



**Table 3.19
Community and Block Group Relocations**

	Community	Relocations	Alt. 1	Alt. 2 (Preferred)	Alt. 3
Dillon County – no business or residential relocations within identified EJ block groups					
Marlboro County					
450699602001	Adamsville	1R			X
450699602001	Bennettsville	18R	X		
450699603016	Bennettsville	3B		X	
450699605001	Bennettsville	4R, 1B		X	
450699603022	Chavistown	5R	X		
450699605002	Clio	1R, 2B			X
450699605002	Dunbar	1R		X	
Richmond County					
371539711003	Hamlet	2R	X		
371539711003	Hamlet	7R		X	X
371539711003	Hamlet	1R, 2B	X	X	X
371650105004	Hamlet	4R		X	X
371650105004	Hamlet	4R	X		
371539711002	Hamlet	1R	X	X	X
Scotland County – no business or residential relocations within identified EJ block groups					
Total			31R, 2B	18R, 6B	15R, 4B
<u>Notes:</u> R = residential relocation B = business relocation					

Since relocations located within environmental justice block groups could not be confirmed as minority and/or low-income at this stage in project development overall totals were used. Alternative 1 would have the most relocations with 31 residential relocations and two business relocations, while Alternative 3 would have the fewest relocations, with 15 residential and four business relocations. Alternative 2 would have 18 residential and six business relocations.

Overall, the pattern of residential displacements is evenly dispersed throughout populations along the Build Alternatives and relocations within minority or low-income populations did not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse effect on any single community. Other non-environmental justice communities would experience similar relocation effects and no particular community would bear a disproportionate portion of the relocations.



Any changes made to the alignment of the Preferred Alternative would be re-evaluated for relocation impacts on environmental justice communities. Based on field visits, housing and/or land would be available for those who are displaced to relocate within the affected communities.

3.3.6.2 *Community Cohesion*

Community cohesion is affected when neighborhoods are divided or relocations reduce the number of residences in a community. As discussed in the Communities Section (refer to Section 3.2, page 3-29), loss of community cohesion could occur with the construction of the proposed project. Based on the boundaries identified by survey respondents, the communities of Adamsville and Free State, both of which have identified environmental justice populations, may experience some impact to cohesion depending on which Build Alternative is selected. Non-minority and non-low income communities could also experience similar impacts to community cohesion due to the Build Alternatives, and therefore, these identified environmental justice populations would not bear a disproportionate impact. For additional discussion on community cohesion, refer to Chapter 3, Section 3.2, and the *Community Impact Analysis Technical Memorandum*.

3.3.6.3 *Economic Impacts*

The population of the project study area would be expected to benefit from economic opportunities resulting from the project. Potential economic opportunities could be beneficial to low-income populations in terms of more jobs and additional business development. Specific communities within the project study area including Bennettsville, Clio, and Hamlet, have expressed support for the project due to the potential economic opportunities of the project. For additional discussion on economic impacts, refer to Chapter 2, Section 2.6.1.2 on page 2-33.

3.3.6.4 *Access and Mobility*

Each of the Build Alternatives may cause minor changes to local access and mobility in communities throughout the project study area. Connectivity of travel routes would be maintained by the construction of crossovers and frontage roads that would be constructed where needed to maintain access to properties. Overall, changes in travel patterns and accessibility within communities are expected to be minor and should not prevent residents from accessing their churches, neighbors, or business and commercial centers. Therefore, environmental justice populations would not suffer a disproportionate impact from changes in travel patterns. For additional discussion on impacts to access and mobility, refer to Chapter 3, Section 3.2 beginning on page 3-29, and the *Community Impact Analysis Technical Memorandum*.



3.3.6.5 Noise

All Build Alternatives would have the potential to introduce traffic noise into rural communities. Residences along each Build Alternative may experience noise levels above what currently exists. Overall, noise impacts resulting from the proposed project would be minimal, with three to four residences being impacted per each Build Alternative. For more information about potential noise impacts, please refer to Chapter 3, Section 3.4, page 3-131. Impacted receivers would be distributed throughout the project study area, with no community experiencing more than one impacted receiver. Therefore, no individual community or environmental justice population would experience disproportionate noise impacts.

