

Using Google Earth Pro

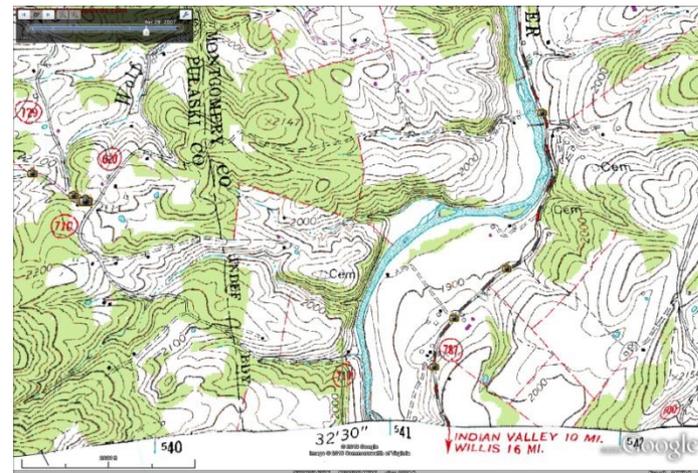
4800 Phillips Rd, Hiwassee, VA 24347

On-line Woodland
Options for Landowners
Jennifer Gagnon

Image © 2010 Commonwealth of Virginia

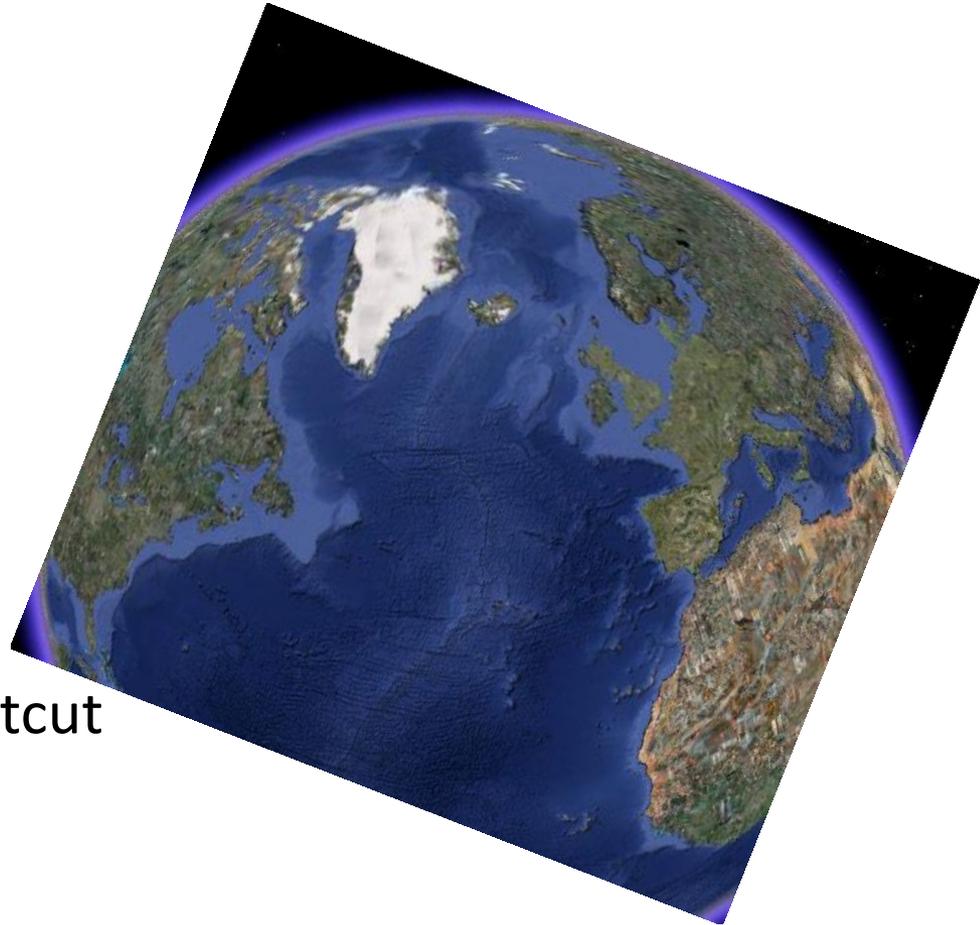
Google Earth Pro

- GE Pro is a free software package which makes viewing aerial photos of your property a snap
- Allows you to calculate distance and area
- Historical photos are available for most locations
- You can publish your own photos
- USGS 7.5 Topographic maps are available on GE Pro



