

FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE

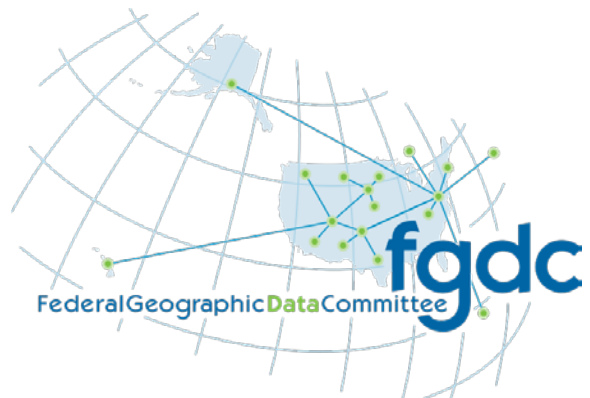
# National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA) Metadata Guidelines

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Metadata Content That Makes Your Data Discoverable as an NGDA Dataset

Version 2.1

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## National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Documentation

National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA) Datasets are national resources as designated by [OMB Circular A- 16 Supplemental Guidance \(November 2010\)](#). For those managing NGDA Datasets, the following metadata guidance is provided to promote the discovery and use of NGDA data resources. [Executive Order 12906](#) and [OMB Circular A-16 Revised \(2002\)](#) require that geospatial data resources are documented in compliance with FGDC endorsed metadata standards such as the International Standards Organization (ISO) 19100 series or the FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM).

This guidance is intended to be used in conjunction with the general GeoPlatform metadata publication guidance provided at: [Metadata Recommendations Supporting Data Discovery and Use in Data.gov and GeoPlatform.gov](#) as well as the [How to Get Your Open Data on Data.gov](#) resource.

Note that Project Open Data (POD) is the name of the implementation guidance for the [Federal Open Data Policy, OMB M 13-13](#). The POD JSON V1.1 Schema ([POD/JSON](#)) guidance and examples provided in this document are intended to facilitate NGDA dataset registration for agencies that are in the process of creating geospatial metadata using ISO or CSDGM standards.

## ISO and CSDGM Metadata

### Theme Keywords and Theme Keyword Thesaurus

When documenting your NGDA dataset using an FGDC endorsed geospatial metadata standard (ISO or CSDGM), include the following Theme Keyword content and Theme Keyword Thesaurus reference to support the discovery of NGDA designated datasets.

Theme Keywords	Rationale and Comments
<p><b>Your NGDA-specified theme</b></p>	<p>Include the NGDA specified theme to which your dataset is assigned (<a href="https://www.fgdc.gov/initiatives/portfolio-management/themes">https://www.fgdc.gov/initiatives/portfolio-management/themes</a>)</p> <p>Use the list of NGDA Theme Keywords provided below <i>exactly as written</i>. The addition of the term ‘Theme’ and the removal of all punctuations and spacing ensure that the Keywords will be properly displayed in Data.gov and GeoPlatform.gov:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biota Theme</li> <li>Cadastral Theme</li> <li>Climate and Weather Theme</li> <li>Cultural Resources Theme</li> <li>Elevation Theme</li> <li>Geodetic Control Theme</li> <li>Geology Theme</li> <li>Governmental Units and Administrative and Statistical Boundaries Theme</li> <li>Imagery Theme</li> <li>Land Use Land Cover Theme</li> <li>Real Property Theme</li> <li>Soils Theme</li> <li>Transportation Theme</li> <li>Utilities Theme</li> <li>Water Inland Theme</li> <li>Water Oceans and Coasts Theme</li> </ul>

## National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA) Metadata Guidelines

Theme Keywords (cont'd)	Rationale and Comments (cont'd)
'NGDA'	Inclusion of the acronym 'NGDA' in your Theme Keywords facilitates discovery within the Data.gov/GeoPlatform.gov system.
'National Geospatial Data Asset'	Inclusion of the full phrase 'National Geospatial Data Asset' explains the NGDA acronym for those not familiar with the program.
Theme Keyword Thesaurus	Rationale and Comments
'NGDA Portfolio Themes'	Inclusion of the 'NGDA Portfolio Themes' as the Theme Keyword Thesaurus associated with the above Theme Keywords, supports recognition of the dataset as an NGDA resource.

