



May 2018

Hello Everyone.

April was a busy month for SCAN. We took two trips last month, one to the mountains of North Carolina and one to the coastal plain of South Carolina. On April 14<sup>th</sup> we gathered at the lovely home of Ceille and Jim Welch at Pinnacle Falls. Members present included Rita Zollinger, Ceille and Jim Welch, Mary Douglass, Tom Jones, Jerry Bright and grandson Cody, Eva and Sam Pratt, Terry and Hugh Martin, Kathleen and Grady Nance, and Gordon Murphy.



The weather reports called for rain that day, but we did not get rained on as we explored. Ceille and Jim tend to spoil SCAN when we come to visit. We arrived and were treated to coffee and doughnuts. What a great way to start the day! After introductions, and posing for group photographs, Jim pointed out wildflowers blooming in the yard. Then we strolled toward the east on the Juniper Berry Lane looking at various trees, shrubs, and flowers in bloom. From here we followed the trail through the forest in front of the house, across Cabin Creek, then along Pinnacle Falls Lane before hiking up the trail to the lodge that we took on our last visit. It was a most enjoyable day and we saw many plant species, birds, and a newt. The flora and fauna list for this trip can be found in the April newsletter.

Thank you Rita for coordinating the trip, and a special thanks to Ceille and Jim for your warm hospitality.

On April 28<sup>th</sup> we took a trip that was a little different from SCAN's normal trips. We visited Sandy Island, which isn't so different, but our mode of transportation to the island was

different. SCAN members, accompanied by friends and family, gathered at Wacca Wache Marina on the banks of the Waccamaw River to travel by kayak out to the island. Members present include Kim McManus, Paul Kalbach, Mandy Johnson, Phil Harpootlian, Greg Ross, Hilda Flamholtz, Carol Jaworski, Scott Wietecha, Marcus Sizemore, Rita Zollinger, and Gordon Murphy.



The paddle to and from the island was pleasant as we were paddling with the tide in each direction. We did have a bit of a head wind on the return trip, but it was manageable. Kayaking is such a great way to enjoy nature. Moving silently through the water lets you get close to animals that would otherwise be scared off by the sound of a motor. Other advantages include having more opportunity to spot wildlife that could otherwise be missed when speeding past, and then there's the fact that they are closer to your eye level which aids in observation. Mandy, Greg and Paul were able to grab snakes out of the overhanging trees which gave us a better opportunity to see them up close. Of course, when you see a 12-foot long alligator, which we did, and you realize that your kayak is that same length, you get a better appreciation for their size.

The distance to the island was only two miles, but we did a lot of slow-paddling, looking at the flora and fauna along the way. When we reached the island, we ate a quick lunch, then headed off to explore on foot. We followed existing trails that traverse xeric sandhill habitat, mesic forest land, dry pine flatwoods, and palustrine bay forest and pond cypress depression wetlands. Sandy Island's





diversity of habitats makes it a naturalist's paradise. We saw three varieties of carnivorous plants including yellow trumpet pitcher-plant, sundew, and yellow bladderwort. One of our native orchids was also spotted, but the bloom hadn't opened fully so a positive identification wasn't possible. It was a good day for reptiles as we saw several non-venomous snakes and an eastern glass lizard, which is always a treat. Birding was also good both during the paddle and on the island.

We were fortunate to have Mandy Johnson leading us on this trip. Mandy is a kayak guide and is very knowledgeable of the flora, fauna, habitats, and history of Sandy Island. Thank you, Mandy, for sharing this treasure with us. And thanks to those who brought extra kayaks and equipment so that we could all enjoy the day.

**Please note that the attached SCAN trip list has been updated to include an overnight visit to Whit Gibbons' property in Orangeburg County.** Please mark your calendars so you don't miss this trip that will occur June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. Greg Ross and I scouted the property and Whit has many coverboards out for us to flip. We will send out a special email the first week of June with all the details.

May is equally busy for SCAN as we have two trip this month. The first, which is occurring as I prepare this newsletter, is to Parks Mills Shoals in McCormick County. A trip summary will be in next month's newsletter. Next weekend we will return to Francis Marion Forest to participate in the annual interpretive weekend over the long Memorial Day weekend. Trip details are attached. I was asked to remind every to please bring your own reusable cups so we can do our best to go green on this nature intensive adventure.

