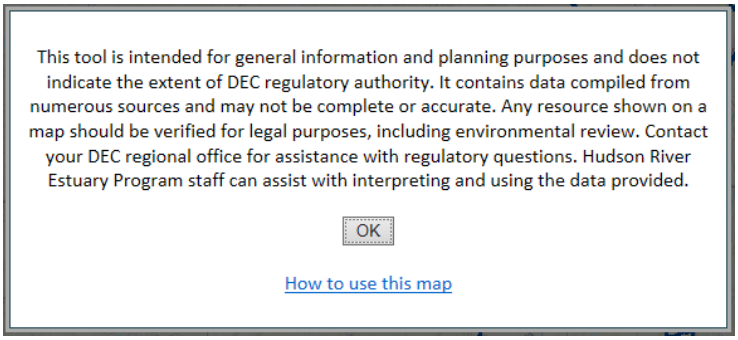
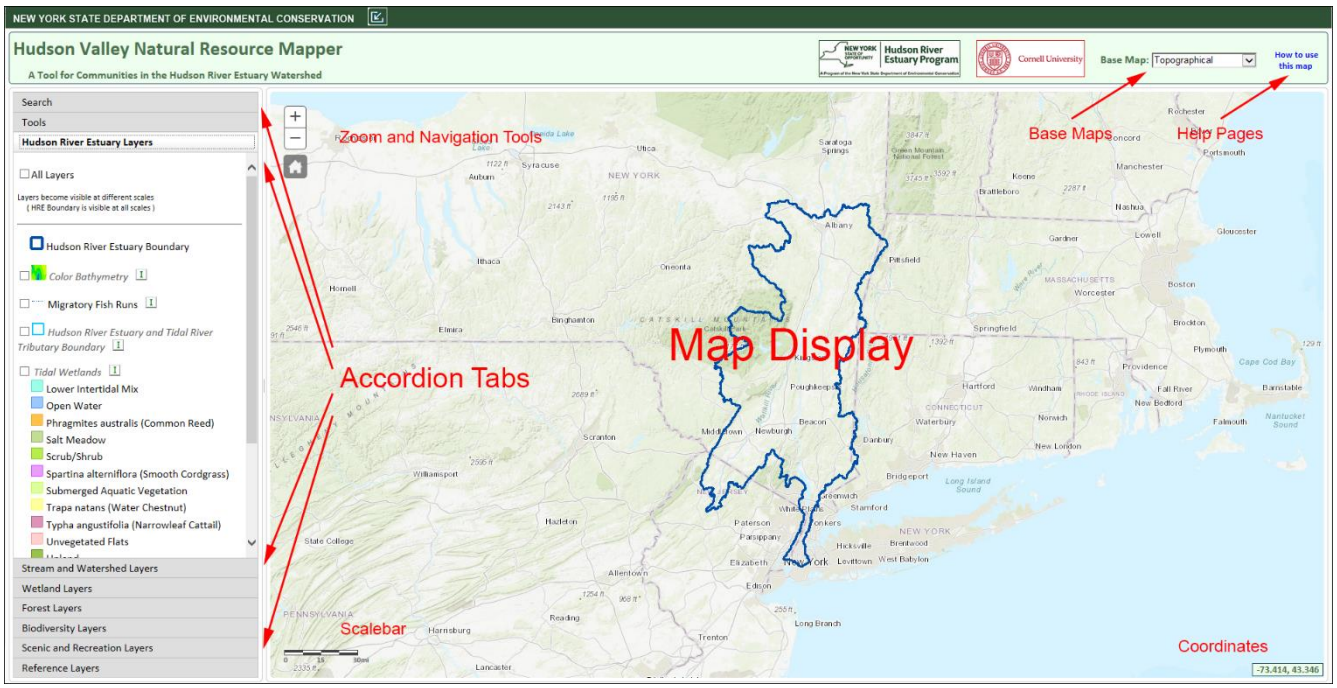
Using the Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper

When you first open the Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper, you will see a message regarding the use of the mapper with the map grayed out behind it. Only after clicking “OK” on the opening message can you access the map.



After clicking “OK” and revealing the map, you can expand the size of the map by clicking on the resize button on the green title bar just after New York State DEC banner. This will hide the header and the footer on the page and create a larger map space.