Example stylesheet presentations of Theme Keywords and Theme Keyword Thesaurus:

### ISO Theme Keywords

**Keyword:**

**Theme:**

**Theme Keyword:** NGDA

**Theme Keyword:** National Geospatial Data Asset

**Theme Keyword:** Governmental Units and Administrative and Statistical Boundaries Theme

**Theme Keyword Thesaurus:** NGDA Portfolio Themes

*Note: Data.gov aggregates all ISO keywords (theme, place, etc.) into a single keyword collection:*

**Keyword Collection:**

**Keyword:** NGDA

**Keyword:** National Geospatial Data Asset

**Keyword:** Governmental Units and Administrative and Statistical Boundaries Theme

**Associated Thesaurus:** NGDA Portfolio Themes

### CSDGM Theme Keywords

**Keyword:**

**Theme:**

**Theme Keyword Thesaurus:** NGDA Portfolio Themes

**Theme Keyword:** NGDA

**Theme Keyword:** National Geospatial Data Asset

**Theme Keyword:** Governmental Units and Administrative and Statistical Boundaries Theme

*XML format encoding for the Theme Keywords and associated Theme Keyword Thesaurus are provided at [Theme Keyword and Theme Keyword Thesaurus XML Encoding](#).*

## Dataset Title

The objective is to use the same title in the metadata record and the [NGDA Master Dataset List](#). *If the dataset title differs from the title assigned in the NGDA Master Dataset List you are encouraged to **coordinate with your Theme Lead** to harmonize the titles by either:*

- changing the NGDA Master Dataset List title to match your dataset title or
- changing your dataset title to match the NGDA Master Dataset List title

However, *if you are unable to harmonize your titles*, follow the ISO and CSDGM recommendations below to document *both* titles in the metadata record:

## National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA) Metadata Guidelines

ISO	Rationale and Comments
<b>Title</b>	Provide your existing dataset title as the title of the dataset Citation: <i>MD_Metadata.identificationinfo&gt;MD_DataIdentification.citation&gt; CI_Citation.title</i>
<b>Alternate Title</b>	Provide the NGDA Master Dataset Title using the format: National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) 'master title' as an alternate title within the dataset Citation: <i>MD_Metadata.identificationinfo&gt;MD_DataIdentification.citation&gt; CI_Citation.alternateTitle</i>
CSDGM	Rationale and Comments
<b>Title</b>	Append the NGDA Title to your existing dataset title using the format: 'existing dataset title' - National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) 'master title': <i>metadata&gt;idinfo&gt;citation&gt;citeinfo&gt;title</i>

Example stylesheet presentations of dataset title and NGDA Master Dataset List title:

### ISO Title and Alternate Title

**Citation**

**Title:** *TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, Series Information File For The Current Census Tract State-Based*

**Alternate Title:** *National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Current Census Tract*

### CSDGM Title (appended with NGDA Master Dataset List Title)

**Citation**

**Title:** *TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, Series Information File For The Current Census Tract State-Based - National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Current Census Tract*

XML format encoding for Dataset Title are provided at [Dataset Title and Alternate Title XML Encoding](#).

