

I. Status of Environmental Compliance Documentation

The formal environmental compliance and permitting process for this project has not yet commenced, and the NEPA process is not yet underway. However, Columbus tasked OHM Advisors to complete an initial review of what NEPA elements would be required for this project, as well as environmental permits. A copy of OHM Advisors' report is included as part of this appendix.

Columbus will complete the NEPA and permitting process as part of the proposed schedule submitted outlined in Table 5-A of the draft statement of work, and this schedule currently estimates the project's Environmental Document will be approved by December 12, 2028.

memorandum

Date: May 22, 2024

To: D. Anders Samuelson, P.E.

From: Sean W. Gillilan, P.E.; Craig Schripsema, P.E.

Re: Hillard Rome Road Grade Separation Project - NEPA statement

Upon a review of the proposed alignment and existing conditions, we anticipate the following NEPA requirements for the proposed roadway extension project.

- Categorical Exclusion Assessment
- Environmental Assessment (Phase I/II)
- Development of an environmental impact statement
- CE & EA specifically involving:
 - Historic and cultural resource evaluation
 - US Fish and Wildlife - Endangered species evaluation – with tree removals, an Indiana Bat study will potentially be required.
 - Natural habitat disturbance
 - Wetlands evaluation and delineation – the area has wetlands shown on the US fish and wildlife wetlands map ~ 7 acres (see attached); may require a Section 404 permit from USACE
 - Air quality
 - Social and economic impacts
- Blueline streams – The USGS maps do not show blueline streams (see attached). Streamstats show hydrologic stream locations in blue on the maps, but these will need to be field verified for defined bed and bank for the City of Columbus stormwater manual requirements and will need to be evaluated by the environmental consultants to determine if the streams are regulated channels through US Army Corp. If regulated channels are identified, appropriate federal/state permitting will be required.

Items not found that are typically an impact:

- Project area is outside of the 100-year floodplain; no FEMA involvement is anticipated.

State/Local processes:

- Ohio EPA NOI for construction activities under general permit
- DOSD – will require water quality and quantity storage per the stormwater manual. Limited areas for storage considering R/W and alignment. The project area breaks into 3 separate tributary areas (potentially 4). These appear to be going into separate HUCs, so they may require 3 separate storage systems.
- Darby Accord may require involvement in the local process as a fraction of the alignment appears to be in the watershed. This needs further evaluation – Streamstats shows most of the project draining to the east into the Scioto River. The Darby Accord mapping shows a small portion potentially draining to the Darby River. It appears to only be near the proposed bridge over the railroad. See attached map.

