

BRACS Hill Country Trinity Aquifer Study

StoryMap User Guide



May 22, 2026

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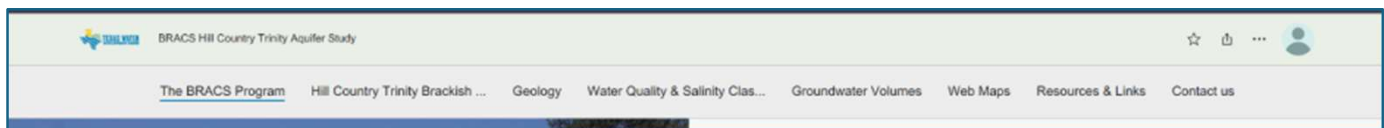
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General StoryMap Functionality

Navigating the StoryMap

Navigating the StoryMap can be done in two ways.

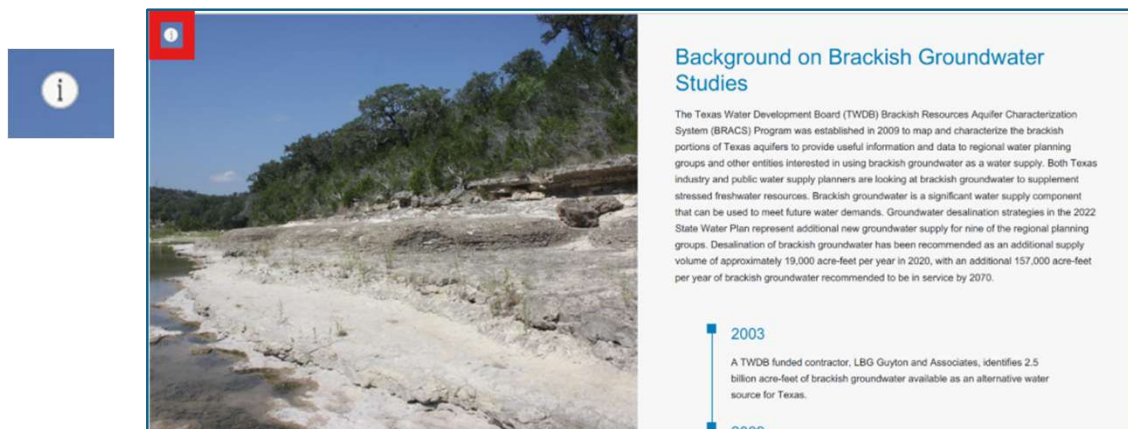
1. Simply use the mouse pad or keyboard to scroll through the information. As you scroll, the visuals and text will change from section to section.
2. Use the top menu bar to skip to a specific section of the StoryMap. The StoryMap is split into 8 sections shown below. As you scroll through the StoryMap, the menu bar will remain at the top of your screen.



View Image Credits/Descriptions

To view the credits or descriptions on an image follow the steps below.

1. Scroll to the image you wish to view additional information on.
2. In the top left corner of the image find the small circle with a lowercase i in its center.
3. Hovering over this icon will temporarily show additional details about the image.
4. Clicking on the icon will keep the image details open. To close, simply click on the icon again.



Expanding Images and Maps

If you wish to view a full screen version of any of the images, maps, or other media present throughout the StoryMap follow the instructions below.

For Images

1. Hover over the image you wish to expand, and a small magnifier glass with a plus sign (+) will appear.
2. Click on the image and it will become full screen.

To exit the full screen

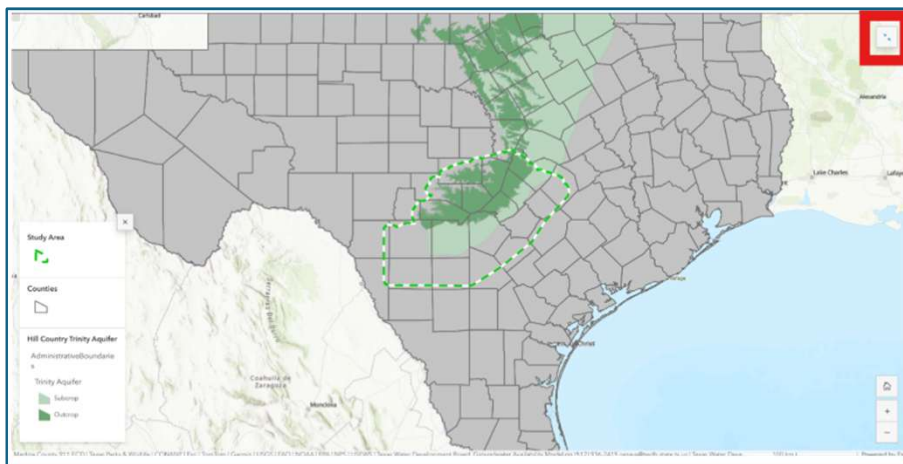
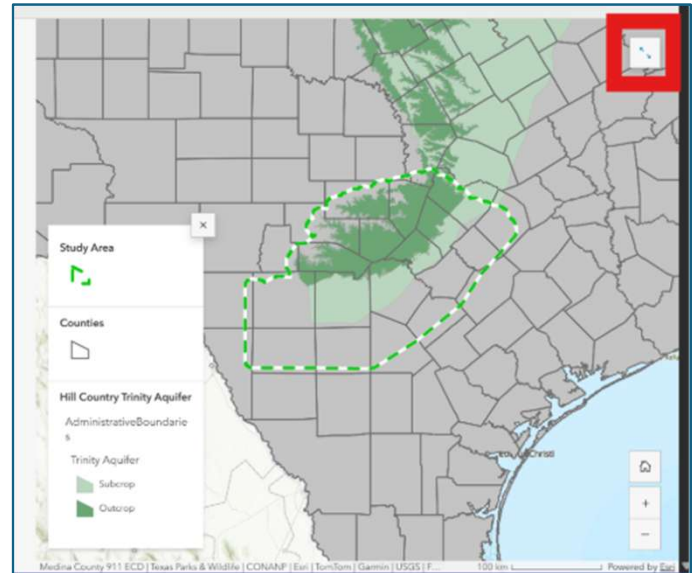
1. Hit ESC on the keyboard.
2. Hover over the image and another magnifier glass will appear with a minus sign (-). Simply click anywhere on the image and you will return to the StoryMap.
3. Click the X in the top right corner of the full screen image page



For Maps

Click on the box on the top right corner of the map with two arrows going opposite directions.

