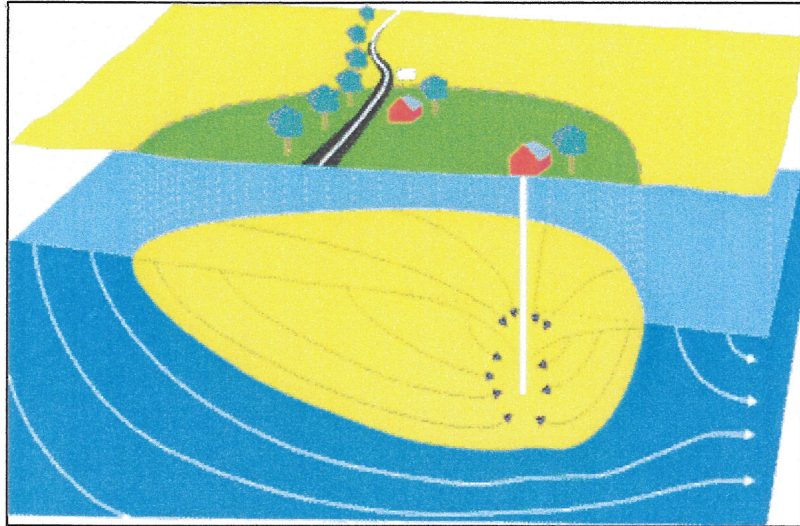


**SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT  
FOR FORT RITCHIE / SMITHSBURG  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD**



**Prepared By  
Water Management Administration  
Water Supply Program  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Maryland Department of Environment's Water Supply Program (WSP) has performed a Source Water Assessment for the Fort Ritchie water system in Washington County, Maryland. This water system is identified as Public Water System Identification (PWSID) 0210007 by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The required components of this report as described in Maryland's Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) are:

- Delineation of the area that contributes water to the source
- Identification of potential sources of contamination
- Determination of the susceptibility of the water supply to contamination
- Recommendations for protecting the drinking water supply

The source of Fort Ritchie's ground water supply is the Catocin Formation, which is an unconfined crystalline rock aquifer. The Source Water Protection Area (SWPA) for the three ground-water supply wells was delineated using the watershed delineation method for fractured bedrock wells. The area of the SWPA is based on land topography, and a calculation of the total ground-water contributing area during a drought. The WHPA is approximately 1713 acres in area.

Potential point and non-point sources of contamination within the assessment area were identified based on site visits, a review of MDE's databases, and a review of land use maps. Well information and water quality data for the system were also reviewed.

The susceptibility analysis for the Fort Ritchie water supply is based on a review of the water quality data, potential sources of contamination, aquifer characteristics, and well integrity. It was determined that the Fort Ritchie water supply may be susceptible to radionuclides and susceptible to total coliform bacteria, but not susceptible to synthetic organic compounds, volatile organic compounds, inorganic compounds, and microbiological contaminants including *gardia* & *cryptosporidium*.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Water Supply Program has conducted a Source Water Assessment for the Fort Ritchie water system in Washington County, Maryland.

The Fort Ritchie water system serves the U. S. Army Garrison at Fort Ritchie, about three miles northeast of Smithsburg, Washington County, Maryland. The Fort obtains its water supply from 6 wells and one spring. The annual average water use from all sources has averaged 67,000 gallons per day (gpd) for the past 3 years. The average use in the month of maximum use has been 85,000 gpd for the same period. The water system is owned by the federal government and operated by the base facilities engineering office. It serves a current population of 400 with 425 connections. These seven ground water sources together are permitted to appropriate 270,000 gpd. The base is scheduled to be closed but no definite date has been set for closure.

### 1.1 GROUND-WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM INFORMATION

Six of the seven existing wells were drilled in 1942 by the U.S. Geological Survey and may not be in compliance with the State's current well construction standards, which were implemented in 1973. Table 1 contains a summary of the wells and spring information.

Four of the six production wells (5,6,7,8) are situated along an easement north of the Ritchie facility. A fifth well (well 1) is located in the center of the facility parallel to the regional fracture trend. Well 9 and spring 2 are located on the southern boundary at the reservoir. See Figure 1 for wells and spring locations.

TABLE 1. WELL INFORMATION – FORT RITCHIE - PWSID # 0210007

Well #	Permit No.	Completion Date	Total Depth (ft)	Casing Depth (ft)	Water Appropriation Permit ID (Appropriation)	Aquifer Formation	Remarks
01	WA-AK008	1942	340	82	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Catoctin Metabasalt	Active well
05	WA-AI009	1942	200	43	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Catoctin Metabasalt	Active well
06	WA-AI010	1942	191	41	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Catoctin Metabasalt	Well has no pump. Kept for standby
07	WA-AI011	1942	25	25	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Catoctin Metabasalt	Active well

08	WA-AI012	1942	35	35	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Catoctin Metabasalt	Active well
09	WA-88- 1261	1991	82	82	WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Weaverton	Active well
Spring 2					WA1982G200 (270,000 gpd)	Weaverton	Continuously flows into a reservoir

## 1.2 HYDROGEOLOGY

Fort Ritchie is divided almost in the middle by two geologic formations (Figure 3). The eastern portion is underlain by Precambrian-aged metabasalt of the Catoctin Formation. This unconfined fractured-rock aquifer is characterized by massive metamorphosed basaltic rock which may contain quartz, epidote or marble lenses. This formation is generally overlain by a thin mantle of highly weathered rock material. The western portion of Fort Ritchie is mapped geologically as the Weaverton Formation. It is a thin-bedded quartzite with interbedded phyllite overlain by a thick mantle of highly weathered rock.

The source of the ground water in Washington County is from precipitation in the form of rainfall or snowmelt. Most of the ground water available to the wells and spring exists in the weathered rock zone and in the overlying saprolite. Stream valleys tend to follow fracture traces and four of the wells (5,6,7,8) at Fort Ritchie are in a valley along a lineament, possibly a marble lens. The location of the wells in a relatively straight line suggest that they are withdrawing water from the same fracture zone.

Well # 9 and Spring 2 are located along the geologic contact for the Weaverton / Catoctin formations in a valley surrounded by mountains on three sides.

## 2. SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AREA DELINEATION

For ground-water systems, a Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) is considered to be the source water assessment and protection area for the system. Consistent with the recommended delineation in the Maryland SWAP (MDE 1999), the watershed drainage area that contributes ground water to the supply wells methodology was used.

This original delineation shape was then modified by accounting for surface water bodies, topography, significant land features, and by using a conservative calculation of total ground-water recharge during a drought. For conservative purposes, a drought condition recharge value of 400 gpd per acre (or approximately 5.4 inches per year) was used to estimate the total ground-water contribution area required to supply the wells.

