

# Vocabulary governance

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Presented virtually at European Glider Data  
Management Workshop, 21 June 2022



This project has received funding the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 951842.

# Governance groups

- Every collection on the NVS needs to be associated with a governance group - default is BODC
- Governance groups or the organisation who own the vocabulary are defined in the NVS collection C30
- Not all governance group are active (many NVS collections do not evolve)
- Active governance group tend to use GitHub for discussion about extensions to existing vocabularies, update to existing content, or creation of new vocabularies
- Some communities manage their vocabularies via the NVS vocab\_editor tool

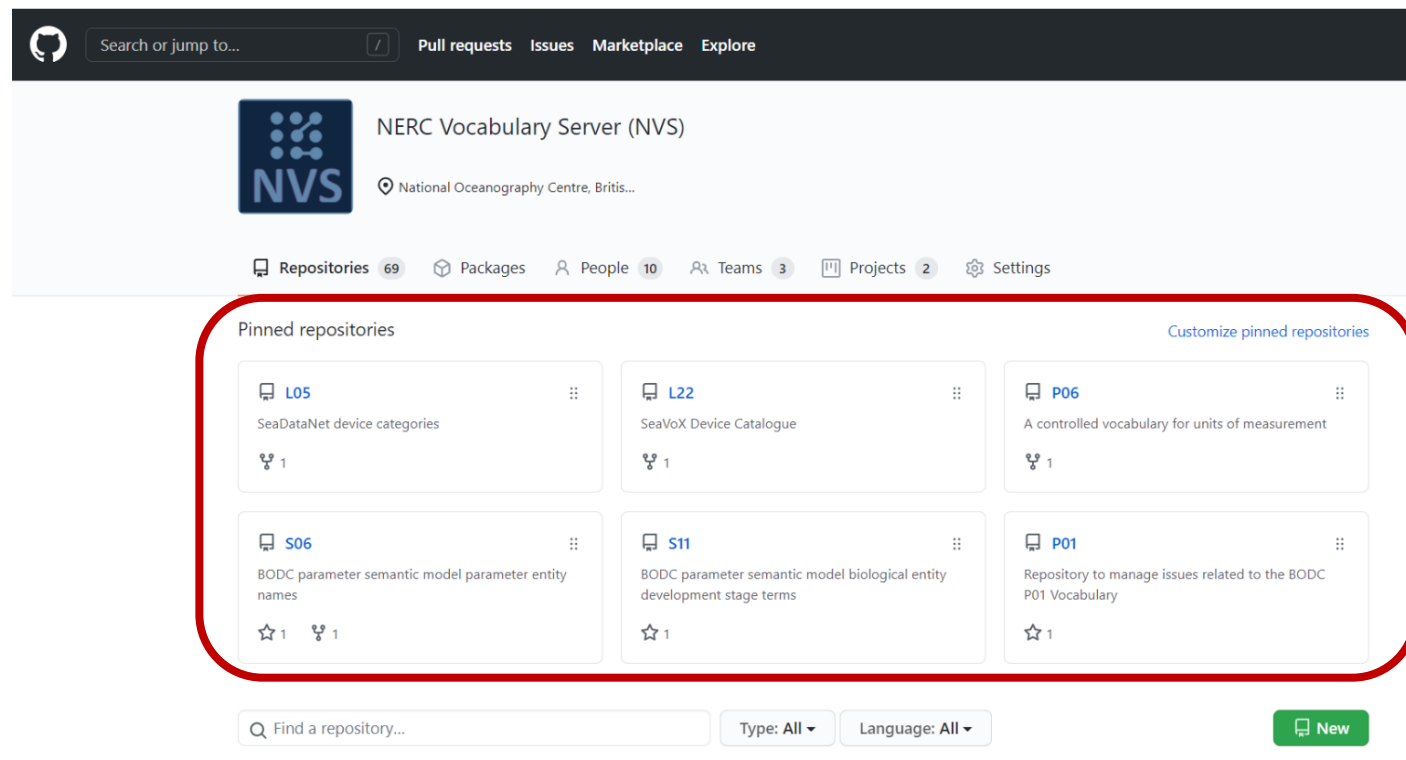


Terms				
C30 Metadata				
Collection identifier C30				
Title Active vocabulary content governance authorities				
Alternative title Vocabulary governance				
Description Bodies responsible for the intellectual control of vocabularies served by the NDG/SeaDataNet vocabulary server.				
Governance British Oceanographic Data Centre				
Version 32				
Register manager British Oceanographic Data Centre				
Register owner British Oceanographic Data Centre				
Publisher Natural Environment Research Council				
Version date 2021-12-13				
Identifier ↑	Preferred label ↑	Alternative label ↑	Definition ↑	Date ↑
SDN	SeaDataNet	SeaDataNet	Governance for vocabularies used in the EU SeaDataNet project implemented as consultation between BODC and the members of the SeaDataNet Technical Task Team	2010-02-18
PURE	BGS Probability, Uncertainty and Risk in the Environment project management	BGS PURE project management	Governance for vocabularies used to support drop-down lists in the BGS PURE portal and its metadata input tools.	2015-08-19
TCE	The Crown Estate	TCE	Authority for controlled vocabularies used in relation to the property portfolio owned by the Crown. Authority delegated under the auspices of The Crown Estate Commissioners	2012-02-14
