

Metadata Wizard: An Easy-to-Use Tool for FGDC Metadata Creation in ArcGIS

Drew Ignizio

Michael O'Donnell

Colin Talbert

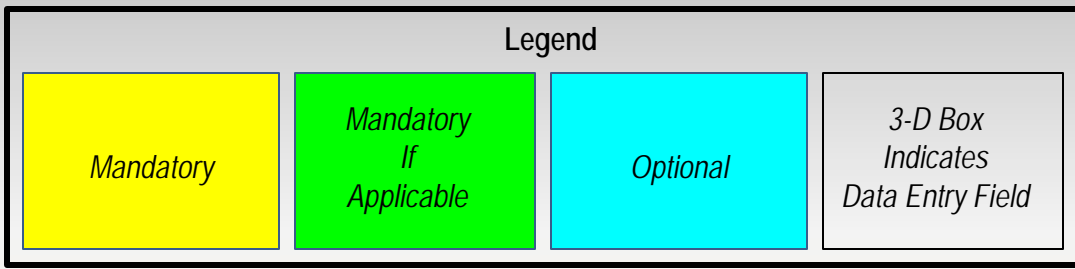
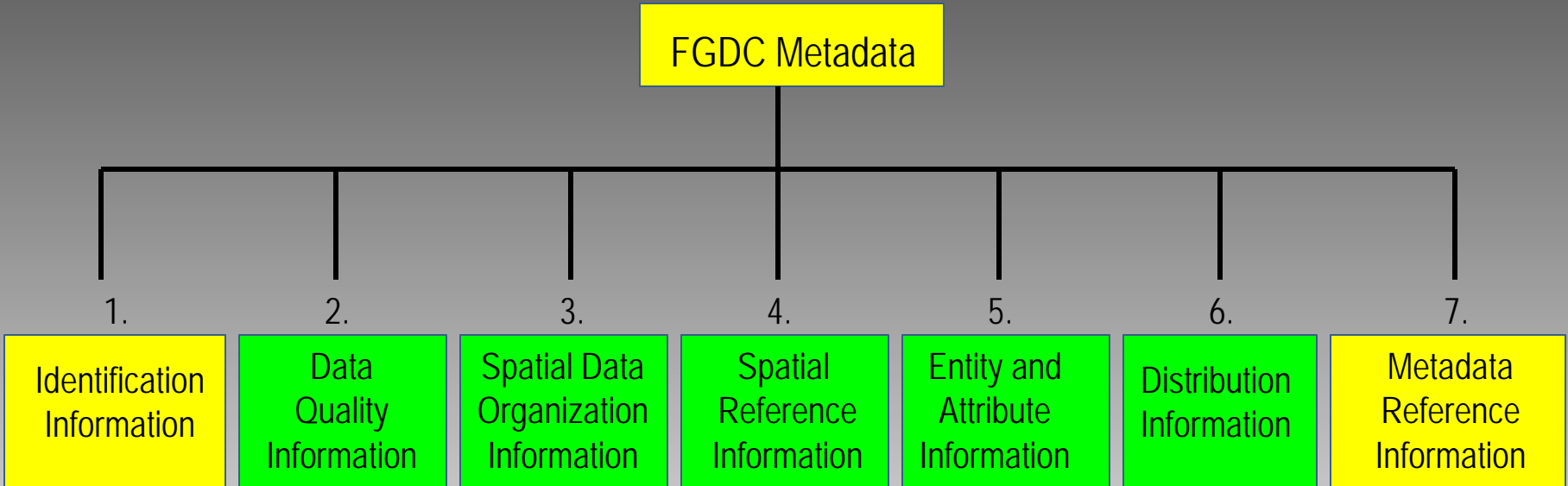
USGS Fort Collins Science Center (FORT)





Where are we now?

