

Wildfire Related Spatial Datasets

Standards Document

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1. Spatial Dataset Naming Standards

a. Naming Conventions for Spatial Data

All spatial datasets produced or collected in support of wildfires should follow the published Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management's naming scheme available from the following link:

<http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/gis/coveragenames.html>

Exceptions:

There are certain spatial datasets that are produced or collected that will not follow the MSRM published standard. These include datasets that are frequently updated for operational purposes, and require a "date and time stamp" within the name. Names are limited to 13 characters as this is a limitation to the ARC coverage data model. Examples include fire perimeter and evacuation alert status spatial datasets.

For these datasets, the following format will apply:

K2 0971 0903 1 p

- Chars. 1-2 identify the Fire Zone (K2)
- Chars. 3-6 identify the Fire # assigned by Fire Dispatch (0971)
- Chars. 7-10 identify the date in mmdd format (0909)
- Chars. 11 identifies a version number for the day (1)
- Chars. 12-13 identify the thematic content (p)

This example tells the user that:

This dataset is in Fire Zone 2, pertaining to Fire # 0971, collected on September 3rd, it's the first dataset for this theme collected on September 3rd, and it is a fire perimeter dataset.

Note: The version number (character # 11) refers to datasets that may be collected more than once in a day. If the next version of a dataset is collected the next day, then the version reverts back to 1.

Note: Spaces are not acceptable in any spatial datasets. If a space is required, then the '_' character is to be used.

b. Thematic Codes for Wildfire Related Datasets

The following 2 character thematic codes must be used for all spatial datasets that have been produced or collected. These codes apply to spatial datasets that are frequently updated for operational purposes, and require a "date and time stamp" within the name, and thus have been limited to 2 characters to identify the thematic content. For datasets without this limitation, refer to the MSRM naming scheme standards.

- Fire perimeters
 - p – fire perimeters
 - sv – fire severity
- Fire guards/machine guards and associated datasets and guards
 - gf – fire guard - generic
 - gm – machine guard
 - gh – hand guard
 - gr – retardant guard
- Helibase helispots –
 - hs – helispot
 - hb - helibase
- Fuel locations, staging areas, hose lay and pumps, operational support points, medivac locations
 - fc – fuel cache
 - s – staging areas
 - hl – hoselay
 - pu – pump
 - mv – medivac locations
 - rs – retardant source
- Danger tree locations
 - dt – danger tree
- Water sources
 - w – water source
 - m – mud (retardant source)
- There are potentially numerous other points related to fire – miscellaneous points
 - pt – fire related points – generic/misc
- Fire hotspots
 - x – fire hotspot
- Geographical coordinate of fire location – point coverage – provincial coverage will follow MSRM standard
 - fl – fire location
- Evacuation alert polygons –
 - Ev – for evacuation, status contained in attribute table

2. Plot file and Mapping Script Naming Standards

All mapping plot files and mapping scripts (AML, MXD, APR) will adhere to the following format and be no longer than 50 characters in length.

K20971_evacuation_status_2003_09_13_0730_esize.<ext>

- Chars. 1-2 identify the Fire Zone (K2)
- Chars. 3-6 identify the Fire # assigned by Fire Dispatch (0971)
- <thematic content> - is a description of the contents of the map. MOF Protection has some pre-determined codes that are listed below.
- 2004 - year
- 09 – month
- 13 – day
- 0730 – time (24 hour clock)
- page size – see below for some example codes

This example tells the user that:

This map product is in Fire Zone 2, pertaining to Fire # 0971, showing evacuation status. Collected on September 13th, 2004 at 7:30 am, plotted on a large e-size sheet.

Note: Spaces are not acceptable in any spatial datasets. If a space is required, then the '_' character is to be used.

Some common references to page sizes:

- e size
- 8.5x11
- legal
- letter

There are existing standards for thematic content for some mapping products. Where these standards exist they should be utilized.

a. Thematic codes for MOF Protection maps.

- ic – Incident command
- dv – Division
- fg – Fire Progression
- rh – Rehabilitation
- in – Information (This is the media map)
- fd – Fire Prediction
- av - Aviation

3. Spatial Data Standards

All spatial datasets produced or collected in support of wildfires should follow as closely as possible the published Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management's coverage data standards:

<http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/gis/arcdata.html>

Please refer to Metadata Standards for the minimal amount of information to be supplied with all datasets.

If data is supplied in ARC Shapefile format, then at a minimum the following files should be supplied:

- <shapefile>.shp
- <shapefile>.dbf
- <shapefile>.shx
- <shapefile>.prj

4. Metadata Standards

All spatial datasets produced or collected in support of wildfires should follow the published Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management's metadata scheme.

<http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/gis/arcmetadata.html>

At a minimum, any spatial dataset should contain information describing the following:

- Title
- Description

- When it was created.
- Who created it.
- How was it created (collection method, software used and version)
- Contact information
- Projection, including Datum
- Data dictionary for any attributes.

Any README files should be named exactly the same as the file that it is explaining. Possibly with an extension of '_readme' at the end.

5. Plot file format standards

All plot files supplied will be in one of the following formats:

1. HPGL2 (prt, prn, hp)
2. PDF
3. EPS
4. RTL

6. Path naming standards

For use in GIS systems, all path names (folders and datasets) may not contain any capitals (CAPS) or spaces. Use all lowercase letters when naming datasets and folders, and if a space is required, use an underscore (_).