NPS Metadata Tools & Editor

A Comprehensive Editing Tool for National Park Service Metadata

The NPS Metadata Tools & Editor is a custom software application for authoring and editing National Park Service (NPS) metadata. It extends the basic functionality of ESRI's ArcCatalog© for managing geospatial metadata and also provides a stand- alone version for creating and manipulating non-spatial metadata outside of ArcCatalog©. The Tools & Editor is intended to be the primary editor for NPS metadata that will be uploaded to the NPS Data Store. While not specifically designed for users external to the NPS, the Tools and Editor features a number of powerful metadata editing capabilities that any metadata author is likely to find useful.
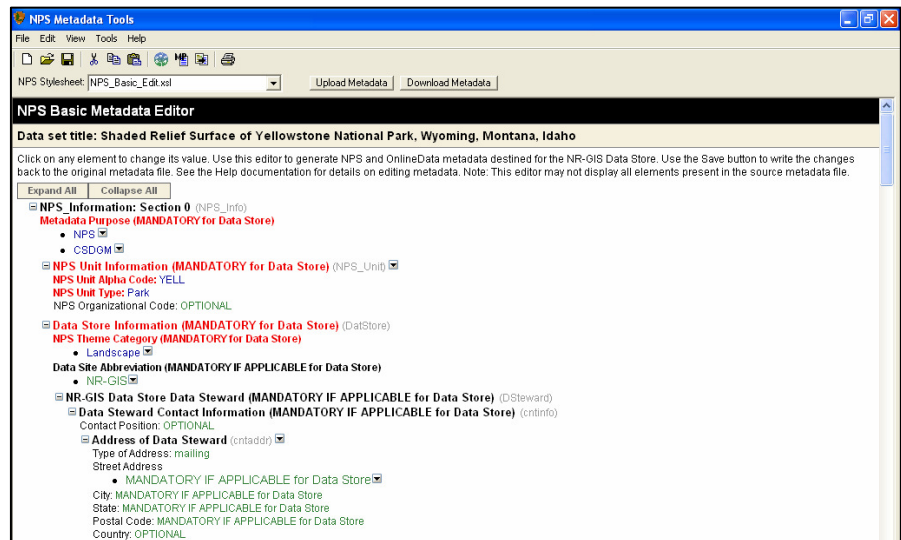
Metadata Editing

Like ArcCatalog©, the Tools and Editor uses stylesheets to display XML metadata. Special editing stylesheets provide the ability to create or edit metadata. Each stylesheet is tailored to a particular type of metadata and displays only the elements or sections pertinent to that metadata type. NPS- specific stylesheets are based on the NPS Profile metadata extension that contains all elements in the FGDC, ESRI, and Biological metadata standards and profiles, plus NPS- specific elements.

Metadata Tools

The following is a sample of metadata management tools in the Tools & Editor:

- Parse with MP: a Windows© form allowing the user to easily configure and run Metadata Parser (MP) without leaving the Tools & Editor work session (i.e., no DOS command line).
- Import ITIS metadata: import taxonomic metadata from the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) into a

The NPS Metadata Tools & Editor is a custom metadata application that runs either within ArcCatalog© or in a stand-alone environment. It integrates with the NPS Data Store and provides many powerful metadata management and editing features.

Biological Profile metadata file.

- Metadata Template: create a metadata template by importing/updating elements from an existing metadata file.
- Update with Template: Import/update selected metadata elements from any metadata template or file to one or more selected files.
- Spellcheck: check spelling in a metadata file using the MS Word© spell checker.
- Find and Replace: searches folders and subfolders for metadata files containing specified text and substitutes with the specified replacement text.
- Search Metadata: Search folders and subfolders for metadata files containing specific strings.
- Metadata Catalog: creates a database that displays and reports the location, filename and other information about all metadata files in a selected directory.

- Database Metadata Extractor: a companion tool (MS Access© add- in) that exports FGDC metadata for tables, fields, and domains.

Future Plans

A number of improvements are planned for version 2.0 of the Tools and Editor including:

- Tighter integration with the NPS Data Store using web services technology.
- Identical functionality between the ArcCatalog© and stand- alone versions.

Links

NPS Metadata Tools & Editor homepage:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/tools/index.cfm
NPS Data Store homepage:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata
The NPS Profile metadata extension:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/docs/npsprofile.cfm
Database Metadata Extractor:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrgis/tools/editor.cfm#MetadataExtractor