Park Ranger Mobile App
Introduction

Smart phone technology is changing the way we do business in many ways. From QR codes to Geocaching, our public uses technology to make their lives easier, stay organized, and stay in touch.

So why can’t the same technology help Park Rangers with Visitor’s Assistance out in the field? All it takes is a Park Ranger with a smart phone and the Ranger App, and the possibilities are endless.
Brief History

• Began as a Shoreline Use Permit App in 2012 at Allatoona Lake in North Georgia.
• Quickly realized the larger potential as a full Park Ranger Visitors Assistance Application.
• Built and Piloted 1st Park Ranger Mobile App in the Summer of 2012. (6 Park Rangers)
• Fully implemented to all Rangers at Allatoona Lake in Summer of 2013. (14 Park Rangers)

• Park Ranger Mobile App won the 2014 National “Innovation of the Year” award.

• Began Pilot testing Park Ranger Mobile App in the Summer of 2015 for the Tulsa District.
Since its creation in 2012, the Park Ranger Mobile App has been an App based around a specific lake and/or project.

In 2015, that all changed with the creation of the Tulsa District Mobile App. Now we can have multiple lakes and projects under one district app.

Much like the specific lake app which requires a Park Ranger POC, the district app is requires a District POC and a Project POC from each lake and/or project working together to update their specific portions of the app.

For the basis of this presentation, we will focus on the District App.
The Application

PR Mobile App has two levels:
• District Level
• Field Level

District Level:
• Maintained by the District
• Houses Lake Offices Directory
• Houses District Level Recreation (SE Forms, Pertinent Data book, Vol Brochures & Applications, State boating handbooks, etc.)
• Houses one touch calling to District Office (Ops, PA, etc)
• Houses citations listing for entire district for last 5 years
• Houses safety items (AHA’s, JHA’s, MSDS, & Topics)
• Houses standard District Policies for Field Level Use
The Application

Field Level:
• All lakes and/or projects have their own specific section in the App.
• Each area has a Park Ranger Mobile App Coordinator
  • App is custom built for each lake by District POC
• Each PR Mobile App Coordinator:
  • Edits Content
  • Updates Content
  • Maintains Content
• Create PRMA user group to include all PRMA Coordinators along with the District POC.
• Any future ideas, innovations, or efficiencies are shared with the PRMA user group by bi-annual or quarterly meeting/webinars.
So...What Can the App Do?

The Ranger App can be programmed to do whatever the project or lake office needs it to do. The following slides will partially break down each tab and hit the high points. There is so much information on the Ranger App that it would take too long to break down in a normal power point presentation.
Recreation

Some of the features in the Recreation tab include:
• Lake levels (current level every two hours), current generation schedules, and river flow timeline.
• Bridge Elevations and Clearances.
• Campground address, maps, policies, and GPS coordinates.
• Day Use Parks and Boat Ramps policies, address, GPS coordinates, and brochures.
• Shelter rental information and policies.
• Full Navigation Maps.
• Special Event Permit forms and Special Activity Permit forms.

Most information has the ability to be emailed to the visitor live in the field, at the Ranger’s discretion.
Recreation...with style

TD-APP

(Park Offices)
(Tenkiller Ferry Lake)
(Recreation)
(Campgrounds)

NRRS:
1-877-444-6777

CHICKEN CREEK
Mailing Address:
CHICKEN CREEK
194702 West Chicken Creek Rd.
Cookson OK 74427
Phone Number:
Information: (918) 457-4241
GPS Info. (Latitude, Longitude):
36.88167, -94.96278
35.94054, 94.57486
Directions:
From Gore, Oklahoma, go 17.5 miles northeast on Highway 102, take the turn left and go 1.5 miles northwest on the paved access road. Follow signs into the campground.

COOKSON BEND
Mailing Address:
COOKSON BEND
18580 West Cookson Bend Rd.
Land Management

Some of the features in the Land Management tab include:

• All fish attractor maps for the lake, along with state records and size limits, license and fee info, and species identification.
• All hunting maps, regulations, seasons, and state limits.
• Hazard Communication and Spills procedures.
• Endangered and Threatened species, animal tracks, venomous, and non-venomous snakes.

