

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Land and Water Conservation Fund
 FY 2004 Departmental Ranking Sheet

Evaluator: Mike Nedd
 Title: State Director, Eastern States

<i>I. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS</i>			
1 C	The initial "building blocks" of a newly authorized Federal conservation/recreation unit.		
2	There are no known health/safety/liability problems.		
3	The properties are available for acquisition.		
4	Infrastructure costs do not exceed 10% of the estimated purchase price.		
<i>II. RANKING CRITERIA</i>			
	Narrative	Points Available	Allocated
1A	While much of the watershed is rural in character, there is a major threat of development, both urban and industrial.	(50)	50
1B	N/A	(25)	-
2A	N/A	(80)	-
2B	Provides multiple recreation opportunities within 100 miles of a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).	(50)	50
2C	N/A	(35)	-
2D	N/A	(35)	-
2E	N/A	(20)	-
3A	Preserve habitat of endangered species.	(40)	40
3B	N/A	(30)	-
3C	N/A	(20)	-
4	The area contains the largest collection of shipwrecks in the western hemisphere; the remnants of over 200 ships dating from 1776.	(40)	40
5A	The project area is part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.	(80)	80
5B	N/A	(60)	-
5C	N/A	(40)	-
6A	N/A	(40)	-
6B	Property has county road access and river access.	(20)	20
7	N/A	(20)	-
8	N/A	(20)	-
9	State of Maryland expected to contribute up to half of purchase price.	(5-25)	15
10	N/A	(10)	-
11	Involves significant partnership with State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources	(5-15)	5
TOTAL POINTS (Items 1-11)			300
12	Bureau wide Priority / (Completed by WO-350)	(7.5-150)	
<i>III. STATE DIRECTOR'S PRIORITY RANKING</i>			

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - Narrative

Lower Potomac River Project

Maryland		Charles County		Congressional District 5	
	Acquired To Date	Proposed for FY 2004	Acquisition Total	Estimated O&M costs (Both initial "start-up" and <u>annual</u> maintenance)	Total (over 10 yrs) (Acquisition Total + Estimated <u>annual</u> O&M)
Cost	\$2,708,216	\$3,500,000	\$19,000,000*	2004 Start-up \$300,000 2004 Annual \$150,000	\$19,000,000
Acres	548	600	3,500	N/A	3,500

Location: Southwestern Maryland along the Lower Potomac River

Purpose: Conserve remaining open space and provide recreational opportunities for the growing eastern seaboard population around metropolitan Washington, D.C. area and to protect crucial wildlife habitat.

Acquisition Opportunities: As a result of public outreach, through Coordinated Management Planning, there are opportunities to acquire both recreational and ecologically significant properties from willing sellers.

Other Cooperators: State of Maryland, Department of Natural Resources; Commissioners of Charles County, Maryland and The Conservation Fund.

Project Description: The project area lies in a lightly populated region of southern Maryland. The remaining portions of these agricultural and rural peninsula counties are experiencing rapid suburban growth, as the outlying suburbs of Washington, DC push further south.

Acquisition of these lands will protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed and associated habitat as well as providing protection from urbanization. Public ownership will complement public forests and recreational areas popular with visitors from urban areas in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

The Bureau is currently working on a Coordinated Management Plan (CMP) with Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Charles County, Maryland. Through this plan we will verify the area's resource values to determine the appropriate mix of access, recreation, and resource conservation if the area is under public management. This CMP will also outline acquisition needs and proposed uses of the lands once acquired. The plan will include site surveys and solicitation and review of public comment. The State of Maryland DNR has demonstrated its intent to share acquisition costs with the Federal Government on the acquisitions and has indicated their intent to continue this relationship by actively seeking and obtaining funding appropriations (portion of the 19 million total).

The following historic and environmental values are on or adjacent to the project area:

- Native American archaeological sites and other land and water based archaeological sites (largest collection of shipwrecks in western hemisphere);
- location of a Civil War encampment supporting approximately 25,000 troops;
- wildlife habitat for the American bald eagle, osprey, egret, river otter, beaver, painted tortoise and anadromous and semi-anadromous fish species;
- unique wetland and woodland habitat including an evolving ecology within the shipwreck area.

