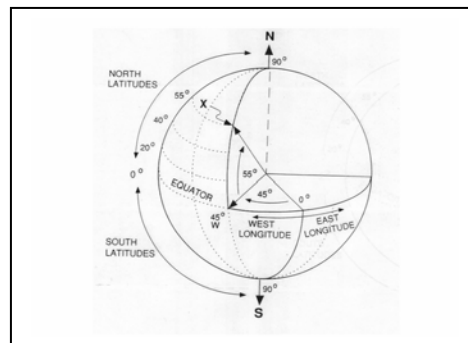
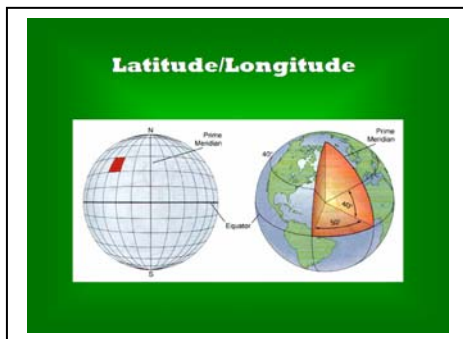


Understanding Different Grid Systems Latitude and Longitude

Determining Latitude and Longitude

(Taken in part from Virginia *WildlifeMapping's* Activities)

- Latitude and longitude are read in reported in degrees ($^{\circ}$), minutes ($'$) and minutes ($''$).
- Sixty seconds is equal to 1 minute, 60 minutes is equal to 1 degree.
- Latitude lines run east/west beginning from the equator up to the north pole.
- Longitude lines run north/south along the Prime Meridian in Greenwich Village
- Longitude is reported as a negative number (e.g., $122^{\circ} 15' = -122^{\circ} 15'$)



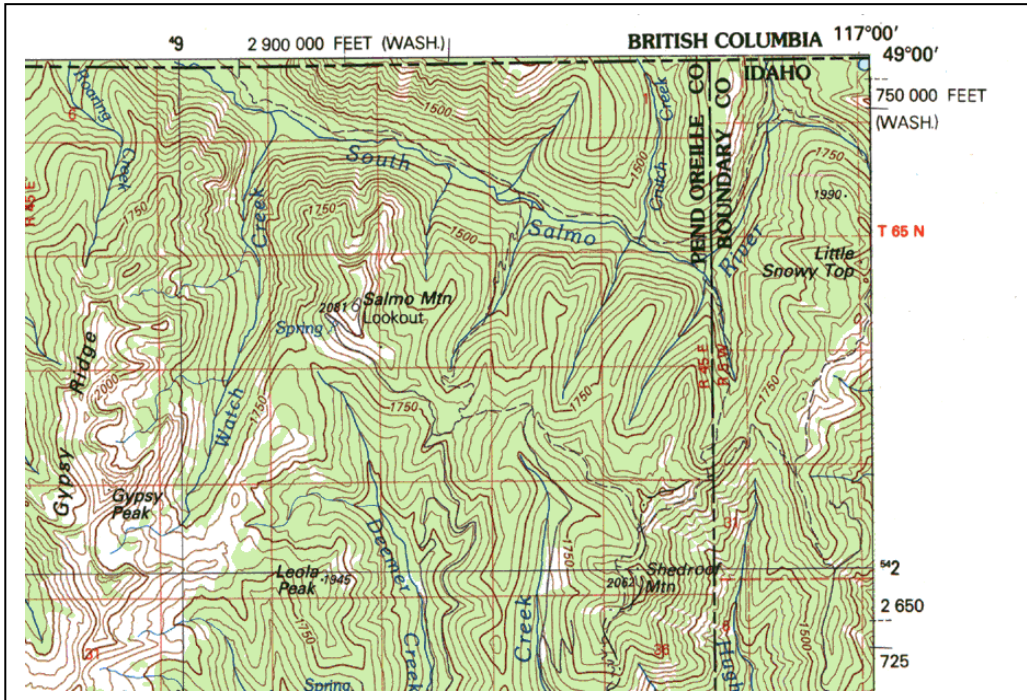
Locating your latitude and longitude:

There are multiple ways to find your latitude and longitude:

