

Using ArcGIS Desktop, ArcGIS.com and Collector

This session will explore using ArcGIS, ArcGIS Online and Collector for ArcGIS to create an integrated spatial data collection system. This tutorial will explore the entire workflow, from preparing the project geodatabase in ArcGIS for Desktop, to deploying the resulting application in ArcGIS Collector and managing offline editing workflows. Our objective will be to deploy an application for the survey of trees, but the workflows and methods we use can be applied to nearly any data collection project.

Using ArcGIS Desktop and ArcGIS Online for Mobile Data Collection with Collector for ArcGIS

In this exercise, we will create a field data application for the collection of data on the interaction between large African predator species and livestock and other prey. Some of the pre-existing data we will use for the exercise was obtained from the following study of large predator behaviour at the Lewa Wildlife Conservancies near Isiolo, Kenya.

[Dupuis-Desormeaux M, Davidson Z, Mwalolo M, Kisio E, Taylor S, MacDonald SE \(2015\) Testing the Prey-Trap Hypothesis at Two Wildlife Conservancies in Kenya. PLoS ONE 10\(10\): e0139537. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0139537](#)

Preparing your data in ArcGIS for Desktop

The first step in the process will be to prepare the geodatabase that will drive our data collection application, in ArcGIS Desktop. Eventually, this geodatabase will be uploaded to ArcGIS.com for the creation of our data collection application, but much of the "data carpentry" we need to do is best performed locally, on ArcGIS Desktop.

Create your geodatabase

Geodatabases organize and store data you collect. Ultimately you'll create a feature class to store damage assessment reports, but first you need to create the geodatabase that holds the feature class. Take the following steps to create a file geodatabase by using the Catalog window in ArcMap.

1. Start ArcMap, save your Map Document as PredationSurvey.mxd, in your project folder, and open the Catalog window.
2. Right-click the file folder in the Catalog tree where you want to create the file geodatabase. Point to New.
3. Click File Geodatabase to create a new file geodatabase in the location you selected. Name your geodatabase **PredationSurvey**.
4. Right-click on your new geodatabase and select **Make Default Geodatabase**.

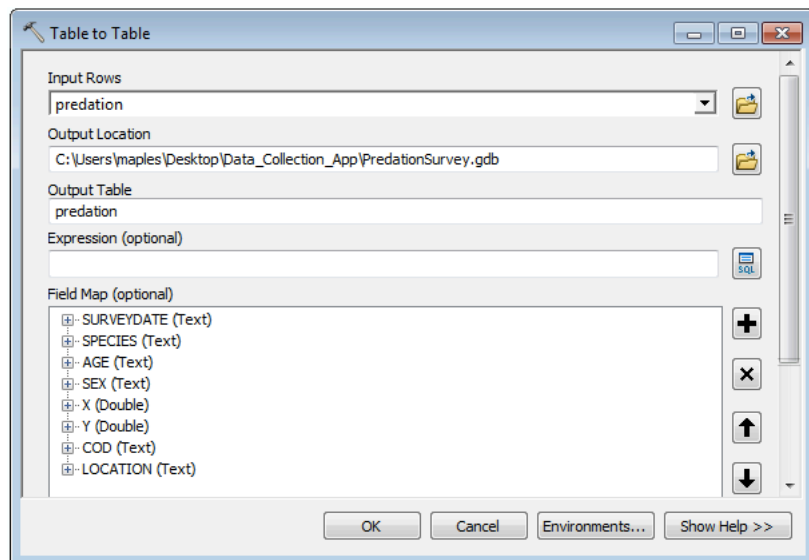
Create and Define geodatabase domains

Some fields in your data should be populated from a set of choices. By creating domains in your geodatabase, you provide a list of choices your users can choose from when they are collecting data. This provides several advantages, including the enforcement of controlled vocabularies in your data collection, data collection speed, etc...

In this exercise, we will create our Domains from a preexisting dataset. This dataset was collected during a study of large carnivore/livestock interactions in Kenya. The first thing we want to do is examine the data, and then collapse the fields we want to create domains for into "unique values."

Domains are created at the Geodatabase level, rather than the layer level, since in some cases (True/False, Percentages, etc...) it might be possible to use a Domain for more than one layer and field.

1. Right-click on your new geodatabase and select Import>Table>Single
2. Browse to the **Data** folder, find the PREDATION.xls file, click on the + sign to expand and reveal the Worksheet inside this Excel File.
3. Select the predation\$ worksheet as the input table, use the same name for the output table, and click OK to import the table.



