U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Unit SC-09P, Hunting Island, South Carolina Summary of Proposed Changes

Type of Unit: Otherwise Protected Area (OPA)

County: Beaufort

Congressional District: 1

Existing Map:

The existing CBRS map depicting this unit is:

■ <u>45-021A</u> dated December 6, 2013

Notice of Availability:

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) opened a public comment period on the proposed changes to Unit SC-09P via Federal Register notice. The Federal Register notice and the proposed boundary (accessible through the CBRS Projects Mapper) are available on the Service's website at www.fws.gov/cbra.

Establishment of Unit:

The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591) enacted on November 16, 1990, (56 FR 26304) originally established Unit SC-09P.

Historical Changes:

The CBRS map for this unit has been modified by the following legislative and/or administrative actions:

■ Federal Register notice (79 FR 21787) published on April 17, 2014, in accordance with Section 3 of Pub. L. 101-591

For additional information on historical legislative and administrative actions that have affected the CBRS, see: https://www.fws.gov/cbra/Historical-Changes-to-CBRA.html

Proposed Changes:

The proposed changes to Unit SC-09P are described below.

Proposed Additions:

- Wetlands and small areas of fastland that are privately owned and subject to a conservation easement (held by the Beaufort County Open Land Trust), located on Harbor Island along U.S. Highway 21 (Sea Island Parkway)
- A portion of U.S. Highway 21 on Harbor Island south of the Harbor River
- Minor areas of undeveloped fastland and wetlands that are both publicly and privately owned and not held for conservation and/or recreation, located on Harbor Island along U.S. Highway 21
- Portions of the Fripp Inlet channel and the bridge connecting Hunting Island and Fripp Island (parts of which are currently within the OPA) and small areas of privately owned wetlands along the northern shoreline of Fripp Island that are not held for conservation and/or recreation

Other Modifications/Information:

- Small areas of fastland and wetlands, including five structures, that are privately owned and not held for conservation and/or recreation are currently within OPA Unit SC-09P. These areas are inholdings (i.e., private land within the exterior boundaries of a conservation and/or recreation area) of Hunting Island State Park and are not proposed for reclassification to a System Unit.
- Minor areas of wetlands that are publicly owned and not held for conservation and/or recreation are currently within OPA Unit SC-09P, located on Harbor Island along U.S. Highway 21. These areas are not proposed for reclassification to a System Unit.

For information about the Service's guiding principles and criteria for assessing CBRS boundary modifications, visit www.fws.gov/cbra/maps/Boundary-Modifications.html.

Unit SC-09P Summary of Proposed Changes (continued)

Acreage, Shoreline, and Structure Information:

The table below includes the acreage, shoreline, and structure changes associated with the proposed boundary of Unit SC-09P.

	Total Acres	Fastland Acres*	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline Miles	Structures***
Existing Unit	5,709	1,143	4,566	5.3	
Added to the CBRS	310	8	302	0.5	0
Removed from the CBRS	0	0	0	0.0	0
Reclassified Area****	0	0	0	0.0	0
Proposed Unit	6,019	1,151	4,868	5.8	
Net Change	310	8	302	0.5	0

^{*}Land above mean high tide.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services 5275 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041 703-358-2171 www.fws.gov/cbra





^{**}Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from National Wetlands Inventory data.

^{***}Approximate structure count derived from base map imagery. Gas and liquid storage tanks, structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters), structures with fewer than 200 square feet, structures that are not affixed to a permanent site (e.g., recreational vehicles), and structures that are not located principally above ground are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the statutory definition of a "structure" (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2)).

^{****}Reclassification means to change either all or a portion of a System Unit to an Otherwise Protected Area, or vice-versa.