

## Copying Land Units

Why digitize twice? Copying features from an existing layer into the current land unit layer can greatly increase speed and consistency in Toolkit.

**LU:** Land Unit – Generic term for geospatial polygon features which represent field boundaries.

**CLU:** Common Land Units – Land unit polygons digitized by the Farm Service Agency.

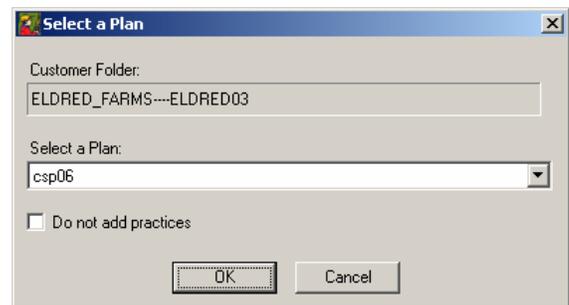
**PLU:** Planned Land Units – Land unit polygons used by NRCS for planning purposes. Every plan in a client’s Toolkit database has contains a PLU layer.

### First Things First: Getting Ready to Plan

**NOTE:** These examples assume that the “target” plan already exists in your client’s database.

1. Start Toolkit and open your client.
2. Navigate to your client’s “ArcGIS\_Projects” folder and open the desired MXD file.
3. Click the  **Select a Plan** button.
4. Choose whichever of the client’s plans into which you want to copy land units.

In these examples, the “target” plan will be our client’s FY06 CSP plan. 



### Choosing a Method:

There are several situations when a user might choose to copy existing features as new land units. The most common scenarios are listed below. Users should refer to the instructions for the scenario which best fits their current needs.

**NOTE:** Most of these processes can be achieved through a variety of methods. This document outlines only one of the available methods for each scenario.

**QUESTION:** What do you want to copy to the current PLU layer?

**Answer:** Copy an entire Tract from the CLU Layer – Refer to [Scenario 1](#) on page 2.

or

**Answer:** Copy selected LUs from the CLU Layer – Refer to [Scenario 2](#) on page 3.

or

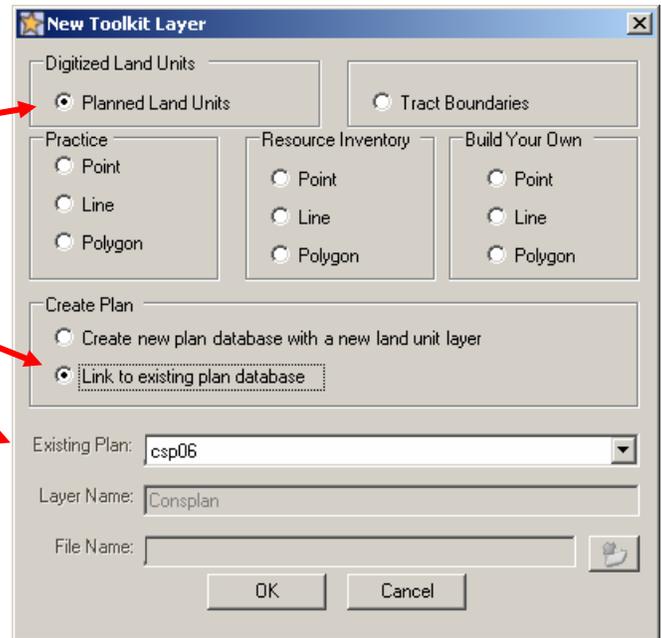
**Answer:** Copy selected LUs from another PLU Layer – Refer to [Scenario 3](#) on page 5.

or

**Answer:** Copy polygons from a “Non-Land Unit” Layer – Refer to [Scenario 4](#) on page 7.

## Scenario 1: Copy an Entire Tract from the CLU Layer

1. Click the  **New Toolkit Layer** button.  
(Even though we're not actually creating a new layer.)
2. Choose **Planned Land Units**
3. Choose **Link to existing...**
4. Drill down on the **Existing Plans** list and select the "target" plan.
5. Click **OK**.