See attachments



May 17, 2024

Wetlands

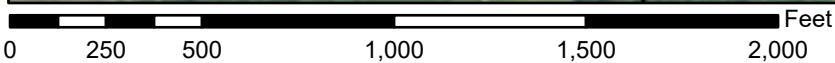
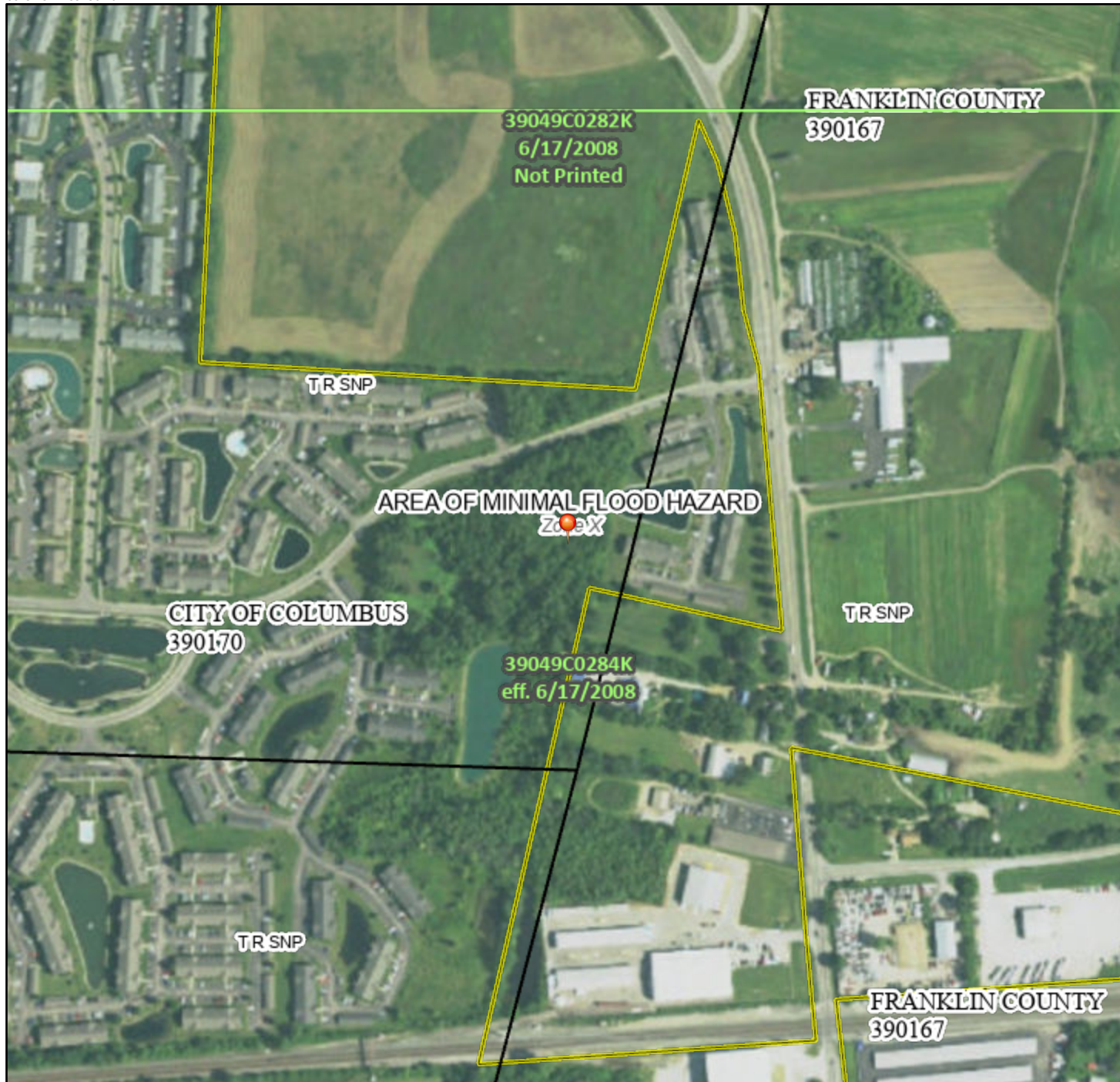
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Lake
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



83°9'15"W 39°58'10"N



1:6,000

83°8'37"W 39°57'43"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) <i>Zone A, V, A99</i>
		With BFE or Depth <i>Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR</i>
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile <i>Zone X</i>
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee <i>Zone D</i>
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard <i>Zone D</i>
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
		17.5 Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped
		The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.



