

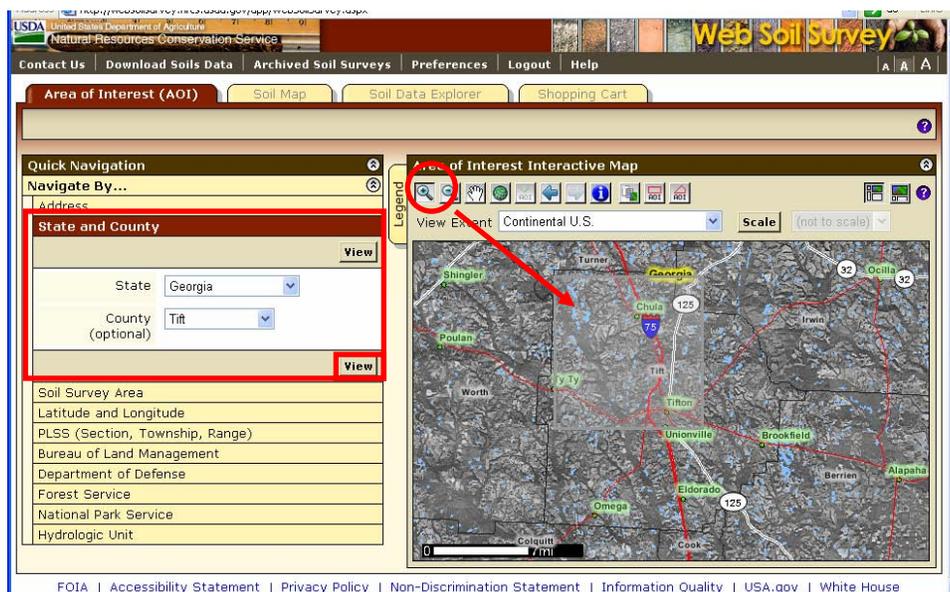
Quick Guide for Using NRCS Web Soil Survey (v. 2.0)

Web Soil Survey link: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

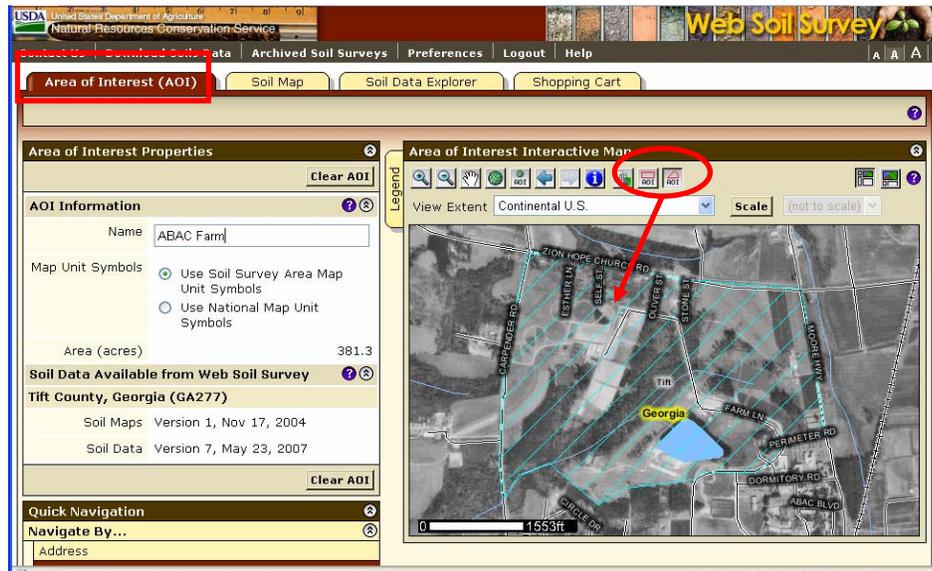
1) Click on the **Start WSS** button to begin.



