



# POS Tool User Guide

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## Introduction

POS Tool provides information on the provision and location of public open space (POS) and the facilities and amenities provided within parks across the Perth and Peel regions of Western Australia through an interactive web mapping interface. The tool allows users two levels of access: simple search tools to identify and examine public open spaces and advanced functions which provide additional tools for researchers and planners.

- Simple search functions allow users to search for parks based on an address, search for parks by name and search for information on the distribution of POS and park amenities within a suburb or Local Government Area.
- Advanced functions (requiring registration), allow users to view summary statistics on POS provision and population level access within a user defined area (drawn on an interactive map or uploaded as a GIS layer) and scenario model the impact of changes in population size and structure or changes in POS provision.

Read this guide to learn about POS Tool and how to navigate through the website and use its functions.

[Log In / Register](#)

# POSITIVE PLACES

HOME SEARCH **ADVANCED** ABOUT CONTACT US

### Welcome to POS Tool

POS Tool provides information on the provision and location of public open space (POS) and the facilities and amenities provided within parks across Perth and Peel

**For the general public** - POS Tool offers a quick and simple way to find local parks in your local area and see what facilities are provided. You can find your closest park or locate a park with a certain facilities.

**For planners and developers** - POS Tool can help you with your planning decisions. You can visualise and assess the spatial distribution of POS (including parks, nature and bushland) by suburb or local government authority across the Perth and Peel Metropolitan Region and analyse summary data on POS provision, park amenity, gaps in current provision and future needs.

**For researchers** - POS Tool provides an opportunity to assess and export POS-related information for use in research projects requiring data on POS (including parks, nature and bushland, school grounds, and residual areas). POS variables can be exported and used in combination with other datasets such as census or your own dataset.

POS Tool is brought to you by the Centre for the Built Environment and Health, based at The University of Western Australia and was funded by the Australian National Data Service. Aspects of POS Tool were made possible by research funding from the Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation (Healthway).

We thank you for your interest and patience as we continue to improve POS Tool and we welcome your feedback – please contact us at [postool-sph@uwa.edu.au](mailto:postool-sph@uwa.edu.au) with any questions or suggestions on how we may help you and improve POS Tool.

[Search POS Tool here](#)

Coming soon...Advanced features that will allow you to:

- Define and create your own specific areas of interest to calculate POS summary data
- Test future scenarios such as the impact of population growth on current provision of parks and park amenities

This project is supported by the Australian National Data Service (ANDS). ANDS is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy Program and the Education Investment Fund (EIF) Super Science Initiative



## Simple Search Functions

This section will lead you through POS Tools' simple search functions which can be accessed by clicking 'SEARCH' from the home page:

- Search for parks based on an address - simply type in your home address and find parks near you;
- Search for parks by name - type in a park name to find the amenities and facilities provided in that park;
- Search for information on the distribution of POS and park amenities within a suburb or Local Government Area - just type in the name of the suburb or LGA.

The screenshot shows the POS Tool website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: HOME, SEARCH, ADVANCED, ABOUT, and CONTACT US. Below the navigation bar is a large green banner with the text "POSITIVE PLACES". To the right of the banner, there are several callouts with arrows pointing to specific elements:

- "Return to the Search page" points to the SEARCH link in the navigation bar.
- "Learn more about POS Tool" points to the ABOUT link in the navigation bar.
- "Log In to an existing account or register for Advanced functions" points to a "Log In / Register" link.
- "Find out how to contact us" points to the CONTACT US link in the navigation bar.

Below the banner, the main content area is titled "Search the database". It contains a paragraph about the POS Tool and a list of three search methods:

1. Search for parks based on an address - simply type in your home address and find parks near you;
2. Search for parks by name - type in a park name to find the amenities and facilities provided in that park;
3. Search for information on the distribution of POS and park amenities within a suburb or Local Government Area - just type in the name of the suburb or LGA.

Below the list, there is a section titled "You will instantly be directed to an interactive map with your search results and accompanying information." and a search form with three input fields:

- Address Search:** Enter a location. An arrow points to this field with the text: "Type an address to search for POS in a specific location".
- Park Name:** An arrow points to this field with the text: "Type the name of a park to search for a specific POS".
- Suburb or Local Government Area:** An arrow points to this field with the text: "Type the name of a suburb or LGA to find stats for a specific administrative unit".

