GPS FUNDAMENTALS

Training on the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for improved protected area planning and management in Vanuatu

Bradley Eichelberger

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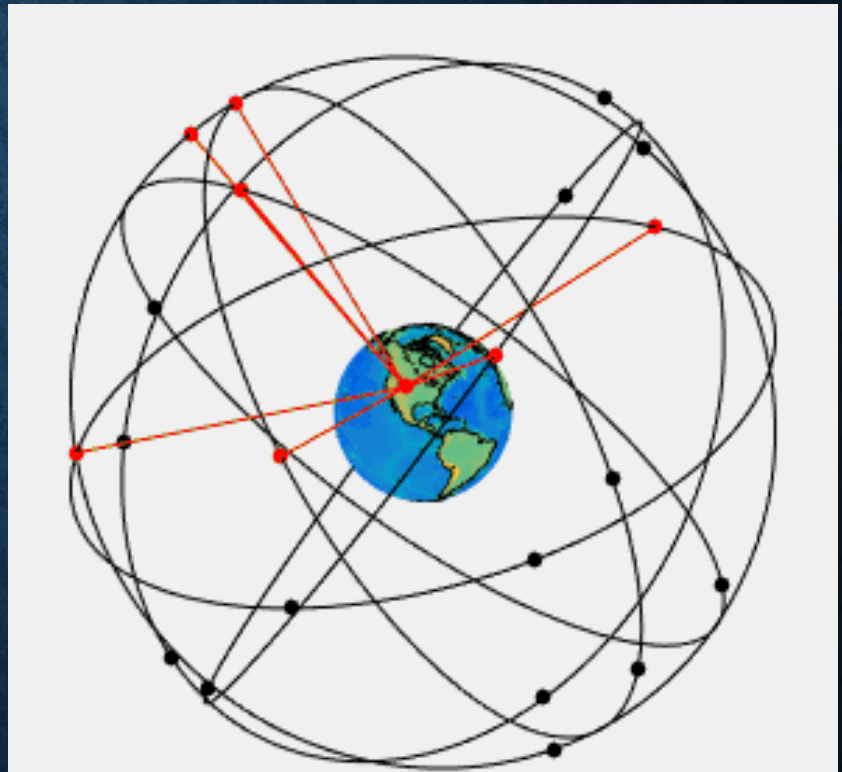
SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

BIOPAMA From Knowledge to Action for a Protected Planet

IUCN

GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEMS (GNSS)

- Series of 18-30 satellites that transmits time and location data through radio waves to a receiver
  - GPS (USA), GLONASS (Russian), Galileo (EU), Navic (India), BeiDou (China)
- At least 4 satellites required for geolocation
  - 3 possible if at sea level
- Currently, 24 satellites in operation for GPS
- Receiver picks up signal
  - More satellites = less error
  - Garmin units +/- 3 meters
  - Units with high receiver +/- few centimeters



Garmin GPS
+/- 3 meters

Phone
+/- 10 meters
Garmin GPS
+/- 3 meters

AVERAGING

Time	X	Y

- Error from bounce of trees, other structures, bad angles from satellites
- Star = Actual Location (100, 100)
- Red Circle = uncertainty +/- 3 meters
- Purple X's = GPS recording

AVERAGING

Time	X	Y
10:00:14	97.2	99.9

- Error from bounce of trees, other structures, bad angles from satellites
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AVERAGING

Time	X	Y
10:00:14	97.2	99.9
10:00:15	100.8	97.4

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AVERAGING

Time	X	Y
10:00:14	97.2	99.9
10:00:15	100.8	97.4
10:00:16	97.5	98.5

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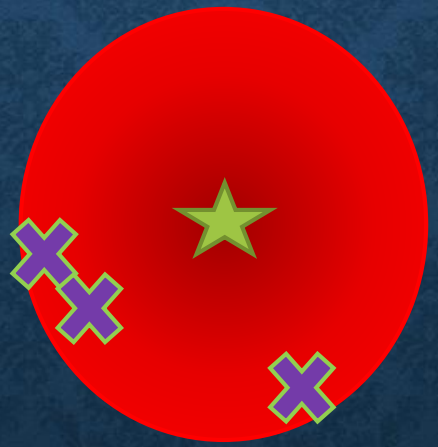

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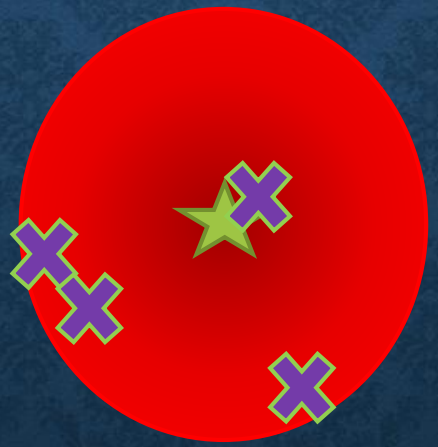

Time	X	Y
10:00:14	97.2	99.9
10:00:15	100.8	97.4
10:00:16	97.5	98.5
10:00:17	100.3	100.2

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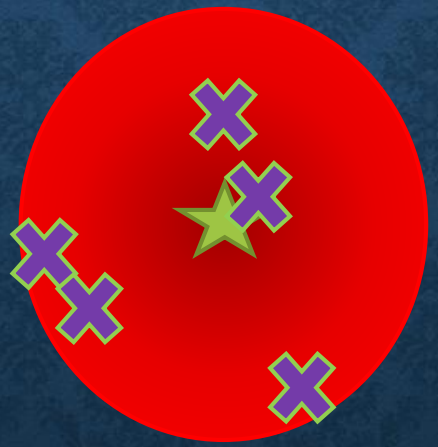

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10:00:16	97.5	98.5
10:00:17	100.3	100.2
10:00:18	100.0	101.5

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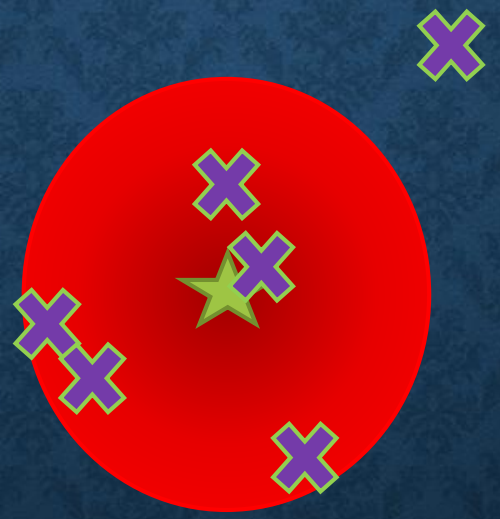