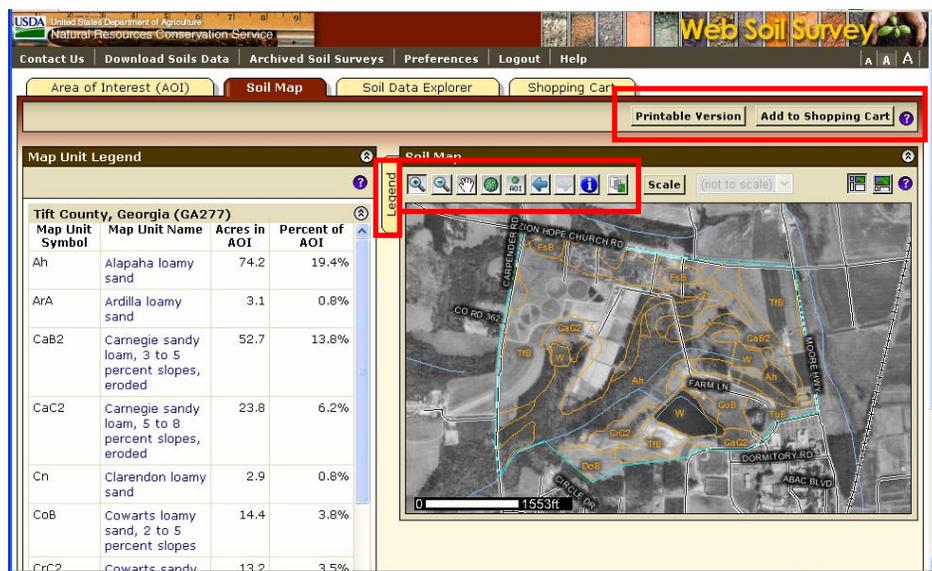
2) Navigate to the desired location by designating an address, state and county, soil survey area, latitude-longitude, township and range, BLM boundary, DOD boundary, USFS boundary, National Park, or hydrologic unit, then clicking on the **View** button. Continue zooming into the desired area using the zoom tool and clicking on the map or dragging a box across the area.