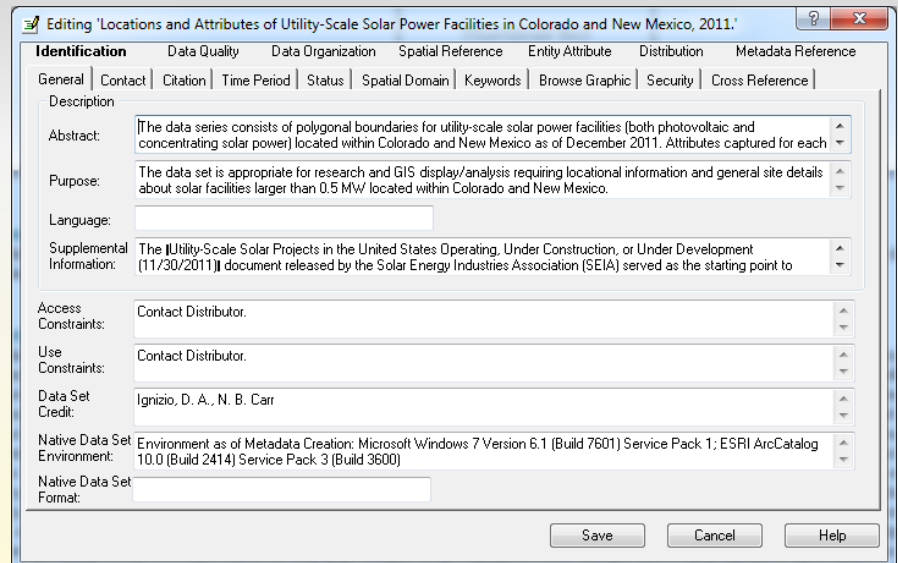
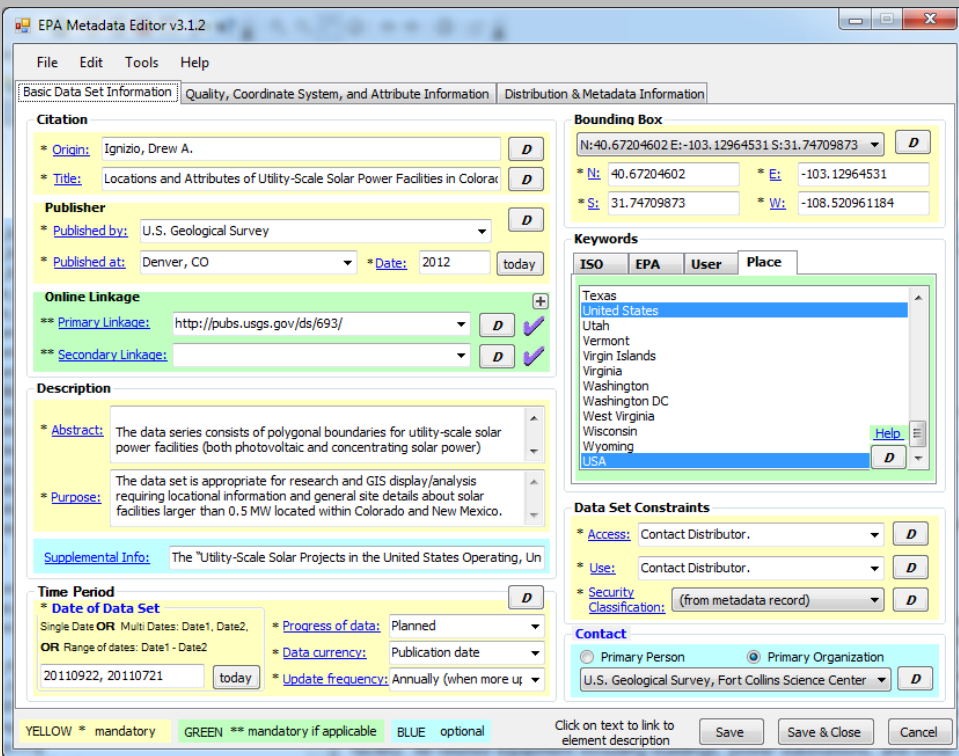
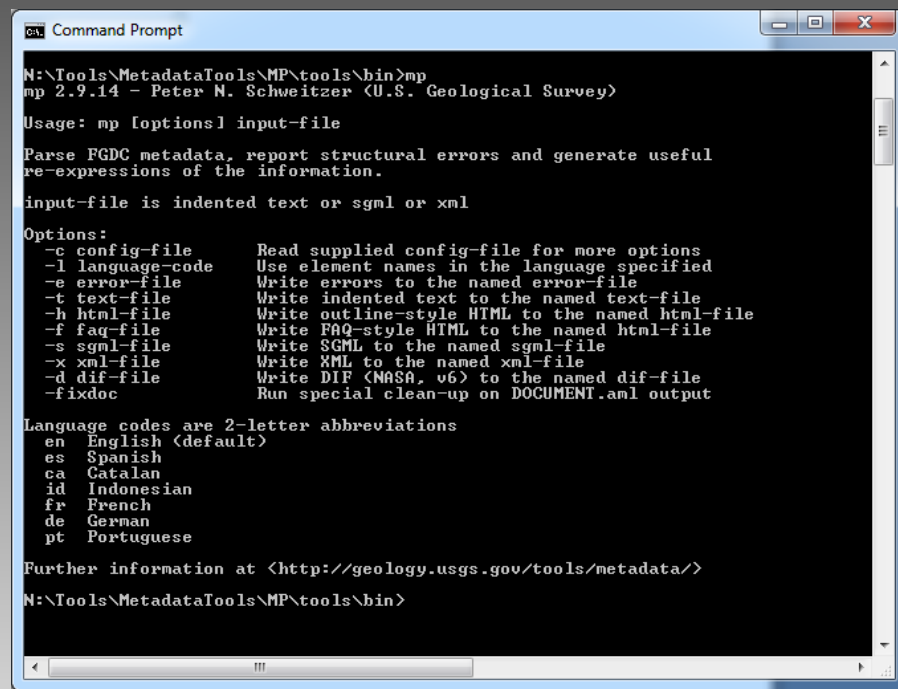
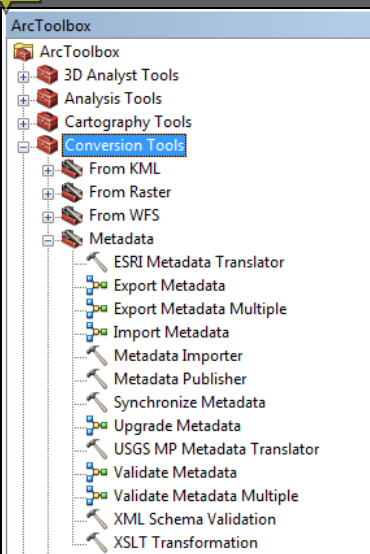
- Required to produce FGDC-compliant metadata (Executive Order 12906)
 - Most federal agencies are using ESRI software, version 10.x
 - Working with the FGDC standard is still very complex/esoteric
- Formal metadata submission and many publication processes require FGDC XML files



Metadata Questionnaire

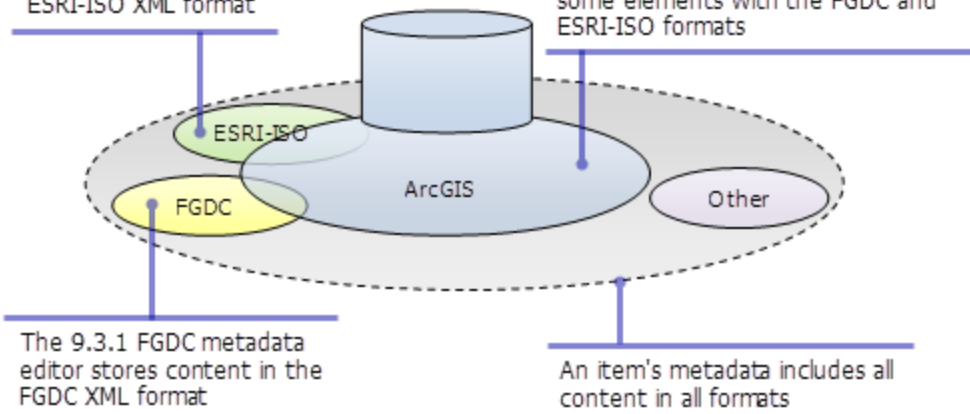
- 1) What is the approximate location of your project? Please provide general descriptions (county names, NPS unit, lat-longs). (Description of geographic extent, bounding coordinates).
- 2) Who is the originator(s)/owner of the data set (who created the data)? Include address and telephone number.
 - a) If someone else should be listed in the metadata to answer questions about the data, please list the name, address, and telephone number. (Contact)
 - b) Are there other organizations or individuals who should get credit for support, funding, or data collection and analysis? (Dataset credit)
- 3) Include a brief description of the data set. (Abstract)
 - a) What format are the data stored in – shapefile, raster, spreadsheet, database, ArcInfo coverage, text file, other (please identify). If known, also include the software version. (Native data set environment)
 - b) Are the data sensitive or classified (e.g. locations of T&E species)? Are there legal restrictions on who may obtain/use the data? (Access / use constraints)
- 4) Do any values in the dataset represent codes from a data dictionary or code book (Taxonomic or biological abbreviations, etc.)? If so, please provide references for where these values can be explained. (Entity & Attribute)
- 5) Why were the data collected (How will they be used in the scheme of a project)? (Purpose)
- 6) Are there any publications associated with this data or related works that help explain the methods or content of the data? Does the data support or represent the findings of a published project? Please include citations for these works, if relevant. (Cross reference)

- 7) What is the time period represented by the data set? (e.g. what are the beginning and ending dates of data collection?) (Time period)
- 8) Were the data developed primarily through: (Currentness reference)
 - a) Field visits
 - b) Remote instrumentation (i.e. temperature recorders, etc)
 - c) Existing data sources
- 9) What is the status of the data you are documenting? – *complete, in progress, planned* (Status)
 - a) Are there plans to update the data? (Maintenance & update frequency)
 - b) If so, how frequently? *Weekly, Monthly, Annually, Irregular, or As Needed*
- 10) Please list any keywords associated with this project (minimum of 1 thematic keyword required). (Keywords: theme, place, stratum, temporal, taxonomy).
- 11) Does the data set contain taxonomic information? If no, skip to question 12.
 - a) What important species or communities were examined or are documented in the data? (Taxonomy)
 - b) Did you use a taxonomic authority or field guide for identification?
 - a) If so, what is the reference?
 - b) Describe any modifications, if any, to the classification.
- 12) Briefly summarize your field, lab, or analysis methods (cut & paste from other documents when possible.) If you used standard, published protocols/methods, simply put the complete citation for the reference in 12a below. (Methodology, methodology keywords)
 - a) If you used existing protocols or methods, list the references (Methodology citation)