## Project Open Data (POD/JSON V1.1) Metadata

Agencies that have yet to create geospatial metadata in compliance with ISO or CSDGM standards will need to create a standalone POD/JSON V1.1 metadata record. To preserve the identification of your dataset as an NGDA asset, the POD metadata record must include:

- Theme Keywords
  - the NGDA theme associated with the dataset **as described above**
  - 'NGDA'
  - 'National Geospatial Data Asset'

POD does not include a 'Thesaurus' field so 'NGDA Portfolio Themes' is not required

- A dataset title that follows the Dataset Title guidelines above
- **The term 'geospatial' entered as a POD 'Theme'**

The POD/JSON v1.1 metadata schema includes a mandatory 'Theme' metadata element *in addition to* the 'Keyword/Tags' metadata element. To facilitate the discovery of your NGDA asset as *geospatial* data, POD expects to find the term 'geospatial' listed as a 'Theme'.

Example POD/JSON metadata record:

```
{ "@type": "dcat:Dataset", "accessLevel": "public", "bureauCode":
["025:00"], "contactPoint": { "@type": "vcard:Contact", "fn": "Jon
Sperling", "hasEmail": "mailto:Jon.Sperling@hud.gov" }, "describedBy":
"http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/gis/spatial.html", "description":
"The approximate physical location of each individual Public Housing
Building. If the building has more than one entrance or street address,
```

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```
the address of the entrance with the highest number of units and best possible geocode was chosen to represent the building location.",
"distribution": [{"@type": "dcat:Distribution", "downloadURL":
"http://docs.huduser.org/gis/FGDB/AssistedHousing.gdb.zipx", "mediaType":
"application/octet-stream"}, {"@type": "dcat:Distribution", "downloadURL":
"http://egis.hud.gov/ArcGIS/rest/services/public/AssistedHousing/MapServer/1", "mediaType": "application/octet-stream"}], "identifier": "HUD088",
"keyword": ["June 2012", "NGDA", "National Geospatial Data Asset", "Puerto Rico", "Real Property Theme", "United States", "assisted housing", "housing", "location", "point", "public housing", "public housing buildings", "society"], "modified": "2012-06-01", "programCode": ["025:059"], "publisher": {"@type": "org:Organization", "name": "US Department of Housing and Urban Development"}, "theme": ["geospatial"], "title": "Assisted Housing - National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Public Housing Buildings"}
```

For those interested in developing applications to transform or otherwise map their geospatial metadata to the POD/JSON V1.1 metadata schema, crosswalks are provided at:

<https://project-open-data.cio.gov/v1.1/metadata-resources/#crosswalks-for-geospatial-metadata>

### XML Encoding:

#### Theme Keyword and Theme Keyword Thesaurus:

##### ISO 19115:

```
<descriptiveKeywords>
  <MD_Keywords>
    <keyword>Governmental Units and Administrative and Statistical Boundaries Theme</keyword>
    <keyword>National Geospatial Data Asset</keyword>
    <keyword>NGDA</keyword>
  </type>
  < MD_KeywordTypeCode>
    codeList=MD_KeywordTypeCode
    codeListValue="theme"
  </MD_KeywordTypeCode>
</type>
<thesaurusName>
  <CI_Citation>
    <title>NGDA Portfolio Themes</title>
```

##### CSDGM:

```
<keywords>
  <theme>
    <themekt>NGDA Portfolio Themes</themekt>
    <themekey>NGDA</themekey>
    <themekey>National Geospatial Data Asset</themekey>
    <themekey>Transportation Theme</themekey>
  </theme>
</keywords>
```

### Dataset Title and Alternate Title:

(for use only when dataset title and NGDA Master Dataset List in the metadata record do not match)

#### ISO 19115:

```
<MD_DataIdentification>
  <citation>
    <CI_Citation>
      <title>TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, Series Information File For The Current Census Tract State-
Based</title>
      <alternateTitle>National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Current Census Tract</alternateTitle>
    </CI-Citation>
  </citation>
```

#### CSDGM:

```
<idinfo>
  <citation>
    <citeinfo>
      [origin and pupdate tags excerpted]
      <title> TIGER/Line Shapefile, 2014, Series Information File For The Current Census Tract State-
Based - National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Current Census Tract</title>
```