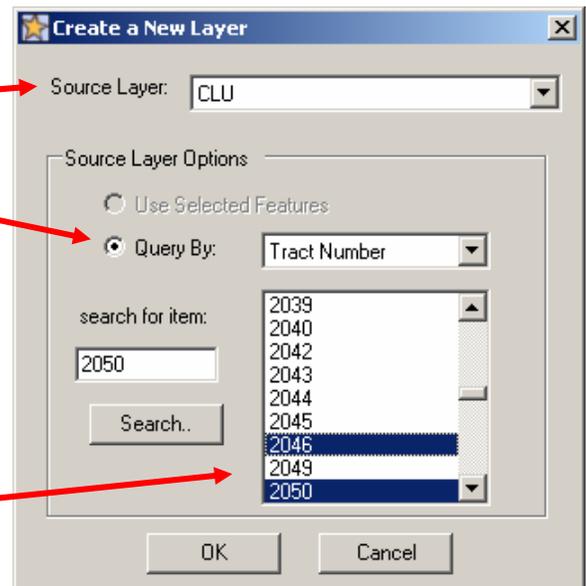


6. Click **Yes** to use features from a source layer

7. Set **Source Layer** to the CLU layer.
8. Choose **Query By: Tract Number**
9. Enter the tract number and click **Search**.

If the tract number is found in the CLU layer, it will be highlighted in the tract list.

Hint: To select multiple tracts, click on the tract numbers. Click again to unselect.



10. Click **OK**, and **OK** again to confirm.

All of the land unit features in the selected tracts are copied from the source CLU layer to the target PLU layer. Toolkit automatically zooms to the entire extent of the plan and starts the **Land Unit Editor**.

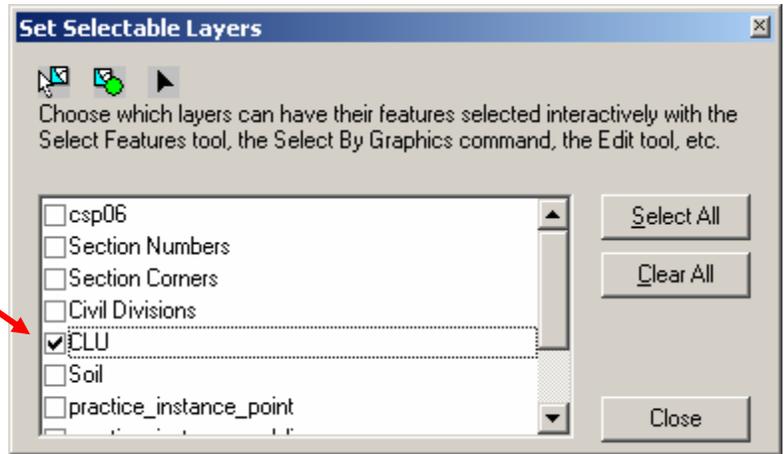
11. Continue editing as usual. Stop editing and save changes when finished.
12. After editing, use the  **Attribute Tool** to assign field numbers, land use, etc. to the new land units.

## Scenario 2: Copy Selected Land Units from the CLU Layer

1. Click the  **Selectable Layers** button.
2. Click **Clear All**
3. Check on the **CLU** layer.

This process ensures that only features from the CLU layer can be selected.

