Workflow With Two Computers—Continuing Problems with DXO PL 5, Elite Version, 5.1.1 build 4696 and NIK Collection, latest version: NIK Collection ver 4.3 Color efex pro 5.0.4.2 x64

Both computers have windows 10 64bit, latest versions. One is a Laptop and the other is a Desktop. Most of these problem have been reported to DXO from PL3, PL4 and now PL5.

Screen shots are from Laptop and Desktop. Laptop, after images have been downloaded and saved to the Laaptop after Processing on the Desktop. Desktop—after processing on Desktop.

Major problem—Lack of Synchronization with same images on two different windows 10 computers as described below. Other problems are noted too.

General Information:

**Description of my 2021 workflow with DXO PL5.**

1. Download Nikon NEF images from card reader to my Laptop with Downloader Pro from Breeze Systems. XMP files (sidecar files) are created at time of download. This info is appearing in DXO PL5.
2. Review images in Nikon software or DXO PL5 and delete images not needed. Add additional keyword data if needed using PL5. Occasionally process some NEF images and make Jpegs and Tiffs.
3. Copy image file folders to external hard drive and then copy file folders to Desktop with a larger monitor for additional culling, key wording, star rating and processing.
4. Complete key wording of images on Desktop using DXO PL5. This usually means adding additional keywords and changing some created during download.
5. Star rate images in DXO PL5 on Desktop only.
6. Process images in DXO PL5 and NIK Collection 5 on Desktop. Export Tiffs and Jpegs as needed using PL5.
7. For some trips and projects, copy file folders with processed images from Desktop to external hard drive for copying back to Laptop.

Computer and Software

Both laptop and desktop computers are running win 10 Pro, 64 bit.
Both are running DXO-PL5.1.1., build 4696, Elite edition and NIK Collection 4.3, both downloaded week of Dec 17, 2021:
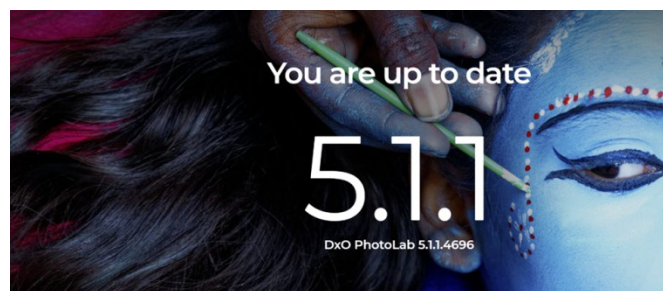

