



# About Service Caches



Remote Sensing Applications Center

<http://fsweb.rsac.fs.fed.us>

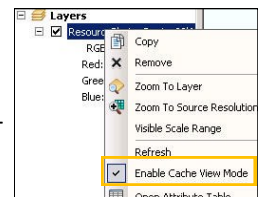
A major improvement in the new version of the Image Server is the ability to create image service caches. These caches improve the performance of image services in client applications such as ArcMap.

Caches are pre-generated at RSAC, similar to how you would create image pyramids on your own imagery. As you pan and zoom around the image, the cache tiles are delivered to your computer faster than the raw imagery would be drawn. An important aspect is that these caches cannot be processed on the fly—it is serving image tiles that have been preprocessed and stored on the server. In order to perform processing on the served imagery, you will need to turn the caching off; this is covered in below.

One thing you will notice is that at some scales, the cached tiles may appear fuzzy; this is a by-product of the cache generation process. For most workflows, this slightly reduced sharpness should not be an issue. Use the cached imagery to find your area of interest, then switch to the dynamic view when you need the more detailed view or want to process the imagery.

## Switching from Cached to Dynamic services:

1. In the Table of Contents, *right-click* on the desired service.
2. You should see a checkmark next to **Enable Cache View Mode** (see right.) Click on this to deselect it and switch to dynamic mode.
3. Momentarily you will see the display refresh and the service type change.



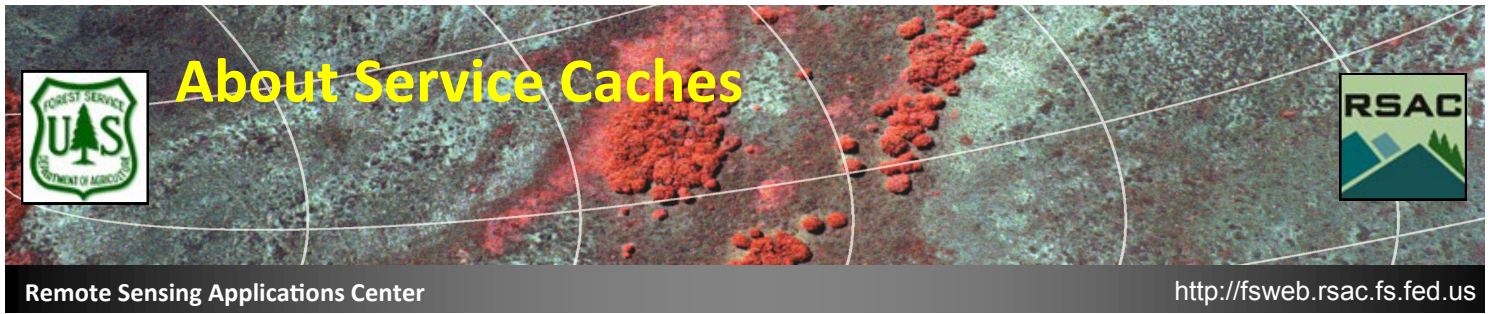
If you notice the refresh lagging while zooming or panning, switch back to the cached imagery until you get to your area of interest, then return to dynamic imagery.

## To return to cached services:

1. In the Table of Contents, *right-click* on the desired service.
2. Click on **Enable Cache View Mode** to restore the checkmark and to return to cached imagery.

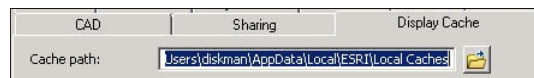
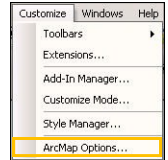
Cached imagery is saved on your local hard drive; this is what allows for the improved refresh speed while navigating the services. You have the ability to designate the folder where the cache tiles are saved, which is useful if the default drive is running short on space.

It is recommended that you should leave the folder as the default unless you have good reason to change the cache location.



### To change the storage folder:

1. In the ArcMap main menu, select **Customize | ArcMap Options...** (see right.)
2. Click on the **Display Cache** tab.
3. Next to Cache path, click on the yellow folder icon (see below), and select a new folder.



### To clear the cache:

1. Make sure that you are in Cache view mode.
2. In the Table of Contents, *right-click* on the desired service.
3. Click on **Properties**, then click on the **Cache** tab.
4. Finally, click on the **Clear Local Cache Now** button (see right.)



Note that you can also choose other caching options: to keep the cache between sessions, to clear the cache when you close ArcMap, or to not cache any data locally. Since the Image Services will rarely change over time, you can keep the default **Keep the cache between sessions** option to have optimal performance, and clear the cache occasionally if needed.