Take care, and I hope you can join us at Hell Hole next weekend!

*Gordon Murphy*

**Group photos courtesy of Kim McManus.**

## **2018 Trip Schedule**

Feb 24 – Winter Tree ID led by Ron Lance at Table Rock SP/Palmetto Trail - North

Mar 24 – Greystone Preserve, GA – West

Apr 14 – Directors Special, Pinnacle Falls - North

Apr 28 – Sandy Island - East

May 19 – Directors Special, Parks Mills Shoals – West

May 26 – Francis Marion (Hell Hole) – South

June 9 – Special - Whit Gibbon's Property (Orangeburg County) - Central

Jun 23 – Lynchburg Savanna Heritage Preserve – Central

Jul 28 – Little White Oak Mountain, NC – North

Aug 25 – Sassafras Mountain – North

Sep 22 – Strawberry Chapel HP – South

Oct 13 – 2019 Planning Meeting

Oct 27 – Ark Lodge/Woodbury HP – East

Nov 10 – Fork Swamp Trail, CNP – Central

Dec 15 – Bear Branch HP – West

Jan 26, 2019 - Annual Meeting

## **PDF Redactor Free**

### **Francis Marion National Forest / Hell Hole Swamp**

**Berkeley County, SC**

**May 26, 2018 10:30am (Day Trip)**

**May 24 – 28, 2018 (Camping)**

Regional Director: Paul Kalbach

Secondary Contact: Kim McManus

On Saturday May 26, SCAN will visit the Francis Marion National Forest. We'll gather at the Hell Hole Road campground at 10:30am. From there, we'll break out into smaller groups for exploration of the vast area. Options include road cruising for snakes and herps, visiting pitcher plant bogs, scouting Carolina Bays, bird watching, and seeking out unusual wildflowers. Gordon Murphy has some leads on a few new interesting locations to examine.

This will be SCAN's sixth year taking part in the annual 'Under a Low Country Moon' interpretive weekend. Under a Low Country Moon (ULCM) is comprised of a group of naturalists who have met on Memorial Day weekend annually since 2001. The weekend includes lots of road cruising, with stops for on-foot exploration. There are a few ponds and creeks that can be traversed in a kayak or canoe. Evening activities include road cruising, star gazing, s'more eating contests, and, if we're very lucky, musical interludes by several of our talented friends.

ULCM members will start setting up camp on Thursday. The last stragglers don't leave until lunchtime on Monday. Both hotel and rustic camping options are available. The campground is simply a field, so plan to pack in and pack out everything you need. The closest hotels are approximately 30 minutes away in Moncks Corner. Feel free to join in the fun for as long as you like!

Dinner:

Due to the remote location of this trip, dinner will be potluck at the campground. Paul Kalbach will be making BBQ for the carnivorously inclined. Please contribute sides or additional dishes. Check out our Facebook page or email Kim McManus at [kim@scan.org](mailto:kim@scan.org) to indicate what type of items you'd like to contribute.

A few camp stoves will be available for heating items.

There are no facilities at the campground, so please plan accordingly.

