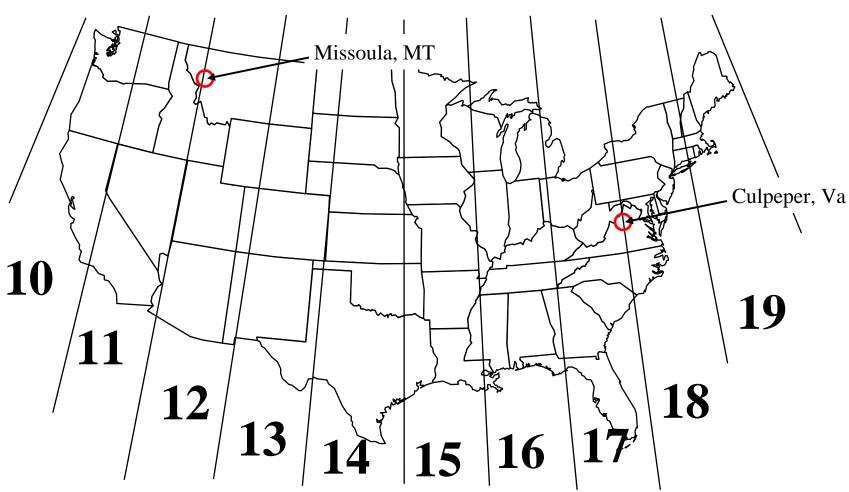
US National Grid (USNG)

