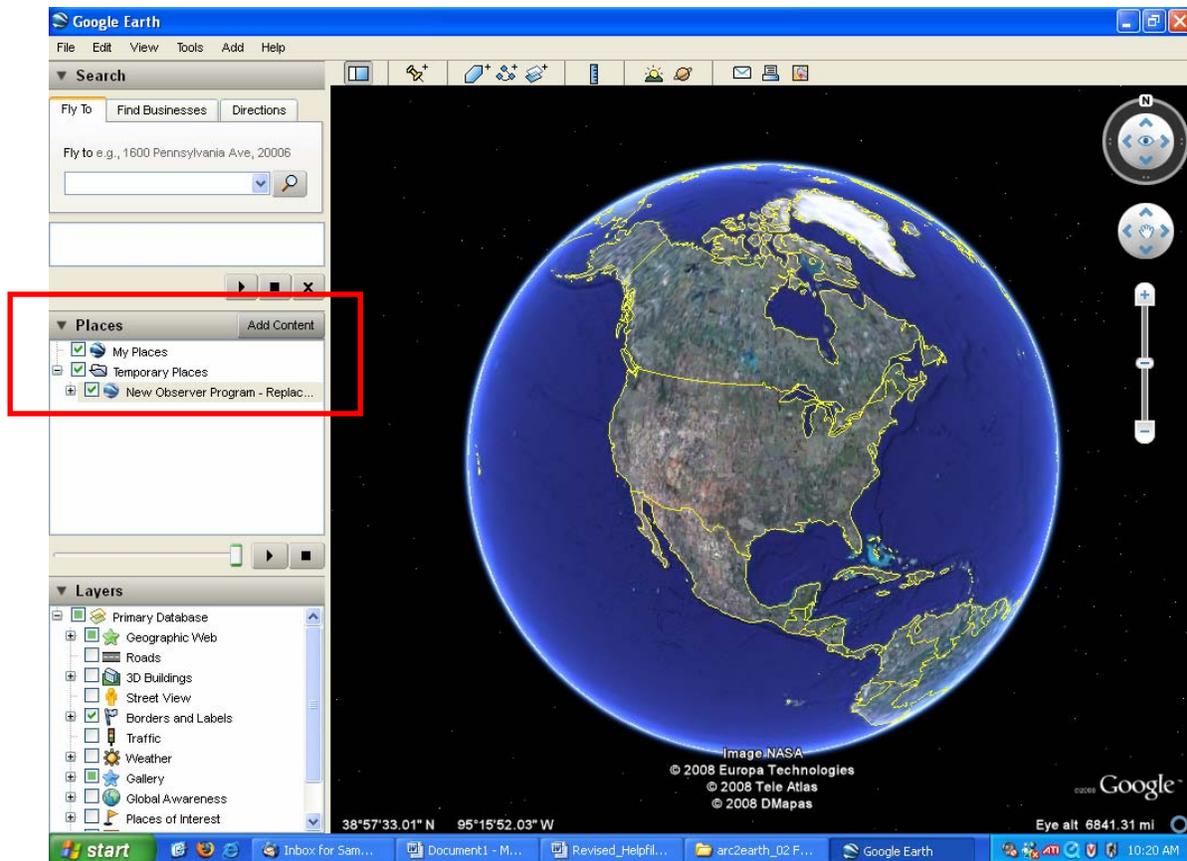


Creating a new observer program in Google Earth

Getting Started

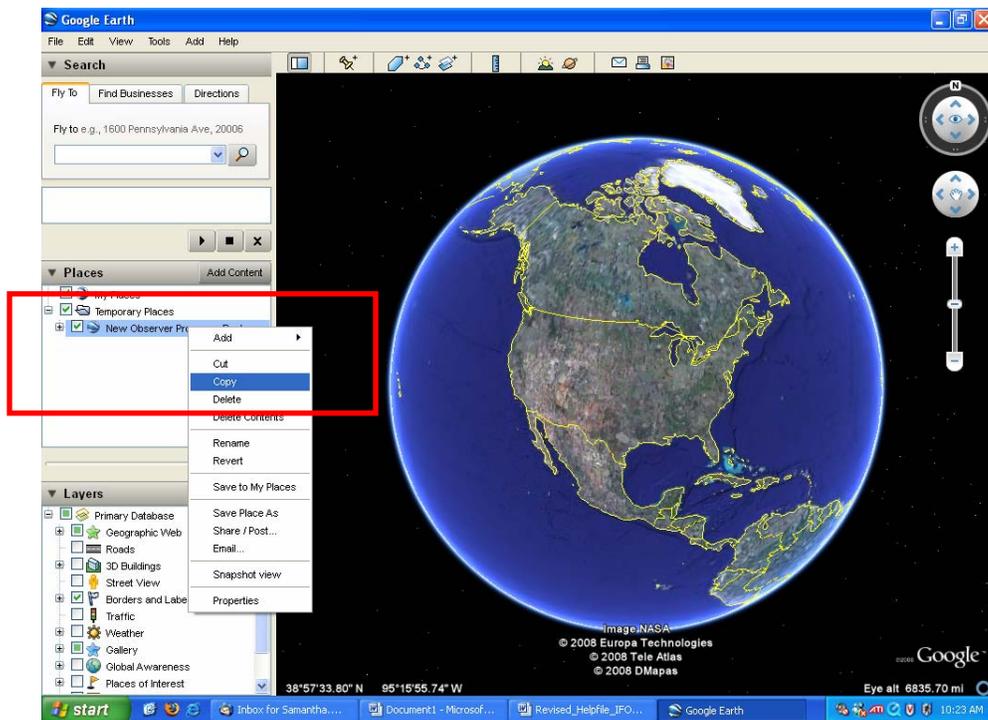
If you do not have Google Earth installed on your computer, visit <http://earth.google.com/> and click on “Downloads” to obtain the latest version.¹ Google Earth provides introductory tutorials that may assist you with learning to navigate the program (under “Help” on the menu bar). If you need a different language, the default language can also be changed (under “Tools” selection “Options” and click on the “General” tab).

- If you don't already have a copy of the map file, contact Samantha Brooke (Samantha.Brooke@noaa.gov) to