

GPS WORKSHOPS FOR LANDOWNERS IN MISSISSIPPI: ACCEPTANCE AND LESSONS LEARNED

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Abstract

Recognizing the increasing availability of lower cost GPS receivers and the increased use of GPS across clientele groups, the Extension Forestry Department at Mississippi State University developed an Introduction to GPS workshop. Since 2004, approximately 20 workshops have been conducted across Mississippi with a target audience of nonindustrial private landowners. The focus of this one day workshop is a basic overview of GPS operation, uses of GPS navigation, and basic field operations of a GPS receiver. The course consists of two sections, first a classroom lecture to introduce the topics, followed by a practical field exercise to reinforce the knowledge gained in the classroom. We will examine the effectiveness of this workshop using program evaluations from 2004 – 2007 to determine the knowledge transferred in these workshops. Lessons learned, suggestions for adapting the present workshop, and suggestions for more detailed workshops will also be discussed.

[Abstract Only]

In Proceedings of the 6th Southern Forestry and Natural Resources GIS Conference (2008), P. Bettinger, K. Merry, S. Fei, J. Drake, N. Nibbelink, and J. Hepinstall, eds. Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.