Programs were downloaded to C drives with no changes to default download settings. No changes were made to Preferences on Laptop or Desktop except for XMP file data. In PL5, laptop and desktop, Preferences allowing for synchronization is checked as well as both boxes in Correction settings for xmp data.
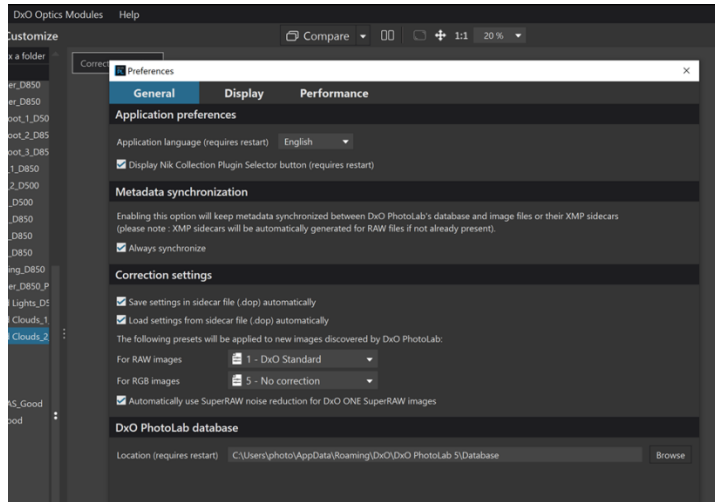
NIK Collection 4.3 accessed from DXO PL5 on both the Laptop and Desktop
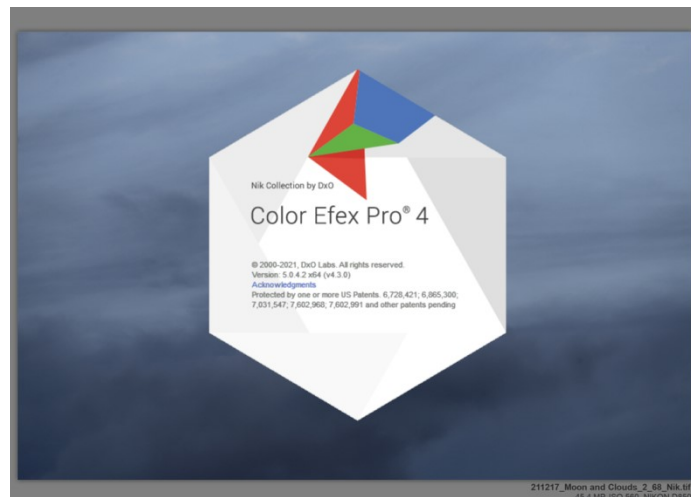
Laptop: Images in File Folders and Program files are all at C: C is the only drive.
Photolab database is at default: C:\Users\photo\AppData\Roaming\DxO\DxO PhotoLab 5\Database
DOP log files for the Laptop seem to be saved at This PC> Documents>DXO Photo Lab 5 Logs
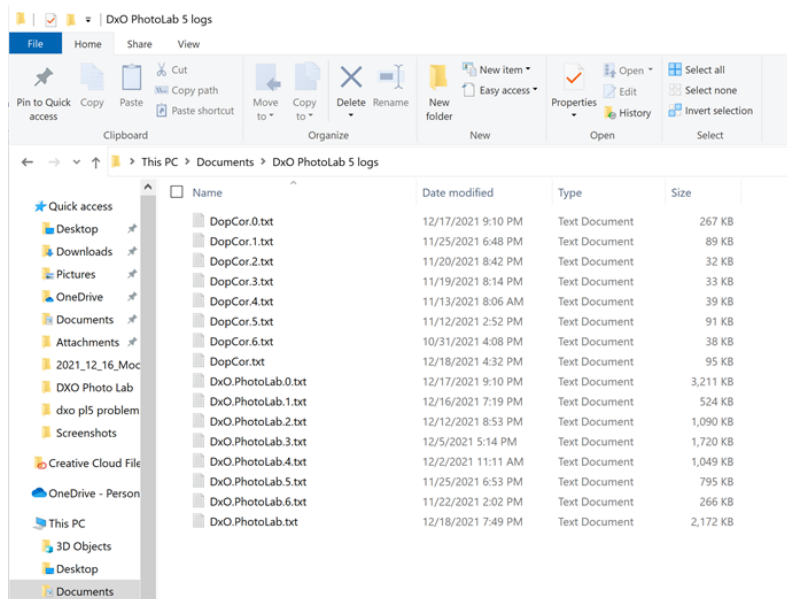
Laptop: Windows 10 Pro Info for laptop

About

Your PC is monitored and protected.

See details in Windows Security

Device specifications

Device name	LAPTOP-GUQD6210
Processor	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-8850H CPU @ 2.60GHz 2.59 GHz
Installed RAM	32.0 GB (31.5 GB usable)
Device ID	374FCBA5-637E-4064-AE6B-0B796BAAEE61
Product ID	00330-51796-37631-AAOEM
System type	64-bit operating system, x64-based processor
Pen and touch	Pen and touch support with 10 touch points

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Windows specifications

Edition	Windows 10 Pro
Version	20H2
Installed on	10/29/2020
OS build	19042.1415
Serial number	R90T7HZX
Experience	Windows Feature Experience Pack 120.2212.3920.0

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For Desktop:
Windows 10 Pro Info:

About

Your PC is monitored and protected.

See details in Windows Security

Device specifications

Device name	Joe-Photo
Processor	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-9700K CPU @ 3.60GHz 3.60 GHz
Installed RAM	64.0 GB
Device ID	971FF3FB-FA36-4469-BE4E-1C4A400582E3
Product ID	00330-71399-59585-AAOEM
System type	64-bit operating system, x64-based processor
Pen and touch	No pen or touch input is available for this display

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Rename this PC

Windows specifications

Edition	Windows 10 Pro
Version	21H1
Installed on	10/29/2020
OS build	19043.1387
Experience	Windows Feature Experience Pack 120.2212.3920.0

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Change product key or upgrade your edition of Windows

Read the Microsoft Services Agreement that applies to our services

Read the Microsoft Software License Terms

Desktop: Programs are at C:
Images in File Folders are at other internal drives, usually D: and E:
Photolab database is at default: C:\Users\photo\AppData\Roaming\DxO\DxO PhotoLab 5\Database

