Park Ranger Mobile App Users Group

Welcome to the Park Ranger Mobile App Users Group. This group has been set up for project POC's that are currently using the App and others that might be interested in the Park Ranger Mobile App. The goal is to keep all of us informed of new information pertaining to the Mobile App and share ideas for new additions.

August/September 2016

Current Challenges:

They have arrived, kinda… – New android phones have arrived to replace the old Blackberry smartphones and worthless flip phones. However Ace-it and its contractors were not ready for the demand, so for the rest of 2016 most districts are only issuing a limited number phones per week. Here in the Tulsa District we are being issued 3 a week, with the Deputy Commander signing off on every upgrade. When your time comes your choices will be a Samsung Galaxy S6 or an IPhone 6. Keep in mind the app will not work on an Iphone, so if you are planning on running the Park Ranger Mobile App, you will need the Samsung Galaxy S6 or S7. I am trying to push the priority to projects that have a Mobile App build but have no smartphones (Lake Texoma & Keystone Lakes to start with) but even then we are not going to be allowed 3 a week just for the Park Ranger Mobile App use. So be patient with your phone upgrades, and hope for a better supply in 2017.

With new phones and new operating systems come new problems. The first problem we have encountered is that the Androids do not have an SD Card slot (apparently the only android in the world that does not). So we had to create a work around to be able to get the App on the phone and to run updates. Remember these phones are pretty locked down once you add email, like the Blackberry smartphone you cannot plug these into your government computer at your desk. After we got the App on the phone we ran into some bugs as the operating system is different on an Android than a Blackberry. Right now we are having trouble getting the PDF's to launch and the screen size on the App to adjust. However all other functions are working properly.

Hopefully future updates will include a lot more mapping now that we have access to Google Maps and Google Earth via Smartphone. There are endless possibilities in store. However all new Apps and Innovations will now be handled through the Tulsa District Innovations PDT Team as they are the most equipped.

What's New:

Innovations Planning and Development of Technology Team (iPDT) – In early June 2016, the Innovations PDT was un-officially created in the Tulsa District. The purpose of this team is to tackle new ideas for streamlining processes and the development of technology to assist Park Rangers and the enhancement of the recreation experience to the visiting public.

The Innovation Season for the iPDT will run from October to April with the kickoff meeting being open to all at the Annual Innovations Summit Conference in the Tulsa District Office. There, both team members and scheduled field personnel who submitted great ideas will present their innovations to the team and all in attendance so that everyone has a chance to show off their great idea. This year's Innovations Summit is set for October 19, with hopefully a fruitful Innovations Season to follow in the 2016-2017 Season.

Coming Soon:

Park Ranger Mobile App Tablet Test – Tablets are coming to the Tulsa District as part of an Ace-It pilot test on Dell Lattitudes. Most of the tablets are reserved for Shoreline Use for Eufaula Lake, Texoma Lake, and Keystone Lake to run and test out our Shoreline Remote Controller (Part of the Park Ranger Mobile App Family). However two tablets are reserved just for the Park Ranger Mobile App Tablet Pilot at the Oolagah Lake Project. Hopefully more to come on this in the following months.

New Lake Additions for 2017 Recreation Season – Thanks to the release of new Android Smartphones for the District, we should have a couple more projects coming on board for the 2017 Recreation Season. Lake Texoma & Waurika Lake this winter, Ft. Gibson Lake in early spring, and possibly the Eufaula Lake Area (Eufaula Lake, RS Kerr Lake, and Wister Lake) in late spring.

Park Ranger Mobile App Participants:

Allatoona Lake (SAD) 2013
Oolagah Lake (SWD) 2015
Tenkiller Lake (SWD) 2015

Webbers Falls Lake (SWD) 2015
Keystone Lake (SWD) 2016
Arcadia (SWD) 2016
Heyburn (SWD) 2016

On HOLD due to lack of Smartphones:

Lake Texoma (SWD) – Projected complete by 1/1/17
Waurika Lake (SWD)
Truscott Lake (SWD)

Ft. Gibson Lake (SWD) – Projected complete by 3/1/17
Chouteau Lake (SWD)
Newt Graham Lake (SWD)

Eufaula Lake (SWD) – Projected complete by 5/1/17
RS Kerr Lake (SWD)
WD Mayo Lake (SWD)
Wister Lake (SWD)

Council Grove (SWD) – Projected complete by 12/1/17
John Redmond
Marion Reservoirs
Eldorado Lake

AS ALWAYS.....feel free to share this email with any USACE Employee. If they would like to be part of the Users Group and receive updates please forward their email address to me and I will add them to the distribution list.

The Park Ranger Mobile App.....Inspired, Developed, Created, & Maintained by Park Rangers.....Always.

- **Click here to view the Park Ranger Mobile App October 2015 presentation on the NRM Gateway.**