

Selecting a Camera and Imaging Station

Joanna McCaffrey, iDigBio Leveraging Digitization Practices Across Multiple Domains Workshop 8 October 2014, Santa Barbara CA







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Shopping List

- Copy stand
- Camera
- Lens
- Cables
 - AC adapter
 - Long USB cable
- Computer & Monitor
- Software
 - Camera control software
 - Image management software
- Lights OR Photo-eBox Plus
- Miscellaneous





Copy Stand: Kaiser 205512 RSX





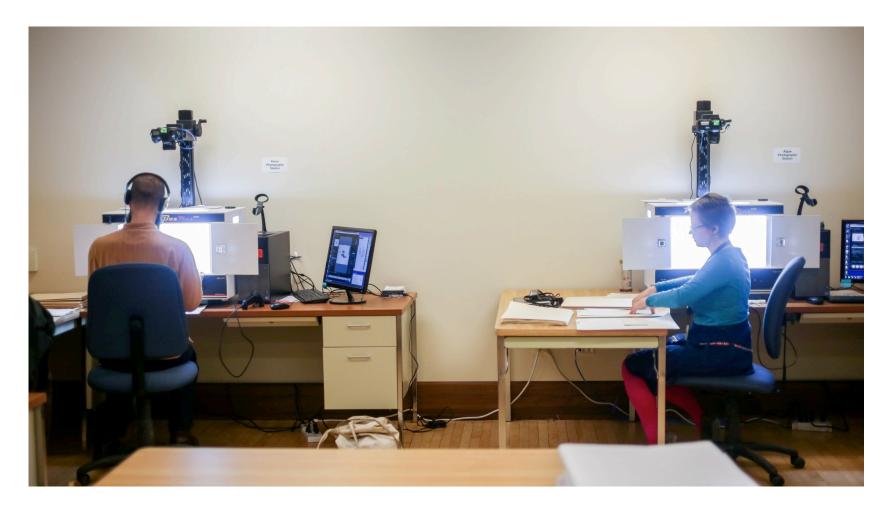
Photo eBox Plus





Photo eBox Plus in action





Work Environment





Copy stand with 2 strobes

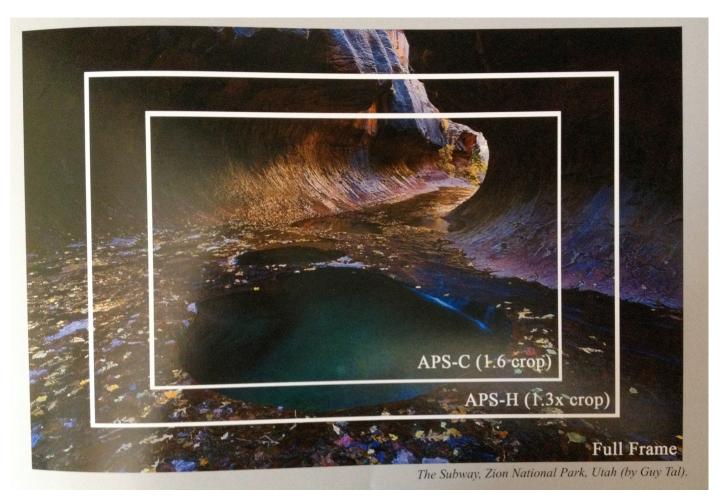


Camera – Canon or Nikon Full Frame, at least 18 MP









Full frame versus cropped frame



Lens 50 – 60 mm macro Goal: Good 1:1 fidelity

Macrophotography lenses have extra close focusing ability







Bad lens / good lens





Cables

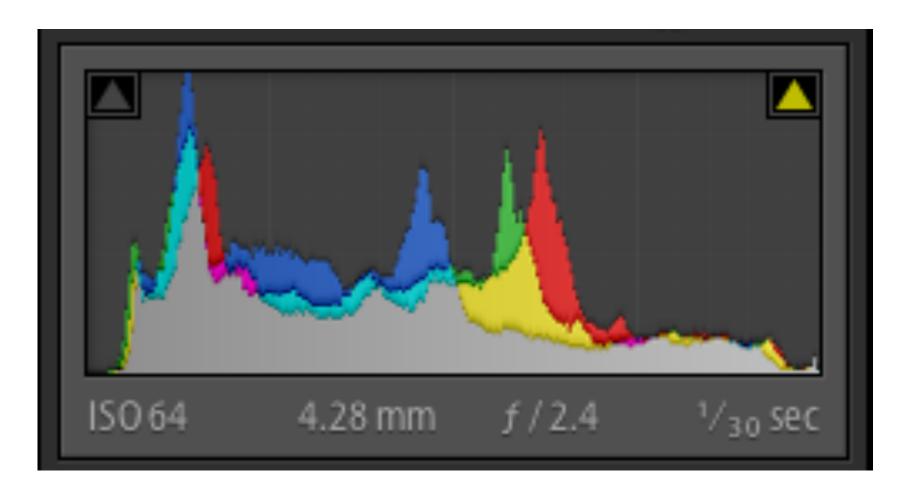
- AC adapter replaces dependence on camera's battery
- Camera control tethering camera to computer, using Live View



Key Photography Terms

- Image Goals
 - Exposure well balanced
 - White balance accurate light, no colour cast
 - Focus sharp





Exposure: combination of ISO, speed and f-stop

Use the histogram



Camera Settings

- Put the camera in manual mode (not program, shutter, speed, aperture, etc.)
- Set matrix metering (not spot)
- Place lens in auto focus
- Exposure
 - f/stop between f/9 and f/11
