

ATLAS 2023 Quarter 2 Release Notes

Prepared by Morgan Weatherford & LeiLani Paugh, 7/24/23

Search/Screening Tool Updates

Some of our users may have noticed that there have been no quarterly release notes or new release training during most of 2022. This is due to the upgrade currently taking place on the Search/Screening Tool, which will soon become a single application called the ATLAS Map. You may ask why this is being done. The short answer is you, the user, asked for a better experience. The long answer is to increase user efficiency by reducing the apps that user must open/log into, improve app performance and enhance map functionality. NCDOT/DIT has deployed 17 versions of these tools over the last 3.5 years, each providing incremental enhancements based on user feedback. Since then, the technology available has significantly improved which allows for many improvements to take place at once.

What can you expect from the ATLAS Map?

- Sleeker design to maximize the map area on the screen
- Faster speeds for screening to allow users to screen with a larger number of layers
- Larger study areas allowed for screening
- One tool that includes both the functionality of the existing tools
- Ability to search for and locate specific features (a culvert or bridge for example)
- Ability to create study areas based on specific features (a culvert or bridge for example)
- Flexibility to create a multipart study areas which allows users to draw multiple polygons as one study area
- Moving to the cloud as the first state-owned application to do so
- Server capacity expands on demand
- Faster layer load times
- Screen more layers
- Experience fewer errors
- Print report-quality maps
- More intuitive layer searching
- Expanded search options for locating features
- More space dedicated to the map
- Screen multiple study areas simultaneously

Recently Added GIS Layers

The following layers have been added to the Search Tool:

- Alternative Fueling Stations
- NCDEQ Riparian Buffer Areas with Rules
- NC Statewide Voluntary Agricultural Districts VAD
- Regional Bike Plans

New GIS Reference Materials

The following materials have been added to the ATLAS Resources Connect site:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Environmental/EAU/Project-Atlas/Pages/default.aspx>

- A summary of the layers in the Search Tool is now available on the ATLAS Resources site. This list groups layers by category to provide users with an overview of the types of layers available. Details of the layers are in the Search Tool and can quickly be found by typing in a layer name or category name.
- There are currently 11 Screening templates that have been created by NCDOT. These are available in the Screening Tool for users to pre-select a group of GIS layers in a specific topic (e.g., pre-Merger screening, Section 4(f), Hydraulics). A list of these templates and the corresponding GIS layers on each is now available on the ATLAS Resources site.

Recently Added Workbench Enhancements

New ATLAS Training Site

- Training modules are online. These are self-guided topical training modules found here: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Environmental/EAU/Project-Atlas/Pages/default.aspx>
- If you want further training for your group reach out to ATLAS@ncdot.gov to request instructor-led sessions.

Upcoming

-

Detail – Bug Fixes and Enhancements

- Enhanced the Content Search function to search all content on the Workbench tabs (section names, questions, upload instructions, and upload file names). Previously, the Content Search only searched upload file names.
- Added WBS Number and Federal Aid Project Number under “Project Information from SAP” on the Preconstruction Workbench Basic Information tab.