

# ViewRanger GPS App – For the Android smartphone or tablet

Programs needed to make this work effectively:

- ViewRanger needs to be loaded in your device
- Garmin BaseCamp (free) loaded on your main computer (desktop or laptop)
- DropBox on your main computer and on your device

## To upload a GPX Track

**Method one (easiest): using DropBox on a smartphone or tablet. (DropBox has to be loaded on your computer and on your device)**

- Load the needed GPX file in DropBox on your main computer – (Get the GPX file from the Trails BC website by going to the download section of the desired cycle loop in <Loops & Journeys>. Note: that you also need a free program like BaseCamp from the Garmin website to load the GPX file and then save it in DropBox.
- From your device find the desired GPX file in DropBox, choose it, and choose to import it in ViewRanger.
- Let it load – it may take a bit of time (be patient). Done!

**Method two: uploading tracks connected directly from a main computer (desktop or laptop)**

- Connect the phone/tablet to a computer.
- On <my computer> find the tablette or phone.
- Find the ViewRanger folder (in the folders).
- Copy the appropriate GPX track to this folder from the computer.
- In View Ranger, tap the 4 parallel lines at the top left corner of the screen.
- Go to <Organizer>.
- Go to <Import/export>.
- Go to <Import GPX/LOC>.
- <Synchronize> in Organizer– if using a wireless connection.
- Let it load – it may take a bit of time.

## Using the selected map and track

- Go to the ViewRanger app.
- From the options menu Go to <Choose a map> and pick either <Online maps> or if working offline <My maps><MySaved maps> and pick the desired saved map <View>.
- Make sure the GPS function is enabled on your instrument.
- To turn the tracking on, tap on the circle on the top right corner.
- Note that the track you want to use will turn red by touching it. A toolbar also comes up to see its properties or to delete it.

- You are ready to go!

Note: For other functions such as deleting and hiding tracks and deleting maps go to the Organizer menu.

**To Save an offline Map** This step is *not needed* when using <Online maps> while navigating the trail.

This is only needed when out of cellphone reception range or not wanting to use online data – for instance one may want to use a tablet that does not have the capability of such reception but has gps location capability.

Note:

Hence, to save an offline map:

- While on Wifi using the ViewRanger app, go to <options> menu (bottom of screen – tap the screen to get this menu).
- Go to <Choose a map>.
- Go to <Online maps> and choose <OpenStreetMap(Mapquest)>.
- Size the map to at least cover the full route.
- Go back to <options> menu and go to <Create Saved Map>.
- Map scale – choose <Street> (for greater detail) – a set of tiles over the map shows up.
- Highlight tiles just for the area needed for an activity by touching squares on map. Each map has a maximum of squares possible but more maps can be created depending how much storage space is on the instrument. (note: the <select tile> button toggles to a function that allows orienting the map).
- Give the file a name.
- Go to <Download> (bottom left corner of screen).
- Save – this could take quite a while.

### **To export track using Dropbox or email (the easiest way)**

- Choose the track to export by touching it – it turns red.
- From the menu that comes up go to <share>.
- Add to DropBox or send it on an email.

### **Other notes:**

- To convert files from kml to gpx or vice-versa:
  - Try using GPS Visualizer or GPSTabel.
  - When going back and forth between Google Earth and GPS files for editing purposes. The easiest is to use the Garmin BaseCamp program. This requires a bit of a learning curve but does not require a conversion program from kml to gps and vice versa.

- **To reduce confusion** on any given Loop Trip. Because every time GPX tracks are loaded for a loop or trip it gets added to the map often making it too busy, before going on a trip, do the following:
  - Go to Organizer and delete all tracks and POI's (use top right corner horizontal 3 dots)
  - Load only the tracks for the particular excursion you will be doing. See Upload tracks above.
  - Hide any track that you will not be using by touching the unneeded track (turns red, and a menu comes up -choose <hide>).
- Keep all the tracks you hope to use in a DropBox folder or some other cloud location or in a folder on a computer to not lose them and have them easily accessible. Be aware that these tracks are regularly updated on the Trails BC website. Check the website to update them.