obtain a copy of the file. Download the file titled “New_Observer_Program” and save it on your computer. The file type is a “.KML”- this is the file extension used by Google Earth. When the file has downloaded, double click on the file name. The file will open in Google Earth.
- The file will appear in the “Places” section of the left hand menu bar, in the “Temporary Places” folder as “New Observer Program - Replace Name, Fill In Description, and Digitize Coverage Area” (I will call it “New Observer Program” for short)

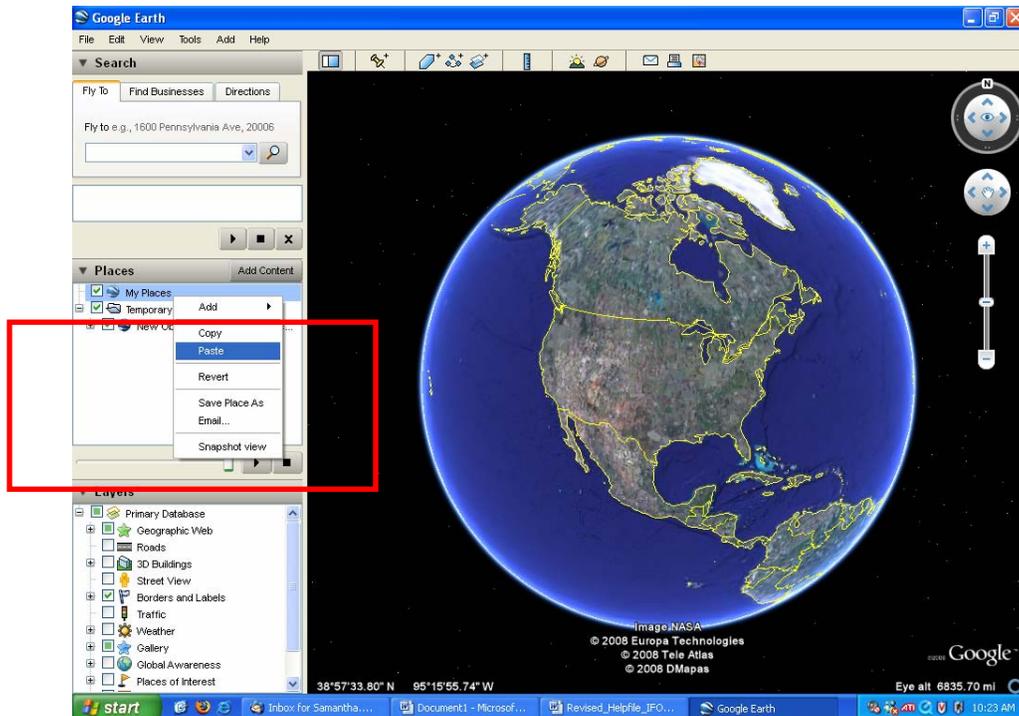


¹ NOAA employees should contact their helpdesk about installing the free version of Google Earth on their computer.