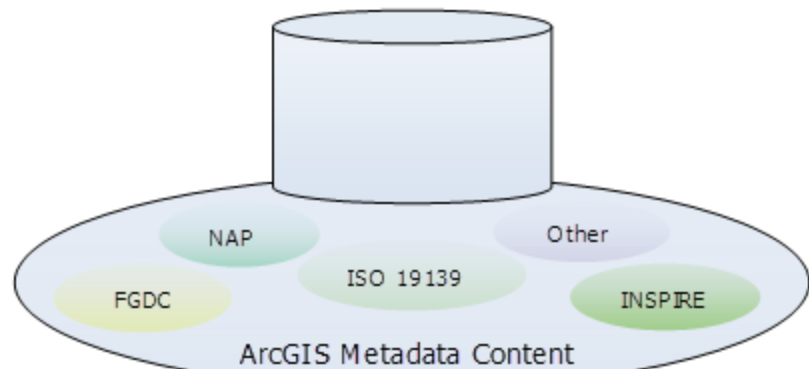
The 9.3.1 ISO editor stores content in the ESRI-ISO XML format

The ArcGIS editor stores content in the ArcGIS XML format, which shares some elements with the FGDC and ESRI-ISO formats



The 9.3.1 FGDC metadata editor stores content in the FGDC XML format

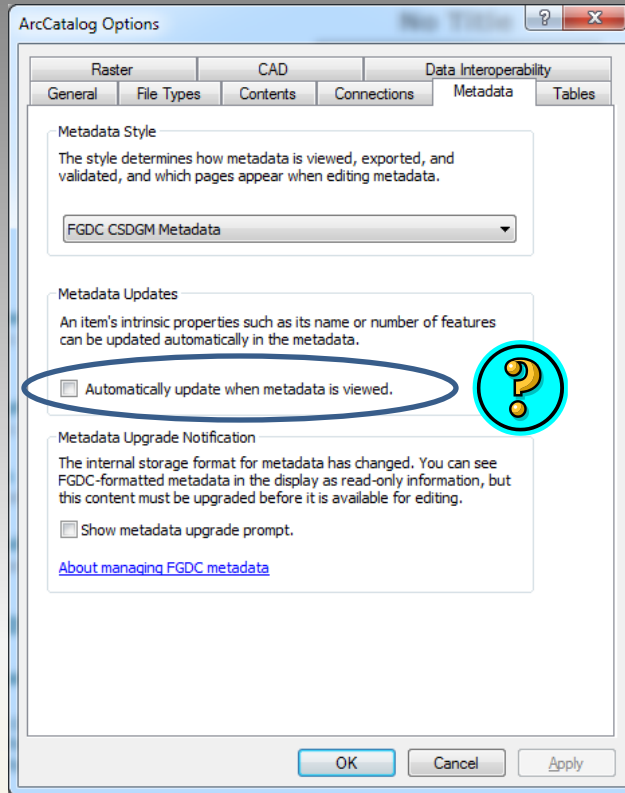
An item's metadata includes all content in all formats



The screenshot shows a web interface for a metadata record titled 'CO_NM_SolarFacilities'. The interface includes a 'Thumbnail Not Available' box, a 'Tags' section with a list of keywords (Solar Facility, Solar, Renewable Energy, Energy, Concentrating Solar Power, Solar Power, Power, Utility-Scale Solar Facilities, MW, Solar Farm, PV, Power Plant, Solar Resource, Photovoltaic, geoscientificinformation), and a 'Summary' section. The 'Description' section contains a detailed paragraph about the data series, including information on facility types, locations, and metadata standards.

“ArcGIS provides access to metadata for all items as an XML document, regardless of how it is physically stored.”

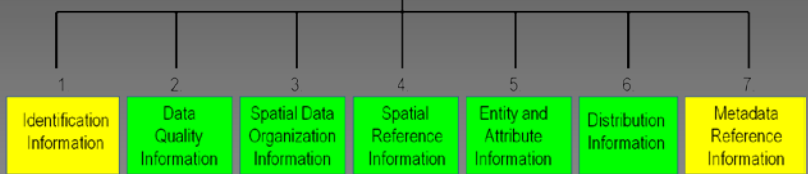
The ESRI ArcCatalog Metadata Vision in 10.0+



- What 'flavor' is my metadata currently in?
- How are other network users' ArcCatalog metadata settings configured?
- I edited my record but I don't see my changes!
- My UTM spatial reference looks incorrect...

Reality for Metadata Creators and Reviewers

FGDC Metadata



Our approach?
Export to FGDC XML to control content and format.

The screenshot shows the XML Notepad interface with the following content:

Tree View:

- xml
- xml-stYLESHEET
- metadata
 - idinfo
 - dataqual
 - spdoinfo
 - spref (selected)
 - horizsys
 - planar
 - mapproj
 - mapprojn
 - albers
 - stdpar11
 - stdpar11
 - longcm
 - latprjo
 - feast
 - fnorth
 - planci
 - plance
 - coordrep
 - absres
 - ordres
 - plandu
 - geodetic
 - horizdn
 - ellips
 - semiaxis
 - denflat
 - eainfo
 - distinfo
 - metainfo