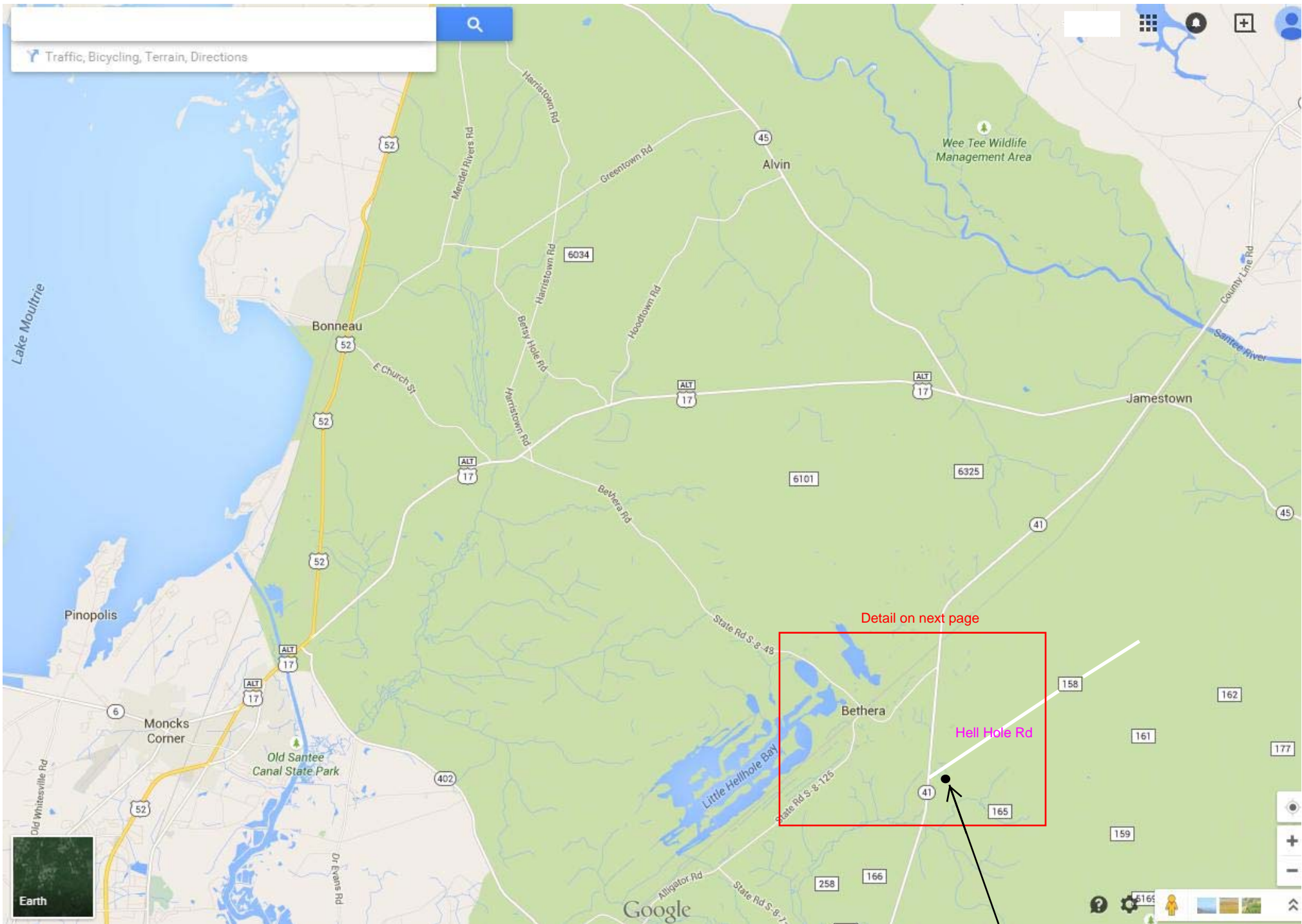
**Directions:**

**Interstate directions from Columbia, SC to Hell Hole Road, Huger, SC 29450**

1. From 1-26E, take exit 194 towards Road 16 / Jedburg / Pinopolis
2. Turn LEFT on Jedburg Rd and go 5.1 miles.
3. Turn RIGHT on US-176E and go 0.4 miles.
4. Turn LEFT on Black Tom Road / State Road S-8-467 and go 5.7 miles.
5. Keep RIGHT to continue on State Road S-8-413 and go 0.2 miles.
6. Turn LEFT at the 2nd cross street onto US-17 Alt N / South Live Oak Drive and go 5.5 miles.
7. Use the left 2 lanes to turn slightly LEFT onto US-17 Alt N / US-52 W / N US Hwy 52 and go 1.9 miles.
8. Take a slight RIGHT onto US-17 Alt N and go 5.6 miles.
9. Turn RIGHT onto Bethera Road / State Road S-8-48. After 0.2 miles, continue on Bethera Road and go 5.4 miles.
10. Turn RIGHT onto SC-41 S and go 2.5 miles.
11. Turn LEFT onto Hell Hole Road / Forest Road 158.
12. Take the first RIGHT into the campground.