- Right-click² on “New Observer Program”. A menu of options will appear. Select “Copy”.



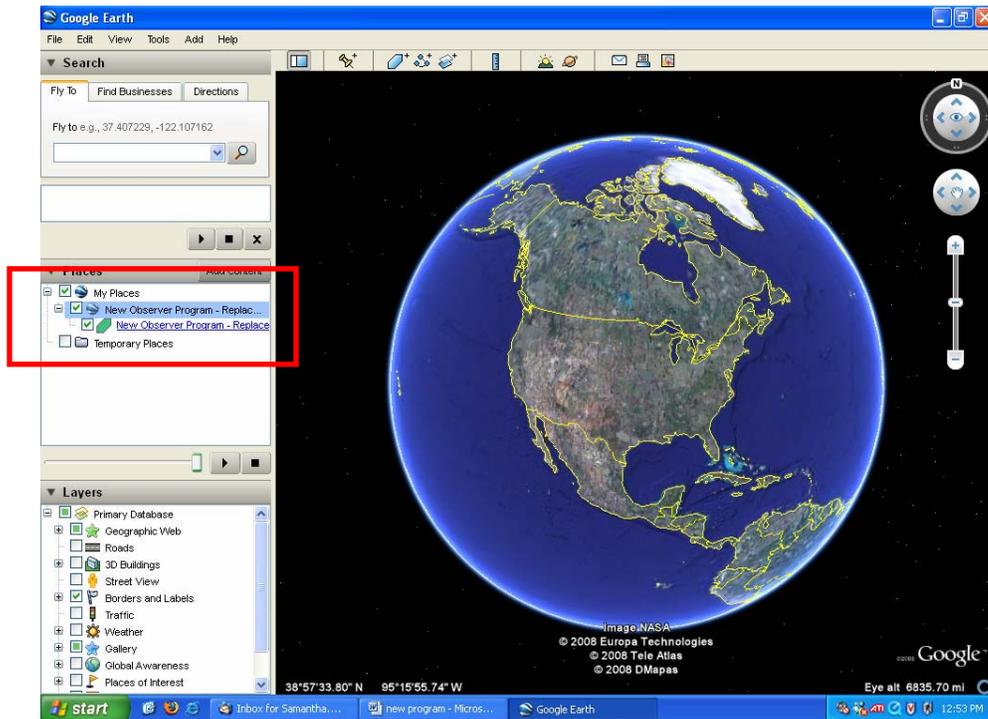
- Next, right click on “My Places”. A menu of options will appear. Select “Paste” (you may need to use the scroll bar and scroll up and down to see “My Places and “Temporary Places”).



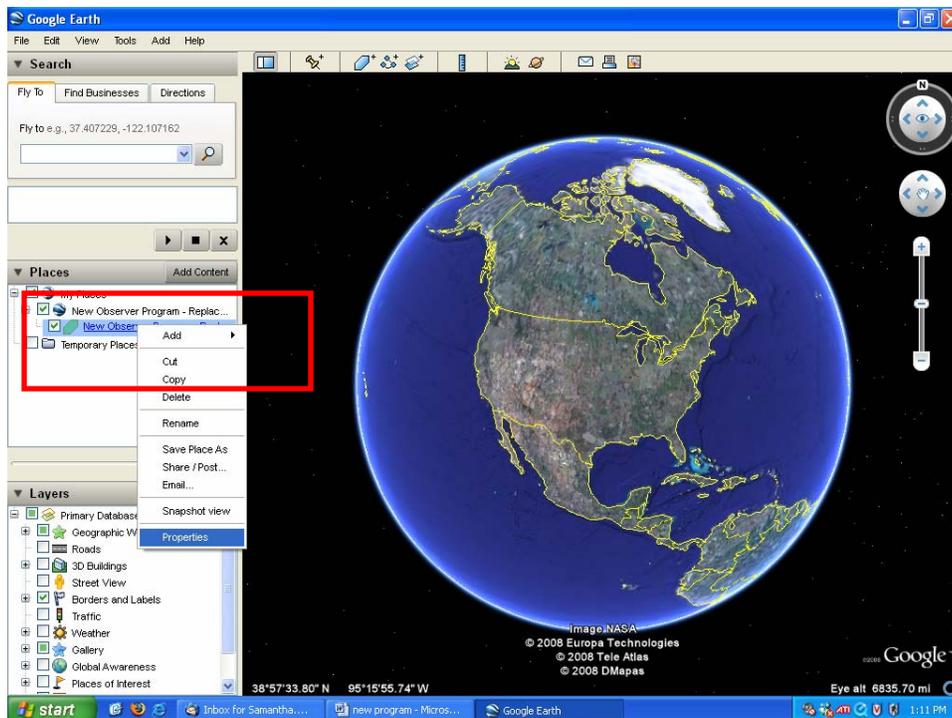
² Mac users should use control + click in place of right click.

