Exercise 7 – Customizing ArcPad Toolbars and Data Forms Using ArcPad Studio

Session Objectives: At the conclusion of this session, you will be able to:

- ❑ Use ArcPad Studio to modify the default ArcPad Toolbar
- ❑ Use ArcPad Studio to customize ArcPad data forms

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Revision: January 2012

Software: ArcPad 10 SP3, ArcPad Studio 10 SP3

Path: C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Documents\ArcPad\
D:\Exercise7

GDB: RNWR.gdb

MXD: Geese_Surveys (students create)

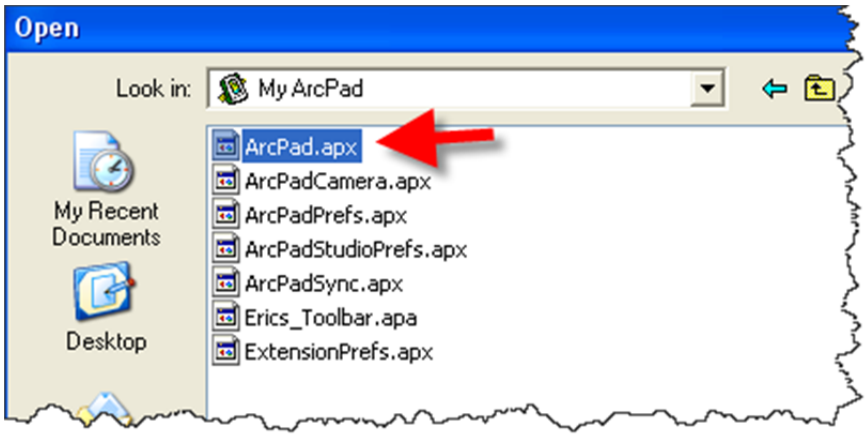
Other Files: Arcpad.apx, RNWR_gdb.axf (students create)

SECTION 1- Using ArcPad Studio to Modify ArcPad's Default Toolbar

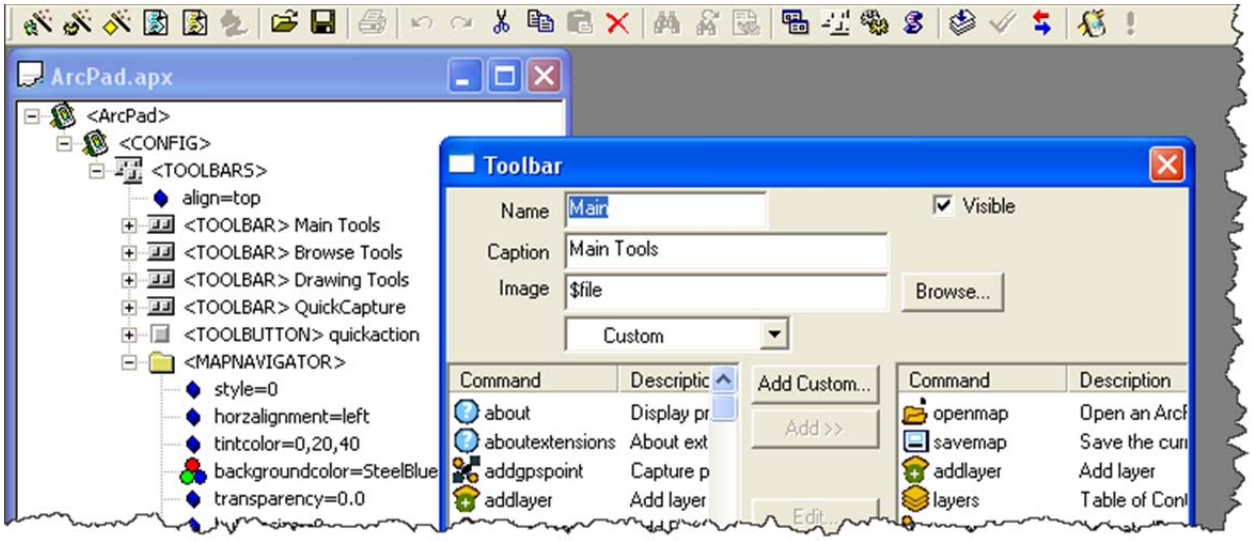
ArcPad Studio contains many powerful toolsets to modify ArcPad's look and feel, however, the program is far from user friendly. This quick exercise is designed to ease you into modifying standard toolbars in ArcPad Studio.

