

# *SURFACE WATER MODELING SYSTEM*

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## ***Import From Web***

This lesson is designed to help you become familiar with the Importing 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 users to access satellite photographs easily and quickly.

In this tutorial you will learn about the basic skills concerning how to use the Import From Web option.

### **1 What does the Import From Web option do for SMS?**

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The Import From Web options adds an easier way to obtain images from the internet to use as backgrounds for SMS projects. SMS is able to connect to TerraServer and can retrieve selected photographs or maps of just about any location desired. Listed below are the three specific file types that can be obtained through using this option:

- TerraServer aerial photo
- TerraServer topo

### **2 Importing a TerraServer Aerial Photo**

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A TerraServer aerial photo can be imported into SMS as an image to serve as a background for a project. This section will teach you how to import and save an aerial photo.

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## 2.1 Selecting the location of the aerial photo

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1. Open a new project in SMS. To do this select *File|Delete All*. This will delete all information from SMS and give you a fresh screen.
2. Select *Web|Import From Web...* A dialog will appear that notifies you that the coordinate system will be changed to UTM 83. Click *OK*.
3. The Virtual Earth Map Locator dialog will appear. From here you can use the Virtual Earth Map Locator tools to find the location you want to import an aerial photo of. For this tutorial we will give you a location to search for. The location to find is Shinnecock Bay, Long Island, NY.
4. In the Virtual Earth Map Locator dialog select *Map Options|Show Locator Tool*. This will open a toolbar on your screen. In the toolbar type Shinnecock Bay in the *What:* field, and Long Island, NY in the *Where:* field. Then click *Find*.
5. Once you have found the location, center the bay in the window and zoom in to a comfortable view where the entire bay fits the screen nicely. It should look like the image below ( Figure 1 ).



Figure 1 Shinnecock Bay

6. Click the *OK* button in the lower right corner of the screen. When you do this SMS takes the last image that was on the screen and allows you to save it in a few ways.

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## 2.2 Saving the image

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1. A dialog called Data Service Options will appear and you will notice two file options in the spreadsheet. The first option is a TerraServer aerial photo. Toggle on this option and then click *OK*. You will be prompted to save the web service data file. Save the file with the name as *shinnecock\_bay*. Click *Save*.
2. The next dialog that appears will show you the complete path of where you are saving the file and shows you the extension of the file, as well. Please note that since this file is an aerial file, it ends with the extension *\*.tsaerial.web.jpg*. The other image types have their own unique file extensions to help you differentiate between them all. Click the *Yes* button to go on.

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3. The next option that appears is at what scale you want SMS to save your file. There will be a suggested scale already given in the dialog, but you can also select a different scale if you desire. Just remember that the lower the scale the more detailed the image and usually it will take more time to save. Leave the scale set at the suggested level and then click *OK* to exit the dialog.
  4. Next, SMS will create your file, and before it loads it automatically to the screen, it may prompt you if you wish to create pyramids for the image. Click *Yes*, and then the image should load to the screen.

### **3 Importing a TerraServer Topographic Image**

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A TerraServer topographic image can be imported into SMS to serve as a background for a project. This section will teach you how to import and save a topographic image.

#### **3.1 Selecting the location for the topographic image**

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1. Open a new project in SMS. To do this select *File|Delete All*. This will delete all information from SMS and give you a fresh screen.
2. Select *Web|Import from Web...* A dialog will appear that notifies you that the coordinate system will be changed to UTM 83. Click *OK*.
3. The Virtual Earth Map Locator dialog will appear. From here you can use the Virtual Earth Map Locator tools to find the location you want to import a topo image of. For this tutorial we will give you a location to search for. The location we want to find is Shinnecock Bay, Long Island, NY.
4. In the Virtual Earth Map Locator dialog select *Map Options|Show Locator Tool*. This will open a toolbar on your screen. In the toolbar type Shinnecock Bay in the *What:* field, and Long Island, NY in the *Where:* field. Then click *Find*.
5. Once you have found the location, center the bay in the window and zoom in to a comfortable view where the entire bay fits the screen nicely.
6. Click the *OK* button in the lower right corner of the screen. When you do this SMS takes the last image that was on the screen and allows you to save it.

#### **3.2 Saving the image**

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1. A dialog called Data Service Options will appear and you will notice three file options in the spreadsheet. The third option is a TerraServer topo image. Toggle on this option and then click *OK*. You will be prompted to save the web service data file. Save the file with the name as shinnecock\_bay. Click *Save*.
2. The next dialog that appears will show you the complete path of where you are saving the file and shows you the extension of the file, as well. Please note that since this file is a topo image, it ends with the extension \*.tstopo.web.jpg. The other image types

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have their own unique file extensions to help you differentiate between them all. Click the *Continue* button to go on.

3. The next option you will have is at what scale you want SMS to save your file. There will be a suggested scale already given in the dialog, but you can also select a different scale if you desire. Just remember that the lower the scale the more detailed the image and usually it will take more time to save. Leave the scale set at the suggested level and then click *OK* to exit the dialog.
4. Next, SMS will create your file, and before it loads it automatically to the screen, it may prompt you if you wish to create pyramids for the image. Click *Yes*, and then the image should load to the screen.

## **4 Conclusion**

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This concludes the *Import from Web* tutorial. You may continue to experiment with this part of SMS or continue on to the next tutorials.