XML Output:

```
version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" href="N:\Metadata\PARSER\StyleSheets\NBII_classic.xml" type="text/xml"

USA Contiguous Albers Equal Area Conic

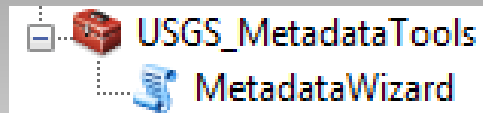
29.5000
45.5000
-96.0000
37.5000
0.0000
0.0000

coordinate pair

0.25
0.25
Meters

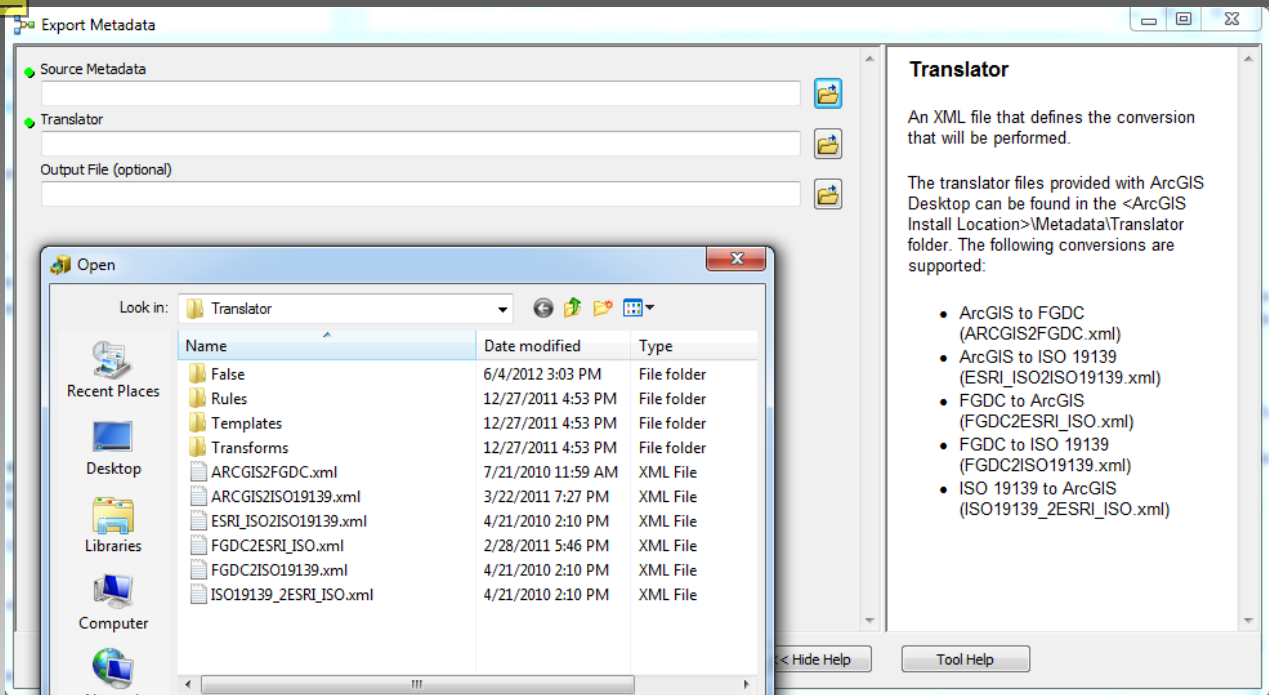
GCS North American 1983
GRS_1980
6378137.000000
298.257224
```

Description	File	Line	Column
-------------	------	------	--------



1. Handle conversion between ArcGIS and FGDC formats automatically.
2. Automate as much as possible.
3. Eliminate antiquated and esoteric FGDC language.
4. Encapsulate the logic of the standard in the interface design.
5. Lower the learning curve for non-expert users.
6. Use defaults whenever possible.
7. Easily produce clean, stand-alone XML files.



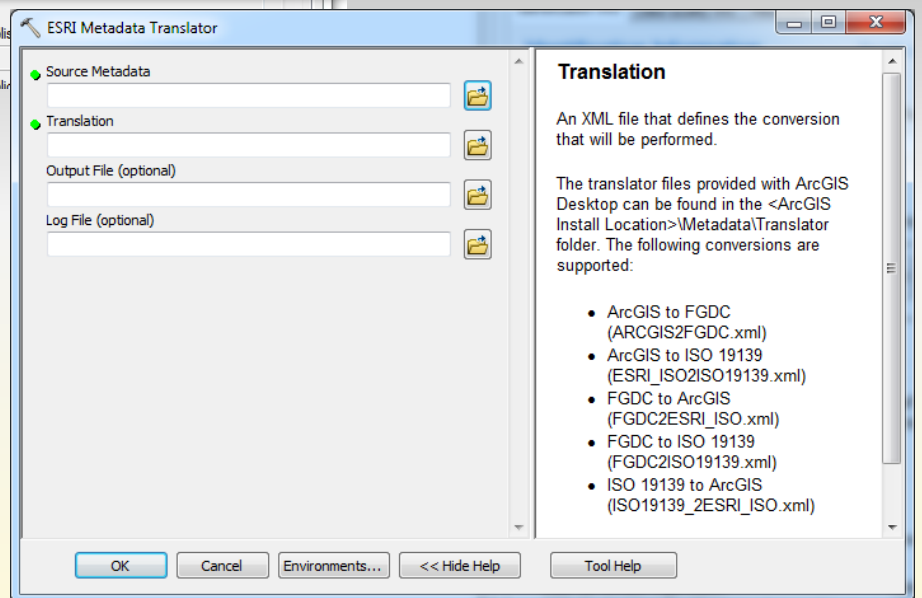
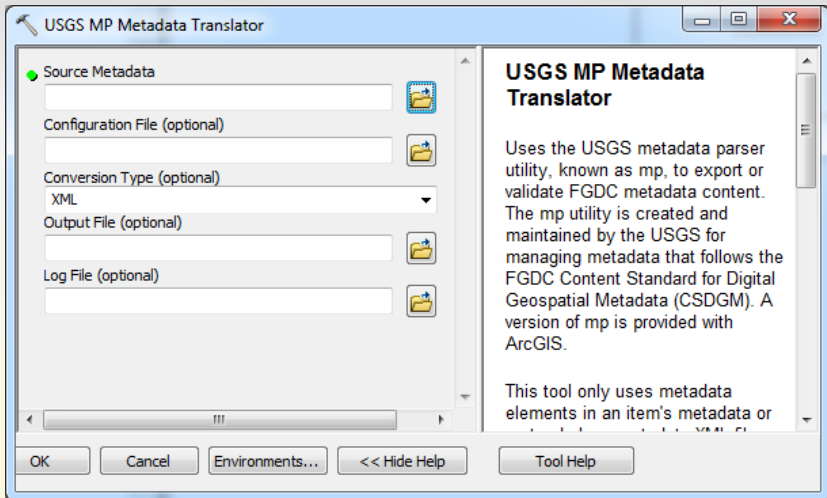