1. Launch ArcPad Studio from the desktop.

2. Select "**Browse for Files**" and locate the **ArcPad.apx** file in the **C:\Documents and Settings\"*your user name*"\My Documents\My ArcPad** folder. This is the default configuration file for ArcPad.



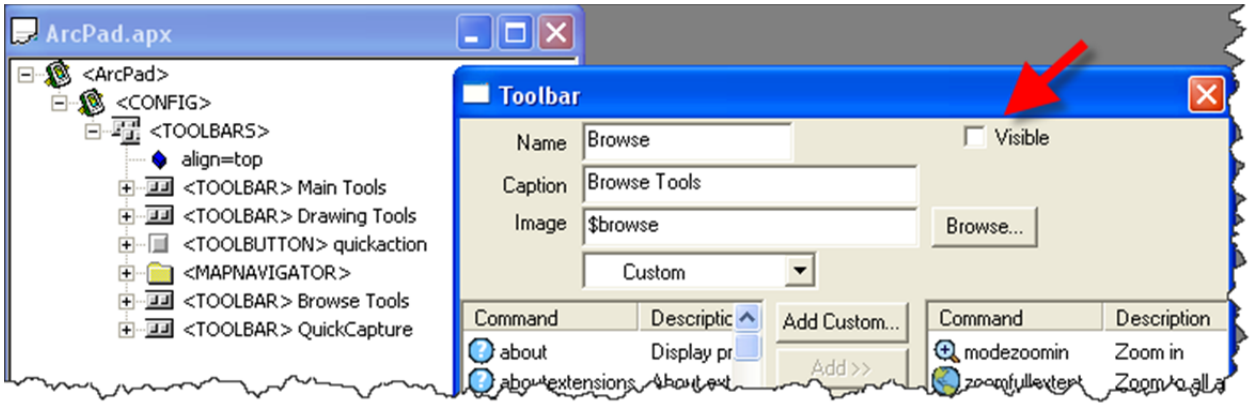
3. Double-click on any of the toolbars. Notice that you have the ability to add or remove tools from the default configuration. We don't want to make any changes, so just click **Cancel**.



4. You have the ability to hide the Main, Browse, or Drawing Toolbars.

   - To hide a toolbar, simply double-click on the toolbar and uncheck the visible box. Click **OK.**

   - Why would you want to remove the default toolbars?



5. To delete a toolbar, simply right-click on the Toolbar and select Delete. Go ahead and delete the **QuickCapture Toolbar.**

   - Select the **Save** button on the ArcPad Studio Toolbar.

   - Open ArcPad from the ArcPad Studio Toolbar and verify that the Quick Capture tools are gone.

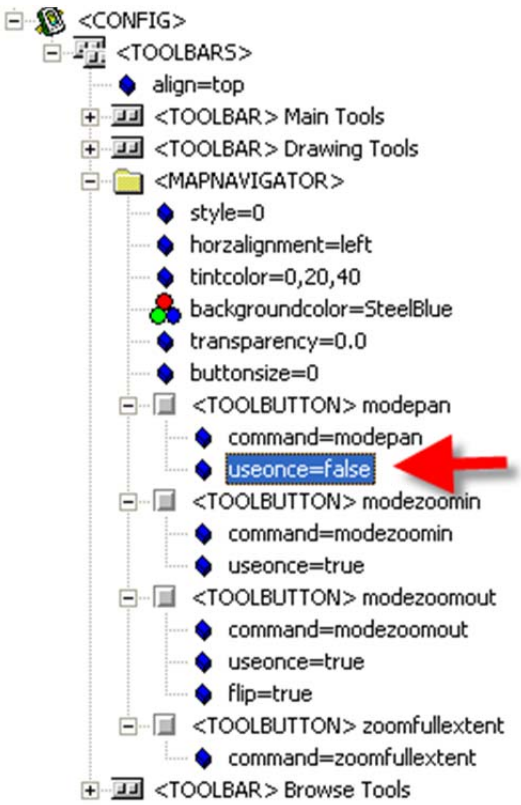
   - Close ArcPad and go back to our Studio project.

