

National Rivers Trail

Project Concept

R. A. “Pete” Hobbs, Town of Ansted

&

Peggy Pings NPS

General Concept

- **Provide a multi-use Trail facility connecting the New River Gorge National river and the Gauley National River through the Town of Ansted West Virginia and Hawks Nest State Park**
- **Provide facilities for ATV, equestrian, bicycle, and hiking / walking areas.**
- **Leverage existing Federal, State and Municipal trail facilities**
- **Develop new public use facilities and trails**

WIFM – National Park Service

- **Open Eastern area of New River Gorge National River for public use**
- **Improved utilization and public use**
- **Provide National River guest access to state park resources**
- **National Park guest gets access to town resources and services**
- **Town of Ansted provides improved gateway city offerings.**
- **New trail linkages between gateway communities**

WIFM - Hawks Nest State Park

- **Improve utilization and public use of Hawks Nest State Park**
- **Provide State Park guest access to National River facilities**
- **Western area of New River Gorge National River open for public use**
- **May allow collaboration for future extension of trail resources westward on New River**
- **Improve image of HNSP as critical to economic development of area**
- **Improve funding for capitol improvements.**

WIFM - Town of Ansted

- Economic development opportunities
- Improved offer for tourism based economy
- Become a true Gateway community for NPS and HNSP
- Greater opportunity for grant based trail improvements
- Potential growth as state and national parks grow
- Proposal is consistent with 20 year development plan

Existing Resources

New River Gorge National River

- Gorge View Shed
- Eastern Gorge trail extension opportunities
- Coterminous with Hawks Nest Park Eastern boundaries
- End point for Town of Ansted rail trail
- Whitewater Rafting

Existing Resources

Gauley River National Recreation Area

- View Shed
- Eastern trail extension opportunities
 - Horseshoe Creek
 - Others
- Whitewater rafting enterprises
- Abandoned rail right of ways?

Existing Resources

Hawks Nest State Park

- Marina
- Lake
- Parking
- Road Access
- Existing Trails (5 ?)
- Arial Tram
- Nature Museum
- Gorge View Shed
- Lodge and Restaurant