For Fort Ritchie, the current Water Appropriation Permit issued by the MDE Source Protection and Appropriation Division is for an average of 270,000 gpd for the six wells and spring 2. To determine the total ground-water contribution area during a drought, the following equation was used:

$$\text{Recharge Area (acre)} = \text{Average Use (gpd)} / \text{Drought Condition Recharge (gpd/acre)}.$$

From the equation above, the required ground-water contributing area during a drought is approximately 675 acres. The delineated WHPA is approximately 1713 acres (Figure 1), which is significantly more area than needed to accommodate the permitted withdrawal rate. Additional site specific data would be needed to further refine the delineated area to more closely match the recharge area needed to support the appropriation permit.

### 3. INVENTORY OF POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS WITHIN THE DELINEATED AREA

The MDE database was queried for potential contaminant sources within and near the WHPA. The contaminant databases include the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Information System (CERCLIS), which includes National Priority List (Superfund) sites, Maryland Registered Underground Storage Tank (UST) sites, Maryland Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) sites, landfills, pesticide dealers, ground-water discharge permits, Colonial Tanks & Pipelines, and Controlled Hazard Substances (CHS) generator sites.

#### 3.1 POINT SOURCES

Potential point sources of contamination listed in the table below were identified and mapped from the MDE database. The database indicates that there are facilities that generate controlled hazardous substances, (CHS-Generators); ground water discharge (Dischargers), and underground storage tanks (UST) (Figure 2). This is a military installation that is in the processes of being closed. The population has dropped from 2000 in 1997 to 400 in 2005. No field verification was made to determine the current status of any of these contaminant sources.

Table 2 – POTENTIAL POINT SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN WHPA

TYPE OF FACILITY	COMMENTS
CHS-Generator U.S. Army Garrison- Fort Ritchie MDE Code 8210020758 Record Code 162	Site on the base that may contain hazardous substances Electric Transformer Site
Highfield ?Cascade WWTP Surface Water Discharger	Site Id – 90-DP-2749
Fort Ritchies WWTP Municipal Waste Water Discharger	Site Id – 94-DP-3107
Fort Ritchie Inactive groundwater Discharger	Site Id – 90-DP-2516
UST Cascade Elementary School 14519 Pennersville Rd 10,000 gal heating oil tank	Facility ID – 303 Owner ID - 139

A facility classified as a Controlled Hazard Substance Generator is one where hazardous substances are generated or stored. If these substances are handled inappropriately, they could contaminate ground water via a discrete point source. There is one CHS generator in the WHPA. The two active surface water dischargers are down gradient of the wells and therefore are low risk for producing contaminant sources to the wells and spring. The single UST at Cascade elementary is a 10,000 gallon heating oil tank that could be a potential contaminant source if it leaks.

### 3.2 NON-POINT SOURCES

The Maryland Department of Planning’s 2002 Land Use/Land Cover map for Washington County was used to determine potential non-point sources within the wellhead protection area (WHPA). The evaluation was based on land use designation (Figure 4). A summary of the percentage and acreage of each type of land use, using the 2002 map is presented in Table 3 below:

Table 3. - 2002 PERCENTAGE OF EACH LAND USE TYPE WITHIN WHPA

Type of Land Use	Area (acres)	Percent of Total (%)
Low Density Residential	318	19
Medium Density Residential	69	4
Commercial	328	19
Open Urban Land	31	2
Cropland	33	2
Pasture	32	2
Forest	879	51
Water	23	1
Total Area	1713	100



Residential areas account for 23 % of the total WHPA area. Figure 4 shows that the majority of the developed land use within the WHPA is currently served by or will be served by community sewer. The use of fertilizers and pesticides are also potential sources of pollution generally associated with residential land uses. Forested land area account for the majority of the land area within the WHPA.

#### 4. REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY DATA

This chapter discusses the water quality data that has been reported to MDE for all the active Fort Ritchie wells and spring 2. The SWAP defines a threshold for reporting water quality data as 50% of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). If a monitoring result is greater than 50% of an MCL, this assessment will describe the sources of such a contaminant and if possible locate the specific sources that are the cause of the elevated contaminant level. The Fort Ritchie water system has three plants that treat the water before it is pumped into the system. Table 4 is a list of the plants and the associated sources and type of treatment provided for the raw water.

TABLE 4. WELLS AND PLANT AT FORT RITCHIE

PWSID	WELL ID	PLANT ID	TREATMENT
210007	Fort Ritchie 1	2	Hexametaphosphate for corrosion control
210007	Fort Ritchie 5	5	
210007	Fort Ritchie 6		PH Adjustment
210007	Fort Ritchie 7		
210007	Fort Ritchie 8		6
210007	Fort Ritchie 9		
210007	Spring 2	Fluoridation	

Water from well 1 is distributed to the system from plant 2. Wells 5,6,7, & 8 are treated and distributed from plant 5 and water from well 9 and spring 2 are distributed to the system from plant 6.

#### 4.1 VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOC)

For the system, Table 5 lists all VOCs detected for the active sources. The presence of bromoform, chloroform, bromodichloromethane, and dibromochloromethane is due to the reaction of chlorine from the water treatment plant with naturally occurring organic compounds in the raw water. The concentrations observed were less than 10 parts per billion, which is below the maximum allowable level of 80 parts per billion for the sum of these four compounds. A

review of the data also shows that well 2 (now inactive) had detectable levels of tetrachloroethylene in the early to mid 1990s.

TABLE 5. VOC DETECTS

PWSID	PL	CONTAMINANT NAME	MCL (ppb)	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT (ppb)
210007	1	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		25-Oct-90	1.6
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		25-Oct-90	0.4
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		18-Jan-96	1.4
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		9-Apr-97	0.9
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		1-Apr-98	0.9
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.6
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		9-Sep-02	1.7
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		28-Oct-02	2.6
210007	6	BROMODICHLOROMETHANE		25-Mar-05	3.2
210007	1	CHLOROFORM		25-Oct-90	2.3
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		18-Jan-96	1.1
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		9-Apr-97	1
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		1-Apr-98	1.7
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		2-Mar-99	3
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		9-Sep-02	4.8
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		28-Oct-02	5
210007	6	CHLOROFORM		25-Mar-05	7.8
210007	3	CHLOROMETHANE		27-Aug-97	3
210007	2	CHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.6
210007	3	CHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.4
210007	6	CHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.7
210007	4	CHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.4
210007	5	CHLOROMETHANE		2-Mar-99	1.2
210007	6	CHLOROMETHANE		9-Sep-02	2.5
210007	1	DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE		25-Oct-90	0.6
210007	6	DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE		25-Oct-90	0.2
210007	6	DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE		28-Oct-02	0.7
210007	6	DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE		25-Mar-05	0.7
210007	3	STYRENE	100	27-Aug-97	1
210007	2	TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	5	7-Jun-90	0.8
210007	2	TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	5	17-Aug-90	3.5
210007	4	TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	5	17-Aug-90	0.2
210007	3	TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	5	18-Jan-96	1.2
210007	3	TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	5	31-Oct-97	1

## 4.2 SYNTHETIC ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Two synthetic organic compounds were detected in the finished water sample for plants 5 and 6. Di (2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate exceeded the MCL on two out of 8 samples taken between 1995 and 2002. This contaminant is used in the manufacture of plastics and can cause reproductive difficulties, liver problems and cancer in humans. A review of the data indicates that both these SOC's were detected in the laboratory blanks and therefore we do not believe represent the water quality of the supply.

