GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 for Google Earth

QUICK START GUIDE

GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 for Google Earth contains 1:250,000 scale vector map data for Australia in KML format that can be viewed on Google Earth ™ Mapping Service (Google Earth) Version 4 (or later). The map data is displayed with the Google Earth satellite imagery in the background and is arranged in tiles to facilitate ready display. Generally only the current tile's data is loaded at any time. However, by simply panning to a neighbouring tile, that tile's data can then be loaded.

It is assumed that the users have installed Google Earth 4 or later on their computer and they are familiar with use of the software. Information regarding Google Earth software download, system requirements, user guide, etc is available at Google Earth's web http://earth.google.com. Information for installation, viewing and querying *GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3* data on Google Earth is provided in the next section.

Important: Topographic data in this product is the same as found in other *GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3* products produced by Geoscience Australia, however some attributes have been removed to aid quick loading of the data and to reduce file sizes.

As the data is supplied at 1:250,000 scale, users are reminded that by zooming in to a higher resolution than 1:250,000 scale, any offset between the location of a feature in the data and the same feature on Google Earth imagery (i.e. road, river, building, etc) will be magnified. This is not an error, as the data is intended to be used at 1:250,000 scale and not at larger scales (i.e. scales greater than 1:250,000 such as: 1:100,000, etc).

An example of excessive zoom causing an apparent spatial mismatch of features is shown below - note the misalignment of roads (red) and the creek (blue) with their respective features in the imagery.

Example of spatial mismatch of features due to zoom in excess of appropriate scale

Information for Installation, Viewing and Querying GEODATA TOPO 250K SERIES 3 for Google Earth

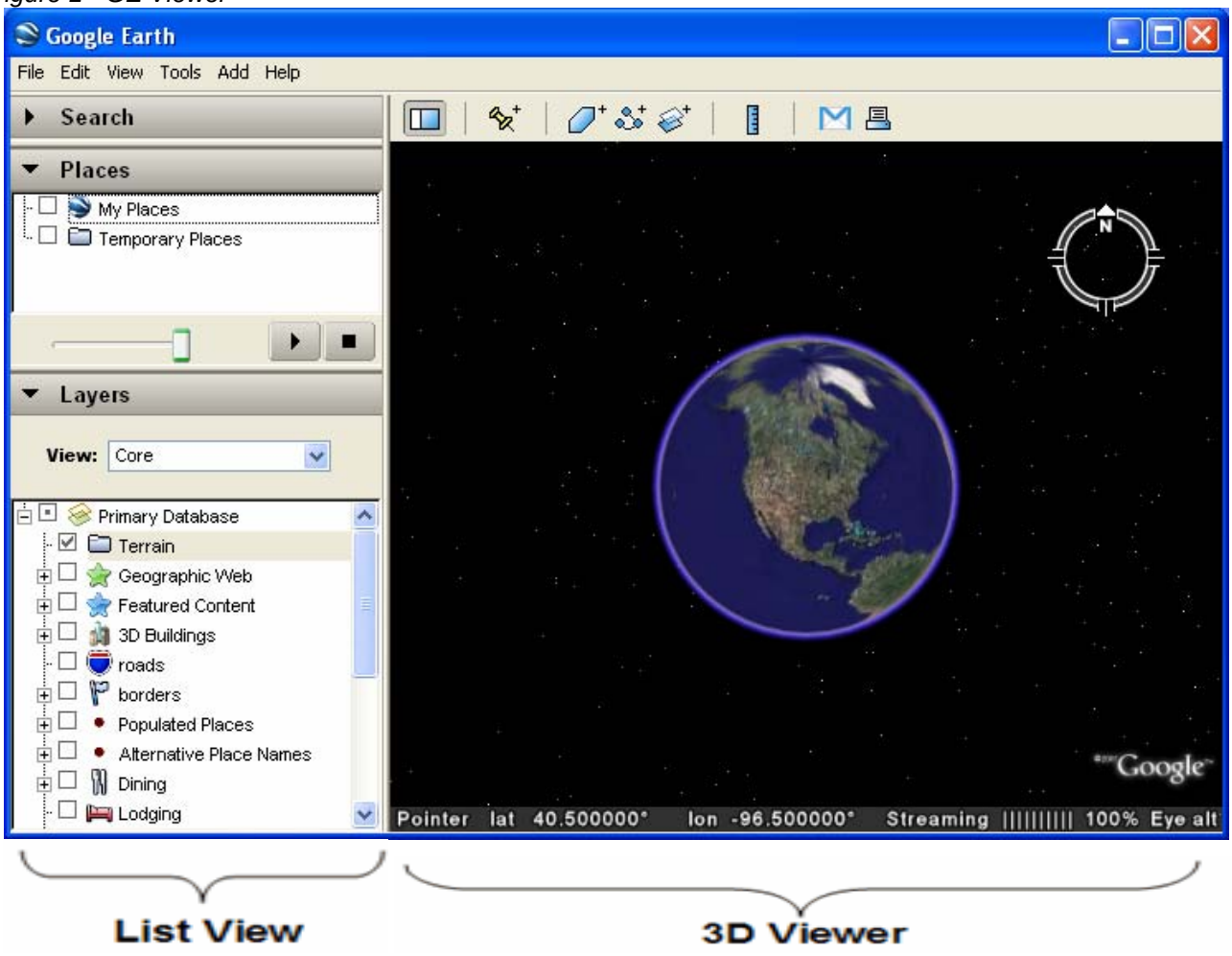
1. Your computer should meet requirements for running Google Earth and requires Google Earth 4 (or later version) installed. Install Google Earth 4 (or later version), if not installed already.

