How-to Guide for the Forest Stewardship Atlas

Vermont's RPCs and ANR have developed a new online map/ atlas which provides access to a wide variety of forest data for across the state. Web accessible forest stewardship data will help landowners, towns and forest managers to inventory and assess forest resources in order to more effectively manage these resources. Check it out at http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/ForestStewardship/

Digging into the Atlas

This guide is designed to get people started using the VT ANR Forest Stewardship Atlas and is not meant to cover all the tools or functionality of the Atlas.
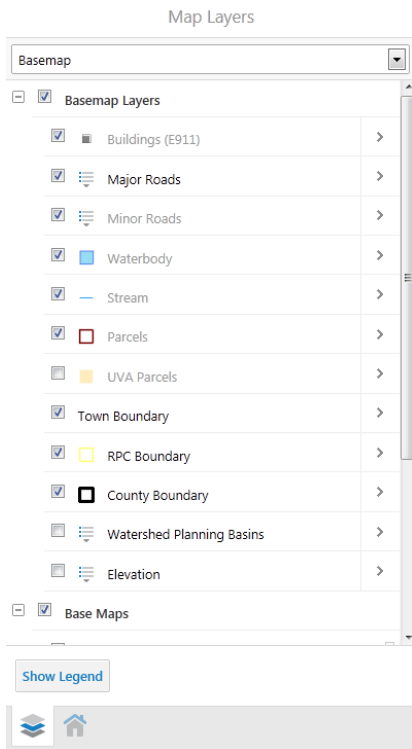
Web Site Home Page:

The Forest Stewardship text and map layers can be switch between by using the icons at the bottom of the text/layers box.
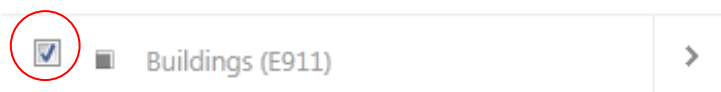

Click on the Map Layers icons _____ to switch to the map layers. The Basemap Layers will be turn on as the default base map.
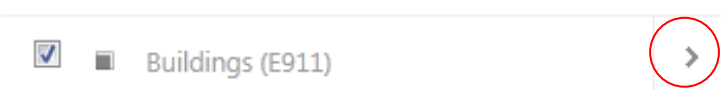
Here is what the Map Layer box looks like.

You can turn the map layers on and off by clicking on the box to the left of the layers name.

Please note some layers (those with their names in grey) will only be visible at a smaller scale. You can zoom to those scales by clicking on the arrow to the right of the layer name.


Then select "Zoom to visible scale" which will zoom the map to a scale that the layer will display at. You can back out of this window by clicking on the arrow at the top of the box.
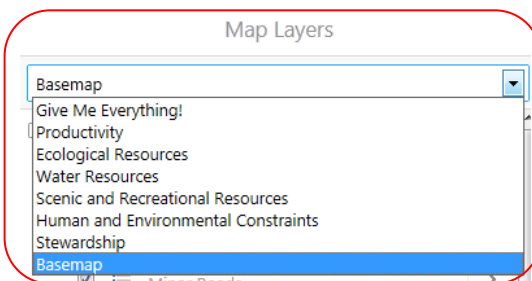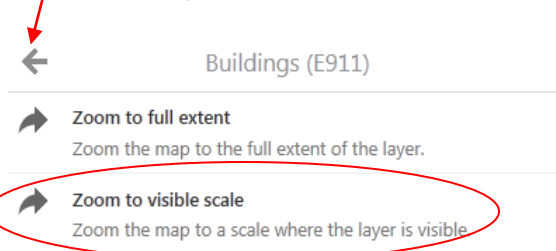
The default Basemap view and layers can be switch to the Forest Stewardship layer themes by clicking on the dropdown list just below the Map Layers title.

This drop down list will let you select from the six available forest stewardship themes. Please note you can get all of the themes by clicking on "Give Me Everything!" I caution you that this may take a while to load if you have a slow internet connection.

You can also access these themes by click on the dropdown list at the top right of the map window.
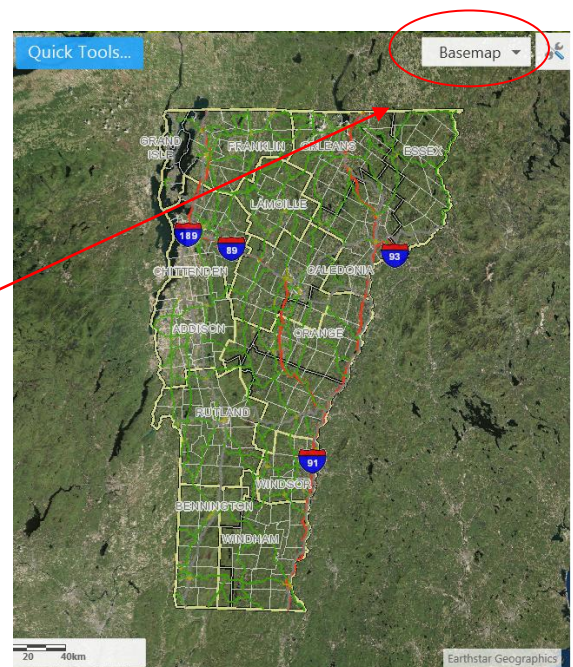
Let's pick the Productivity theme to explore. You will note that the Forest Stewardship Productivity Layers are now added to the list of map layers. The Productivity Theme includes Forest Products, Forest Productivity Inputs, and Forest Productivity. Please see quick start guide for more details on this data and how it was developed. http://centralvtplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Quick-guide-to-Forest-Stewardship-Atlas-Spring2015.pdf

