

Interactive Map Viewer Guide

Beginning with Habitat Map Page URL-

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/beginning-with-habitat/maps/index.html>

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Glossary

 **Basemap-** Provides background information (e.g. land features and roads) that other data layers can overlay. Different basemaps emphasize different features, like topography, color, or style.

Category- Organizes spatial data layers by theme. Categories (e.g. “locator” or “wildlife”) are not data layers themselves, but they store data layers that can be added to the map.

Spatial Data Layer- A format of storing datasets that can be visually represented on a map. Data layers show distinct datasets (e.g. brook trout habitat vs Atlantic salmon habitat).

 **Folder-** A type of category that stores more similar data layers than a general category.

 **Pin-** A visual feature that appears on the map when a location is searched in the search bar.

Layer Swipe- A tool that allows you to compare the map with and without data in a selected category.

Legend- Shows which visual features (i.e. symbology) are being used to represent data on the map.

Popup- A block of text with additional information that appears when features are selected or locations are searched.

Scalebar- A visual representation of map scale.

Sublayer- Refers to a spatial data layer that is stored within a folder or general category.

Stack- A button next to the category heading that allows you to control layer visibility, transparency, and layer swipe.

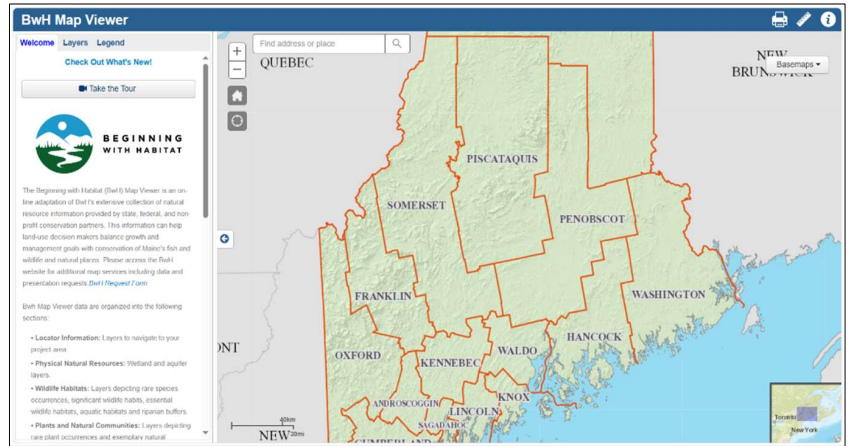
 **Symbology-** How spatial data is visually represented on a map through color, shape, pattern, etc.

Layer Transparency- A feature that controls the opacity of layers within a category on the map.