2. Your computer should also have 2 GB space for storing the data on a hard drive. Copy the contents of the DVD on to your computer's hard drive, preferably under a new folder (e.g. C:\Geodata3_GoogleEarth).

Please note that copying data may take a long time. It is recommended that data should be copied when the computer is likely to be idle (e.g. at night). Please ensure that all the data has been copied. Compare the sub-folder count in the Data folder of copied data with the sub-folder count in the Data folder of the DVD. ***Advanced users*** - You may use DOS command 'XCOPY *source destination*' (for example 'C:\> XCOPY D:\ C:\Geodata3_GoogleEarth /S' where D:\ is the *source* DVD drive and C:\ Geodata3_GoogleEarth is the *destination* folder).

3. Launch Google Earth (GE). The Google Earth Viewer (GE Viewer) will appear on the screen (Figure 1). GE Viewer has 2 sections, on left side is the "List View" and on right side is the "3D Viewer".

Figure 1 - GE Viewer



The next two steps (Steps 4 and 5) will improve the speed and reduce the clutter of features displayed from the Primary Database.

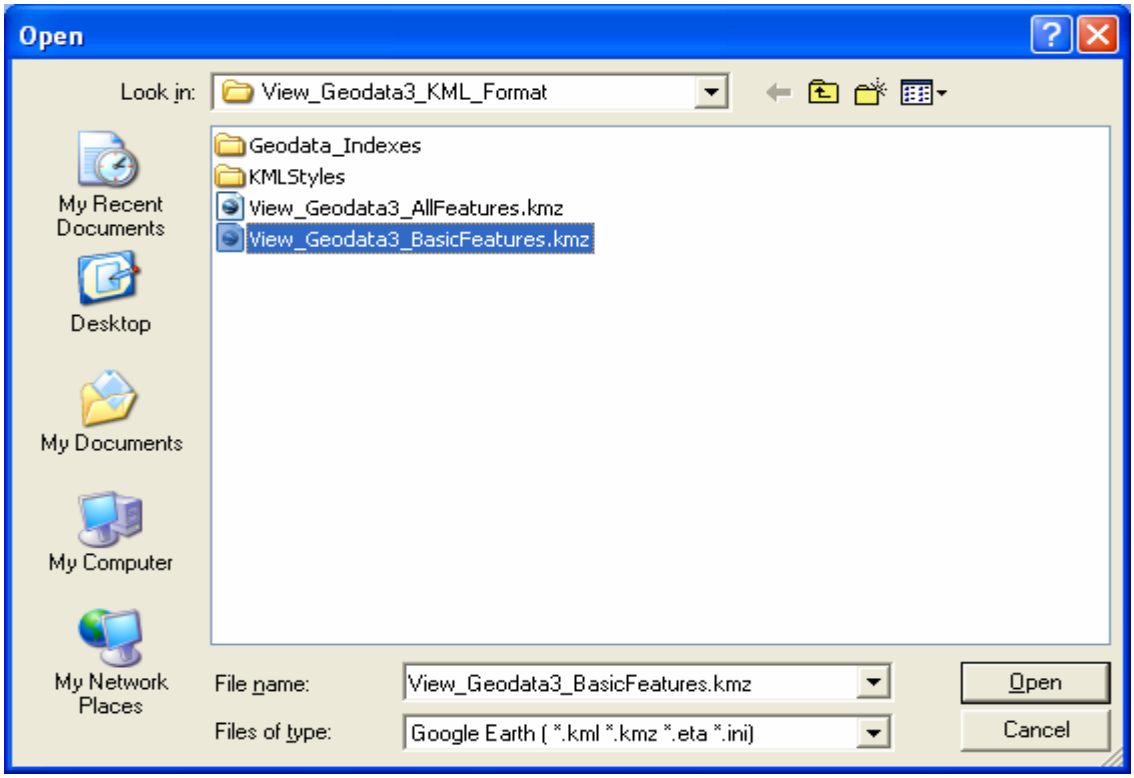
4. In GE Viewer, right click **My Places** (in Places panel of List View) and left click on **Delete Contents**. Select the **Yes** button in the popup window.

5. In GE Viewer, click the box next to Primary Database (in Layers panel of List View) to make it blank. Then click the box next to Terrain (under Primary Database) to tick it on.

6. On GE Viewer, Left click **File** > **Open** - an 'Open' window will appear (Figure 2). In the 'Open' window navigate to **View_Geodata3_KML_Format** folder. Then select file **View_Geodata3_BasicFeatures.kmz** to view basic features (select **View_Geodata3_Roads.kmz** to view roads, or select **View_Geodata3_AllFeatures.kmz** to view all features). Then left click the **Open** button located at the right hand lower corner of the 'Open' window.

