LANDFILE CONSULTANCY

Mapping Your Future

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21 January 1998

Sydhob98

the rain

Sydney Water Police Wharf 25 Harris Street Piermont NSW 2009

ATTENTION: DAVID UPSTON

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Consultants in Geographic Information Systems

Dear David

1998 SYDNEY HOBART YACHT RACE - MAPPING

Following our discussions, we thought we would write and advise you that we are in a position to provide a number of maps for use in reviewing and analysing the 1998 Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race.

Please note that the information below is additional to the sked position maps that you requested on 6th January 1999. We expect to have these maps completed by the end of January.

As you may be aware Landfile is a GIS (geographic information system) consultancy and therefore specialise in the analysis and presentation of geographically or spatially based information. On many occasions the results are presented through maps. In addition we are experienced in mapping the Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race, having been involved since 1992. We believe this places us in a unique and valuable position in assisting those involved in the review of last years race.

As an example of what we can provide we have included samples (see attached maps) of some simple analysis we have undertaken. We have taken the yacht positions from the 2 pm sked on Sunday 27 December 1998 and mapped this against cloud formation and sea surface temperature data. The images were provided courtesy of the CSIRO Marine Research Remote Sensing Unit.

The objective of this was to relate yacht positions to sea and weather conditions. In addition we have symbolised the yachts according to whether they retired or continued racing - the objective was to highlight any patterns in retired yachts against the weather or sea conditions.

Please note that these maps are indicative only and have been created to only show what is possible. Because of the scale of mapping and the process of relating the maps to the location of coastline and the yachts - the final analysis is approximate only. As a result these maps should not be used for any formal interpretation.

If these maps are of interest we would like to note the following enhancement and possibilities exist

- the two sample maps can be reprocessed to provide a more accurate picture of yacht locations against sea and weather conditions
- maps can be printed up to a large A1 format size (59 x 84 cm)
- maps can be provided in files formats suitable for use in GIS systems (eg MapInfo)
- additional maps can be created for analysis for example
 - CSIRO cloud formation maps taken at 7.46pm (27/12/98) and 4am (28/12/98) can be underlaid on yacht locations at Sked 3 and/or Sked 4 (refer attached examples)
 - Bureau of Meteorology maps can also be underlaid against yacht locations (refer attached examples)
 - Retired yachts can be further analysed eg symbolised according to "reason for retirement" e.g gear breakage, dismasting, ambandonments, crew fatigue etc.
 - if there are any specific mapping requirements you may want please feel free to discuss them with us

We have had initial discussions with both CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology and indications are that their information can be made available.

We trust the information provided is of value, and we look forward to discussing the opportunity of further mapping with you.

Yours sincerely

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Robert Rowell