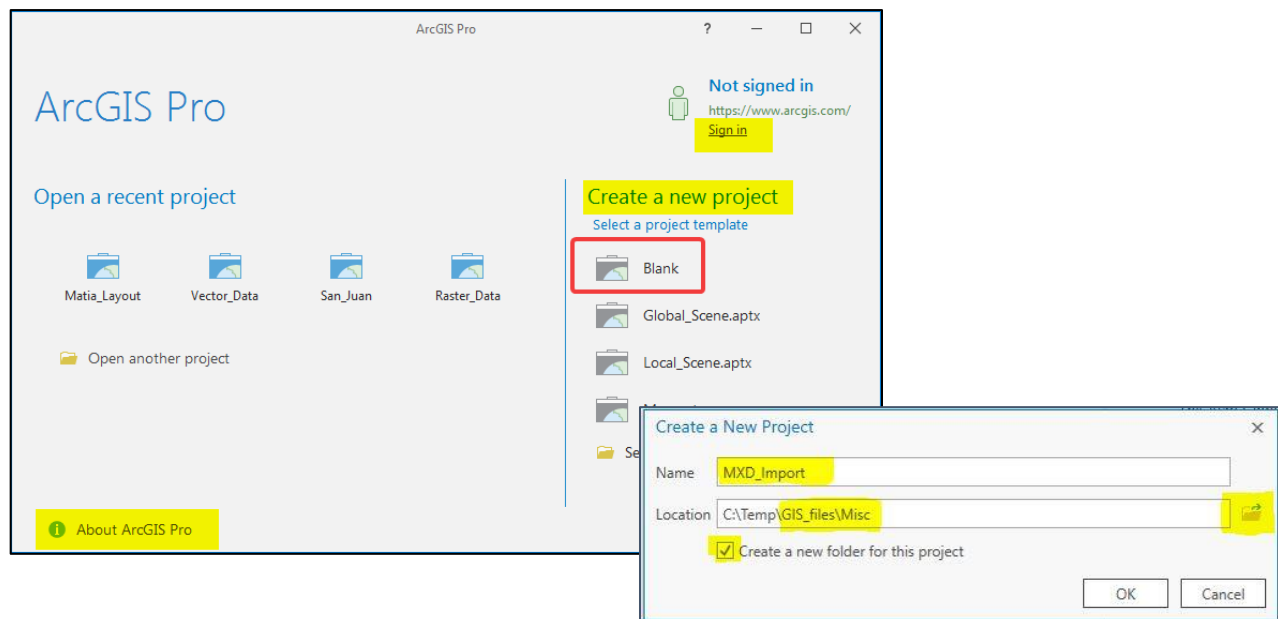


## **Importing ArcMap .mxd Files**

ArcMap (and the corresponding ArcCatalog and ArcToolbox) are a part of ArcGIS 10.x (an older version of GIS software from ESRI). With ArcMap, map project files were stored as .mxd files (as opposed to .aprx ArcGIS Pro project files). Most of the data, symbology, cartography and analysis that can be done in ArcMap can also be done in ArcGIS Pro. A very few tools and data formats that are available in ArcMap are not available in ArcGIS Pro. A much larger number of tools have now been added to ArcGIS Pro that are not (and will not) be available in ArcMap.