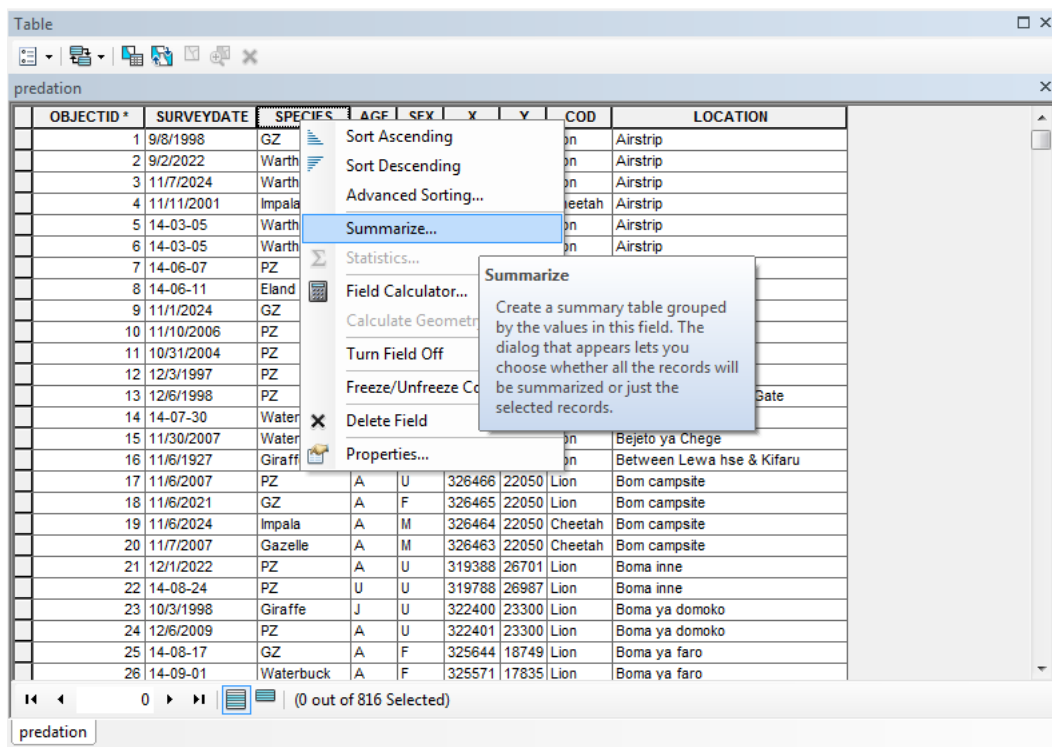
3. When the import has completed, drag the new geodatabase table into your Data

Frame or Table of Contents and Open it to examine the data.

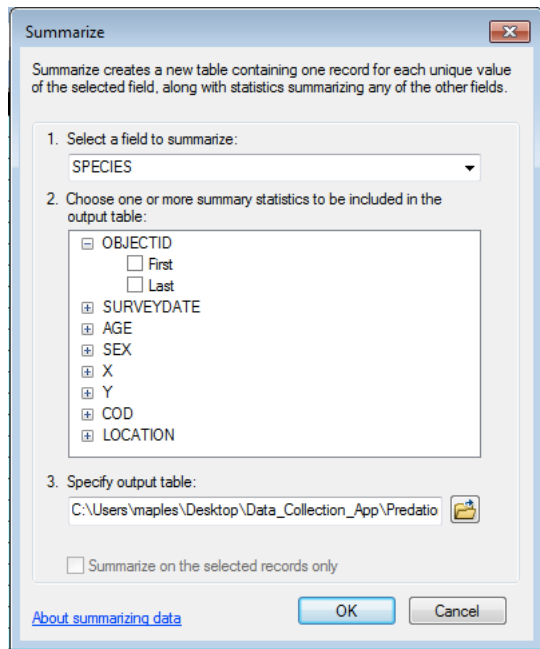
Examine the available fields and note that several of the field have data values that repeat many times. These fields make excellent candidates for fields driven by domains in our resulting app. These fields include: Species; Age, Sex, and COD (Cause of Death).

We will use the Summarize function to create tables for our domains.

1. Right-click on the Field Header for the SPECIES field in the PREDATION table and select Summarize.



1. Double check that the Output Table is being sent to your PredationSurvey.gdb and name the output **species** and click OK.