This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

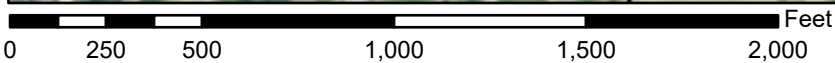
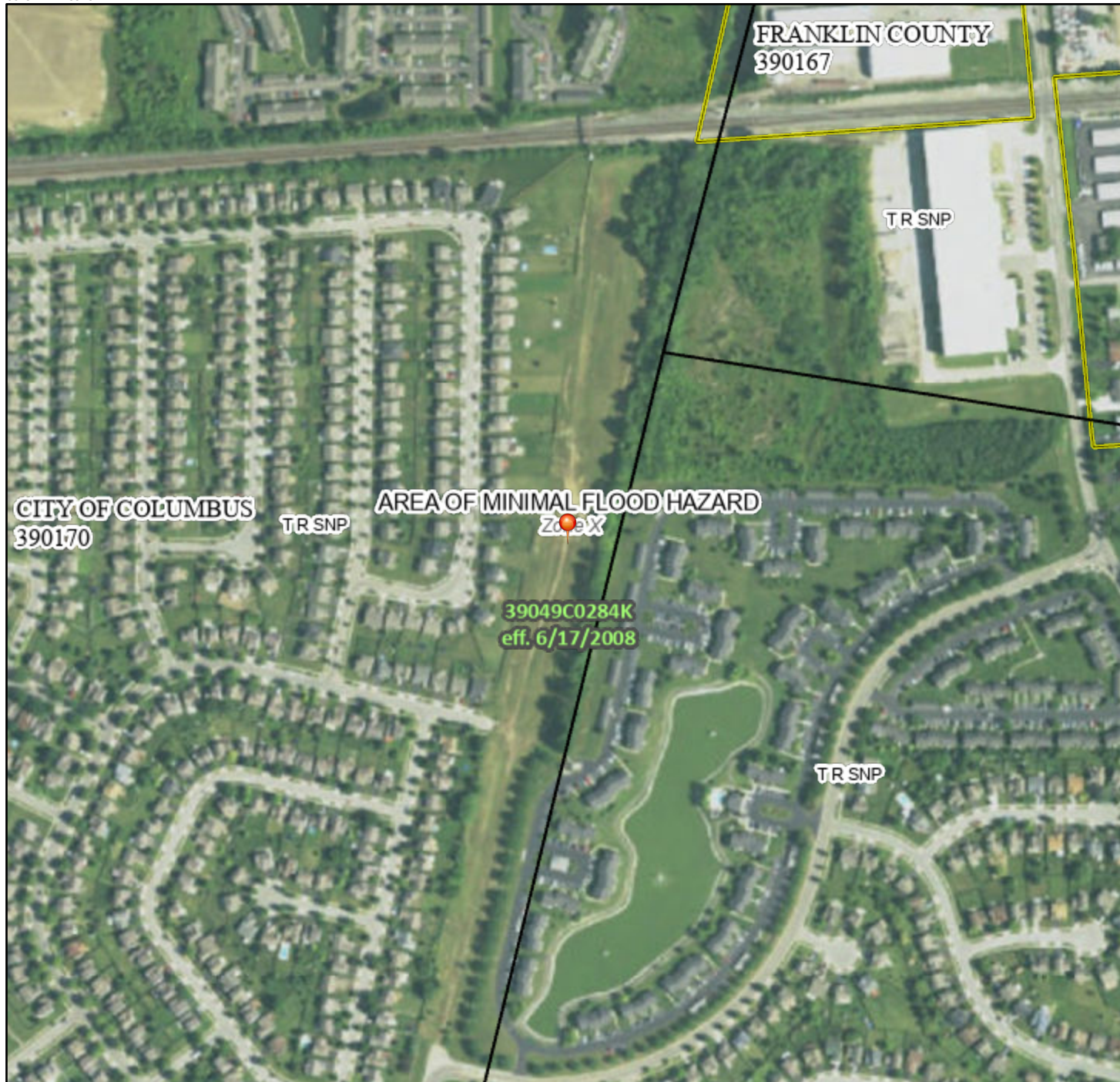
The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 5/20/2024 at 4:12 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMMette



83°9'22"W 39°57'47"N



1:6,000

83°8'45"W 39°57'19"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS | | Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
<i>Zone A, V, A99</i> |
| | | With BFE or Depth <i>Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR</i> |
| | | Regulatory Floodway |
| OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD | | 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile <i>Zone X</i> |
| | | Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i> |
| | | Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. <i>Zone X</i> |
| | | Area with Flood Risk due to Levee <i>Zone D</i> |
| OTHER AREAS | | NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i> |
| | | Effective LOMRs |
| | | Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard <i>Zone D</i> |
| GENERAL STRUCTURES | | Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer |
| | | Levee, Dike, or Floodwall |
| OTHER FEATURES | | 20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance |
| | | 17.5 Water Surface Elevation |
| | | Coastal Transect |
| | | Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE) |
| | | Limit of Study |
| | | Jurisdiction Boundary |
| | | Coastal Transect Baseline |
| | | Profile Baseline |
| | | Hydrographic Feature |
| MAP PANELS | | Digital Data Available |
| | | No Digital Data Available |
| | | Unmapped |



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The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **5/20/2024 at 4:11 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

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SELECT A STATE / REGION

Ohio ⓘ ▾

IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA

Basin Delineated ▶

Step 5: Your delineation is complete. You can now clear, edit, or download your basin, or choose a state or regional study specific function (if available). Click **continue** when you are ready.

