

# Creating Shapes

## About Shapes and Shapefiles in IFTDSS:

Shapes and Shapefiles are used in IFTDSS to constrain your area when representing treatment alternatives, making landscape edits, or running landscape comparisons. In this tutorial you will create a shape directly within Map Studio, but there is also an option to upload your own shapefiles from within Map Studio by using the **Shapefile Upload** button.

Throughout IFTDSS interface you will encounter several terms that refer to shapes and shapefiles. Different terms are used in different tasks to reflect the terminology common in the wildland fire community. Here is a brief explanation of where the different terms are used throughout IFTDSS.

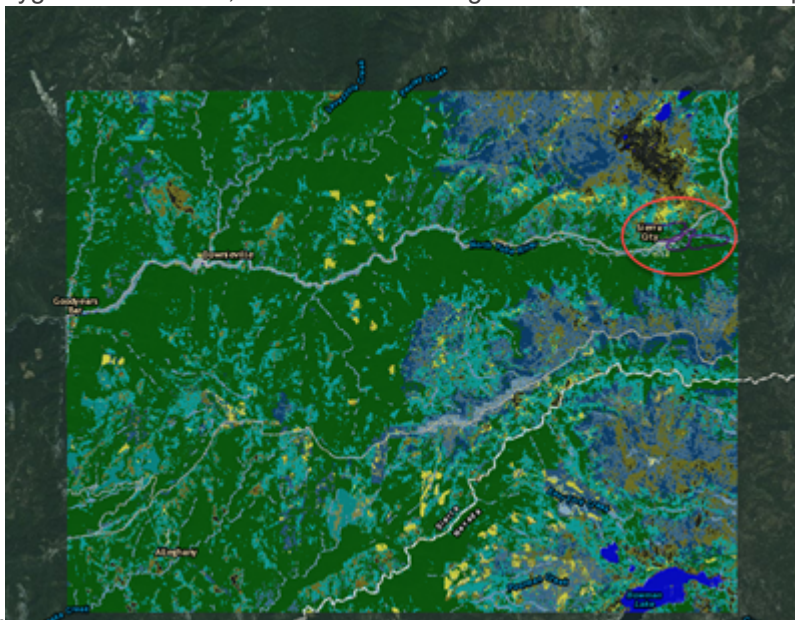
**Area of Interest:** This term is used in the Landscape Summary task and Determining Treatment Alternatives task to constrain the area of your analysis.

**Landscape Mask:** This term is used in Landscape Editing to constrain the area your edits apply to.

**Polygon, Shape, or Shapefile:** These terms are used interchangeably throughout Map Studio.

To simulate and evaluate the impact of treatments, we'll delineate our planned treatment areas with shapes in Map Studio.

**Tutorial Information:** If you are following along using the Haypress Creek example use that landscape in Map Studio, and be sure to save your shapes in the Haypress Creek Project folder. You may use the below screen capture to see approximately where the polygons are located, and look at the images below to create similar polygons, they do not





need to be an exact match.

