STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
COUNTY OF BEAUFORT)	

Draft July 5, 2012

This Intergovernmental Agreement ("Agreement") is being entered into by the Town of Bluffton (hereinafter referred to as the "Town"); Beaufort County, South Carolina (hereinafter referred to as the "County"); South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (hereinafter referred to as the "SCDNR") and University of South Carolina Beaufort (hereinafter referred to as "USCB") together called "parties) to define and implement environmental initiatives related to the protection of Beaufort County Watersheds and other outstanding natural resources.

WHEREAS, the Town and County realize that the protection of the watersheds and other outstanding natural resources are of utmost importance to our community; and

WHEREAS, the SCDNR and USCB offer significant scientific expertise and facilities in helping the county understand the sensitivity of tidal headwaters;

WHEREAS, the Parties understand that the development of a partnership for the better understanding of the watersheds and other outstanding natural resources is of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, the Town and County have existing agreement, dated December 14, 2009 on protecting Southern Beaufort County Watersheds;

WHEREAS, the County has adopted a watershed restoration program including the May and Okatie Rivers and Battery Creek (in Northern Beaufort County) and wishes to support SCDNR and USCB on this partnership;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of mutual promises, undertakings, and covenants set forth herein, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged and affirmed by the Parties hereto agree as follows:

- 1. Formulate a Joint Project to assess the relationship between rainfall and salinity range in priority watersheds. It is the intent of the parties that this agreement will act as an umbrella for annual work plans that will assess the relationship to see if there is a way to prioritize our tidal headwaters as to their runoff volume sensitivity:
 - a. Coordinate monitoring in three priority watersheds
 - i. May River
 - ii. Okatie River
 - iii. Battery Creek
 - b. Develop annual monitoring plans that all parties will help develop;
 - c. Coordinate activities to track impact of proposed restoration projects.;

- d. Determine if there is a way to prioritize creeks by volume sensitive waters;
- e. Coordinate monitoring activities to reflect ongoing studies;
- f. Share research being conducted by USCB and SCDNR; and
- g. Leverage efforts from all parties.
- 2. **Funding.** The County will provide funding to SCDNR and USCB in amounts determined annually, to support this partnership.
- 3. <u>Term.</u> The term of this Intergovernmental Agreement shall be from October 1, 2012, and will be renewed periodically as needed. Amendments to the Agreement may be made by the mutual consent of all Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have affixed their signatures hereto the date first written hereinabove.

BEAUFORT COUNTY	TOWN OF BLUFFTON
By	By
Date	Date
Address: P.O. Drawer 1228 Beaufort, SC 29901-1228	Address: Post Office Box 386 Bluffton, SC 29910
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA	SOUTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Ву	Ву
Date	Date
Address:	Address
Sponsored Awards Management 901 Sumter Street, 5 th Floor Columbia, SC 29208	SCDNR Marine Resources Division 217 Fort Johnson Road Charleston, SC 29412