Collect Earth Online Module 4 Supplementary Material

Google Earth Pro Basics

SERVIR Science Coordination Office
Curriculum Development Team
Micky Maganini
Contact: mrm0065@uah.edu

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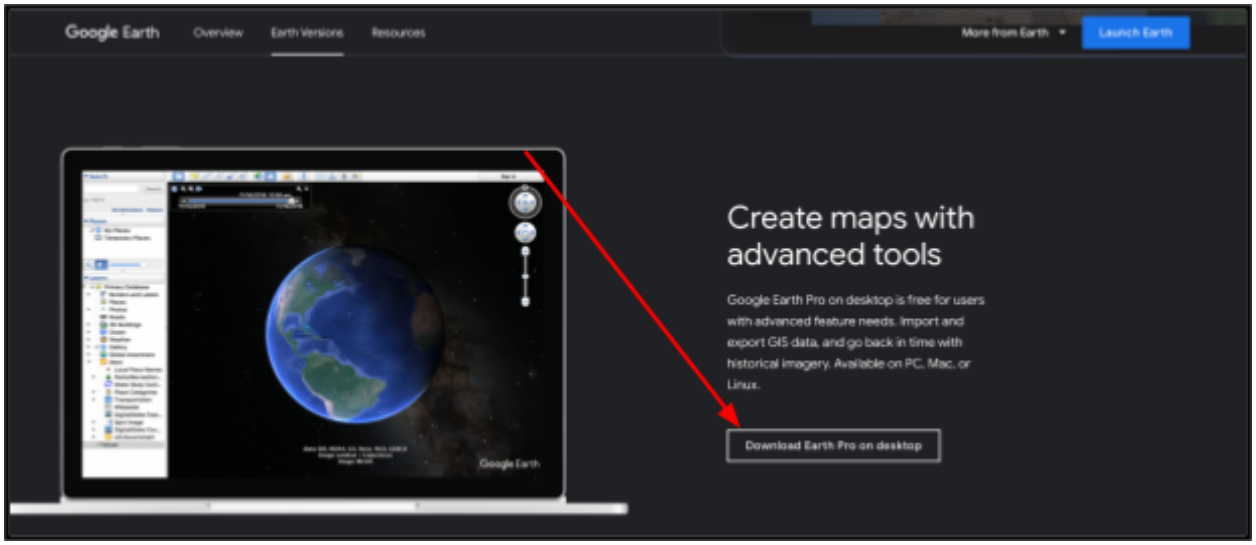
Introduction

This supplementary material will introduce you to Google Earth Pro (GEP). Google Earth Pro will serve to provide complementary imagery to the imagery you are using within Collect Earth Online. Because GEP offers very high resolution, timestamped imagery free of charge, it can serve to provide a definitive time at which land cover was present, which may be necessary depending on the objectives of your environmental analysis.

Downloading Google Earth Pro Desktop Version

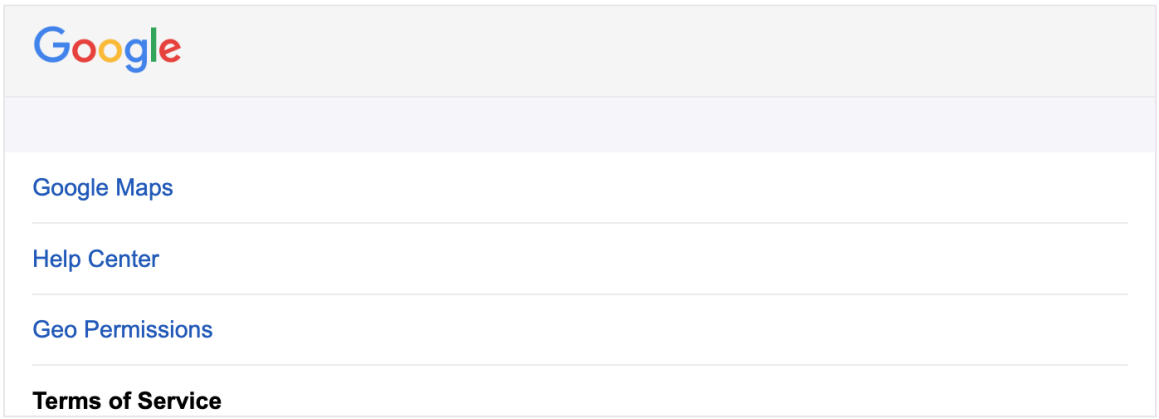
[Click Here to visit Google Earth Pro's product download site.](#) Scroll down to the bottom of the page. Click the button that says **“Download Earth Pro on desktop”** as shown in the image below.