The layers each have their own legend which can be displayed by clicking on the icon to the right of check box. You can also turn on all the layers legends by click on the "Show Legend" at the bottom of the Map Layers window
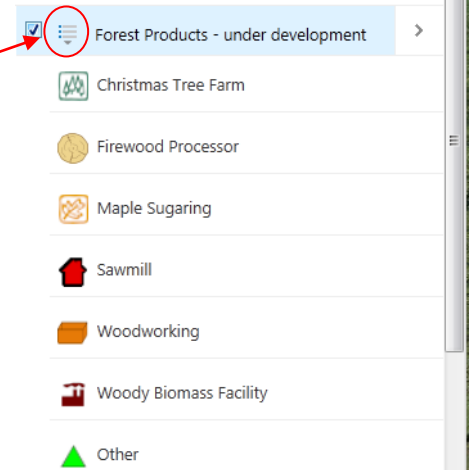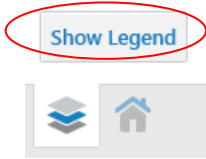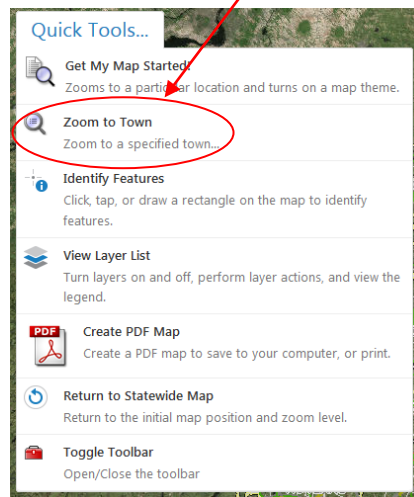
Once the data and legends are turned on you can zoom to your area of interest which can be a town, region, or even a rectangle identified by you.

By clicking on the "Quick Tools" button you can bring up the Zoom to Town option which is always a great place to start.
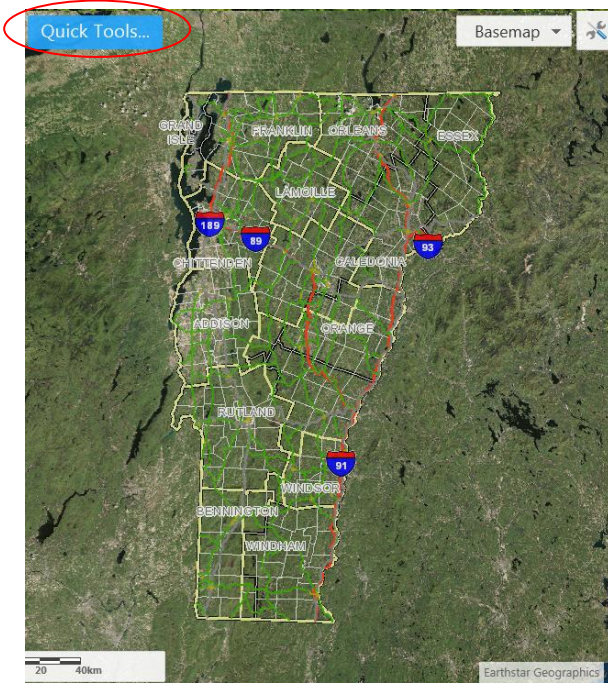
Click "Zoom to Town" and a new window will open.

