This complete guidance document is unavailable in an electronic format. The executive summary is attached. Please contact:

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TWIN LAKES STATE PARK

MASTER PLAN
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2011 UPDATE

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Planning and Recreation Resources
203 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

TWIN LAKES STATE PARK

MASTER PLAN
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2011 UPDATE

Reviewed by the Board of Conservation and Recreation on March 18, 2011

Approved:

/S/
David A. Johnson, Director
Department of Conservation
and Recreation

March 22, 2011
Date

TWIN LAKES STATE PARK
MASTER PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2011 UPDATE

The Twin Lakes State Park Master Plan Executive Summary is an update to the official unabridged master plan document adopted in 2005 by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. This 2011 executive summary represents the most recent five-year review as required in §10.1-200.1 of the *Code of Virginia.*

Twin Lakes State Park in Prince Edward County has a unique history. The park is located in the Commonwealth Region (Region 14) in Virginia's Piedmont region. Land for the park was acquired from local farmers in 1939. The park was developed originally as two separate parks in order to provide segregated facilities for African-Americans to recreate within the state park system. Each park consisted of a swimming and fishing lake, a camping area, and a picnic area. The parks, called Prince Edward State Park (for Negroes) and Goodwin Lake State Recreational Area, were very popular, and from their conception in 1950, saw large crowds on weekends. In 1976, the parks were combined, and in 1986, were named Twin Lakes Sate Park. Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest land surrounds three sides of the 495-acre park.

This 2011 update places value on connecting Twin Lakes to other resources in the community. Aside from the Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest, to the north of the park is the Cumberland State Forest. Hampden Sydney College and Longwood University offer opportunity for partnerships on many levels. Scenic Rivers in the area include sections of the Appomattox River. Virginia Byways in the area include portions of State Highway 696. Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park and High Bridge Trail State Park are in fairly close proximity to Twin Lakes, as is Briery Creek Wildlife Management Area. Additional connectivity opportunities exist with the Lee's Retreat Driving Tour, the Tobacco Heritage Trail, the Beaches to Bluegrass Statewide Trail, and Bike Route 1. The park is already recognized on the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Birding and Wildlife Trail. Southeast of the park is Fort Pickett Military Reservation, which may provide additional recreational opportunities for the region. The Twin Lakes State Park Regional Connectivity Map is an attachment to the full Master Plan document.

Planners and state park staff from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) with the help of a citizen advisory committee developed the original 2005 master plan in accordance with § 10.1-200.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. With the committee's assistance, a park purpose statement and goals and objectives were developed. Public input was solicited at the beginning and at the end of the process to ensure that plan recommendations were understood and accepted by the community. The plan outlines the desired future condition of the park over a 20-year planning horizon. As required by $10.1-200.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, it must be revisited every five years to ensure that the development objectives outlined in the plan continue to meet the recreational and environmental protection needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

As a part of the 2011 process, the 2005 park master plan was reviewed. It was determined that no significant changes occurred to warrant a full revision of the master plan. The goals and objectives and the desired future condition of the park have not changed since adoption of the

2005 plan. The phased development plan and costs have been revised to reflect projects that have been completed since 2005, and the park staffing and operations costs data have been also updated to reflect current conditions. The adopted park purpose statement is stated below:

"The purpose of Twin Lakes State Park is to serve as a Gateway to Virginia's Heartland by providing a range of family oriented outdoor recreation and educational experiences, historical connections and conference opportunities enhanced by two lakes nestled in the middle of the Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest and easily accessible from nearby metropolitan areas."

Visitation at the park has varied greatly over time but seems to have stabilized over the past several years.

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
68,323	114,816	125.175	83,503	69,077	80,858	85,915	92,192	102,020	100,933

In 2010 Twin Lakes had 100,933 visitors: 12,486 overnight guests and 88,447 day use visitors. It is estimated that the park had an economic impact on the local economy of approximately $2,351,602. Master Plan recommendations designed to increase visitation and improve the visitor experience, once implemented, should have a further positive impact on the region's economy.

Existing park facilities include seven 2-bedroom cabins, two rental picnic shelters, the 4-bedroom Hill Lodge, a 33-site campground, a concession with bathhouse, Goodwin Lake for swimming and fishing, Prince Edward Lake for fishing, two boat launches, 7.75 miles of hiking trails and a park office. Additionally, the Cedar Crest Conference Center has three meeting rooms, restrooms, service kitchen, and dining area as well as several nearby shelters, an office/storage building and a gazebo.

A Maintenance/Shop Area is the only new park facility developed since the 2005 Master Plan. One facility, the Group Camp, is recommended for renovation and is not currently available to the public.