 - ISO = 100
 - Shutter speed = 1/60 sec.
- White balance: auto, but depends on lights
- Set image quality to Raw
- Move camera up and down on the copy stand until in Live View the subject fills the frame and is in focus



Miscellaneous Equipment (1)

- Spigots (spacers) and copy stand adapters
- Barcode reader
- External hard drive
- Hot-shoe bubble



Miscellaneous Equipment (2)

- Extra bulbs
- Ruler
- Colour checker
- Lens cleaning supplies
- Roll of 1" gaffer tape
- Monitor colour correction software



Image Management Software

 Adobe Lightroom – convert to DNG in Lightroom



Camera Control Software

- Canon
- Nikon
- Third party



End of Presentation

Further slides give examples of using the two main camera control packages

- Additionally, there is a wealth of knowledge here: https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/index.php/Digitization_Resources lmaging_Documents_and_Resources
- See here https://www.idigbio.org/content/idigbio-image-file-formatrequirements-and-recommendations

for the iDigBio 'fit for use' imaging standards

 See here https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/images/8/86/ IDigBiolmagingGeneralEquipmentRecommendations1_0.pdf for a shopping list of photo digitization equipment



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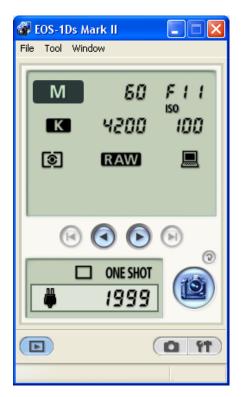
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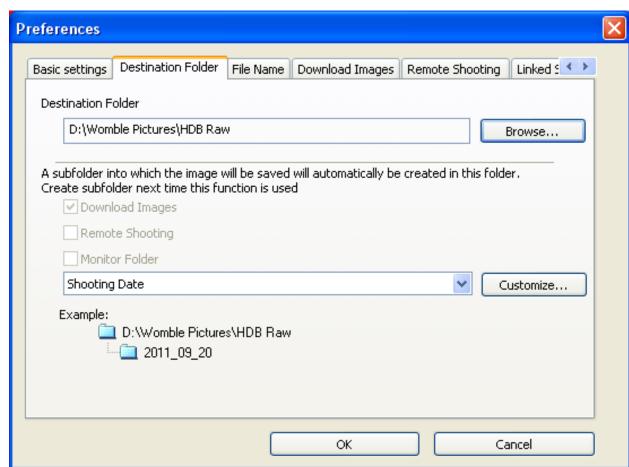