After clicking this button, you will see a popup on your screen. Click the blue **“Accept & Download”** button towards the bottom of this popup. Google Earth Pro will then download on your computer. Open the installer when it is done downloading and follow the instructions therein to complete the installation.

Download Google Earth Pro (Mac)

By installing, you agree to Google Earth's Privacy Policy.



You are downloading **version 7.3** of Google Earth Pro. This version automatically installs recommended updates. If you'd like previous versions of Google Earth Pro, please visit the Direct Installers page.

☑ Help make Google Earth better by automatically sending anonymous usage statistics and crash reports to Google. Learn more.

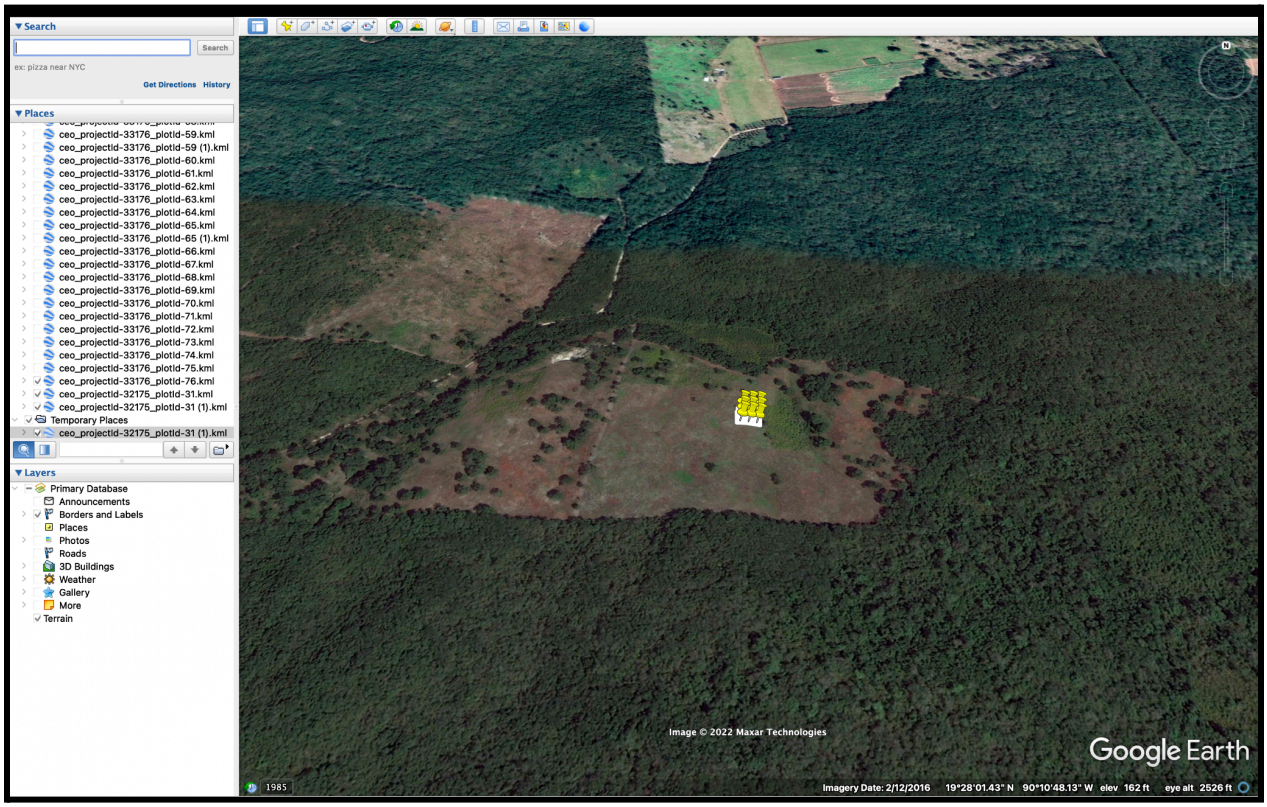
Accept & Download

Navigating to your Assessment Unit in GEP

Our first step is to get an assessment unit from our Collect Earth Online (CEO) project to appear in Collect Earth Online. To do this, navigate to the data collection page within your CEO project as shown on page 8 of CEO Module 4. Click here to view CEO Module 4. Your screen should now appear similar to the screenshot shown below. Click the white **"Download Plot KML"** button on the right side of the screen (indicated by the arrow in the image below).

