

Syncing ArcGIS to Google Earth

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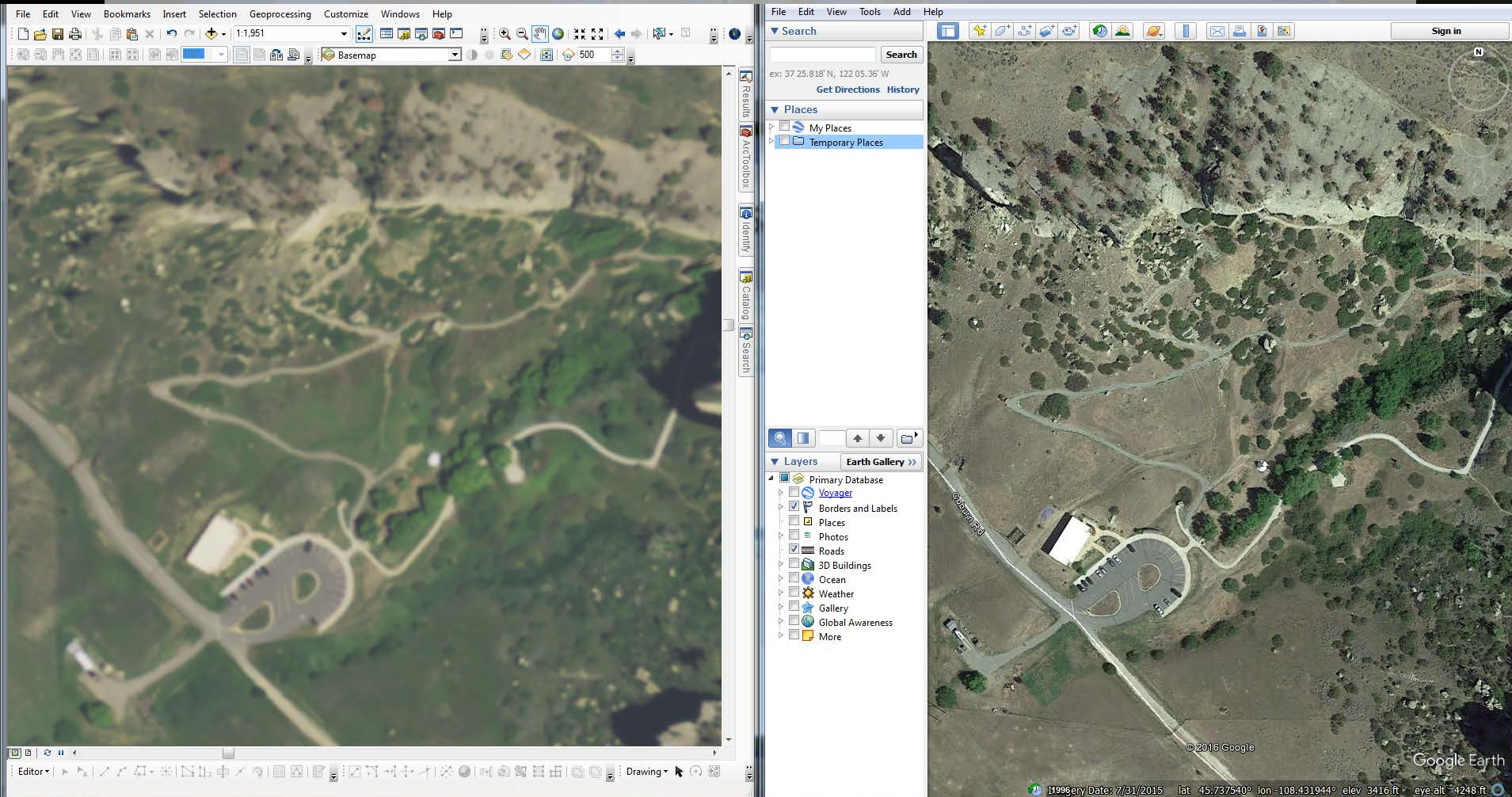
Why Sync to Google Earth?