Follow the instruction by typing in the name of the town and select it from the list. Hit Ok once you have the town you wish to zoom to listed in the box. Your map will zoom to the town selected.
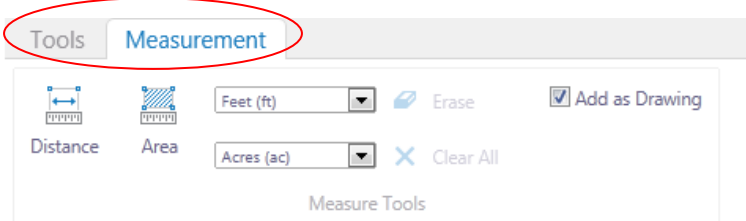
You can further navigate around the map by turning on the "Tools" bar which is the wrench/screw driver icon in the right corner of the map window.
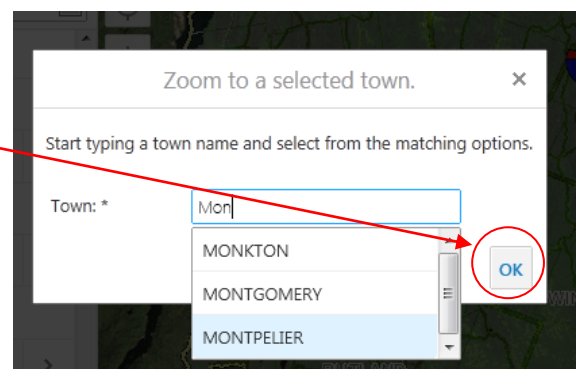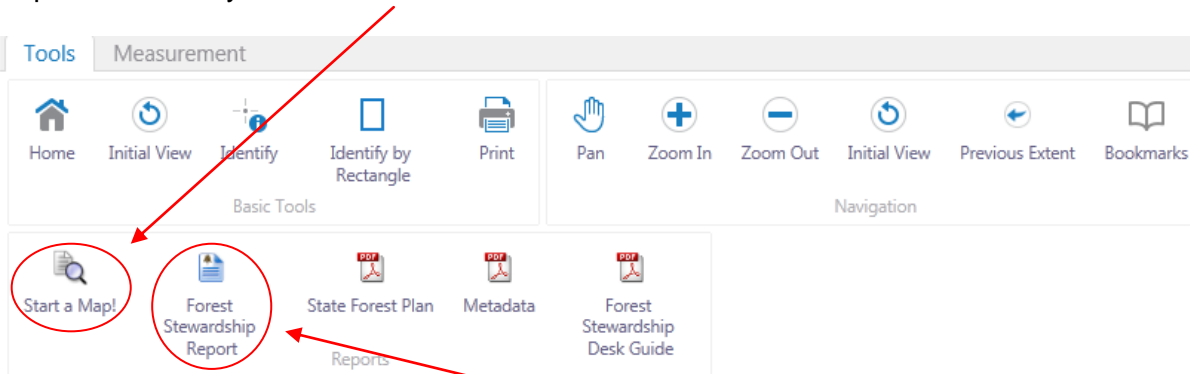
The Tools bar will open above the map and layers windows and looks like this.
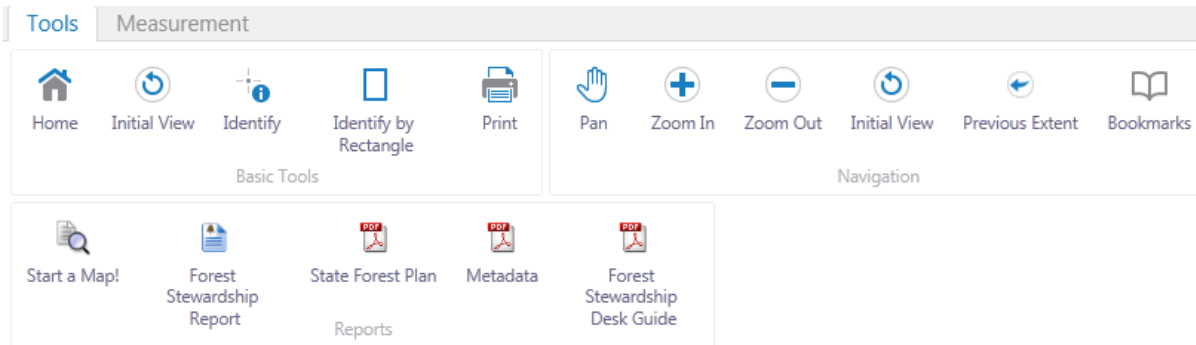
You will see many of your standard tools including Identify, Print, Pan, and Zoom. There is also a second tab that includes measuring tool options.

Click back on the "Tools" tab I want to point out that you can use the "Start a Map!" icon to quickly get to a new map extent and layer theme started.

Now let's explore the report options. Click on the Forest Stewardship Report icon to open the Forest Stewardship Report wizard. This wizard will walk you through the creation of a report for your desired area.

This tool is used to calculate the area and values for five particular forest resource inputs. These inputs include:
1. Forest Productivity
2. Habitat Blocks > 20 acres
3. Conserved Lands
4. UVA Parcels
5. Forest Cover Types

For information regarding these datasets, please see the Forest Stewardship Metadata:
http://maps.vermont.gov/Geocortex/Essentials/ANR/REST/sites/Forest_Stewardship/Viewers/Forest_Stewardship_Atlas/VirtualDirectory/Resources/Documents/Metadata.pdf
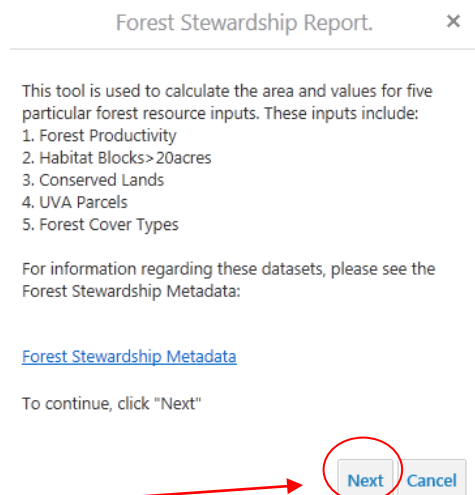Click next to continue.

