Various Technical Tips for ArcView 3.x

Various tips and troubleshooting ideas from the Pacific West Region GIS shop.

Exporting an ArcView layout to the JPEG format:
Running Windows 2000, a user tried exporting a layout to a JPEG in ArcView containing a view frame of high color resolution DOQs, but received a Segmentation Violation error and was unable to export. Was able to export to WMF format. Contacted ESRI Technical Support and explained the above situation, and the Specialist said exporting JPEGs from ArcView generally does not work well because the export routine wasn't written very well and in Windows98 often isn't possible at all. Changed two things:

1. Increased the virtual memory in Control Panel | System | Advanced | Performance Options... | Virtual Memory | Change.... by changing the Initial size from 300MB to 1000MB and leaving the Maximum size set to 1000MB.

2. The Specialist also said there have been problems when the temp directory path name contains a space, so opened Control Panel | System | Advanced | Environment Variables... and under User variables there were two temp directories, TEMP and TMP both with values of c:\Documents and Settings\Default User\Local Settings. Changed both to have a value of c:\temp. Clicked OK, OK again and rebooted. Exported the layout again as a JPEG and this time it exported successfully.

If neither of these options had worked could have exported to another format and then in another program, such as Corel PhotoPaint, converted it to a JPEG. (Emily McLuen)

Trouble with the Scale Bar:
Trouble with the scale bar in a layout not being correct in relation to the view, to which it should have been linked, once the layout was printed: After opening the ArcView project file again the user determined the scale bar was linked to the view by double-clicking on the scale bar to open the Scale Bar Frame Properties and looking under Views. If "Empty Scale" is selected then the layout scale bar is not linked to a view in the project. To link the scale bar to a view, select the desired view to which to link the scale bar from the View list. (Emily McLuen)

Problem with Merging Point Shapefiles with the GeoProcessing Wizard:
Merging point shapefiles using the Merge function in the Geoprocessing wizard in ArcView 3.1 on Windows 98: The user was merging six point shapefiles, but the resulting merged shapefile was incorrect. Rather than being a composite of the six shapefiles it repeated the first shapefile six times, that is both the features and the records in the attribute table of the theme were repeated. The user downloaded the X-Tools extension written by Mike DeLaune with the Oregon Department of Forestry (http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/state_forests/XTools.asp), loaded it in ArcView, and used the merge function in the extension to successfully merge the shapefiles. It is also important to ensure that each shapefile has a unique filename prior to performing a merge, because if the filenames are the same the program is not able to distinguish the difference between them and will result in a repetition of the features and attributes from one theme. It could also be a problem if one of the shapefiles has an attribute table containing a blank record not associated with a feature. This was the case with one of the six shapefiles, and once removed the six shapefiles merged successfully in ArcView 3.2 using the Merge function in the Geoprocessing wizard on Windows 2000. (Emily McLuen)

From the NPS, Pacific West Region's Natural Resources Newsletter, not sure of the date

Acquiring the X/Y Coordinates for the Beginning & End of Polylines:
Acquiring the tools to determine the bearings and UTM coordinates of the end of transect lines (straight lines) that were heads-up digitized in ArcView (using the DRG's as a backdrop) to help the field crew navigate along them: There is a script entitled "Add Start and End Coordinates to Polyline theme" available from the ESRI ArcScripts webpage at the following URL, http://gis.esri.com/arcscripts/details.cfm?CFGRIDKEY=951161560, that will add start and end coordinates to a polyline theme. To use the script in ArcView do the following:

1. Load the Avenue script, addse.ave, in a new ArcView script document.
2. Compile it.
3. Either attach the script to a button on the View GUI or run it directly from the script document making sure the View was the last active document and the theme for which you desire to add UTM coordinates to the attribute table is active. (Emily McLuen)

Advanced Polygon Theme Symbols in Layout's Legend:
Creating a polygon theme legend in an ArcView layout that will show a sample of the polygon theme (that has a fill pattern and transparent background) overlaying a hillshade, as it does in the view, rather than just the theme's fill color: In ArcView this can be done by creating another View, and in ArcMap another Data View, that has just two themes/layers, the shaded relief and the polygon. Then this View/Data View is added to the Layout, so essentially a tiny View Frame/Data Frame replaces the legend symbol for the polygon theme/layer in the Layout's legend. The method the user had used in ArcView was to export the layout to a bitmap and then in a graphics program cut out a portion of the polygon overlaying the shaded relief and pasted this in the layout for the polygon's legend symbol. (Emily McLuen)