High–level accessibility review – FirstSearch platform - Library Accessibility Alliance

Primary Point of Contact

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September 18, 2025

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FirstSearch Platform

Summary:

Top 3 problems for the FirstSearch Platform

This high-level assessment covers limited portions and functionality of the FirstSearch Platform. The assessment revealed issues with assistive technology compatibility, resulting in some users missing information required to understand content, states and operate functions. It is important to keep in mind that the findings represent a high-level assessment, and do not reflect the results of a Deque Comprehensive Web Assessment. Following are top 3 issues from this evaluation.

- **Data tables:** tables are inappropriately used on non-tabular data.
- **Control label:** Drop-down menus are consistently missing a programmatic name.
- **Link Purpose:** Links consistently need additional context to identify their unique purpose.

Review of Top Accessibility issues from previous evaluation

[Link to previous evaluation]
From the top issues, the following observations were made:
- Tables are still inappropriately used on non-tabular data, inappropriately presenting content.
- Form inputs have been mostly resolved in terms of labels, however group labels are not addressed
- Images contain alternative text, although in some cases the images should be decorative
- Semantics are mostly resolved when it comes to headings, however some lists are still inappropriately marked up

Accessibility findings

Project wide issues

The issues presented in this section were identified in multiple pages and are recorded here to avoid repetition. These are applicable to each screen. Due to particularities, similar issues are still reported on a page per page basis, where applicable.

Automated findings using Axe

Issues found through automated testing come from the Axe plugin, an open source accessibility testing tool that is available for Chrome, Firefox and Edge. Details here: https://www.deque.com/products/axe/.

1. **SC 1.4.3 AA** – The "WorldCat Hot Topics" label content is low in contrast. A contrast ratio of 3.77:1 was observed where a minimum 4.5:1 ratio is required.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Select a topic to search' drop-down is not programmatically associated with its visible label, and as such is missing an accessible name.
3. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Go to page' drop-down is missing an accessible name.
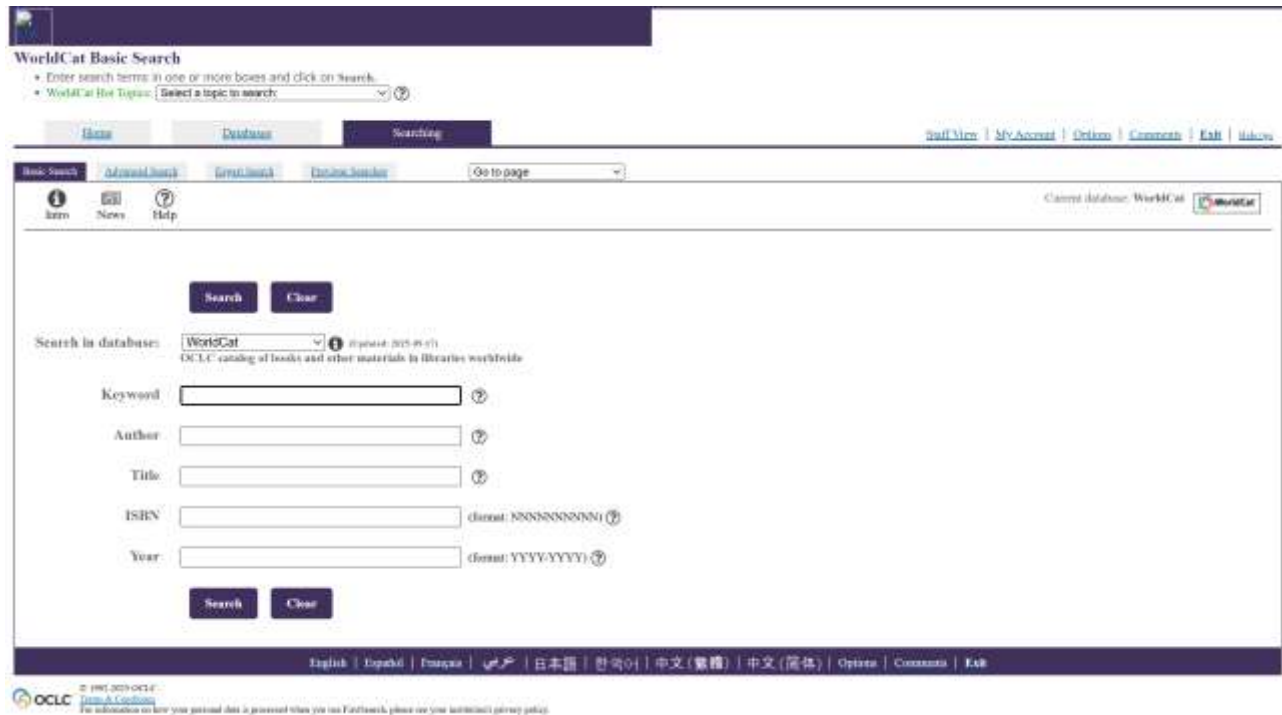
Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
1. **SC 2.4.1 A** – The "Skip to content" and "Skip navigation" links do not become visible on focus. A sighted keyboard-only user is unable to perceive the controls.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Home', 'Databases', 'Searching' and 'Results' links visually identify the 'current' section, but a programmatic indication of the same is not available.
3. **SC 1.4.10 AA** – The entire application does not reflow.