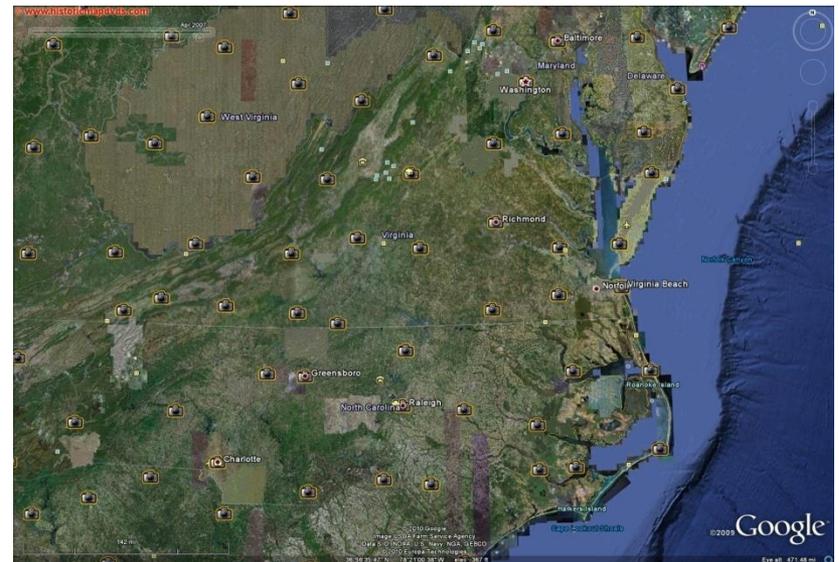
Getting Started with Google Earth Pro

- Download free software
 - <http://earth.google.com>
 - Select Google Earth Pro
 - Agree to terms and click download
 - Run/run setup
 - Google should create a shortcut on your desktop



Google Earth Pro

- The program should open automatically; if not, double click the short cut icon on your desktop
- On the left side of your screen, you will see a search tool –type the physical address of your property into the search field; click on the adjacent magnifying glass
- Hold on tight...
and you're off...
- If your property doesn't have a physical address, use the name of a nearby road to get close



Google Earth Pro

- You should now be looking at an aerial photo of your property
 - If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can use that to zoom in and out
 - If your mouse does not have a scroll wheel:
 - Zoom in by double clicking left
 - Zoom out by double clicking right



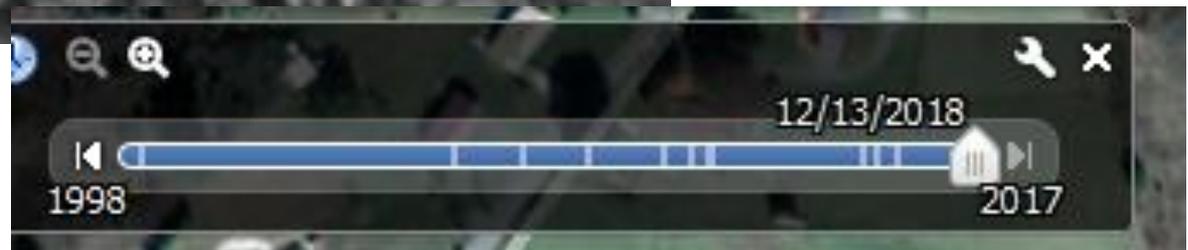
Zoom out for a small scale map



Zoom in for a large-scale map

Google Earth Pro

- To see historical aerial photos of your property, click the clock icon at the top of the screen
- A slider bar will appear at the top of the photo which will allow you to move through all the years of photography which are available
- The photo years will vary by location
- The photo types will vary by year (black and white versus color infrared)