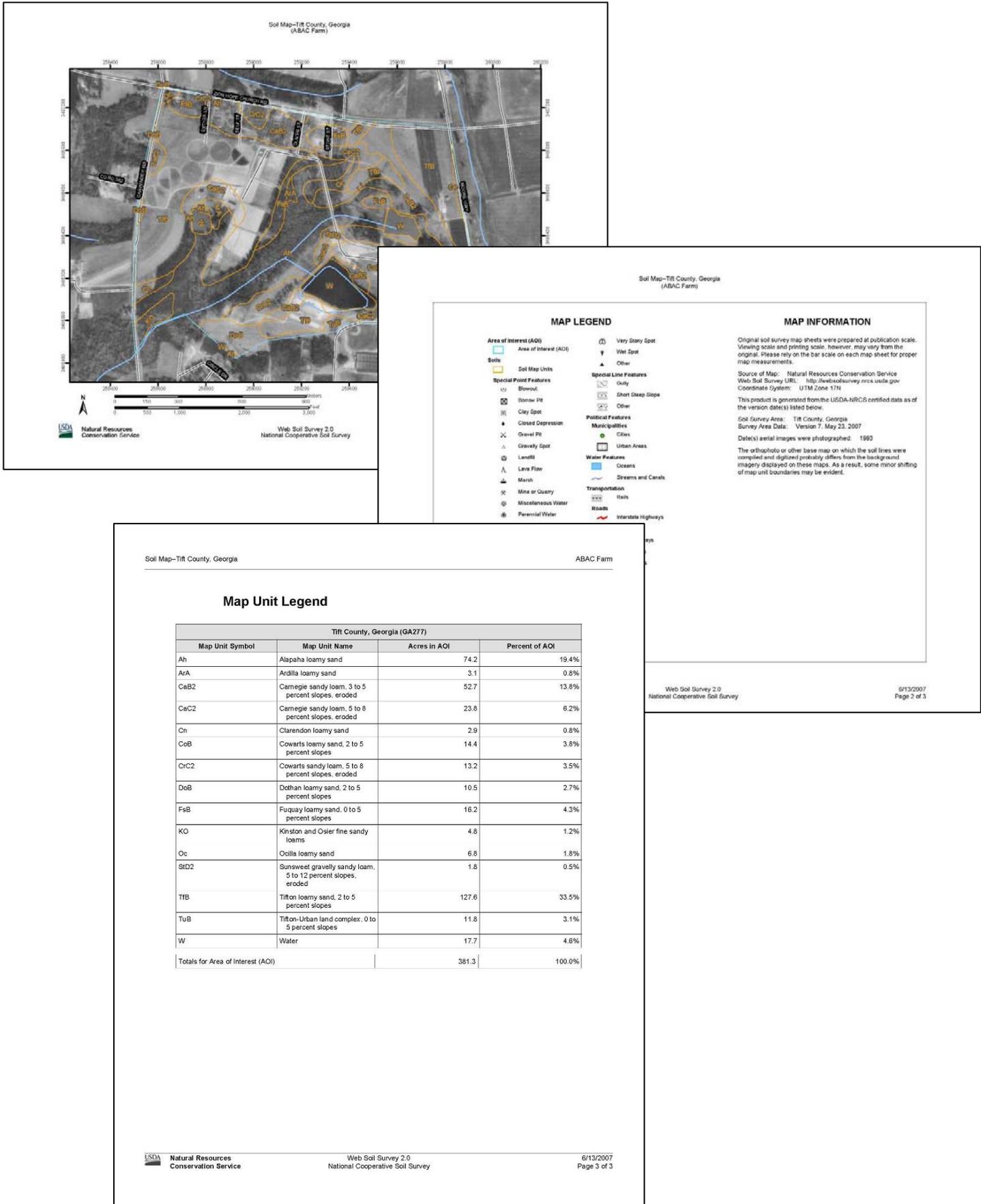
- 3) Once you have zoomed into the area, an [Area of Interest](#) must be set to continue. To do this, click on the [AOI](#) button and drag a box or draw a polygon over the specific location. A shaded green box will be created. (If an entire soil survey area is your desired area of interest, there is an option to [Set AOI](#) in the Quick Navigation window. **Note:** Sometimes the extent of an entire soil survey area is too large to view soil maps without zooming in further.) The properties window allows a name to be given to the AOI and shows availability of soil maps and interpretive data. To view the soil maps for your Area of Interest, click on the [Soil Map](#) tab.



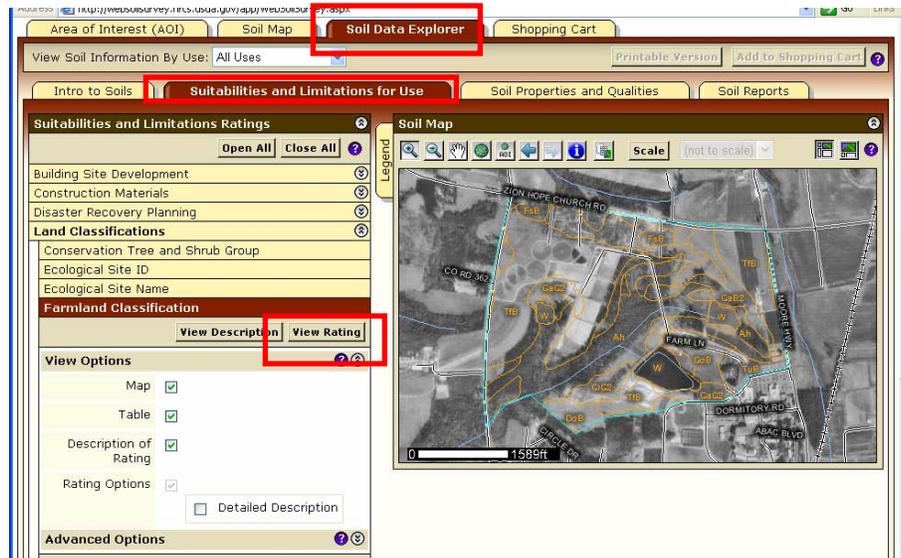
- 4) The resulting window shows your specified area of interest with map unit delineations. The map unit legend is displayed on the left hand side. You can navigate through the viewer using the toolbar. You can view the map legend and turn various layers off and on using the [Legend](#) tab. You can also create a [Printable Version](#) (to save or print on demand) or you can [Add to Shopping Cart](#) to create a comprehensive, customized report to be retrieved at the end of your session.



