

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Saluda Hydro Project Relicensing Stakeholders

FROM: Shane Boring, Environmental Scientist

DATE: March 31, 2005

RE: March 2005 Wood Stork Aerial Survey Observations

Dear Relicensing Stakeholder:

Tom Murphy with the SC Department of Natural Resources flew the March 2005 Lake Murray (Saluda Hydro Project) wood stork survey on the 29th of this month in coordination with his bald eagle/AVM work. No wood storks were observed at any of the foraging, roosting, or potential nesting sites. Of the approximately 22 nests that were identified as potentially being wood stork nests in 2004 (See August 27, 2004, Aerial Survey Report), approximately 1/3 of these nests were occupied by nesting great blue herons during the February 2005 survey (See February Survey Update). During the March 29th survey, Tom observed incubating great blue herons at the remainder of the nesting sites in question. Tom also noted that, since the February survey, some storks have shown up at colony sites in coastal areas of SC, but that numbers are limited.

Thanks for your continued interest in the Lake Murray Wood Stork Study.

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