing any of the **Residential Structures** for a term of one year or less (except that such term may be renewable); (b) leasing, permitting the use of, or otherwise contracting for the use of any of the **Residential Structures** by an owner/partner/member of the **Grantor** or their Immediate Family Members, or an employee or contractor of **Grantor**, or any caretaker of the Protected Property; and (c) entering into timber, farming, grazing, trapping, fishing, and hunting leases on any portion of the Protected Property or the entirety of the Protected Property.

- (B) <u>Designated Building Areas.</u> **Grantor** and **Grantee** have identified six (6) acceptable potential **Designated Building Areas** (or **DBAs**) as depicted on Exhibit "B" and in the Baseline Documentation. The **Designated Building Areas** have been sited to be compatible with the terms of this Easement and are located in areas that have been designated for their ecological suitability for development and do not significantly impair or degrade any of the Conservation Values of the Protected Property.
 - I. No more than three (3) **Designated Building Areas** may be selected on the Protected Property. Each potential **Designated Building Area** has been configured as approximately one (1) acre squares as depicted on Exhibit "B" and specifically defined with GPS coordinates in the Baseline Documentation. No additional **DBAs** shall be permitted.
 - II. Prior to beginning construction of any Residential Structure or Related Outbuilding, Grantor shall select a Designated Building Area by providing Grantee with written Notice of the selected DBA. Upon the selection of the third of three (3) DBAs, the right to select or construct Residential Structures or Related Outbuildings on any of the unselected Designated Building Areas shall terminate. Upon written Request for Approval by Grantor, Grantee, at Grantee's sole discretion, may allow Grantor to exchange a selected DBA for a terminated DBA provided that no Residential Structures or Related Outbuildings have been constructed in the selected DBA, and/or provided that any and all Residential Structures constructed in the selected DBA have been fully demolished, relocated, or otherwise removed from the selected DBA.

- III. Residential Structures and Related Outbuildings shall be located within a Designated Building Area. The location and configuration of all structures within each Designated Building Area shall be at the Grantor's discretion, subject to Notice and all other terms of this Easement.
- (C) <u>Structural Limitations.</u> The construction, enlargement, removal, and replacement of **Residential Structures**, **Related Outbuildings**, **Recreational Structures**, **Agricultural Structures**, and all other structures are subject to the following limitations:
 - I. Total **Impervious Surface** on the Protected Property shall not exceed a maximum of thirty thousand (30,000) square feet in the aggregate.
 - II. No Residential Structure, Related Outbuilding, Recreational Structure, or Agricultural Structure shall exceed thirty-five (35) feet in Building Height.
 - III. Residential Structures shall be limited to six (6) such structures. Grantor is required to give Notice to Grantee prior to the construction, enlargement, removal, and replacement of any permitted Residential Structures.
 - IV. Accessory Dwelling Units shall be limited to one (1) such structure and shall not exceed one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet in impervious surface. Grantor is required to give Notice to Grantee prior to the construction, enlargement, removal, and replacement of any permitted Accessory Dwelling Units.
 - V. Related Outbuildings, Recreational Structures, and Agricultural Structures shall be permitted, provided that the square footage of all Impervious Surface on the Protected Property does not exceed the allowance stated in Paragraph 5(C)(1).
 - VI. Other than permitted **Residential Structures** and **Accessory Dwelling Units** no other structure on the Protected Property shall be used as a temporary or permanent dwelling for human beings.
 - VII. <u>Towers</u>. There shall be no towers on the Protected Property, including, but not limited to, radio, microwave, broadcast, communication, and cellular towers.

Notwithstanding the above, **Grantor** retains the right to construct, maintain, repair, improve, remove, and replace wildlife observation towers (which includes shooting range towers and hunt stands for purposes of this Easement); any such towers in excess of twenty-five (25) feet in height shall not be visible from off the Protected Property when viewed from ground elevation.

(D) <u>Buffers</u>. Buffer Area(s), as shown in Exhibit "B" and in the Baseline Documentation, shall be subject to the following restrictions:

<u>"Setback" Road Buffer.</u> In order to protect the scenic view along this public roadway, there shall be no **Impervious Surface**, structures (other than mailboxes, fencing and gates, utility and service lines for any permitted use under the terms of this Easement, or other structures existing at the time of this Easement as documented in the Baseline Documentation, which may be rebuilt, replaced, or repaired as needed), on that portion of the Protected Property within one hundred (100) feet of established right-of-way along Plow Ground Road. **Grantor** reserves the right to engage in **Forest Management Practices**, provided there shall be no clearcutting and no activities that endanger the health or survival of **Significant Trees** without **Approval**.

