

Find Soils Information on Web Soil Survey

What is Web Soil Survey (WSS)?

- Web application that provides any interested user electronic access to soil maps and related land use information

How does it work?

- Users choose an area of interest
- Select just the information they need
- Web Soil Survey provides thematic soil maps displaying properties and qualities of their geographic AREA OF INTEREST (AOI)
- WSS supplies tables and interpretations relevant to their land use concerns

What products does Web Soil Survey provide?

- Soil map on color imagery or topographic map backdrop for the AOI
- Soil property, suitability, limitation, quality, and feature tables by AOI
- Soil map unit descriptions and composition
- Custom soil resource report

How do you access Web Soil Survey?

- Browse to the Web Soil Survey website at:
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
- Click on "Start WSS" and you are on your way!



Start
Here

What is the general pathway through Web Soil Survey?

- Navigate to relevant geographic area
- Define Area of Interest - you must specifically set the AOI before you can view any maps or reports
- View Soil Map - if available for AOI
- Browse/Explore soil data and related information
- Generate thematic maps
- Access soil data tables
- Build custom soil resource report in Shopping Cart
- Print/download the selected map or report

How do you navigate to and define your Area of Interest (AOI)?

The screenshot shows the USDA Web Soil Survey interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Contact Us, Download Soils Data, Archived Soil Surveys, Glossary, Preferences, Logout, and Help. Below this is a tabbed interface with 'Area of Interest (AOI)' selected. The main content area is divided into a 'Quick Navigation' sidebar on the left and an 'Area of Interest Interactive Map' on the right. The sidebar lists various navigation options like 'Address', 'State and County', 'Soil Survey Area', etc. The map shows a satellite view of Alaska with a red box indicating the selected Area of Interest. A toolbar above the map includes search, pan, zoom, and other navigation tools. A scale bar at the bottom of the map indicates 347 miles. Three callout boxes provide instructions: 1. 'Click here to choose Alaska' points to the 'Alaska' text in the 'New Extent' field. 2. 'Use the Quick Navigation choices and/or the pan and zoom functions on the map toolbar to locate your AOI.' points to the sidebar and the map toolbar. 3. 'Define your AOI by drawing a box around the area on the map using one of these two buttons. Note: The area of interest cannot be larger than 10,000 acres.' points to two buttons in the map toolbar.

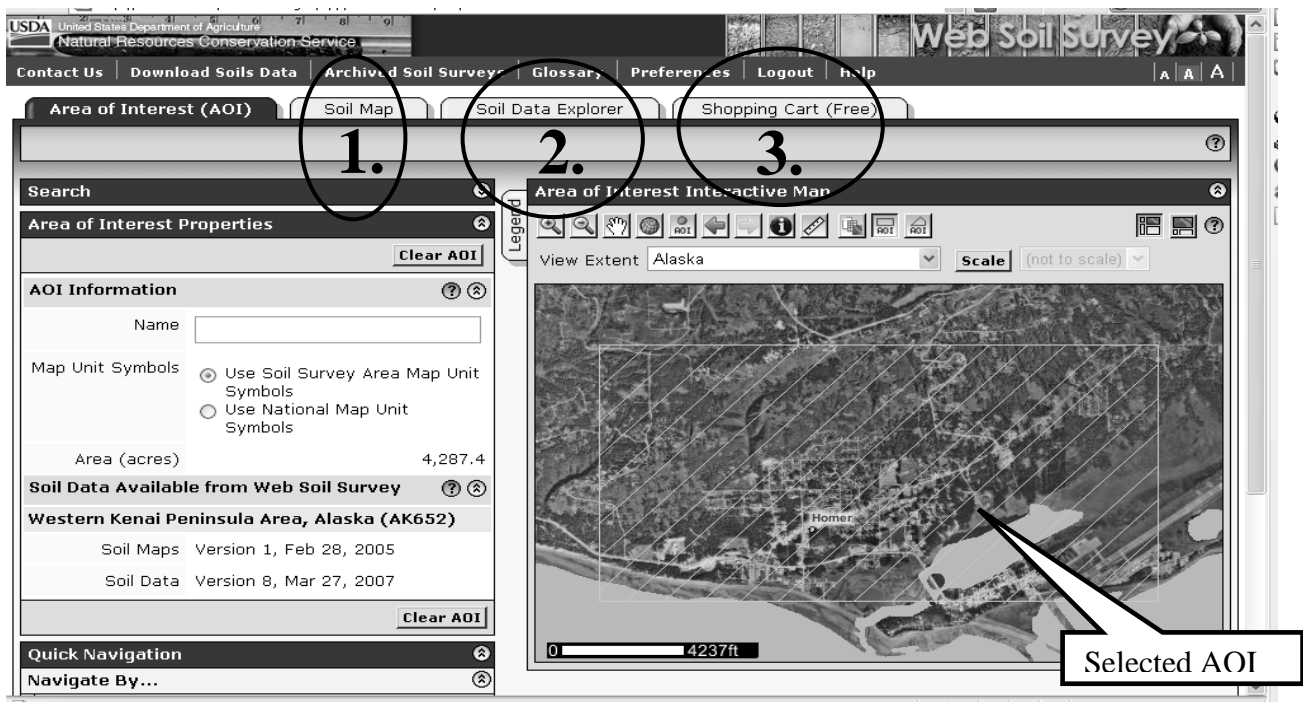
3. Define your AOI by drawing a box around the area on the map using one of these two buttons. Note: The area of interest cannot be larger than 10,000 acres.

1. Click here to choose Alaska

2. Use the Quick Navigation choices and/or the pan and zoom functions on the map toolbar to locate your AOI.

- Remember, you must specifically set the AOI before you can view any maps or data

Where do you locate soils information for your AOI?



1. Soil Map Tab:

- View and print the soil map
- View and print soil map unit descriptions
- View the map legend and turn on/off the features you want on the map

2. Soil Data Explorer Tab:

- Filter the soil information by land use category
- Learn the terminology and concepts of soils and specific land uses
- View interpretative soil data (suitabilities and limitations for use) and soil properties in the form of thematic maps, tables, and text description
- Access ecological site information
- Print individual maps and reports
- Add content to free Shopping Cart

3. Shopping Cart Tab:

- Any material displayed in the right hand panel (intro text, maps, tables, etc.) can be added to the free Shopping Cart for later retrieval
- All added content is bundled into a single Custom Soil Resource Report (pdf file) for download or printing
- The Custom Soil Resource Report contains only the information you choose for your AOI and can include soil maps, map unit legends, map unit descriptions, thematic maps, tabular data tables, and introductory material

Where can I get assistance with Web Soil Survey?

- This was a brief article on what WSS is, how to access it, and where to find soil information. There are many other functions available in WSS to customize the information. Several other steps, not described above, are required to generate the thematic maps or soil reports.
- If you need assistance with WSS, please stop by the Homer Soil Survey office down the hall from the conservation district office or call us at 907-235-8177.