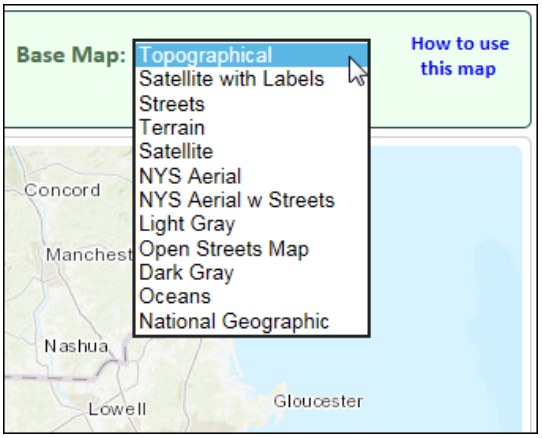
In the image above, the main components of the Hudson Valley Natural Resource Mapper are labeled in red. We’ll summarize what these elements are before giving more detailed information on each element.

Most of your screen will be occupied by the Map Display. This will consist of a base map and whatever layers you choose to display.

On the upper right, you’ll see a dropdown menu with a selection of base maps. Next to that is a button that will open Help Pages to assist you in using the application.

Other elements on the map include a scale bar on the lower left and small box displaying the coordinates of your mouse or cursor at any given time.

Starting with a New Map

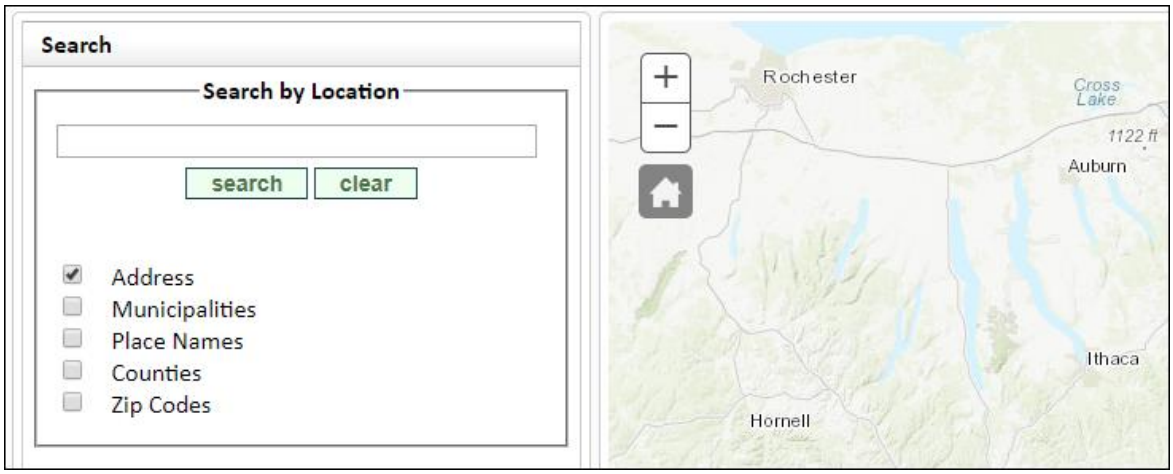


Base Maps

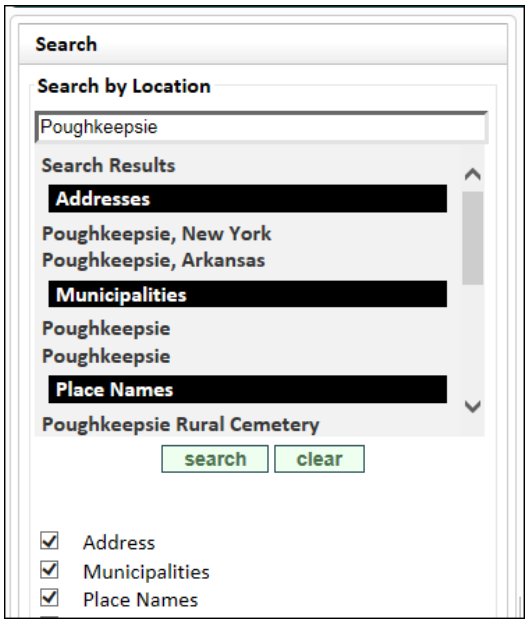
By default, when you first open the mapper, the background map, or "Base Map", will be a topographical map. You can change this by choosing a different map from the selection of Base Maps offered in the drop-down menu in the upper right corner of the screen. Try out a few different maps by clicking on the options in the menu.