A full screen version of the map will appear.



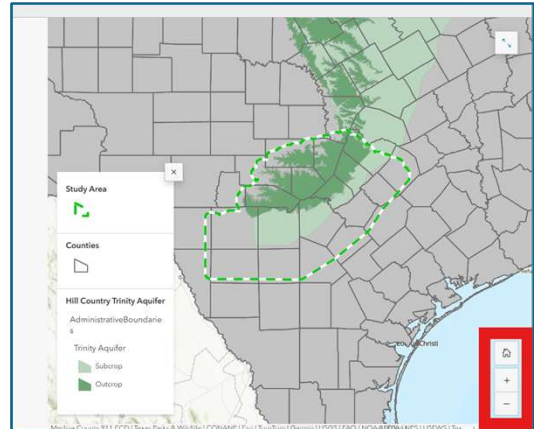
To exit the full screen, click on the box to the top right corner of the map with two arrows pointing inwards or click ESC on the keyboard

Map Functionality

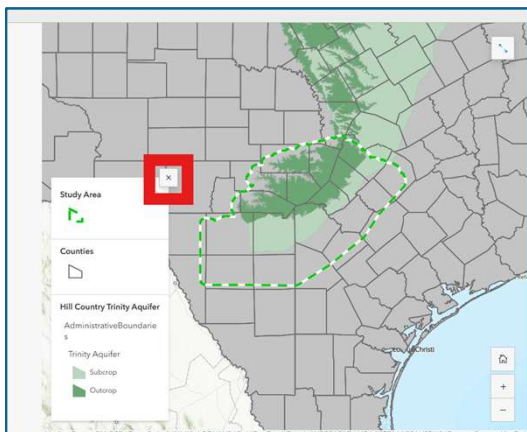
Maps throughout the StoryMap

Interactive maps are available throughout the StoryMap.

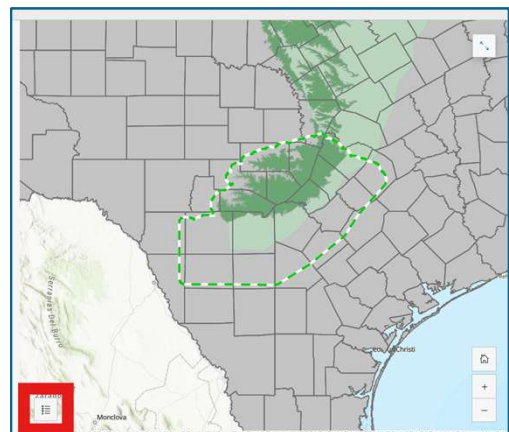
The functions located in the bottom right corner of each map allow users to Zoom In using the plus sign, Zoom Out using the minus sign, and return to the default map view using the home button



Legends can be closed by clicking on the X on the top right of the legend.



To reopen the legend, click on the square icon in the bottom left corner with 4 dots and 4 lines.



Map Functionality

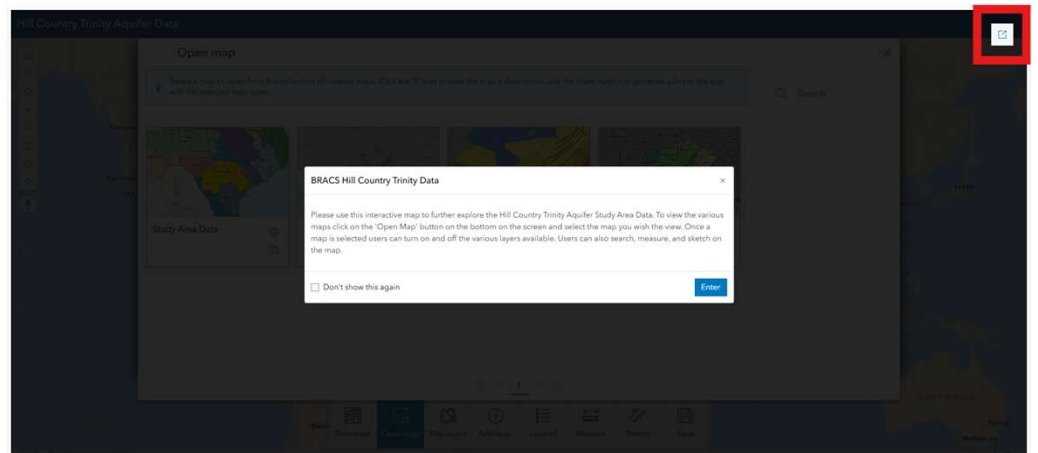
The Web Map

The web map located at the very end of the StoryMap includes more interactive features. This web map contains each of the maps shown throughout the StoryMap.