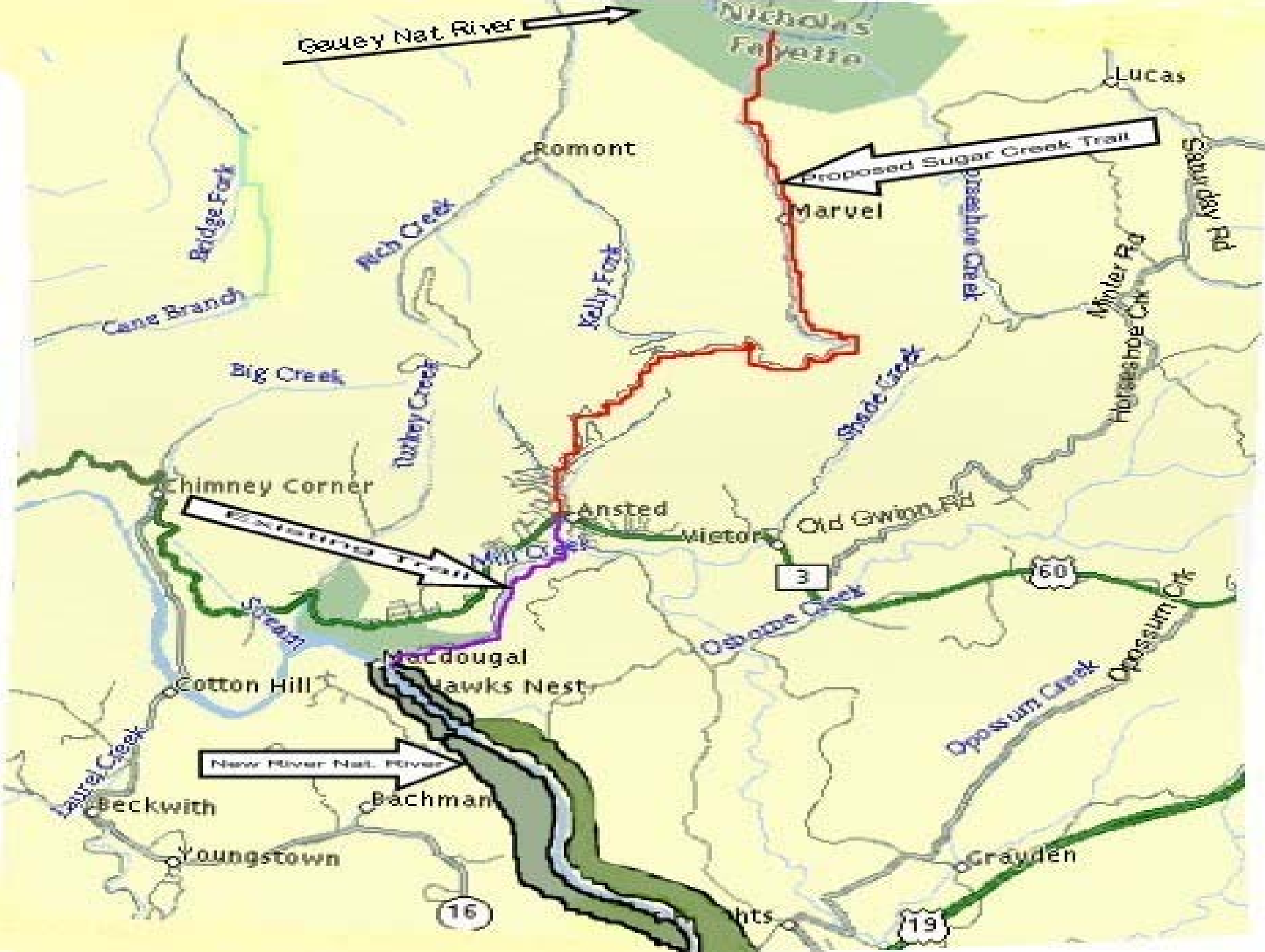
Existing Resources Cont.

Town of Ansted

- Existing 1.8 mile rail trail
- Visitor services
- Trail Parking
- Lodging
- Trail Access
- Museum Assets
- Approved Projects
- Five mile downhill bicycle route to New River
- Police, Fire, and medical services
- Trail extension opportunities
- Share boundaries with HNSP & NRGNR
- Historic / Heritage Assets
- Land development opportunities