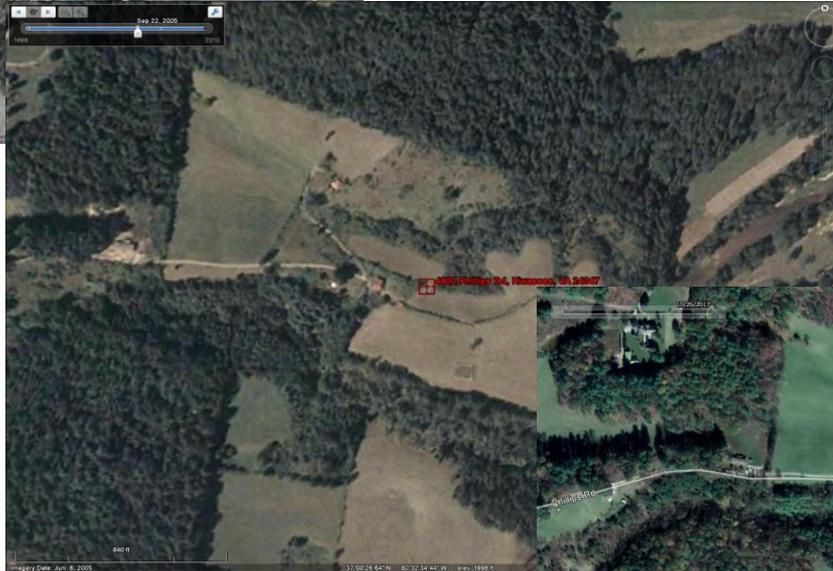




1999 – Black & White



2005 – Color Infrared



2017 – Color Infrared



Google Earth Pro

Historical photo slider bar

Property address



Scale bar

Elevation of a feature on photo

Elevation at which you are viewing the photo (changes as you zoom in/out)