Canon EOS (for tethered shooting and control of the camera







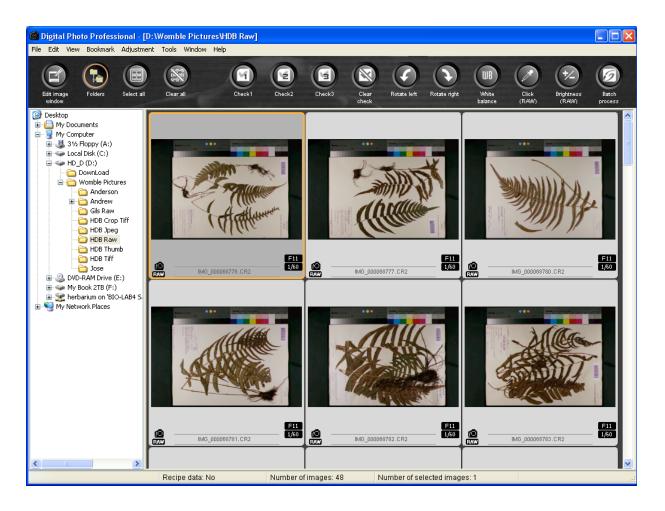
EOS Utility



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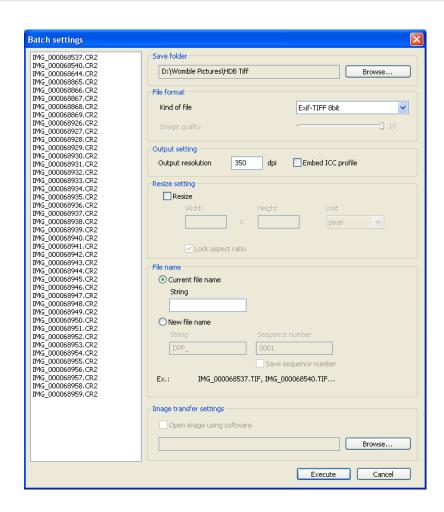
EOS Utility





