**Lab 6 | Field Data Apps**

**Introduction**

In this lab you will have a chance to research one of three Field data collection apps – ESRI’s Collector, Avenza Maps, or MapIt. This is a more ‘freeform’ lab that is really meant to be self-driven and exploratory.

**Instructions**

Follow the links provided to the three programs – Collector, Avenza Maps & MapIt – and pick one to explore, download, and test using your smartphone. If you do not have a smartphone, you can partner up with someone interested in exploring the same app.

**Deliverables**

Answer the questions below and provide a map (or screenshot) of any data you collect using the app.

***Part I – Research Field Data Collection Apps***

Below are links to three Field Data Collection apps that are noteworthy within the field. ESRI’s Collector has, more or less, replaced the ArcPad application that is similar to Terrasync (but with the familiar ESRI GUI).

* Follow each of the links provided below and spend some time researching the different apps, how they works, their functionality & features, resources available on their websites, and anything else you might find on the website.

Avenza Maps: <http://www.avenza.com/products>, <https://www.avenzamaps.com/>

Collector: <http://doc.arcgis.com/en/collector/>

MapIt: <http://mapit-gis.com/>

* Fill out the following table with information to compare the three apps mentioned above.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Collector** | **Avenza Maps** | **MapIt** |
| How does it work? |  |  |  |
| Functionality / Features |  |  |  |
| Advantages |  |  |  |
| Disadvantages |  |  |  |
| Training and/or resources |  |  |  |
| Compatibility with GIS software? |  |  |  |
| Export options |  |  |  |
| Real-time or post processing correction? |  |  |  |

***Part II – Hands-on experience with Data Collection Apps***

* Pick one of the three apps and download onto your smartphone.
* Do any necessary prep for data collection based on the app you choose
* Collect a few data points, lines or polygons
* Export, download or extract the data and map it using ArcMap.

1. **Export your map as a JPG and insert into your lab document (map should include the necessary map elements).**
2. **After using the app, what did you find most user-friendly and/or useful about the app?**
3. **After using the app, what did you find least user-friendly and/or useful about the app?**
4. **Do some measurements in ArcMap – discuss the accuracy of this app for generating points, lines or polygons.**