Proposed Route

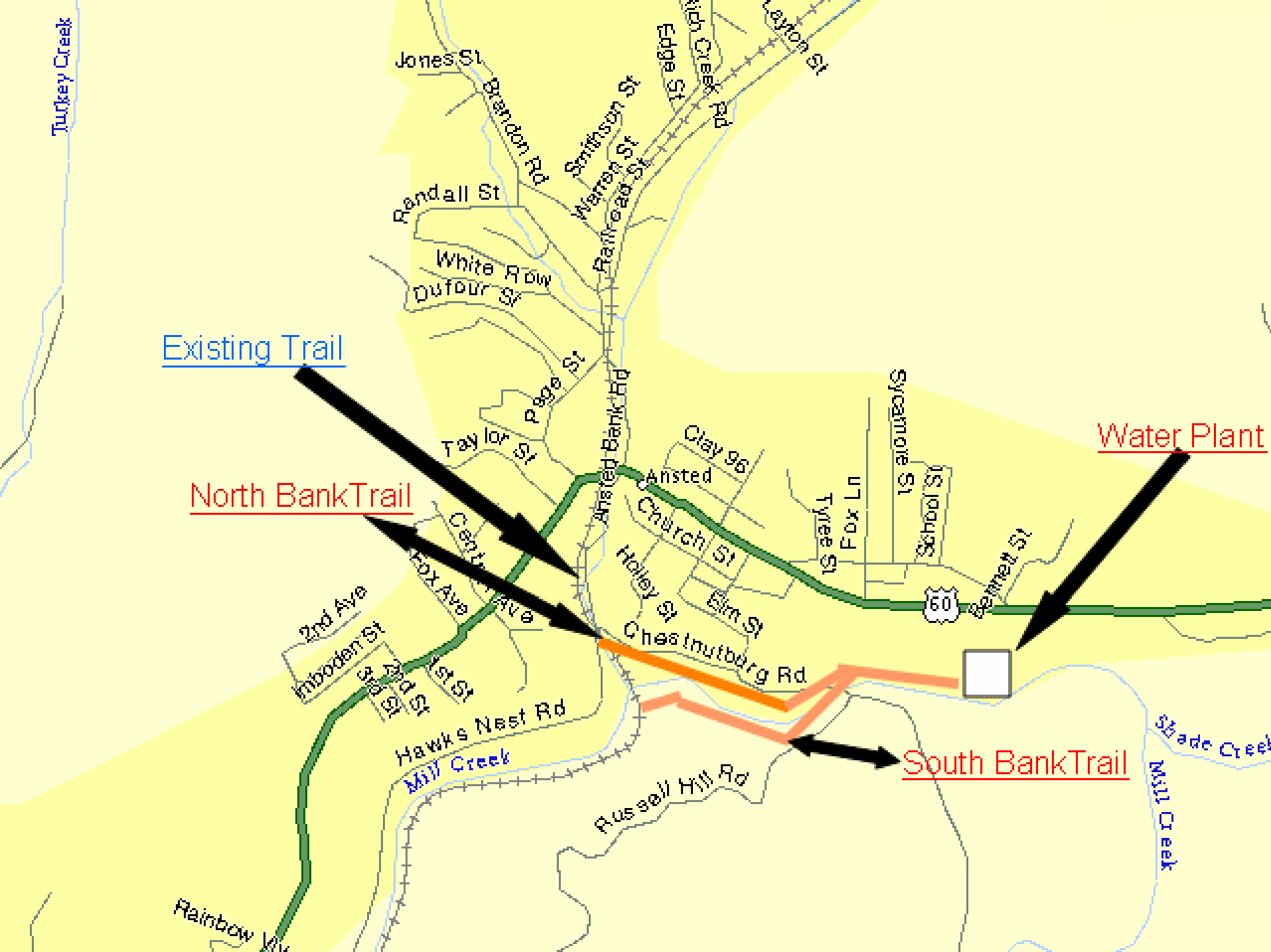
- **New North Rim trail in NPS / NGNR**
- **Use Existing 1.8 mile rail trail in Ansted**
- **Use planned 2007-08, 1.8 mile extension of trail in Ansted**
- **Route through old tunnels if possible**
- **Connect to Sugar Creek Road**
- **Make loop near Antioch Church Museum**
- **End at Gauley National River Recreation Area**
- **Provide multiple use trails on Mountain**
- **Connect with planned Mill Creek trails**



Resource Profile

Mill Creek Trails

- Zoned LC 1 (flood plane)
- 5 + miles of creek in town
- City boundaries to center of Mill Creek
- Could provide Kayak Access
- Trout fishing access
- Swimming
- Camping