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea	ICES	International organisation with a mission to advance the scientific capacity to give advice on human activities affecting, and affected by, marine ecosystems. Secretariat is located in Copenhagen.	2010-08-10
MSG	MEDIN Standards Group	MSG	Governance for vocabularies used in MEDIN data and metadata documents	2009-07-29

# Link to the governance repo is provided with the collection metadata

Terms	
R03 Metadata	
<b>Collection identifier</b> R03	
<b>Title</b>	Argo parameter codes
<b>Alternative title</b>	PARAMETER
<b>Description</b>	Terms describing individual measured phenomena, used to mark up sets of data in Argo NetCDF arrays
<b>Governance</b>	Argo Data Management Team
<b>Version</b>	4
<b>Register manager</b>	British Oceanographic Data Centre
<b>Register owner</b>	Argo Data Management Team
<b>Publisher</b>	Natural Environment Research Council
<b>Version date</b>	2021-02-02
<b>External link</b>	<a href="https://github.com/nvs-vocabs/R03">https://github.com/nvs-vocabs/R03</a>

# GitHub.com/nvs-vocabs



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SeaDataNet device categories  
1
- L22**  
SeaVoX Device Catalogue  
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- P06**  
A controlled vocabulary for units of measurement  
1
- S06**  
BODC parameter semantic model parameter entity names  
1 1
- S11**  
BODC parameter semantic model biological entity development stage terms  
1
- P01**  
Repository to manage issues related to the BODC P01 Vocabulary  
1

Find a repository... Type: All Language: All [New](#)

GitHub.com/nvs-vocabs/{ID} where ID is the collection ID

Community specific repositories  
GitHub.com/nvs-vocabs/{community}

## EMODnetChemVocabs

A repository for the management of issues related to vocabulary concepts and collections used by the EMODnet Chemistry project.

1 1 5 0 Updated on May 20, 2020

## SWEMarineProfileVocabs

A repository for the management of issues related to vocabulary concepts and collections used by the SWE Marine Profiles group

0 0 1 0 Updated on Nov 4, 2020

## ArgoVocabs

A repository for the management of issues related to vocabularies managed by the Argo Data Management Team