Translator

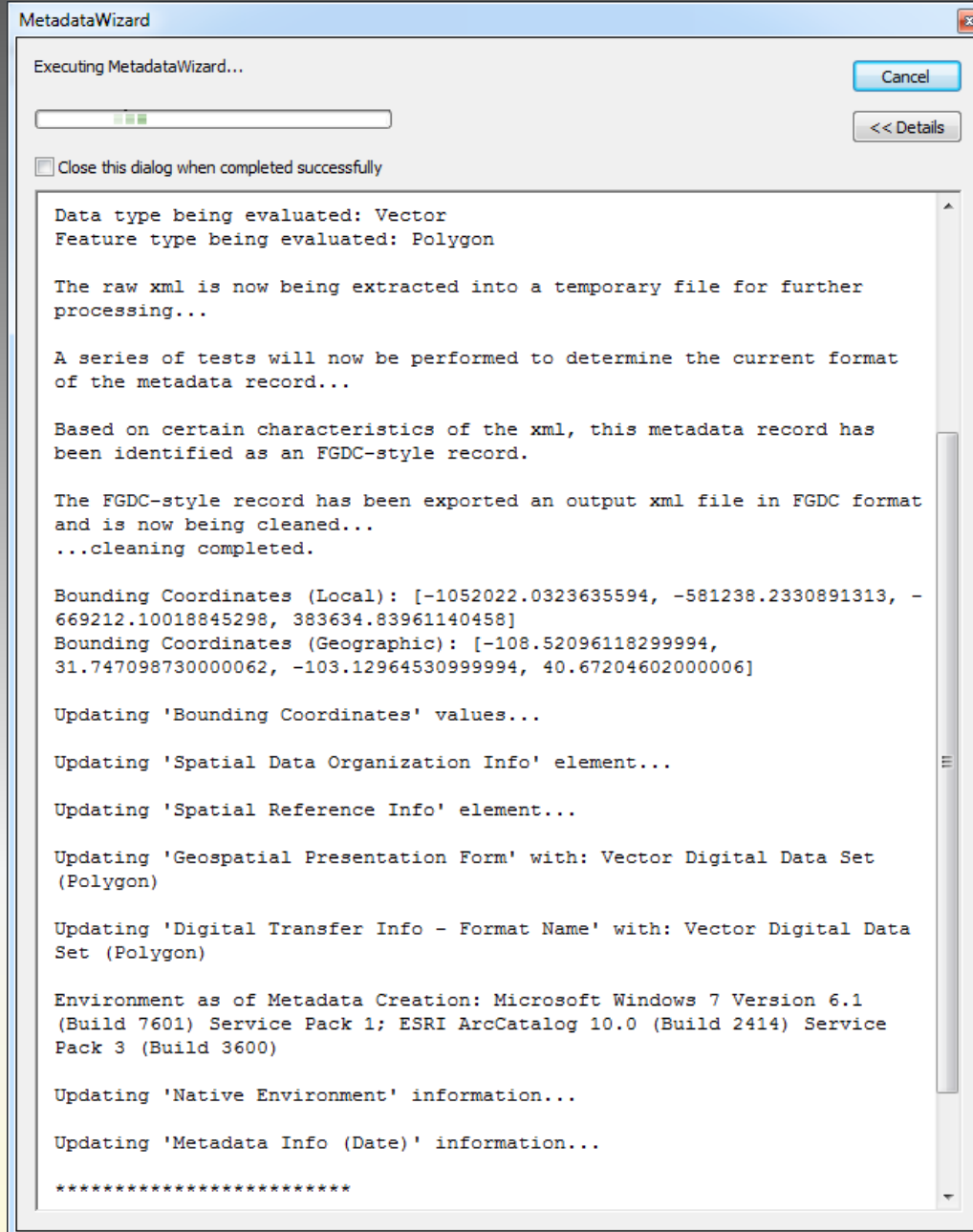
An XML file that defines the conversion that will be performed.

The translator files provided with ArcGIS Desktop can be found in the <ArcGIS Install Location>\Metadata\Translator folder. The following conversions are supported:

- ArcGIS to FGDC (ARCGIS2FGDC.xml)
- ArcGIS to ISO 19139 (ESRI_ISO2ISO19139.xml)
- FGDC to ArcGIS (FGDC2ESRI_ISO.xml)
- FGDC to ISO 19139 (FGDC2ISO19139.xml)
- ISO 19139 to ArcGIS (ISO19139_2ESRI_ISO.xml)




Handle conversion between ArcGIS and FGDC formats automatically.



Automate as much as possible.

EA Entity and Attribute Builder

 Click Through Each Attribute and Review/Update Its Description

Attribute (Field)	Type
OBJECTID	Long Integer
FACILITY	Character string
SIZE_MW	Character string
TYPE	Character string
LOCATION	Character string
STATE	Character string
STATUS	Character string
SHAPE_Leng	Double-precision floating...
SHAPE_Area	Double-precision floating...
YearOnline	Integer
SourceInfo	Character string
Polygon	Character string

Overview Description (optional)

Please see the detailed Entity/Attribute section for a complete description of all the fields contained in the attribute table.

Please note that two facilities are included in this data set that do not contain information for all of the attribute fields.

Detail Citation (optional)

See the detailed Entity/Attribute section.

Attribute Definition

Type of solar power technology employed by facility

Attribute Definition Source: Producer defined

Field Type

Enumerated Range Codeset Unrepresentable

Unique Values

- Concentrated PV
- Parabolic Trough
- Photovoltaic
- Photovoltaic / Concentrated PV
- Photovoltaic Storage Project

Definition of this value

Parabolic trough concentrating solar power (CSP) technology being used at site.

Definition source

Producer defined

"Enumerated Domain"

This attribute type should be used when a finite set of values exist as possible entries for a field. Provide a definition for each possible entry. All values that appear in the field will be an entry from the enumerated list.

Example: a field named "RoadType". Possible values are 'Heavy Duty', 'Light Duty', and 'Trail'. Three value definitions would be provided that clearly explain the criteria for each of the three classifications.

Save Save and Close Cancel (Close no save)

Automate as much as possible.

Metadata Editor

Identification Info | Data Quality Info | Metadata Reference Info | Distribution Info

Is there a contact person or agency for this data set? Yes No
This is someone who could be contacted for questions about the data set. Having a data set contact is very helpful.

Import Contact Info by USGS Email

 Enter a valid USGS email address and click "Import Contact."

Data Set Contact Organization
 U.S. Geological Survey, Fort Collins Science Ce *

Data Set Contact Person
 Drew Ignizio

Title of Position
 Applications Software Specialist (GIS), Contract

Telephone Number
 970-226-9213 *

Fax Number

Email Address
 dignizio@usgs.gov

Address 1 (Number and Street) *
 2150 Centre Avenue, Bldg C

Address 2 (If Applicable)
 U.S. Geological Survey, Fort Collins Science C

Address 3 (If Applicable)

City
 Fort Collins *

State / Province
 CO *

Zipcode
 80526-8118 *

Country
 US

Address Type
 Unknown *

Is this data set associated with a larger work? Yes No
If the citation of a larger project is relevant, you may optionally cite it here.

Title of the Larger Work *

Author / Originator of the Larger Work *
 Originator(s) List individually on each line. *

Larger Work Format *

Publication Date (YYYYMMDD) *

Series or Journal Name *

Issue Name / Number within Series *

* = Both must be populated, if used.

Publisher *

Publication Place *

Online Link

* = Required if "Yes" is toggled.

Is this data set part of a series? Yes No
Is it a release with an assigned issue number (e.g., USGS Data Series, or a journal)?

Series Name
 U.S. Geological Survey Data Series *

Issue Name / Number within Series *
 DS 693

* = Required if "Yes" is toggled.

Can you provide more publication information about this data set? Yes No
More details are always helpful for finding and properly referencing data.

Publication Place *
 Denver, CO

Publisher *
 U.S. Geological Survey

* = Required if "Yes" is toggled.

Online Link
Is there a link to the data or the agency that produced it? If so, provide URL.

URI (s) List individually on each line

For help, place the cursor in an element and press F1.

Encapsulate the logic of the standard in the interface design.

Metadata Editor
_ □ ×

Identification Info
Data Quality Info
Metadata Reference Info
Distribution Info

* = Required

Attribute Accuracy Report *

How accurate are the values in the data set relative to "true" values? Were any tests performed to assess the accuracy of values? Please describe any methods used to ensure quality / accuracy in the data. See help for more info.

Every effort was made to find the most reliable source documentation possible to identify the location of and retrieve attribute values for each facility. Whenever possible, documentation from the site developer or utility company associated with a project was used. The source information/documents used to locate and provide attribute values for each facility are listed for each feature in the "SourceInfo" field. URL links included in the attribute table were visited to verify the solar facility attribution for accuracy (as of January 2012) by GIS staff at the FORT.

