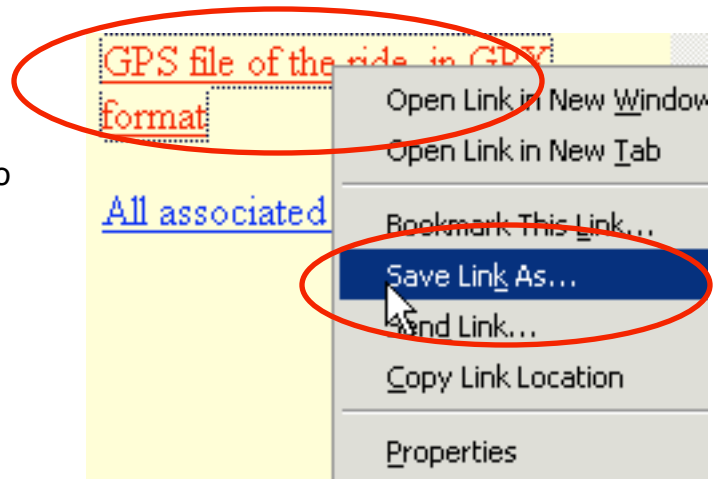
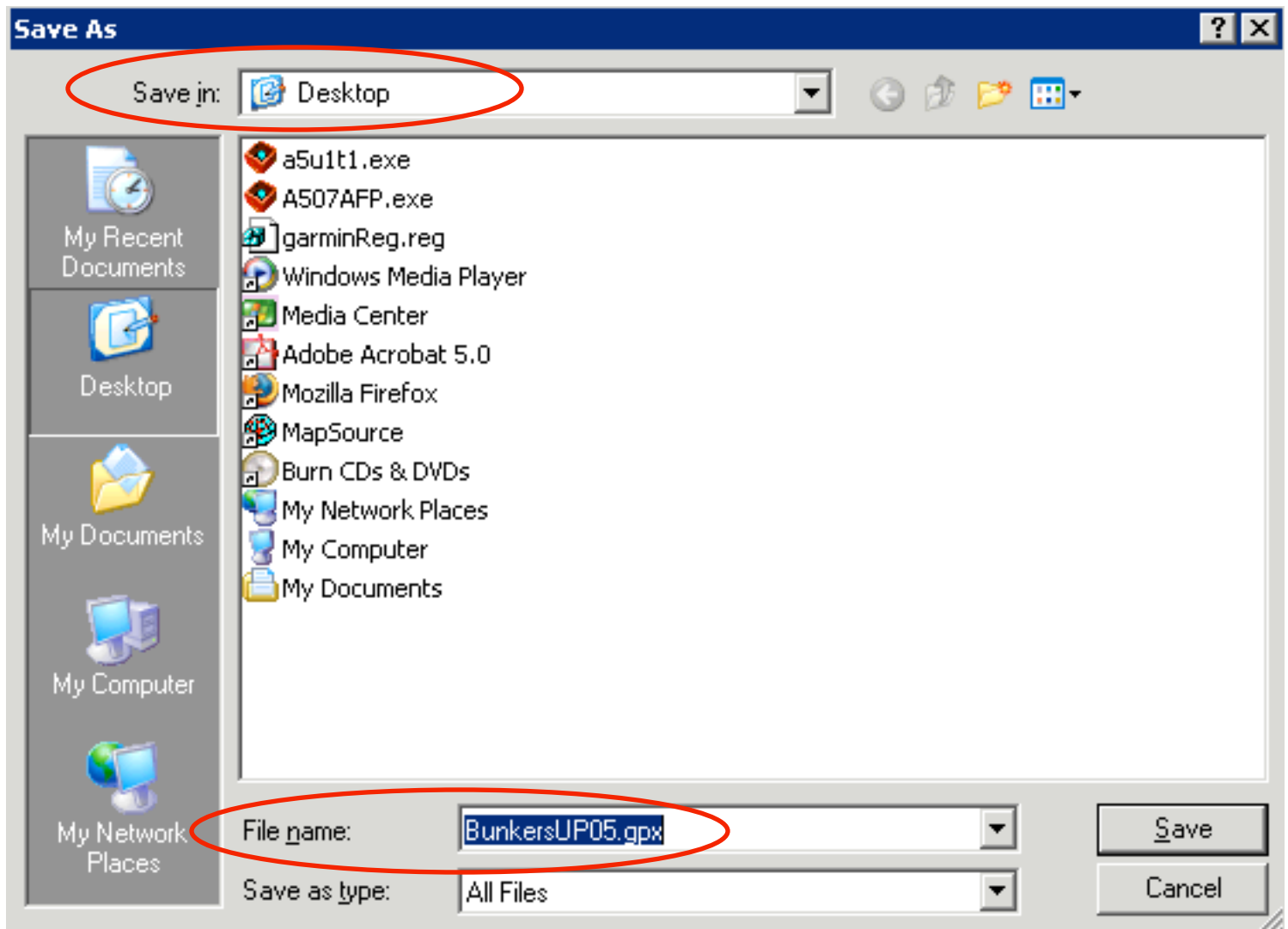


