



**Bald Head Association ~ “The voice for BHI property owners”**

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# **New To BHA?**

## **The Wildlife Overlook on Stede Bonnet Wynd**

If you're new to BHA, you may not know that as part of BHA Common Area, BHA owns the Wildlife Overlook on Stede Bonnet Wynd. While it currently has traffic cones and tape blocking the area for safety, there have been discussions, plans and movement behind the scenes. There is a lot of moving pieces to this puzzle, and we appreciate your continued patience. We know you miss the Wildlife Overlook. We miss it, too!

Initially damaged by Hurricane Florence in September 2018, the overlook structure was removed for safety precautions in 2019. The BHA Board has been working with an architect since 2019 on plans for the area, with new features that more fully take advantage of the opportunity to view and educate property owners and visitors safely about wildlife that frequent the area.

The lagoon at the Wildlife Overlook is connected to the overall golf course lagoon system, which allows for the Village, in coordination with the BHI Club, to move floodwater off Island during extreme flooding events (i.e., Hurricane Florence) through the golf course irrigation distribution system. The lagoon also provides irrigation water to the BHI Club for the golf course. Each lagoon plays an important role in supporting much of the Island's wildlife.

In June 2020, BHA began soliciting bids from local contractors for the construction of the Wildlife Overlook. The BHA Board is in the process of finalizing contractor selection, obtaining permits and ensuring adequate financing. In July's Village Council meeting, Council members approved the right-of-way agreement between the Village and BHA that acknowledges a portion of the Overlook is located in Village right-of-way, which BHA will maintain.

So, when you drive by, there may not be any outward indication, but BHA is working hard behind the scenes to build a safe, serene, informative and attractive environment for all to enjoy for many years to come. Updates on the Overlook's progress will be made as more information is available.