Chapter 5 Building a Selected Set

Before you view, edit, or report on the data in your NASIS database, you must deliberately select a group of records from the permanent database and place them into temporary edit tables. As shown in Figure 5-1, the records you place into temporary edit tables are collectively called “the selected set.”

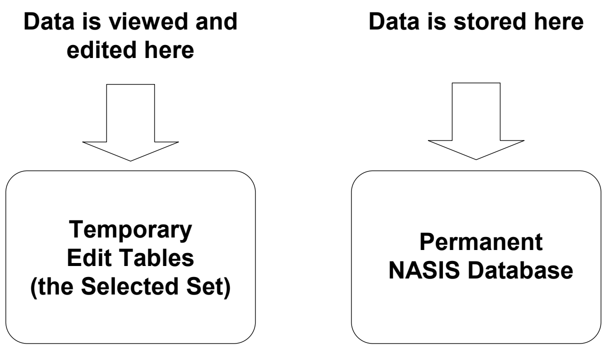


Figure 5-1. Temporary Edit Tables Versus Permanent Database Tables

When you start NASIS, the selected set is empty. In other words, when you select a table from a View submenu, you will see no data. (The NASIS Site tables are an exception. They are automatically loaded to allow the NASIS dataset manager to add users to NASIS.) So how do you get data from the permanent database into the selected set? The primary way is to run a query, as shown in Figure 5-2.

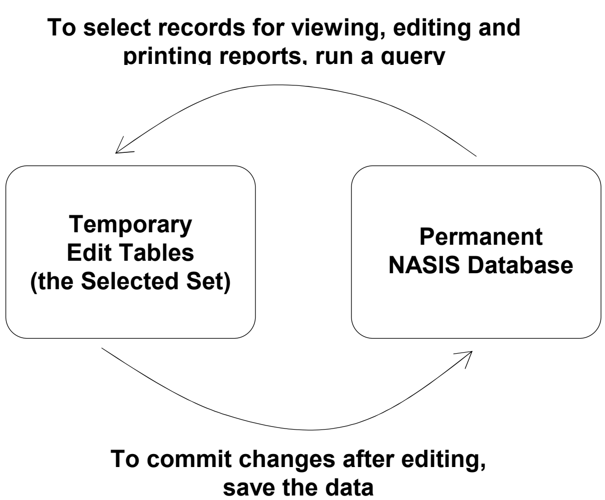
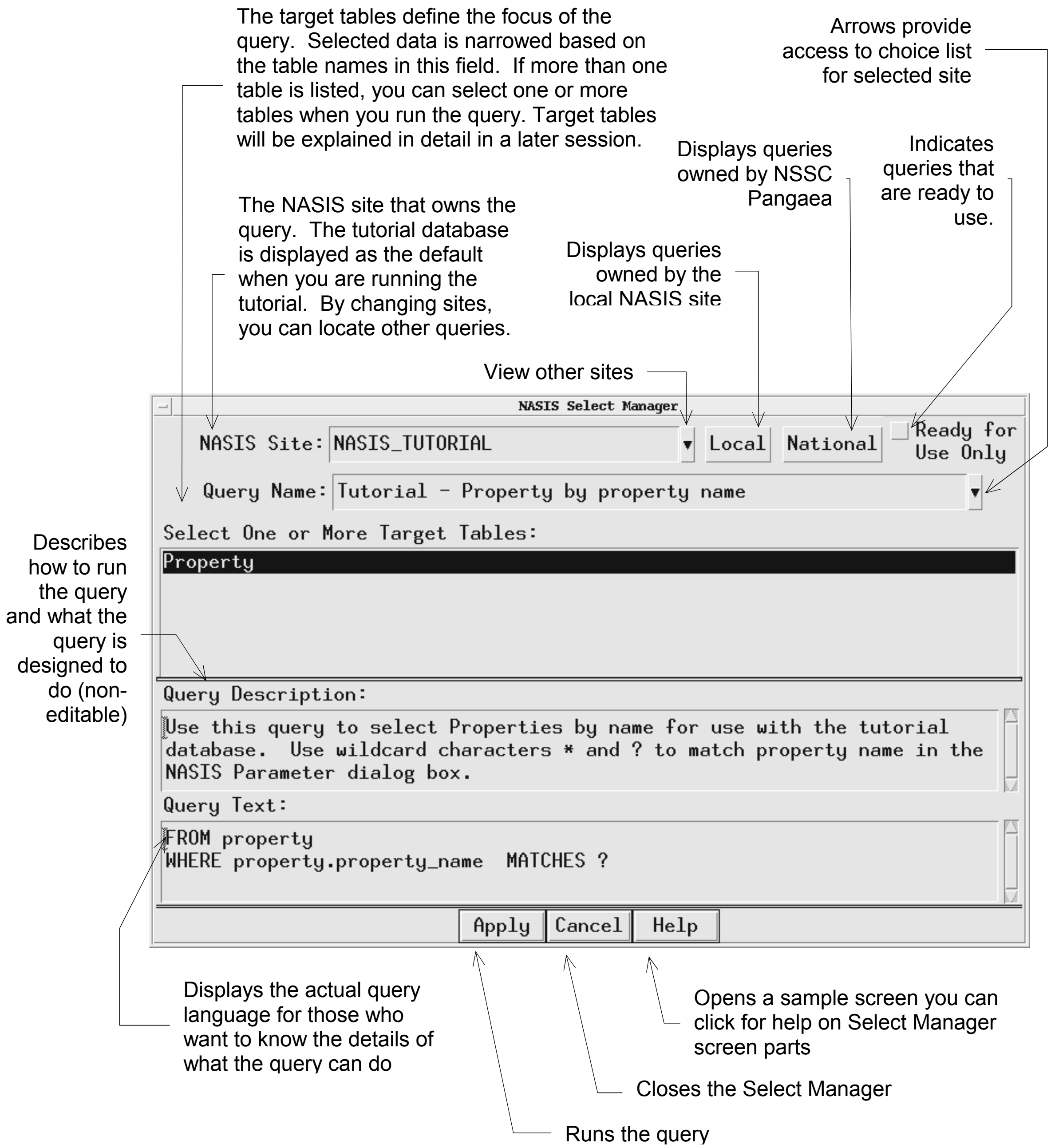