4. Click **Close**



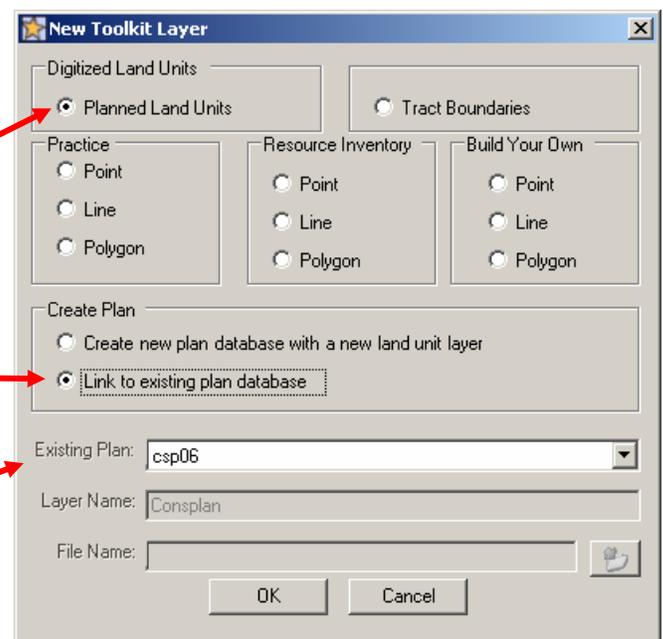
5. Use the  **Select Features** tool to select the CLU features you want to copy.

6. Click the  **New Toolkit Layer** button.  
(Even though we're not actually creating a new layer.)

7. Choose **Planned Land Units**

8. Choose **Link to existing...**

9. Drill down on the **Existing Plans** list and select the "target" plan.

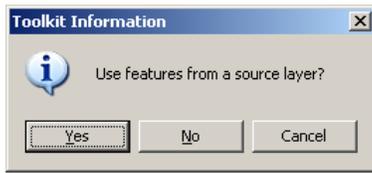


10. Click **OK**.

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**Scenario 2:**

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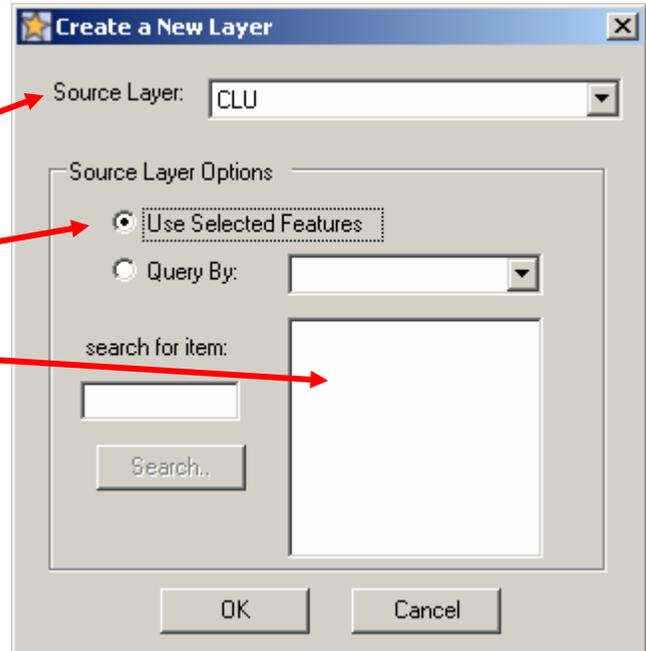
11. Click **Yes** to use features from a source layer

12. Set **Source Layer** to the CLU layer.

13. Select **Use Selected Features**.

Notice that a list of tract numbers does not appear. By choosing “Use Selected Features”, we emphatically tell Toolkit to use the selected CLU polygons regardless of their attributes.

This method is useful when you want to copy a subset of CLU features from multiple tracts.



14. Click **OK**, and **OK** again to confirm.

All of the selected land unit features are copied from the source CLU layer to the target PLU layer. Toolkit automatically zooms to the entire extent of the plan and starts the **Land Unit Editor**.

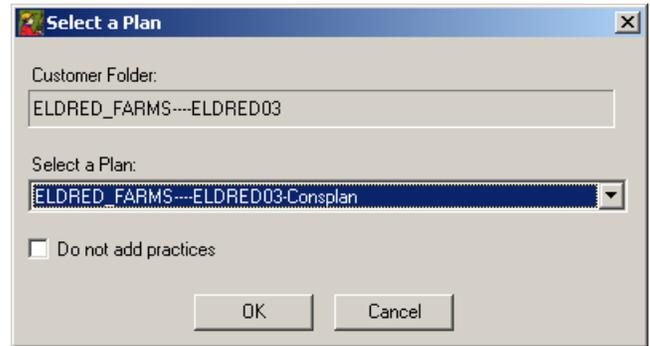
15. Continue editing as usual. Stop editing and save changes when finished.

