

Quarterly Report: Monitoring Potential Cadmium Levels in Avian Tissues Associated with the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project – September 2015 (3rd Quarter)

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The third quarter included the late Spring/Summer season collections as part of the second year of avian cadmium monitoring. Sampling efforts occurred during the following periods: 9-12 July, 12-13 August and 21-22 August. Results of the July sampling effort, which included both mist-netting and stilt captures, are presented in Table 1. All stilts captured were pre-flight juveniles. Mottled Ducks and Mourning Doves were collected lethally (the USFWS scientific collecting permit arrived prior to these efforts).

The annual report for the first year of monitoring was also submitted during this quarter.

Table 1. Avian Species Captured and Sampled for Cadmium in the Early and Late Portions of the Summer Period, 2nd Year of Monitoring (2015).

| Species | Type ^a | Early | Late | Total |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Brown Thrasher | Sentinel | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Eastern Towhee | Sentinel | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Northern Mockingbird | Sentinel | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Red-winged Blackbird | Sentinel | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| Black-necked Stilts | Sentinel | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Mourning Doves | Sentinel | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| Mottled Ducks | Sentinel | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Northern Cardinal | Alternate | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Common Ground Doves | Alternate | 0 | 2 | 2 |

^aAlternate species are potential surrogates for sentinel species.