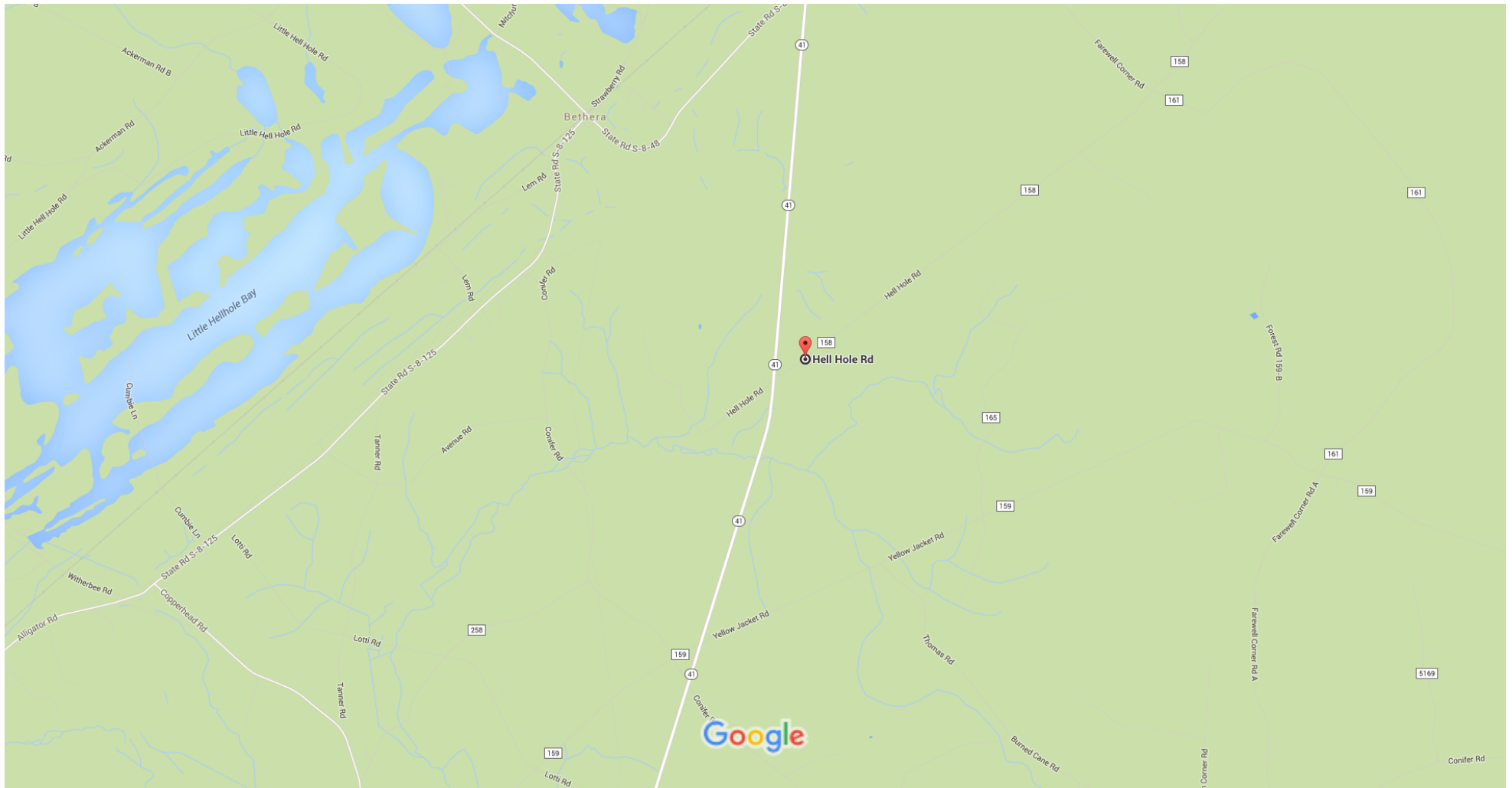
#### **Directions from Charleston, SC to Hell Hole Road, Huger, SC 29450**

1. Merge onto US-17 N / Arthur Ravenel Jr Bridge / Septima Clark Pkwy via the ramp to Mt Pleasant
2. At the end of the bridge, stay LEFT to continue on US-17 N / N Hwy 17 and go 7.7 miles.
3. Use the left 2 lanes to turn LEFT onto SC-41 N and go 23.2 miles.
4. Turn RIGHT onto Hell Hole Road / Forest Road 158.
5. Take the first RIGHT into the campground.