TABLE 6. SOC DETECTS

PWSID	PLANT	CONTAMINANT NAME	MCL (ppb)	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT (ppb)
210007	6	DALAPON	200	28-Oct-02	0.1
210007	2	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) ADIPATE	400	28-Jun-95	1.89
210007	3	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) ADIPATE	400	28-Jun-95	1.09
210007	4	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) ADIPATE	400	28-Jun-95	3.25
210007	2	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	28-Jun-95	0.59
210007	3	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	28-Jun-95	2.29
210007	4	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	28-Jun-95	2.78
210007	5	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	28-Jun-95	1.4
210007	6	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	28-Jun-95	0.57
<b>210007</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>26-Sep-01</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>210007</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>28-Oct-02</b>	<b>12.9</b>
210007	5	DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	6	1-Sep-04	1.1

## 4.3 INORGANIC COMPOUNDS

No inorganic compound has been detected above 50% of the MCL for any finished water sample taken since 1993. A summary of all detected IOC concentrations in the ground-water samples collected is shown in Table 7.

Table 7. SUMMARY OF IOC DETECTS

PWSID	PLANT	CONTAMINANT NAME	MCL (PPM)	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT (ppm)
210007	2	BARIUM	2	15-May-01	0.08
210007	6	BARIUM	2	15-May-01	0.06
210007	5	BARIUM	2	19-Nov-01	0.006
210007	2	BARIUM	2	26-Jul-04	0.029
210007	6	BARIUM	2	26-Jul-04	0.07
210007	3	CALCIUM		17-Oct-94	36.4
210007	5	CALCIUM		17-Oct-94	11.6
210007	3	CALCIUM		28-Jun-95	36.4
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	28-Jun-95	0.77

210007	3	FLUORIDE	4	28-Jun-95	0.81
210007	4	FLUORIDE	4	28-Jun-95	0.96
210007	5	FLUORIDE	4	28-Jun-95	1.02
210007	6	FLUORIDE	4	28-Jun-95	1.05
210007	3	FLUORIDE	4	10-Feb-98	1
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	1-Apr-98	0.8
210007	6	FLUORIDE	4	1-Apr-98	1.1
210007	5	FLUORIDE	4	5-Nov-98	0.95
210007	4	FLUORIDE	4	3-Feb-99	0.1
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	28-Mar-01	0.86
210007	5	FLUORIDE	4	28-Mar-01	0.66
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	15-May-01	0.4
210007	6	FLUORIDE	4	15-May-01	0.35
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	26-Jul-04	0.36
210007	5	FLUORIDE	4	26-Jul-04	0.27
210007	6	FLUORIDE	4	26-Jul-04	0.3
210007	2	FLUORIDE	4	1-Sep-04	0.68
210007	5	FLUORIDE	4	1-Sep-04	0.68
210007	3	IRON	.3	17-Oct-94	0.18
210007	3	IRON	.3	28-Jun-95	0.18
210007	2	NICKEL		15-May-01	0.019
210007	6	NICKEL		15-May-01	0.007
210007	5	NICKEL		19-Nov-01	0.006
210007	1	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	1.1
210007	2	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	1.2
210007	3	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	1.2
210007	4	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	1.4
210007	5	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	2.6
210007	6	NITRATE	10	10-Mar-93	1.8
210007	3	NITRATE	10	19-Oct-94	1.26
210007	5	NITRATE	10	19-Oct-94	1.91
210007	2	NITRATE	10	28-Jun-95	1.1
210007	3	NITRATE	10	28-Jun-95	1.1
210007	4	NITRATE	10	28-Jun-95	0.8
210007	5	NITRATE	10	28-Jun-95	0.7
210007	6	NITRATE	10	28-Jun-95	0.5
210007	5	NITRATE	10	25-Aug-95	2.06
210007	3	NITRATE	10	11-Dec-96	1.24
210007	4	NITRATE	10	11-Dec-96	0.923
210007	5	NITRATE	10	11-Dec-96	1.4
210007	2	NITRATE	10	8-Dec-97	0.965
210007	3	NITRATE	10	8-Dec-97	1.56
210007	4	NITRATE	10	8-Dec-97	1.51
210007	5	NITRATE	10	8-Dec-97	1.93
210007	6	NITRATE	10	8-Dec-97	0.789
210007	3	NITRATE	10	10-Feb-98	1
210007	2	NITRATE	10	1-Apr-98	0.3
210007	6	NITRATE	10	1-Apr-98	0.5
210007	5	NITRATE	10	5-Nov-98	1.6

210007	3	NITRATE	10	1-Dec-98	0.873
210007	4	NITRATE	10	1-Dec-98	0.5
210007	4	NITRATE	10	3-Feb-99	1.6
210007	2	NITRATE	10	7-Dec-99	0.7
210007	4	NITRATE	10	7-Dec-99	1.3
210007	5	NITRATE	10	7-Dec-99	1.7
210007	6	NITRATE	10	7-Dec-99	0.8
210007	2	NITRATE	10	12-Dec-00	0.3
210007	4	NITRATE	10	12-Dec-00	1.3
210007	5	NITRATE	10	12-Dec-00	2.2
210007	6	NITRATE	10	12-Dec-00	0.8
210007	2	NITRATE	10	28-Mar-01	0.2
210007	5	NITRATE	10	28-Mar-01	1.6
210007	5	NITRATE	10	19-Nov-01	1
210007	1	NITRATE	10	31-Jan-02	0.6
210007	2	NITRATE	10	31-Jan-02	0.5
210007	6	NITRATE	10	31-Jan-02	0.6
210007	2	NITRATE	10	25-Nov-02	0.6
210007	5	NITRATE	10	25-Nov-02	1.8
210007	6	NITRATE	10	25-Nov-02	0.7
210007	2	NITRATE	10	23-Oct-03	0.4
210007	5	NITRATE	10	23-Oct-03	1.7
210007	6	NITRATE	10	23-Oct-03	0.7
210007	2	NITRATE	10	1-Sep-04	0.5
210007	5	NITRATE	10	1-Sep-04	1.9
210007	2	NITRATE	10	22-Nov-04	0.1
210007	5	NITRATE	10	22-Nov-04	1.6
210007	6	NITRATE	10	22-Nov-04	1.2
210007	2	NITRITE	1	19-Oct-94	0.02
210007	3	NITRITE	1	28-Jun-95	0.002
210007	1	pH		17-Oct-94	8.6
210007	2	pH		17-Oct-94	6.7
210007	3	pH		17-Oct-94	8.6
210007	3	pH		17-Oct-94	8.6
210007	4	pH		17-Oct-94	6.4
210007	5	pH		17-Oct-94	6.4
210007	5	pH		17-Oct-94	6.4
210007	5	pH		17-Oct-94	9.7
210007	5	pH		17-Oct-94	6.4
210007	2	pH		28-Jun-95	8.2
210007	3	pH		28-Jun-95	9.6
210007	4	pH		28-Jun-95	7
210007	5	pH		28-Jun-95	7.9
210007	6	pH		28-Jun-95	6.7
210007	2	pH		23-Jun-97	7.3
210007	3	pH		23-Jun-97	7.1
210007	5	pH		23-Jun-97	6.9
210007	3	SODIUM		17-Oct-94	97.5
210007	5	SODIUM		17-Oct-94	165