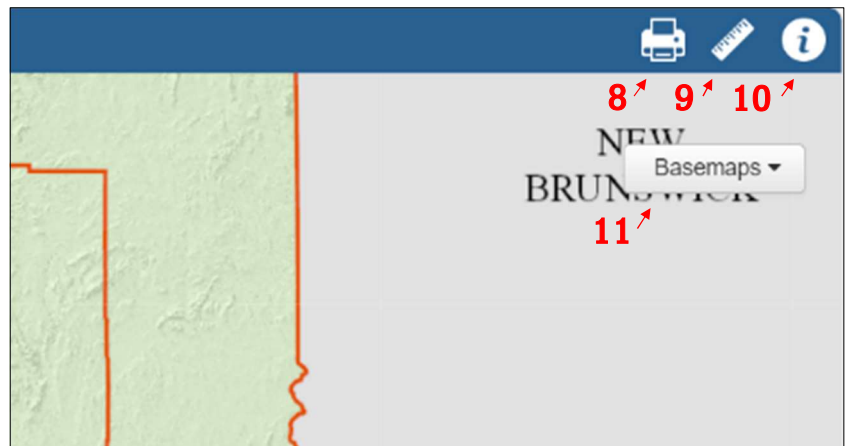
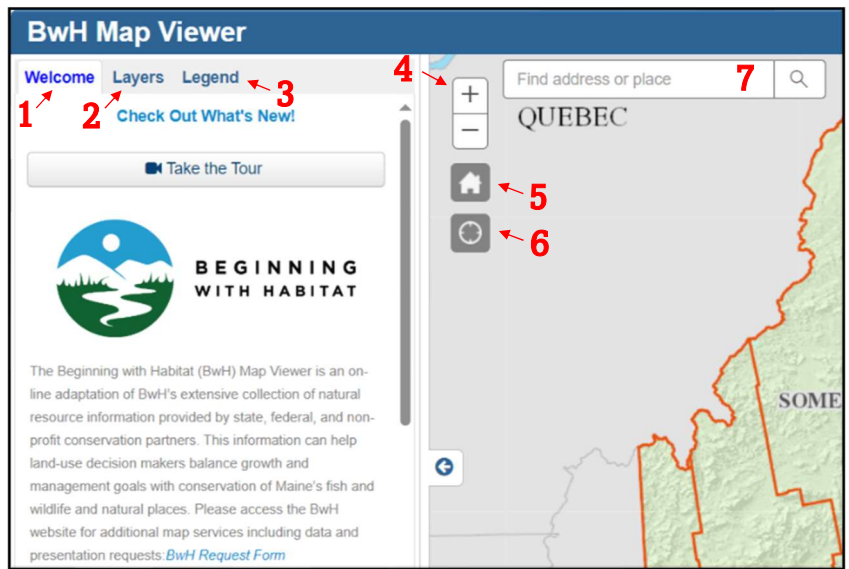
Map Viewer Basics

This section explains how to navigate the layout of the viewer, which is shown on the right. This viewer can be used to create custom maps for natural resources data and planning purposes*.

The Viewer is designed for non-regulatory planning purposes. If you're looking for information on fisheries, wildlife, and critical habitat resources related to potential development activities and regulatory processes, we encourage you to contact MDIFW's Environmental Review Team - IFWEnvironmentalreview@maine.gov.



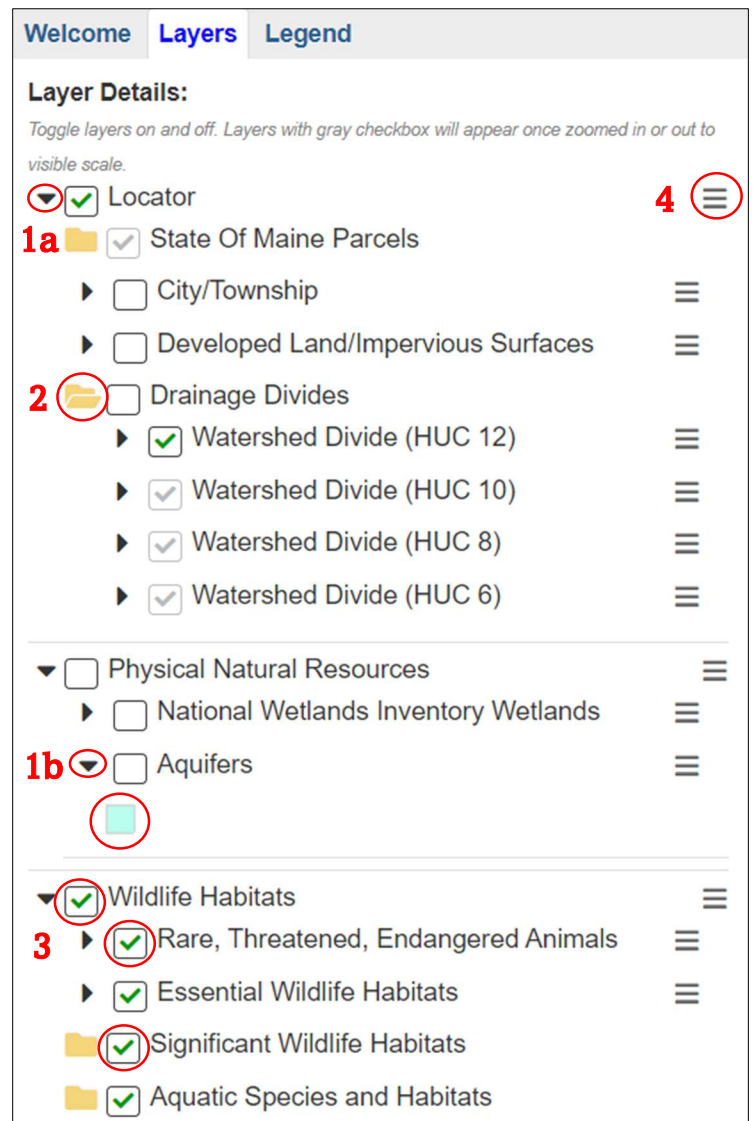
1. Welcome tab: take a tour of the viewer.
2. Layer tab: view and add layers to your map.
3. Legend tab: view additional information and symbology for each data layer.
4. Zoom function: zoom in/out of the map.
5. Home button: reset the map view.
6. Circle button: find and zoom into your location.
7. Search bar: search for location of interest.
8. Print button: create a downloadable PDF document of your custom map.
9. Measure button: measure distance, area, or coordinates.
10. Additional information button: Return to the main BwH website.
11. Basemaps button: select a basemap.