Clear Basin

Edit Basin

State/Region Specific Functions

The following additional functions are available for Ohio.

Check For Water Use

Download Basin ▾

or

Continue

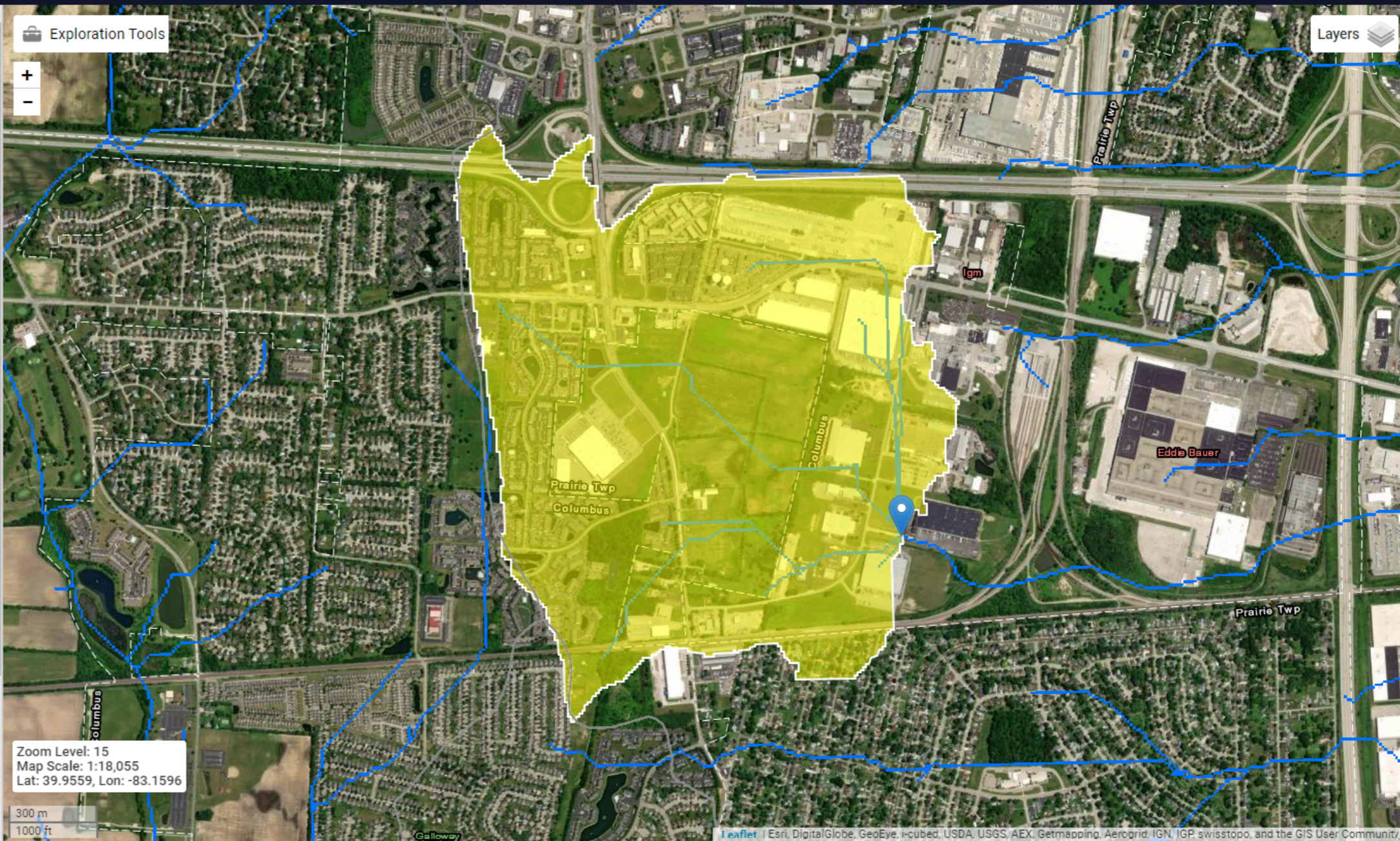
SELECT SCENARIOS ▾

Exploration Tools

+

-



Layers




Zoom Level: 15
Map Scale: 1:18,055
Lat: 39.9559, Lon: -83.1596

300 m
1000 ft

SELECT A STATE / REGION

Ohio  

IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA




Basin Delineated 

Step 5: Your delineation is complete. You can now clear, edit, or download your basin, or choose a state or regional study specific function (if available). Click **continue** when you are ready.



 Clear Basin Edit Basin

State/Region Specific Functions

The following additional functions are available for Ohio.

 Check For Water Use Download Basin 

or

 ContinueSELECT SCENARIOS  Exploration Tools

+

-

Layers 

Zoom Level: 16
Map Scale: 1:9,027
Lat: 39.9549, Lon: -83.1494

100 m

500 ft

SELECT A STATE / REGION

Ohio ⓘ ▾

IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA

Basin Delineated ▶

Step 5: Your delineation is complete. You can now clear, edit, or download your basin, or choose a state or regional study specific function (if available). Click **continue** when you are ready.

Clear Basin

Edit Basin

State/Region Specific Functions

The following additional functions are available for Ohio.

Check For Water Use

Download Basin ▾

or

Continue

SELECT SCENARIOS ▾

Exploration Tools

+

-

Layers



Zoom Level: 16
Map Scale: 1:9,027
Lat: 39.9499, Lon: -83.1656

100 m
500 ft

SELECT A STATE / REGION

Ohio ⓘ ▾

IDENTIFY A STUDY AREA

Basin Delineated ▶

Step 5: Your delineation is complete. You can now clear, edit, or download your basin, or choose a state or regional study specific function (if available). Click **continue** when you are ready.

Clear Basin

Edit Basin

State/Region Specific Functions

The following additional functions are available for Ohio.

