



Engineers, Surveyors, Planners, Scientists

July 31, 2014

Mr. Steve Peck
Lot Programmer/Planner
Dominion Homes
4900 Tuttle Crossing Blvd.
Dublin, OH 43016

Subject: Preliminary Investigation – Elliott Road Tract, Hilliard, Ohio

Dear Steve,

EMH&T conducted a Preliminary Investigation (PI) for Waters of the United States for a site located south of Hayden Run Road, north of Scioto & Darby Creek Road, east of Elliott Road, and west of Cosgray Road in the City of Hilliard, Franklin County, Ohio (Exhibit 1). The site consists of active agricultural fields and an open grassy field. A water tower for the City of Hilliard and one abandoned residential structure are located on the site. One potentially isolated wetland was located on the site.

Literature Review

As shown on Exhibit 2, the majority of the site lies at approximately 940 feet in elevation (National Geodetic Vertical Datum) according to the USGS 7.5' Series Hilliard, Ohio quadrangle (USGS, Photorevised 1974). No drainageways, marsh symbols, or open water symbols are mapped for the site.

A hydric soil is a soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions that favor the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation (USDA-SCS, 1985). The mapped soils are listed in Table 1 along with their hydric status. As shown on the Web Soil Survey for Franklin County, Ohio (Exhibit 3), Kokomo silty clay loam, is listed as a hydric soil (USDA-SCS, 2009) on the site. Crosby silt loam with 0 to 2 percent slopes and Lewisburg-Crosby complex with 2 to 6 percent slopes are non-hydric soils which contain hydric inclusions of poorly drained soil in depressions. No open water features or marsh symbols are mapped for the site.

**TABLE 1
Hydric Status of Onsite Soils**

Mapped Soil Unit	Hydric	Hydric Inclusions	Type of Inclusions	Location of Hydric Inclusions
Crosby silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (CrA)	No	Yes	Kokomo (8%)	Depressions
Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (Ko)	Yes	-	-	-
Lewisburg-Crosby complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes (LeB)	No	Yes	Kokomo (15%)	Depressions

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RE: Preliminary Investigation – Elliott Road Tract Preliminary Investigation

As shown on Exhibit 4, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) was reviewed for the site (FEMA, 2013). The site lies within Zone X (unshaded), which are areas mapped outside the 500-year floodplain.

As shown on Exhibit 5, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory Map (NWI) for the *Hilliard, Ohio* quadrangle was reviewed for the site (USFWS, 2012). One palustrine, emergent, temporarily flooded (PEM1A) wetland is mapped for the site.

Onsite Findings

EMH&T completed an investigation of the site on July 15, 2014. The site consists of active agricultural fields and an abandoned grassy field. The site is bordered by a single family residential development to the southeast, agricultural fields to the north, south, and west, and three single family residences to the northwest.

As shown on Exhibit 6, one (1) potentially isolated wetland was located on the site. This wetland corresponds to the (PEM1A) wetland identified on the NWI map. Wetland A (Photographs 1 & 2) consists of approximately 2.9 acres of primarily emergent vegetation. A stand of young cottonwood saplings is growing near the center of the wetland. Wetland A exhibits hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and hydrology but does not have a connection with a jurisdictional water. Wetland A would be considered isolated by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Recommendations

Mounds of fill material were observed impacting natural drainage in the eastern portion of the site near Wetland A (Photograph 3). Additionally, farming has been abandoned on this portion of the site. Marginal wet spots are developing in low depressions and in areas of impounded drainage (Photograph 4). These wet spots could develop wetland characteristics within one or two growing seasons if not maintained properly prior to development. It is recommended that the eastern portion of the site be regularly mowed or planted with agricultural crops until development begins.

The USACE would consider the wetland to be Isolated due to the lack of connection to jurisdictional waters. The boundaries of this feature are approximate until a delineation is submitted to and verified by the USACE. Impacts to this feature would require an Isolated Wetland Permit from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). If you would like for us to prepare an official delineation of the wetland boundaries and submit this document to the USACE for verification or wish to discuss permitting options, please contact Rob Milligan at (614) 775-4515.

Mr. Steve Peck
RE: Preliminary Investigation – Elliott Road Tract Preliminary Investigation

July 31, 2014

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amelia Harris".