- Photo Interpretation
- Location Verification

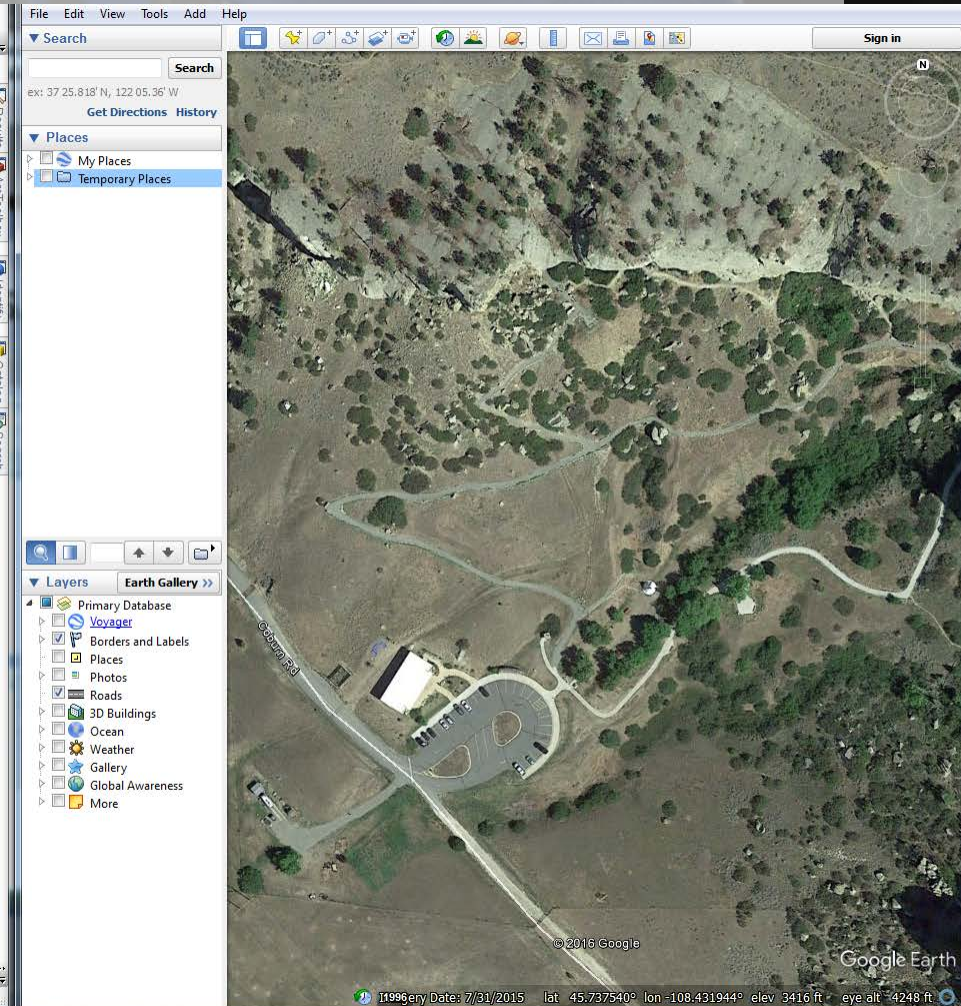
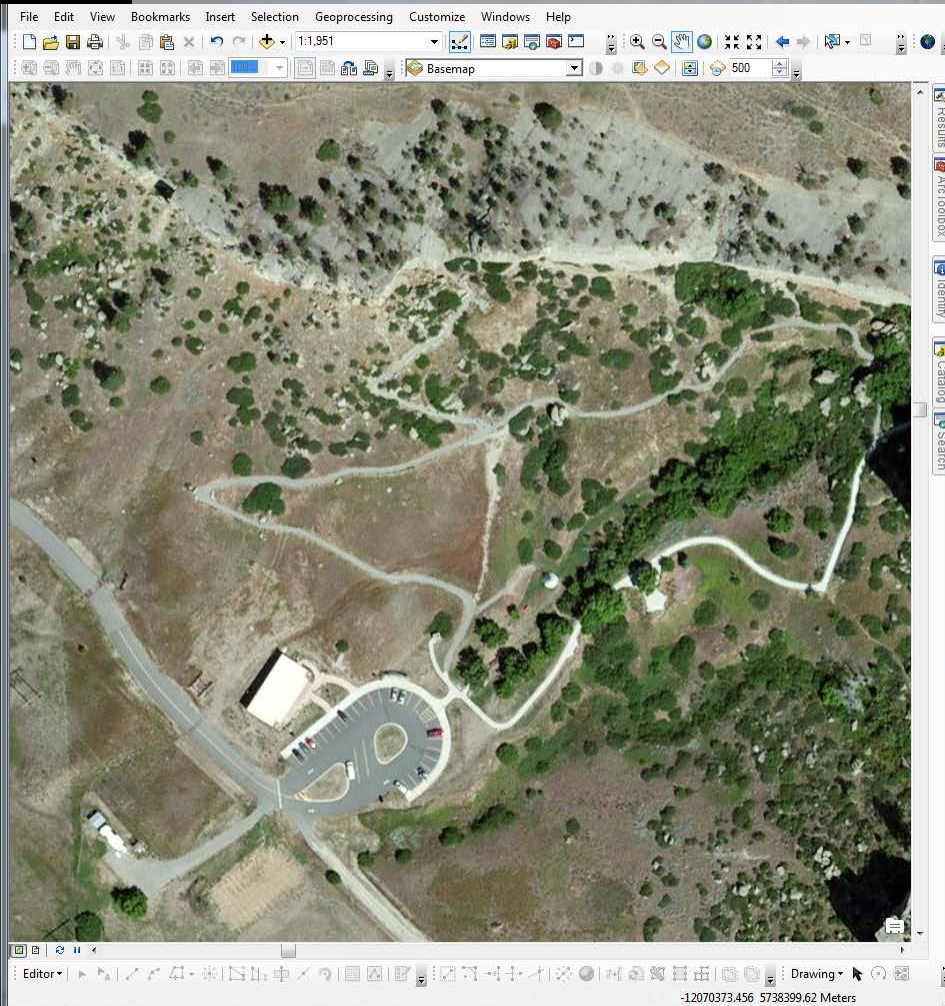
Google Earth Advantages:

