

# Nikon Capture NX "How To..." Series

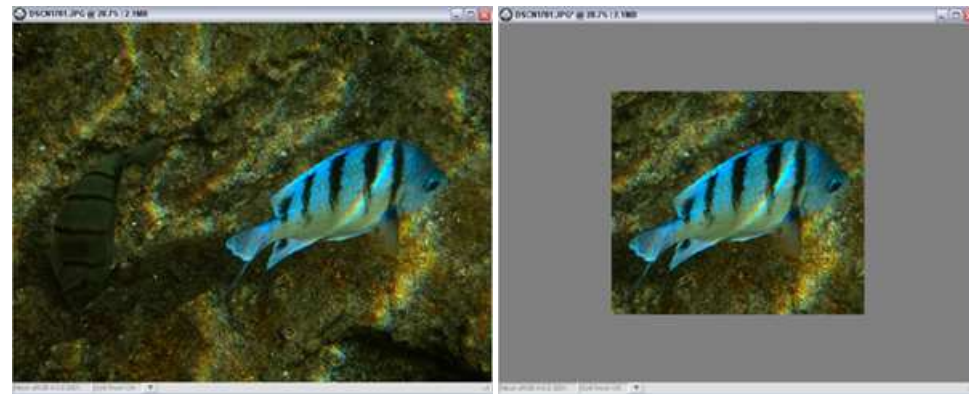
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## Article 3 - How to Crop an image using "Free Crop" or "Fixed Aspect Ratio".

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The Crop Tool allows you to remove areas from the margins of an image with no regard for aspect ratio (Free Crop), or at a specified aspect ratio (Fixed Aspect Ratio). Here we will crop using the Free Crop setting, and we will crop the image so that the cropped area contains the blue fish on the right side..