Logical Accuracy Report *

Does the actual data match up with the details you have provided about it? Do all values fall within expected ranges? Have you checked for data duplication/omission? Were topology tests conducted to ensure the integrity of geospatial data? See help for more info.

All polygons are complete. Multi-part polygons do exist in the data-- certain facilities have multiple polygons associated with them. Polygon outlines were individually inspected by GIS staff at the FORT to check for accuracy and completeness.

Completeness Report *

Does the data set represent only certain types or instances of a phenomenon? Do the data represent occurrences only within a fixed geographic area? Provide information about what is included in the data set versus what is not. See help for more info.

Every effort was made to include all identifiable solar facilities greater than 0.5 MW located within Colorado and New Mexico, either complete or under construction that could be reliably located. Locating and documenting these facilities is particularly challenging due to the rapidly changing landscape with regard to new development, and the fact that plans are often modified or cancelled after a project is announced. Sites that were confirmed to have been built but that could not be precisely located are not included. Despite the effort put into locating all the facilities within the 2-state region, it is possible that some facilities were missed. The

Horizontal Accuracy Report

A formal accuracy assessment of the horizontal positional information in the data set has not been conducted.

Vertical Accuracy Report

A formal accuracy assessment of the vertical positional information in the data set has either not been conducted, or is not applicable.

List the Source Inputs Used to Create the Data Set

No sources were used.
The data set represents 100% original content, derived first-hand (e.g., field collection, lab experiments, etc.).

----- OR -----

The source inputs are described below (reference imagery/materials, assorted GIS inputs, etc.)

Add Additional Source
Remove Source (Current Tab)

Source Input	Source Input	Source Input
Title of Source Input 2011 NAIP Imagery (1 meter GSD) for *	Author / Originator of Source Input USDA-FSA-APFO *	
Publisher / Data Provider USDA_FSA_APFO Aerial Photographs *	Publication Place Salt Lake City, Utah *	
Type of Data hardcopy *	URL Link or GIS Service to Data URL(s) List individually on each line	
Publication Date (YYYYMMDD) 2011-01-01 *		
Time Period Information of Source Input		
Beginning Date (YYYYMMDD) *	End Date (YYYYMMDD) *	Currentness Reference *
Abbreviation / Short Name for the Input Data (NAIP Colorado) *		
Contribution of Source Input Spatial location and some attributes *		

Processing Steps

Describe the methods performed to collect or generate the data. Provide as much detail as possible.

Add Processing Step
Remove Step (Current Tab)

Process Step

Describe the processing step or method below: *

Solar facility locations were heads-up digitized from 2011 true color NAIP imagery (1-meter resolution) by zooming into identified locations and tracing either the perimeter of the entire facility, or in some cases, the footprint of solar panels/solar collectors. For facilities not visible in NAIP imagery, the approximate site boundary was collected.

Date (YYYYMMDD)
2011-12-01 *

Save
Preview Metadata Record
Save and Close

For help, place the cursor in an element and press F1.

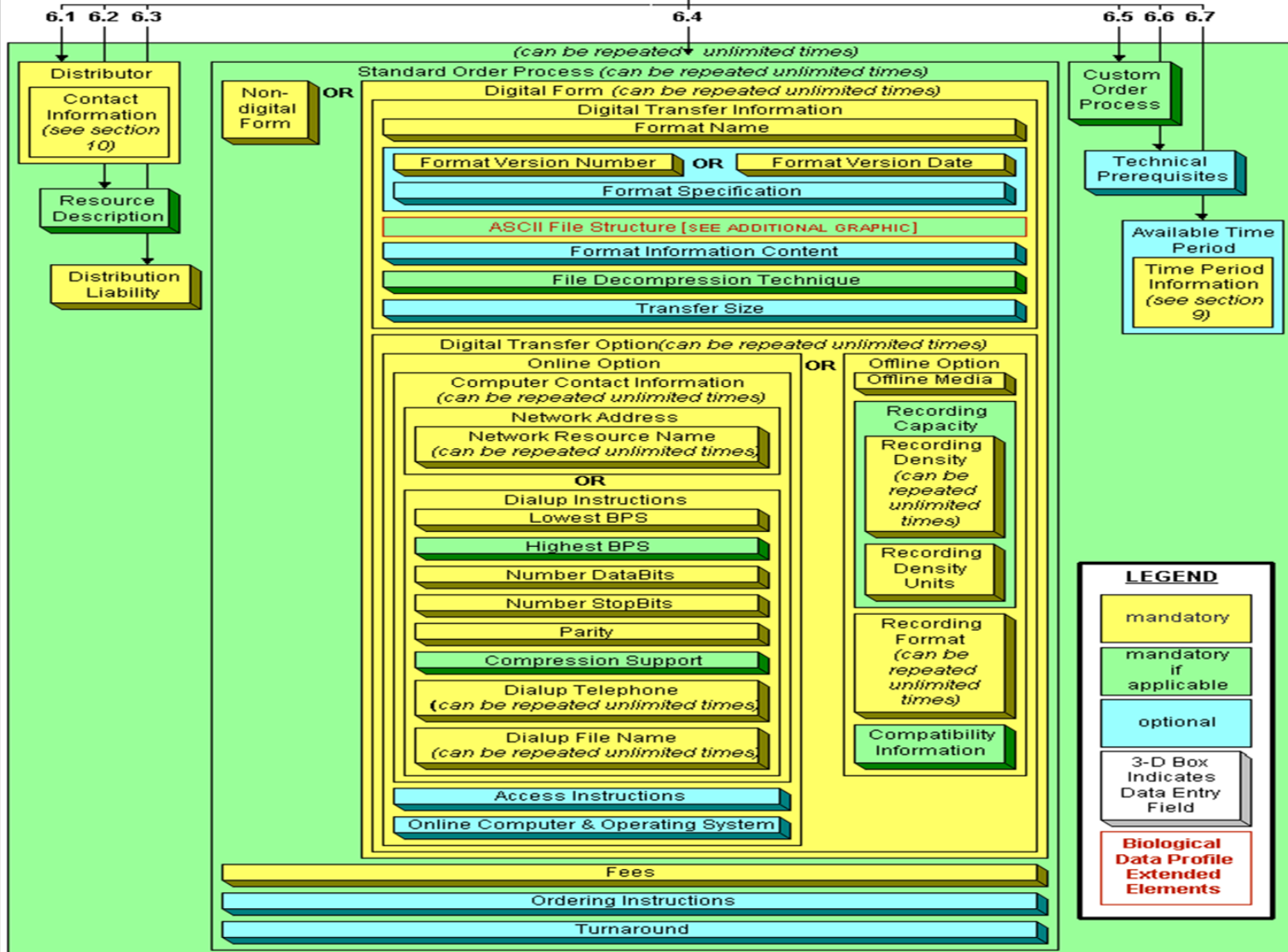
Encapsulate the logic of the standard in the interface design.

Section 6

Distribution Information

Distribution Information 6.

FGDC-STD-001.1-1999
Content Standard for Digital Geospatial
Metadata, 1998
Part 1: Biological Data Profile, 1999



Eliminate antiquated and esoteric FGDC language.

Distribution Information

Provide information about access to the data, the data distribution format, and the data distributor.