- Fast 3D Display
- Unique Imagery
 - Higher resolution (in most cases)
 - More recent
 - Historic - back to 1990s
 - Street View available
- Exact Imagery Date

MT NAIP 2013 vs. Google Earth

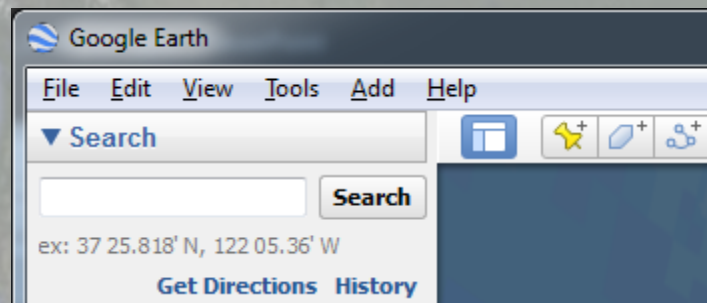


ArcGIS World Imagery Basemap vs. Google Earth



The Problem

- Finding location of interest in Google Earth can be time consuming
 - Manual navigation or search required



The Solution: A Simple Python Tool

Requirements:

- **ArcGIS 10.1+ (untested in 10.0)**
 - Thus, Python 2.7.x compatible
- **Google Earth 5.0+**
 - Google Earth Pro also works

Under the Hood

Script Steps:

1. Obtain the extent of the active ArcMap data frame
2. Convert extent to WGS84 coordinates
3. Write custom rectangular KML file
 - Stored in OS's temp directory
 - Extent coordinates are the vertices
4. Open file
 - uses default program – Google Earth unless user changes it

