Garmin GpsMAP 66s

Changelog:

- [03.06.2019] Fixed some typos
- [20.05.2019] Firmware 3.00 adaptions
- [25.04.2019] Initial version

Hello Support Team,

I got my new GPSMap 66s a few days weeks ago and I want to share my experience with you. First of all, I was a GPSMap user before, had the GPSMap 62s now for about 9 years and I had the GPSMap 60csx before. The GPSMap 62s was an amazing device. But after such a long time it was time to get a new device. So I ordert the new one.

I basically use the device for my geocaching adventures, which are most long hikes.

After using the Garmin for a few days I think I can give you a little feedback. All in all I am happy with the device, but there a few point which annoys me.

General Problems:

If I am on the main map screen there is a "Restore Defaults" function in the main menu. This is a very dangerous place. I know you have to confirm a dialog but it's really dangerous. Think of a scenario where I am outside in the wild and have my Garmin device mounted on my backpack, there could be accidental button clicks and it isn't that hart to press the button combination to reset to defaults. I also know, that there is a key lock feature, but in my opinion such a feature should be hidden somewhere in the settings.



Geocaching Problems:

Missing Found Menu Item:

On my GPSMap 62s I had a "Found" menu entry in the main map menu. This was a really handy shortcut to log a geocache.



Log -> Find Next Closest:

If I found a geocache and logged it as found, the selected menu entry was "Find Next Closest" which was also very handy, now the selected menu entry is "Done"





Geocache -> Next Stage:

If I enter a next stage or new coordinates in the Geocaching screen, the description, logs and hint isn't visible anymore. This also worked on the GPSMap 62s.

Geocaching Live Features:

The Geocaching Live features are a nice idea and this was the main reason why I switched to the new device. But these features are really buggy. I basically tried to sync a list of geocaches from geocaching.com. But if the list contains more than 10 caches the sync takes ages and often the whole device reboots or crashes. I tried this while I was connected via Bluetooth (BLE) to my iPhone. After some time I figured out, that I have to disable the bluetooth connection, after that the wifi connection (which was always connected) was used and the sync worked much faster and also bigger lists (25+ geocaches) synced fine. Maybe you should prioritize the wifi connection over the bluetooth connection, like every other device does.

It looks like the new Firmware (3.00) fixed a few problems, now I can download lists with more than 25 geocaches.

Geocaching Live -> Multi Caches:

If I download geocaches which have additional waypoints, like parking or multicache stages, they are not downloaded. If I download a GPX file from geocaching.com and copy it to the device, the waypoints are available.

I am using the latest firmware 2.80- 3.00 and would be happy to see some of this features back on a newer firmware version. Fell free to contact me if you have some questions.

Have a nice day Patrick