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10:00:16	97.5	98.5
10:00:17	100.3	100.2
10:00:18	100.0	101.5
10:00:19	105.0	105.0

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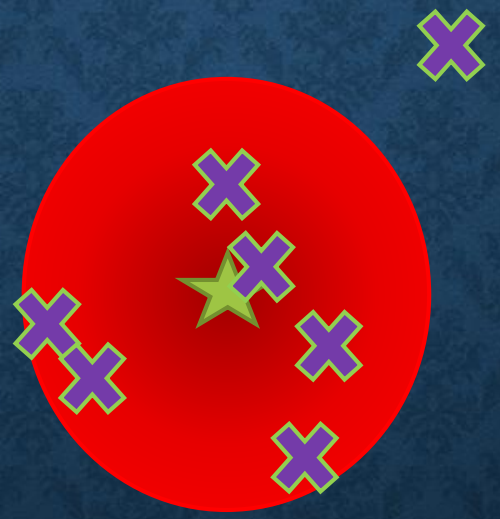

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10:00:16	97.5	98.5
10:00:17	100.3	100.2
10:00:18	100.0	101.5
10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5

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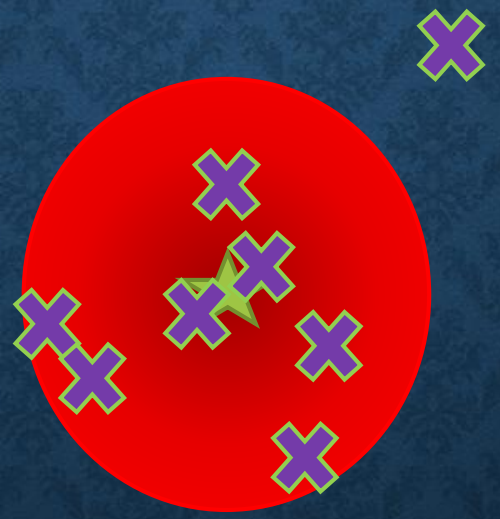

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10:00:18	100.0	101.5
10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5

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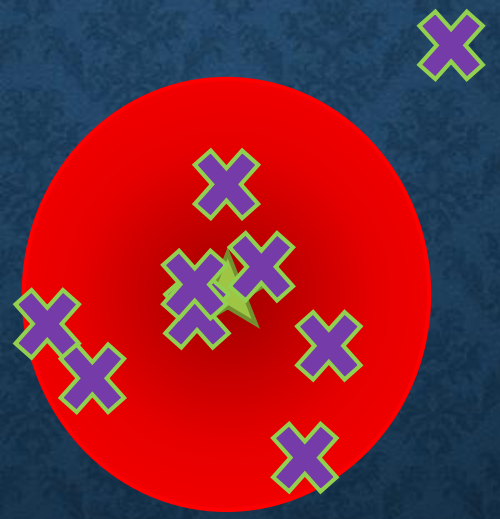

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10:00:18	100.0	101.5
10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5
10:00:22	100.0	99.5

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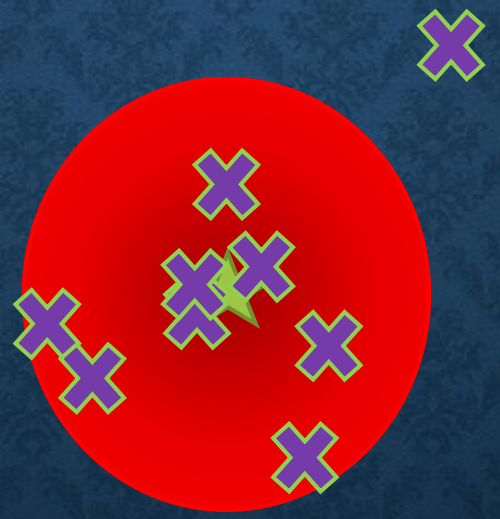

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10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5
10:00:22	100.0	99.5

HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH OF THESE IS THE CLOSEST?

AVERAGING

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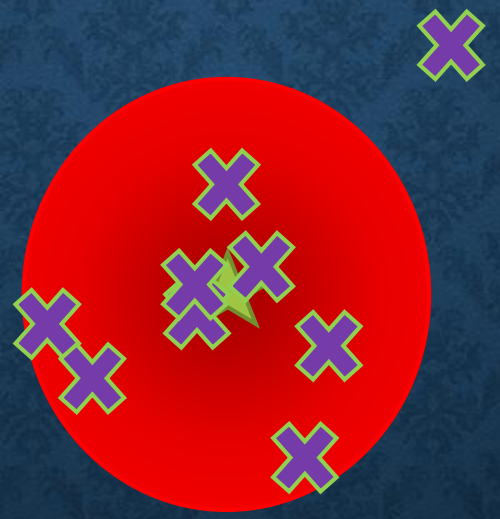

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10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5
10:00:22	100.0	99.5

HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH OF THESE IS THE CLOSEST?

WE DON'T KNOW

AVERAGING

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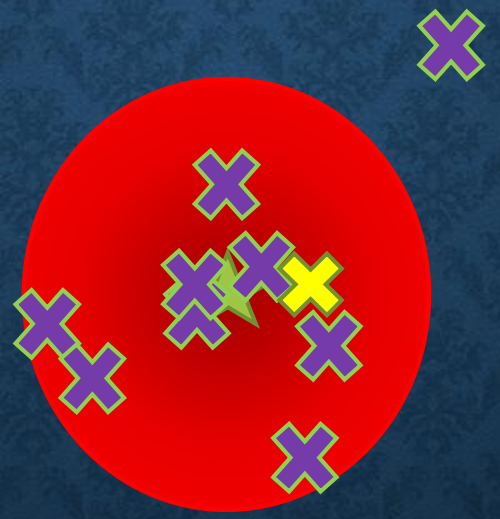

Time	X	Y
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10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5
10:00:22	100.0	99.5
Average	101.4	100.3

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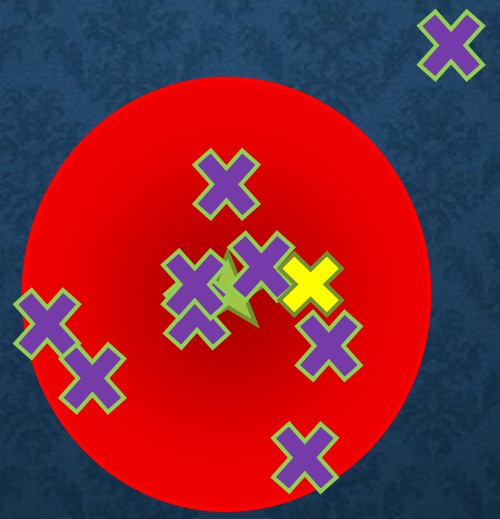

