

How To Order USDA Geospatial Data & Related Products and Services

➤ Products and Services

- [USDA Geospatial Data Gateway](#) – Download over 100 high resolution vector and raster layers available including the [National Agriculture Imagery Program \(NAIP\)](#).
- [Aerial Imagery](#) – Historical aerial photography in digital and print format and [NAIP Coverage Map](#).

➤ Aerial Imagery Availability

- Same listings located in the [Historical Availability](#) and [Imagery Catalog](#) from 1955 to present.
- National Archives – Contact carto@nara.gov for ordering details of years prior to 1955.

➤ Ordering and Payment Options

- [Instructions](#) – Three step instructions or complete and send order form.
- [Order Form](#) – Contact information (Items 1-8).
 - Describe Area of Interest (Items 14-16, and 18) – See page two for acceptable descriptions including address or kmz and coverage shapefiles.
 - Digital or Print Identification (Item 17) – If unknown, please list years desired.
 - Reproduction Size and Type (A) – See Price List below and Imagery Catalog above.
 - Digital/Analog Format (D-F) – Program/Symbol, Resolution/Roll, QQ Name/Exposure
- [Price List](#) - Product type, size, and resolution or scale.
 - Digital Products – See following film-based Aerial Photo Guide and this [NAIP Visual Guide](#) link.
 - Photographs – Custom or traditional reproductions. See following Aerial Photo Guide.
- [Payment](#) – We collect payments via Pay.gov which accept ACH and Cards for your convenience.

➤ Delivery and Customer Feedback

- Product and service delivery times vary depending on workload and availability.
- Contact us at geo.sales@usda.gov or 801-844-2922 for assistance or current process times.
- [Service Quality Survey](#) – Please let us know how we are doing or suggest improvements.



United State Department of Agriculture

USDA/FPAC-BC/Geospatial Enterprise Operations | 125 South State Street, Ste. 6416 | Salt Lake City, Utah United States 84138
Phone: 801-844-2922 | geo.sales@usda.gov | www.fpachbc.usda.gov/geo



Pine View Reservoir 2001, Weber County UT

Geospatial Enterprise Operations Aerial Photo Guide

November 2022



You have landed at the right location for your USDA digital imagery and photo reproduction needs!

This aerial photo guide is a visual and written description of what to expect when you order from our aerial imagery collection. It highlights some of the limitations of the imagery. A written description for visual examples of the products in each imagery program is listed in the table below. We are able to assist and provide you with ordering exactly what you need. Refer to the Imagery Catalog and Ordering Instructions links at the bottom of this page.

When you place an imagery order with the USDA, the first important thing to consider is that you will receive a high resolution digital version of the imagery by default. The digital version of the imagery will always be a full photo frame (see Full Frame example on the following pages) that contains your area of interest and in most cases will also include much more surrounding area. Enlarged cropped digital images are currently unavailable. However, enlargements or zoomed in areas within the full photo frame can be done by an image/photo viewer on any computer.

The second important thing to consider is that we provide hardcopy photographic prints. We're able to enlarge your area of interest regardless of the size of the area. Keep in mind with the enlarged hard-copy prints, there may be limitations in detail and resolution. For the picture examples that follow (Union County, SD), enlarging the full photo frame (black border) to the original film scale (yellow border) will still provide a very crisp image, but the level of detail of ground features will be lacking. Enlarging to what would be considered an ideal scale (blue border) provides a good combination of detail and crisp resolution. Therefore, we recommend enlarging your area of interest to this scale level only. If you enlarge beyond the ideal scale (red border) the image will begin to become degraded and you will lose both detail and resolution. The bottom line is that in most cases, if you are trying to display a very small area on a hardcopy print (e.g. – individual buildings or small parcels and features such as docks or individual fence lines, etc.), we will not be able to provide a high-resolution print of that area.