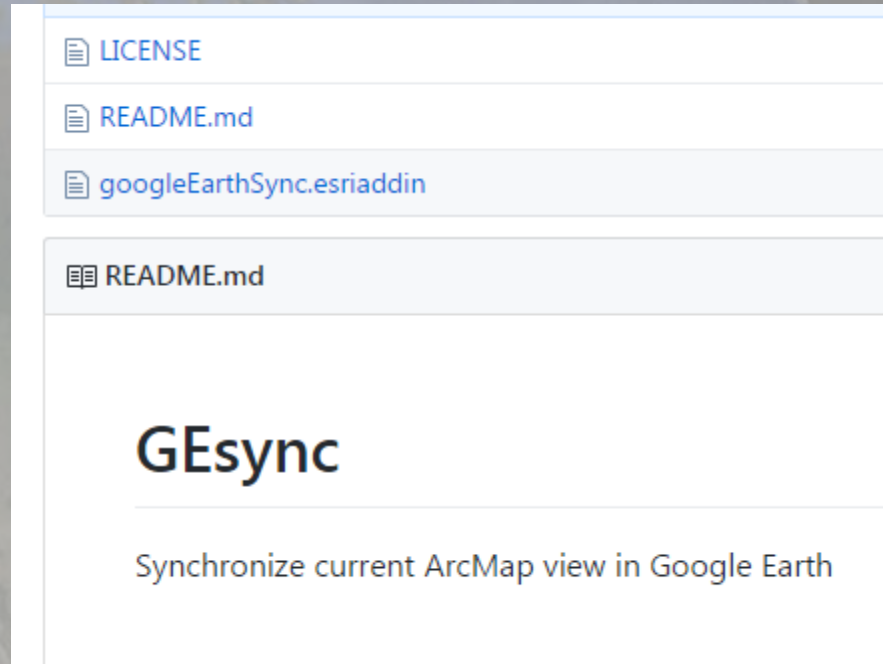
Installation/Use Walkthrough

To Install Toolbar:

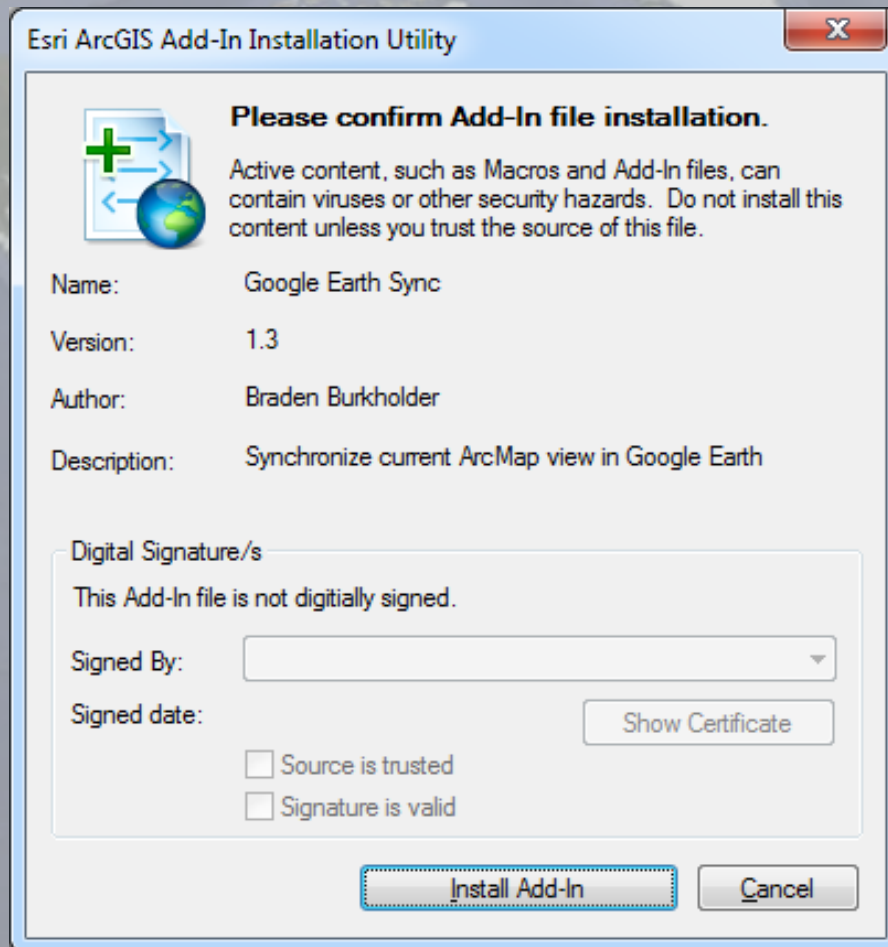
- Download
- Run .esriaddin

Available Here:

