Mapping the Components of FGDC Metadata

A FGDC-compliant metadata record contains the following 7 sections:

1. **Identification Information**
    a. Basic dataset information, such as who made the dataset, when it was made, and will provide users with an overview of what the dataset is, brief overview of how it was made and the applications in which it could potentially be used. The Point of Contact (PoC) listed in this section is the datasets primary PoC, and would usually be whoever made the dataset. This section also allows for additional use constraints (in addition to RIGIS constraints) to be added if necessary or applicable.

2. **Data Quality Information**
    a. This section will provide users with information on attribute accuracy, information on fidelity of represented relationships and the tests used to determine this, as well as, information on omissions or generalizations in the data. This section also provides source information (if applicable), as well as process step information (how was the dataset produced, and who carried out a particular step). Information within this section will allow users a clearer picture of not only how the dataset was made, but will also allow users to determine how accurate and trusted a particular dataset is.

3. **Spatial Data Organization Information**
    a. Describes the mechanism used to represent the spatial information – is it a raster or a vector? How many features? What type of features?

4. **Spatial Reference Information**
    a. This section will provide the user with correct horizontal and vertical (where applicable) coordinate system information.

5. **Entity and Attribute Information**
    a. This section provides the user with attribute information such as the attribute name, definition and definition source. This is important as, in some cases, the attribute labels can be slightly cryptic – attribute definitions can provide users with the clarity necessary to understand and interpret the data.

6. **Distribution Information**
    a. Information about the data distributor and options for downloading the data. This section is always filled out by RIGIS.

7. **Metadata Reference Information**

a. This section describes the date on which the metadata record was completed and the contact information for the metadata author.

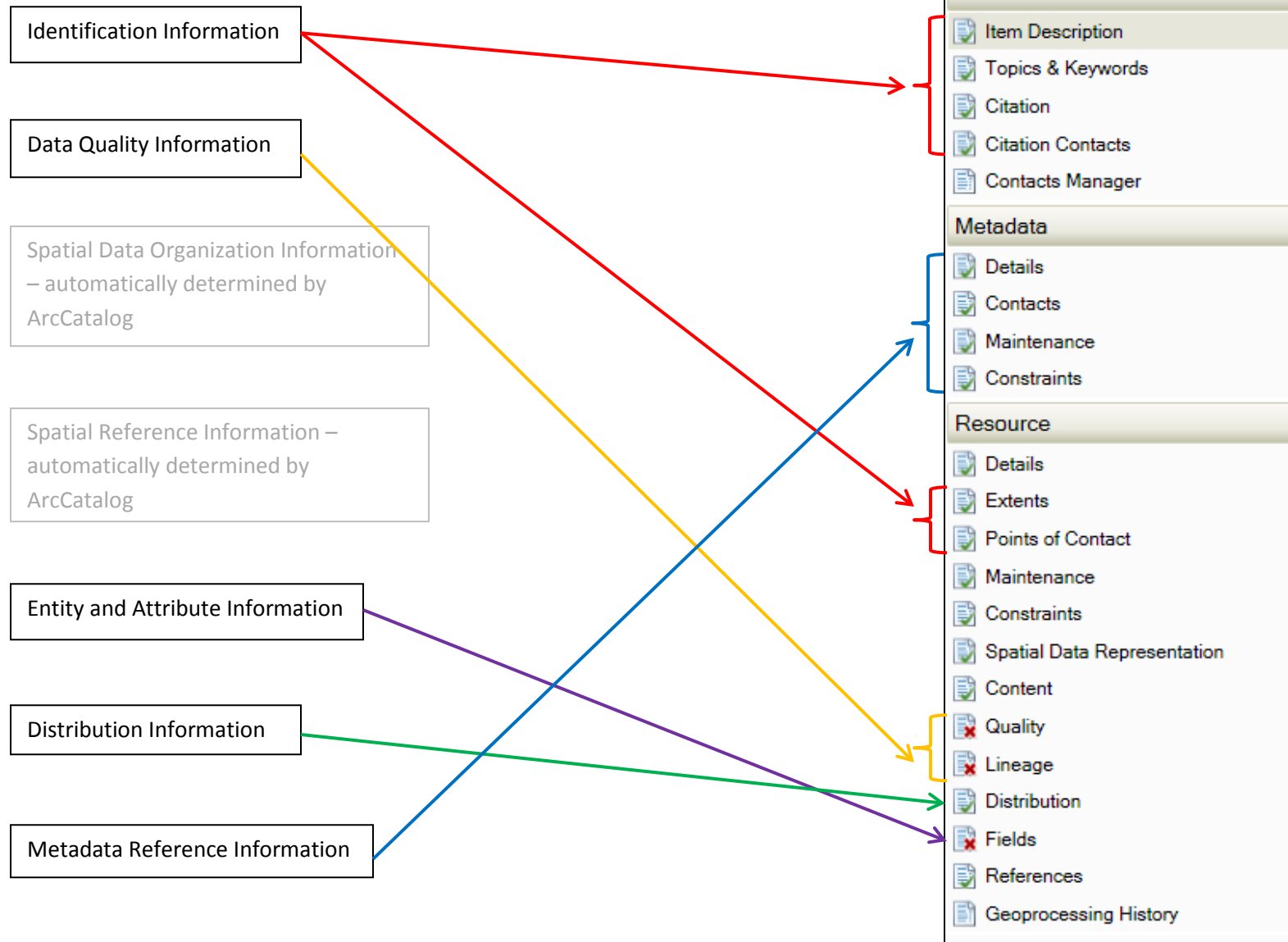# The RIGIS Metadata Authors Workshop
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Components of FGDC Metadata

Identification Information

Data Quality Information

Spatial Data Organization Information – automatically determined by ArcCatalog

Spatial Reference Information – automatically determined by ArcCatalog

Entity and Attribute Information

Distribution Information

Metadata Reference Information

Components of ArcGIS Metadata

Overview
- Item Description
- Topics & Keywords
- Citation
- Citation Contacts
- Contacts Manager

Metadata
- Details
- Contacts
- Maintenance
- Constraints

Resource
- Details
- Extents
- Points of Contact
- Maintenance
- Constraints
- Spatial Data Representation
- Content
- Quality
- Lineage
- Distribution
- Fields
- References
- Geoprocessing History