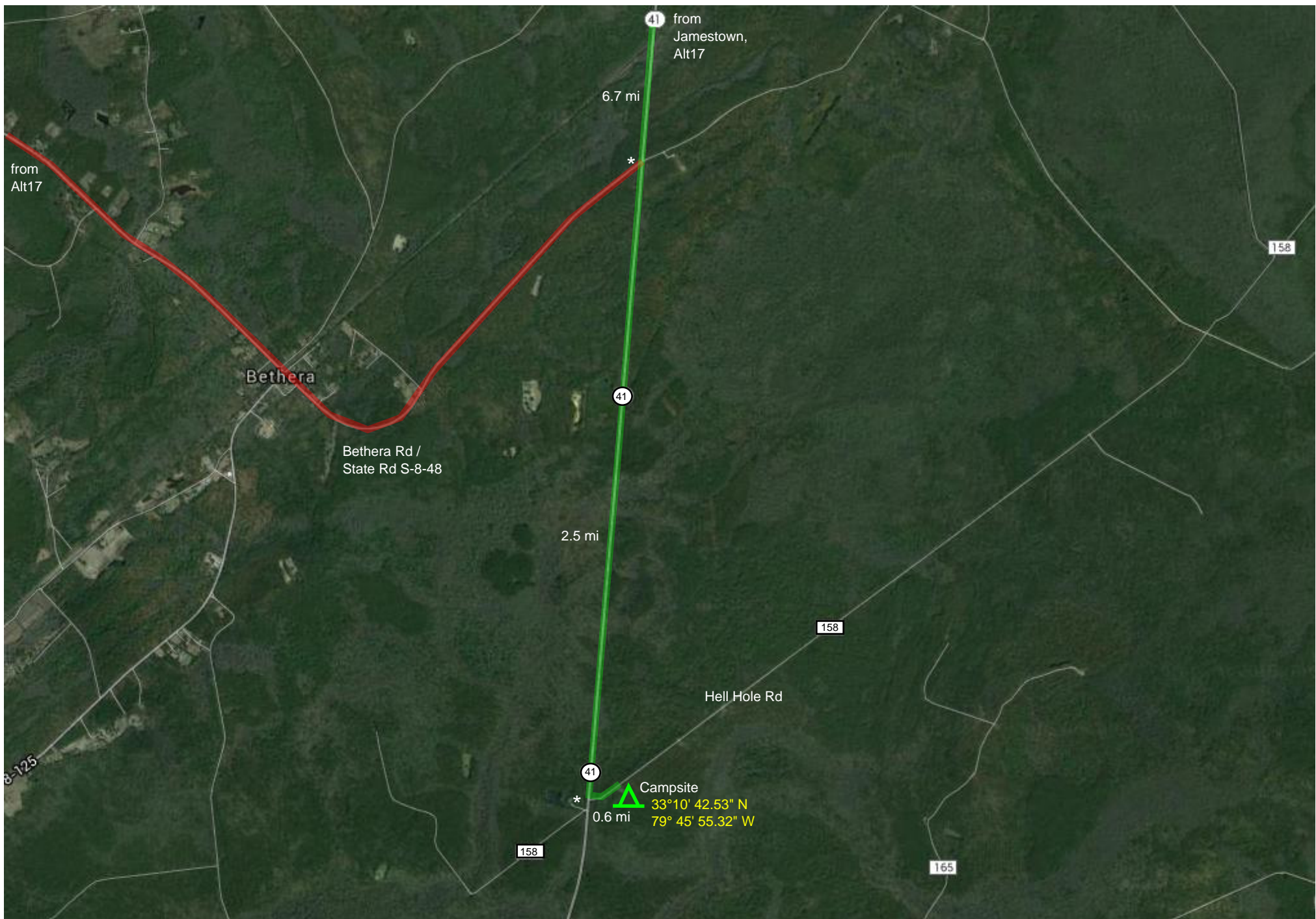
from I26

Hell Hole Campground



Map data ©2016 Google 2000 ft





Hell Hole Campground



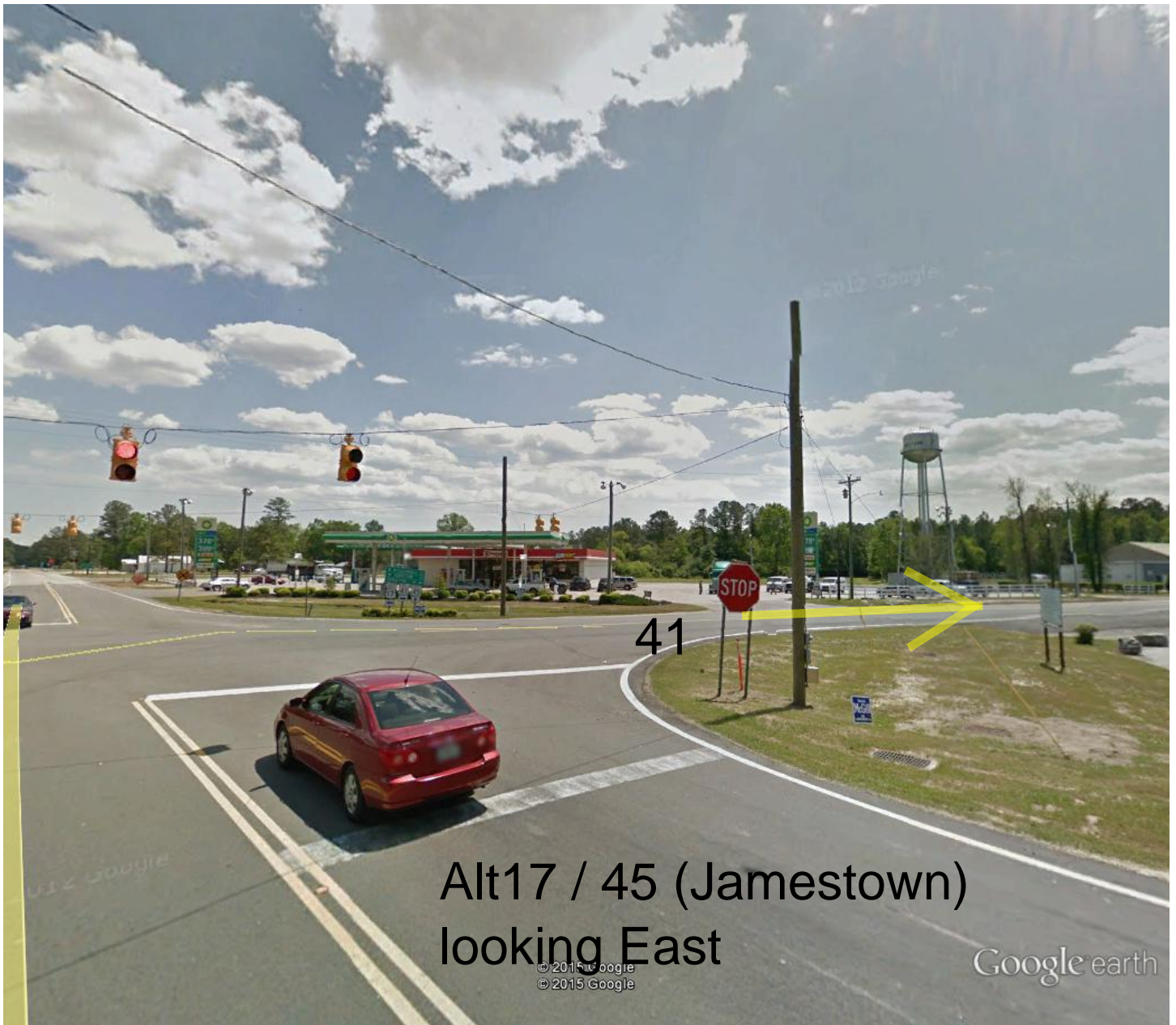
Google earth

feet 10  
meters 3



Shortest route, but winding,  
else continue N on Alt17, turn right on 41

Heading N on Alt17 out of  
Moncks Corner, turn right, follow  
Bethera Rd to 41, then right (South)  
2.5 mi to Hell Hole Rd on left



Google earth

feet 10  
meters 3



**Longer route, but straight**

Turn Right (South) on 41,  
Hell Hole Rd on left, 9.2 mi



Google earth

feet 8  
meters 2



Turn Left (heading E) on Hell Hole Rd,  
Campground on right, 0.6 mi.



