

## Final Fence Report 2005

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Work on Bryce Canyon National Park's fence project has been in effect during the years of 1995, 1998, 1999, 2004, and 2005. Reports on this work are complete and are being compiled with all fence data in the Resource Bullpen's file cabinet. A copy of all of these reports will be kept in the GIS's file cabinet in the desk near the computer.

### Purpose:

To meet critical park need by strengthening weak spots in the boundary fence, helping to protect the park from loss due to poaching and livestock trespass.

Establish baseline fence data for use in the creation of GIS data. When regularly updated, it will serve as a tool in the analysis of boundary needs for the park.

Update work that was not completed in 2004 using the Geo3Explorer, the 2004 data dictionary, and converting the data to GIS shapefiles.

### Method:

The data dictionary is meant to better inventory the fence's general condition; identify weak spots and high priority repairs, make minor repairs, catalog breaches and trespass activity. The GIS will then be used to record and track future maintenance, resource management and law enforcement project regarding the fenceline.

The GPS used was the Geoexplorer3 and firmware version 1.2. To differentially correct the data, Pathfinder Office 2.9 was used. The base station from Cedar City, "Dixie National Forest" was used for data correction. Location of GIS data is in the P Drive under: P:\GIS\Projects\brca\_fence\_project\Fence\_2005

### Results:

For the year 2005 only 1.2 miles of the boundary were GPSed using the "Bryce Fence Project" data dictionary. The amount of data collected from the GPS for 2005 was 1.2 miles of the park boundary between Sheep Creek and Pasture Wash (Image 1, below).

The 1.2 miles surveyed included only .6 miles of fence since the region was extremely rugged and is impassible to cattle. There were signs of fence breaks and tree damage throughout this area of park boundary, although there were no areas of immediate need. As for cattle trespass, the Sheep Creek area showed signs of cattle entering the park although no cattle were seen.

Even though the fence was a priority this year, more pressing needs came about that put the fence project behind others. A map below shows the work that was completed for the

summer season of 2005 (Image 1), the other two maps show areas that have not yet been GPSed (Images 2&3).

Forest Service Work at Bryce Canyon NP, 2005:

The Forest Service repaired fence along the southwest boundary of the park from Podunk Creek to the southwest corner of the park. The Forest Service also completed fence repairs east of Pasture Wash (the flats east of Pasture Wash) to that eastern boundary of the park. In total, 2 miles of fence repairs were completed for the year 2005.

Other Considerations about future fence work:

Much of the fence boundary that is left to be inventoried includes areas that are difficult to walk because of extremely rugged terrain. Also, from research done in past years, much of the boundary that has not been done, including the northeast corner of the park south to Tropic Canyon is without fence. From the 1999 report, "Most of this [where fence is non-existent] is along the southeast boundary from Pasture Wash south to Riggs Spring (Corral Hollow)".

Essentially, the boundary left to inventory will be time consuming and possibly difficult since no fence may be present. The fact that there is no fence in some areas where it is needed is another reason that the boundary needs to be completely inventoried.

