

Cleveland Metroparks Hay Program

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Hay as a Commodity

Demand

- 78 tons of straw
- Current usage = 590 tons/year
- 520 tons/year at the Zoo
 - Female elephants = 175 lbs/day
 - Male elephant = 350 lbs/day



Hay as a Commodity

Supply

- Hay is increasingly difficult to source
- Bid item
 - Alfalfa \$440/ton
 - Timothy Hay \$380-\$400/ton
 - Up 73% from last bid (\$220)
 - Average of ~60% increase



Challenges

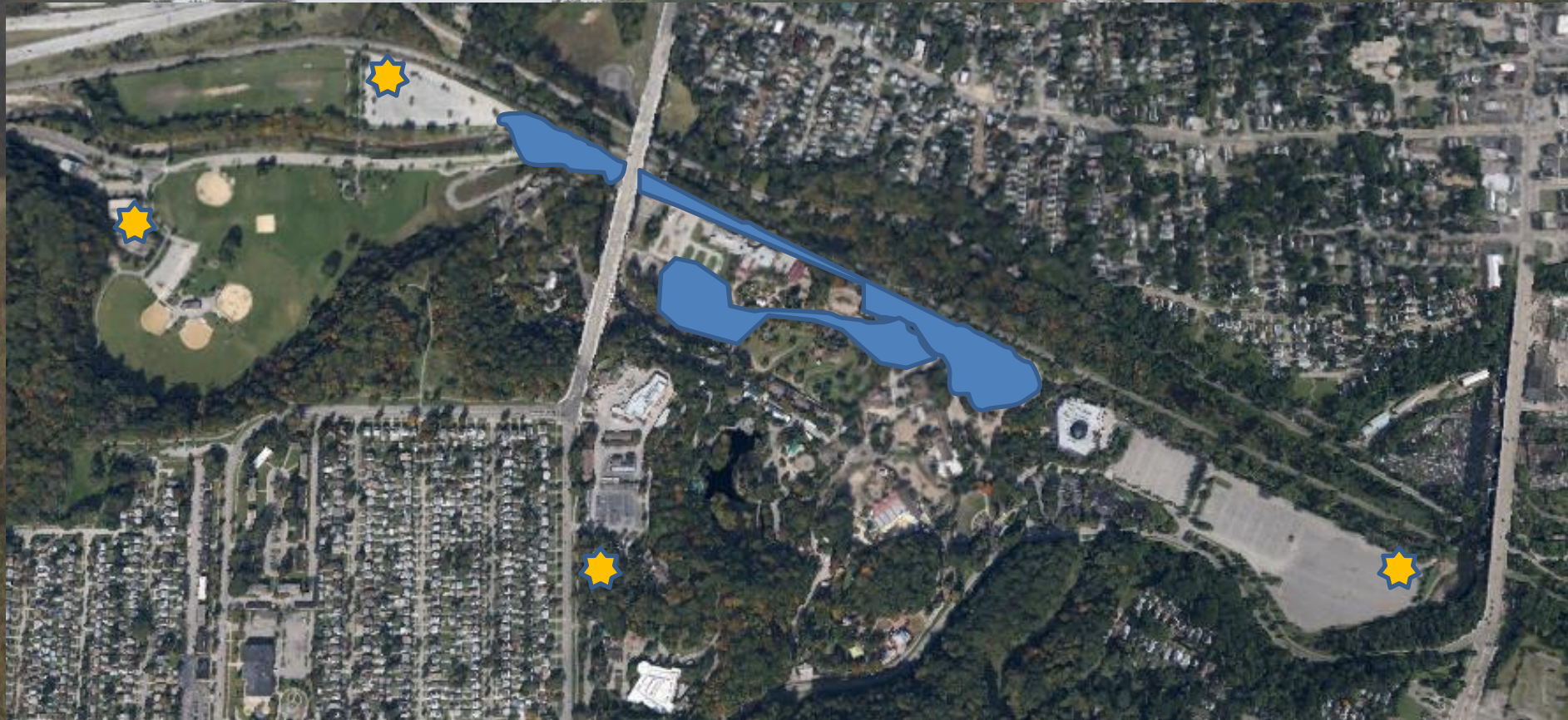
- Lack of a hay barn
- Square bales v. round bales
- Quality



Our Response

Hay Barn

- Location, location, location



Our Response

CWRU Partnership

- Case Western Reserve University
- Squire Valleevue & Valley Ridge Farms
- Grow ~102 tons of hay / year
- Our specs
- Reduced cost