1. Select Yes, when prompted to add the table to the document and then Open the new table to examine it's contents

Table		
species		
OBJECTID *	SPECIES	Count_SPECIES
1	Antelope	2
2	Beisa Oryx	1
3	Buffalo	31
4	Buffalo	10
5	Bushbuck	2
6	Cheetah	2
7	Cow	40
8	Dikdik	2
9	Eland	44
10	Eland	1
11	Elephant	3
12	Elephant	1
13	Gazelle	17
14	Giraffe	69
15	Giraffe	10

Cleaning Up the Data

Note that there are several duplicates in the results table, which is a result of several different spellings, extra spaces, capitalization, etc... this is exactly what we would like to avoid by using domains in our Collector App. Now, we'll quickly clean the table up before we import it as a domain for our GDB.

1. Right-click on the species table in the ToC and select Edit Features>Start Editing
2. Note that our first duplicate value is 'Buffalo,' though it is not apparent why these values are not the same. If you double-click in the first 'Buffalo' cell, then on the next, you can see that the second cell actually contains an extra space, after the word 'Buffalo'.
3. Click on the small grey box at the far left of the second 'Buffalo' value to select that row, then click on the Delete Feature button at the top of the table to delete this row.

Table		
species		
OBJECTID *	SPECIES	Count_SPECIES
1	Antelope	2
2	Beisa Oryx	1
3	Buffalo	31
4	Buffalo	10
5	Bushbuck	2
6	Cheetah	2
7	Cow	40
8	Dikdik	2
9	Eland	44
10	Eland	1
11	Elephant	3
12	Elephant	1
13	Gazelle	17
14	Giraffe	69
15	Giraffe	10

1. Now, continue down the table and examine duplicate values, deleting those values that have capitalization issues, spaces, misspellings, etc..., and repairing values that need

capitalization or spelling correction. Your table should look something like that, below, when you are done.

species		
OBJECTID *	SPECIES	Count_SPECIES
1	Antelope	2
2	Beisa Oryx	1
3	Buffalo	31
5	Bushbuck	2
6	Cheetah	2
7	Cow	40
8	Dikdik	2
9	Eland	44
11	Elephant	3
13	Gazelle	17
14	Giraffe	69
16	Greater Kudu	5
17	GZ	115
19	Hartebeest	11
20	Hyena	1
23	Impala	3
24	Lion	4
25	Oryx	15
27	Ostrich	11
30	PZ	278
32	Sheep	1
33	Sitatunga	3
34	Tortoise	1
35	Unknown	1
36	Warthog	23
38	Waterbuck	36
39	Wild Cat	1

1. On the Editor Toolbar, select Editor>Stop Editing and select **Yes** when prompted to save your edits.

Repeat the above step for the **AGE**, and **COD** fields, we will enter the damin values for **SEX** manually, so we don't need to create tables for that.

Note: It might be useful to change the values in AGE field to 'Juvenile', 'Sub-Adult', 'Adult', 'Unknown'

Manually Entering Domain Values into the Geodatabase

1. In the Catalog tree, right-click the PredationSurvey Geodatabase and click Properties.
2. Click the Domains tab.
3. Click the first empty field under Domain Name and type **sex** for the new domain.
4. Press the Tab key or click the new domain's description field, and type a description for the domain.

Tip: When creating a new domain, specify a name that describes the parameter it governs. The description is a small sentence describing the domain.

5. Click the field next to Domain Type, click the drop-down arrow, click Coded Values from the list of domain types, and choose Text as the Field Type.
6. Click the first empty field under Coded values and type **Unknown** for the first valid code.

Tip: When entering coded values, make sure the code field matches the Field Type specified in the Domain Properties.

7. Press the Tab key or click the new coded value's Description field. Type **Unknown** as the user-friendly description for this coded value.
8. Repeat the previous 2 steps until all valid values and their descriptions have been typed. The result should be something like this:

Domain Name	Description
sex	Sex of the predator animal

Domain Properties:

Field Type	Text
Domain Type	Coded Values
Split policy	Default Value
Merge policy	Default Value

Coded Values:

Code	Description
Unknown	Unknown
Female	Female
Male	Male

OK Cancel Apply

1. Click OK to create the new domain in the geodatabase and close the dialog box.

Importing a Domain to the Geodatabase from a Table

Sometimes, you might want to create a Domain with so many values that it is not practical, or at least convenient, to enter them manually. You can also create domains by importing tables, which is why we prepared domain tables for the **SPECIES**, **AGE** and **COD** fields.