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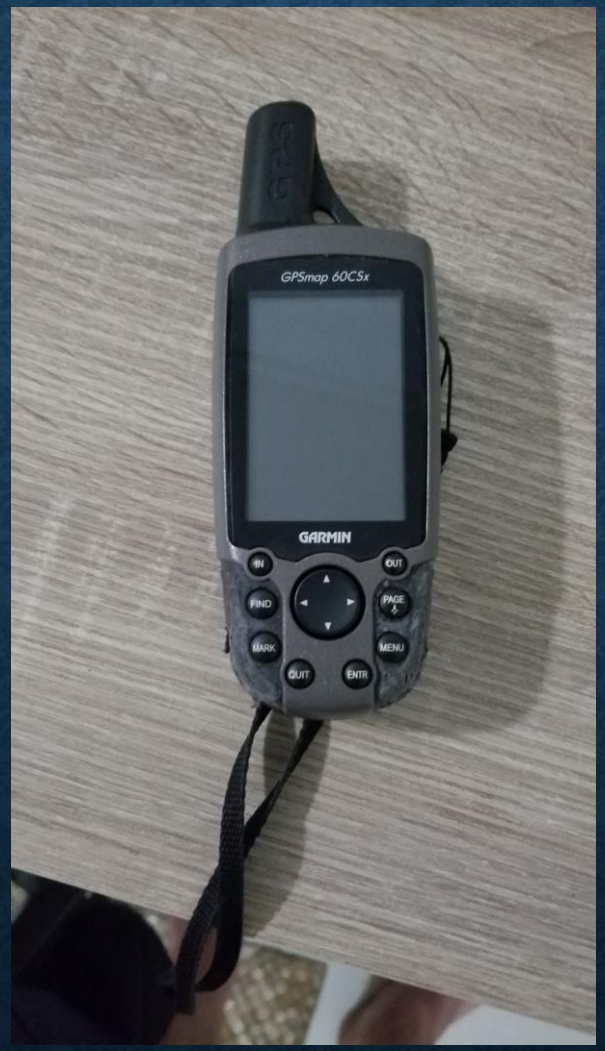
10:00:19	105.0	105.0
10:00:20	99.0	101.5
10:00:21	99.5	99.5
10:00:22	100.0	99.5
Average	101.4	100.3

THE LONGER WE LET THE GPS AVERAGE POINTS, THE MORE POINTS ARE AVERAGED AND THE MORE POINTS WE AVERAGE THE LESS CHANCE OF ERROR!!!!

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENT

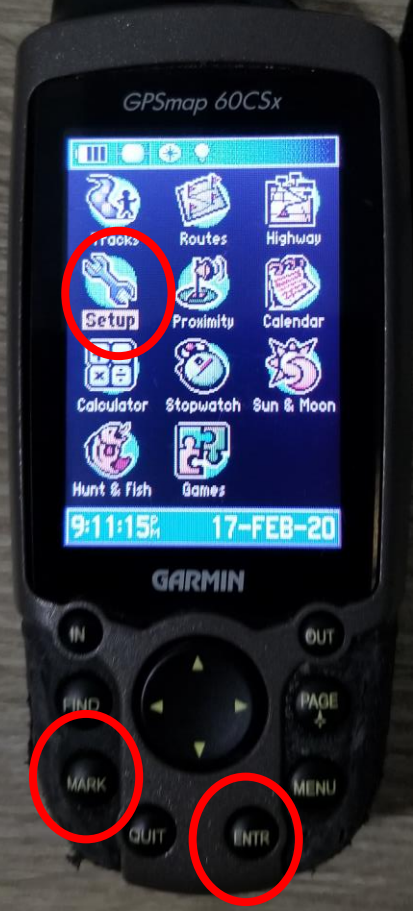
- Collect GPS data for the boundaries of a protected area
- Record the GPS Coordinates from first point and then the averaged coordinates
- Log the averaged point as waypoints
- Name the waypoints after your first name
- Enter in the coordinates into a table
- Use Basecamp to export GPX file
- Import GPX file in QGIS
- Add the table coordinates into QGIS and turn them into points
- From the points, we are going to connect the points to draw a polygon
- Make a map of the protected area boundary
- Enter in the metadata for the new polygon shapefile