Our Response

Hay Production

- Cuyahoga Valley National Park permits working farms
- 50 acres of land available, fallow since 2007
- Special Use Permit (5-year)
- Herbicide Use Permit

Form 10-114
Rev. DEC. 00

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service

Special Use Permit

Name of Use Agriculture

Date Permit Reviewed 2013 June 1
Reviewed 20
Reviewed 20
Expires 2018 Feb 28

Long Term
Short Term x

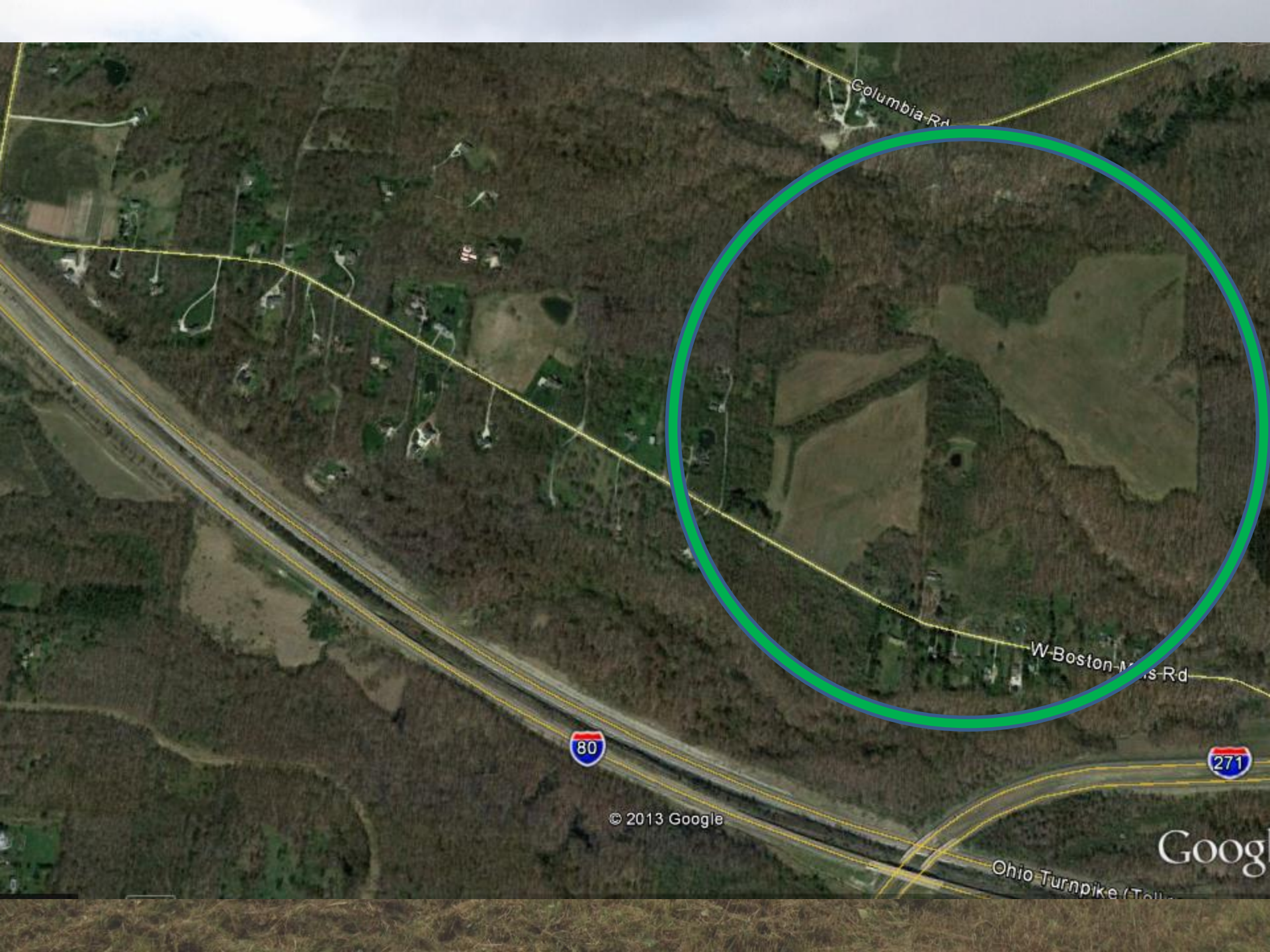
Permit # MWR-CUYA-2600-13-074
Region_Park...Type...No.#

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Name of Area

Cleveland Metroparks/Brian Zimmerman of 4101 Fulton Pkwy, Cleveland, Ohio 44144
Name or Permittee Address

