



GISS Position ICP/Camp

The purpose of this lesson is to give a brief overview of what to expect on your assignment as a GIS Specialist (GISS).

Lesson Objectives

- Check-in
- Living/Work Environment
- Workspace Location
- Meals & Rest



The objective of this lesson is to learn about
The process of checking in, what the ICP and camp living and work
environment may be like, workspace location,
and taking care of yourself when it comes to eating and sleeping.

Check-In at ICP



When you get to the Incident Command Post, you may or may not easily find your work unit. But first you've got to go find check-in. Check-in is very important.

They're going to look at your resource order.

They're going to write down the date and time that you get there.

They will ask for your red card so please bring it with you.

They will direct you to where you will work.

They may also direct you to where you are going to sleep or that may be done after you get to the situation unit. If there is a training specialist on the incident and you are trainee, it is also important that you bring your task book and check in with them so they can document your evaluators, etc.

Check in is important and your first stop after arriving. It is another safety mechanism, because if you don't check in within a decent time, they may send a search party out looking for you.



No two ICP's
are the same

Find a place
You can sleep
And not
disturb others



Where's is the ICP going to be? Where will you work? Where will you sleep? You may not find out until you arrive. The ICP may be a series or a "village" of yurts. It may be trailers or a government building. It may be in a school building. But just because you're going to a school doesn't mean you're going to be sleeping in air-conditioned rooms. You're still most likely going to be camping outside of the area – this may be at ICP or may be at a Base Camp located elsewhere. If you're lucky, there's a nice field or a soccer field or something with good grass where you can put your tent up.

GISSes typically work different hours than crews. If there is a designated place for overhead to camp make sure you camp there. It will help others find you if needed also.

Where will I work?



Be prepared to work in non “office” environment.



Where will you work? You may be in an area of a building or in a trailer

Where will I work?



This is a photo of the Minnesota DNR trailer and a contractor's GIS truck.

Or you may be in a yurt.

Often space is limited



You don't know where they will put you until after check in, but what you will find generally is not a lot of space, not a lot of room for you to set everything up. Setting up your workspace is important though. Getting your space oriented so it's the most efficient working space for you and all the people working with you is the goal.

Pack the right clothes & gear so You can perform in any condition



We already discussed packing in the last presentation.
But packing for all types of weather is important to both your living
and your working environment.

You must be prepared for any type of weather – especially at high elevation where
temperatures soar during the day and plummet at night.

Scheduling your meals



Vs.



Schedule your meals so you can avoid busy times when crews are eating but also so the Situation Unit is not left empty.

Long hours make for a tired GISS



You will be tired. You could work 10-hour shifts, 12-hour shifts, or 16-hour shifts. It just depends on how much work there is and how it's divided up so getting rest is very important.

Sleeping arrangements can be crowded



Remember – you will likely be camping. It is important to find a good place to put your tent, and choose wisely because there are lots of different noises and lots of different things to consider when you place your tent. Again, try to sleep near the overhead team rather than getting mixed in with crews. After you get your tent situated, make sure you tell somebody where you are because that person may be the very person that saves you when you sleep through every alarm that you've set in your tent. And things happen at night. Fires are uncontrollable things. Someone may need to find you in the middle of the night, so let someone know where you're sleeping.

This is a shot of sleeping arrangements. They can be tighter or looser. Shaded or open. It just depends.

Camp may not be very peaceful



Camp may not be very peaceful. There are a lot of things happening in camp – noises and lights and vehicles.

Engines can be noisy



Engines and generators are loud. Ear plugs help – especially if you are on night shift and must sleep during the day. Sleeping masks too.

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