DOP log files seem to be here on my Desktop. This PC> Documents>DXO Photo Lab 5 Logs:
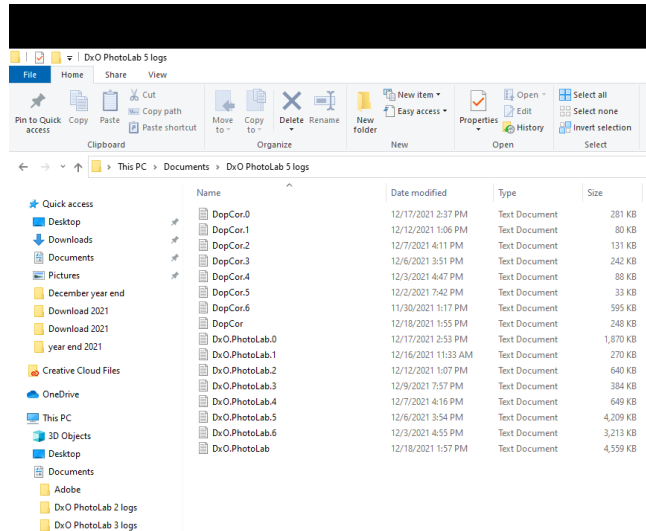
Desktop: DXO PL5 Preferences are the same as for the Laptop.

Problems:

1. **New problem just discovered with these two new versions**—DXO PL5 on Desktop in Export mode, locks up when a JPEG image is made from Tiff image created in NIK Color Efex Pro 4.3, NIK Collection Version 5.0.4.2 x64 ver.4.3.0.   During Export, the wheel stops spinning and the program locks up. I go to Task Manager in win 10 to stop PL5. When I open it again, the JPEG image is there. When Jpegs and Tiffs are created in Export from NEF files, PL5 works fine. This might be a NIK/PL5 problem. This problem does not occur all the time. Retarting the desktop may eliminate it.

2. Old problems with Tiff files created in NIK still exist. Metadata is stripped out from the Tiff file. This usually means lens used is no longer available. Other data may be missing too. This is very agravating. On screen shots see some Tiff images with Symbol indicating that lens data is avaialble.

3. **Synchronization Problems. (Problems are not always the same in different file folders) Virtual and Master files appea**r. Virtual copies of NEF and Tiff files may appear in the same file folder as the Master file when the file folders are opened in DXO-PL5 on my Laptop after having been processed on my Desktop. This seems to happen randomly as I can discern no pattern as to what makes this happen.   I have not done anything to create a Master or Virtual file on the laptop or desktop.

   I have had this same or similar problem with every version of DXO PL I have used since I first started using the program with PL3. I thought DXO-PL4.3.1 with the fix for sidecar files addressed these issues, but it has not.

Please let me know what is causing this problem and what I need to do to fix things.

   Are my DXO PL5 preferences correct?
   Are there any special preferences that need to be set for a two computer workflow?
   Do I have to move DOP log files from Desktop to Laptop? Delete them?
   Do I have to copy Photolab database found at C?
   Is there a specific workflow I need to follow for using a Laptop with one C drive and a Desktop with multiple drives, C for Programs and other drives for images and transferring processed images from one to another?

Screen Shots:

Screen shots from Laptop, after images have been downloaded and saved to the Laptop after Processing on the Desktop.
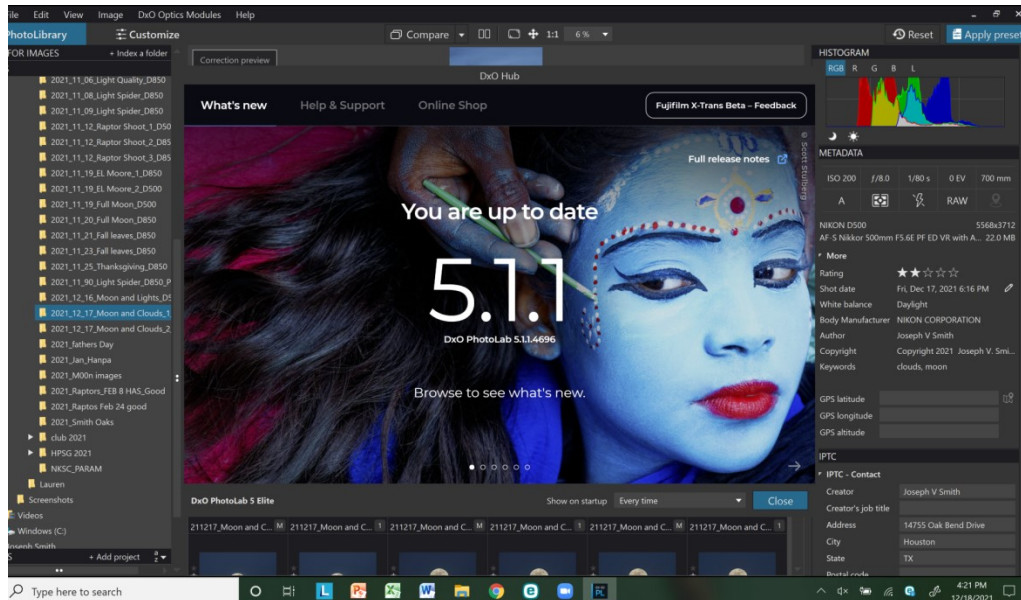