6. Expand the <MAPNAVIGATOR> Tool.

- Expand each <TOOLBUTTON> to display the options within. You can see that every <TOOLBUTTON> has the exact same set of features.

- Double-click on the **useonce=false** command within the **modepan** toolbutton. Change the value to false and click **OK**.

- Save the file and open ArcPad again to see what changes you made.



Extra Credit: The ability to modify almost any aspect of ArcPad is what makes the software so useful. If you're feeling adventurous modify the style=0 setting in the ArcPad.apx file. There are five different styles and the values range from 0-4. Try different ones and see how they work for you. What does style=3 look like? What about style=1?

- Lets say you don't like and/or use one of the tools. Changing it is as simple as changing the value within the "command=…" to another function. What would happen if you had "command=exit" or "command=find"?

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- If you don't even want to use the Map Navigator, how do you remove it?

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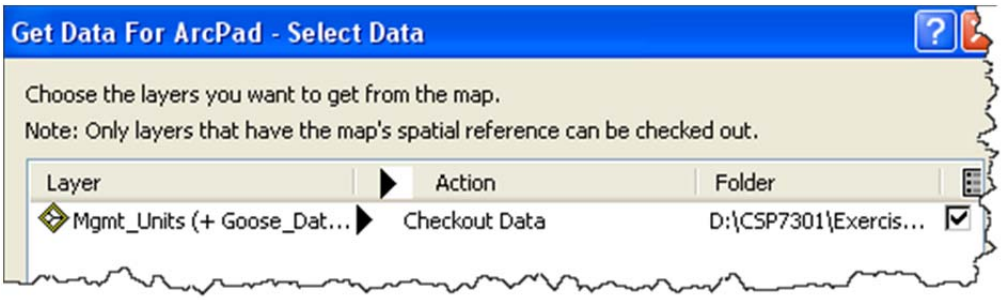
SECTION 2 – Customizing ArcPad Data Forms

Customizing data forms in ArcPad Studio is "clunky" to say the least. This section will introduce you to the basic's but can't go any further without knowing scripting language (vb or jscript). Application of what you learned in this section will make data collection easier in the field, but you'll have to weight all options to see if this extra bit of work is really worth the effort.

All data are located in the **D:\CSP7301\Exercise7** folder, unless otherwise stated.