Image 1. Complete GPS/GIS data taken for 2005 fence season

## Complete 2005 Fence Project Work

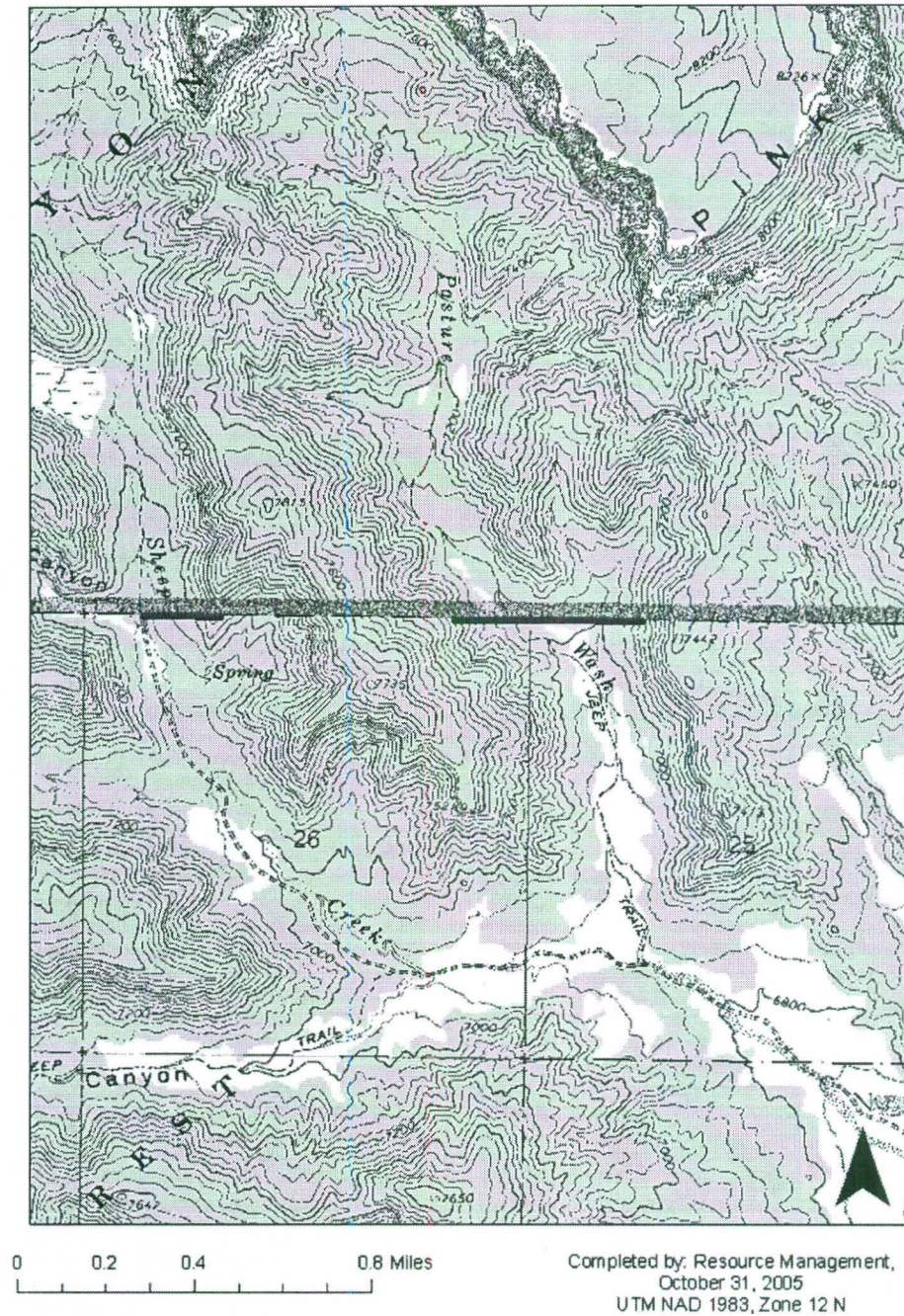


Image 2. Northern Portion of Park Boundary to be GPSed

