

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

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1. Introduction

This document contains specifications for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) metadata profiles, which are used to characterize and inventory FIRM datasets and associated data artifacts in the Mapping Information Platform (MIP). The ability to describe, search, discover, and reuse FIRM artifacts is a key requirement of the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program. To achieve this, metadata about FIRM artifacts must be recorded and updated throughout the FIRM life cycle, from Discovery to collection, storage and management, production, publication, dissemination, and use.

The Risk MAP program developed operational procedures that institutionalize metadata production and maintenance as part of MIP workflows, content management infrastructure, and maintenance tools. Metadata based on industry-standard information models is a key component of the data development and management process.

This document contains an overview of the NFIP metadata profiles, a table that summarizes the required metadata elements for these profiles, and the actual NFIP metadata profile specifications.

2. Overview of NFIP Metadata Profiles

This section describes the NFIP metadata profiles, which are based on the FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM). A detailed set of NFIP metadata profiles based on the CSDGM was created to describe the metadata content and structure to be used for NFIP digital geospatial data. Each of these profiles contains information on recommendations and/or business rules about specific elements in the underlying CSDGM. Information about each profile is provided below, with a focus on these recommendations and business rules.

2.1. Mandatory, Recommended, and Optional Metadata Elements

The set of mandatory metadata elements for each NFIP metadata profile was specified by retaining all FGDC mandatory elements as mandatory in the NFIP metadata profiles, and also making mandatory selected FGDC, -if-applicable, and optional elements. The mandatory designation of NFIP metadata-profile elements includes the following:

- Identification Information (specifically requiring information about the dataset originator, the geographic extent of the data, data themes included, data currency, and data access restrictions)
- Data quality information (specifically requiring lineage information in the form of a listing of data sources used for a particular submission and processing steps summarizing the submission production steps)

- Spatial data organization information (specifically specifying the direct spatial reference method)
- Spatial reference information (specifically horizontal system projection information, grid system information, datum information; and in the case of elevation, terrain and survey packages, and vertical coordinate system information)
- Entity and attribute information (especially requiring definitions of entity types enclosed within each submission, as well as the mandatory overview description)
- Distribution information (especially requiring information about the digital standard order process)
- Metadata reference information (providing information about the metadata point of contact)

2.2. Controlled Vocabularies

Controlled vocabularies (domains) have been created for the following NFIP metadata elements:

- Geospatial representation (controlled list of MIP data submission types)
- Theme keywords (controlled list of keywords per submission type)
- Place keywords (controlled list of States and counties)
- Native data set environment (controlled list of hydrology, hydraulic, coastal, and alluvial fan models)
- Lineage source information (controlled list of information sources per submission type)
- Entity type (controlled list of entities and their descriptions per submission type)

This controlled vocabulary, defined and consistently applied during the development of MIP metadata, enables automated search and discovery capabilities of MIP data holdings.

2.3. MIP Metadata-Element Business Rules

In addition to specific guidance provided in the individual metadata profiles, business rules that govern the content of metadata elements are provided in Table 1. These business rules include explanation and guidance that is driven by the relationship between individual metadata elements. As an example, the distinction between Originator (element 1.1.1) and Publisher (element 1.8.1.2), and the relationship between date elements such as Publication Date (element 1.1.2) and Time Period (element 1.3.1) is clarified in the table below.

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Table 1. Business Rules and Meaning of Key Metadata Elements

CSDGM Element Number	CSDGM Long Name	CSDGM Short Name	Business Rules	
1.1	Citation	Citation	Citation describes the DATA PACKAGE.	
1.1.1	Originator	Origin	<p>For existing data, Originator would be the data provider.</p> <p>For data developed for the study, Originator would be the responsible party, for example the Mapping Partner, IDIQ, CTP, or other Federal agency.</p> <p>Example: "Johnson County GIS Department".</p> <p>For FIRM submissions, must always be "Federal Emergency Management Agency".</p>	
1.1.1.5	Edition	edition	Should match the latest VERSION_ID in the FIRM Database (e.g., "Version 2.2.3.1").	
1.1.2	Publication Date	pubdate	Business Rules for Non FIRM Datasets	Business Rules for FIRM Datasets
			<p>For existing data, Publication Date would be the date the data was published by the originator [1.1.1].</p> <p>For data developed for the study, Publication Date would be the submittal date to the MIP.</p> <p>Implication: once set, these dates never change</p>	<p>For Draft and Preliminary FIRM, the date is the MIP submission date;</p> <p>For Final FIRM product, the date is the effective date.</p> <p>Implication: For Draft and Preliminary data, this field will never change</p> <p>Implication: Submitters of Final FIRM submissions know the effective date. And this never changes.</p> <p>Implication: Effective date of Final FIRM may be determined after submission and changed at that time.</p>
1.1.4	Title	Title	<p>Title should be of format: [Name of submission type], [MIP Project Title]</p> <p><u>Notes:</u> Goal is to follow rules for "MIP Project Title", as already implemented on the MIP.</p>	

