



# Arkansas

THE NATURAL STATE

**DEPARTMENT OF  
PARKS & TOURISM**

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Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-7777

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Arkansas.com

History Commission  
501-682-6900 (TDD)  
Ark-ives.com

Human Resources Section  
501-682-7742 (TDD)

Keep Arkansas  
Beautiful Division  
501-682-3507 (TDD)  
KeepArkansasBeautiful.com

State Parks Division  
501-682-1191 (TDD)  
ArkansasStateParks.com

Tourism Division  
501-682-7777 (TDD)  
Arkansas.com

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KEEP ARKANSAS  
BEAUTIFUL

**AN EQUAL  
OPPORTUNITY/  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/  
AMERICANS WITH  
DISABILITIES ACT  
EMPLOYER**

July 16, 2012

Senator Mary Anne Salmon  
Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council  
315 State Capitol  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Representative Tommy Lee Baker  
Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council  
315 State Capitol  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Salmon and Representative Baker:

Arkansas State Parks (ASP) has identified priority land acquisitions, easements and use permit agreements at the following locations:

- **Delta Heritage Trail State Park:** Located in eastern Arkansas and established in 1992, this 73 mile rails to trails project provides health and recreation benefits to Arkansans and visitors alike, and promotes tourism in the Delta region (Phillips, Arkansas and Desha Counties). In an effort to expand and promote history, culture and recreational opportunities adjoining the trail's southern terminus, the State Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission approved amending the master plan to expand the trail and connect Rohwer (historic WWII Japanese American Internment Camp) to Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Choctaw Island East WMA and historic Arkansas City. Easements will be required from Desha County (1.4 miles) and the Southeast Arkansas Levee Board (Mississippi River Levee, 12.5 miles). Approximately a dozen lots in Arkansas City are proposed for development of a trail head, parking, and day use recreation facilities adjacent to the Mississippi River Levee.
- **Historic Washington State Park:** A 20<sup>th</sup> century ranch style residence owned by the Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation has been offered for sale to ASP. The modern (circa 1960's) residence is located inside the core historic area of the park exhibiting numerous historic structures (located across the street from the 1874 Courthouse), architecturally incompatible with the area.

- Jacksonport State Park: A residence and several outbuildings have been offered for sale. The residence meets ASP's standards for park management staff housing and the outbuilding would be used for additional storage for park equipment.
- Lake Fort Smith State Park: As planned in the relocation of the old state park to the enlarged Lake Fort Smith, three walking/hiking trails will be built adjacent to the park's north boundary. Special Use Permits with the City of Fort Smith and the U.S. Forrest Service are required to develop these trails which lie outside of ASP's current lease area.
- Logoly State Park: Three small parcels (two acres) adjacent to the main park entrance are available for sale. There are two very dilapidated structures on the properties, and acquiring the parcels will add wildlife habitat and enhance the park entrance.
- Powhatan Historic State Park: A small residence has been offered for sale that will be used as the park office, in order to replace the dilapidated 20<sup>th</sup> Century former residence (now temporary office) located in the park's historic district. The current office is in a flood prone area. The proposed acquisition is located outside the Black River Flood Plain, and is adjacent to the park's historic properties.

These acquisitions will protect and preserve the parks' natural, cultural and historic resources and provide additional recreational and educational opportunities for park visitors. The following pages give greater detail regarding each acquisition and include maps and for reference.

In accordance with ACA 22-4-106, I am respectfully requesting your favorable advice to complete these property acquisitions. If you have any questions or need further information, please call me at 682-2535, or Greg Butts at 682-7743. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Davies  
Executive Director

Enclosures

Cc: Greg Butts  
Stan Graves  
Mitchell Johnson

## **Delta Heritage Trail State Park - Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property description:**

An easement from the Southeast Arkansas Levee District, running approximately 12.9 miles along the top of the Levee in Desha County, Arkansas, containing 47 acres, more or less.

An easement along Rohwer Road from Desha County, running from the community of Rohwer approximately 1.4 miles east to the Mississippi River Levee.