Searching, Zooming and Panning

By clicking on the accordion tab labeled "Search", you can access the search tool. You can use the search tool to go to a specific address, municipality, place, county or zip code by checking one or more of the search options listed.



As you type in the name of the area you're looking for, the search tool will begin to offer suggestions which will become more accurate as you type.



In addition to using the Search options, you can navigate in the map by zooming in or out by clicking on the plus or minus icons at the upper left of the map display. If you have a mouse wheel, rolling it forward will zoom in to the map and rolling it backwards will zoom out.

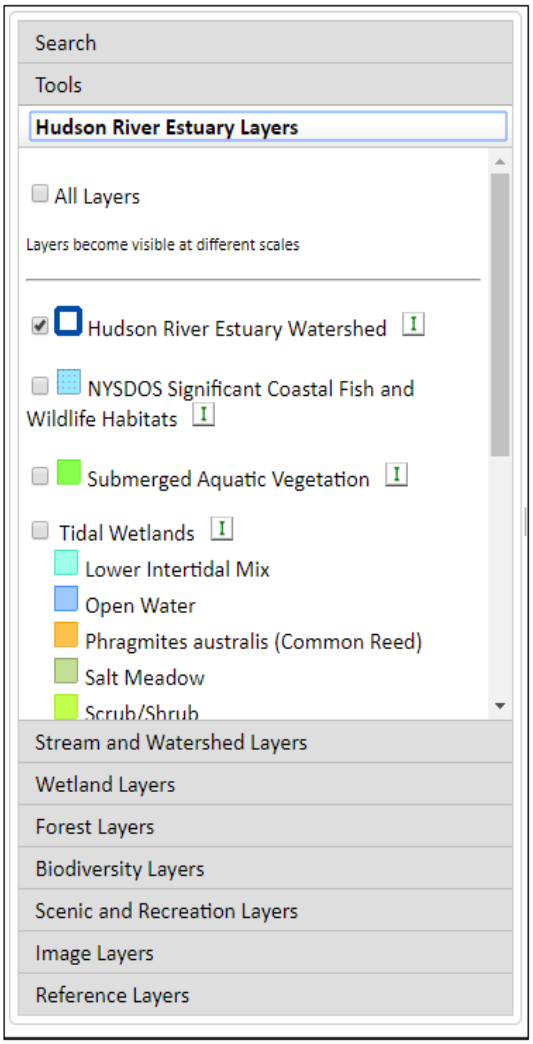
To pan the map, left click and hold the mouse button down on the map display. A cross symbol will appear. With your mouse, move the display in whichever direction will get you to where you're looking to go.

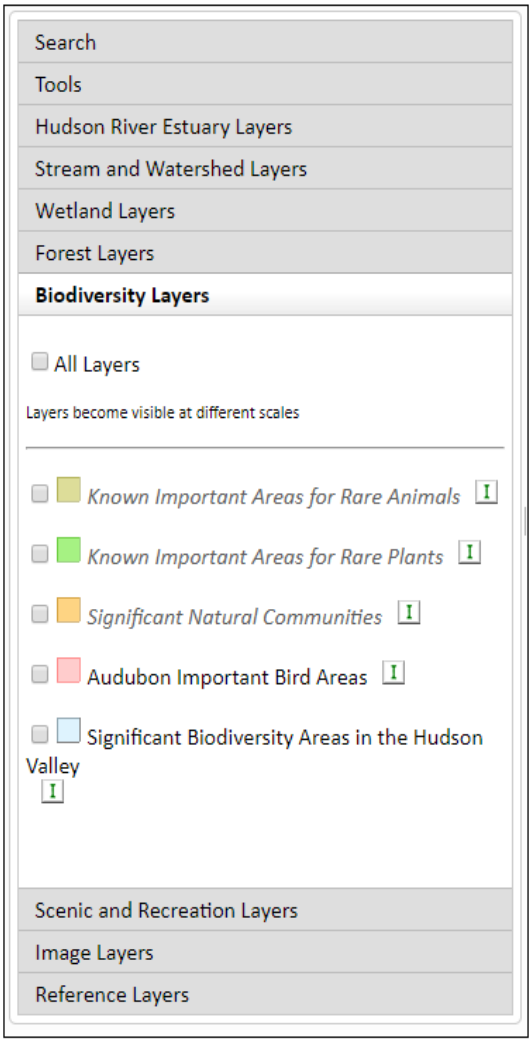
Clicking on the house icon below plus and minus signs will return you to the original statewide extent of the map.

