

OGDE



The Ontario Land Information Directory (OLID) Metadata Search Tool

Land Information Ontario

Ontario Land Information Infrastructure



Outline

- Using the Main Search Form
- Selecting a Geographic Feature for Search Using a Map
- Digitize an Area for Search
- Selecting a Geographic Area or Feature by Name
- Using the Results of a Search



System Basics

- ▶ To help people find data
- ▶ To help determine if specific data exists, its availability and quality
- ▶ Success will depend on search parameters and on how completely the metadata have been inputted
- ▶ The metadata database will grow and the amount of information retrieved will improve with time



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System Basics:

This Internet search tool was developed to help people find data and information, **and/or** determine if specific data exists and its availability.

Your success in finding the data or information you want will depend partly on how you use the system and its search parameters, and partly on how completely the metadata have been input.

As time goes by, the metadata database will grow and the amount of information retrieved will improve. As organizations buy into the idea of inputting good quality metadata other organizations will be drawn to the information source and wish to input their metadata. This cycle will snowball creating a better product for all.

About the Tool

- Application allows the user to query a database of metadata records
- Searches can be conducted using Business Themes, Keywords, Dates, Titles or Acronyms
- Geospatial searches can also be performed to discover the existence of data. The three options for geospatial searches are:
 - . 1. Select Geographic Feature for Search
 - . 2. Digitize Area for Search
 - . 3. Select Geographic Feature by Name

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About the tool:

The Ontario Land Information Directory (OLID) Metadata Search Tool is an application that allows the user to query a database of metadata records.

Tabular searches can be conducted using **Business Themes, Keywords, Dates, Titles** or **Acronyms**.

Geospatial searches can also be performed to discover the existence of data. The three options that are available for geospatial searches are:

1. Select Geographic Feature for Search
2. Digitize Area for Search
3. Select Geographic Feature by Name

When a search has been completed, a list of all the metadata records that match the criteria entered or selected are returned. The metadata record provides details about the accuracy of the data, the extent of coverage, applicable contact information and a variety of other descriptive information about the data.

Getting to OLID



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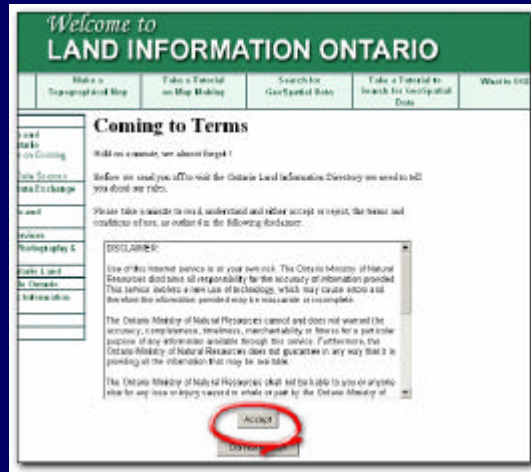
Getting to OLID:

Navigate to the LIO web site and click “**Search for Geospatial Data**” - red circle - to connect to OLID

Or “**Find Geospatial Data and Information about Ontario**” - red pointer

Also the “**Take a Tutorial to Search for Geospatial Data**” - white pointer - is a tutorial about the OILD application.

Coming to Terms



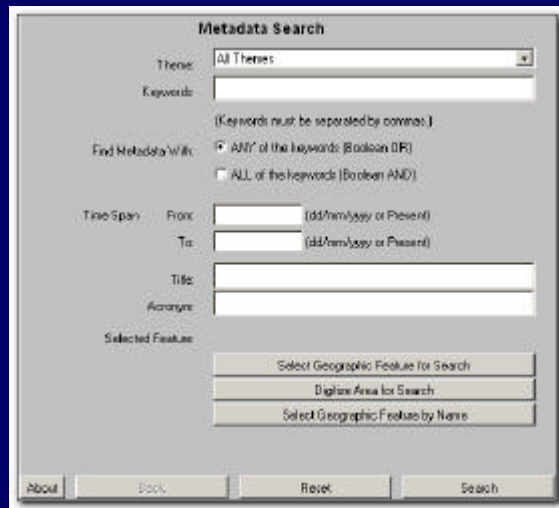
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Coming to Terms:

Disclaimer for use of OLID application.