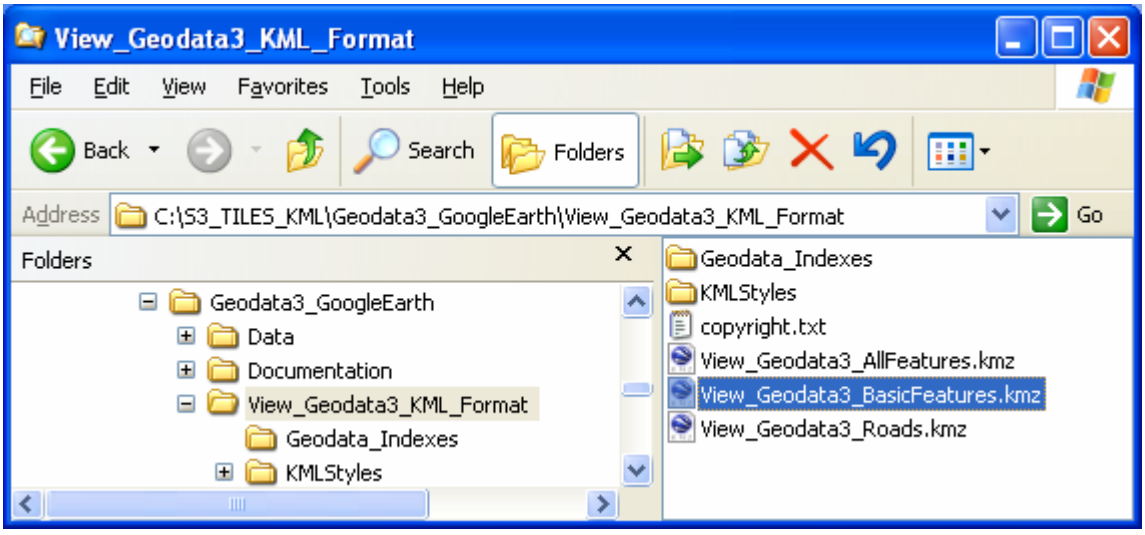
   Note: When viewing data via these files, features switch on and off at predefined scales. Viewing the basic features is usually adequate for most purposes. View**_Geodata3_Roads** loads data for roads and populated places only whereas **View_Geodata3_AllFeatures.kmz** loads data for all features. However, several features such as contours, bridges, sand ridges etc are turned off to avoid clutter in the display. These features do not display by default. To view these features, turn them on as described in section11.

Figure 2



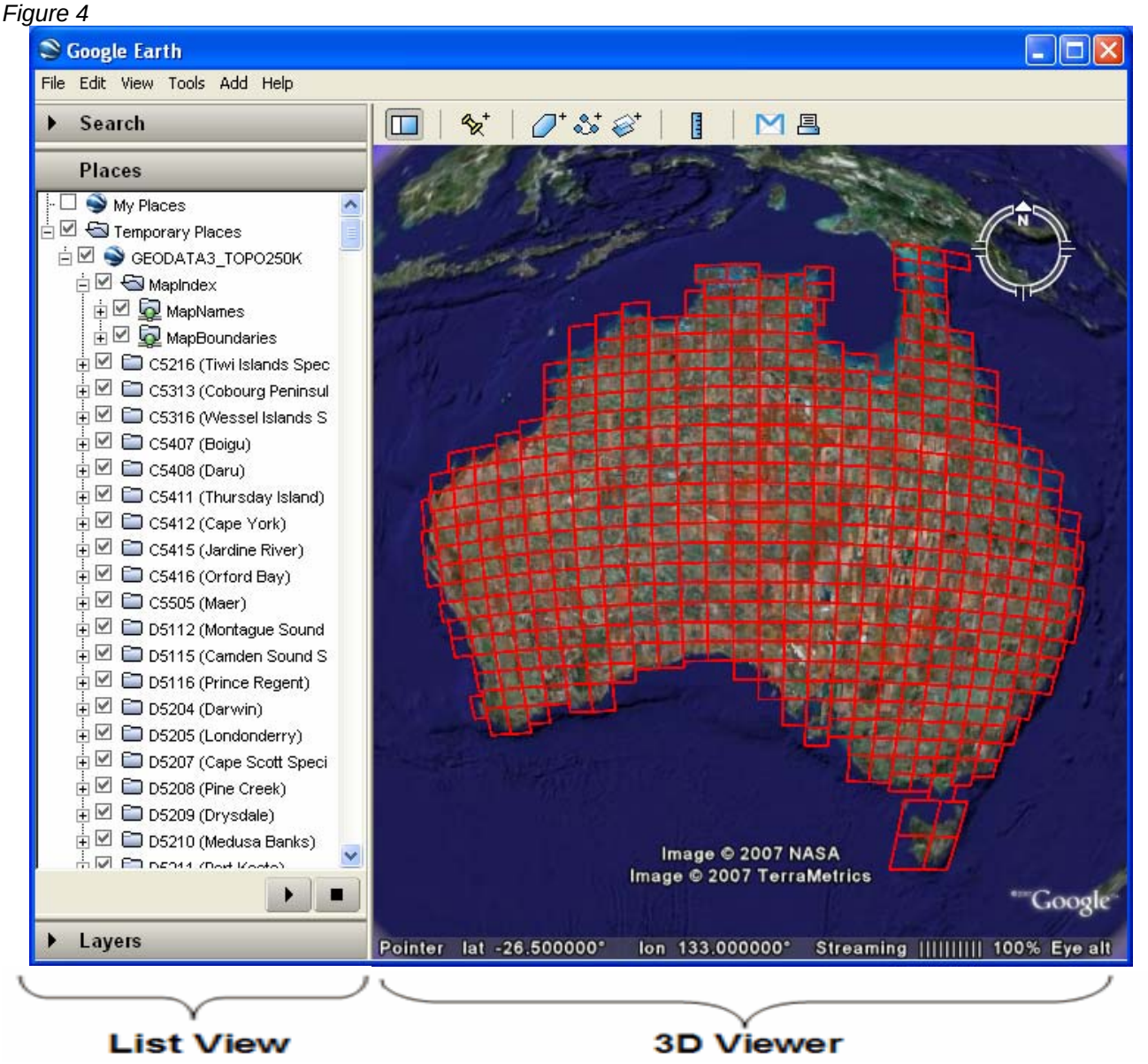
7. **An alternate method to Step 6** is to locate the **View_Geodata3_BasicFeatures.kmz** (or **View_Geodata3_AllFeatures.kmz**) in the Windows File Explorer (Figure 3) then drag and drop it on to the GE Viewer.