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with logos for The University of Western Australia and ANDS (Australian National Data Service).

## Option 1: Address Search

After you have typed in the address for which you would like to find information on surrounding parks *Click* on the *Search* button and you will be directed to the following page. Next, simply select the park for which you would like to find more information.

In the map window you can *zoom in* and *out* and *pan* around the image as well as select additional map layers to display. In addition, simply *click* on a new park to find its associated information. These are common functions you will find on all map windows. However, in this map window you can also drag the address icon to a new location to search for parks surrounding a new location.

The screenshot shows the POSITIVE PLACES website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HOME, SEARCH, ADVANCED, ABOUT, and CONTACT US. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into two sections. On the left is a map of Nedlands, Western Australia, showing streets, parks, and other landmarks. On the right is a list of nearby parks.

Annotations on the map include:

- Zoom in and out**: An arrow pointing to the map's zoom controls.
- Move address icon to reorientate search**: An arrow pointing to the address icon on the map.
- Select additional map layers**: An arrow pointing to the 'Base Layer' and 'Overlays' menu.
- Click on Karella Park**: An arrow pointing to the 'Karella Park' entry in the list.

The 'Base Layer' menu shows options: Streets (selected), Satellite, and Overlays. The 'Overlays' menu shows options: Park (checked), School Grounds, Residual Green Space, Natural, Club or Play Facilities, and Your Location.

The list of nearby parks is as follows:

Park Name	Distance	Quality Score	Categories
Karella Park	685 m	-	General Amenities, Playground
Matilda Bay Reserve	965 m	-	Dogs, General Amenities, Nature, Skate Park
Peace Memorial Rose Gardens	1024 m	-	Dogs, General Amenities, Nature, Playground
Carrington Park	1147 m	-	General Amenities, Nature, Playground, Sporting
J.J. Abrahams Park	1224 m	-	Dogs, General Amenities, Nature, Playground, Skate Park, Sporting

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with logos for The University of Western Australia and ANDS (Australian National Data Service).



You can examine information on the facilities and amenities provided in the park you selected.

## POSITIVE PLACES

HOME SEARCH ADVANCED ABOUT CONTACT US

Map data ©2013 Google - [Terms of Use](#)  
[Report a problem](#)

**Park Properties**

Name	Karela Park
Area (Ha)	0.12
Park Type	Pocket Park

**Quality Rating**  
(Under Development)

Region	Name
Suburb	Nedlands
LGA	Nedlands
City	Perth

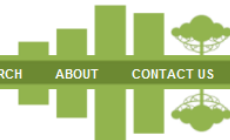
**Facilities**

Category	Feature	Presence
<b>Sports and Recreation</b>		
▶ Playground		Yes
<b>Nature</b>		
Grass Reticulated		Yes
<b>General Amenities</b>		
BBQ Facilities		No

← Scroll down to see all the information for the Park you selected

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## Option 2: Park Name Search

After you have typed in the name of the park for which you would like to find more information *Click* on the [Search](#) button and you will be directed to the following page where you can examine information on the facilities and amenities provided in the park you searched.

The screenshot shows the POSITIVE PLACES website interface. On the left is a map of East Fremantle with a green rectangle highlighting the location of Memorial Rose Gardens. To the right of the map is a sidebar with the following information:

**Park Properties**

Name	memorial Rose Gardens
Area (Ha)	0.11
Park Type	Pocket Park

**Quality Rating**  
(Under Development)

Region	Name
Suburb	East Fremantle
LGA	East Fremantle
City	Perth

**Facilities**

Category	Feature	Presence
<b>Sports and Recreation</b>		
▶ Playground	No	
<b>Nature</b>		
Grass Reticulated	Yes	
<b>General Amenities</b>		
BBQ Facilities	No	

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with logos for The University of Western Australia and ANDS, and a note about project support.

← Scroll down to see all the information for the Park you selected

## Option 3: Suburb / LGA Search

After you have typed in the Suburb or LGA name for which you would like to find more information *Click* on the [Search](#) button and you will be directed to the following page. The information provided includes:

- **Count** of the different types of POS (polygons) present within the summarised area by POS (i.e., parks, natural, residual green spaces and school grounds) and Park types;
- **Area (total)** of each POS and Park type within the selected administrative unit;
- **% Area** of each POS and Park type within the selected administrative unit;
- The proportion of the population within a certain distance (**Catchment**) of parks by park type (using our park type classification); and

- The proportion of the population within a certain distance (**Catchment**) of parks by park type (using the Department of Sport and Recreation's park type classification).