The project supports the DOI's 4 "C's". The Coordinated Management Plan being developed will ensure cooperation, communication and consultation with the State of Maryland, Charles County and the local residents while striving to conserve some of the remaining open space of the region.

GPRA Goal(s): Preserve Natural and Cultural Heritage Resources and Provide Opportunities for Environmentally Responsible Recreation.

* State of Maryland expects to contribute up to one-half of the 19 million needed for this project.

FY 2004 FACT SHEET
 LAND ACQUISITION
 BUREAU: Bureau of Land Management
 Purpose/Program

Project: Lower Potomac River

Owner's name?	Multiple
Resource threat?	Expanding urban and industrial development.
Land exchange alternatives?	No Federal land base exists in the area so exchange is not an option.
Conservation easement alternatives?	No
Inholding/Edgeholding?	No
Appraisal completed? Value?	No. Appraisal will be completed when specific parcels are identified. Estimated value between \$ 5,000 and \$5,500 per acre.
Project area plans? Infrastructure?	Provide recreation opportunities and protection of cultural resources, riparian habitat and T&E species.
HazMat evaluation done?	No. Survey will be completed when specific parcels are identified.
Resource rehabilitation or restoration projects? Cost?	None N/A
Can funds be <u>obligated</u> in FY2004?	Yes

Authorization

Is acquisition authorized? Yes; FLPMA and Public Law 106-246
 What is authorized ceiling? N/A
 Is proposal within authorized ceiling? N/A
 How much has been appropriated to date (vis-a-vis ceiling)? N/A
 Is acquisition within the boundary? Yes

Funding

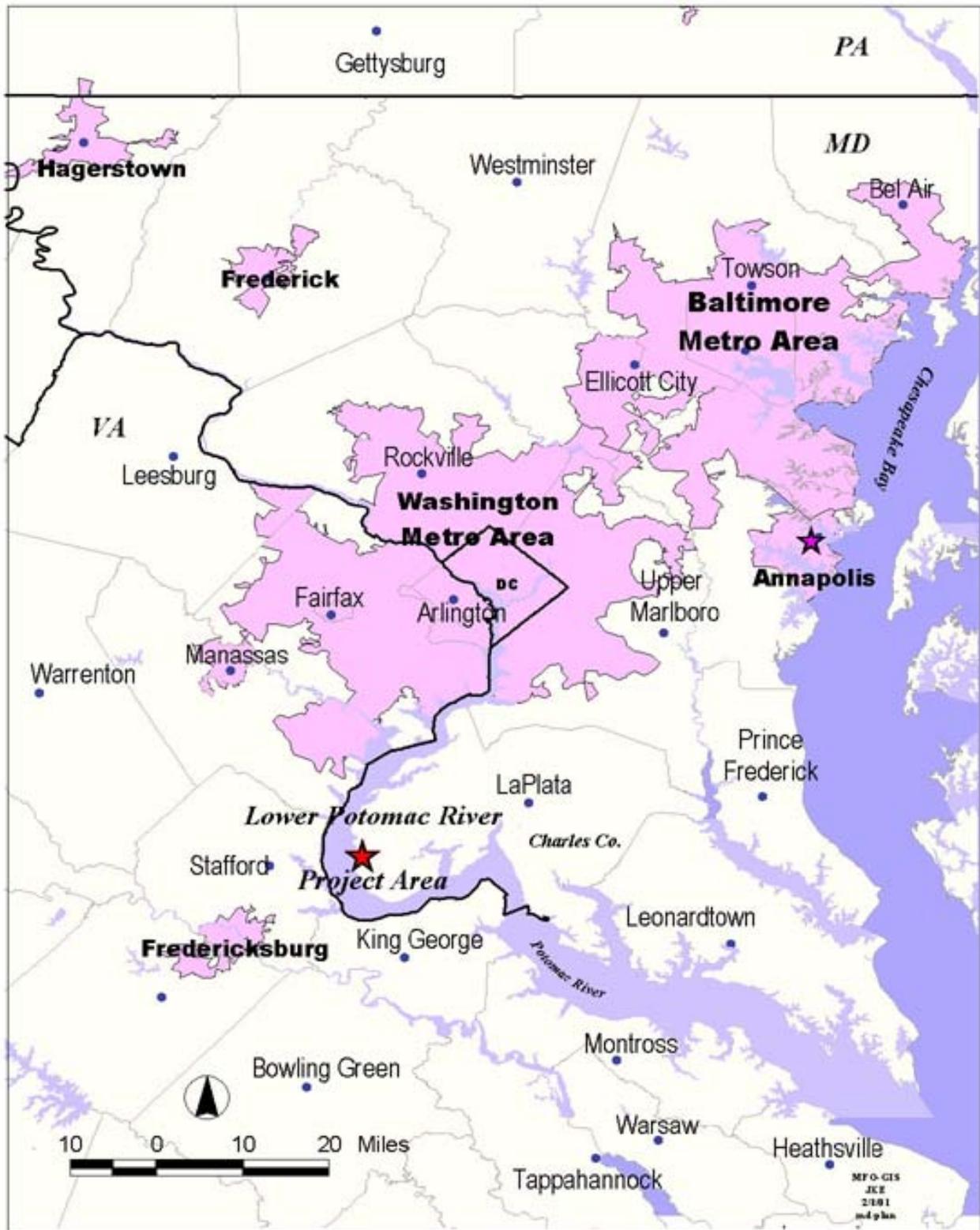
FY2003 President's Budget Request? \$0
 Is budget amount for same purpose? N/A
 Appropriations to date? \$5,000,000
 Current unobligated balance as of 6/01/2002 \$2,286,784
 Plans to use unobligated balances Combine with current request to purchase property.