Creating a Coverage Area for Your Observer Program

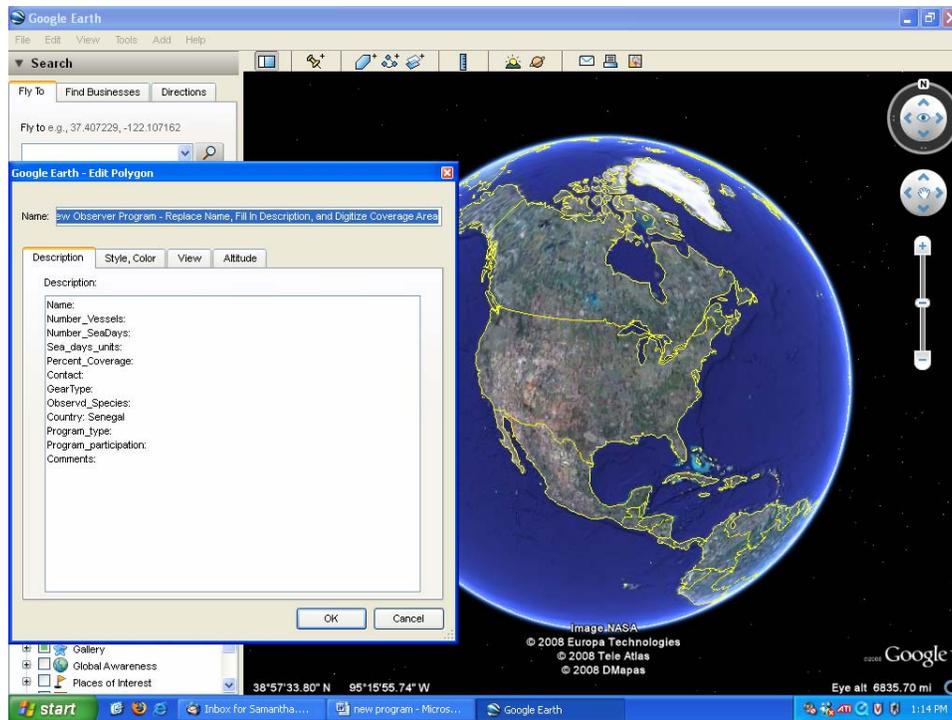
- Under “My Places” click the “expand” button (+ sign) next to “New Observer Program”.
- You should now see a second line of text next to colored polygon (the text should read “New Observer Program” as well).