Before Cropping After Cropping

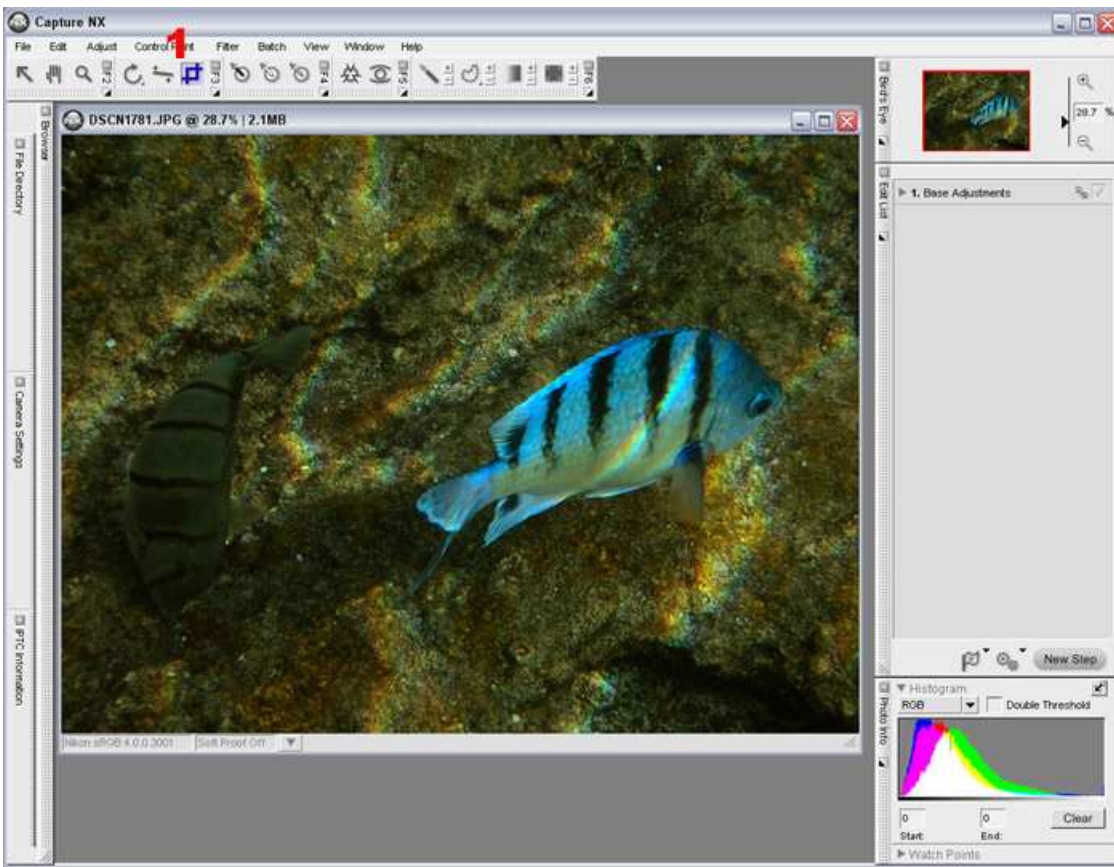


### Procedure: Brief description

- **Step 1-** Open an image, and click the Crop tool
- **Step 2-** Specify the crop
- **Step 3-** Reposition the crop
- **Step 4-** Apply the crop

### Step 1- Open an image and click the Crop tool

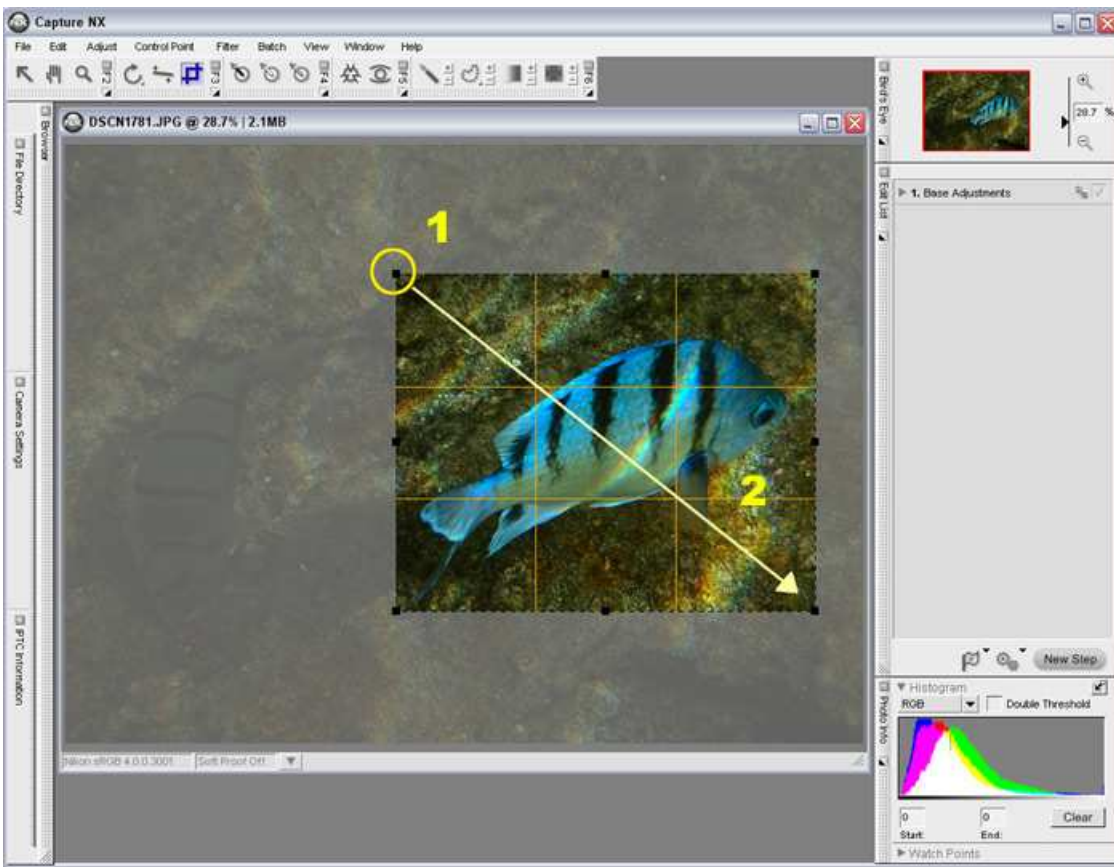
Double-Clicking the "Crop Tool" (1) will open the Crop Options palette.(2)