Main Search Form



The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' window with the following fields and options:

- Theme:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All Themes'.
- Keywords:** A text input field.
- Find Metadata with:** Two radio button options: 'ANY' of the keywords (Boolean OR) and 'ALL' of the keywords (Boolean AND).
- Time Span:** Two text input fields labeled 'From' and 'To', both with a placeholder '(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)'.
- Title:** A text input field.
- Acronym:** A text input field.
- Selected Feature:** Three buttons: 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Feature by Name'.
- Footer:** Four buttons: 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search'.

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Main Search Form:

The Metadata Search screen is the first of a series of search parameter screens. It allows you to define what type of data you're interested in, its currency, and the name, or partial name, of the data set and/or its acronym. The system will ignore any field not filled-in when executing a search, so only use those parameters which best meet your needs.

From the upper area of the main form you are able to use various tabular parameters such to search the metadata.

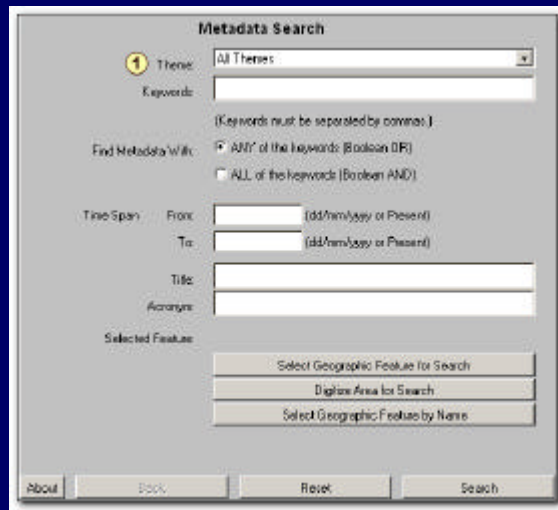
- Theme
- Keywords
- Time Span
- Title
- Acronym

Using the Main Search Form

- ▶ From the main form you are able to use various parameters to help describe the type of information / data sets in which you are interested. These parameters include:
 - Theme
 - Keywords - multiple key words and key word phrase
 - Time Span
 - Title
 - Acronym



Main Search Form - Theme



The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' form with the following fields and options:

- Theme:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All Themes'. A yellow circle with the number '1' is next to this field.
- Keywords:** An empty text input field.
- Find Metadata with:** Two radio button options: 'ANY' of the keywords (Boolean OR) and 'ALL' of the keywords (Boolean AND).
- Time Span:** Two text input fields labeled 'From' and 'To', with a placeholder '(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)'.
- Title:** An empty text input field.
- Acronyms:** An empty text input field.
- Selected Feature:** Three buttons: 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Feature by Name'.
- Navigation:** 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search' buttons at the bottom.

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1) Theme

Selecting a theme (drop down pick list) enables you to target your search to a particular topic of interest. When you execute the search, only data sets that relate to that theme will be returned.

For example, if you are interested in culture-related data, or planning-related data, etc. simply choose the theme from the listing. The themes are predefined and are part of the Metadata Input System that the data set owners and others used to input their metadata descriptions.

Examples:

Fish, Fire, Remote Sensing, Mapping, Geology, Forest Management, ...

Main Search Form - Keywords

The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' window with the following elements:

- Theme:** A dropdown menu set to 'All Themes'.
- Keywords:** A text input field.
- Find Metadata With:** Two radio buttons: 'ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)' (selected) and 'ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)'.
- Time Span:** 'From' and 'To' text input fields with a placeholder '(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)'.
- Title:** A text input field.
- Acronyms:** A text input field.
- Selected Feature:** Three buttons: 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Feature by Name'.
- Bottom Buttons:** 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search'.

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2) Keywords

Use the Keywords field to input words which may reflect the type of data in which you're interested. For example, if you are interested in information about salmon, you could input: salmon, or more broadly: fish, salmon.

MULTIPLE KEYWORDS: If you want to use multiple keywords then you must separate each word with a comma, so that each word will be treated as an individual word in the search.

For instance: "Salmon, Fishing" will search for the keywords "Salmon" and "Fishing" as separate words.

