

Maintenance Interest Group Annual Report

Audubon Core

Web Site: <https://github.com/tdwg/ac>

Convener(s):	
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Phase of work:

- The Audubon Core Maintenance Group works with the multimedia community to develop new terms and documentation to better express metadata about multimedia items and collections.
- The group also maintains the documentation associated with the standard and tries to make it more easily accessible and usable by the community.

Activities:

Summarize group activities including:

- The group maintains its records and standards documents in its GitHub repository: <https://github.com/tdwg/ac>. The core members and other interested participants meet several times per year electronically and when possible also meet annually in person during the TDWG annual meeting. Pending issues and upcoming meetings are organized using the issues tracker at <https://github.com/tdwg/ac/issues>. Typically notes and documents are created using Google Docs, then archived as PDFs in the repository. All official work of the group is public and open.
- During the past year, the group focused on three areas: completing the cleanup of documentation and term metadata that was started the previous year (completed in January 2020), develop terms and best practice documents related to sound (work in progress), and develop three controlled vocabularies that were envisioned in the originally adopted standard but that had never been finished (completed in October 2020).
- There were eight Zoom meetings that took place between 2020-01-30 and 2020-08-25. The notes from those meetings are archived at <https://github.com/tdwg/ac/tree/master/historical>.

- The annual public meeting was held virtually in conjunction with the TDWG conference on 2020-09-21 from 12:00-14:00 UTC. There were 83 people in attendance, so it is not possible to list all of the participants. During the meeting, we reviewed the work of the last year and reviewed the open issues in the tracker. We had reports from our two task groups: Views and 3D. Dan Stowell and Ed Baker also summarized their work on developing a best practices guide for sound. There was some interest in convening a task group on best practices for video and developing a best practices guide for still image metadata. Notes from the meeting are archived with the other meeting notes on GitHub.
- The work of the Maintenance Group's two Task Groups (the Views Controlled Vocabularies Task Group and the 3D Imaging Task Group) will submit separate reports, although periodic reports of their work are included in the published meeting notes.

Accomplishments:

The deliverables from this past year include:

- The controlled vocabulary for Dublin Core format (a new vocabulary within the Audubon Core standard) <http://rs.tdwg.org/ac/doc/format/>
- The controlled vocabulary for Audubon Core subtype (a new vocabulary within the Audubon Core standard) <http://rs.tdwg.org/ac/doc/subtype/>
- The controlled vocabulary for Audubon Core variant (a new vocabulary within the Audubon Core standard) <http://rs.tdwg.org/ac/doc/variant/>
- New sound-related terms: ac:freqLow, ac:freqHigh, and mo:sample_rate.
- New class term: ac:ServiceAccessPoint and major revisions to the usage guidelines for dc:type and dcterms:type. See <http://rs.tdwg.org/ac/doc/termlist/> for information on the new terms.
- The group also enacted a policy on 2019-09-26 (<https://github.com/tdwg/ac/blob/master/policies.md>) that clarified how versioning of borrowed terms (particularly terms borrowed from Darwin Core) would be maintained. The documentation was updated to reflect this new policy and to clarify what versions of terms were currently recommended.

Impediments to progress:

The primary impediment to progress was eliciting participation from experts in constituencies where we would like to develop or curate new terms and guides. In particular, we need more participation from community members with experience in best practices for still images and video.

Changes in goals or scope

Given that the charge of a maintenance interest group is to maintain an existing standard, the goals and scope of this group are not likely to change in the future.

Plans for next calendar year

- Complete work on the sound best practice guide.
- Convene a video best practices task group.
- Examine available best practices guides for still images and see if any can be modified or adopted for community-wide use.