

Re: Questions about EGNOS.

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From: David Lee (*davidlee_malvern_at_dont.use.this.bit.hotmail.com*)

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Nick Hopton wrote...

> *David Lee wrote.*

> *>I can't remember the*

> *>WAAS/EGNOS time-out period on a Garmin but I'm sure that it's way over*

> *>conservative and no more than a couple of minutes at most, so even when*

> *>it's fully operational EGNOS/Garmin for UK terrestrial navigation will*

> *>really just be a waste of money unless you can stick to south facing*

> *>slopes! :-(*

> *I think that might be pitching it a bit strong, David. I don't know if*

> *this will work with your Garmin, but after I do a factory reset on my*

> *Geko 301 and then turn on WAAS it often shows very strong signals from*

> *#33, #35 and #39. It even tries to use the data from these satellites*

> *for correction purposes and the 'D's start to appear. But as you say,*

> *this goes away after a few minutes. But I think it's more than possible*

> *that one day we will get usable signals from EGNOS, even if we're not on*

> *south-facing slopes. My location incidentally is Reading, in the south*

> *of England.*

>

> *Just now it's not the accuracy of the GPS which is bothering me, it's*

> *the accuracy of the OS-maps. I've just plotted the track of a walk that*

> *I did earlier today and it says that I walked about ten miles down the*

> *middle of the Kennet and Avon canal <g>. This isn't the first time,*

> *either.*

Different firmware in the Gecko – I'm pretty certain that the etrex range is set to ignore WAAS/EGNOS signals broadcast with the test bits set.

Regarding your wet feet (or rather lack of wetness) – it's not the accuracy of the map that's at fault. Try measuring the width of the canal as represented on your map – it will be just a bit more than it is in reality!

Problem is that roads, canals etc are represented by "conventional signs" and the width is fixed by convention not ground-truth. I don't know how wide the canal is where you are but it must be less than 40 feet, which scales to less than 1/100 of an inch on a 1:50,000 OS map. Hence the tow-path will run right down the middle of the canal as represented on the map, which shows that your Gecko is recording a pretty accurate track.

sci.geo.satellite-nav: Re: Questions about EGNOS.

David