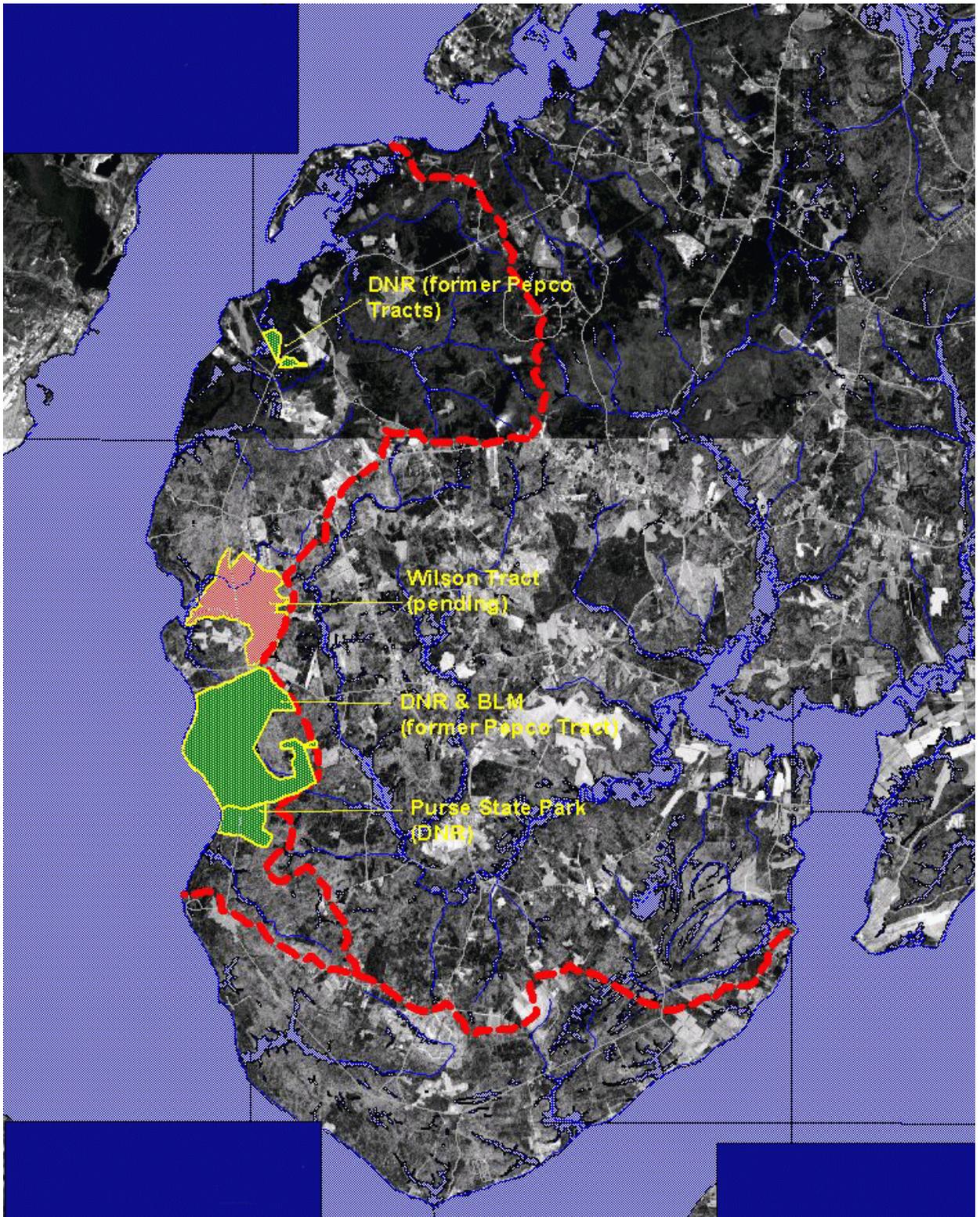
Acquisition Status	Tracts	Acres	Cost	Cost/Acre
Purchases thru FY2001	0	0	0	N/A
Scheduled for FY2002	1	548	\$2,708,216	\$4,942
Planned for FY2003	1	600	\$1,250,000	\$5,500
Planned for FY2004	1	600	\$1,250,000	\$5,500
Remaining to be Acquired	3	1,750	\$9,250,000	\$5,500