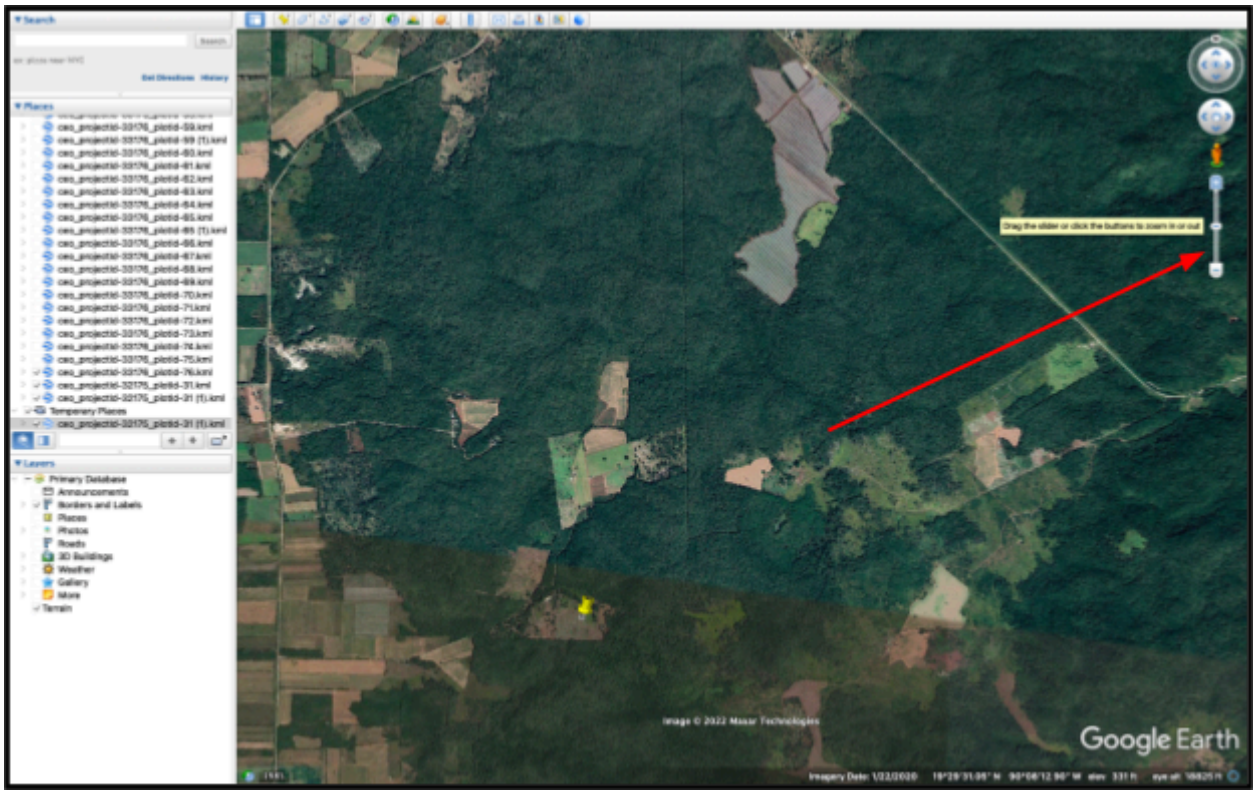
After clicking this button, you will see a file named **"ceo_projectid-XXXXX_plotid_XX.kml"** in your local downloads folder. Open your file browser, right click the file, hover over **"Open With",** then click **"Google Earth Pro"**, as shown in the screenshot below. Alternatively, you can just double click the file if Google Earth Pro is set to be the default program to open KML files with.

After opening the file, Google Earth Pro will open on your computer and will automatically navigate to this location. Your screen will now look similar to the screenshot shown below. The white square in GEP represents the assessment, and the yellow pins represent the sampling locations.