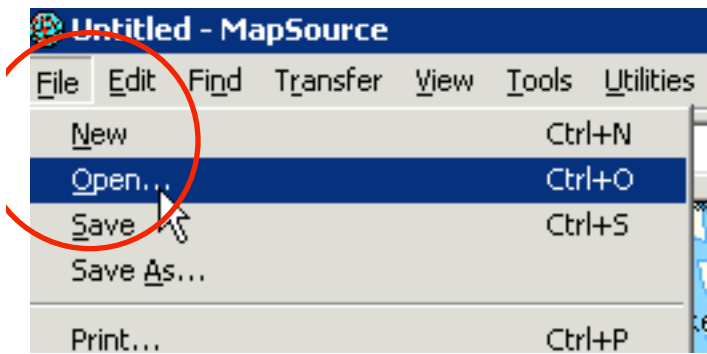
**Quick Tips for downloading a GPX file from a web site, opening in MapSource (from Garmin) and loading into a GPS.**

Once you've located a file on a web page, right click on it and choose Save Link As or Save Link to Disk.



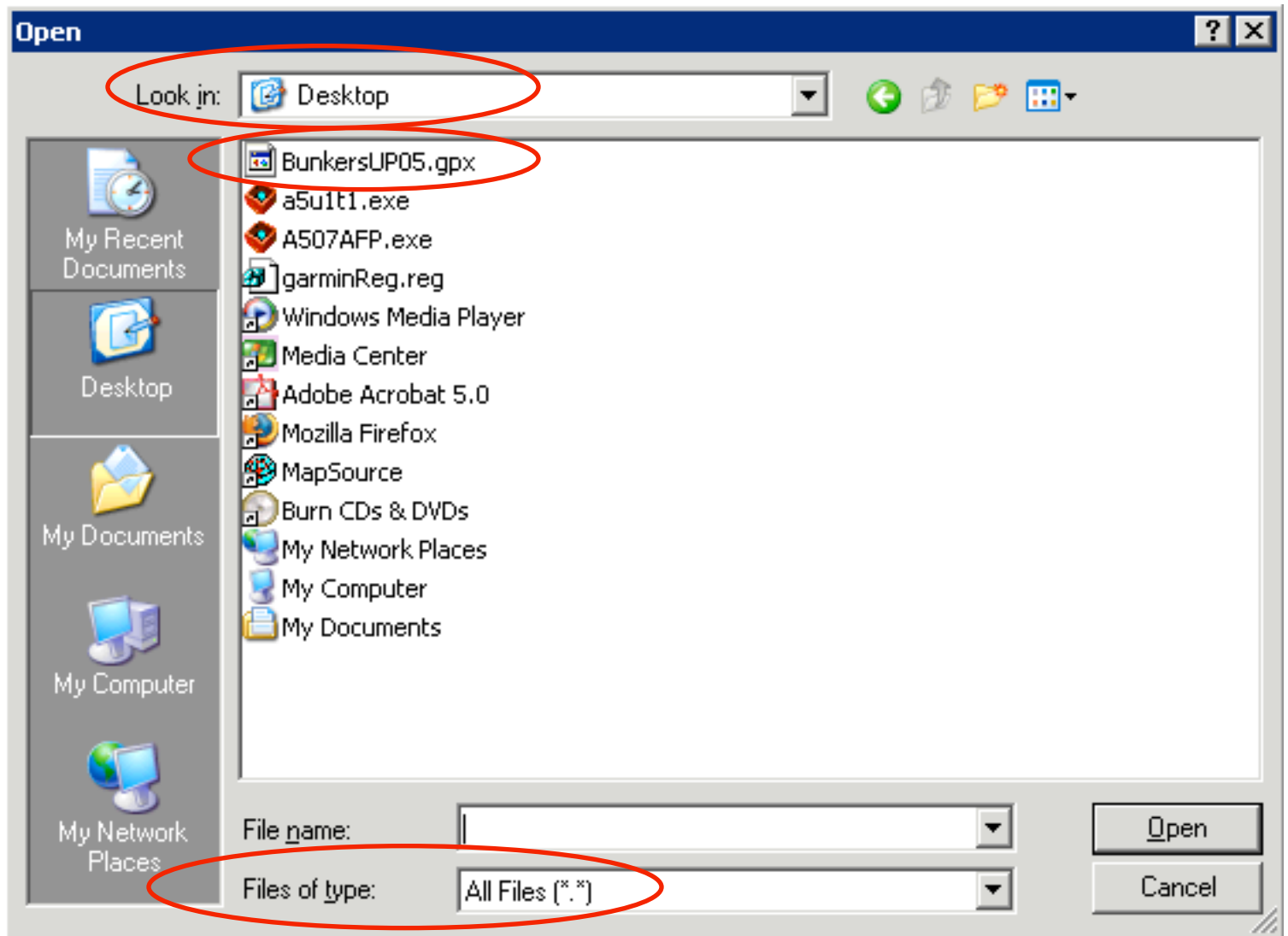
In this example we will save to the Desktop of the computer. Note the location and the name of the file





Now open the MapSource program and choose Open from the File menu so we can open the file just downloaded.

Next navigate to the Desktop, where we saved the file, ensure the File Types are set to All Files \*.\* then click on the file we saved and click the Open button