Another quick way to zoom to an area is to hold the "Shift" key, left click and hold the mouse button, then drag a box around the area you want to zoom to. You can then zoom out by holding the "Ctrl" and "Shift" keys while clicking and dragging on the map.

Displaying Layers

To the left of the map is an accordion menu that will display content under whichever tab you click. In the Hudson Valley Resource mapper, there are two tabs in the menu which access tools and seven layer tabs, each with a specific grouping of geographic layers





By default, the uppermost layer tab is displayed, showing the layer names and legend for the grouping Hudson River Estuary Watershed. Each layer in each section is scale dependent, which means it may not be available to turn on at a particular zoom level. Layers that are not available to turn on will have their layer name in italics. Zooming into the map will make these layers available once the correct zoom level has been reached. Layers can then be turned on or off by checking or unchecking the checkbox next to the layer name.

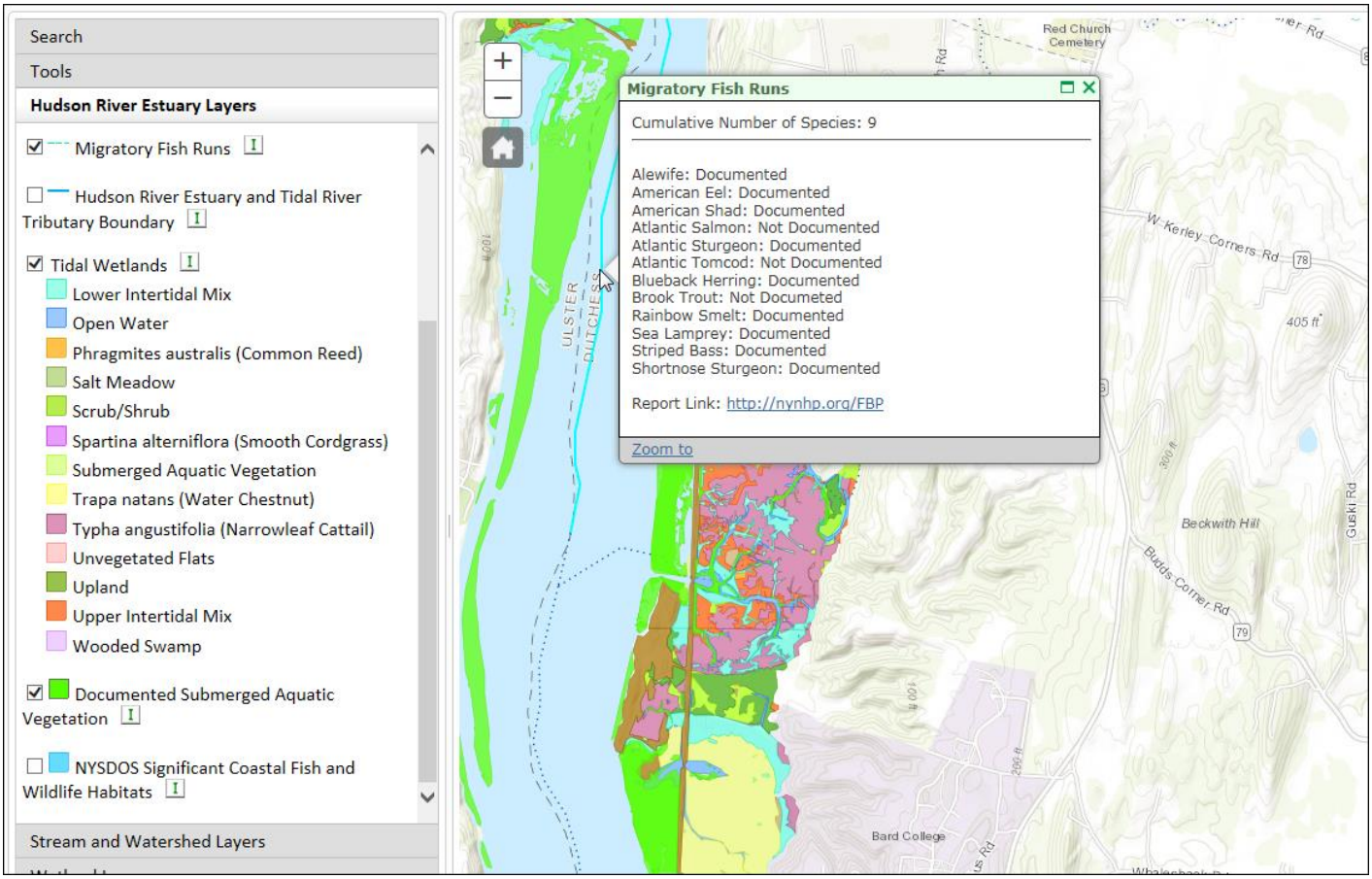
All layers can be turned on or off simultaneously by checking or unchecking the “All Layers” checkbox at the top of each layer section. Layers in italics will appear when the correct zoom level is reached.

