

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Saluda Hydro Project Relicensing Stakeholders

**FROM:** Saluda Hydro Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Technical Working Committee

**DATE:** July 20, 2006

**RE:** May 2006 Lower Saluda River Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Survey Observations

---

On May 31, 2006, members of the Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Technical Working Committee conducted a survey of the Lower Saluda River (LSR) for presence of the Rocky Shoals Spider Lily (RSSL), a federal species of concern. Survey attendees, methods, and observations are summarized below.

**Survey Attendees:** Ron Ahle, SCDNR  
Amanda Hill USFWS  
Gerrit Jobsis, American Rivers  
Bob Seibels, Riverbanks Zoo (retired)  
Shane Boring, Kleinschmidt Associates  
Kelly Miller, Kleinschmidt Associates  
Bill Argentieri, SCE&G  
Randy Mahan, SCANA Services  
Tom Eppink, SCANA

**Survey Duration:** approximately 1030 – 1730 hrs

**Survey Methods and Observations:**

The LSR was surveyed by canoe along its entire length, from the SCE&G boat landing near the base of Saluda Hydro to the Senate Street Landing on the Congaree River. Shoal areas not accessible by canoe were examined on foot for presence of RSSL.

Two RSSL plants were documented in the Ocean Boulevard Rapid area of the LSR by Gerrit Jobsis, Amanda Hill, and Shane Boring. These plants were not in bloom and appeared stunted compared to RSSL plants observed farther downstream (see observations below).

The group also observed a large stand of RSSL (> 100 plants) in the confluence of the Saluda and Broad rivers, just upstream of the Highway 12 bridge. This population displayed a vigorous growth pattern and abundant blooms at the time of the survey. This population has been documented previously during investigations related to relicensing of the Columbia Hydroelectric Project (FERC# 1895) and is described in greater detail in *Columbia Hydroelectric Project: Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Plant Survey* (Kleinschmidt Associates, 1998).

Please direct any questions related to the RSSL survey to Shane Boring, Kleinschmidt Associates, at (803) 822-3177.