16. After editing, use the  **Attribute Tool** to assign field numbers, land use, etc. to the new land units.

### Scenario 3: Copy Selected Land Units from another PLU Layer

1. Use the  **Select a Plan** button to select the plan which contains the source PLU layer.

In this scenario we are copying LU features from the client's standard plan (consplan) to his CSP plan (csp06).

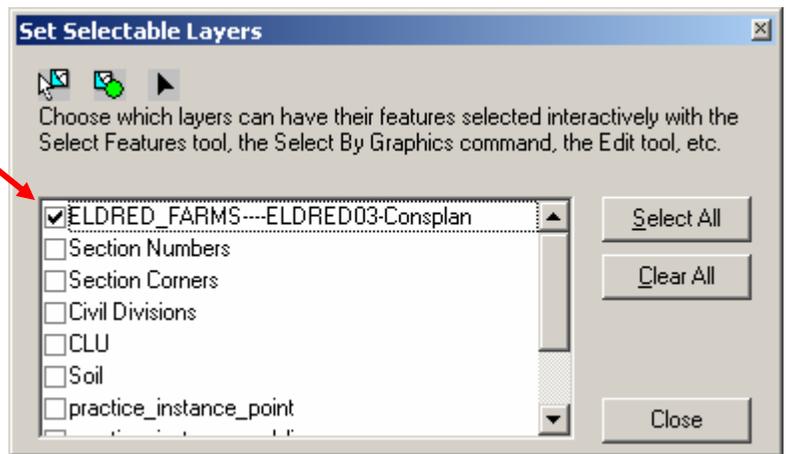


2. Click the  **Selectable Layers** button.

3. Click **Clear All**

4. Check on the source PLU layer.

This process ensures that only features from that PLU layer can be selected.

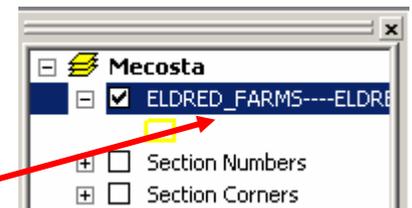


5. Click **Close**

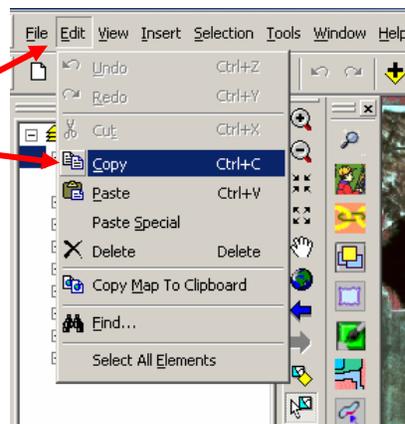


6. Use the  **Select Features** tool to select the PLU features you want to copy.

7. In the Table of Contents, click once on the source PLU layer name to highlight it.



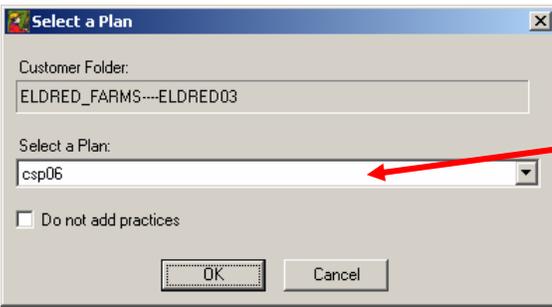
8. On the ArcMap menu bar, click **Edit, Copy** to copy the selected land unit features into temporary memory.