1. Landing Page

Source: https://firstsearch-oclc-
org.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/WebZ/FSPrefs?entityjsdetect=:javascript=true:screensize=large:sessio
nid=fsap11pxm1-1680-mfouif39-f21au3:entitypagenum=1:0
Test case: Test initial interface/landing page to ensure menus, sub-menus, search box, images, icons, etc.
are accessible.

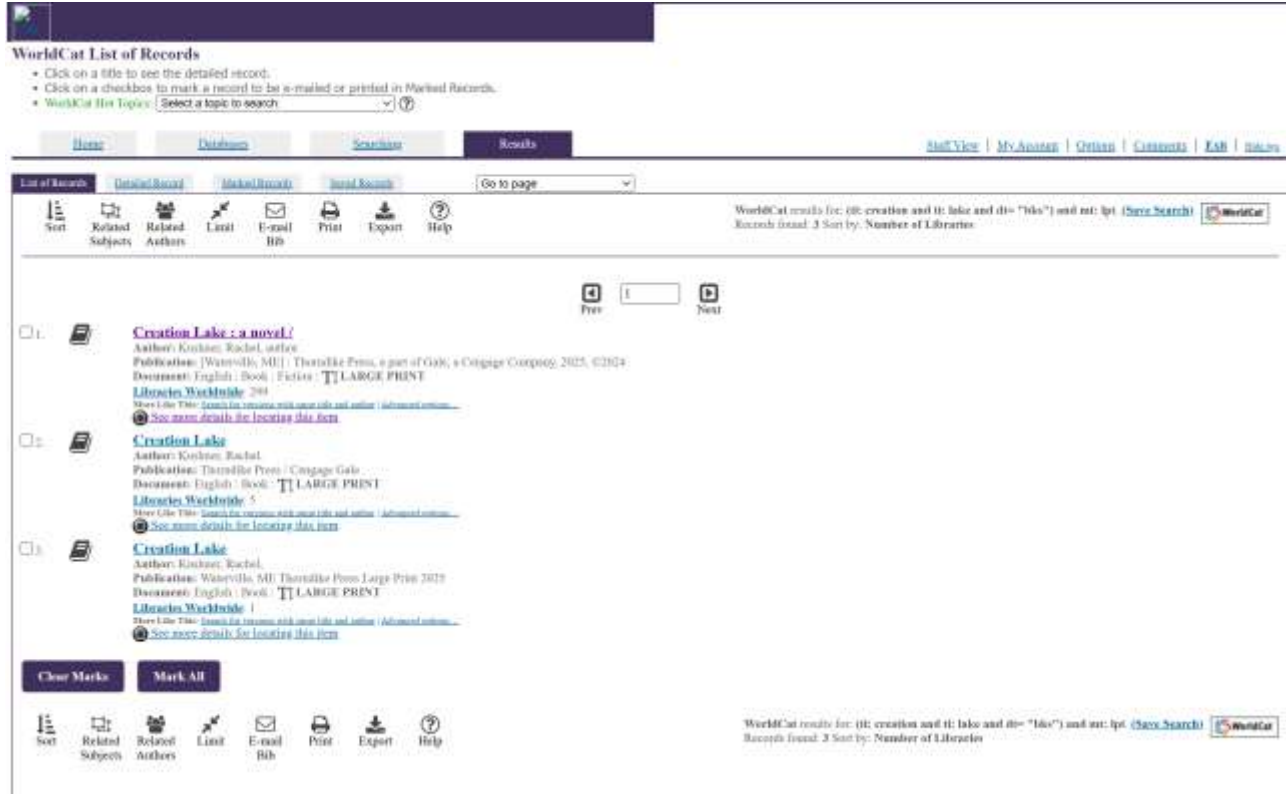**Automated findings using Axe**
No automated issues found.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
1. **SC 2.4.4 A** – The 'Help' links have the same accessible name but perform unique actions, and additional
   context to determine the unique purpose of each same-named links is not available.
2. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Expert Search' and 'Previous Searches' links visually
   identify the 'current' section, but a programmatic indication of the same is not available.
3. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The focus indicator on 'Search' and 'Clear' controls is low in contrast. A focus indicator
   contrast of 1.8:1 was observed where a minimum 3:1 contrast ratio is required.