GARMIN UNITS

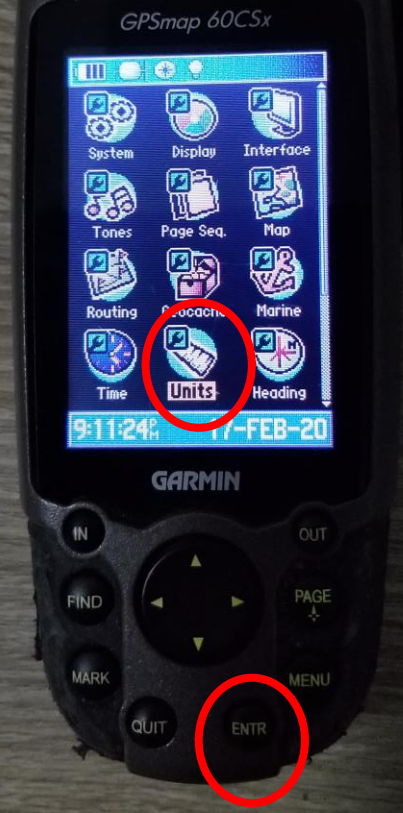


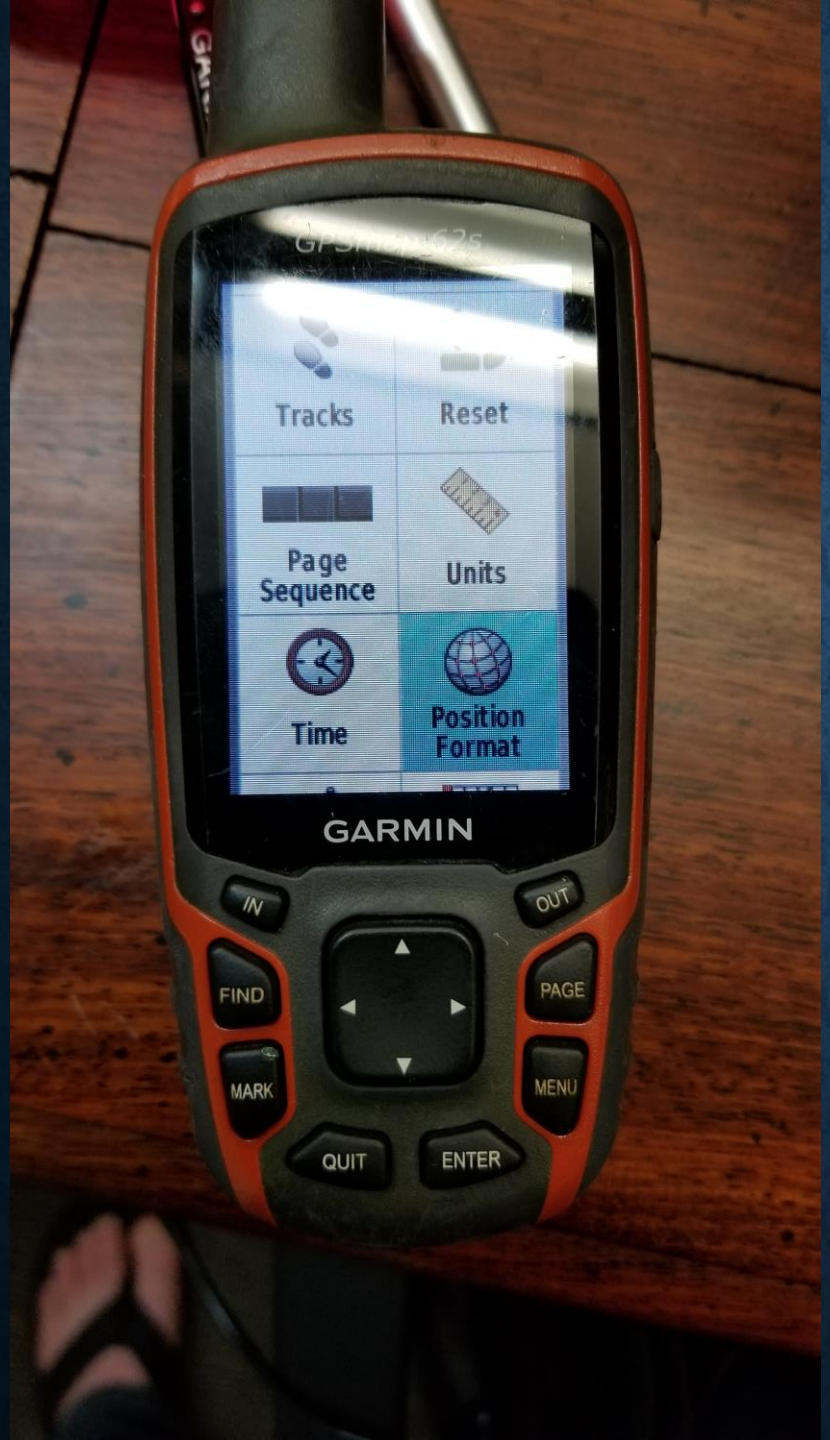
First We Need to
set the Coordinate System