Lots 15-25, and a part of Lot 26, Block 19, Town of Arkansas City, Desha County, Arkansas, containing 1.05 acres, more or less.

### **Purpose:**

The development of this trail along the scenic Mississippi River Levee will connect the existing Delta Heritage Trail at Rohwer to Arkansas City, and Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Choctaw Island East, attracting tourists and bikers to this area of southeast Arkansas.

Development of a trailhead in Arkansas City providing space for a restroom, wayside interpretive exhibits, picnic sites, parking, etc.

### **Estimated Cost:**

No cost for the easements. The lots in Arkansas City have not been appraised; estimated at \$16,500.00

### **Location Maps:**

See Attachment.

## **Historic Washington State Park – Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property Description:**

A circa 1960's residence located on Lot (1), Block 18, of the original Town of Washington, Hempstead County, Arkansas, containing 0.225 acres, more or less

### **Purpose:**

The residence is one of the last remaining modern era structures located in this area of the historic core of the town. Arkansas State Parks will sell or remove the structure to preserve the historic setting of this National Historic Site.

### **Estimated cost:**

The property has been offered for sale to Arkansas State Parks, but no appraisal has been completed at this time.

### **Location Map:**

See Attachment.

## **Jacksonport State Park – Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property Description:**

A residence, a vacant former furniture store, a small mobile home, and two small storage buildings. Lots one (1) and two (2), Block eight (8), and lots two (2), three (3), six (6), seven (7), and ten (10) of Block nine (9), City of Jacksonport, Jackson County, Arkansas, containing 0.69 acres, more or less.

### **Purpose:**

The property is located north of the current park boundary, two blocks from the courthouse. The residence meets or exceeds Arkansas State Parks' standards for staff housing, the mobile home is in very good condition and would be used for seasonal employee housing. The former furniture store and two small outbuildings would be used for storage of park equipment.

### **Estimated cost:**

The property is currently listed for sale for \$259,000.00. No appraisal has been completed at this time.

### **Location Map:**

See Attachment.

## **Lake Fort Smith State Park – Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property Description:**

Special Use Permits from the City of Fort Smith and the U. S. Forest Service, for three trails. The easements would be 200' in width and cover approximately 10.76 miles in Crawford County, Arkansas, containing 260.08 acres, more or less.

### **Purpose:**

The Special Use Permits would give Arkansas State Parks the permission to develop walking/hiking trails in an area north and west of the park, that have been a part of the park's long range development plan since the relocation of the park several years ago.

### **Estimated cost:**

No cost for the Special Use Permits.

### **Location Map:**

See Attachment

## **Logoly State Park – Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property Description:**

Three separate parcels adjoining the main entrance to the park in Columbia County, Arkansas, containing two (2) acres, more or less.

### **Purpose:**

The acquisition of three parcels would add wildlife habitat and enhance the park entrance. Two of the properties have derelict residential structures, and none have been maintained by their owners for several years. By acquiring these properties, Arkansas State Parks could maintain them in a way consistent with our standards and improve the entrance to the park.

### **Estimated cost:**

To be determined upon appraisal. Estimated at \$10,000.00-\$12,000.00.

### **Location Map:**

See Attachment.

## **Powhatan State Park – Proposed Acquisition**

### **Property Description:**

A residential structure located north of the courthouse, and across the highway from several other park structures in Jackson County, Arkansas, containing 0.25 acres, more or less.

### **Purpose:**

The residence, which is located well outside of the floodplain, would be used as the park office, replacing the current park office which is deteriorated and located in an area of frequent flooding.

### **Estimated cost:**

The property has been offered for sale to Arkansas State Parks for \$54,000.00. No appraisal has been completed at this time.

### **Location Map:**

See Attachment.



