## **MEMORANDUM**

Date:

5 January 2021

To:

Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

From:

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Subject:

Letter of Support for Continuation of the North American Woodcock

Singing Ground Survey, OMB Control Number 1018-0019

I am pleased to inform you that the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) Small Game Program supports the proposed continuation of the North American Woodcock Singing Ground Survey, (Federal Register 85 FR 46692). We are completely in accordance with the Services contention that the survey, in its current form, is accurate and necessary for proper management of the species (i.e., North American Woodcock). The data collected is imperative for guiding the Service in setting bag limits that both conserves said species, yet does not hinder the recreational value afforded the public as a recreational opportunity. In addition, the proposed continued use of this survey in its current form requires a minimal amount of man-hours, particularly when compared to efforts afforded other migratory species, and at no cost to the Service. We believe that the results of this survey will continue to be an excellent source of information to the Service, state agencies, universities, and other interested parties now and in the future.

Should you need any further information concerning our support of our support for the continuation of the North American Woodcock Singing Ground Survey, please feel free to contact us at 803-734-4568 or by email at <a href="mailto:smallm@dnr.sc.gov">smallm@dnr.sc.gov</a>.

Thank You.

Michael Small

S.C. Department of Natural Resources Assistant Small Game Program Leader

1000 Assembly Street Columbia, SC 29202

cc: Michael Hook, James Dillman, Billy Dukes