1. Bring the **Search Panel** up (**Windows>Search**), and enter '**domain**' as your search term.
2. In the search results, find the Table to Domain tool and click on it's title to open the ArcToolbox Tool.
3. Use the following parameter values for the Table to Domain tool:

Table To Domain

Input Table: species

Code Field: SPECIES

Description Field: SPECIES

Input Workspace: C:\Users\maples\Desktop\Data_Collection_App\PredationSurvey.gdb

Domain Name: species

Domain Description (optional): Predated Species

Update Option (optional): APPEND

OK Cancel Environments... Show Help >>

1. Click OK to create the Domain
2. When the tool is finished, open the properties of your geodatabase and check that the new domain was created:

Database Properties

General Domains

Domain Name	Description
sex	Sex of the predator animal
species	Predated Species

Domain Properties:

Field Type	Text
Domain Type	Coded Values
Split policy	Default Value
Merge policy	Default Value

Coded Values:

Code	Description
Antelope	Antelope
Beisa Oryx	Beisa Oryx
Buffalo	Buffalo
Bushbuck	Bushbuck
Cheetah	Cheetah

OK Cancel Apply

Repeat the Table to Domain method to import the remaining Domains (AGE and COD), as below:

Table To Domain

Input Table
cod

Code Field
COD

Description Field
COD

Input Workspace
C:\Users\maples\Desktop\Data_Collection_App\PredationSurvey.gdb

Domain Name
COD

Domain Description (optional)
Cause of Death

Update Option (optional)
APPEND

OK Cancel Environments... Show Help >>

Table To Domain

Input Table
 age

Code Field
 AGE

Description Field
 AGE

Input Workspace
 C:\Users\maples\Desktop\Data_Collection_App\PredationSurvey.gdb

Domain Name
 AGE

Domain Description (optional)
 AGE

Update Option (optional)
 APPEND

OK Cancel Environments... Show Help >>

Database Properties

General Domains

Domain Name	Description
AGE	AGE
COD	Cause of Death
sex	Sex of the predator animal
species	Predated Species

Domain Properties:

Field Type: Text

Domain Type: Coded Values

Split policy: Default Value

Merge policy: Default Value

Coded Values:

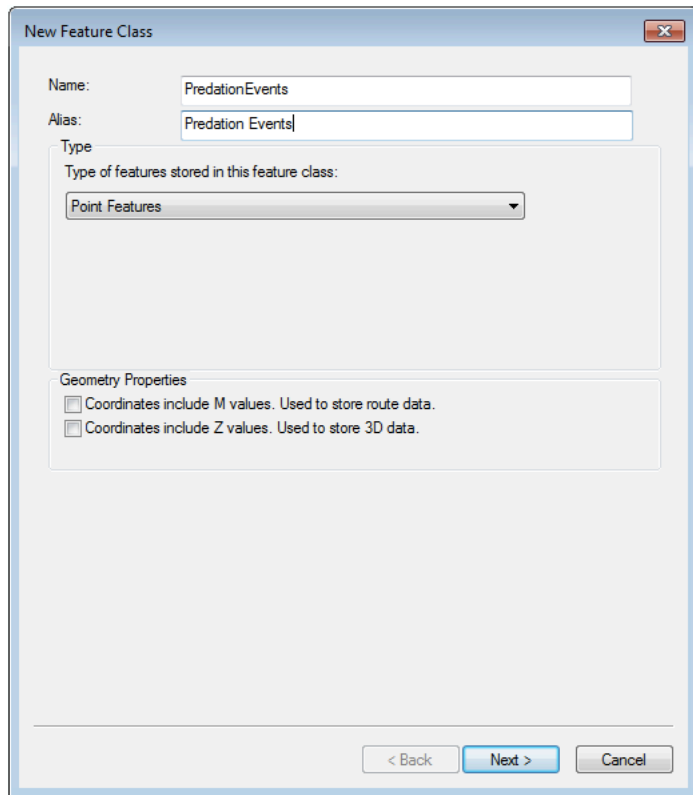
Code	Description
Cheetah	Cheetah
Fox	Fox
Hyena	Hyena
Leopard	Leopard
I inn	I inn

OK Cancel Apply

Create the Feature Class to Contain Your Data

Now, you'll create the feature class to hold the collected information. Feature classes are essentially containers for information, where the pieces of information share similar characteristics, whether that be their geometry or their attributes.

1. Right-click the geodatabase and select **New>Feature Class**.
2. Name your **New Feature Class** '**PredationEvents**' and give it an Alias of '**Predation Events**' (with a space).
3. Change the Type to '**Point Features**' and click Next>.