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CSDGM Element Number	CSDGM Long Name	CSDGM Short Name	Business Rules	
1.1.6	Geospatial Data Presentation Form	Geoform	<p>For each profile, Geoform Domain will be a <u>single, required</u> text string, such as "FEMA-Study-Basemap" for the Basemap profile.</p> <p><u>Notes:</u> FIRM includes "Vector digital data" to ensure backward compatibility.</p>	
1.1.8.1	Publication Place	Pubplace	<p><u>Note:</u> Required for FGDC completeness/compatibility with element 1.1.8.1 Publisher.</p>	
1.1.8.2	Publisher	Publish	<p>User has the option of specifying whether this data will be distributed directly by FEMA or by the user's organization (FEMA maintains an archived copy in this case). If the user will be distributing the data, then this contact information should be identical to the distribution contact information (Section 6).</p> <p>See also Element 1.9 Point of Contact, and Section 6.</p>	
1.1.10	Online Linkage	Onlink	<p><u>Business Rules:</u> For case where FEMA is the steward, this field should be the high-level URL http://hazards.fema.gov</p> <p>For FIRM this should be the Map Service Center URL, https://msc.fema.gov</p> <p>For case where FEMA is not the steward, Online Linkage should be the steward's high-level URL.</p>	
1.1.11	Larger Work Citation	Lworkcit	<p><u>Business Rules:</u> Larger Work Citation is used to relate the DATA PACKAGE to the CASE.</p>	
1.1.11.4	Title	Title	<p>Title should be FEMA Case Number of the form: "yy-rr-nnnn" where: yy = year, rr = FEMA region number, nnnn = 4 character project code, t=type of project</p>	
1.2.1	Abstract	Abstract	<p>Abstracts should contain general description followed by a sentence or two with DATA PACKAGE specific information.</p>	
1.3.1	Time Period	Timeperd/ timeinfo	Business Rules for Non FIRM Datasets	Business Rules for FIRM Datasets
			<p>For not-yet-effective data, date should be MIP submission date; For effective data, date should be the effective date.</p>	<p>For Draft and Preliminary FIRM, the date is the MIP submission date; For a Final FIRM product, the date is the effective date.</p>

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CSDGM Element Number	CSDGM Long Name	CSDGM Short Name	Business Rules
1.3.2	Currentness Reference	Current	For not-yet-effective data, should be "MIP submission date". For effective data, should be "FIRM and FIS Effective Date". See notes in Element 1.4.1 RE synchronization with element 1.4.1 Progress Element.
1.4.1	Progress	Progress	Should synchronize with Currentness Reference: When Progress is "In work", Currentness Ref is "MIP Submission date" When Progress is "Complete", Currentness Ref is "FIRM and FIS Effective Date".
1.4.2	Maintenance and Update Frequency	Update	Domain of Update should be "unknown".
1.6.1	Theme	Theme	There will be multiple (compound) Theme elements, and multiple Theme Keywords within each Theme. Themes will be: <i>ISO 19115 Topic Category</i> <i>FEMA NFIP Topic Category</i>
1.6.1.2	Theme Keyword	Themekey	For each profile the following will be true: for each Theme, specific Theme Keywords will be required, but will also allow optional Theme Keywords.
1.9	Point of Contact	Ptcontac	Metadata profiles and Guidelines note that the data originator can provide contact information here, in particular if the data will be distributed via the MIP, in which case the information in Section 6 would not facilitate contact with the data originator.
1.13	Native Data Set Environment	Native	Must include the software release of the submitted personal geodatabase. Also used to capture the coastal, hydraulic, or hydrologic models used.
1.14	Crossref*	Cross Reference	FIRM profile includes explanation that this section should cross-reference the effective hardcopy map, flood insurance text and raster version of the map. FRD profile includes explanation that this section should cross-reference the FRR and FRM.
2.3	Completeness Report	Complete	<u>Note:</u> This element should be used to state whether all the printed panels within the study are digitally mapped.