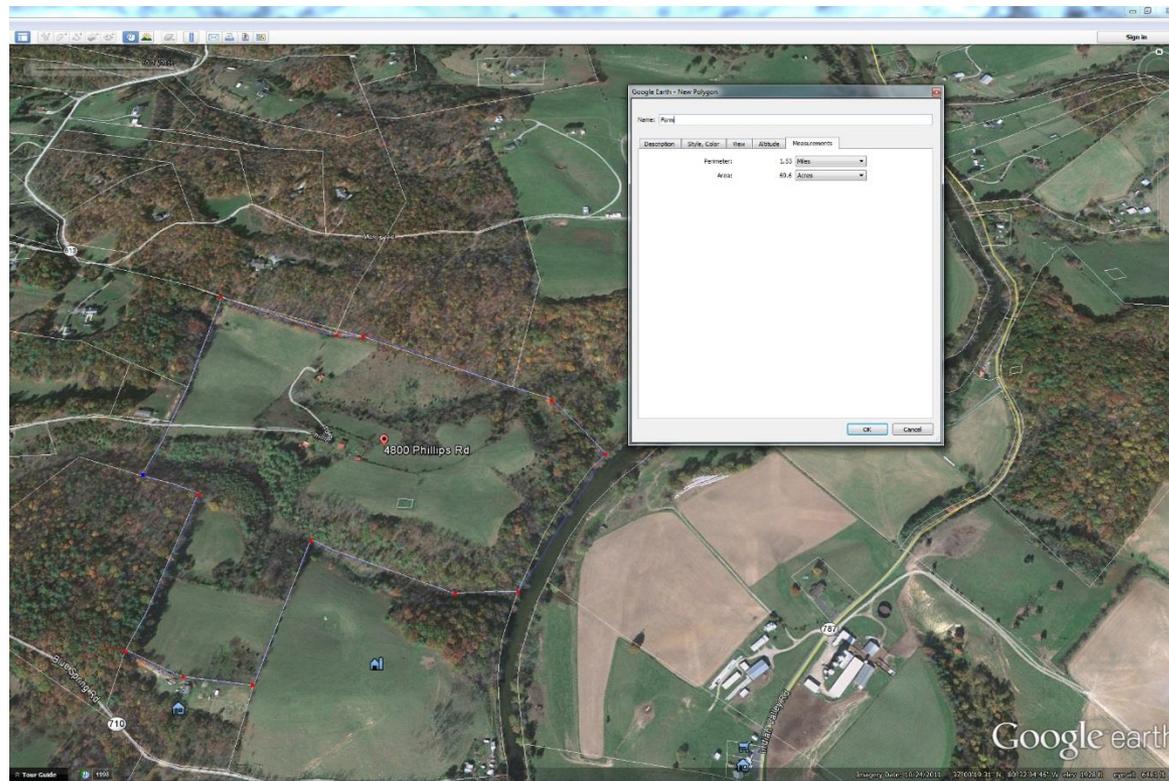
Google Earth Pro

- In the Advanced Exercise for Module 4 you will be asked to delineate your property boundaries on a map
- You can print your GE Pro map (file-save-save image) and draw your boundaries
- Or, you can use the add-polygon tool in GE Pro to draw your boundaries electronically
- From the toolbar, click add-polygon
- In the menu box that opens you can customize the look of your polygon
- While the menu box is open, use the cursor to draw your boundaries



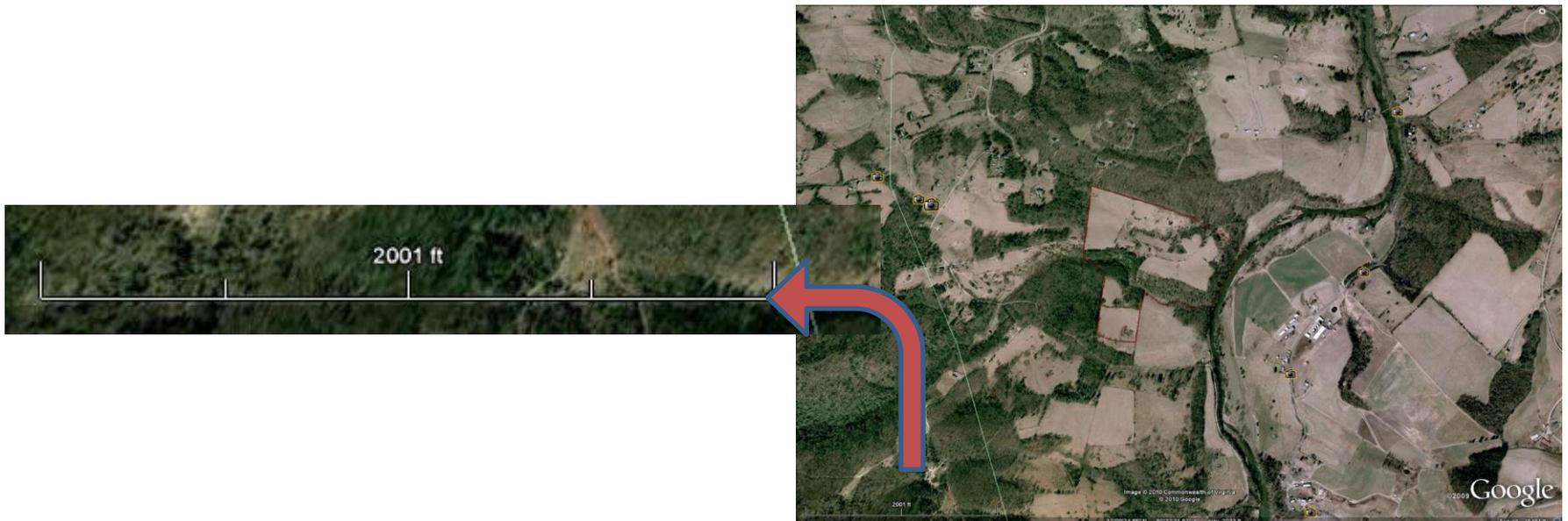
Google Earth Pro

- One exciting feature of GE Pro is that you can calculate the area of your polygon
- In the add polygon tool, click the “Measurements” tab; select your measurement units of choice
- GE Pro will give you both perimeter distance and area.



