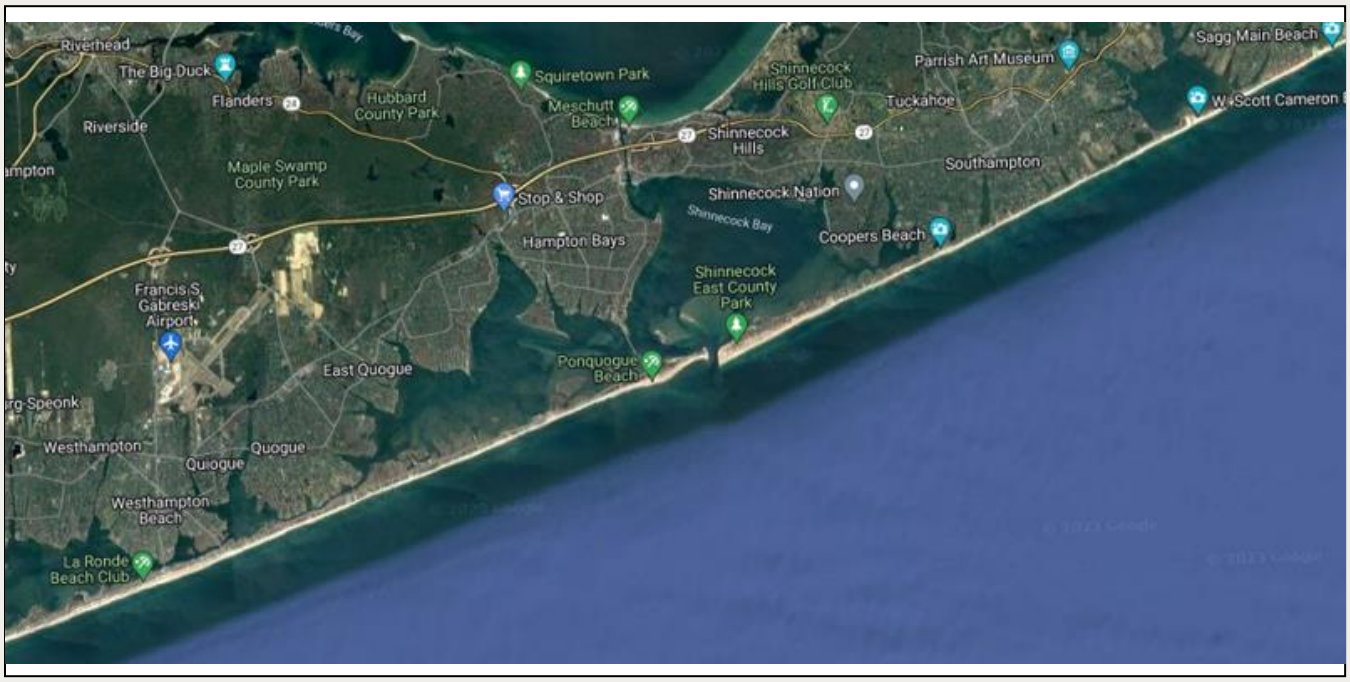
SMS 13.3 Tutorial

Import from Web

Import files from a web database



Objectives

This tutorial gives an overview of the *Import from Web* option offered by SMS. This option connects SMS to a web based program that adds additional functionality to the SMS program. The two programs interact through an internet connection and allow accessing satellite photographs easily and quickly.

This tutorial will review the basic skills concerning how to use the *Import from Web* option.

Prerequisite Tutorials

- None

Required Components

- SMS Core

Time

- 10–20 minutes

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1 Introduction

The *Import from Web* option adds an easier way to obtain images from the internet to use as backgrounds for SMS projects. SMS is able to connect to a data server then retrieve selected photographs or maps of most any location desired. Two specific file types can be obtained through using this option:

- Aerial photo
- World topographical map

2 Importing an Aerial Photo

An aerial photo can be imported into SMS and saved as a background image for a project.