New Feature Class

Name: PredationEvents

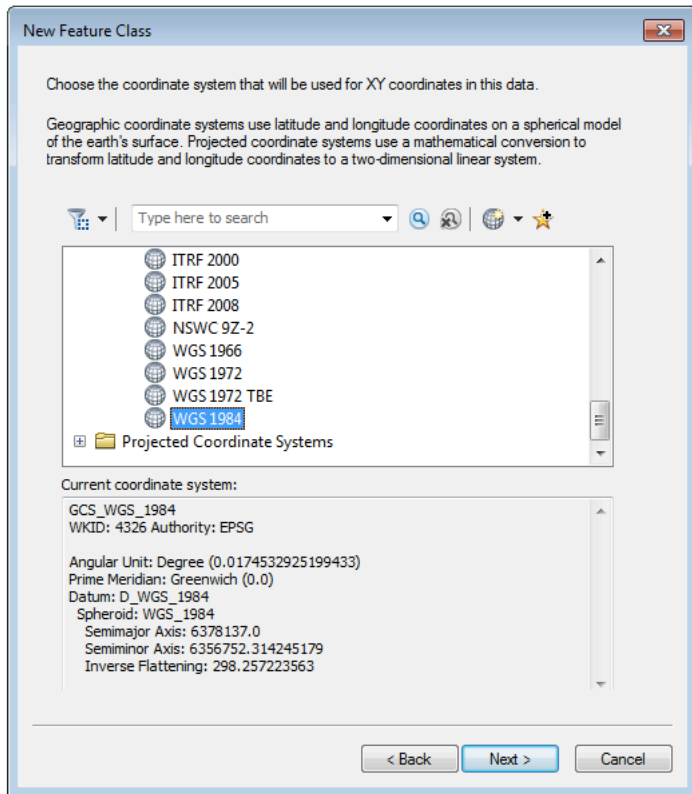
Alias: Predation Events

Type
Type of features stored in this feature class:
Point Features

Geometry Properties
☐ Coordinates include M values. Used to store route data.
☐ Coordinates include Z values. Used to store 3D data.

< Back Next > Cancel

1. In the Coordinate System panel, browse to **Geographic Coordinate System>World>WGS 1984**, select it and click **Next>**.



New Feature Class

Choose the coordinate system that will be used for XY coordinates in this data.

Geographic coordinate systems use latitude and longitude coordinates on a spherical model of the earth's surface. Projected coordinate systems use a mathematical conversion to transform latitude and longitude coordinates to a two-dimensional linear system.

Type here to search

- ITRF 2000
- ITRF 2005
- ITRF 2008
- NSWC 9Z-2
- WGS 1966
- WGS 1972
- WGS 1972 TBE
- WGS 1984**

Projected Coordinate Systems

Current coordinate system:
 GCS_WGS_1984
 WKID: 4326 Authority: EPSG
 Angular Unit: Degree (0.0174532925199433)
 Prime Meridian: Greenwich (0.0)
 Datum: D_WGS_1984
 Spheroid: WGS_1984
 Semimajor Axis: 6378137.0
 Semiminor Axis: 6356752.314245179
 Inverse Flattening: 298.257223563

< Back Next > Cancel

1. Click **Next>** for both the **XY Tolerance** and Screenshot 2017-02-07 17.14.05.png panels
2. In the Field Name panel, enter your Field Names and Data Types as below. As you create your Fields, note that in the Field Properties panel at the bottom, you can assign the appropriate Domains to the fields as you create them. Click Finish to create your Feature Class when you are done.

New Feature Class

Field Name	Data Type
OBJECTID	Object ID
SHAPE	Geometry
SurveyDate	Date
Species	Text
COD	Text
Age	Text
Sex	Text
Notes	Text

Click any field to see its properties.

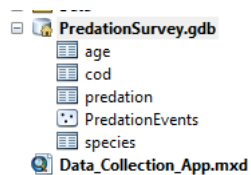
Field Properties

Alias	Species	
Allow NULL values	Yes	
Default Value		
Domain	species	
Length	50	

Import...

To add a new field, type the name into an empty row in the Field Name column, click in the Data Type column to choose the data type, then edit the Field Properties.

< Back Finish Cancel



1. Right-click on the new PredationEvents feature class in your geodatabase, select Properties and click on the Fields tab.
2. Note that you can assign Domains in this Properties>Fields tab, even after the feature class has been created.