Figure 3



8. The G**EODAT3_TOPO250K** folders containing map data files and links are displayed in List View and the Tile Indexes Grid containing *GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3* features are displayed in the 3D Viewer (Figure 4).

Figure 4



9. There are 3 ways to view feature details in any map/tile area, these are:

9.1. Zoom in 3D Viewer. In 3D Viewer window navigate to the desired area (e.g. CANBERRA, Figure 5A) and zoom in further to view features in the area (Figure 5B).

Figure 5 A

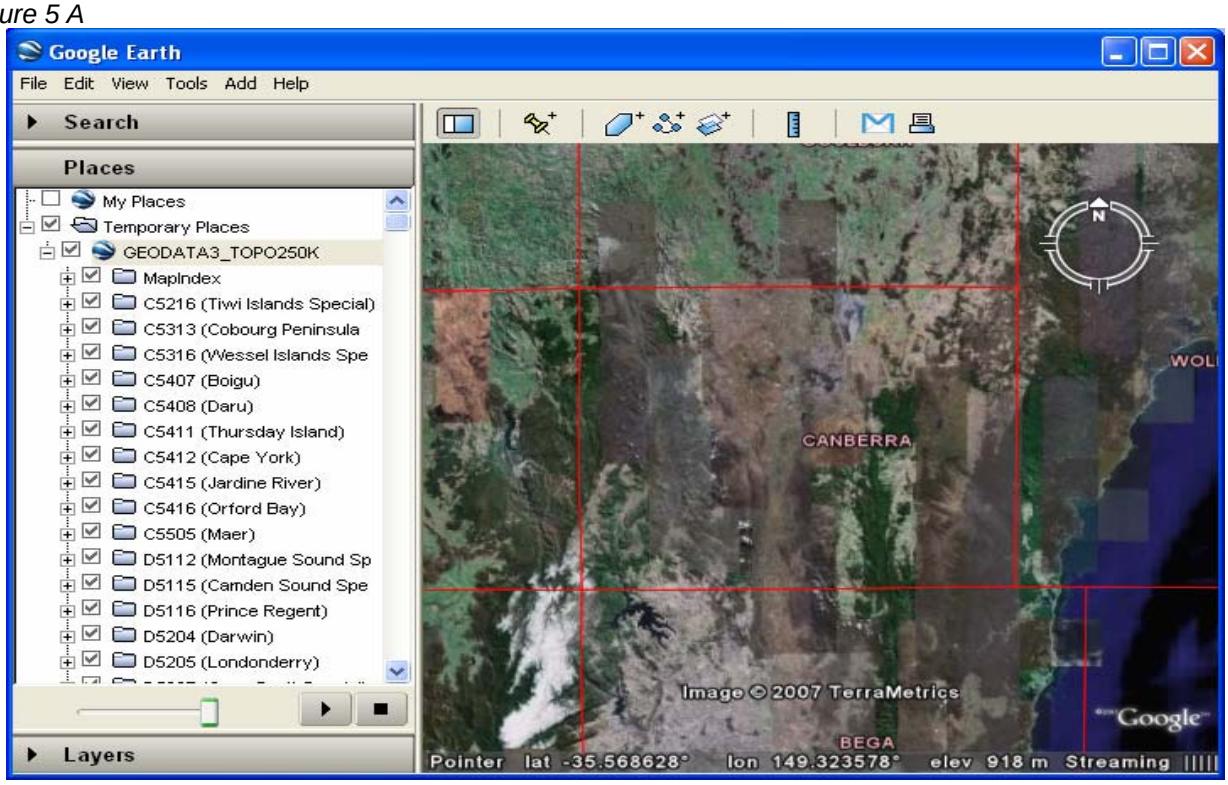
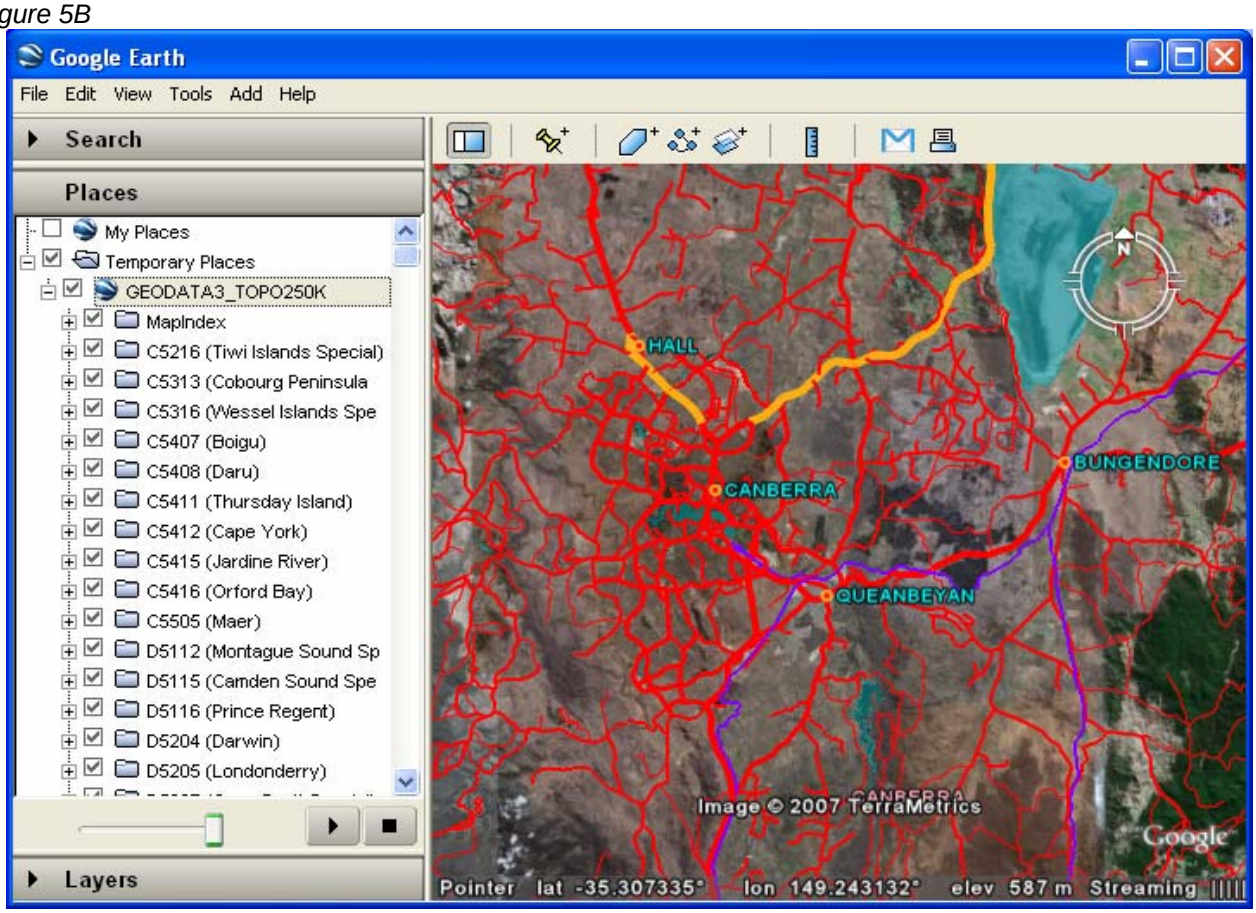
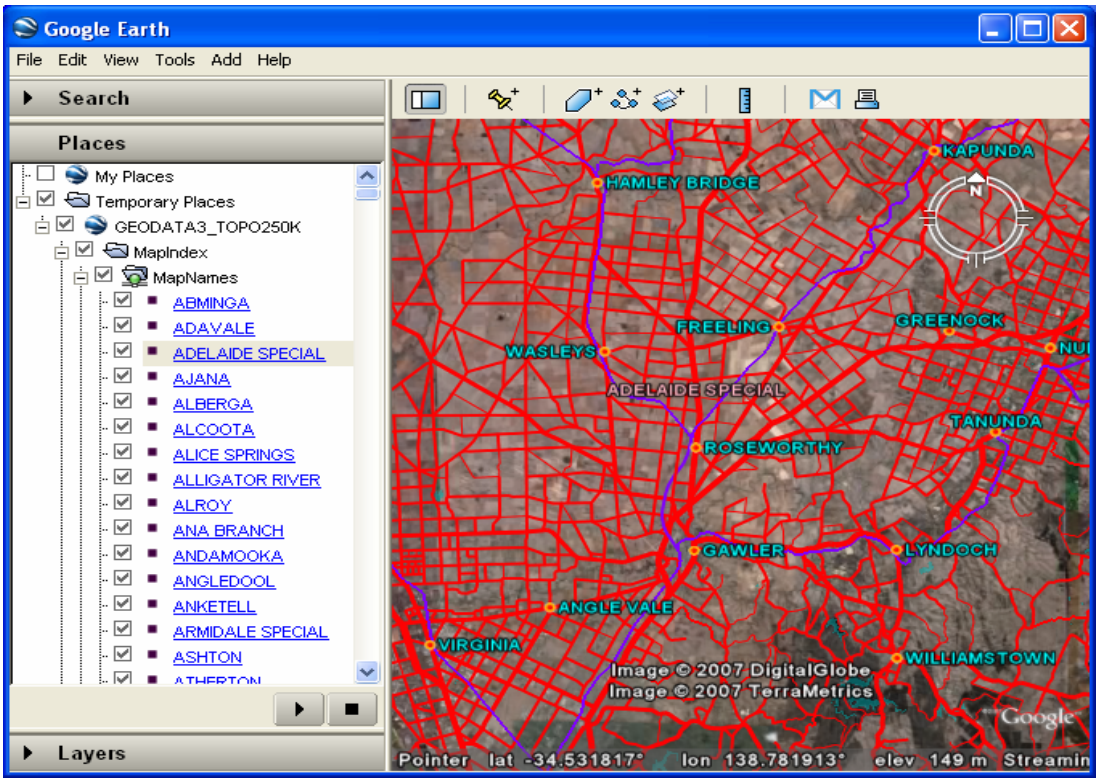


Figure 5B



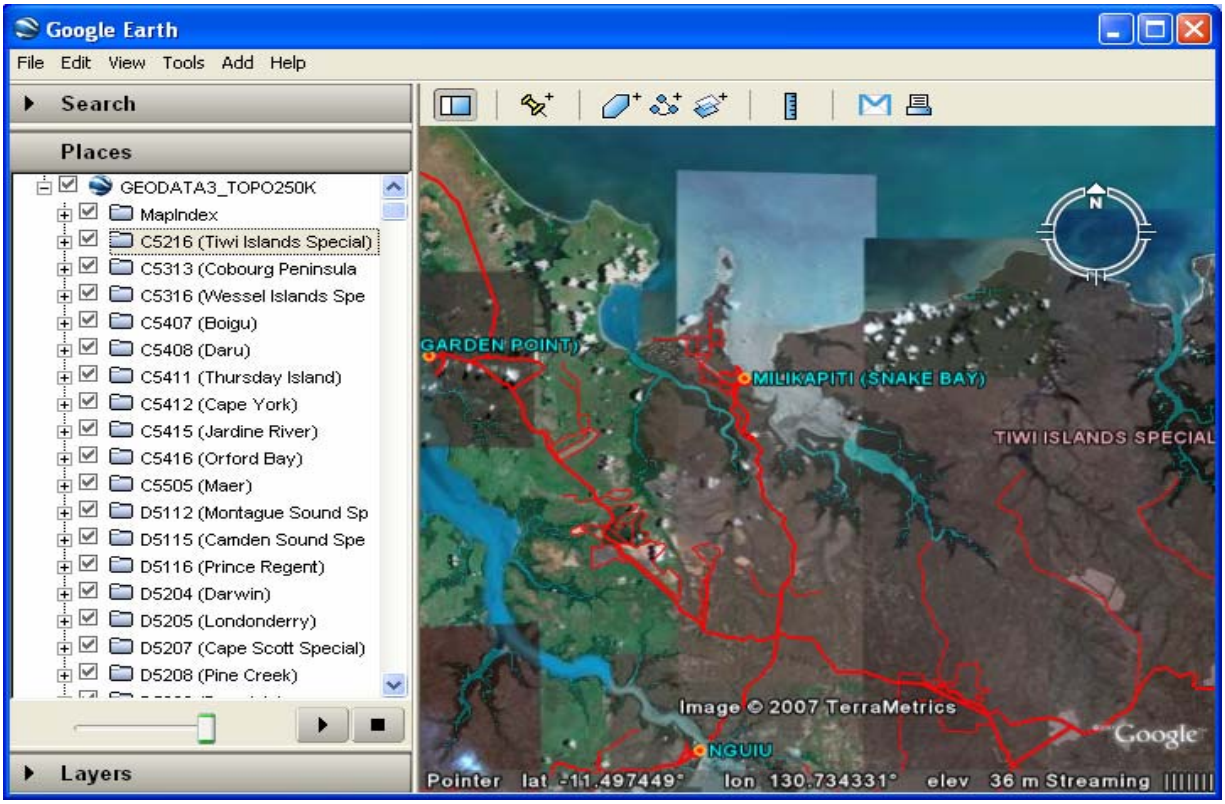
9.2. Map Names. To see NATMAP map names, expand the **MapNames** Folder in List View by clicking on the **+** next to it (**GEODATA3_TOPO25K\MapIndex\Map Names**). Scroll down to the desired map name (e.g. ADELAIDE SPECIAL). Double Click on the name. Google Earth will navigate to the map. Then zoom in further to see the features (Figure 6).

Figure 6



9.3. Map/Tile Number. In List View, scroll down to the desired map/tile number e.g. C5216, Tiwi Islands Special). Double Click on the map number. GE will navigate to the area of that Map/Tile. Then zoom in further to see the features (Figure 7).