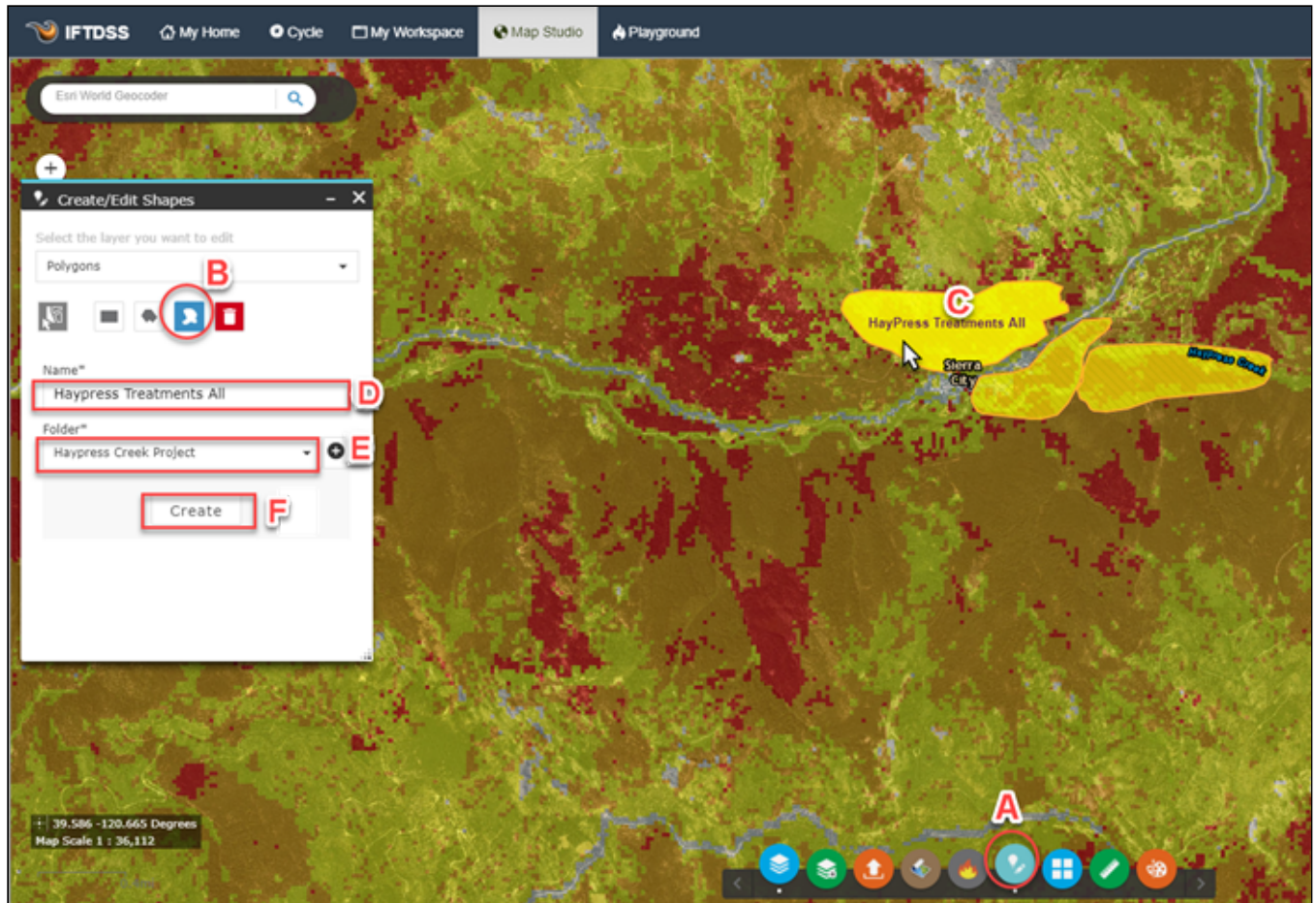
## Creating Shapes in Map Studio to represent treatment polygons

For this example you will create and combine three treatment areas for a landscape called Haypress Creek, but you may follow along using your own landscape if desired. We'll draw three polygons in the area around Sierra City that correspond to wildland urban interface, and significant fire behavior.