216-635-3200 On File
Phone Tax Identification#

is hereby authorized during the period from June 1, 2013 through February 28, 2018, to use the following described land or facilities in the below named area:



Columbia Rd

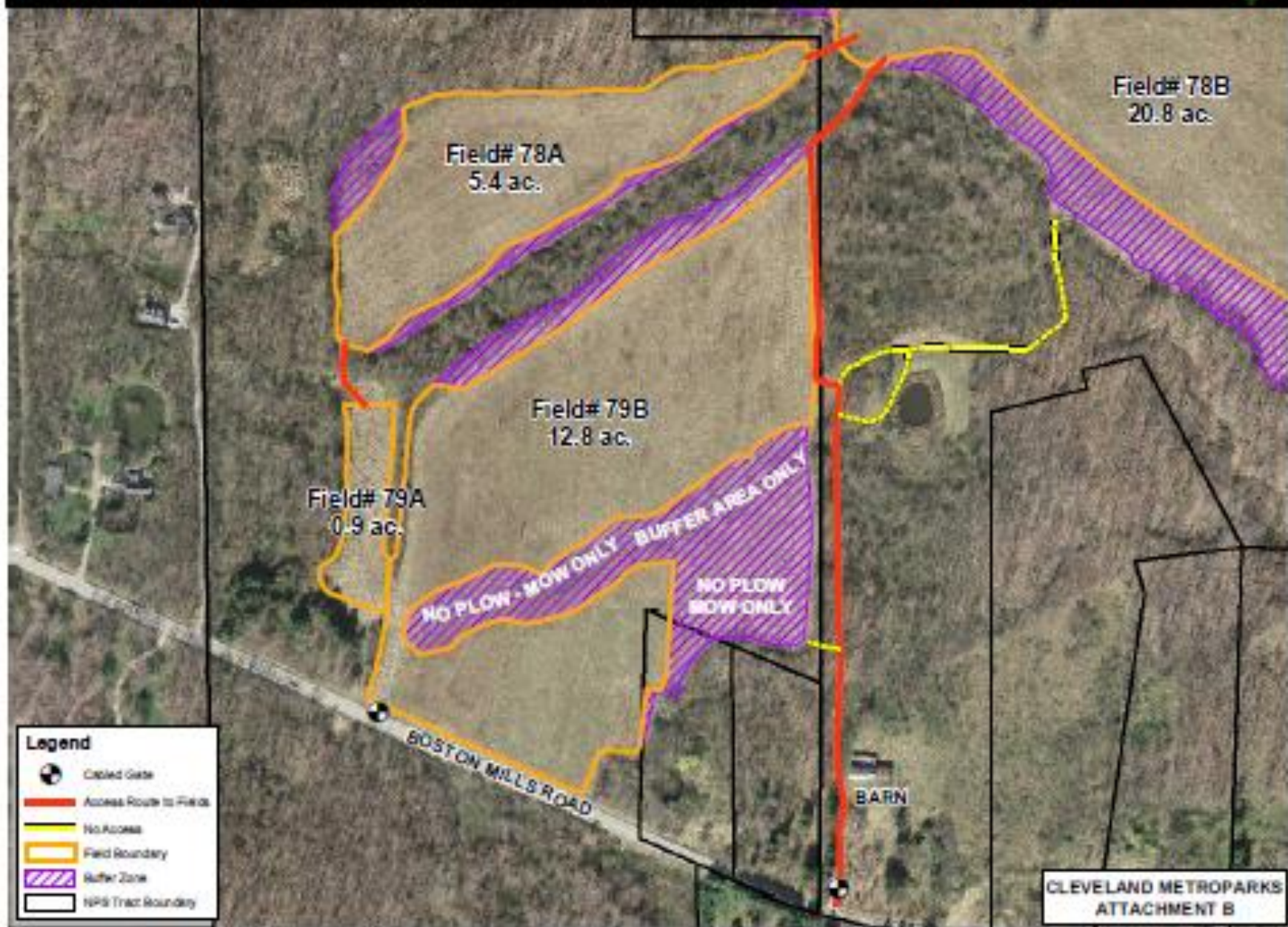
W Boston-Mills Rd



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Ohio Turnpike (Toll)





Our Response

Hay Plan

- Mow fields down
- Spray with herbicide
- Conduct soil testing
- Apply soil amendments
- Turn the field over
- Level the field (Spring)
- Plant seed (Spring)
- Cut and bale (Summer)



Equipment

- Seeder
- Cutter/mower
- Tedder
- Wheel rake
- Baler
- Bale binder
- Trailers



Evaluate Progress in 2014