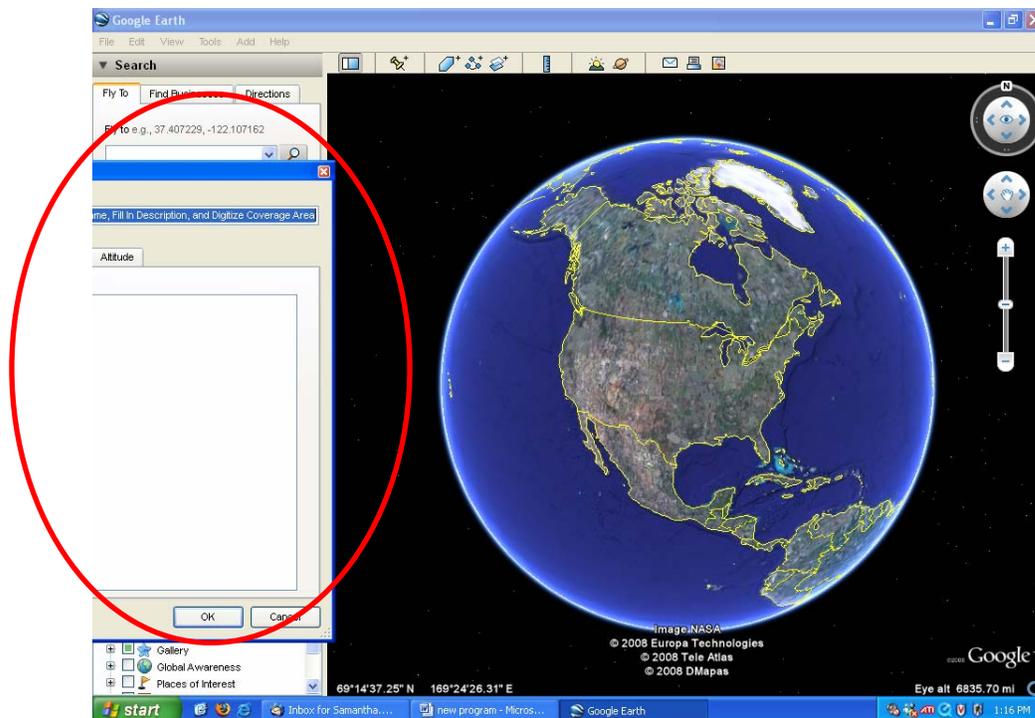
- Right click the “New Observer Program” text next to the polygon.
- Select “Properties” from the menu.



- A window will appear. At the top, it will say “Google Earth – Edit Polygon”.
- Click on the window, and drag it to the side of your screen. This gives you more space on the screen to draw your program’s coverage area.

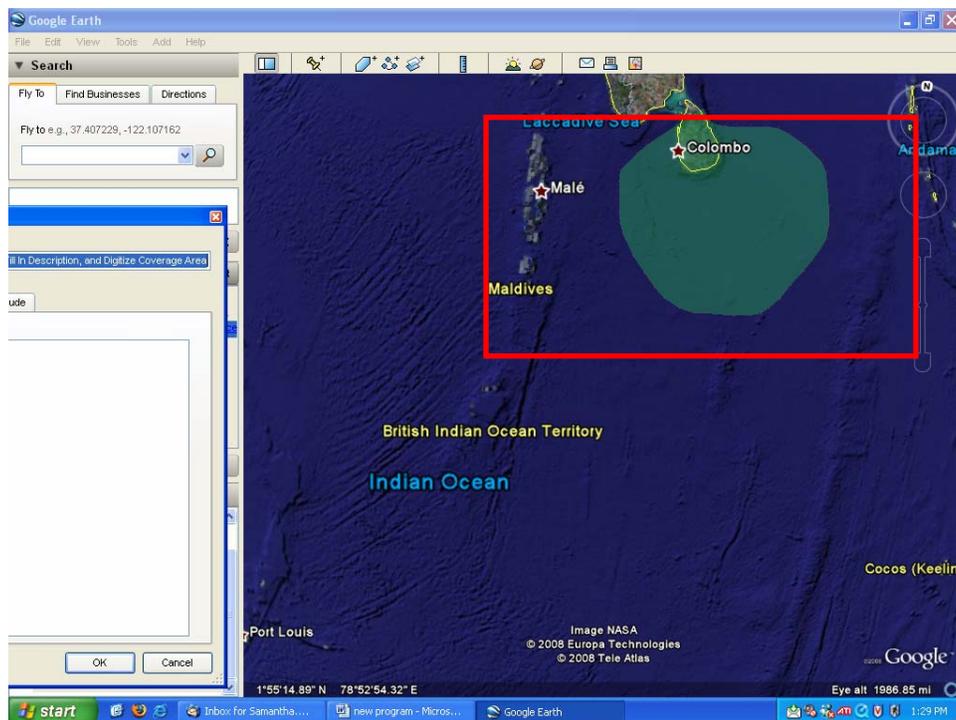


NOTE: Below, the window has been moved to side of screen – do not click the red “x” in the window, that will close the window and stop the editing process. If this happens, go back to the beginning of this section and start the directions over.



Navigating with Google Earth: To rotate the Earth, either use the hand tool (appears when the cursor is held over the map) or use the arrow icons to move the earth around (middle arrows, hand icon in the center), or change perspective (top set of arrows, eye icon in the center). You can also zoom in or out using the slider bar on the top right side of the Google Earth window.