Google earth



**Sandy Island  
Horry Co., SC  
April 28, 2018**

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (\*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Tom Jones at [prestoea@gmail.com](mailto:prestoea@gmail.com). Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring. Thank you.

**LICHENS**

**Lichen**

*Usnea strigosa*

**FLORA**

*Peat Moss*

**Sphagnum sp.**

*Pincushion Moss*

**\* Leucobryum albidum**

*Royal Fern*

**Osmunda regalis spectabilis**

*Bracken*

**Pteridium aquilinum**

*Virginia Chain Fern*

**Woodwardia virginica**

*Resurrection Fern*

**Pleopeltis polypodioides**

**michauxiana**

*Longleaf Pine*

**Pinus palustris**

*Loblolly Pine*

**Pinus taeda**

*Pond-cypress*

**Taxodium ascendens**

*Bald-cypress*

**Taxodium distichum**

*Dwarf Palmetto*

**Sabal minor**

*Cabbage Palmetto*

**Sabal palmetto**

*Southern Wild-rice*

**Zizaniopsis miliacea**

*Spanish-moss*

**Tillandsia usneoides**

*Pickerelweed*

**Pontederia cordata**

*Flag*

**Iris tridentata**

*Southern Blue Flag*

**Iris virginica**

*Atlantic Blue-eyed-grass*

**Sisyrinchium atlanticum**

*Catbrier*

**Smilax bona-nox**

*Rose Pogonia*

**Pogonia ophioglossoides**

*Red Bay*

**Persea borbonia**

*Narrowleaf Pondlily*

**Nuphar sagittifolia**

*Marsh Clematis*

**Clematis crispa**

*Sycamore*

**Platanus occidentalis occidentalis**

*Sweet Gum*

**Liquidambar styraciflua**

*Water-elm*

**Planera aquatica**

*Common Wax-myrtle*

**Morella cerifera**

*Turkey Oak*

**Quercus laevis**

*Water Oak*

**Quercus nigra**

*Willow Oak*

**Quercus phellos**

*Live Oak*

**Quercus virginiana**

*Tag Alder*

**Alnus serrulata**

*Prickly-pear*

**Opuntia mesacantha mesacantha**

*Wire-plant*

**Stipulicida setacea setacea**

*Yellow Pitcherplant*

**Sarracenia flava**

*Pink Sundew*

**Drosera capillaris**

*Water Sundew*

**Drosera intermedia**

*Canada Sunrose*

**Crocianthemum canadense**

*Ti-ti*

**Cyrilla racemiflora**

*Coastal Fetterbush*

**Eubotrys racemosa**

*Shining Fetterbush*

**Lyonia lucida**

*Staggerbush*

**Lyonia mariana**

*Azalea*

**Rhododendron sp.**

*Sparkleberry*

**Vaccinium arboreum**

*Elliott's Blueberry*

**Vaccinium elliotii**

*American Snowbell*

**Styrax americanus**

*Climbing Hydrangea*

**Decumaria barbara**

*Virginia-willow*

**Itea virginica**

*Tall Indigo-bush*

**Amorpha fruticosa**

*Dwarf Indigo-bush*

**Amorpha herbacea herbacea**

*Pink Sandhill Lupine*

**Lupinus villosus**

*Southern Swamp Dogwood*

**Cornus foemina**

*Water Tupelo*

**Nyssa aquatica**

*Blackgum*

**Nyssa sylvatica**

*American Mistletoe*

**Phoradendron leucarpum**

**leucarpum**

*Myrtle Holly*

**Ilex myrtifolia**

*American Holly*

**Ilex opaca opaca**

*Carolina Ipecac*

**Euphorbia ipecacuanhae**

*Peppervine*

**Ampelopsis arborea**

*Virginia-creeper*

**Parthenocissus quinquefolia**

*Muscadine*

**Vitis rotundifolia rotundifolia**

*Red Maple*

**Acer rubrum**

*Eastern Poison Ivy*

**Toxicodendron radicans radicans**

*Spotted Touch-me-not*