1. Open the Geese_Surveys.MXD.

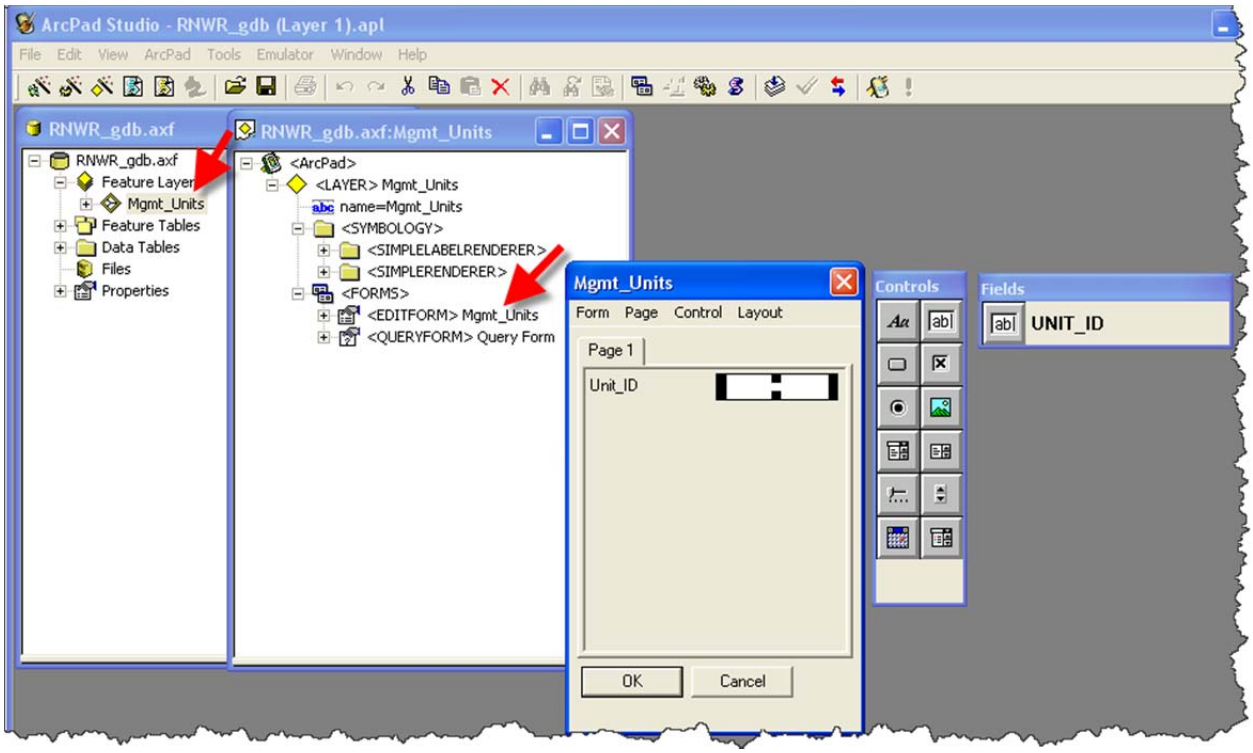
2. Check out the project to the Exercise7 folder. Name the ArcPad project folder and map Geese_Surveys.



3. Minimize ArcMap and open ArcPad Studio.

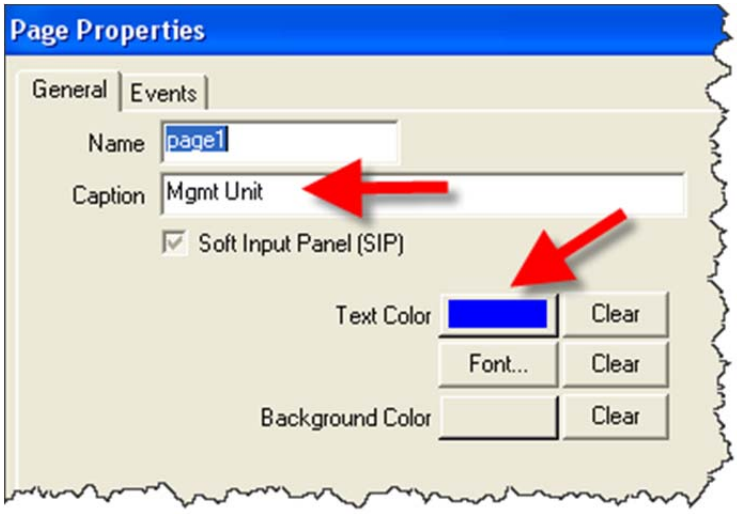
4. Browse for files and open the **axf** file in the Geese_Surveys folder.

5. Double-click on the **Mgmt_Units** feature layer, then double-click on **<EDITFORM> Mgmt_Units** form to start editing the default data form.

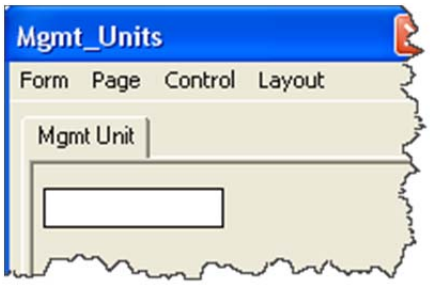


6. Click on the **Page** tab and select **Page Properties**.

- Change the caption to **Mgmt Units**.
- Change the font color to **blue**.
- Change the font to **Bold**, size **10**. Click **OK**.