210007	3	SODIUM		28-Jun-95	97.5
210007	3	SODIUM		10-Feb-98	99.1
210007	2	SODIUM		1-Apr-98	106
210007	6	SODIUM		1-Apr-98	25.4
210007	5	SODIUM		5-Nov-98	70.1
210007	4	SODIUM		3-Feb-99	39.8
210007	2	SODIUM		28-Mar-01	387
210007	5	SODIUM		28-Mar-01	37
210007	2	SODIUM		1-Sep-04	38.7
210007	5	SODIUM		1-Sep-04	37.3
210007	2	SULFATE		28-Jun-95	12
210007	3	SULFATE		28-Jun-95	9.4
210007	4	SULFATE		28-Jun-95	8.2
210007	5	SULFATE		28-Jun-95	6.5
210007	6	SULFATE		28-Jun-95	4.8
210007	3	SULFATE		10-Feb-98	29
210007	2	SULFATE		1-Apr-98	2.8
210007	6	SULFATE		1-Apr-98	2.8
210007	5	SULFATE		5-Nov-98	2.8
210007	4	SULFATE		3-Feb-99	17.3

#### 4.4 MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

To assess the potential of Ground Water Under the Direct Influence (GWUDI) of surface water, ground-water sampling records were reviewed. Ground water supplies are tested for surface water influence to determine their susceptibility to surface water microorganisms such as giardia and cryptosporidium. These microorganisms are resistant to simple disinfection treatment.

If surface water directly recharges an aquifer through major fractures in rock and do not pass through the soil overburden then an aquifer is likely to have elevated levels of coliform bacteria that would have otherwise been filtered out. These values would be particularly high following a significant rainfall event. Sampling carried out following such events is used to determine the potential for a water supply well to be under the direct influence of surface water.

In 1998 and 1999, GWUDI tests were carried out on the wells and spring at Fort Ritchie. The results are given in Table 8. Well 1 tested positive for total coliform in March 1999 but tested negative in a subsequent test in June. Well 6 tested positive for total coliform in four samples taken in March 1999. In June only two of the four samples tested positive for total coliform from the same well. Well 7 tested positive for total coliform in 6 of 8 samples taken in March and June of 1999. Well 8 tested positive in 5 of 8 samples tested in March and June of 1999. Spring 2 had some fecal coliform in early samples, but none when re-sampled.

From an assessment of the ground-water sampling results from the wells and spring, the ground water at Fort Ritchie is not under the direct influence of surface water.

Table 8. GWUDI TEST RESULTS – PWSID 0210007

SOURCE NAME	RAIN DATE	RAIN AMOUNT (INCHES)	REMARK	SAMPLE DATE	TEMP (°C)	PH	TURBIDITY NTU)	TOTAL COLIFORM	FECAL COLIFORM
FT RITCHIE1	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	13.8	6.3	0.34	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	13.9	6.4	0.3	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	13.3	6.5	0.11	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	13.3	6.2	0.7	8.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	14.4	6.2	2.5	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	14.4	6.4	0.38	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	13.3	6.4	1.5	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	13.3	6.4	0.3	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	26-Jan-00	0	DRY	26-Jan-00	13.3	6	1.5	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE1	26-Feb-01	0	DRY	26-Feb-01	11.1	6.6	0.4	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	1-Dec-98	0	DRY	1-Dec-98		7.2	0.1	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 5	19-Jan-99	0	DRY	19-Jan-99		6.8	0.45	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 5	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	12.8	6.6	0.52	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.23	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.2	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.21	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	13.3	6.4	0.4	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	12.2	6.4	0.1	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	13.3	6.5	0.1	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 5	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.11	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	1-Dec-98	0	DRY	1-Dec-98		9.3	0.15	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 6	19-Jan-99	0	DRY	19-Jan-99		6.8	0.09	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 6	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	12.2	6.5	1	8.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.08	8.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	12.2	6.3	0.09	8	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.09	8	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	14.4	6.3	0.25	2.6	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	12.2	6.4	0.08	8.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.07	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 6	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	11.1	6.5	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	1-Dec-98	0	DRY	1-Dec-98		7.5	0.12	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 7	19-Jan-99	0	DRY	19-Jan-99		6.8	0.2	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 7	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.69	1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.19	1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.21	1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	13.3	6.3	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.17	8	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	12.2	6.4	0.09	4.6	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.08	8.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 7	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	11.1	6.4	0.08	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	1-Dec-98	0	DRY	1-Dec-98		6.8	0.11	-1	-1
FT RITCHIE 8	19-Jan-99	0	DRY	19-Jan-99		6.7	0.11	1	-1
FT RITCHIE 8	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.28	2.6	-1.1