Notwithstanding the above, **Grantor** reserves the right to cut any tree, in accordance with applicable governmental laws and 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.

- (E) <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.
- (F) <u>Commercial Uses</u>. Except as specifically provided for in this Easement, there shall be no commercial uses, activities, or structures, other than low impact home-based businesses or activities that do not significantly impair or degrade the Conservation Values, 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. For the purposes of this Easement, **Agricultural Activities**, **Forest Management Practices**, occasional weddings or similar events (not more than six (6) such weddings or similar events per year), and the leasing of hunting, trapping, and fishing rights shall not be subject to the limitations set forth in this Paragraph 5(F). However, to qualify this Easement for treatment under §2031(c)(8)(B) of the Code, any use of the Protected Property for more than a de minimis use for a commercial recreational activity is prohibited.
- (G) <u>Services</u>. Construction of water wells, septic systems, and utility services is limited to serve the allowed uses in Paragraph 4, subject to the Restrictions and Limitations of Paragraph 5, and subject to all applicable governmental laws and regulations.

Fuel storage tanks are limited to aboveground or underground gaseous (not liquid) fuel storage tanks and/or aboveground liquid fuel storage tanks to serve the allowed uses in Paragraph 4, subject to the Restrictions and Limitations of Paragraph 5, subject to all applicable governmental laws and regulations.

Grantor and **Grantee** acknowledge any existing utility easements located on portions of the Protected Property that are described in the Title Report included in the Baseline Documentation or are clearly established on the Protected Property.

(H) <u>Roads</u>. Roads shall be limited to those required to facilitate the uses permitted by this Easement, provided there shall be no road constructed or covered with **Impervious Surface**, except roads may have impervious surfaces if, and only to the minimum extent, required by law. Maintenance of roads and roadside ditches shall be limited to standard practices for non-paved roads.

Grantor and **Grantee** acknowledge any existing access easements located on portions of the Protected Property that are shown in the Title Report included in the Baseline Documentation.

(I) <u>Landscaping</u>. Landscaping shall be limited to the management of vegetation associated with the uses allowed by this Easement, including, but not limited to the right to conduct selective cutting, clearing, pruning, removing, and planting of trees and vegetation and mowing of fields and lawns for habitat enhancement and protection, fire protection, unpaved trail and road maintenance, including the right to clear and maintain trails if reasonably necessary in connection with uses of the Protected Property permitted by this Easement, including for pedestrian recreational purposes, tick control, the preservation of vistas and aesthetic values, or otherwise to preserve the present condition of the Protected Property.

Structural elements of landscaping, including but not limited to walkways and patios, may be subject to Impervious Surface restrictions and limitations as outlined in this Easement. Forest Management Practices and Agricultural Activities shall not be subject to this Paragraph.

- (J) <u>Signs</u>. Signs visible from off of the Protected Property shall be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) square feet in size, individually. Signs shall be placed so as to minimally impact the scenic view as seen from any public roadway or waterway.
- (K) <u>Archeological and Paleontological Excavations.</u> **Grantor** shall give **Notice** to **Grantee** prior to undertaking archeological or paleontological excavation. Any archeological or paleontological site shall, upon completion of any excavation, be returned to, or as close as possible to, its previous state, unless the site is to be maintained in an excavated condition for interpretive purposes related to education.

(L) <u>Forestry Uses.</u> A **Forest Management Plan** consistent with the Purpose of this Easement is required for the Protected Property when deemed appropriate by **Grantee**. Forestry Uses are limited to those **Forest Management Practices** defined in the **Forest Management Plan** or as defined by **Best Management Practices**.

Notwithstanding the above, **Grantor** reserves the right to cut any tree, in accordance with applicable governmental laws and regulations, (i) when it is necessary to salvage timber damaged by natural causes, (ii) when cutting is necessary to prevent further such damage or personal injury, (iii) when a permitted structure is in danger or (iv) when **Best Management Practices** are used to prevent the spread of infestation or disease. **Grantor** and **Grantee** recognize that changes in forest management technologies, including accepted best management practices, may result in an evolution of **Forest Management Practices**. Such evolution shall be permitted so long as it is consistent with the Purpose of this Easement.