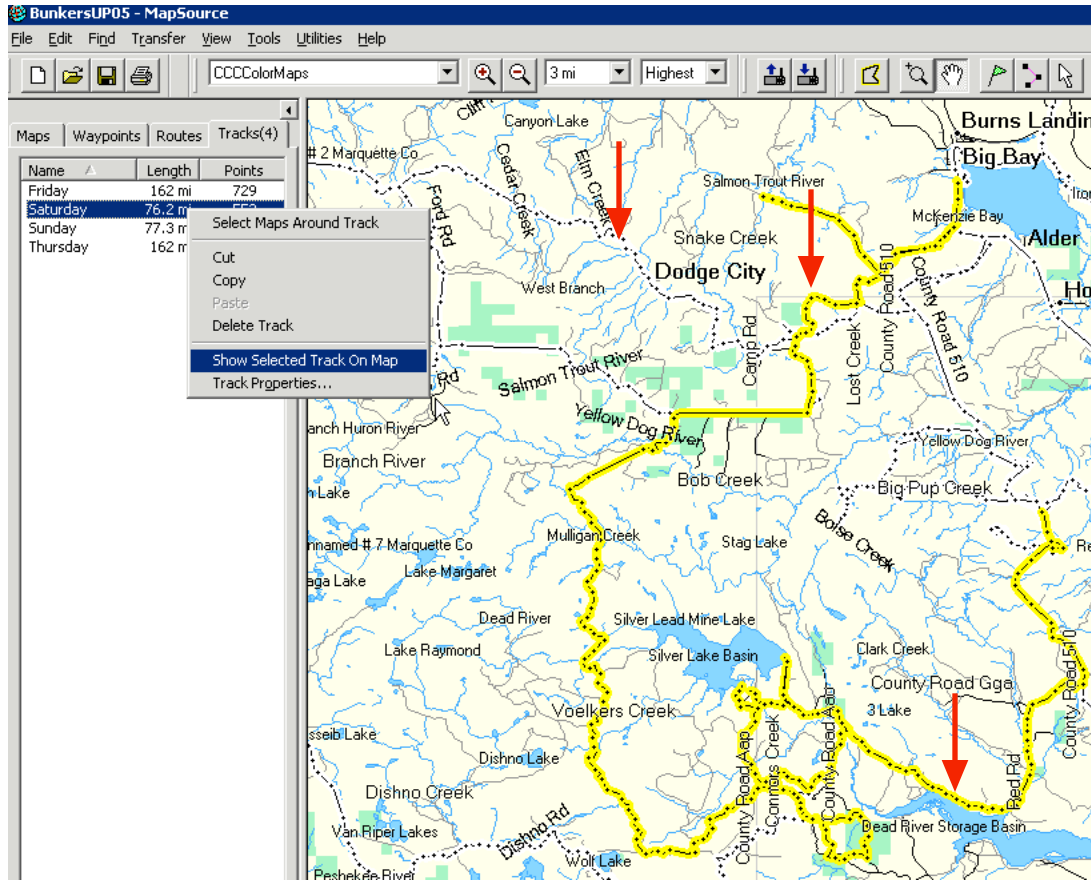
The file should load and display in MapSource. If there are Tracks in the file, as in our example, they will be listed in the Tracks tab. To quickly show one of the tracks, right click on the name and choose Show Selected Track on Map (note yellow line shown on map screen)

The screenshot shows the MapSource interface. The title bar reads "BunkersUP05 - MapSource". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Find, Transfer, View, Tools, Utilities, and Help. The toolbar contains icons for file operations and map navigation. The main window is divided into a left sidebar and a main map area. The sidebar has tabs for Maps, Waypoints, Routes, and Tracks(4). The Tracks tab is active, displaying a table with the following data:

Name	Length	Points
Friday	162 mi	729
Saturday	76.2 m	550
Sunday	77.3 m	
Thursday	162 m	

A context menu is open over the "Saturday" track name, with the option "Show Selected Track On Map" highlighted. The main map area shows a topographic map of a region with various geographical features. A yellow track is overlaid on the map, starting near Dodge City and extending south through several creeks and lakes. The track is highlighted in yellow, indicating it is the selected track.

Note the yellow line on the map screen below. This is one of the tracks (Saturday in this example). It's yellow because we have clicked on or selected it. The other tracks are partially visible as black and white dotted lines. If you send this data to your GPS, the track lines are what will be shown on the GPS screen, assuming you are in the right physical location of the world.



You could load it to your GPS as is, but there are a couple technical gotchas that are easy to avoid. Most Garmin GPS units have a limit on the number of points per track that they can handle. A point is one of the dots shown on the track line. The more dots/points in a track, the more detailed they are. If you try to load a track with more points than your GPS can handle you'll see a message on the GPS screen "track truncated" and what you'll find is that the track is missing all of the information in excess of the max number of points. If the track has 500 points and your GPS can only handle 250, you'll only get the first 250 points loaded into the GPS. This may be the first 5 miles of a 10 mile track, for example.

The track window shows the number of points in the track, you can also choose Track Properties from the menu created by right-clicking on the track OR you can just double click the track name in the track window.