In addition, all of this information can be downloaded in an Excel spread sheet for use in reports of with additional data sources.

**Download Statistics**

HOME SEARCH ADVANCED ABOUT CONTACT US

**Belmont Statistics**

Area (Ha)	437
Type	Suburb
LGA	Belmont
City	Perth

**Park Statistics**

[Download statistics file for Belmont](#)

Class	Count	% Area	POS Catchment	DSR Catchment
<b>Parks</b>	12	44.86		
Pocket Park	3	0.32		
Small Neighbourhood Park	4	1.57		
Medium Neighbourhood Park	1	1.16		
Large Neighbourhood Park 1	1	2.44		
Large Neighbourhood Park 2	1	4.12		
District Park 1	0	0.0		
District Park 2	1	8.43		

Click for the number and area of Parks in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % area by Park type in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % of population within a certain distance of Parks by Park type (using our Park classification) in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % of population within a certain distance of Parks by Park type (using the Department of Sport and Recreation's park type classification) in the administrative unit for which you have searched

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ands

If you download the POS statistics for the administrative unit for which you have searched, you will be provided with the following information.





Belmont\_2013-09-11(1).xls [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

Suburb: Belmont			
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Data Sources</b>	
POS General Summary	Summary of count, area, percent of POS by park type, and POS	POS GIS Data layer, LGA boundaries, suburb boundaries	
Facility Summary	Summary of facilities present by park type	POS Facilities Data, Park boundaries	
Park Catchment Population	Summary of percent of population within designated catchment distances to park; network service area (NSA) buffers were derived from points around park edges and dissolved ABS population data from SA1 boundaries were aerially weighted with the walkable NSA buffers to derive population figures. For further explanation please see <a href="http://www.postool.com.au/cbeh/pos/about/">http://www.postool.com.au/cbeh/pos/about/</a>	Road network (Landgate), ABS SA1 population data, LGA boundaries, suburb boundaries	
Attractiveness/Amenity Score	Park attractiveness/quality information by park type	Under Development	
<b>Definitions</b>			
Park	Prepared grassed areas catering for a range of active & passive recreational activities Includes parks, landscaped or ornamental gardens, grassed open spaces, playing fields, ovals, reserves and other freely accessible sports surfaces		
Natural	Natural environments such as bushland, wetlands and coastal habitats. Areas set aside for conservation and to preserve biodiversity and wildlife habitats		
Residual Green Space	Green areas of land that do not function as a park, due to their poor location, incompatible adjacent land uses (i.e. surrounded by dual carriage ways), poor access and/or lack of infrastructure		
School Grounds	Playing fields and sports surfaces / equipment adjacent to and/or owned by the school * May or may not be accessible for public use		
<b>Park Type Categories</b>		<b>DSR Open Space Categories</b>	
Pocket Park	0 - 0.299 ha	Pocket Open Space*	0 - 0.299 ha
Small Neighbourhood Park	0.3 ha - 0.999 ha	Local Open Space	0.4 - 0.999 ha
Medium Neighbourhood Park	1.0 ha - 3.999 ha	Neighbourhood Open Space	1.0 - 4.999 ha
Large Neighbourhood Park	4.0 - 9.999 ha	District Open Space*	5.0 - 19.999 ha
District Park	10.0 - 14.999 ha	Regional Open Space	> 20.0 ha
Regional Park	> 15.0 ha		
* Pocket Open Space category added to DSR classification framework to include these smaller sized park areas * District Open Space category expanded from 5-15 ha to 5-19.9 ha to include parks that fall between 15-20 ha			
<b>Facilities/Amenities</b>			
Facility information was audited for only opens classified as Park. This data was collected from a desktop audit following the Public Open Space Desktop Auditing Tool (POSDAT) protocol. Pocket park facilities were collected using and abridged POSTOOL auditing protocol More information can be found at: <a href="http://www.sph.wa.edu.au/research/cbeh/projects/posdat">http://www.sph.wa.edu.au/research/cbeh/projects/posdat</a>			
<b>Attractiveness/Amenity Score</b>			
Under Development			

Overview of what is included on each worksheet

Facilities by park type

General summary statistics by POS and park type

The proportion of population (by age) within park catchments (by type)





## Advanced Functions

POs Tools' Advanced functions allow you to:

- Define and create your own specific areas of interest to calculate POS summary data.
- Upload areas of interest in GIS shapefile format to calculate POS summary data.
- Test future scenarios such as the impact of population growth on current provision of parks and POS.