Most information has the ability to be emailed to the visitor live in the field, at the Ranger’s discretion.
Shoreline

Some of the features in the Shoreline tab include:

- All shoreline forms and applications.
- All Shoreline Cove Maps and Zoning Maps
- All Shoreline Policy including electrical standards, standards for docks, and district and national policies.
- Dock search by permit or name listing phone number for quick contact.
- Dock templates for on screen display to be instantly sent to customer.

- **Comprehensive upgrade to this section in 2015-2016. Should have the ability to process shoreline permits by phone and hopefully streamline the process.**

*Most* information has the ability to be emailed to the visitor live in the field, at the Ranger’s discretion.
Shoreline...templates

Standard Templates can be designed to match your projects SMP. Customer only has to choose which template they prefer and the plans can be emailed instantly.
Maps & Brochures

Some of the features in the Maps & Brochures tab include:

- All Lake Maps.
- All Hiking Trail Maps.
- All Hunting Area Maps.
- All Project Brochures.
- All Electrical shutoff maps per park.
- All Water shutoff maps per park.
- Lease area maps.

Most information has the ability to be emailed to the visitor live in the field, at the Ranger’s discretion.
Phone Book

Some of the features in the **Phone Book** tab include:

• One-touch calling for common and complex situations. For example, if you need animal control, you just select animal control, select the county, and the phone will make the call. If you need a tow boat or tow truck, you select the provider, and the phone automatically places the call. There is no need to look up or dial the phone number. If a camper needs RV repair, a locksmith, or propane, all local numbers are in the one touch phone book to aid with visitor assistance.

• Lease area contacts and gate codes for easy access and emergency fast access into lease areas.
Citations

Some of the features in the **Citations** tab include:

- Running names and vehicle tag #s live in the field covering all lakes in the district for the last 5 years entered into OMBIL.
- Forfeiture schedules for each area in the district.
- Access to run GCIC for National Database for names and vehicle tag #s. (Waiting on Approval from Headquarters)
Safety

Some of the features in the **Safety** tab include:

- Job Hazard Analysis descriptions.
- Activity Hazard Analysis descriptions.
- Safety Meeting topics, both for short and long programs.
- MSDS Sheets for quick material reference.
Policies

Some of the features in the Policies tab include:

- Engineer Manuals, Pamphlets, Regulations, Memorandums, Army Regulations, District Policy, etc.
- Cheat Sheets for Programs including Partnerships, OMBIL, VERS, Sign Program, Etc.
- All policies in this section are available for review at any time. You can also share these policies with the public using the email feature.
- Some policies can also be commonly used in the field, such as the Low and High Water Action Plans, Title 36, and Hazardous Trees Policy.

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**Engineer Manual (EM):**
- Recreation Facility Standards

**Engineer Pamphlets (EP):**
- 1130-2-500 Project Operations Partners & Support
- 1130-2-520 Navigation & Dredging
- 1130-2-540 Envir. Stewardship
- 1130-2-550 Recreation Operations
- 1130-2-550 Master Plans
- 200-2-3 Environmental Compliance
- 310-1-6 Graphic Standards (Signs)
- 1165-2-316 Title 36 Section 327.0

**Engineer Regulations (ER):**
- 10-1-2 Organization &
Compatibility

The Ranger App is designed to be used on other mobile devices, however it works best on a smart phone. The app will run on a laptop or a tablet and is still a great resource on these devices, however you will lose the one touch dialing feature and the ability to email documents live from the field to the public.
Cell phone service issues?

Whether your project has good or bad coverage, the Ranger App can be altered to fit your situation. Almost every feature of the Ranger App will work WITHOUT a connection!

- Phone book (The number will still display on the app, so you can call from a land line.)
- Citations, Policies, Maps & Brochures, Recreation, and Land Management Features will all still work. You will only lose that ability to email these documents live from the field. However you can still view all the information on the app. Just go ahead and send the email and when you get out of the dead zone, the phone will complete the email and send them the information.
The Ranger App is inspired, designed, developed, implemented, and is currently used by US Army Corps of Engineers Park Rangers. The Ranger App works most efficiently on Blackberry smart phones and Android smart phones. Having smart phones, especially with the Ranger App installed, gives Park Rangers a big advantage while out in the field.
Questions?

- Contact Jason Knight
- Jason.m.knight@usace.army.mil