Here's a track properties window. You can see each individual track point in the list, the color of the track as displayed on screen (and GPS if you have a color GPS) and other details. Note the number of points. This track has 552 points. If your GPS only handle 450 points per track (must check with Garmin's support documentation to figure yours out) then we need to eliminate some of the points. This is best done by using the Filter option. Click the Filter button on the lower right corner.

The screenshot shows the 'Track Properties' window with the following details:

- Name: Saturday
- Color: Unknown
- Summary Table:
 

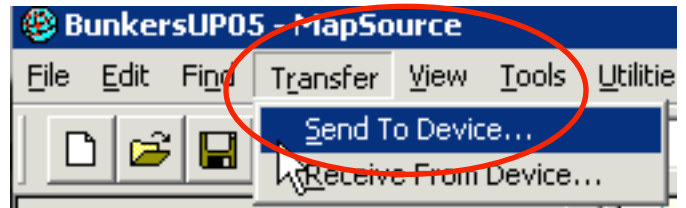
Points	Length	Area	Elapsed Time	Avg. Speed
552	76.2 mi	87.6 sq mi		
- Buttons: Invert, Filter..., Show Profile..., Show On Map

The Track Filter window allows you to specify how many points total the track will contain. Just punch in the number you want and click Ok. Our example assumes we want 450 points. If you do not know what your GPS can handle, 250 is a "least common denominator" as it works in pretty much any Garmin unit. You also lose some detail going that low, but it will still work.

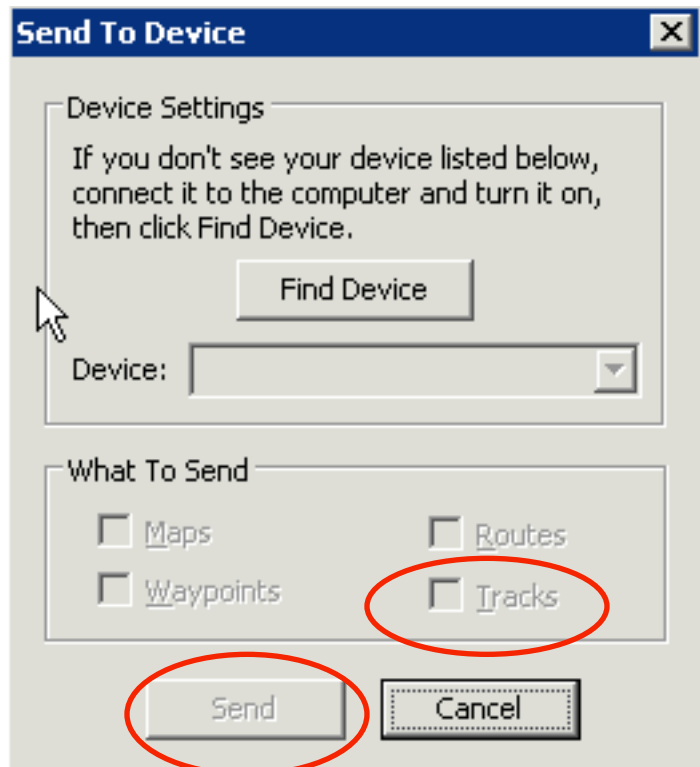
The screenshot shows the 'Track Filter' window with the following settings:

- Apply Filter To:
  - Entire Track
  - Selected Trackpoints
- Filter by:
  - None
  - Time: 30 seconds
  - Distance: 328 ft
  - Automatic: Fewer points [slider] More points
  - Maximum Points: 450
- Buttons: OK, Cancel

Finally, you can send the data to your GPS. Have the GPS turned on and connected to the computer. Then click Send to Device from the Transfer menu.



Make sure the items you want to send to the GPS are checked - in our example we are only sending Tracks so we would not want to have the other items checked. Then click the Send button. Note the screen shot is not complete as I didn't have a GPS connected at the time. Just pretend, ok?



Now the tracks will show on your GPS screen so you can follow them as your ride.