### Step 1: Log in or Register

To access advanced functions users must first login or register if you are first time user.



Please log in to access the following POS Tool advanced functions:

- Define and create your own specific areas of interest to calculate POS summary data
- Test future scenarios such as the impact of population growth on current provision of parks and POS provision

Username:

Password:

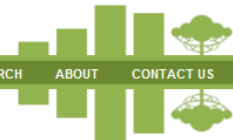
Log In

Enter Username and Password

[Click here to register](#)

[Click here if you forgot your password](#)

Register if you are a first time user



To register you will need to provide the following information.



## Create Account

First Name:

Last Name:

Username:

Password:

Confirm Password:

Email Address:

Organisation:

Job:

Intent To Publish: ☐

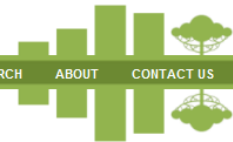
Please enter the text: **CUNTIS**

Create User Account

## Step 2: Select an advanced function

Identify the approach you would like to take for defining the area for which the POS Tool calculates statistics. Within POS Tool, the user can draw their own area of interest in a map, upload a GIS shapefile or select an existing suburb or LGA.

The following page allows the user to select which approach they would like to take or navigate directly to the project management page if a user would like to access a project they have created previously.



## Advanced Functions

Here you can draw or upload your own area of interest (polygon) or select an existing suburb or LGA boundary to:

1. View summary statistics on POS provision and population level access within the area you define;
2. Use the scenario calculator to assess the impact of changes in population size and structure or changes in POS provision.

Select from one of the four options below

Draw your own area of interest

Click here to draw your own area to generate POS statistics or scenario test

Upload your own area of interest

Click here to upload your own area of interest in GIS shapefile format to generate POS statistics or scenario test

Select an existing suburb or LGA

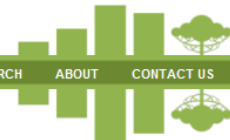
Click here to select an existing to suburb or LGA to generate POS statistics or scenario test

View saved projects

Click here to navigate to the project management page

## Step 3: Name your project

This is important when you have more than one project on the go. By identifying a project name you can edit project parameters from the Project Management page (see Step 6). Enter your *Project Name* in the space provided and Click *Add New Project*.



## Step 4: Define your area

Define the area for which you would like to generate POS and Park statistics for or scenario test the impact of changes in population structure on the provision of POS and park amenity.

### a) Draw Your Own Area of Interest

To draw your own polygon first Click on the *Create/Edit Region* tab. Then, using your mouse, you draw an area on the map. Next, you can *Stop Editing* and *Save Region* before you generate statistics for the area or use the scenario modelling tool. Specific instructions are provided on the web page.

Click here to draw an area of interest



Click here to modify an area of interest

Click here to stop editing an area of interest

Click here to start drawing or edit an existing area of interest

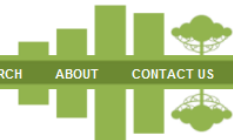
Click here to save your area of interest

Instructions for drawing your own polygon of interest:

1. Zoom to area of interest on the map
2. Click create/edit region
3. Click the  button to activate the drawing tool
4. Draw a polygon around your area of interest – click left mouse button to the boundaries of your area of interest. (The total area must not exceed 500 hectares). Double click outside of the polygon (area) to finish.
5. If you make a mistake or you are not happy with your polygon:
  - a) click the stop editing button – this will clear the display for you to start again; or
  - b) Double click the polygon to activate (it will turn red) and then click the  button and you will be able to edit the shape. Double click when finished.
6. When you are happy with your polygon hit the save region button

### b) Upload Your Own Area of Interest

To upload your own polygon first Click on the *Upload Shapefile* tab. Browse to the location of the shapefile on your computer and Click *Save*. The area of your shapfile will be displayed in the map window. Remember that a shapefile can only be uploaded if it is in a zip folder and it is projected to MGA GDA 94 zone 50 (UTM) or WGS84 (Lat/Long). Specific instructions are provided on the web page.