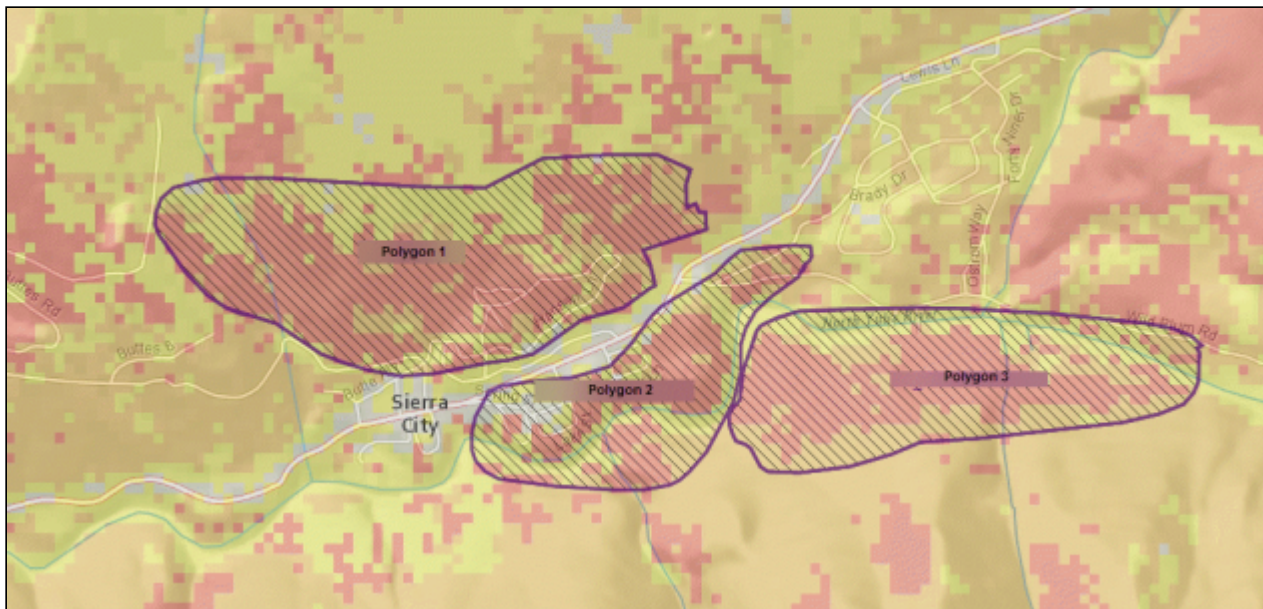
To draw your polygons:

- A. Open **Create/Edit Shapes** 
- B. Select your method, in this case the **Freehand Draw method**.

- C. Draw your polygon on the landscape by holding down the left mouse button and releasing when finished. Repeat steps B and C here and draw two more polygons. Note you can use the **delete**  button to remove the polygon if you are not satisfied with it.
- D. Name your polygons, in this example we've named them "Haypress Treatments All".
- E. Specify the folder you would like to save the shape in.
- F. Click **Create**.



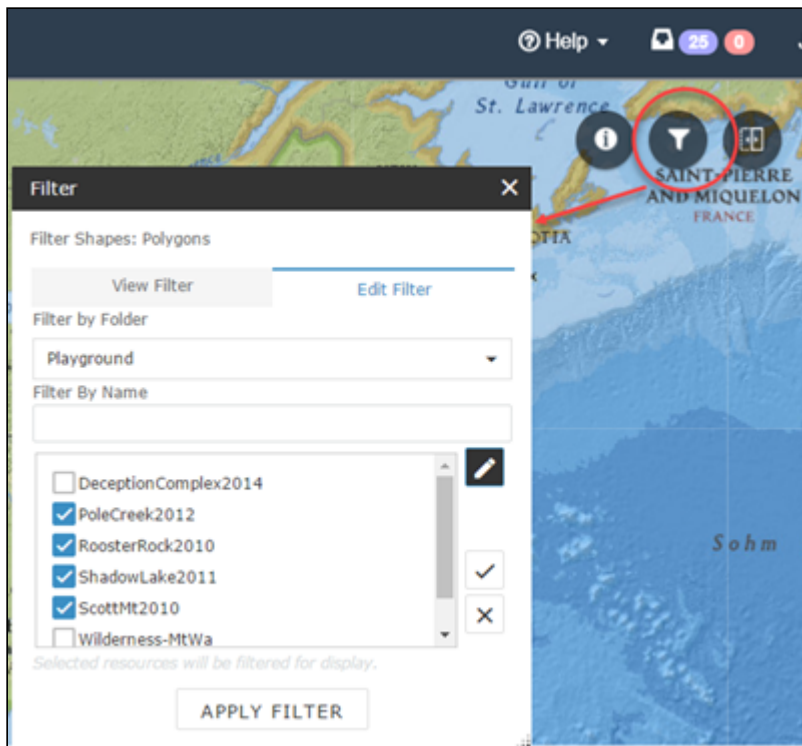
Once you click create polygons will change from highlighted yellow to a purple shaded outline on the map as shown below.