2. Search Results

Source: https://firstsearch-oclc-org.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/WebZ/FSPrefs?sessionid=fsap11pxm1-1680-mfouif39-f21au3:entitypagenum=7:0

Test case: From the initial landing page, conduct a search in the Title field for: creation lake. Test search results page, including filters/refine search. Filter results to "books" and limit Format to "large print." Sort by Number of Libraries and select Descending.

Automated findings using Axe
1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The checkmarks associated with each search result are missing an accessible name.
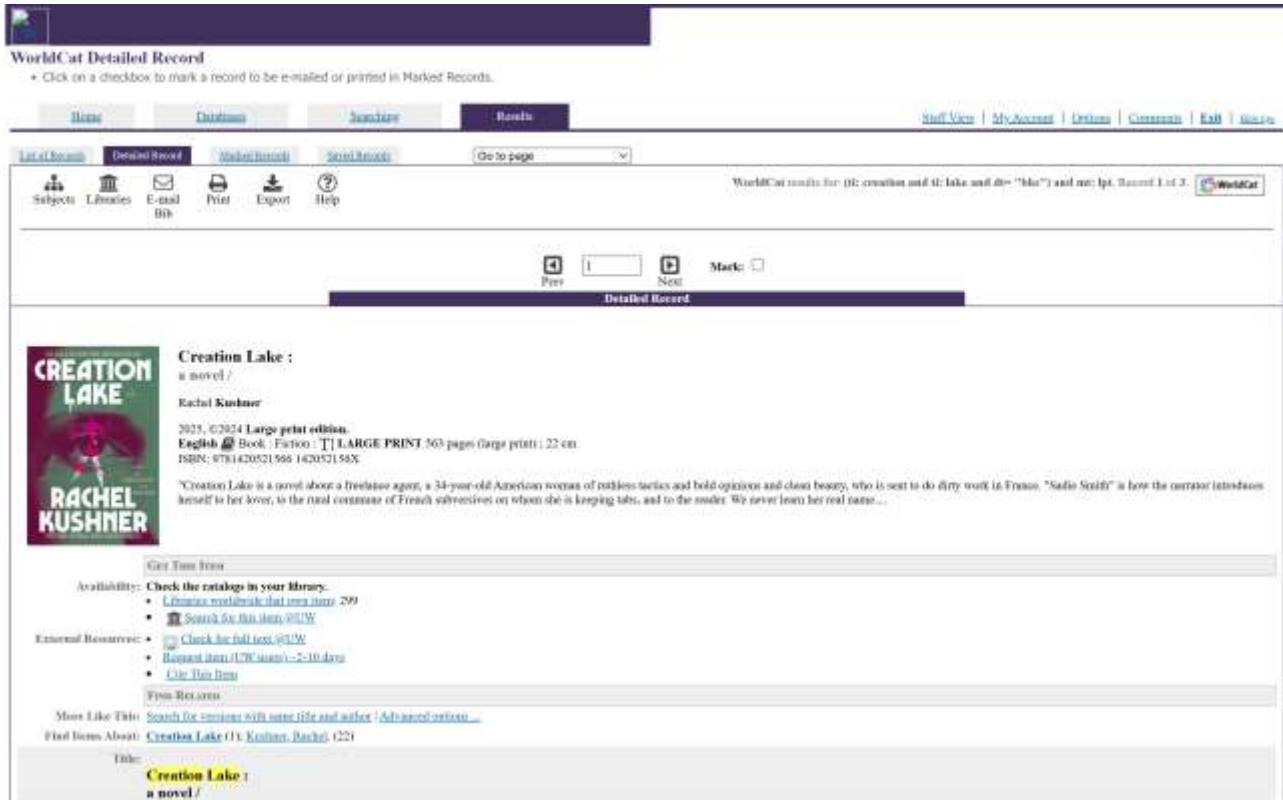
Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'List of Records', 'Detailed Record', 'Marked Records' and 'Saved Records' links visually identify the 'current' section, but a programmatic indication of the same is not available.
2. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The focus indicator on 'Clear Marks' and 'Mark All' controls is low in contrast. A focus indicator contrast of 1.8:1 was observed where a minimum 3:1 contrast ratio is required.