KEYWORD PHRASE: If you want to use a phrase such as "flood control" you simply enter the words with a space between them. Do not use a comma or quotation marks. - e.g. Fish Habitat

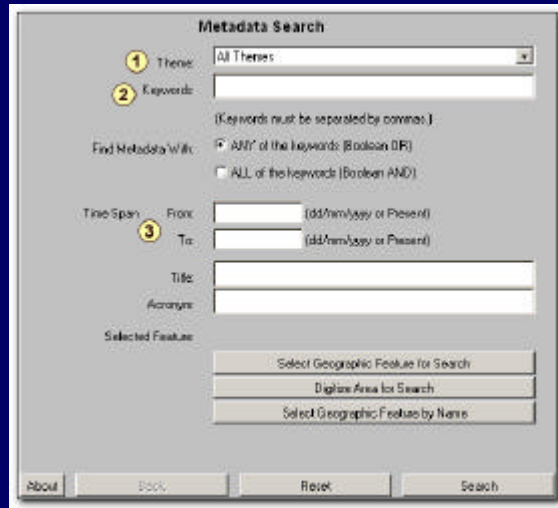
ANY - ALL: There are currently two parameters available to you when search with keywords:

- Any of the keywords: The default search method for the system is to return metadata records that reflect ANY of the keywords you have chosen. So if any one or more of the keyword(s) you specify are contained in the keyword description of a metadata record, that metadata record will be reported.

- All of the keywords: To create very specific targeted searches, you can ask the system to report ONLY those metadata descriptions that contain ALL of the keywords you have input.

HINT: Although keywords are an excellent way to target your search, their use assumes that the metadata records were put into the system with the same keywords. Therefore, you may want to use both specific and broad terms to ensure all data sets of interest are captured. And, you may want to conduct a search without keywords to compare results.

Main Search Form - Time Span



The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' form with several fields and options. A yellow circle with the number '3' highlights the 'Time Span' section. The 'Time Span' section includes 'From' and 'To' date input fields, both with a placeholder '(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)'. Below these are 'Title' and 'Acronyms' input fields. At the bottom of the form are buttons for 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search'. There are also three buttons under 'Selected Feature': 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Feature by Name'.

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3) Time Span

You can search for metadata descriptions that reflect data sets created and/or maintained within a certain time period.

Make sure you use the proper format (**dd/mm/yyyy**), or the system will ignore the input and simply return metadata reflecting all dates.

Main Search Form - Title

The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' window with several fields and options. A yellow circle with the number '4' highlights the 'Title' input field. Other fields include 'Theme' (set to 'All Themes'), 'Keywords', 'Find Metadata with' (radio buttons for 'ANY' and 'ALL'), 'Time Span' (From and To date pickers), and 'Acronyms'. At the bottom are buttons for 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search'. Below the main form are three buttons: 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Features by Name'.

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4) Title

If you know the title of the data set of interest, or a word or a phrase in the title, you can use this field to target the search to only those data set(s). The system will return all metadata that incorporate that word or phrase in the title.

For example, if you think the data set has the word "Glacial" in the title, inputting "glacial" in this field will return metadata for all data sets with "glacial" in the title.

Main Search Form - Acronym

The screenshot shows a 'Metadata Search' window with the following fields and options:

- 1** Theme: A dropdown menu currently set to 'All Themes'.
- 2** Keywords: A text input field with a note below it: '(Keywords must be separated by comma.)'
- Find Metadata with: Two radio buttons, the first of which is selected: ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR) and ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND).
- Time Span: Two text input fields labeled 'From' and 'To', both with a placeholder '(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)'.
- 3** Time Span: This label is positioned between the 'From' and 'To' fields.
- 4** Title: A text input field.
- 5** Acronym: A text input field.
- Selected Feature: Three buttons: 'Select Geographic Feature for Search', 'Digitize Area for Search', and 'Select Geographic Feature by Name'.
- At the bottom: Four buttons: 'About', 'Back', 'Reset', and 'Search'.

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5) Acronym

As with the title field, if you know the acronym of a data set, you can use this field to target the search to return only metadata with that acronym.