Saved shapes are available in **My Workspace** in the folder you selected (in this case the Haypress Creek project folder). Shapes can be deleted by going into **My Workspace**, selecting the shape, and clicking **Delete**.



All shapes for an available area are visible by default in Map Studio. To hide individual shapefiles, use the **Filter** button in the top right of Map Studio

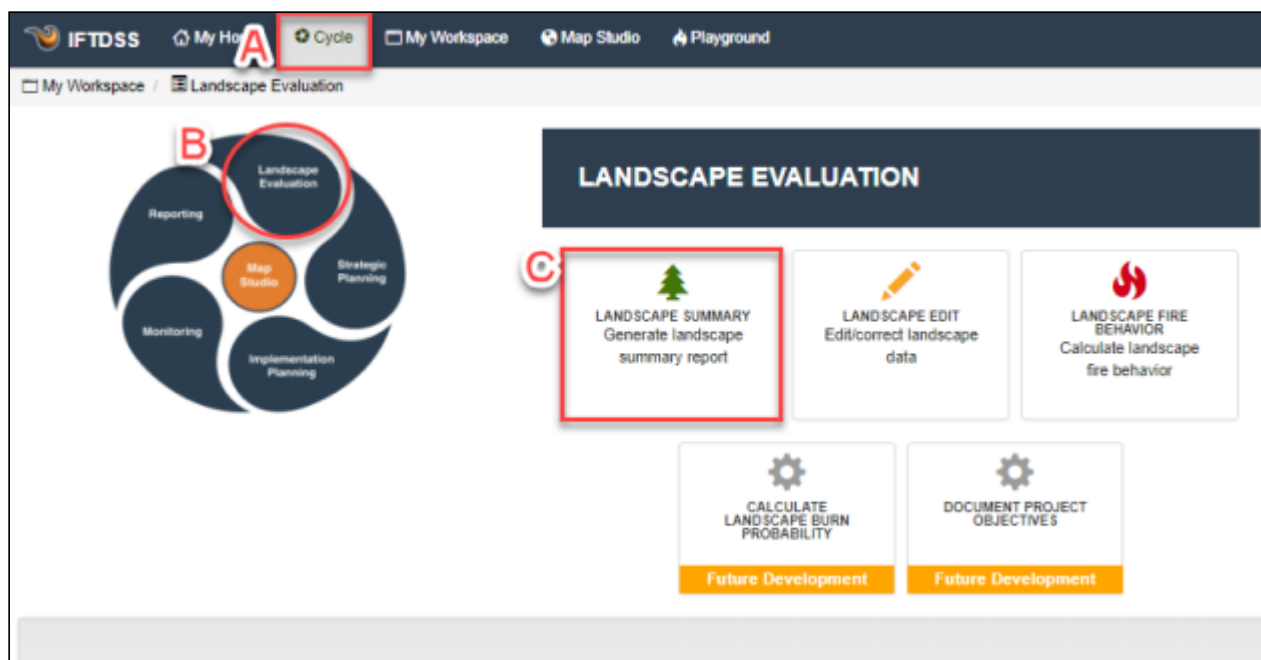


Now that you have an area of interest, you can constrain your analysis area to represent treatments, or use it to generate more focused summary reports. Take a few minutes to generate a Landscape/Auto97th Summary report, this time,



specify the Area of Interest using the newly created shapefile. Take a second to look at the differences in this new report, compared to the one generated for the entire landscape:

- Navigate back to the Planning Cycle using the top navigation menu.
- Select the Landscape Evaluation stage of the Planning Cycle.
- Click the Landscape Summary task.



- Select your Landscape from the drop-down menu.
- Select your Area of Interest from the drop-down menu. Any shapes that fall within your chosen landscapes area of interest, will be available from this menu.
- Click Request a Report and follow the prompts to create report.

When your report is complete, take a couple minutes to open it and review the results. Note that:

- Your area of interest is displayed on the map, and described in the legend
- Your area of interest and acreage is now listed in the top output description under the results listed for tables description.