3. Individual Search Result

Source: https://firstsearch-oclc-
org.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/WebZ/FSFETCH?fetchtype=fullrecord:sessionid=fsap07pxm1-1680-
mfq5bjlh-
u5802b:entitypagenum=8:0:recno=1:resultset=4:format=FI:next=html/record.html:bad=error/badfetch.ht
ml:entitytoprecno=1:entitycurrecno=1:numrecs=1

Test case: Test the individual search result landing page of the first result, including the email and export
functions.

Automated findings using Axe
1. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The bullet items in 'Availability' and 'External Resources' are not properly marked up as
   they are missing their required parent semantic element.

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader
1. **SC 1.1.1 A** – The 'Book' and 'Large print' icons are decorative and not ignored by Assistive Tech.
2. **SC 1.3.1 A** – Table markup is inappropriately used for non-tabular data content.
3. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The 'Get this item', 'Find Related', 'Title', 'Subject(s)' content acts like a section heading but
   is not appropriately marked up.

4. Advanced Search

Source: https://firstsearch-oclc-org.offcampus.lib.washington.edu/WebZ/FSPage?pagename=advanced:sessionid=fsap11pxm1-1680-mfouif39-f21au3:entitypagenum=18:0

Test case: Test advanced search page (click on the "Searching" tab and then select the "Advanced Search" subtab).

Automated findings using Axe

1. **SC 1.4.3 AA** – The "match any of the following" content is low in contrast. A contrast ratio of 2.84:1 was observed where a minimum 4.5:1 ratio is required.
2. **SC 2.4.4 A** – The 'Limit type to' section contains a visually hidden link that is associated with each input type and is missing visible text and a programmatic name.
3. **SC 4.1.2 A** – Several drop-down controls are missing an accessible name. Affected controls include: all 'Keyword' drop-downs, all 'and' drop-downs, 'Any Audience', 'Any Content', 'Any Format'

Additional manual findings using NVDA screen reader

1. **SC 4.1.2 A** – The 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Expert Search' and 'Previous Searches' links visually identify the 'current' section, but a programmatic indication of the same is not available.
2. **SC 1.4.11 AA** – The focus indicator on 'Clear Marks' and 'Mark All' controls is low in contrast. A focus indicator contrast of 1.8:1 was observed where a minimum 3:1 contrast ratio is required.
3. **SC 2.4.4 A** – The 'Help' links have the same accessible name but perform unique actions, and additional context to determine the unique purpose of each same-named links is not available.
4. **SC 2.4.4 A** – The 'Help' links have the same accessible name but perform unique actions, and additional context to determine the unique purpose of each same-named links is not available.
5. **SC 3.3.2 A** – The 'Enter search terms' fields are missing a visible label.
6. **SC 1.3.1 A** – The group labels 'Search in database', 'Search for', 'Limit to', 'Limit type to', 'Subtype limits', 'Limit availability to', 'Rank by' are not programmatically associated with their respective inputs.