1. Master and Virtual files show up for Tiffs files created on the first Dec 17 file folder copied to laptop from desktop. It did not occur with the second file folder right below it. The Tiff files with both M and 1 were made in both PL5 and from NIK Color Efex Pro.
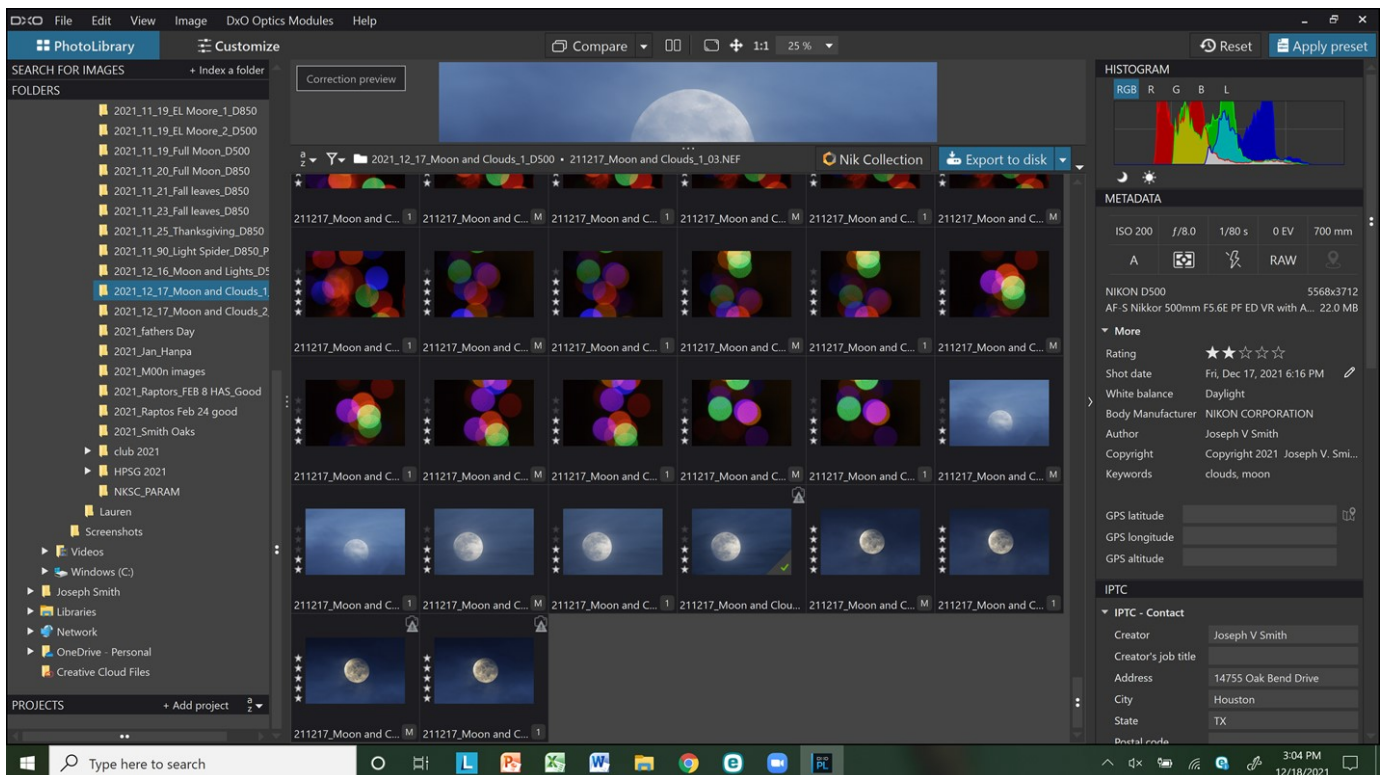
Bigger views of Tiff images (and some Unprocessed NEF images with same problem)
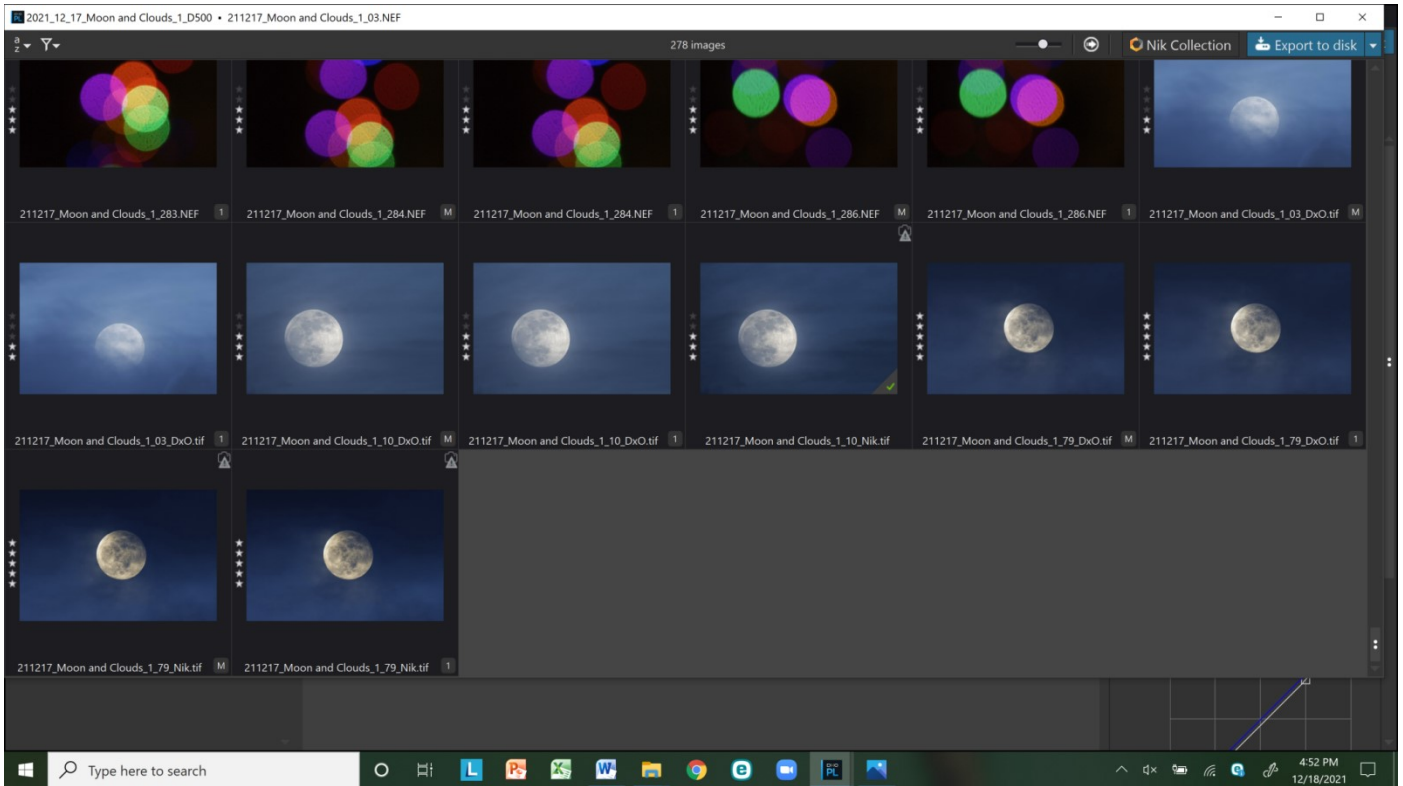
2. **Master and Virtual files show up for certain NEF files**. This is the same file folder as shown above—the first folder