

SCHARP | Atlas Supported Browsers

1 Purpose

Because it is not always possible or practical for us to fully test and validate Atlas using every available operating system and browser combination, we have implemented this policy to ensure that we support the majority of our users.

2 Scope

All production sites deployed on the Atlas Science Portal.

3 Policy

3.1 Full Support

All sites are tested on the following browsers and should display and function properly:

- **Microsoft Internet Explorer 8+ / Windows (32-bit)**
- **FireFox 3.6+ / Windows**

While we only test the Windows version, FF3 is a highly compatible browser that behaves mostly consistent across all major computing platforms.

3.2 Partial Support

We endeavor to comply with W3C HTML and CSS standards. While many browsers may not be explicitly supported, if they comply with the W3C web standards, they should mostly function properly. We will make a reasonable effort to make sure that all major functionality works and that layout is approximately correct, or at least degrades gracefully. The following are examples of such browsers:

- **Chrome 4-12 / Macintosh & Windows**
- **Opera 10 & 11 / Macintosh & Windows**
- **FireFox 3 & 4 / Linux & Macintosh**
- **Safari 5 / Macintosh & Windows**
- **Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 / Windows (32-bit)**
- **Microsoft Internet Explorer 7 & 8 / Windows (64-bit)**

3.3 No Support

The following browsers are not supported. These browsers are very old, have known security flaws, or are no longer supported by their manufacturer. We will strive to ensure the basic content of our sites appear on these browsers, however, there is no guarantee of working site functionality.

- **Microsoft Internet Explorer / Macintosh**
Microsoft ceased development of IE for mac in 2000 and stopped offering it for download in 2006 and recommends the use of Safari.
- **Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 / Windows**

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IE 6 is more than 10 years old and still contains many security flaws and compatibility issues. Microsoft has started a campaign to encourage users using IE 6 or below to upgrade to the most recent version of IE.

- **Netscape**

AOL ceased development and support for the Netscape browser in March 2008 and recommends the use of FireFox.

- **Beta & Development Releases**

We do not support alpha, beta, development, preview, or release candidate versions of any browser.

3.4 Unofficial Support

As new versions of major browsers are released, we will include them in our testing, with the plan to fully support them within 1 year from their release.

- **FireFox 4 / Windows**

Released March 2011.

- **Microsoft Internet Explorer 9 / Windows**

Released March 2011.