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Group Says Center Will Harm Endangered Squirrel

The Associated Press

RUTHSBURG, Md. - An environmental group is planning to sue the State Department over a proposed federal training center on the Eastern Shore that it says will harm the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel.

The Center for Biological Diversity also claims the department failed to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about the center. The group says it also plans to sue the General Services Administration.

Residents also have questioned whether the 2,000-acre site near Ruthsburg is the best location for a \$100 million anti-terrorism training center.

The suit is the latest hitch in plans for the center. Earlier this month, federal officials said an environmental assessment expected to be completed by spring won't be finished until at least late July.



Delmarva Fox Squirrel PHOTO/ John White Maryland Department of Natural Resources