This master plan update represents both new facilities and improvements to existing facilities. To the greatest extent possible, Virginia State Parks strives to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards. Building and site design will implement green energy standards using energy-efficient and sustainable materials and process to the greatest extent possible. Green design initiatives will be considered during the design process for park renovations and new construction. These facilities will be carefully sited to minimize impacts to the views of the park from the adjacent lands and water bodies. Development activities will comply with the requirements set forth by the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook for Erosion and Sediment Control in order to protect water quality.

Additional land acquisition is recommended in this park to enhance park offerings, buffer the park from inappropriate development or protect valued viewsheds. Future land acquisitions will only be negotiated with willing property owners. The placement of conservation easements on adjacent property to preserve the natural resources, cultural landscapes, and scenic resources in close proximity to the park will be encouraged. In working cooperatively with neighboring landowners, the park will be enhanced and protected over time.

The phased development plan was developed to reflect proposed improvements and their costs. Staffing and operations costs were determined based on the development of these new facilities and park enhancements.

The planned facilities and projects listed below are presented in priority order. Completion of all of the projects in this list will represent total build-out (completion of the master plan) and covers a 20-year timeframe.

Phase I

ADA Improvements to Park, including Cedar Crest Conference Center
Staff Residence
Office/Visitor Center/Discovery Center
Renovate Cabins, Martin Cottage and Hill Lodge.
Construct ADA Cabins (2)
Upgrade campground, including new bathhouse
Upgrade day-use parking and associated roads.
Upgrade beach area and add spray-park
Demolish 7 abandoned buildings (3 chlorinator buildings, 1 storage, 1 well house, 1 water storage, and the old shop)
Add Trail Connections to High Bridge Trail and State Forest Trails
Upgrade and Extend Beaver Point Trail with Observation Area

Total estimated cost for Phase I Development is $12,735,824.

Phase II

Add Accessible Playground near Cabin Area
Renovate Group Camp
Campground – up to 30 sites, including 3 camp cabins
Staff residence
Convert Staff residence to a rental cabin.
Add Parking at Old Shop Area
ADA Fishing Pier between Cabin Area and Cedar Crest Conference Center(2)

Total estimated cost for Phase II Development is $5,436,288.

Phase III

Construct Group Camp – 2 nodes
Amphitheater
Staff residence
Convert Conference Center to Museum and upgrade parking
Lodge – 50 rooms with 50 parking spaces

Total estimated cost for Phase III Development is $13,492,440.

The total cost to bring Twin Lakes State Park to its desired future condition is $31,664,552.

Staffing and Operations

Staffing and operational costs at Twin Lakes State Park are presently budgeted at $687,000 annually, including salaries for 5 staff positions. With the current facilities and operational requirements, the park has an identified need for 6 additional positions and $334,000 in funding. At complete build out of the proposed 3 phases of development, 3 additional staff will be needed and an additional $588,000 in operating funds. In order for the park to operate effectively and efficiently at full build out, the park must be provided with the projected staffing and operating cost identified as "existing additional needs" and the costs for the 3 development phases. The total budget for Twin Lakes at full build out is projected to be $1,609,000 with 14 staff positions.