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**Scenario 3:**

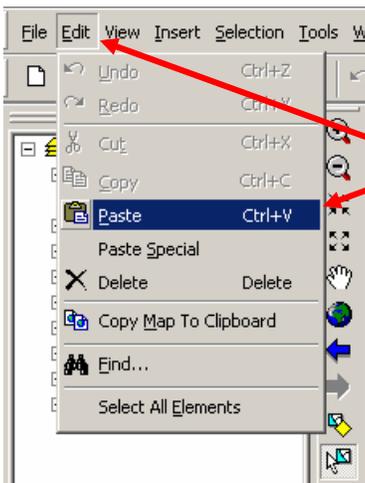
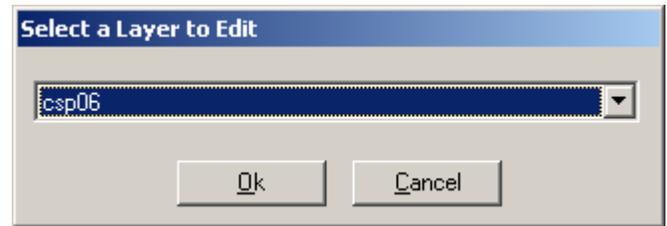
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9. Click the  **Select a Plan** button again. Select the plan containing the target PLU layer.

Click **OK**.

10. Click the  **Toolkit Digitizer** and select the target PLU layer as the layer to edit.



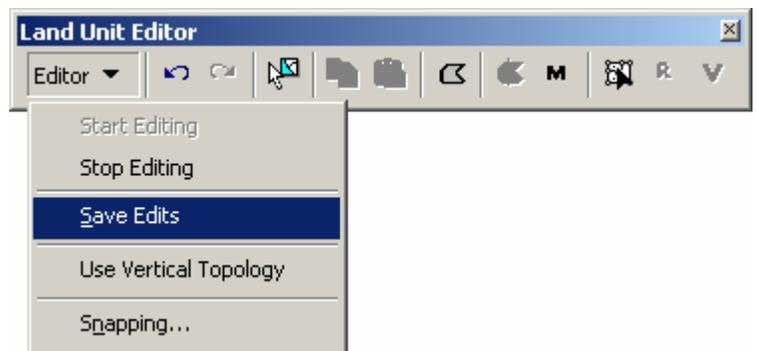
11. Ignore the **Land Unit Editor** toolbar for now. Instead, click **Edit, Paste** from the ArcMap menu bar.

Depending on the number of features, a “Pasting features...” message may appear in the ArcMap Status Bar.



NOTE: Toolkit will not automatically zoom to the new land units. Use the  **Zoom to Plan** and    ArcMap tools.

12. On the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor, Save Edits**.



13. Continue editing as usual. Stop editing and save changes when finished.

14. After editing, use the  **Attribute Tool** to update field numbers and land use values for the new land units.

## Scenario 4: Copy Selected Polygons from a “Non-Land Unit” Layer

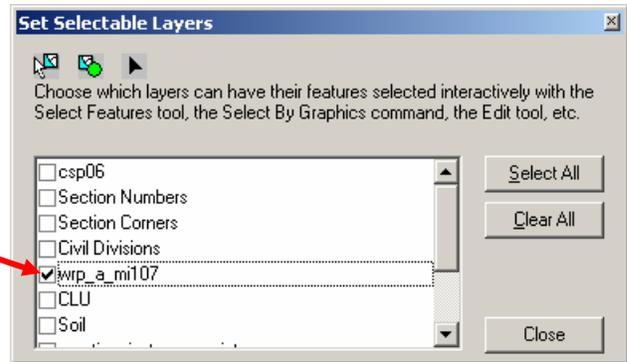
The polygon features we copy do not have to originate as land units in a CLU or PLU layer. In this scenario, we will copy a surveyed WRP easement polygon from a shapefile to our target PLU layer.

1. Click the  **Selectable Layers** button.

2. Click **Clear All**

3. Check on the source layer.

This process ensures that only features from the source layer will be selected.

