



August 4, 2026

Dear Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership grant committee members,

It is my pleasure to write in support of the Friends of Santee Cooper Country and their application for the small grant program. The Friends of Santee Cooper Country is a new chapter to Friends of Reservoirs, but the group was founded in 1968 and has been working to promote fishing and tourism to the Santee Cooper lakes for nearly 60 years. They are a proud partner of conservation and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Santee Cooper Country was instrumental in one of the largest habitat improvement projects in the lakes' history; providing funding for transportation of material and deployment of 2,000 pieces of concrete on 22 fish attractor sites. The funding which they request now will help refurbish all 35 fish attractor sites on the lakes with natural materials. This will provide diversity of habitat for fish, concentrating them at marked locations, and providing opportunity for the angling public. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources greatly appreciates the support from Santee Cooper Country, and we look forward to working with the Friends of Reservoirs as another partner in conservation.

Sincerely,

Steve Meyer
Region 4 Fisheries Coordinator
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources