Why Metadata?

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
What’s Metadata?

If you had two cans without labels, which would you eat?

Without a label, how would you know which was tuna and which was cat food?
Purposes of metadata

- Resource description
- Ownership and rights management
- Managing users and agents
- Preservation and retention
- Information retrieval and dissemination
Why metadata: Policies & Compliance

Open Data Policy – sharing data requires metadata
• Open Data Executive Order and Policy (M-13-13) (2013)
• Open Government (M-10-06) (2013)
• Geographic Data Executive Order 12906 and Policy (1994)

Metadata is a Federal Government Policy
• OMB Circular A-16 Coordination of Geographic Information (2002)
• FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (1998)
• FWS FW 8 Geographic Information Systems Manual Chapter

• DOI Geospatial Metadata Policy (2013)
• DOI Metadata Policy (under development)
Why Metadata? COST of undocumented data!

MY DOCTOR SAYS MY HAIR LOSS IS CAUSED BY ME WORRYING ABOUT DATA LOSS!
Metadata is an extremely important part of Data Management
Why Metadata?

I've improved my content's effectiveness

Because I use metadata
Sharing Data

- Open Data Directive
- Service Catalog (NWRS I&M System owners) requires metadata
- Sharing requires documentation

ACCESS
Evaluate data security process
Assess backup schedule and process
Define access rights
Final edit metadata
Publish data
Deliver data to clearinghouse
Why Metadata?

i annotated ur document...

...but i eated it!
Data Delivery and Standards & Specifications Template
- Improve Data Deliverables Associated with Contracts & Agreements

The Data Delivery Standards & Specifications Template is a flexible tool intended to provide government project managers with a selection of best practices, standards, and documentation focused on improving the quality of data and documentation delivered through contracts, agreements, and other collaborative activities.

**Who should use the template?**
Government project managers and specialists in cooperation with contracts and agreement personnel. Project managers cover a wide range of disciplines including biology, ecology, hydrology, geography, planning, and data management.

**Why use the template?**
Project managers and GIS/Data managers should use the template to evaluate the range of potential data deliverables relevant to their individual project(s) and complement a Statement Of Work, or help define the requirements for a data management plan. In return, contractors and cooperators will have a clearer understanding of project expectations and their responsibilities. The template can be used to develop either precontract Requests For Proposals (RFPs) or need after an
Why Metadata?

If you liked it,
then you should have put metadata on it.
Biggest Challenges for Data Management

1. Culture
2. Organizational Management
3. Information Management

- Training
- Policy
- Enforcement
- People
Legacy for your work.
Why Metadata?

Metadata is a love note to the future
KEEP CALM AND METADATA ON