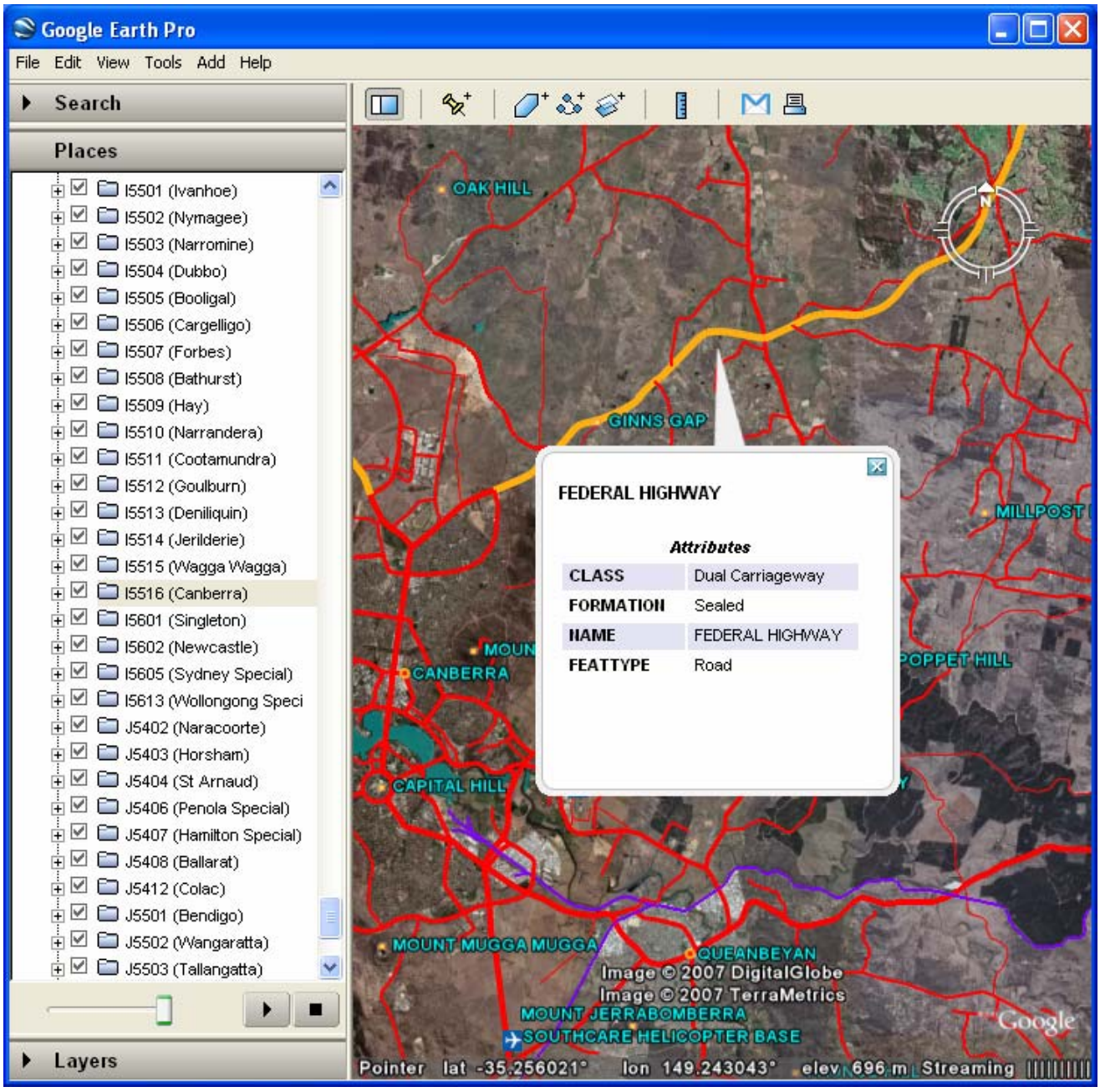
Figure 7



10. **Finding information about GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 features in Google Earth.** In 3D Viewer, place the cursor over the desired feature then press Control (Ctrl) key on the keyboard and left click. A balloon will appear showing a list of attributes for the feature. To close the balloon, click on **X** located at the top right corner of the balloon (Figure 8).

    Please note that to find information about a linear feature which lies within an area feature, you have to first turn off the display of the area feature - this procedure is described in the next section.