Check For Water Use

Download Basin ▾

OR

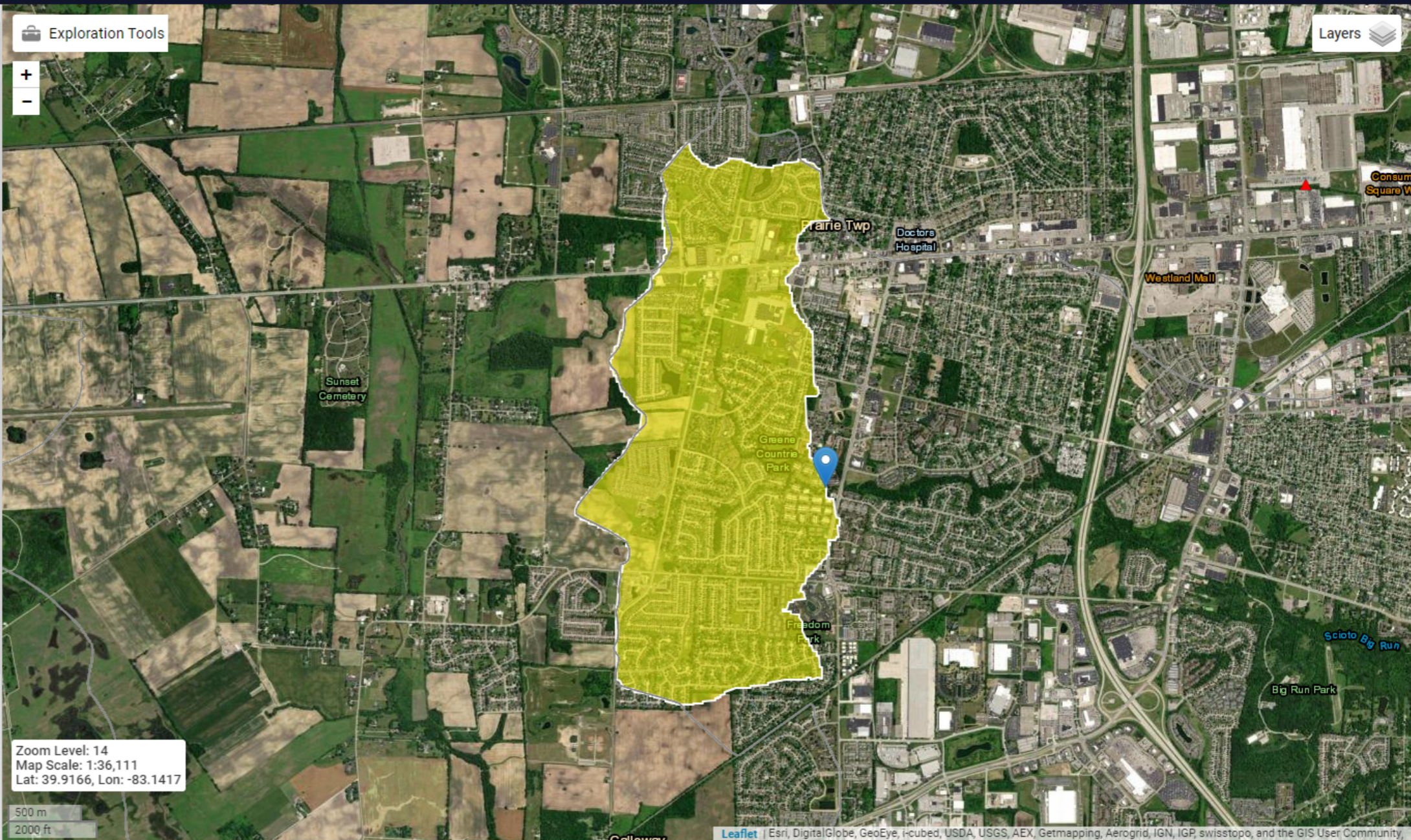
Continue

SELECT SCENARIOS ▾

Exploration Tools



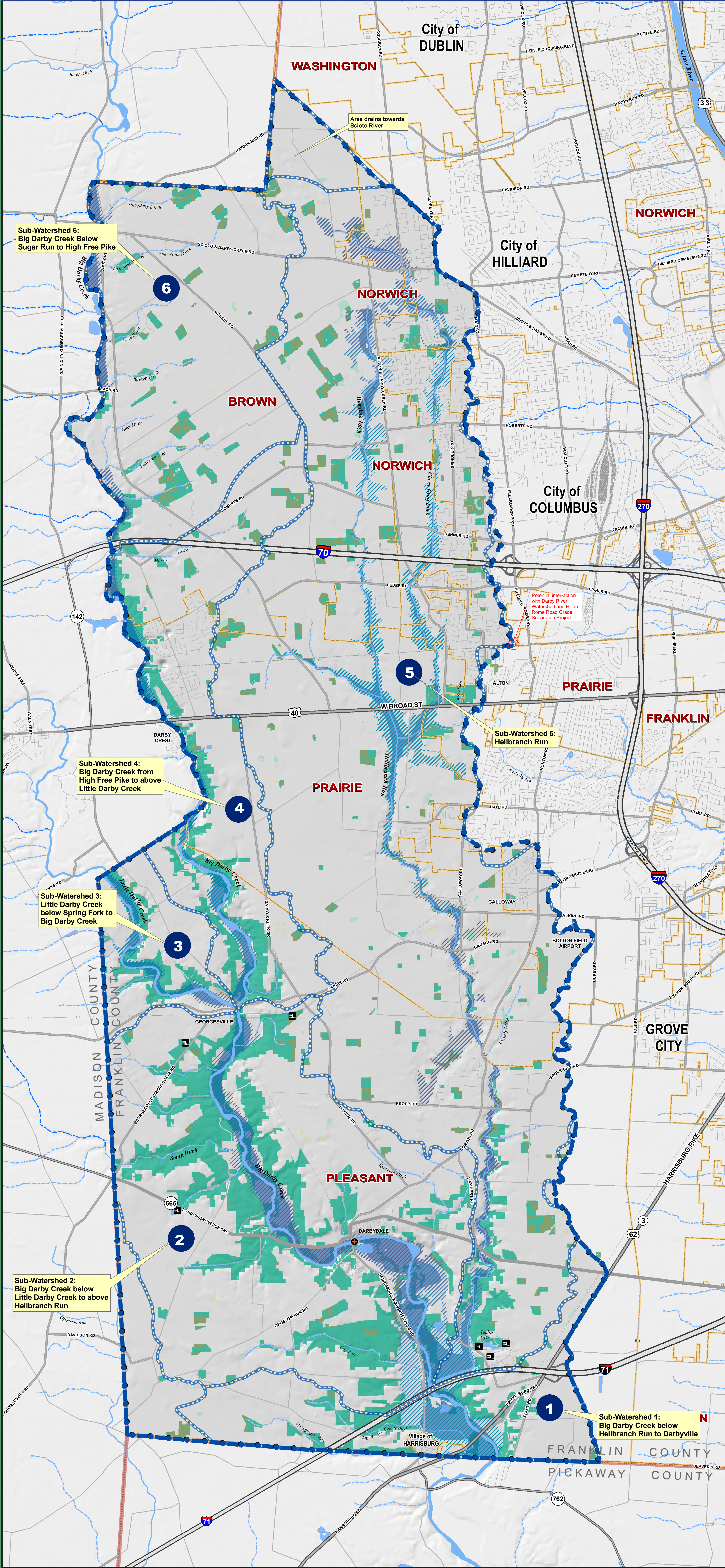
Layers



Zoom Level: 14
Map Scale: 1:36,111
Lat: 39.9166, Lon: -83.1417

500 m
2000 ft

HYDROLOGIC FEATURES



LEGEND

- Study Area
- Sub-Watersheds
- Township / City Boundary

Wetlands

- Upland Woods
- Woods on Hydric Soils
- Farmed Wetland
- Marsh & Other Wetland

Linear Features

- Intermittent Stream
- Canal / Ditch