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CSDGM Element Number	CSDGM Long Name	CSDGM Short Name	Business Rules
2.5.1	Source Information	Srcinfo*	<p>Contains high-level metadata for each component of the DATA PACKAGE.</p> <p>In particular for geospatial data sets, special attention should be paid to the source scale element (2.5.1.2).</p> <p>Source citations should be provided for the entity types listed in element 5.1.1 (enttype).</p>
2.5.2.1	Process Description	procdesc	<p>General description of how the package components were analyzed and combined to create a final product. A general description of the methodology used to create this package. Suitable material may be found in the TSDN</p>
2.5.2.3	Process Date	Procdate	<p>Submission date to the MIP.</p> <p>See description for elements 1.1.2 and 1.3.1</p>
5.1.1.3	Entity Type Definition Source	Enttypds	<p>Should reference FEMA Guidelines and Standards; may reference metadata profiles.</p>
7.1	Metadata Date	metd	<p>The 'metd' element [7.1] is used by some systems to determine what records have changed since a specified date. This element is used by the GOS system, for example, to harvest recently updated metadata records.</p>

2.4. Metadata Requirements for Submitting Packages

The following requirements for metadata collection during the study production life cycle pertain to the package submissions as noted.

- To facilitate data discovery, access, and processing, the assigned Mapping Partner shall submit Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata.
- The assigned Mapping Partner shall prepare and submit a metadata file with all digital data submittals to facilitate the use of these data and the transfer of data files between users.
- Only one metadata file is required for each submittal. However, in this one file, the assigned Mapping Partner must distinguish between the different origins of the various datasets included.
- Source Citation:
 - For each data source used, the assigned Mapping Partner shall add a Source Citation entry to the metadata file in the Lineage section under Data Quality. Within the metadata file, each data source is assigned a Source Citation Abbreviation.
 - The metadata file must include a description of the source material from which the data were derived and the methods of derivation, including all transformations involved in producing the digital files.
 - The description shall include the dates of the source material and the dates of ancillary information used for update. The date assigned to a source must reflect the date that

the information corresponds to the ground. If the assigned Mapping Partner does not know this date, then the Mapping Partner may use a date of publication and indicate as such.

- Each data source in the metadata file must be assigned a Source Citation Abbreviation as described in the *FIRM Database Technical Reference* and/or the *Flood Risk Database Technical Reference*.
- The assigned Mapping Partner shall describe any database created by merging information obtained from distinct sources in sufficient detail to identify the actual source for each element in the file.
- Entity and Attributes Information:
 - Because not all FIRM Database tables are included in every DCS data submittal, the Overview Description Section of the Entity and Attribute Information of the metadata file must include a list of all FIRM Database tables included in the submittal. Similarly, the FRD metadata file must include a list of the FRD tables included in the submittal.
- As part of data collection, coordination, and submittal, the assigned Mapping Partner shall document the following information for all of the digital data used and submitted:
 - data sources
 - date of collection or digitizing
 - scale of digitizing
 - projections
 - coordinate systems
 - horizontal datum and vertical datum
- Each source citation abbreviation for a distinct data source should be numbered (e.g., BASE1, BASE2, BASE3).
- The digital data deliverables must clearly identify the data structure options that were used.

3. NFIP Metadata Profile Element Summary

Metadata profiles for the twelve NFIP submission packages are described in Section 4 entitled “*NFIP Metadata Profiles*”. However, Table 2 provides a convenient summary of the required elements for each of the twelve NFIP metadata profiles:

- Alluvial Fan
- Basemap
- Coastal
- Discovery
- FIRM
- Floodplain Mapping/Redelineation

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- Flood Risk Database
- Hydraulics
- Hydrology
- Orthoimagery
- Survey
- Terrain

In Table 2, an “**R**” in a column indicates that the corresponding metadata element is required for the specific NFIP metadata profile. As noted earlier, the NFIP metadata profiles are based on the CSDGM, which is a hierarchical organizational structure. In both the CSDGM and the NFIP metadata profiles that have been derived from them, “parent” elements are used to organize “child” elements, and do not contain textual content; parent elements serve to group child elements, which in turn may serve as parents to other child elements, and so on. It is only the lowest-level child elements that actually contain textual content.

Given this distinction between required parent and children elements, Table 2 denotes all required elements (both parent and children) with an “**R**”; however, only the lowest-level children elements are indicated with a shaded “**R**” for which a value is required. An asterisk (*) after an element name means that this element may be repeated an unlimited number of times.