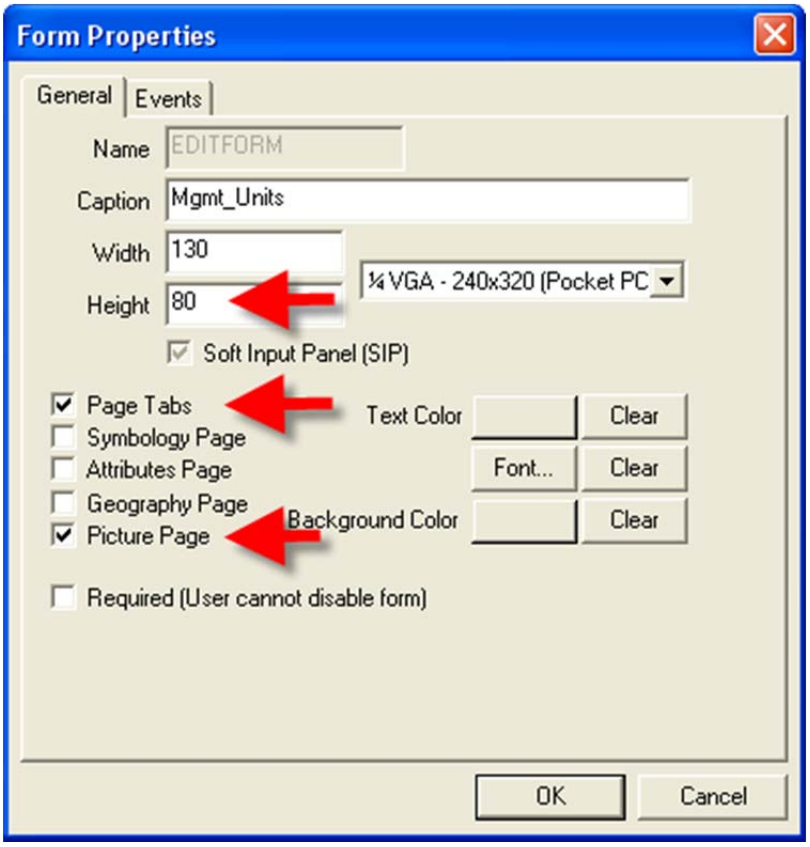


7. Select the Unit_ID text and hit the delet key to remove it. Select the field and move it over to the left.



8. Click ojn the **Form** tab and select **Form Properties**.

- Give the form a Height of **80**.
- Keep only the Page and Picture Tabs. Click **OK**.



9. Click OK and Save the changes.

10. Open ArcPad from the toolbar.

11. Open the **Geese_Surveys** Arcpad map document and start editing.

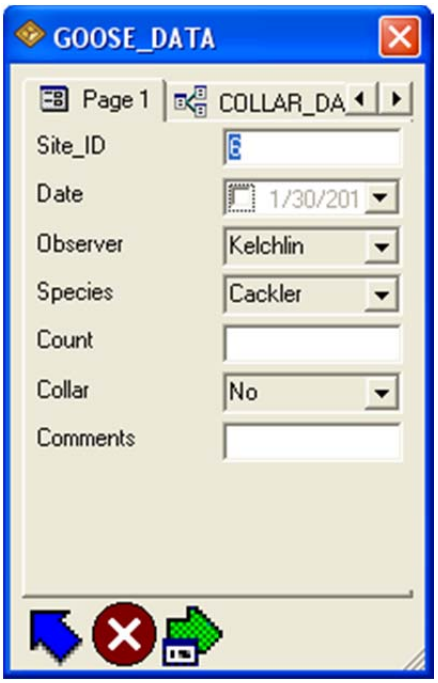
- Select the arrow and double-click on any of the management unit polygons to bring up the dataform.

- Notice that you have a **Goose_Data** related table. This is a table linked by a one to many realationship.

