**Manitoba** 🦬

# Downloading Ortho Photos (Air Photos) in ArcView 3.x

Downloading ortho photos allows users to acquire an air photo "basemap" for creating of a wide variety of unique photo maps where features are layered over the air photo instead of a map. GPS data or data created from digitizing can be added as a shapefile over the ortho photo. Examples of uses include land use, community, and field studies. The Manitoba Land Initiative website, a service of the Government of Manitoba, includes a collection of ortho photo coverage, in shapefile format for ArcView, of most populated regions of the province.

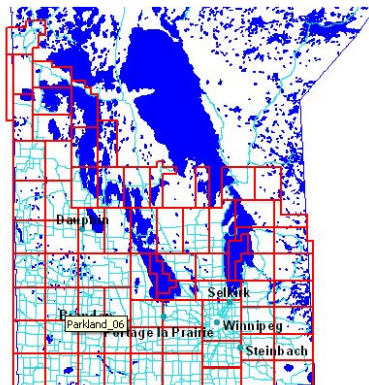**Author:** Rob Langston, Neelin High School, Brandon School Division

1. Visit the Manitoba Land Initiative website at https://mli2.gov.mb.ca

2. Click on **Download Digital Maps**. If this is your first time using this site you will need to register and create a username and password. There is no registration fee.
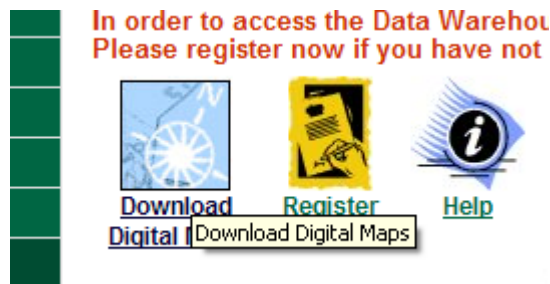


3. On the left hand menu, click on **Digital Imagery** and **5km tiles – MrSid.**

4. Double click on the location of the index map for which you want photo coverage. Save the image file to a desired location, but do not change its name at this time (it will be an alphanumeric code).



5. Open **ArcView** to create a new project with your air photo. Before you can add the air photo to your project you must activate the **MrSID Extension**.
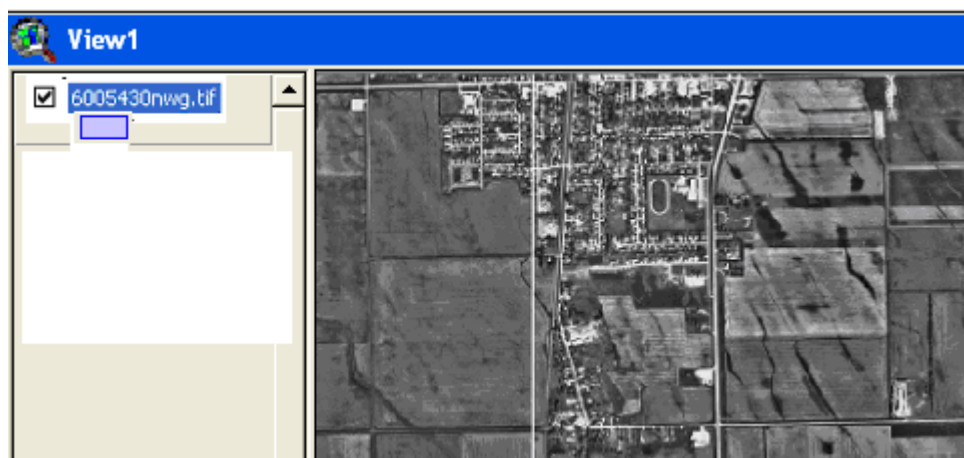
6.  Go **File → Extensions** and turn on the extension by placing a check mark beside **MrSid Image Support**. Click **OK.**
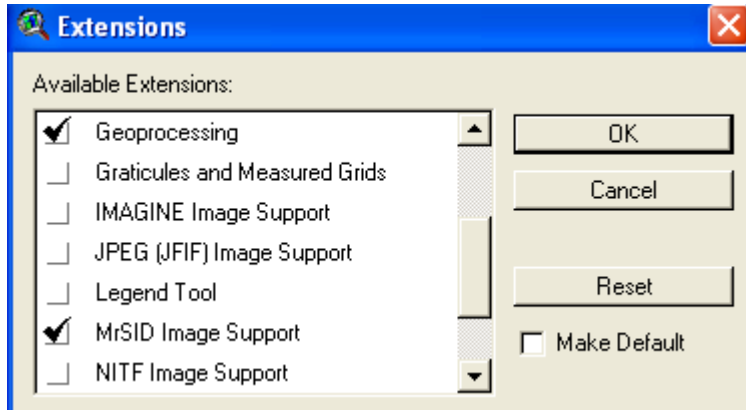


7.  To load the air photo, use the **Add Data** button  and navigate to the location where the photo was saved. You will need to change the Data Source Types to **Image Data Source.**
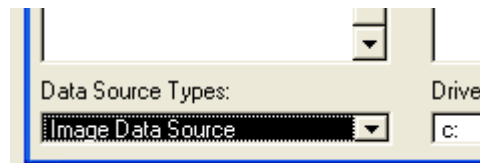


8.  Once the air photo is added to your View, you can change the alphanumeric code to a meaningful layer name. To do this, go **Theme→ Properties** and type in the desired theme name and click **OK**.

9.  All the GIS functions for working on a map apply to air photos in ArcView.



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