Grid Zone Junction and Truncation/Abbreviation Illustrations

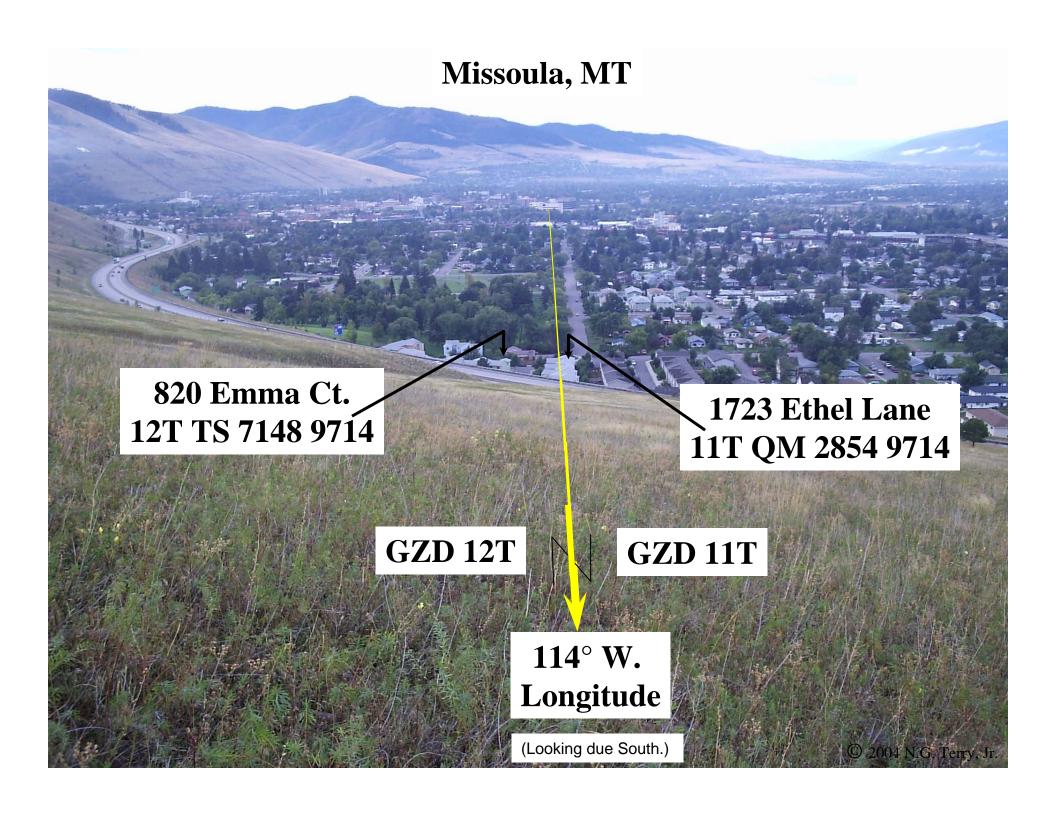
Missoula, MT & Culpeper, VA

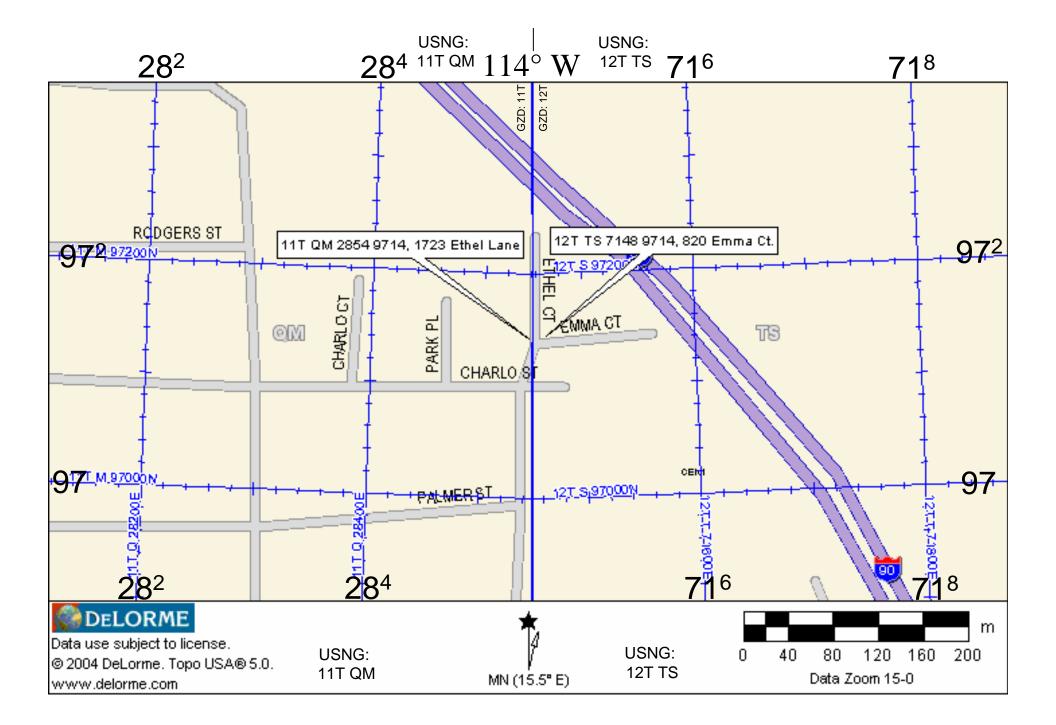
UTM Grid Zones

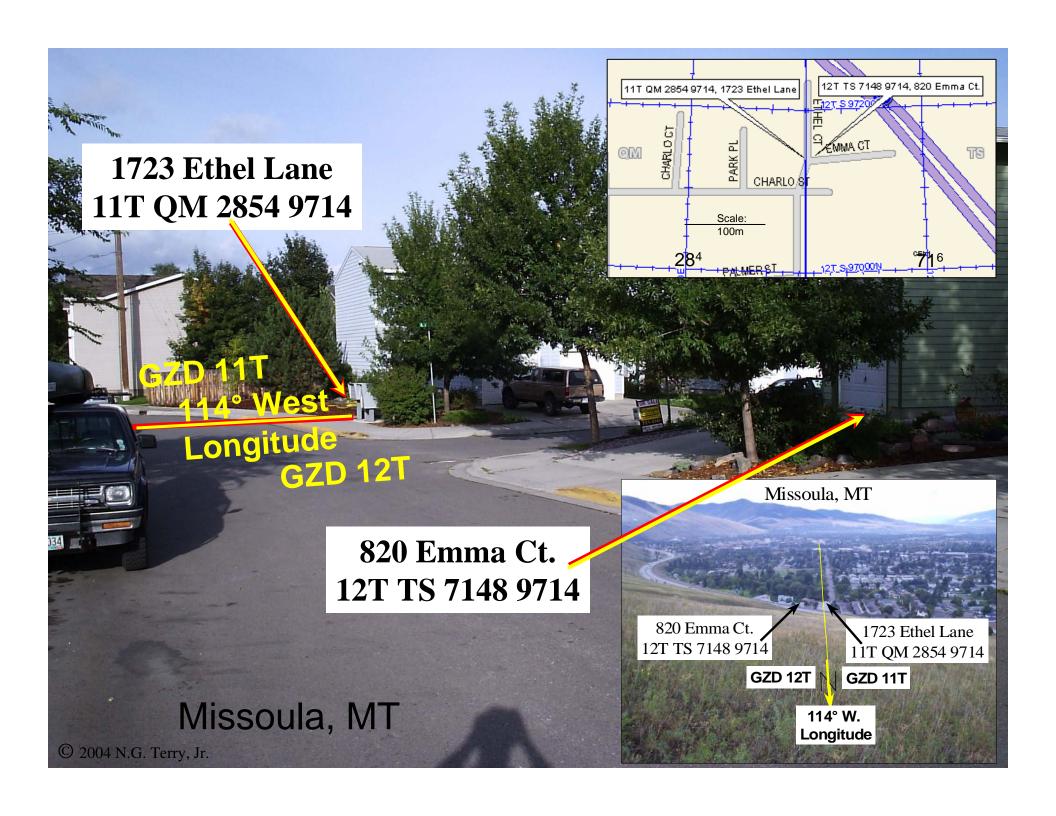
126° 120° 114° 108° 102° 96° 90° 84° 78° 72° 66°