Forest Stewardship Report.   ✕

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3. Conserved Lands
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5. Forest Cover Types

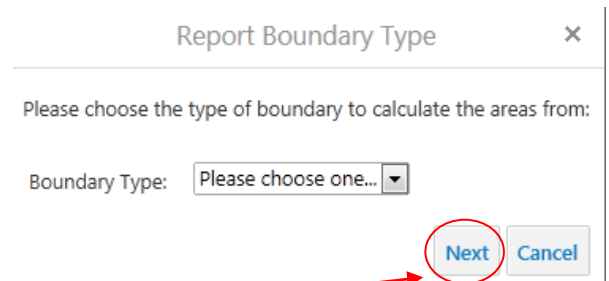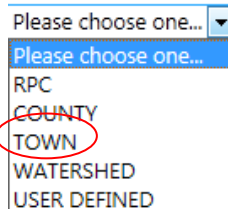For information regarding these datasets, please see the Forest Stewardship Metadata:

Forest Stewardship Metadata

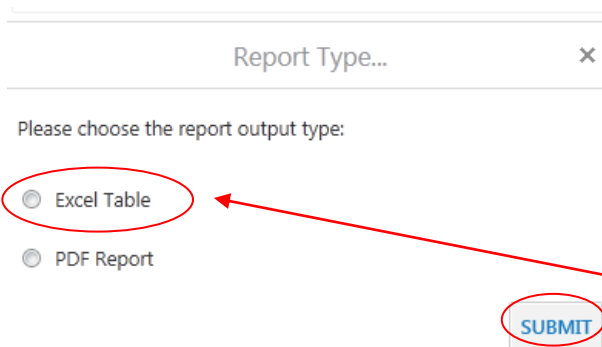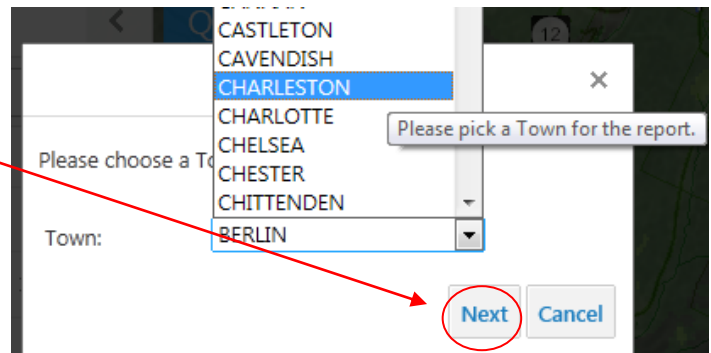To continue, click "Next"

Next Cancel

The next window will let you select your Report Boundary Type. The types include:
- RPC (Regional Planning Commission)
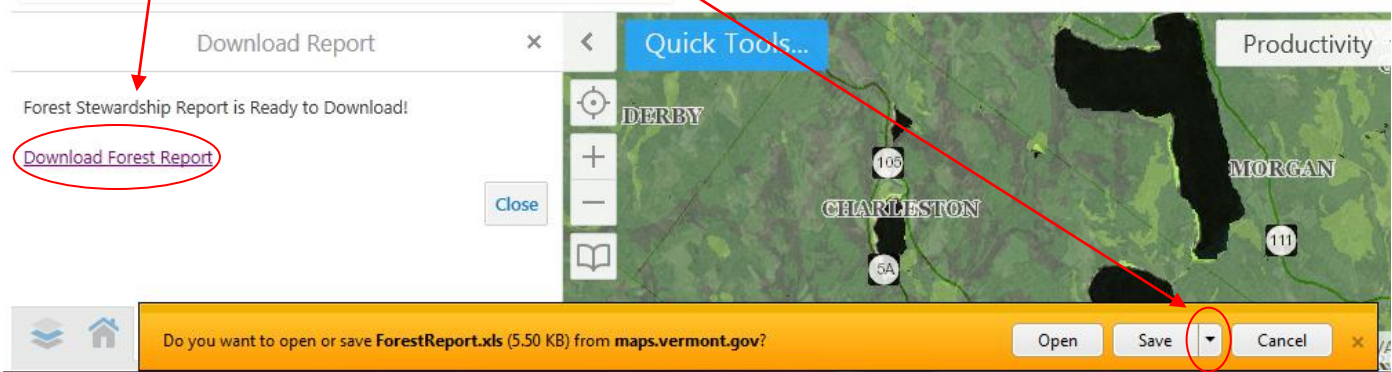- County
- Town
- Watershed or
- User Defined

Report Boundary Type ×

Please choose the type of boundary to calculate the areas from:

Boundary Type: Please choose one...

Next Cancel

Please choose one...
Please choose one...
RPC
COUNTY
TOWN
WATERSHED
USER DEFINED

Lets pick Town and hit Next.

