



ERIN Data Formats and Standards, June 2006

PREFERRED DATA FORMATS

Vector spatial data:

ArcGIS Personal geodatabase, ESRI ArcSDE export file or ESRI shapefile.

Raster spatial data:

ESRI GRID or georeferenced image files in commonly used formats such as ERS, JPEG, TIFF, GIF or BIL.

Tabular data:

Oracle export format, MS Access 2003, flat ASCII files with comma delimited fields or as MS Excel spreadsheets.

Data transfer:

Data that are transferred to DEW can be provided by CD-ROM, DVD or transferred electronically over DEW's public FTP site. Very small sets of data (<5Mb) may be provided as e-mail attachments. All data should be scanned for viruses.

DATA QUALITY

Data should be checked and repaired / updated to ensure that it meets the following minimum standards:

Vector spatial data:

- No slivers, gaps or overlaps, no unclosed polygons, no missing attributes, no dangling lines, no edit masks and no self-intersecting polygons.
- Data cleaned with an appropriate tolerance. Arcs densified appropriate to its scale.
- Data accurate to a level appropriate to its publication scale.

Raster spatial data:

- No artefacts from vector data overlays such as line work or text.
- Data accompanied by information on pixel size and number of bands, rows and columns to allow it to be easily reconstructed.

Tabular data:

- Understandable, rationally constituted (e.g. a data table should not be so large as to be unusable).
 - Avoid code sets where possible. If these need to be used, provide look-up tables describing these.
 - No spaces (except between words in standard text fields), slashes nor ampersands, and dates with full 4-digit year field.
 - Accurate in accordance with the supplier's predetermined attribute standards and internally consistent.
 - Table item names not identical to Oracle keywords, and should be meaningful without excessive length.
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**SPATIAL DATA
REFERENCE
SYSTEMS – MAP
PROJECTIONS**

All spatial data to be georeferenced:

- Spatial data preferably provided in geographic coordinate system, i.e. latitude and longitude, in decimal degree units.
 - If a map projection is used, specify the type of map projection and all of its parameters.
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**PREFERRED
SPATIAL DATA
REFERENCE
SYSTEMS –
DATUMS**

All spatial data to have a datum specified in its georeferencing:

- Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) or WGS84 datums. For most spatial purposes these datums are identical.
 - If unable to provide data based on either of the above datums, use: AGD66 or AGD84 for mainland data, and WGS72 for marine or external territories. The datum used for the data must be clearly specified.
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