Viewing the Full Screen Web Map

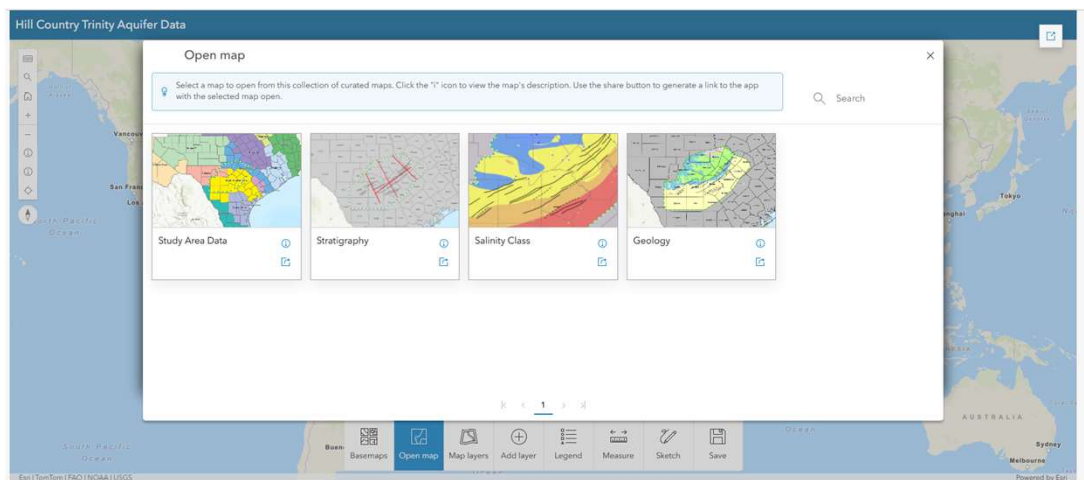
To view a full screen version of the web map, click on the icon in the top right corner of the map screen.

The web map will open as full screen in a new window.



Using the Application

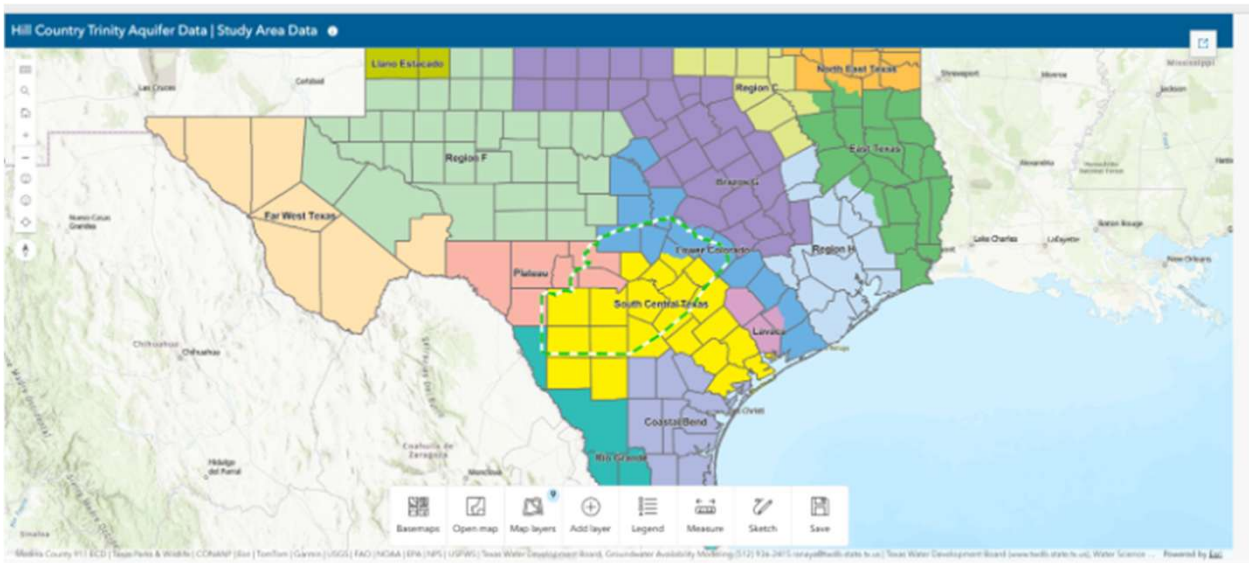
Enter the application after reading the brief information pop-up and select a map you wish to view in further detail from the list provided.



Select one of the 4 main maps to view, each of which contain multiple layers: Study Area Data, Stratigraphy, Salinity Class, and Geology

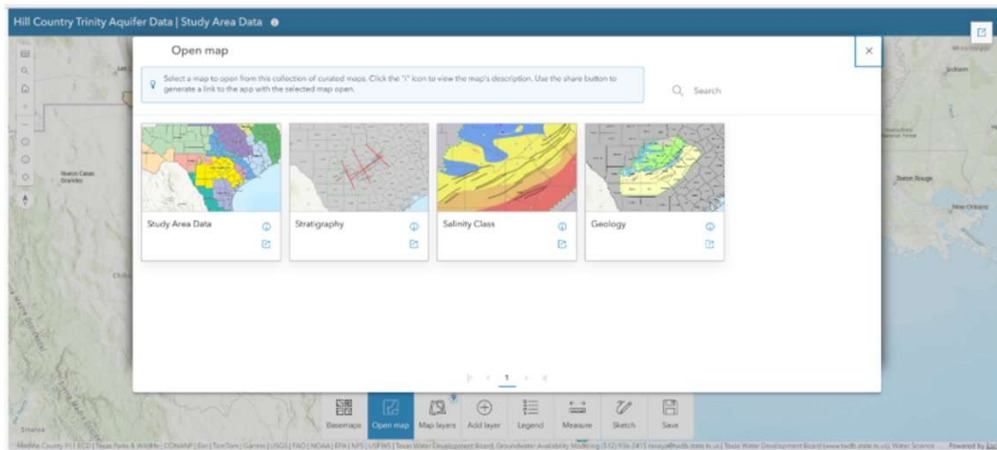
Using the Application

Once the map is selected, it may take a few moments to load on the main screen.