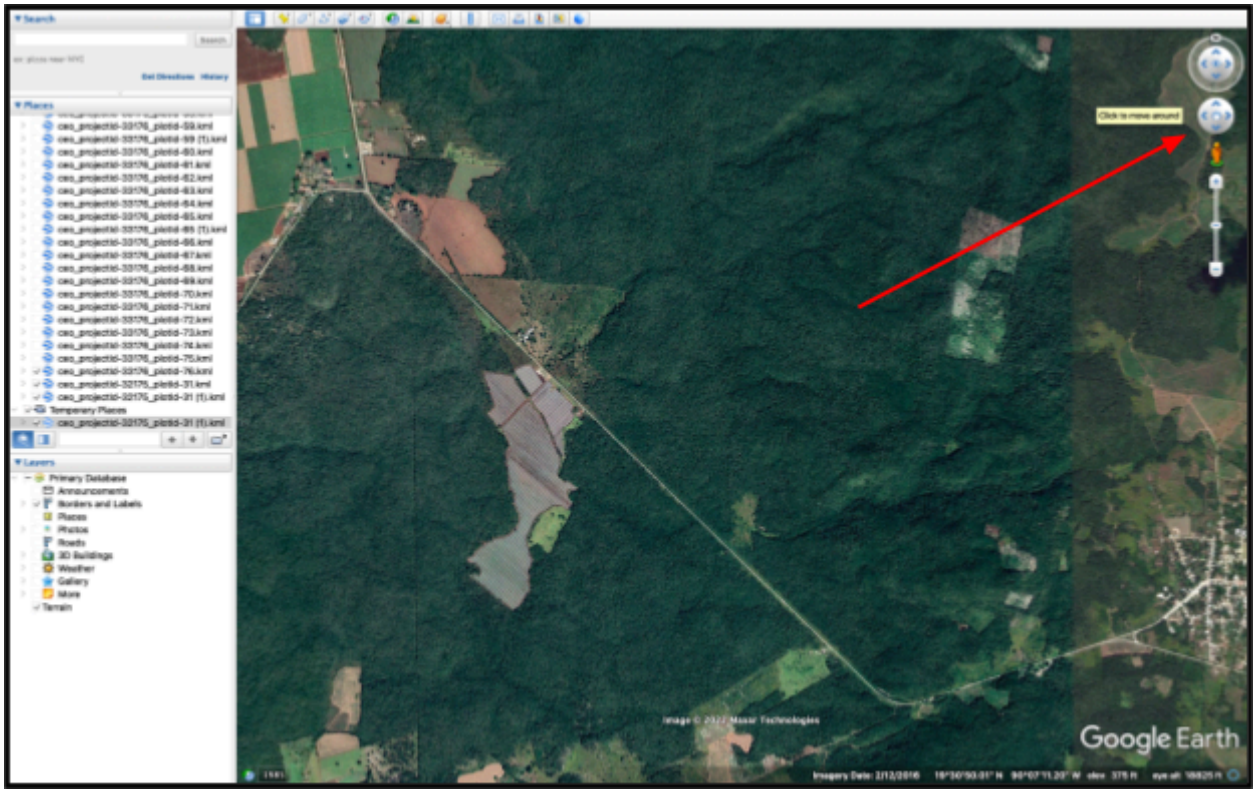


Navigating in Google Earth Pro

To zoom in and out, you can move the slider on the right hand side of the map, as shown by the arrow in the image below. Alternatively, you can scroll up to zoom in and scroll down to zoom out.