FT RITCHIE 8	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.16	2.6	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	11.7	6.5	0.11	1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	12.2	6.4	0.06	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.25	4.6	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.09	2.6	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	12.2	6.5	0.1	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 8	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	11.1	6.5	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	11.1	5.6	0.68	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	11.1	5.6	0.31	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	11.1	5.7	0.45	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	11.1	5.6	0.44	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	12.2	5.7	0.13	4.6	4.6
FT RITCHIE 9	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	11.1	5.7	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	11.1	5.7	0.16	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	10	5.7	0.2	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	26-Jan-00	0	DRY	26-Jan-00	12.2	5.5	2.2	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	28-Feb-00	8.9	-6	1.5	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	29-Feb-00	10	-6	1.1	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	1-Mar-00	10	-6	1.2	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	2-Mar-00	10	-6	1.3	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	5-Mar-01	11.1	6	1.6	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	6-Mar-01	11.1	6	1.1	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	7-Mar-01	11.1	6	1.5	-1.1	-1.1
FT RITCHIE 9	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	8-Mar-01	11.1	6	3.6	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	1-Dec-98	0	DRY	1-Dec-98		5.6	0.1	-1	-1
SPRING 2	19-Jan-99	0	DRY	19-Jan-99		5.7	0.17	3.1	-1
SPRING 2	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	22-Mar-99	8.9	4.8	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	23-Mar-99	8.9	5	0.06	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	24-Mar-99	8.9	4.9	0.06	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	21-Mar-99	1.06	WET	25-Mar-99	8.9	4.8	0.06	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	15-Jun-99	10.6	4.9	0.09	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	16-Jun-99	10.6	4.9	0.07	8	2.6
SPRING 2	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	17-Jun-99	11.1	4.8	0.07	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	15-Jun-99	0.5	WET	18-Jun-99	10	4.9	0.12	8	4.6
SPRING 2	26-Jan-00	0	DRY	26-Jan-00	11.1	-5.5	1.2	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	28-Feb-00	8.9	-6	2.3	2.6	-1.1
SPRING 2	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	29-Feb-00	10	-6	1.7	8.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	1-Mar-00	10	-6	1	1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	27-Feb-00	1.05	WET	2-Mar-00	10	-6	1.2	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	5-Mar-01	11.1	6	0.3	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	6-Mar-01	11.1	6	0.3	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	7-Mar-01	11.1	6	0.3	-1.1	-1.1
SPRING 2	5-Mar-01	1.26	WET	8-Mar-01	11.1	6	0.3	-1.1	-1.1



#### 4.5 RADIONUCLIDES

A summary of all radionuclides concentrations in the ground-water samples collected from the finished water at the plants serving the system are shown in Table 9 below. Radionuclides have primary drinking water standard parameters, except for Radon-222. EPA has proposed an MCL of 300 pCi/L and an alternate MCL of 4000 pCi/L for community water systems if the State has a program to address the more significant risk from radon in indoor air. The occurrence of these radionuclides is due to the decay of uranium and thorium in the aquifer.

TABLE 9. SUMMARY OF RADIONUCLIDES DETECTS

PWSID	PL	CONTAMINANT	MCL (pCi/L)	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT (pCi/L)
210007	6	COMBINED RADIUM (226 & 228)	5	19-Nov-03	2.2
210007	6	GROSS ALPHA	15	20-Dec-99	2
210007	6	GROSS ALPHA	15	19-Nov-03	4
210007	3	GROSS BETA	50	20-Dec-99	2
210007	6	GROSS BETA	50	20-Dec-99	2
210007	6	GROSS BETA	50	19-Nov-03	9
210007	6	RADIUM-228	5	19-Nov-03	2.2
210007	1	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	490
210007	2	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	85
210007	3	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	490
210007	4	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	480
210007	5	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	1845
210007	5	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	2020
210007	5	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	605
210007	5	RADON-222	300*	17-Oct-94	2005
210007	2	RADON-222	300*	23-Jun-97	90
210007	3	RADON-222	300*	23-Jun-97	240
210007	5	RADON-222	300*	23-Jun-97	1735
210007	6	RADON-222	300*	20-Dec-99	160

\* proposed MCL – not adopted

#### 5. SUSCEPTIBILITY ANALYSIS

To evaluate the susceptibility of the ground-water source to contamination, the following criteria were used:

1. The available water quality data
2. The presence of potential contaminant sources in the WHPA
3. The aquifer characteristics
4. The well integrity
5. The likelihood of change to the natural conditions

Fort Ritchie wells withdraw water from the unconfined fractured-rock aquifer. Wells using unconfined aquifers are in general more susceptible to contamination from surface activities. Table 9 summarizes the susceptibility of Fort Ritchie's ground water supply to the various contaminants.

#### 5.1 VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOCs)

There is one point source of a Controlled Hazardous Substance (CHS) and one UST site within the WHPA. Based on the water quality data reviewed, it is determined that the active water supply sources at Fort Ritchie are not susceptible to VOCs.

#### 5.2 SYNTHETIC ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (SOCs)

Our investigation did not yield any significant source of ground water contamination by synthetic organic compounds.

In addition, from the drillers log for well 9, there is approximately 45 ft of soil overburden above the bedrock aquifer. Most synthetic organic compounds have a high affinity to adhere to soil particles and with the significant soil overburden thickness reported, application of pesticides and herbicides on croplands and residential areas are not likely to infiltrate into the ground-water aquifer.

Based on the water quality data reviewed and lack of identified sources of ground water contamination by synthetic organic compounds, the water supply was determine to not be susceptible to SOCs.

#### 5.3 INORGANIC COMPOUNDS (IOCs)

Based on the water quality data reviewed, the water supply is not susceptible to regulated inorganic compounds (IOCs).

#### 5.4 RADIONUCLIDES

Water samples from all the plants serving FR had multiple occurrences where results exceeded the lower proposed MCL for Radon-222. Radon 222 is naturally occurring and is present due to the decay of uranium bearing minerals in the rock aquifer.

Depending on the standard adopted by the EPA and based on the water quality data, the water supply at Fort Ritchie may be susceptible to radon-222 but not to other radionuclides.

## 5.5 MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

From an assessment of GWUDI ground-water results by MDE, the six wells, and spring 2 are not under the direct influence of surface water. Based on the water quality review and the condition and construction of the wells and spring, the ground water supply at Fort Ritchie is not susceptible to bacterial or protozoan contaminants present on the surface including Giardia & cryptosporidium, but are susceptible to total coliform bacteria.

TABLE 10: SUSCEPTIBILITY LOGIC CHART – PWSID # 070248

Contaminant Name	Are Contaminant Sources Present in WHPA?	Are Contaminants Detected in WQ Samples at Levels of Concern?	Is Well Integrity a Factor?	Is the Aquifer Vulnerable?	Is the System Susceptible?
VOC	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
SOC	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
IOC	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
RADIONUCLIDES	YES <sup>1</sup>	MAYBE	NO	YES	MAYBE
MICROBIOLOGICAL PATHOGENS	NO	NO YES (total coliform)	NO	NO	NO (Gardia & Cryptosporidium) YES (total coliform)

<sup>1</sup> Naturally occurring in the aquifer

## 6. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTECTING THE WATER SUPPLY

With the information contained in this report, Fort Ritchie is provided an overview of the risks to its drinking water supply. Being aware of the WHPA, knowing potential contaminant sources, evaluating current and future development, staying informed of MDE's progress on investigating ground water contamination, and effective outreach and education are examples of management practices that will help protect the water supply.

## 6.1 MONITORING

The system should continue to monitor the ground water for all SWDA contaminants as required by MDE.

Annual raw water sampling for microbiological contaminants is a good way to check the integrity of each well.

## 6.2 CONTIGENCY PLAN

As required by the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.04.01.22, all water system owners are required to prepare and submit for approval a plan to provide safe drinking water under emergency conditions.

