Search and Rescue - GIS

















Cole Brown, Search Manager

History of SAR Maps

• Most SAR Maps were Topographical Maps for USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle.



From 1987 to 2003

- Quads with no gridlines.
- Searchers with no GPS's
- No way to reproduce Maps
- Most searches occur across two maps.
- Some used a clear acetate Grid with no geo-reference.
- An ASTM Standard for Developing a Search Map was written and approved in 1997 using UTM for Geo-Reference.
- Search managers use to carry 450 quads for Maryland.

History of SAR Maps



History of SAR Maps





From 2002 to 2011

- A little company called Maptech, Inc. developed a GIS-lite application that had seamless topo's for all of Maryland.
- Terrain Navigator Pro terrainnavigator pro
- In 2002 TNP added Aerial Photo's at 1:12,000. But were black and white and later versions was color with leaf on.



Terrain Navigator Pro





- All search managers have a Toughbook laptop with Terrain Navigator Pro and the Ortho's and topo's loaded
- They also have Cutewriter so they can make PDF maps for sending to the Barrack for Printing.
- They also have GPS's Fortrex 401
- We can download tracks from Searchers





Typical Search Needs

- Search map to mark the location for searchers to go and provide to searchers.
- Map to analyze the topography against the circumstances why they are missing and apply statistical information from Lost Person Behavior data.
- Plot the various clues and points of the map to determine if there is a pattern.



GIS in SAR is Expanding

- Using ERSI ArcGIS and tools made for SAR we are able to make better maps and provide more analytics.
 - Field Mobility
 - Data Management
 - Planning and Analysis
 - Situational Awareness
 - Collaboration
 - Documentation



MAPSAR and IGT4SAR

- GIS Tool built on the ArcGIS platform created by a consortium of volunteer/professional SAR Personnel and software developers.
 - Effort was lead by Sierra Madre SAR Team, National Park Service and ESRI.
 - It allows for data collection, map generating, segmenting, tracking assets and assignments, and clue logging.
 - It also does behavioral and spatial analysis, automated form generation, probability theory and performance metrics.



Minimal Essential Datasets (MEDS)

- For IGT4SAR to operate we need a good base map and a good internet connection.
- Base Map
 - USGS Topographical Map 1:24K
 - Ortho Color with Leaf off 1:12K or Better
 - Data Elevation Model (DEM) 6 or 3 meter.
 - National Land Cover Data 30 meter





Minimal Essential Datasets (MEDS)

– Feature Classes

- Road Centerlines
- Hydrology Steams and Water Bodies
- Driveway
- Land Parcels
- Address Points
- City, County, State Boundary
- Cell Towers
- Trails
- Fence Lines





DEM and NLCD

- Cell Phone and Radio Propagation
- Communications Planning
- Mobility and Travel predictions
- Evaluate paths of least resistance
- Terrain analysis for collecting features
- Defining Search Segments boundaries





- We have access to 6" imagery via MD IMAP online.
 - Need a disconnect statewide solution.
- We have access to USGS Topo via ArcMap online.
 - Need a disconnect statewide solution.
- We have 75% access to DEM via Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative.
 - Need a disconnect statewide solution.



We have NLCD and Maryland Land Use Data

Standard Geo-Referencing in SAR

- United States National Grid
- NAD 83 UTM Zone 18N or 17N 18S TJ 86985 57964



Federal Emergency Management Agency Washington, D.C. 20472

APR 2 6 2001

Julie Binder Maitra Standards Coordinator US Geological Survey 590 National Center Reston, Virginia 20192

Subject: FEMA's Recommendation on the Proposed US National Grid Standard

Dear Ms. Binder Maitra:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supports the adoption of the US National Grid (USNG) as a standard for horizontal reference mapping in the United States. The FEMA program offices anticipate that use of this system for identifying locations among emergency management personnel and agencies will help save lives, reduce the costs of disaster, and enhance preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. Particularly valuable is its compatibility with the system used by the National Guard and others, the Military Grid Reference System (MGRS). The USNG standard also appears reasonably compatible with current capabilities of the Global Positioning System (GPS), and has the potential to be quite effective as a locational tool if future GPS devices adopt the standard. FEMA recommends that the FGDC adopt the USNG system as the horizontal reference system for all general-purpose mapping.