0 0 11 0 Updated on Sep 8, 2020

## OBISVocabs

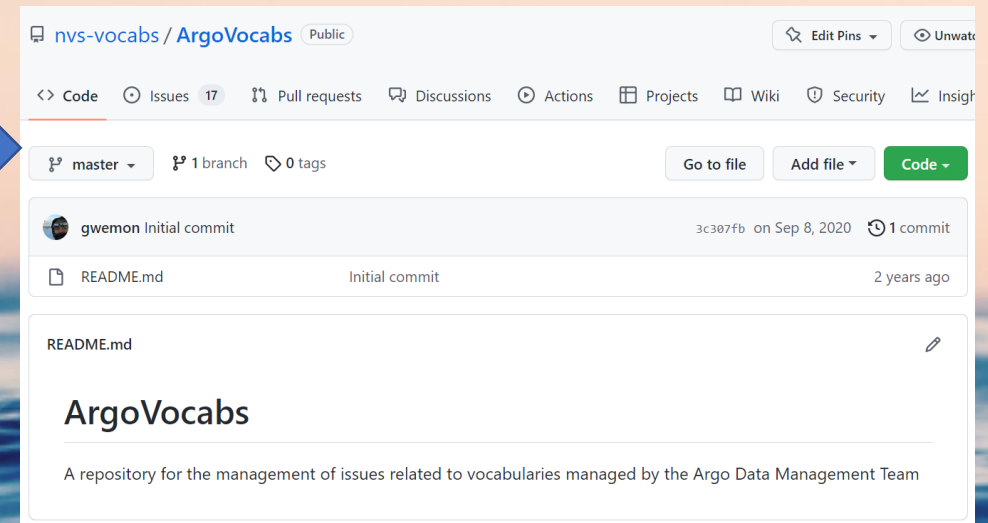
A repository for the management of issues related to vocabularies used by the OBIS community.

0 0 3 0 Updated 3 hours ago



# Governance model - Argo example

- Established a Vocabulary Management Task Team with domain experts from the Argo data system team and members of the BODC Vocabulary Management Group
- Dedicated Argo Vocabulary repository discussion space on the NVS GitHub.com space - managed by Vi Paba, the BODC Argo vocab coordinator
- Decision on changes or extension to a given vocab take place in this space before a ticket is issued under the collection specific vocab





# Vocabulary Management Best Practices 1/3

- Use unambiguous terms and definitions
- Provide context in the definitions

## ↑ -- Sea-Bird SBE 41 CTD --

URI	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L22/current/TOOL0668/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L22/current/TOOL0668/</a>
Identifier ()	SDN:L22::TOOL0668
Preferred label (en)	<b>Sea-Bird SBE 41 CTD</b>
Alternative label (en)	SBE 41 CTD
Definition (en)	A self-contained unit comprising the MicroCAT temperature, conductivity and pressure sensors and a pump that is designed specifically for deployment on profiling floats, particularly Argo. The unit is designed to provide stable salinity data accurate to 0.005 PSU for periods in excess of three years without any form of maintenance. Temperature is within 0.002 C (stability 0.0002 C/year) and pressure within 2 dbar (stability 0.8 dbar/year). During float ascent spot samples are taken and transmitted to the float controller. More information is given in <a href="http://www.seabird.com/products/spec_sheets/41data.htm">http://www.seabird.com/products/spec_sheets/41data.htm</a> .
Version Info ()	1
Has Current Version	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L22/current/TOOL0668/1/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L22/current/TOOL0668/1/</a>
PAV Version ()	1
PAV Authored On ()	2014-03-11 15:55:41.0
Deprecated()	false
Broader	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/134/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/134/</a>
Broader	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/130/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/130/</a>
Broader	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/350/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L05/current/350/</a>
Related	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/B75/current/ORG00226/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/B75/current/ORG00226/</a>
Related	<a href="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L35/current/MAN0013/">http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L35/current/MAN0013/</a>
Date ()	2014-03-11 15:55:41.0

# Vocabulary Management Best Practices 2/3

- Corrections can be made but the meaning of a concept attached to an identifier can never be narrowed or fundamentally changed
  - *E.g. a SeaBird CTD cannot become a SBE 41 CTD, or*
  - *a SeaBird 911 CTD cannot become a SeaBird 911plus CTD*
- Concepts can sometimes be made broader but care must be taken about related concepts within the collection, existing mappings and context
  - *Example of need to broaden terms: see <https://github.com/nvs-vocabs/L05/issues/9>*
- Beware of overlapping concepts, or mismatching between term and definitions (i.e. a definition that is broader or narrower than the term suggests)
- As a general rule and if in doubt, it is better to err on the side of caution and keep the concept narrow rather than broad when defining a new concept



# Vocabulary Management Best Practices 3/3

- Once created, identifiers can not be changed
  - *if deemed unsuitable, an identifier can be deprecated and “replaced by” a new identifier with the same term and definition*
- An identifier should preferably not have meaning attached to it (but mnemonic is useful)
  - *Example: the choice of the letter “R” for the Argo vocab collections*



