

Other Metadata Resources

Alternative Metadata Editing Programs:

USGS TKME - <http://geology.usgs.gov/tools/metadata/tools/doc/tkme.html>

Downloadable program for creation of formal metadata conforming to the FGDC metadata standard described in this course. This program is developed and maintained by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and available for free download from their website (see link above). This tool is best suited for users who are familiar with the structure of a FGDC metadata record. Files must be saved in XML format.

EPA Metadata Editor - <https://edg.epa.gov/EME/>

Downloadable tool that creates metadata for geospatial datasets, allowing users to create, edit and validate metadata records. This program can run as a standalone tool, or as an extension within ArcGIS. Provides users with clarity on FGDC metadata requirements and validates metadata to ensure it meets the FGDC standards.

USGS MetadataWizard -

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

A downloadable ArcGIS toolbox that contains geoprocessing tools to extract existing metadata information from input data, and then pre-populates certain fields (like the spatial reference information) to an XML file. Users can then use two graphical user interfaces (GUIs) to enter other required metadata information. After completion, the MetadataWizard re-associates the completed metadata record with the dataset.

Alternative Metadata Guides:

Esri ArcGIS Metadata Resources - <http://desktop.arcgis.com/en/arcmap/10.3/manage-data/metadata/what-is-metadata.htm>

Complete online guide for metadata from the Esri help page for ArcGIS version 10.3. Provides information on a variety of topics including, the definition of metadata, how to edit metadata, different metadata styles, ArcGIS metadata and many other topics.

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Interactive Metadata Guide - <http://www.fgdc.gov/csdgmgraphical/index.html>

The RIGIS Metadata Authors Workshop

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A graphical representation of FGDC metadata that breaks out each of the 7 sections and provides the user with information on mandatory, mandatory if applicable and optional values. Once a field is selected, the user can get information on the field definition, and the type of information required by the field (i.e. text, free text). This is handy for metadata authors using the USGS TKME software.

Other Resources:

Marine Metadata Interoperability Writing Good Metadata -

<https://marinemetadata.org/guides/mdataintro/writgoodmdata>

A checklist of components required when writing a good metadata record.

USGS Metadata Parser (MP) - <http://geology.usgs.gov/tools/metadata/tools/doc/mp.html>

A command line program that can be used to parse metadata, check for compatibility with the FGDC metadata standard and create other metadata file types (i.e. text and HTML). This is a great metadata validation tool as it will alert the metadata author to any missing required fields within the metadata record. This tool is designed to be run with XML files.

Looking Ahead:

ISO Metadata Standards - <http://www.fgdc.gov/metadata/geospatial-metadata-standards>

The ISO metadata standard is an international metadata standard endorsed by the FGDC. While this standard is not currently the national norm, the FGDC encourages agencies to being the transition to ISO as this transition will likely happen in the wider community in a few years. This link provides some brief explanations of ISO metadata standards, as well as links to resources. This is intended to be informational only.

