

GroupTrack V2.4 — Release Notes

Release date: May 2026 | Audience: GroupTrack testers and field users
Distribution: Play Store internal testing track + sideload APK | Document updated: May 8, 2026

TL;DR — What's New in V2.4

GroupTrack V2.4 is the first Play Store-ready release. It transforms GroupTrack from a convoy-only tool into a dual-mode product: standalone GPS tracker for solo riders (no radio required) plus convoy capability when a Meshtastic radio is added.

- **[NEW] Import Tracks from Downloads** — in-app file browser via Work With Tracks and Map Viewer, replaces system picker, eliminates ANR
- **[NEW] Work With Tracks** — full in-app track management (rename, delete, share, move, fix dates)
- **[NEW] Map Viewer TRACKS dropdown** — three-option menu: Select Tracks, Work With Tracks, Import
- **Phone GPS fallback** — works without a radio in phone-only mode
- **Trailer cart substitution** — silent carts shown at trailing cart position
- **Reliable autopause** — battery savings during stops, automatic wake on movement
- **Stable track recording** — RECORD button responds instantly, no flickering
- **Date-aware track library** — sort by actual recording date, not import date
- **Map Viewer overhaul** — manage tracks directly from the map without leaving viewer

New Features — How to Use

[NEW] 1. Import Tracks from Downloads

GroupTrack now includes a built-in file browser for importing GPX and KML track files. No more system file picker, no more ANR crashes, no more screen flashes.

How to use:

- Open the convoy menu, expand **MAP SETTINGS**, tap **Work With Tracks**, then tap the **Import** button in the top header.
- GroupTrack scans your Downloads folder and shows all .gpx and .kml files with filename, size, date, and type.
- Select files individually or tap **Select All**. The Import button shows how many files are selected.
- Tap **Import N Selected**. A progress dialog shows each file being processed.
- Multi-track files (like onX bundles with 80+ tracks) are automatically split into individual tracks.
- Each imported track gets its date corrected to the original GPS recording date, not today's date.
- A recap dialog shows imported, skipped (already exist), and failed counts with track names.

Also accessible from Map Viewer: Tap the TRACKS button, then choose **Import from Downloads** from the dropdown menu.

2. Work With Tracks (formerly Export Tracks to Downloads)

Full in-app track manager replacing the old file-manager launcher. Access from convoy menu MAP SETTINGS or from the Map Viewer TRACKS dropdown.

- Browse all tracks in your my_tracks/ folder
- Search by typing — list filters live as you type
- Sort by tapping the date/name button: cycles Date Newest, Date Oldest, Name A-Z, Name Z-A
- Filter tabs: All, Saved (completed tracks), In-Progress (orphaned temp files)
- Per-track actions: Rename, Delete, Share (email/drive), Move to Downloads, Fix Creation Date
- Bulk Fix Dates button applies date-fix to all visible tracks at once
- **[UPDATED]** Date refresh is now instant — after Fix Creation Date, the date column updates immediately without leaving the screen

[NEW] 3. Map Viewer TRACKS Dropdown

The TRACKS button in Map Viewer now opens a three-option dropdown menu:

- **Select Tracks to Display** — opens the existing track panel with search, checkboxes, fit-to-all, and clear-all (unchanged behavior)
- **Work With Tracks** — navigates to the full track manager (rename, delete, share, export, fix dates)
- **Import from Downloads** — navigates to the new import screen

The existing track panel with per-track load/unload, search, fit-all, and clear-all is completely unchanged. The dropdown adds two additional paths without removing anything.

4. Track Date Preservation

Tracks now show their actual recording date instead of import date. GroupTrack reads the <time> elements inside each GPX/KML file and uses the earliest one as the file's date. This happens automatically during import. For tracks imported before V2.4, use Fix Creation Date in Work With Tracks.

5. Phone GPS Fallback (No Radio? Still Works.)

If GroupTrack can't reach a radio, the app falls back to the phone's own GPS. Priority: (1) Radio GPS, (2) Last known radio position, (3) Phone GPS, (4) Trailer cart substitution for silent convoy members. You'll always see your cart on the map regardless of radio state.

6. Autopause + Auto-Wake

When stationary for ~10 minutes within ~50 feet of one location: GPS updates pause, radio BLE disconnects, flashing ZZZ indicator appears. Tap the wake icon to reconnect and resume. Ideal for fuel stops, lunches, overnight camp.

7. RECORD Button + Identity Lock

Tapping RECORD now immediately centers the map on your cart. Your cart ID is locked at RECORD time — no more flickering during convoy joins. AutoPan stays on during recording and turns off when you stop.

8. Track Selection No Longer Crashes

Loading large GPX tracks on either the Convoy screen or Map Viewer no longer causes Application Not Responding (ANR) crashes. File reading and parsing now happen on a background thread.

