

LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED NEW NYSF FACILITY,
DEFINITION OF PROPOSED TRACT BOUNDARY, AND THE
INFLUENCE OF IMPORTANT LANDSCAPE FEATURES
ON SETTING THE BOUNDARY

LOCATION:

Near the center of the delineated tract, at a location above a bluff rising along the south side of the Blackwater River, and at a point generally opposite from where Yellow Creek flows into the Blackwater River, is a large area of gently sloping and relatively protected but open acreage suitable to the siting of the majority of constructed features that will comprise the new NYSF residential facility. The acreage surrounding the central core of this tract features a host of landscape units much as those that have always been important assets that support the natural history and environmental component of the educational activities of NYSF science education programs.

Further, contrary to our current site, this portion of the tract should benefit from the drying effect of the early morning sun that will reach the site. Woodlands along the top of the bluff should provide a measure of isolation and insulation from the expected development to the north along WV Route 93 and especially that surrounding the anticipated highway interchange along the yet completed Appalachian Development Highway. The anticipated developments can be expected to increase the penetration of light and noise reaching the site. Hence it will be important to carefully site facilities so as to neutralize, in so far as possible, adverse impacts of such development.

PEDESTRIAN CORRIDOR TO PROVIDE A LINK BETWEEN NYSF FACILITIES, THE
BLACKWATER RIVER AND THE CANAAN VALLEY INSTITUTE

A satisfactory location for a pedestrian route between the NYSF developed facilities, the south side of the Blackwater River, and on to the CVI Center, has been identified at a point across and upstream a short distance from the emergent end of Yellow Creek. This route provides a relatively short walking distance, moderate slope and the walk is enriched by the presence of a number of interesting large rock features, a dispersed stand of tree-sized rhododendron and good tree cover. A suitable structure spanning the river would be required to extend the pedestrian transit link between NYSF and CVI facilities.

THE BOUNDARY AND SELECTED FEATURES LINKED TO EACH UNIT OF THE
BOUNDARY

A. SOUTH SOUTH EAST BOUNDARY

This boundary unit extends inland from the upstream corner with the Blackwater River. This part of the tract boundary is quite steep and rugged. Along this route are an exposed rock cliff of some considerable length, massive rhododendron and mountain laurel thickets along with dense vegetation as greenbrier, all of which makes for a near impossible route and thus providing a natural barrier along this side of the tract. The vantage point to the east from

the new facility along this boundary can be a very attractive viewpoint through the mountains and upstream via the Blackwater River in the direction of the northern end of Canaan Valley. Nearby is an area of large exposed rock arrayed on sloping land that may be suitable, weather permitting, to use as a natural outdoor amphitheatre site for holding lectures, seminars, etc. Also along this boundary is an exposed rock face that may be a suitable site for establishing a mountaineering station for the teaching of basic skills for entry into this sport.