Click Menu button
Then Select Setup
Then Enter

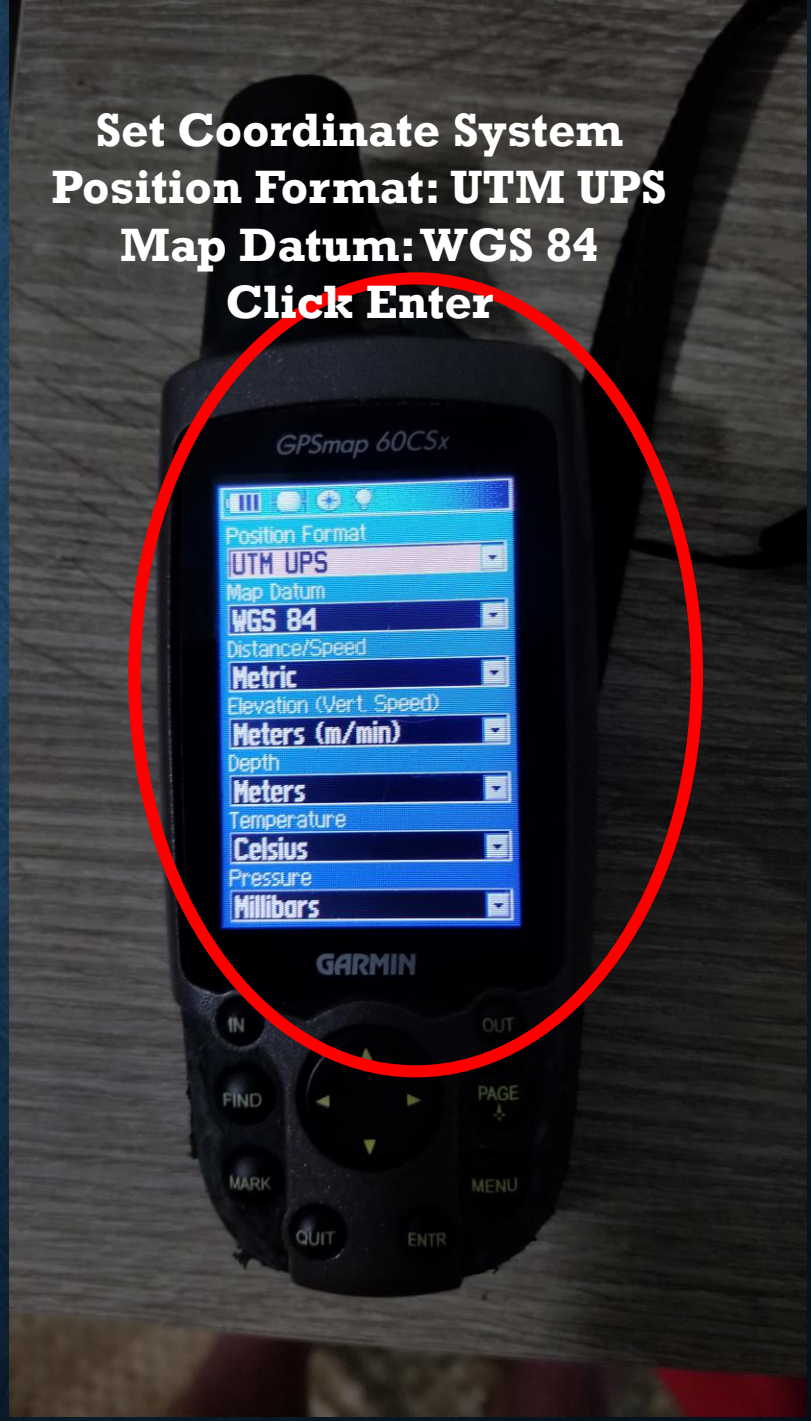


Select Units
And Click Enter

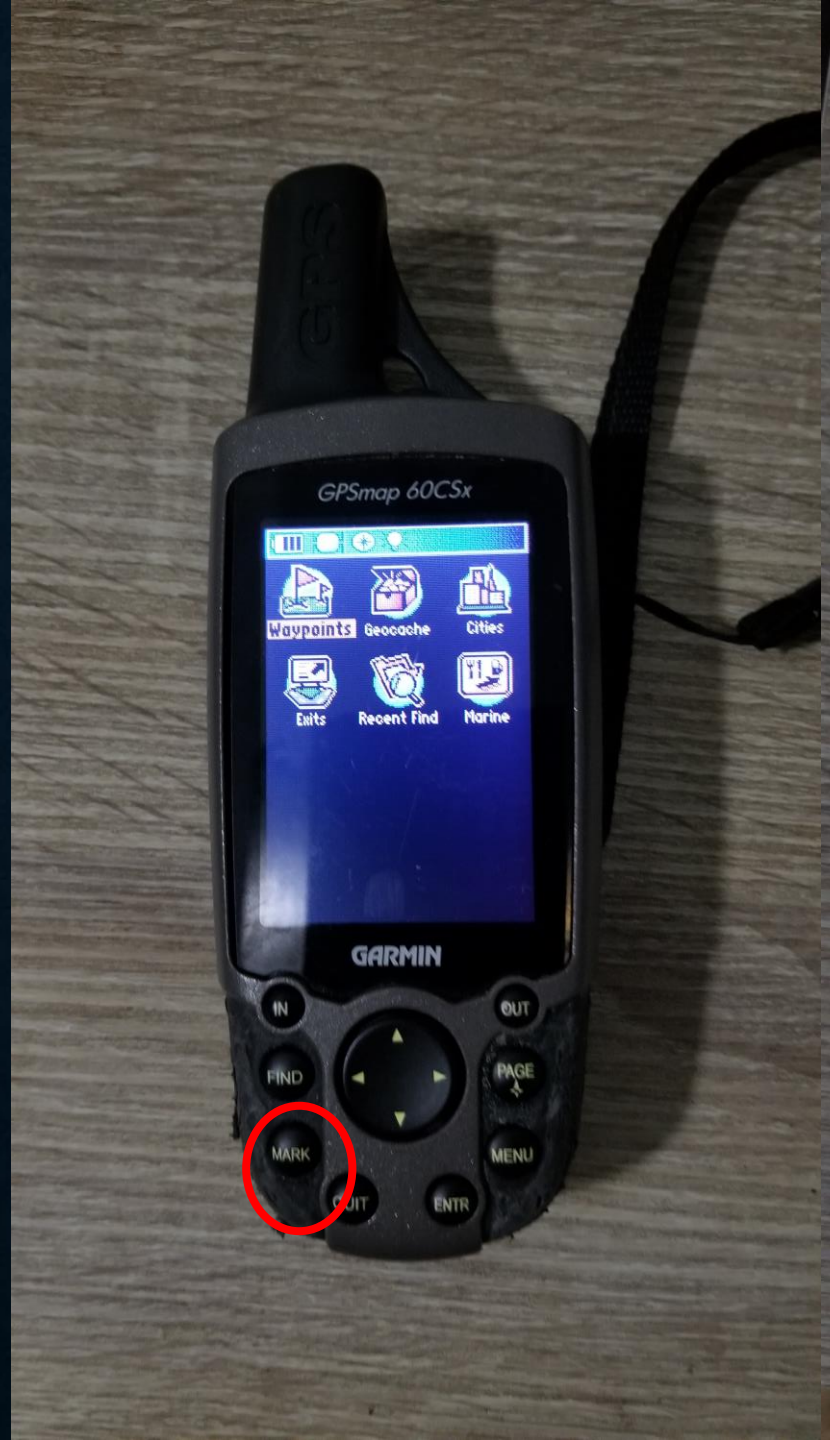


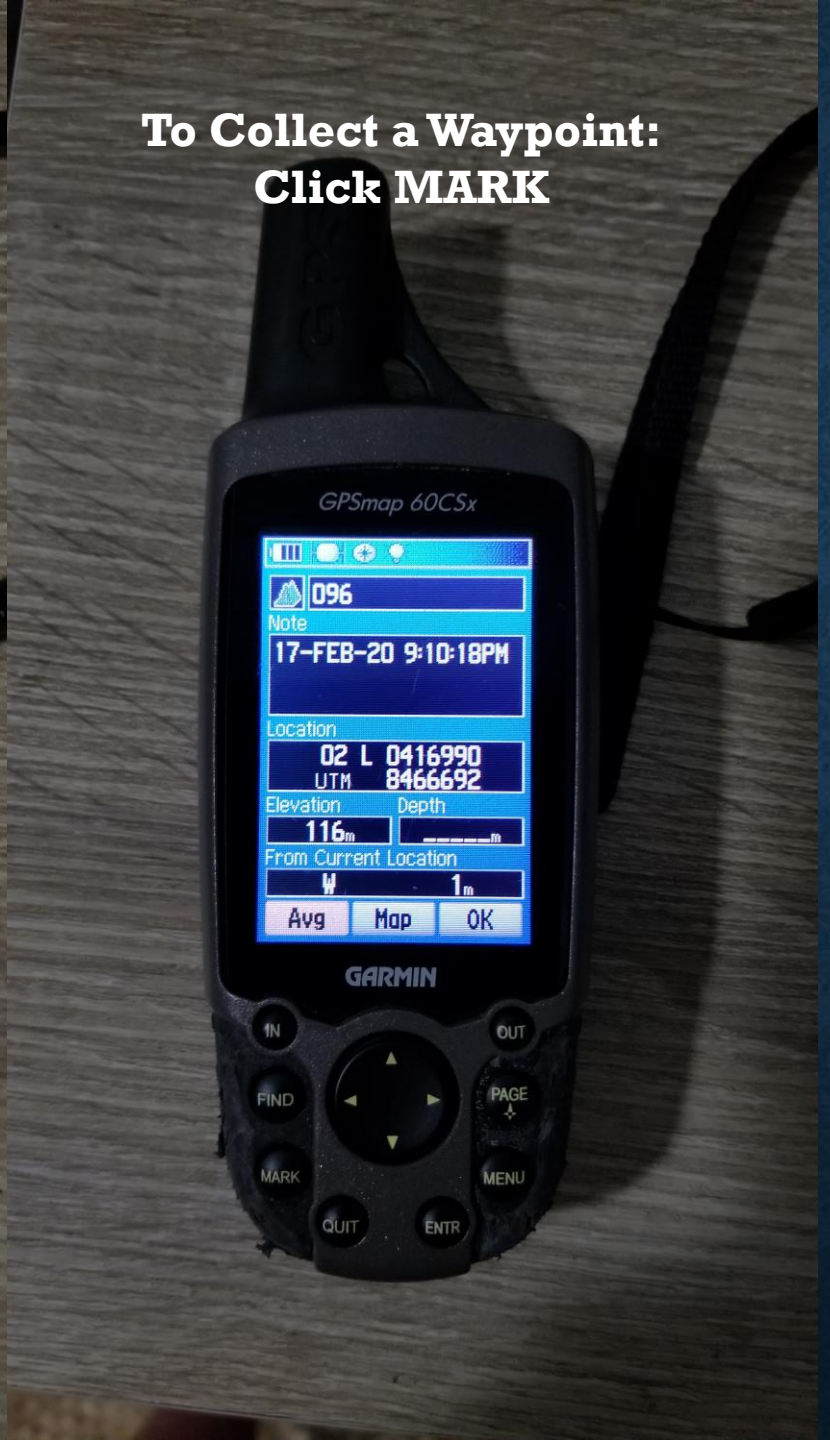


Set Coordinate System