To the right of most layer names in the layer lists is a small icon with the letter “I” in it. Clicking on these icons will open a new page in your browser with information about the layers

Clicking on the map to get layer information

Once layers have been displayed, more information about those layers can be found simply by clicking on a feature in the layer where it appears in the map. A small popup will appear displaying information about that layer as well as information about other visible layers occurring at the click-point.

The popup will display the title and attributes of the layers in the order of their appearance in the Layer and Legend list. The title bar of the pop-up will also indicate the number of layers identified at the click point and by clicking on the small arrow in the title bar, you can view the information returned for each feature identified. The individual feature clicked on within an identified layer can also be zoomed to by clicking the "Zoom to" link on the bottom-left of the pop-up.

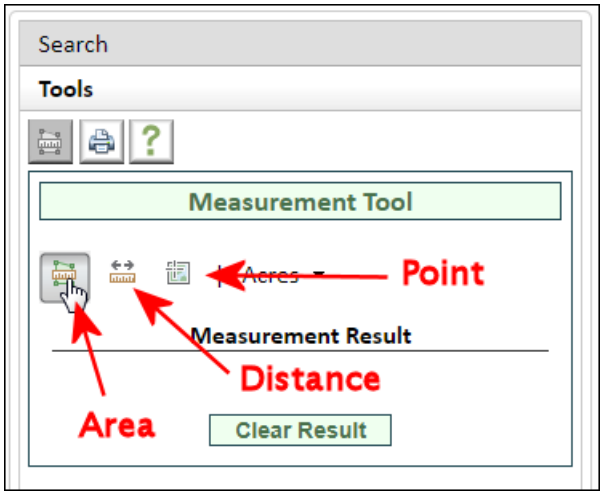


The Measure Tool

