



## APS Master Data Protocol

**Study:** The American Peripheromenal 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
<b>timestamp</b>	Automatic server time of submission (ISO 8601).	DATETIME	YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS
<b>log_id</b>	Unique identifier generated by Script (e.g., CAS-104).	STRING	Format: CAS-[000]
<b>engagement_status</b>	The current operational state of the file.	STRING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PENDING (New)</li> <li>• SPAM (Discard)</li> <li>• VERIFIED_WEB (Tier 1)</li> <li>• REMOTE (Tier 2)</li> <li>• FIELD (Tier 3)</li> </ul>

### B. Respondent Profile (Demographics)

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

<b>cultural_bg</b>	Cultural/Religious upbringing. Contextualizes how they interpret the event.	STRING	Open Text.
<b>location_state</b>	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
<b>location_specific</b>	Landmark, town, or GPS descriptor.	STRING	Open Text (e.g., "Hoh Rainforest Trail").
<b>witness_status</b>	Social configuration at time of event.	STRING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALONE (Solitary)</li> <li>• WITNESS_1 (Pair)</li> <li>• WITNESS_GROUP (3+)</li> <li>• UNCERTAIN</li> </ul>

## 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
<b>phenom_silence</b>	"The Oz Factor." Sudden cessation of ambient noise (birds, wind, traffic).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_hum</b>	Low-frequency mechanical vibration or "diesel idle" sound with no source.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_time</b>	Missing Time (unaccounted hours) or time distortion (slow/fast motion).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_nausea</b>	Somatic effect: Headache, vertigo, vomiting, nosebleeds.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]

<b>phenom_paralysis</b>	Inability to move voluntary muscles (excluding standard Sleep Paralysis).	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_tech</b>	Battery drain, camera malfunction, car stalling, radio static.	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_ozone</b>	Olfactory: Smell of sulfur, ozone, burning metal, or "wet dog."	FLAG	YES / [NULL]
<b>phenom_fear</b>	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
<b>narrative</b>	The raw witness account. <b>MUST BE SCRUBBED OF PII.</b>	TEXT	Long Form String.
<b>attribution</b>	The subject's personal theory (e.g., "I think it was military," "It was a ghost").	TEXT	Long Form String.
<b>contact_info</b>	Email/Phone. <b>STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.</b>	STRING	<b>DO NOT PUBLISH.</b>

## F. Administrative & Legal

Variable Name	Definition & Coding Protocol	Data Type	Valid Values / Constraints
<b>permission_level</b>	Legal consent for data usage. Determines Registry visibility.	STRING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PUBLISH_ANON (Public)</li> <li>PRIVATE_DATA (Internal)</li> </ul>
<b>analyst_notes</b>	Internal comments, debunking notes, or spam flags.	TEXT	Internal Use Only.
<b>res_id</b>	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
<b>setting_type</b>	Physical categorization of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RES (Residential/Home)</li> <li>• LIM (Liminal/Road/Transit)</li> <li>• NAT (Wilderness/Forest)</li> <li>• COM (Commercial/Industrial)</li> </ul>
<b>env_weather</b>	Atmospheric conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLEAR</li> <li>• RAIN</li> <li>• STORM</li> <li>• FOG</li> <li>• OZ (Artificial Silence)</li> </ul>
<b>env_noise</b>	Ambient acoustic profile.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SILENT (Total)</li> <li>• HUM (Vibration)</li> <li>• TRAFFIC</li> <li>• NATURE</li> </ul>
<b>obs_demeanor</b>	Subject's emotional state during interview.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CALM</li> <li>• AGITATED (Fearful)</li> <li>• INTENSE (Manic)</li> <li>• SKEPTICAL (Confused)</li> </ul>

<b>obs_delivery</b>	Narrative delivery, speech pattern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FLUID (Natural flow)</li> <li>• FRAGMENTED (Disjointed, traumatic recall)</li> <li>• REHEARSED (Scripted, buzzwords)</li> <li>• PRESSURED (Manic, rapid)</li> </ul>
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## 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