dated Dec 17. Note that some NEF images have "!" Not sure what I need to do if anything. Also note the optics module symbol appears in some images. This is likely due to NIK stripping away the lens data.
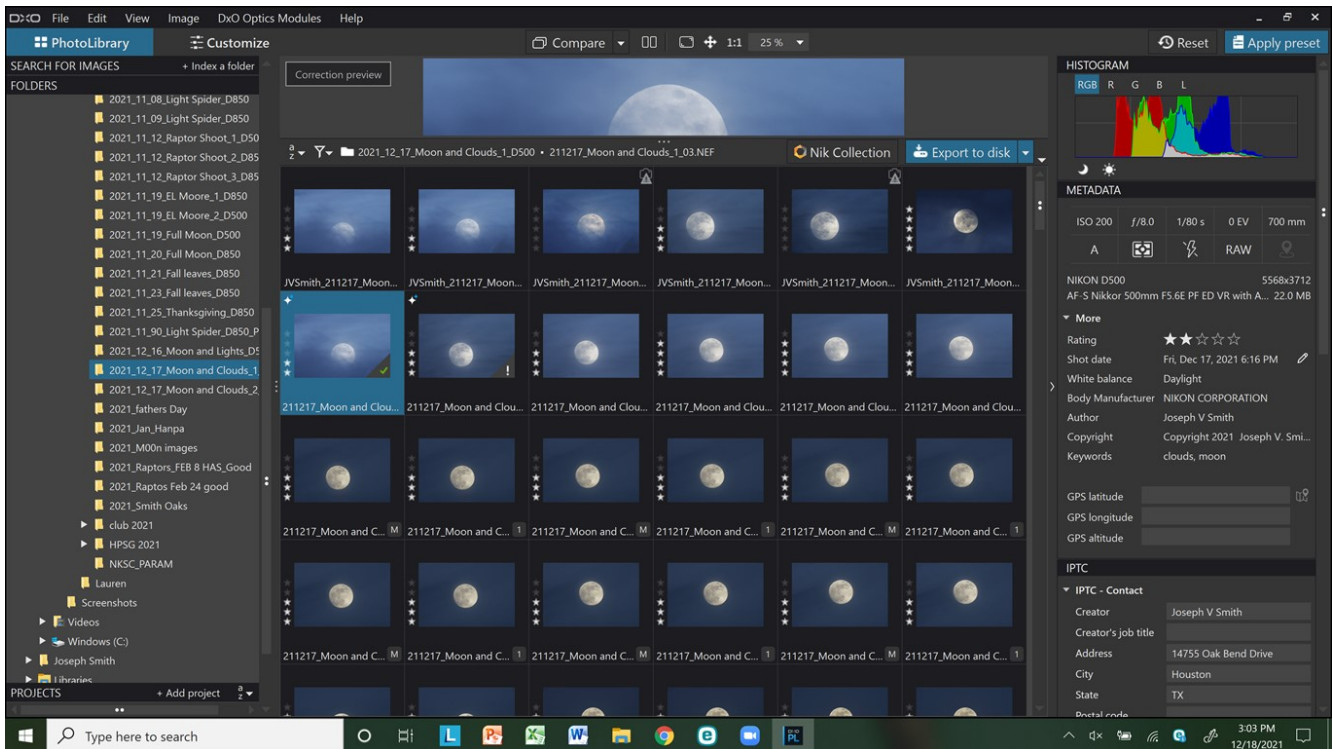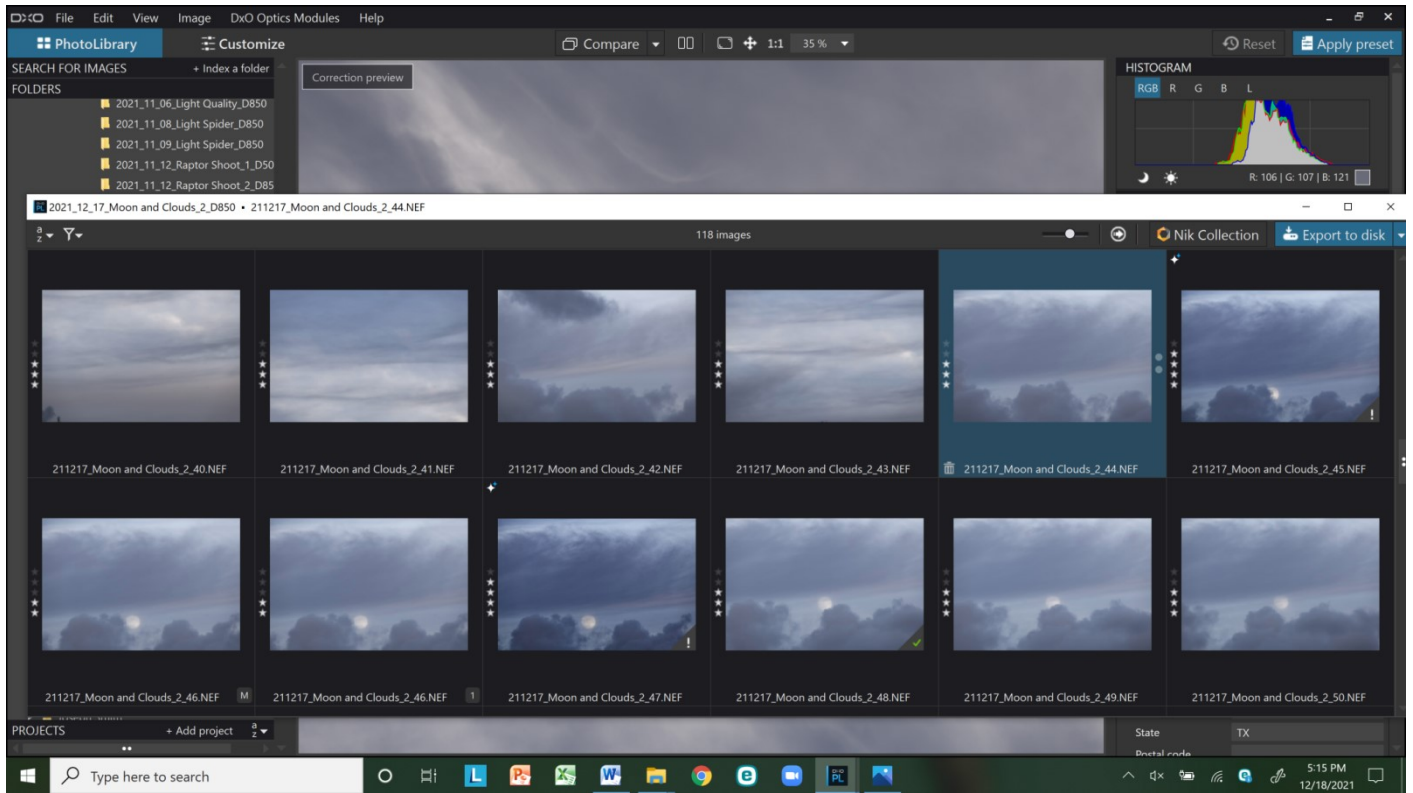