- (M) <u>Significant Trees</u>. There shall be no activities that endanger the health or survival of **Significant Trees** without **Approval**.
- (N) <u>Agricultural Uses.</u> **Agricultural Activities** are restricted to the recommended or accepted practices, currently in use at the time of the activity's implementation, recommended by the South Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, the United States Natural Resources Conservation Service, their successors, or other entities mutually acceptable to the **Grantor** and **Grantee**. **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 Purpose of this Easement.
- (O) Pond(s). Ponds, including any existing ponds as documented in the Baseline Documentation, shall be limited in size to ten (10) acres in the aggregate, shall be subject to prior **Approval** from the **Grantee**, in accordance with the **Grantee**'s **Policy on Pond Enlargement and Construction**, and shall be in compliance with the Purpose as stated in Paragraph 1 and with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes and regulations. The sale of extracted soil, sand, gravel, or other materials produced in connection with the enlargement or construction of pond(s), or any other permitted or non-permitted use, is strictly prohibited in accordance with Paragraph 5(F) Commercial Uses and Paragraph 5(Q) Mining. However, any extracted soil, sand, gravel or other materials from enlargement or construction of pond(s) may be used on the Protected Property for improvement or maintenance of roads, development of permitted structures, or any other permitted use.
- (P) <u>Impoundment(s)</u>. **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 prior **Approval** and 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.
- (Q) <u>Mining</u>. Mining and recovery of any oil, gas or minerals is prohibited. Surface alteration or extraction is permitted as may be required on the Protected Property only for uses incidental to uses permitted hereunder, and further provided that any extraction shall be limited and localized within the meaning of the Treasury Regulations at Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-14(g)(4)(i) and not irremediably destructive of the Conservation Values.
- (R) <u>Topography and Hydrology</u>. There shall be no adverse material alteration of the topography or hydrology, unless otherwise related to uses permitted in Paragraphs 4 or 5.
- (S) <u>Refuse</u>. There shall be no placing of refuse on the Protected Property of vehicle bodies or parts, or refuse not generated on the Protected Property. Temporary piles for collection of refuse generated on the Protected Property established between regular removals are permitted provided such piles do not contain hazardous substances, pollutants, or wastes and do not significantly impair or degrade the Conservation Values of the Protected Property.
- (T) <u>Eligibility for Conservation Programs</u>. The **Grantor** reserves the right to participate in federal, state, county, or nongovernmental organization conservation and/or preservation contracts, programs, or leases existing now or permitted in the future for any activity or use permitted on the Protected Property under this Easement, including, but not limited to United States Department of Agriculture Conservation Programs, the United States Fish

and Wildlife Service's Partners for Wildlife Program, carbon sequestration, carbon offsets, greenhouse gas credits, endangered species credits, water quality credits, or ground water credits. Any programs entered into by the **Grantor** under this Paragraph must be consistent with the terms of this Easement and any credits generated must be captured as a natural consequence of **Grantor**'s exercise or forbearance of the reserved rights permitted by this Easement. **Grantor** shall provide **Notice** prior to exercising the reserved right under this Paragraph.

- (U) <u>Right to Lease.</u> Subject to the specific Restrictions and Limitations in this Easement, **Grantor** reserves the right to lease all or a portion of the Protected Property for any purpose permitted under this Easement, including, but not limited to **Agricultural Activities**, **Forest Management Practices**, hunting and fishing, and permitted Commercial Uses.
- (V) <u>Wildlife Management.</u> Subject to the specific Restrictions and Limitations in this Easement, **Grantor** shall be entitled to conduct on the Protected Property activities that maintain, improve or enhance natural habitats of fish, wildlife, or plants, or similar ecosystems, including actions taken to (i) protect and restore ecosystems, (ii) control or eliminate non-native or invasive plants, (iii) maintain vegetative riparian buffers, (iv) improve water quality, (v) maintain or enhance forests by use of forest management and enhancement practices permitted by **Best Management Practices** and not otherwise prohibited herein, and (vi) prevent erosion. **Grantor** reserves the right to perform prescribed burning for habitat enhancement purposes in applicable areas of the Protected Property consistent with applicable laws and regulations governing the same. **Grantor** may establish and maintain wildlife/agricultural fields and food plots. All of the aforementioned activities shall be consistent with the Purpose of this Easement and shall not significantly impair or degrade any of the Conservation Values of the Protected Property.
- (W) <u>Recreational Uses.</u> Subject to the specific Restrictions and Limitations in this Easement, **Grantor** shall have the right to engage in and permit others (including, but not limited to hunting and fishing clubs, guests, business invitees, and licensees) to engage in recreational uses of the Protected Property consistent with the Purpose of this Easement and conducted in a manner that shall not significantly impair or degrade any of the Conservation Values of the Protected Property. Such activities include, but are not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, canoeing, wildlife observation, and horseback riding and other equine activities.
- (X) <u>Adverse or Inconsistent Uses</u>. There shall be no other use or activity that is inconsistent with the Purpose of this Easement as stated in Paragraph 1.
- 6. <u>Third Party Activities.</u> The **Grantor** shall keep the **Grantee** reasonably informed as to substantial 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 Purpose, 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 shall 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 discretion, determines that circumstances require immediate action to prevent or mitigate significant damage to the Conservation Values, **Grantee** shall give immediate notice of the circumstances to **Grantor**, as described in Paragraph 21, and may immediately pursue its legal and equitable remedies under this Paragraph without waiting for the period provided for cure to expire. **Grantor** agrees that if such emergency arises, **Grantee** may obtain injunctive relief without the necessity of posting a bond.