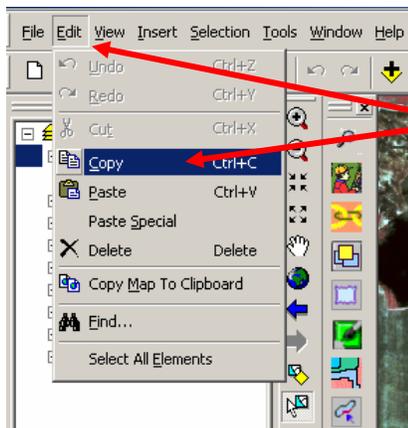


4. Click **Close**

5. Use the  **Select Features** tool to select the polygon features you want to copy.

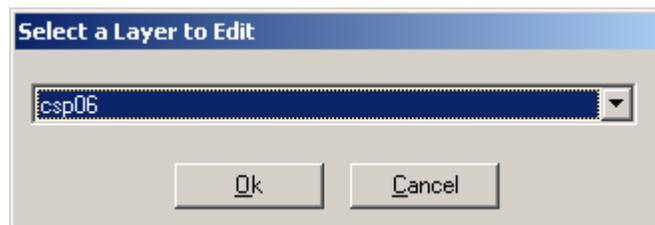


6. In the Table of Contents, click once on the source layer name to highlight it.



7. On the ArcMap menu bar, click **Edit, Copy** to copy the selected features into temporary memory.

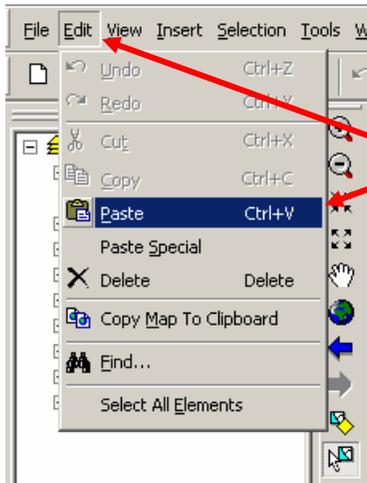
8. Click the  **Toolkit Digitizer** and select the target PLU layer as the layer to edit.



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**Scenario 4:**

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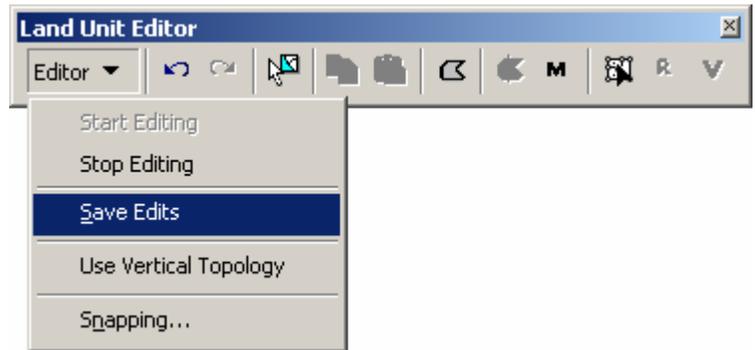
15. Ignore the **Land Unit Editor** toolbar for now. Instead, click **Edit, Paste** from the ArcMap menu bar.

Depending on the number of features, a “Pasting features...” message may appear in the ArcMap Status Bar.



NOTE: Toolkit will not automatically zoom to the new land units. Use the  **Zoom to Plan** and    ArcMap tools.

16. On the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor, Save Edits**.



17. Continue editing as usual. Stop editing and save changes when finished.

18. After editing, use the  **Attribute Tool** to assign field numbers, land use, etc. to the new land units.

**A Note on the Toolkit Copy and Paste Tools**

Toolkit’s Land Unit Editor toolbar does contain **Copy Field** and **Paste Field** buttons. However, as of the writing of this document (Toolkit v5.1, SP1), these tools have been found to provide inconsistent results when copying features between layers. It is recommended that users utilize the methods listed within this document until further Toolkit development improves the reliability of these functions.