Position Format: UTM UPS
Map Datum: WGS 84
Click Enter



To Collect a Waypoint:
Click MARK

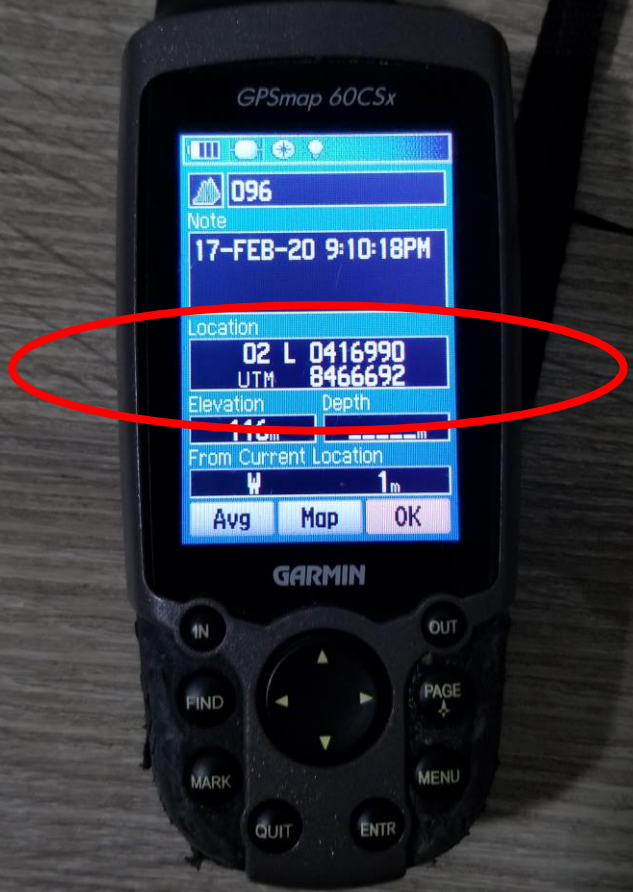


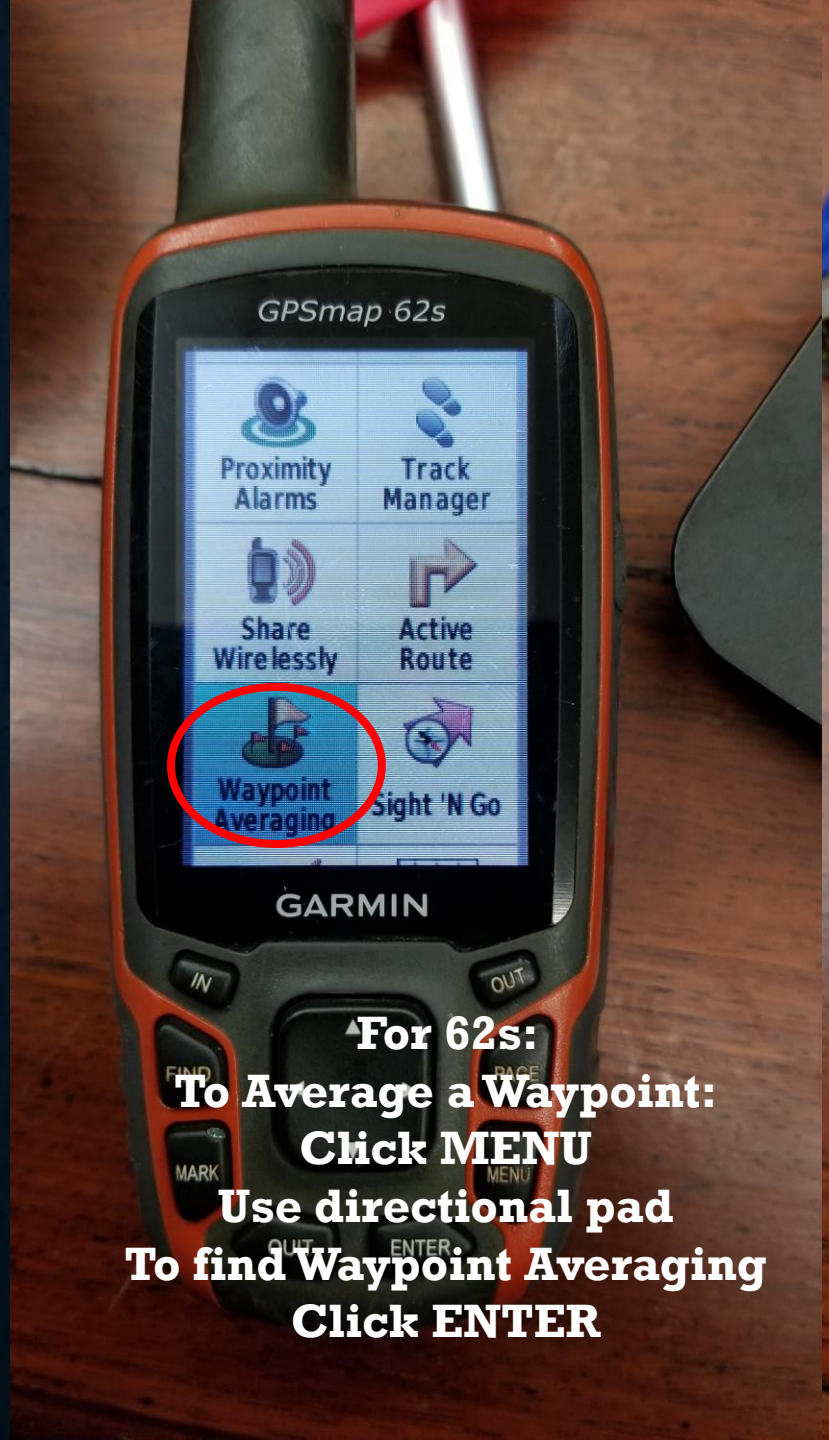


Use the Directional Pad
to go to the Name and