Feature Class Properties

General Editor Tracking XY Coordinate System Domain, Resolution and Tolerance

Fields Indexes Subtypes Feature Extent Relationships Representations

Field Name	Data Type
OBJECTID	Object ID
SHAPE	Geometry
SurveyDate	Date
Species	Text
COD	Text
Age	Text
Sex	Text
Notes	Text

Click any field to see its properties.

Field Properties

Alias	COD	
Allow NULL values	Yes	
Default Value		
Domain	COD	
Length	50	

Import...

To add a new field, type the name into an empty row in the Field Name column, click in the Data Type column to choose the data type, then edit the Field Properties.

OK Cancel Apply

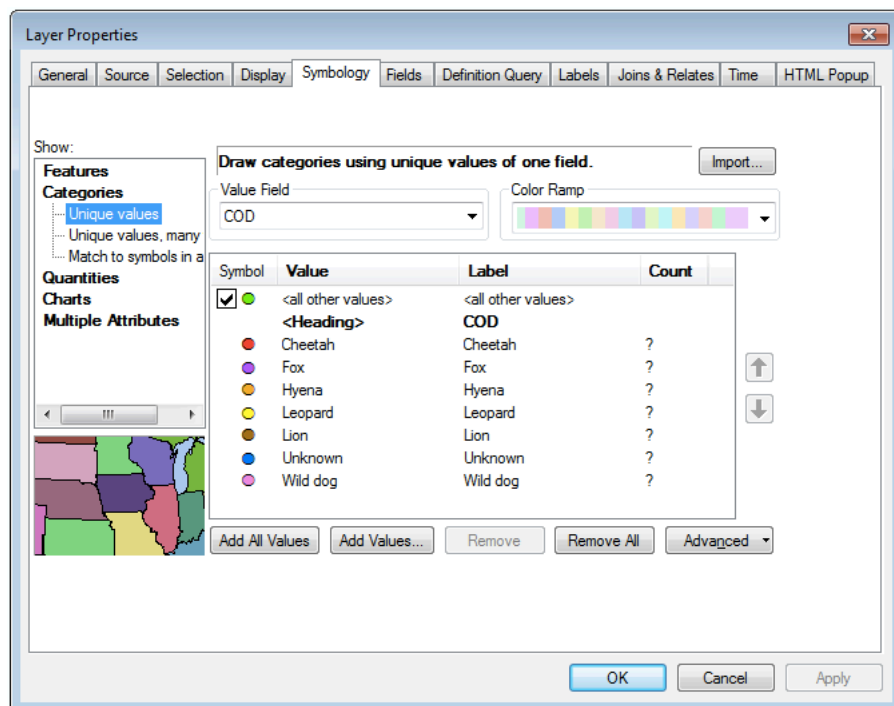
Note: Through the **Feature Class Properties>Fields** tab, you can add additional fields (with or without domains) to complete your data model.

Create Symbolology/Editing Templates

Even though we've no data in our feature class, yet, we DO have a domain assigned to the field that we will want to symbolize and organize our data collection around, COD.

Note that when you created your new feature class, it was automatically added to the Table of Contents, in ArcMap. Now we will use normal workflows for symbology to apply styles to the dataset, in ArcMap. Once we have our Mobile App created, the styles we create, now, will determine how our Editing Template in Collector will appear.

1. Right-click on the 'Predation Events' layer, in the Table of Contents, and select Properties.
2. Click the Symbology tab.
3. Click the Categories section under the Symbology tab and choose Unique values.
4. In the Value Field drop-down list, choose the **COD** field and click Add All Values.
5. Right-click the first value in the list and click Properties for All Symbols.
6. In the Symbol Selector, select a symbol of your choice (set it's size to 10) and click OK.
7. Double-click each house icon, and choose a different color for each of the COD symbols.
8. Click Apply and click OK. The symbols should update in the table of contents. Note that you can also right-click on each symbol in the Table of Contents and change it's color.