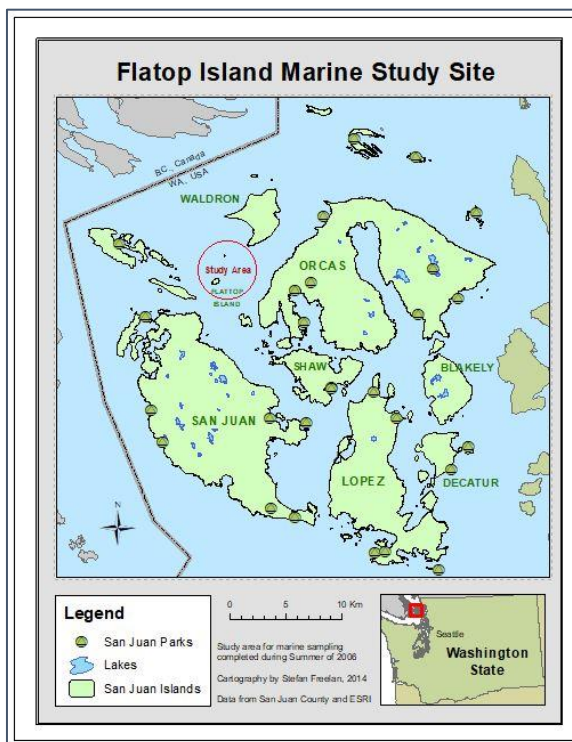
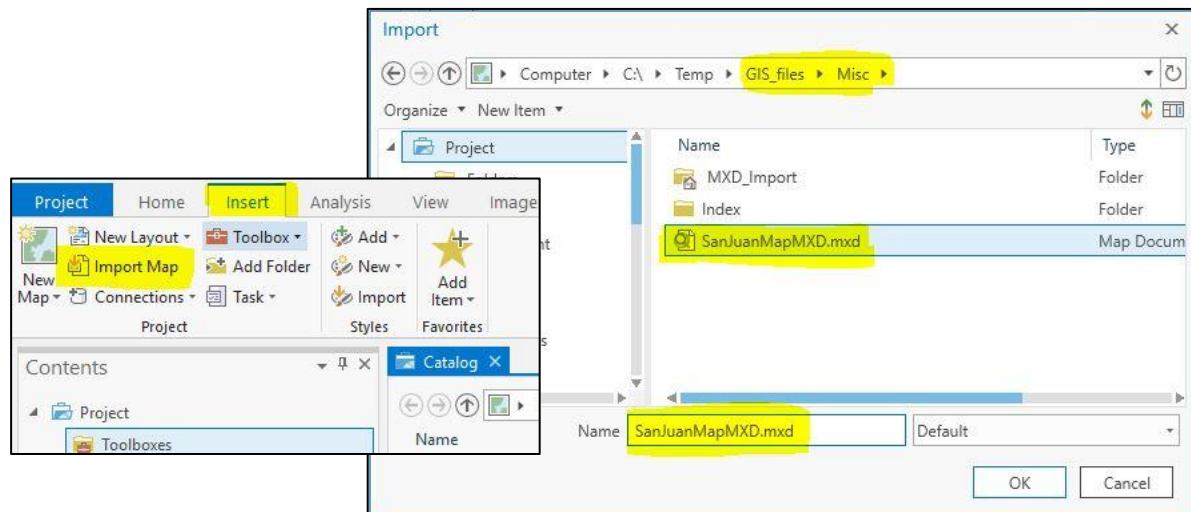
If you have existing .mxd files from previous projects or that you receive from colleagues still using ArcMap, the .mxd files can be imported into ArcGIS Pro. Note that you cannot export an ArcGIS Pro .aprx project file to an ArcMap file (the software is *not* backwards compatible).

- **Close** ArcGIS Pro (if it is open)
- **Open** ArcGIS pro (from the **Start Menu / All Programs / ArcGIS**) to create a new .aprx
- In the ArcGIS Pro start-up window:
  - *Note that you can also **Open** recent project files*
  - *The **About ArcGIS Pro** link provides access to Licensing, Help, etc.*
- In the ArcGIS Pro start-up window:
  - Click the **Sign in** link to sign in (if you are not still signed in)
  - Under **Create A New Project**, click **Blank**

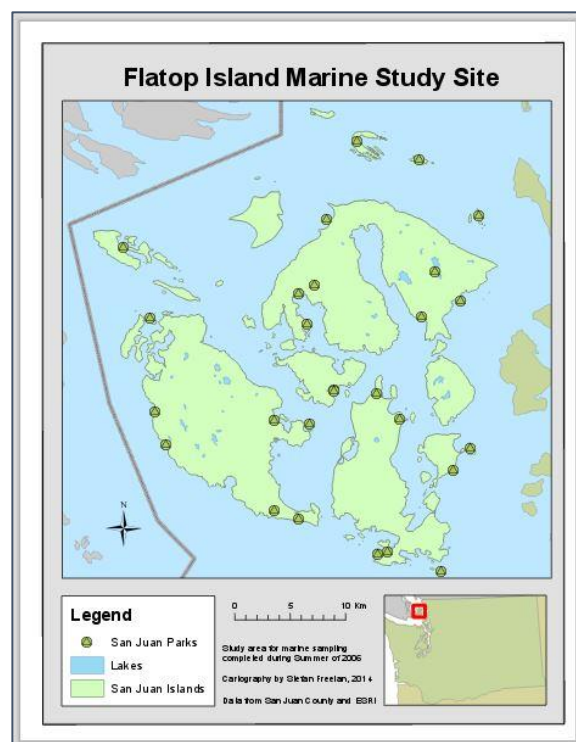


- In the *Create a New Project* dialog box:
  - Name* **MXD\_Import**
  - Location* <Browse to the **GIS\_files / Misc** folder, wherever that is stored>
  - Check the box for **Create a new folder for this project***
- Click **OK** to create a new project
- A new ArcGIS Pro project file should open to the *Catalog* view (with the *Catalog* view *Contents* and the *Catalog* pane also open)