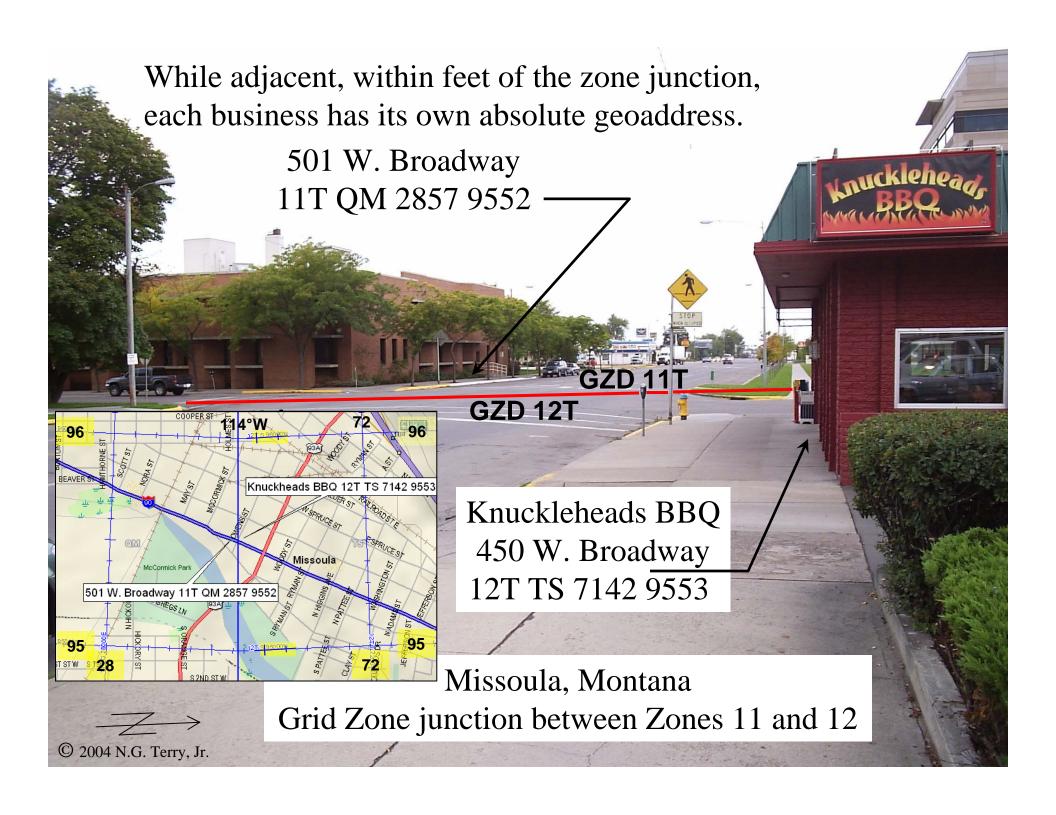


All plane coordinate systems have zone junctions. A characteristic of the UTM system is the minimum number of uniform zones that cover the US while retaining desired attributes. The figures in this brief illustrate how zone junctions do not pose a problem to US National Grid users. This is because the grid is overlaid on the lat/long graticule, and while digital systems (i.e. GPS receivers and GIS) display USNG values for our ease of use, the underlying calculations are using lat/long.





