Wilderness Information Management – Key Terms, Definitions & Acronyms

Key Terms & Definitions:

Term	*Definition*
Business Requirements	A business need identified as necessary to successfully achieve the business goals/objectives, (including strategic, tactical, legal, or operational objectives.) Business requirements may be represented in a variety of contexts and are most often defined in response to establishing requirements for processes, compliance to business direction, and to identification of information technology functionality requirements (Ann Morrison, Business Genetics).
Citrix	Citrix is a gateway that allows users to work with data and applications at the Enterprise Data Center. The large storage capacity and high performance of servers at the data center, combined with the "network closeness" of the applications and data, provide improved performance. Users connect to Citrix using a web browser, and log in using Active Directory (AD) user names and passwords, which is the same user name and password users use to log onto their computer. Some commonly used applications include: • NRM products: FACTS, Infra, NRIS, and TIM • ArcGIS: ArcMap, ArcCatalog, ArcReader, ArcScene, and ArcGlobe • SDE Login Tool • Geospatial Interface http://fsweb.nrm.fs.fed.us/products/citrix/
Content Management System	Content management systems support the creation, management, distribution, publishing, and discovery of corporate information. Also known as 'web content management' (WCM), these systems typically focus on online content targeted at either a corporate website or intranet.
Corporate data	A set of data, rules, or information that are defined, applied, and used by an entire organization such as a corporation, agency or government.
Corporate data systems	The computerized systems implemented by an agency or an organization to manage their data.
Data	A representation of facts or concepts in an organized manner in order that it may be stored, communicated, interpreted, or processed by automated means.
Data analysis protocol	The documentation of a standardized approach for analyzing data aimed at meeting a specific information need. The protocol is written in enough detail that someone unfamiliar with the procedure could repeat the process.
Data collection protocol	The documentation of a standardized approach to field data collection aimed at meeting a specific information need. A data collection protocol typically: prescribes the methods used to collect data; identifies standard field definitions and codes; and addresses data quality assurance procedures. The protocol is written in enough detail that someone unfamiliar with the procedure could repeat the process.
Data dictionary	A collection of parameters that define how data are collected and stored.

Term	Definition
Data migration	The process of moving data from one computerized system to another. Typically, this phrase is used to describe moving data from a legacy system to a corporate one.
Database	A database is a collection of information stored in a computer in a systematic way, such that a computer program can consult it to answer questions. The software used to manage and query a database is known as a database management system (DBMS). [Wikipedia]
Enterprise Data Center (EDC)	The physical location (in Kansas City) of the EDW, electronic files stored on the "T" & "O" drives and applications on the NRM platform.
Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW)	An electronic data warehouse that brings together and integrates data from various sources, in formats that can be easily used for reporting and analysis, and that can be shared across the Forest Service and with our public. These "published" data sets cannot be edited in the EDW but are refreshed regularly so they stay up-to-date with the source data. http://fsteams.fs.fed.us/sites/edw/default.aspx
Enterprise GIS (EGIS)	A collaborative partnership between the Geospatial Management Office (GMO) and the Chief Information Office (CIO) to improve the management and use of geospatial information in the Forest Service in support of the Agency's mission. http://fsweb.egis.fs.fed.us/index.shtml
Geospatial Interface (GI)	An ArcMap extension that helps resource specialists to work efficiently with data. It provides tools that simplify loading data while giving access to custom FS products for display, analysis, and output of data. This application can be accessed either through Natural Resource Manager (NRM) or using the desktop ArcMap application. http://fsweb.nris.fs.fed.us/products/Geospatial_Interface/index.shtml
Global Positioning System (GPS)	A navigational system involving satellites and computers that can determine the latitude and longitude of location by computing the time difference for signals from different satellites to reach the receiver.
Information	Information is the result of processing, manipulating and organizing data in a way that adds to the knowledge of the person receiving it. [Oracle Glossary of Terms]
Information management	The management of information resources, including data, applications and technology, to provide complete, accurate and sharable information in a format, and within a timeframe, that is useful to people.
Information needs assessment	A structured approach for determining data collection, storage and analysis needs by first identifying and prioritizing local management requirements.
Inventory	The gathering of data needed for analyses and evaluation of the status or condition of a specific universe or area of concern. [Resource Conservation Glossary]