Bigger view of NEF images:
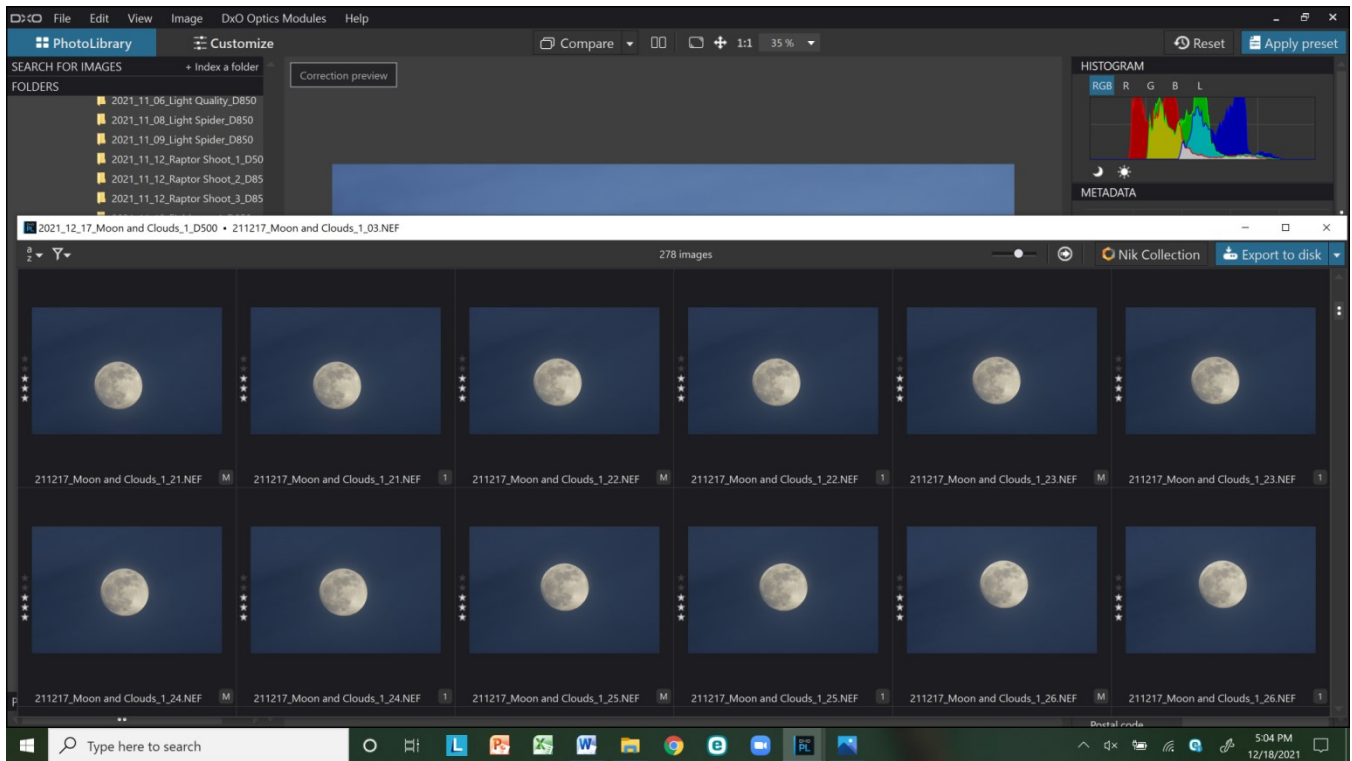
This is the screen print from the **Second Dec 17 File folder. Only one NEF image shows Master and Virtual. Look at third row of images.** This image (no 46) was not processed. It was Star rated.