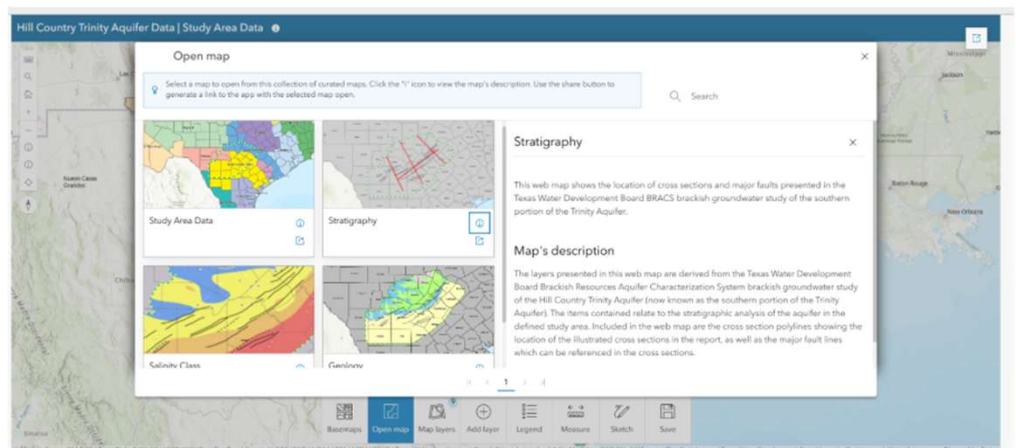


Opening A Different Map

To view a different map, click on the 'Open Map' button on the bottom on the screen and select the map.



More information about each map can be found by clicking on the i icon located under each map.

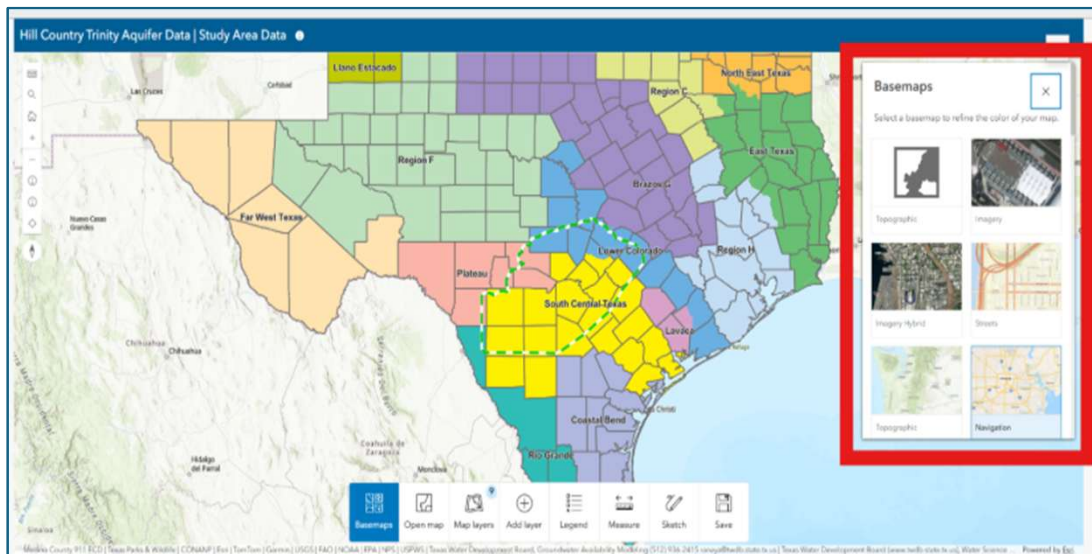


Using the Application

Interactive features of the web map include changing the basemap, opening maps, turning on/off layers, viewing the legend, measuring distances, creating sketches, and saving any edits.

Changing the Basemap

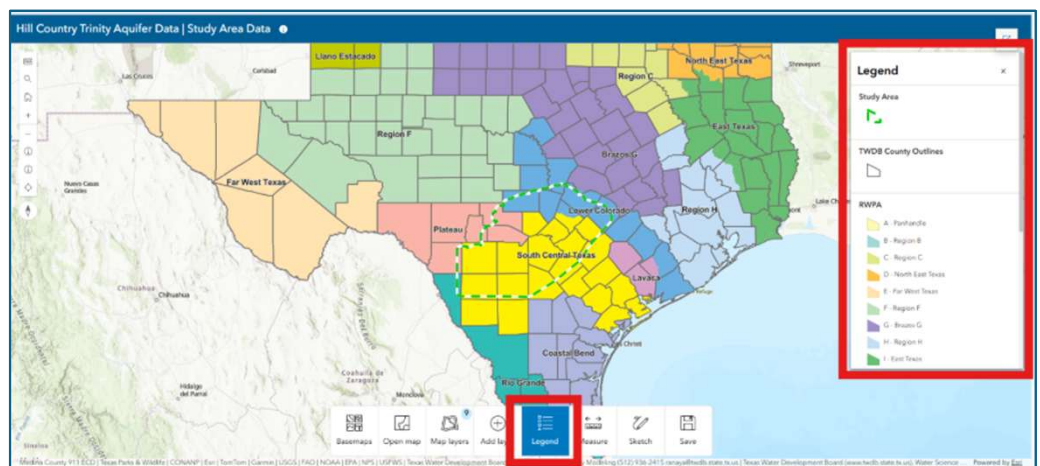
1. To change the basemap, click on the basemaps icon to the far left on the menu at the bottom of the map.
2. A list of all available basemaps will appear to the right in a smaller window. Simply select the new basemap from that list and the map will automatically update.
3. Once the basemap updates, simply click on the X in the top right corner of the basemap window to close.