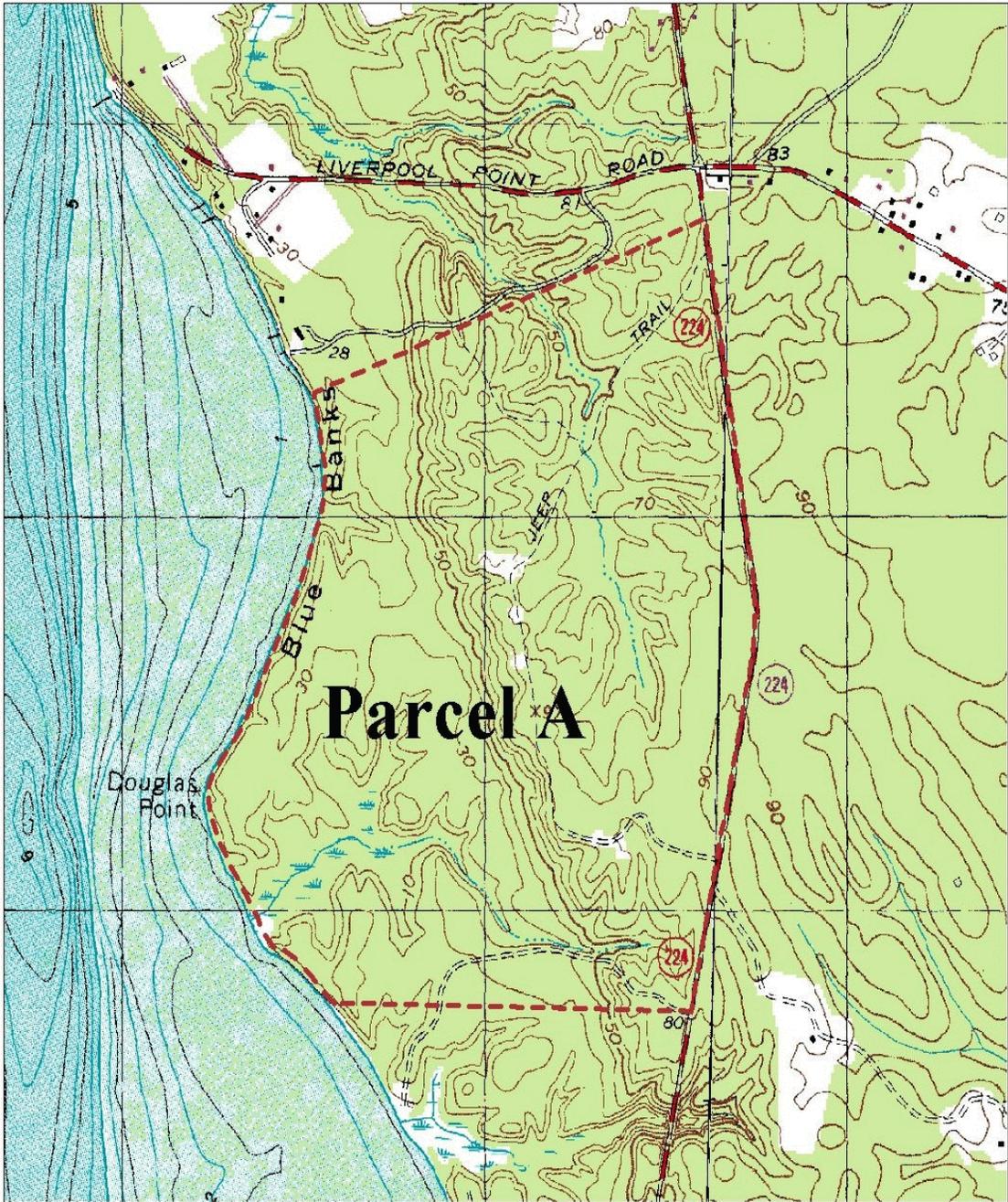
(If not included above, footnote completed and pending fee and/or conservation easement acquisition by condemnation, donation, exchange and/or purchase by agency and/or project partner(s).
 Continue on additional page if necessary.