## 6.3 CHANGES IN USE

The army has decided to close the base and sell the property. The new owner will need to make changes to the water appropriation permit and the changes could affect the WHPA. Methods for minimizing the risk of contamination to ground water from new land use should be part of all planning and development review.

## 6.4 CONTAMINANT SOURCE INVENTORY UPDATES/INSPECTIONS

The management of the water system is encouraged to conduct its own survey of the WHPA to ensure that there are no additional potential sources of contamination.

## 6.5 EDUCATION

Providing training on proper handling of hazardous materials to protect ground water resources should be implemented for all personnel involved in facility maintenance.

## 7. REFERENCES

The following sources of information were consulted as a part of this investigation:

1. Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Supply Program, 1999, Maryland's Source Water Assessment Plan, 36. p.
2. Maryland Geologic Survey 1968. *Washingtonl County Geologic Map adapted from Maryland Geological Survey's Geologic Map of Maryland.*
3. United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 1999. *Proposed Radon in Drinking Water Rule.* Office of Water. EPA 815-F-99-006. October.
4. United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2001. *A Small Systems Guide to the Total Coliform Rule.* Office of Water. EPA 816-R-01-017A. June.

### Sources of Data

Water Appropriation and Use Database  
Public Water Supply Inspection Reports  
Monitoring Reports  
MDE Water Supply Program Oracle Database  
MDE Waste Management Sites Database  
Maryland Office of Planning 2002 Washington County Land Use Map  
USGS Topographic 7.5 minute Quadrangle Map – 1953 (1985), Smithsburg Maryland Quad

**FIGURES**

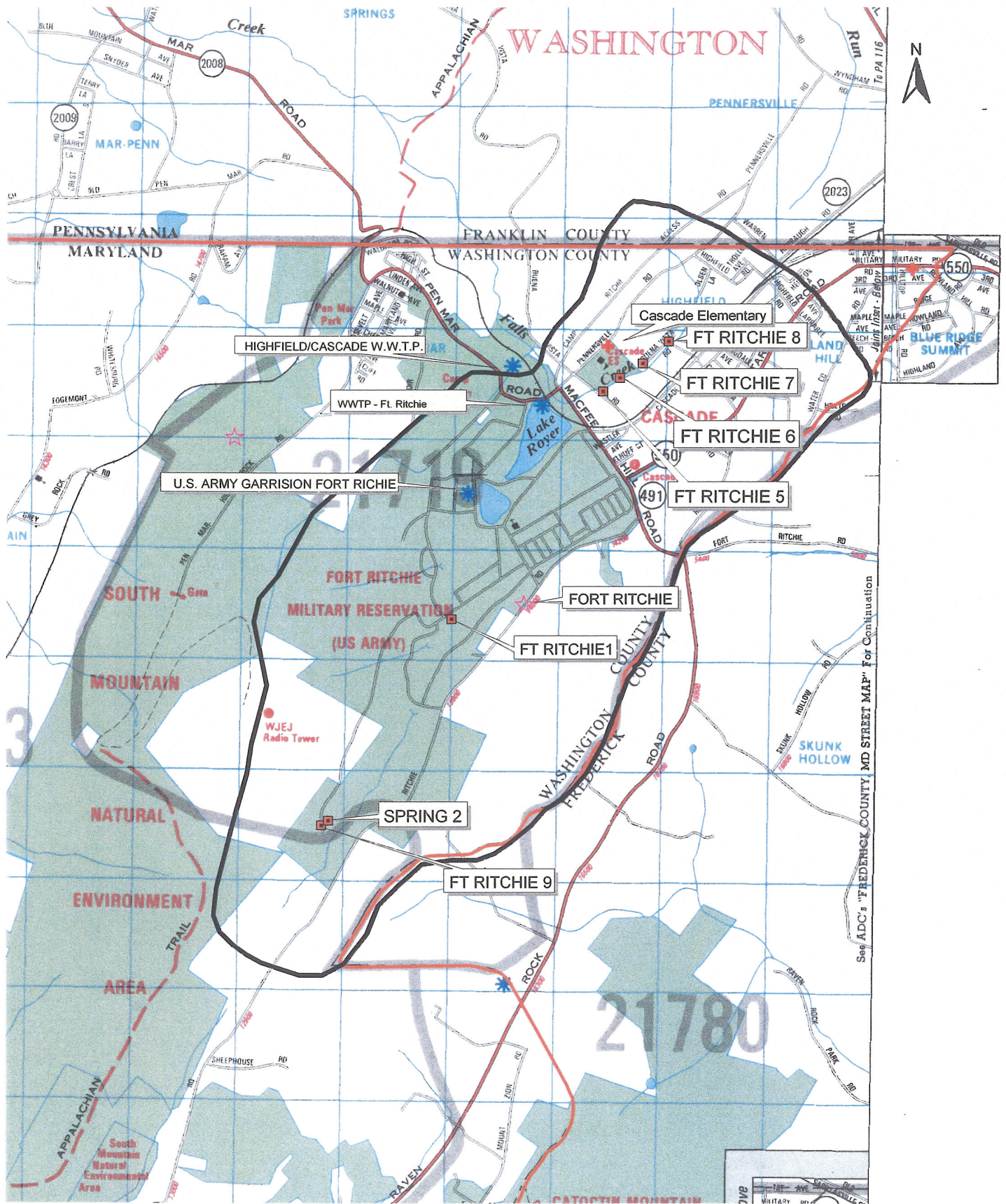
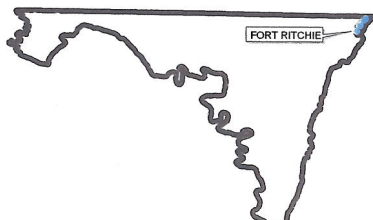