Layers Tab

This section explains how to use the layers tab to view layers and symbology, add layers to your map, and control layer visibility, transparency, and layer swipe.

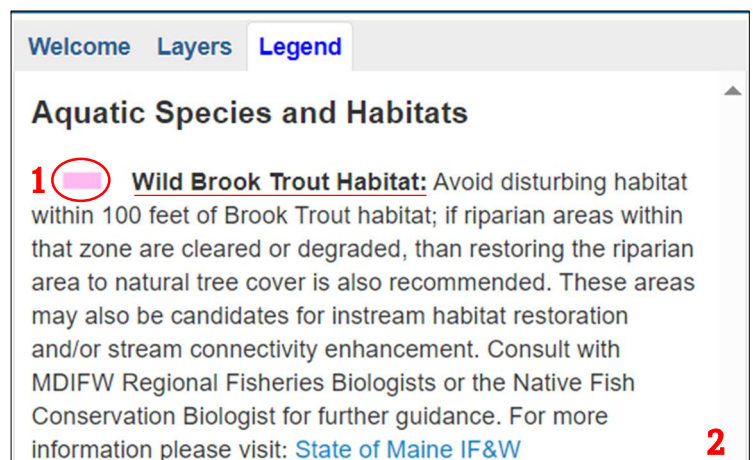
1. Drop-down arrow: Expand category headings and show layer symbology.
2. Folders: Open to view sublayers.
3. Checkmarks: Add a green checkmark to category, folder headings, and layer headings to show the layer within those categories on the map. A gray checkmark means the layer will not appear on the map. Use the zoom function to turn a gray checkmark to a green checkmark.
4. Stack button: Access layer transparency, visibility, and layer swipe features.



Legend Tab

This section explains how to use the legend tab to view layer symbology and additional data information.

1. View layer name and symbology.
2. View additional information for each layer. Use this information to decide what data layers to add to your map.