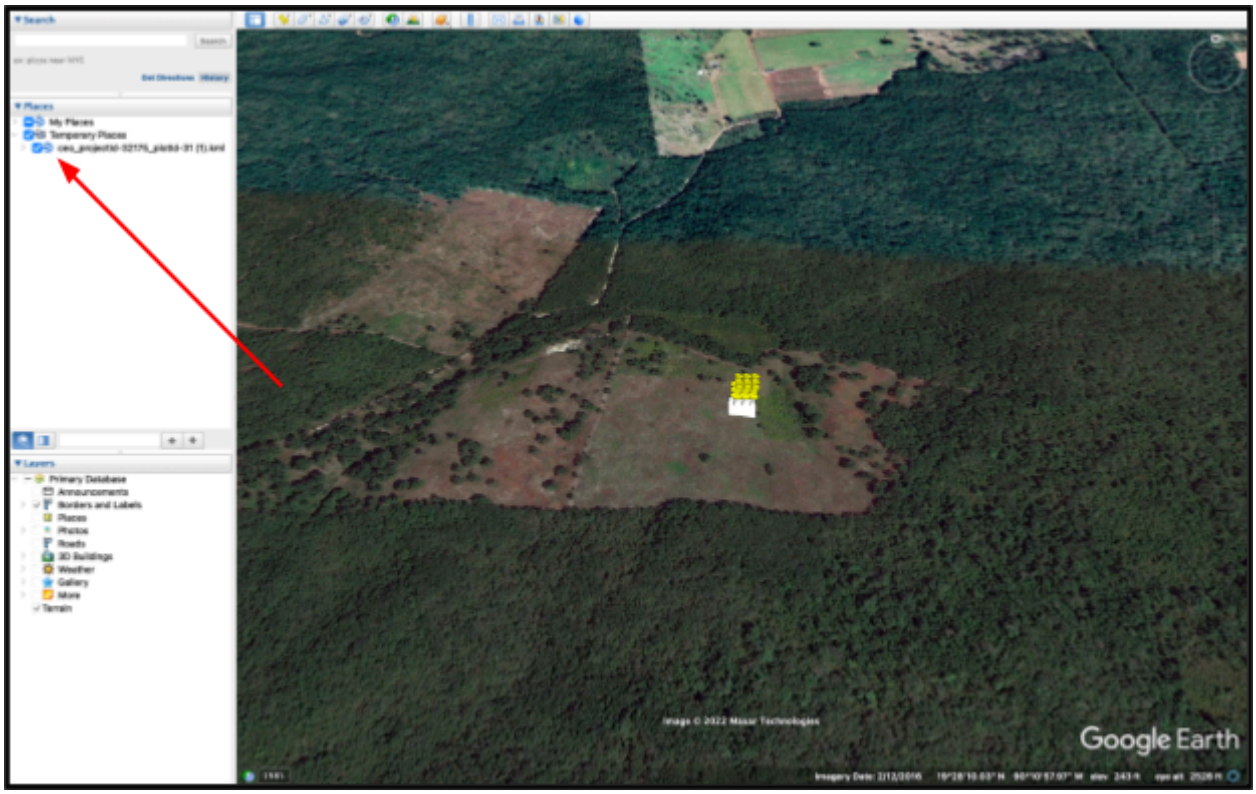
To move around the map, click and drag on the map or use the navigation tool, shown by the arrow in the image below.



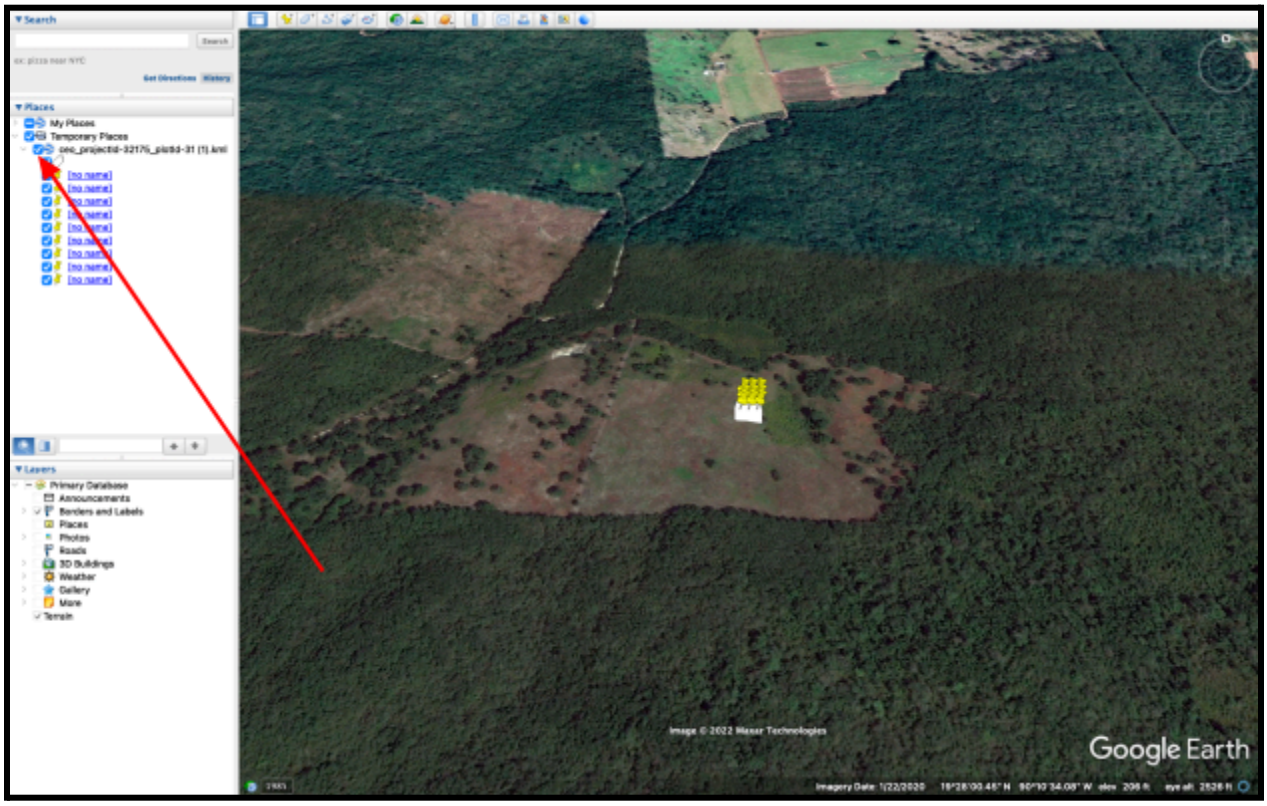
To change the angle at which you are viewing the imagery, use the perspective tool, which is located directly above the navigation tool.