Buttons

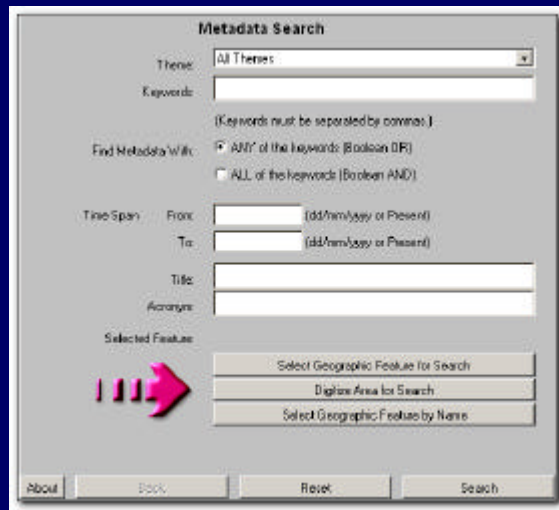
Clicking the "**About**" button generates a window with information on the OLID version.

Clicking the "**Back**" button takes you back to the main input form and leaves all search parameters intact.

Clicking the "**Reset**" button clears all search parameters on all forms and takes you back to the main metadata search form.

Clicking the "**Search**" button generates a report based on all the search parameters you have input on the Main form and any geographic parameters.

Main Search Form - Selected Feature



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Metadata Search". It includes a "Theme" dropdown menu set to "All Themes", a "Keywords" text input field, and a note "(Keywords must be separated by comma.)". Below this are two radio buttons for "Find Metadata with": "ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)" (selected) and "ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)". There are also "Time Span" fields for "From" and "To", both with the format "(dd/mm/yyyy or Present)". Below these are "Title" and "Acronyms" text input fields. The "Selected Feature" section contains three buttons: "Select Geographic Feature for Search", "Digitize Area for Search", and "Select Geographic Feature by Name". A red arrow points to this section. At the bottom of the form are "About", "Back", "Reset", and "Search" buttons.

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Selected Features Options

You are also able to select one of three ways to define the geographic extent (location or area) of the data set as described by the metadata.

So, for example, if you know roughly the area of the province you're interested in, you can use either the map-based "**Select Geographic Feature for Search**" function or "**Digitize Area for Search**" on a map.

The third option allows you to "**Select Geographic Feature by Name**" (say, the County of Frontenac) from a list.

Select a Geographic Feature for Search

- › This form helps you target your search for relevant data sets by enabling you to select a map feature for which the data set(s) are related.
- › Using this form means understanding a few simple concepts:
 - Selecting a layer
 - Using the map legend
 - Finding the feature of interest (using the map with Full Extent, Zoom In, Zoom Out, and Pan functions)
 - Selecting the feature of interest (using the Select Tool)

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Note:

Only those metadata records whose geographic boundary (extent) is **FULLY** contained within the boundary of the selected area (feature) will be reported. Any data sets whose geographic boundary is partially or wholly outside of your selected area (feature) will **NOT** be reported.

The reason for this is to stop the search from reporting any and every record that even partially touches the selected area (feature) including those records with the Province as its bounding area.

To increase the possibility of greater numbers of metadata reported, it is suggested that you use the Digitize Area map function.

Further options may be added in a later release of this search tool, to allow variables such as "intersects/passes through" or "within x distance/near".

Select Geographic Feature for Search

Metadata Search

Theme:

Keywords:

(Keywords must be separated by comma.)


Find Metadata with: ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)
 ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)

Time Span: From: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)
To: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)

Title:

Acronyms:

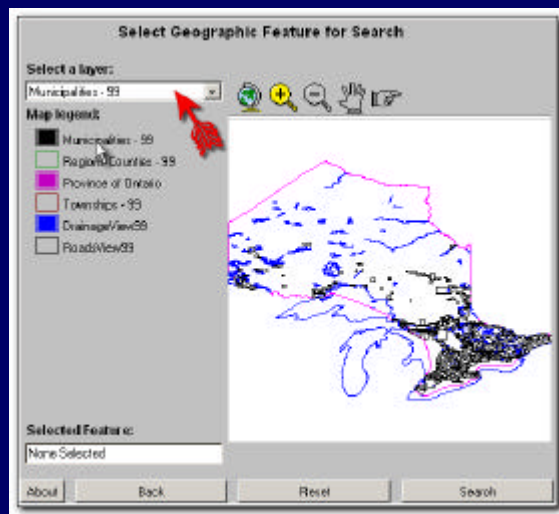
Selected Feature





Select Geographic Feature for Search

Selecting a Layer and using Map Legend



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Selecting a Layer

The map is made up of several "layers" of data. Each of these layers is made of several polygons (shapes/areas) that represent the boundaries of some features.

