

## Re: Which GPS for ..

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.satellite-nav/2004-06/0944.html>

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*>for some reason GPS makers don't seem to give random  
>bits of the UK the same level of priority as Yellowstone Park.*

At least in part because of the different approaches the two countries take regarding ownership rights to government-produced maps. In the US, the tenet is that USGS maps, having been developed with public money, are public property, freely accessible to all. In Great Britain, the government claims copyright to maps they generate and charges people to get copies. Makes it hard for a GPS manufacturer who would have to pay inordinate sums for rights to "random bits" of the countryside that might never be earned back through sales.