Toggling Your Places

On the left side of the GEP Interface, we can see the “Places” in Google Earth Pro. There are two types of places: “my places” and “temporary places”. When you open a KML from Collect Earth Online, the plot location will automatically appear under “Temporary Places” as **“ceo-projectId-XXXXX_plotid_XXX”**. If you have strayed from the plot location in your analysis, double click the file to teleport directly to the location. As we can see from the screenshot below, there is a checkmark next to our KML file, which means it is currently displaying on the map.

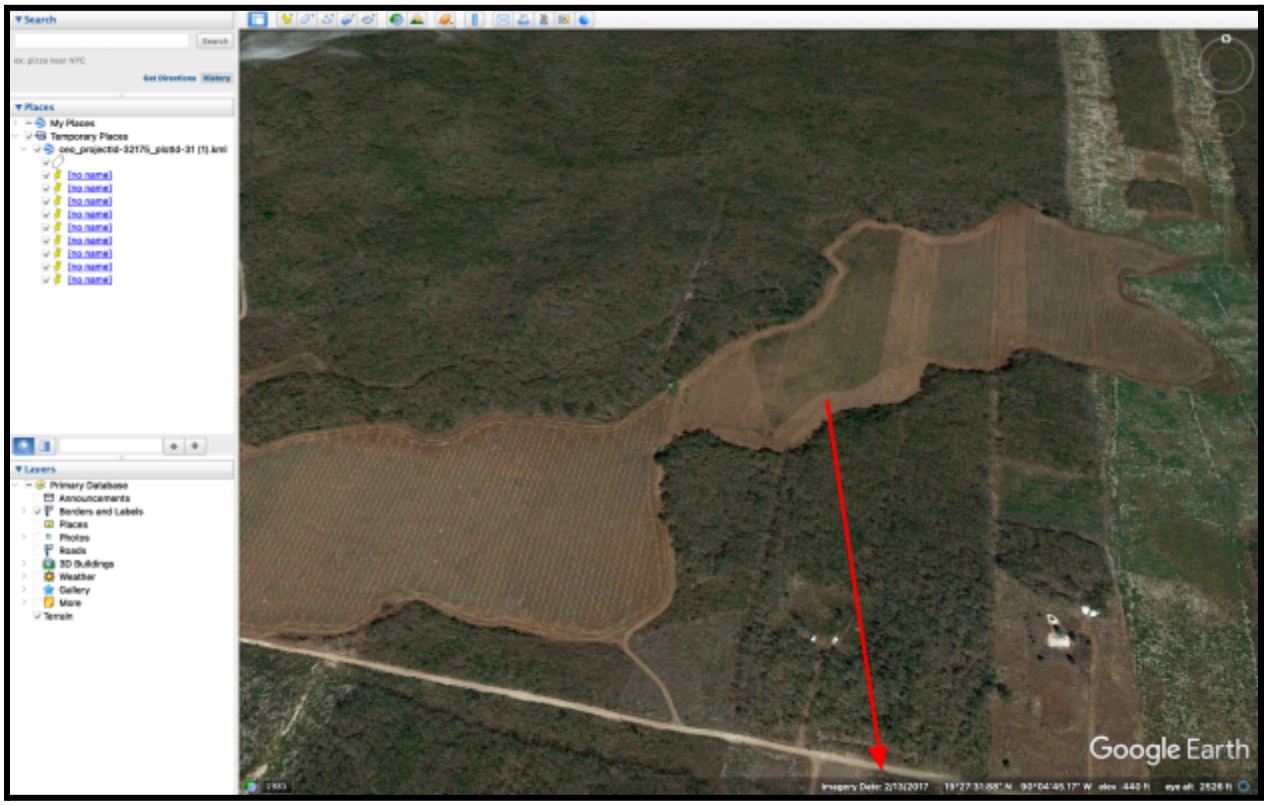


To better see the landscape that occurs within our assessment unit, we can toggle the visualization off by clicking the checkmark next to this layer. Clicking the icon to the left of the checkbox will allow us to toggle the visualization of each sampling location as well as the assessment unit, as shown in the screenshot below.