For example, the Municipalities layer is composed of the many polygons that represent the boundaries of municipalities in the province.

Use the "**Select a Layer**" listing to choose what type of feature you would like to use to search with.

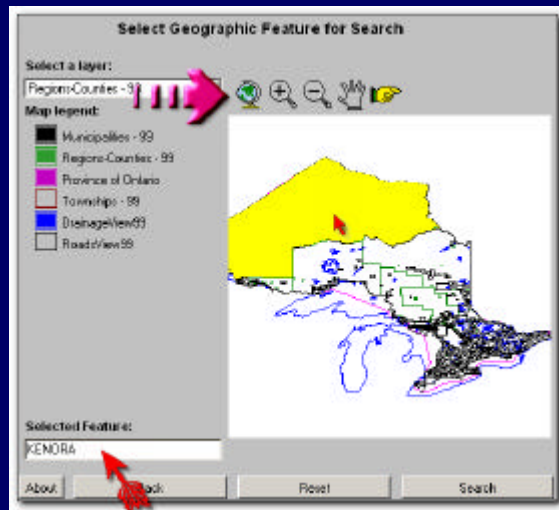
For example, if you choose the Municipalities layer, then you will be able to select a particular municipality on the map and then search for metadata that incorporates that municipality.

Using Map Legend to Turn Layers "on" and "off"

The map legend indicates which layers are available for display, which layers are being displayed on the map, and what color the map layer features are being displayed in.

The layers being displayed on the map can be turned "off" by **clicking on their name** on the map legend. Doing so makes the colored square hollow, and the layer no longer appears on the map. Clicking on the name again will turn the layer back on.

Finding and Selecting Features of Interest



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Finding the Feature of Interest

Use the **Full Extent**, **Zoom In**, **Zoom Out** and **Pan** functions to orient the map so that your feature of interest is easy to identify and select. Once these functions / buttons are selected, they turn yellow to indicate they are active.

Selecting the Feature of Interest

Once you've navigated to the area of interest, to select it, simply click on the **Select** button and then click on the map feature. In a couple of seconds, the feature will turn yellow to indicate it has been selected, and the name of the feature will appear in the Selected Feature field.

If you've selected the wrong feature, you can simply select another feature.

- If you decide not to select a feature, hit the RESET button to return you to the main search parameter screen.
- Only one feature can be selected at a time.
- If no feature is selected, the search will return all records matching your search criteria for the entire province.

Using the Digitize Area of Search

- › The ability to digitize provides you a very flexible way to describe (select) your area of interest. The extent of many data sets doesn't always follow administrative or natural boundaries, therefore it make sense to define an area of interest in a way which best reflects the actual data.
- › The ability to digitize also means you are able to select more than one feature (such as several municipalities) as your search area.



Digitize Area of Search

Metadata Search

Theme: All Themes

Keywords:

(Keywords must be separated by commas.)

Find Metadata With: ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)
 ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)

Time Span: From: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)
To: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)

Title:

Acronym:

Selected Feature:

Select Geographic Feature for Search

Digitize Area for Search

Select Geographic Feature by Name

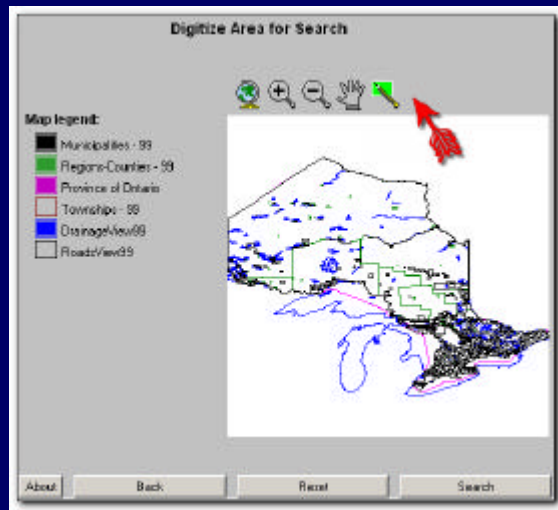
About Back Reset Search



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Select Digitize Area of Search

