

geographic information

In the Summer '87 issue of *Park Science* your editor announced that, despite my best intentions, I had somehow volunteered my services to the *Park Science* Editorial Board as editor for matters GIS. After the enormity of my blunder had penetrated, I began to reflect how I might make the best of the situation. Here is my first attempt:

Interest in GIS continues to grow throughout the Service, and we in the Geographic Information Systems Division are increasingly hard pressed to keep up with developments. Because we are, fundamentally, a GIS service organization, we feel it is important for us to know what you are doing, GIS-wise, out there. To serve as a stimulus for response I have compiled several lists reflecting *my* knowledge (and lack thereof) of your GIS activities. Please correct my misunderstanding or ignorance of your GIS situation by responding (calmly) to me or this publication with the correct information.

List 1. Parks with GIS data bases ready for use:

Acadia, Big South Fork, Big Thicket, Big Bend, Cape Cod, Capitol Reef, Death Valley, Everglades, Glacier, Great Smoky Mountains, Lake Mead, Minute Man, North Cascades, Obed, Olympic, Prince William, Redwood, Santa Monica Mountains, Saratoga, Yellowstone, Yosemite.

List 2. Parks with GIS data bases under construction: Antietam, Big Cypress, Denali, Mount Rainier, Shenandoah, Wrangell/St. Elias.

List 3. Parks and related units with onsite operational GIS capabilities (i.e., hardware and staff on hand to conduct onsite GIS activities). This list excludes parks with strictly CAD or display capabilities: Biscayne, Obed, Santa Monica Mountains, Yosemite.

List 4. Parks and related units with onsite equipment not currently GIS-active: Alaska Regional Office, National Capital Regional Office, Prince William, Redwood.

List 5. Parks and related units in the process of acquiring operational onsite GIS capabilities:

Big Cypress, Big South Fork, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Everglades, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Glen Canyon, Gulf Islands, Indiana Dunes, Mount Rainier, Shenandoah, Southeast Archeological Center.

If you're not on one of these lists – and you feel you should be – or you're not on the right list, or your situation is misrepresented, drop me a note or call (FTS 776-8773, 303-236-8773). We'll get corrections out in the next issue. If you feel like exposing your GIS applications, problems, or other concerns to the world, send them to me and we'll get them in print as soon as possible.

DOI GIS Peripherals Contract

The Department of the Interior is letting a series of contracts for procurement of GIS peripherals that make it relatively easy to purchase GIS processing equipment. This equipment, which includes color terminals, color screen copiers (for the terminals), digitizing tablets, and pen plotters, is designed principally for use with vector-based geographic information systems, but it can also be used for raster-based data, like those from remote sensing sources.

The contracts will be administered by the BLM, and all you have to do to buy off them is to certify your need for the equipment requested. The contracts will be in place late this fiscal year (1986-87), and will continue for at least five years. The purpose is (1) to streamline and simplify the procurement process for GIS equipment, and (2) to standardize as much as possible the types and kinds of GIS peripherals in use throughout Interior. Because of the large quantities of items involved, I anticipate a significant price break.

If you want to buy off the contracts, let me know (FTS 776-8773, 303-236-8773) and I'll tell you what you need to do.

Harvey Fleet, Chief
Digital Cartography Branch
GIS Division
NPS Denver Service Center