You will now have to pick your town from the list. Let's pick Charleston and then hit Next.

CASTLETON
CAVENDISH
CHARLESTON
CHARLOTTE ×
CHELSEA Please pick a Town for the report.
CHESTER
CHITTENDEN
BERLIN

Please choose a To

Town: BERLIN

Next Cancel

Report Type... ×

Please choose the report output type:

○ Excel Table

○ PDF Report

SUBMIT

You will next be asked to select your Report Type. We will show both options here but let's start with Excel Table. Please note the Excel Table version of the report only displays the values for the five particular forest resource inputs and is the better option for those uses who want to more easily use the data to create their own charts and graphs. While the PDF Report is more formatted and also includes a map of your selected area.

Click the Excel Table option and hit Submit.

Once the report is created you will need to download the forest report to your computer. Start by clicking on Download Forest Report. Depending on your web browser you will be prompted to save the report. These steps where document while using Internet Explorer Version 9. I prefer to save the report first and then open it as I will then know where to find it the next time I want to open it. Click on black arrow to the right of Save.

Download Report × < Quick Tools... Productivity

Forest Stewardship Report is Ready to Download!

Download Forest Report

Close

DERBY

CHARLESTON

MORGAN

Do you want to open or save **ForestReport.xls** (5.50 KB) from **maps.vermont.gov**?   Open Save ▼ Cancel ×

You will be given the save options. Pick "Save as" so that you can select the location to save the report to. Please feel free to use your preferred method to save and open documents from the internet.
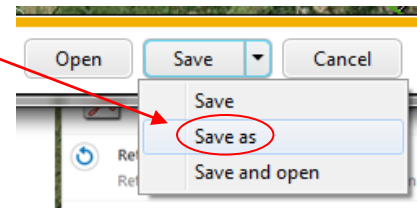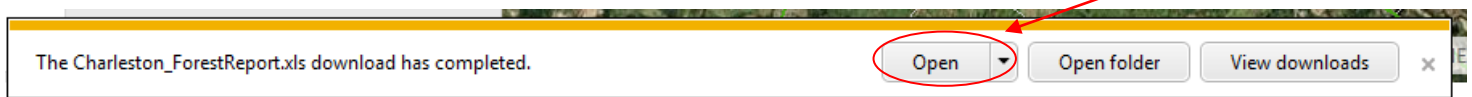
Once you pick Save as you will next be asked where to save the report to.

You will need to navigate to this location on your computer and update the File name with the Town you selected the report for. Click Save when you are done.
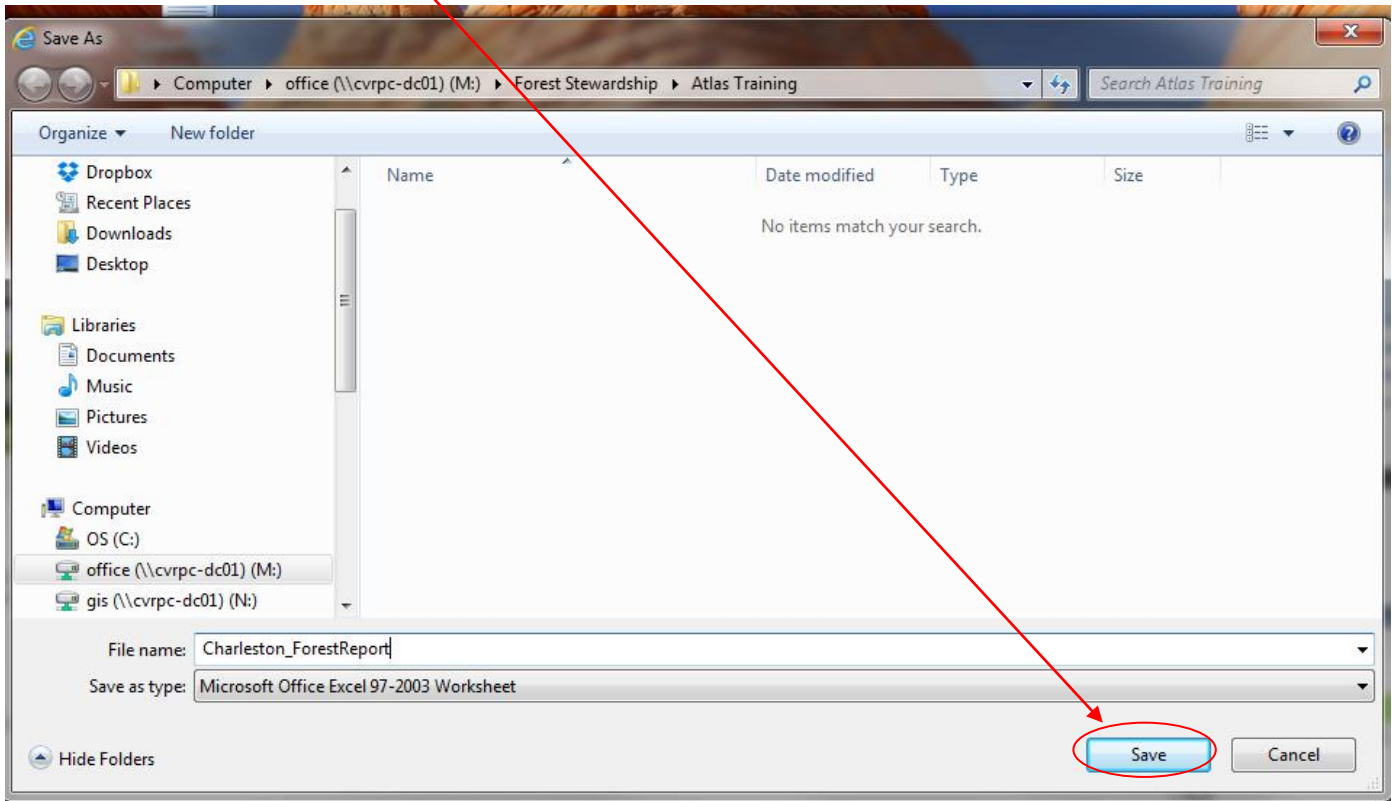
Once saved you will be prompted that the download has completed and you can now select "Open" to open the report.