3.3.6.6 Visual and Aesthetic Character

As discussed in Section 3.2 (page 3-29), the Build Alternatives would have the potential to change the visual environment of environmental justice communities. The effect in view and aesthetic character depends on the existing characteristics of the community; the distance between homes and the proposed project; and whether the facility is at-grade, contains an elevated overpass, or interchange. The Build Alternatives may alter the visual elements of environmental justice populations living in the following communities: Adamsville (Alternatives 2 and 3), Chavistown (Alternative 1), Clio (Alternatives 2 and 3), Dunbar (Alternative 2), Free State (Alternative 3), Hamlet (Alternatives 1, 2, and 3), Lester/Breeden (Alternative 2), McColl (Alternative 3), and Tatum (Alternatives 2 and 3). However, non-minority and non-low income populations in these and other communities would experience similar changes to the visual landscape, and therefore, environmental justice populations would not bear a disproportionate impact. For additional discussion on anticipated changes to visual and aesthetic character, refer to the *Community Impact Analysis Technical Memorandum*.

3.3.6.7 Parks and Community Facilities

The Build Alternatives do not impact any public parks or facilities located in environmental justice communities. Alternatives 1 and 2 would not impact any churches, while Alternative 3 would displace The Community House of Prayer, a church located in the Free State community.

3.3.7 What efforts have been made to ensure full and fair participation of environmental justice populations in the transportation decision-making process?

In order to engage and provide for the full and fair participation of potentially affected environmental justice communities, the following strategies were implemented:



- Public information meetings were held in Marlboro and Richmond Counties, and advertised in the local newspapers and on television;
- Attendance of Project Team Representatives at local organization meetings to generate interest and participation in the proposed project;
- Stakeholder Working Group meetings were held and included local community leaders and NAACP representatives;
- Project website and toll-free hotline, which could be accessed at any time to learn the status of the project and information on times and locations of meetings; and,
- Distributed community surveys through various methods to ensure full participation of all populations, including school surveys, mail surveys, door-to-door survey distribution and/or interviews.

For more information about public involvement and participation in the project, refer to Chapter 3, Communities, Chapter 4, Public Involvement, the *Community Impact Assessment Technical Memorandum*, and the *Public Involvement Technical Memorandum*.

Full and fair access to information will continue to be provided to citizens during the future project phases through Public Hearings, Stakeholder Working Group meetings, updated information on the project website and hotline, and in project newsletters and mailings.

3.3.8 Summary

All identified areas that contain environmental justice populations would experience both beneficial and adverse effects similar to those of non-environmental justice populations in the project study area. No environmental justice populations would bear a disproportionate impact from the Build Alternatives.

During alternative development, impacts to both environmental justice and non-environmental justice communities have been avoided or minimized when possible. The preliminary Build Alternatives were developed by the CAT program to avoid municipal boundaries and dense residential areas (refer to Chapter 2 and the *Alternative Development Technical Memorandum*). Beyond these initial efforts of impact avoidance, the Build Alternatives were further refined to minimize the number of relocations as well as impacts to community cohesion and accessibility. Efforts to minimize impacts to environmental justice as well as non-environmental justice communities will continue during the refinement of the Preferred Alternative.

Although no environmental justice population would be disproportionately impacted by the Build Alternatives, mitigation opportunities may exist for impacts to low-income and/or minority communities in the project study area. Specific options for mitigating impacts of the Preferred



Alternative on environmental justice communities will be studied further during public involvement for the Final EIS.

3.4 Parks, Recreational Facilities, and Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuges

3.4.1 What is Section 4(f)?

Section 4(f) of the *Department of Transportation Act of 1966* regulates how publicly owned properties such as parks, recreational lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites are used for transportation projects. In addition, Section 4(f) regulates historic sites that are privately owned. Section 4(f) uses can be any of the following:

- a direct use if it is permanently incorporating property into the transportation project;
- a temporary use when the temporary occupancy of the property is adverse to the property's purpose; or,
- a constructive use when the proximity impacts are severe enough that the features or activities that make the property a Section 4(f) resource are impaired.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f) is part of the *Department of Transportation Act of 1966* which regulates the taking of publicly-owned properties for transportation projects.

Section 4(f) properties are publicly-owned parks, recreational lands, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges under local, state, or federal ownership. Historic sites that are under public or private ownership are also considered under Section 4(f).

If it can be demonstrated that no prudent or feasible alternative exists to avoid a Section 4(f) property, then it can be used for a project, provided there is a plan to minimize harm to the property, as documented in a Section 4(f) evaluation.