- From the *Insert* ribbon click the **Import Map** button
- In the *Import* dialog box, browse to the **GIS\_files / Misc** folder
- Select the **SanJuanMapMXD.mxd**
- Click **OK**
- A layout view with two map views (frames) should be imported / added to the project



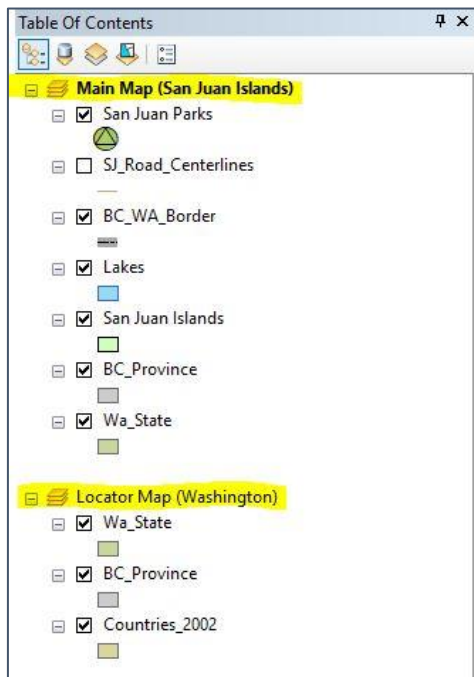
Page/Layout View in **ArcMap**



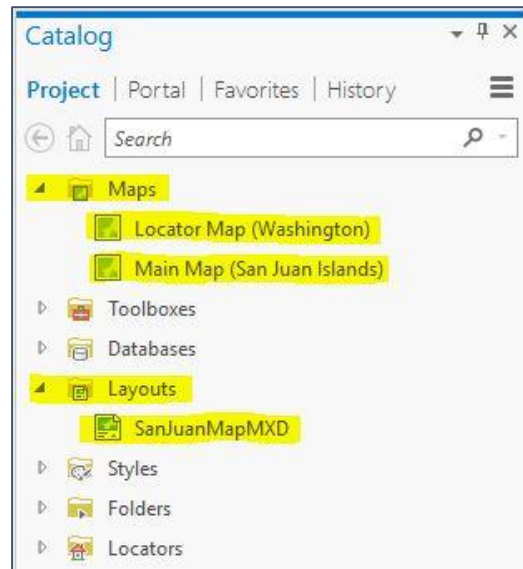
Layout View in **ArcGIS Pro**

- Note that the symbology and data connections from the .mxd file are re-created in the .aprx file along with the page text (the layout title, legend, data note, etc.). However, the map frame **text** was not imported and will need to be recreated in ArcGIS Pro (more on this below).

- The two ArcMap data **frames** become ArcGIS Pro map **views**
- The single ArcMap layout (or page) view became an ArcGIS Pro layout view
- Note that unlike ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap can have only one layout...



*The ArcMap Table of Contents  
(with two Data Frames)*



*The ArcGIS Pro Catalog pane  
(with two map views and one layout view)*

Again, most of the data, symbology, cartography, etc. from the .mxd is imported into new map and layout view in ArcGIS Pro. Likewise, any 'page text' (i.e., text added to the Page or Layout view) is preserved. The main thing that is lost is any 'graphic text' that was stored in the ArcMap map frames. ArcGIS Pro does not have the option of simple text added as a graphic to a map view (all map text must be either labels derived from features or annotation). Thus, any text that was stored as a graphic in the data frame is lost. Indeed, ArcGIS Pro does have the capacity for any map graphics – text or graphic shapes. Thus the 'Study Area' circle that was created in the ArcMap data frame is also lost.

Similarly, ArcMap layer files (.lyr) can, for the most part, be used in Pro. ArcGIS Pro layer files, have an .lyrx file extension and cannot be used in ArcMap. ArcMap map packages (.mpk files) can also be used in ArcGIS Pro.

Note that ArcMap style files (.style) in general cannot be used or converted to the ArcGIS Pro .stylx files, but many of the common .style files have been converted and posted (as .stylx files) online for use in ArcGIS Pro.