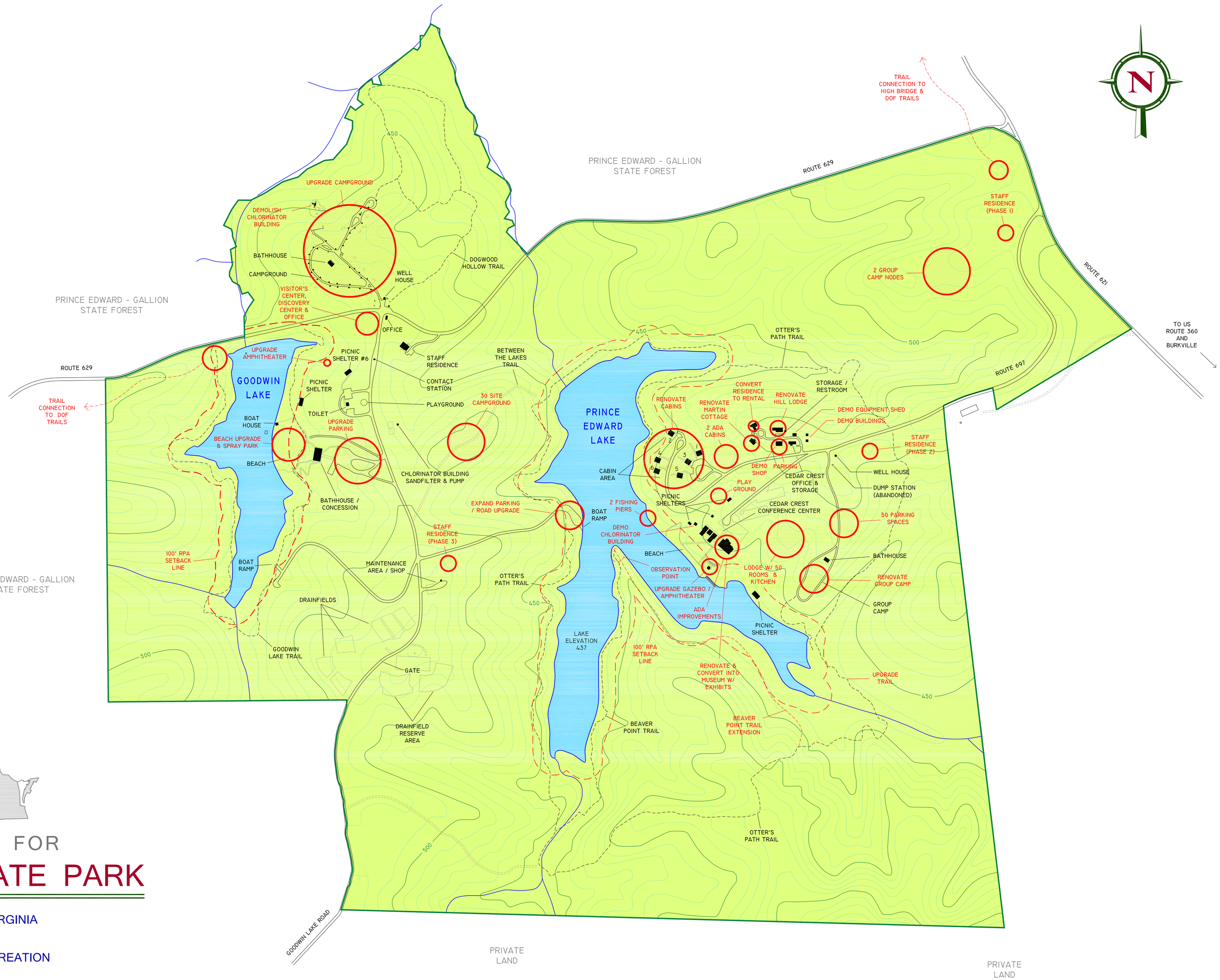
Twin Lakes State Park – Operating and Staffing Requirements					
EXISTING (FY 11)	**EXISTING ADDITIONAL NEEDS ***	**PHASE 1**	**PHASE 2**	**PHASE 3**	**FULL BUILD OUT**
STAFFING					**STAFFING**
Park Manager					Park Manager
	Asst. Park Mgr				Asst. Park Mgr
Chief Ranger				Chief Ranger	Chief Ranger (2)
	Educ. Specialist				Educ. Specialist
Park Ranger (2)	Park Ranger (2)			Park Ranger	Park Ranger (5)
	Housekeeper			Housekeeper	Housekeeper (2)
	Program Support Tech.				Program Support Tech.
Business Manager					Business Manager
SALARY TOTAL					**SALARY TOTAL**
$240,000	$304,000			$130,000	$674,000
WAGE TOTAL					**WAGE TOTAL**
$178,000	$15,000	$58,000	$35,000	$102,000	$388,000
OTPS TOTAL					**OTPS TOTAL**
$269,000	$15,000	$84,000	$28,000	$151,000	$547,000
TOTAL BUDGET (FY11 dollars)					**TOTAL BUDGET (FY11 dollars)**
$687,000	$334,000	$142,000	$63,000	$383,000	$1,609,000

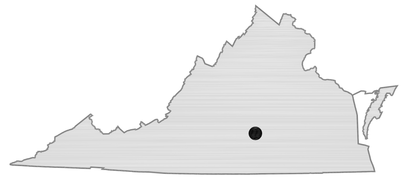
NOTE – All costs (salary, wage, OTPS (Other than Personnel Services) are based on FY11 budget projections.
* Existing additional needs represents staff shortages that were identified as part of the 2002 re-benchmarking effort, and/or staff positions and operating costs reduced due to multiple years of state wide budget reductions.

LEGEND

- PROPOSED FACILITIES
- EXISTING FACILITIES
- PARK PROPERTY
- PARK BOUNDARY
- WATER
- TREE LINE
- EXISTING ROAD
- EXISTING BUILDINGS
- HIKING TRAILS
- 100' RPA SETBACK

- ENHANCE ADA ACCESS THROUGHOUT PARK.
- EXPAND PARK TRAILS & EXPLORE TRAIL CONNECTIONS OUTSIDE PARK BOUNDARIES.
- ONGOING MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS TO PARK DAMS.





MASTER PLAN FOR
TWIN LAKES STATE PARK

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

DIVISION OF
PLANNING AND RECREATION RESOURCES

PREPARED BY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

MARCH 2011

0' 200' 400'

CONTOUR INTERVAL : 10 FEET