Measure and Print Tools

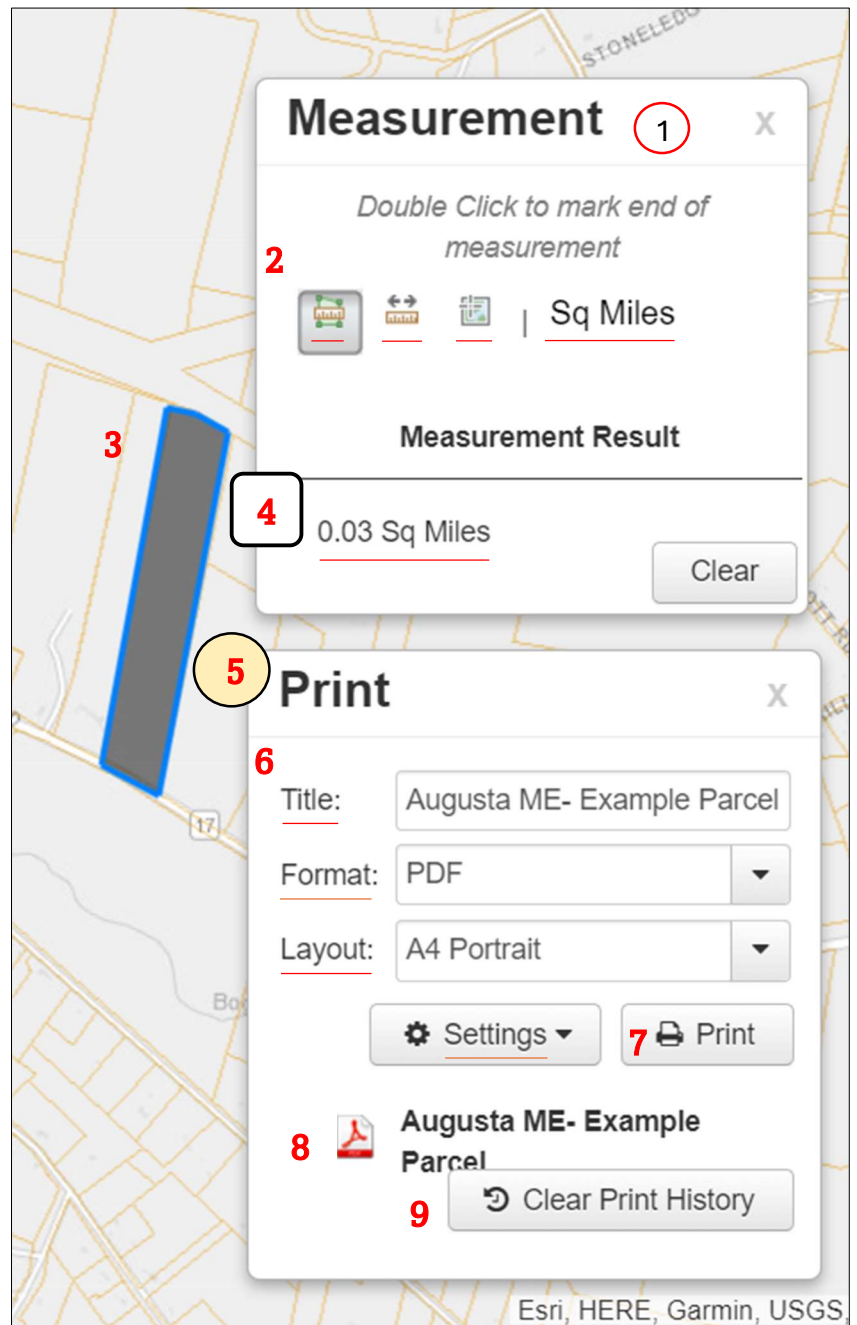
This section explains how to create measurements and add them to your map, as well as customize print settings to your specifications.

Measure Tool

1. Measure tool: Use to measure area, distance, or location coordinates.
2. Select a tool and units.
3. Left click for each vertex you'd like to add to your shape. Double-click on the last point to complete your shape.
4. Result: View the measurement results here. You will have to manually add the results to your map title to show it on the printed file.
5. To show the measurement drawing on the final map, keep the measure tool open and open the print tool (top right of map viewer).

Print Tool

6. Select your title, file format, and file layout. Settings allows you to select DPI, scalebar unit, legend, and preservation. We recommend you preserve the map scale instead of map extent.
7. Press the print button and wait for your print to load.
8. Select the print title to open your print in another tab.
9. If an error occurs, press to refresh and try printing again.