Figure 2: Potential Sources of Contamination in WHPA



Legend							
■	Water Sources	○	WHPA	*	Chs-Generators	+	UST

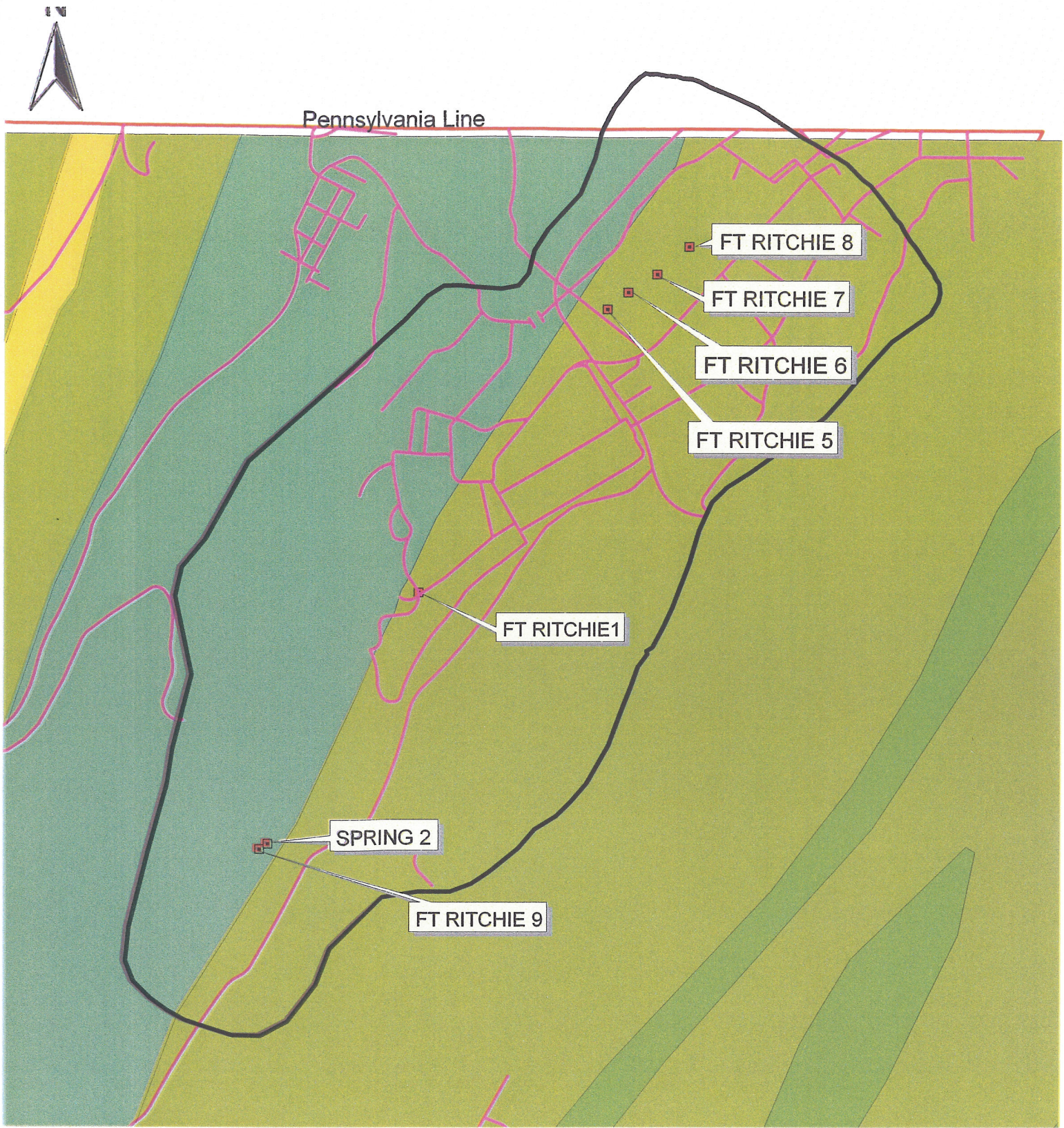
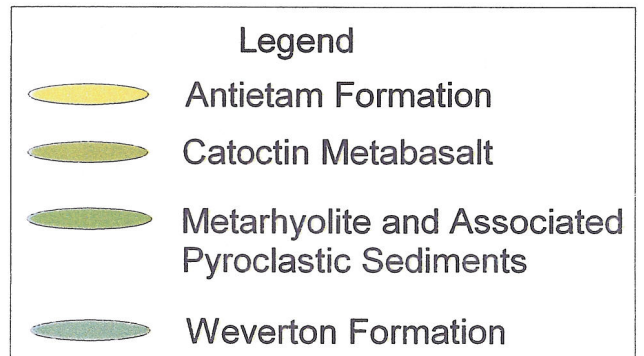
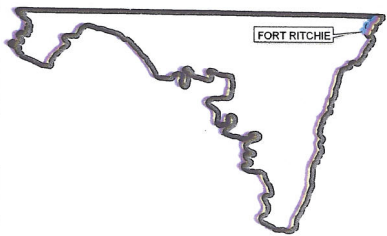


Figure 3: Geology of WHPA

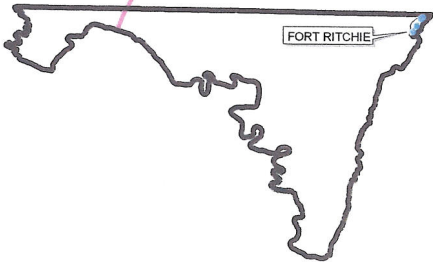






Land Use	
	Low Density Residential
	Medium Density Residential
	High Density Residential
	Commercial
	Industrial
	Extractive
	Open Urban Land
	Cropland
	Pasture
	Orchards
	Forest
	Water
	Wetlands
	Feeding Operations
	Barren Land