Table 2. Summary of required elements for NFIP metadata profiles

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1	idinfo	Identification Information -- Basic information about the data set	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1	Citation	Citation -- information to be used to reference the data set	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1	Citeinfo	Citation Information -- the recommended reference to be used for the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.1.1.1	Origin*	Originator -- the name of an organization or individual that developed the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.2	Pubdate	Publication Date -- the date when the data set is published or otherwise made available for release.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.4	Title	Title -- the name by which the data set is known.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.5	Edition	Edition -- the version of the title.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.6	Geoform	Geospatial Data Presentation Form -- the mode in which the geospatial data are represented.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.8	Pubinfo	Publication Information - publication details for published data sets.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.8.1	Pubplace	Publication Place -- the name of the city (and state or province, and country, if needed to identify the city) where the data set was published or released.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.8.2	Publish	Publisher -- the name of the individual or organization that published the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.10	Onlink*	Online Linkage -- the name of an online computer resource that contains the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.1.1.11	Lworkcit	Larger Work Citation -- the information identifying a larger work in which the data set is included.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.11.1	Citeinfo	Citation Information -- the recommended reference to be used for the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.11.1.1	Origin*	Originator -- the name of an organization or individual that developed the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.11.1.2	Pubdate	Publication Date -- the date when the data set is published or otherwise made available for release.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.1.1.11.1.4	Title	Title -- the name by which the data set is known.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.2	Descript	Description -- a characterization of the data set, including its intended use and limitations.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.2.1	Abstract	Abstract -- a brief narrative summary of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.2.2	Purpose	Purpose -- a summary of the intentions with which the data set was developed.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.3	Timeperd	Time Period of Content - time period(s) for which the data set corresponds to the currentness reference.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.3.1	Timeinfo	Time Period of Information -- Information about date and time of event.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.3.1.1	Sngdate	Single Date/Time – means of encoding a single date and time.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.3.1.1.2	Caldate	Calendar Date – the year (and optionally month, or month and day)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.3.2	Current	Currentness Reference -- the basis on which the time period of content information is determined.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.4	Status	Status -- the state of and maintenance information for the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.4.1	Progress	Progress -- the state of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.4.2	Update	Maintenance and Update Frequency -- the frequency with which changes and additions are made to the data set after the initial data set is completed.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.5	Spdom	Spatial Domain - the geographic areal domain of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.5.1	Bounding	Bounding Coordinates - the limits of coverage of a data set expressed by latitude and longitude values	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.5.1.1	Westbc	West Bounding Coordinate -- western-most coordinate of the limit of coverage expressed in longitude.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.5.1.2	Eastbc	East Bounding Coordinate -- eastern-most coordinate of the limit of coverage expressed in longitude.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.5.1.3	Northbc	North Bounding Coordinate -- northern-most coordinate of the limit of coverage expressed in latitude.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.5.1.4	Southbc	South Bounding Coordinate -- southern-most coordinate of the limit of coverage expressed in latitude.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6	Keywords	Keywords -- words or phrases summarizing an aspect of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.1	Theme*	Theme -- subjects covered by the data set	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.1.1	Themekt	Theme Keyword Thesaurus -- reference to a formally registered thesaurus or a similar authoritative source of theme keywords.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.1.2	Themekey*	Theme Keyword -- common-use word or phrase used to describe the subject of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.2	Place*	Place -- geographic locations characterized by the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.2.1	Placekt	Place Keyword Thesaurus -- reference to a formally registered thesaurus or a similar authoritative source of place keywords.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.6.2.2	Placekey*	Place Keyword -- the geographic name of a location covered by a data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.7	Accconst	Access Constraints -- restrictions and legal prerequisites for accessing the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.8	Useconst	Use Constraints -- restrictions and legal prerequisites for using the data set after access is granted.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.9	Ptcontac	Point of Contact -- contact information for an individual or organization that is knowledgeable about the data set.				R							R	R
1.9.1	Cntinfo	Contact Information -- Identity of, and means to communicate with, person(s) and organization(s) associated with the data set.				R							R	R
1.9.1.2	Cntorgp	Contact Organization Primary -- the organization, and the member of the organization associated with the data set.				R							R	R
1.9.1.2.1	Cntorg	Contact Organization -- the name of the organization to which the contact type applies.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4	Cntaddr*	Contact Address -- the address for the organization or individual.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4.1	Addrtype	Address Type -- the information provided by the address.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4.2	Address*	Address -- an address line for the address.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4.3	City	City -- the city of the address.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4.4	State	State or Province -- the state or province of the address.				R							R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
1.9.1.4.5	Postal	Postal Code -- the ZIP or other postal code of the address.				R							R	R
1.9.1.4.6	Country	Country -- the country of the address.				R							R	R
1.9.1.5	Cntvoice*	Contact Voice Telephone -- the telephone number by which individuals can speak to the organization or individual.				R							R	R
1.9.1.8	Cntemail*	Contact Electronic Mail Address -- the address of the electronic mailbox of the organization or individual.				R							R	R
1.13	Native	Native Data Set Environment -- a description of the data set in the producer's processing environment.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
1.14	Crossref*	Cross Reference -- information about other, related data sets that are likely to be of interest.											R	R
1.14.1	Citeinfo	Citation Information -- the recommended reference to be used for the data set.											R	R
1.14.1.1	Origin*	(See CSDGM Description)											R	R
1.14.1.2	Pubdate	(See CSDGM Description)											R	R
1.14.1.4	Title	(See CSDGM Description)											R	R
1.14.1.6	Geoform	(See CSDGM Description)											R	R