Uploaded area: Test



Click here to upload a shapefile from your computer

Upload Shapefile

Click here to Browse to the shapefile on your computer

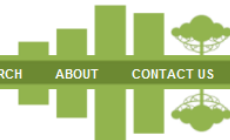
Browse...

Instructions for uploading a polygon:

1. Data must be in ESRI shapefile format (.shp)
2. The shapefile must be projected to MGA GDA 94 zone 50 (UTM) or WGS84 (Lat/Long)
3. The shapefile must be zipped
4. Each shapefile should contain one polygon. The total area of the polygon should not exceed 500 hectares.
5. Click the upload shapefile button and then browse to the zipped shapefile and click upload.
6. Your uploaded polygon will be displayed on the map. Then click save region.

## c) Select an Existing Suburb or LGA

Just as you are able to do in the *Simple Search* function, a user may select an existing Suburb or LGA to generate statistics or test future population and POS provision scenarios. Simply type in the name of the Suburb or LGA of your choice and then Click on the *view stats* tab to generate and view the POS statistics for that administrative area; or the *calculator* tab to go straight to the scenario calculator page.



Select a suburb or LGA for scenario testing

Choose to view the summary statistics for the suburb or LGA or choose to go to the scenario calculator

Suburb or Local Government Area

Calculator

View stats

## Step 5: View Statistics

Once you have selected, uploaded or drawn you area of interest the user can view statistics or proceed to the scenario modelling tool.

As in the *Simple Search*, once you have selected View Statistics from one of the previous area definition pages you will be directed to the following page. The information provided includes:

- **Count** of the different types of POS (polygons) present within the summarised area by Park type;
- **Area (total)** of each POS and Park type within the selected administrative unit;
- **% Area** of each POS and Park type within the selected administrative unit;
- The proportion of the population within a certain distance (**Catchment**) of parks by park type (using our park type classification); and
- The proportion of the population within a certain distance (**Catchment**) of parks by park type (using the Department of Sport and Recreation's park type classification).

In addition, all of this information can be downloaded in an Excel spread sheet for use in reports of with additional data sources.



Download Statistics

Click to go to the scenario calculator page

Click for the number and area of Parks in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % area by Park type in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % of population within a certain distance of Parks by Park type (using our Park classification) in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Click for the % of population within a certain distance of Parks by Park type (using the Department of Sport and Recreation's park type classification) in the administrative unit for which you have searched

Belmont Statistics

Area (Ha)	437
Type	Suburb
LGA	Belmont
City	Perth

Park Statistics

Download statistics file for Belmont

Scenario calculator

Count	% Area	POS Catchment	DSR Catchment
Class	Count	Area (Ha)	
Parks	12	44.86	
Pocket Park	3	0.32	
Small Neighbourhood Park	4	1.57	
Medium Neighbourhood Park	1	1.16	
Large Neighbourhood Park 1	1	2.44	
Large Neighbourhood Park 2	1	4.12	
District Park 1	0	0.0	
District Park 2	1	8.43	

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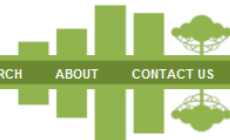
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## Step 6: Scenario Calculator

The Scenario Modelling page allows you to test how changes to the population structure of your area of interest effect the provision of POS. Alternatively, changes in the provision of POS can be examined in relations to the effects on population structure for an area of interest. The *Altered Population* column and *Altered Area* row allow the user to adjust the number of residents in a specific age bracket or the area of a specific park type respectively. If you Click on the *Reset* tab for either, the column of row will be repopulated with your area of interests base statistics.