Amelia Harris
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Division

Enclosures

CC: Chris Mann, EMH&T

EXHIBITS

Path: J:\20141167\GIS\Exhibit 1 - Location Map.mxd



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2013

CITY OF HILLIARD, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

**Elliott Road Tract
Location Map
Exhibit 1**

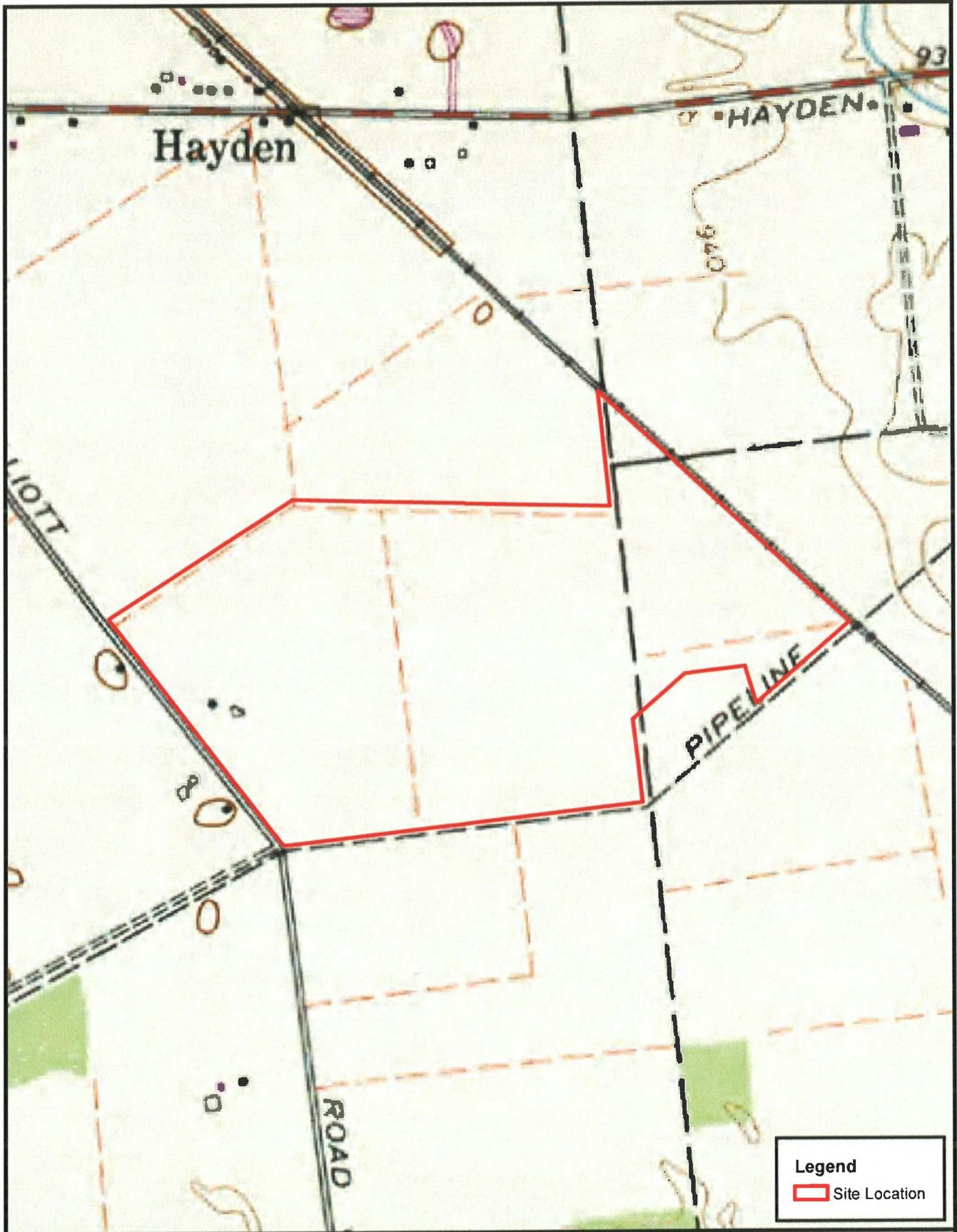


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SCALE: 1" = 1/2 Mile





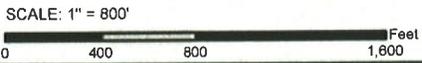
Legend
 Site Location

Path: J:\20141167\GIS\Exhibit 2 - USGS Map .mxd

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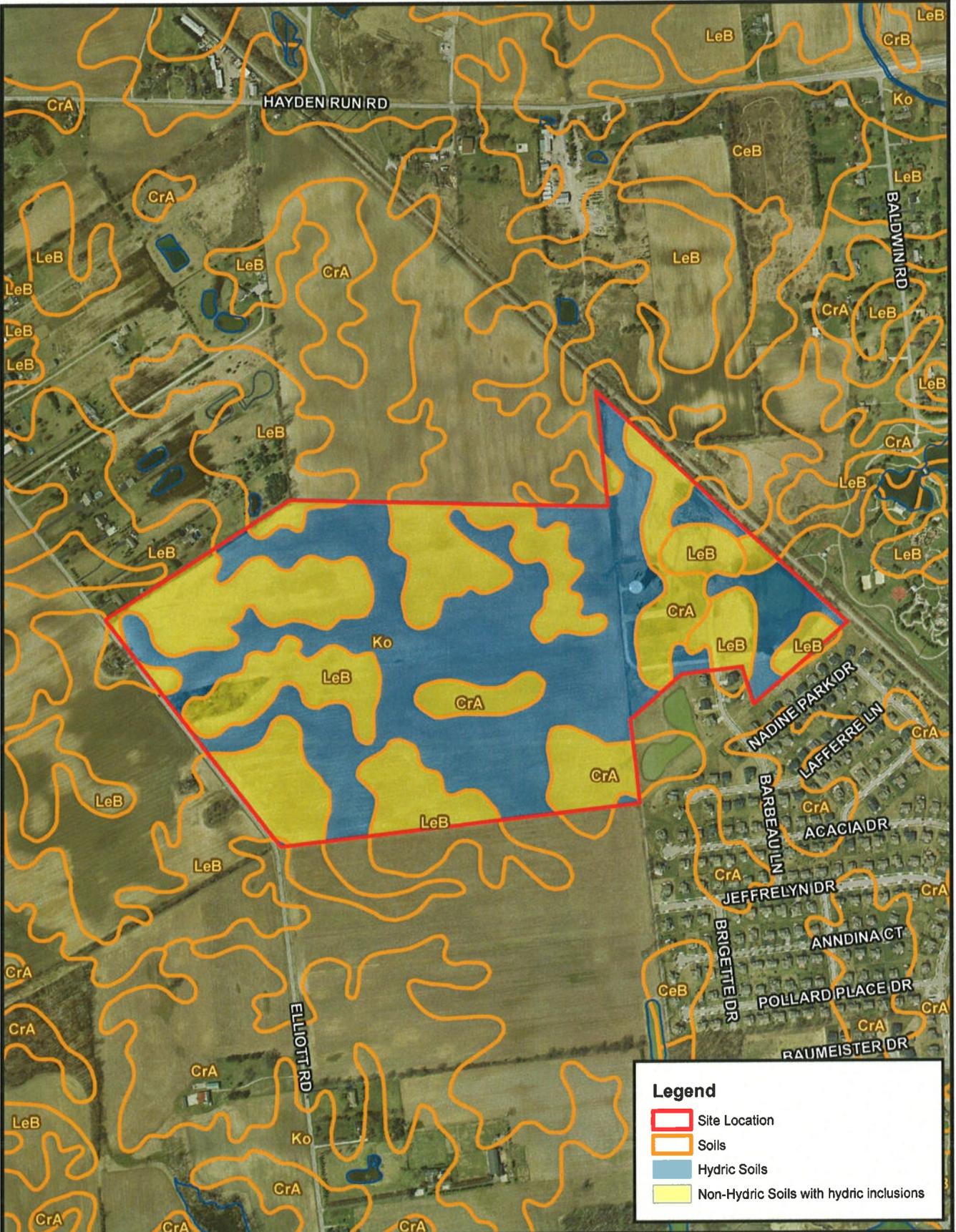
**Elliott Road Tract
 USGS Topographic Map
 Exhibit 2**



Source: USGS Hilliard Quad Map (Pub. 1974)



Path: J:\20141167\GIS\Exhibit 3 - Soils Map.mxd



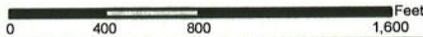
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CITY OF HILLIARD, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

Elliott Road Tract
Soil Survey of Franklin County
Exhibit 3

SCALE: 1" = 600'



Source: Soils - NRCS, 2012; Aerial - OSIP, 2013





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CITY OF HILLIARD, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

**Elliott Road Tract
 Flood Insurance Rate Map
 Exhibit 4**

SCALE: 1" = 800'



