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Standard Guide for Intermediate Wilderness GPS/GNSS Use (GPS/GNSS-IIW) Endorsement¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F3072; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes the minimum knowledge, skills, and abilities required to use a GPS/GNSS² receiver to navigate in the wilderness.

1.2 This guide applies to the use of a GPS/GNSS receiver on land, on and off roads, and on small bodies of water, wherever GPS/GNSS signals can be received.

1.3 This guide applies to the use of a GPS/GNSS receiver in disaster areas where local positioning aids or references may be lost or damaged.

1.4 This guide does not apply to the use of a GPS/GNSS receiver on large bodies of water, at sea, or in the air.

1.5 This guide does not imply that a GPS/GNSS receiver is a replacement for a map and compass. Use of the latter is strongly recommended as a backup for GPS/GNSS navigation.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*³

[F1633 Guide for Techniques in Land Search](#)

[F1773 Terminology Relating to Climbing, Mountaineering, Search and Rescue Equipment and Practices](#)

[F2209 Guide for Training of Level I Land Search Team Member](#)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F32 on Search and Rescue and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F32.03 on Personnel, Training and Education.

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² This guide refers to GPS/GNSS, rather than GPS, receivers, due to the increasing number of global satellite navigation systems worldwide. Currently, only GPS and GLONASS are in operation and provide global satellite coverage. However, satellite navigation receivers are now manufactured which are capable of utilizing GPS, GLONASS, and Galileo satellites to determine a position on or above the earth's surface.

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System), n*—a navigation system utilizing a constellation of dedicated satellites to determine a location on or above the earth's surface.

3.1.2 *GPS (Global Positioning System), n*—the GNSS owned and operated by the United States government.

3.1.3 *navigate, v*—to plot a location on the earth, determine the direction and distance to that point, and travel to it; to direct a person to a particular location on the earth.

3.1.4 *route, n*—a series of waypoints which define a virtual path from one location to one or more other locations.

3.1.5 *track, n*—a three-dimensional trail defined by locations collected by a GPS/GNSS receiver at specific intervals of time.

3.1.6 *waypoint, n*—an intermediate point on a route or line of travel.

3.2 Definitions of terms not defined in this standard can be found in ASTM Guide [F1633](#), Guide [F1773](#), Guide [F2209](#), and Guide [F3071](#).

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide establishes the minimum knowledge, skills, and abilities required to use a GPS/GNSS receiver to navigate in the wilderness. A person trained to this guide shall be endorsed for Intermediate Wilderness GPS/GNSS Use (GPS/GNSS-IIW Endorsed).

4.1.1 Every person who is endorsed for Intermediate Wilderness GPS/GNSS Use shall have met the requirements of this guide.

4.2 This guide is the second level of training for wilderness GPS/GNSS use, and only establishes the minimum knowledge, skills, and abilities required for a person to navigate with a GPS/GNSS receiver in a wilderness environment. No other skills are included or implied.

4.3 In addition to meeting the requirements of this guide, a person endorsed for Intermediate Wilderness GPS/GNSS Use