ECOLOGY & SIGNIFICANCE
The 178-acre South Carolina Heritage Trust preserve was established to conserve piedmont seepage forests, and their associated rare plants including the Federally endangered Bunched Arrowhead (Sagittaria fasciculata). The preserve is owned and managed by SCDNR and is home to a variety of habitats that include grassy/shrubby fields, upland pine-hardwoods and bottomland hardwoods. The piedmont seepage forest and bottomland hardwood forests border the portions of the Enoree River located in the upper reaches of the Enoree watershed in the Broad River basin. This property will be protected in perpetuity in order to ensure South Carolina’s most significant natural and cultural resources are protected. The preserve is located centrally to five surrounding protected sites with colonies of the rare species which allows for normal gene flow between colonies and aids in protecting the wetland hydrology which supports the seepage forests.

FLORA & FAUNA
This property was purchased to protect bunched arrowhead (Sagittaria fasciculata) a federally-endangered plant which occurs in wetlands seeps within rare Piedmont seepage forests. This plants center distribution is located in the Enoree, Reedy, Tyger and Clear Creek drainages within a 5-mile radius of Travelers Rest. Bunched arrowhead is known to only grow in Greenville County, SC and in Buncombe and Henderson counties in North Carolina. Other rare plants found on the preserve include climbing fern (Lygodium palmatum), and dwarf-flowered heartleaf (Hexastylis naniflora). Visitors can see avian species including grasshopper sparrows, blue grosbeaks, indigo buntings, bluebirds, cardinals and quail. Mammalian species such as white tailed deer, black bear and raccoon have been noted in the vicinity of the site.

THREATS
Threats to Piedmont seepage wetlands occurring within upstate South Carolina and southwestern North Carolina include, residential and industrial development, conversion of natural forest wetlands to pasture, and invasive species.

ACCESS
The preserve can be accessed year round during daylight hours. Parking and a 1.25 mi trail are located at 186 McCauley Road, Travelers Rest, Greenville County, South Carolina, 29690.

SOURCES
SCDNR, Upstate Forever, SC Wildlife Federation
Click Here for more Info.