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**MOBILE GIS IN ONTARIO PARKS**

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**Abstract**

*Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) have recently merged into single mobile handheld solutions. The integration of GIS and GPS capabilities into one device offers limitless potential to capture, manipulate, analyze and output natural resource information. With the acquisition of a Trimble GeoExplorer XT, Ontario Parks now has the capability to undertake extensive resource data collection exercises at the field level. With up to sub-metre accuracy, the Trimble GeoXT provides Ontario Parks staff with the ability to collect new data types and update existing data, while adhering to corporate data standards. To ensure that data collection exercises are efficient, accurate, and that new or revised data is disseminated to the appropriate data custodian, effective GIS/GPS project management is essential. This poster presentation summarizes Trimble's new mobile GPS technology, GIS/GPS project management within Ontario Parks and provides examples of projects utilizing the Trimble GeoXT within the Southwest Zone of Ontario Parks.*