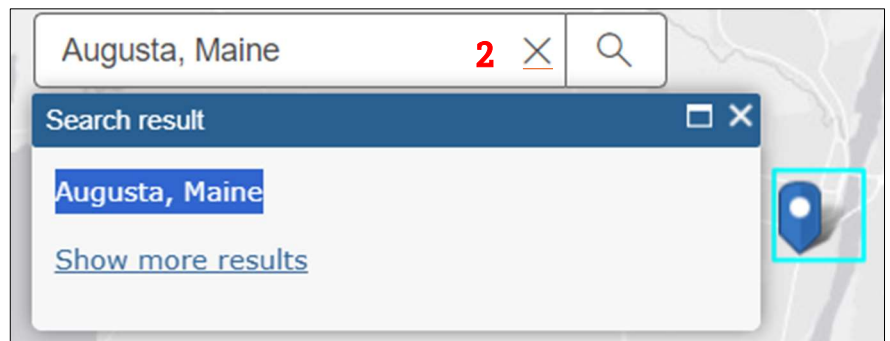
Additional Features

This section explains additional features of our map viewer. These features allow you to : 1) view additional information about certain data layers, 2) find a location on the map using the search bar tool, 3) compare layers using the layer swipe feature, and 4) know which maps must be printed in color.

1. Additional info: Click on features from “wildlife habitats”, “plants and natural communities”, and “conservation and connectivity” layers to view additional feature information.



2. Search bar: Type in a location (including “Maine”) to zoom to and drop a pin on location of interest. Remove both the pop-up and location pin by pressing “x” in the search bar.



3. Best to print in color:
 - Drainage divides
 - Aquifers
 - Any wildlife habitats layers
 - Any conservation and connectivity layer
 - Rare natural communities/ ecosystems

Creating Your Own Maps

This section explains how to create your own maps with our map viewer, which provides our most up-to-date datasets. To view descriptions of BwH thematic maps and access large 36" x 36" maps by town, go to our [online map database](#).

Note: Some datasets featured in the online map database are not available on our map viewer. Use our online request form [here](#) to request an updated large map with these datasets.

1. Map theme 1: Select the layers shown on the right. Ensure that checkmarks on all selected layers are green.

Tip: Select the “city/township” and/or “parcels” layer to show boundaries on your map. You can use the parcel layer to draw and measure a parcel of interest on your map using the measure tool.

2. Map theme 2: Select the layers below to create a high value plant and animal habitat map:

- Rare, Threatened, Endangered Animals
- Essential Wildlife Habitats
- Significant Wildlife Habitats- all layers
- Plants and Natural Communities- all layers

3. Map theme 3: Select the layers below to create an undeveloped habitat blocks and connections map:

- Conservation and Connectivity Planning Resources- all layers

Tip: For maximum layer visibility, change your basemap to “Gray”

The screenshot shows a list of map layers in a web application. A red '1' is next to the 'Locator' layer, indicating the first step. The layers are organized into groups with expand/collapse arrows. Checkmarks in green boxes indicate selected layers.

▼	☒	Locator	≡
	☐	State Of Maine Parcels	
▶	☒	City/Township	≡
▶	☒	Developed Land/Impervious Surfaces	≡
	☒	Drainage Divides	
▼	☒	Physical Natural Resources	≡
▶	☒	National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands	≡
▶	☒	Aquifers	≡
▼	☒	Wildlife Habitats	≡
▶	☐	Rare, Threatened, Endangered Animals	≡
▶	☐	Essential Wildlife Habitats	≡
	☐	Significant Wildlife Habitats	
	☒	Aquatic Species and Habitats	
▶	☒	Wild Brook Trout Habitat	≡
▶	☒	Atlantic Salmon Habitat	≡
▶	☒	Riparian Buffer (250 feet)	≡
▶	☒	Riparian Buffer (75 feet)	≡
▶	☒	Shellfish Growing Areas	≡

Example layout

This is an example of what your map 1 layout will look like after following the previous steps. For this map, the parcel layer was turned on and an example parcel was outlined with the measure tool. The measure result was added to the map title, and the parcel layer was then turned off.

1. Your custom title will appear here
2. The data will appear on the map. Even if you selected a data layer, features will only appear on the map if they occur in the location of interest. For example, even though the “shellfish beds” layer was selected, it does not appear on the map because Augusta does not have shellfish.
3. The print date, scale bar, and legend will appear here. The legend will show the symbology for all selected data layers, even if the data does not appear on the map.

