



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Secretary
Parks, Heritage & Tourism

August 16, 2019

The Honorable Jeff Wardlaw
Arkansas House of Representatives
3418 Highway 160 E
Hermitage, AR 72201

The Honorable Cecile Bledsoe
Arkansas Senate
709 Sky Mountain Drive
Rogers, AR 72757

RE: Land Acquisition-Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission Advice and Consent Arkansas Legislative Council

In compliance with Arkansas Code Annotated §15-20-309 (2), the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC) is requesting advice and consent from the Arkansas Legislative Council to exchange and purchase property for the System of Natural Areas. Our commission voted for final approval of this exchange and purchase at our meeting in Little Rock, on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. Governor Hutchinson gave his approval on Monday, August 12, 2019.

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

1. Martin Tracts – Devil’s Eyebrow Natural Area, Benton and Carroll counties. The ANHC proposes to exchange ~2 acres of property purchased by the ANHC in February of 2019 in exchange for ~2 acres owned by Patricia Martin (private resident). ANHC will exchange the properties at their appraised value, and purchase an additional ~ 9 acres as part of this transaction, which is estimated to cost under \$25,000. These costs would be funded by a grant from the Walton Family Foundation.
2. Access would be enhanced for both parties. The private resident would benefit by having buffer added to the road leading to her residence, decreasing the likelihood of trespassing. In turn, the proposed exchange would improve public access to the natural area and protect additional rare natural communities (the land the state would receive has greater ecological values). The property would be co-owned with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Final acreages will be determined by a legal boundary survey. Both properties are adjacent to our existing natural area (see attached map).



1100 North Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9619
fax: (501) 324-9618

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www.naturalheritage.com

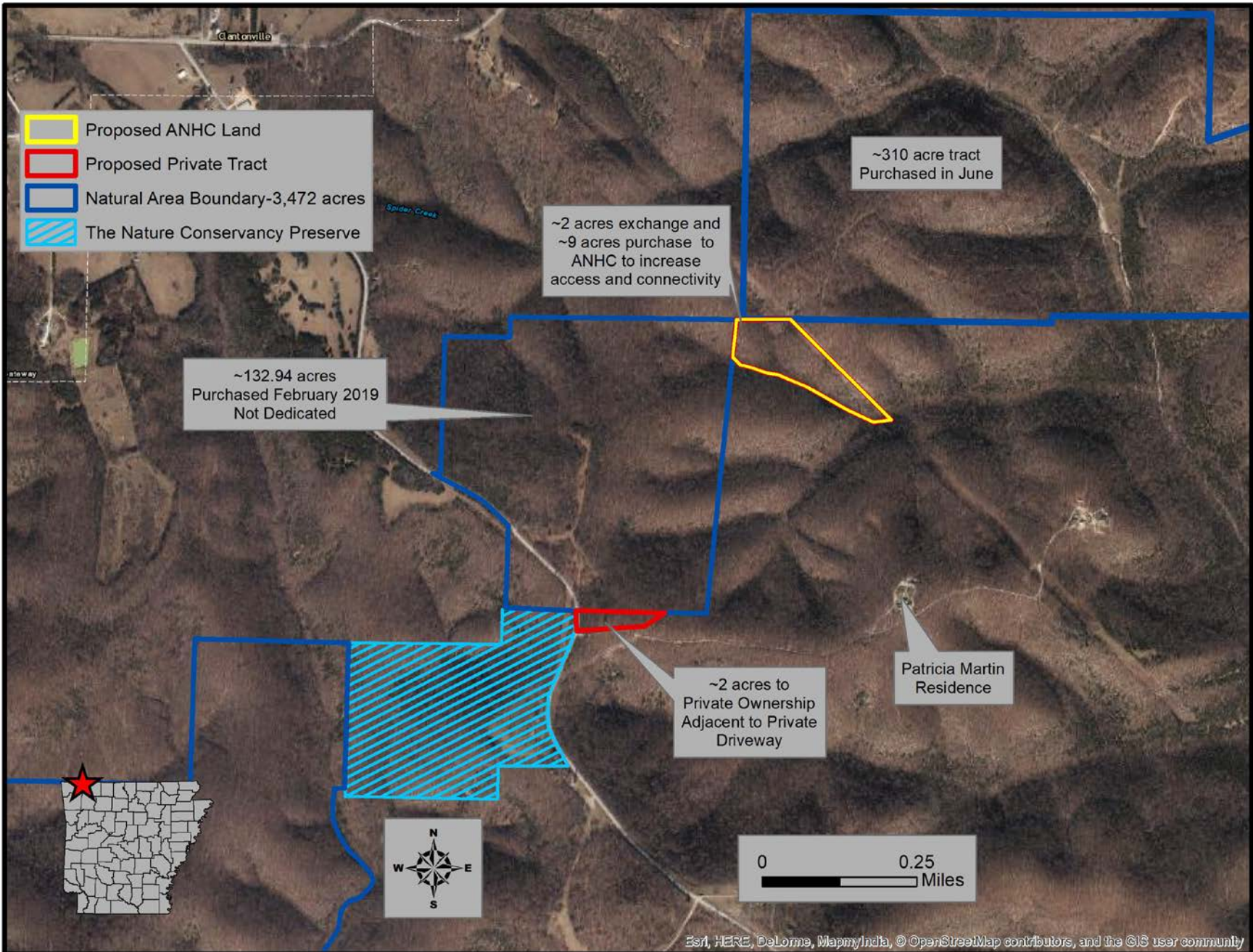
Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Robby Bevis
Chairman, ANHC

An Equal Opportunity Employer

CC: Marty Garrity, Director, Bureau of Legislative Research
Stacy J. Hurst, Secretary, Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism





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