Term	Definition
KMZ	Zipped files with a .kmz extension are files that specify a set of features (place marks, images, polygons, 3D models, textual descriptions, etc.) for display in Google Earth, Maps and Mobile, or any other 3D Earth browser (geobrowser) implementing the KML encoding. Each place always has a longitude and latitude.
Legacy data	Critical data stored outside of an organization's corporate data systems.
Meta-data	Information or documentation describing spatial data. Meta-data may either be included as part of the tabular data or in a separate data dictionary.
Monitoring	A systematic process of collecting information to evaluate changes in actions, conditions, and relationships over time and space relative to a predetermined standard or expected norm.
Natural Resource Manager (NRM)	A national Forest Service organization that is responsible for coordinating software development activities for four application groups whose data are accessible through the I-Web platform at the Enterprise Data Center (EDC): Infra, Natural Resource Information System (NRIS), Timber Information Manager (TIM), and Forest Service Activity Tracking System (FACTS). http://fsweb.nrm.fs.fed.us/about/
Personal Data Recorder (PDR)	A small mobile hand-held device that provides computing and information storage and retrieval capabilities for personal and business use. Also known as a "PDA" or Personal Data Assistant.
Protocol	A documented set of rules or instructions pertaining to the collection, analysis, or interpretation of data or information.
Quality assurance	The total integrated program for ensuring that the uncertainties inherent in inventory and monitoring data are known and do not exceed acceptable magnitudes, within a stated level of confidence.
Quality control	The routine application of prescribed field and office procedures to reduce random and systematic errors and ensure data are generated with known and acceptable performance limits.
Spatial Database Engine (SDE)	ArcSDE is part of the ArcGIS platform, and is the data server between ArcGIS and relational databases. It enables organizations to move from a traditional approach — managing a separate collection of geographic data files — to an integrated environment in which they can manage spatial data as a continuous database accessible to the entire organization simultaneously.
Standards	Criteria for desirable or tolerable conditions, or a statement or demonstration representing conditions of a job done properly. Standards show how well something should be done, rather than what should be done.
Technical guide	The documentation for established resource inventory and monitoring methods and terminology that tier off the Forest Service Handbook.
User Management Application (UMA)	A NRM application that performs two primary functions: user access verification and profile management interface. UMA is the user interface - accessible from

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	within I-Web - where users can manage their profiles. Users can request new profiles, and existing users can request changes to the roles and organizations in their current profile. UMA also acts as a behind-the-scenes gatekeeper by controlling a user's access to data. http://fsweb.nrm.fs.fed.us/products/uma/
Webmaps	Web maps in NRM (I-Web) offer a quick glance at spatial data for various applications. Based on Google Maps, they are easy to navigate. Layers of spatial data can be added or removed from a map to provide the right view. You can access each map through its I-Web application via the dashboard or through CDW Maps. If the application has web maps, the Map tab appears with Forms, User Views, and Reports.
Wilderness Character Monitoring	A process to assess trends in the following wilderness qualities over time: • "Untrammeled" • "Natural" • "Undeveloped" • "Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation".

Acronyms:

Acronym	Definition
10YWSC	10-Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge
ALP	Automated Lands Project
CBT	Computer Based Training
CDA	Congressionally Designated Area
CDW	Corporate Data Warehouse
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CMS	Content Management System
EDC	Enterprise Data Center
EDW	Enterprise Data Warehouse
EGIS	Enterprise GIS
EMC	Ecosystem Management Coordination (Staff)
FACTS	Forest Service Activity Tracking System
FHM	Forest Health Monitoring
FIA	Forest Inventory & Analysis
GI	Geospatial Interface
GPRA	Government Performance Results Act
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSTC	Geospatial Service and Technology Center
I&M	Inventory & Monitoring
IM&A	Inventory, Monitoring & Assessment
INA	Information Needs Assessment
Infra-WILD	Infra-Wilderness (module)
IRB	Information Resources Board
IT	Information Technology
LAC	Limits of Acceptable Change
MRDG	Minimum Requirements Decision Guide
MTDC	Missoula Technology & Development Center
NRIS	Natural Resource Information System
NRM	Natural Resource Manager
NRRS	National Recreation Reservation Service
NSRE	National Survey on Recreation and the Environment
NVUM	National Visitor Use Monitoring
NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
PDR	Personal Data Recorder
RHVR	Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources (Staff)
RSAC	Remote Sensing Application Center
SDE	Spatial Database Engine
SDTDC	San Dimas Technology Development Center
UMA	User Management Application
VUPS	Visitor Use Permit System (Infra module)
WAG	Wilderness Advisory Group
WCM	Wilderness Character Monitoring
WIMST	Wilderness Information Management Steering Team
WWSR	Wilderness & Wild and Scenic River (Staff)