This will open the report in excel and will look like this.

As noted before the Excel version of the report only displays the values for the five particular forest resource inputs. These inputs include:

1. Forest Productivity
2. Habitat Blocks > 20 acres
3. Conserved Lands
4. UVA Parcels
5. Forest Cover Types

and is the better option for those uses who want to more easily use the data to create their own charts and graphs.

Let's go back to the Forest Stewardship Report tool and create and download a PDF Report. We will follow the same steps as before but this time when we get to report type we will select PDF Report. Those steps again are.
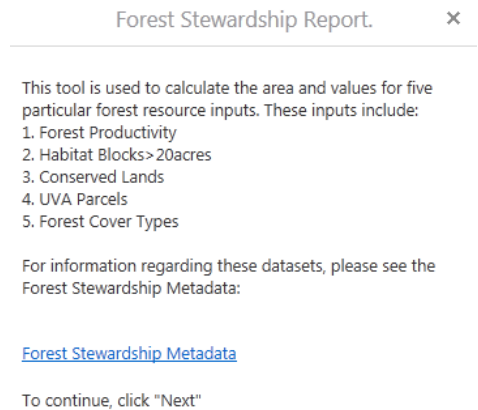
Click on the Forest Stewardship Report icon to open the Forest Stewardship Report wizard. This wizard will walk you through the creation of a report for your desired area.

This tool is used to calculate the area and values for five particular forest resource inputs. These inputs include:
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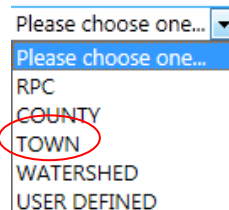For information regarding these datasets, please see the Forest Stewardship Metadata:
http://maps.vermont.gov/Geocortex/Essentials/ANR/REST/sites/Forest_Stewardship/Viewers/Forest_Stewardship_Atlas/VirtualDirectory/Resources/Documents/Metadata.pdf

Click next to continue.

The next window will let you select your Report Boundary Type. The types include:
- RPC (Regional Planning Commission)
- County
- Town
- Watershed or
- User Defined

Lets pick Town and hit Next.

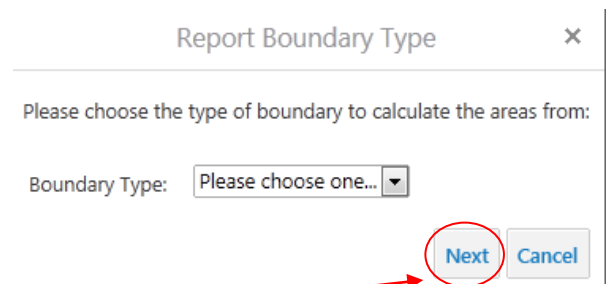You will now have to pick your town from the list. Let's pick Charleston and then hit Next.

You will next be asked to select your Report Type. Let's pick PDF Report. Please note the Excel Table version of the report only displays the values for the five particular forest resource inputs and is the better option for those uses who want to more easily use the data to create their own charts and graphs. While the PDF Report is more formatted and also includes a map of your selected area.

Click the PDF Report option and hit Submit.