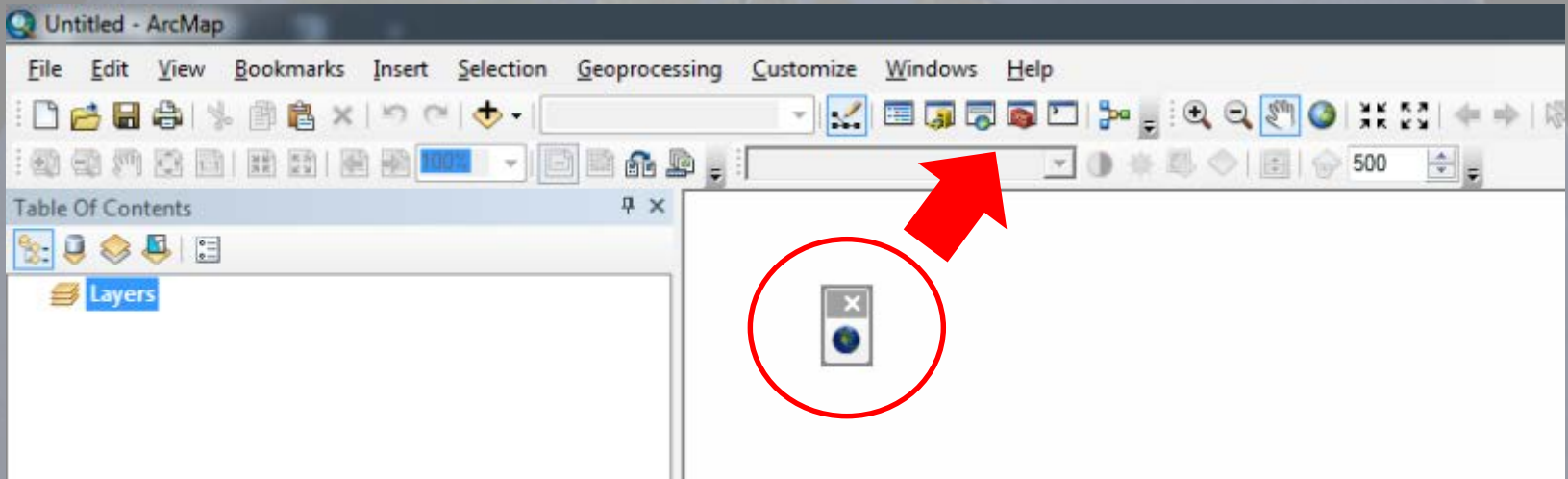
github.com/mtnhp/GEsync



Install

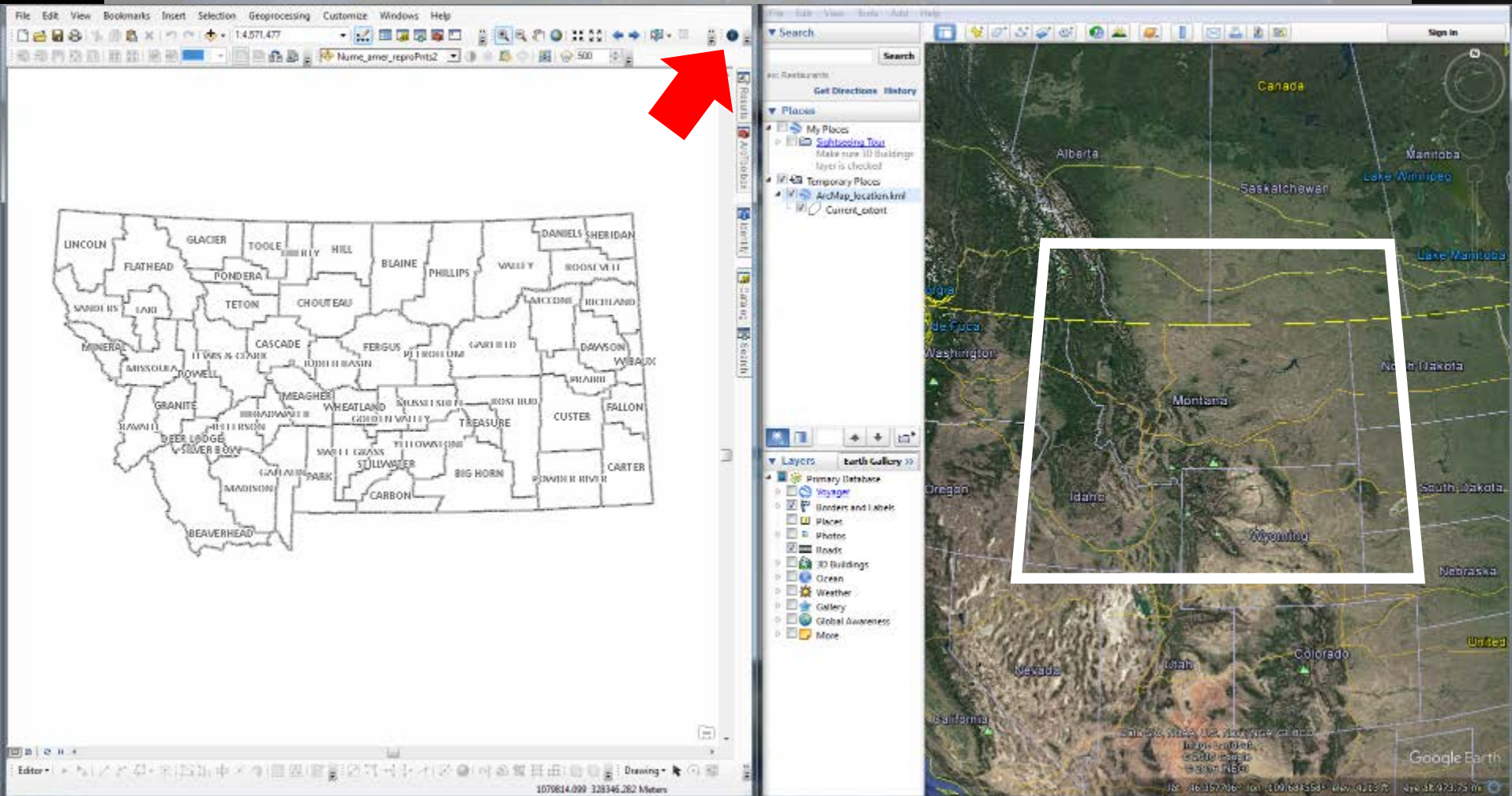