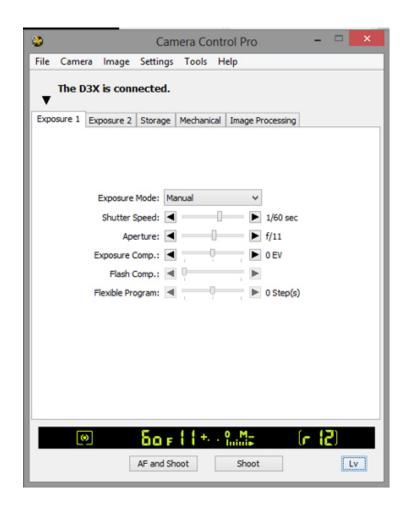
Canon Digital Photo Professional





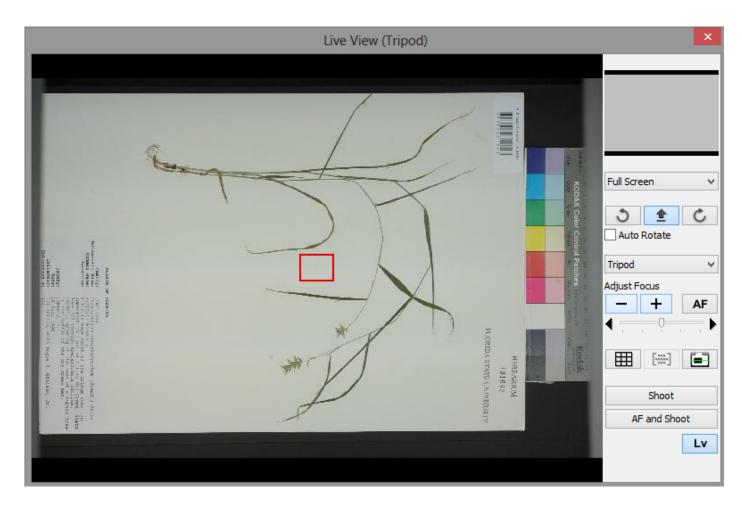
Canon digital Photo Professional





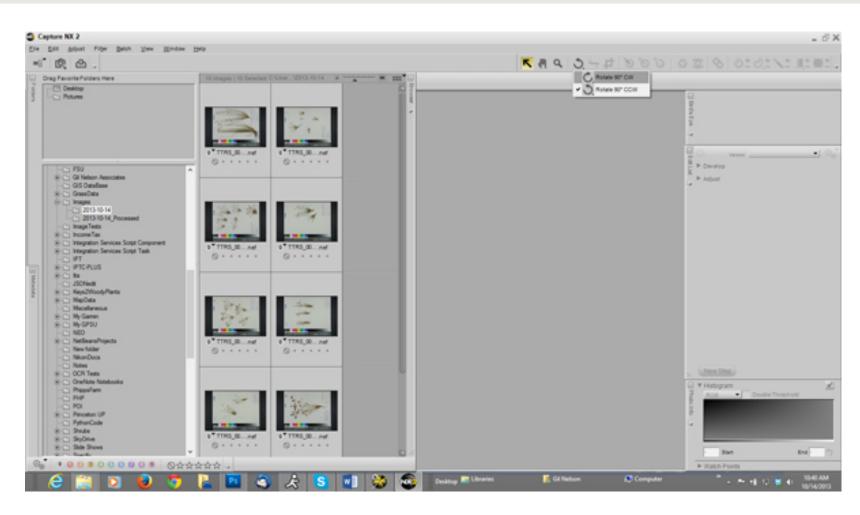
Nikon Camera Control Pro 2





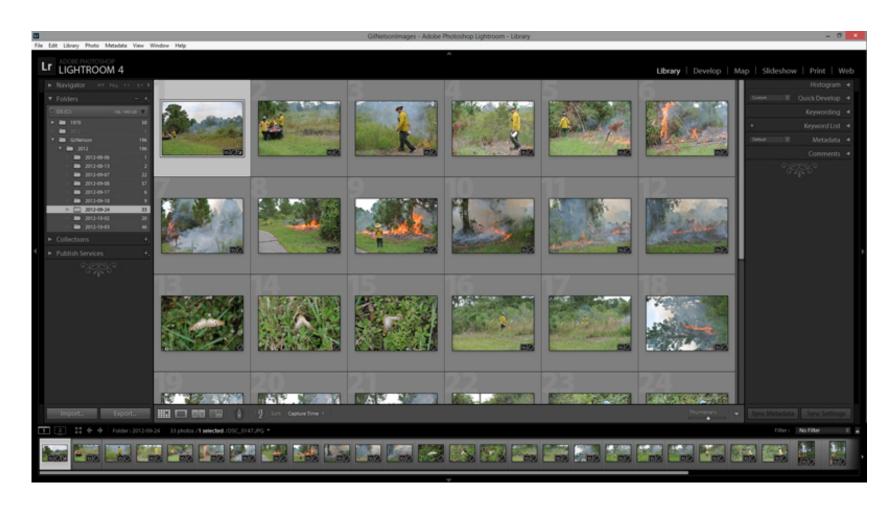
Nikon Camera Control Pro 2 – Live View





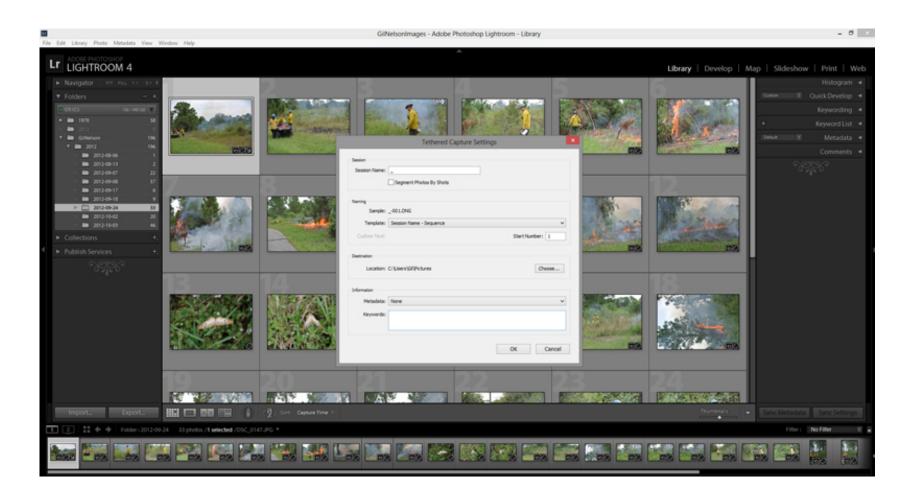
Nikon Capture NX2





Adobe Lightroom





Adobe Lightroom Tethered Shooting