The "Crop Options" allow you to select "Free Crop" or "Fixed Aspect Ratio" as well as activate the "Crop Assistance Grid" to help you center your image for good composition. In this example, we will not specify an aspect ratio when cropping this image, select the "Free Crop" from the pull down menu, and if you wish to use it, check the box for "Show Crop Assistance Grid" and click "OK". The sample below shows the "Crop Assistance Grid" selected.

### Step 2- Specify the Crop

When the mouse cursor is positioned over the image, the cursor changes to the 'crop cursor'. Drag the cursor diagonally across the portion of the image you would like to keep. In this example, begin in the upper left hand corner (1), and drag down to the right (2).

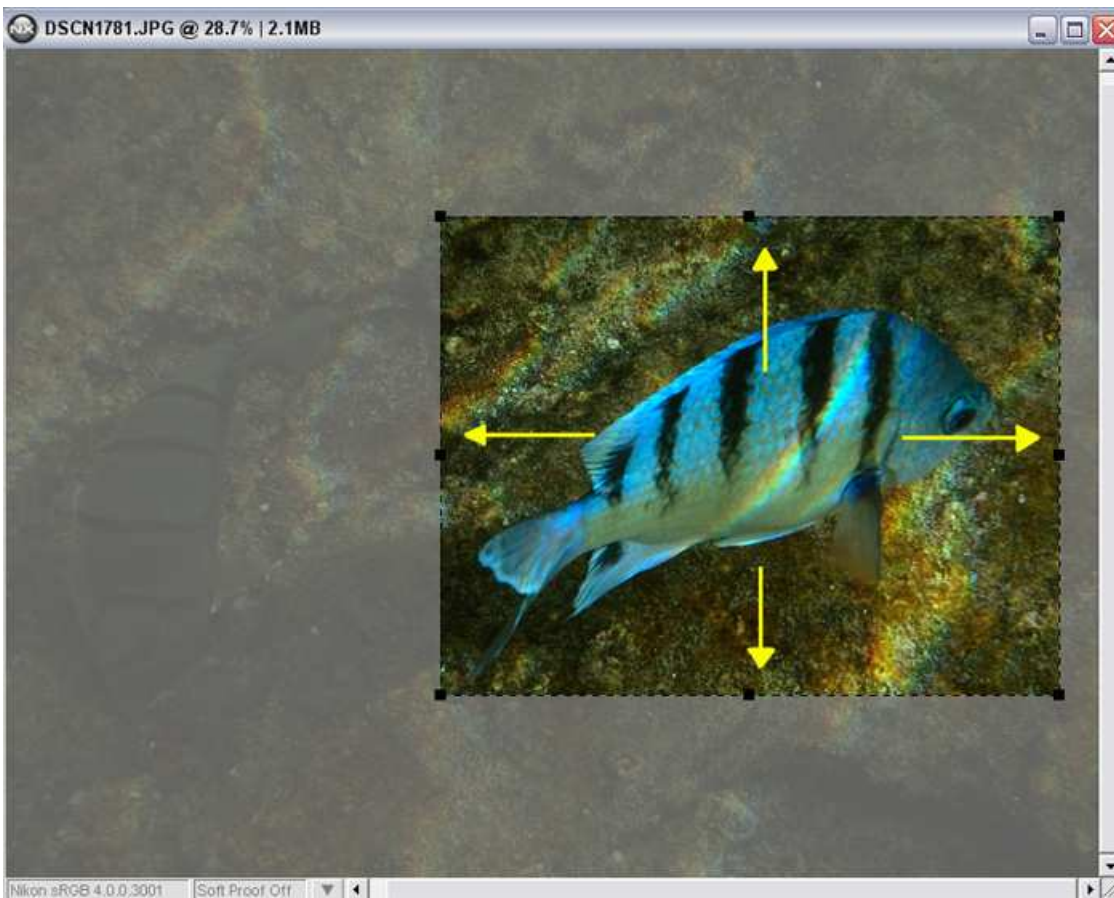


### Step 3- Reposition the crop

To reposition the crop, place the cursor anywhere inside the crop window, click and hold, and drag the crop window itself for best composition of your subject. Let go of the mouse button when the window is in the best place.

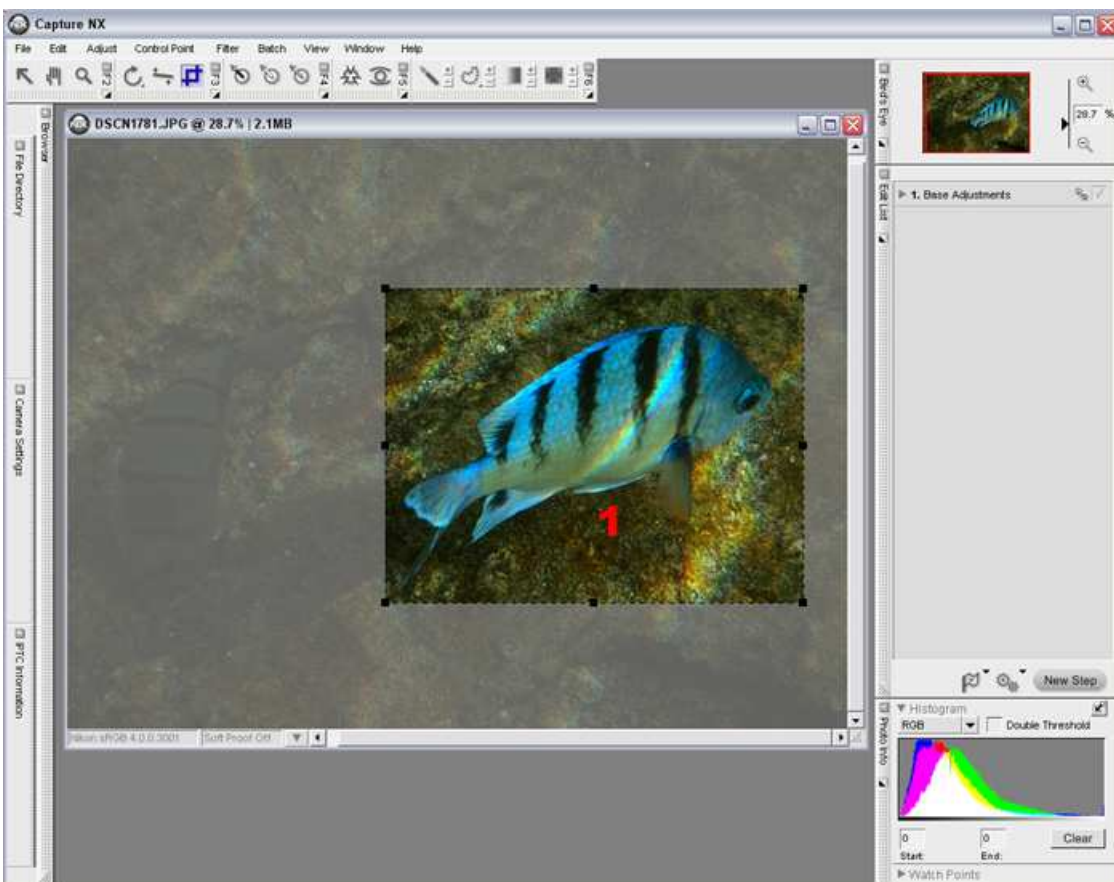
#### 3-A -

Once the crop window is open, you may resize at any time before finalizing the crop. The window contains 8 anchor points, which allow you to click and drag, up, down, left, right, and diagonally to adjust the size of the crop window. Click and hold on an anchor point, and drag the window in the direction of the arrows.