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile												
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD	
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO				
1.14.1.8	Pubinfo / pubplace & pubinfo / publish	(See CSDGM Description)												R	R
1.14.1.10	Onlink*	(See CSDGM Description)												R	R
2	dataqual	Data Quality Information -- General assessment of the quality of the data set	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.1	Attracc	Attribute Accuracy -- an assessment of the accuracy of the identification of entities and assignment of attribute values in the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	
2.1.1	Attraccr	Attribute Accuracy Report -- an explanation of the accuracy of the identification of the entities and assignments of values in the data set and a description of the tests used.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	
2.2	Logic	Logical Consistency Report -- an explanation of the fidelity of relationships in the data set and tests used.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.3	Complete	Completeness Report -- information about omissions, selection criteria, generalization, definitions used, and other rules used to derive the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.4	Posacc	Positional Accuracy -- an assessment of the accuracy of the positions of spatial objects.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
2.4.1	Horizpa	Horizontal Positional Accuracy -- an estimate of accuracy of the horizontal positions of the spatial objects.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.4.1.1	Horizpar	Horizontal Positional Accuracy Report -- an explanation of the accuracy of the horizontal coordinate measurements and a description of the tests used.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.4.1.2	Qhorizpa*	Quantitative Horizontal Positional Accuracy Assessment -- numeric value assigned to summarize the accuracy of the horizontal coordinate measurements and the identification of the test that yielded the value.								R	R			
2.4.1.2.1	Horizpav	Horizontal Positional Accuracy Value -- an estimate of the accuracy of the horizontal coordinate measurements in the data set expressed in (ground) meters.								R	R			
2.4.1.2.2	Horizpae	Horizontal Positional Accuracy Explanation -- the identification of the test that yielded the Horizontal Positional Accuracy Value.								R	R			
2.4.2	Vertacc	Vertical Positional Accuracy -- an estimate of accuracy of the vertical positions in the data set.			R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
2.4.2.1	Vertaccr	Vertical Positional Accuracy Report -- an explanation of the accuracy of the vertical coordinate measurements and a description of the tests used.			R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R
2.4.2.2	Qvertpa*	Quantitative Vertical Positional Accuracy Assessment -- numeric value assigned to summarize the accuracy of vertical coordinate measurements and the identification of the test that yielded the value.				R								
2.4.2.2.1	Vertaccv	Vertical Positional Accuracy Value -- an estimate of the accuracy of the vertical coordinate measurements in the data set expressed in (ground) meters.				R								
2.4.2.2.2	Vertacce	Vertical Positional Accuracy Explanation -- the identification of the test that yielded the Vertical Positional Accuracy Value.				R								
2.5	Lineage	Lineage -- information about the events, parameters, and source data which constructed the data set, and information about the responsible parties.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.5.1	Srcinfo*	Source Information -- list of sources and a short discussion of the information contributed by each.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.1	Srccite	Source Citation -- reference for a source data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
2.5.1.1.1	Citeinfo	Citation Information -- the recommended reference to be used for the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.1.1.1	Origin*	(See CSDGM Description)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.1.1.2	Pubdate	(See CSDGM Description)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.1.1.4	Title	(See CSDGM Description)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.3	Typesrc	Type of Source Media -- the medium of the source data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.4	Srctime	Source Time Period of Content -- time period(s) for which the source data set corresponds to the ground.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.4.1	Timeinfo	Time Period of Information -- Information about date and time of event.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.4.1.1	Sngdate	Single Date/Time -- means of encoding a single date and time.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.4.1.1.1	Caldate	Calendar Date -- the year (and optionally month, or month and day)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.4.2	Srccurr	Source Currentness Reference -- the basis on which the source time period of content information of the source data set is determined.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.1.5	Srccitea	Source Citation Abbreviation -- short-form alias for the source citation.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R