B. SOUTHWEST BOUNDARY

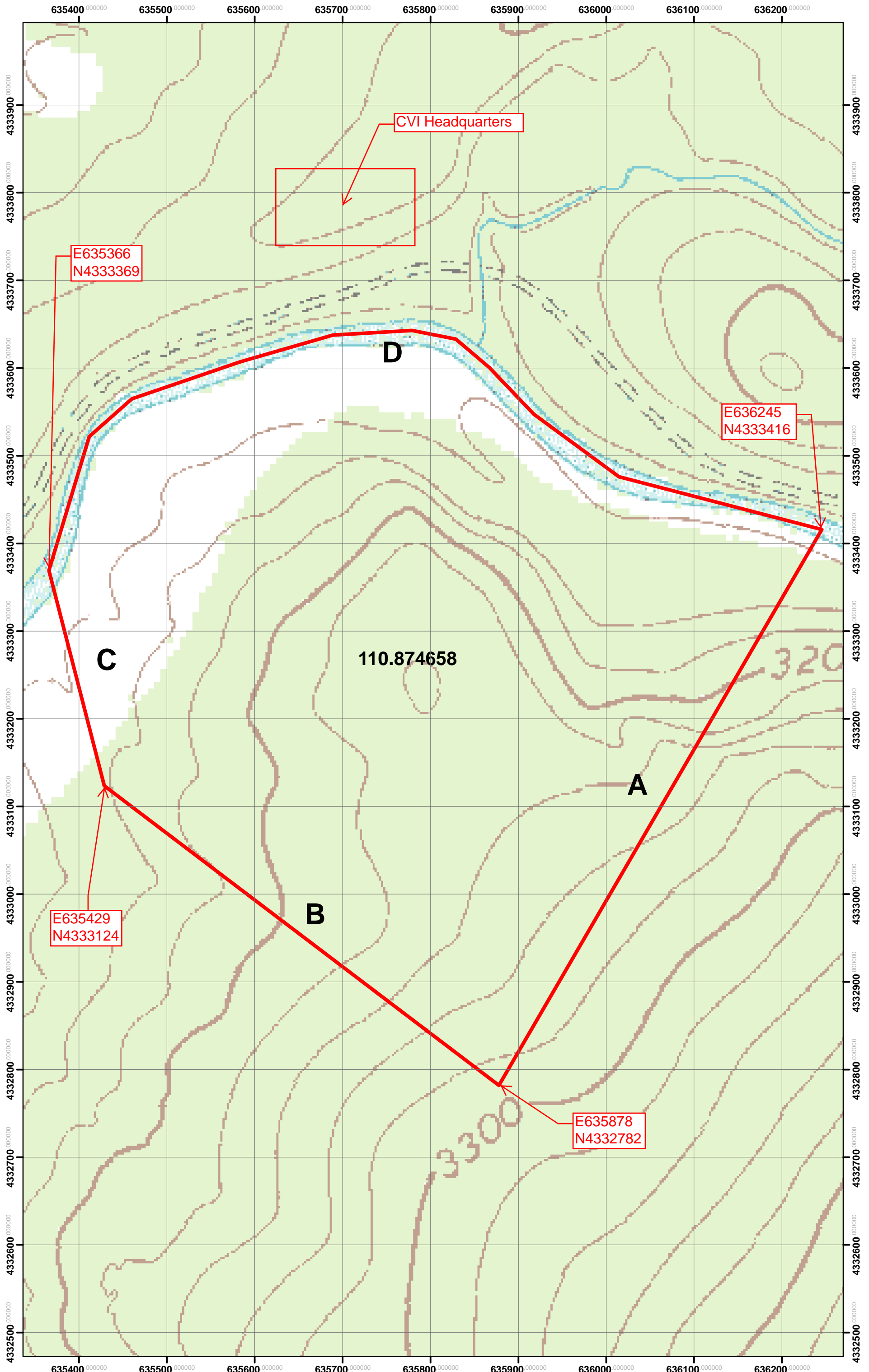
Much of the terrain along the southwest boundary traverses near impenetrable woody vegetation, rocks and irregular surface all of which should serve to provide an important measure of privacy and control at the rear of the tract. Located near the edge of this boundary section is an outstanding geological feature in the form of a massive boulder field an acre or more in area. The origin of this deposition is from times when the mountains here were much higher, and rivers differential to today's rivers. The "boulder field" rocks migrated to the present location from strata at a much higher elevation. The excellence of this feature will anchor studies of history and geology, and forces that shaped this and other aspects of the area.

C. NORTH NORTH WEST BOUNDARY

This line returns to and intersects with the down stream point on the Blackwater River. This boundary segment includes a large wetland area located near the river and the boundary. We are unaware of any other wetland feature on this tract that is in any way comparable to this particular wetland feature. This will be an excellent educational asset. Further, the very interesting and diverse flora east and south from the wetland unit combine to give force to a host of natural history and environmental studies, data collection, analysis and reporting lessons.

D. BOUNDARY EAST WITH THE BLACKWATER RIVER

The final boundary that defines and closes the tract follows the course of the Blackwater River upstream to the point of beginning; the south southeastern boundary. Needless to say, the river is a vital program asset that will enable a multitude of uses ranging from aquatic linked studies and research and a variety of recreational pursuits. Possibly the greatest, most lasting impact the Blackwater River may have on the lives of the many who will experience a period of time here over the years will be ingrained in their memory on coming to realize the intrinsic worth that derives from nearness to the beauty and timeless story that is the providence of the diminishing number of free flowing headwater rivers and thus forever define, for those who pass here, the science camp as "place."



CVI Headquarters

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