

## Map tools

### Block statistics: performing block size queries graphically

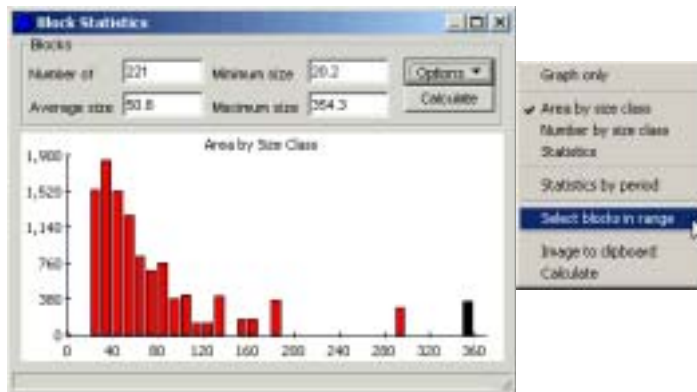
Applies to: Spatial Woodstock

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Have you ever wondered “how can I select harvest blocks that are of a particular size, or in a particular size range?” On the surface, this seems straightforward; however, shapefiles contain polygons and harvest blocks are groups of polygons, thus it not so easy to perform such a query directly in the planning system. The purpose of this tech tip is to describe a method for selecting harvest blocks within a particular size range.

The Remsoft Spatial Planning System includes a tool for reporting block size statistics. Accessed from the maps view, this tool displays myriad statistics about the harvest blocks that are present in the shapefile. You can display a histogram of blocks by size class, total area by size class or the mean, standard deviation and range of block sizes in each planning period.

When you display the number or area of harvest blocks by size class bar charts, you can highlight an individual bar (i.e., a particular size class) by clicking on it. When you do this, the bar is displayed in black (the 350-360 hectare block size class is highlighted in the image below). You can select the blocks in the highlighted size class by clicking *Options > Select blocks in range*. When you do this, the software selects all polygons that are members of blocks in the highlighted size class.



If you wish to select blocks in another size class, and add them to the current selection, first highlight another size class bar in the chart, press and hold the *Ctrl* key, and click *Options > Select blocks in range*.

Of course, you can also create a blocked activity report, sort it on the size column and make selections from there, but the block statistics window described above offers a fast, convenient mechanism for performing harvest block size queries.