

Emergency Response Map Index Tool: Gulf Oil Spill Response

Quick access to information is critical to a successful emergency response. To facilitate quick access to the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) currently available "Digital Map –Beta" or US Topo quadrangle maps, the USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center developed the **Emergency Response Map Index Tool (ERMIT)**. ERMIT allows a user to access the digital map from a standard DVD at any location without access to the internet. This is made possible by placing all the "Digital Map -Beta" or US Topo GeoPDF® products for a pre-specified emergency response region on a DVD along with the 7.5 minute grid index as a front-end viewer. Access to a map is simple; highlight the grid cell of interest and click to open.

System and Software Requirements

This product is designed to work on any personal computer with Window XP® and above operating systems. At the present time the product does not support Apple Macintosh® machines. Required software for this product includes the ESRI ArcReader® and TerroGo Technologies GeoPDF® toolbar. Both are free downloads from the respective vendor websites and are included on the DVD.

Launching ERMIT

Starting the ERMIT application is simple. Click the filename *YourRegion_PDF_.pmf*. This launches the ArcReader® viewer providing a display similar to that shown in figure 1.

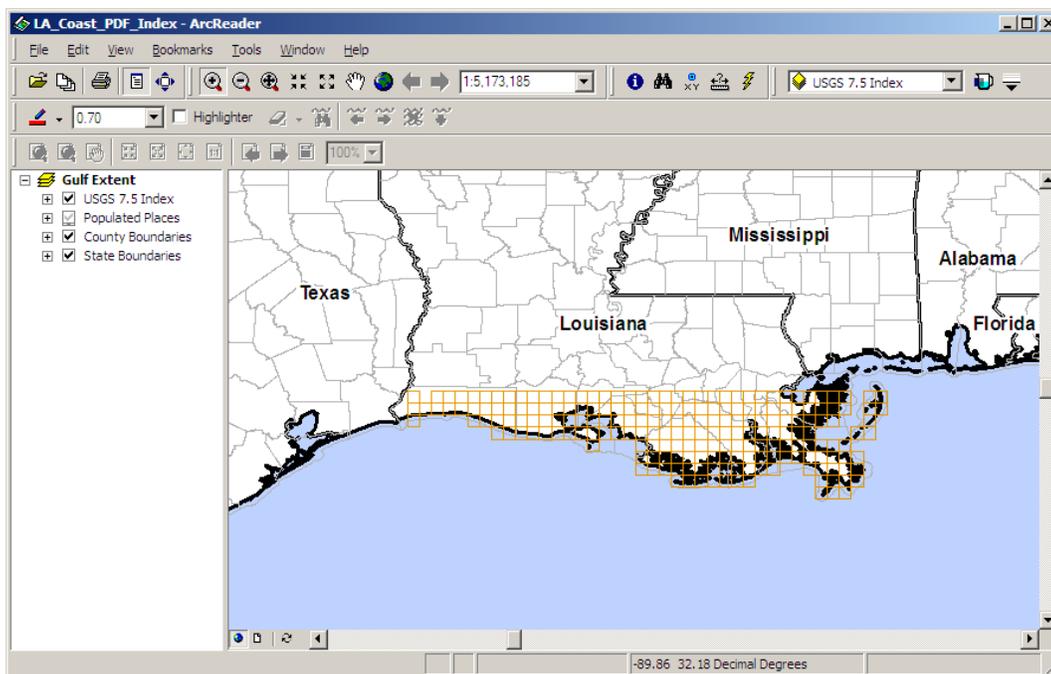


Figure 1.—ArcReader® image showing the 7.5 minute grid cells following the launching of the ERMIT.

Once the map extent is open, the zoom/pan tools can be used to navigate around the image. Labeling will change

depending on the zoom extent. To activate the index, select the hyperlink tool . This turns the grid to a cross-hatched blue color (fig.2). At this point when the cursor is moved across any cell, the name of the map linked to that cell will appear. Double-clicking the cell of interest opens the GeoPDF® for that map. Once open, the map is ready for use with the GeoPDF® toolbar or can be printed to a plotter.

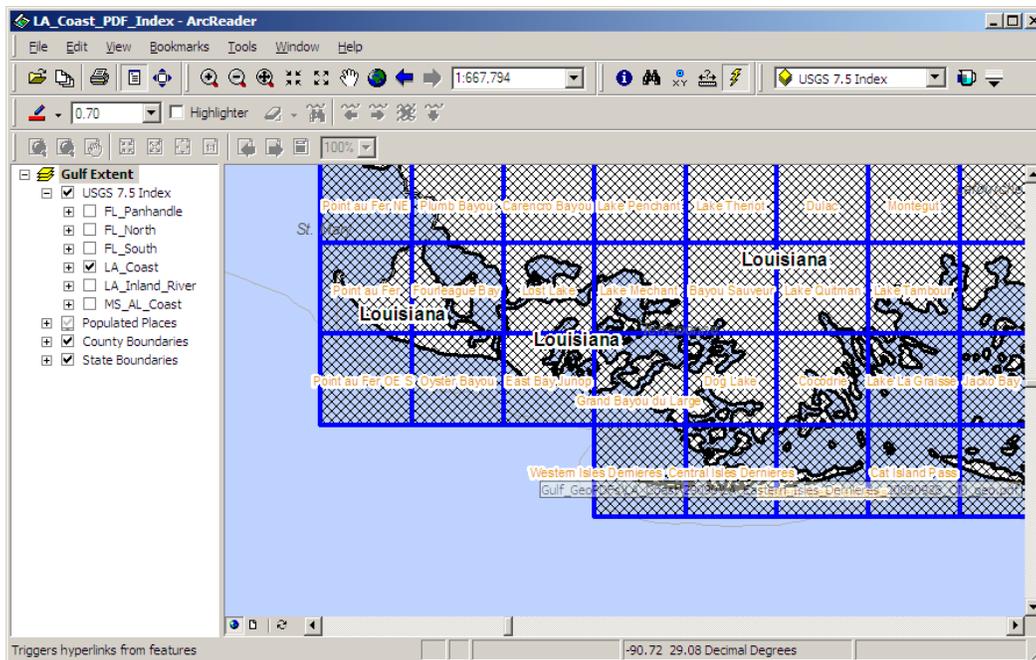


Figure 2.—ArcReader® image showing highlighted grid cells following the use of the hyperlink tool.

Product Contact

Did the ERMIT help you with your mission? USGS would like to know if you find this product valuable. Please contact Emitt Witt at:

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