

Image Analysis for ArcGIS FAQs¹



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How Do I Create an Annotation Layer Using ArcGIS?

Use ArcMap to create annotation for any layer added to ArcMap's Table of Contents. This document describes how to create annotation for any layer in ArcMap.

What You Will Need and Other Assumptions

- An image, coverage, geodatabase or other type of geographic data added to an ArcMap session

Overview of Steps

1. Load your geographic data into an ArcMap session.
2. Create an Annotation Group for your Data Frame and assign an Associated Layer.
3. Add annotation to your geographic data as necessary.

Step-by-Step Example

1. Use the **Add Data** button on the main toolbar of ArcMap to add your images.
2. **Right-click** on the **Data Frame** symbol in the Table of Contents and select **Properties**.
3. Select the **Annotation Groups** tab and click the **New Group** button.
4. Specify a name for the **New Annotation Group** and click **OK**.
5. Select your new Annotation Group and click the **Properties** button to display the Annotation Group Properties dialog. Choose the appropriate layer from the **Associated Layer** pull-down list. This should be the geographic data layer requiring annotation. Click **OK** to set these changes and dismiss the Annotation Group Properties dialog.
6. Click **Apply** and **OK** in the Data Frame Properties dialog to apply your changes and dismiss the dialog box.
7. Click **Drawing** on the Drawing toolbar and set the **Active Annotation Target** to **Annotation**. *Note: ensure the Drawing toolbar is visible. If not, from ArcMap's main menu select: 1) View | Customize and enable **Drawing**; and 2) View | Toolbars and enable **Drawing**.* Click **Close** to dismiss the Customize dialog.
8. Use the **New Text** button on the Drawing toolbar to add annotation to your Active layer.

¹ Produced by the USDA Forest Service RSAC (<http://fsweb.rsac.fs.fed.us>). A Forest Service version of Image Analysis for ArcGIS was used to develop this reference document. No warranty is made as to completeness or accuracy.