

Adding the NWDSN WMS as a layer in ArcView 3.X

Introduction

The ARC3WMS client is an ArcView 3 extension (.AVX) that provides access to data sets stored on a Web Map Server (WMS).

WMS is an Internet mapping protocol published by the [OpenGIS Consortium](#). WMS servers publish map images to remote clients using standard internet technologies. There are WMS servers for LandSat data, USGS DOQ photos, bathymetry, and many other data types.

The current beta release of ARC3WMS is free to download and use - [installation](#) and [connection](#) instructions are provided below.

Installation Instructions

1. Download and install ARC3WMS by running the following file and following the on-screen instructions:
http://www.refractions.net/arc3wms/assets/ARC3WMS_Beta2.exe
2. Download the sample OGC file for NWDSN by going to:
<http://gislab-60.unbc.ca/nwdsn.ogc>
Choose 'File' -> 'Save as' then navigate to c:\temp\ or another location where you want to save the file. Choose the file type '.txt' and type 'nwdsn.ogc' as the file name. Press OK to save the file. (A .ogc file is configuration file that is used with the ARC3WMS extension to define the WMS server that you wish to connect to. This specific file is configured to access the NWDSN web-map.)

Adding the WMS layer in Arcview 3.x

1. Create an ArcView project with a new, blank view in it.
2. Enable the ARC3WMS extension by selecting 'Extensions' from the file menu. Scroll down the list of extensions until you find the one labeled 'WMS Support' and turn it on. At this point you may also want to check the 'Make Default' button on the right. This will prevent you from having to do this every time ArcView starts up. Then click OK to close this dialog.
3. Now add the map service to the view by selecting 'Add Theme' from the View menu. In the bottom left corner of the dialog box, under Data Source Types, change the selection box to 'Image Data Source'. Now browse to c:\temp\. Select nwdsn.ogc and click OK.
4. The Layer should now be listed in the left side of the View window. Turn the ArcView layer on as you normally would. The default ogc file has all the NWDSN layers listed in it (All of the layers turned on in the ogc file are displayed as a single ArcView layer), although some of them are commented out using '<!--' and '->' characters. Those characters signify that the layers within them are not turned on, if you wish to turn on the layer you must move it outside of the that set of characters.
5. To change the layers that the NWDSN Mapservice is displaying in your ArcView layer, you can create a custom ogc file. Open up C:\temp\nwdsn.ogc in a text editor (for example, Notepad) and add or remove whichever layer entries you want the map to display, the layers are listed near the bottom of the file. There is a large number of them; one layer per line. Once you have changed the file you can save it with a different name, making sure to still use the '.ogc' extension. You can then add another layer in ArcView the same way as described above (step 3), but selecting your new .ogc file.