Viewing the Legend

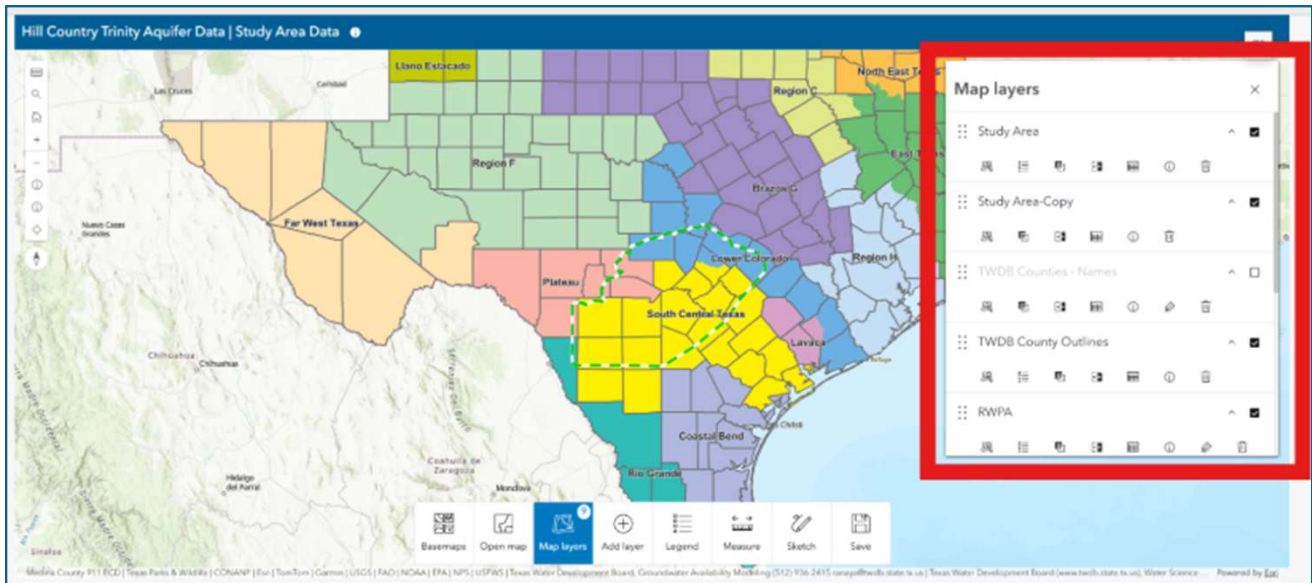
Click on the legend icon from the bottom menu bar.

The legend will appear to the right in a new window.



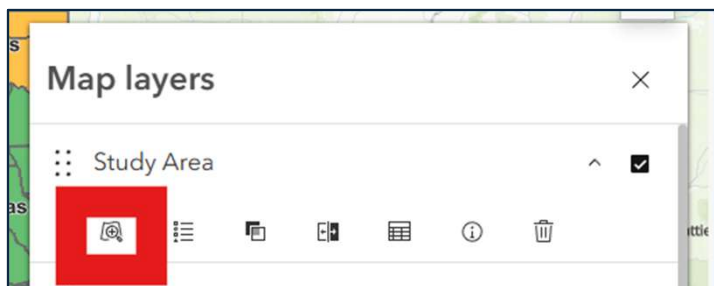
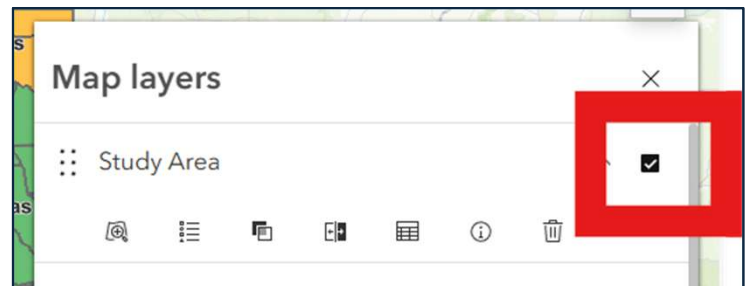
Working with Layers

Click on the Map layers icon from the menu bar at the bottom of the map and new window will appear to the left that will list all the layers.



To turn a layer off, select the check mark to the far right of the layer.

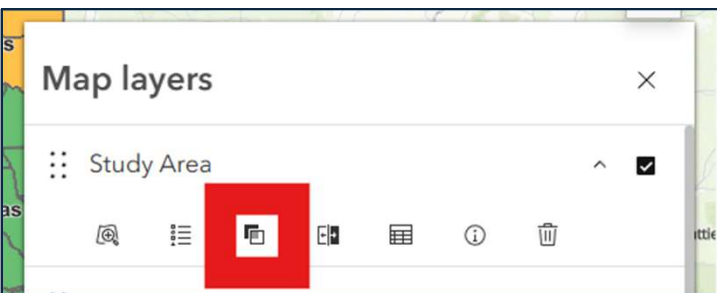
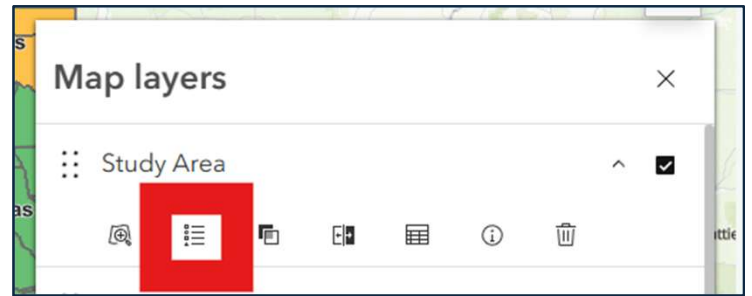
To turn the layer on click on the box.