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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
2.5.1.6	Srconctr	Source Contribution -- brief statement identifying the information contributed by the source to the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
2.5.2	Procstep*	Process Step -- information about a single event.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.5.2.1	Procdesc	Process Description -- an explanation of the event and related parameters or tolerances.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.5.2.3	Procddate	Process Date -- the date when the event was completed.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
2.6	Cloud	Cloud Cover -- area of a data set obstructed by clouds, expressed as a percentage of the spatial extent.									R			
4	Spref	Spatial Reference Information -- the description of the reference frame for, and the means to encode coordinates in the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1	Horizsys	Horizontal Coordinate System Definition -- the reference frame or system from which linear or angular quantities are measured and assigned to the position that a point occupies. (4.2.1 or 4.2.2 or 4.2.3)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
4.1.1	Geograph ¹	Geographic -- the quantities of latitude and longitude which define the position of a point on the Earth's surface with respect to a reference spheroid.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.1.1	Latres	Latitude Resolution -- the minimum difference between two adjacent latitude values expressed in Geographic Coordinate Units of measure.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.1.2	Longres	Longitude Resolution -- the minimum difference between two adjacent longitude values expressed in Geographic Coordinate Units of measure.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.1.3	Geogunit	Geographic Coordinate Units -- units of measure used for the latitude and longitude values.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2	Planar ² *	Planar -- the quantities of distances, or distances and angles, which define the position of a point on a reference plane to which the surface of the Earth has been projected.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

¹ The Horizsys.Geograph, Horizsys.Planar and Horizsys.Local elements are mutually exclusive (i.e., only one of these elements must be used). See profiles for details.

² The Horizsys.Geograph, Horizsys.Planar and Horizsys.Local elements are mutually exclusive (i.e., only one of these elements must be used). See profiles for details.

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
4.1.2.1	Mapproj ³	Map Projection -- the systematic representation of all or part of the surface of the Earth on a plane or developable surface.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.1.1	Mapprojn	Map Projection Name -- name of the map projection.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.1.2	(Map Proj. Param.)	[map projection parameters for selected projection, e.g. projection center, meridian, false easting/northing, etc.]	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.2	Gridsys ⁸	Grid Coordinate System -- a plane-rectangular coordinate system usually based on, and mathematically adjusted to, a map projection so that geographic positions can be readily transformed to and from plane coordinates.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.2.1	Gridsysn	Grid Coordinate System Name -- name of the grid coordinate system.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.2.2	(Grid Sys. Param.)	[grid system parameters for selected grid system. E.g. UTM or state plane zone]	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.3	Localpd ⁸	Local Planar -- any right-handed planar coordinate system of which the z-axis coincides with a plumb line through the origin that locally is aligned with the surface of the Earth.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

³ The Planar.Mapproj, Planar.Gridsys and Planar.Localpd elements are mutually exclusive (i.e., only one of these elements must be used). See profiles for details.

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CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
4.1.2.3.1	Localpd	Local planar description	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.3.2	Localpgi	Georeference Information	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.4	Planci	Planar Coordinate Information -- information about the coordinate system developed on the planar surface.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.4.1	Plance	planar coordinate encoding method	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.4.2	Coordrep	coordinate representation	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.4.2.1	Absres	Abscissa resolution	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.2.4.2.2	Ordres	Ordinate resolution	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.3	Local ⁸	Local -- a description of any coordinate system that is not aligned with the surface of the Earth.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.3.1	Localdes	Local Description -- a description of the coordinate system and its orientation to the surface of the Earth.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.3.2	Localgeo	Local Georeference Information -- a description of the information provided to register the local system to the Earth (e.g. control points, satellite ephemeral data, inertial navigation data).	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.4	Geodetic	Geodetic Model -- parameters for the shape of the earth.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
4.1.4.1	Horizdn	Horizontal Datum Name -- the identification given to the reference system used for defining the coordinates of points.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.4.2	Ellips	Ellipsoid Name -- identification given to established representations of the Earth's shape.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.4.3	Semiaxis	Semi-major Axis -- radius of the equatorial axis of the ellipsoid.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.1.4.4	Denflat	Denominator of Flattening Ratio -- the denominator of the ratio of the difference between the equatorial and polar radii of the ellipsoid when the numerator is set to 1.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4.2	Vertdef	Vertical Coordinate System Definition -- the reference frame or system from which vertical distances (altitudes or depths) are measured.				R	R						R	R
4.2.1	Altsys	Altitude System Definition -- the reference frame or system from which altitudes (elevations) are measured.				R	R						R	R
4.2.1.1	Altdatum	Altitude Datum Name -- the identification given to the surface taken as the surface of reference from which altitudes are measured.				R	R						R	R