Existing Trail

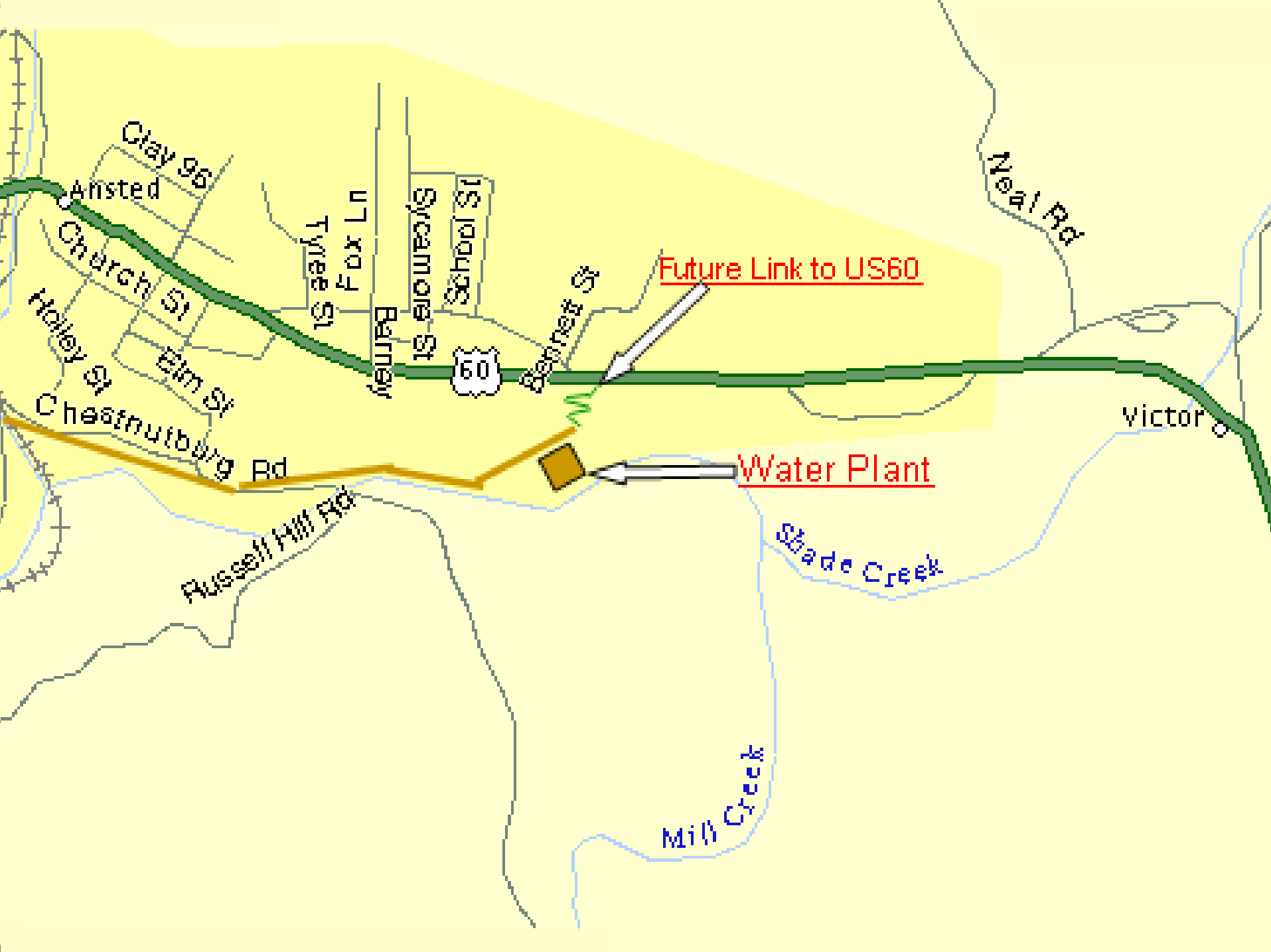
North Bank Trail

Water Plant

South Bank Trail

Resource Profile Water Plant

- Owned by Town of Ansted
- Building, Dam, creek access
- Zoned LC 1 (flood plane)
- Approximately 5.5 Acres
- City boundaries to center of Mill Creek
- Future link to US 60



