# Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument

## *Geologic Resources Inventory*

GIS Data Explanation, October 21, 2025

Geologic-Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data related to Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument is delivered in data package ZIP (.zip) files. These data are a product of the NPS Geologic Resources Inventory (GRI) program, which is funded by the Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Division and administered by the NPS Geologic Resources Division (GRD).

Geologic-GIS data for Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument consist of a dedicated park map providing complete coverage of the park and surrounding area, as well as a reconnaissance map covering the eastern half of the larger Gila Wilderness Study Area. Data files for the dedicated park map are named using the park four-letter code (GICL) as a prefix. Data files for the reconnaissance map are named using the park four-letter code (GWSA) as a prefix.

Geologic-GIS data are provided in the following GRI-supported GIS data formats 1.) ESRI file geodatabase format, 2.) 2.2 KML/KMZ format for use with Google Earth software, 3.) Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) geopackage format for use in QGIS (or other OGC software), and upon request in 4.) ESRI shapefile format (contact Rebecca Port, see contact information below, to acquire shapefile format data).

Data package ZIP files containing the different GRI-supported GIS data formats are identified with following file suffixes: 1.) ESRI file geodatabase for use in ArcGIS Pro have a file suffix of "gdb_pro.zip", 2.) KML data have a file suffix of "kml.zip", 3.) OGC geopackage data have a file suffix of "gpkg.zip", and if requested 4.) shapefile data have a file suffix of "shp.zip".

The ArcGIS Pro data package ZIP file has an ESRI file geodatabase and a Pro 3.X map (.mapx) file, as well as Pro layer (.lyrx) files. Pro 3.X map (.mapx) files and QGIS project (.qgz) files present GRI geologic data layers and GIS tables complete with data layer and table naming, symbology, and feature labeling for viewing and data analysis. The Pro 3.X layer (.lyrx) files are provided so data layers can be added to a new or existing Pro 3.X maps or projects with their associated layer naming, symbology, and labeling. All data package ZIP files also contain a FGDC-compliant metadata file (in .txt and .xml formats).

For a GIS dataset, the GRI recommends extracting all map files from a data package to its own folder. This is particularly of importance for file geodatabase data packages as an associated Pro 3.X map file (.mapx) and related layer (.lyrx) files have relative file paths set to their file geodatabase.

In addition to the data package ZIP files, three additional files comprise a GRI digital geologic-GIS map: 1.) this file (gicl_geology_gis_readme.pdf), 2.) the map's GRI ancillary map information document file (gicl_geology.pdf), which contains geologic unit descriptions, as well as other ancillary map information and graphics from the source maps used by the GRI in the production of this park's GRI digital geologic-GIS data, and 3.) a user-friendly FAQ PDF version of the metadata (gicl_geology_metadata_faq.pdf and gwsa_geology_metadata_faq.pdf).

Detailed information concerning the source data used by the GRI is listed in the Source Citation sections(s) of the included map metadata record (gicl_geology_metadata.txt and gwsa_geology_metadata.txt). This information is also available in the FAQ version of the metadata. Information concerning source data is also in the Source Map Information GIS table (giclmap) and repeated in the GRI ancillary map information document (.pdf) file.

The OGC geopackage data can be accessed using QGIS software. The software is available for free at: https://www.qgis.org/en/site/. A QGIS Project (.qgz) file is included for both the park dedicated map and the reconnaissance map. The OGC geopackages and their respective QGIS project (.qgz) files should be kept together in the same folder due to relative pathing.

The Google Earth KMZ files, gicl_geology.kmz and gwsa_geology.kmz, contain limited versions of the full spatial datasets (limited features and symbology). Google Earth software is available for free at: https://www.google.com/earth/versions/. The KMZ files possess on-line links to the GRI program and its products, as well as to on-line versions of this readme document, the GRI ancillary map information document, and the FGDC-compliant FAQ metadata pertaining to each dataset. Users are encouraged to open the readme document, FAQ metadata and the ancillary map information document outside of Google Earth should accessing the on-line versions via Google Earth be an issue. Users can also download Google Chrome (free at: http://www.google.com/chrome/) to view these files should their default browser not open these files from Google Earth.

Users of this data are cautioned about the locational accuracy of features and should not assume that features are exactly where they portrayed in Google Earth, QGIS or other software used to display the data. Refer to the positional accuracy report and use constraints within a map metadata record for additional information concerning the positional accuracy of features in a GRI dataset. Users are also encouraged to only use the Google Earth data for basic visualization.

For detailed information regarding GIS parameters such as data attribute field definitions, attribute field codes, value definitions, and rules that govern relationships found in the data, refer to the NPS Geology-GIS Data Model document, gri_gdb_ggdm_v2dot3.pdf (available at: https://www.nps.gov/articles/gri-geodatabase-model.htm).

GRI digital geologic-GIS data are available at the NPS Data Store Search Application: http://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/Search. To find GRI data for a specific park or parks select the appropriate park(s), enter "GRI" as a Search Text term, and then select the Search Button.

For a complete listing of Geologic Resources Inventory products and direct links to the download site, visit the GRI products webpage: http://go.nps.gov/gri_products.

F For more information about the Geologic Resources Inventory Program visit the GRI webpage: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/geology/gri.htm. At the bottom of that webpage is a "Contact Us" link if you need additional information.

To provide feedback or to inquire about using and/or obtaining GRI products, contact:

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