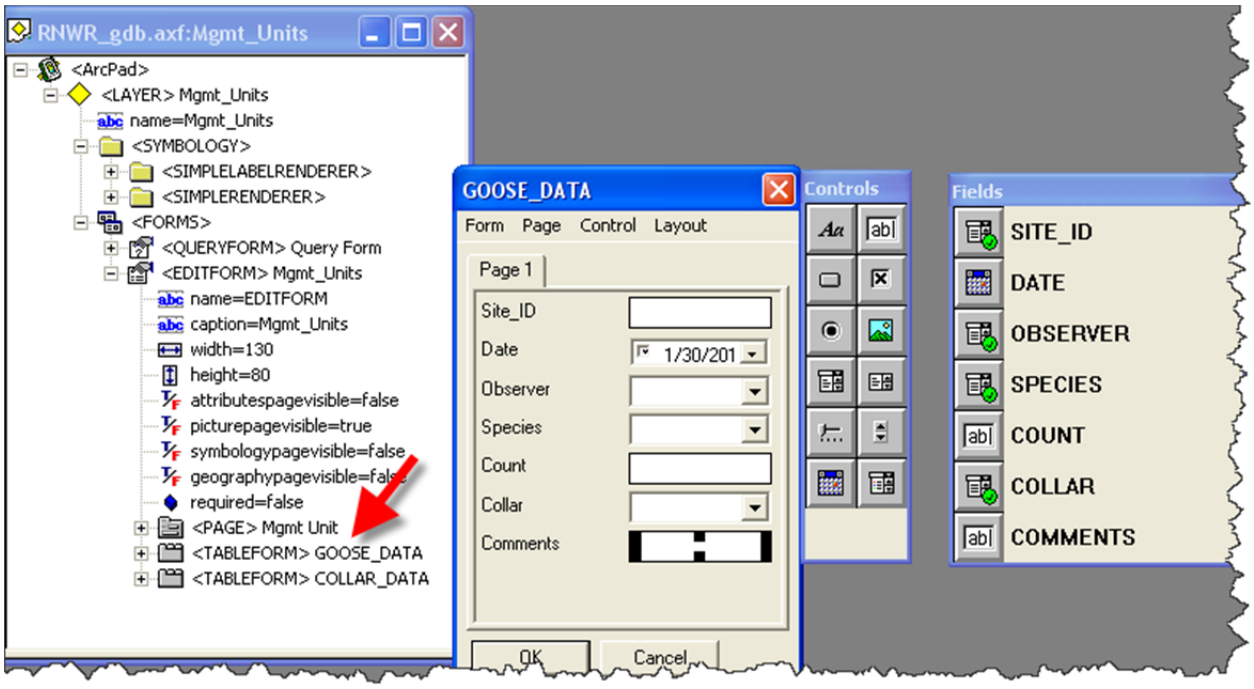
- Click on the **Goose_Data** tab and add a record .

- The **Site_ID** field is a carry-over from the first page (the destination key is autopopulated). The **Observer** field is defaulted to "Kelchlin", which could be hidden from view, assuming Kelchlin is the only technician collecting data in this case. The **Comments** field is really short, which we can change.

- Cancel out of this form and close ArcPad without saving any changes.



12. Reopen ArcPad Studio. Double-click on the **<TABLEFORM>GOOSE_DATA** form.



13. Delete the **Site_ID**, **Observer** and **Comments** text and control fields. If you have problems deleting the fields, select the field you want to delete then click on the Control tab and select Delete Control.

- Move the remaining fields up.
- Shorten the length of the Collar control field since it's only a Yes or No answer. Do this by simply selecting the field and dragging inward. Or you can double-click on the field and change the length in the properties menu.

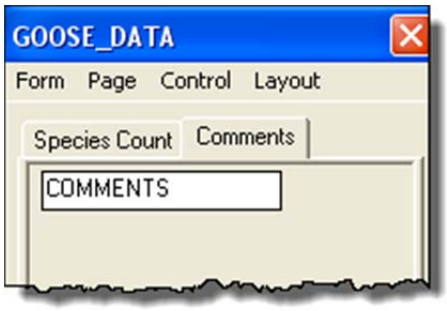
14. Next we're going to change the name of the Page and add a second.

    - Right-click on the Page 1 tab. Change the Caption to Species Count. Also, change the font to a bold red size 10 font. Click **OK**.