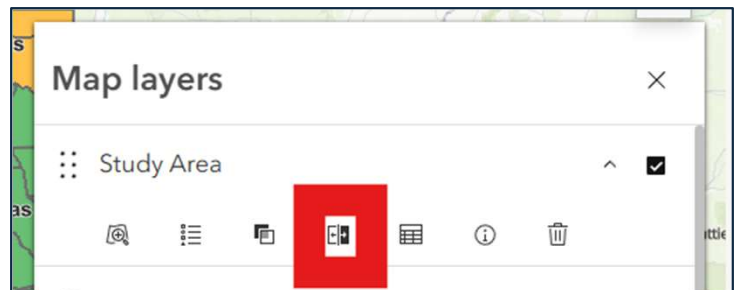
To Zoom to a layer, select the icon to the far left under the layer.

Working with Layers

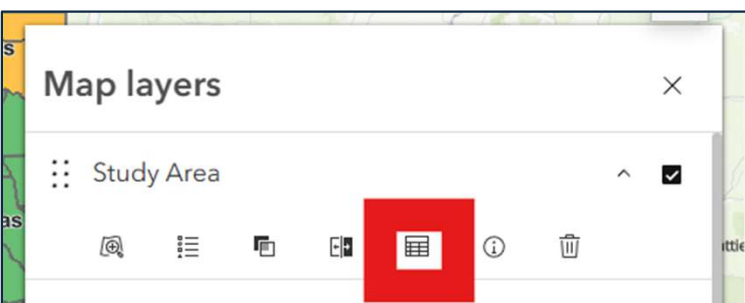
To show the layer's legend click on this icon.



To adjust the layer's transparency, click on this icon.



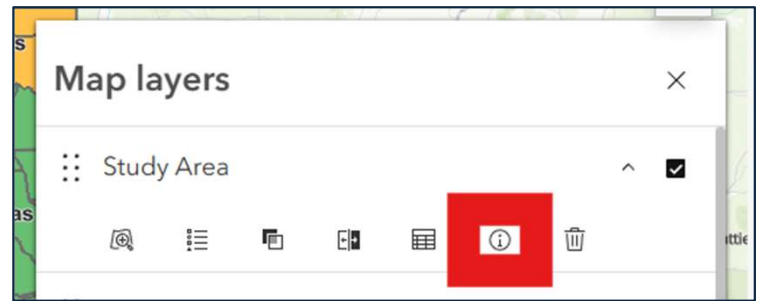
To add a swipe to the layer (ability to slide the layer on and off the map), select this icon.



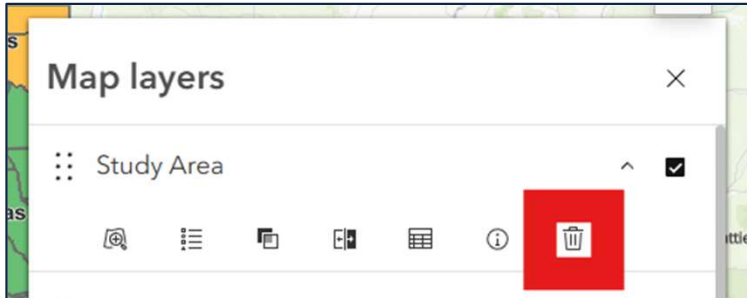
To view the layer's attribute table, select this icon.

Working with Layers

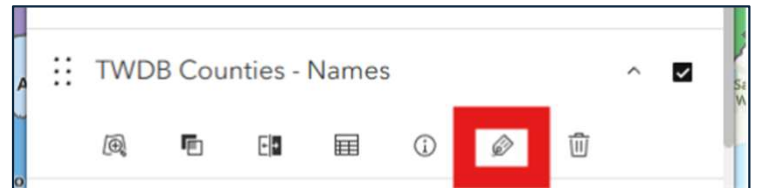
To view information about a layer, select this icon.



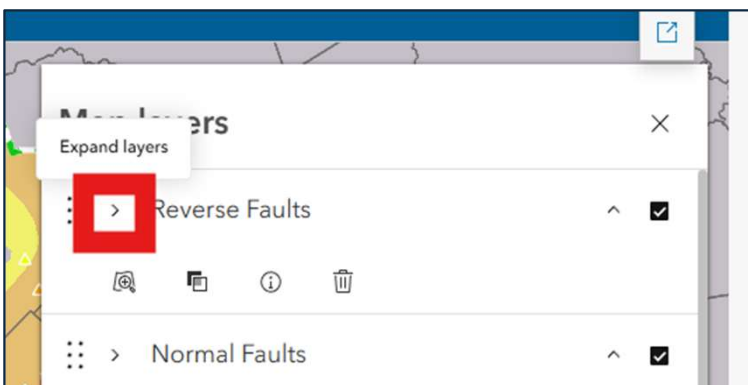
To remove a layer from the map, select this icon.



For layers with labels available, click on this icon to view the labels.



Some maps will have multiple layers grouped together. To view the layers within a group, click on the arrow next to the layer group.