Move New Toolbar as Desired

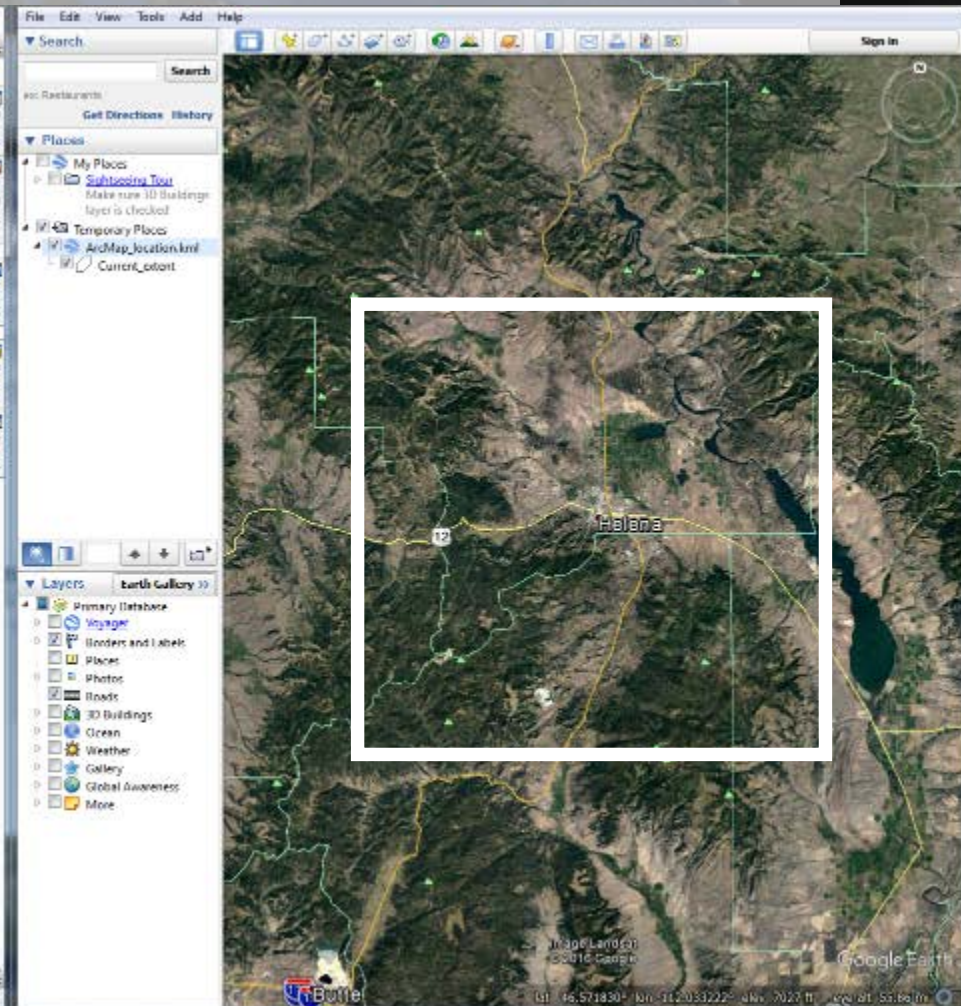
