



F.A.Q. for DNRGPS

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1 - General

Q1.1: What projection should I use in DNRGPS?

A1.1: The proper setting for Indiana would be *NAD 1983 UTM Zone 16 North* to match the current default setting for Toolkit, and most other ArcMap projects in Indiana.

Q1.2: My points are in the wrong place. What should I do?

A1.2: Make sure you have the correct projection set in DNR Garmin to match the data you imported from your GPS, or from ArcMap/Files. Make sure that your GPS unit's datum was set to either WGS84 or NAD83. If this is all correct, but the data still looks wrong or if you have questions on how to check this or other problems with getting the points in the "right" place, contact the State GIS Coordinator for assistance.

2 – Downloading from GPS Unit

Q2.1: How should I download waypoints from the various GPS models in use in Indiana?

A2.1: Connect the GPS unit to the computer with DNRGPS active and click **Waypoint → Download**. Refer to the task guide for the related GPS hardware and its download instructions for full details. You can also pull data off the GPS units using Garmin BaseCamp. See the BaseCamp guides for details.

3 – Uploading to GPS Unit

Q3.1: How should I upload waypoints from the various GPS models in use in Indiana?

A3.1: Connect the GPS unit to the computer with DNRGPS active and click **Waypoint → Upload**. If the Upload function does not seem to be working, be sure to go into **Waypoint → Waypoint Properties** and uncheck the boxes for any extra fields except for, "comment." Refer to the task guide for the related GPS hardware and its upload instructions for full details. You can also put data on the GPS units using Garmin BaseCamp. See the BaseCamp guides for details.

4 – Saving Data

Q4.1: When I save data from DNRGPS, what formats should I use?

A4.1: You should save twice, creating both .shp AND .txt files. The shapefile (.shp) is immediately usable in ArcMap. The text file (.txt) serves as a non-proprietary format backup if shapefiles should fall out of use. The text file is also editable in a text editor if there are problems with the source data.



Q4.2: Can I append data from multiple sets of waypoints to a single output file from DNRGPS?

A4.2: Yes. You create the initial .shp or .txt file from your first set of data points. Then you load the next set of data points into DNRGPS from your GPS unit or from another file and then you save again, targeting the original file that you saved the first time. When you do this, you will be prompted to Append, Overwrite, or Cancel. Choose Append and the 2nd set of data will be added into the file after the first set of data, resulting in one file that contains both sets of data. You can do this as many times as necessary to complete your dataset. However, it is still advised to organize separate projects and unrelated datasets in separately named files rather than to create one huge master file for all of your data. Only append data if you actually need to associate to separate sets of input files or points into one output file.