



FROM: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FAMILIES OF FLIGHT 93, INC.

CONTACT: LISA LINDEN (917) 589-5443 or MIKE PETRALIA (212) 575-4545
LINDEN ALSCHULER & KAPLAN PR
llinden@lakpr.com or mpetralia@lakpr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ACQUIRES LARGEST PRIVATE LAND TRACT
FROM FAMILIES OF FLIGHT 93 FOR FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL
IN SHANKSVILLE, PA.**

Proceeds Go In Trust Fund to Operate and Maintain Mine Water Treatment System

The National Park Service (NPS) and the Families of Flight 93, Inc. announced today that title was transferred to the NPS for approximately 950 acres that make up the bulk of the former PBS Coals property, completing the largest single acquisition of private land by the NPS for the permanent Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, PA. It is part of the memorial site where the 40 heroes of United Flight 93 changed the course of history while fighting to resist a terrorist attack on our nation's capital, ultimately crashing in a field in Shanksville.

As part of a previously announced agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and PBS Coals, Inc., proceeds from the sale, purchased at fair market value, will be placed in a trust fund to operate and maintain in perpetuity the treatment of mine water from a sediment pond on a reclaimed surface mine. That pond serves as the headwaters to the Lambert's Run watershed.

The title transfer is the last step in a transaction that began in March 2008 when the Families of Flight 93 entered into a formal contract with PBS Coals to purchase the property. Last month, the Families of Flight 93 and the NPS announced that they had come to terms on a purchase deal that would transfer the ownership of the property.

The property being transferred is divided into two parcels located south of U.S. 30 also known as the Lincoln Highway and contains the only road that directly connects U.S. 30 to the crash site. Early in the planning process, the surrounding communities had requested that the NPS have an access road directly to U.S. 30 so that visitors to the memorial would not have to travel the narrow local roads and disturb the nearby residents on their way to the site.

The first parcel is approximately 27 acres near the Sacred Ground -- the actual impact site -- and includes the pond where one of the plane's engines was found. The other is approximately 926 acres and includes the site of the temporary memorial on Skyline Road in Shanksville.

The permanent National Memorial will include a visitors center and is the only national park dedicated to the events of September 11, 2001.

“Completing the transfer of the largest single land parcel for the memorial in a timely and responsible manner is critical to keeping the promise we made to dedicate the Flight 93 National Memorial on the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001. I commend the National Park Service for its hard work and cooperation in helping to complete this complex transaction,” said Patrick White, who negotiated on behalf of the Families of Flight 93 as its vice president.

“This is another milestone in the steady progress towards the completion of our sacred obligation, the construction of an inspiring permanent Flight 93 National Memorial. We are thankful for the commitment of NPS in making this day possible,” said Gordon Felt, president of the Families of Flight 93.

“With the tremendous help of the Families of Flight 93 and our other unwavering partners, we have come closer to fulfilling our commitment to dedicate a permanent Flight 93 National Memorial by September 11, 2011. The acquisition of the PBS Coals property is a critical achievement on the road to completing our sacred mission,” said Joanne Hanley, National Park Service superintendent, Flight 93 National Memorial.

About the Flight 93 National Memorial

On Sept. 24, 2002, Congress passed the Flight 93 National Memorial Act. The Act created a new national park unit to commemorate the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who, on Sept. 11, 2001, courageously gave their lives thereby thwarting a planned attack on our Nation's capital. The Memorial is near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where Flight 93 crashed with the loss of its heroic 40 passengers and crew. For more information about the Flight 93 National Memorial, including how to donate to the Memorial fund, please visit www.honorflight93.org.