



**OPEN SPACE
INSTITUTE**
SOUTH CAROLINA

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A NOTE FROM NATE BERRY OSI SENIOR VP SOUTHEASTERN PROGRAM

I hope you are well. Good news has been in short supply over the past five months, but not all is grim in the conservation world. The ink has barely dried on the Great American Outdoors Act, which, among other things, will provide full and permanent funding of \$900 million annually to the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

OSI's team in Washington DC has aggressively advocated for this outcome for more than a decade, and it's hard to overstate how beneficial this legislation will be for South Carolina. LWCF has touched every county in the state, from our local pocket parks to Department of Natural Resources preserves and wildlife management areas, to our many federal wildlife refuges, national forests and parks. [\(Continued\)](#)

Photo

Mac Stone

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KEY ACE BASIN PROPERTY PROTECTED

A cherished viewshed in the ACE Basin has been permanently protected thanks to OSI. Located adjacent to Good Hope Landing, on the Edisto River, this 148-acre property of forested wetlands, once slated for harvest, will continue to enhance water quality, provide a safe haven for plants and animals, and help absorb ever-increasing flood waters. Now it will also be open to the public.

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DILLON GETS ITS PARK ON THE LITTLE PEE DEE

OSI, in partnership with the Pee Dee Land Trust and Dillon County, recently ensured that Dillon County residents will have a long-awaited 174-acre public park on the Little Pee Dee River.

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CALLING ALL BIRDERS

OSI's own Dr. Maria Whitehead, a nationally recognized ornithologist and our Southeast Senior Program Manager, will be a featured speaker on an upcoming webinar hosted by The Nature Conservancy, exploring the migration of South Carolina's raptor and songbirds.

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PUBLIC ACCESS ON THE BLACK RIVER

Second only to South Carolina's ACE Basin in ecological importance but less widely known, the Black River conservation initiative advanced a significant step forward with OSI's acquisition of the 318-acre Hinds Canada tract. Together with The Nature Conservancy and with funding from NAWCA, protection of Hinds Canada adds to a network of over 24,000 acres of protected land and sets the stage for increasing public access to one of the most beautiful black rivers in the southeast.

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