Click ENTER
to change name

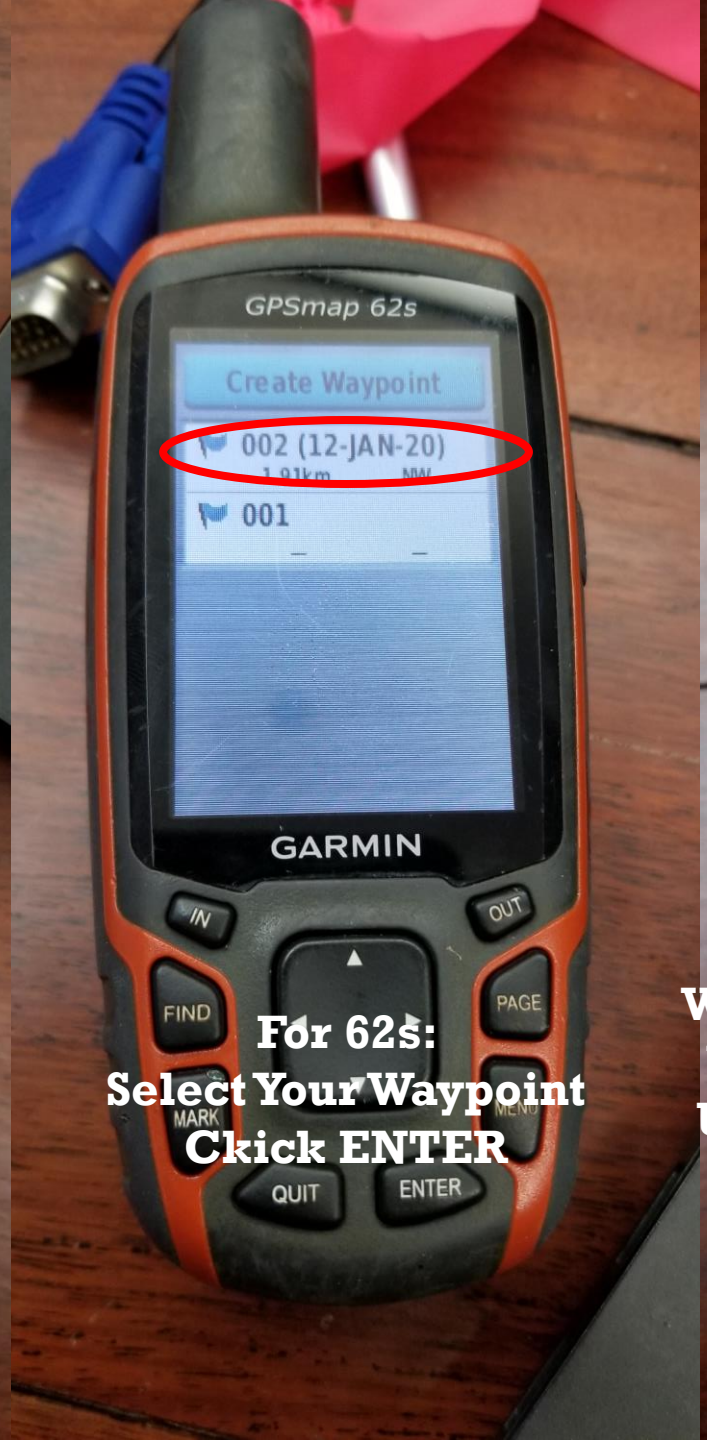
Use the Directional Pad
to go to the Note and
Click ENTER
to add notes

Coordinates WITHOUT
Averaging
Write the Name of Waypoint
And Unaveraged Coordinates down