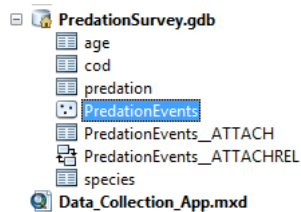
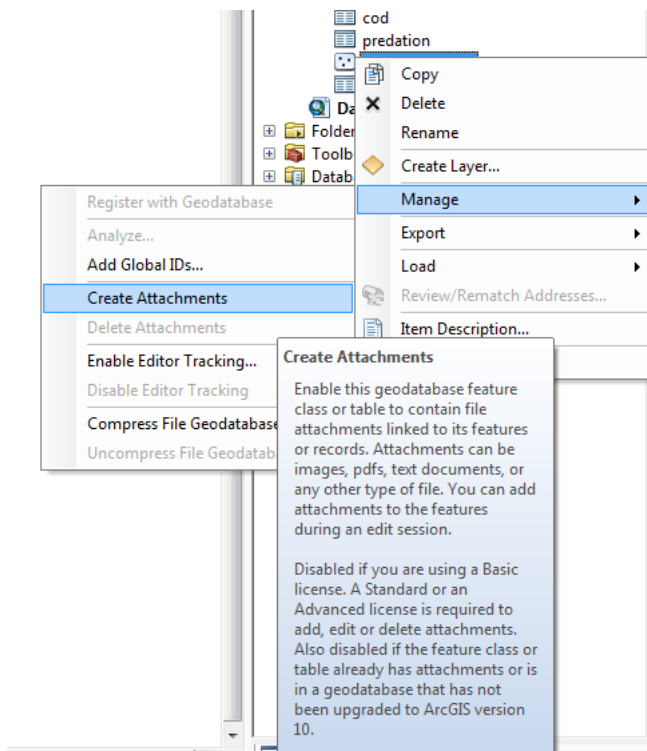
1. Save your work

Enabling Attachments in Collector

One of the most powerful features in Collector for ArcGIS is the ability to attach photographs to records in the database. This means that data that can be captured in a photograph can be quickly captured using the device's camera, and transcribed into databases at later dates. An example might be for a bike rack survey, in which the style, capacity, condition, etc... can mostly be captured in a single image.

To have the ability to add photos to our survey application, we need to take one simple step before publishing our geodatabase to ArcGIS.com.

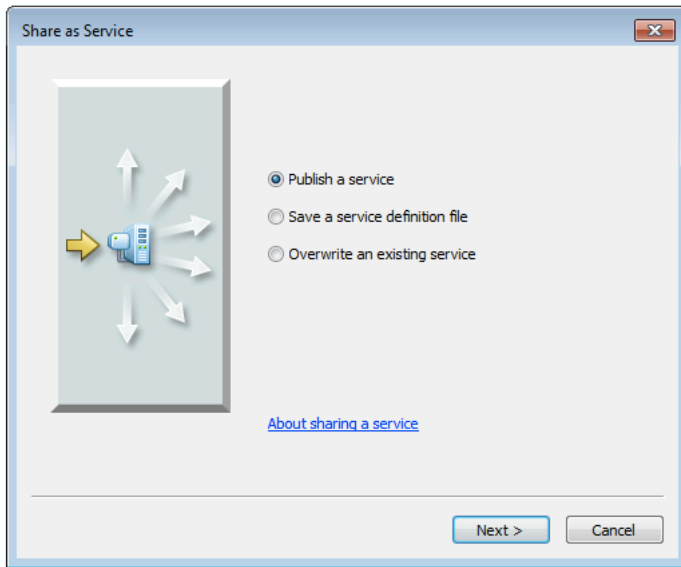
1. Browse to your PredationSurvey geodatabase in the ArcCatalog Panel.
2. Expand the geodatabase to view the object inside it, right-click on the PredationEvents feature class we just created and select **Manage>Create Attachments**.
3. If successful, you should see a new table called **PredationEvents_ATTACH**, as well as a new Relationship Class, called **PredationEvents_ATTACHREL**.



