

Application of GIS in Underwater Archeology

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SUMMARY

The underwater cultural heritage in the waters of the Black Sea has a high scientific value, as it is unique in terms of preservation. The number of discovered immovable cultural values is growing rapidly, and access to them both on land and under water is becoming easier. Underwater research equipment, such as various single and multi-beam sonar, underwater profilographs, etc. develops quickly and allows easy and thorough study of objects. This leads to the need for these sites to be included in registers of cultural monuments, both nationally and globally. The use of geographic information systems (GIS) during the surveys makes it possible to collect a large amount of information and comply with the work plan with the current conditions. In order for the objects to be studied and protected, it is necessary to know their location and the factors that endanger them. An effective tool for managing this huge amount of information is GIS with the ability to combine all data concerning the management of underwater sites, as well as access to this information at different levels - for scientists, the public, for government purposes and etc. In addition, they provide a good opportunity to promote cultural values, which would support the development of cultural tourism in coastal areas.

KEY WORDS: GIS, cultural and historical heritage, underwater archaeology, Black sea

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