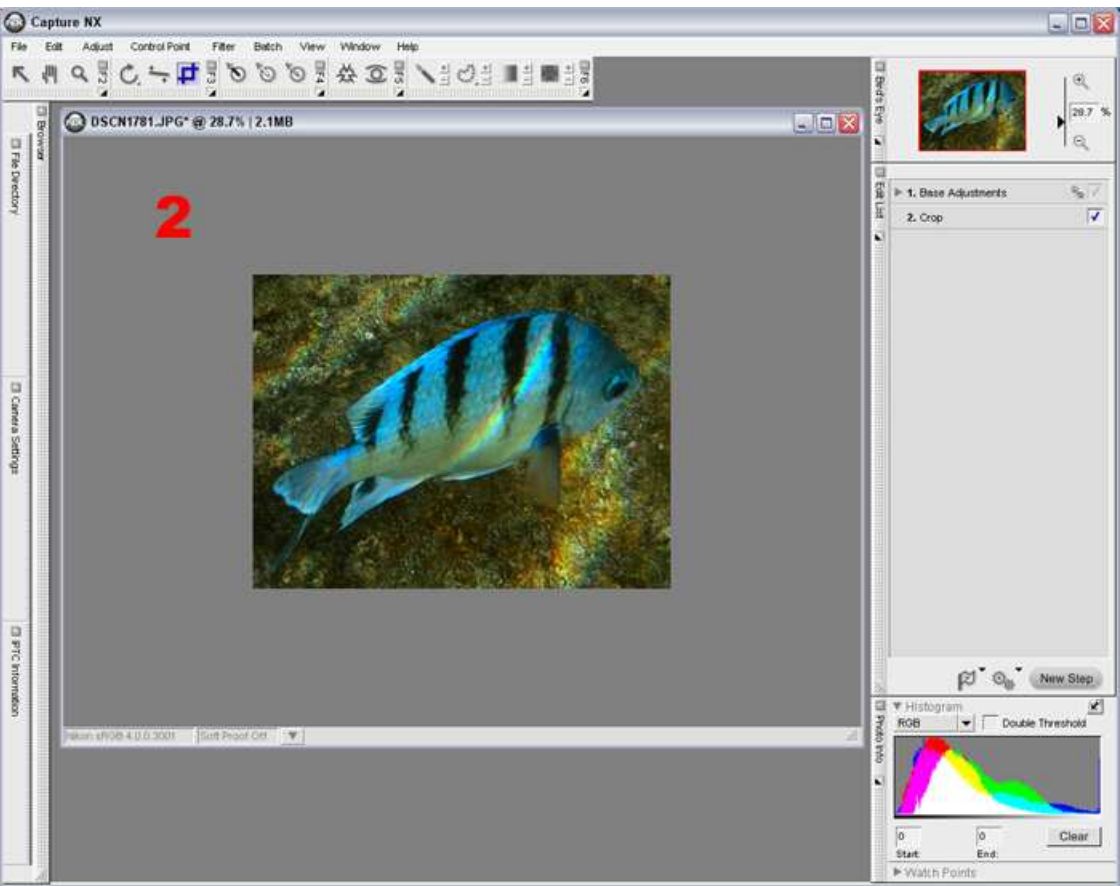
#### Step 4- Apply the crop

1) Position the crop cursor over the specified crop and double-click.





2) The crop will be applied, removing all portions of the image not within the crop area.



**Saving cropped images:** If images are saved in JPEG or TIFF format after cropping, portions of the original image that were cropped out cannot be restored later. To prevent this, save cropped images using the "Save As..." option. If images are saved in NEF format, crop formation is saved with the image. This means that the original image can be restored at any time.

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