



Webinar Questions and Answers:

Q: Are you aware of an agency that has already converted most (or all) of their FGDC metadata records to the ISO standard?

A: Yes. NOAA National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) has converted all of their resources and maintains them in ISO 19115-2, CSDGM and other formats. NOAA Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC) is in the process of converting all metadata to ISO 19115-2.

Q: Is there a timeframe for geo.data.gov/geoplatform to utilize ISO metadata?

A: ISO metadata implementation is in progress but no firm implementation date has been set.

Q: In an era of increasingly tight budgets, can future seminars be virtualized?

A: Certainly. It was decided that the initial Summit should be live to support participant interaction and input and that the webinar would be used to distribute the information and outcomes. Telecons, webinars and online options will be the primary forums as we move forward.

Q: I like that you are recording this Webinar for future viewing. Will you also make the PowerPoint document available?

A: The Webinar slides and recording and the more detailed Summit slides, breakout session issue tables and all other related documents are available at:

<http://www.fgdc.gov/metadata/events/metadata-summit>

Q: Is 19157 Data Quality implemented as "stand alone" like feature catalog or integrated like 19119 Web Mapping Services

A: Data Quality is integrated *in the current version* of ISO 19115. However, Data Quality has been removed and made stand alone in the forthcoming ISO 19115-1 update to ISO 19115. The opposite is true of Feature Catalog (entity/attributes). Feature Catalog is not integrated in the current version of ISO 19115 but is integrated into the ISO 19115-1 update version.

Q: Are there any NAP/FGDC meetups schedule for Esri Federal User Conference?

A: Yes, the EPA has a meeting planned for Friday morning of the FedUC in February.

Q: Are there any plans to create a single xml schema that meets several ISO standards so we don't have to make five separate files to replicate what we can do with a single CSDGM file?

A: You will not need to make five separate files to replicate what you can do with a single CSDGM file. However, you are correct that ISO metadata is comprised of a suite of standards commonly referenced as ISO 191**. This is because some of the standards will be used standalone, e.g. use of Data Quality to document organizational QA/QC process or to support functions beyond basic data documentation, e.g. define coordinate systems. As such there is no single 'one size fits all' combination of schemas. The effective integration of the standards is addressed during ISO training.

Q: I am getting ready to implement a new GIS for a River Authority, can I go completely ISO and not worry about FGDC standards, especially for sharing our information?

A: Yes. However, you must consider if you can implement the tools (editor, validation schema, clearinghouse, etc.) to fully support ISO and if your community can ingest and utilize ISO.

Q: When is the next call for this group and what are next steps?

A: The best approach to stay informed is to join the FGDC Metadata Working Group (MWG). This forum is serving as the MWGs quarterly telecon. If you are not a member of the MWG, email a request specifying MWG to fgdc@fgdc.gov.

Q: I heard a deadline for May 2013- what was that in reference to?

A: The ISO 19115 five year review update, ISO 19115-1, is expected to be formally finalized and adopted by ISO in May 2013. However, the standard has reached 'draft international status' (DIS) and the INCITS1 leadership has stated that this is significant as DIS standards are considered 'stable' at this point, subject only to editorial changes.

Q: Can you recommend by name some stand-alone ISO metadata editors?

A: Please see the FGDC ISO Metadata Editors Review at: <http://www.fgdc.gov/metadata/iso-metadata-editor-review>. Note that a 2012 update to this resource is planned though the format may change slightly to better support direct input by the software developers. However, we do intend to maintain the 'User Review' portion of the resource.

Q: Do we have any specific standards for images (rasters)

A: Yes. ISO 19115-2. It fully includes ISO 19115 and adds elements for images, gridded data and other remotely sensed data including monitoring stations, instrumentation, platforms, etc.

Q: Is there a simple how-to document on filling out the ISO metadata in a text file or in a GIS software package like ArcGIS? Is there a simple how-to document for converting existing metadata to the new standard?

A: The NOAA National Coastal Data Development Center (NCDDC) workbook shown in the PPT is available from <http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/metadata-standards/>. Information about transforming metadata to ISO is available from the NCDDC metadata transform site (<http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/metadata-standards/metadata-xml/>).

Q: I saw brief mention of biological data at the webinar beginning. Is there an ISO standard for biological data?

A: Yes. There is an ISO extension based on the CSDGM Biological Profile. The transforms available from NOAA (<http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/metadata-standards/metadata-xml/>) support transformation of CSDGM bio data to ISO bio.