- Pipeline
- Streams

Point Features

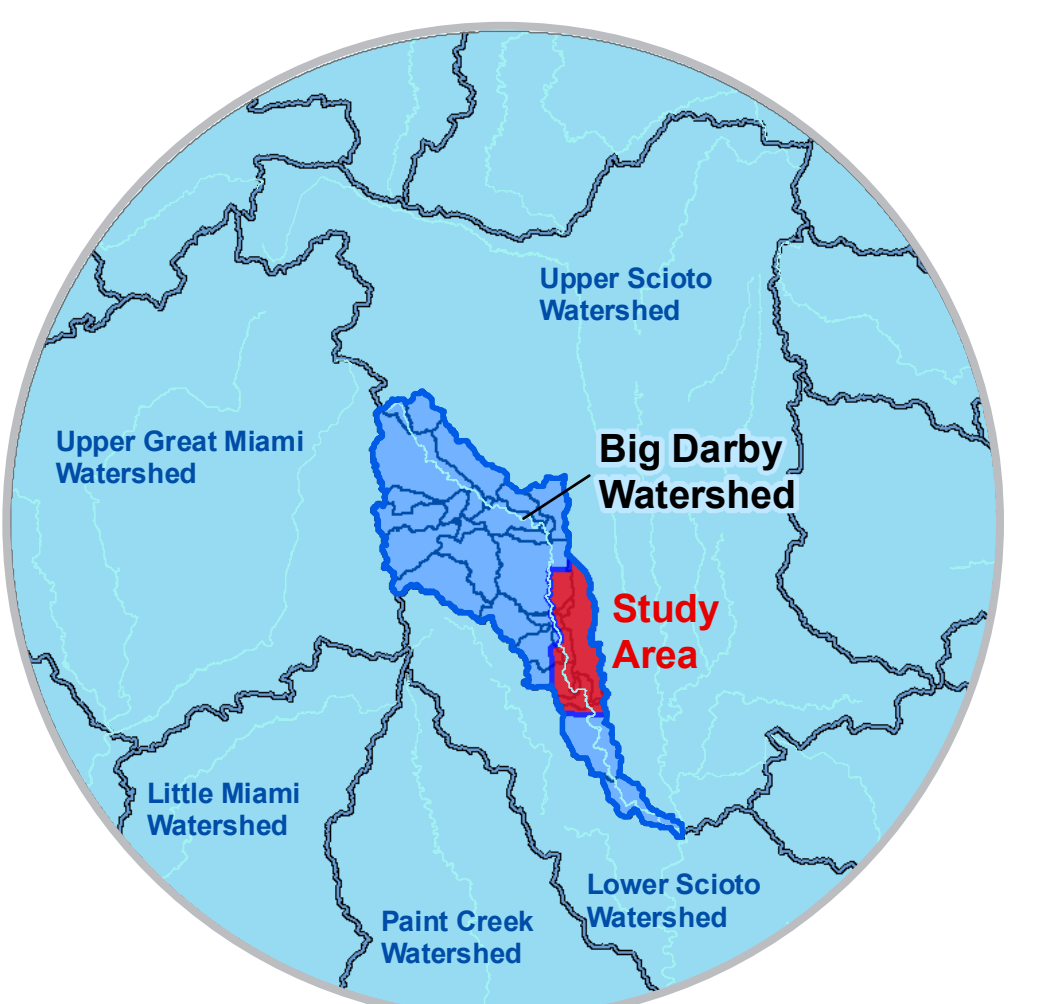
- Gaging Station
- Dam

Waterbodies

- Lake / Pond

- 100 Year Floodplain
- Floodway

WATERSHED CONTEXT



Study area is approx. 56,000 acres or 15.5% of the Big Darby watershed

HYDROLOGIC FEATURES SUMMARY

Streams, Creeks & Ditches within the Study Area

STREAM NAME	Miles
Big Darby Creek	22.5
Hellbranch Run	13.3
Clover Groff Ditch	8.3
Hamilton Ditch	5.5
Eyerman Ditch	4.0
Little Darby Creek	3.4
Gay Run	2.9