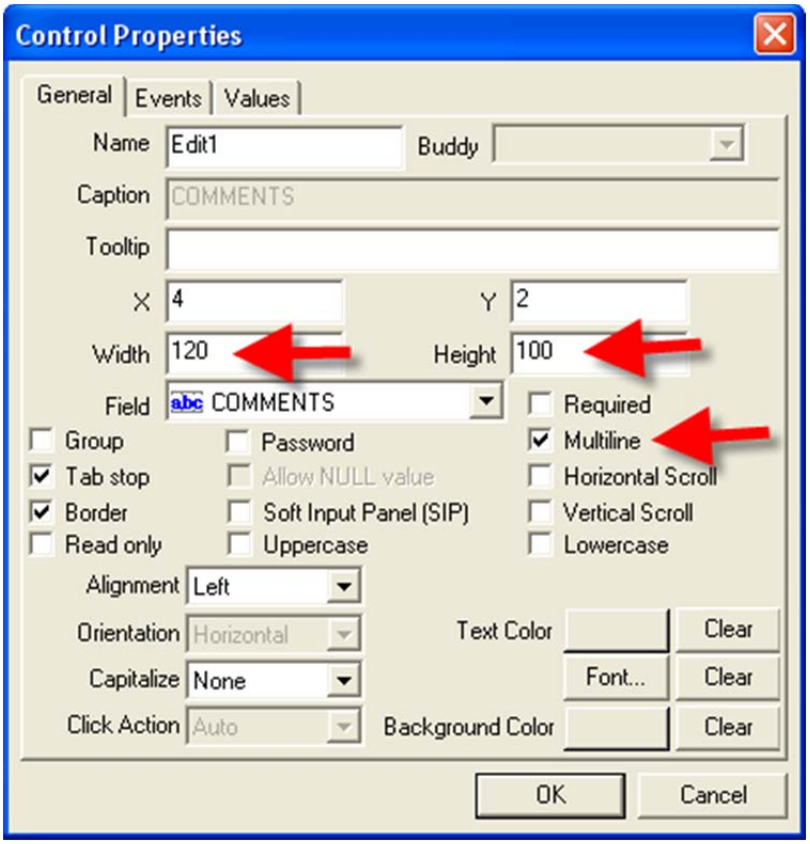
    - Next, click the **Page** tab and select **Add Page**. Name the new page "**Comments**" and click **OK** once.

15. Drag and drop the Comments field

from the Fields dialog, to the top of your new Comments Page.

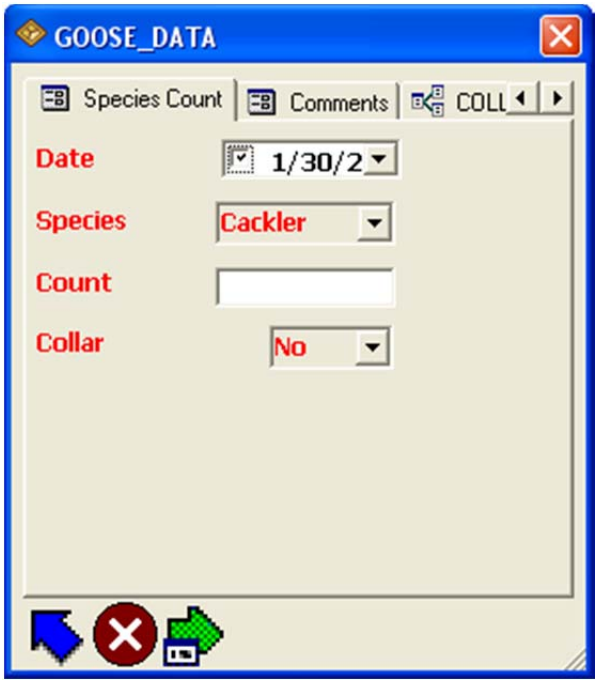


16. Double-click on the Comments control field and change the properties as shown below.



17. Click OK twice and Save your changes.

18. Open ArcPad from the toolbar and view your data forms.



19. If you have exta time, continue changing this data form to see what works best.

You can see the this improves usability comparred to the default data froms, but again, you half to determine if this level of customiztion is worth your efforts. I would say that it's worth the effort for long-term monitoring projects that involve many non-GPS savey technicians, but not worth it for daily GPS project.