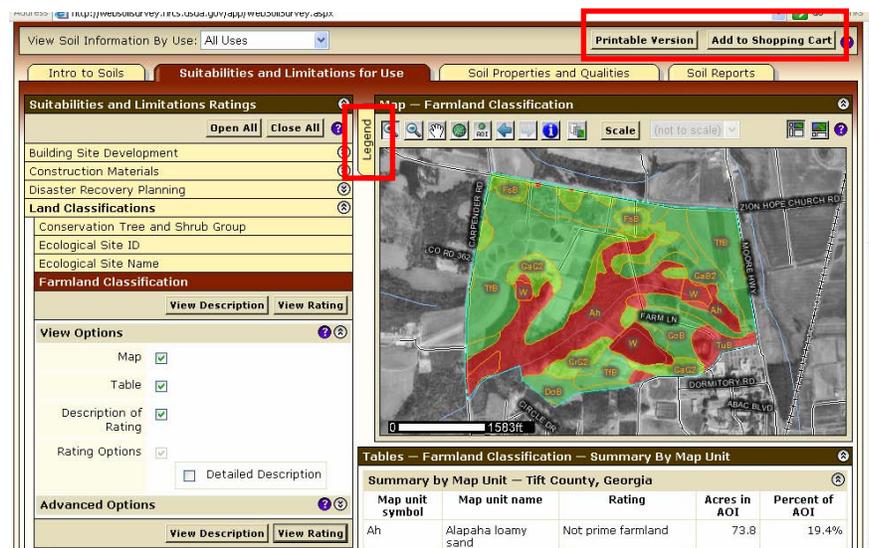
Below is an example of a printable version:



- 5) To create thematic maps of your AOI, click on the [Soil Data Explorer](#) tab. Another set of tabs becomes available. The [Intro to Soils](#) tab gives general information on soils and soil survey. The [Suitabilities and Limitations for Use](#) and [Soil Properties and Qualities](#) tabs allow for the generation of thematic maps and reports. The [Soil Reports](#) tab is strictly a text report generator for various soil properties and interpretations. Click on a tab of interest to open up a list of topics. Click on the topic of interest to view a list of possible properties or interpretations. Click on the desired property or interpretation and set your options. Then click on [View Rating](#) to generate the map. (*Note: Properties and interpretations in the Web Soil Survey are derived from a national database. Not all topics may be populated with data for your specific Area of Interest. Some reports may be empty.*)



- 6) A thematic map of the specified property or interpretation within your AOI is created along with a table listing results by map unit symbol. Click on the [Legend](#) tab to view the map legend. As specified previously, a printable document can be created from this map by clicking the [Printable Version](#) button or you can [Add to Shopping Cart](#).



- 7) This same application can be made to any of the other properties or interpretations. The following is an example of a map and table created from the **Soil Properties and Qualities** tab.

Properties and Qualities Ratings

Open All Close All ?