SAFETEA-LU recently amended Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act in an effort to streamline the approval of projects that have a *de minimis* impact to Section 4(f) property.⁵⁴ The word "*de minimis*" is defined by Black's Law Dictionary as something that is "minimal" or "(of a fact or thing) so insignificant that a court may overlook it in deciding an issue or case." Under SAFETEA-LU, the USDOT will take into account any avoidance or minimization of impacts along with any mitigation or enhancement measures to determine whether there is a *de minimis* impact from the use of the property. If the use results in a *de minimis* impact, then an avoidance alternatives analysis is not required and the Section 4(f) evaluation process would be considered completed. For parks, recreational lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, the managing agency would have to state, in writing, that the project is not likely to "adversely affect the activities, features and attributes" of the Section 4(f) resource. A *de minimis* impact for historic properties would require the SHPO to determine in writing that the project would have "no historic properties affected" or "no adverse effect" to historic properties.

⁵⁴ 23 U.S.C. §6009(a) (2005).



3.4.2 What parks, recreational facilities, and wildlife/ waterfowl refuges are found in the project study area?

There are approximately 24 public parks, recreational facilities, and wildlife/waterfowl refuges in the project study area. Other public recreational facilities such as picnic areas, tennis courts, school playing fields and playgrounds are located throughout the four counties in the project study area, but are not in close proximity to the Build Alternatives.

Lake Paul Wallace (also known as Lake Wallace) is the largest recreational area located within the project study area, (refer to Figure 3-33). This 600+ acre manmade lake is located just north of downtown Bennettsville and is managed by SCDNR. The lake features a lighted, 3.5-mile walking trail and provides users opportunities for swimming, water skiing, boating, and fishing. The portion of Lake Wallace located north of Beauty Spot Road is a federal waterfowl refuge for Canada geese, ducks, coots, and herons, which makes it an excellent area for bird watching. In addition, this part of the lake also serves as the reservoir for the City's water system. Other public recreational facilities and parks located in the project study area in close proximity to the Build Alternatives are listed in Table 3.20.

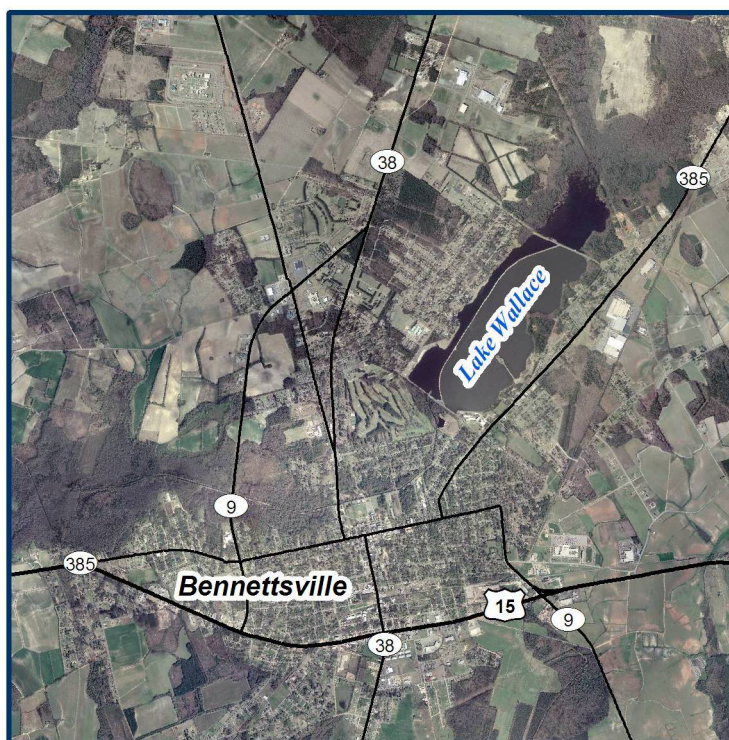


Figure 3-33 Location of Lake Paul Wallace

3.4.3 Would the Build Alternatives impact Section 4(f) parks or recreational facilities?

None of the Build Alternatives, including the No-build Alternative, would impact the aforementioned parks or recreational facilities; therefore, no impacts are anticipated. No indirect impacts are anticipated since access to park and recreational facilities would not be affected by the Build Alternatives.