Future Link to US60

Water Plant

Clay 96
Ansted

Church St

Holley St
Elm St

Chestnutburg Rd

Tyree St

Barney

Sycamore St

US 60

Barnes St

Neal Rd

Victor

Russell Hill Rd

Shade Creek

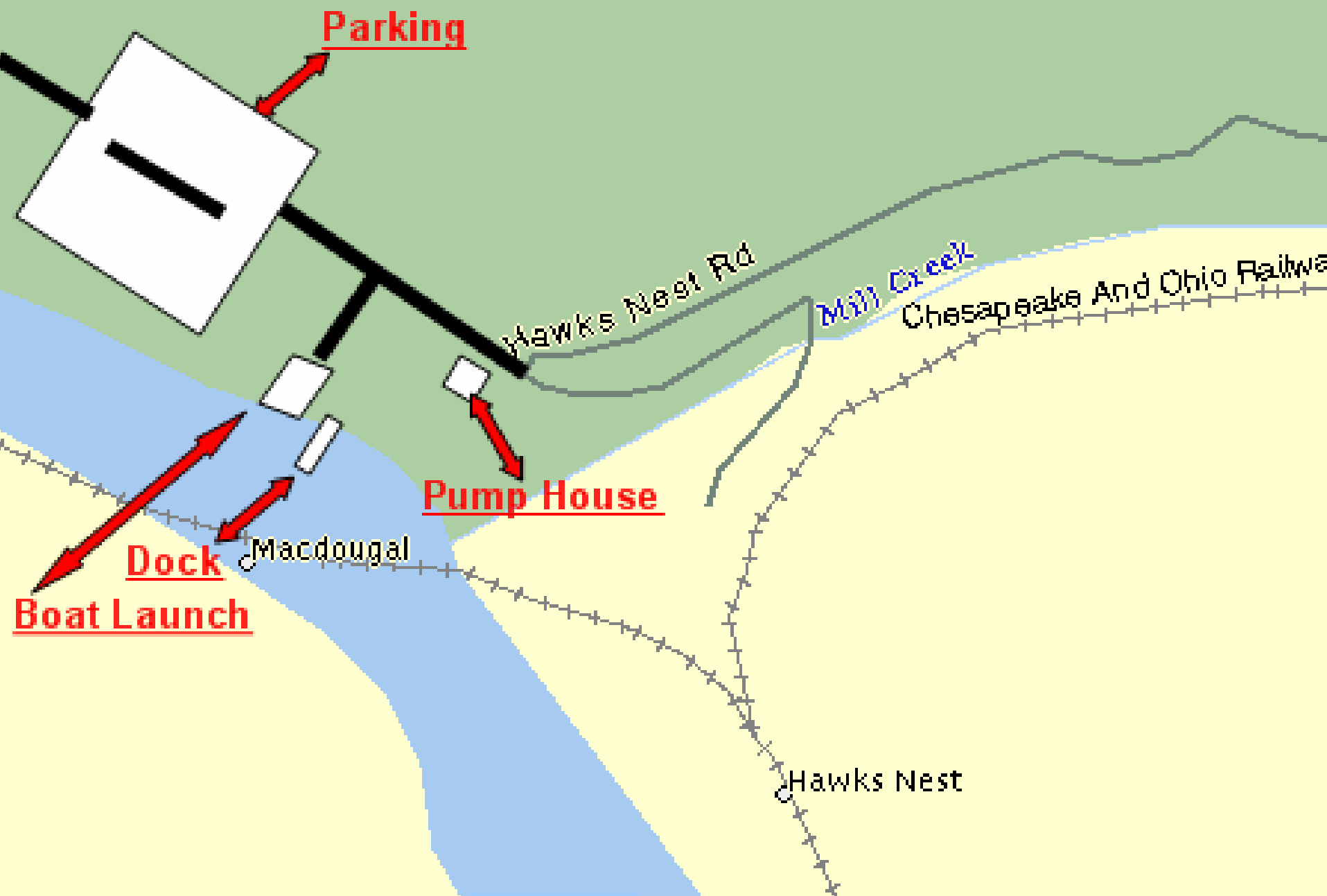
Mill Creek

Resource Profile

New River Access

- Hawks Nest Road (County Rd.)
- Mill Creek tributary
- Boat Launch
- 1.8 mile walking / bike trail from town
- Public parking at river
- Old pump house

Hawks Nest State Park



Expected Benefits

- Increase trail & river usage
 - National Park
 - State Parks
 - Improved use by local citizens
 - New trail walking areas for town
- Increased retail activity
- Opportunity for new businesses
 - Bait Shop
 - Camping fees
 - Bicycle Shop etc

Challenges to Development

- Right-of-way over Gauley Mountain
 - 13 land owners
 - Major land holdings by Imperial Colliery
- Engineering Study to re-open tunnels
- Accommodating various trail user groups
- Maintenance arrangements
- Policing arrangements
- Others?