* = Required if Option is Toggled

- Data set is for internal use only and will NOT be shared or distributed. This metadata record does not need distribution information.
- OR -----
- Details on how to acquire/access the data are described below.

Distributor Contact

Contact information for the person or organization responsible for the distribution of the data.

Quick Import

Is the Distributor Contact the same as the Data Set Contact (Tab 1)?

Is the Distributor Contact the same as the Metadata Contact (Tab 3)?

Import Contact Info by USGS Email

Enter a valid USGS email address and click "Import Contact."

Distributor Organization

USGS Rocky Mountain Area *

Distributor Contact Person

Drew A Ignizio

Title of Position

Application Software Specialist

Telephone Number

970-226-9213 *

Fax Number

970-226-9230

Email Address

dignizio@usgs.gov

Address 1 (Number and Street)

2150 Centre Avenue, Building C *

Address 2 (If Applicable)

Address 3 (If Applicable)

City

Fort Collins *

State / Province Zipcode

CO * 80526-8118 *

Country Address Type

USA mailing address *

How Can Others Access the Data?

- The data set is available online. *
- URL of website or GIS service:
- The data set is not available online. Interested parties should contact the distributor for details on acquiring the data. (Provide 'Distributor Contact' information).
- Other distribution method. (Describe below)

Distribution Liability

List any distributor disclaimers or limitations of liability. *

Any use of trade, firm, or product names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Although this information product, for the most part, is in the public domain, it also contains

Data Fees

Describe any fees associated with obtaining the data. *

None.

For help, place the cursor in an element and press F1.

Replace with this.

C:\temp\MetadataWizard\CO_NM_SolarFacilities_FGDCTemp.xml - Windows Internet Explorer

C:\temp\MetadataWizard\CO_NM_SolarFacilities_FGDCTemp.xml

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Home Favorites Esri Support Geoprocessing with Pytho... How to Configure Eclipse ... Index of -sites-fgdcmetad... Suggested Sites

C:\temp\MetadataWizard\CO_NM_SolarFacilities...

CO_NM_SolarFacilities

Metadata:

- [Identification Information](#)
- [Data Quality Information](#)
- [Spatial Data Organization Information](#)
- [Spatial Reference Information](#)
- [Entity and Attribute Information](#)
- [Distribution Information](#)
- [Metadata Reference Information](#)

Identification Information:

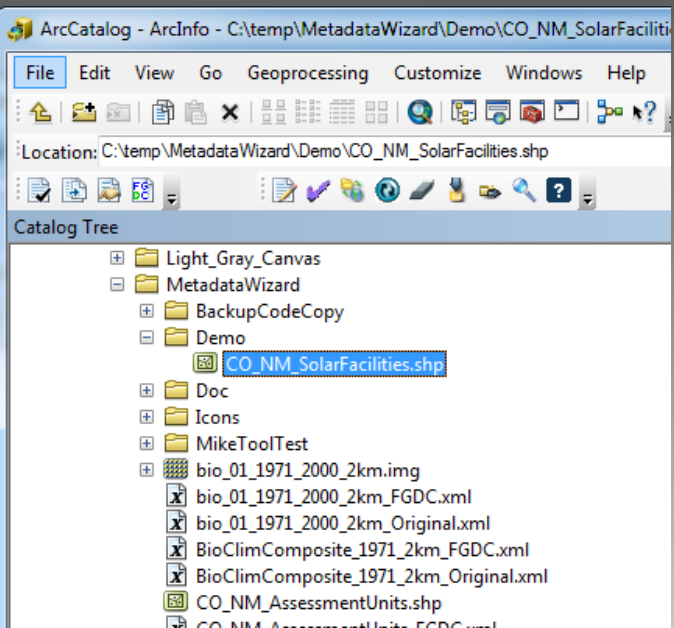
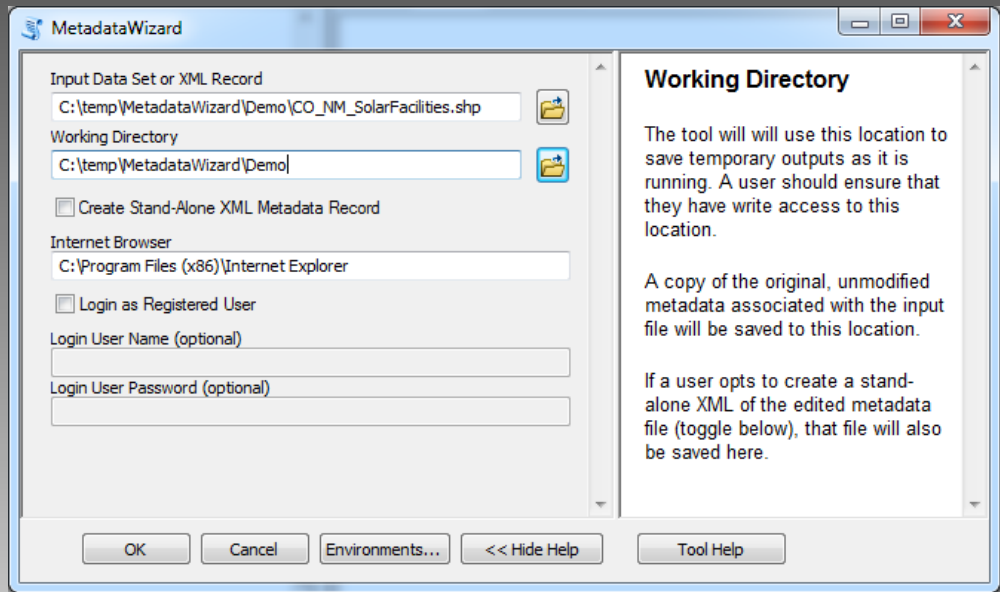
Citation:
Citation Information:
Originator: Carr, Natasha B.
Originator: Ignizio, Drew A.
Publication Date: 2012-01-01
Title: CO_NM_SolarFacilities
Geospatial Data Presentation Form: Vector Digital Data Set (Polygon)
Series Information:
Series Name: U.S. Geological Survey Data Series
Issue Identification: DS 693
Publication Information:
Publication Place: Denver, CO
Publisher: U.S. Geological Survey
Online Linkage: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/693/>

Description:
Abstract:
The data series consists of polygonal boundaries for utility-scale solar power facilities (both photovoltaic and concentrating solar power) located within Colorado and New Mexico as of December 2011. Attributes captured for each facility include the following: facility name, size/production capacity (in MW), type of solar technology employed, location, state, operational status, year the facility came online, and source identification information. Facility locations and perimeters were derived from 1-meter true-color aerial photographs (2011) produced by the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP); the photographs have a positional accuracy of about ±5 meters (accessed from <http://gis.apfo.usda.gov/arcgis/services>). Solar facility perimeters represent the full extent of each solar facility site, unless otherwise noted. When visible, linear features such as fences or road lines were used to delineate the full extent of the solar facility. All related equipment