Clicking on the *Calculate Metrics* tab will then apply the calculations populating the Scenario Modelling table. If you click the *Save Altered Values* tab the new values will be saved to your project. To download an Excel spreadsheet of your results simply Click on the *Download Table* tab. If you would like to save your results as a new project Click on the *Save as new project* tab. You will then be prompted to provide a name for the new project





**POSITIVE PLACES**

HOME SEARCH PROJECT ABOUT CONTACT US

**Scenario Modelling: HADB Scarborough**

Output metrics in m<sup>2</sup> / person  
1 m<sup>2</sup> = 0.0001 ha  
1 m<sup>2</sup> = 0.00024710538147 acre

			Parks								Natural	Residual Green Space	School Grounds
			All Parks	Pocket Park	Small Neighb. Park	Medium Neighb. Park	Large Neighb. Park 1	Large Neighb. Park 2	District Park 1	District Park 2	Regional Open Space		
Current Area			62800	0	0	13000	0	49800	0	0	0	775300	2000
Altered Area			62800	0	0	13000	0	49800	0	0	0		
Age	Current Population	Altered Population											
0-4	80	80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
5-14	84	84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
15-19	85	85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
20-24	290	290	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00		
25-34	827	827	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00		
35-44	320	320	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00		
45-54	270	270	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00		
55-64	222	222	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
65-74	131	131	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
75-84	69	69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
85+	21	21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Total	2403	2403	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00		

Type in changes to population structure here

Reset altered park areas

Type in changes to park areas here

Reset altered population structure

Calculate Metrics Save Altered Values Save as new project Download Table

Click here calculate values within the scenario modelling table

Click here to save your model results to a new project

Click here to download your model results in an Excel spreadsheet

## Step 6: Manage Projects Page

The Manage Projects page allows you to administer new projects and control existing projects.

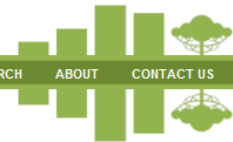
To manage the area of interest for an existing project Click on the **Edit** tab in the **Project Region** column of the respective project.

To view the statistics for an existing project Click on the **Edit** tab in the **View Stats** column of the respective project.

To view the statistics for an existing project Click on the **Edit** tab in the **Scenario Modelling** column of the respective project.

To delete an existing project Click on the **Delete** tab for the respective project.

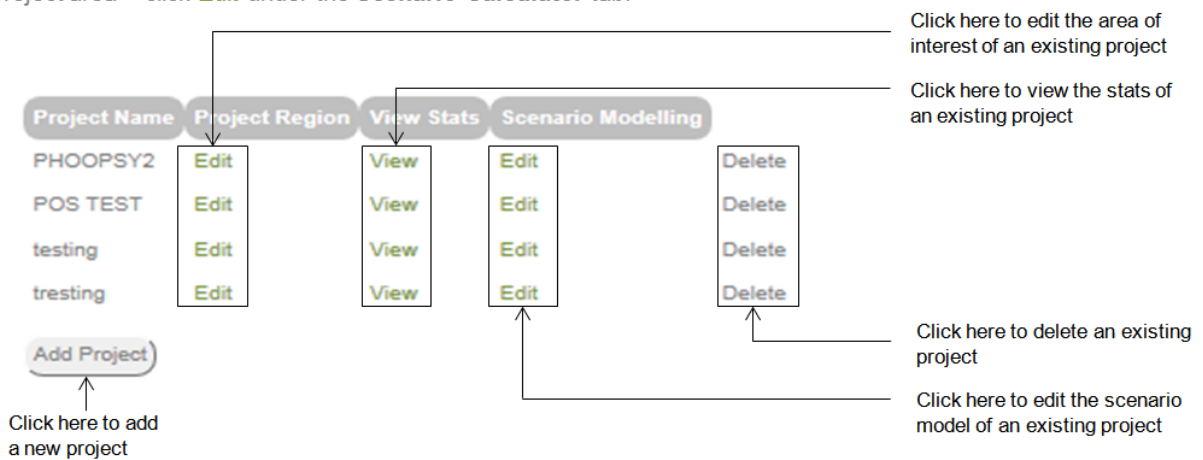
You can also add a new project from the Manage Projects page by Clicking on the **Add Project** tab. You will then be directed to select how you would like to define your area of interest (**Step 2**).



## Manage Projects

Here you can access and edit projects you have created and saved as well as create new projects.

- To edit boundaries and area for an existing project – click **Edit** under the **Project Region** tab
- To view summary statistics for an area of interest – click **View** under the **View Stats** tab;
- To access the scenario calculator to change population size and structure or POS provision within the project area – click **Edit** under the **Scenario Calculator** tab.





## Contact Information

If you have further questions or suggestions please feel free to contact us.

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