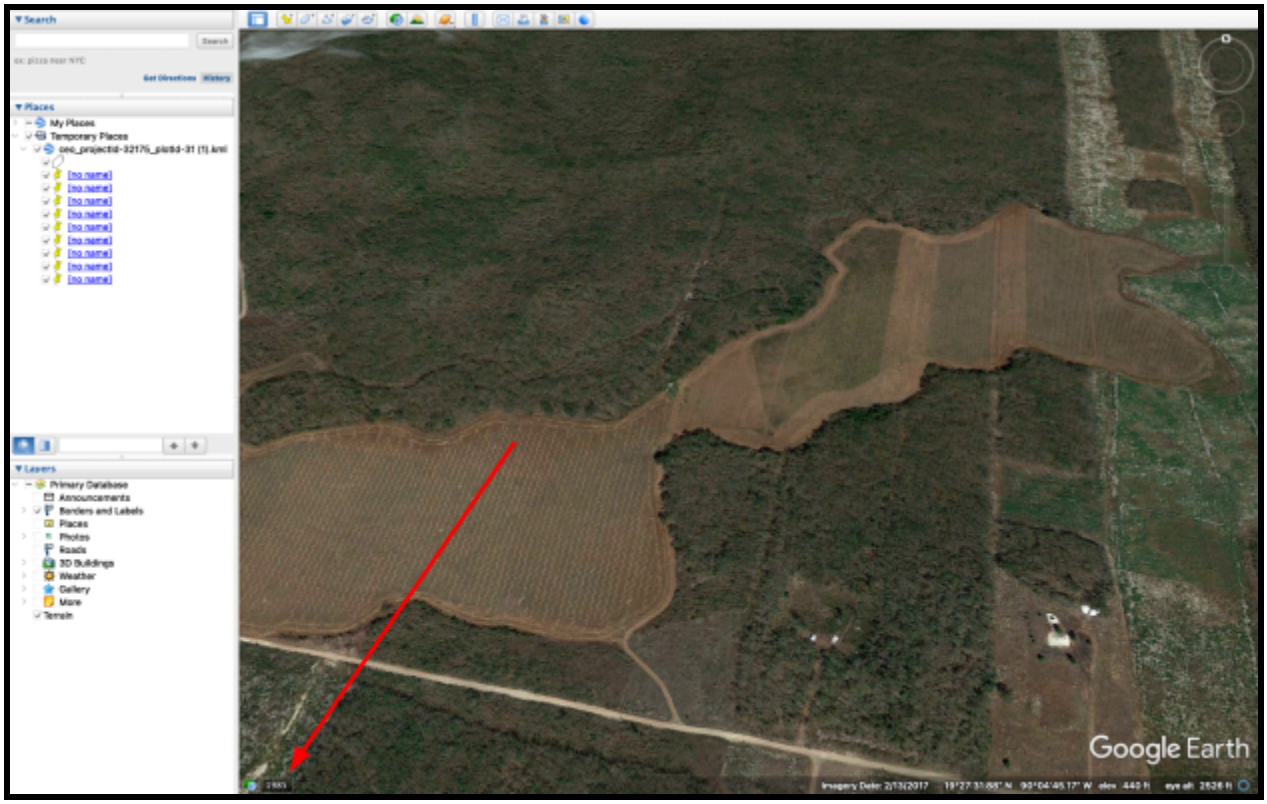


Timestamped Imagery

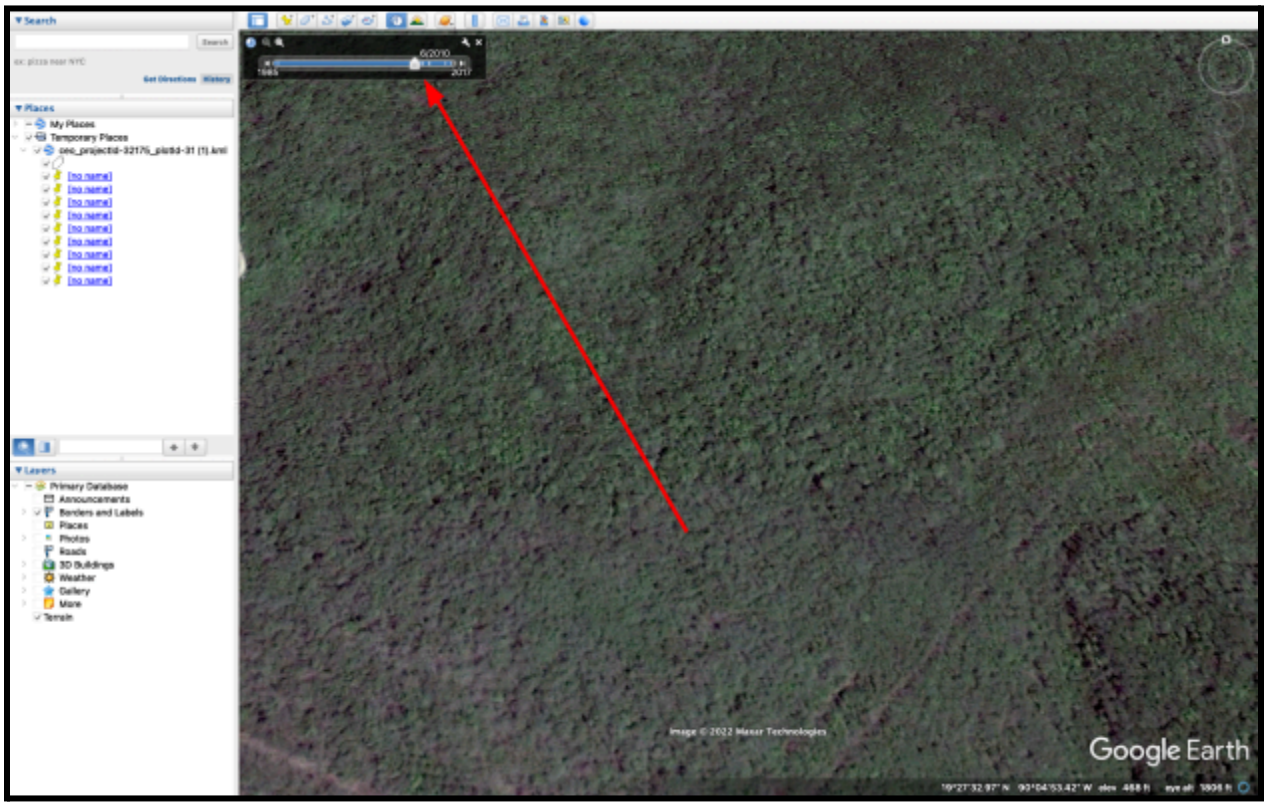
Google Earth Pro will automatically display the most recent high resolution image for your area. You can see the date this imagery is from towards the bottom of the screen, as indicated by the arrow in the screenshot below.



To view imagery for the same location but from a different time, click the button that says **“1985”** towards the bottom left corner of the map interface. This button is indicated by the arrow in the image below.


Search
Places
My Places
Temporary Places
Layers
Primary Database
Announcements
Borders and Labels
Places
Photos
Roads
3D Buildings
Weather
Gallery
More
Terrain
Google Earth

After clicking this button, the “time slider” will appear towards the upper left corner of the map interface, as shown in the screenshot below. Click and drag the slider to show imagery from different dates. The white lines on the timeline show the imagery at available times. You can also use the fast forward or rewind buttons to navigate to the next or previous available imagery.



Acknowledgements

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Review of the material was also conducted by Bart Krol and Laura Cray of ITC (The Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation at the University of Twente). The course and unit banner images were created by Gianluca Ambrosi of ITC.

Sources

- Development Team: https://sams.servirglobal.net/detail/7
- All other info: https://www.collect.earth/about/