# The Vocabulary Editor tool

- Requires users to be registered as BODC website users
- It gives access to vocabularies linked to the registered email address
- Request to register new editors against existing assets must come from the governing authority
- Registration is implemented by the NVS gatekeeper
- Submissions via the tools are reviewed by the NVS gatekeeper before being published on the NVS - human intervention required
- NVS is currently refreshed once every 24h
- Time lag between submission and publication is typically less than 1 working day

Resources > Vocabularies > Vocabulary editor

## IN THIS SECTION

### Vocabularies

- NVS search tool
- NVS editor
- NVS vocabulary builder
- BODC parameter codes
- SeaVoX

## Vocabulary editor

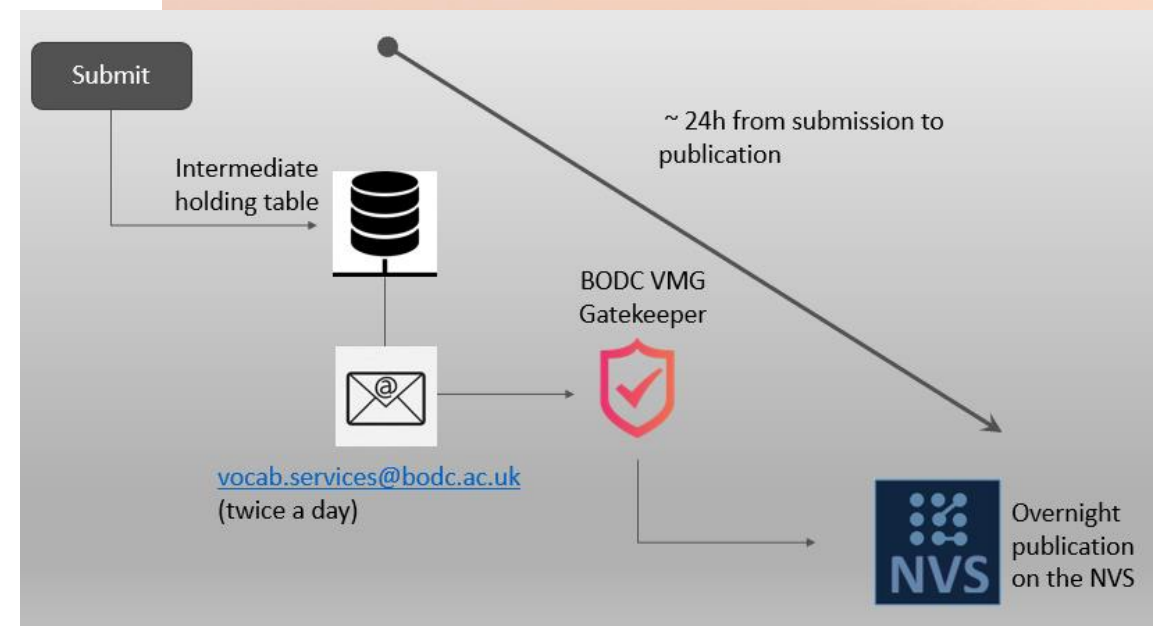
BODC operates the NERC [Vocabulary Server](#) Web Service, which provides access to controlled vocabularies. Some of these vocabularies are totally managed by BODC but others have external content governance authorities.

The vocabulary editor allows external authorities access to their vocabularies. Within the VocabEditor Client (version 1.0) authorised editors may maintain lists under their governance by

- Inserting a single entry
- Uploading bulk entries
- Modifying an existing entry
- Deprecating an entry

To access the VocabEditor please log in below, please note — access is restricted to authorised content governance authorities.

To access the vocabulary editor you are required to be a registered BODC website user. If you have already registered, please [log in](#), alternatively please [register](#) to become a new user.



**Thank you**

**For more information :**

✉ [contact@groom-h2020.eu](mailto:contact@groom-h2020.eu)

✉ Twitter : @GROOM2RI

✉ [www.groom-h2020.eu](http://www.groom-h2020.eu)