The Digitize Function



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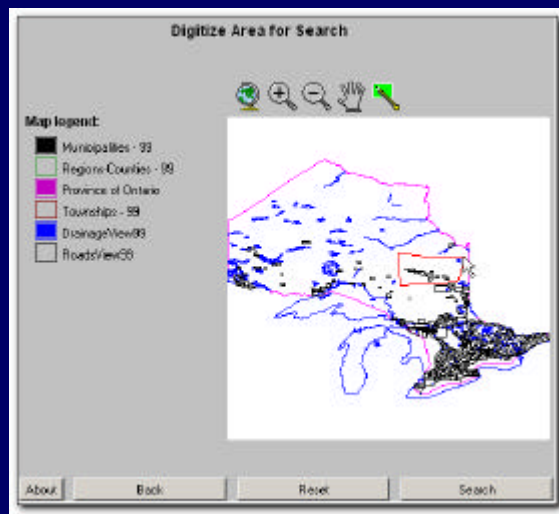


The Digitize Function:

To digitize an area of interest, select the **Digitize** button. This will activate the digitizing tool. Once active, the tool will turn yellow.

The map legend indicates which layers are available for display, which layers are being displayed in the map window, and what color the map layer features are being displayed in. The map legend also enables you to turn layers "on" and "off" by clicking the name of the layer.

Digitize a Polygon



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Digitize a Polygon:

Use your cursor (mouse control) and click on a position on the map. Move the cursor to the next position on the map and click the left mouse button and move to the next and click and to the next and so on until the polygon defines your area of interest.

To stop digitizing, double click the left mouse button. If you make a mistake, simply start again and the old polygon (shape) will disappear.

Select Geographic Feature By Name

- › By selecting a specific geographic feature by name, you can quickly target your searches to retrieve metadata for data sets that cover a specific municipality, township or region.



Select Geographic Feature by Name

Metadata Search

Theme:

Keywords:

(Keywords must be separated by commas.)

Find Metadata With: ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)
 ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)

Time Span From: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)
To: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)

Title:

Accession:

Selected Feature:



Select Geographic Feature by Name

Select Geographic Feature by Name

Select Geographic Feature by Name

Select a Layer

- Municipalities - 99
- Regions/Counties - 99
- Provinces of Ontario
- Townships - 39

Select Layer

Selected Layer:

Select a Place Name

Selected Place Name:

About Back Reset Search

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Select Specific Feature

To select a specific feature, first choose which **"layer"** (map) it belongs to by clicking on the layer and then click on the **"Select Layer"** button. In a few seconds, the "Select a Place Name" box will list all the place names associated with that layer (area).

Select Geographic Feature by Name

Select Geographic Feature by Name

Select a Layer

- Municipalities - 99
- Regions/Counties - 99
- Province of Ontario
- Townships - 99

Select a Place Name

- MANTICORE
- NE MANITOULIN & THE ISLS
- NEENING
- NEPEAN
- NEUSTADT
- NEW LISKEARD
- NEW TECUMSETH
- NEWBURY
- NEWMARKET
- NIAGARA FALLS
- NIAGARA ON THE LAKE
- NICKEL CENTRE
- NIPIGON
- NIPSSING

Select Layer

Selected Layer: Municipalities - 99

Selected Place Name: NIAGARA FALLS

About Back Reset Search

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Place Name of Interest:

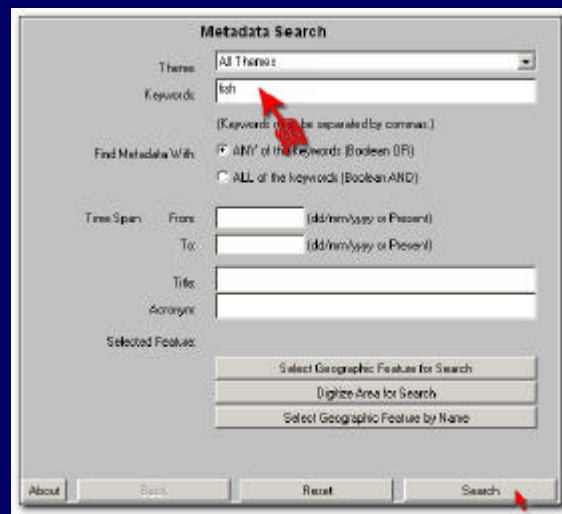
From the "Select a Place Name" box select the **Place Name** of interest and it will appear in the "Select a Place Name" field.