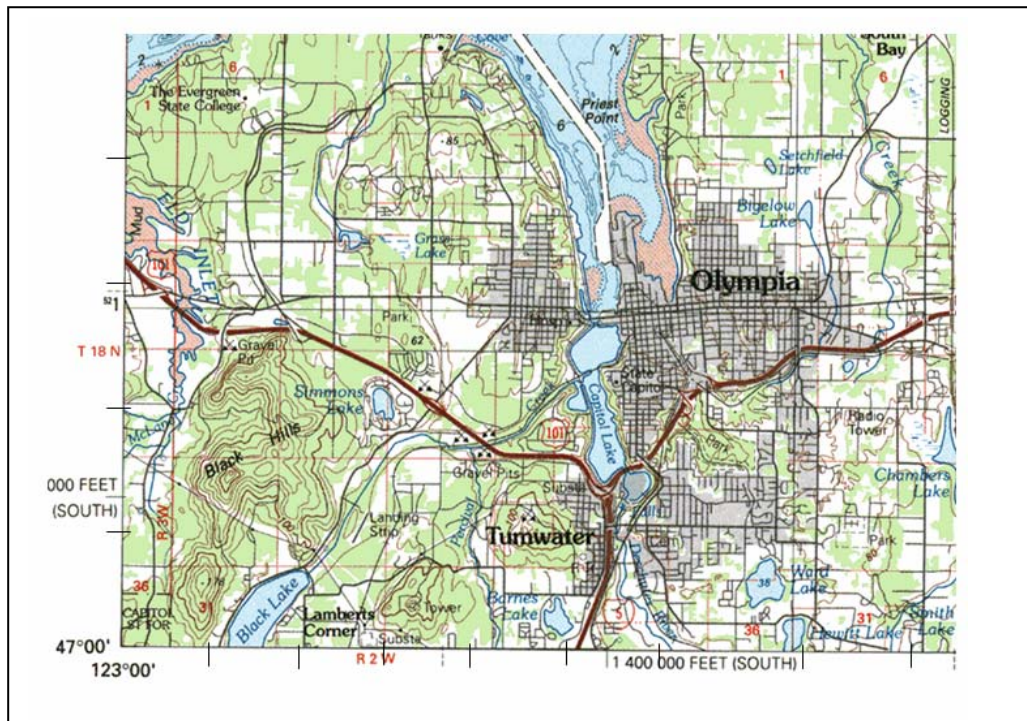
- Maps (topographic and DeLorme Atlas)
- Internet mapping providers.
- GPS units
- Mapping software

Learning how to read paper maps is the most important way to learn how to find latitude and longitude. The other options are electronic and electronic devices run out of batteries or need electricity. There are other important reasons why reading a paper map is important and will be covered in Activity #12 – Technology.

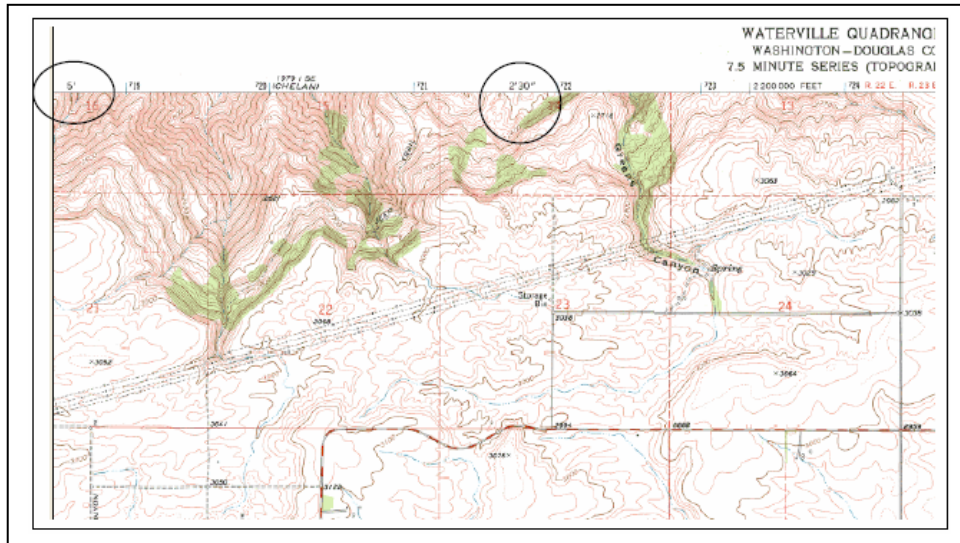
This is a 1:100,000 topographic map. The latitude and longitude are marked in each corner and along the edges in 15 minute intervals.



More recent DeLorme Atlas's have 1 degree tic marks along the edges allowing for more accurate reporting.



This is a 1:24,000 topographic map. The latitude and longitude are marked in each corner and along the edges in 2½ minute intervals.



Go to Lat/Long Practice in Activity #8 to find locations in your county.