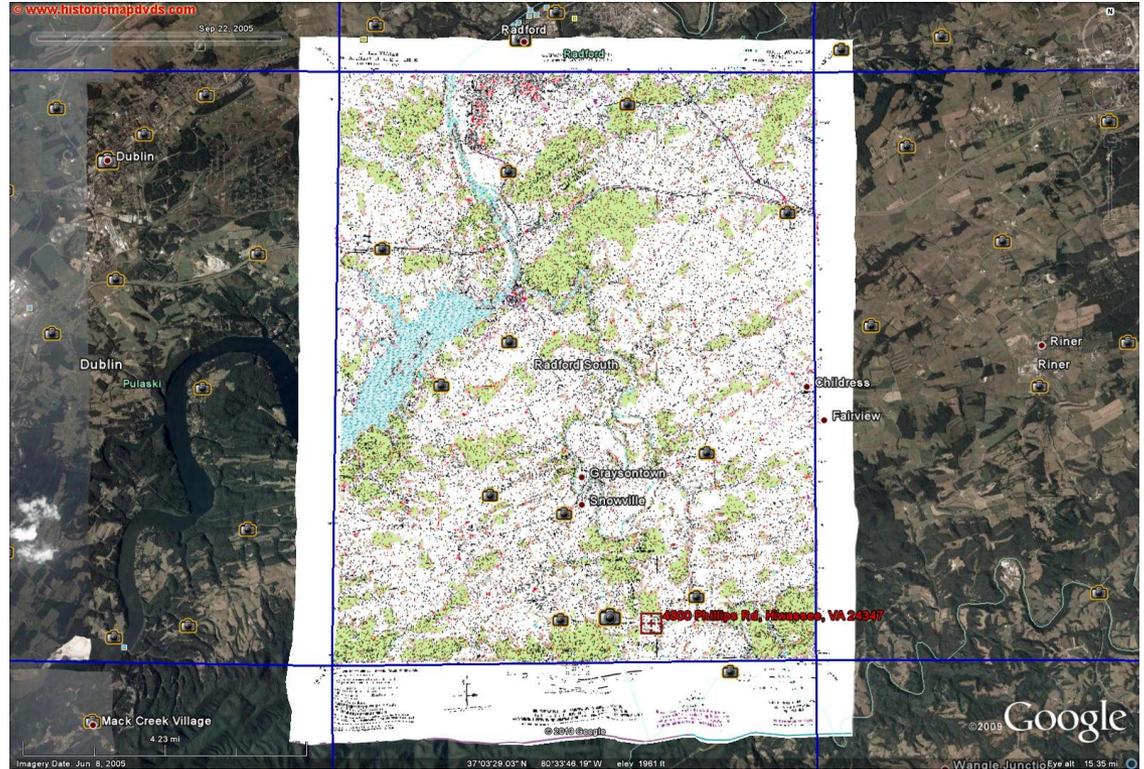
Google Earth Pro

- A few words about scale...
 - One feature GE Pro does not have is the ability to specify a particular scale
 - We will discuss scale in great detail in Module 4; and scale will be important for completing the Module 4 Advanced Exercise
 - You will learn how to determine the scale of your printed aerial photos in Module 4



Google Earth Pro

- Another exciting feature in GE Pro is the availability of a USGS 7.5 topographic map layer
- This feature exists outside the software



To add the topo map layer, go to:

<http://www.earthpoint.us/TopoMap.aspx> and click “View on Google Earth”. Note, you can increase the transparency of the topo map in Google Earth/