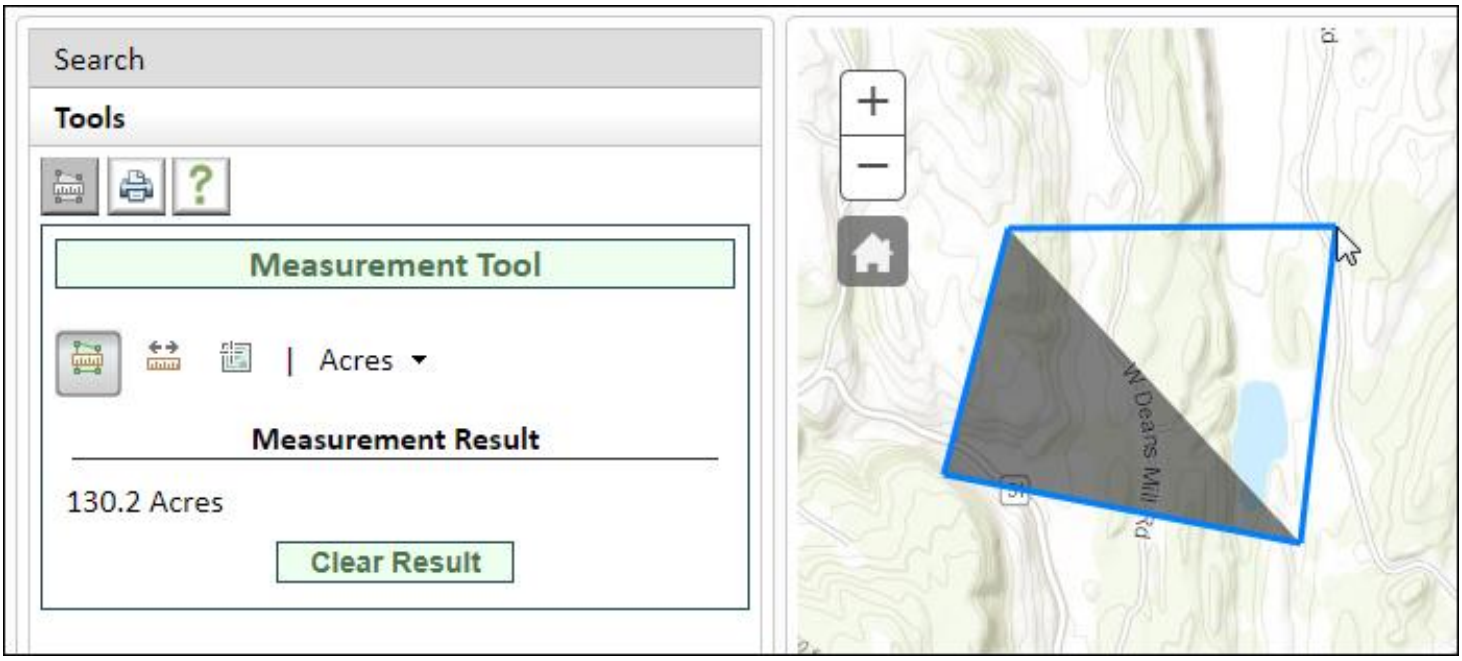
The Measure Tool can be used to measure area as well as distance. The measure tool is activated by clicking the Measure Tool button in the Tools accordion tab. After clicking the button, measure tool options will appear below the toolbar.

Selecting the area or distance icon determines the type of measurement to be made. (A third option allows you to select a point to display the coordinates for that point.)

The unit of measurement can be chosen depending on the type of measurement. Once the type of measurement has been selected, a drop-down menu will appear to the left of the measurement type icons.

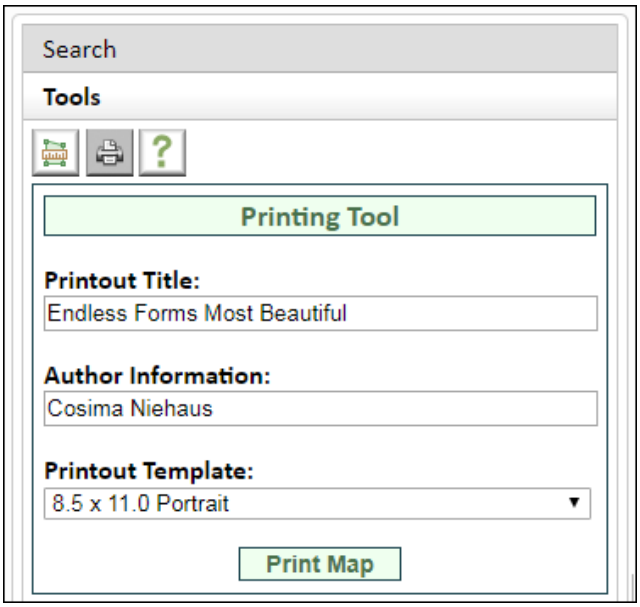


After selecting the measurement type, the measurement is made by clicking points on the map. The area or line being measured is drawn one point at a time. Double-clicking the last point will finish the measurement and display the result.



The Print Tool

The Print Tool is activated by clicking on the Print Tool button in the toolbar. This opens a dialogue with options for printing.