Criteria	Definition				
1	<p><u>Political Support (Local/National) Yes</u> Is there significant local, regional, national, constituent and representative support? Briefly explain: <u>Well supported by local communities and local government. Currently working on Coordinated Management Plan with Maryland DNR and Charles County, Maryland. Project supported by Congressman Hoyer (MD-5th).</u></p>				
2	<p><u>Name of approved land use plan this project is in compliance with (RMP, etc.)?</u> Name of plan: <u>Lower Potomac River Coordinated Management Plan (to be completed in FY 2002).</u></p>				
3	<p><u>Threatened and Endangered Species - Seasonal/Resident: Yes</u> Does the property provide exclusive, year-round habitat to a nominated, candidate or listed species? Is the species animal or plant (underline as appropriate)? Briefly explain: <u>Animal - American bald eagle, osprey, egret, river otter, beaver, painted tortoise.</u></p>				
4	<p><u>Existing Project vs. new Project: Yes</u> Has this project area ever received a LWCF appropriation by this or another name? Briefly explain: <u>Received appropriation in FY 2000 and FY 2001, expect special appropriation in FY 2002.</u></p>				
5	<p><u>Acquisition Partnerships: Yes</u> Has this property been optioned or purchased by a third party nonprofit for total or phased (how many years) resale to the BLM, by a prior mutual agreement? Briefly explain: <u>BLM and the State of Maryland have been working with The Conservation Fund who purchased an option on previous tracts and is interested in doing so again as part of the Lower Potomac River Project.</u></p>				
6	<p><u>Management Partnerships: Yes</u> Has or will the property be cooperatively managed by other Federal or non -Federal partners? Type of cooperative management? Whom/Type: <u>Cooperative management with the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources</u></p>				
7	<p><u>Is parcel within an Administrative/Agency "Special Area" or a component of BLM's NLCS?</u> No Name of area: <u>N/A</u></p>				
8	<p><u>Is the property within one of the following priority ecosystems? Yes</u></p> <table border="0"><tr><td><u>X</u> Rural/Urban Greenway</td><td>Name: <u>Potomac River Greenway</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>X</u> Open Space Initiative</td><td>Name: <u>Maryland's Program Open Space</u></td></tr></table>	<u>X</u> Rural/Urban Greenway	Name: <u>Potomac River Greenway</u>	<u>X</u> Open Space Initiative	Name: <u>Maryland's Program Open Space</u>
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9	<p><u>Does the project mitigate long term impact to T&E species habitat from any of these development types within the ecosystem? Yes</u></p> <table border="0"><tr><td><u>X</u> Rural residential development</td><td>Species: <u>American bald eagle, osprey, egret, river otter, beaver, painted tortoise.</u></td></tr></table>	<u>X</u> Rural residential development	Species: <u>American bald eagle, osprey, egret, river otter, beaver, painted tortoise.</u>		
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Lower Potomac River







Douglas Point, Maryland
Land Acquisition

 Parcel A - Boundary



500 0 500 1000 1500 Feet



Lower Potomac River Project









One of the World War I shipwrecks that are within the project area



Beaver House