

Audubon Core: a standard for multimedia biodiversity data

Large volumes of biodiversity-related multimedia objects, held in repositories, have a huge potential to be used in scientific analysis and interpretations. Their diversity highlights the need for an infrastructure that can (1) leverage such collections for scientific analysis, (2) assist in the better management of these vast biotic resources and (3) provide annotation and attribution services to enhance the usability of objects and to recognize the efforts towards publishing of such resources.

To address these, the GBIF-TDWG Joint Task Group developed a multimedia resources metadata schema called the **Audubon Core**. The Audubon Core will facilitate enhanced publishing and discovery of biodiversity-related multimedia resources by describing media resources themselves, or a collection of them, with consistent metadata. An Audubon Core metadata record is a set of terms and term values that describe an underlying multimedia resource. The Audubon Core schema consists of 80 terms, of which six are mandatory, which refer to the attributes. It is a representation-neutral metadata vocabulary for the description of biodiversity multimedia resources.

An early uptake of the Audubon Core by the stakeholder communities will ensure the usage of biodiversity-related data associated with multimedia resources in research. This will also help engage citizen scientists and professional naturalists in creating and sharing scientifically useful primary biodiversity data captured through multimedia objects.

| Term | Definition |
|--|--|
| Identifier (dcterms:identifier) | An arbitrary code that is unique for the resource, with the resource being a collection or a media item. The draft requires an Identifier for collections and strongly recommends but does not require an Identifier for media items. |
| Type (dcterms: type) | Any DCMI type term from http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-type-vocabulary/ may be used. Recommended terms are Collection, StillImage, Sound, MovingImage, InteractiveResource, Text, PanAndZoomImage, 3DStillImage, and 3DMovingImage. |
| Title (dcterm: title) | Concise title, name or label of institution, resource collection, or individual resource. |
| Metadata Language (ac:MetadataLanguage) | Language of description and other metadata (but not necessarily of the image itself) represented in ISO639-1 or -3. |
| Copyright Owner (xmpRights:Owner) | The name of the owner of the copyright. 'Unknown' is an acceptable value. |
| Copyright Statement (dcterms:rights) | Information about rights held in and over the resource. A full-text, readable copyright statement, as required by the national legislation of the copyright holder. On collections, this applies to all contained objects, unless the object itself has a different statement. |

The six mandatory terms of the Audubon Core, which consists of 80 terms.





...free and open access to biodiversity data

Audubon Core:

http://www.keytonature.eu/wiki/Audubon_Core





About GBIF

The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) was established by governments in 2001 to encourage free and open access to biodiversity data, via the Internet. Through a global network of national and thematic nodes, and a Secretariat based in Copenhagen, Denmark, GBIF promotes and facilitates the mobilization, access, discovery and use of information about the occurrence of organisms over time and across the planet.

Vision - A world in which biodiversity information is freely and universally available for science, society, and a sustainable future.

Mission - To be the foremost global resource for biodiversity information, and engender smart solutions for environmental and human well-being.

www.gbif.org

