Courtney Alsbury

April 27, 2020

Data Curation II

Protocol definition, scope, and audience

* Group members: Courtney Alsbury
* The topic of your curation protocol (e.g. transportation data): Animal adoption data focused on Bay Area animals
* The target audience for your protocol (e.g. who would use or consult your protocol): prospective adopters, animal control departments, other government agencies interested in stray/abandoned/surrendered animals taken in by shelters, animal rescue ("Adopt Don't Shop") advocates, philanthropists
* Write a three to five sentence statement about your collective goals for the protocol (e.g. what do you want to work on and learn about through the activity)
  + I would first like to learn the various data that are available about adoptable animals, including stray and abandoned animals.
  + I will note that in searching for this data, it tends to be buried on these individual websites with various names like “Performance Reports,” “Shelter Statistics,” and “Animal Statistics.” This diverse nomenclature makes it even more difficult for people to find comprehensive data on this topic.
  + My goal for this project is to collect data in one location about the orphaned animals that are adoptable. The data seems to be scattered among the different rescue groups, so it would be helpful to have it all in one spot.
  + In the protocol, I will suggest ways for animal shelters and animal control agencies to submit data about adoptable animals, including intake and output (either adoption or euthanasia) numbers, animal data (e.g. species, breed, age), and other adoption statistics and trends.
  + On a broader level, I hope something like this would facilitate animal adoptions for those who might not want to go through the work of searching for adoptable animals and might instead prefer to buy from a breeder, leaving animal shelters full of perfectly good animals to adopt.
* Provide a link to any relevant data sources you have identified.
  + The Contra Costa [County] Animal Services “Performance Reports” page has data-rich annual reports showing intake of animals to the shelters, including which were strays, surrenders, or legal impounds; reasons for returns; transfers to other organizations; and euthanizations data.
    - Link: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/6820/Performance-Reports>
  + The San Francisco Animal Care & Control “Shelter Statistics” website has similar information, though less specific.
    - Link: <https://www.sfanimalcare.org/about-us/shelter-statistics/>
  + The Berkeley Humane shelter also provides “Animal Statistics” reports on its About page in the right hand margin. This report gives helpful adoption information.
    - Link: <https://berkeleyhumane.org/about/>
  + East Bay SPCA has similar statistics, as well as information about its currently adoptable animals, such as their breed, age, etc.
    - Animal Statistics Link: <https://eastbayspca.org/who-we-are/about-us/results-stats/animal-statistics/>
    - Adoptable Animals Link: <https://eastbayspca.org/adoptions/adopt-me/>