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, and without the necessity of posting a bond. 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, or if Grantor admits fault, any costs incurred by Grantee in enforcing the terms of this Easement against Grantor, including without limitation, costs of suit (which includes 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, or if Grantee admits fault, any costs incurred by Grantor, including without limitation Grantor's cost of the suit (which includes reasonable attorneys' fees) shall be borne by Grantee.
- 9. <u>Discretionary Consent.</u> If, owing to unforeseen or changed circumstances, any of the uses or activities prohibited under this Easement are deemed desirable by both **Grantor** and **Grantee**, **Grantee** may, in its sole discretion, give **Approval** for such uses or activities, subject to such limitations as it deems necessary or desirable and provided that **Grantee** may give **Approval** only if **Grantee** determines that such activities (i) are consistent with the Purpose of this Easement and the perpetual protection of the Conservation Values, (ii) shall not permit additional development or improvements that would interfere with the essential scenic quality of the land or with any governmental conservation policy that is being furthered by this Easement donation and as stated in §1.170A-14(d)(4)(v) of the Treasury Regulations, (iii) will not adversely affect the qualification of this Easement as a "qualified conservation contribution" under any applicable laws, including §\$170(h) and 2031(c) of the Code or the Act, and (iv) 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. Furthermore, **Grantee** and **Grantor** have no right or power to agree to any use or activity that would result in the termination or extinguishment of this Easement, and any amendment of this Easement will be subject to Paragraph 17 below.
- 10. Forbearance is Not a Waiver. Any forbearance by Grantee to exercise its rights under this Easement in the event of any breach of any terms of this Easement by Granter 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 Granter shall impair such right or remedy or be construed as a waiver.
- 11. **Grantor**'s Environmental Warranty. The **Grantor** warrants that **Grantor** has no knowledge of the existence or storage of hazardous substances, pollutants, or wastes on the Protected Property or a release or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants 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.

- 12. 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, 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.
- 13. Access. No right of public access to any portion of the Protected Property is conveyed by this Easement.
- 14. <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 payment of taxes. Furthermore, if the Grantor maintains general liability insurance coverage for the Protected Property, Grantor will be responsible for such costs.

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 wrongful or negligent activities of the indemnifying party on the Protected Property.

15. Transfer Fee. Grantor and Grantee recognize that the transfer of the Protected Property to a transferee not exempt under Subparagraphs 15(A), (B), (C) and (D) below, will result in an additional burden on Grantee associated with its administration, monitoring, and enforcement responsibilities under this Easement. Therefore, concurrently with the close of escrow for each sale or transfer of fee title to the Protected Property, there shall be assessed by the Grantee a transfer fee equal to one (1%) percent of the sales price and/or other consideration paid in connection with the transfer of any freehold or fee simple interest in the Protected Property, including but not limited to any conveyance by warranty deed, limited warranty deed, or quitclaim deed, sale, mortgage foreclosure, or conveyance in lieu of foreclosure. The transfer fee shall be paid by either the transferor or transferee, as they shall so determine, to the Grantee on the date of the closing of the transfer.

