



Plans for construction have been met with conflict over environmental concerns.

190 acres of forested land in Southeast Atlanta have been slated for development into a police training facility and a Blackhall Studios movie soundstage. After clearing a large portion of the land, Blackhall Studio's portion was deemed unfit for construction. Dekalb County has agreed to swap that land and provide Blackhall Studios with new land in the 140-acre portion called "Intrenchment Creek Park." Having already clear-cut and graded 20 to 30 acres of the forest, Blackhall Studios is now requesting to do the same to a second piece of land. Local groups have spoken out to protect the forest, and a lawsuit has been filed against the swap. Here is the science.

When land is clear cut and graded, the **trees and soil** are destroyed. Both are essential for the Earth's survival.



The construction could cause Intrenchment Creek to become **turbid**, leading to the death of many native creatures.



According to the donors, the land is supposed to be **protected** and used "as park property."



While Great Park Conservancy mentions plans to use the already cleared land as a community greenspace, **forest regeneration** is complex, requires significant investment, and is not always successful.

COUNTERARGUMENTS

In response, a local group titled "The Great Park Conservancy" has begun advocating to support the land swap with Dekalb county and to claim benefits of additional development and forest reduction. However, this group is run by Ryan Millsap, formerly the majority owner and CEO of Blackhall Studios. This constitutes a significant bias, and therefore the content presented in the website is scientifically unreliable.

Given the haste at which these proposals were put together, Science for Georgia recommends no clearing or development until proper study and public comment period can occur. Write your local representative and ask for more studies and public comment periods before clear cutting begins.