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4.2.1.2	Altres*	Altitude Resolution -- the minimum distance possible between two adjacent altitude values, expressed in Altitude Distance Units of measure.				R	R						R	R
4.2.1.3	Altunits	Altitude Distance Units - - units in which altitudes are recorded.				R	R						R	R
4.2.1.4	Altenc	Altitude Encoding Method -- the means used to encode the altitudes.				R	R						R	R
5	eainfo	Entity and Attribute Information -- details about information content of the data set, including entity types, their attributes and the domains from which attribute values may be assigned.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
5.1	Detailed*	Detailed Description -- description of the entities, attributes, attribute values, and related characteristics encoded in the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
5.1.1	Enttype	Entity Type -- the definition and description of a set into which similar entity instances are classified.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
5.1.1.1	Enttypl	Entity Type Label -- the name of the entity type.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
5.1.1.2	Enttypd	Entity Type Definition -- the description of the entity type.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R
5.1.1.3	Enttypds	Entity Type Definition Source -- the authority of the definition.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		R	R	R	R

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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO				
5.2	Overview*	Overview Description -- summary of, and citation to detailed description of, the information content of the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
5.2.1	Eaover	Entity and Attribute Overview -- detailed summary of the information contained in a data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
5.2.2	Eadetcit*	Entity and Attribute Detail Citation -- reference to the complete description of the entity types, attributes, and attribute values for the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6	distinfo	Distribution Information -- information about the distributor of and options for obtaining the data set. *	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1	Distrib	Distributor -- the party from whom the data set may be obtained.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1	Cntinfo	Contact Information -- Identity of, and means to communicate with, person(s) and organization(s) associated with the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.2	Cntorgp	Contact Organization Primary -- the organization, and the member of the organization associated with the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.2.1	Cntorg	Contact Organization -- the name of the organization to which the contact type applies.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
6.1.1.4	Cntaddr*	Contact Address -- the address for the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.1	Addrtype	Address Type -- the information provided by the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.2	Address*	Address -- an address line for the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.3	City	City -- the city of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.4	State	State or Province -- the state or province of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.5	Postal	Postal Code -- the ZIP or other postal code of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.4.6	Country	Country -- the country of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.5	Cntvoice*	Contact Voice Telephone -- the telephone number by which individuals can speak to the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.8	Cntemail*	Contact Electronic Mail Address -- the address of the electronic mailbox of the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.1.1.10	Cntinst	Contact Instructions -- supplemental instructions on how or when to contact the individual or organization.								R			R	R
6.3	Distliab	Distribution Liability -- statement of the liability assumed by the distributor.		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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6.4	Stdorder	Standard Order Process -- the common ways in which the data set may be obtained or received, and related instructions and fee information.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.1	Nondig	Non-digital Form -- the description of options for obtaining the data set on non-computer-compatible media.												
6.4.2	Digform*	Digital Form -- the description of options for obtaining the data set on computer-compatible media	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.1	Digtinfo	Digital Transfer Information - description of the form of the data to be distributed.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.1.1	Formname	Format Name -- the name of the data transfer format.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.2	Digtopt	Digital Transfer Option - - the means and media by which a data set is obtained from the distributor.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.2.1	Onlinopt*	Online Option -- information required to directly obtain the data set electronically.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.2.1.1	Computer*	Computer Contact Information -- instructions for establishing communications with the distribution computer.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.2.1.1.1	Networka	network address	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
6.4.2.2.1.1.1	Networkr*	Resource name	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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6.4.2.2.2	Offoptn	Offline Option -- information about media-specific options for receiving the data set.									R		R	R
6.4.2.2.2.1	Offmedia	Offline Media									R		R	R
6.4.2.2.2.3	Recfmt	recording format									R		R	R
6.4.3	Fees	Fees -- the fees and terms for retrieving the data set.		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7	metainfo	Metadata Reference Information -- information on the currentness of the metadata information and the responsible party	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.1	Metd	Metadata Date -- the date that the metadata were created or last updated.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4	Metc	Metadata Contact -- the party responsible for the metadata information.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1	Cntinfo	Contact Information -- Identity of, and means to communicate with, person(s) and organization(s) associated with the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.1	Cntperp	Contact Person Primary -- the name of the individual to which the contact type.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.1.1	Cntper	Contact Person -- the name of the individual to which the contact type applies.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.1.2	Cntorg	Contact Organization -- the name of the organization to which the contact type applies.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