Stability and Performance Fixes (April 30 — May 8, 2026)

Fix	Why It Matters
Removed blocking permission from app start	Fresh installs no longer ANR on first launch
All-files storage dialog moved to Convoy screen	Permission asked at the right time
Permission re-prompt on app resume	Revoked permissions prompt again on return
Identity locked at RECORD time	Cart ID stops flickering during convoy joins
AutoPan default off	Map doesn't snap back when not recording
WebView cleanup on Map Viewer exit	No memory leak from repeated map opens
On-demand trail loading	Trails only load when toggled on, faster startup
z18 bypass	Map zoom feels smoother
SHOW DOWNLOADED progress feedback	See download status while caching tiles
SHA-256 fingerprints in Firebase	Production package works with Google services
PAYWALL gate disabled for V2.4 testers	All features accessible during beta testing
In-app import replaces system file picker	Eliminates ANR from Files by Google interaction
Date refresh after Fix Creation Date	Work With Tracks updates live without screen reload

Known Limitations (Acknowledged for V2.5)

- **Imported track names with timestamps:** GroupTrack-recorded tracks have _YYYYMMDD_HHMMSS suffix. V2.5 will use location-based naming.
- **Esri online maps:** Sparse labels online vs dense offline. This is Esri's deprecation of legacy services, not a GroupTrack bug. Your offline maps remain rich. V2.5 will plan migration.
- **Tab8NEU and budget Android devices (Android 10/14/16):** Cannot maintain BLE connection to T1000-E radios — supervision timeout after 8-10s. Use stable devices (Android 1, Android 2 verified working).
- **No mileage display:** Trip distance / odometer is not calculated or displayed. Planned for V2.5.
- **60s speed warmup:** Speed shows 0 mph for the first ~60 seconds while GPS acquires enough samples.
- **GPS interval 3s:** Track points recorded every 3 seconds. Higher resolution (1s) planned for V2.5.

For Testers — How to Validate V2.4

[NEW] Import Tracks:

- [] Open convoy menu, MAP SETTINGS, tap Import Tracks from Downloads
- [] Confirm Downloads folder is scanned and GPX/KML files listed
- [] Select individual files with checkboxes, verify count updates
- [] Tap Select All, verify all files checked
- [] Tap Import N Selected, watch progress dialog

- Confirm recap shows imported/skipped/failed counts
- Verify imported tracks appear in my_tracks/ with correct dates
- Test with a multi-track onX-style GPX — confirm individual files created

[NEW] Map Viewer TRACKS Dropdown:

- Open Map Viewer, tap TRACKS button, confirm 3-option dropdown appears
- Tap Select Tracks to Display — existing track panel opens (unchanged)
- Tap Work With Tracks — navigates to track manager
- Tap Import from Downloads — navigates to import screen

Work With Tracks:

- Open convoy menu, MAP SETTINGS, tap Work With Tracks
- Type search term — list filters live
- Tap sort button several times — cycles through 4 modes
- Tap each filter tab — correct subset shows
- Tap a track — action sheet appears with Rename, Delete, Share, Move, Fix Date
- Fix date on a track — date updates immediately without leaving screen

Recording + Autopause:

- Tap RECORD — map immediately centers on your cart
- Stand still for 10 minutes — ZZZ indicator appears
- Tap ZZZ — reconnects, resumes recording

Permissions:

- Fresh install — no ANR on first launch
- Revoke storage permission in Settings — app prompts on next resume
- Grant all-files access through dialog — tracks load

What's Next — V2.5 Coming Soon

V2.4 is the stable baseline. The next development cycle adds V2.5 functionality focused on standalone product polish and national trail architecture:

- **Multi-select with bulk actions** — Long-press to enter multi-select mode in Work With Tracks and Map Viewer. Bulk delete, share, move, fix dates.
- **Smarter track naming** — Location-based names instead of timestamp suffixes.
- **National trail model** — Unified GeoPackage architecture replacing the 22MB Utah GeoJSON. Region-based downloads. Utah pilot first, then neighboring states.
- **Higher-resolution GPS** — 1-second recording interval option (currently 3s).
- **Mileage / trip odometer** — Distance display during and after rides.
- **Speed warmup tightening** — Faster speed display on ride start.
- **Track stats display** — Distance, elevation gain, moving time, max speed post-ride.
- **Esri map service migration planning** — Evaluate replacement for Esri's sunseting legacy services.
- **Cache versioning + Refresh Tiles** — Track tile source versions, refresh affected regions on change.
- **Cleanup automation for orphan tracks** — Delete All In-Progress button with confirm and size totals.
- **Native Android GPS speed** — Drop windowed calculation in favor of Location.getSpeed().

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GroupTrack thanks all V2.4 testers — your field reports during the April-May ride season made this release possible.