**Impatiens capensis**

*Green Ash*

**Fraxinus pennsylvanica**

*Cross-vine*

**Bignonia capreolata**

*Trumpet-creeper*

**Campsis radicans**

*Inflated Bladderwort*

**Utricularia inflata**

*Slender Bladderwort*

**Utricularia subulata**

*Buttonbush*

**Cephalanthus occidentalis**

*Arrow-wood*

**Viburnum dentatum**

*Butterweed*

**Packera glabella**

**FAUNA**

*Fishing Spider*

**Dolomedes sp.**

*Southeast Lubber Grasshopper*  
**Romalea microptera**  
*Blue Dasher*  
**Pachydiplax longipennis**  
*Orange Bluet*  
**Enallagma signatum**  
*Fragile Forktail (damselfly)*  
**Ichnura posita**  
*Furtive Forktail (damselfly)*  
**Ichnura prognatha**  
*Zebra Swallowtail*  
**Eurytides marcellus**  
*Palamedes Swallowtail*  
**Papilio palamedes**  
*Red Admiral*  
**Vanessa atalanta**  
*Red-spotted Purple (butterfly)*  
**Limenitis arthemis astyanax**  
*Monarch (butterfly)*  
**Danaus plexippus**  
*Forest Tent Caterpillar*  
**Malacosoma disstria**  
*Green Treefrog*  
**Hyla cinerea**  
*American Alligator*  
**Alligator mississippiensis**  
*Yellow-bellied Slider*  
**Trachemys scripta scripta**  
*Broadhead Skink*  
**Plestiodon laticeps**  
*Eastern Glass Lizard*  
**Ophisaurus ventralis**  
*Eastern Ratsnake*  
**Pantherophis alleghaniensis**  
*Banded Water Snake*  
**Nerodia fasciata**  
*Brown Water Snake*  
**Nerodia taxispilota**  
*Great Egret*  
**Casmerodius albus**  
*Great Blue Heron*  
**Ardea herodias**  
*Turkey Vulture*  
**Cathartes aura**  
*Black Vulture*  
**Coragyps atratus**  
*Mississippi Kite*  
**Ictinia mississippiensis**  
*Osprey*  
**Pandion haliaetus**  
*Yellow-billed Cuckoo*  
**Coccyzus americanus**  
*Ruby-throated Hummingbird*  
**Archilochus colubris**  
*Red-bellied Woodpecker*  
**Melanerpes carolinus**  
*Red-headed Woodpecker*  
**Melanerpes erythrocephalus**  
*Downy Woodpecker*  
**Picoides pubescens**  
*Red-cockaded Woodpecker*  
**Picoides borealis**

*Pileated Woodpecker*  
**Dryocopus pileatus**  
*Great Crested Flycatcher*  
**Myiarchus crinitus**  
*Eastern Wood-pewee*  
**Contopus virens**  
*Barn Swallow*  
**Hirundo rustica**  
*Cliff Swallow*  
**\* Petrochelidon pyrrhonota**  
*American Crow*  
**Corvus brachyrhynchos**  
*Fish Crow*  
**Corvus ossifragus**  
*Carolina Chickadee*  
**Parus carolinensis**  
*Tufted Titmouse*  
**Baeolophus bicolor**  
*Brown-headed Nuthatch*  
**Sitta pusilla**  
*Carolina Wren*  
**Thryothorus ludovicianus**  
*Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*  
**Poliophtila caerulea**  
*Gray Catbird*  
**Dumetella carolinensis**  
*Northern Mockingbird*  
**Mimus polyglottos**  
*White-eyed Vireo*  
**Vireo griseus**  
*Red-Eyed Vireo*  
**Vireo olivaceus**  
*Prothonotary Warbler*  
**Protonotaria citrea**  
*Northern Parula*  
**Parula americana**  
*Pine Warbler*  
**Dendroica pinus**  
*Northern Cardinal*  
**Cardinalis cardinalis**  
*Brown-headed Cowbird*  
**Molothrus ater**  
*Summer Tanager*  
**Piranga rubra**