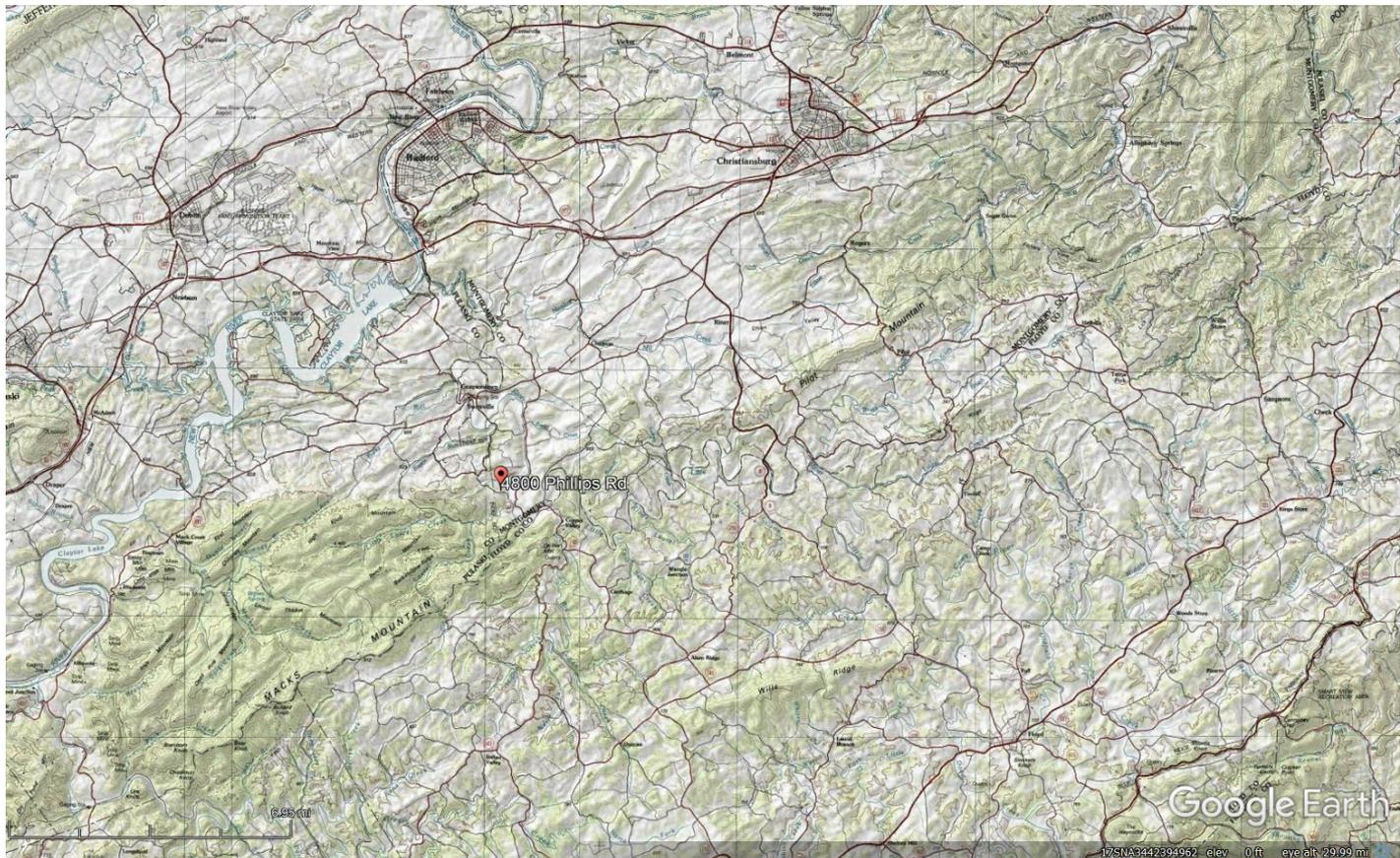
Google Earth Pro



- Zoom in and out to find your property and view the topo map

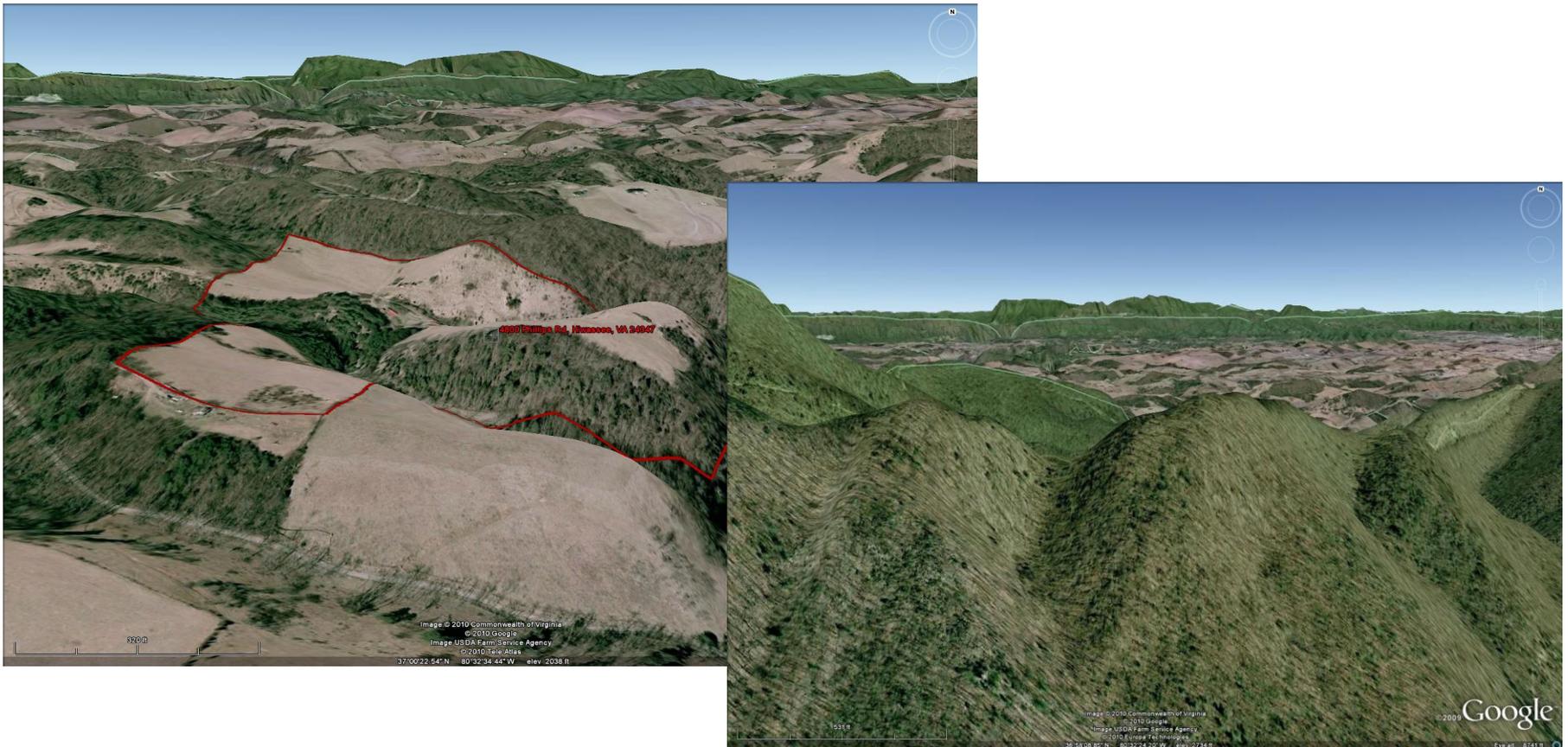
Google Earth Pro

- Your property may cover more than one topo map – fortunately you can view all the maps at once
- Again, you will learn more about using these maps in Module 4



Google Earth Pro

- Other cool stuff:
 - Tilt the viewer using the navigation tools to get a better feel for topography



Google Earth Pro

- Other cool stuff
 - Notice those camera icons on the maps? You can add personal photos to your own map using “add-photo”
 - [Click here to learn more about GE](#)
 - [Bing Maps 3D Bird’s Eye View – aerial photos so detailed you can almost count the trees](#) (click on streetside view)

Ok – now you have the basic skills necessary to navigate around GE Pro. There are MANY more things you can do in GE Pro, so explore and have fun!!





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