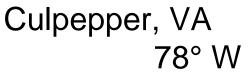




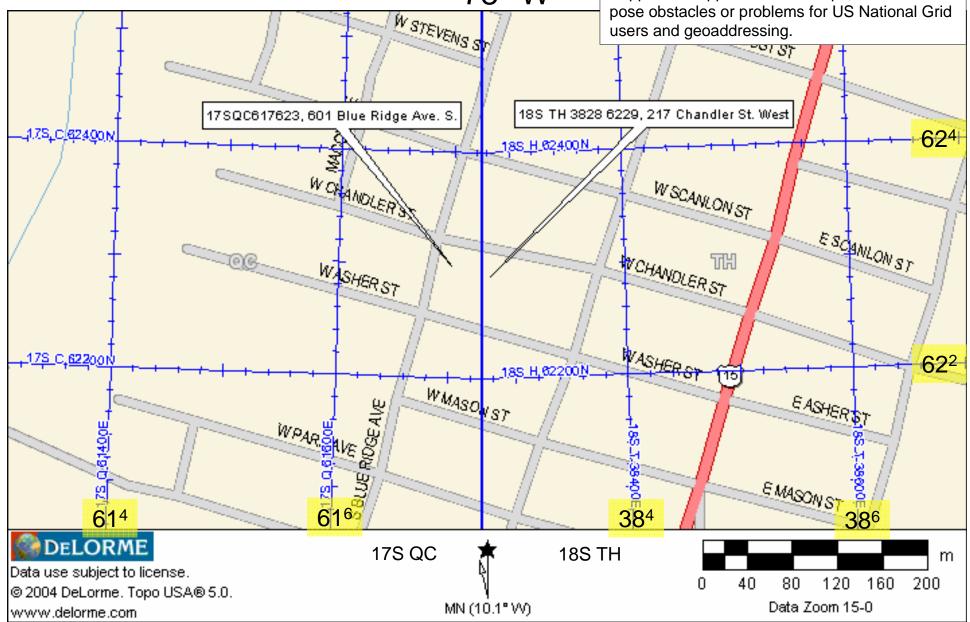
US National Grid at Zone Junctions



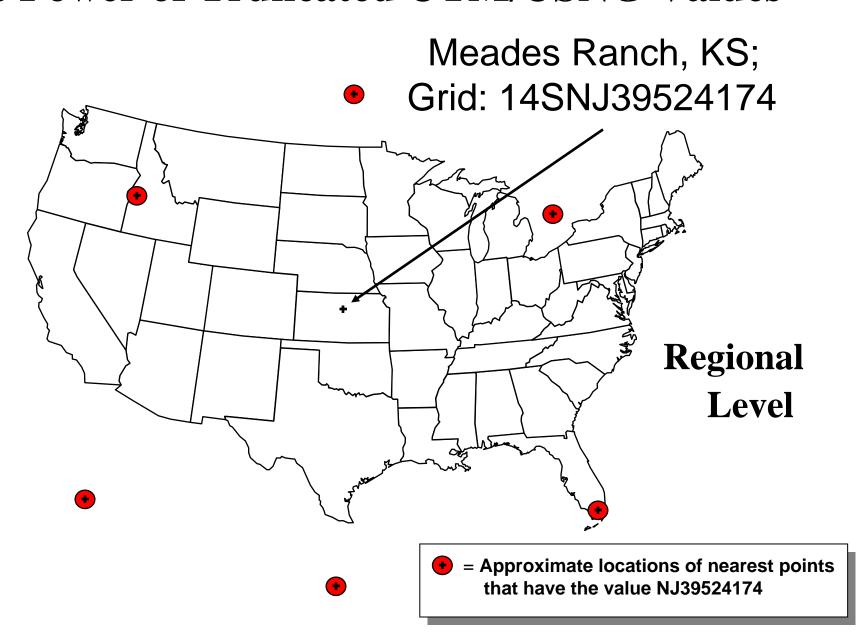
If you were to walk east and west along Chandler Street with a GPS receiver, crossing the 78°West meridian, you would see the Grid Zone Designation change automatically between 17S and 18S. This is because the location calculations are being made in lat/long, and translated on the fly for presentation as USNG values which are easier to use on maps at larger scales.

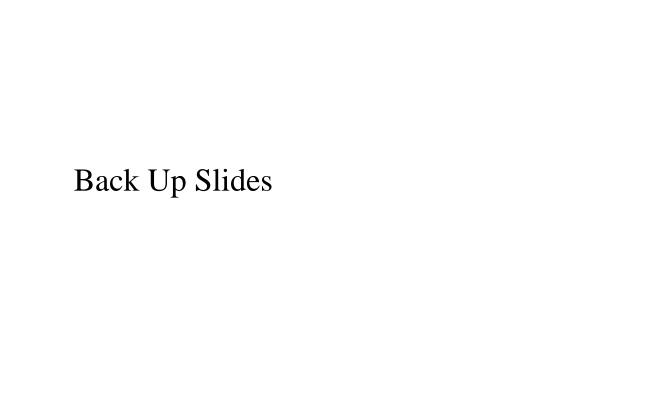


GPS receivers, like the software this map was displayed with, automatically present the correct zone in the coordinate readout when users cross zone junctions. Thus a junction, while offering a 'zipper-like' appearance on maps, does not pose obstacles or problems for US National Grid users and geoaddressing.



The Power of Truncated UTM/USNG Values





US National Grid (USNG), Geoaddressing, and Zone Junctions.