Exemptions from assessment of transfer fee:

- (A) The sale of timber or products produced from permitted Forest Management Practices and/or permitted Agricultural Activities of such Protected Property.
- (B) Any transfer subsequent to the conveyance of this Easement in which Ethelmae S. Boyd is **Grantor**.
- (C) Any transfer subsequent to the conveyance of this Easement:
 - I. Without consideration, or
 - II. To a spouse, a lineal descendant, an ancestor or ancestors, a spouse of a lineal descendent (collectively, "Immediate Family Members") of **Grantor**, or
 - III. To or from a trust whose beneficiaries or presumptive beneficiaries are the **Grantor**, member of **Grantor**, or an Immediate Family Member, or both, or
 - IV. To an entity at least 50% of the equity interest of which is owned by **Grantor**, a member of **Grantor**, or an Immediate Family Member, or
 - V. If the **Grantor** of this Easement is a corporation, limited liability company or a partnership, to an owner/partner/member of such entity or to an Immediate Family Member thereof, or
 - VI. To a charitable organization which is tax exempt under §501(c)(3), or
 - VII. Any transfer under a will, or
 - VIII. Any transfer implemented or effected by court order, except foreclosure, or
 - 1X. Any transfer that corrects, modifies, or confirms a transfer previously made.
- (D) If a creditor purchases the Protected Property at a foreclosure sale or takes title to the Protected Property in lieu of foreclosure, the transfer fee shall be due and paid at the time the creditor takes title. The transfer fee shall be based on the total bid for the Protected Property if purchased at a foreclosure sale or on the amount of the accrued indebtedness if the creditor accepts a deed in lieu

of foreclosure. An additional transfer fee shall be due if the creditor who takes title through foreclosure or a deed in lieu of foreclosure sells the Protected Property for an amount higher than the amount subject to the transfer fee at the time the creditor took title; the additional transfer fee due shall be based on the additional amount alone, not the entire sales price. Creditor for purposes of this Paragraph shall include an assignee of the creditor who purchases the Protected Property at a foreclosure sale or takes a deed in lieu of foreclosure.

An exchange of properties pursuant to Code §1031, or similar statute, shall be deemed to be for consideration based on the market value of the property plus boot, if applicable, received by **Grantor** at the time of such transfer. Market value of the received property shall be determined by agreement of the **Grantor** and the **Grantee**, or in the absence of such agreement by a Member Appraisal Institute (MAI) appraiser selected by the **Grantee**, whose appraisal fee shall be paid by the **Grantee**.

Grantor grants Grantee a lien against the Protected Property for all or any part of the transfer fee that is unpaid at the time of the conveyance or assignment triggering the transfer fee. Grantee's lien shall be subordinate to this Easement and to the lien of any first mortgage on the Protected Property. Grantee shall have the right to record a notice of lien for such unpaid transfer fee. Any such lien may be enforced and/or foreclosed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina. Grantee may require the Grantor and/or any subsequent purchaser to provide reasonable written proof of the applicable sales price, such as executed closing statements, contracts of sale, copies of deeds or other such evidence.

16. Extinguishment, Condemnation, and Fair Market Value. Grantor and Grantee agree that the conveyance of this Easement gives rise to a property right, immediately vested in Grantee with a fair market value that is at least equal to the proportionate value this Easement as of the Effective Date bears to the unrestricted fair market value of the Protected Property as a whole as of the Effective Date, unless state law provides otherwise. This proportionate value shall remain constant.

If an unexpected change in the conditions surrounding the Protected Property subsequent to the Effective Date makes impossible or impractical the continued use of the Protected Property for the Purpose of this Easement, this Easement can only be terminated or extinguished, whether in whole or in part, through a judicial proceeding. In such case, as required by §1.170A-14(g)(6)(ii) of the Treasury Regulations, on a subsequent sale, exchange, or involuntary conversion of the Protected Property the **Grantee** will be entitled to a portion of the proceeds at least equal to the proportionate value set forth in the first sentence of this Paragraph 16. 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 and proceeds shall be divided between **Grantor** and **Grantee** in the proportion as provided in this Paragraph 16 and §1.170A-14(g)(6)(ii) of the Treasury Regulations.

All proceeds received by **Grantee** pursuant to this Paragraph 16 shall be used in a manner consistent with the **Grantee**'s mission. This provision is intended to comply with Code §170(h)(2)(C)'s requirement that this Easement to be granted in perpetuity.

