

Saskatchewan Soil Information System (SKSIS)

A Quick-Start Guide for Beta Testers

Welcome to SKSIS! Thanks for volunteering to be a beta tester. A complete User Guide is still a work in progress but let's get started with the few steps below as a first-time-user guide through the system.

- 1) To get a feel for the framework on which SKSIS is developed, leave the pre-set defaults and click somewhere near the centre of the map. Now slowly move the scroll wheel, to zoom in, or use the zoom buttons on the top left of screen, and notice how different features are displayed depending on the zoom level. Keep in mind that SKSIS is dynamically processing a lot of data, so your device and bandwidth will determine screen refresh and response time. Under Tools, which you might have to scroll down to see near the bottom left, slide the Polygon Transparency button and notice the effect on the map. Also try the Polygons Toggle switch. Remember these tools, as you will use them often. Don't confuse changing zoom level with the use of the scroll wheel, with actually scrolling the page using the conventional scroll bar along the side.
- 2) On the left menu, click Tutorials and under Map Guide and Tools read about the Basemap. Now go back to the map and experiment with the 4 Basemap options available: Default, Satellite, Hybrid and Dark. Toggle Polygons off and/or adjust Polygon Transparency to see basemaps clearly.
- 3) Now go back to Tutorials, Map Guide and Tools and read about the Theme dropdown and Toggles and Opacity. Go back to the map again and experiment with styling of the soil polygons as well as the toggles and adjusting transparency.
- 4) Let's see how we can examine soil details. Go back to Tutorials and under Query, read about Filtering and Searching. Go back to the map and find your farm or a familiar location using the Search Tool and display the surrounding polygons by selecting soil criteria using the Filtering Tool.
- 5) A variety of Point Datatypes are stored by SKSIS. Some are public; their locations can be displayed on the map by checking the associated box. Adding your own data to the map is an advanced feature and requires a SKSIS account which can be easily created if you don't have one. Just go to Your Account or Add Data in the side bar menu and select "Create an account". Once you have created an account, go back to the Tutorials and under Data collection guide, read about Adding your data to the map.
- 6) The Information dropdown provides three types of information: Map, Polygon and Component. Read about these in the Tutorials under Information.
- 7) Lastly, there is a green hamburger button on the top left to toggle side bar width.

NOTE: At the time of writing, SKSIS did not operate properly on Internet Explorer; however, all other browsers appear to be fully functional.