

## Re: garmin rebate

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.satellite-nav/2006-12/msg00457.html>

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- *From:* [miso@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:miso@xxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* 29 Dec 2006 10:57:28 -0800
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Dale DePriest wrote:

[miso@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:miso@xxxxxxxxxx) wrote:

Here is my issue. When you hike steep or rugged terrain, i.e. a path where you can't make decent forward progress, a virtual compass is pretty worthless since the differential readings (perhaps sequential is a better word) are not far enough apart. I'd like the compass not to be fussy. It really wouldn't have to be all the accurate for hiking, but I've seen the Garmin compass in action on older models and it just won't do.

while your concerned is well founded it is not based on how the GPS actually computes direction. It is not done with sequential readings but is computed from the Doppler shift from the satellite data. Only one reading is needed but there has to be a velocity component that is not zero or nearly zero.

Dale

Get general GPS information at:  
<http://www.gpsinformation.net/>

Your website doesn't seem to agree with you:

<http://www.gpsinformation.net/main/gpsbearing.htm>

"The GPS computes it's bearing to the next waypoint based on knowing the coordinates of the target AND the GPS receiver's current location. (Assuming the target is a km or more away, the bearing will normally be very accurate indeed. This is true if or not the GPS is in motion or at rest.) HOWEVER, the GPS computes it's DIRECTION OF TRAVEL (as opposed to bearing to the next waypoint) by computing its position at

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approximately 1 second intervals and calculating DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT."

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\_ \_ Dale DePriest  
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