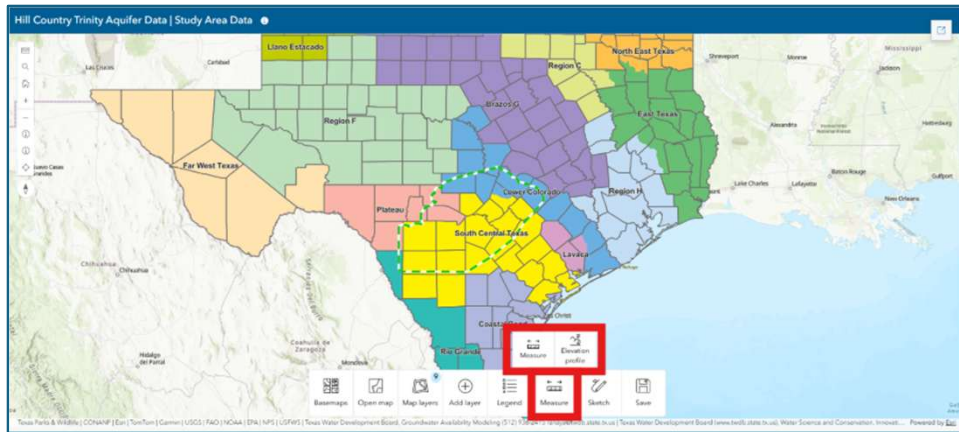


Adding Layers

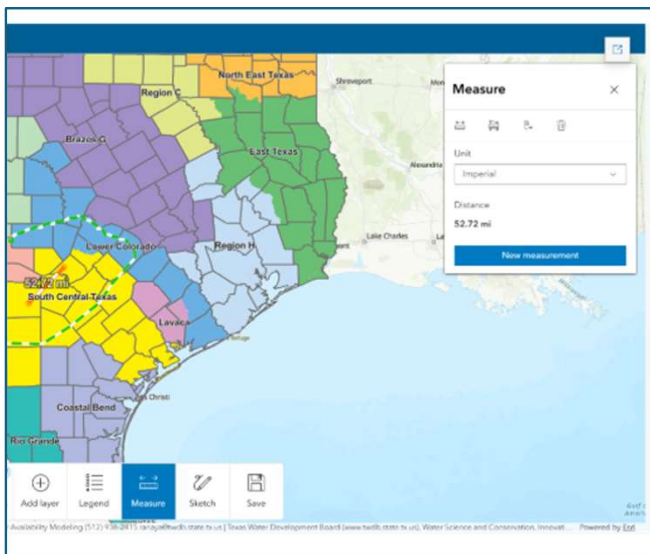
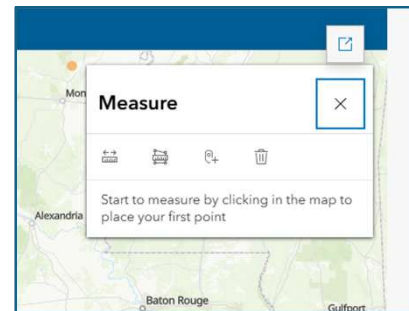
There are currently no layers available to add to the maps. This section will be updated in the future if layers become available.

Using the Measure Tool

Click on the measure tool icon from the bottom menu bar. Two options will appear for measurements – distance measurements and elevation profile measurements.



For distance measurements a new window will appear to the right.



To create a measurement, click on the map to start, create the measurement, and when finished, double click on the end point.

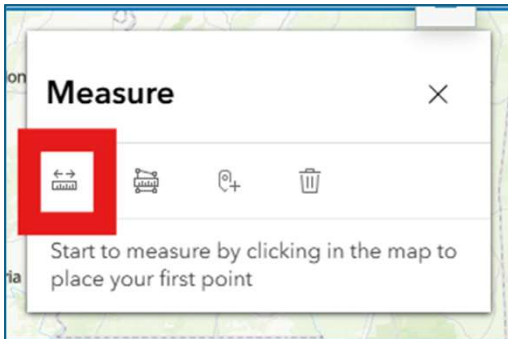
The measurement will appear in the window to the right. Measurement units can be changed from this window as well.

Using the Measure Tool

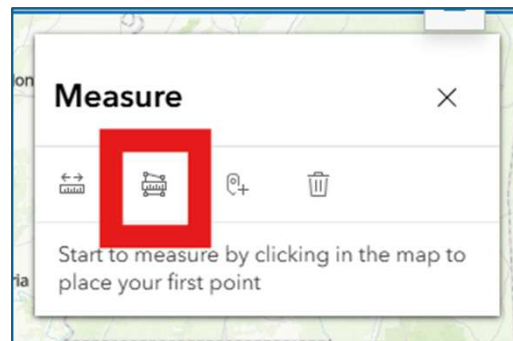
To create a new measurement, click New Measurement in the window.

Note: This will remove previous measurements.

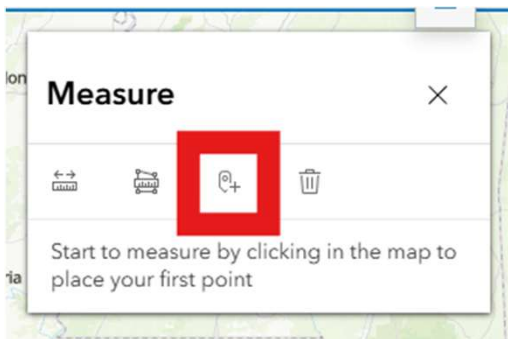
The default measurement will be linear, but options for area and coordinates are available from the measurement window as well.