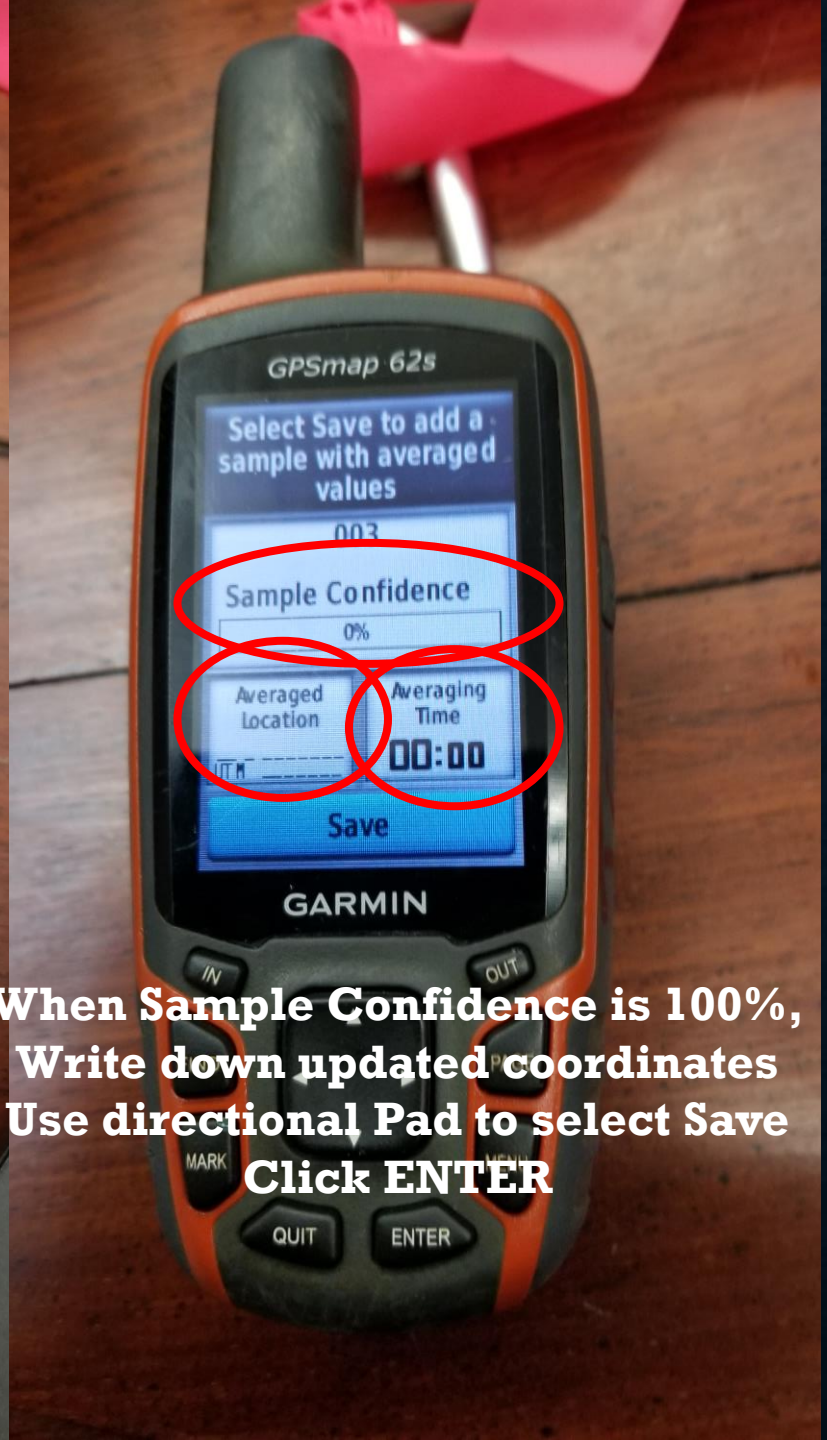




For 62s:
To Average a Waypoint:
Click MENU
Use directional pad
To find Waypoint Averaging
Click ENTER

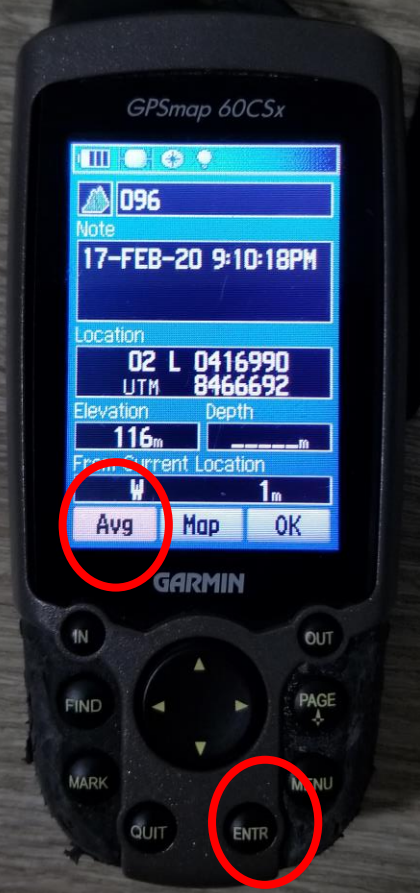


For 62s:
Select Your Waypoint
Ckick ENTER

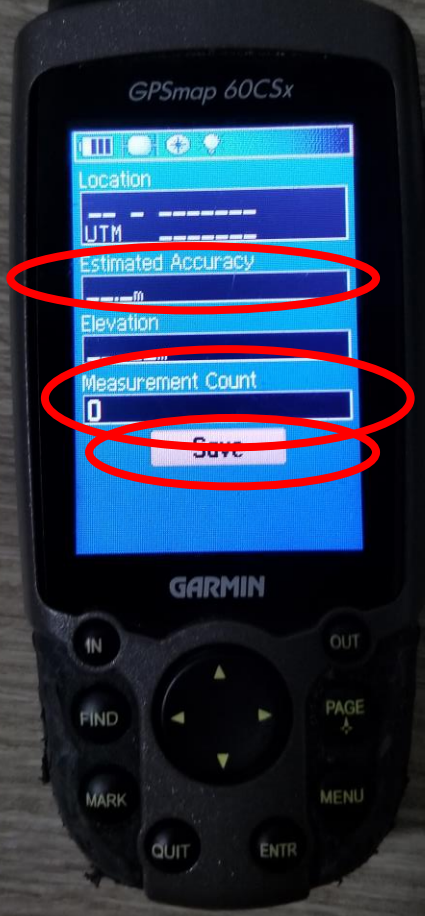
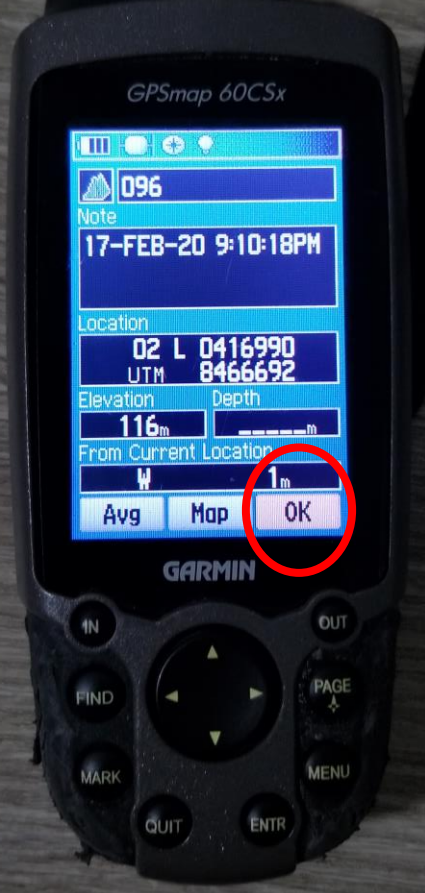


When Sample Confidence is 100%,
Write down updated coordinates
Use directional Pad to select Save
Click ENTER

To AVERAGE, use
directional pad
to go to AVG
And click ENTR



Wait for
measurement count
to get to 40
and observe estimated accuracy
when at 40 click Save



Coordinates will
be updated with
averaged coordinates
Write down the coordiantes
Click OK to save waypoint