- Zoom in to the area of the map where your observer program is located. For an example, I will create an observer program in the Indian Ocean. The polygon I create will represent the coverage area (area observed) of my observer program.
- Ideally, try to fit the entire area of the program inside the viewing window, but try to zoom in as close as possible.
- To start “drawing” a polygon, left click on the map. Drag the cursor to outline your program. The polygon will appear on the map as a shaded area, surrounded by small red dots.



- You can move the individual dots by clicking and dragging them (a point will turn green when your cursor is over it, indicating it is “active”).
- New points can be added by clicking the border of your polygon.
- Right clicking on an “active” dot will delete it.
- If your polygon includes land (see example), don’t worry. We will delete the part of the polygon that covers land.
- If you make a mistake, just push the backspace key on your keyboard (this deletes points on the line).
- You can click “cancel” at any time, and go back to the beginning of this section (“Creating a Coverage Area...”) to start over.

At this point, you may click “okay” to save your coverage area, or you can continue on to the next section.

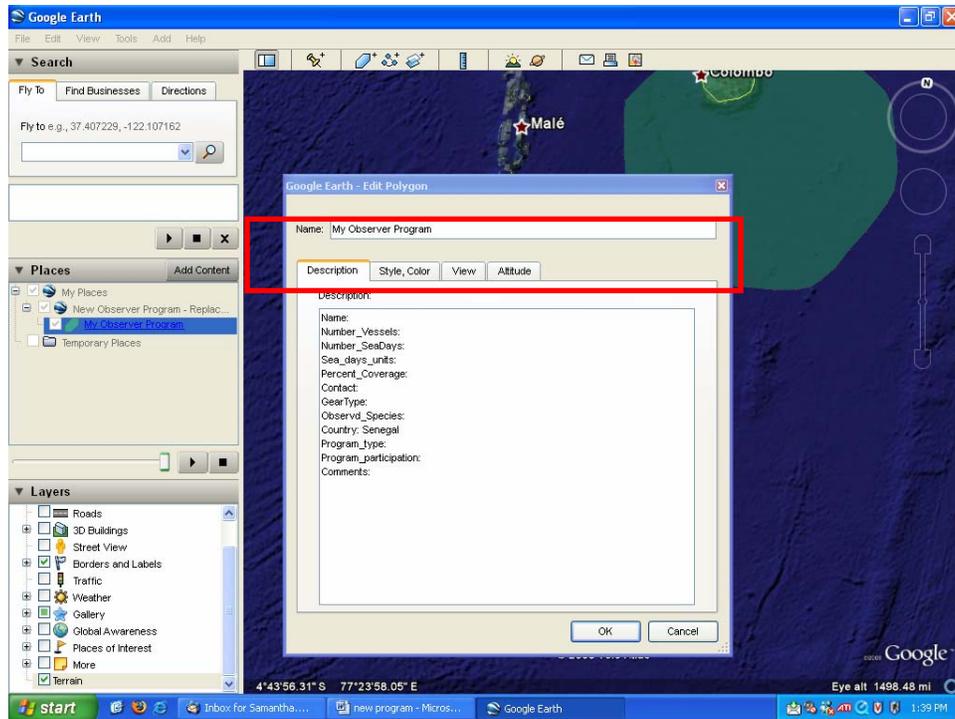
Editing Program Information

If you closed the placemark window by clicking “okay” in the last section, re-open it (right click the “New Observer Program” next to the polygon under “My Places”). If you did not close the window, click and drag it back to the center of your screen.

Changing the Program Name:

To enter the name of your observer program,

- At the top of the placemark window, replace the text that says “New Observer Program” with the name of your program (in the example, I am calling it “My Observer Program”).