Lightfoot Jt. County Ditch	2.5
Morris Ditch	2.1
Worthington & Sherwood Ditch	2.1
Smith Ditch	2.0
Springwater Run	1.6
Patterson Ditch	1.6
Alder Ditch	1.5
Burkett Ditch	1.4
Humphrey Ditch	1.2
Leap Ditch	1.2
Reese Ditch	1.1
Laverly Ditch	1.1
Others	14.5
Total	93.7

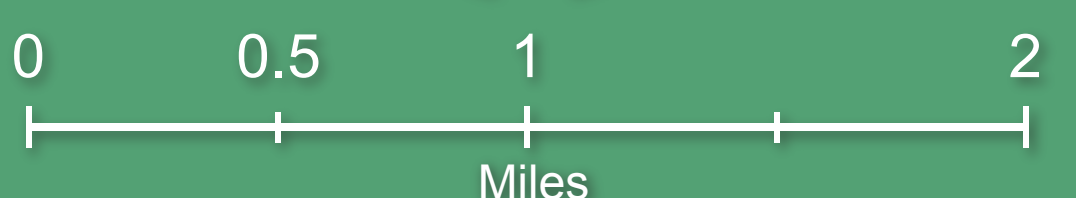
Area under Wetlands : 9,002 acres (16.7%)

Area under 100-year Floodplain: 5,672 acres (10.5%)

NOTES

Data Sources:
 1) Stream (Linear Features) and Point data based on National Hydrologic Dataset (NHD)
 2) Floodplain and floodway data based on FEMA 100-year data provided by FCA
 3) Wetland information based on 1987 Ohio Wetland Inventory (OWI) provided by ODNR
 4) Subwatersheds based on ODNR 14-digit classification & information from Hellbranch Forum
 5) Base GIS data compiled from various sources including MORPC, Franklin County Auditor's (FCA) Office

Disclaimer:
 Data represented in this map is intended for long-range planning purposes only.



Dated - June 2005