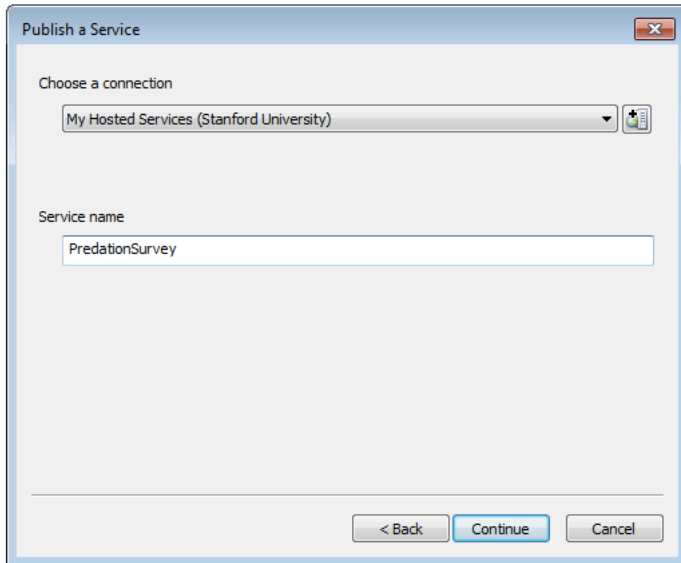
Publish your data

We now need to make our data available to the Collector for ArcGIS application on the internet. This can be done through ArcGIS for Server or to an ArcGIS.com organization. In this tutorial, you'll publish the service to your ArcGIS organization, where it will be available as a layer that you can add to, not only to the map that drives your data collection app in Collector, but to other, public facing maps, that will visualize your data as it is collected.

1. If you're not already signed in to your ArcGIS organization in ArcGIS for Desktop, sign in by going to **File>Sign In...** and following the prompts.
2. Go to **File>Share As**, and click **Service**.
3. On the Share as Service panel, confirm the option **Publish a service** is selected. Click Next.



1. On the Publish a Service panel, expand the Choose a connection drop-down list and select **My Hosted Services (your organization name)**.
2. Use **PredationSurvey** as the service name and click Continue.



1. In the left pane on the Service Editor window, click **Capabilities**.
2. In the right pane, ensure that the Feature Access box is checked, and that the Tiled Mapping box is unchecked. This specifies that you'll publish a feature service rather than a tiled map service.

Parameters
Capabilities
Feature Access
Item Description
Sharing

Capabilities

Choose the capabilities you would like enabled for this service:

☐ Tiled Mapping
☒ Feature Access

1. Under Feature Access, check Create, Delete, Sync, and Update.

Parameters
Capabilities
Feature Access
Item Description
Sharing

Feature Access

REST URL:

Operations allowed:

☒ Create
☒ Delete
☒ Query
☒ Sync
☒ Update

Properties

1. In the left pane, click Item Description.
2. Add Data tags & Summary and Description.

Service Editor

Connection: My Hosted Services Service Name: PredationSurvey

Import
Analyze
Preview
Publish

Parameters
Capabilities
Feature Access
Item Description
Sharing

Item Description

Summary (required):

Tags (required):

Choose Your Tags...

Description:

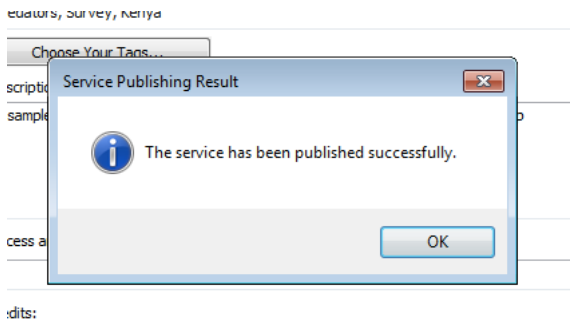
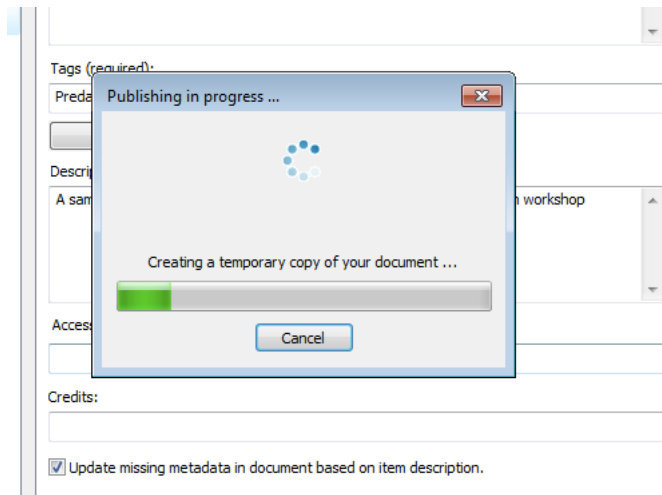
Access and Use Constraints:

Credits:

☒ Update missing metadata in document based on item description.

1. On the Service Editor toolbar, click Publish.

You should see various status messages as the service publishes, and a final success message when complete



Click OK on the result message.

Minimize ArcMap or exit the ArcMap application. Save your changes if prompted. Now that you've created your data model and published it to ArcGIS.com, we are ready to shift to the online platform to create the map that will power our Collector app and data collection activities.

Creating a Map to Share for Data Collection

<http://doc.arcgis.com/en/collector/android/create-maps/create-and-share-a-collector-map.htm>