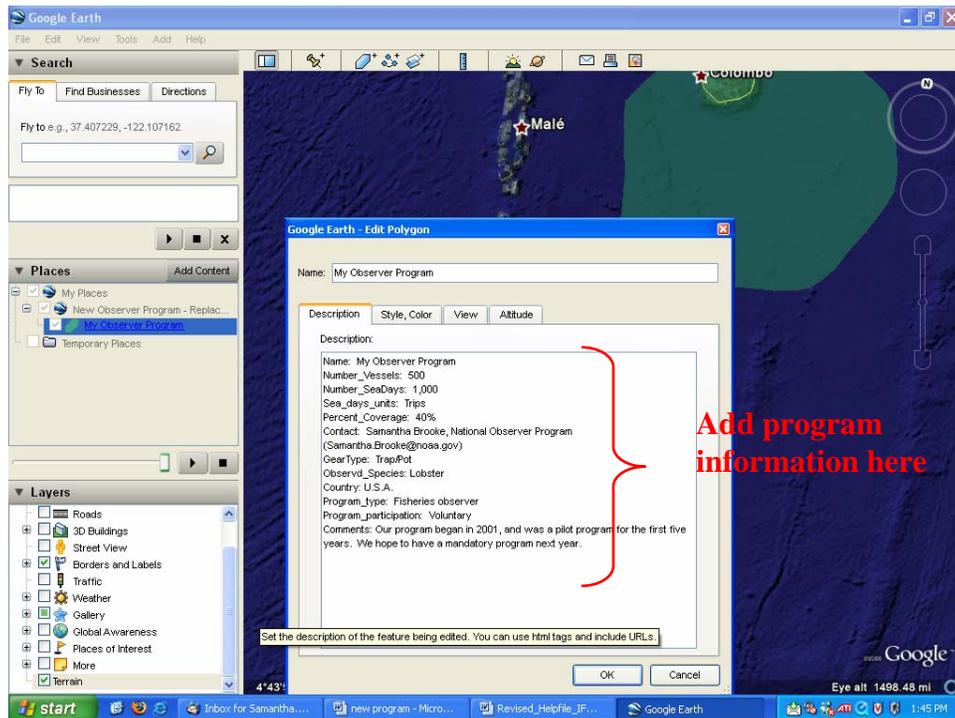


Next, under the “Description” tab, please add information the following fields:

- **Name:** *this field should contain the program name. NOTE- if you change the program name, please change the text in both places- at the top of the window and in the description box.*
- **Number_Vessels:** *list the total number of vessels in the observed fishery or fisheries.*
- **Number_Sea_Days:** *list the total number of days, trips, hauls, etc. observed each year.*
- **Sea_Days_Unit:** *identify where your program observes sea days, trips, hauls.*
- **Percent_Coverage:** *enter the percent coverage.*
- **Contact:** *enter the program contact’s name (e.g. program manager)*
- **Gear_Type:** *enter the gear types observed.*
- **Observed_Species:** *enter the major species/species groups reported (catch and bycatch).*
- **Country:** *enter the country or countries participating in the program. If the program is part of a regional fisheries management organization (RFMO) include the RFMO name in the “Comments” section.*
- **Program_Type:** *describe whether the program includes sea sampling, port sampling, electronic monitoring, observers, or other data collection methods (specify).*
- **Program_Participation:** *is the program mandatory, voluntary, etc.*

- *Comments: provide other information about your program here. You can list your program's website, etc.*

Other tabs do not need to be edited (Style, Color, View, Altitude).



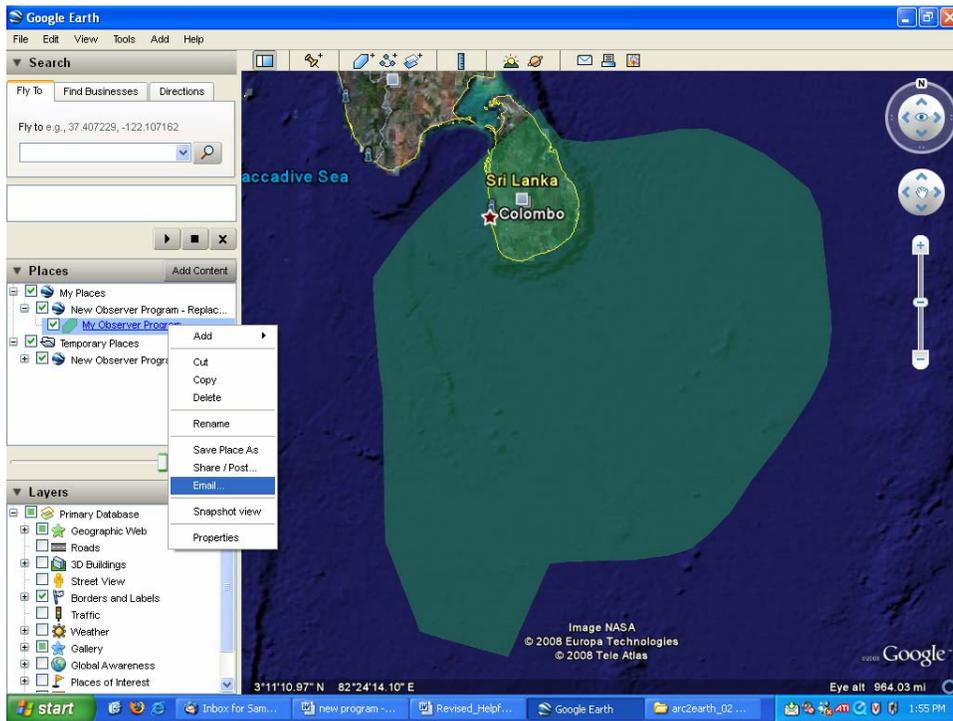
Once you have filled in relevant program information (make sure to provide contact info!), click “okay” to close the window. If this is the only program you want to enter, skip to page 8.

