

## NPS Legislated Wilderness GIS Data Standard

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**Abstract:** The Legislated Wilderness Data Transfer Standard is a single layer representing the current extent of Congressionally-designated wilderness and Congressionally-designated potential wilderness on NPS managed lands, as well as inholdings within the designated wilderness boundary that may be transferred to designated wilderness status without further Congressional action upon acquisition by NPS.

**Purpose:** A current, accurate representation of wilderness areas is needed for national reporting and a variety of mapping and analytical requirements at all levels of the NPS.

**Data Standard:** This is an adopted NPS GIS data transfer standard. This standard is sponsored by the NPS Wilderness Stewardship Division, NPS GIS Council, and the NPS OCIO Resource Information Management Division. Development of this standard was led by the NPS Wilderness Working Group, which included individuals from WASO, regions, and parks. The data steward is the Wilderness Stewardship Division, working in cooperation with the GIS Council.

**Data Model:** This standard is designed to facilitate the integration of spatial data depicting legislated wilderness areas, and to provide a framework for park-specific wilderness layers intended for everyday use. Wilderness areas are depicted as polygons. Only current Congressionally-designated wilderness, Congressionally-designated potential wilderness, and inholdings that can be converted to designated wilderness with no further Congressional action are included. Attribute data contain information about the wilderness areas and their spatial representations in a single feature attribute table.

### Other Notes:

- A proposed field providing a link to the wilderness legislation document(s) was not included in the final standard. It is suggested instead to put links to the pertinent wilderness legislation in the Supplemental Information field of the metadata.

This was partly because the single attribute field of 255 characters wouldn't be large enough to hold URLs for multiple documents, which some parks will have.

- Several of the NPS standard fields pertaining to data lineage are not included in the final standard because they don't apply to a polygon layer compiled from multiple sources. These omitted fields are **Map\_Method**, **Map\_Source**, **SourceDate**, **Src\_Scale**, and **Horz\_Error**. They are, however, all included in the Wilderness Lineage layer's conceptual model, mentioned below.
- It is recommended that all polygons with identical attributes should be stored as multipart polygons.
- It is recommended that **Acre\_Legis** should have the same value for all polygons within a single legislated wilderness. That is, it should be the total acreage in the legislation or for each type of polygon, such as potential vs. designated.

**Related Layers:** Information concerning the lineage of wilderness boundaries depicted in the Legislated Wilderness layer may be stored in a separate Wilderness Lineage layer (or layers) as lines and/or points. Other types of pre-wilderness designations will be stored in a Future Wilderness layer, while historic Congressionally-designated wilderness and potential wilderness along with inholdings may be stored in a Historic Wilderness layer. Conceptual models for these layers have been developed.

**Horizontal Positional Accuracy:** It is highly desirable that these data should be as accurate as possible, derived from surveys if available, or data sources accurate to within 10 meters. The minimum accuracy of the layer should be reported in ground distances at the 95% confidence level, following the FGDC National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy.

**Spatial Reference Information:** Geographic coordinate system is GCS\_North\_American\_1983.

(Locally-maintained data may be in a different coordinate system, such as UTM NAD83, but must be converted to GCS\_North\_American\_1983 for inclusion in the national layer.)

**Attributes:**

Attribute Name	Long Attribute Name	Data Type	Width	Decimals	Value: Definition	Description	Domain Values
Name*	Name	Text	50	--	Name of wilderness area. Mandatory.	Name as a text string.	
Feat_Type*	FeatureType	Text	50	--	Congressional designation. Mandatory.	--	Designated Wilderness, Potential Wilderness, Transferable Wilderness Inholding
Year*	Year	Text	4	--	Year of most recent Congressional designation. Mandatory.	The four-digit year.	
Acre_Legis	Acre_Legis	Number	13	3	Legislated acreage. Mandatory if applicable.	Size of the legislated wilderness area in acres. This may be updated with a calculated acreage if such calculations have been reported to Congress as the official wilderness acreage.	--
Acre_Calc*	Acre_Calc	Number	13	3	Calculated acreage based on spatial data representation of features. This field will not be published for use outside NPS. Mandatory.	Calculated size of the wilderness area in acres.	--
Public_Law*	Public_Law	Text	255	--	Public Law numbers referring to the legislation creating the wilderness area, and subsequent revisions, including the years enacted. Mandatory.	The unique reference numbers of the public laws, followed by the relevant calendar year for each public law. Additional public law numbers and years are separated with semi-colons.	--

Descriptn	Description	Text	255	--	Suggested values and free text for use by park staff. May also be used to describe particular characteristics of the wilderness area, such as whether it is frequently subject to change. Optional. (Source: NPS GIS Council)	--	Submerged, Free Text
UnitCode*	Unit_Code	Text	10	--	NPS alphabetic code representing a legislated NPS Unit. Mandatory. (Source: NPS Public Affairs, NISC, NRPC).	--	Ex. NOCO = North Country National Scenic Trail
Unit	Unit_Name UnitName NPS_Unit_Name	Text	255	--	Full name of the NPS organizational unit. Optional. (Source: NPS NISC and NRPC)	Organizational place name in free text (255 characters or less).	--
Unit_Type	Unit_Type	Text	255	--	The officially designated type of the NPS Unit. Optional. (Source: NPS Public Affairs, NPS NISC and NRPC.)	Designated type of unit: National Park, National Monument, etc. (255 chars. or less).	--
Group_Code*	Unit_Group_Code Admin_Unit AdminUnit NPS_Unit_Admin_Group_Code	Text	10	--	The NPS unit code of the NPS unit that is responsible for administering the unit identified in Unit_Code. Mandatory. (Source: NPS NISC and NRPC)	Generally 4 characters derived from the first two characters of the first two words of the unit name.	--
RegionCode*	Region_Code NPS_Region_Code	Text	4	--	The alpha code of the NPS Region associated with the unit identified in Unit_Code. Mandatory. (Source: NPS GIS)	Unique alpha codes for the NPS region: AKR, IMR, MWR, NCR, NER, PWR, SER	--

CreateDate*	Creation_Date	Date	--	--	Date the Geometry was initially created. Mandatory.	Valid date entered in YYYYMMDD format.	--
EditDate*	NPS_Spatial_Edit_Date, Source_Date	Date	8	--	The last edit, update, or official review of the GIS/ location record. Mandatory. (Source: NPS GISC)	Valid date entered in YYYYMMDD format.	--
Notes	Notes	Text	255	--	Notes or remarks needed to understand unusual or important aspects of the spatial data. Optional. (Source: NPS GISC)	Free text (up to 255 characters).	--
Restrict_*	Restrict_Status Usage_Restrictions	String	TBD	--	Any identified usage restrictions on or restricted status of the feature. Suggested domain values listed. Mandatory. (Source: NPS GISC)	--	<u>UNR Unrestricted</u> . <u>RND Restricted</u> : No 3rd party release. <u>RAC Restricted</u> : Originating agency concurrence. <u>RCC Restricted</u> : Affected cultural group concurrence; <u>REX Restricted</u> : No release. <u>Free text</u> . Each standard will use a defined list of values.
Meta_MIDF*	MetaMIDF Master_Meatadata_IDF NPS_Master_Metadadata_	Text	38	--	Foreign key to link with primary key and metadata record in associated metadata. Mandatory. (Source: TBD)	Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) for linking with associated metadata file(s)	--
GeometryID*	GeometryID	Text	38	--	A unique identifier for the geospatial representation (geometry). Mandatory. (Source: GISC)	Globally Unique Identifier (GUID)	--

\*denotes mandatory field