Once the report is created you will need to download the forest report to your computer. Start by clicking on Download Forest Report. Depending on your web browser and the way your computer opens PDF documents you may be prompted to save the report. But most likely as it is on my computer the PDF Report opens in a new Internet Explorer tab.
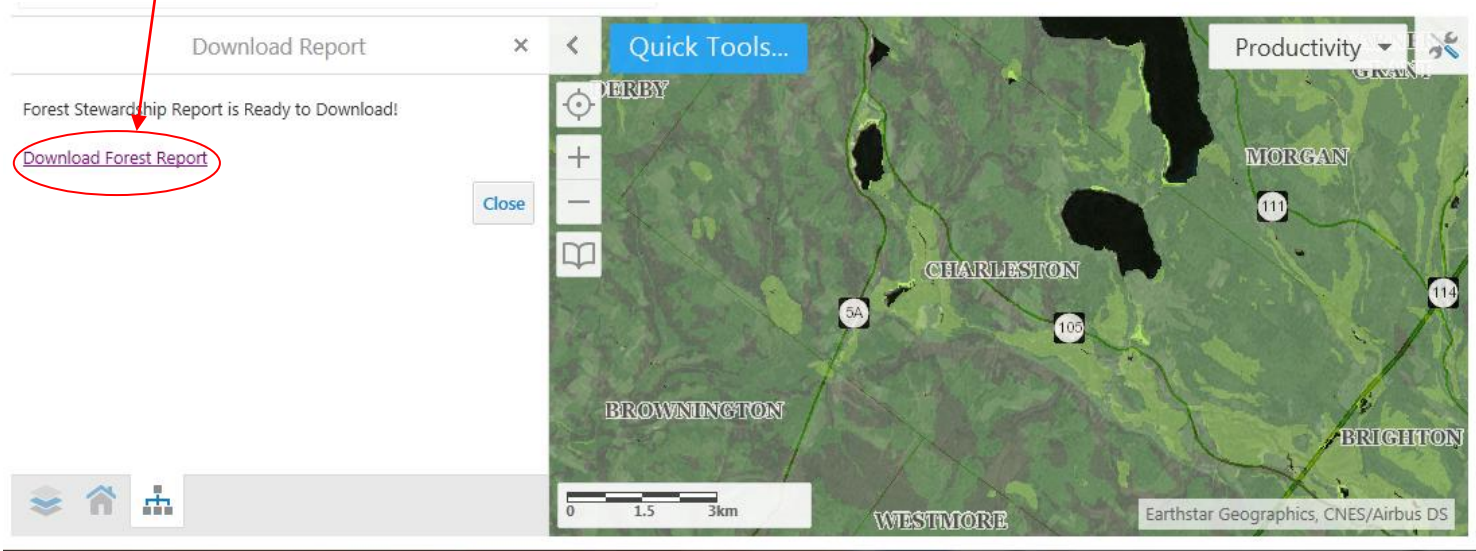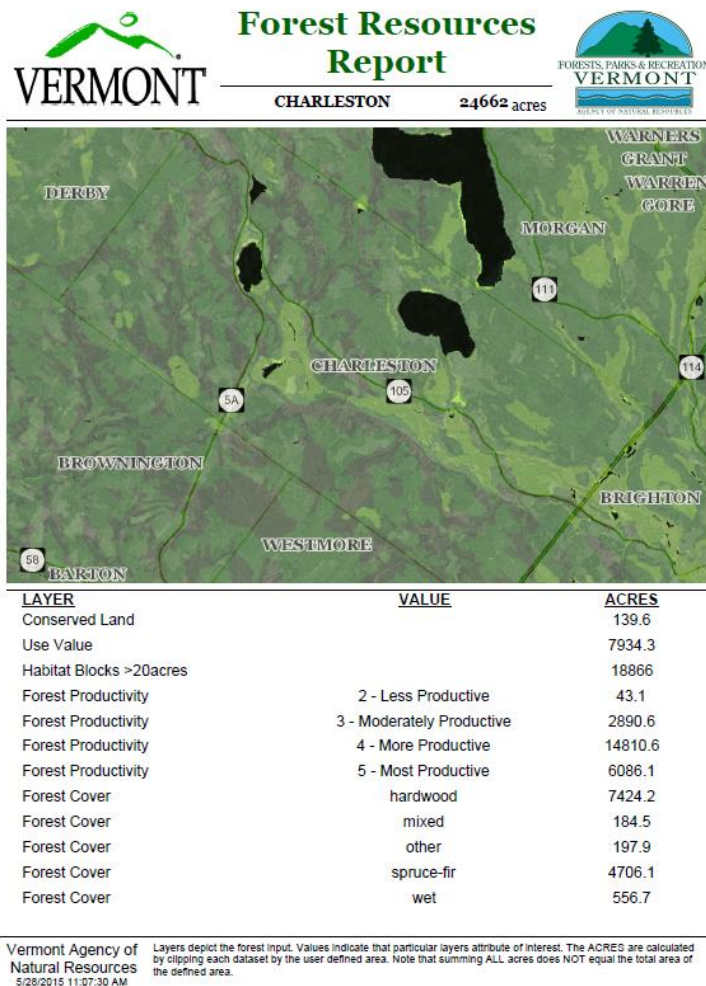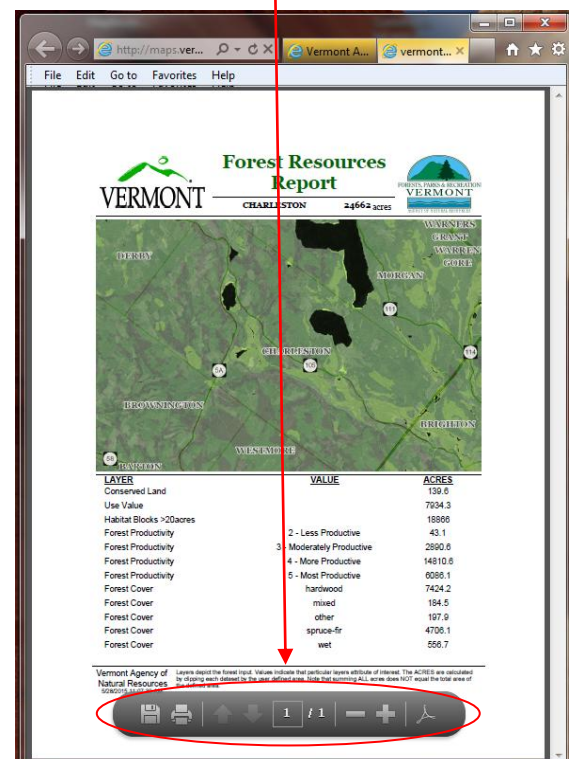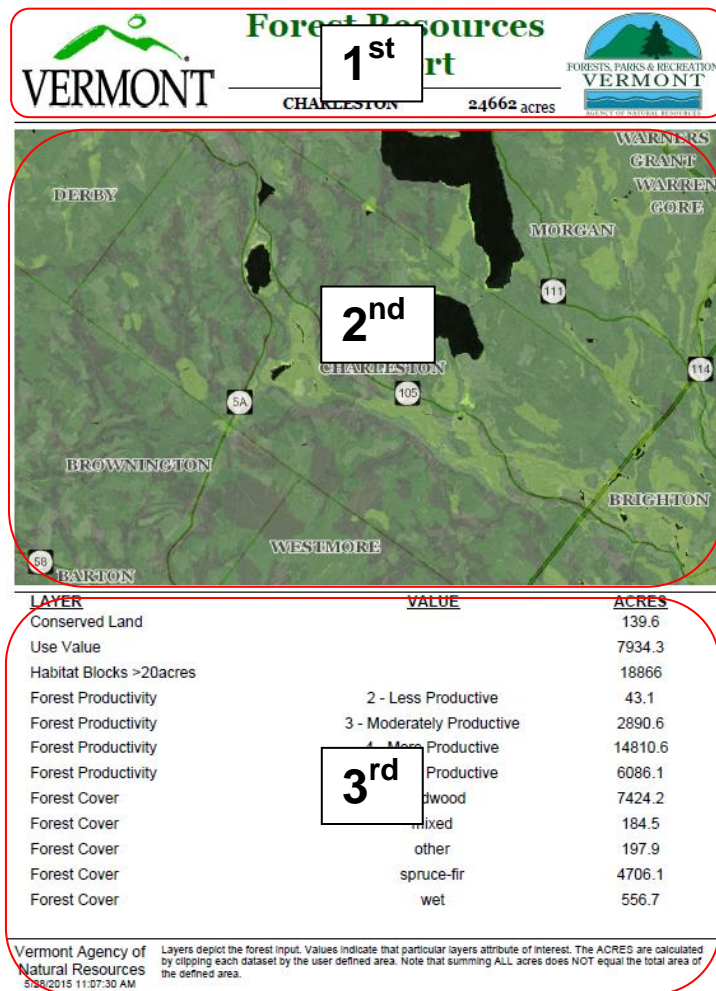