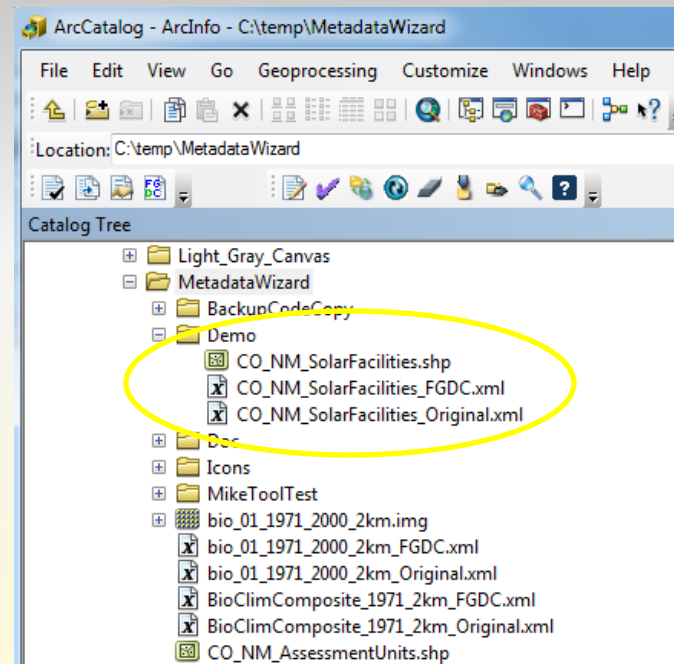
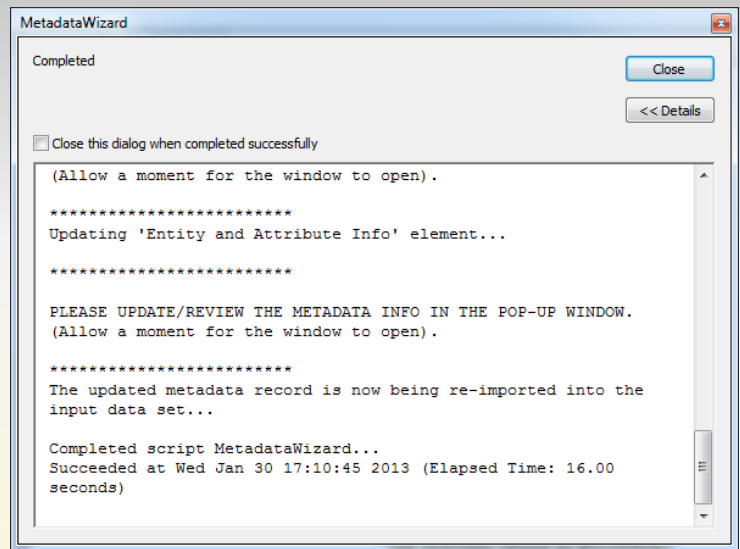
Done Computer | Protected Mode: Off 100%

Lower the learning curve for non-expert users.

Before



After



The End Result

- Time savings for metadata creation / updates
 - Reduce potential for errors and mistakes
 - Standardized metadata outputs
- Reduce user frustration, increase metadata participation

Where can I access this tool?

BETA version is available at: www.sciencebase.gov

Search for “Metadata Wizard”

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- [Hydrology](#)
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Featured Item

[Roaring Fork Water-Quality Data](#)

The Roaring Fork Watershed, located in the Rocky Mountains 150 miles west of Denver, Colorado, has seen rapid development and population growth in recent years. Water-quality data for the Roaring Fork Watershed have been gathered together so that interested citizens can evaluate historical changes and current quality of stream water and well water within the watershed.

Categories: [Web Site](#); Tags: [Upper Colorado River Basin](#), [roaring fork river](#), [surface water quality](#)

Accessibility | FOIA | Privacy | Policies and Notices

U.S. Department of the Interior | U.S. Geological Survey

URL: <https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/>

Page Contact Information: sciencebase@usgs.gov

ScienceBase Version: 2.22 (2013/01/08 10:40 build#24470) | [Feedback](#) | [Support](#) | [Twitter](#)

MetadataWizard - ScienceBase

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Tags

Topics:

- [FGDC](#)
- [Metadata](#)
- [Metadata Wizard](#)
- [MetadataWizard](#)

MetadataWizard - An Easy to Use Toolbox for FGDC Metadata Creation and Review

This tool is designed as a resource to help geospatial data users with the creation and editing of FGDC metadata. The tool will retain the original FGDC content of an item's metadata, if any is present. Currently, only records in FGDC or ESRI Arc10 format are accepted as inputs.

After any existing metadata has been extracted, the tool will attempt to supplement the spatial domain and certain components of the spatial data organization, spatial reference, and entity/attribute sections of the metadata record with information inherent in the data set. Users will then be provided with a form to enter additional metadata contact.

When the tool finishes running, a completed copy of the metadata file will be re-associated with the original input data set.

*A copy of the original, unmodified metadata associated with a data set is saved to the 'Working Directory.'

[Read more...](#)

Additional Information

Parent Item: [GIS](#)

Child Items: (2):

- [MetadataWizard_Arc10](#)
- [MetadataWizard_Arc10](#)

Other Associated Items:

Accessibility | FOIA | Privacy | Policies and Notices

U.S. Department of the Interior | U.S. Geological Survey

URL: <https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/50ed7aa4e4b0438b00db080a>

Page Contact Information: sciencebase@usgs.gov

ScienceBase Version: 2.22 (2013/01/08 10:40 build#24470) | [Feedback](#) | [Support](#) | [Twitter](#)

U.S. Geological Survey - Core Science Analytics and Synthesis - Metadata

CSAS Metadata Program



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[\[Change Password\]](#) [\[Logout\]](#)

User Selection:

You logged in as an Administrator!

Your ID:

Select User:

Edit Files on the Server:

Your ID:

Metadata Files :

Create New Metadata



Upload Existing Metadata



Thank You.

USGS Core Science Analytics and Synthesis (CSAS)

Peter Schweitzer

USGS Fort Collins Science Center (FORT)

ESRI

Where can I access this tool?

BETA version is available at: www.sciencebase.gov

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[Roaring Fork Water-Quality Data](#)

The Roaring Fork Watershed, located in the Rocky Mountains 150 miles west of Denver, Colorado, has seen rapid development and population growth in recent years. Water-quality data for the Roaring Fork Watershed have been gathered together so that interested citizens can evaluate historical changes and current quality of stream water and well water within the watershed.

Categories: [Web Site](#); Tags: [Upper Colorado River Basin](#), [roaring fork river](#), [surface water quality](#)

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MetadataWizard - ScienceBase

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Tags

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- [FGDC](#)
- [Metadata](#)
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MetadataWizard - An Easy to Use Toolbox for FGDC Metadata Creation and Review

This tool is designed as a resource to help geospatial data users with the creation and editing of FGDC metadata. The tool will retain the original FGDC content of an item's metadata, if any is present. Currently, only records in FGDC or ESRI Arc10 format are accepted as inputs.

After any existing metadata has been extracted, the tool will attempt to supplement the spatial domain and certain components of the spatial data organization, spatial reference, and entity/attribute sections of the metadata record with information inherent in the data set. Users will then be provided with a form to enter additional metadata contact.

When the tool finishes running, a completed copy of the metadata file will be re-associated with the original input data set.

*A copy of the original, unmodified metadata associated with a data set is saved to the 'Working Directory.'

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