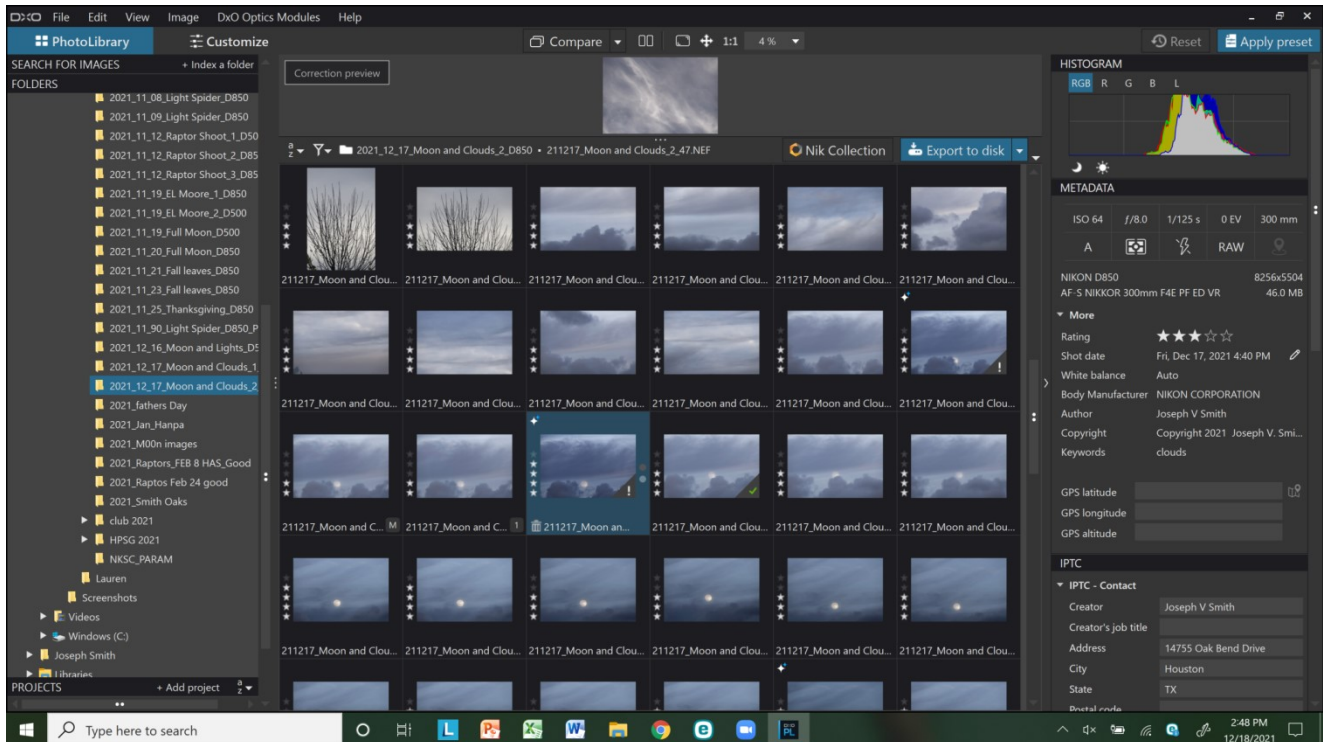
Bigger view in NEF images with M and 1. Second row. No 46.
See No 47—has! Not sure why as this image was not processed.

Tiff images in second Dec 17 file folder look OK as they do not have M and 1 versions. Tiffs made in PL5 and NIK.