**Table 3.20
Public Recreational Facilities, Parks, and Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuges
Located in Project Study Area**

Marlboro County		Marlboro County	
Bennettsville	Lake Paul Wallace	McColl	C.W. Love Complex
	John C. Lindsay Park		J.D. Geddie Park
	Girls Softball Facility	Blenheim	Blenheim Dixie Youth Park
	Soccer Facility		Bakers Trail
	Smith Park	Brownsville	Brownsville Roadside Park
	Spring Sports Complex	Tatum	Community Park
	Kidsland Park	Clio	Bennett Park
	County Community Center	Dillon County	
	McLeod Street Park	Oak Grove	Playground
	Woodland Park		Picnic Area
Wallace	Wallace Dixie Youth Park	Minturn	Ball Field
	Wallace Smithville Community Center	Little Rock	Community Park
	Wallace Roadside Park	Richmond County	None
		Scotland County	None

Source: Wilbur Smith Associates, 2007.

3.5 Section 6(f) Resources

What are Section 6(f) Resources and would any be impacted by the project?

The *Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965* established funding to provide matching grant assistance to states and local governments for the planning, acquisition, and development of outdoor public recreation sites and facilities. Section 6(f) of the Act prohibits the conversion of property acquired or developed with these grants to a non-recreational purpose without the approval of the Department of Interior’s National Park Service (NPS).

Five Section 6(f) resources are located in the project study area, including the following:

- J.D. Geddie Park in McColl;
- Bennettsville City Parks (refers to any/all parks in Bennettsville);
- Bennettsville Recreation Areas (refers to any/all parks or recreation areas in Bennettsville);



- Bennettsville Community Tennis Facilities (Spring Sports Complex and Smith Park); and,
- Woodland Park in Bennettsville.⁵⁵

The Build Alternatives would avoid the aforementioned Section 6(f) resources; therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

3.6 Historic Resources

3.6.1 What are historic resources?

Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966* (NHPA) requires federal agencies to review the effects of any proposed action on historic resources. Prior to undertaking a project, federal agencies conduct archival research and field surveys to assess resources that are currently listed or might be eligible for listing on the NRHP. The NRHP is a list of all historic resources that have been determined to be significant. There are four criteria to determine if a resource should be listed on the NRHP:

Historic Resource

Historic resources are districts, buildings, sites, structures, or objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. – (16 U.S.C. § 470(a)(1)(A))

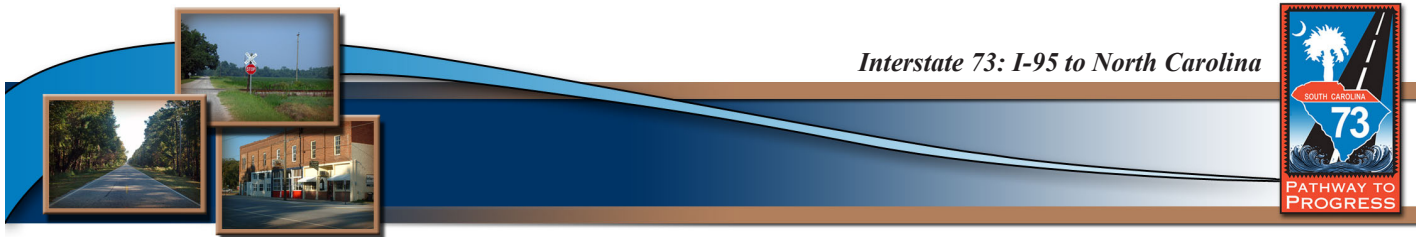
- Association with a significant event or broad pattern of history;
- Association with a significant person;
- Conveys unique or distinctive architecture of high artistic value; or
- Has the potential to yield information important to history or prehistory.⁵⁶

In addition to the criteria, most sites are generally required to be at least fifty years of age for listing on the NRHP.

Based on research findings and field survey results, agencies make eligibility recommendations on resources in the project study area to the SHPO. The SHPO makes determinations as to whether a resource is eligible for listing on the NRHP and what effect the project could have on eligible or listed resources in the area.

⁵⁵ NPS, State Land and Water Conservation Fund Website, “Grant Listing” <http://waso-lwcf.ncrc.nps.gov/public/index.cfm> (December 5, 2006).

⁵⁶ NPS, *National Register Bulletin #15*, “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation,” (1990).