- Soil Chemical Properties
- Soil Erosion Factors
- Soil Physical Properties
- Soil Qualities and Features
- Water Features**
 - Depth to Water Table**

View Options

Map Table Description of Rating Rating Options Detailed Description

Advanced Options

Aggregation Method: Dominant Component

Component Percent Cutoff:

Tie-break Rule: Lower

Map — Depth to Water Table

Legend Scale (not to scale)

Tables — Depth to Water Table — Summary By Map Unit

Summary by Map Unit — Tift County, Georgia

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating (centimeters)	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Ah	Alapaha loamy sand	15	73.8	19.4%
ArA	Ardilla loamy sand	46	3.1	0.8%

- 8) To create tabular (text) soil reports, click on the **Soil Reports** tab. Choose a topic of interest (click on **View Description** to see an explanation of the report) and set your options (if any). When you are finished, click the **View Soil Report** button. The report will be displayed beneath the map. You may then choose to create a **Printable Version** or **Add to Shopping Cart**.

Soil Reports

Open All Close All ?

- AOI Inventory
- Building Site Development
- Construction Materials
- Land Classifications
- Land Management
- Recreational Development
- Sanitary Facilities
- Soil Chemical Properties
- Soil Erosion**
 - RUSLE2 Related Attributes**
 - View Description View Soil Report
 - Options
 - Include Minor Soils
 - View Description View Soil Report
- Soil Physical Properties
- Soil Qualities and Features
- Vegetative Productivity
- Waste Management
- Water Features

Soil Map

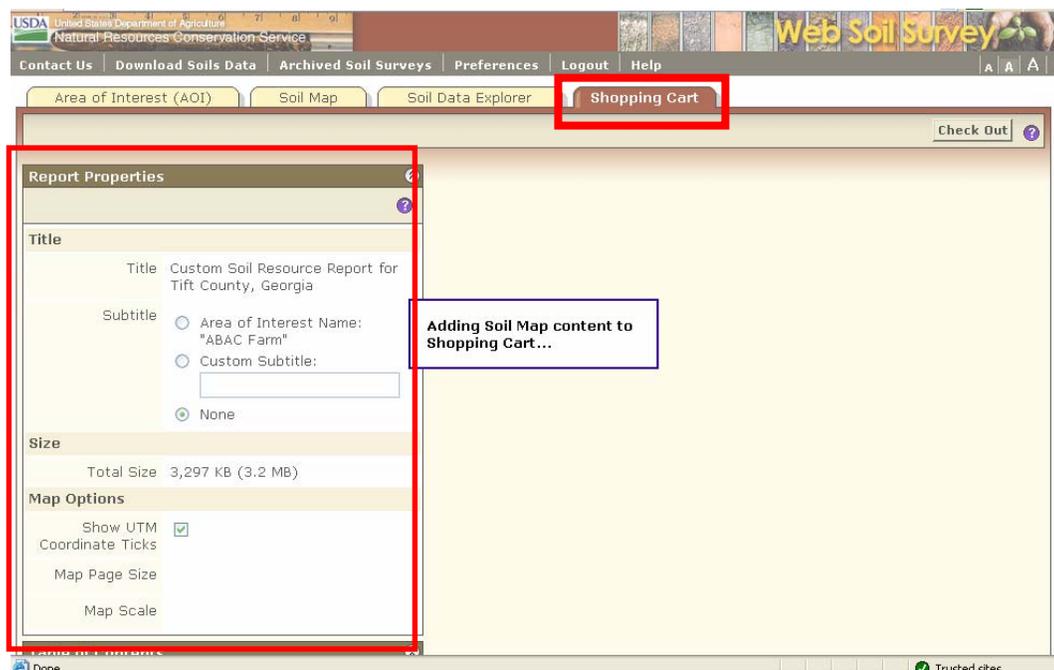
Legend Scale (not to scale)