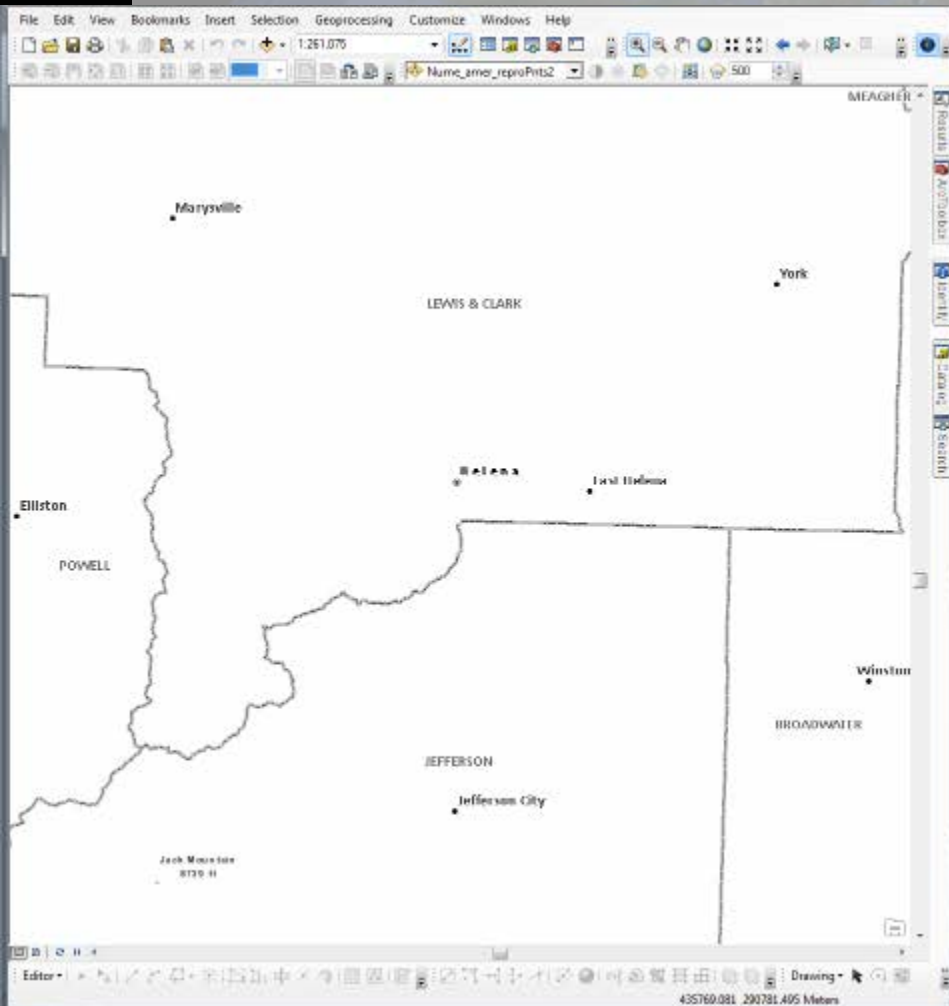


- **Right Click on any Toolbar if not Activated:**
“Google Earth Sync”