17. <u>Limitations on Amendment.</u> Grantor and Grantee recognize that natural conditions, landscapes, and technologies change over time (including best practices of open space maintenance techniques), and, in an abundance of caution, have determined, in good faith, to articulate herein the limited parameters of any permissible amendment hereto. The intent of Grantor and Grantee is that any such amendment would be consistent with and true to the perpetual protection of the Conservation Values, and consistent with the goals and provisions of the South Carolina Code Ann. (1976, as amended) §27-8-10 and the goals and provisions of Section 170(h) of the Code. Further, it may be necessary at some point to amend this Easement in response to changes over time specifically to ensure the perpetual protection of the Conservation Values of the Property. This paragraph 17 is accordingly carefully limited so as to ensure (i) that the Conservation Values of the Property are protected in perpetuity, (ii) that any amendment shall not in any way impair the perpetual protection of the Conservation Values of the Property, and (iii) that any amendment shall in all respects be consistent with the Purpose of this Easement and the provisions of Section 170(h) of the Code. If an amendment will only affect a portion of the Protected Property encumbered by this Easement, the term Grantor shall mean each and all holders of any ownership interest in that portion of the Protected Property.

Nothing in this paragraph 17 shall require **Grantor** or **Grantee** to agree to any amendment or to consult or negotiate regarding any amendment.

This Easement shall be amended only upon the written agreement of Grantee and Grantor, at Grantee's sole and absolute discretion, but only if such amendment: (i) does not constitute private inurement or give rise to an impermissible private benefit under Section 501(c)(3) and other applicable provisions of the Code or SC Code, based on an appraisal of the economic impact of the proposed amendment by an appraiser selected by Grantee; (ii) has a neutral or positive effect on the Conservation Values, based on an evaluation of the effect of the proposed amendment on the Conservation Values by an independent qualified person selected by Grantee; (iii) is consistent with the Purpose of this Easement and the perpetual protection of the Conservation Values; (iv) does not affect the perpetual nature of this Easement; and (v) complies with the SC Code and Section 170(h) of the Code. No amendment shall be effective unless documented in a notarized writing executed by Grantee and Grantor and recorded in the Register of Deeds Office for Charleston County, South Carolina. Further, no amendment shall be permitted that does not comply with the provisions of this paragraph 17 or (i) would involve the removal of any of the Protected Property from the Easement, (ii) would alter or remove the restrictions on assignment of this Easement under the provisions of paragraph 18, or the provisions on extinguishment, percentage interests, or condemnation under the provisions of paragraphs 16, or (iii) in any way would cause the provisions of this paragraph 17 to be less restrictive. All of these requirements and restrictions in this paragraph 17 must be satisfied. Any amendment that does not comply with the provisions of this paragraph 17 shall be invalid. In the event Grantor and Grantee agree to an amendment pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph 17, a new Baseline Documentation report shall be prepared and shall be acknowledged by Grantor and Grantee as memorializing the condition of the Protected Property as of the date the amendment is delivered for recording to the Register of Deeds Office for Charleston County, South Carolina.

If **Grantor** is the party requesting an amendment of this Easement, **Grantor** shall be responsible for all reasonable and customary costs related to **Grantee**'s evaluation of said request and the amendment's execution and, if applicable, any judicial proceeding related to any such amendment, including reasonable attorney's fees actually incurred and staff, contractor, legal, and consultant costs actually incurred by **Grantee**, and any costs associated with the preparation of the updated Baseline Documentation report prepared pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph 17.

- Assignment. The benefits of this Easement shall not be assignable by the **Grantee**, except if as a condition of any assignment, (i) 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 Purpose 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. Any assignment shall be in accordance with the **Grantee**'s Policy on Assigning or Becoming a Secondary Conservation Easement Holder and Accepting Transfers or Transferring Conservation Easements on file with the **Grantee**, which may from time to time be amended and/or modified. 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 by a local court of competent jurisdiction to a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization, qualified under §\$501(c)(3) and 170(h)(3) and not a private foundation under §509(a) of the Code, which has a mission of protecting open lands or natural resources in South Carolina.
- 19. No Extinguishment Through Merger. Grantor and Grantee herein agree that should Grantee come to own all or a portion of the fee interest in the Protected Property, (i) Grantee as successor in title to Grantor shall observe and be bound by the obligations of Grantor and the restrictions imposed upon the Protected Property by this Easement; (ii) this Easement shall not be extinguished, in whole or in part, through the doctrine of merger in view of the public interest in its enforcement; and (iii) Grantee as promptly as practicable shall assign the Grantee interests in this Easement of record to another holder in conformity with the requirements of this Paragraph 19. Any instrument of assignment of this Easement or the rights conveyed herein shall refer to the provisions of this Paragraph 19, and shall contain language necessary to continue it in force. Further, no deed, transfer, or assignment shall be effective if it will result in merger, until a like conservation easement has been granted to avoid merger.

