

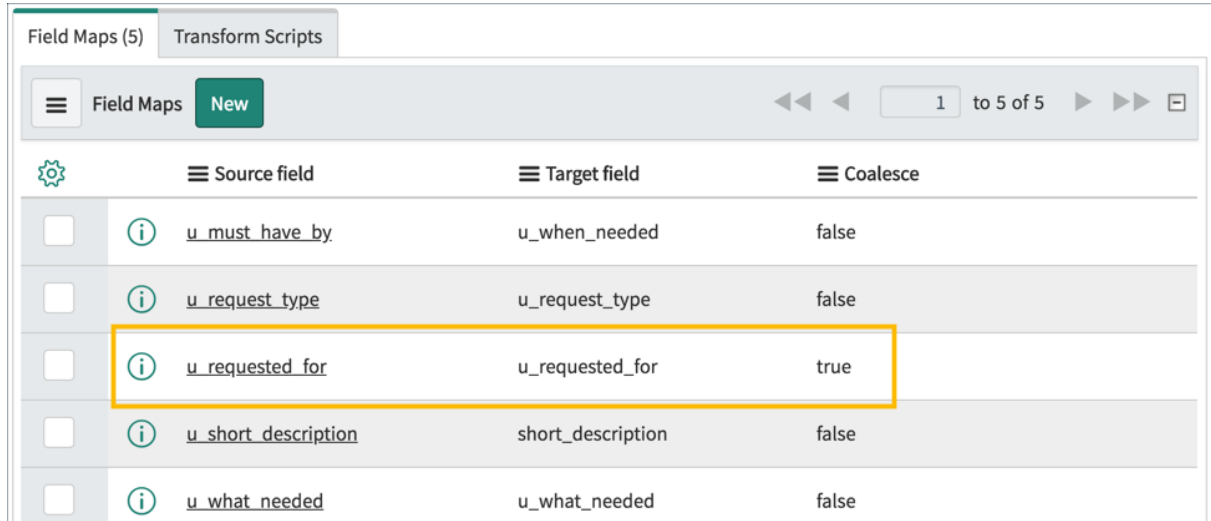
ServiceNow Application Developer

Importing Data > Coalescing

Before importing data, make a plan for how to handle collisions between the source data and the target table.

- Keep the record already in the target table?
- Overwrite the record in the target table with the source data?
- Create duplicate records?

Use the *Coalesce* option in a Transform Map Field Map to determine if a row in the source data matches a record in the target table. The *Coalesce* option makes a field a record's unique key. Set the *Coalesce* value to *true* to use a field to check for collisions.



Field Maps (5)		Transform Scripts	
Field Maps		New	
	Source field	Target field	Coalesce
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>u_must_have_by</u>	u_when_needed	false
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>u_request_type</u>	u_request_type	false
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>u_requested_for</u>	u_requested_for	true
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>u_short_description</u>	short_description	false
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>u_what_needed</u>	u_what_needed	false

Coalesce on enough fields to be able to uniquely identify a record. In the example, coalescing only on the *u_requested_for* field is not sufficient to uniquely identify records because a user could have multiple *NeedIt* requests. When coalescing on multiple fields, all coalesce fields must be a match for there to be a collision. Matching some coalesce fields but not all does not produce a match.

- If a match is found using the coalesce fields, the target record is updated with the information imported from the source.
- If no match is found, a new record is inserted in the database.
- If no fields are coalesce fields, records are always inserted on import.