Adding another New Program to the Map

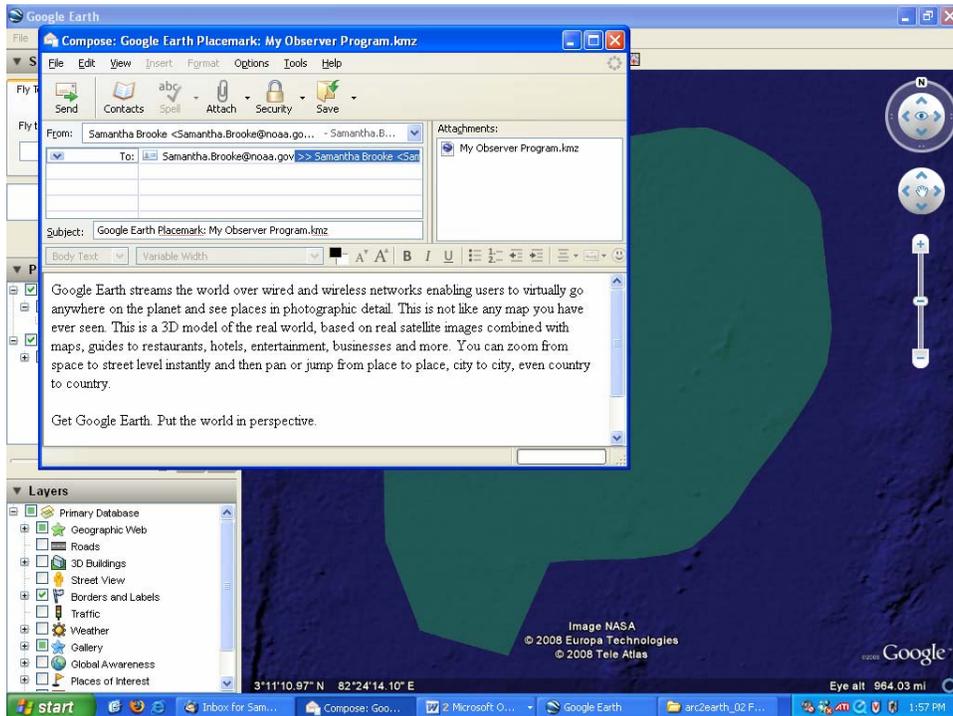
If you have additional observer programs to create, return to the beginning of this document and follow the steps to copy and paste the “New Observer Program” file from under “temporary places” to “my places”. You can now edit the coverage area and program information for this program using the same steps as you used for the last program. Each program should be emailed separately.

Submitting your File

To send your changes to the U.S. National Observer Program, right click on the program name in “places” menu, on the left side of the screen. You will see an option to “Email”.



Using Gmail or your default email system, email your file to Samantha.Brooke@noaa.gov. Please include your contact information, as well as any questions you have. You will need to submit each program new program separately.



What Happens Next?

Once we have received your changes, we will update the Google Earth map with them. These changes will be included in the map presented at the 2009 IFOMC and eventually will be part of the publicly accessible version of the map that will be posted on the IFOMC site following the conference.

Contacts

For assistance with the editing process, contact:

Samantha Brooke
(301)713-2363x109
Samantha.Brooke@noaa.gov

Tim Haverland
(301)713-2338x210
Tim.Haverland@noaa.gov