### Northern Portion of Fence to GPS

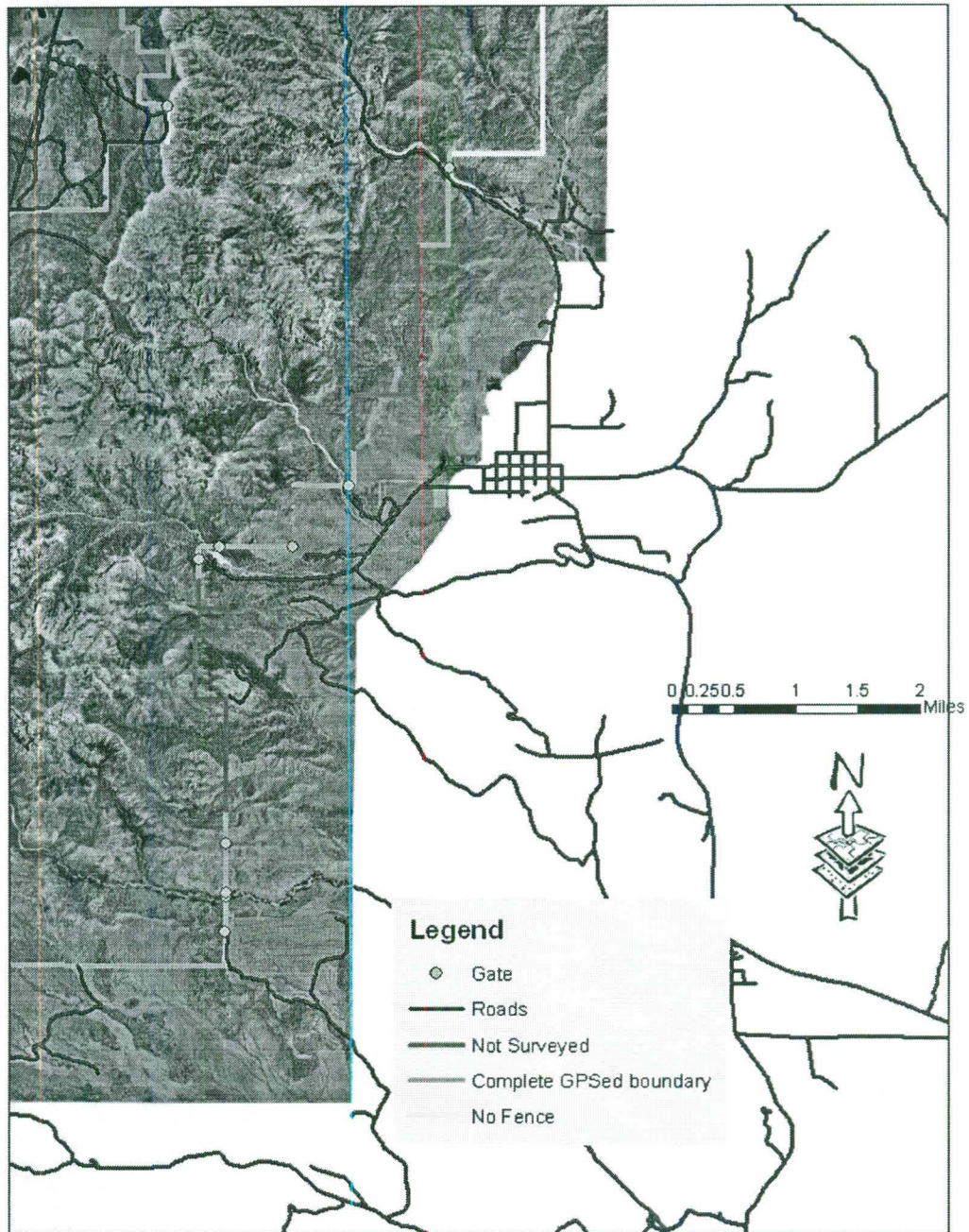
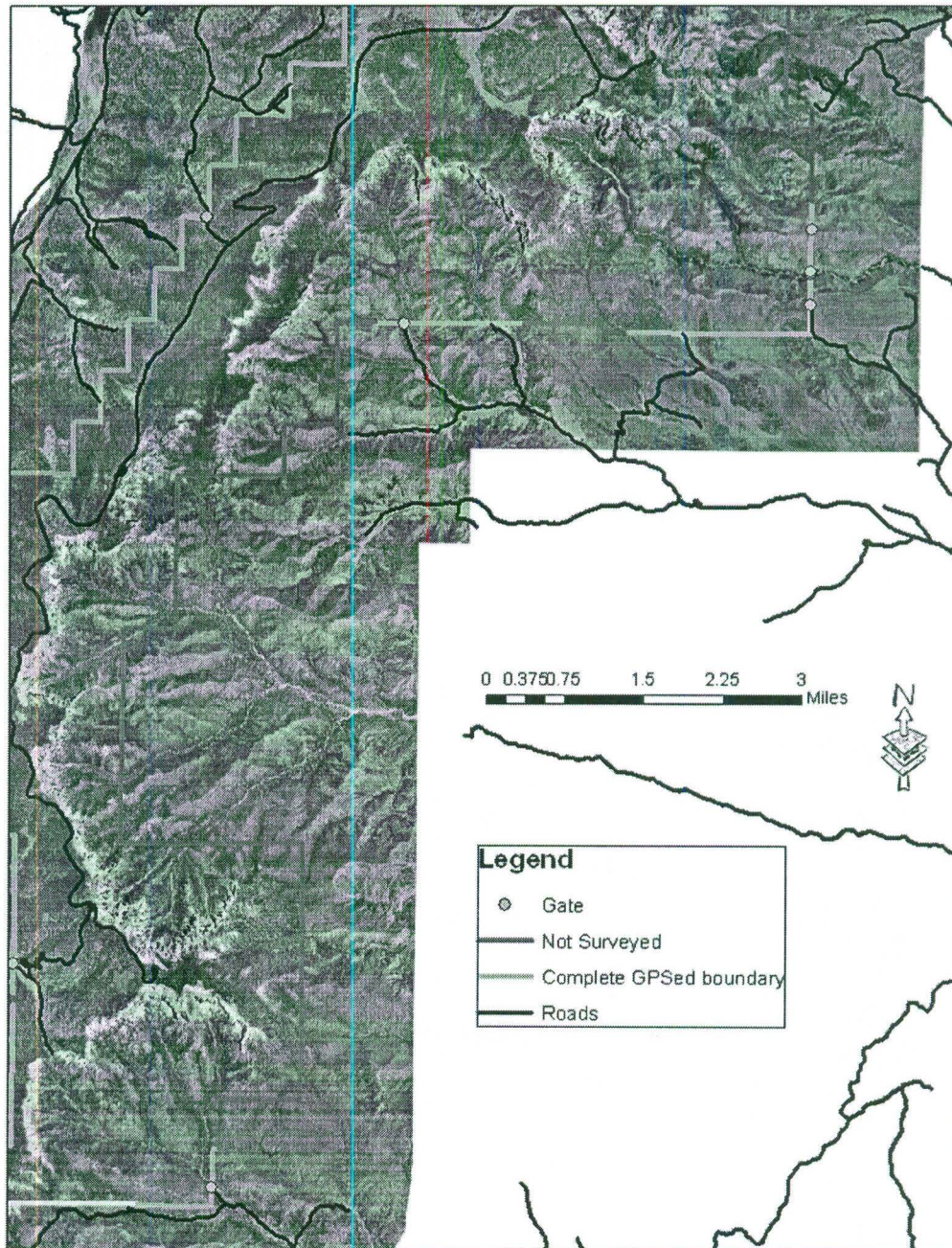
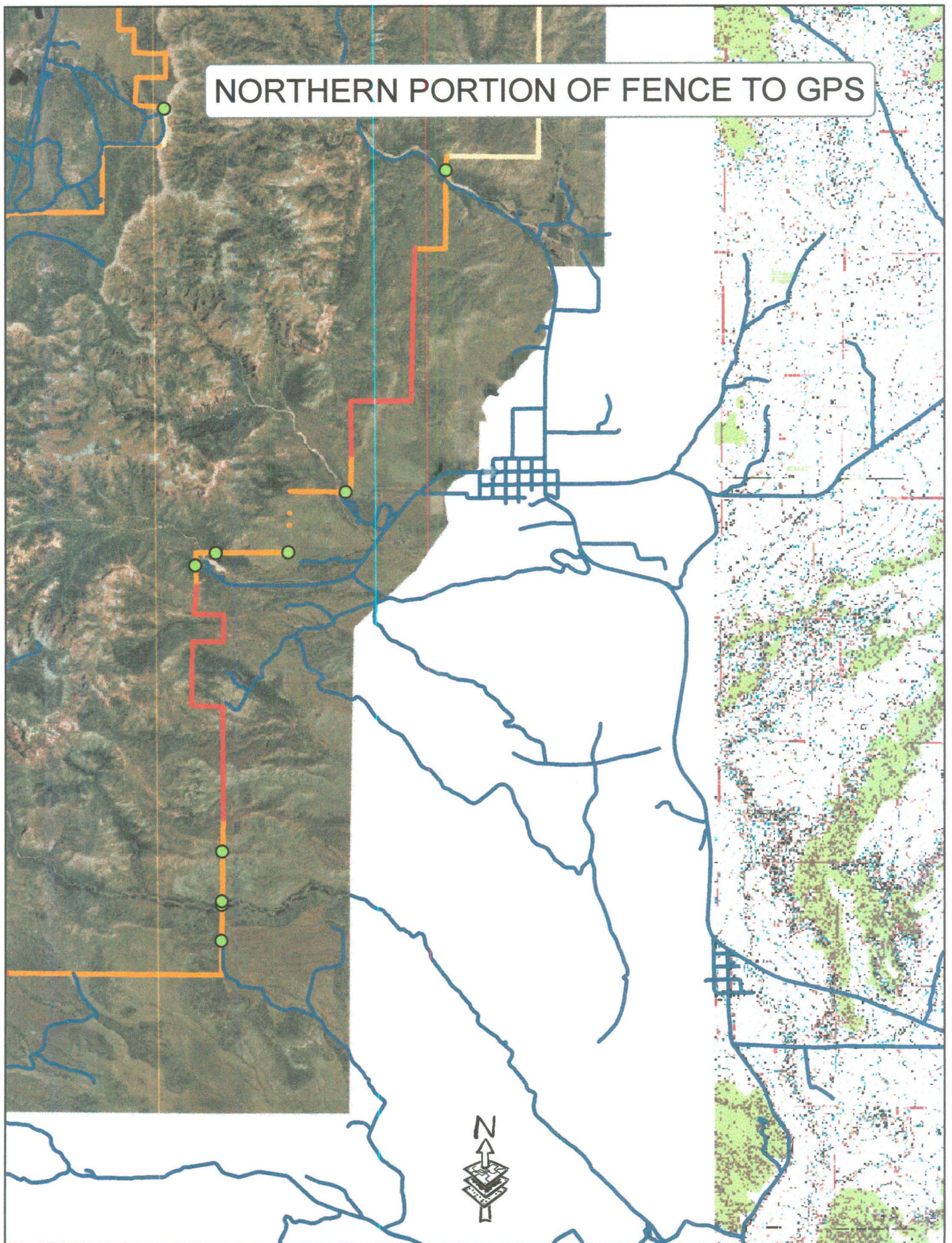


Image 3. Southern Portion of Park boundary to be GPSed

### Southern Portion of Fence to be GPSed



# NORTHERN PORTION OF FENCE TO GPS



0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Miles

SOUTHERN PORTION OF FENCE TO GPS