Report — Hydric Soils

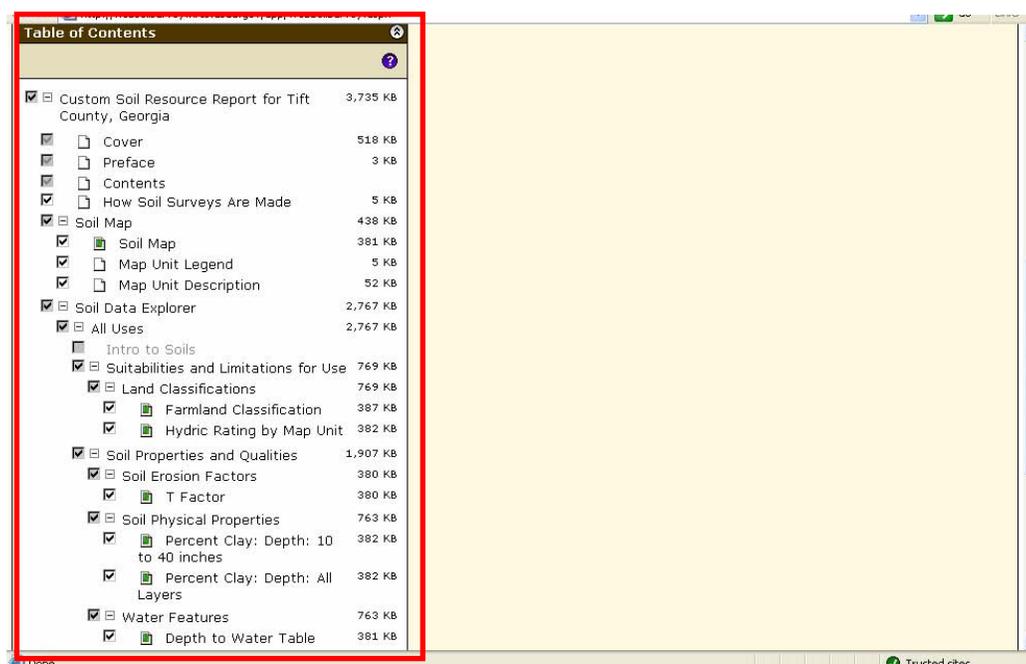
Tift County, Georgia

Map symbol and map unit name	Component	Percent of map unit	Landform	Hydric criteria
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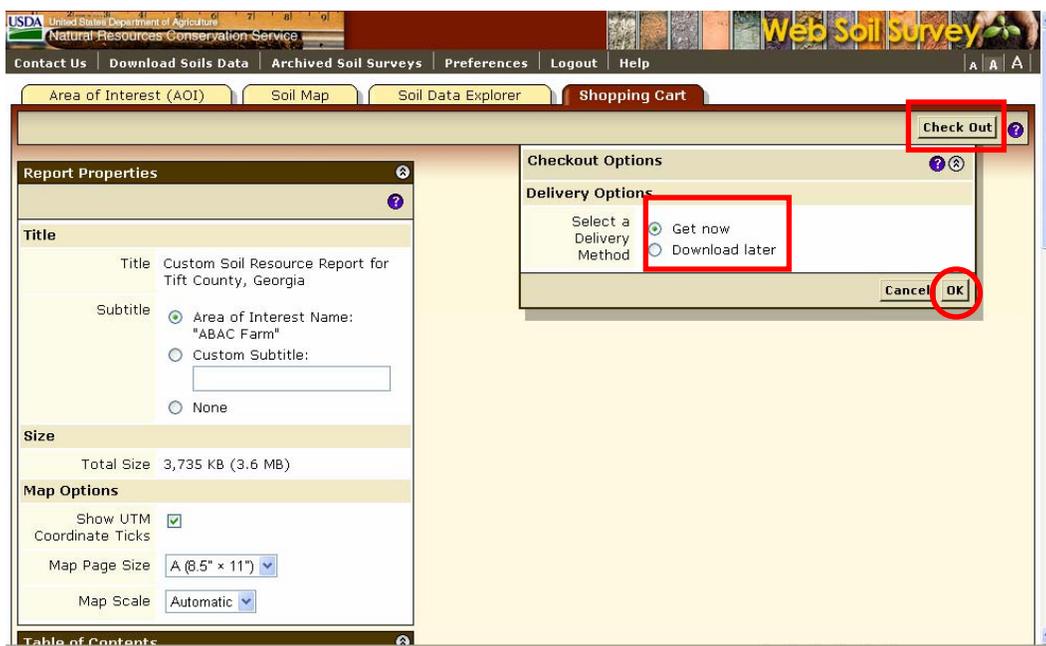
- 9) To retrieve your customized soil report, click on the [Shopping Cart](#) tab. It will take a few moments to load your data. The basic soil map, map unit legend, and map unit descriptions are automatically added to the shopping cart. A [Report Properties](#) panel will come up on the left-hand side of the screen. You can choose the title of the report, view the report size, choose your map page size, and adjust your map scale.