Figure 4: Land Use In The WHPA



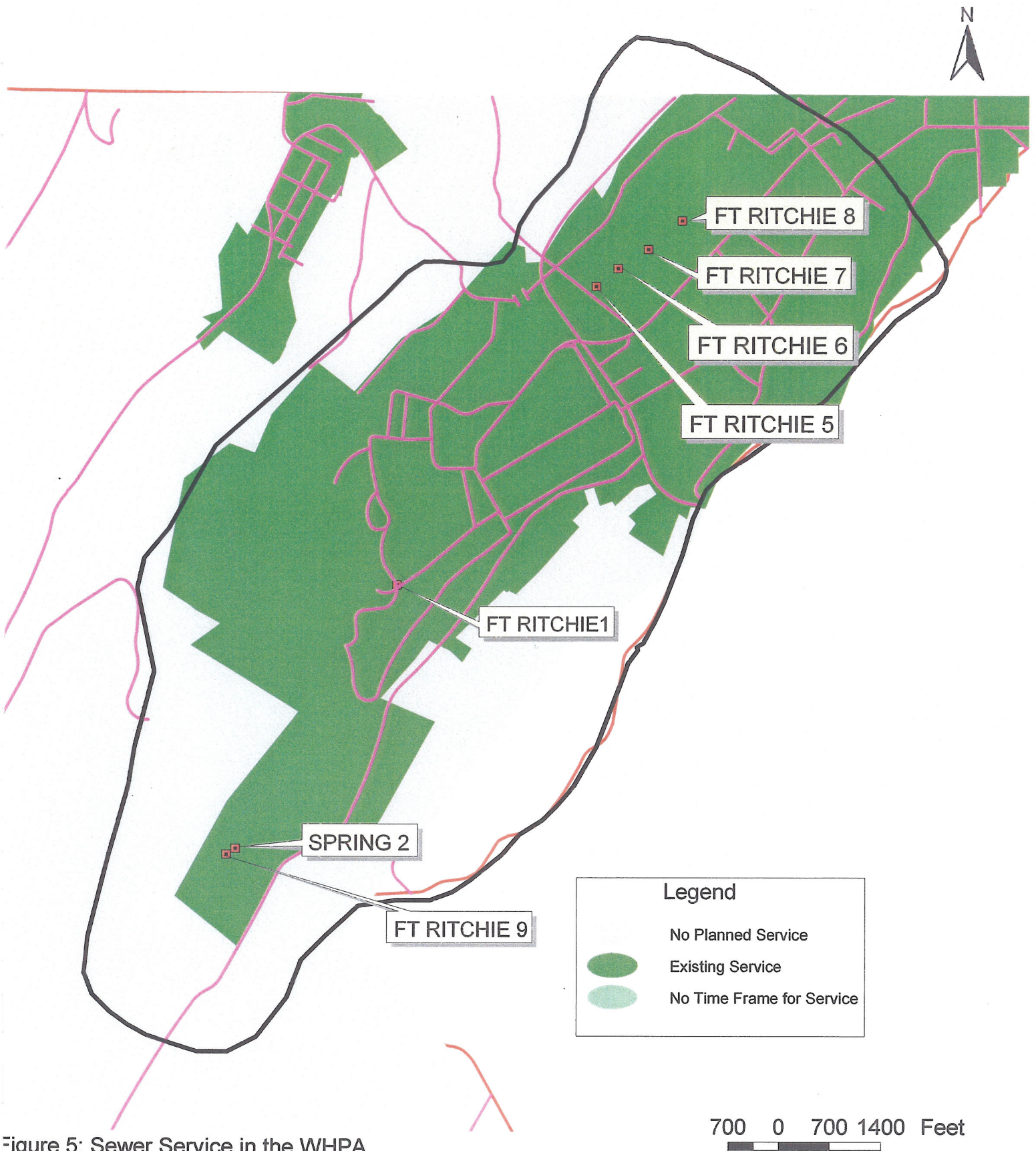
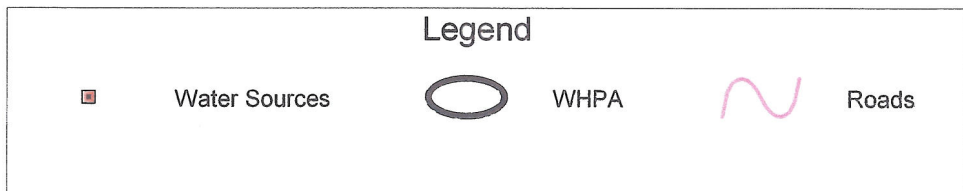
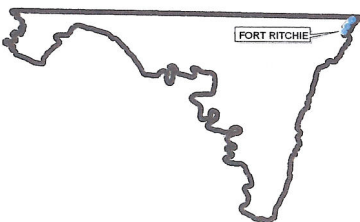


Figure 5: Sewer Service in the WHPA



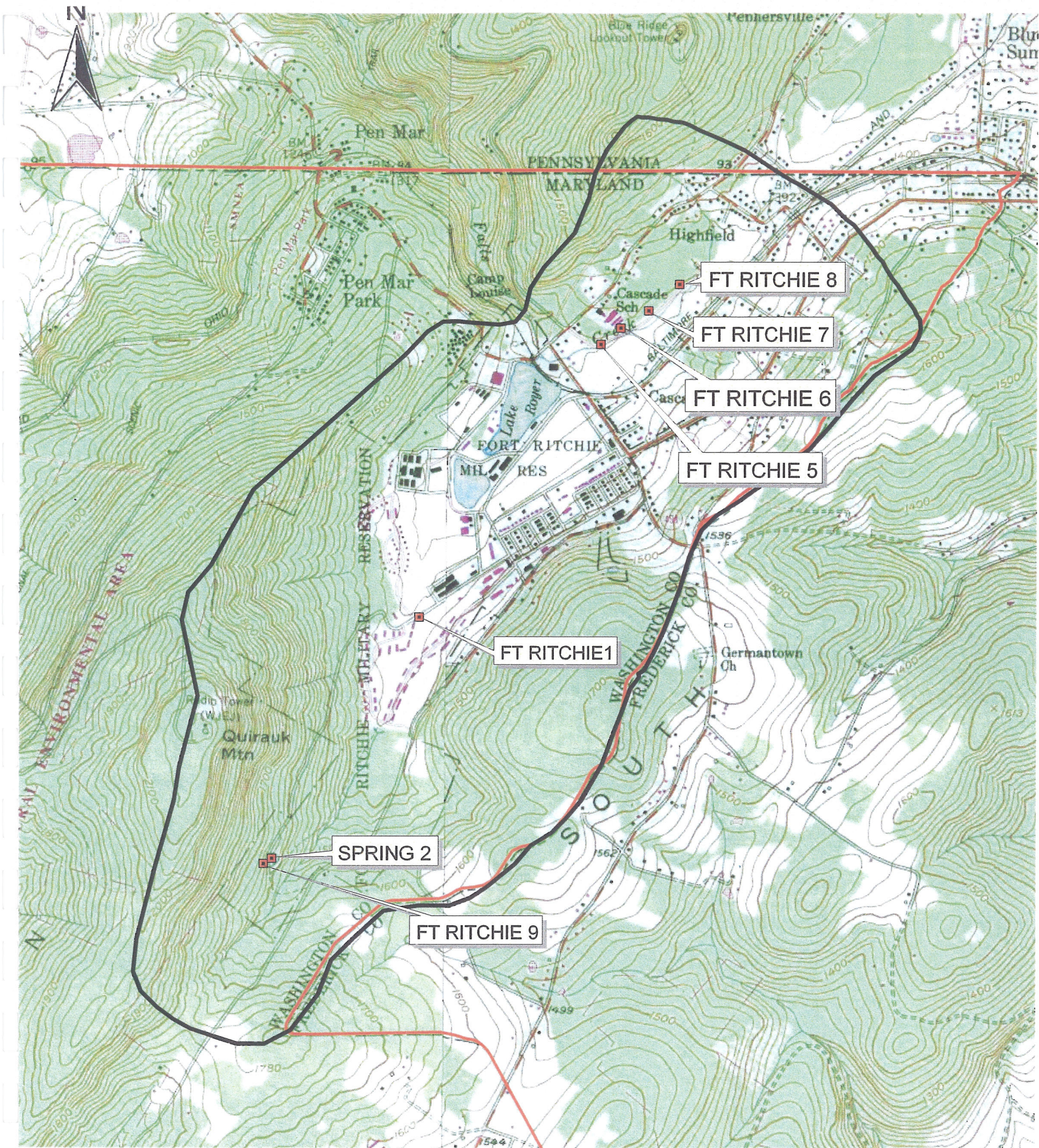


Figure 6: Topographic Map of WHPA