The second important thing to consider is that we provide hardcopy photographic prints. We're able to enlarge your area of interest regardless of the size of the area. Keep in mind with the enlarged hard-copy prints, there may be limitations in detail and resolution. For the picture examples that follow (Union County, SD), enlarging the full photo frame (black border) to the original film scale (yellow border) will still provide a very crisp image, but the level of detail of ground features will be lacking. Enlarging to what would be considered an ideal scale (blue border) provides a good combination of detail and crisp resolution. Therefore, we recommend enlarging your area of interest to this scale level only. If you enlarge beyond the ideal scale (red border) the image will begin to become degraded and you will lose both detail and resolution. The bottom line is that in most cases, if you are trying to display a very small area on a hardcopy print (e.g. – individual buildings or small parcels and features such as docks or individual fence lines, etc.), we will not be able to provide a high-resolution print of that area.

Other Important Considerations

Some photos may require digital scanning from the original source film to produce a high resolution digital images. Standard film scan format is TIF and not georeferenced. Partial county coverage up to 1980 will mainly cover farmland area only.

Each aerial film image also has a unique identifier. The Symbol (or Project), Roll number, and Exposure or frame number. These are typically shown on the north edge of the image and can be used to place an order. Examples on the following pages have the **Symbol-Roll-Frame#** and **Date** out-lined in white.

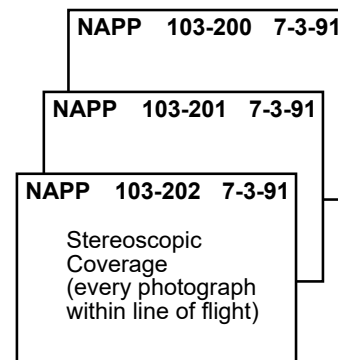
Photo coverage types provide different overlap from frame to frame. Stereo overlap is 60% and Physical is 30%. The most common coverage type that is requested is Physical resulting in less frames of the same area. Stereo provides three-dimensional viewing using a stereoscope; Stereo is also necessary for photo orthorectification. Please see the table and coverage types below for detailed information about each imagery program including photo scales, resolution, and file sizes.

COVERAGE TYPES

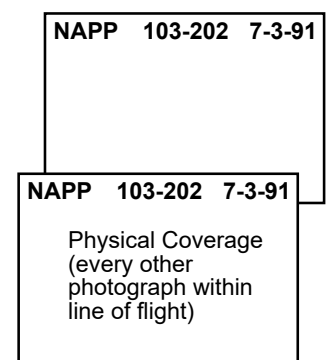
STEREOSCOPIC COVERAGE requires consecutively numbered prints within the line of flight.

PHYSICAL COVERAGE requires every other print within the line of flight.

CONSECUTIVE EXPOSURES



ALTERNATE EXPOSURES



USDA FILM: PROGRAM AVAILABILITY - IMAGERY TYPES - FORMAT SCALES & COVERAGE - DIGITAL RESOLUTIONS

PROGRAM	DATE RANGE	FRACTIONAL FILM SCALE	FEET PER INCH FILM SCALE	IMAGE TYPE	SQUARE MILE COVERAGE	DIGITAL RESOLUTION	DIGITAL FILE SIZE
NAIP	2003 - 2009	1:40,000-1:60,000	3333 - 5000	COLOR & CIR	32.26 - 72.59	50cm - 71cm	1.1 GB
NAPP	1987 - 2007	1:40,000	3333	BW & CIR	32.26	50cm	0.35 GB & 1.1 GB
NHAP	1980 - 1989	1:60,000	5000	CIR	72.59	71cm	1.1 GB
FSA & NRCS	1970 - 1992	1:40,000	3333	BW	32.26	50cm	0.35 GB
FSA & NRCS	1955 - 1991	1:20,000	1667	BW	8.06	25cm	0.35 GB
FS	1955 - 2012	1:12,000-1:24,000	1000 - 2000	BW/COLOR CIR/MISC	2.89 - 11.56	15cm - 30cm	0.35 GB & 1.1 GB

BW-Black & White COLOR-Natural Color CIR-Color Infrared MISC-Other

PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS SIZES AND SCALES FROM 10"X10" TO 30"X40"

Refer to our website [IMAGERY CATALOG](#) and [ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS](#) pages for our forms and years of availability.



