# 📖 APS Master Data Protocol

**Study:** The American Periphenomenal Survey

**Unit:** 💾The Archive          |          **Region:** 🌲Cascadia (Reg10)

**Status:** ACTIVE REFERENCE          |          **Version:** 3.2 (Schema Aligned)

## 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 Research 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)`<br>• `SPAM (Discard)`<br>• `VERIFIED_WEB (Tier 1)`<br>• `REMOTE (Tier 2)`<br>• `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` |
| **occupation** | Subject's trade (Socioeconomic context). | `STRING` | `Open Text.` |
| **cultural_bg** | Cultural/Religious context. | `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)`<br>• `WITNESS_1 (Pair)`<br>• `WITNESS_GROUP (3+)`<br>• `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, other electronic device interference. | `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) <br> • `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)<br>• `LIM` (Liminal/Road/Transit)<br>• `NAT` (Wilderness/Forest)<br>• `COM` (Commercial/Industrial) |
| **env_weather** | Atmospheric conditions. | • `CLEAR`<br>• `RAIN`<br>• `STORM`<br>• `FOG`<br>• `OZ` (Artificial Silence) |
| **env_noise** | Ambient acoustic profile. | • `SILENT` (Total)<br>• `HUM` (Vibration)<br>• `TRAFFIC`<br>• `NATURE` |
| **obs_demeanor** | Subject's emotional state during interview. | • `CALM`<br>• `AGITATED` (Fearful)<br>• `INTENSE` (Manic)<br>• `SKEPTICAL` (Confused) |
| **obs_delivery** | Narrative delivery, speech pattern | • `FLUID` (Natural flow)<br>• `FRAGMENTED` (Disjointed, traumatic recall)<br>• `REHEARSED` (Scripted, buzzwords)<br>• `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. `obs_demeanor`
29. `obs_delivery`