Execute a Search

- › Clicking on the Search button will now launch a search for metadata based on your selected place name and the other parameters you entered in the previous forms.



Execute a Search



Metadata Search

Theme: All Themes

Keywords: fish

(Keywords may be separated by commas.)

Find Metadata With:

ANY of the keywords (Boolean OR)

ALL of the keywords (Boolean AND)

Time Span: From: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)

To: (dd/mm/yyyy or Present)

Title:

Acronym:

Selected Feature:

Select Geographic Feature for Search

Digitize Area for Search

Select Geographic Feature by Name

About Back Reset Search

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Execute a Search

From the metadata search screen and the geographic extent screens, you can execute a search.

The search returns a list of all metadata in the database which meet your search criteria. If, from this list of metadata, you see something of interest, you are able to click on the title to retrieve the complete metadata description.

The system will ignore any field not filled-in when executing a search.

Search Results ~ Reports and How to Use Them

- › When you invoke a search, a new instance (or window) of your web browser is launched, so that both the report and the metadata search forms are "live". To return to the search forms, either click on its reference on the Windows Taskbar, or close the instance (window) of your browser containing the report.



Summary Results Page

METADATA SEARCH
SUMMARY RESULT PAGE

Ontario Land Information Directory of Metadata for Geospatial Information Holdings

Your Search Results

RECHERCHE DE MÉTADONNÉE
PAGE RÉCAPITULATIVE DE RESULTAT

Répertoire de l'information de terre d'Ontario de Métadonnées pour les paramètres de l'Information Géospatial

Your Recherche Results

362 records found matching your search query

RECHERCHÉ CHEZ/CHA
Subject (Class): All Themes
Key Words: fish
Title Name Specified
Strategy: None Specified
Date Coverage: All up to Present
Location of Interest: Dynamic wide coverage

The following is a partial listing of the Information Holding Descriptions. Click on a TITLE to view the Metadata for the information holding.

[1995 Golden Lake Research Community Study Netting \(1995 Golden Lake HCDG\)](#)

A Fishnet 2.0 UTM extending over wet locations, one of one and half, project name and details of sample sites for monitoring fish communities on Golden Lake in the fall of 1995. Study undertaken by



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Summary Result Page:

A search will return the "Summary Result Page" which contains a list of all the parameters available for the search, their value (i.e. what you input), the number of matching metadata records, and a list of the data set names as recorded in their metadata records.

If any of these data set names are of interest to you, then by clicking on one of them, the entire metadata record will be displayed in a detailed report. From this record, you will be able to determine whether or not the data set is of interest, and if so, how to access it.

Use your normal browser functionality to copy and/or print the text from these reports.

You May Encounter Delays!

- › There is a lot of information being sent back and forth -- especially when using the mapping functions and executing a search. **Please be patient** and don't click on the form while waiting, since each click can set up a new request from the server.
- › We've added a **BUSY** message (top right corner) for some of the forms to help indicate that the system is indeed working.



Review

- Using the Main Search Form
- Selecting a Geographic Feature for Search Using a Map
- Digitize an Area for Search
- Selecting a Geographic Area or Feature by Name
- Using the Results of a Search



Questions??



The Ontario Land Information Directory (OLID) Metadata Search Tool

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Questions??

Need Help - Contact

- ▶ OLID help contact:
 - ▶ NRVIS\LIO Support
 - . (705) 755-1650
 - . nrvis.support@mnr.gov.on.ca
 - ▶ Ontario Geospatial Data Exchange help contact:
 - ▶ OGDE Team
 - . (705) 755-1878
 - . info-access@webmail.mnr.gov.on.ca