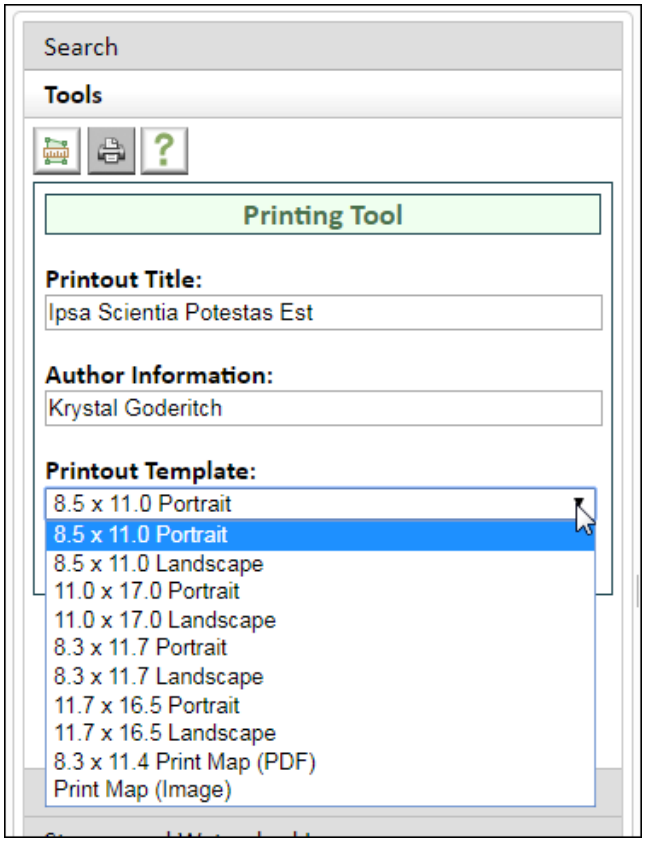
The Print Tool allows you to choose from a variety of Printout Templates (described below) and to include a title and author.

*The Print Map (PDF) and Print Map (Image) templates do not include text or a legend. See the template specs below for more information on these.

After filling out the fields, clicking print creates a .pdf of the map in the chosen layout with the title and author information included.

Printout Templates

The Printing tool allows a number of Printout Templates with varying sizes for printing.



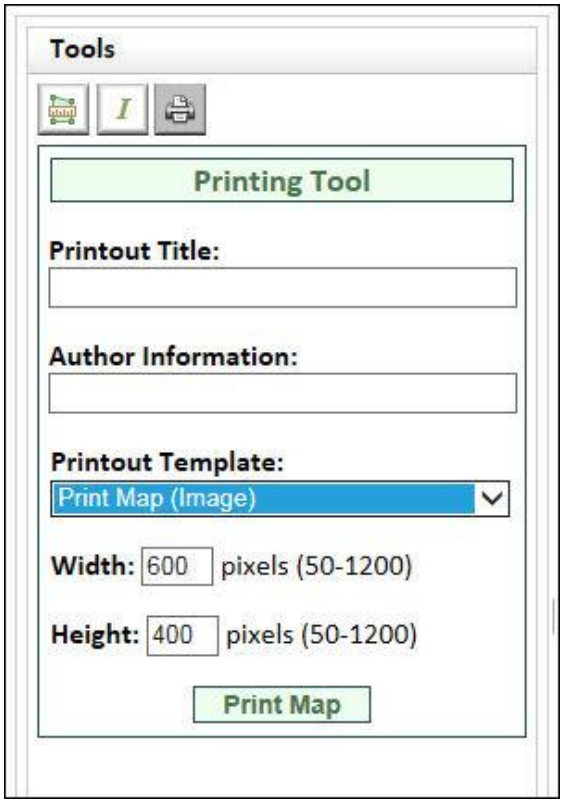
A3 Landscape	16.5” x 11.7”
A3 Portrait	11.7” x 16.5”
A4 Landscape	11.7” x 8.3”
A4 Portrait	8.3” x 11.7”
Letter ANSI A Landscape	11” x 8.5”
Letter ANSI A Portrait	8.5” x 11”
Tabloid ANSI B Landscape	17” x 11”
Tabloid ANSI B Portrait	17” x 11”
Print Map (PDF)	8.3” x 11.4”

The Print Map (PDF) option will create a PDF in which the map fills the entire document, edge to edge, with no text information.

Print Map (Image)

The Print Map (Image) allows you to choose the width and height of your map in pixels. It will create the image with the dimension you choose in new browser window.

You can print this by using the print operation in the file menu of the browser window.



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