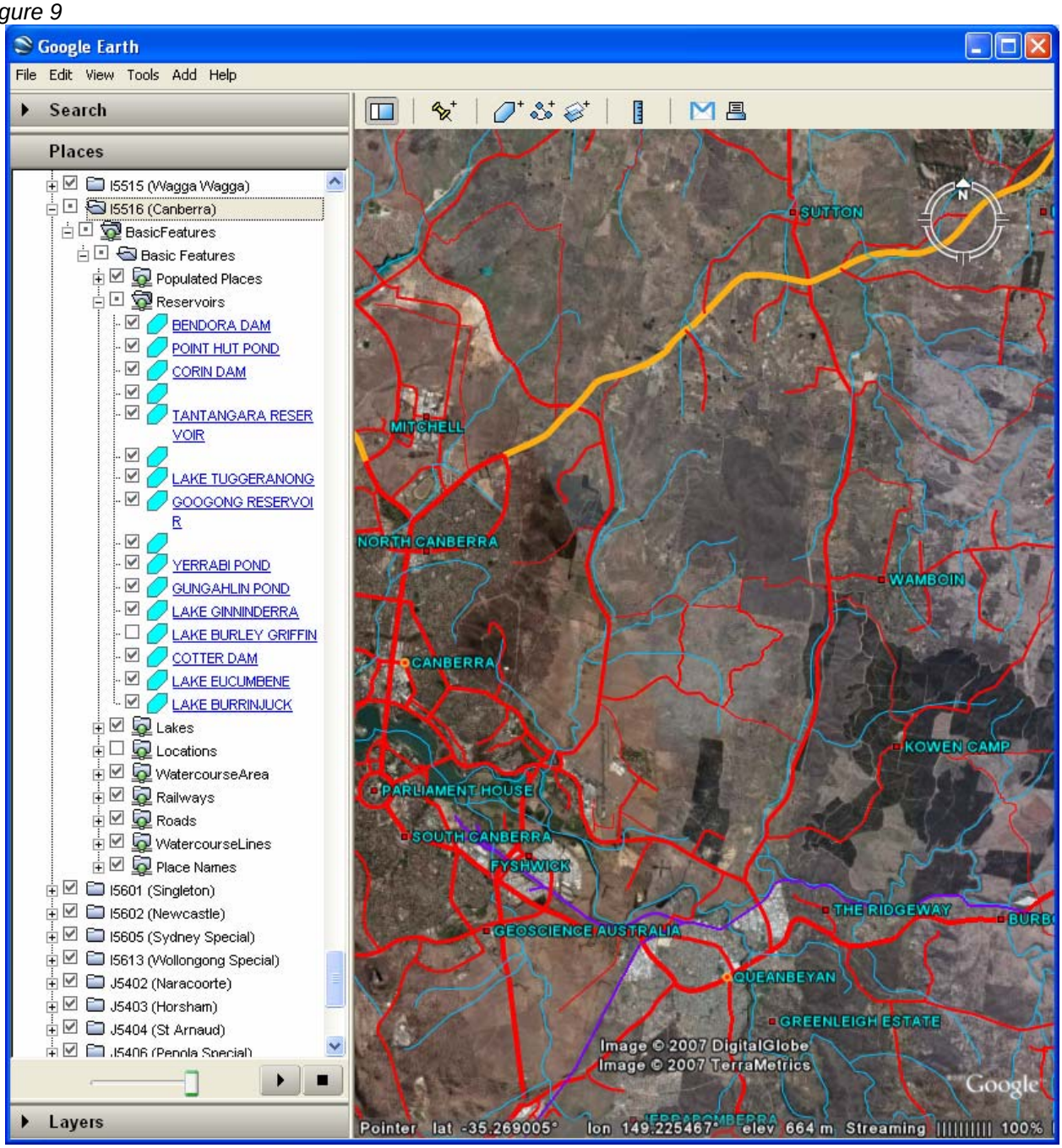
Figure 8



11. **Turning Off/On the display of GEODATA TOPO 250K Series 3 Features.** In List View, scroll down and locate the highlighted folder for the map being viewed in the 3D Viewer (e.g. I5516, Canberra). Expand the folder and sub folders under it. Identify the folder for the features to be turned Off/On. Clicking on the check box next to the feature's folder removes/reinstates the tick mark. Remove the tick to turn off display of all the features in the folder. Reinstating the tick mark in the check box will turn on display of all the features in the folder.

    Features within the folder can also be turned On/Off individually, by clicking in the check box for any feature/features. For example, removing the tick mark from the check box next to the Locations folder turns off all the Locations, and removing the tick mark from the check box next to a lake feature (e.g. LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN) under the Reservoirs folder turns off that single Lake feature, as shown in Figure 9.

Figure 9

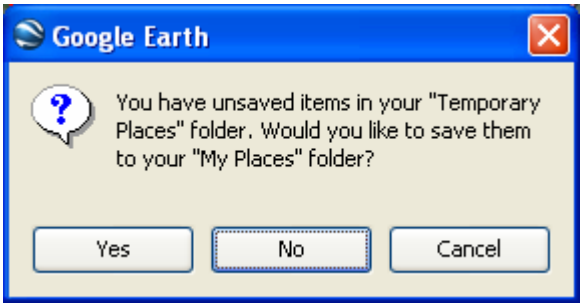


12. Customising features (advanced users only). Users may add or modify features and save them as KML files. This user guide does not provide details on this process. For more information visit the Google Earth web site.

13. Drifting continuously. If you want to drift continuously in any direction, hold the left mouse button down. Then, briefly move the mouse in the desired direction and release the button, as if you are "pushing" the scene. Click once in the 3D viewer to stop motion. The scene will pause momentarily when it crosses from one tile to another whilst Google Earth loads data for the next tile.

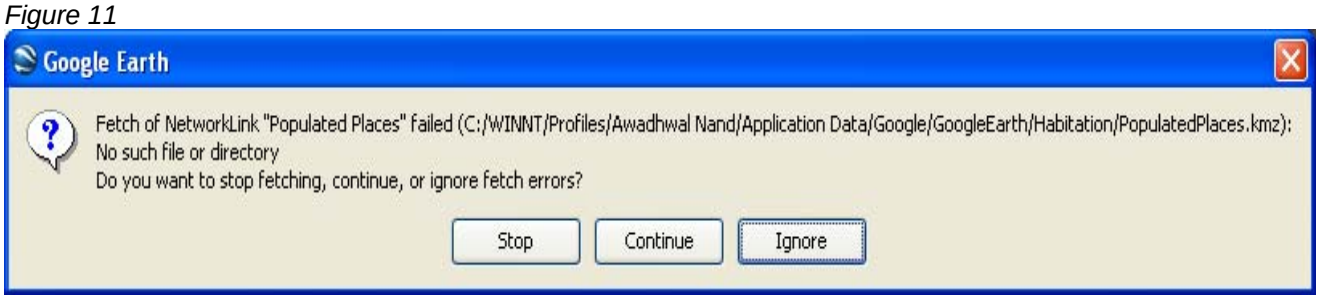
14. Exiting Google Earth. In GE Viewer, Left click **File** > **Exit** or **click on X** in the top right hand corner. A 'Google Earth' question window will come up (Figure 10). Select **No** in the GE question window.

Figure 10



If you chose **Yes** in step 14, the topographic data will be saved in the **My Places** folder and when you launch GE next time, an error message window similar to the one shown below (Figure 11) will appear.

Figure 11



To remedy the problem close all the error message windows (by clicking on each Stop button). Then delete the contents of **My Places** folder as described in step 4 and open an appropriate view (.kmz) file as described in step 6. **Please follow step 14 each time you exit Google Earth.**

For more information please refer to the comprehensive User Guide provided in this product.