3.6.2 How was the historic resources survey conducted?

An intensive above-ground historic resources field survey was completed for the South Carolina portion of the project study area between September and November 2006. The field survey was completed following guidelines established by SCDAH to identify and document architectural resources over fifty years of age for NRHP eligibility consideration. Archival research was conducted which included a literature review and records check at SCDAH and the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. The South Carolina Historical Society in Charleston, various public libraries in the respective counties, and the University of South Carolina's Caroliniana Library were also consulted to identify, assess, and interpret the above-ground historical resources located in the project study area. Once historic contexts were developed for the region, local and regional resources were consulted to identify persons and events significant to local history and to uncover their associations with potential archaeological sites or historic resources.

An intensive above-ground historic resources field survey was completed for the North Carolina portion of the project study area in November 2006. The field survey was completed following guidelines established by North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources to identify and document architectural resources over fifty years of age for NRHP eligibility consideration. Archival research was conducted and included a literature review and records check at the Survey and Planning Branch of the North Carolina SHPO.

3.6.3 What above-ground historic resources were found during the survey?

Table 3.21 (page 3-121) lists the historic resources found in the vicinity of the Build Alternatives. It contains seven above-ground historic resources that are listed on the NRHP within one mile of the Build Alternatives (refer to Figure 3-34, page 3-122). This table also includes twelve sites that are located within one mile of the Build Alternatives that have been determined by the South Carolina SHPO as eligible for the NRHP, but are not yet listed (refer to Table 3.21 on page 3-121 and Figure 3-34 on page 3-122). In addition, there are two sites within the North Carolina portion of the project study area that have been determined potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP by the North Carolina SHPO. During the development of alternatives, properties listed on the NRHP or determined eligible for listing were considered constraints and efforts were made to avoid these known resources (refer to Chapter 2, page 2-1). For more details on the sites listed on the NRHP, refer to the *Cultural Resources Technical Memorandum*.

3.6.4 What would be the potential impacts to historic resources?

When evaluating potential impacts to historic resources for the proposed project, a historic resource was considered directly impacted if it was partially or completely located within Build Alternative's



**Table 3.21
Historic Resources Within One Mile of a Build Alternative**

ID Number (Figure 3-34)	County	Resource Name	Location	Potential Effect
Sites Listed on the NRHP				
1	Marlboro	Appin Historic District	U.S. Route 15, Bennettsville	None
2	Marlboro	Clio Historic District	Clio	None
3	Marlboro	Manship Farmstead	Tatum	None
4	Marlboro	McLaurin House	State Road 40, Clio	Direct Effect Alternative 3
5	Marlboro	Robertson-Easterling- McLaurin House	S.C. Route 912	None
6	Dillon	Joel Allen House	State Road 38, Free State	None
7	Dillon	Selkirk Farm	State Road 28, Minturn	None
Sites Eligible for Listing on the NRHP				
8	Marlboro	Blenheim Mineral Springs and Ginger Ale Plant	Blenheim	None
9	Marlboro	Hebron United Methodist Church District	State Road 23, Hebron	None
10	Marlboro	Manning House	State Road 23, Hebron	None
11	Marlboro	Marlboro Aviation School, Palmer Field	State Road 626, Bennettsville	None
12	Marlboro	Mill Race/Spillway at Appin	U.S. Route 15, Bennettsville	None
13	Marlboro	Mimosa Plantation	U.S. Route 15, Tatum	None
14	Marlboro	Oakley House	State Road 33, Bennettsville	None
15	Marlboro	Resource 0918	State Route 18, Bennettsville	Adverse Visual Alternative 1
16	Marlboro	Resource 1095	S.C. Route 9, Bennettsville	None
17	Marlboro	Sparks House	S.C. Route 38, Blenheim	None
18	Marlboro	The Beauty Spot Church of Tatum	U.S. Route 15, Tatum	None
19	Dillon	Alford House	State Road 28, Minturn	None
Sites Potentially Eligible for Listing on the NRHP				
21	Marlboro	Old McLarens Pond	S.C. Route 9, Chavistown	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML13	Clio	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML18	Dunbar	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML39	Adamsville	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML40	Adamsville	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML41	Adamsville	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML108	Blenheim	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML213	Dunbar	None
Not Shown	Marlboro	38ML214	Dunbar	None
Not Shown	Dillon	38DN14	Minturn	None
22	Richmond	Log Tobacco Barn	State Road 1804	None
23	Richmond	Freeman House	State Road 1181	None

Source: Brockington and Associates, 2007. Archaeological sites are not shown on Figure 3-34 due to their sensitive nature.