- 20. <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.
- 21. Communication. All Notices, requests for Approvals, and other required communications shall be in writing and received by Grantee not less than 45 days prior to the exercising of any such right and either served personally or by (i) United States mail, registered or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or (ii) recognized overnight delivery service with receipted delivery, or (iii) personal delivery, or (iv) facsimile with confirmed delivery receipt, or (v) electronic mail with confirmation that the email has been delivered and opened, or (vi) any other commercially reasonable means that has a confirmed delivery receipt. In the event that the Protected Property is owned by a trust, business entity, or any common or jointly held ownership, Grantor shall provide Grantee with written notice of a designated representative, who shall be responsible for the receipt of notices on behalf of Grantor hereunder. The consent or approval of, or notice to, the designated representative shall be deemed the consent or approval of, or notice to, the entity or all owners, as the case may be. All such correspondence and communications may be addressed as follows:

If to **Grantor**: Mrs. Ethelmae Boyd

3368 Plow Ground Road Johns Island, SC 29455

Copy: Elaine Jenkins: eljenisland@gmail.com

If to **Grantee**: Lowcountry Land Trust, Inc.

1362 Old Towne Road Charleston, SC 29407 Attn: President & CEO

or to such other person or place as a party may designate by correspondence as aforesaid. Each party has the responsibility of promptly notifying the other party of the notifying party's current address and other contact information. **Grantor** shall promptly notify **Grantee** of the name, address, and contact information of any transferce of the Protected Property if **Grantor** conveys the Protected Property. Any communications or Correspondence sent to the last address provided by the addressee party shall be deemed sufficient to provide notice to the addressee party.

- 22. <u>Recordation.</u> **Grantor** or **Grantee** shall record this instrument in timely fashion in the Register of Deeds Office for Charleston County, South Carolina, and may re-record it at any time as may be required to preserve its rights in this Easement.
- 23. <u>Effective Date.</u> **Grantor** and **Grantee** intend that the restrictions arising hereunder take effect on the day and year this Easement is delivered for recording, with a date-stamped copy retained as proof of timely delivery, to the Register of Deeds Office for Charleston County, South Carolina, after all required signatures have been affixed hereto.
- 24. <u>Controlling Law.</u> The interpretation and performance of this Easement shall be governed by the laws of South Carolina.
- 25. <u>Liberal Construction</u>. Any general rule of construction to the contrary notwithstanding, this Easement shall be liberally construed in favor of this Easement to uphold the Purpose as stated in Paragraph 1. If any provision in this instrument is found to be ambiguous, an interpretation consistent with the Purpose that would render the provision valid should be favored over any interpretation that would render it invalid.

- 26. <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.
- 27. 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 Paragraph, Subparagraph, 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 the Easement interests herein described 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 the **Grantor** is seized of the Protected Property in fee simple and has the 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 except for any exceptions disclosed on the title opinion produced by Elaine Jenkins dated August 10 2025 included within the Baseline Documentation, 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 duplicate original copies of this Easement under seal as of the Effective Date.

THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

WITNESSES:

GRANTOR:

ETHELMAE S. BOYD

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

COUNTY OF CHARLESTON

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged this 27 day of 0000002025, before me the undersigned Notary, and I do hereby certify that the above named Grantor 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: AUGUOT 3, 2033

Printed Name of Notary: MALLO MVT

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WITNESSES:

GRANTEE:

LOWCOUNTRY LAND TRUST, INC.

By: Matt Pillian

Its: CEO/President

And: Mula in

115: Vice chair - Board of Trustees

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

COUNTY OF CHURLESTON

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged this 25th day of 6CTOBGL. 2025, before me the undersigned Notary, and I do hereby certify that the above named duly authorized officers of the Grantee 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: Aucust 3, 2033

Printed Name of Notary: MALLO MYTTY

NOTARY NOTARY

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EXHIBIT "A"

Legal Description

CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Legal Description of Property: TMS#'s 277-00-00-011, 277-00-00-050

ALL those two certain pieces, parcels or tracts of land, situate, lying and being on Plow Ground Road, Johns Island, in the County of Charleston and State of South Carolina, and designated as Lot #1 and Lot #2 as shown on a plat prepared by George A. Z. Johnson, Inc., which said plat is dated November 25, 2009, and was revised December 18, 2009, and entitled "Plat Showing the Subdivision of TMS No. 277-00-00-011, a 49.400-Acre Tract, into Lot 1 (29.392 acres), Lot 2 (8.007 acres), Lot 3 (6.000 acres), Lot 4 (6.001 acres), And A Variable Width Ingress-Egress Easement Owned by Ethelmae S. Boyd Located on Johns Island, Charleston County, South Carolina. This said plat being recorded in the R. 0. D. Office for Charleston County in Plat Book LIO, page 0003 and re-recorded in Plat Book L09, page 0046.