Source: Floodplain - FEMA; Aerial - OSIP, 2013



Path: J:\20141167\GIS\Exhibit 5 - NWI Map.mxd



Legend

- Site Location
- NWI Features

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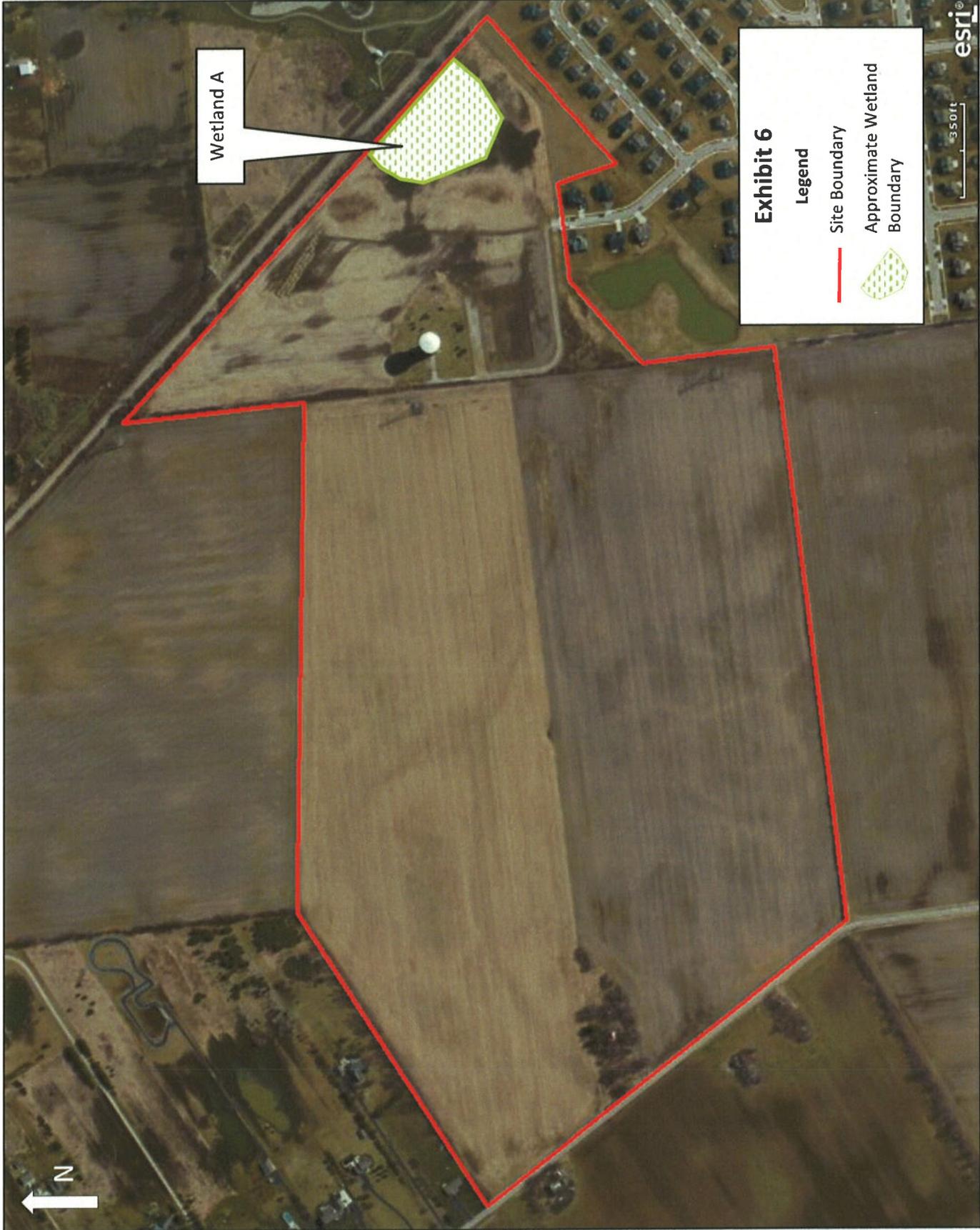
CITY OF HILLIARD, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

**Elliott Road Tract
 National Wetland Inventory
 Exhibit 5**

SCALE: 1" = 800'

0 400 800 1,600 Feet

Source: National Wetland Inventory (NWI) - FWS, 2012;
 Aerial - OSIP, 2013



Wetland A

Exhibit 6

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Approximate Wetland Boundary

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1
View of Wetland A facing northeast.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)



Photograph 2
View of Wetland A facing east.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)



Photograph 3
View of fill dirt mounds impacting drainage and adjacent wet spots
in eastern portion of site facing southeast.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)



Photograph 4
Marginal wet area forming in depression.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)



Photograph 5
Agricultural field on eastern portion of site facing west.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)



Photograph 6
Agricultural field on western portion of site facing east.
(EMH&T 07/15/2014)