



OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING  
**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** George Musler  
**From:** James F. McLaughlin  
**Subject:** GPS and Town Boundary Perambulation  
**Date:** November 18, 1999

This memo contains suggested language for an amendment to RSA 51 that would require municipal officials to use GPS equipment to determine the coordinates of bounds and markers that define town boundaries.

1. Amend RSA 51:2. Perambulation of Town Lines, by adding a new paragraph as follows:

The selectmen or persons appointed for purposes of carrying out the perambulation shall determine and record the geographic coordinates of each bound or mark thus renewed, using global positioning equipment. The horizontal accuracy of these measured coordinates shall be within one meter of their true position and shall be in NH State Plane Coordinate values, North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). If any town is unable to make these measurements due to lack of equipment or for other reasons, the state shall provide the assistance necessary to accomplish the task.

2. Amend RSA 51:4. Return, as follows:

A return of the perambulation shall be made, particularly describing the courses and distances and the marks and monuments of such line, **and containing each bound's name and its geographic coordinates (easting and northing)** which shall be signed by the selectmen or persons making the same, recorded in the respective town books, and filed with the secretary of state. (Bold text is new)