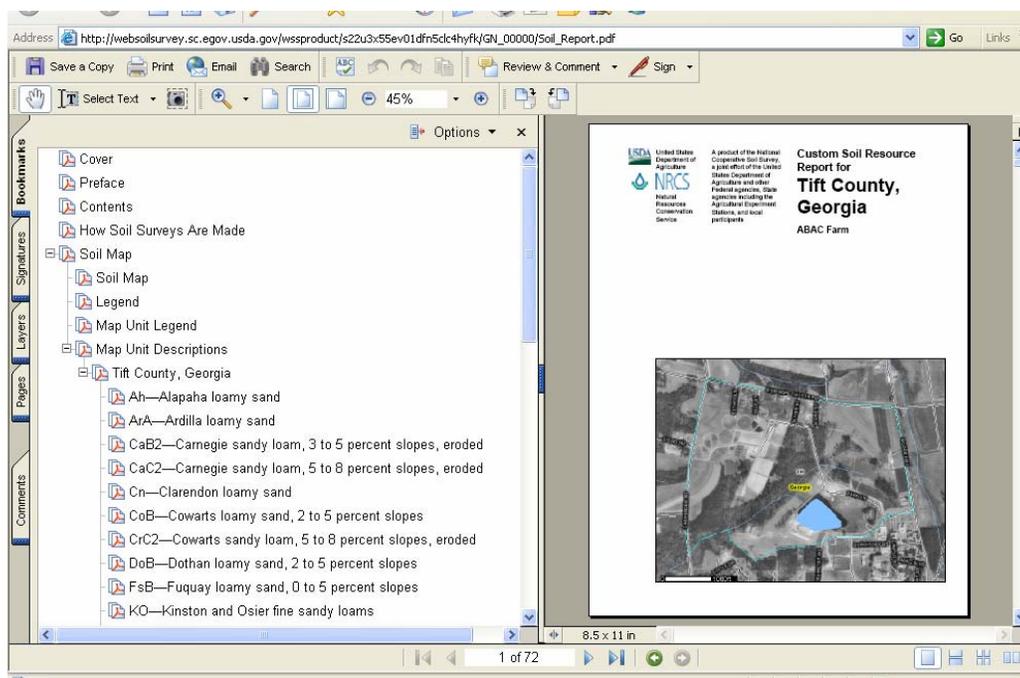
- 10) Beneath the [Report Properties](#) is a [Table of Contents](#). Here you can view the various sections of the customized report and check off any sections that you may not want to include in your printed or saved copy.



11) To retrieve the customized report, click on the **Check Out** button in the upper right-hand side of the screen. Select **Get now** or **Download later** from the options box. **Get now** builds the report immediately and opens it in a PDF browser where it can be saved or printed. **Download later** sends a link to your email address where the report can be downloaded at your convenience. Click **OK** to process the delivery.



12) Below is an example of the custom soil report for a specified area of interest in a PDF browser. You can jump to various sections by double-clicking on the section name in the Table of Contents.



This guide was created by USDA-NRCS to assist Web Soil Survey users. For further assistance, use the “Help” or “Contact Us” link or contact your local NRCS field office.



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