

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. (Please Note: If you respond to this email, please do not "Reply All", I will post your question or comment in the next edition)



Current Challenges:

- "Smartphone Upgrades, good and bad news." As of yesterday the only two Blackberry Smartphones Ace-it is carrying is the Blackberry Classic and the Blackberry Passport. Both of these phones are NOT ideal to operate the Park Ranger Mobile App on. I talked to ACE-it and I was told that AT&T had pulled all the Z10's and Z30's (Which are the phones most ideal for App execution) off the shelf. Ace-it believes that AT&T is preparing to put an Android phone out there for us to use, possibly a Samsung Galaxy S5. This would be a big win for the App as an Android would provide a solid mapping feature that the Blackberry does not have.

- "Talk of tablets everywhere, but never one to test" The future and vision of the Park Ranger Mobile App has always depended on growing to the table stage. While the App is a very powerful tool on a smartphone, we are beginning to develop Modules for the App that are best suited for Tablets. Many of these modules you can see below in the "Coming Soon (Innovation in the Works)" section of this email. Currently here in the Tulsa District we have not been able to secure any tablets for testing, however even without that resource we are experimenting on personally owned tables and 2-in-1's so we are prepared for when Tablets are available.

What's New:

- "**Park Ranger Mobile App on Display**" Right before the Christmas break, ERDC added the Park Ranger Mobile App Presentation to the Corps Natural Resource Management Gateway under Visitors Assistance, and Good Enough to Share. Direct link is listed below:

<http://corpsslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/visitassist/pdfs/Park%20Ranger%20Mobile.pdf>

- **"Park Ranger Mobile App gets Division Attention"** This February, I have been invited to speak at the SWD Rangers Conference and give a presentation of the Park Ranger Mobile App. This is great publicity for the App and gets us one step closer to sharing with other Projects, Districts, and Divisions.

- **"More than an App, Modules for Paperwork on the Go."** As the Park Ranger Mobile App continues to grow and more and more projects come on board there is a ceiling to how much the App can think. The App mostly stores and sorts information for Park Ranger use on a whim and from time to time functions to process information. However due to it being on a smartphone there are limitations. Therefore "Modules" will be built for the App to help streamline those time consuming paper heavy duties like Shoreline Management and Real Estate Packets. The Modules are built and meant to run off a tablet or Laptop in conjunction with the App on the phone, however for now these modules are being built on the phone for use and will be exported when the technology becomes available.

Coming Soon (Innovation in the Works):

- **"Paperless Shoreline Management?"** Imagine a world where you go out to a dock, inspect it, then turn to your trusty smartphone and fill out the inspection form email it to yourself and go to the next dock and everything else is taken care of for you. Welcome to the Shoreline Remote Control Module, one of the newest additions to the Park Ranger Mobile App. With the Remote Control you can instantly process paperwork in the field for renewals, change of ownerships, modifications, repairs, and any other situation completely based on the scenario you give the remote. Other features will include lake specific Shoreline Use Permit Program Training based on the lakes SMP and District SMP, Dock Finder, all forms, applications, and policies. The tablet version will also feature a three split screen view of the remote, the most current permit on file, and that permit's entire electronic file for historic reference. Testing for the Shoreline Remote Control Module will hopefully begin at Lake Texoma and Tenkiller Ferry Lake in the Spring of 2016. (See enclosure named "Shoreline Remote Control Overview")

- **"RETS Starter App"** This Module is being created exclusively for the Tulsa District as a precursor to our existing Real Estate Tracking System. This Starter App will guide the ranger from package creation all the way to uploading the information into the RETS system. The plan is for most information to pre-fill into the package from the Lake Offices Lease Database to help save time, however this App is more of a guide to creating the Real Estate Packages and getting them into the RETS System correctly.

- **"Monument Tracker and Boundary Line Locater"** This Module may end up being included in the Shoreline Remote Control Module. With an Android phone or Tablet, this Module will give the Park Ranger the ability to walk boundary lines and find monuments with accuracy of 4 to 5 feet. It will also consist of a mapping feature which

should show a true boundary line over a satellite view of Corps and neighboring land owners property.

- **"Partnerships on the Go."** This Module will guide the Park Ranger through the Partnership process to figure out what type of Partnership they need, what paperwork they need, and quick tips and hints to help them with their specific partnership. All partnership forms, applications, and policies will be included in the Module.

- **"The End of Ranger Reports?"** Can it be so? Yes it can. With the Ranger Report Module all the Park Ranger will have to do is select what area they need to report (Live from the field), and not only report their actions but be able to see what all the other Rangers have reported for that PSA over the week. No more wondering if the public is lying to you or not, no more depending on park attendants for information, you can put together what happened and who said what right off your phone based on Ranger documentation. On Sunday afternoons, a report generates for management to review by PSA, not by Ranger. This gives a better picture of happened in your PSA's without having to match up and piece everyone's ranger reports together.

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.

Park Ranger Mobile App Roster:

Allatoona Lake (SAD) 2013
Oolagah Lake (SWD) 2015
Tenkiller Lake (SWD) 2015
Lake Texoma (SWD) 2016 - Currently Being Built
Ft. Gibson Lake (SWD) 2016 - Currently Being Built
Keystone Lake (SWD) 2016 - Coming Summer of 2016
Eufuala Lake (SWD) 2016 - Coming Summer of 2016

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