How to obtain latitude and longitude coordinates using Google Maps

If you do not have a hand held GPS, or a GPS app on a smart phone, you can use Google Maps to obtain geographic coordinates for your goshawk observation. Begin by going to <u>maps.google.com</u>. Then find the local area where you made the observation. In the examples below the approximate location of an observation is indicated by the red marker.



Google Maps allows you to switch between street map view and aerial view by clicking on the small square in the lower left corner. This will change the display to an aerial image as shown below. Use whichever display you find more useful for finding the general area of your observation.



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Once you have located the area where you made your observation, zoom in to a scale where you can more easily determine approximately where you encountered the goshawk. Once you can estimate where you were, you can determine latitude and longitude coordinates by moving your mouse pointer to the location and then right click on the map. This will open a menu with a list of choices. Select and click on "What's here?" This will open a small box that provides the latitude and longitute coordinates for the location under your mouse pointer. Enter these coordinates on the observation form. An example is shown below.