The PDF report will look like this once downloaded and opened.

The report can be saved and printed by using the PDF tool bar at the bottom of the screen. Please note the tools bar will only displays once you moved your mouse to the bottom of the screen.

LAYER	VALUE	ACRES
Conserved Land		139.6
Use Value		7934.3
Habitat Blocks >20acres		18866
Forest Productivity	2 - Less Productive	43.1
Forest Productivity	3 - Moderately Productive	2890.6
Forest Productivity	4 - More Productive	14810.6
Forest Productivity	5 - Most Productive	6086.1
Forest Cover	hardwood	7424.2
Forest Cover	mixed	184.5
Forest Cover	other	197.9
Forest Cover	spruce-fir	4706.1
Forest Cover	wet	556.7

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
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Layers depict the forest input. Values indicate that particular layers attribute of interest. The ACRES are calculated by clipping each dataset by the user defined area. Note that summing ALL acres does NOT equal the total area of the defined area.

Let's take a quick look at the PDF Report. There are three areas to the report.

First is the header.

It includes the titles, town name, and total acres of the town.

Second is the map.

It showes the Forest Stewardship theme last selected. In this case the Productivity theme is showing.

Third is the report values.

It shows the values for the five particular forest resource inputs. These inputs include:
1. Forest Productivity
2. Habitat Blocks > 20 acres
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The forest resource inputs are further broken down into their values and then acres by value.

I would encourage you to explore the tool more on your own to learn more about its functionalities.

If you have any questions about this how-to guide or using the Forest Stewardship Atlas please contact Dan Currier at 802-229-0389 or email him at currier@cvregion.com.