Execute and Extent is Shown in Google Earth

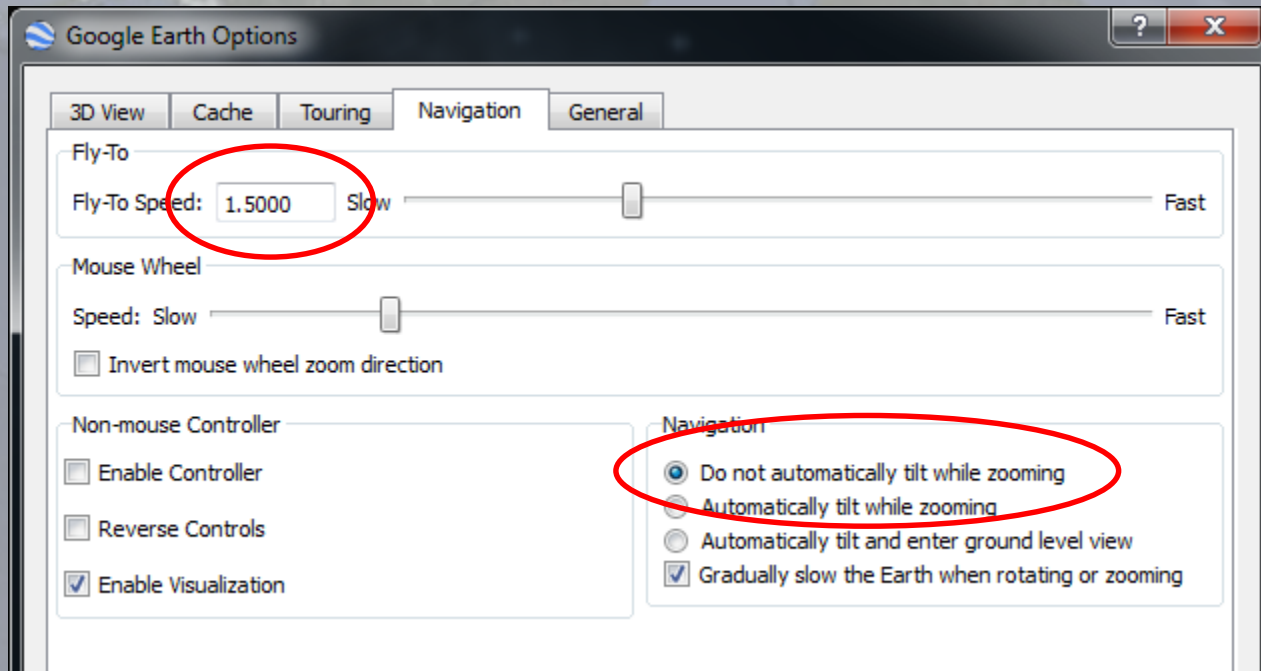


Repeat as Needed



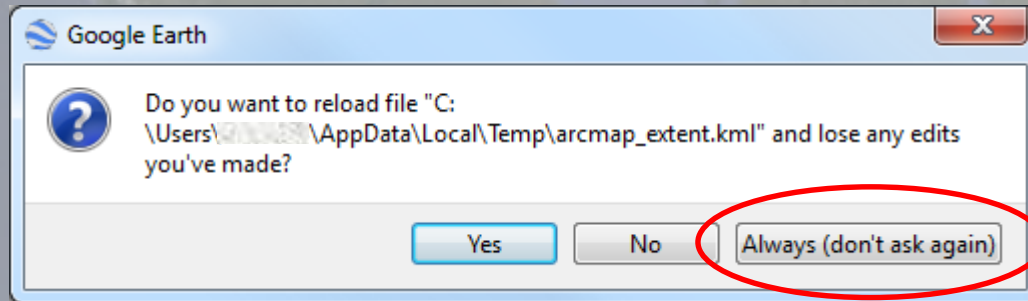
Recommended Google Earth Settings

- Increase Speed and Remove Tilt



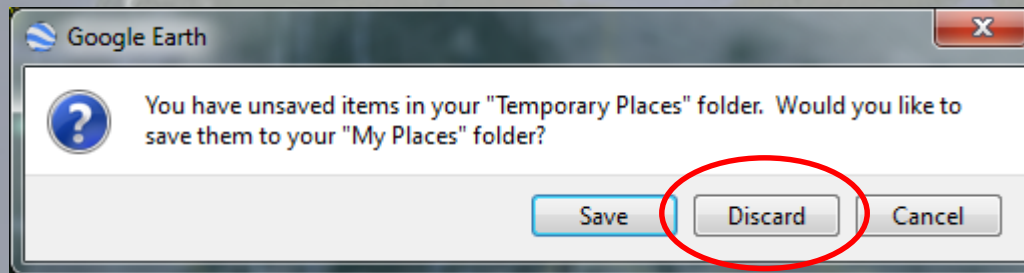
When Executing a Second Time...

- Reload File and Select Always



When Exiting Google Earth...

- Discard Extent in Most Cases



Questions?

Available Here:

github.com/mtnhp/GEsync

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