



# SCEMD

**Office of the Adjutant General**

State Emergency Operations Center  
2779 Fish Hatchery Road, West Columbia, SC 29172

Hurricane Matthew

## NEWS RELEASE 22

***For Immediate Release***

State Joint Information Center

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## SCDNR: Avoid Displaced Wildlife

**COLUMBIA, S.C. (Wednesday, October 12, 2016)** – Residents in areas affected by Hurricane Matthew and flooding in the Pee Dee should be cautious of wildlife that have moved to high ground.

The natural instinct of these creatures is to seek safety and return to their natural habitats once nature allows. S.C. Department of Natural Resources Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Deputy Director Emily Cope said while some animals do not have the speed or mobility to escape, fish and other wildlife are generally resilient species and, while there may be some negative impact to the local population, they will rebound to normal levels with proper habitat management.

“While SCDNR understands and appreciates public concern, we want to assure everyone that the overall fish and wildlife populations are stable and should not experience any long-term negative impacts from this natural disaster,” she stated.

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