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South Carolina Residents Can Help Wildlife in the Gulf of Mexico

Local Conservation Groups Collecting Needed Supplies for Wildlife Rescue Efforts

(Greenville, SC) –The BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is one of the worst environmental disasters in our nation’s history. The devastating impacts of the spill on the Gulf’s economy and natural resources will continue for decades to come.

Americans always respond generously in times of crisis, and numerous relief efforts are now underway. Upstate Forever, The South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, and the South Carolina Wildlife Federation are assisting with one of those efforts. The Wildlife Federations in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida are working hard to protect and rescue wildlife affected by the spill in the Gulf. They urgently need the following supplies and materials:

GPS units (marine and shore). These are needed to document the wildlife habitats that have been most seriously impacted by the spill.

Gift cards from Staples, Home Depot, Target, Walmart, and REI. These are invaluable as they allow needed materials and supplies to be purchased quickly.

Kit materials for volunteers.

- Clipboards
- Laminate sheets

- Sunscreen
- Gas gift cards (because volunteers often have to drive long distances to reach affected areas)
- Water bottles
- Backpacks
- Bug repellent
- Hats
- Pens

Drop-off locations. Donations are being collected at six locations across the state to be delivered to the places they are needed most. *Donations can be dropped off during regular weekday business hours.* The deadline to contribute is **Monday, August 9, 2010.**

Upstate:

- Upstate Forever
507 Pettigru Street
Greenville, SC 29601
864.250.0500
- Upstate Forever
100 E. Main Street, R-4
Spartanburg, SC 29306
864.327.0090

Midlands:

- South Carolina Wildlife Federation
215 Pickens Street
Columbia, SC 29205
803.256.0670

Coast:

- Coastal Conservation League
328 E. Bay Street
Charleston, SC 29402
843.723.8035
- Coastal Conservation League
902 North Street
Beaufort, SC 29901
843.522.1800
- Coastal Conservation League
709-B Front Street
Georgetown, SC 29442
843.545.0403

***Upstate Forever** is a nonprofit, membership-based organization promoting sensible growth and the protection of special places in the Upstate region of South Carolina. Our three program areas are Land Trust, Sustainable Communities, and Clean Air and Water. Founded in 1998, **Upstate Forever** now has over 2,000 members, two offices, and a staff of 20. For more information, see www.upstateforever.org.*