**Rohwer Ln  
(Desha Co. Rd.)**

**Southeast  
Arkansas  
Levee District**

**Delta Heritage Trail State Park  
Arkansas City to Rohwer Extension**









Proposed Acquisition

Historic Washington State Park





**Jacksonport State Park Boundary**

Proposed Acquisition



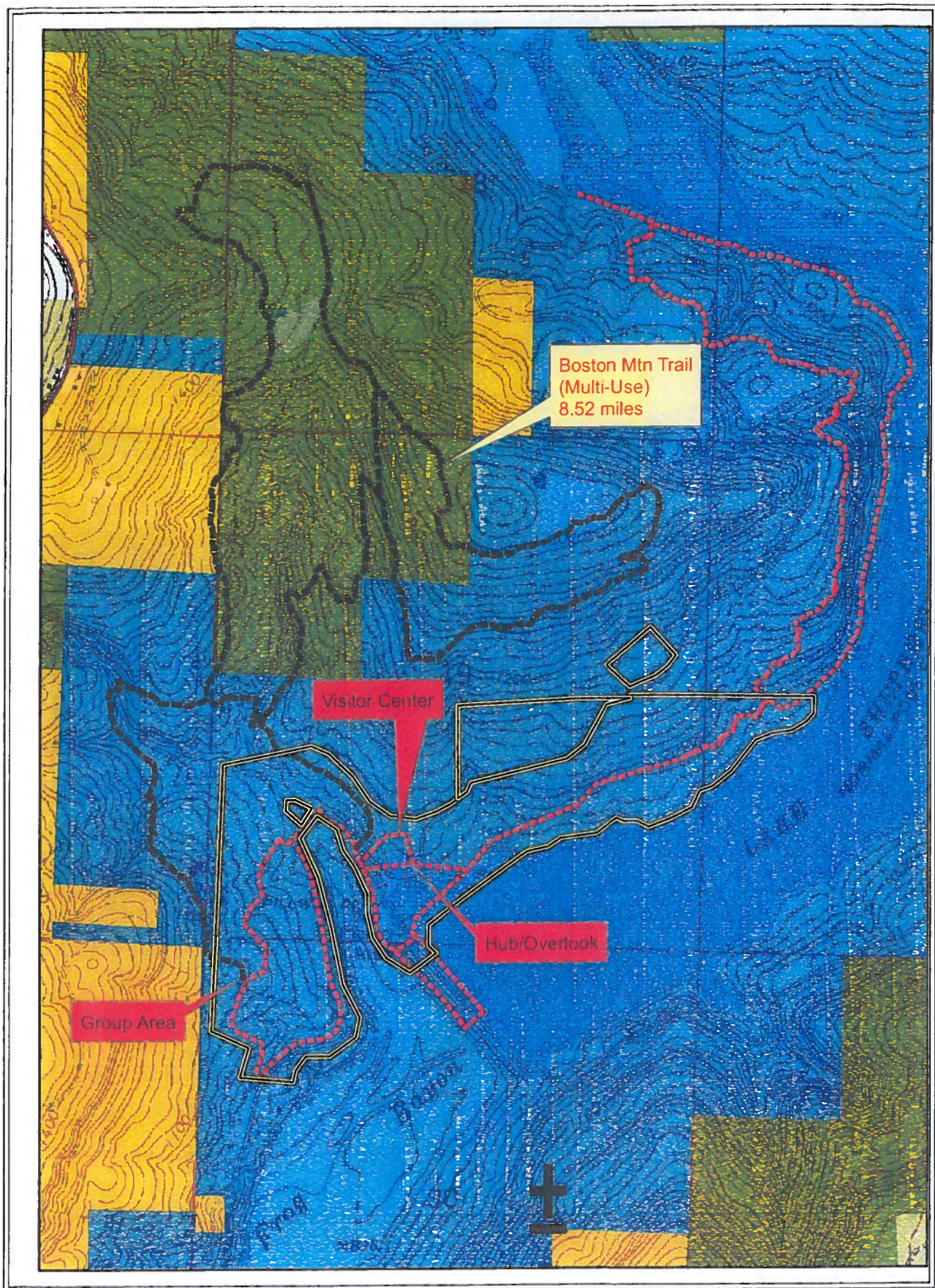


EXHIBIT A



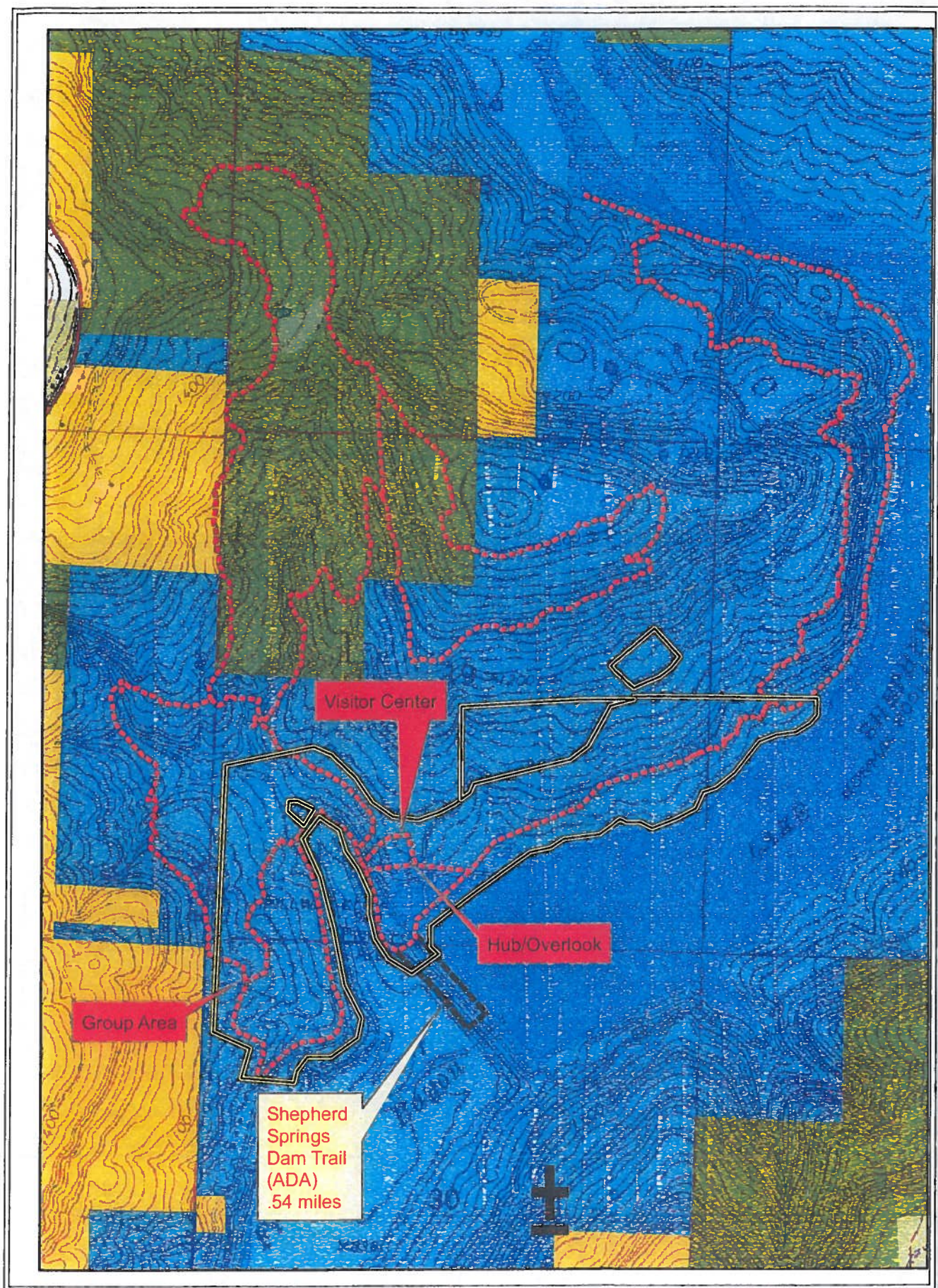
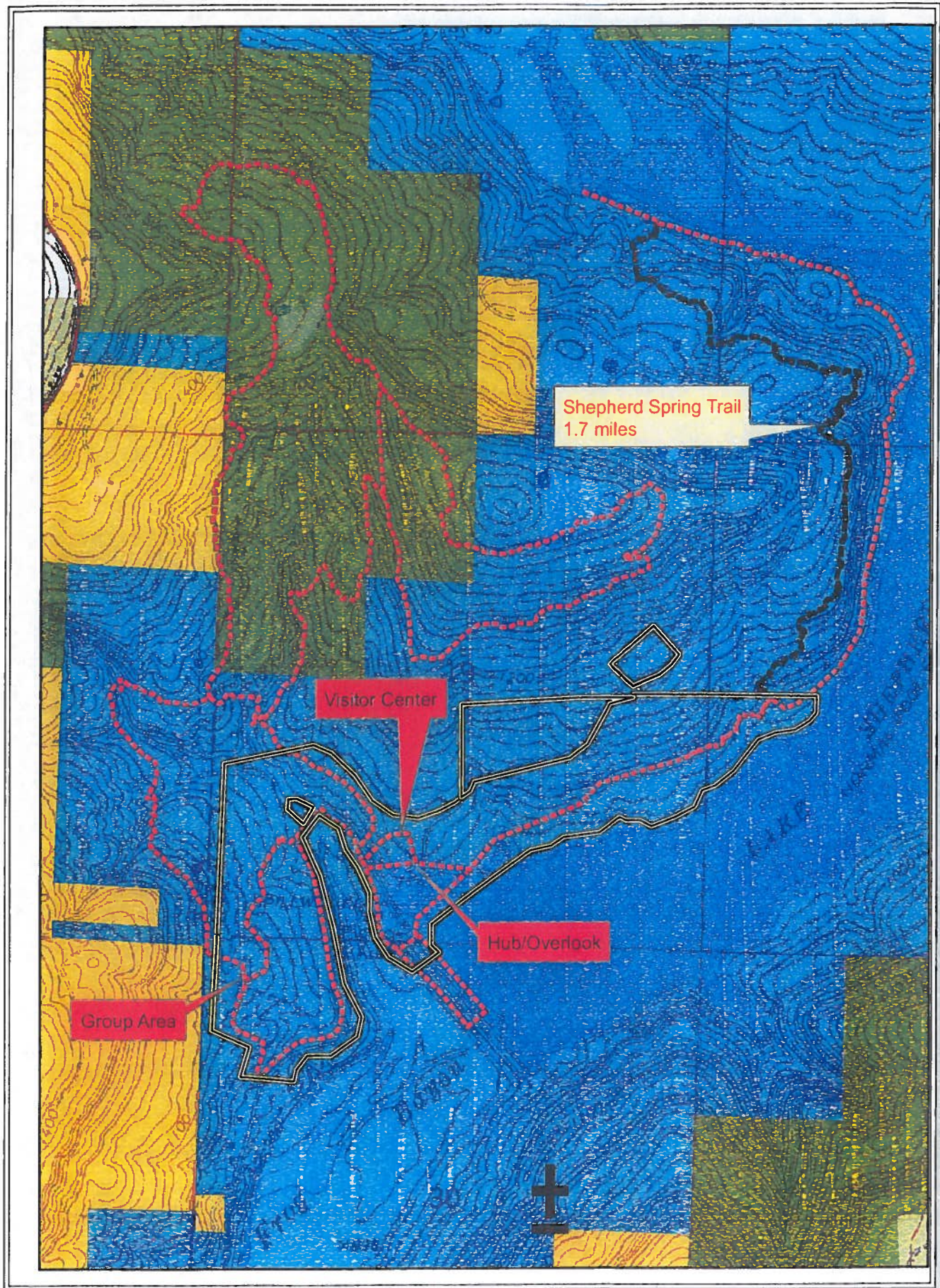


EXHIBIT A





**EXHIBIT A**





Proposed Acquisition

Loggely State  
Park Boundary

Loggely Rd

Columbia Road 47

Columbia Road 456

Columbia Road 509





**Powhatan State Park Boundary**

**Proposed Acquisition**