

is preferred, protection of important habitat and/or cultural sites may impose significant constraints on both deactivation and restoration plans.

GIS Used in Hiking Trail Project at Acadia National Park, Maine (poster)

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The hiking trails on Mount Desert Island (MDI), Maine are some of the most beautiful and heavily used in the U.S. These trails extend from the island's coastal villages into the mountainous interior of Acadia National Park, over summits, across rocky ledges, and along streams, lakeshores and ocean cliffs. Because of the close link with the history of MDI, the park is in the process of evaluating the cultural significance, character defining features, and overall layout of the trail system. GIS is being used as a tool in this process. A GIS data layer of current and historic trails has been developed. GIS is being employed in the trail layout planning by evaluating fragmentation issues, modeling proposed changes, looking for over- and under-represented types of experiences (vegetation, geology, slope, difficulty, crowding), identifying trails that might impact water quality, and more.

Data for Resource Decisions: The Role of Inventory and Monitoring Data at Shenandoah National Park (poster)

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Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) data has become an integral part of management decision making at Shenandoah National Park. Resource inventories and monitoring programs funded through the Servicewide I&M prototype park initiative are collecting data on rare plants and unique plant communities, forest communities, fisheries, neo-tropical migratory birds, macroinvertebrates and exotic plants. Data from these projects is providing information for compliance reviews, planning roadside mowing plans, developing management strategies for Big Meadows, fire management, understanding trends in forest plant communities, establishing fishing regulations, and providing basic resource information for interpretive and education programs parkwide. Specific examples of these results will be highlighted in the poster.

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