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7.4.1.3	Cntpos	Contact Position -- the title of individual.											R	R
7.4.1.4	Cntaddr*	Contact Address -- the address for the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.1	Addrtype	Address Type -- the information provided by the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.2	Address*	Address -- an address line for the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.3	City	City -- the city of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.4	State	State or Province -- the state or province of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.5	Postal	Postal Code -- the ZIP or other postal code of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.4.5	Country	Country -- the country of the address.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.5	Cntvoice*	Contact Voice Telephone -- the telephone number by which individuals can speak to the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.4.1.8	Cntemail*	Contact Electronic Mail Address -- the address of the electronic mailbox of the organization or individual.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.5	Metstdn	Metadata Standard Name -- the name of the metadata standard used to document the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.6	Metstdv	Metadata Standard Version -- identification of the version of the metadata standard used to document the data set.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

Metadata Profiles Technical Reference

CSDGM Metadata Element			NFIP Metadata Profile											
Number	Name	CSDGM Description	DCS					Study		Fmwk		FLOODPLAIN	FIRM	FRD
			DISCOVERY	HYDROLOGY	HYDRAULICS	TERRAIN	SURVEY	COASTAL	ALLUVIAL	BASEMAP	ORTHO			
7.11	Metextns*	Metadata Extensions -- a reference to extended elements to the standard which may be defined by a metadata producer or a user community.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.11.1	Onlink*	Online Linkage -- the name of an online computer resource that contains the metadata extension information for the data set. Entries should follow the Uniform Resource Locator convention of the Internet.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
7.11.2	Metprof	Profile Name -- the name given to a document that describes the application of the Standard to a specific user community.	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

4. NFIP Metadata Profiles

Metadata profile specifications for the twelve different NFIP submission packages below are currently maintained as separate documents, as described in Table 3.

Table 3. NFIP Metadata Profiles

NFIP Metadata Profile and Submission Package	Specification Document for NFIP Metadata Profile
Alluvial Fan	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Alluvial Fan Datasets
Basemap	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Basemap and/or Orthoimagery Datasets
Coastal	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Coastal Datasets
Discovery	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Discovery Datasets
FIRM	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Draft, Preliminary, and Final FIRM Datasets
Floodplain Mapping / Redelineation	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Floodplain Mapping and Redelineation Datasets
Flood Risk Database	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Flood Risk Datasets
Hydraulics	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Hydraulics Datasets
Hydrology	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Hydrology Datasets
Survey	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Survey Datasets
Terrain	FEMA NFIP Metadata Profile for Terrain Datasets

5. Glossary of Terms

Authority Record	A record that shows the preferred form of a personal or corporate name, geographic region, or subjects.
Controlled Vocabulary	A collection of preferred terms that are used to assist in more precise retrieval of content.
Crosswalk	A table that maps the relationships and equivalencies between two or more metadata formats.
CSGDM	The Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (FGDC-STD-001-1998), an FGDC-developed standard for describing the content, quality, condition, and other key characteristics of geospatial data.
Dublin Core	A 15-element metadata set intended to facilitate discovery of a wide range of electronic resources.
Element	A discrete unit of metadata.
Extensible Markup Language (XML)	A W3C standard markup language for documents containing structured information. As opposed to HTML, which is designed specifically for web browsers, XML is the basis for a broad array of standards that describe messages between systems, document structures, etc. XML is human readable and platform independent.
FGDC	The Federal Geographic Data Committee, a 19-member interagency committee composed of representatives from the Executive Office of the President, Cabinet-level, and independent agencies.
GOS	Geospatial One-Stop, an intergovernmental project managed by the Department of the Interior in support of the President's Initiative for E-Government, and designed to improve the ability of the public and government to use geospatial information to support the business of government and facilitate decision making.
Metadata	A definition or description of data. "Data about data".
Metadata Profile	A set of metadata elements, policies, and guidelines defined for a particular application.
OAI	The Open Archives Initiative, maintainers of the OAI Protocol for metadata harvesting: http://www.openarchives.org
Schema	A systematic, orderly combination of elements. A set of rules for encoding information that supports a specific user community.
Thesaurus	A taxonomy that includes associated and related terms. A type of controlled vocabulary used to standardize terminology, and subsequently, to inform discovery systems.
Uniform Resource Locator (URL)	A technique for indicating the name and location of Internet resources. The URL specifies the name and type of the resource, as well as the computer, device, and directory where the resource may be found.

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World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)	An international industry consortium founded to develop common protocols and standards and to ensure interoperability on the Web.
Z39.50	An ISO standard for an application layer protocol for information retrieval which is specifically designed to aid retrieval from distributed servers: http://lcweb.loc.gov/z3950/agency .