Michael K. Buckley, P.E., Director Technical Services Division Mitigation Directorate



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

Directive current as of 8 July 2008

J-3 DISTRIBUTION: A, B, C, J CJCSI 3900.01C 30 June 2007

POSITION (POINT AND AREA) REFERENCE PROCEDURES

Reference: DODD 5105.60, 11 October 1996, "National Imagery and Mapping Agency" (now known as the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency).

Standard Geo-Referencing in SAR

- Latitude and Longitude in Degree Decimal Minute format
- Degrees, Decimal Minutes (to the Hundredth)

39° 20.85' by 77° 28.45'





Maryland US National Grid 100,000 Meter Grid with GZD Zone Designator



NSARC Geo-referencing Matrix for Catastrophic Incident SAR

Georeference System User	USNG	Latitude/Longitude DD-MM.mmm(1)	GARS
Land SAR Responder(2)	Primary	Secondary	N/A
Aeronautical SAR Responders (3)	Secondary	Primary	Tertiary
Air Space Deconfliction (4)	N/A	Primary	N/A
Land SAR Responder/ Aeronautical SAR Responder Interface (5)	Primary	Secondary	N/A
Incident Command: Air SAR Coordination	Secondary Primary	Primary Secondary	N/A N/A
	тппату	Gecondary	
accountability (6)	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary

International SAR GIS Standard



International Civil Aviation Organization

INFORMATION PAPER

ICAO/IMO JWG-SAR/17-IP.7 7 September 2010 ENGLISH ONLY

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION



Agenda item 4

ICAO/IMO JOINT WORKING GROUP ON HARMONIZATION OF AERONAUTICAL AND MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE (ICAO/IMO JWG-SAR)

SEVENTEENTH MEETING

Bremen, Germany, 27 September to 1 October 2010



International SAR GIS Standard

3 Geo-Referencing Coordinates.

Aeronautical/Maritime SAR Responders – (USAF/USCG) - Aeronautical SAR responders use latitude and longitude for SAR response. The standard Latitude/Longitude format is Degrees, Decimal Minutes (DD° MM.mm'). Latitude is always read and written first noting "North" since the U.S. is North of the Equator. Longitude is always read and written last noting "West" since the U.S. is west of the Prime Meridian. *When speaking or reporting Latitude and Longitude use the following: For example, 39° 36.06'N by 76° 51.42'W, should be stated as per the following: "Three nine degrees, three six decimal zero six minutes North by seven six degrees, five one decimal four two minutes West." The words, "degrees," "minutes," and "decimal" must to be spoken.*

Land SAR Responders – (State/Local) - Land SAR responders primarily use U.S. National Grid/Universal Transverse Mercator grid system for SAR Response. These systems are intended to create a more interoperable environment for developing location-based services within the United States and to increase the interoperability of location services appliances with printed map products by establishing a preferred nationally-consistent grid reference system. Standard Latitude/Longitude coordinates can be easily converted and relayed in USNG/UTM by using U.S. National Grid Conversion tool available at http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/TOOLS/usng.shtml



- This Map has:
 - Latitude / Longitude in the right format
 - US National Grid
 - Magnetic Declination
 - It has the right Datum NAD83 or WGS 84













Case Study

- Mr. Frank Sottile, 90 yr. old Male
- Was at a family Picnic at Family Farm in Keymar, MD.
- Went Missing 9/1/2012 at 16:00
- He was with his daughter and family.
- He walked out the driveway of the farm to review the farms condition. He was disappointed. In 10 min he was gone.
- They currently live in Montgomery County.
- Search started at 17:00 and ended at 09:00 over 16 hrs
- He was found alive and in good health approx. 1.5 miles away.





DEM with Hillshade

















Mobility Model









Search Probability Map











With Tracks





Thank you

- Cole Brown
 - Coleman.Brown@Maryland.gov
 - 410 404-8962