SAID parcels having such sizes, shapes, dimensions, buttings and boundings as will appear by reference to said plat, and said plat is made a part and parcel of this description by reference thereto.

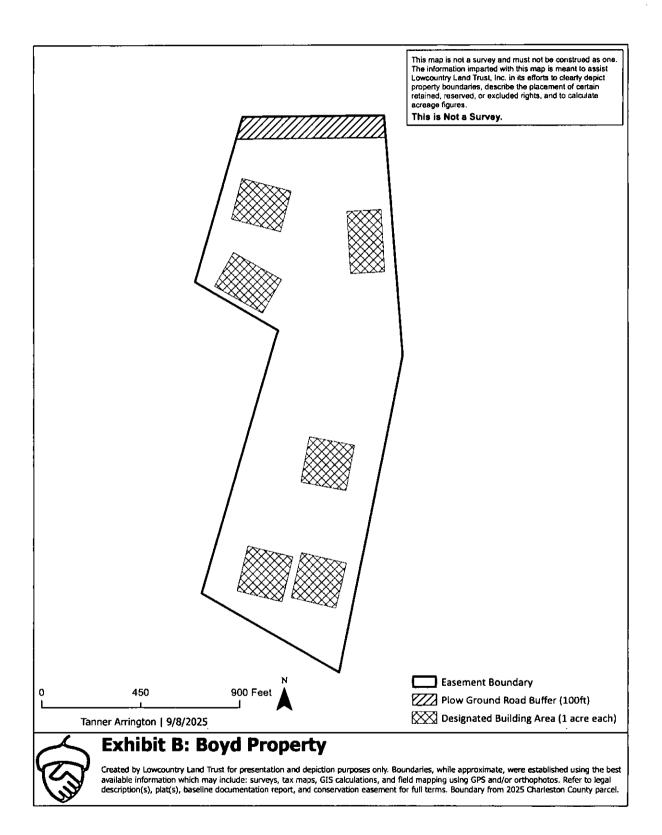
TOGETHER with a commercial, perpetual, and non-exclusive ingress-egress easement from Plow Ground Road, over and across Joseph Pearline Road (formerly Paul Hendrix Way) to Lot #2. This easement is an easement appurtenant, and is assignable and shall run with the land and shall be binding upon the granter, her heirs and assigns.

THESE PARCELS ARE SUBJECT TO: Restrictions, rights-of-way, easements, setback lines, matters disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the premises, matters disclosed by inspection of the premises, zoning ordinances affecting the property, general utility easements of records, current city, county, and state ad valorem property and sanitary taxes not yet due and payable, and other easements and restrictions which may be of record or are on the subject property.

BEING a portion of the same property conveyed to Ethelmae S. Boyd by deed of distribution of the Estate of Elizabeth R. Simmons dated April 30, 2003, and recorded May 16, 2003, in the R. 0. D. Office for Charleston County in Deed Book T450, at page 311.

EXHIBIT "B"Depiction of Protected Property

[Attached.]



RECORDER'S PAGE

NOTE: This page MUST remain with the original document



LOWCOUNTRY LAND TRUST INC SAM SEAWELL 1362 OLD TOWNE RD

CHARLESTON SC 29407



RECORDED

Date: October 27, 2025 2:47:00 PM Time:

DRAWER Drawer 2

SLW

CLERK

Book <u>Page</u> 1346 375

DocType Conserv/Esmt

Karen Hollings, Register of Deeds Charleston County, SC

				# of Pages:	24
MAKER:			# of Sats:	# of References:	
BOYD ETHELMAE S					
	_	Note:		Recording Fee	\$ 25.00
RECIPIENT:				Extra Reference Cost	\$ -
LOWCOUNTRY LAND TRUST				Extra Pages	\$ -
				Postage	\$ -
Original Book:	Original Page:				
				TOTAL	\$ 25.00

