Cumberland Gap National Historical Park

Geologic Resources Inventory

GIS Data Explanation, September 15, 2011

Geologic-Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data related to Cumberland Gap National Historical Park is delivered in WinZip (zip) archive files. These data are a product of the NPS Geologic Resources Inventory (GRI) program which is funded by the Inventory and Monitoring (I&M) Division, and administered by the NPS Geologic Resources Division (GRD).

Geologic-GIS data for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park consist of a dedicated park map providing complete coverage of the park and surrounding area, as well as individual component maps. Data files for the dedicated park map are named using the park four letter code (CUGA) as a prefix. Component maps are identified by the following prefixes: BKVA – Back Valley Quadrangle, COGA – Coleman Gap Quadrangle, EWIN – Ewing Quadrangle, FORD – Fork Ridge Quadrangle, KAYK – Kayjay Quadrangle, MBNO – Middlesboro North Quadrangle, MBSO – Middlesboro South Quadrangle, ROHL – Rose Hill Quadrangle, VARI – Varilla Quadrangle and WHEE – Wheeler Quadrangle.

Geologic-GIS data are provided in ESRI 9.2 personal geodatabase (.mdb) and 9.2 shapefile (.shp) formats,. WinZip files containing a geodatabase are identified with a "gdb.zip" suffix, whereas those containing shapefile data have a "shp.zip" suffix. In addition to GIS data, each WinZip file also contains the following files: 9.2 layer (.lyr) files complete with data layer symbology, FGDC-compliant metadata (.txt), a GRI map help document (.pdf) file that contains geologic unit descriptions, as well as ancillary information and any graphics from all source maps used to produce the GRI digital data for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, and this file. Geodatabase WinZip files also include an ESRI 9.2 ArcGIS map document (.mxd) file that presents all of the GIS components of a GRI digital map in a user-friendly format for viewing and data analysis. The shapefile WinZip files contain individual shapefile metadata (.shp.xml and .dbf.xml) files for quick reference in ESRI 9.2 ArcCatalog.

For GIS datasets the GRI recommends extracting all map files for a particular GRI map to a single directory folder. The provided ArcGIS map document (.mxd) file and layer (.lyr) files use relative paths to access GIS data files that are located in the same folder. When adding GRI GIS data to a new or existing ArcGIS map document (.mxd) file, users should add layer (.lyr) files (e.g., cugaglg_gdb.lyr) in order to ensure that the GIS data will be displayed with the appropriate title, symbology and labels ("_gdb" appended to a layer file name denotes a layer file to geodatabase GIS data, whereas "_shp" denotes a layer file to shapefile GIS data).

Detailed information concerning the source data used by the GRI is listed in the Source Citation sections(s) of the included map metadata record (e.g., cuga_metadata.txt). Information concerning source data is also in the Source Map Information GIS table (cugamap), and repeated in the GRI help map document (.pdf) file.

For detailed information regarding GIS parameters such as data attribute field definitions, attribute field codes, value definitions, and rules that govern relationships found in the data, refer to the NPS Geology-GIS Data Model document, gre_gdb_ggdm_v2dot1.pdf (available at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/inventory/geology/GeologyGISDataModel.cfm).

Digital geologic-GIS data in these WinZip files and all other digital geologic-GIS data prepared as products of the GRI program are available to download from the NPS Natural Resource Information Reference Search Application: http://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/Search. To find GRI data for a specific

park or parks select the appropriate park(s), enter "GRI" as a Search Text term, and then select the Search Button.

For a complete listing of Geologic Resources Inventory products and direct links to the download site, visit the GRI publications webpage: http://www.nature.nps.gov/geology/inventory/gre_publications.cfm.

For more information about the Geologic Resources Inventory Program, visit the GRI webpage: http://www.nature.nps.gov/geology/inventory, or contact:

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To provide feedback or to inquire about the use of GRI products, contact Bruce Heise (contact information listed above). For information about the status of GRI digital geologic-GIS data for a park, contact:

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