Figure 5-2. Process of Editing and Saving Data

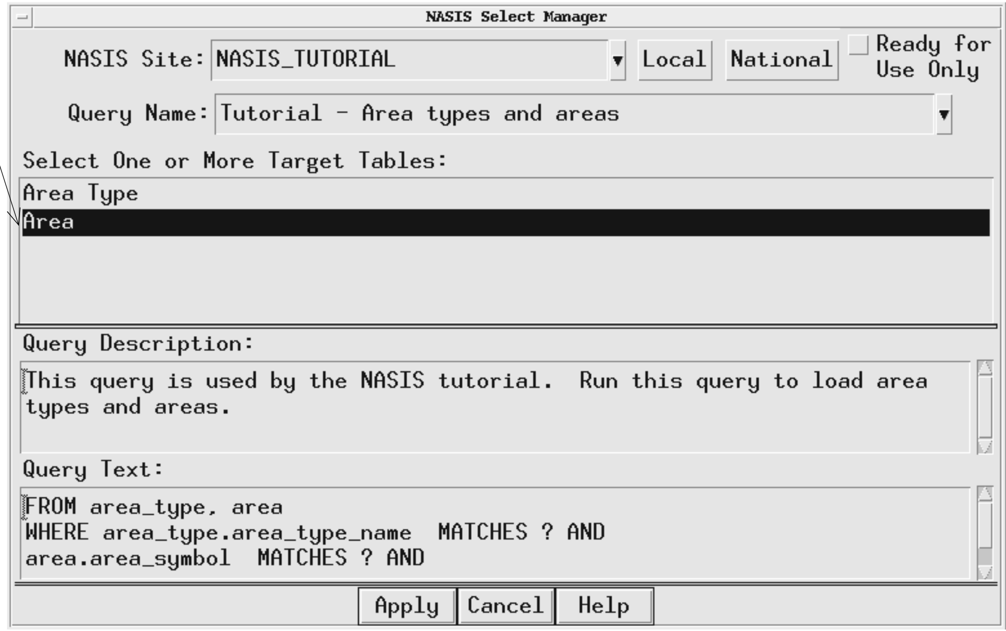
NASIS comes with prewritten queries (as well as the capability of writing custom queries). In this lesson, you will learn to run a prewritten query to load data into the selected set.

1. On the NASIS **File** menu, click **Select** with the left mouse button. The NASIS Select Manager window appears.
2. Examine the **Select Manager** window to identify its parts.



3. In the **Query Name** field, click the choice list arrow.
4. In the list of queries, highlight **Tutorial - Area types and areas**.
5. In the target table field, highlight the **Area** table by clicking on it.

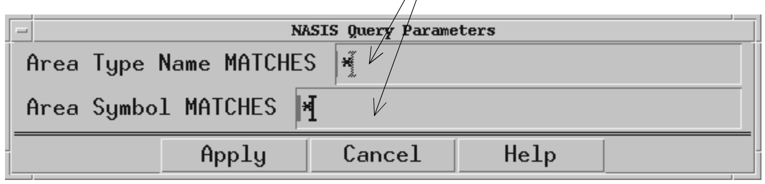
It is only necessary to select the Area table, since both tables are in the same object



6. Run the query by clicking on the **Apply** button.

   Note: The NASIS Query Parameters dialog box appears. It allows you to fill in a value for each parameter when you run a query.
   To retrieve all areas in the tutorial database, enter the asterisk wildcard " ***** " for both entries, pressing the TAB key to move to the second field.

Both of these entries can be wildcards (* or ?). Or you can enter the exact Area Type Name or Area Symbol as they were entered into the database

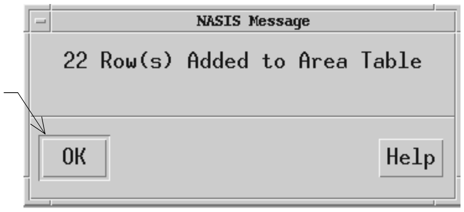


   Note: The NASIS Query Parameters dialog box is the means by which you can specify values when you run a query. The operator *MATCHES* allows you to use a wildcard, the same wildcards you use in *UNIX* (* or ?).

   Note: If you were in the NASIS database instead of the tutorial database, the wildcards would have returned hundreds of records.

7. Using the left mouse button, click **Apply.** A message box informs you that 22 rows of data were added to the Area table. This means the query was successfully run. Click **OK.**

Click OK



Note: The selected set now contains a copy of all areas in the permanent tutorial database, not the permanent data itself.

8. Cancel the Select Manager by clicking the Cancel button on the NASIS Select Manager window.

   Note: You have completed this lesson. Go to the next chapter to examine the other tables used to manage map unit data.