

2013

40th Anniversary (2013) Accomplishments, Gordon Natural Area

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40th Anniversary (2013)

Accomplishments

by

Gerry Hertel, Harry

Tiebout & Kendra McMillin



**Dr Hertel,
Biology**



**Dr Tiebout,
Biology**



**Kendra
McMillin,
Biology 2014**

1. Permanent part-time position/operating budget

Years of Operation	Budget History
1973-2003 (30 years)	No budget
2009-2012 (3 years)	Temporary part-time position & operating (soft money)
2013 (forever!)	Permanent part-time position & operating YEA !

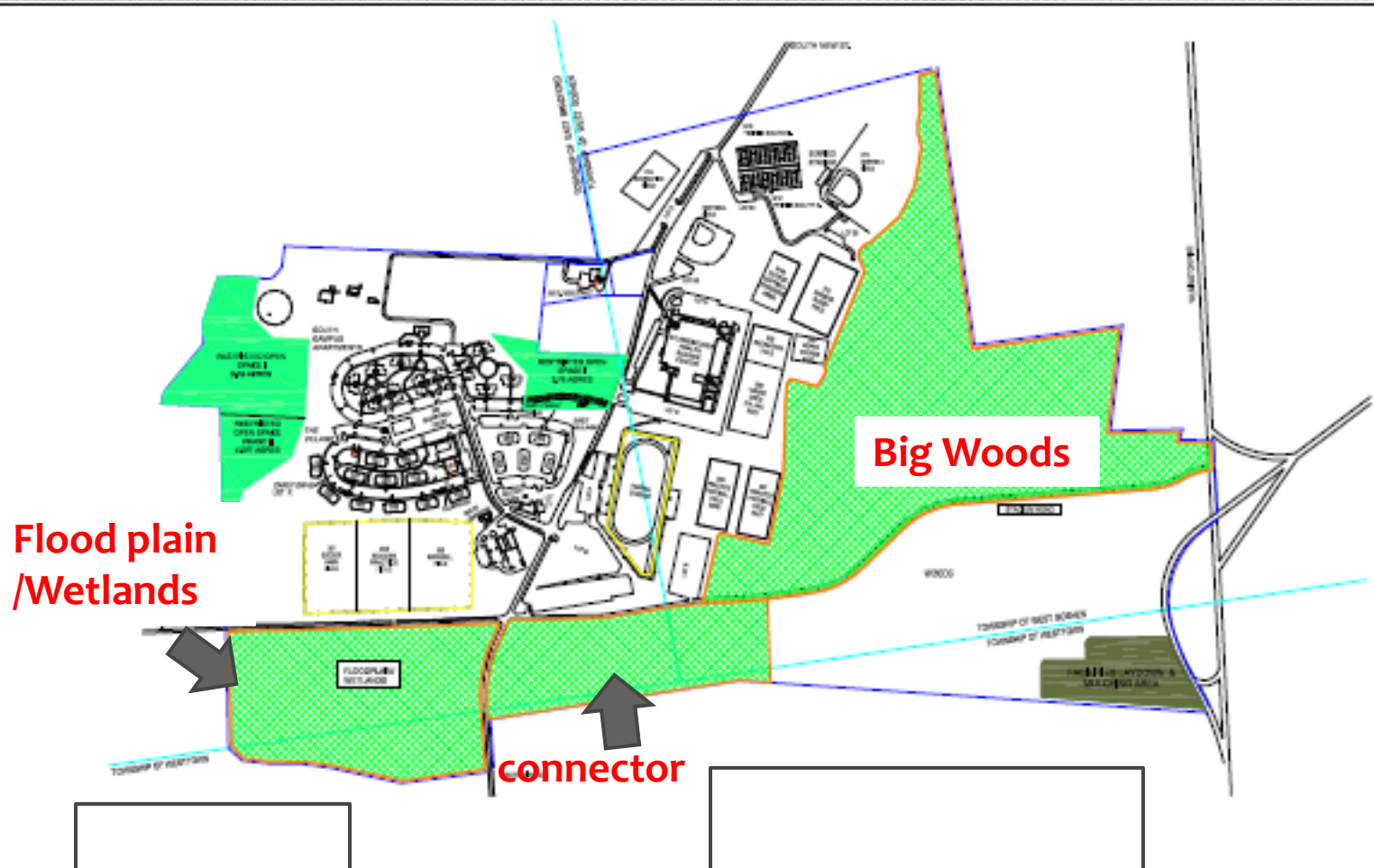
2. USDA Research Grant

- **Forest Health Monitoring** (**Greg Turner**) – 23 plots monitored every 5 years to determine health and condition of the Gordon Area forests.
- **Seed Bank Analyses of Gordon Area soils** (**Jessica Schedlbauer**) – deer overpopulation and serious infestations of non-native plants have impacted seed bank of native plant seeds. This study will quantify those impacts.
- **Hydraulic properties of soils in the Gordon Area** (**Martin Helmke**) – this research will eventually allow us to measure water quantity and quality coming from the Gordon Area and flowing into the East Branch of Plum Run
- **Green Legacy database update, development & maintenance** (**Joan Welch**) – tree inventory of all campus trees includes information on size, benefits, & hazards. Potential impacts of non-native insects and diseases can be evaluated. Serves as basis for certification of WCU as Tree Campus USA

3. **Wild Plant Sanctuary** designation by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources



4. 17 acres added (connector)



President Weisenstein added these acres to assure protection of East Branch of Plum Run & provide a wildlife corridor between the original two parcels

Changes in 2014

- **New Facility**
- **Administrator-**
- **Dr Jessica Schedlbauer**



- **New Stewardship Manager**-will be advertised this summer