2.1 Selecting the Location of the Aerial Photo

To open the project in SMS, do the following:

1. Select *File* | **New** to clear all previous data.
2. If asked to confirm deletion of all data, click **Don't Save**.
3. Select *File* | **Import from Web...** to bring up the *Virtual Earth Map Locator* dialog.
4. Enter "Shinnecock Bay, New York" in the *Place to search for* field and click **Jump to Search Location**.
5. Select "Imagery" from the drop-down menu at the top right of the map.
6. Zoom using the zoom buttons and drag the map view until it appears similar to Figure 1.

Figure 1 Shinnecock Bay

7. Click the **OK** button to close the *Virtual Earth Map Locator* dialog.
8. Click **OK** at the message stating a projection needs to be set.
9. Accept the projection in the *Display Projection* dialog and click **OK** to bring up the *Data Service Options* dialog.

SMS then takes the last image that was in the dialog and allows for saving it in a few ways.

2.2 Saving the Image

In the *Data Service Options* dialog, there are five file options (scroll right to view all of them).

1. Select *World Imagery* and click **OK** to close the *Data Service Options* dialog and open the *Save Web Services Data File(s)* dialog.
2. Select “Web Services Files (*.tif;*.gml;*.zip)” from the *Save as type* drop-down.
3. Browse to the desired location to save the file and enter “shinnecock_bay” as the *File name*.
4. Click **Save** to close the *Save Web Services Data File(s)* dialog.
5. When asked to confirm the creation of the file, click **Yes** to bring up the *Raster Cell Size* dialog.

The confirmation dialog shows the complete path of the file and shows the extension of the file. Since this file is an aerial file, it ends with “*_ag_imagery.tif.” Other image types have unique file extensions to help in differentiation.

A suggested scale is already provided in the *Raster Cell Size* dialog, but a different scale can be selected if desired. Remember that the lower the scale the more detailed the image and the more time it will take to save.

6. Click **OK** to accept the default size and exit the *Raster Cell Size* dialog.

SMS then creates the file and loads the image into the Graphics Window.

3 Importing a World Topographic Image

A world topographic image can be imported into SMS and saved to serve as a background for a project.

3.1 Selecting the Location for the Topographic Image

To open a new project in SMS, do the following:

1. Select *File* | **New** to clear all previous data.
2. If asked to confirm deletion of all data, click **Don't Save**.
3. Select *File* | **Import from Web...** to bring up the *Virtual Earth Map Locator* dialog.

The location from the previous section has been saved by the Virtual Earth Map Locator, so there is no need to search for the same location again.

4. Zoom in to a comfortable view where the entire bay fits the screen nicely (Figure 2).
5. Change the drop-down set to "Topographic".
6. Click **OK** button to close the *Virtual Earth Map Locator* dialog.
7. Click **OK** at message stating a projection needs to be set.
8. Accept the projection in the *Display Projection* dialog and click **OK** to bring up the *Data Service Options* dialog.

Figure 2 Shinnecock Bay

3.2 Saving the Image

1. Scroll to the right to select *World Topo Map* and click **OK** to close the *Data Service Options* dialog and bring up the *Save Web Services Data File(s)* dialog.
2. Select "Web Services Files (*.tif;*.gml;*.zip)" from the *Save as type* drop-down.
3. Browse to the desired location to save the file and enter "shinnecock_bay_topo" as the *File name*.

4. Click **Save** to close the *Save Web Services Data File(s)* dialog.
5. When asked to confirm the creation of the file, click **Yes** to bring up the *Raster Cell Size* dialog.
6. Click **OK** to accept the default size and exit the *Raster Cell Size* dialog.

SMS then creates the file and loads the image into the Graphics Window.

4 Conclusion

This concludes the “Import from Web” tutorial. Feel free to continue to experimenting with this part of SMS, or exit the program.