Line Measurements

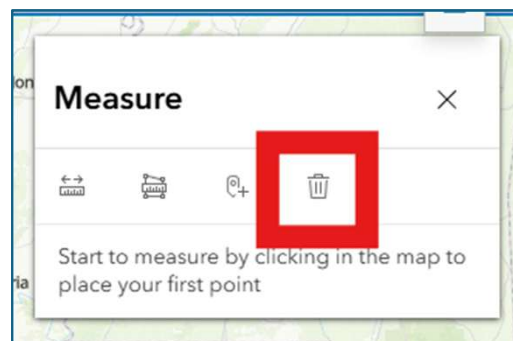


Area Measurements



Coordinate Measurements

Remove All Measurements



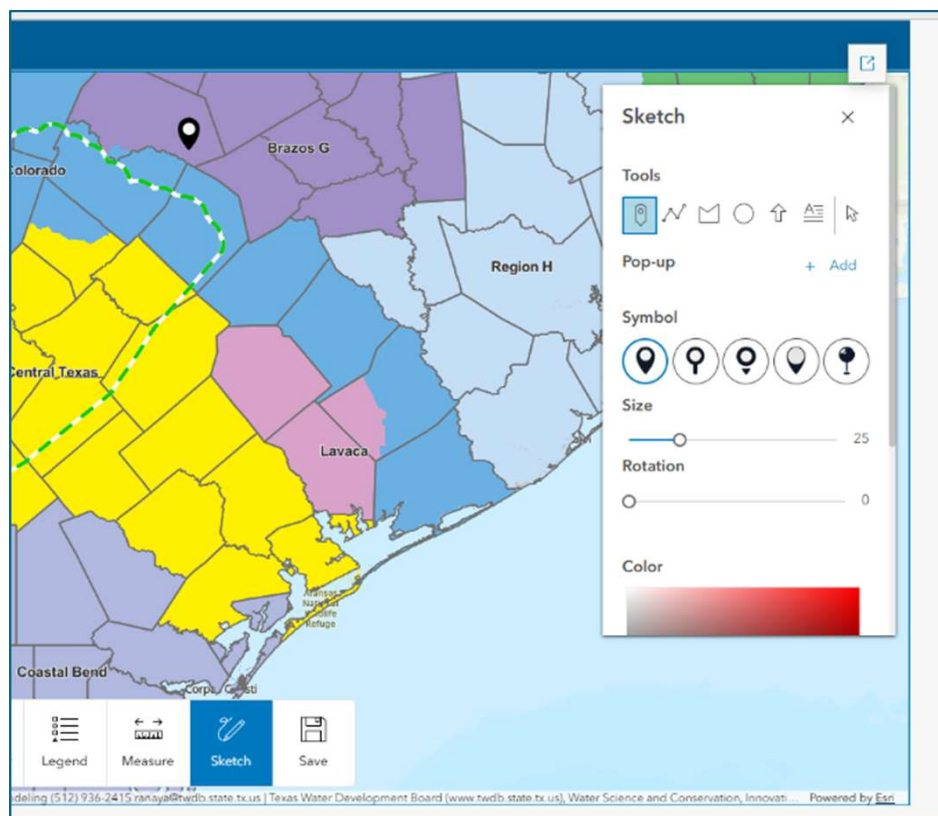
Using the Sketch Tool

To create sketches, add points, shapes, and text to the map, click on Sketch from the bottom menu bar.

A new window will open to the right.

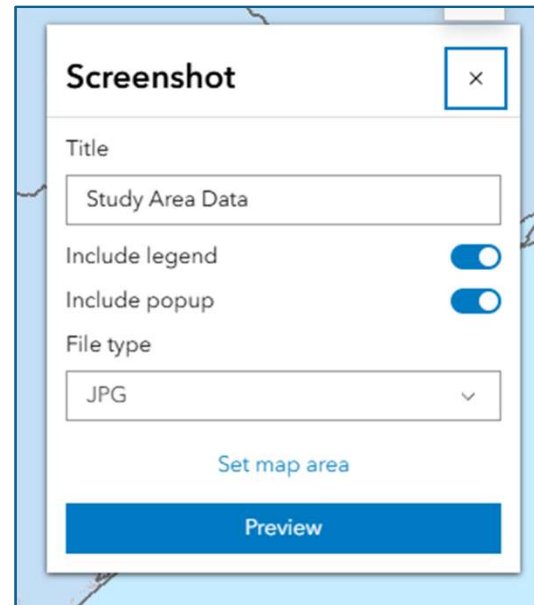
From this window, users can choose to add a point, line, polygon, circle, or text anywhere on the map.

Users can pick from available symbols, add pop-ups to the sketch, adjust size, adjust rotation, and change the color.



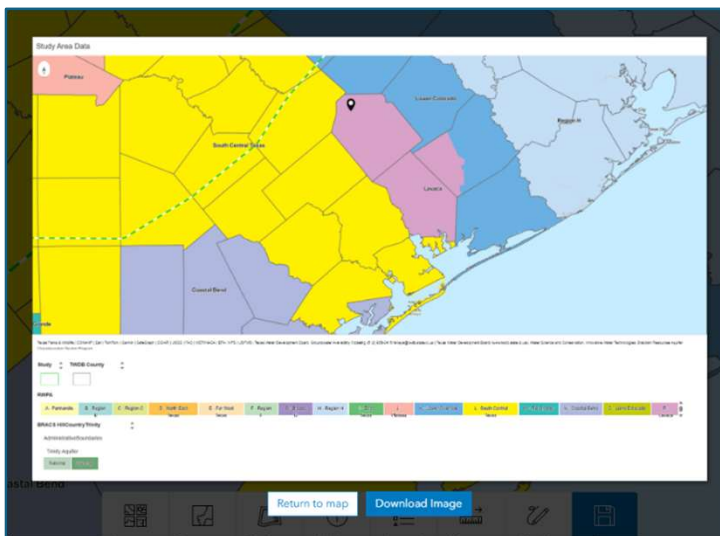
Using the Sketch Tool

1. To take a screenshot of any customization done to the web map, click Save in the bottom menu.
2. A new window will appear to the right. From this window, select Screenshot.
3. Another window will appear which allows users to give the screenshot a name, including the legend or pop-ups.
4. Users can also select the file type for the screenshot.
5. Once the screenshot is configured, users can view a preview for the final image by clicking on Preview.



The image shows a 'Screenshot' dialog box with a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains the following fields and controls:

- Title:** A text input field containing 'Study Area Data'.
- Include legend:** A toggle switch that is turned on.
- Include popup:** A toggle switch that is turned on.
- File type:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'JPG'.
- Buttons:** A blue button labeled 'Set map area' and a larger blue button labeled 'Preview'.



The preview window will appear; users can then choose to download the image or return to the map to adjust if needed.

Opening Links

At the end of the StoryMap are links to several resources. To open one of these links, click on the box and the link will open in a new window.

Resources & Links

Texas Water Development Board

The mission of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is to lead the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens. Our...

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov>

