📖 APS Master Data Protocol

Study: The American Periphenomenal Survey

Division: Registry | **Region:** 🌲Cascadia (Reg10)
Status: ACTIVE REFERENCE | **Version:** 3.0 (Consolidated Build)

PART 1: THE ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

High-level logic used to classify events.

1. The Strangeness Index (Calculated)

A calculated integer (0–10) derived from the sum of all phenom_ flags.

- **0-2 (Low):** Vague, distant, or strictly visual lights.
- **3-5 (Medium):** Multi-sensory (Sound + Visual) or physical effects.
- **6+ (High):** "The Oz Factor," Missing Time, or Close Contact. **(Trigger Field Intercept)**.

2. Event Typology (The "Type" Code)

Assigned by Senior Analyst during Phase 4.

- **TYPE_I (Liminal/Spatial):** Event defined by location (Roads, Doors, Fog). Reality feels "thin."
- **TYPE_II (Crypto-Biological):** Encounter with an unknown biological entity.
- **TYPE_III (Aerial/Technical):** Lights in sky, metallic craft, drone-like behavior.
- **TYPE_IV (Psychic/Noetic):** Internal experience (Dreams, Premonitions, Synchronicities).
- **TYPE_V (Poltergeist/Material):** Physical movement of objects, knocks, apports.

PART 2: THE MASTER DATA DICTIONARY

The unified table of all variables.

A. Metadata & Identification

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
timestamp	Automatic server time of submission (ISO 8601).	DATETIME	YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS
log_id	Unique identifier generated by Script (e.g., CAS-104).	STRING	Format: CAS-[000]
engagement_status	The current operational state of the file.	STRING	• PENDING (New) • SPAM (Discard) • VERIFIED_WEB (Tier 1) • REMOTE (Tier 2) • FIELD (Tier 3)

B. Respondent Profile (Demographics)

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
age_group	Age range of the subject. Used for generational cohort analysis.	STRING	18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 46-55, 56-65, 66+
gender	Subject's gender identity.	STRING	Open Text (e.g., Male, Female, Non-Binary).

occupation	Subject's trade. Critical for assessing observational reliability (e.g., Pilot vs. Student).	STRING	Open Text.
cultural_bg	Cultural/Religious upbringing. Contextualizes how they interpret the event.	STRING	Open Text.
location_state	The primary jurisdiction of the event.	STRING	WA, OR, ID, BC, AK_SE, NORCAL_JEFF, OTHER

C. Event Context

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
location_specific	Landmark, town, or GPS descriptor.	STRING	Open Text (e.g., "Hoh Rainforest Trail").
witness_status	Social configuration at time of event.	STRING	• ALONE (Solitary) • WITNESS_1 (Pair) • WITNESS_GROUP (3+) • UNCERTAIN

D. Phenomenology (The "High Strangeness" Flags)

Note: In the CSV, checked boxes appear as "YES". Unchecked boxes are Null/Empty.

Variable Name	Definition	Data Type	Valid Values
phenom_silence	"The Oz Factor." Sudden cessation of ambient noise (birds, wind, traffic).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_hum	Low-frequency mechanical vibration or "diesel idle" sound with no source.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_time	Missing Time (unaccounted hours) or time distortion (slow/fast motion).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]

phenom_nausea	Somatic effect: Headache, vertigo, vomiting, nosebleeds.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_paralysis	Inability to move voluntary muscles (excluding standard Sleep Paralysis).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_tech	Battery drain, camera malfunction, car stalling, radio static.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_ozone	Olfactory: Smell of sulfur, ozone, burning metal, or "wet dog."	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
phenom_fear	Acute, irrational dread or "feeling of being watched" (Scopophobia).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]

E. Narrative & Qualitative

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
narrative	The raw witness account. **MUST BE SCRUBBED OF PII.**	TEXT	Long Form String.
attribution	The subject's personal theory (e.g., "I think it was military," "It was a ghost").	TEXT	Long Form String.
contact_info	Email/Phone. **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.**	STRING	**DO NOT PUBLISH.**

F. Administrative & Legal

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
permission_level	Legal consent for data usage. Determines Registry visibility.	STRING	• PUBLISH_ANON (Public) • PRIVATE_DATA (Internal)
analyst_notes	Internal comments, debunking notes, or spam flags.	TEXT	Internal Use Only.

res_id	ID of the Researcher who conducted the verification (e.g., CAS-FW01).	STRING	Staff Code.

G. Field Data (Tier 2/3 Only)

Populated by Researcher during Intercept.

Variable Name	Definition	Valid Codes
setting_type	Physical categorization of the site.	• RES (Residential/Home) • LIM (Liminal/Road/Transit) • NAT (Wilderness/Forest) • COM (Commercial/Industrial)
env_weather	Atmospheric conditions.	• CLEAR • RAIN • STORM • FOG • OZ (Artificial Silence)
env_noise	Ambient acoustic profile.	• SILENT (Total) • HUM (Vibration) • TRAFFIC • NATURE
obs_demeanor	Subject's emotional state during interview.	• CALM • AGITATED (Fearful) • INTENSE (Manic) • SKEPTICAL (Confused)

obs_delivery	Narrative delivery, speech pattern	• FLUID (Natural flow) • FRAGMENTED (Disjointed, traumatic recall) • REHEARSED (Scripted, buzzwords) • PRESSURED (Manic, rapid)

PART 3: CSV COLUMN CONFIGURATION

For System Administrators. Ensure this order matches the Google Sheet.

1. timestamp
2. log_id
3. age_group
4. gender
5. cultural_bg
6. occupation
7. location_state
8. location_specific
9. witness_status
10. phenom_silence
11. phenom_hum
12. phenom_time
13. phenom_nausea
14. phenom_paralysis
15. phenom_tech
16. phenom_ozone

17. phenom_fear

18. narrative

19. attribution

20. contact_info

21. permission_level

22. engagement_status

23. analyst_notes

24. res_id

25. setting_type

26. env_weather

27. env_noise

28. env_tech_issues

29. obs_demeanor

30. obs_delivery